

**British Veterans
Fencing**



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Membership to BVF is open to anyone who is passionate about fencing and is aged 40 or over on 31 December of the year of joining

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BVF Newsletter

December 2023

Medals at Daytona Beach!



President's foreword

Hi all and welcome to our Xmas roundup Newsletter. As usual thanks to Gillian for putting it all together and Lucy as part of the editorial team.

As you will see we've had a lively last quarter of the year with the highlight obviously being the World Championships in Florida. Congratulations to all who qualified for the event. Both the vets Worlds and the vets European championships are not only great competitive events but they are also great social events which is part of the ethos of veteran fencing. However, apart from the European Individuals not everyone can qualify to compete. But this does not mean that as members you are not welcome to travel over to support and be part of the GB squad. In fact we welcome as much support as we can get so please bear in mind that, even if you are not fencing you are always more than welcome (cost not withstanding) to join us.

You will have all read the news about our founder Henry and his recent birthday. We wish him all the very best and our thoughts are with him.

I would like to welcome our new members. 24 named in this issue. Fantastic news. From absolute beginners, which is great to very well known names such as Jon Willis. Or names from the past like Martin Hunt, son of the unforgettable Dennis Hunt. And Jenny Hutchison daughter of our own Jane Hutchison (big shoes to fill there Jen). Welcome to Steve Potts ex GB squad member. He's been away from fencing for nearly a quarter of a century!! I fenced him recently and he is still (annoyingly) far too good. And last, but not least my own club mate, the demon gents hairdresser Chris Jupp. Whilst he tries to keep my own fencing as sharp as his scissors unfortunately my own head has absolutely no need at all for his professional styling expertise. Great to see all these names beginners or experienced alike.

Finally I see that Gillian has cruelly picked me, yet again, for the caption competition. Try and be kind folks.

Enjoy the read and I wish you and all your families a very happy Christmas

Carl



Henry de Silva - 90 years old on 16th November



Henry at the 2022 Veteran Commonwealth Championships

The following article by Malcolm Fare was widely published on Henry's 90th birthday:

Henry de Silva celebrates his 90th birthday today the 16th November. He started fencing when he joined the Royal Navy at the age of 15 and the following year hitchhiked to Paris to fence at the Cité Universit . After leaving the Navy in 1952, he started the Guildford Technical College Fencing Club, going on to become match secretary for Surrey and helping to produce the county magazine *To The Point*. Soon he was organising fencing trips abroad, starting with a group in a London taxi to a number of clubs in Germany.

After qualifying as a sports coach, he moved to Birmingham where he established the Portland Fencing Club, which at one point had 99 members. Among his pupils was Sue Green, whom he took on her first trip abroad to Krefeld in Germany where she reached the final; she went on to win all the major British women's foil tournaments, including the senior championship in 1969, and twice fenced for Britain at the Olympics.

Henry moved on to Leicester, coaching and fencing competitively whenever he wasn't lecturing on PE. On his 40th birthday he won the Tyneside Open epee. He started several clubs in the area, becoming chairman of Leicester County Fencing Union and an executive on the East Midlands Sports Council. He organised the first age group championship for girls, ran school leagues and for several years organised one of the Leon Paul Junior Series. He has also run fencing clinics in Europe, North America and Asia.

But his greatest service to the sport was as the founder of veterans fencing in Britain and Europe. In 1980 he organised the first veterans' epee competition, which attracted just six epeeists. It was not held again until 1987, when he transformed it into a five-weapon national championships (women's sabre was added in 1999) and 2 years later he formed the National Veterans Association (now British Veterans Fencing).

Henry travelled all over the country encouraging fencers over the age of 45 to stay on in the sport. In 1991 he formed the European Veterans' Association and organised its first championships, persuading a handful of fencers from England and Germany to stay in converted Nissen huts in the grounds of Beaumanor Hall, near Loughborough, Leicestershire.

