

Clare conquers the World!



Clare Halsted - Gold medallist WF (Category B) at the Veterans World Championships, Krems, Austria

Photo by Editor

Medals in Krems
England success in Singapore
London 2012 Vets

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Chairman's letter

Dear Members,

Good news for the BVF and its members this month with our congratulations to the members of the GB Veterans Squad who brought back one Gold, three Silver and four Bronze medals from the Veterans World Championships in Krems this month.

Special congratulations must go to Clare Halsted for her World Championship Gold Medal for Women's Foil, Cat B.

At the British Fencing AGM on 20th October, a number of our Veterans received BF Awards.

Henry de Silva received a Gold Medal for his creation and development of veterans fencing in the UK and internationally. Hilary Philbin received a Gold Medal for the excellent job she did in heading up and organising the Fencing and Paralympic Fencing at the 2012 Olympic Games and Caryl Oliver received a Silver Medal for her work as a key member of Hilary's organising team.

Veteran members Keith Smith and Penny Spink each received a Gold Medal for their many years of work for British Fencing and Beth Davidson, a Bronze Medal for the development work she undertakes for fencing.

I am sure that you join me in congratulating them on behalf of BVF.

Perhaps understandably, veterans give much to the sport and have done so for a long time, and it is good to see that their contribution is recognised and appreciated. Members will see later in this Newsletter, an article from Hilary highlighting the contribution made by many veterans as volunteers at the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and there are numerous vets around the UK who organise competitions, coach and develop fencing at the grass roots and generally keep the sport thriving at all levels.

Our next event is the Leeds Veterans Open, followed by the Veterans Winton Cup at Lilleshall, now in its fifth year with around 160 fencers taking part in what must be one of the friendliest, but still very competitive, competitions in the country.

Good luck to everyone taking part and I'm sure that you will find it as enjoyable as ever.

Sincerely

Frank Mills
BVF Chairman



Women top the list of GBR medals at the 2012 World Championships

Our women fencers won 5 of the 8 medals collected by the GBR squad in the 2012 World Veterans Fencing Championships in Krems, Austria. The GBR squad of 55 fencers (70 weapon entries) were part of the total entries which, at 660 was a new record for the Veterans World Championships.

The majority of the squad settled comfortably into the Klinglhuber Hotel and its sister Seminar Inn where the staff were most charming and helpful. The food was good and a nice touch was the customised menu, in English, with the union flag.

On the first day of the championships Fiona Haldane and William Osbaldeston opened the GBR account by winning Bronze medals at Women's Epée (Category B) and Men's Sabre (Category C) respectively. Day two saw Clare Halsted fighting cleverly to win the Gold medal in the Women's Foil (Category B) defeating Offerle (USA) in the final. Clare was supported by Janet Cooksey and Graham Paul who both won a Silver medal, Janet at Women's Epée (Category C) and Graham in Men's Foil (Category B).

Sylvia Brown and Neal Mallett added to the GBR medal total on day three each winning a Bronze medal at Women's Sabre (Category C) and Men's Epée (Category A) respectively. On the fourth day of the championships Janet Cooksey won the Silver medal at Women's Foil (Category C).

The final day, though full of expectations for the Sabre, produced no medals for GBR. Richard Bonehill was injured when a clash of sabre guards left him with his index finger pointing in the wrong direction. The medical team at the venue diagnosed a dislocated finger and manipulated it back into position and sent him to the local hospital to be checked out. Richard returned to the venue about 2 hours later having been told that there were no broken bones. This was not much consolation to him because he had been fencing well before he was forced to abandon due to the injury.

There was a Trial Men's Epée Team Event on the last day in which 9 national teams participated. The teams were made up of one fencer per category (A, B, and C). The teams were ranked according to the sum of the rankings of the individual members of the team. France won the Epée Team Championships with GBR taking 4th place.

Our referees, Keith Bowers and Duncan Rowlands worked well and both were given a final.

