

Great fencing at the BVF Championships, Gloucester!



Women's Épée final - Georgina Usher scores a hit against Nicola Hull

BVF Championships
Bob Turner and Dennis Willcock
Competition results
Swashbucklers movie quiz

CONTENTS

Front Page
BVF Championships

Page 2
Chairman's letter

Page 3
Obituaries -
Bob Turner and Dennis Willcock

Pages 4 - 7
BVF Championships results

Page 7
Gloucester lost property
Entry to the European Veterans Individual Championships

Page 8
BVF Championships - photos of finalists

Page 9
BVF Championships results

Pages 10
Great times in Gloucester

Page 11
BVF video
BVF calendar

Page 12
Competition results

Page 13
Support prostate cancer
Mystery fencer
West Midlands Open

Page 14
Swashbuckler movies quiz

Page 15
Caption competition

Page 16
BVF contacts

Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

February saw the Hampshire Veterans Open at all weapons in Portsmouth and very well run by Jenny and Carl Morris alongside the annual Hampshire Open. Most weapons had a reasonable participation although it would have been good to see a few more in men's foil. Our thanks to Jenny and Carl for running this event for the second year for BVF.

The BVF British Championships in Gloucester were very well attended and run impeccably by David Sweeney and his team. We were very pleased to welcome some new faces, and new medal winners, to the Vets and this competition over the weekend.

Competition was fierce as always, and we were treated to some great fights each day at all weapons.

Whilst numbers at the dinner were less than last year, diners enjoyed good food, good company and an entertaining quiz based on "famous Movie Swashbucklers." Well done Gillian Aghajan for organising this all for us.

The BVF AGM was held on the Friday and the meeting was informed of our healthy finances and growing membership over the past year. The meeting had a discussion on the introduction of a Category "0" and the consensus was that those present were against such a move at this time.

With no members putting themselves forward for election to the BVF Committee and all of the 2012/13 Committee willing to continue, we were re-elected for a further year.

Entry is now open for the West Midlands Veterans Open and the entry form is on our website and it's a good competition organised by Peter Baron. The European Individual Veterans Championships are approaching in May and details can also be seen on our website, so do consider taking part.

It is with sadness that I must notify you of the death of Bob Turner, a good friend to many of us. He was one of the founders of BVF, and a stalwart of Welsh Fencing; always generous in his support for fencing colleagues and a worthy opponent on the piste and he will be missed by us all.

I have just heard that our oldest active member, Dennis Willcock, passed away this week. Dennis lived in Tavistock and fenced in Plymouth and was a regular fencer at our Championships and other events.

Your committee looks forward to working for, and developing, BVF in the next year and we hope to see as many members as possible taking part in the BVF events and international veteran's competitions this season.

Sincerely

Frank Mills
Chairman



Bob Turner 1941 - 2013

Bob Turner was a much respected friend and colleague of many in the world of fencing. He was a real gentleman with a great sense of fun, always fair and genuine.

He was one of the stalwarts of British and Welsh Fencing and since he first started fencing as a schoolboy in Cardiff, became not just an excellent and competitive epeeist who represented Wales internationally, but also a skilled and highly respected administrator who held several positions of office over the years. He continued to fence competitively to a high standard until his recent recurrence of illness prohibited him.

Bob was one of the founder members of British Veterans Fencing (BVF, formerly NVA) now 25 years in existence. He was also a founder member of the Welsh Veterans Fencing Association (WVFA) and served as a committee member from its inception.

In 2006, Bob was presented with the BFA Silver Medal at the BFA AGM in Glasgow for his services to fencing. In 2011 he was the recipient of a Torch Trophy for Services to Fencing, an award with origins from the 1948 London Olympics, presented to individuals who have been identified as making an outstanding contribution as a volunteer in their chosen sport.

At the time of his death Bob was Chairman of Welsh Fencing, Chairman of Whitchurch Fencing Club and since 2009, President of the Commonwealth Veterans' Fencing Association.

Bob was a source of inspiration and encouragement to so many and will be sorely missed.

Memorial Service

A memorial celebration of Bob Turner's life will be held at 2.30 pm on Saturday 23rd March at Lisvane Memorial Hall, Heol y Delyn, Lisvane, Cardiff CF14 0SQ.

