



## ET16 SPECIAL EDITION

**Exceptional ET16!**



**Womens sabre team wins Gold!**

Photo by Editor

**Results**

**Messages**

**Photos by  
Gillian Aghajan  
Andy J Davison Photography  
Tom W Smith Photography**

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# European Veterans Team Championships 2016

## Chairman’s letter

Dear Members,

I am very proud of everyone who had a part to play in the success of ET16 and to have been one of the team. The planning and hard work by all paid off and made this 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary European Veterans Championships an extremely enjoyable and well run event. This special edition newsletter celebrates that success with messages, results and photos.

Well done to all GBR teams on some excellent fencing and sportsmanship and many congratulations to our medal winners:

SILVER	Womens Sabre (GV)	Connie Adam Silvia J Brown Jenny Morris Pat Shepherd-Foster Yvonne Walls
GOLD	Womens Sabre	Beth Davidson Jane Hutchison Michele Narey Emma Potter Emma-Louise Waller
GOLD	Mens Foil (GV)	Anthony Bartlett Mike Bradbury David Miller Graham Paul Paul Wedge

A special thank you to GBR Team Administrator Jane Hutchison and GBR Team Manager Sue Benney.

Sincerely,

**Gillian Aghajan**  
**Chairman**





# European Veterans Team Championships 2016

## GBR Squad selected for ET16

(team members' names in alphabetical order)(C) denotes captain

VETERANS	GRAND VETERANS
<b>Mens Foil</b> Jeffrey KIY - 2 Mike McKAY - 1 Nicholas MORT - 1 Graham REID - 1 John TROIANO - 2 (C)	<b>Mens Foil</b> Anthony BARTLETT - 3 Mike BRADBURY - 4 David MILLER - 4 Graham PAUL - 3 Paul WEDGE - 3 (C)
<b>Womens Foil</b> Caron HALE - 2 Kate MORWELL-NEAVE - 1 Kate O'CONNELL - 1 Fiona TURNBULL - 2 Gillian WORMAN - 2 (C)	<b>Womens Foil</b> Sheila ANDERSON - 3 Diane AUSTIN - 4 Sue CHURCH - 4 Clare HALSTED - 3 (C) Jenny MORRIS - 3
<b>Mens Epee</b> Keith BARNETT - 2 Nigel FANCOURT - 2 Chris HEAPS - 2 Chris HOWSER - 1 (C) Paul TOWNSON - 1	<b>Mens Epee</b> Robin DAVENPORT - 4 Robert PHELPS - 4 Jonathan STANBURY - 3 (C) Alasdair URQUHART - 3 Howard WEST - 3
<b>Womens Epee</b> Nicola HULL - 1 Mariette MASON - 2 Helen THOULESS - 1 Georgina USHER - 1 (C) Valerie YOUNG - 2	<b>Womens Epee</b> Sylvia BROWN - 4 Jane CLAYTON - 3 Fiona HALDANE - 3 Jenny MORRIS - 3 (C) Carole SEHEULT - 4
<b>Mens Sabre</b> Barry COULTER - 2 Stefan LEPONIS - 1 Duncan ROWLANDS - 2 (C) Edward SIMPSON - 1 Andrew THORNLEY - 1	<b>Mens Sabre</b> Peter BARON - 4 Malcolm CAWTON - 4 Michael COMPTON - 4 Mike GARRITY - 3 Carl MORRIS - 3 (C)
<b>Womens Sabre</b> Beth DAVIDSON - 1 (C) Jane HUTCHISON - 2 Michele NAREY - 2 Emma POTTER - 1 Emma-Louise WALLER - 1	<b>Womens Sabre</b> Connie ADAM (4) Silvia BROWN (EARL) - 3 (C) Jenny MORRIS - 3 Patricia SHEPHERD-FOSTER - 4 Yvonne WALLS - 3

Selected but injured - Kristin Payne WF GV (4) and Richard Phelps ME (2)

## How we did

### GBR results

#### GV Womens teams

Epee	4th	5
Foil	5th	6
Sabre	SILVER	4

#### V Womens teams

Epee	8th	11
Foil	5th	7
Sabre	GOLD	6

#### GV Mens teams

Epee	6th	12
Foil	GOLD	5
Sabre	5th	7

#### V Mens teams

Epee	12th	17
Foil	8th	10
Sabre	7th	10



Womens Sabre GV - SILVER  
Yvonne Walls, Pat Shepherd-Foster,  
Jenny Morris, Silvia Brown,  
Connie Adam



