

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2017

A toast to Maribor!



World Champion Vivien Frith, WS Cat C, celebrates in style!

Photo by Editor

Winton winners

World Championships

Triathlon challenge

Competition results

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Gold

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Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

It is hard to believe that Christmas is only a few weeks away and 2017 will be coming to a close. The last few months have been a busy time.

Two hundred and fifty seven BVF members voted on the competition and format and selection ballot. Thank you to all who voted and to John Mason, returning officer. The results were:

Option A - 106
Option B - 37
Option C - 114

The outcome is that for 2018 we will revert to the 2016 format; BVF Championships 2 rounds of poules, then DE, with no age categorisation and the Age Groups poule unique up to 24. The committee is looking at introducing a ranking system based on a number of competitions, but not initially to be used for selection.

After the membership ballot we informed membership that we were planning to hold the BVF Championships in the first weekend of March and the Age Groups in the first weekend of June.

Since then the committee met with the Chairman of Selectors and spent a considerable time discussing what would be the fairest way of selecting teams for the 2018 European Team Championships and it was agreed to hold the Age Groups before May to select teams from this event.

The committee also agreed that although we have changed the order of the competitions we would keep the dates of the first weekend in March and the first weekend in June as we know that some members have made commitments around these dates. We have also tried to be as fair as possible to the membership by holding one event in the north and the other in the south.

There was some difficulty in finding venues for these dates which are both suitable and cost effective and we agreed on the following:

- The Age Groups will be held at the Leon Paul Centre, London 3rd/4th March.
- The BVF Championships will be held at the Manchester Fencing Centre 1st/2nd/3rd June, with foil on the Friday, sabre on Saturday and epee on Sunday.

Full details will be published as soon as possible. The selection rules for European Team Championships for 2018 are currently being reviewed.



The Winton Cup was held at the end of September at Lilleshall. Thanks to Event Manager, Marcia Stretch, DT John Crouch and Mike Robinson for their hard work in making this a successful and enjoyable event. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Helga Zitcer, mother of the late Cary Zitcer, Cary's brother André, and his partner Annabel Horne and also Hilary Philbin, President of British Fencing, and Jim Philbin at the dinner and on the Sunday afternoon. Mrs Zitcer presented the magnificent Cary Zitcer Memorial Award, a bronze statuette of Cary which she sculpted, to best individual Mens Sabre winner Emmanuel Therond. We were also delighted to welcome Carol Winton, the daughter of the late Bobby Winton and her brother Peter Winton on the Sunday. They presented the medals and Winton Cup to winning team South East.

Congratulations to South East, to Emmanuel and the other winners of trophies:
 Frank Mills Trophy - Mens Foil - Graham Paul
 Frank Mills Trophy - Womens Foil - Amanda Baxendale.
 Both Frank Mills trophies were presented by Hilary Philbin.

It was a pleasure and honour for me to be the Team Manager for the GBR Veterans squad in Maribor, Slovenia in October. The event was superbly and professionally run, the standard of fencing was very high and there was a plethora of emotions. The camaraderie and friendliness was brilliant. Congratulations to all fencers, team captains and supporters and thanks to our referees Mike Thornton, Adrian Speakman and Ana Kovrilija. Special congratulations to our medallists:

Individual Gold

Paul Wedge MF Cat B
 Graham Paul ME Cat C
 Vivien Frith WS Cat C

Silver

Brian Causton MF Cat C

Bronze

Kola Abidogun MF Cat A
 Mike McKay MF Cat A
 Robin Davenport ME Cat C
 Richard Cohen MS Cat C

Team Silver

WS- Silvia Brown,
 Grace Coulter, Vivien Frith,
 Jane Hutchison,
 Jennifer Morris, Michele Narey
 (Team Captain Sue Benney)

Bronze

MS - Malcolm Cawton,
 Richard Cohen (Team Captain),
 Barry Coulter, Peter Howes,
 Carl Morris, Duncan Rowlands

Bronze

WF - Sheila Anderson,
 Caron Hale, Clare Halsted
 (Team Captain),
 Margaret Myers, Kristin Payne,
 Gillian Worman

GBR finished 4th in the medal table with a total of 11 medals - 3 gold, 2 silver and 6 bronze. An excellent result! Full results can be found here:

<http://www.skola-macevanja.hr/REZULTATI/Maribor2017/> and the medal table here:

<http://www.skola-macevanja.hr/REZULTATI/Maribor2017/medals-index.html>

There is a report in this newsletter by Malcolm Fare - pages 6-8 and there will be report by Karim Bashir in the January issue of the Sword. Thanks to them both.