To help the family with the catering arrangements, please email [John Mason](mailto:John.Mason@bvf.org) if you will be attending. John is collating numbers.

Dennis Willcock 1918 - 2013

It is with great sadness that we report the very recent death of Dennis Willcock.

Dennis was our oldest member at 94 and fenced in the BVF Championships only 2 years ago, entering all 3 weapons.

John Mason has opened a file in the [Obituaries](#) section on the BVF website for both Bob and Dennis. If you have any thoughts or recollections that you would like to be included then please email [John](mailto:John.Mason@bvf.org).



Bob with the Torch Trophy



Dennis at the match against the Royal Navy - November 2012

2013 British Veterans Championships

The 2013 British Veterans Championships were held in the Oxstalls Sports Park, Gloucester on the weekend of 1st to 3rd March. There was a slightly higher entry than last year and among the entry were a few new members.

This year the pool sheets, the tableaux and results were displayed on a large screen. This was made possible thanks to the work of John Mason.

On the Saturday four sessions of Go Fence taster sessions, supported by Sainsbury's Active Kids Program, were run by Gillian Aghajan for pupils of local schools demonstrating that Fencing really is a Sport for all ages.



GO/FENCE!

Friday - Men's and Women's Sabre Championships

The championships got under way on Friday with the Men's Sabre. There were 31 entrants and all of them were present. After the two rounds of pools everyone competed in an incomplete tableau of 32.

Stephen Moore who, being ranked 1st had a bye in the first round of DE, went on to defeat Mark Hall 10/3 and Paul Baillache 10/6 to gain a place in the Semi-final. Duncan Rowlands reached the Semis by defeating Dennis Ward 10/1, Michael Compton 10/5 and Keith Rogerson 10/4. Carl Morris defeated Bob Perry 10/4, Anthony Silver 10/7 and Stefan Leponis 10/6 on his way to the Semi-finals. The fourth semi-finalist was Rob Penton who beat Kevin Alexander 10/3, Tony Bardell 10/3 and Barry Coulter 10/5.

In the semi-finals Duncan Rowlands beat Stephen Moore 10/6 and Carl Morris succumbed to Rob Penton 10/2. In the final Duncan was ahead at the break but Rob turned on the pressure to win the Gold medal 10/6.

The Men's Sabre Age Group Categories medal winners were Rob Penton Cat 1, Barry Coulter Cat 2, Carl Morris Cat 3 and William Osbaldeston Cat 4.



Rob Penton scores a hit against Duncan Rowlands - Men's Sabre final

In the Women's Sabre 18 of the 20 entrants started in the two rounds of pools from which Beth Davidson emerged ranked 1st in the incomplete tableau of 32 to reach the semi-finals by defeating Maggie Myers 10/1 and Vanessa Hendra 10/4. Michele Narey made her way to the semi-final by beating Caryl Oliver 10/3 and Jenny Morris 10/6. Sue Benney defeated Caroline Clancy 10/6 and Yvonne Walls 10/6 to gain her place in the semi-finals. Jane Hutchison gained her semi-final place by defeating Wendy Batiste 10/2 and Caron Hale 10/1.

In the Semi-finals Michele Narey was knocked into a bronze medal position by Beth Davidson 10/3 and Sue Benney had to settle for the 2nd bronze medal after being defeated by Club mate Jane Hutchison 10/1. In the Final, although Hutchison fought valiantly Beth Davidson emerged as the 2013 champion with a 10/6 victory over Jane.



Saturday Men's and Women's Foil Championships

In the Men's Foil 44 of the 47 entrants started in the two rounds of pools and fought through to an incomplete Tableau of 64. On his way to the semi-finals Graham Paul beat John Hyde 10/3, Mark Baker 10/6 and Fred Sheppard 10/1. Dominic Chang reached the semi-finals by defeating Steve Fox 10/3, Mike Bradbury 10/2 and Tim Miles 10/6. John Troiano earned his place in the semi-finals by beating Malcolm Fare 10/4, Nicholas Mort 10/5 and Anthony Conyard 10/1. Nick Fihosy joined the other semi-finalists by defeating Andrew Gould 10/5, David Exeter 10/4 and Paul Abrahams 10/5.