From these small beginnings, the movement has grown to become one of the most successful ventures in fencing, with a national membership of around 600, biennial European championships now approaching 1800 entries across all weapons and age groups from 40-49 to 75+ and 4-yearly Commonwealth championships. The success of these events resulted in the FIE organising annual world veterans' championships for fencers from more than 20 countries. There is also a veterans' Winton Cup, a Celtic challenge and many other competitions for veterans. Henry is Life President of British Veterans Fencing, Vice-President of the Commonwealth Veterans Association and a former Chairman of the European Veterans Association.

In 1991 he wrote a three-weapon manual, *Fencing: The Skills of the Game*, a second edition of which was published in 1997, and was still taking copies to sell at competitions more than 20 years later. Ceaseless in his quest to spread the gospel of veterans fencing around the world, Henry has organised groups to visit Denmark, Finland, Germany, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Poland, Russia, Spain and further afield, including Tunisia, South Africa, Mexico, New Zealand and Japan.

For the past 30 years, Henry has lived on the Isle of Man, where he continues to coach and, until five years ago, fence competitively at veteran events. He also played competitive table tennis and was a regular race walker. At the age of 75 he completed a 10-mile walk in 2 hr 03 min 19 sec, which unofficially made him the fastest man in the country at that distance in his age group.

Ten years later, he entered the European veterans' championships in France without bothering to have his equipment passed and was promptly banned. Despite his sometimes eccentric behaviour, he is held in great affection by hundreds of veteran fencers whose enjoyment of the sport he has helped to foster through the movements he founded. Henry, on your 90th birthday we salute you.



Olympic torch bearer 2012

Malcolm Fare

Carl took a very sad phone call from Henry shortly after his birthday thanking BVF for the above article and for the card and hamper that we sent to him.

Unfortunately on the day of his birthday he received news that he has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. He hasn't been given a timeline but it's obviously devastating news which, with Henry's permission, has been communicated to our members.

Our thoughts are with him and if anyone would like us to forward on a message to him, please [email Lucy](#) who will collate and send them to him by post.

Veterans World Championships 2023



The Veterans Fencing World Championship were held at Daytona Beach, Florida, USA from 11th – 16th October and were much anticipated. Having crossed the pond from our various locations we were all pleased to see an excellent venue. The weather was variable with a tornado warning very early one morning, but that proved to be just heavy rain and from then on the weather improved and fencers could enjoy time out on the beach.

Extreme alert

National Weather Service: TORNADO WARNING in this area until 5:45 AM EDT. Take shelter now in a basement or an interior room on the lowest floor of a sturdy building. If you are outdoors, in a mobile home, or in a vehicle, move to the closest substantial shelter and protect yourself from flying debris. Check media.

The event was efficiently run, and the friendliness was excellent. The schedule was different from previous Championships – 2 weapons per day (all categories) with the corresponding team events the following day, and for individual events, two waves of finals and medal presentations. The standard of refereeing was excellent with live stream and video refereeing from the L8 onwards. The GBR squad comprised of 59 fencers, with a total of 72 individual weapon entries and 6 team entries, plus 3 privately funded coaches, 16 supporters and the Team Manager.

DAY 1

MS 50

Emmanuel Therond ranked 25th after the poules fenced brilliantly to reach the L8 meeting Esquerre (FRA) missing out on a medal 6-10, finishing 7th. Edward Simpson, ranked 5th, narrowly went out by one hit, 9-10, to Kaczmarek (POL) in L32.

Gold	Moretta (ITA)
Silver	Berger (GER)
Bronze	Wrase (GER)
Bronze	Esquerre (FRA)

Emmanuel Therond	7
Edward Simpson	17
Nick Fletcher	31
Shafik Saba	35
(Total 42)	

WF 50

Gold	Seal (USA)
Silver	Carter (USA)
Bronze	Salamandra (AIN)
Bronze	Zurlo (ITA)

Kate O'Connell	11
Helen Thouless	33
Lisa Drage	35
Nicola Hull	37
(Total 37)	

WF 60

Gillian Worman, ranked 2nd after the poules, defeated Jane Clayton to reach the L8 then meeting Aubailly (FRA). A 10-5 victory put her in L4 to meet Kercheis (GER). Kercheis took the win with Gillian achieving Bronze.

