

## NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2018

### Epee women fence in France!



GB women epeeists in St Maur, France

*Helen Thouless, Valerie Young, Caryl Oliver, Mariette Mason,  
Jane Clayton, Nicola Hull, Ingrid Heskett and Marg Oniye*

Photo courtesy of Caryl Oliver

### GB Vets in France

### England Veterans AGM

### Competition results

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## Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

2018 is already in full swing and Christmas seems a very long time ago. All best wishes from the committee for happy, healthy and successful times ahead.

You will have received notification and details of the EGM for BVF membership which will be held at the WMO (West Midlands Open) on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 17:00. This is to vote on the introduction of a revised BVF Constitution. Lawrence Burr and Jonathan Stanbury have been working very hard on this over the last year, taking all feedback from the committee into consideration, so my thanks go to them and the rest of the committee. Thanks also to Teddy Bourne and Geoff Silverman for their help. The committee has agreed on the final version and we hope that you will give this your support.

England Veterans AGM will be held before the EGM at 16:30.

Online entry and details for the WMO competition can be found on the Latest news page of the BVF website, so if you are intending to come to the EGM then it will be an ideal opportunity for you to fence at a good competition. [WMO Details](#)

The BVF Age Groups are being held at the Leon Paul Centre, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> March and is a selection event for the EVF Veteran Team Championships and the FIE Veteran World Championships.

The BVF selection rules for EVF Veteran European Team Championships are as follows:

*Two competitions are fenced:*

- *Veterans Cat 1 + Cat 2*
- *Grand Veterans Cat 3 + Cat 4*

*For each team the first 2 fencers available from the 2 relevant age groups going down the BVF Age Group Qualifier results will be selected. If two fencers have an equal result, then the fencer who won the fight between the two will be selected.*

*A 5th fencer will be selected by the Selectors on a discretionary basis. The Selectors will select a fencer who they consider will most strengthen the team. This may be a fencer who was unable to compete in the BVF Age Group Qualifier.*

If you are unable to enter the BVF Age Group Qualifier (Age Groups) and would like to be considered for a discretionary place, please submit your request with supporting evidence to the Chairman of Selectors, Carl Morris, no later than Sunday 4th March. Email - [carlbevmorris@googlemail.com](mailto:carlbevmorris@googlemail.com)

Good luck to all who are competing in this selection event. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

**Gillian Aghajan**  
Chairman



## BVF CALENDAR 2018

Mar 3-4	Age Groups 2018, Leon Paul Centre Event Manager: Graham Paul
Mar 24	England Veterans Fencing- 16:30 BVF EGM - 17:00 West Midlands Open, Castle High School, St James's Road, Dudley DY1 3JE
Mar 24-25	West Midlands Open, Dudley Event Manager: Peter Baron
Apr 28	Vets Home International, Glasgow Caledonian University
May 10-13	European Team Championships, Alkmaar, The Netherlands Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan
May 26-27	Leon Paul Veterans Open, Leon Paul Centre (not a BVF event) Details <a href="http://leonpaulfencingcentre.com/comp/1184">http://leonpaulfencingcentre.com/comp/1184</a>
June 1-3	BVF Championships 2018, Manchester Fencing Centre FOII - Friday, SABRE - Saturday, EPEE - Sunday Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Sep 22-23	Veterans Winton Cup 2018, Lilleshall National Sports Centre Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Oct 8-14	Veterans World Championships, Livorno, Italy Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan
Nov 23-28	Commonwealth Veterans Championships, Canberra, Australia

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

## Vets in France

4 of us were at the French Vets Circuit event at Faches Thumesnil, Lille (28<sup>th</sup> January).

Results were :

Mens foil 60+ : Paul Wedge 1st, Tony Bartlett 2nd  
(Paul winning 10-6 over Tony in the final)

Mens foil 50+ : Paul Baillache 8th

Mens sabre 50+ : Duncan Rowlands 7th

As usual the organisers were pleased to see some British fencers there to add to the visitors from Russia, Germany, Belgium, and Holland.