Sincerely,

Gillian Aghajan
Chairman

BVF CALENDAR 2018

Jan 4-7	Veterans Training Camp, Frascati, Rome
Mar 3-4	Age Groups 2018, Leon Paul Centre Event Manager: Jon Willis
Tbc	West Midlands Open, Dudley Event Manager: Peter Baron
May 10-13	European Team Championships, Alkmaar, The Netherlands Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan
June 1-3	BVF Championships 2018, Manchester Fencing Centre FOIL - Friday, SABRE - Saturday, EPEE - Sunday Event Manager: David Taylor
Sep 22-23	Veterans Winton Cup 2018, Lilleshall National Sports Centre Event Manager: Marcia Stretch
Oct 8-14	Veterans World Championships, Livorno, Italy Team Manager: Gillian Aghajan
Nov 23-28	Commonwealth Veterans Championships, Canberra, Australia

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



Commonwealth Fencing Federation

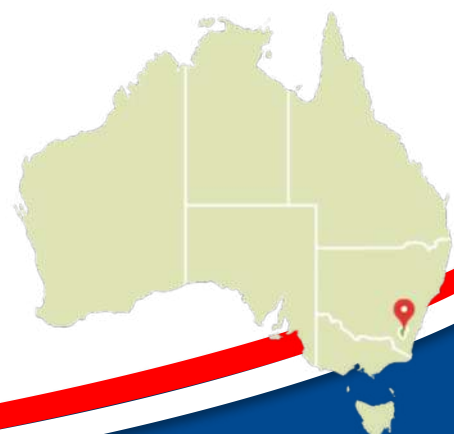


Commonwealth Veteran Events Format

The dates for the Commonwealth Veterans Fencing Championships, Canberra, Australia have now been confirmed as 23rd-28th November 2018. Details can be found on the official website:

<http://www.cfc18.net/>

Both the Senior and Veterans Championships will take place during these dates in Canberra.



Winton Winners



Emmanuel Therond - Cary Zitcer Trophy (mens sabre) with Mrs Helga Zitcer



Hilary Philbin with Amanda Baxendale - Frank Mills Trophy (womens foil)



Hilary Philbin with Graham Paul - Frank Mills Trophy (mens foil)



Peter Winton and Carol Winton present the Winton Cup to South East Team Captain Jane Clayton

Team South East

Photos by Editor



Veterans World Championships, Maribor

Great Britain collected a good haul of 11 medals at the world championships in Maribor, Slovenia – three gold, two silver and six bronze – to finish fourth in the medal table out of 17 nations.

Men's foil produced the best results, with individual medals in each age category, but unaccountably lost in the team event to Hungary, having trounced them 24-11 in the poule. In the 43-strong Cat B event Paul Wedge regained the world title he first won in 2015 with a storming performance in the DE, beating Imreh (HUN) 10-6 and Steve Fox 10-4 before taking out the No. 3 seed Paroli (ITA) 10-5 to reach the semi-finals. A tough fight with Agranovich (ISR) followed before Paul won 10-8. In the final he always had the measure of Japan's Kenichi Umezawa, winning 10-5 to claim the gold medal.



Brian Causton won silver in Cat C, also with 43 fencers, beating Visser (GER) 10-3 and then Paul Harden 10-6 before defeating the No. 1 seed Prechtl (GER) 10-7 in the quarter-finals. In the semis he came up against the legendary Gari Aftandilov of Russia, world champion in this age group for the past 8 years. Causton was behind for most of the fight, but in characteristic fashion he clawed his way back to equalise at 6-all as time expired. With the Russian awarded priority and defending strongly, Causton could not break through. Then, with 10 seconds to go, he made a last desperate attack which was parried, but he closed the distance and managed to force through a final hit. "It was the hardest fight of my life", Brian said afterwards, not realising that he had become the first foilist ever to beat Aftandilov at the world championships.

In the other half of the draw Japan's Eiichi Ide also had a tough bout before beating Patterson (USA) 10-9. In the final Causton made his attacks too complicated and was surprised by the speed of his opponent's attack, falling 6-1 behind and, although he changed tactics and began to catch up, there was not enough time left and he went down 10-7 to collect a well earned silver medal.