Gold	Starks-Faulkner (USA)
Silver	Kircheis (GER)
Bronze	Worman (GBR)
Bronze	Walters (USA)

Gillian Worman	Bronze
Sheila Anderson	10
Jane Clayton	15
Jenny Morris	19
(Total 24)	



Gillian with coach Graham Forster

MS 60

Gold	Lundborg (USA)
Silver	Kas (FRA)
Bronze	Heck (USA)
Bronze	Feira Chios (ITA)

Roger Nickless	12
Julian Ghosh	13
Chris Prevett	22
Jonathan Dawkins	26
(Total 31)	

MS 70

Richard Beath ranked 7th after the poules made the L8 to fence Carl Morris ranked 2nd. Carl's experience gave him the upper hand to take a 10-2 victory to then meet Carmina (ITA). At 9-9, the referee checked the video and awarded a hit to Carmina, which gave Carl Bronze.

Gold	Streb (USA)
Silver	Carmina (ITA)
Bronze	Morris (GBR)
Bronze	Gutman (USA)

Carl Morris	Bronze
Richard Beath	7
Richard Cohen	9
Peter Baron	21
(Total 24)	



Carl stands proud on the podium

WF 70

Susan Uff reached the L8 to meet Someroja (FIN). In a valiant match, a 4-10 loss put her out of the medal zone.

Gold	Gardini (ITA)
Silver	Delacour (FRA)
Bronze	Offerle (USA)
Bronze	Someroja (FIN)

Susan Uff	6
Janet Perkins	18
Moira Punt	21
(Total 21)	

DAY 2

MS TEAM

Placed 4th after the poules our team defeated Japan 30-21 to meet Italy in the semi-finals. Italy took the victory 30-24 leaving the team to fence in the Bronze medal match against France. In an exciting match, a 30-27 victory gave the team well deserved Bronze.

Gold	USA
Silver	Italy
Bronze	Great Britain
(Total 7)	

Team

- Richard Cohen
- Nicholas Fletcher
- Julian Ghosh
- Carl Morris
- Roger Nickless (contd)
- Edward Simpson
- Captain – Emmanuel Therond



MS Team on the podium

WF TEAM

Placed 5th after the poules the team fenced brilliantly to defeat France 28-27 placing them in the semi-finals against first ranked Italy. A strong Italian team took victory 23-14 with our team then having to face Germany for Bronze. Germany edged their way ahead finishing 30-15, leaving our team in 4th place.

Gold	Italy
Silver	USA
Bronze	Germany
GBR	4 th
(Total 6)	

DAY 3**ME 50**

Gold	Normille (USA)
Silver	Peyret Lacombe (FRA)
Bronze	Katashima (JPN)
Bronze	Pirani (ITA)

Alex Ellison	15
Greg Allen	26
Leslie MacDonald	34
Tim Buzwell	45
(Total 71)	

WS 50

Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath ranked 6th after the poules reached the L8 to meet Hori (FRA). In a tight match Hori took the win 10-8, with Jacqueline finishing 6th.

Gold	Seal (USA)
Silver	Graudins (GER)
Bronze	Hori (FRA)
Bronze	Thome (GER)

Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath	6
Caroline Martin	17
Michele Narey	19
Claudia Baxter	27
(Total 28)	

WS 60

Ranked 2nd after the poules, Jane Hutchison steadily made her way into the L8 to meet Camerin (ITA). A 10-4 win took her into the semi-finals to fence Pernice (USA). The American took the victory 10-4 with Jane achieving a well-earned Bronze.