In the foil we had two rounds of pools all ages together, then the second round split out the 40+ from the combined 50+ and 60+ before a DE for each age category. The sabre kept all ages together until the DE. They seem to have a flexible format which is adjusted depending on the number of entrants in each age group, seems to work well and the French fencers all accept it, as well as potentially having to fence foreign fencers who could put them out and damage their ranking - they just have to go and chase points at another qualifying event. But as several of the foreign fencers were medallists (all the Russians as well as Paul W) at Maribor, Chiavari, and Medway, it raised the quality of the event for everyone.



### ***Paul Baillache***

**Tony Bartlett, Paul Wedge and Benoit Pincemaille (FRA) - worthy medal winners!**

**Photo courtesy of Paul Baillache**

## Circuit National Vétérans Epée Dames - stop press!

Excellent results for GB women's epeeists at the French Vets circuit competition in St Maur, 25<sup>th</sup> February.

<b>V1</b>		<b>V2</b>		<b>V3/V4</b>	
7	Nicola Hull	6	Marg Oniye	2	Jane Clayton
19	Helen Thouless	13	Ingrid Heskett	3	Caryl Oliver
		30	Valerie Young	7	Mariette Mason

Report to follow in next edition.



## Third Age Matters - Sylvia makes the news

# FOCUS

### FOCUS in this issue

- 14 Veteran fencing
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A look in more depth at issues, events and third age matters



## Lunge, learn and laugh

**Sylvia Brown** began fencing in 1955 and has represented Great Britain at every annual veterans world championship from 1998 to 2016. She says it's not only a sport for the young

ANYONE CAN enjoy fencing: young, old, amputees, wheelchair fencers and even, in one specialist club, the partially sighted. Titanium knees are not uncommon, nor are hip replacements.

The sport is practised worldwide by enthusiasts from as young as five in some countries to as old as you like.

There are now so many older fencers that the international federation mounts world events for over-50s,

over-60s and over-70s. The European Federation is trialling an over-75 category.

Veterans' fencing is a good example of global growth in sports for older people over the last 30 years.

Fencers choose from three disciplines: foil, épée and sabre. Épée has become increasingly popular with later starters, perhaps because it relies more on evil cunning than athleticism.

But you will see plenty of

elderly and athletic fencers.

Fencing aids concentration, improves balance and co-ordination – and makes you laugh.

Joy Fleetham, featured on a recent TAM cover, is Yorkshire's oldest fencer, but the UK's best known veteran fencer is Connie Adam from Norwich.

Her prowess on the piste and media appearances have made her a global icon. She started fencing at 60 and still makes club and competitive appearances at 88.

A big attraction of veterans' fencing is the absence of pressures felt by mainstream competitors.

There is nothing to prove,

except to yourself.

If you did it first time around, you've no need to prove anything now. And if you didn't, you aren't going to prove anything now. And who cares? It's a laugh!

For many, the joy and playfulness of the sport is its point and many friendships can result.

Fencers are in a truly international club. You can pack your pumps and glove, gatecrash just about any club in the world, be kitted out in other people's stuff and have a happy evening's fencing.

British Veterans' Fencing organises over-40s fencing in the UK. See [www.veterans-fencing.co.uk](http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk).

**Photo of article courtesy of Malcolm Allton**

This article by Sylvia Brown featured in the Autumn edition of Focus - the U3A (University of the Third Age) news magazine. <https://u3a.org.uk/>



ENGLAND FENCING

## England Veterans Fencing

### AGM 2018

The AGM of England Veterans Fencing will be held at the West Midlands Open on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March commencing at 16:30. The agenda is on the following page of this newsletter.