Kola Abidogun and Mike McKay both collected bronze medals in the 63-strong Cat A event of their first world championship. No. 1 seed after the poules, Kola overwhelmed Lazzarini (BRA) 10-0 in his first DE, then beat Wang (CHI) 10-5 and Peters (GER) 10-7 to reach the semi-finals. Here he fell to former senior world bronze medallist Laurent Bel of France 10-7.

Mike had a shaky start in the poules, only winning three out of six bouts, but came good in the DE, defeating Pavlovic (CRO) 10-3 and then No. 6 seed Zvincu (ROM) 10-8 before just outpointing Davis (USA) 9-8 to reach the quarter-finals. Here he overwhelmed the No. 3 seed Czak (HUN) 10-3 before losing to Mishagin (RUS) 10-5.

Kola stops for a smile with Sue Benney



Graham in discussion with the referee



Graham Paul became Cat C men's epee champion in his first year at this age group. After winning five out of six bouts in the poules, he emerged as sixth seed out of 58 but had a tough two rounds of DE, only just overcoming Varjo (FIN) 9-8 and then Pasmans (BEL) 10-9 to reach the semi-finals with a 10-7 win over third seed Steffensen (DEN). He went on to beat Allkaemper (GER) by a similar score and then faced the small fast Japanese Ide in the final. It was a close fight, but Graham was able to pull ahead to win the gold medal with a 10-8 victory.

In the same event Robin Davenport won bronze, beating Andriadze (GEO) 10-2 and Buongiardino (ITA) 10-6 before just overcoming former champion Munster (DEN) in a slow-scoring bout 4-3 to reach the quarter-finals. Here he had little trouble with Anastasov (MKD), winning 10-3, but in the semis was unable to keep out Ide and went down 7-5.

Vivien prepares for the final



Vivien Frith became Cat C women's sabre champion in her first year at that age group. No. 3 seed in her 16-strong event, she swept through her first two DE bouts, overwhelming Elizabeth West and then Hamman (GER) both 10-1, before facing her toughest opponent, former champion Marie-Chantal Demaille (FRA), whom she only just overcame 10-9 in the semi-finals. The final against Yoshiko Tachibana of Japan was a much easier affair, Vivien winning easily 10-4 to add her first world championship gold medal to the European title she won in May.



Richard with gold medallist Fabrizio Filippi

Richard Cohen won bronze in the 30-strong Cat C men's sabre from 14th seed after the poules. He beat Miyasaki (JPN) 10-6, Chaboisseau (FRA) 10-7 and then Prechtel (GER) 10-8 to reach the semi-finals where he went down to Anastasov (MKD) 10-6.

Great Britain picked up a silver and two bronze medals in the team events. Women's sabre led the way, beating USA, Germany, France and Japan in the poule round to emerge as No. 1 seed, then defeating Germany in the semi-finals, but just lost 30-28 to the USA in the final.

The men's sabre team won two out of three in their poule to be seeded fourth in the DE. They beat France 30-24, but went down to USA 30-20 and in the third place fight off beat Germany 30-24 to win the bronze medal.

The third team bronze went to women's foil who also won two out of three in their poule and were seeded fourth, then beat Italy 30-23 before losing to Germany 30-25 in the semi-finals and winning bronze by defeating Canada 30-23.



WS team



MS team



WF team

Malcolm Fare

Photos by Editor

Maribor Medals



Photos by Editor

Maribor moments



Photos by Editor

Tri Triathlons

We arrived back from our 3 month trip to New Zealand/Australia/Malaysia in cold and dark January 2017 and I had a significant birthday looming; a new challenge was needed. Why not do a triathlon a friend suggested. A full Olympic length one seemed way out of my league but a sprint triathlon (shorter distances at all 3 disciplines, and swimming in a pool) seemed possible. I felt happy about the swimming and cycling but hadn't run for over 20 years. I soon realised that I could only cope with the running training if I got it out of the way early in the day. So 6am saw me pounding the streets of the village (John benefitted from a cup of tea in bed on my return). During the runs meet and greet people I don't normally see during the rest of the day, mainly folk with dogs, newspaper deliverers and was that an early morning assignation I kept spotting (it certainly wasn't his wife)?

I entered Tadcaster sprint triathlon to take place on 1st May and the day before decided to check out my bike on a short ride. Disaster almost struck - the gears seized up, the bike came to an sudden halt but I didn't until I hit the road. Fortunately I was wearing a helmet as this was completely smashed but I escaped with bruising, grazes and road burn down my right side. The bike was also ok.

