

### ***Vets galore help at the Senior Europeans!***



Action shots from the Senior European Fencing Championships and IWAS European Wheelchair Fencing Championships at the EIS, Sheffield. Veteran fencers were there in force as volunteers, officials, coaches and spectators.

*Photos by Editor*

**West Midlands Open - report and results**

**Fencing in Erfurt, Germany**

**Vets at the EIS, Sheffield - photos**

**Winton Cup**

Front page  
Action in Sheffield

Page 2  
Letter from Chairman  
BVF Calendar

Pages 3 to 5  
West Midlands Open  
and results

Page 5  
BVF Car stickers and  
pens

Pages 6 to 7  
An Erfurt Adventure

Pages 8 to 9  
Vets and friends -  
Sheffield 2011 - photos

Page 10  
Winton Cup

Page 11  
Celtic Challenge 2012

Page 12  
Competition results  
News from Henry

Page 13  
Caption Competition

Page 14  
BVF contacts

## Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

Congratulations to Peter Baron, ably assisted by Janet and with John Crouch on DT, for the really excellent and enjoyable West Midlands Open competition run earlier this month in Dudley.

Although the number of Vets taking part was not high, it is a competition that is growing and is now established within the Veteran fencing calendar and it is hoped that more vets will consider participating next year.

The 4th Veterans Winton Cup is our next event on 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September and is promising to be a well supported and enjoyable competition with 9 teams at all weapons taking part.

This year, the competition is being held at RAF Cosford where they have installed a new floor in the large "Stone Gymnasium" and we have an added benefit provided by the RAF with a cafeteria being run by them over the weekend in a room adjacent to the gym. We have support from Leon Paul with their trade stand and our good friends Peter and Janet Huggins will be providing their services with their Armoury.

Details can be seen in this Newsletter and on our website and I know that, at this time of writing, there are still places in some of the teams should you wish to take part.

For anyone wishing to fence please contact one of the Team Captains listed on the website, or myself by email [millsfba@aol.com](mailto:millsfba@aol.com) or phone 01908 310516, and I will endeavour to get you placed in a team.

Yours sincerely

**Frank Mills**  
**Chairman**

### BVF CALENDAR 2011

Sep 10-11	Veterans Winton Cup, RAF Cosford, Telford
Sep 27 - Oct 2	World Championships, Poreč, Croatia
Oct 8-9	Welsh Veterans Championships, Wrexham Contact Gillian Aghajan <a href="mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net">g.aghajan@virgin.net</a> for details
Nov 25	BVF Christmas dinners

## West Midlands Open

A second West Midlands Open has now come and gone. The entry was marginally up on last year but remained disappointing, with only 60 weapon entries. Turn out for the Epée was relatively high, despite the Bill Hoskyns event on the same weekend. On the plus side there were several people entering their first Vets event, including a couple of non-members, who, I am sure will soon be joining the brigade.

Entries for the foil and sabre events were such that, to provide sufficient fencing, the sexes were mixed for a first round. That was followed by a single sex round of poules unique and then DE.

Of no later significance, in the mixed foil, Jonathan Stanbury and Tony Conyard were undefeated with 3<sup>rd</sup> spot going to Caron Hale who pipped Malcolm Fare on indicators. Given the poor start that Paul Smythe had, it was slightly surprising that Malcolm Fare's only defeat in the following poule unique should be to Paul and not one of the other two. Two L16 fights were required with the first going to Jacques Portal following the seeding and the other, a low scoring affair going against seeding with Michael Bex winning 4 -2. In the quarters Jacques then pushed Tony to 10-9 whilst Roman Seniuk pushed Jonathan to 10-8. The other two saw Malcolm and Frank Mills through with rather more to spare. Both semis were fairly close with Malcolm and Jonathan going through. The final proved a step too far for Jonathan who lost 10-4 to Malcolm.

Caron Hale and Jane Clayton looked the favourites in the women's event and whilst both won all their other fights, the fight between them went 5-4 to Caron. However, it was Jane who went on to win, with Caron 2<sup>nd</sup> and the bronzes going to Isabella Codd and Catherine Heyes.

Thanks go to Dave Sweeney, who was unwell and had to scratch but who refereed throughout the foil events.