With the GBR Squad winning 1 Gold, 3 Silver and 4 Bronze medals they finished 6th in the 2012 World Veterans Fencing Championships medal table.

The full results may be found at the following link;

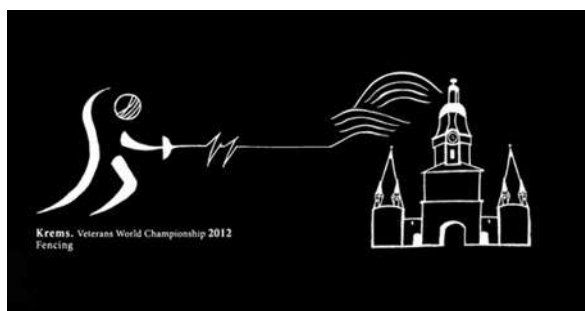
<http://www.fum.at/turnierservice/turnierresultate-live/veterans-world-championships-2012-krems/index.html>

David Sweeney
Team Manager

Medals Table

Veterans World Championships

Krems 2012



	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL	POSITION
GER	3	2	3	8	1
ITA	3	1	6	10	2
FRA	3		5	8	3
USA	2	5	8	15	4
RUS	2	2	1	5	5
GBR	1	3	5	9	6
JPN	1	2	2	5	7
DEN	1		1	2	8
UKR	1			1	9
AUT	1			1	9
HUN		1		1	11
FIN		1		1	11
SUI		1		1	11
AUS			1	1	14
LTU			1	1	14
LUX			1	1	14
RSA			1	1	14
SWE			1	1	14

'... how well the team gelled together, which I think was as a result of nearly everyone staying at the same hotel complex. I think also that there is now a realisation that if we want to win medals in the future there must be more emphasis on constructive training from individual fencers and their coaches. Nevertheless in spite of the difficulties of organisation of the event, a good time was had by all.'

Marcia Stretch

Krems 2012



Photos by
Editor

London 2012 and the 'Vets'

With the dust now settling after the conclusion of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in September, I want to take this opportunity to highlight the huge contribution made by the Vets. I was determined from the start to involve as many fencers as possible and was very pleased – but not surprised – to see the Vets stepping forward in such large numbers.

These are some, but probably not all, of the ways in which the Vets took part:

- More than half the LOCOG management team were Vets, including Caryl Oliver, Lawrence Burr, Jonathan Stanbury, Annaick Dulac, Brian Speight and Cary Zitcer.
- The three FIE technical officials from GB were all Vets - Mavis Thornton (Directoire Technique), Clare Halsted (Medical Commission) and Keith Smith (Referees Commission).
- The armourers' team was headed up by Peter Huggins and included Janet Huggins, Simon Axon, Mike Compton and Ruth Shaw.
- The referees included Huw Barton, Keith Bowers, Duncan Rowlands and Mike Thornton.
- Malcolm Fare was appointed as the fencing expert on the Olympic News Service.
- The volunteer team leaders included Frank Mills, Gillian Aghajan, Peter Black, Beth Davidson, Graham Paul, Jim Philbin, Mark Robertson and Vanessa Wilen.
- Two of our Vet doctors – Mark Hall and Debbie Taverner – were the team leaders for the anti-doping chaperones assigned to fencing.
- Vets were represented in all the fencing volunteer teams, with many volunteering for triple duty including the test event, the Olympics and the Paralympics. There were so many that there's little chance of my recalling every single one but, off the top of my head, they included John Mason, Diane Austin, Lorna Beevers, Sue Benney, Paul Brenda, Gerry Brosnan, Eileen Buist, Pat Casey, Janet Cooksey, John Crouch, Mark Cwynarski, Jon Dawkins, Steve Fox, Paul Harden, Vanessa Hendra, Jacqueline Hibbert, Steve Higginson, Steve Lennox, Colin Lutman, Linda McMahon, Moya McNamara, Jenny Morris, Stephen Munn, Sue Murphy, Kristin Payne, Mark Richardson, Paul Sibert, Anthony Silver, Peter Smith, Penny Spink, Max Telfer, Yvonne Walls, Sheila Williams, Paul Winter and recent returner Terry Wishart who joined during the Games. (My apologies to those missing from this list – please let me know who you are!)