The next day I was a bit sore but completed my 1st triathlon 1 week after my 65th birthday. John was there to support me and the atmosphere and enthusiasm from officials and volunteers was great. Sporting my new helmet I was a bit apprehensive on the bike section but I was reasonably pleased with my result being 271st out of 293 total participants, 108th out of 125 women and 24th out of 29 women over 50yrs. At least I wasn't last and it was a great experience.

Having got fit I decided it would be a shame not to do another. However the accident persuaded me that a new bike was needed to replace my treasured 35 yr old one. The next triathlon was in York. I thought it would be easier as it is flat around York. It wasn't easier; the cycling was boring - 6x up and down the same route into a terrific head wind and the run 4x around the same circuit.

The 3rd one was Harrogate; a lot more undulating and interesting but the bike ride and run both started and finished going uphill so no sprint finish. My results in all 3 were respectable but it isn't possible to see if I improved with each event as they were all different distances and terrain.

The sprint triathlon season is now over so what have I learned? a) I am not as strong a swimmer or cyclist as I thought; b) I have continued with the running which was made more bearable by the sound of a woodpecker in the spring time and now the hoot of an owl on the dark mornings; c) getting on a bike and cycling in a wet swimsuit is as awful as it sounds!

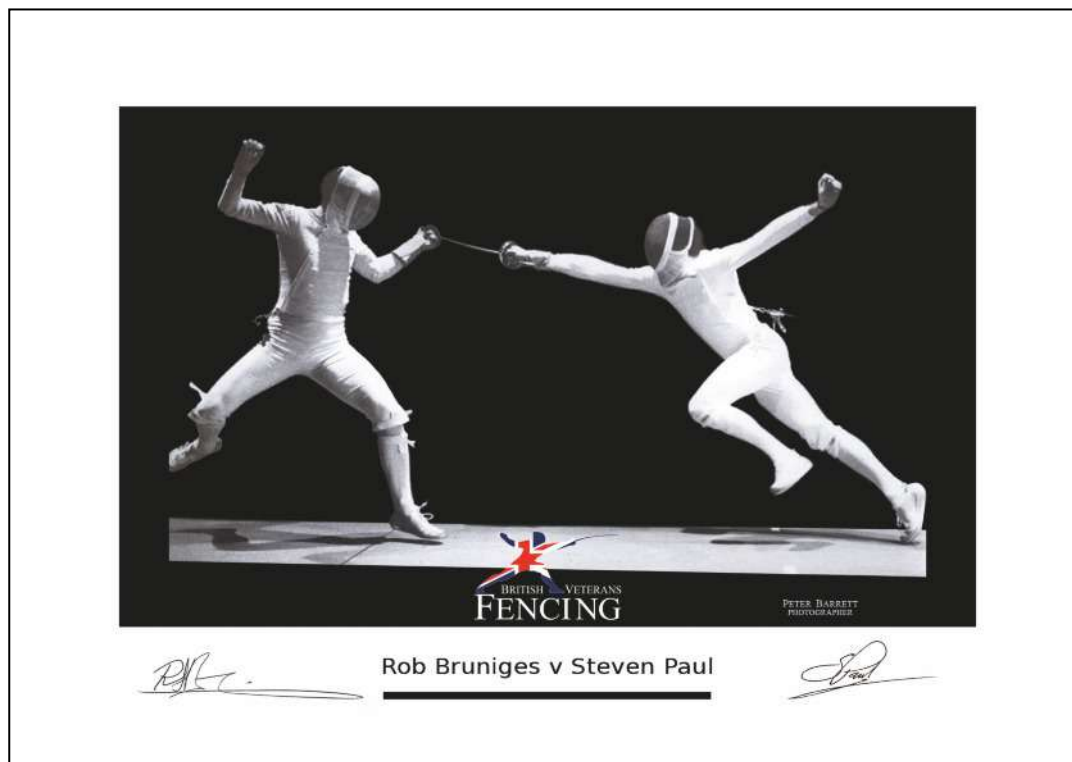
What next???

Moya McNamara



Recognise the yellow shirt?

Rob Bruniges v Steven Paul Poster



An ideal Christmas gift for fencers -
A3 poster of a great photo taken by Peter Barrett. Rob Bruniges v Steven Paul

£8 including postage & package (UK) - contact John Mason
<mailto:John@jrmason.demon.co.uk>

A copy of the original photo appeared on Facebook and there were many comments about where and when it was taken. Poster designed by Anne Mills, with permission of Peter, Rob and Steven.

