

## NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2018

### New Trophies for the Winton!



*Les Jones proudly shows  
The Les Jones Womens Sabre Trophy*

*Photo courtesy of Kati Archer*

### BVF Championships medal winners

### GBR World Championships squad

### Competition results

### CONTENTS

Front Page  
New Winton Trophy

Page 2  
Chairman's letter

Page 3  
BVF Calendar  
Competitions and  
Training camps

Page- 4  
GBR squad list for  
World Championships

Pages 5-6  
Electronic Voting views

Page 7  
Who are they?

Page 8  
England Veterans -  
Commonwealth  
Championships  
information

Page 9  
BVF Championships  
medal winners

Page 10  
Competition results

Page 11  
Caption competition

Page 12  
BVF contacts

## Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

I hope you have had a good summer break. Where did it go and what has happened to the fabulous weather?

The BVF Championships were held at The Manchester Fencing Centre, Oldham in June. Thanks to Event Manager, Marcia Stretch and her team for running a successful and enjoyable event and to all at Manchester Fencing Centre for their support. Congratulations to all medal winners, and to those who have been selected to fence for GBR at the Veterans World Championships, which are being held in October in Livorno, Italy.

The Winton Cup is being held at Lilleshall, September 22-23. The BVF AGM will be held in the Ironbridge Suite at the Park Inn, Telford at 18:00 hrs on Saturday 22nd. Nominations for committee positions are invited - please see the [Nomination form](#).

The Gala dinner will be in the Telford Suite after the AGM. The menu/booking form for the dinner is on the website here: [Winton dinner](#). The cut-off date is Sunday 9th September.

I am pleased to inform you that there will be additional trophies for best individual weapon results - WS and ME, and it is expected that there will be a trophy for WE - a full set! The Les Jones Womens Sabre Trophy has been presented to Les at his recent 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration by Salle Jones Fencing Club for him to donate to the Winton. This a recognition by the club to honour him for his lifetime contribution to fencing.

The Trophy for ME is The John Mason Mens Epee Trophy, which is being donated by the current BVF committee as John and Sonya's choice of gift to honour and thank them both for all their work, support and dedication that they have given over the years for the benefit of BVF. The Trophy will be presented to John and Sonya at the Winton dinner, so don't miss it!

I am sure that you will join me in wishing the GBR squad good luck and good fencing at the World Championships in Livorno. You will be able to follow live stream and the results on the official website: <http://wfv2018.it/competition/live/> and <http://wfv2018.it/results/>. I will be there as Team Manager and hope to post updates on the BVF Facebook page and take photos. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Winton Cup and AGM.

Sincerely

**Gillian Aghajan**  
**Chairman**



**BVF CALENDAR 2018**

Sep 22-23	<b>Veterans Winton Cup 2018, Lilleshall National Sports Centre</b> Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Sep 22	<b>BVF AGM, Park Inn, Telford TF3 4NA - 6 pm</b>
Sep 29-30	<b>Hampshire Vets Open</b> This is a BVF Ranking event
Oct 8-14	<b>Veterans World Championships, Livorno, Italy</b> Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan <a href="#">Details</a>
Nov 23-28	<b>Commonwealth Veterans Championships, Canberra, Australia</b> <a href="#">Details</a>

See BVF website home page for European competitions and events - [www.veterans-fencing.co.uk](http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk)

## Competitions and training camps

If you have been abroad to compete or have attended a training camp at home or abroad over the summer, please consider sending a report and/or photos to me for publication in the newsletter. (I have made requests on Facebook but have had no response as yet.) It is great to share experiences with other members and encourage more to take part in good events. The newsletter is a good opportunity for you to do this.