In the mixed sabre Andy Bornemisza and Steve Potter both won all their fights with Malcolm Cawton losing only to Steve. Carl Moffatt, just off a plane from Angola, fared none-too-well in the mixed round but did better in the Men's event that followed. Paul Brenda, better known for his prowess writing captions, would be pleased with his 3 victories, whilst Lynne Bornemisza was going well but suffered a thumb injury (sorry Lynne) and decided it was wisest to pull out at the end of the round.

Whilst Steve again won all his fights in the Men's poule, both Malcolm and Andy lost fights, including a 5-0 to me that dropped him to 6<sup>th</sup> seed and raised me to 3<sup>rd</sup> seed. This meant, of course that we met in the quarters. Meanwhile, there was one L16 fight which, Gilles Crawford, in his first Vets event, won. He then lost to Steve P., whilst Malcolm beat Paul Brenda and Steve Elwood beat Carl Moffat. I again beat Andy but with rather more difficulty, 10-6 then was swept away by Malcolm 10-5 and Steve P. beat Steve E. 10-4. Steve then made sure it was a clean sweep of victories for the day by winning the final over Malcolm comfortably.

# NOMURA

In the Women's event the main thing of note was that Caron Hale who had sneaked in after the foil, Nickola Beck and Michele Narey each had one defeat in the poule unique. However, it was Silvia Earl, who had had a poor showing up to the DE who eventually came out on top, beating Caron in the final. Michele and Nickola took the Bronzes.

I saw little of the Men's Epée being caught refereeing the Women's event most of the time. On that subject, we are grateful also to Simon Webb and John Morris who were both injured but came along and refereed all day – John allegedly on his way to the supermarket, which he may just have made before it closed!

Ellis Charlesworth had an unfortunate first round winning two fights and losing the rest 5-4; one of those was to John Leahey who went on to be undefeated all day. John's only other scare was against club mate John Rees, another 5-4 win. The DE went according to seeding except for Steve Potter seeded 10<sup>th</sup> beating 7<sup>th</sup> seed Sean Flanagan to reach the L8, the top 4 seeds reaching the semis. These too went to seeding with John Leahey beating Denis Callanan in the final 10-4.

In the Women's first round Kate Elvin won all her fights except for against Jane Clayton, who lost 4. Alice Lawrence was 2<sup>nd</sup> seed after losing just 3 of her fights. Sue Hanney had a poor round by her standards and was 8<sup>th</sup> seed, then beating Carole Sehult for a place in the L8, whilst Angela Findlay (7) beat Silvia Earl (10) for the remaining place. Jane beat Janet Baron in the only quarter final to go with seeding, Sue beat Kate, Angela beat Alice and Moya McNamara beat Caron. In the semis it was Jane and Moya who went through over Angela and Sue respectively and Jane who then took the gold.

Thanks are again due to John Crouch for running the DT (incidentally freeing me up to fence!) and to all those who helped lay and remove pistes, quite definitely too many to mention in the latter category especially – not something one can always expect, as the majority often make a bolt for the door at the end of the event. I must also mention Stourbridge Fencing Club, which supplied all the boxes.

For the second year running I heard of no-one going away dissatisfied with the event. There have been some very kind words said. So, where is everyone else? If you did enjoy it please tell everyone else that you did.

**Peter Baron**

*Note from Editor - Sorry I couldn't make it Pete. I busy was being mother of the bride that weekend :-).*



# West Midlands Open 2011 Results

## Men's Foil

- 1 Malcolm Fare
- 2 Jonathan Stanbury
- 3 Anthony Conyard
- 4 Frank Mills
- 5 Paul Smythe
- 6 Roman Seniuk
- 7 Jacques Portal
- 8 Michael Bex
- 9 Brian Millo
- 10 Wai Sun Ku

## Men's Epée

- 1 John Leahey
- 2 Denis Callanan
- 3 Rob Brooks
- 4 Jonathan Stanbury
- 5 Ellis Charlesworth
- 6 John C Rees
- 7 Malcolm Fare
- 8 Steve Potter
- 9 Sean Flanagan
- 10 Nigel Hinchliff
- 11 Andrew Brown
- 12 Jamie Morris
- 13 Wai Sun Ku
- 14 Michael Bex
- 15 Rob Phelps
- 16 Richie Roberts
- 17 Matthew Hearing

