



NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2020

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Photo - Gillian Aghajan



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL OUR READERS!

Chairman's letter



Dear Members,

Well what a year. Apparently there is a spoof YouTube video doing the rounds on the 'Back to the Future' movie with Marty McFly saying to Doc Brown, "Whatever you do don't set the time machine to 2020." I don't think that needs explaining. What a year!

Firstly I had better say welcome as the new Chairman. As those of us who attended the Zoom AGM will recall, it was quite a surprise to me how events seemed to unfurl so quickly resulting in me being persuaded to put my name forward. But the initial shock didn't last long and I am grateful to have a very enthusiastic committee behind me.

We had our first meeting (Zoom of course) on the 29th November. A very packed agenda with many items having to be shelved for our next meeting scheduled for January. We made the necessary appointments and set out our direction of travel for next year despite the amount of fencing that we will all be allowed to do being very uncertain.

I'm sure those who get to travel to our events abroad will be delighted to learn that we have retained Gillian's services as Team Manager. No-one more experienced or conscientious. Not to mention camera happy – all good news apart from those, like me, still desperately looking for that elusive 'good side' (although I have been reliably informed that I don't have one).

Malcolm Fare has kindly agreed to continue as a co-opted member of the committee in the role of Publicity Officer. Malcolm has local press contacts around the country who are willing to publish notable results from our competitions.

I was replaced by Graham Paul as Chair of Selectors. A good choice given Graham's previous involvement with our current selection system.

The exciting news is that we are seriously looking at updating our website to make it more user friendly and attractive to new members. Lucy Wright, Beth Davidson and Graham Paul have taken on this huge challenge of developing a new modern site which will be adaptable to all platforms. And on that same theme the committee re-considered the possibility of a name change. You may recall that a change to British Masters Fencing was proposed last year and narrowly missed the two thirds needed for it to go ahead (by one vote in fact). It makes sense to re-visit this topic at the same time as launching an updated image with the new website. Obviously this would be a matter for the members to decide at either an AGM or an EGM, which may be held early next year as the Constitution also needs to be updated. It would be ideal to accomplish all these things next year. There may be no fencing going on but as you can see, there are plenty of other things to occupy our thoughts.

I say no fencing. We have at least scheduled The Guildford International for W/E 31st July 2021. Also Graham, Kola (IFO) and Lindsay (DFO) are working on trying to get sufficient events planned for team selection later in the year. Lindsay has secured a probable date for the BVF Championships 9th-11th July at the Manchester Fencing Centre, should the Covid situation allow it. The Veterans Winton planned for Sept 25/26th plus the Hampshire Sept 18/19th and hopefully the West Midlands may also go ahead but no date yet though. Because of the uncertainty of running events we are not in a position to set out selection criteria for the Worlds (scheduled 4-10th October) at this point but will keep you informed as soon as decisions are made.

One more thing that we will be able to offer you is an online refereeing seminar for foil and sabre. Each year for both of these weapons referees decide exactly how they are going to interpret the rules for this season. Sounds odd but the interpretation often changes slightly and it's useful to know beforehand. Usually the penny only drops for me at the end of the season (I'm a slow learner). So Graham is working on putting this together for us early in 2021. We haven't got the date yet but we'll keep you posted and I'll definitely be watching.

I said that we have a packed agenda and we do but I don't want to bore you any further with too much detail in this my first, possibly even last, letter in this format. Regular updates will still go out via email, so you will be kept up to date, but whether the quarterly newsletter remains is still to be decided.

So I want to thank the new Committee for the enthusiasm and work they are all putting in and, of course, thank those of the previous committee Caroline, Marcia, Mike and, of course, Gillian. And finally I'm sure you will all be aware it was with pleasure that the Committee chose to recognise the work of past committee members Dave Sweeney (Chair), Gillian (Chair), Marcia (Secretary) Sue Church (Secretary) and John Mason (too many roles to mention – Brains!!) by making them Life Members. Well deserved.

So it only remains for me to thank Gillian for all the Newsletters she has produced for us over the past 10 years and wish you the best Christmas possible under these difficult circumstances and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Carl Morris
BVF Chairman



Thank you!

As Carl has said, "What a year!". Things turned out differently from what many of us expected in more than one way. It was never my intention to be like Mrs Thatcher and 'go on and on' as Chairman of BVF. I had been on the BVF committee for 10 years in total, the last 6 as Chairman, and with events not happening this year and a chance for new blood on the committee to look at the future of BVF, it was a good time for me to hand over the reins at the AGM. I have every confidence in Carl as new Chairman, and the new committee is a good team, full of enthusiasm and ideas to move BVF forward.