If you win a medal/trophy at a competition (home and abroad) and would like publicity in your local newspaper, please get someone to take a HD photo of you with your medal/trophy and email to BVF Publicity Officer, Malcolm Fare - [malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk](mailto:malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk)

### Editor



## GBR squad for Veterans World Championships 2018 Livorno, Italy

### \*GBR Team

	<b>Cat A</b>	<b>Cat B</b>	<b>Cat C</b>
<b>Mens Epee</b>	Keith Barnett* Paul Donnelly Will Miller* Simon Pink	Malcolm Allton Matthew Chell Hugh Kernohan* Neal Mallett*	Brian Causton Robin Davenport Ralph Johnson* Howard West*
<b>Team Captain</b>	<i>Graham Paul</i>		
<b>Mens Foil</b>	Kola Abigodun* Mike McKay* Richard Sage John Troiano	Anthony Bartlett* Paul Lowen Michael Medhurst Paul Wedge*	Malcolm Cawton Brian Causton* Paul Harden Graham Paul*
<b>Team Captain</b>	<i>John Troiano</i>		
<b>Mens Sabre</b>	Adrian Griffin Rob Penton* Duncan Rowlands* Michael Thomas	Barry Coulter* Carl Morris Chris Prevett Stephen Rennie*	Andy Bornemisza* Richard Cohen* Michael Compton William Osbaldeston
<b>Team Captain</b>	<i>Richard Cohen</i>		
<b>Womens Epee</b>	Sarah Budden Ingrid Heskett* Jacqueline Hibbert Marg Oniye*	Jane Clayton* Fiona Haldane* Jane Hutchison Caryl Oliver	Janet Cooksey* Margaret Myers Carole Seheult Susan Uff*
<b>Team Captain</b>	<i>Jenny Morris</i>		
<b>Womens Foil</b>	Caron Hale* Kate Morwell-Neave Fiona Turnbull Gillian Worman*	Sheila Anderson* Jane Clayton Jenny Morris* Marilyn Wheelband	Janet Cooksey* Clare Halsted* Margaret Myers Susan Uff
<b>Team Captain</b>	<i>Clare Halsted</i>		
<b>Womens Sabre</b>	Caroline Clancy* Grace Coulter Caron Hale Michele Narey*	Angela Findlay Jane Hutchison* Jenny Morris Yvonne Walls*	Silvia J Brown* Vivien Frith* Patricia Shepherd-Foster Vivien Frith
<b>Team Captain</b>	<i>Jane Hutchison</i>		

## Views on Electronic Voting

### Electronic Voting – Why?

The rewrite of the British Veterans constitution is a good update, but it introduces a new concept; that of electronic voting for the places on the committee. There has been no explanation of why this has been introduced or what problem it is trying to resolve. I feel that some discussion is valuable and I will attempt to highlight some of the issues as I see them.

When challenged at the EGM in March, the committee claimed that the introduction of electronic voting would be more democratic. Does that mean that all the elections we have held so far were not deemed to be democratic? How will electronic voting be more democratic? The election process is currently open to anyone and anyone can attend an AGM and vote. The voting process is open and everyone can see that it is fair. If people feel strongly enough about a candidate they have the opportunity to cast their vote. That strikes me as an open and fair democratic system. What do we gain by adopting electronic voting? It means that people who cannot or do not want to bother attending an AGM get a chance to express their opinion. No-one knows who they were or why they were persuaded to vote. Is democracy served by these unknown individuals?

There are several disadvantages to the introduction of electronic voting:

- a. Cost** The electronic voting process must be run by an organisation that has no direct relationship to the committee. That must also incur some cost in setting up the necessary technology.
- b. Timescales** The requirement for the process means that names have to be submitted well before the AGM. Then people have to be informed and time made available for the voting process. Thus decisions are being made well before the AGM.
- c. Secrecy** The general members have no idea who is voting - only the final result. This makes the process open to "buying" votes.
- d. Second chance** Someone might want to stand as Secretary, but if they do not get in they might want to put themselves forward for another post. Doing this under electronic voting, could undermine their chances.

The advantages for the current system are:

- a. Open** You can see who is voting and it then becomes obvious if there is block voting going on.
- b. Free** There is no cost.
- c. Persuade candidates** At the meeting there is the opportunity to persuade people to stand or to continue in post.

I can see no reason to introduce electronic voting unless someone can explain to me what the problem is with the current process.

**John Crouch**

***[The Editor has invited me as co-author of the new draft Constitution to comment on John Crouch's letter.]***

The purpose of a new Constitution for BVF was not to solve perceived problems, but to modernise a Constitution which had been written in the early years of BVF (then NVA) and last updated in 2013. Parallel to this was the fact that in this increasingly litigious world, sports organisations have come under strong pressure from the likes of UK Sport and Sport England etc to look carefully at their existing Governance procedures. British Fencing is a case in point. As BVF is an Associate Member of that NGB, the Committee asked Jonathan Stanbury and I to look at bringing our Constitution more into line with current thinking and procedures. One year on, nine revisions by the BVF Committee and a number of legal reviews later, we have the document which is being placed before the AGM in September for agreement.

