

NVA News

Brian Makes it BIG

Brian Speight Espada fencing club and Veteran Fencer



Veteran Espada fencer Brian Speight has been seen all around Bournemouth recently, as part of a poster campaign for the council to promote an age friendly message from the council. Wearing his full fencing clothing and holding his mask and epee, Brian is one of four candidates selected following a competition to find active people over the age of 60 who live in Bournemouth.

The individuals were then taken to a studio photographed wearing their appropriate clothing and several weeks later found themselves on larger posters, banners and advertising hoardings around the town. Each had their name and age printed on it together with the Age Friendly reference. Not in a million years did I expect to see myself pasted around the bus stops or hanging in the gardens. Many of my friends have been in contact as well as members of the fencing club with as you might imagine lots of joshing said Brian.

January 2009

- 10th Aldershot Open
- Scottish open
- 17th Northern Irish Open
- 24th NVA Age Group Qualifiers Luton
- 25th NVA Age Group Qualifiers Luton
- 24th Plymouth Open

February 2009

- 7th Slough Open
- 21st Hampshire Open
- 21st Merseyside Open
- 28th Keele Open

The campaign has been running over several weeks and has had a very positive response. So much so that the council intend to run the same campaign again next year. Its amazing to be driving along the road to then suddenly see yourself fronting the side of a bus stop, explained Brian only models and film stars do that not people like me!

In January the Bournemouth Council will distribute its local magazine to all households and will feature a profile of Brian and make reference to Espada Fencing Club. So that will be excellent publicity for the club commented Brian, its publicity we could certainly not afford to purchase. During the year we undertake a variety of activities to promote fencing in the Bournemouth/Dorset area and this publicity will raise more awareness than we could ever organise or have the resources to mount.

The pictures show Brian besides one of his posters displayed at a bus stop.



AGE GROUP QUALIFIERS - ENTRY DEADLINE LOOMS

Just a few days left until the Age Groups Closing Date!

The event is on 24/25 January, with a closing date of 20 January.

Entry is on track for a record year, with many newcomers to the event attracted by the

TWO GUARANTEED WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PLACES
at each weapon in the 50-59 and 60+ categories.

It is also very encouraging to see the 70+ entry going up each year.
The leaders so far are Men's Sabre and Men's Epée, with 6 entries each.

Enter online at <http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/latest.shtml> or contact Hilary Arnold on 020 8373 7953.

CAPTION COMPETITION RESULTS

But if we escape now
we leave the bill to
Dave!

These fencing rules
get dafter by the
year, green hats in
yellow out.....

All FOUR one and one
FOUR all !!



"I can assure you, Princess",
said Frank,"that this certainly IS
the frog you kissed."
Paul Brenda

Two hats, a red plastic bowl
and a joker; what else do you
expect in a Christmas
cracker?

After all their efforts one couple in the fancy dress competition are surprised to learn that they have only been placed fourth.



British Veterans
Fencing



THE FIRST VETS OPEN COMPETITION IN THE UK
THE
NVA CRYSTAL OPEN

SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2009

CRYSTAL LEISURE CENTRE, BELL STREET, STOURBRIDGE DY8 1AE

MENS & WOMENS FOIL

MENS & WOMENS SABRE

**OPEN TO ALL FENCERS OF VETERAN AGE
(MUST BE MEMBERS OF BRITISH FENCING)**

CHECK IN: FOIL 9.30 am SABRE: 12.00 pm

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE

Local accommodation available e.g.
Summerhill Innkeepers Lodge, Kingswinford DY6 9XA (3.5 miles)
£29 per room B & B if booked in advance on line at
www.innkeeperslodge.com or Tel. 01384 270066

plus many more at a similar distance to the venue

ENTRY: £14
(NB: Entry one weapon only, due to time constraints)

ENTRY FORM ON LINE AT www.veterans-fencing.co.uk



Picture Quiz 2009:

The question is not just WHO but WHEN???