- 16 Vet foilists came along to a mini-competition at the start of the test event weekend and assisted in training the volunteers in call room and field of play procedures.
- 16 Vet épéeists came along to a second mini-event at the start of the Olympic programme, to help test the wireless procedures and assist with athlete entry and medal ceremony timings.
- Neal Mallett and Jim Philbin were two of the fencers converted into avatars for the explanatory 'A-Z of Fencing' film shown at the beginning of each Olympic fencing session.
- Last but not least Peter Jacobs, in his capacity as Treasurer of the FIE, was a medal presenter for the Men's Epee Individual event.

The Vets therefore had a huge presence, with approximately 100 of us participating one way or another. To everyone involved – I'd like to say a big 'thank you' for all your efforts, and to your significant contribution to the overall success of the Games.

I know many more Vets were in the audience, and hopefully those who couldn't get there were able to see some of the TV and online coverage which showed competitive fencing to such good effect.

Wherever you were and whatever you did – I hope you enjoyed it.

Best wishes to all

Hilary Philbin
Former Fencing Manager!



NB: I suggest that all those coming to the Vets Winton Cup bring along their London 2012 workforce t-shirt, either Olympic or Paralympic, and I'll arrange a group photo. (The large group photo taken at Games-time will shortly be available via the BF website.)

England Veterans Fencing

Commonwealth Veterans Championships Singapore 27-31 September 2012

The 10th Commonwealth Veterans Fencing Championships were held in Singapore on 27-31 September. A team of 17 men and 7 women represented England in an 11 nation event with just over 160 competitors.

A successful event produced 17 gold, 7 silver and 2 bronze medals to leave us in first place just ahead of Australia.

The first day was men's epee and women's sabre. In both events we dominated the competition with Jason Scrimshaw beating Robert Flatt in the final of the epee and Beth Davidson beating Jane Hutchison in the final of the sabre. Other golds went to Richard Bonehill as the best over 60 and Janet Cooksey as the best over 70.

The second day was men's sabre and women's foil. Not such a successful individual event with Richard Bonehill 6th and Roger Nickless 7th in the sabre and Janet Cooksey 5th and Moya McNamara 6th in the foil. However Alan Ault picked up a gold as the best over 70, as well as Moya being the best over 60 and Janet again being the best over 70. The day finished in spectacular fashion with both the men's epee team securing a close win and the women's sabre team a much clearer win over Australia in both cases.

The third day was men's foil and women's epee. In the men's foil we looked to dominate the event with 5 of the last 8 and 3 of the last 4. However, no-one could stop Nigel Nutt of Australia, so we had to settle for a silver with Richard Sage and bronzes for Graham Paul and Paul Abrahams. In the women's event the highest places were Moya 6th and Janet 9th. Golds also went to Richard (over 50), Graham (over 60), Alan (over 70), Moya (over 60) and Janet completing her set at over 70. In both team events we lost out in the final: at men's sabre to Scotland and at women's foil to Australia.

The final day was just team events at men's foil and women's epee. At men's foil we could not convert our dominance of the individual event and we lost a close match to Australia. In the women's event a strong Australian team saw off our challenge.

Detailed results can be seen at www.cvfc2012.sg

I would like to thank England Fencing for their support with the entries and for financing Tristan Hale as our official referee.