The introduction of a method whereby the whole BVF membership (some 650+ members) could participate in the election of their Committee members – remember that they represent the BVF interests both nationally and internationally - was looked at in depth. It was noted that in the past, there was little interest in the election for Committee posts and AGMs were not particularly well attended. As a result, election of the Committee was by a show of hands; voting in the whole Committee en bloc – had become the norm. There was also no form of proxy voting for members who felt that they wanted a voice but were unable to attend the AGM. A revision of the process for nominating and electing committee members was therefore seen as a way through which the whole membership could be involved in the process. Taking a lead from British Fencing, it was considered that a simple electronic voting system could be used, whereby nominations for all the Committee posts could be called for and then voted upon in time for the AGM. As an aside it was also noted that there are currently only 23 members who do not have access to or do not wish to use the internet but are still contactable by snail mail. All remaining members could use a secure electronic system of voting if they so wished.

Although we looked at various options to achieve this, most involved an expense – BF's election process costs about £1400 a time. As BVF members pay a very small membership subscription, it was thought that this would be a poor use of our funds. Therefore, our talented Webmaster – John Mason – and I had set about looking at an internally produced, secure voting system that could be used instead at virtually nil cost. We are confident that such an electronic voting system is perfectly feasible and secure enough to support the new Constitution, if accepted by the AGM, and would produce the same result as if we had used a commercial company. In any event, the whole system would be overseen by a "disinterested" third party. A win/win situation for us all.

I do realise that change is somewhat daunting for some members, but I think that the BVF deserves a Constitution and an election process that is both fit for purpose and represents the democratic nature of our organisation. By inferring that the majority of our membership is open to secretive persuasion and can be bought by unscrupulous potential nominees who are desperate to stand for a post on the Committee – never been the case in the past! – is somewhat fanciful. Electronic Voting maximises the number of members able to vote and provides a simple system whereby the elected Committee fully represents the BVF as a whole. What can be fairer than that?

***Lawrence Burr OBE***

**Editor's note** - The Electronic Voting document is on the BVF website (Latest news page).  
Link - <http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/documents/bvf-electronic-voting.pdf>

## Who/where/when?



Can you identify this happy group of fencers? Is one of them you? The photo was taken at an U20 World Championships in the 1970s. Where was it and which year? The photo has been sent in by Steve Lennox - far right.

[Email Editor](#)

## England Veterans Fencing Commonwealth Veterans Fencing Championships 2018

The 2018 Veterans Commonwealth Veterans Championships will take place in Canberra, Australia on 23 - 28 November. The individual events are open to anyone. The team events will be by selection. Go to <http://www.cfc18.net> to see further details.

### England Entries

**All England entries are to go through England Fencing  
– PLEASE DO NOT ENTER ONLINE**



**ENGLAND FENCING**

Anyone interested in entering should note the following:

The entry fee is Aus \$250 per weapon. At the current exchange rate for the pound this equates to £140. I will send out an England entry form as soon as I get details from Australia. You will be responsible for your own travel and accommodation. There is information on accommodation on the competition website.

All fencers will need an FIE licence. This costs £30 and can be obtained through the British Fencing website. Select GBR Fencing from the drop down menu, then FIE/EFC licences and select the 2018/19 application form. A 2017/2018 licence will be acceptable.

Equipment needs to be to FIE standard (i.e. 800 Newtons). You need to have your name and ENG on your back. The ENG can be a sewn on patch. You will need an England patch on your breeches.

England Teams will be selected as follows:

Three places will go to the highest placed fencers in the last 16 at the 2018 British Veterans Championships. One place will be taken from the individual results in New Zealand. If there are not three fencers in the top 16 who want to go, then the remaining places will be selected at the event.

