



NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2016

Thank you Lansdowne Fencing Club!



Action at the Lansdowne Fencing Club Fundraising Event

Photo courtesy of Andy McQueen

**ET16 - Lansdowne Club International Foil
Report and photos**

Competition results

International Events

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European Veterans Team Championships 2016

ET16 countdown - only 2 full months to go! Have you volunteered or donated yet to be part of this amazing 25th European Championships Event? Contact the ET16 Organising Committee!

Details here: <http://www.et16.eu/contact.aspx>

Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

I was very pleased to attend the Lansdowne Fencing Club International Veterans Foil Team Invitation Event & Fundraising Gala Dinner at the Lansdowne Club, Mayfair on 6th February. It was an extremely enjoyable event with some world class foil fencing and a fabulous gala dinner. It was my honour to make a speech on behalf of BVF and to present ET16 pins to the finalists. I am delighted to say that the event raised the spectacular sum of £4367.90 for ET16 funds. Very grateful thanks go to all who were involved in the organisation of this event, particularly to Gerry Gajadharsingh and Richard Sage, to those who donated auction and raffle prizes and to all who gave their support. You will find a report and photos on pages 4-6.

I look forward to seeing many of you and welcoming new members at the BVF Championships in Gloucester. The AGM will be held in the Tennyson room on Friday 4th March at the Holiday Inn, Crest Way, Gloucester at 20:15 hrs. You should have received full documents by email or post.

The West Midlands Open (WMO) will be held on 19th and 20th March at Dudley. Full details and a link to online entry can be found on the latest news page on our website: <http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/latest.shtml>. This is a friendly competition for all abilities. Please support this event if you can. Unfortunately I can't be there as that weekend is a family occasion for me.

I received some queries about the possibility of 80+ category. I have now been informed that at the recent FIE Comex meeting they voted against formally introducing the 80+ age category. This means there will not be an official 'test' version of this category for the 80+ fencers who will now have to compete in the 70+ group at the Veterans World Championships in Stralsund, Germany. The organisers have indicated that they are prepared to run an informal 80+ epee only event if they can find a spot to fit it in. There is a problem in that many of the older fencers do more than one weapon so timing could be tricky if they are going to fence in an extra event but on the good side this would provide a real demonstration to the FIE that 80+ category might be viable.

Sincerely,

***Gillian Aghajan
Chairman***



European Veterans Team Championships 2016

BVF Calendar 2016

BVF CALENDAR 2016	
Mar 4-6	BVF Championships 2015, Gloucester Sabre - Friday. Foil - Saturday. Epee - Sunday Event Manager: John Crouch
Mar 4	BVF AGM, Holiday Inn, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 3RX
Mar 19-20	West Midlands Open 2016, Dudley, West Midlands Event Manager: Peter Baron
Apr 9-10	Vets Home International, Durham Event Manager: Beth Davidson
May 5-8	European Team Championships, Medway, Great Britain
Jun 4-5	Age Groups 2016, Bletchley Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
July 23-24	Celtic Challenge, Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland Event Manager: Michael Ryan
Sep 24-25 Note change of date	Veterans Winton Cup 2016, Lilleshall Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Oct 10-16	Veterans World Championships, Stralsund, Germany Event Manager: Gillian Aghajan
Nov 17-20	Commonwealth Veterans Championships, Christchurch, New Zealand www.cvfc2016.nz.com
Nov 27	BVF v Royal Navy, HMS President, 72 St Katharines Way, London E1W 1UQ Event Manager: Peter Baron

See BVF website home page for European competitions and events - www.veterans-fencing.co.uk.