## Men's Sabre

- 1 Steve Potter
- 2 Malcolm Cawton
- 3 Peter Baron
- 4 Steve Ellwood
- 5 Carl Moffat
- 6 Andy Bornemisza
- 7 Paul Brenda
- 8 Gilles Crawford
- 9 Bob Perry



## Women's Foil

- 1 Jane Clayton
- 2 Caron Hale
- 3 Isabella Codd
- 4 Catherine Heyes
- 5 Moya McNamara
- 6 Sue Church

## Women's Epée

- 1 Jane Clayton
- 2 Moya McNamara
- 3 Angela Findlay
- 4 Susan Hanney
- 5 Kate Elvin
- 6 Alice Lawrence
- 7 Caron Hale
- 8 Janet Baron
- 9 Carol Seheult
- 10 Silvia Earl

## Women's Sabre

- 1 Silvia Earl
- 2 Caron Hale
- 3 Nickola Beck
- 4 Michele Narey
- 5 Frances Woodward
- 6 Pat Shepherd-Foster

## Car bumper stickers and pens

Let your car display a BVF sticker with pride!

Also available: BVF pens (black ink)

Prices:

Sticker and pen	£5
Sticker	£3
Pen	£2.50

(a small profit will go to BVF funds.)

If you would like an order sent to you in the post, please email or phone me for details: email: [g.aghajan@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)

Phone: 07747 792712

**Gillian Aghajan**



## Beers and BMWs - an Erfurt Adventure

John Mason's e-mail popped into the inbox announcing a qualifying event in Erfurt (Germany) for the German 2012 world championship team selection. John Troiano and I decided to go. Logistics were a nightmare. I was in Gloucester so flew from Birmingham and John was in London so flew from Heathrow on Friday 24th July. Plan was to meet in Frankfurt. Both our flights were delayed due to bad weather over Frankfurt and my flight was further delayed by the pilot who calmly announced an engine problem as we were on the runway about to take off.

John and I eventually met at about 19:00. John had hired a big BMW (well, it was big compared to my Polo) and, guided by Gladys, my trusty satnav, we set off the wrong way down the autobahn. Actually it doesn't matter that you're going the wrong way as a big BMW on the autobahn goes so fast you can arrive before you set off!

260km later we arrived at our hotel. The restaurant was closed but we blagged a couple of beef ghoulish stews. I don't usually drink the night before a competition and John, being even more professional, never drinks the night before a competition. This night was different. We were tired and I had the prospect of a twin room with John so I drank a couple of litres of beer and Christine, the barmaid, persuaded me to have a schnapps. John too had the beer but was too committed for the schnapps!

We rolled into bed after midnight and I set the alarm for 06:15 but it went off at 05:15 as I'd set it incorrectly! We breakfasted and Gladys took us to the sports centre.

We checked in and warmed up. The competition was strong, all good fencers but John came out of the seeding round seeded 1 and I, much to my surprise and delight, was seeded 2! Into the direct elimination and we both progressed smoothly to the semi finals. I met Renaldo Bartling, John's nemesis from the European champs who beat John at Hénin-Beaumont this year and who went on to place 3rd equal. We had a good fight (in fact I'd beaten him in the seeding round) but I lost 10:8. John went on to beat Renaldo in the final. John closed out the fight 10:5 or 10:6. A sweet result after Hénin-Beaumont.

John was driving the 260km back to Frankfurt so to fortify myself for another high-speed dash and to stave off dehydration I had a beer with Renaldo. I must say all the Germans (and one Swiss competitor) made us extremely welcome. The competition was very well run, the sports centre was great, notwithstanding the fact we came first and third equal the standard of the competition was high and the hot dogs good in a way that only German sausages can be!



***John and Richard take time out***



***John and Renaldo pose for the camera***

So, sausages eaten and more beer drunk (by me, not John) we jumped in the car to drive back to Frankfurt. It was an uneventful if high-speed journey until the point when John hit a road-work sign with the nearside (my side!) wing mirror at some high number of km/h. Oh how we laughed at the thought of giving the nice car-hire man his shiny car and broken mirror!

That all done we couldn't bring forward our flight times so enjoyed a very pleasant 3 or 4 hours eating wiener schnitzel and drinking more beer before returning to Heathrow and Birmingham respectively.

We had a great time. A real adventure and all in the space of not much over 24 hours. The fencing was good (clearly always more enjoyable when you get a food result!) and the Germans made us very welcome. They asked us to go again next year so how about filling a car?