Womens Sabre - GOLD  
Emma Potter, Emma Wallis,  
Jane Hutchison, Michele Narey  
Beth Davidson



Mens Foil GV - GOLD  
Tony Bartlett, Mike Bradbury  
David Miller, Graham Paul  
Paul Wedge

## **An Organiser's View**

It was a good event. I wandered into the Accreditation and Weapon Control room to find the Accreditation desk staffed by a couple of volunteers I had never seen before. They were dealing with participants as they came in as if they had been doing it all their lives. There were no queues or delays that we had seen in previous Championships. We had planned what had to be done and found team leaders who were able to take volunteers and train them to do a job effectively.

I must mention the Armourers. These chaps are first in the venue in the morning and last out at night. They don't see daylight from the start of the event to the end. They are good. They are not only good at doing things to fencers kit but they are usually expert in a number of other fields as well. And they have a great camaraderie, all suffering the same long hours I suppose. It is always a pleasure to work with them and being largely out of sight they are under-appreciated by the rest of us.

Another day I was up on the balcony watching a medal ceremony. A ceremony is quite complex, finding the fencers and VIPs, getting them to appear at the right time with the right music; announcing everyone's names, getting the ceremony videoed for posterity etc etc etc. This requires quite a number of people doing their jobs and co-ordinating among themselves.

The ceremony went like clockwork and I felt really proud to be part of BVF and part of the Organising Committee that made it all happen. Well done everyone who made a contribution to ET16, we were a great team.

## **John Mason**

*John in conversation with Tracey Crouch - Minister for Sport and Tourism*



## What the Dickens!

*Photos - Editor and Brian Speight*

Charles Dickens moved to the Medway area when he was five and spent a happy childhood around Chatham. His father, John, a clerk in the Royal Navy pay office, was transferred to Chatham Dockyard in 1817. Medway is at the 'heart of Dickens Country' and throughout the year special events and activities take place to celebrate the life, times and work of the Great British author.

Master of Ceremonies, Brian Speight, came up with the brilliant concept of the Dickens theme for ET16 and enlisted the help of the Dickens Fellowship to produce a fantastic Opening Ceremony.

Brian also had the idea of a Dickens street backdrop for the finals piste and made this all himself. It was very novel to have Dickens characters leading finalists and medal presentation parties on to the finals piste and others carrying the medals. Has anyone at another fencing competition ever been led on the finals piste by a rat catcher or chimney sweep....?





# European Veterans Team Championships 2016

## Thank you!

We did it team ET16! What a fantastic 25th Anniversary celebration!

Great team work to produce a great Team Championships. Well done everyone for your hard work, professionalism, dedication and positive attitude.

The success of this event is due to everyone who contributed to the organisation and running of the event. Grateful thanks to everyone on behalf of British Veterans Fencing and the Organising Committee.

A special mention to the rest of the Organising Committee: John Mason, David Sweeney and Katie Rhodes.

Also to:

Accreditation Manager  
Armourers

Ann Dawkins  
Simon Axon, Adam Bartley, Jonathan Courtney,  
Andrew Goodier, Trevor Hill, Malcolm Holford, Janet  
Huggins, Peter Huggins, Steve Jackson, Rob Kirby,  
Dave Lichfield, Andrew Nisbet, Noel Cortes Ortiz,  
Alastair Savage

Audio/Visual Engineer  
Cashier  
Ceremonies Manager  
Event Manager

Kola Ayanwale  
Sonya Mason  
Brian Speight  
David Sweeney (in advance)  
Katie Rhodes (during the event)

Finals Manager  
Floor Manager  
Fundraising Manager  
Graphics Designer  
Hospitality Manager  
Information Manager  
IT Manager  
Master of Ceremonies  
Medical Officer  
Merchandising Manager  
Photographers  
Protocol Managers  
Quality Control  
Referee Coordinator  
Registration Manager  
Secretary  
Transport Manager  
Treasurer  
Venue Manager  
Videographer  
Volunteers Manager