### SELECTION POLICY

There are two events for which we will need to select teams:

#### Home Nations (Justin Smith Trophy)

Venue: Glasgow

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> April

We will use the same system as last year. If you wish to put your name forward for consideration please email [johncrouch18@gmail.com](mailto:johncrouch18@gmail.com) by the end of February. The committee will meet at the Age Groups to select a team from those submitting their names, based on results from the previous 12 months.

#### Commonwealth Veterans

Venue: Canberra, Australia

Date: 23-28 November

The individual events are open to anyone. England teams will be selected from results at the Veterans National Championships in June. The top 3 England fencers in the last 16 at each weapon who are willing to travel will be selected. A 4<sup>th</sup> fencer will be selected at the event at the discretion of the Team Manager.

### John Crouch



**Commonwealth Fencing Federation**



## Commonwealth Veteran Events Format

The dates for the Commonwealth Veterans Fencing Championships, Canberra, Australia have now been confirmed as 23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Details can be found on the official website:

<http://www.cfc18.net/>

Both the Senior and Veterans Championships will take place during these dates in Canberra.



## England Veterans Fencing Association Annual General Meeting

**Venue:** Castle High School, St James's Road, Dudley, DY1 3JE

**Date and Time:** Saturday 24th March 2018, 16:30hrs

### Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the AGM held on 3rd March 2017
3. Matters arising
4. Reports of Officers
  - a. Chairman
  - b. Secretary
  - c. Treasurer
5. Election of Officers and committee members
6. Any other business
  - a. England team selection

Any items for AOB should be received by the Secretary no later than 7 days before the meeting (i.e. 16th March 2018).

Nominations for Officers and Committee may be made at the meeting, but prior notification is welcome.



**England's WS Team at the Home Nations 2017**  
**Yvonne Walls, Silvia Brown, Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath and Jane Hutchison**



## England Veterans Fencing Association

### Chairman's Report 2018

The year has been quiet with only the Home International in Dublin. The committee have met once and communicated by email to select teams and organise events.

The eleventh Home International was hosted by Ireland in April. We again retained the Justin Smith trophy after an exciting weekend of fencing. This year's event will be in Glasgow on 28th April. The Commonwealth Championships will be held in Canberra, Australia on 23-28 November.

The reorganisation of BVF events has created problems with selecting England teams, and we hope you will agree that the committee have found equitable solutions.

England Fencing continues to be very supportive as well as funding some of our expenses.

I would like to thank Gillian Aghajan for putting information in the BVF newsletter and John Mason for sending out numerous emails. Also thanks to the members of the committee for the time, support and enthusiasm they have put into another successful year.

Moya and I have been Secretary and Chairman for 12 years and it is probably time others came forward to breathe new life into the organisation. I am happy to let anyone know what commitment is required.

**John Crouch**  
**Chairman, England Veterans Fencing**

**Paul Wedge (ENG) v  
Mike McKay (SCO) -  
MF Team match  
Home Nations 2017**





## England Veterans Fencing Association Profit and Loss Account 2017

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
BVF Contribution	514.00		
Home International 4 Nations - Dublin 6.5.2017 Polo Shirts N.B This event was partly funded by England Fencing and Members	156.00	Polo Shirts Commonwealth Games New Zealand 17-20.11.2016. Present for Organiser N.B not included in 2016 Profit and Loss Account	140.64    25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>670.00</u></b>	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>165.64</u></b>
<b>Excess for the year</b>	<b><u>£ 504.36</u></b>		

### BALANCE SHEET

Assets as at 1.1.2017	Assets as at 31.12.2017
Bank Current Account	Bank Current Account
<b>£2,968.52</b>	<b>£3,472.88</b>

**Diane Austin**

**Hon Treasurer EVFA**

**31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

## Competition results (top half)

### Millfield Elite Epee - 06/01/2018

ME (47)	8	Chris Howser
	14	John Leahey
WE (23)	10	Marg Oniye
VME (13)	1	Chris Howser
	2	Nathan Miller
	3	Duncan Salter
	4	Paul Donnelly
	5	William Osbaldeston
	6	Lawrence Burr
VWE (7)	1	Marg Oniye
	2	Caryl Oliver
	3T	Valerie Young
	3T	Catherine Bowd