### England kit

Tracksuits, polo shirts, patches etc can be purchased on line.  
To order go to [www.topkit.co](http://www.topkit.co)

If you do not currently receive information from John Mason by email, and are interested in entering, then please let me have an email address I can use to forward further information.  
**All future correspondence will be by email.**

**At this point in time it would be useful to have an indication of England fencers who intend to go to Canberra. Please email me with interest and which weapons you would enter.**

**John Crouch**



## BVF Championships medal winners

### Mens Epee

1	Chris Heaps	Cat 2 medal
2	Hugh Kernohan	Cat 3 medal
3T	Michael Thomas	
3T	Keith Barnett	
5	Kola Ayanwale	Cat 1 medal
7	Ralph Johnson	Cat 4 medal

### Womens Epee

1	Ingrid Heskett	Cat 2 medal
2	Jacqueline Hibbert	
3T	Nicola Hull	
3T	Kathryn Reed	Cat 1 medal
7	Fiona Haldane	Cat 3 medal
16	Janet Cooksey	Cat 4 medal

### Mens Foil

1	Mike McKay	Cat 2 medal
2	Paul Wedge	Cat 3 medal
3T	Richard Sage	
3T	Jeffery Kiy	
10	Graham Paul	Cat 4 medal
11	Kevin Milne	Cat 1 medal

### Womens Foil

1	Caron Hale	Cat 2 medal
2	Amanda Baxendale	
3T	Sheila Anderson	Cat 3 medal
3T	Kate O'Connell	Cat 1 medal
5	Clare Halsted	Cat 4 medal

### Mens Sabre

1	Steve Pope	Cat 1 medal
2	Michael Swiffin	
3T	Rubin Nash	
3T	Andrew Thornley	
5	Duncan Rowlands	Cat 2 medal
6	Barry Coulter	Cat 3 medal
14	Andy Bornemisza	Cat 4 medal

### Womens Sabre

1	Michele Narey	Cat 2 medal
2	Jane Hutchison	Cat 3 medal
3T	Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath	Cat 1 medal
3T	Yvonne Walls	
5	Vivien Frith	Cat 4 medal

### Womens Sabre medal winners:

**Jane, Michele, Yvonne, Jacqueline and Vivien**

**Photo courtesy of Michele Narey**



## Competition results (top half)

### Chichester Open - 10/06/2018

MF (29)	10	Paul Abrahams
ME (46)	3	Adam Steiner
	6	Will Miller
	12	Howard West
	15	Simon Pink
WF (18)	7	Erika Cserny
	8	Gillian Worman
WE (18)	8	Ingrid Heskett
	9	Mariette Mason

### Leon Paul Summer Open - 18/08/2018

MF (51)	23	Mike McKay
ME (59)	3	Kola Ayanwale
	24	Mark Richardson
	25	Paul Donnelly
WE (12)	3	Marg Oniye

Competition results compiled using  
Trawler software  
© John Mason - Eureka Data

### Norfolk Open - 21/07/2018

MF (39)	17	Kamal Yasin
	18	Paul Baillache
	19	Paul Abrahams
ME (37)	7	John Hyde
	10	Paul Willmott
	14	Mark Richardson
	16	Mark Evans
	17	Andrew Luckman
MS (17)	3	Julian Ghosh
WE (17)	7	Marg Oniye
WS (14)	1	Lucy Wright
	2	Michele Narey
	3	Alexandra Sapetschnig
	3	Joanne Yates
	5	Tracy Russen
	6	Sylvia Brown

**Congratulations  
to Lucy Wright  
Gold WS -  
Norfolk Open !**

#### **Reminder**

*Please remember to enter competitions using the name you have registered for BVF membership. If you use another name your results will not be found by the software that compiles the results reports.*

**Caption  
Competition  
August**

Send your entry to Editor  
[g.aghajan@btinternet.com](mailto:g.aghajan@btinternet.com)



**Caption  
Competition  
May**

Editor's choice:

*"Do you mean I have to wear those trousers?"*  
**Jane Hutchison**



**Editor's Note:**

The BVF newsletter is your voice: a chance for you to put forward your views, send reports, letters, photos or articles.




Please speak up!

Send to me:

[g.aghajan@btinternet.com](mailto:g.aghajan@btinternet.com)

**Photos - Editor**

## BVF contacts

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### PLEASE NOTE

Any articles or letters for the October newsletter should be sent to:

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