Picture 1

Picture 2

NVA NATIONALS 2009

The information and entry forms for the NVA Nationals, to be held in March, will be posted with this newsletter, if you receive the printed copy, or available to all on the NVA website.

NEWS FROM INDIA- DORINDA'S EMAIL

Hi everyone

We have settled in well and are enjoying life at Lakeside.

We are very busy - we've only had one day off since we got here, but we can already see a change in the place and the potential is terrific.

The neighbours, a mixture of European and Indian, are great, we've been out for several meals and had a couple of dinner parties of our own. We have also been to a Hindu wedding which was fascinating.

Pete is now quite experienced at driving on Indian roads, I've yet to have a go. I think the principle is put your foot to the floor, your hand to the horn, close your eyes and go for it!

The weather is great - about 78 at the moment - and definitely does not feel like Christmas! It's nice to be able to take a swim in the lake when things get too hot!

Loki settled in well. We almost lost him to a snake bite but he is OK now; so much so that he killed and ate Joe's turkey and we are now re-thinking Christmas dinner!

Have a great Christmas. Forget all the doom and gloom for a few days at least. I hope that 2009 will be better for you than 2008 has been.

Happy Christmas!

Dorinda and Pete



Jane winning the first Gloucester Quays LLP Women's Sabre trophy 2008

From Gloucester Quays LLP Trophy to the World Championships A year in the Life of Jane Hutchison, By Dave Sweeney

After winning the Gloucester Quays LLP Women's Sabre Trophy at the 2008 National Veterans Fencing Championships in Gloucester Jane Hutchison went on to win the Woman's Sabre World Championships for the second year in a row.

The National Veterans Fencing Championships were held at Oxstalls Indoor Tennis Centre in March 2008 and this was the first time the women sabreurs had a trophy to compete for. The trophy was kindly donated by Gloucester Quays LLP, a company building Gloucester College, retail outlets, hotels and residential property as part of the development of the ancient Gloucester dockside. Gloucester Quays LLP also made a generous cash contribution to the NVA national championships budget allowing the event to be the best ever and setting the standard for future championships.

Jane had a busy year; she was selected to fence in the Great Britain Squad in International Senior A Grade competitions held in Budapest, London, Orlean, Madrid and Foggia where she was competing against Europe's best, many of whom were less than half her age, including her own daughter Jo Hutchison. She was also selected for the England team in the Senior 5 Nations and there won Team Gold.

Jane's results on the domestic scene placed her 6th in the British rankings, a very creditable performance.

In the European Veterans Team Championships in Ciudad Real, Spain, Jane was part of the Women's Sabre Gold Medal winning team.

After being selected to represent Great Britain in the 2008 World Veterans Individual Fencing Championships Jane travelled to Limoges, France, to defend her World Championship title. Showing skill and determination throughout the championships she won the World Championship Gold Medal for the second year in succession. Jane commented

"To win in Sydney in 2007 was a wonderful feeling, but I knew people would be out to get me this time. I thought that the French would be the toughest opponents as the event was taking place in France but everyone had been training hard and there were no easy opponents.

I had put in a lot of training over the year with regular sessions at Bath Sword Club and Salle Hunt Roeder in Bristol. My son Neil, also an international fencer, gave me footwork exercises until my legs ached. Winning the World Championships again is a great feeling: I shall start working hard now for the 2009 World Championships in Moscow."



Jane on the Podium at the World Championships in Limoges 2008

Jane was not the only British fencer to be successful at the 2008 World Championships. Graham Paul, Ralph Johnson and Richard Cohen won Gold Medals at Men's Foil, Epée and Sabre respectively.

Robin Davenport won a Silver Medal in the Men's Epée, Silvia Earl won a Bronze Medal at Women's Sabre and Richard Bonehill and Peter Baron both won Bronze Medals at Men's Sabre. This excellent medal tally meant that Great Britain was Top of the Medal Table in the 2008 World Championships.

Great Britain's veteran fencers success in Limoges bodes well for the future. Several ex international fencers, now over 40 years of age have been attracted back into the sport. This will strengthen our international teams for future championships.