Gold	Fabry (USA)
Silver	Pernice (USA)
Bronze	Zini (FRA)
Bronze	Hutchison (GBR)

Jane Hutchison	Bronze
Jenny Morris	17
Angela Findlay	18
Vanessa Hendra	22T
(Total 24)	



WS 60 medallists

WS 70

Silvia Brown was ranked 4th after the poules and reached the L8 to meet Lepeltier (FRA). An exciting 10-9 victory put her into the semi-finals to fence against Eyre (USA). Eyre took the match 10-6 with Silvia taking a well-deserved Bronze.

Gold	Eyre (USA)
Silver	Bender (USA)
Bronze	Brown (GBR)
Bronze	Dunn (USA)

Silvia Brown	Bronze
Susan Uff	12
(Total 17)	



WS 70 medallists

ME 60

Neal Mallett ranked 9th after the poules worked his way into the L8 to meet 1st ranked Le Barbier (FRA). In a valiant match, Le Barbier took the victory 10-6, with Neal finishing 7th.

Gold	Tivenius (SWE)
Silver	Birkenmaier (GER)
Bronze	Dragonetti (USA)
Bronze	Le Barbier (FRA)

Neal Mallett	7
Hugh Kernohan	12
Andrew Luckman	26
Philip Jordan	28
(Total 55)	



Neal and Le Barbier

ME 70

Ranked 4th after the poules, Brian Causton fought his way into the L8 to meet Osvath (AUS). In a tense match, Brian missed out on a medal 8-10, finishing 5th.

Gold	Osvath (AUS)
Silver	Imreh (HUN)
Bronze	Noel (FRA)
Bronze	Gaudry (FRA)

Brian Causton	5
William Osbaldeston	21
Paul Harden	33
Graham Paul	40
(Total 45)	

DAY 4**ME TEAM**

Our team, ranked 11th after the poules defeated 5th ranked Germany 30-22 to meet France in the L8. France took the upper hand with a 30-10 victory, with GBR finishing 8th.

Gold	USA
Silver	HUN
Bronze	FRA

Great Britain (Total 13)	8
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Team

Greg Allen
 Brian Causton
 Hugh Kernohan
 Leslie MacDonald
 Neal Mallett
 William Osbaldeston
 Captain – Graham Paul

WS TEAM

The team ranked 2nd after the poules in a field of 7 teams, because of the rules could not fence a team in the first DE who they had fenced in the poules (AUS). USA ranked 1st decided to fence in the first DE (L8) and GBR were thus given a bye into the semi-finals. A good victory of 30-23 over AUT gave them a place in the final against USA. A sterling performance against very strong opponents resulted in 22-30, with well-deserved Silver.



A pause in the poules with two French fencers

Gold USA
 Silver GBR
 Bronze ITA
 (Total 8)

Team

Silvia Brown
 Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath
 Vanessa Hendra
 Jane Hutchison
 Michelle Narey
 Susan Uff
 Captain – Caroline Martin



WS silver medallists with Caroline Martin and Chris Prevett

DAY 5

WE 50

Georgina Usher was focussed and determined, and ranked 1st after the poules continued in her master class of epee, making her way into the L8. Victories against Marheineke (USA) 10-2 and Nutt (AUS) 10-3 took her into the final against De Groot (SWE). A well-earned 10-7 victory gave her a very well deserved Gold medal.

Gold Usher (GBR)
 Silver De Groot (SWE)
 Bronze Nutt (AUS)
 Bronze Charroy (FRA)

Georgina Usher Gold
 Nicola Hull 32
 Marg Oniye 34
 Sarah Budden 40



A jubilant Georgina - World Champion!

WE 60

Gold Hohlbein (GER)
 Silver Osvath (AUS)
 Bronze Hoyne (CAN)
 Bronze Cirillo (ITA)

Jenny Morris 12
 Fiona Turnbull 16
 Maggie Tait 20
 Jane Clayton 29
 (Total 34)

WE 70

Susan Uff was ranked 4th after the poules and reached the L8 but missed out on a medal in a close match of 8-10 to Bowie (USA), finishing in 6th place.