Jane Hutchison and Beth Davidson - Women's Sabre final

The first semi-final saw Graham Paul, using the techniques of age and cunning to defeat the new Vet Dominic Chang 10/6 while in the second John Troiano defeated Nick Fihosy 10/4. In the final John used his reach and good sense of timing to defeat Graham 10/3 and win the Gold medal.



Men's Foil pools

The Men's Foil Age Group category winners were Dominic Chang Cat 1, John Troiano Cat 2, Graham Paul Cat 3 and Malcolm Fare Cat 4.

In the Women's Foil there were 19 of the 20 entrants present. This resulted in the format being two pools of 6 and one of 7, the pool of seven being split on two pistes. After the 2 rounds of pools the fencers progressed to an incomplete tableau of 32. Caron Hale beat Sylvia Brown 10/1 and Kati Archer 10/3 to reach the semi-final. Jane Clayton beat Jane Hutchison 10/5 and Nicola Hull 10/6 to join Caron Hale in the semi. Kate O'Connell beat Karen Garvie 10/8 and Maggie Myers 10/7 to reach the second semi-final where she was joined by Gillian Worman who had defeated Wendy Batiste 10/3 and Janet Cooksey 10/3.

In the first semi-final Caron Hale defeated Jane Clayton 10/7 and Gillian Worman was victorious over Kate O'Connell 10/4. In the final Caron Hale took an early lead but after the break Gillian Worman fought back and eventually took the gold medal position winning 10/7.

The Women's Foil Age Group category winners were Kate O'Connell Cat 1, Gillian Worman Cat 2, Margaret Myers Cat 3 and Janet Cooksey Cat 4.

Sunday Men's and Women's Epée Championships

Of the 60 entrants to the Men's Epée 53 fencers started in the two rounds of pools. Unfortunately Anton Pollard injured his arm during the pools and had to withdraw before the direct elimination stages. All of the other fencers proceeded to an incomplete tableau of 64 where Chris Howser beat Richard Bonehill 10/3, Brian Millo 10/7 and Howard West 10/5 to reach the semi-final. John Leahy defeated Bob Perry 10/6, Paul Cooper 10/6 and Jonathan Stanbury 10/4 to meet Chris Howser in the first semi-final. Neal Mallett beat Rikki Howdle 7/3 and Adam Bonner 10/8 and Niall Campbell 9/4 to progress to the second semi where he met John Hyde who had beaten Michael Kocan 10/2, Stephan Munn 10/8, Chris Green 10/5 and Mark Thompson 10/7.

Chris Howser defeated John Leahy 10/4 to set up an eagerly awaited final with Neal Mallett who had beaten John Hyde 10/5. In the final Neal Mallett was victorious over Chris 10/6 to become BVF Champion for the 6th time.

The Men's Epée Age Category winners were Chris Howser Cat 1, Neal Mallett Cat 2, Howard West Cat 3 and Chris Green Cat 4.

In the Women's Epée event all but one of the 32 entrants started in the pools. New member Georgina Usher made light work of reaching the semi-final defeating Moya McNamara 10/1 and Caron Hale 10/1 on the way. Kate Smith beat Susan Uff 10/6, Clare Halsted 10/6 and Kate Elvin 10/3 to join Georgina in the 1st semi-final. Jenny Morris beat Diane Austin 10/1, Silvia Earl 10/6 and Sara Spence 10/8 to meet Nicola Hull, who had defeated Carole Seheult 10/2, Clare King 10/6 and Jane Clayton 10/5, in the second semi-final.

Between the semi-finals and the finals a barrage was held between Jenny Morris and Kate Smith for the Category 2 medal which Kate won. Georgina Usher beat Kate Smith 10/5 in the first semi and Nicola Hull beat Jenny Morris 10/7 to set up the final. Georgina defeated Nicola 10/1 to win her first British Veterans Championships.

The Women's Epée Age Category winners were Georgina Usher Cat 1, Kate Smith Cat 2, Kate Elvin Cat 3 and Sylvia Brown Cat 4.

