

Wales wins the Celtic Challenge!



Lyn Robinson, WVFA Chairman and Wales Team Manager, proudly displays Arthur the Dragon - the Celtic Challenge trophy

Photo by Editor

GBR Squad for Vets World Championships

Celtic Challenge

Malta Open Fencing Championships

Competition results

CONTENTS

Front Page	Celtic Challenge
Page 2	Chairman's letter
Page 3	BVF Calendar 75+ Competition - Isle of Man Gough Papers
Page 4	GBR Straslund squad
Page 5	Age Group medals
Pages 6	Celtic Challenge
Page 7	BVF Merchandise A letter from Henry
Page 8	England Veterans - Commonwealths
Pages 9-11	Malta Open
Page 11	Sabre success
Pages 12-13	Competition results
Page 14	Foil competition in Hungary
Page 15	Caption competition
Page 16	BVF contacts

Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

It doesn't seem possible that it was four years ago that many of us were volunteers or officials at London 2012. I am sure that if you were there working or as a spectator that you have some great memories. BVF wishes GBR fencers Richard Kruse, Lawrence Halsted, James Davis and Marcus Mepstead the best of luck at the Olympics in Rio and the same to GBR wheelchair fencers Piers Gilliver and Dimitri Coutya at the Paralympics.

The Age Groups took place in June and were well attended. Thanks to Team Event Manager Marcia Stretch, DT - John Crouch, John Mason and Moya McNamara, armourers Peter and Janet Huggins, all referees and volunteers for an excellently run and enjoyable event. I was sorry that I could not be there for the first day of competition or the dinner but it was a pleasure to present medals on the second day.

The GBR squad list for the World Championships which are being held in Stralsund, Germany in October is in this newsletter. Congratulations to all.

Several Vets headed to Malta for the annual Malta Open competition and got some good results. There are two reports in this newsletter.

There have also been some good results for Vets in Open competitions. It is great to see that Vets are competing successfully against younger fencers. A force to be reckoned with!

Ireland's Veterans Committee hosted the 7th Celtic Challenge at Dublin City University at the end of July and what a great event it was. Friendly, efficient and well fought with a superb gala dinner followed by Irish music and dancing with a chance to join in with the professional Riverdance cast dancers. Fabulous! Thank you to our Irish hosts.

The committee is currently deliberating on selection, competition format and ranking and an announcement will be made soon.

Sincerely,

Gillian Aghajan
Chairman

The Volunteers' Boss -
Caryl Oliver

London 2012



BVF Calendar 2016

BVF CALENDAR 2016	
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

Henry's Competition - 75+ Isle of Man

Dates: 18/19/20 August
Age categories: over 75, over 80 and over 85 years,
men and women, all weapons
Cost: £10 per weapon

There will be no elimination.
Accommodation details can be supplied on request for hotels, bed & breakfast or self-catering. A sightseeing tour will be arranged.

Phone Henry de Silva for further details - 01624 880863

Gough Papers

Lawrence Gough has published the "Gough Papers" www.goughpapers.com
It is interesting for those members who knew C L de Beaumont and J Emrys Lloyd and also those who may even remember Lawrence!

GBR Squad for Veterans World Championships - Stralsund

	MF	ME	MS
Cat A	Jeff Kiy (T)	Keith Barnett (T)	Duncan Rowlands (T C)
	John Troiano (T C)	Hugh Kernohan (T C)	Peter Howes (T)
	Nick Fihosy	Jon Nottingham	Barry Coulter
	Kola Abidogun	Nigel Fancourt	Evert Van Gemeren
Cat B	Paul Wedge (T)	Alasdair Urquhart (T)	Richard Cohen (T)
	Graham Paul	Ralph Johnson (T)	Chris Prevett (T)
	Anthony Bartlett (T)	Anton Pollard	Martin Toms
	Steve Fox	Jonathan Stanbury	Carl Morris
Cat C	Mike Bradbury	Robin Davenport (T)	Andy Bornemisza (T)
	Brian Causton (T)	William Osbaldeston (T)	Malcolm Cawton (T)
	Michael Compton (T)	Chris Green	William Osbaldeston
	Brian Millo	Robert Phelps	Peter Baron