Gold Kocab (USA)
 Silver Someroja (FIN)
 Bronze Hoffman (HUN)
 Bronze Bowie (USA)

Susan Uff 6
 Janet Baron 22
 Silvia Brown 25
 Marilyn Hardy 27
 (Total 28)

MF 50

Nick Payne, tied 11th ranking after the poules, went from strength to strength defeating Cambon (USA), in the L16 10-6, then Anderson (USA), 10-6 to reach the semi-finals. A 10-7 victory against Beurenault (FRA) saw him in the final against Lacroix (FRA). Lacroix took the win 10-5 with Nick achieving a brilliant silver medal finish.

Gold	Lacroix (FRA)
Silver	Payne (GBR)
Bronze	Limov (CRO)
Bronze	Beurenault (FRA)

Nick Payne	Silver
Mike McKay	26T
Alex Ellison	26T
Nick Mort	38T
(Total 45)	

MF 60

John Troiano was ranked 2nd after the poules and stormed his way to the L8 to defeat Akerberg (SWE) 10-5 for a place in the semi-finals. A tense 9-10 loss to Reynolds (AUS) placed him with a well-earned Bronze.

Gold	Huerto (FRA)
Silver	Reynolds (AUS)
Bronze	Umezawa (JPN)
Bronze	Troiano (GBR)

John Troiano	Bronze
Greerson McMullen	13
Paul Wedge	16
Nick Fihosy	22
(Total 42)	



John and Nick with 'The Eagles'



GBR supporters

MF 70

Gold	Lutton (USA)
Silver	Yamazaki (JPN)
Bronze	Imreh (HUN)
Bronze	Ide (JPN)

Brian Causton	10
Graham Paul	23
Paul Harden	27
Steve Fox	28
(Total 33)	

DAY 6

MF TEAM

Ranked as 2nd seeding but finishing 8th after the poules the team was in a difficult and disappointing situation. Because they had already fenced Australia the team was drawn against 2nd ranked Japan but lost 17-30, finishing in 8th place.

(Total 8)

Gold	FRA
Silver	ITA
Bronze	JPN

Team

- Brian Causton
- Mike McKay
- Graham Paul
- Nick Payne
- John Troiano
- Paul Wedge

WE TEAM

Ranked 3rd after the poules with victories against Italy and Switzerland, the team was drawn against Germany but were narrowly defeated by 25-28.

The final position was 5th.
(Total 8)

Gold	GER
Silver	HUN
Bronze	FRA

Team

Janet Baron
Jenny Morris
Marg Oniye
Fiona Turnbull
Susan Uff
Georgina Usher
Captain – Nicola Hull

After 6 days of fencing our final position on the medal table was 5th.

Last 8 positions (individual)

5	Brian Causton ME 70
6	Susan Uff WF 70
6	Susan Uff WE 70
6	Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath WS 50
7	Emmanuel Therond MS 50
7	Richard Beath MS 70
7	Neal Mallett MF 60

GBR Medallists

Gold	Georgina Usher WE 50
Silver	Nick Payne MF 50 WS Team
Bronze	Gillian Worman WF 60 Carl Morris MS 70 MS Team Jane Hutchison WS 60 Silvia Brown WS 70 John Troiano MF 60

Full results are on the event website:

[Daytona Beach 2023](#) (Live results)



It was, as always, both an honour and a pleasure for me to be Team Manager. Congratulations to the whole squad for their best efforts, sportsmanship and support for each other, and of course, to all of our medallists. The next Veterans World Championships will be in Dubai or one of the other Emirates; the exact location and dates have not been announced as yet by the FIE.