International Events



Mar 5-6	GER	F	E	S	26th Individual North German Veterans Fencing Championships, Hannover Details
Mar 12	UKR		E		Ukraine Big Fencing Games, Kiev Details
Mar 12-13	ITA	F	E	S	Busto Arsizio (VA) Details
Mar 12-13	FRA		E		French Vets Circuit, Saint-Maur (near Paris) - Indiv & teams Details
Mar 19-20	GBR	F	E	S	West Midlands Open 2016, Dudley, West Midlands Details
Mar 20	FRA	F			French Vets Circuit, St Malo
Mar 27	FRA			S	French Vets Circuit, Saint-Jean de la Ruelle (nr Orleans)
Apr 16-17	ITA	F	E	S	Chiavari (GE)
Apr 19	FRA			S	French Vets Circuit, Maisons Alfort (near Paris) Details
Apr 23	FRA	F			French Vets Circuit, Saint Denis de l'Hotel (nr Orleans)
Apr 30-May 1	FRA	F	E	S	French Vets Circuit, Lyon
May 5-8	GBR EVFC	F	E	S	European Team Championships, Medway, Great Britain Details
May 28-29	SWE		E		Malmö International , Malmö Details
May 28-29	CAN	F	E	S	Can/Am Veterans Cup, Markham, Toronto, Canada - Indiv & teams Details
May 29	BEL		E	S	4th Vets Tournament - Team Epee and Sabre, Ghent Details



The Lansdowne Fencing Club International Veterans Foil Event

The Lansdowne Fencing Club was delighted to host the this very special event on Saturday 6th February 2016 to raise funds for the European Veterans Fencing Team Championships to be held in Medway, Kent, UK in May 2016, ET16

Back in May 2015, at the European Veterans Individual Fencing Championships in Croatia, Gillian Aghajan, Chairman of BFV asked if we had any ideas to raise funds for ET16; this was our contribution, an International Veterans Men's Foil Team Invitation Event and Fundraising Gala Dinner.

The fencing was originally conceived as a triangular match, Richard Sage having invited Udo Jacoby from Germany and Fabio Miraldi from Italy to bring Men's Veteran Foil Teams to a match at the Lansdowne Club. A group of Lansdowne Fencers went to Budapest in September and invited Atilla Csak to bring a Hungarian Team and at the World Championships in Limoges in October we spoke to Thomas Åkerberg, and invited the Swedes. The Germans brought two teams and Lansdowne turned out two teams so there were seven teams in total: two German; one Hungarian; one Italian; one Swedish; two Lansdowne teams. Our only stipulation was that fencers had to be veterans, over forty. It was a truly world-class field with many of the competitors having represented their countries and it led to some very strong fencing.



With each team fencing every other we had seven rounds, starting at 09:00 and running through to about 16:00. We fought nine individual fights in each round and the two top teams, Hungary and Italy, fenced again in the Gala Final in the Lansdowne Ballroom. Each fencer got 18 fights and there was a bottle of champagne for the fencer with the most individual victories. This was won by Robert Kiss who won 16 of his 18 fights – Robert was fencing for Hungary. Richard Sage presented the prize to Robert at the Gala Dinner commenting that it was a shame there wasn't a prize for the least victories as he would have shared that with one of the Germans!

It was a great day's fencing fought in good spirit. and we have had some very nice e-mails thanking us. Who knows if we will remain in the EU post June but we consolidated old friendships and made new ones that day. We look forward to the return matches.

Bar a few minor logistical hiccups as we led up to the event and an exhausting 18 fights during the day for each of the fencers, we were ready as our non-fencing guests arrived at 5pm for drinks and to be seated in the fabulous Lansdowne Ballroom in preparation for the Gala Final, ably presided by our 2 FIE referees Ms Indra Angad-Gaur (Netherlands) and Mr Steve Glaister (UK). About 80 people in total watched the final which was won in great style by the team from Hungary (Csak, Kiss, Kunfalvy), beating Italy (Bosio, Di Russo, Cutugno).

Pre dinner drinks were then offered to our guests, whilst those teams participating in the final had a chance to shower and change and the Lansdowne staff turned the Ballroom back into our dinner venue to accommodate our 21 fencers and close to 70 guests.

Susie Gajadharsingh and Nina Sage then turned on their charm persuading our guests to purchase raffle tickets, for prizes ranging from tickets to see the West End musical Mamma Mia to fabulous red & white wine and Italian food. Susie and Nina's hard work raised the fantastic sum of £670.

Jeff Kiy kindly donated for sale the DVD he produced called "Get the Edge", a modern guide to foil fencing. Asking for a contribution of £5 per DVD we raised £130 from this initiative.

A lovely 3 course Gala Dinner followed with copious amounts of wine, sourced by Mr Tony Bartlett, followed by a speech from Gillian Aghajan, who also presented the final teams with ET16 commemorative pins, and short speeches from Richard (who organised the fencing part of the event) and Gerry (who organised the Gala Final and Fundraising).