I am delighted to remain as International Team Manager, and with that to retain the role of EVF Representative, both roles which I have much experience in, and of course, my camera stays with me!

A final few words - Thank you very much! This goes to all committee members I have worked with over the years; events organisers, referees, volunteers, British Fencing, and also to the current committee for the beautiful bouquet of flowers that I received recently, and again to the committee and to you, BVF members, for the fabulous Helen Easter painting. Very much appreciated and I am honoured and really pleased to have been made a life member of BVF!

Keep safe and have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

All the best,

Gillian

2021 BVF Calendar

Jan 30-31	<p>European Ranking event</p> <p>EFV Foil and Sabre Circuit, Faches, France</p> <p>Sabre - Saturday, Foil - Sunday</p>
Feb 27-28	<p>European Ranking Event</p> <p>EVF Epee Circuit, Kiev, Ukraine</p>
Mar 6-7	<p>European Ranking event</p> <p>EVF Sabre Circuit, Bologna, Italy</p>
Mar 20-21	<p>European Ranking event</p> <p>EVF Epee Circuit, Drzonków, Poland</p>
Apr 3-4	<p>European Ranking event</p> <p>EVF Sabre and Foil Circuit, Liege, Belgium</p>
May 12-16	<p>European Individual Championships, Thionville, France</p> <p>CANCELLED - due to COVID-19</p>
Jul 9-11	<p>BVF Selection event</p> <p>BVF Championships, Manchester Fencing Centre (details to follow)</p> <p>Event Manager: tbc</p>
Jul 31 - Aug 1	<p>BVF Selection event</p> <p>European Ranking event</p> <p>BVF International Open, Guildford</p> <p>Event Manager: tbc</p>
Sep 18-19	<p>Hampshire Veterans Open, Portsmouth Tennis Centre</p> <p>Senior Open on opposing days</p>
Sep 25-26	<p>Veterans Winton Cup 2021, RAF Cosford</p> <p>Event Manager: Marcia Stretch</p>
Oct 4-10 (tbc)	<p>Veterans World Championships, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA</p> <p>Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan</p>



Wanted!



BVF Newsletter

Since May 2010, I have been the BVF newsletter editor and in that time I created 87 newsletters including this one, which is my last! I hope you have enjoyed them over the years.

It is now time for the committee to consider options and one new way forward could be an interactive online newsletter, similar to British Fencing's 'The Sword', but if not that, then at least a new design. This could be an exciting opportunity for someone who has a good eye for design and relevant IT skills. (The newsletter is currently published quarterly - March, June, September and December.)

If you are interested, please contact BVF Chairman, Carl Morris - carlbevmorris@gmail.com

Gillian Aghajan



Where in the World? Were you there?

1



2



3



4



5



6



Photos - Editor

- 1. Bataton - 2009
- 2. Medway 2013
- 3. Varna - 2013
- 4. Livorno - 2018
- 5. Debrecen - 2014
- 6. Poreč - 2015

Doo-wop Quiz - thanks to Brian Speight

- When did "Little Suzie" finally wake up?
(a) The movie's over, it's 2 o'clock
(b) The movie's over, it's 3 o'clock
(c) The movie's over, it's 4 o'clock
- "Rock Around The Clock" was used in what movie?
(a) Rebel Without A Cause
(b) Blackboard Jungle
(c) The Wild Ones
- What's missing from a Rock & Roll standpoint? Earth _____
(a) Angel
(b) Mother
(c) Worm
- "I found my thrill . . ." Where?
(a) Kansas City
(b) Heartbreak Hotel
(c) Blueberry Hill
- "Please turn on your magic beam, _____ bring me a dream"
(a) Mr Sandman
(b) Earth Angel
(c) Dream Lover
- For which label did Elvis Presley first record?
(a) Atlantic
(b) RCA
(c) Sun
- He asked, "Why's everybody always pickin' on me?" Who was he?
(a) Bad, Bad Leroy Brown
(b) Charlie Brown
(c) Buster Brown
- In Bob by Darin's "Mack The Knife," the one with the knife, was named:
(a) Mac Heath
(b) Mac Cloud
(c) McNamara
- Name the song with "A-wop bop a-loo bop a-lop bam boom"
(a) Good Golly, Miss Molly
(b) Be-Bop-A-Lula
(c) Tutti Frutti
- Who is generally given credit for originating the term "Rock And Roll"?
(a) Dick Clark
(b) Wolfman Jack
(c) Alan Freed
- In 1957, he left the music business to become a preacher:
(a) Little Richard
(b) Frankie Lymon
(c) Tony Orlando
- Paul Anka's "Puppy Love" is written to what star?
(a) Brenda Lee
(b) Connie Francis
(c) Annette Funicello
- The Everly Brothers were:
(a) Pete and Dick
(b) Don and Phil
(c) Bob and Bill
- The Big Bopper's real name was:
(a) Jiles P Richardson
(b) Roy Harold Scherer Jr
(c) Marion Michael Morrison
- In 1959 Berry Gordy Jr started a small record company called:
(a) Decca
(b) Cameo
(c) Motown
- Edd Brynes had a hit with "Kookie , Kookie, Lend Me Your Comb". What TV show was he on?
(a) 77 Sunset Strip
(b) Hawaiian Eye
(c) Surfside Six
- In 1960 Bobby Darin married:
(a) Carol Lynley
(b) Sandra Dee
(c) Natalie Wood
- They were a one hit wonder with "Book Of Love":
(a) The Penguins
(b) The Monotones
(c) The Moonglows