Gillian Aghajan
GBR Team Manager

MEDAL TABLE

Place	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	USA	13	4	7	24
2	FRA	3	3	10	16
3	ITA	3	3	5	11
4	GER	2	4	3	9
5	GBR	1	2	6	9
6	AUS	1	2	1	4
7	SWE	1	1	0	2
8	HUN	0	3	2	5
9	JPN	0	1	4	5
10	FIN	0	1	1	2
11	CAN	0	0	1	1
11	CRO	0	0	1	1
11	AIN	0	0	1	1

GBR v GER – Munster, Germany

August was the time for the long established GBR v GER match. This year it was the turn of Germany to host the competition, in Munster.

We set off in our various ways to converge on the town; in retrospect a five hour drive from Calais may have been a bit far but companionships are made on long journeys.

We were housed in a bijou hotel in the centre of Munster and met with our hosts at a bar in town. The weather was balmy and Munster was buzzing especially with bicycles. So many bicycles, the cycling capital of Germany with over 100,000 citizens using them!

The fencing took place in at the Sporthalle Den Martini Schule, an easy walk from the hotel. There was an official welcome by Silke Weltzien, on behalf of the team and Harald Lüeders who was unwell and unable to be present.

In the morning were the team matches and the afternoon individual sparring. The results I cannot remember but it was a win for Germany overall. More important than the results were the fun and friendship that was kindled and rekindled.



Our hosts took us on a walking tour of Munster en route to our evening reception and meal. The history was a fascinating one with the beautiful St Lamberti Church in the centre with its see through tower, eerily illuminated. Munster was the location for the Anabaptist rebellion in the 16th century; the gruesome cages still hung from the tower where the leaders of the rebellion met their grizzly end; the quirkiness of the Astronomical clock in the Munster Cathedral which runs anticlockwise and is pretty famous in the world of clocks; the eerie sound of the official tower keeper blowing her horn on three sides of the Lamberti Tower every half hour from 9pm to midnight; no foes, no fires. Well that's alright then.

We head back to the hotel feeling the trip had been a great success in friendship and fencing and wend our long journeys home.

Jane Hutchison

Vets v Royal Navy v Royal Holloway University London

On a wintry, overcast Sunday morning in late November this year, groups of oddly dressed athletes, old and young, slide unobtrusively into HMS PRESIDENT, with the Tower of London and Tower Bridge, looming out of the gloom, the only observers. This was not the hosting of a villainous group or the beginnings of a nascent coup – indeed, this was instead the start of the annual UK Veterans versus Royal Navy fencing match, hosted in London for the first time this decade. As an added bonus Royal Holloway University Fencing Club were invited making it a triangular for the first time – and literally ‘cradle-to-grave’ in terms of fencing ages...

Fighting 20 relay-matches on three pistes across 5 weapons (no WF) this was a very busy Sunday indeed. There was both quality and quantity in the fencing, while the Drill Deck of PRESIDENT, the London Maritime Reserve unit, provided quite the most unique venue, situated as it is on a pontoon over the Thames, the sound of the vibrant river-traffic and rise and fall of the river as an interesting acoustic backdrop.

The closest matches were between the experienced Veterans (including World Champions and World Championship medal winners) and the Navy, while Royal Holloway gained valuable piste time before they carried on with their BUCS fixture list. Crucially, there was good humour and bonhomie throughout, and the matches were undertaken in good spirits. The Veterans continued their recent dominance, winning overall and beating the Navy into second place, with RHUL bringing up the rear honourably.



Rubin Nash (Lt Cdr RN)

News from European Veterans Fencing

European Individual Championships 2025

Due to circumstances beyond their control, Klagenfurt is not longer able to host the European Championships in 2025. We thank our Austrian colleagues for the enthusiasm and share their disappointment.

I am pleased to announced that Plovdiv will now be hosting this event - dates 28 May to 1 June. We thank our Bulgarian friends for taking this up at short notice and look forward to a great event.