We then offered for auction, 8 fantastic prizes ranging from a beautiful hand-made quilt, a charming 1763 Angelo Fencing Print, 6 Nations tickets to England v Ireland match and a pair of tickets for The Patron's Lunch, donated by members of The Lansdowne Fencing Club, BF and BVF. After some generous bidding all lots were sold, raising a truly wonderful amount of £3,375.

Coupled with a profit made on the Gala Dinner (£717.90), we were delighted that The Lansdowne Fencing club managed to raise a total of £4,367.90 for BVF and £525 for British Fencing (for The Patron's Lunch tickets), a grand total of £4,892.90.



As always, these things don't happen by accident and Gerry and Richard would like to take this opportunity to thank the following:

- All who contributed to the auction and raffle
- Mr Carlos Urrutigoity (Lansdowne Sports Club Manager)
- Ms Lucy Mannering (Lansdowne Events Manager)
- Ms Anna Gherman (Lansdowne Events Team)
- Katie Rhodes (British Fencing Events Manager- who kindly arranged our exhibition piste)
- Allstar Uhlmann Fencing Equipment (who loaned us the scoring equipment)
- Gillian Aghajan Chairman British Veterans Fencing
- The Lansdowne Fencing Club
- Susie Gajadharsingh & Nina Sage
- Andy McQueen (photographer and Lansdowne Fencer) and Thomas Åkerberg (photographer and Swedish Fencer)

So to conclude, we had a fantastic day of high level fencing and a night to remember and more importantly we wish the organising committee - Gillian, John Mason, David Sweeney and Katie Rhodes and all at BVF great success in the forthcoming ET16.

***Gerry Gajadharsingh & Richard Sage
The Lansdowne Fencing Club***



***Photos courtesy of Andy McQueen,
Thomas Åkeburg and Editor***

Lansdowne Event



Photos by Andy McQueen and Editor

Veterans Home International 2016 - 9th/10th April

England Veterans Fencing is pleased to be hosting the 2016 Home Nations.

Venue - Graham Sports Centre, Durham University, Maiden Castle, Durham DH1 3SE.

Gala dinner.- Saturday 9th April at Durham Old Town Hall, Market Place, Durham. Arrive 7.30 for 8pm serving. Cost - £26. [Link to order meal](#)

[Home Nations dinner](#)

Closest hotel to dinner: Premier Inn Freemans Quay Durham City Centre. [Premier Inn Durham](#)

Who was there?

This photo, recently on Facebook, was taken at the Junior World Championships, Tehran, Iran in 1967. Any BVF members there? I can identify one! - Editor





European Veterans Team Championships 2016

Competition results (top half)

Peter Frohlic Cup - 16/01/2016

WS (34) 6 Rachel Lasance

NI Open - 23/01/2015

MF (23) 9 Duncan Salter

ME (28) 8 Duncan Salter

WE (15) 6 Fiona Haldane

Trans-Pennine Sabre - 24/01/2016

MS (22) 8 Michael Swiffin
 9 Andrew Thornley

WS (9) 2 Emma Waller

Merseyside Open - 13/01/2016

MF (60) 9 Mike McKay
 29 Lindsay Watkiss
 30 Jeff Kiy

ME (72) 3 Chris Taylor
 11 Tom Chrisp
 17 Chris Heaps
 24 Rob Brooks 9

MS (48) 5 Andrew Thornley
 13 Stefan Leponis
 17 Michael Swiffin
 20 Kevin Alexander
 24 Keith Davidson

WF (21) 7 Catherine Heyes

WE (47) 8 Nicola Hull
 16 Gillian Stone
 22 Susan Brooks
 23 Marg Oniye

WS (31) 2 Rachel Lasance
 9 Emma Waller
 12 Vivien Frith
 13 Yvonne Walls

Reminder

Please remember to enter competitions using the name on your BVF membership card. If you use another name your results will not be found by the software that compiles the report as above.

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



**Caption
Competition
January**

Send your entry to Editor
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



**Caption
Competition
January**

Editor's choice -










*"Italian caught on camera changing
"scissors" to "paper" to beat England Veteran."*

Paul Brenda



Photos - Editor

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PLEASE NOTE
 Any articles or letters for the March BVF Newsletter should be sent to:-

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 by 15th March 2016

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