Paul Baillache  
Jon Dawkins  
Lawrence Burr  
Anne Mills  
Gillian Aghajan  
Pete Baron  
John Mason  
Brian Speight  
Clare Halsted  
Ingrid Heskett  
Tom Smith Photography and Andy J Davison Photography  
Cary Zitcer, Lawrence Burr, Hilary Philbin  
Caryl Oliver  
Mike Thornton  
John Mason  
Marcia Stretch  
Lawrence Burr  
John Mason  
Jon Dawkins  
Chris Green  
Katie Rhodes (in advance)  
Maggie Lloyd-Jones (during the event)  
John Mason

Webmaster



## European Veterans Team Championships 2016

Directoire Technique: President John Crouch, John Mason, Mike Thornton. Secretariat: Mike Robinson, Moya MacNamara, Janet Baron and Diane Austin

The Dickens theme and entertainment: Dickens Fellowship, Kent Stage Academy, Medway Magicians, Medway Lindy Hoppers, Gillingham Dramatic Society

Volunteers

Referees

Flag bearers from local fencing clubs Mallard (Herne Bay), Invicta (Sandwich) and Shortland House (Bromley)

Medway Council, Lindsey Horton (Major Sports and Tourism Manager) and the brilliant staff at Medway Park

Sponsors: England Fencing, British Fencing, Leon Paul, OFEC, Ruffart, Topkit, Activ8

Fund raisers and those who gave personal donations

And last but not least the Fencers from all participating countries.

***Gillian Aghajan***  
***Chairman ET16 Organising Committee***

### **European Veterans Fencing**

David Sweeney retired as President of EVF and Caryl Oliver was unanimously elected new President at the EVF Congress meeting.

Thanks to David for his hard work and dedication over the years and to Sue Church, Secretary who also stood down but agreed to carry on for a few months until a new secretary is appointed.

David and Sue were both unanimously elected as Members of Honour of EVF. John Mason was elected to the EVF Board as Communications Manager. Congratulations to both Caryl and John on their appointments.

The new EVF logo features 'Spike' - the symbol of ET16 - a permanent legacy of a fantastic Championships

Designed by Anne Mills



## The Medals

EUROPEAN VETERANS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016				
		GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
<b>GRAND VETERANS Women's Teams</b>	EPEE	FRANCE	GERMANY	FINLAND
	FOIL	GERMANY	FRANCE	RUSSIA
	SABER	GERMANY	GREAT BRITAIN	FRANCE
<b>VETERANS Women's Teams</b>	EPEE	GERMANY	AUSTRIA	SWEDEN
	FOIL	RUSSIA	GERMANY	ITALY
	SABER	GREAT BRITAIN	RUSSIA	GERMANY
<b>GRAND VETERANS Men's Teams</b>	EPEE	ITALY	GERMANY	BELGIUM
	FOIL	GREAT BRITAIN	ITALY	GERMANY
	SABER	ITALY	GERMANY	FRANCE
<b>VETERANS Men's Teams</b>	EPEE	UKRAINE	GERMANY	FRANCE
	FOIL	FRANCE	RUSSIA	ITALY
	SABER	RUSSIA	ITALY	GERMANY

Photo -  
Made by Medals UK

## GBR Tracksuits

Designer Anne Mills was not only responsible for design of all things ET16 but also designed our new tracksuits in conjunction with producer Ingrid Heskett.



Michele and Jane proudly model their new tracksuits



Fabulous medals designed by Anne Mills  
Made by Medals UK  
Photo - Delinaeta/Medals UK

## Messages

Dear Gillian,

On behalf of the Board of European Veterans Fencing I would like to extend a big thank you to you and your team for delivering such an excellent European Team Championships! The venue was well laid out, the events ran without drama and the volunteers were friendly and helpful. It was a very good experience for the fencers, their supporters and outside visitors.

The Dickensian theme was a charming way of linking the event to the region and everyone who participated, in whatever capacity, felt warm and welcomed by their British hosts. Your efforts to maintain the highest standards for even the smallest elements delivered a cohesive and impressive outcome.

Well done!

Caryl Oliver  
President EVF

*Dear Gillian,*

*I just want to pass on my personal congratulations to you and the committee for a job well done in Medway Park. From everything I saw it went off very well indeed, and I heard a lot of positive and enthusiastic feedback from visiting teams regarding the competition organisation, the venue, online entries, accreditation, weapon control, ceremonies and general presentation.*

*It was also good to see so many familiar faces playing a part - a great example of good teamwork!*

*My thanks and best wishes to all involved.*

Hilary Philbin  
President, British Fencing

Great job done on the Europeans - you must be delighted (if exhausted) with the smooth running of the event. Huge congratulations to all concerned, and to all the excellent volunteers you managed to rope in.