	WF	WE	WS
Cat A	Gillian Worman (T)	Valerie Young (T)	Jane Hutchison (T C)
	Caron Hale	Denise Silk (T)	Caroline Clancy
	Kati Archer(T)	Marg Oniye	Michele Narey (T)
	Jacqueline Hibbert	Maggie Tait	Grace Coulter
Cat B	Clare Halsted (T C)	Jane Clayton (T)	Silvia J Brown (T)
	Jenny Morris	Caryl Oliver (T C)	Jenny Morris (T)
	Jane Clayton (T)	Jenny Morris	Yvonne Walls
	Sheila Anderson	Lynne Bornemisza	Lynne Bornemisza
Cat C	Kristin Payne (T)	Carole Seheult (T)	Patricia Shepherd-Foster (T)
	Janet Cooksey (T)	Janet Cooksey (T)	Sylvia Brown (T)
	Sue Church	Connie Adam	Connie Adam
	Sylvia Brown	Sylvia Brown	

T = TEAM

C =TEAM CAPTAIN

Age Groups 2016 Results - gold, silver and bronze

MF	WF	ME	WE	MS	WS
Cat 2					
John Troiano	Caron Hale	Hugh Kernohan	Denise Silk	Duncan Rowlands	Caroline Clancy
Nick Fihosy	Kati Archer	Jon Nottingham	Marg Oniye	Peter Howes	Michele Narey
Kola Abidogun	Jacqueline Hibbert	Nigel Fancourt	Maggie Tait	Barry Coulter	Grace Coulter
Cat 3					
Graham Paul	Jenny Morris	Ralph Johnson	Jane Clayton	Chris Prett	Jenny Morris
Anthony Bartlett	Jane Clayton	Alasdair Urquhart	Caryl Oliver	Martin Toms	Yvonne Walls
Steve Fox	Sheila Anderson	Anton Pollard	Jenny Morris	Carl Morris	Lynne Bornemisza
Cat 4					
Brian Causton	Janet Cooksey	Bill Osbaldeston	Janet Cooksey	Malcolm Cawton	Sylvia Brown
Malcolm Cawton	Kristin Payne	Chris Green	Carole Seheult	Bill Osbaldeston	Connie Adam
Michael Compton	Sue Church	Robert Phelps	Connie Adam	Peter Baron	Pat Shepherd-Foster
Cat 1 (unisex)					
Foil		Epee		Sabre	
Stefan Leponis		Paul Townson		Jonathan Blackhurst	
Giles Rhodes		John Prime		Stefan Leponis	
Kel Brundle		Kola Ayanwale		Jacquie Esimaje Heath (Women's gold)	
		Sandra Egginton (Women's gold)			

Lost at the Age Groups

"Epee fitted with a maraging blue blade. Guard has international marks. No name."

If you find an epee in your bag that fits this description and isn't yours, please email me (g.aghajan@virgin.net) and I will pass on the good news to the owner.

Editor



Celtic Challenge 2016 - Dublin

A brilliant weekend of fencing, friendship and fun, excellently hosted by Ireland Veterans at DCU, Dublin. Congratulations to overall Challenge winners Wales on the return of Arthur the Dragon to his place of birth. Team and individual results can be found here: <https://irishfencing.net/celtic-challenge-gets-underway-at-dcu/>



Photos by Editor

New BVF Merchandise

Following the success of our new tracksuits and ET16 merchandise there is now a new range of BVF merchandise in a choice of colours, designed by Anne Mills. The way to it is to go to www.topkit.co select Clubs and Events and click on the BVF button (yes, you have your very own button!)