Caryl Oliver
President EVF



New BVF Members

***A very warm
welcome from
BVF to all our
new members!***

Jonathan Blackhurst	Camden	Jason Eden	Harrogate
Julian Brewer	Lansdowne	James Gaughan	Ex Army
Gary Coe	Harrogate	Linda Green	Edinburgh <i>Scottish textile artist, marathon runner and member of Edinburgh Fencing Club. I compete in sabre.</i>
Lousia Dawson	West Fife		
David Doupe	Lazlo		

I started fencing for the first time just under 2 years ago having enjoyed watching my eldest son take up the sport 6 months earlier. I fence at Laszlo's, and as I turn 40 this coming year was encouraged by the other BVF members at the club.

Sheila Haswell 3 Blades
I am a 60+ novice who started fencing epee in Derbyshire in January 23. I had been watching my daughter fence for 10 years so I thought I ought to give it a try. I love it - jumping around stabbing people is great fun. I'm lucky to have 2 clubs to learn where there are many talented veterans. Would be really interested in some vet group coaching. I hope to enter some competitions next year.

Stephen Haley Gravesham

Alastair Houldsworth

Martin Hunt Premier Sabre Club

Jenny Hutchison Shakespeare's Swords
I'm Jenny (daughter of Jane) 41 - have fenced forever but stopped due to family stuff/young children and now do all that and a full time job as an occupational therapist doing stroke and neuro rehabilitation in Coventry. My partner Chris Buxton is head coach at Shakespeare's Swords so I decided to join veterans fencing so that I can dabble occasionally! I can usually be found running the café at Shakespeare's Swords fencing events and like to think I make a good coffee!

Gerald Jackson Stratford Fencing Club
I fence in Stratford-on-Avon. I'm fairly new to the sport (I've been doing it a couple of years) and I thought I'd join BVF so that I can take part in competitions even though I have no expectation of winning anything.

Chris Jupp Seacourt

Tomas Kazik Sutton Coldfield

Magdalena Lewandowska CADS

Gareth Martin Stone

Claire Murray Stormont
I have now officially become a Veteran at 43 years of age.

I have recently started back to fencing after nearly a 20 year break due to a long illness.

I started fencing when I was 11 at Victoria College Belfast with the late Bill Cumming my then coach. Special mention to this man who was an absolute gentleman and I couldn't have asked for a better introduction to the world of fencing than from him. I fenced for N.I. at School, Cadet and Senior level for many years.

I promised Bill Cumming before he passed that I would get back to fencing when I could and try and do him proud!

I started back to fencing just last year and I have to say the passion and love for the sport has fully returned! I can't get enough of it! The great Fiona Haldane has kept me right and is my Fencing Fairy Godmother keeping me right and training me hard! I fenced Foil in the early days but I have been officially converted to world of Epee!

I currently fence at Stormont Fencing Club and Queens University Belfast (still trying to keep up with the young ones!)

I look forward to my 1st British Veteran Competition in Guildford in January and to meeting you all.

Ella Petuhhov Espada

Andrew Moroz Wingerworth

Stephen Potts Kingston

Stacey Reeve Allez Fencing

Will Ross Reading

Ian Smith Huntingdon

Gillian Stone Skipton

Anna Valendia Bristol Blades

Nick Weston Packwood

Paul Williams Wellington

(contd)

New BVF Members (contd)

Jon Willis

Salle Paul

It's taken me a few years to realise I'm over 40 years and with a desire to get back into the competitive side of fencing in the next 5 years (body dependent!) it seemed sensible to join the BVF. I would also like to bring the knowledge and expertise in the field of competitions to the BVF circuit when I'm less busy at work and home.