*Photos by
Editor*



*Neal Mallett
and Chris
Howser -
Men's Epée
final*



*Nicola Hull and
Georgina
Usher -
Women's Epée
final*

The Event Dinner was a success and thanks are due to Gillian Aghajan for the table displays and the entertaining quizzes based on fencing in old films. Gillian and Marcia Stretch ran a raffle and Gillian organised an auction of a montage of drawings by Jenny Osbaldeston of various veteran fencers several of whom were readily recognisable.

Thanks are due to John Mason for his work as Entry Manager prior to and during the event. Thanks are also due John Crouch and Rob Kirby who ran the DT with their usual efficiency, to Peter Huggins and Derek Beard for manning an armoury, and Bob Head and Hannah for bringing a Leon Paul Stand. Last, but by no means least, thanks are due to the referees Mike Garrity, Dan Brooks, Peter Huggins, Frank Mills, Mike Compton, Chris Hamilton, Duncan Rowlands and Ondrej Janicek, without whom the championships would not have run so smoothly.

David Sweeney
Event Manager

Lost Property - BVF Championships

The following items were left behind at the BF Championships:

- 1 x Left handed Leon Paul Sabre Glove
- 2 x Mask wires (uncoiled)
- 1 x Epee body wire
- 1 x Mid blue fleecy top with pockets
- 1 x Tracksuit bottoms, X large, black with white piping and back pockets

Any claims to David Sweeney 01453 758372

EUROPEAN VETERANS INDIVIDUAL FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS TERNI, ITALY 2013 9TH - 12TH MAY

**Send your entry/accommodation
booking form to:**

GB Team Manager - Gillian Aghajan
g.aghajan@virgin.net
07747 792712



<http://www.europei.circoloschermaterni.it/en/>

BVF Championships Finalists



Women's Sabre

Michele Narey, Sue Benney,
Beth Davidson, Jane Hutchison



Women's Foil

Jane Clayton, Kate O'Connell,
Gillian Worman, Caron Hale



Women's Epée

Jenny Morris, Kate Smith,
Georgina Usher, Nicola Hull



Men's Sabre

Steve Moore, Carl Morris,
Rob Penton, Duncan Rowlands



Men's Foil

Dominic Chang, Nick Fihosy,
John Troiano, Graham Paul



Men's Epée

John Leahy, John Hyde,
Neal Mallett, Chris Howser

*Photos
courtesy of
Rob Kirby*

BVF Championships Results

Men's Foil (44)

1	John Troiano	Cat 2 medal
2	Graham Paul	Cat 3 medal
3	Dominic Chang	Cat 1 medal
3	Nick Fihosy	
28	Malcolm Fare	Cat 4 medal

Men's Epée (53)

1	Neal Mallett	Cat 2 medal
2	Chris Howser	Cat 1 medal
3	John Hyde	
3	John Leahy	
7	Howard West	Cat 3 medal
15	Chris Green	Cat 4 medal

Men's Sabre (31)

1	Rob Penton	Cat 1 medal
2	Duncan Rowlands	
3	Stephen Moore	
3	Carl Morris	Cat 3 medal
7	Barry Coulter	Cat 2 medal
18	Bill Osbaldeston	Cat 4 medal

Women's Foil (19)

1	Gillian Worman	Cat 2 medal
2	Caron Hale	
3	Jane Clayton	
3	Kate O'Connell	Cat 1 medal
6	Margaret Myers	Cat 3 medal
8	Janet Cooksey	Cat 4 medal

Women's Epée (31)

1	Georgina Usher	Cat 1 medal
2	Nicola Hull	
3	Jenny Morris	
3	Kate Smith	Cat 2 medal
22	Sylvia Brown	Cat 4 medal

Women's Sabre (18)

1	Beth Davidson	Cat 1 medal
2	Jane Hutchison	Cat 2 medal
3	Sue Benney	Cat 3 medal
4	Michele Narey	
17	Silvia Brown	Cat 4 medal

Men's Champion at Arms

Paul Baillache

Women's Champion at Arms

Caron Hale

Full results can be found on the BVF website

[Results](#)

*Photos
courtesy of
Rob Kirby*



Paul Baillache



Caron Hale



*Local
schoolchildren
try GO/FENCE
at the BVF
Championships*

Great times in Gloucester!