John Crouch
Team Manager



England Medals

Men

Foil Individual Silver – Richard Sage
Bronze – Graham Paul
Paul Abrahams
Over 50 – Richard Sage
Over 60 – Graham Paul
Over 70 – Alan Ault
Team – Silver

Epee Individual Gold – Jason Scrimshaw
Silver – Robert Flatt
Over 40 – Jason Scrimshaw
Over 60 – Richard Bonehill
Team – Gold

Sabre Over 70 – Alan Ault
Team – Silver

Women

Over 60 – Moya McNamara
Over 70 – Janet Cooksey
Team – Silver

Over 60 – Moya McNamara
Over 70 – Janet Cooksey
Team – Silver

Individual Gold – Beth Davidson
Silver – Jane Hutchison
Over 40 – Beth Davidson
Over 50 – Jane Hutchison
Over 70 – Janet Cooksey
Team – Gold



And from Wales

A team of 5 Welsh Veterans fencers took part in the CVFC, Singapore.

Many congratulations to Rob Penton, individual and 40+ Gold medallist in Men's Sabre. The women took bronze in the team sabre.

Thanks to Francis Kwong and his team for a superbly organised event throughout. A great venue, fantastic hotel, warm welcome at the High Commissioner's residence, and a Gala dinner at the British Club with rousing singing.... I wonder how that started.....!



**Team Wales
Singapore**

**Gillian Aghajan
Team Manager**



Singapore shots!



Photos by Editor



Competition results (top half)

British Championships - 6/10/2012

MF (55) 23 Graham Paul

ME (56) 26 Robert Flatt

Coventry - 13/10/2012

MF (43) 2 Paul Harden

ME (33) 3 Granville Ward

5 Max Telfer

6 John Leahey

10 John Morris

14 David Hiam

15 Tim Pearce

MS (28) 8 Julian Ghosh

9 Stefan Leponis

14 Michael Compton

WF (53) 1 Gillian Worman

2 Kati Archer

3T Kim de Large

3T Kate Harris

WS (12) 1 Michele Narey

Bedford Epee - 14/10/2012

ME (68) 2 John Prime
3 Howard West
14 Stephen Domek
25 Adam Steiner
28 Malcolm Allton
29 Andrew Ramsay
32 Jurij Popel

WE (18) 8 Mariette Mason

Sussex Open - 13/10/2012

MF (34) 8 Brian Causton
9 Andrew Southwell
13 Paul Baillache
16 Kenny Jones

ME (74) 3T Howard West

3T Will Miller

15 Adam Steiner

16 Philip Jordan

19T Jeremy Raj

28 Stefan Munn

30 Robert Flatt

35 Simon Pink

37 John Hyde

See BVF website home page for European competitions and events -

www.veterans-fencing.co.uk

WF (15) 3T Dawn Townsend
3T Jenny Morris

WE (16) 8 Helen Easter

BVF Calendar

BVF CALENDAR 2012

Nov 3-4 Leeds Veterans

Nov 10-11 Veterans Winton Cup, Lilleshall, Telford

Nov 25 BVF v Royal Navy, A1:A9 HMS President, 72 St Katharine's Way, London E1W 1UQ

Dec 1 25th Anniversay Gala, Beaumanor Hall, Leicestershire (fencing at Radmoor Centre, Loughborough College)

BVF CALENDAR 2013

Jan 26-27 Age Group Qualifiers, Bletchley

Members' News

Many Thanks

Following my recent accident at the World Championships in Krems I would like to thank everyone who came to my assistance. A HUGE thank you to Jane who accompanied me to the hospital, to Dave, Marcia, Silvia, Chris and Gillian who sorted out my kit (and anyone else who I have missed). Also to the other members of the GB squad who expressed their concern. It is only when something goes wrong that one realises what an efficient and caring family of friends British Veterans Fencing really is. Many thanks to all.



Richard Bonehill

**Photo by
Editor**

Wishing you a speedy recovery Richard! - Editor

Bedford Open

Good turnout including some Vets and a good result by Howard West his second bronze medal that weekend, he was also third in the Sussex Open the day before.

The event was won by Lorenzo Paolansini undefeated during the day apart from our very own Colin Lutman (who is 75 shortly) who beat him 5/3 in the poule!

Andrew Brown

Krems the Movie!