The 2009 season has started and we wish Jane and all of our other champions every success on the international scene. The road starts with the Age Group Qualifiers in Luton later in January and the National Championships in Gloucester in March.

National Veterans Association report for British Fencing 2008

National Champions 2008

	Foil	Epee	Sabre
Men	Graham Paul	Howard West	Chris Prevett
Women	Dawn Townsend	Kate Smith	Jane Hutchison

Membership of the NVA has grown in this, our 21st Anniversary year, to 436, and once again, our National Championships received a record number of entries. The growth in the UK is reflected by the growth of Veteran Fencing globally, but membership in the UK is far in excess of membership in other countries.

The European Team Championships took place in Ciudad Real, Spain in May, and UK Vets attained a Gold Medal in Women's Sabre and a Bronze Medal in Men's Sabre.

The NVA held the inaugural Veterans Winton Cup Team Competition in Lilleshall in September, and over 160 veterans in 9 teams from around the UK, took part over a highly competitive and enjoyable weekend, which included a Gala Dinner for fencers and partners. Bobby Winton and his wife Heather visited the competition and presented prizes to the winning team from the South West.

At the Veterans World Championships in Limoges in October, Great Britain topped the world medal table with 4 Gold Medals, 1 Silver Medal and 3 Bronze medals; a remarkable sporting achievement that demonstrates the in-depth strength of the NVA on the world fencing stage.

The programme of activities organised by the NVA for its members, is growing and 2009 will see veterans continuing to be active within the fencing community at club, regional and international levels as fencers, coaches and administrators.

Further information about the NVA and what we offer, can be obtained from the NVA website "<http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk>" www.veterans-fencing.co.uk

Frank Mills

NVA Chairman

2009 Veterans Home International

Please find below the arrangements for this event so far:

Date: Saturday, April 25th and
Sunday April 26th 2009

Venue:

Royal Belfast Academical
Institution

College Square East
Belfast

BT1 6DL

Tel (44) 02890 240461

www.rbai.org.uk

This school is right in the centre of Belfast, and is easily accessible by public transport from either airport.

Probable running order:

Teams of 3

Saturday morning

11am – Men's Sabre

Women's Foil

Saturday afternoon

2pm – Men's Foil

Women's Sabre

Sunday morning

10am – Men's and

Women's Epee

Entry fees: £20 per weapon team, to cover the cost of hiring the sports hall

Accommodation

A new hotel, the Park Inn, has given us a good price:

Single Room, Bed & Breakfast:
£65 per room per night

Double Room, Bed & Breakfast:
£75 per room per night

Ask for: Aideen McFerran

Reservations Co-Ordinator at the
Park Inn Belfast

4 Clarence Street West Belfast,
BT2 7GP

Tel: +44(0)28 9067 7700

There are several other hotels within walking distance of the venue: Travelodge, Jurys Hotel, Europa Hotel, Premier Inn

(Alfred Street), Holiday Inn, Days Hotel, Hilton Hotel.

There are lots of places to stay further out of the centre of the city that might be cheaper, but it depends on whether fencers wish to avoid hiring a car/ using taxis etc. or not. Ideally, everyone would stay in the same place plus have the dinner there - I am still looking into negotiating a good rate with some of these hotels, but no luck as yet.

Travel:

There are two airports:

Belfast International Airport is 30 minutes away from the city centre. Frequent airport bus service stops right in the centre. Easyjet + Jet2 + Aer Lingus + bmibaby based here.

Belfast City 'George Best' Airport is 5 minutes from the city centre. Ryanair + Flybe based here.

Ferries:

Belfast-Stranraer:

Stena

Belfast-Liverpool:

Norse Merchant

Cairnryan/Troon: P&O ferries

(Dublin is 2+ hours away by car, or 3 hours away by bus if anyone wanted to visit/ combine travel)

Useful tourism sites

www.gotobelfast.com

www.discovernorthernireland.com

If there is any other information that you require at this stage please contact myself or Kate.