A letter from Henry

Dear Gillian,

History of the NVA

March 8th 1995 - A discussion with Bobby Winton and Nick Halsted - we decline to allow the AFA to put an input in the Vets Team selection which in accordance with the AFA's constitution it had the right to do so. As I was not on the board therefore I would have no say if the Vets were affiliated and the Vets would be left in the hands of the board. Richard Coles was asked by the board to resolve the matter. (They did not write to me.) There could have been no committee member on the board and they would also determine how we organised our events e.g. Nationals and Internationals. It was suggested by both Bobby Winton and Nick Halsted that it was best to run our own affairs which we have done since.

May 7th 1994 - Training day under Jim Philbin

Malcolm Fare was there early to meet Henry -5 minutes late.

Hilary was the stooge and remarked that she hadn't worked that hard in the National Squad. Tactics, analysis and awareness were the chief items of the day.

Epée training day under John Llewelyn

Bill and Jenny Osbaldeston travelled up from Cornwall. A total of seven members turned up. Hilary won the Ladies Triathlon.

Commonwealth Team was cancelled because members didn't want to fence the Vets before they went to Canada. Team Spirit!!

John Crouch debuted for the Vets International Team in men's foil in Bath, v Germany as did John Payne and Hilary Cawthorne (Philbin). Great Britain won.

Yours sincerely,

Henry de Silva
Life President BVF



Commonwealth Veterans Fencing Championships 2016

The 2016 Veterans Commonwealth Veterans Championships will take place in Christchurch, New Zealand on 17-20 November. The individual events are open to anyone. The team events will be by selection. Go to www.cvfc2016.co.nz to see further details.

England Entries

All England entries are to go through England Fencing – PLEASE DO NOT ENTER ON LINE

Anyone interested in entering should note the following:

The closing date for entries is 30th September and the fee is NZ\$180 per weapon. Due to the current state of the pound, it is proposed to wait until nearer the closing date to ascertain the exchange rate for the pound. We will send out an England entry form in September.

You are responsible for your own travel and accommodation. There is information on accommodation on the competition website.

All fencers will need an FIE licence. This costs £30 and can be obtained through the British Fencing website. Select GBR from the drop down menu, then FIE licence and select the 2016/17 application form.

Equipment needs to be to FIE standard (i.e. 800 Newtons). You need to have your name and ENG on your back. The ENG can be a sewn on patch. GBR stripes are acceptable.

England Teams will be selected as follows:

Two places will go to the two highest placed fencers in the last 16 at the 2016 British Veterans Championships. Other places will be taken from the individual results in New Zealand.

England tracksuits Go to <http://fencing.school-couture.com> to order an England Fencing tracksuit. Cost £54 for a top, £24 for trousers and £37 for a T shirt. Delivery 6 weeks. Phone 0845 2262973

England polo shirts Can be ordered by email (sales@wearyourlogo.co.uk) or by phone (01903 766228) asking for an England Veterans Commonwealth polo shirt. Cost £17.90 + VAT. Order by 30th September.

If you do not currently receive information from John Mason by email, and are interested in entering, then please let me have an email address I can use to forward further information. johncrouch@fsmail.net
All future correspondence will be by email.

John Crouch
England Team Manager



Milford Sound, New Zealand

Photo by Editor

The Malta Open - Exceptional in more than one way!

In The Sword last year we commented on how the Malta Open is an exceptional competition in that while limited in numbers it attracts fencers from many different nations. This year it proved to be exceptional in another way. Two months before the event it was fully subscribed and we had regrettably to turn entries away. Now compare that with the scene in the UK, where 14 days before, organisers are having sleepless nights with just a handful of entries! In Malta we ended with 15 different nations and managed to accommodate 37 entries in the Men's Epee, even though we were limited to just 4 pistes.

From GB there were the highest number of entries for 15 years with a total of 26. Harry Peck (Brixton) for the 2nd year running won the Men's Epee followed by Max Milner (entered as from Ireland being at Dublin Uni, but wearing GB stripes!) in 2nd. In 6th place was Seb Lee from Plymouth Uni and then we come to the vets with Mike Bradbury in 12th and Jim Pilkington at 15th.