Photos by Editor



BVF Video

Check out the new BVF video, produced by Beth Davidson, as shown at the BVF AGM!



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



Beth Davidson

BVF Calendar 2013

BVF CALENDAR 2013	
Apr 13-14	West Midlands Open, Dudley, West Midlands
Apr 27-28 ?	Germany v GBR, Germany
May 4-5	5 Nations, Dublin
May 9 -12	European Individual Championships, Terni, Umbria, Italy
Sep 14-15	Veterans Winton Cup, Lilleshall
Oct 12-13	Welsh Veterans Championships
Oct 1-6	World Championships, Bulgaria There will be a test Team event at all 6 weapons.

See BVF website home page for European competitions and events -

www.veterans-fencing.co.uk

Competition results (top half)

NI Open - 26/1/2013

MS (28) 11 Richard Cohen

Slough Open - 2/2/2013

MF (88) 13 Nick Fihosy
17 Paul Lowen
30 Gerry Gajadharsingh
39 Nick Mort

ME (117) 18 Chris Howser
19 Neal Mallett
20 Howard West
22 John Leahy
42 Anton Pollard
43 Andrew Brown
44 Robert Flatt
49 Rob Brooks
51 Pete Eames
52 Adam Steiner
57 Daryl Hazlewood

MS (48) 14 Barry Coulter
17 Julian Ghosh
19 Kamal Yasin

WF (51) 18 Lynn Botelho
20 Gillian Worman

WE (59) 5 Nicola Hull

Merseyside Open - 16/2/2013

MF (96) 14 Paul Kennea
23 Nick Stokes
32 Lindsay Watkiss

ME (107) 22 Joe Craig
23 Robert Flatt
31 Mark Thompson
40 Daryl Hazlewood
48 Peter Davies
53 Denis Callanan

MS (61) 13 Duncan Rowlands
23 Evert van Gemeren
25 Stephan Leponis

WF (35) 3 Lynn Botelho
7 Kim de Large
14 Catherine Heyes

WE (36) 9 Fiona Haldane
10 Gillian Stone

WS (22) 1 Beth Davidson
12 Yvonne Walls

Congratulations to Beth Davidson, 1st place Merseyside Open Women's Sabre!

The
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22nd - 24th June



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and click on the sponsorship link at
the bottom of the website.

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Running for a good cause

David Hydes has decided to retire from work with a bang and at the same time get properly fit for the Europeans in Terni by running the Paris Marathon on April 7.

He will be running in aid of the Prostate Cancer Research Centre at UCL.

This is a very worthwhile cause. Prostate Cancer can kill even the super fit like England rugby international Andy Ripley. Realising he would never replace Andy in the 1st XV at UEA led to David taking up fencing.

Any donations via

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/DavidHydes> will help keep his legs turning and help save lives.



*Photo
courtesy of
David Hydes*



Mystery Fencer

Thank you to those who emailed about Howard West's letter which was published in the January newsletter:

D Facey (mis-spelled) is Doug Facer whose obituary is on the BFA website in which it states that he won the NVA Epee in 1981 as an early member of the NVA.

Editor

BVF West Midlands Open 13th & 14th April 2013

Castle High School, St James's Road, Dudley DY1 3JE

Note new schedule

Saturday 13th April 2013

09:00 - 09:30 Men's & Women's Foil check-in
12:30 - 13:00 Men's Sabre check-in

Sunday 14th April 2013

09:00 - 09:30 Men's Epée check-in
09.30 - 10.00 Women's Epée check-in
12.00 - 12.30 Women's Sabre check-in

Enter online: [West Midlands Open](#)
on BVF website

Can you identify these swashbuckling films?



1

These photos were a table quiz at the BVF Championships dinner



2



3



4



7



5



6



8



9



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 Feb/March

send your entry to Editor

g.aghajan@virgin.net



*Photos
by Editor*

Caption Competition January

Editor's choice

'Vets warm up for the blinking selection competition.'

Paul Brenda



*Photo by
Ralph
Johnson*

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

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by 20th April
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g.aghajan@virgin.net