A contact email/phone number for each team manager or weapon captain would be helpful, and an entry form will be available on the Vets website soon. However, at this stage I know that team selection and sorting out travel arrangements when flights are cheap is the top priority.

**Looking forward to hearing from you soon,
Fiona**

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VETERANS COMMONWEALTH

JERSEY
St Helier



2009
9-12 July

Venue

The venue is an excellent sports hall some 10 minutes walk from the competition hotel. There is room in the hall for 10 pistes plus a finals piste. It may not be possible to make all 10 pistes metallic, but I think we can get 8 plus the finals piste. There is accommodation for the armoury and the DT. There will be food and drink available all day. The changing facilities are adjacent to the fencing.

Hotel

The Pomme D'Or is on the harbour in St Helier. It is an easy walk to the sports centre, 2 minutes from the bus station and in easy reach of all the facilities of the town. The accommodation and food are excellent and a reasonable rate has been agreed.

Transport

The local bus service is excellent providing transport to all parts of the island for no more than £1.50. This includes from the airport to St Helier, although there is not much room for fencing bags.

Flights

Flights to Jersey from mainland UK can be very reasonable if booked well in advance.

Budget

Funding is going to be an issue. Jersey is looking into sponsorship, but assistance with referees would be appreciated. If each country could fund one referee, then this will help to keep down costs.

Sightseeing

There is much to see and do on the island. Walking and cycling for the energetic and interesting museums and Second World War history for the more sedate.

Website

A website should soon be available with more detailed information.

Note Well

No selection required for the Individual Veterans Commonwealth Games.

The England teams will be selected using the individual results from the event.

MOFT 2009

The Merseyside Open will be taking place over the weekend of 21/22 February 2009 and which will, as ever, be awarding medals to the best-placed NVA member at all six weapons. Entry can be made online or by post, with all details being shown on the tournament website at www.moft.co.uk. We are at a new venue this year, the Greenbank Sports Academy, and are looking forward to showing off the improved facilities.

Hope to see you at MOFT!

Gary Longthorn NVA member.

NVA - Annual General Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Crest Way, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3RX, on Friday 6th March 2009. 20.15 hrs .

The agenda, annual report and a copy of the accounts will be circulated in the February Newsletter.



England Veterans Fencing Association - Annual General Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Crest Way, Barnwood, Gloucester, GL4 3RX, on Friday 6th March 2009. It is anticipated that it will start at approximately 21 00hrs following the NVA AGM.

The agenda, annual report and a copy of the accounts will be circulated in the February Newsletter.

NOTABLE RESULTS

Hereford & Worcester 6/12/2008

- MF (78)
15 Graham PAUL
33 Nick STOKES
36 Jim HARRIS
- ME (129)
15 Anton POLLARD
18 Rob BROOKS
31 Rick KENT
42 Timothy PEARCE
44 Darryl HAZLEWOOD
47 Gerry SIMPSON
57 Paul WILLIAMS
60 John MORRIS
- MS (86)
29 Barry COULTER
38 Julian GHOSH
41 Phil PALMER
- WF (64)
12 Kati SCHOLTZ
17 Dawn TOWNSEND
22 Caron HALE
30 Kim DE LARGE
- WE (39)
16 Tracy RODFORD
19 Susan HANNEY

Cambridge Winter Open 3/1/2009

- MF (72)
17 Daniel HAZLEWOOD
21 Paul SIBERT
26 Austen ROSE
- ME (71)
5 Niall CAMPBELL
9 Howard WEST
11 Chris GREEN
13 Andrew RAMSAY
16 Tom CHRISP
22 Max TELFER
24 John MORRIS
29 Darryl HAZLEWOOD
30 Ian BRIGGS
- MS (48)
7 Anthony SILVER
11 Steve POTTER
15 Michael COMPTON
- WF (33)
15 Kim DE LARGE
16 Joanne REYNOLDS

Sponsor of the NVA



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