In Men's Foil, Max Woollard (Salle Paul) took the trophy and this is first time for 10 years that it has been won by a GB fencer, with the other Max from Dublin in 2nd place, followed by McKinley Bex (Salle Paul) in 3rd. Best vets were Nick Woollard (13th) and Dave Atkins (14th).

The best GB entrant in Men's Sabre was a Vet! Dave Atkins at equal 3rd having had a disastrous poule, ranked 15th but took out number 2, Neboj Sreckovic (Serbia) in a closely fought fight by 15/13. Fencing apart, the highlight of the Men's Sabre was the final with David Taylor (NZ) performing a traditional haka in place of a customary salute. It didn't quite subdue his Italian opponent Filippo Carlucci though, who won 15/11.



From GB in Women's Foil and Epee we just had youngsters. In foil Katie Work (3rd), Kyle Abay (5th); in Epee, Anna Hills (8th) and Siobhan Regan (14th), all of them from Lancaster University, ably captained by Owen Birch (17th in Men's Epee).

So the message for next year if you wish to take part in this enjoyable event is put in your entry early in 2017 (you will get cheaper flights as well). Dates are 17th to 19th June. Further detail on flights and accommodation etc will appear on the Salago website.



Jim Pilkington

Photos: Medal winners – the table of trophies – the Italian team making a presentation to Juan Formosa, president FIE Malta.



More on Malta

June this year saw the 19th annual Malta Open, hosted by St Paul Fencing Club. What started as a 'friendly' between Maltese and British fencers has grown into a well-known open, this year attracting fencers of 15 nationalities from USA to NZL. Great Britain was the largest contingent with 25 fencers in total. Juan Formosa, President of SPFC describes the competition as a club level competition with an international flavour, however the standard of fencing has increased year on year to a very high level.

This year saw veterans entries from Great Britain, Italy, Hungary, USA, Macedonia and Serbia with GBR vets Jim Pilkington, David Taylor, Dave Atkins, Mike Bradbury, Anthony Conyard, Nick Woollard, Kevin Alexander and Michael Bex making the trip to Malta. (Kevin Alexander made the trip but did not fence due to injury) (Sorry if I have missed anyone out!)

Day one, Saturday 18th June

Men's Foil was dominated by Salle Paul fencers with Max Woollard taking first place after beating Brit Maxton Milner, representing Dublin University, 15-12. Third place went to Salle Paul's Mckinley Bex and USA veteran Jamie Douraghy. GBR veterans Anthony Conyard and Nick Woollard, both of them also of Salle Paul, also had good placings at 7th and 13th. Women's foil did not feature any GBR veterans. GBR's best placing was Katie Work from Lancaster University who took bronze in a competition dominated by the Italian veteran Martina Ganassin who took gold after beating Malta's Michelle Falzon.



Men's Foil

Day two, Sunday 19th June

GBR also won men's epee with Brixton's Harry Peck winning it for the second consecutive year after beating Maxton Milner 15-10. Veterans Mike Bradbury and Jim Pilkington both had a good showing placing 12th and 15th in a competition of 36 fencers. In Women's epee Anna Hills got the best pacing for GBR in 8th place in a competition which featured five Hungarian veterans including current Veterans world champion Ibolya Hoffmann. Ibolya had to contend with second place with the young Italian Isabella Ambrosi claiming gold.



Women's Epee

Sabre was probably the most keenly fought completion featuring veterans from GB, Italy, Austria, New Zealand, USA, Serbia, Macedonia and Malta. GBR's Dave Atkins, last year's runner up, came close again taking bronze after beating Veteran Serbian sabreur Nebojsa Sreckovic. He however succumbed to British based, Dave Taylor, who was flying the Kiwi colours in the semi-final. The final was the highlight of the weekend with Dave performing a Haka before the final began. (A video clip of the Haka is on The Malta Open Fencing Championship Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/dave.atkins.9693/videos/559965970856867/>) However it was the Italian Veteran Filippo Carlucci, World champion in 2014, who prevailed with a 15-11 win.