As before, there's something special about these European Vets events. They're serious and fiercely competitive but there is a sense of shared endeavour and certainly when the fights are over there's a real camaraderie. I look forward to the next one.



***Richard and John stop for the camera again..***

***Richard Sage***



***Richard and Renaldo enjoying well-earned beers***



***Happy people!***

***Photos courtesy of Richard Sage***

**Vets and friends at**



*Photos by Editor*

*A great time was had by all, and well done to all the Vet Pink Flamingos!*

*Editor*





and more .....





## 4th VETERANS WINTON

Inaugurated by Sir Nicholas & Bobby Winton



Be part of one of the most enjoyable  
fencing competitions in the calendar

**RAF Cosford, Wolverhampton**

A 2-day competition between 9 Regional teams  
at all 6 weapons

Open to BVF Members (with BVF membership)

*If you would like to fence, contact Frank Mills*

*Tel: 01908 310516*

*who will put you in touch with a Team Captain*

Entry is £20 per person

(Cheques payable to BVF or online using the BVF website  
Accommodation has been arranged at the Park Inn, Telford  
at special rates of £69 double or twin, £56 single

Tel: 01952 429988 and mention Vets Fencing

Gala dinner on Saturday night - book online

## Celtic Challenge 2012 - Galicia, Spain

The next Celtic Challenge will be held in Galicia, Spain in 2012 with provisional dates of 16th/17th June. (May be changed.) If you are eligible (see below) and are interested in taking part, please contact your team Captain.

Cornwall	Richard Bonehill	<a href="mailto:richard@bonehill3.freemove.co.uk">richard@bonehill3.freemove.co.uk</a>
Isle of Man	Henry de Silva	Tel: 01624 880863
All Ireland (UK)	David Sweeney	<a href="mailto:mrdsweeney@hotmail.com">mrdsweeney@hotmail.com</a>
(Eire)	Tom Rafter	<a href="mailto:raftert@eircom.net">raftert@eircom.net</a>
Scotland	Mike McEwan	<a href="mailto:mikemcewan@blueyonder.co.uk">mikemcewan@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
Wales	Mike Norfolk	
	(Gillian Aghajan)	<a href="mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net">g.aghajan@virgin.net</a>

### Invitations

Invitations to the Celtic Challenge are extended to Veteran fencers of Brittany, Channel Islands, Cornwall, Galicia, Isle of Man, All Ireland (combined Northern Ireland and Eire), Scotland, and Wales.

### Eligibility Rules

Fencers must be a minimum of 40 years of age, a member of BVF or their own national Veterans governing body and in possession of a valid and current fencing licence. To qualify to fence in The Celtic Challenge a fencer must also meet one of the following criteria:

- have been born in one of the Celtic countries or regions.
- have a parent or grandparent who was born in one of the Celtic countries or regions.
- have been permanently resident in one of the Celtic countries or regions for a minimum of four years.

Spouses or partners of fencers who do not meet any of the above qualifying criteria are **NOT eligible**.

The competition is run as an Open individual competition, with one round of poules followed by DE, or as a poule unique, depending on the numbers in each discipline. All six weapons are fenced, with medals for first, second and double thirds.

### Team Event

The team events will be decided as follows: At the START of each discipline, the captain/manager of each team will designate his or her named team of three in writing. If a country/region cannot field three fencers, and all captains/managers agree, mixed country/region teams may be allowed but their results will not be included in the final calculation for the overall winning team. They may however, receive certificates in each weapon discipline. At the end of the discipline to calculate the team results, the position of the named fencers will be added together and the team with the lowest number will win certificates. The coveted Celtic Challenge Dragon Trophy will be presented to the most successful country/region.



**The Celtic Challenge Dragon Trophy (currently held by Wales)**

**Photo courtesy of Richard Bonehill**

## Competition results (top half)

### London Open - 18/6/2011

ME (42) 19 Howard West  
WE (15) 7 Mariette Mason

### Bill Hoskyns Open - 2/7/2011

ME (78) 39 Denis Callanan  
39 Tom Chrisp

### Norfolk Open - 16/7/2011

MF (53) 11 Richard Sage  
12 John Troiano  
ME (36) 9 Andrew Brown  
WF (22) 6 Dawn Townsend  
WS (8) 3 Silvia Earl



## A letter from Henry de Silva

Dear Editor,

I enclose a card that was sent to me by Jane Hutchison drawn by Jenny Osbaldeston for Fencing Time. I think that it would raise a few smiles.