"As the taker of this iconic moment in fencing I know exactly where it was taken. British Fencing wanted to make a promotional video and came up with idea of a 'Champions Challenge'. It was set up at the old De Beaumont centre. Fencers included Steven Paul, Rob Bruniges, Linda Martin and Linda Strachan (no sabre fencers, just foil and epee).

To make it fair (and the fact that the foil fencers could not hold up an epee) the fencers used 'Mini Epees' which is a foil blade in an epee guard and shorting out the connections in the epee socket makes the foil behave as an epee.

The setup had 3 video cameras one of which was on a tower and operated by Ziemowit Wojciechowski. I remember we were late starting the event and the invited spectators had lots of time in which to completely empty the small bar at the De Beaumont. They were a little rowdy once we got going."

- **Peter Barrett**

Competition results (top half)

Shropshire Open 02/09/2017

MF (16)	7	Jonathan Stanbury
ME (30)	3T	George Liston
	3T	Anton Pollard
	9	David Hiam
	12	Jonathan Stanbury
	14	Max Telfer
MS (18)	6	Julian Ghosh
	7	Stefan Leponis
WF (13)	2	Kati Archer
	6	Gillian Worman
WE (14)	5	Marg Oniye
	7	Susan Uff
WS (14)	6	Viv Frith
	7	Lucy Wright

Essex Open - 09/09/2017

MF (67)	12	Kola Abidogun
	21	Mike McKay
MS (13)	3	Julian Ghosh
WE (15)	5	Marg Oniye
	7	Susan Uff
WS (13)	6	Viv Frith

Elite Epee - 16/09/2017

ME (80)	31	Neal Mallet
	39	Anton Pollard

Manchester Sabre - 16/09/2017

MS (44)	5	Julian Ghosh
	10	Stefan Leponis
WS (37)	18	Jane Hutchison

Hamlet Open - 23/09/2017

MS (90)	25	Steve Pope
	44	Stefan Leponis

Highland Open - 30/09/2017

MF (18)	5	Kevin Milne
ME (28)	7	Hugh Kernohan
	9	George Liston

Newham Foil - 30/09/2017

MF (55)	21	Kola Abidogun
WF (28)	13	Kate O'Connell

Miller Hallet - 07/10/2017

ME (105)	17	Keith Barnett
	23	Chris Howser
	52	Neal Mallett

Milner Barry- 08/10/2017

ME (100)	14	Ingrid Heskett
	30	Nicola Hull
	31	Marg Oniye

Competition results (top half)

Bedford Epee - 08/10/2017

ME (53)	7	Granville Ward
	9	Anton Pollard
	13	Howard West
	16	Paul Willmot
	19	Andrew Brown
	20	Mark Richardson
	23	Max Telfer
	25	Darryl Hazlewood

WE (12)	2	Denise Silk
	6	Silvia Brown

Scottish Open - 14/10/2017

MF (40)	16	Paul Stanbridge
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ME (47)	17	George Liston
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MS (18)	6	Julian Ghosh
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NW Open - 21/10/2017

ME (9)	2	Duncan Salter
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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 results reports.

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

Cocks Moors Woods Epee - 11/11/2017

ME (53)	2	John Prime
	9	Paul Willmott
	12	Paul Donnelly
	14	Kevan Riley
	19	Tim Pearce
	20	Darryl Hazlewood
	25	Paul Edgecliffe-Johnson
	28	Mark Wilson

Welsh Open - 11/11/2017

MF (100)	31	John Troiano
	49	Richard Sage
	50	Tony Williams

ME (110)	9	Richard Phelps
	27	John Leahey
	29	Howard West
	41	Stephen Domek

MS (18)	3T	Steve Pope
	20	Julian Ghosh
	7	Stefan Leponis

WF (51)	18	Caron Hale
	20	Erika Cserny

WE (115)	23	Nicola Hull
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WS (46)	13	Jane Hutchison
	23	Lucy Wright

Derry Open - 18/11/2017

MF (14)	7	David White
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ME (15)	6	Duncan Salter
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Elite Epee - 19/11/2017

ME (60)	30	Chris Howser
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**Caption
Competition
November**

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

*Photo - courtesy of
Ingrid Heskett*

**Caption
Competition
August**

Editor's choice:

'One day Ceri this will all be yours.'

Kel Brundle



Photo - Editor

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PLEASE NOTE

Any articles or letters for the December newsletter should be sent to:

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