The Malta Open also is renowned for its team events in foil and epee. The Brits did well in the team foil on Saturday with Salle Paul's team featuring the young Max Woollard, Mckinley Bex and veteran Michael Bex taking gold, and team Devon, featuring Dave Atkins, Seb Lee and Alex Scott taking bronze.

In team epee on the Monday GBR teams featuring veteran Jim Pilkington with Lancaster University fencers Anna Hills and Siobhan Regan, were eliminated in the quarter finals. GBR's Harry Peck, having Maltese ancestry was entered in Maltese team St Paul Fencing Club featuring also Andrei Azzopardi and Valeria Lakhitkova. He and his team mates took silver losing to Hungarian team Telki SE.

Dave Atkins

Super Sabreurs

Congratulations to Michele Narey and Caroline Clancy - Gold and Silver in the Norfolk Open.
(Competition results are not yet available)



Photos courtesy of Michele Narey

Competition results (top half)

Cardiff Foil - 21/05/2016

MF (32) 9 Tony Williams
13 Richard Forster

WF (6) 2 Caron Hale

Herts Open Sabre - 29/05/2016

MS (16) 1 Peter Wright
5 Carl Morris

WS (16) 6 Lucy Wright
7 Annelise Whitaker
8 Vivien Frith

Luton Open - 28/05/2016

MF (50) 23 Paul Lowen
25 Anthony Conyard

ME (30) 5 John Leahey
10 John Prime
12 Philip Jordan

MS (17) 7 Julian Ghosh

WF (22) 11 Gina Hall

WE (12) 5 Denise Silk
6 Marg Oniye

WS (8) 1 Lucy Wright

Bexley Open Epée - 04/06/2016

ME (24) 6 Howard West
11 Robin Davenport

Wrexham Open - 11/06/2016

MF (15) 6 Simon Hedges

ME (10) 1 Chris Heaps

MS (8) 2 Stefan Leponis
3T Andrew Thornley

Much Wenlock Olympians - 10/07/2016

MF (16) 7 Stefan Leponis

WS (8) 3T Emma Potter

Aberdeen Open - 16/07/2016

ME (18) 8 Kevin Milne

MS (13) 6 Stephen Ferguson

London Open - 23/07/2016

MF (36) 12 Kola Abidogun

Cardiff Sabre - 30/07/2016

MS (19) 5 Dave Atkins
9 Kevin Alexander

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

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.

Congratulations to
Peter Wright - Gold MS - Herts Open Sabre
Lucy Wright - Gold WS - Luton Open
Chris Heaps - Gold ME - Wrexham Open

West Midlands Open 2016 - Medallists

Mens Foil

Rank	Name	First name
1	CHANG	Dominic
2	RICHARDS	Ceri
3	PORTAL	Jacques
3	WESTLEY	Philip

Womens Foil

Rank	Name	First name
1	CLAYTON	Jane
2	FOSTER	Julie
3	DE LARGE	Kim
3	HEYES	Catherine

Mens Epee

Rank	Name	First name
1=	STANBURY	Jonathan
1=	PHELPS	Richard
3	BROOKS	Rob
3	PHELPS	Robert

Womens Epee

Rank	Name	First name
1	CLAYTON	Jane
2	YOUNG	Valerie
3	LASCHETTI	Lorette
3	UFF	Susan

Mens Sabre

Rank	Name	First name
1	SWIFFIN	Michael
2	THORNLEY	Andrew
3	LEPONIS	Stefan
3	SELBY	James

Womens Sabre

Rank	Name	First name
1	DAVIDSON	Beth
2	POTTER	Emma
3	EARL	Silvia
3	ESIMAJE-HEATH	Jacqueline