To the Vets who have been beaten by Thomas Corlett, he has won three events this year, the latest being the Wrexham Open, he is one of my pupils.

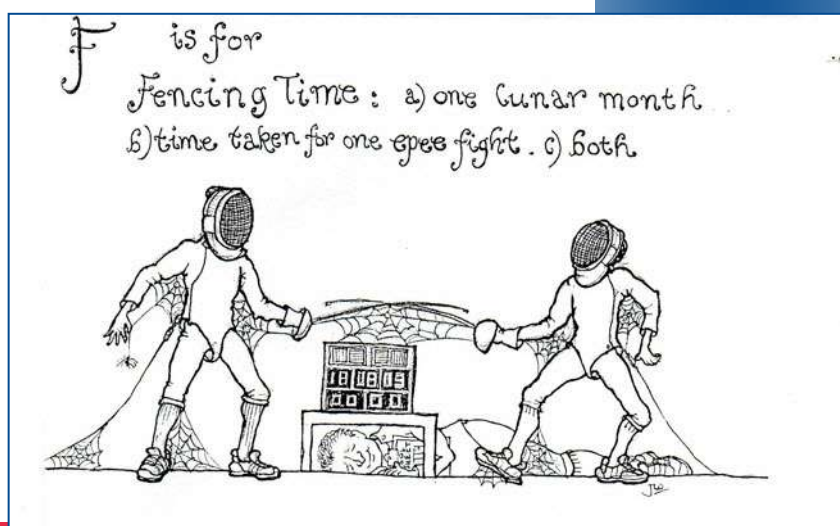
In a tournament in Manchester, four pupils under 11 who had never seen an electric foil before and only fence with French grips came away with 2 gold and 1 silver.

Anyone wanting to come to the island for training is very welcome. We are willing to travel as an Isle of Man team to England or elsewhere.

Sincerely,

**Henry de Silva**

P.S. I recently won a gold medal for walking 4.5 miles in 53 minutes.



**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@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)



**Caption Competition July**  
send your entry to Editor  
[g.aghajan@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)

**Caption Competition June**  
Touche guys! - Editor

*"Look into my eyes. Look deeply into my eyes. When you next hear the words, 'Richard Cohen', you will go immediately to the nearest WH Smith's and buy a copy of my latest book ... at full price. Now step back and join the others."*  
**Paul Brenda**

*"Have you heard the one about Paul Brenda and the Italian dominatrix?"*  
**Richard Cohen**

**Photos by Editor**



## BVF contacts

<b>Life President</b>		<b>Henry de Silva</b>  6 Little Meadow Andreas Isle Of Man IM7 4HY Tel: 01624 880863
<b>Officers</b>	Chairman	<b>Frank Mills</b>  Tel: 01908 310516 <a href="mailto:millsfba@aol.com">millsfba@aol.com</a>
	Treasurer Membership Secretary Webmaster	<b>John Mason</b>  Tel: 01225 761788 <a href="mailto:BVF@jrmason.demon.co.uk">BVF@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>	International Fencing Officer	<b>David Sweeney</b>  Tel: 01453 758372 <a href="mailto:mrdsweeney@hotmail.com">mrdsweeney@hotmail.com</a>
	Domestic Fencing Officer	<b>Peter Baron</b>  Tel: 01384 400242 <a href="mailto:bvf@baronfencing.plus.com">bvf@baronfencing.plus.com</a>
	Newsletter Editor	<b>Gillian Aghajan</b>  Tel: 07747 792712 <a href="mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net">g.aghajan@virgin.net</a>
		<b>Jonathan Stanbury</b>  Tel: 01823 331909 <a href="mailto:alfg8@aol.com">alfg8@aol.com</a>
	<b>Lawrence Burr</b>  Tel: 01823 433844 <a href="mailto:lsburr@btopenworld.com">lsburr@btopenworld.com</a>	
<b>Co-opted Members</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 August BVF Newsletter should be sent to:-

**Gillian Aghajan**  
by 15th August 2011

**Tel: 07747 792712**  
**email:**  
[g.aghajan@virgin.net](mailto:g.aghajan@virgin.net)