### Cambridge Winter Tournament - 06/01/2018

MF (61)	9	Mike McKay
	18	John Troaino
	22	Graham Paul
	24	Richard Sage
	26	Tony Williams
	29	Peter Thompson
ME (57)	13	Simon Pink
	18	John Prime
	21	Max Telfer
	24	Paul Townson
	25	Stephen Domek
	27	Paul Willmott
	28	Jon Nottingham
MS (22)	2	Peter Wright
WE (28)	6	Jane Hutchison
	8	Denise Silk
	13	Kate Morwell-Neave
	14	Susan Uff
WS (18)	2	Michele Narey
	3	Jane Hutchison
	8	Caroline Clancy

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

### MOFT (Merseyside Open) - 10/02/2018

MF (76)	26	Mike McKay
	28	Nick Mort
	36	Graham Paul
ME (89)	12	Hugh Kernohan
	19	Granville Ward
	31	Tristan Spicer
	39	Peter Davies
	40	Rob Brooks
	41	Kevan Riley
MS (47)	11	Stefan Leponis
	16	Michael Swiffin
	19	Andy Pearson
WF (32)	8	Amanda Baxendale
	9	Kati Archer
WE (54)	5	Nicola Hull
	17	Karina Calderon Brown
WS (43)	18	Michele Narey
	19	Jane Hutchison

#### 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.*



**Michele Narey (left) and Jane Hutchison (right) - medal winners at the Cambridge Winter Tournament**  
Photo courtesy of Michele Narey

## Caption Competition February

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



### 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)

## Caption Competition December

Editor's choice:

*"No way Jane, this won't be a caption picture!"*

**Editor**



**Photos - Editor**

## BVF contacts

<b>Life President</b>		<b>Henry de Silva</b>  6 Little Meadow Andreas Isle Of Man IM7 4HY Tel: 01624 880 863
<b>Officers</b>	Chairman Newsletter Editor	<b>Gillian Aghajan</b>  Tel: 07747 792 712 <a href="mailto:g.aghajan@btinternet.com">g.aghajan@btinternet.com</a>
	Treasurer Membership Secretary Webmaster	<b>John Mason</b>  Tel: 01225 761 788 <a href="mailto:John@jrmason.demon.co.uk">John@jrmason.demon.co.uk</a>
	Secretary	<b>Marcia Stretch</b>  Tel: 01293 786 841 <a href="mailto:marcia_stretch@hotmail.com">marcia_stretch@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Elected Members</b>	Domestic Fencing Officer	<b>Evert van Gemeren</b>  Tel: 07778 333 601 <a href="mailto:ewvangemeren@gmail.com">ewvangemeren@gmail.com</a>
	International Fencing Officer	<b>Duncan Rowlands</b>  Tel: 07834 987 265 <a href="mailto:duncanrowlands@blueyonder.co.uk">duncanrowlands@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
		<b>Lawrence Burr</b>  Tel: 01823 433 844 <a href="mailto:lsburr@btopenworld.com">lsburr@btopenworld.com</a>
		<b>Graham Paul</b>  Tel: 07968 066 710 <a href="mailto:graham.paul@zen.co.uk">graham.paul@zen.co.uk</a>
		<b>Jonathan Stanbury</b>  Tel: 01823 331 909 <a href="mailto:alfg8@aol.com">alfg8@aol.com</a>
<b>Co-opted Member</b>	Publicity Officer	<b>Malcolm Fare</b>  <a href="mailto:malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk">malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk</a>



### PLEASE NOTE

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

**Gillian Aghajan**

by 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Tel: 07747 792712

email:

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