19. The Everly Brothers sang a song called "Till I _____ You."

- (a) Loved
- (b) Kissed
- (c) Met

20. Chuck Berry sang "Oh, _____, why can't you be true?"

- (a) Suzie Q
- (b) Peggy Sue
- (c) Maybelline



21. "Woolly _____"

- (a) Mammoth
- (b) Bully
- (c) Pully

22. "I'm like a one-eyed cat _____"

- (a) can't go into town no more
- (b) sleepin ' on a cold hard floor
- (c) peepin ' in a seafood store

23. "Sometimes I wonder what I'm gonna do _____"

- (a) cause there ain't no answer for a life without booze
- (b) cause there ain't no cure for the summertime blues
- (c) cause my car's gassed up and I'm ready to cruise

24. "They often call me Speedo, but my real name is _____"

- (a) Mr Earl
- (b) Jackie Pearl
- (c) Milton Berle

25. "Be Bop A Lula _____"

- (a) she's got the rabies
- (b) she's my baby.
- (c) she loves me, maybe

26. "Fine Love, Fine Kissing"

- (a) right here
- (b) fifty cents
- (c) just for you



27. "He wore black denim trousers and"

- (a) a pink carnation
- (b) pink leotards
- (c) motorcycle boots

28. "I got a gal named....."

- (a) Jenny Zamboni
- (b) Gerri Mahoney
- (c) Boney Maroney

Answers

- 1 (c) The movie's over, it's 4 o'clock
- 2 (b) Blackboard Jungle
- 3 (a) Angel
- 4 (c) Blueberry Hill
- 5 (a) Mr. Sandman
- 6 (c) Sun
- 7 (b) Charlie Brown
- 8 (a) Mac Heath
- 9 (c) Tutti Frutti
- 10 (c) Alan Freed
- 11 (a) Little Richard
- 12 (c) Annette Funicello
- 13 (b) Don and Phil
- 14 (a) Jiles P. Richardson
- 15 (c) Motown
- 16 (a) 77 Sunset Strip
- 17 (b) Sandra Dee
- 18 (b) The Monotones
- 19 (b) Kissed
- 20 (c) Maybelline
- 21 (b) Bully
- 22 (c) peepin ' in a sea food store for the
- 23 (b) cause there ain't no cure for the
- 24 (a) Mr Earl
- 25 (b) she's my baby
- 26 (a) right here
- 27 (c) motorcycle boots
- 28 (c) Boney Maroney

Some memories of Christmas past - BVF newsletters



Christmas crackers!

1

Why are Santa's reindeer allowed to travel on Christmas Eve?

2

Why did the pirates have to go into lockdown?



3

Why won't Santa lose any Christmas presents this year?

4

Why wasn't Rudolph allowed to take part in the vaccine trials?



5

Why couldn't Mary and Joseph join their work conference call?

6

How is the pandemic like a stomach after Christmas?

- Answers**
1. They have herd immunity!
 2. Because the 'Arrrr!' Rate had risen!
 3. He's downloaded Sack and Trace!
 4. Because they only wanted guinea pigs!
 5. Because there was no Zoom at the inn!
 6. It takes ages to flatten the curve!



**Caption
Competition
Autumn 2020**

Editor's choice:

*" Mae'n ddrwg gen!"
Sieffre (Arianddyn)*













Photo - Editor



 Find us on
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Graham Paul (Chairman)
Epee
Neal Mallett
Jenny Morris
Foil
Nick Mort
Gillian Worman
Sabre
Jane Hutchison
Chris Prevett