Hampshire Vets Open - Medallists

Mixed Foil

1	Paul Baillache
2	Maggie Myers
3	Malcolm Rule
3	Jennifer Stanford

Womens Epee

1	Valerie Young
2	Janet Baron
3	Caryl Oliver
3	Victoria Clements

Mens Sabre

1	Carl Morris
2	Martin Toms
3	Mike Garrity
3	Simon White

Mens Epee

1	Duncan Salter
2	Stephan Munn
3	Mark Richardson
3	Paul Gregory

Womens Sabre

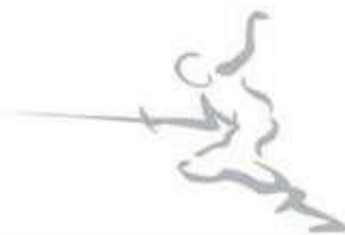
1	Jane Hutchison
2	Michele Narey
3	Caroline Clancy
3	Tracy Russen

Full results of both of these competitions can be found on the BVF website:

<http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/results.shtml>



MAGYAR VÍVÓ SZÖVETSÉG
HUNGARIAN FENCING FEDERATION



Invitation to HEGYVIDÉK VETERÁN FOIL TOURNAMENT CSACSI KUPA 2016

All veteran foil fencers 40+ are welcome to a traditional open air foil tournament

September 10 - Saturday	09:45	Opening ceremony
	10:00	Men's foil event
	13:00	Women's foil event
	17:00	Prize giving ceremony

Location: **ELIZABETH LOOKOUT BUDAPEST XII
(ERZSÉBET KILÁTÓ BUDAPEST XII)**

Address: 1121 Budapest, Erzsébet kilátó út

In the case of bad weather:

Secondary location: **VASAS FENCING HALL**

Address: (1023 Budapest Pasaréti út 5-11)

Fencers: born on 01/01/1967 or earlier can participate

Accreditation: Entries are welcome until 01 September 2016 12.00. CET
by email to csak.attila@csakinvest.hu

Important: Email address and mobile phone number are required to provide where competition related messages will be sent. Due to the limited size of the venue we can accept entries up to 72 men, and women total. Entries will be registered in order of arrival, and will be confirmed.
ONLY CONFIRMED ENTRIES ARE VALID. On site registration is not possible!

Entry fee: 2500 HUF (10 EUR)/person.

Formula of the competition:

The organiser will establish on site. According to preliminary plans one or two rounds, with pools 5-7 fencers, all categories mixed, followed by direct elimination, by each age group to 10 hits as usual

Equipment: Name on back of jacket is not required but FIE equipment must be used (800N uniform and plastron, 1600N masks, FIE homologated blades (maraging for epee) Wires and weapons with bayonet connection are not allowed.

Registration: 10 September 2016 from 9:00-9:30

Valid medical certificate is required. FIE license is not required

**Pál Polgár
Secretary General**

**Caption
Competition
June-July**

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



Photos - Editor










**Caption
Competition
March-May
Editor's choice -**

*"Another fencer falls victim to the
'new style team tracksuit scammers'!"*

Paul Brenda



BVF contacts

Life President		Henry de Silva 	6 Little Meadow Andreas Isle Of Man IM7 4HY Tel: 01624 880863
Officers	Chairman Newsletter Editor	Gillian Aghajan 	Tel: 07747 792712 g.aghajan@virgin.net
	Treasurer Membership Secretary Webmaster	John Mason 	Tel: 01225 761788 BVF@jrmason.demon.co.uk
	Secretary	Marcia Stretch 	Tel: 01293 786 841 marcia_stretch@hotmail.com
Elected Members	Development Officer	Duncan Rowlands 	Tel: 07834 987 265 duncanrowlands@blueyonder.co.uk
	Domestic Fencing Officer	Peter Baron 	Tel: 01384 400242 bvf@baronfencing.plus.com
		Jonathan Stanbury 	Tel: 01823 331909 alfg8@aol.com
		Lawrence Burr 	Tel: 01823 433844 lsburr@btopenworld.com
Co-opted Member	Publicity Officer	Malcolm Fare 	malcolm.fare@crossword.demon.co.uk



PLEASE NOTE

Any articles or letters for the August BVF Newsletter should be sent to:-

Gillian Aghajan
by 20th August 2016

Tel: 07747 792712
email:
g.aghajan@virgin.net