Fiona Haldane

*Thank you All for the great championships! It was good to be with and it was good to meet you all there!*

*It always needs lots of work many ways.*

*Marja-Liisa Tuulikki Someroja*



I wish to put on record what a wonderful WOW! competition Gillian, Committee and Volunteers put on. Other countries expressed the efficiency and smoothness of how the competition ran. The 25th Anniversary of (European) Veteran Fencing had a professional but friendly atmosphere.

The dinner was well attended. A letter from the Queen was read out and there was also a letter from Gillian Sheen 1950 (Olympic) Gold Medallist. Congratulations also to all the fencers that represented GB and especially those that got medals.

Sincerely,

**Henry de Silva**  
**Life President BVF**  
**EVF Member of Honour**

*EVF Members of Honour  
 Laki Dobridis and Henry de  
 Silva cut the cake at the  
 25<sup>th</sup> Annivesary dinner*

*Dear Gillian and friends,*

*I write on behalf of the Belgian Veterans, but also in my name.*

*I also thank you and all people involved in the organization of these championships, which were well organized I find.*

*The Belgian teams and people had a very good stay, and also lovely weather, which you also have to merit!*

*We also enjoyed the interesting things to see in the surroundings such as the Medway Dockyards.*

*Last but not least we had a very good support beforehand with amongst others John Mason.*

*Obviously we also congratulate Caryl Oliver and thank David Sweeney for all his job during these years.*

*All the best to them for the future!*

**Paul Van Agtmael**  
**President of the EVBVS (Belgian Veterans)**

Dear Gillian!

Many thanks for fencing festival-Championship of Europe 2016! Fencing Federation of the Sverdlovsk region expressed deep gratitude for your kind and warm attitude towards all competitors!

**Olga Alexandrova**  
**Yekaterinburg Sverdlovsk oblpt**



Sadly I do not have all the email addresses to communicate directly with each member/volunteer of British Veterans Fencing who helped put on the ET16 event on at Medway but on behalf of all of us at the Lansdowne Club we would like to say a very BIG THANK YOU for organising so brilliantly the European team championships.

As competitors we often forget about the very hard work, time and preparation involved with so many components from piste set up, medical, referees, equipment, scoring, live feeds/internet, catering, presentation etc which are all important ingredients to the success or failure to an event like this.

It was very apparent that the event had been well planned and very well executed. The number of volunteers was remarkable for which we thank you as it enables us as competitors to participate easily and efficiently.

If you could, on behalf of us all at the Lansdowne Club, extend our huge thanks and appreciation to all the staff,volunteers,and organisers involved we would be most grateful.

You have certainly set the bar high for Italy when the next event is held.

**Paul Wedge**

Dear Gillian,

As the Chairman of the organising committee of these Veterans European Team Championships in Medway, I'm happy to offer you, on behalf of French Fencing Federation, all my congratulations for their organisation. 25th anniversary of EVFC's championships couldn't be better celebrated. This success is due indeed to your personal involvement as well as all the volunteers. Please pass on my warm thanks to all of them.

If I may point out three particularly items, I'd name the "so British" opening ceremony (with the brilliant reference to Charles Dickens), the smooth running of the competition and the best website I've ever seen.

Thank you once again for this outstanding promotion of EVFC. I'm sure that future organisers will take advantage of your example, for the greatest delight of veteran fencers.

**Benoit Pincemaille  
Head of French delegation**



## Some of Team ET16





# European Veterans Team Championships 2016



Rehman Chisti  
MP for Rainham and Gillingham



Event Manager  
Katie Rhodes on local TV



The Referees



Hilary Philbin  
President  
British Fencing

GBR Mens Foil GV team with the  
Mayor and Mayoress of Medway -  
Councillor and Mrs Kemp



Richard Hicks, Director of  
Regeneration, Community and  
Culture, Medway Council  
Councillor Howard Doe, Deputy  
Leader and Portfolio Holder for  
Housing and Community Services,  
Medway Council  
Tracey Crouch, Minister for Sport,  
Tourism and Heritage  
Gillian Aghajan and Graham Paul





**Caption  
Competition**

**ET16 - 1**

Send your entry to Editor

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



**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**

**ET16 - 2**





Send your entry to Editor

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**Photos - Editor**

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**PLEASE NOTE**  
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