Simon Woodford

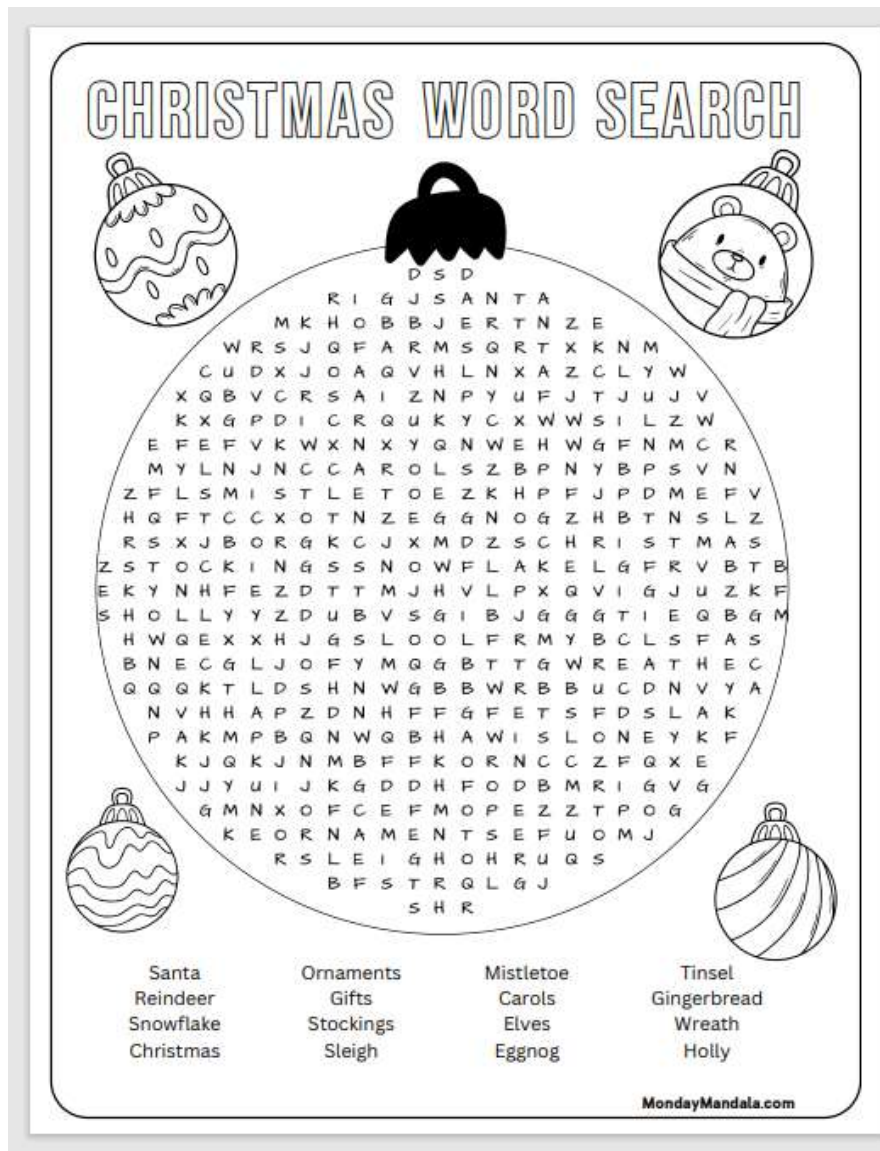
Kingston

I was a keen junior epeeist for about 10 years in South Africa, coached by Claudia Holgate. I stopped when I went to university, and ended up not picking up a sword for 20 years. I have now restarted at Kingston Fencing Club in South London. I enjoy competing despite being very rusty, so I've joined the BVF so I can join in the Veterans' competitions. But I also just like being part of the community.

Anna Zaitseva

Haverstock

I fenced in Estonia from 1989 to 2001 and represented Estonia in national Cadet and Junior teams. Since 2007 I live and work in UK and decided to fence again at some point as I am very fond of fencing and find it a beautiful sport.





*A Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
to all our readers !*



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If you would like an article to be included in the next newsletter please email:
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Friends! Fun! Fencing!

British Veterans Fencing

Life President

Henry de Silva

Committee

President

Carl Morris

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Ex officio:

Publicity Officer

Malcolm Fare

Caption Competition



Send your entry to g.aghajan@btinternet.com



“Kola seriously worried his skull cap may have lost him first place in the coolest fencer competition, has just been told if it was orange he would have been streets ahead.”

Ev van Gemeren