Mariette Mason's husband David has made a short film of some of the action at the Veterans World Championships, Krems. The link is:

[Krems the movie](#)

Coventry Open

The top 4 WF places were taken by veterans!
1st place- Gillian Worman, 2nd - Kati Archer,
3rd equal- Kate Harris and Kim de Large.

Emirates

A word of caution - on checking in at Gatwick for an Emirates flight to Singapore, having booked my fencing bag as within allowed luggage (30Kg) rather than as a sports bag (first time ever!), the Emirates check in staff would not take my weapons and I had to leave them behind, even though I was not staying in Dubai and was in transit! If you are going to fly with Emirates and want to take your fencing kit, read the small print! - **Editor**



**Kim, Gillian,
Kati
and Kate**

**Photo courtesy
of
Kim de Large**



5th

VETERANS WINTON CUP

Inaugurated by Sir Nicholas & Bobby Winton



Be part of one of the most enjoyable
fencing competitions in the calendar

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th November

at

Lilleshall National Sports Centre, near Newport, Shropshire TF10

A 2-Day competition between 9 Regional teams at all 6 weapons

**Open to BVF Members (with BFA membership)
who are invited to apply to be part of a Regional team**

If you would like to fence, contact

**Frank Mills
01908 310516
millsfba@aol.com**

who will put you in touch with a Team Captain

Entry is £25 per person via a Regional Team Captain

The Telford Whitehouse Hotel is now full as the final booking date
was 2nd October but other hotels to try include:

Park Inn Tel. 01952 429988

Grays Hotel Tel 01952 425000

Premier Inn Telford Tel. 0871 527 9082

*Bookings for the Gala Dinner can be made up to 31st October
using the BVF website*



25th Anniversary Celebration Dinner



Beaumanor Hall, Woodhouse, Leicestershire Saturday 1st December 2012

Join us to celebrate at the original "Home" of the NVA (now BVF), in this historic house, built in the 19th Century for the Herrick family as a grand country home and used as a signals unit in WWII.

Dinner is £30 per head with a choice of menu.

During the evening there will be entertainment, dancing, quiz and raffle.

7 pm– 11 pm.

Dress: Black tie.

During the day, from 10 am–5 pm, there will be a Team Fencing Tournament for mixed teams of 3 fencers (1 at each weapon) at the Radmoor Centre, Loughborough College, Radmoor Road, Loughborough LE11 3BT

Either form a team for £30 entry per team or enter as an individual for £10 and we will put teams together.

The following hotels are convenient for Beaumanor Hall

Link Hotel 01509 211800 (5 minutes from Beaumanor) Twin/Double B&B £84

Premier Inn, Loughborough (centre of town) 0871 527 9314 Rooms from £29

Ramada Loughborough (centre of town) 01509 233222 Single B&B £60, Double B&B £70

Burleigh Court Hotel & Leisure, Loughborough University 01509 861135 Single B&B £62 Double B&B £83

Cedars Hotel, Loughborough 01509 214459 Single £47.50 Double £59.50

Accommodation will also be available in the Residential Huts at Beaumanor Hall if sufficient numbers require it.

Bookings for entry and dinner may be made on-line
on the Latest News page:

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

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

NOMURA

Caption Competition October

send your entry to Editor

g.aghajan@virgin.net



Caption Competition September

Editor's choice

'Look, how many more times..... I'm sorry I drank your coffee!'

Chris Prett

*'The Likely Lads prepare to audition for Shakespeare's
"Comedy of Errors"!'*

Paul Brenda

'Mug Shot!'

Jeanne Brooks

**Photos by
Editor**



BVF contacts

Life President		Henry de Silva  6 Little Meadow Andreas Isle Of Man IM7 4HY Tel: 01624 880863
Officers	Chairman	Frank Mills  Tel: 01908 310516 millsfba@aol.com
	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	International Fencing Officer	David Sweeney  Tel: 01453 758372 mrdsweeney@hotmail.com
	Domestic Fencing Officer	Peter Baron  Tel: 01384 400242 bvf@baronfencing.plus.com
	Newsletter Editor	Gillian Aghajan  Tel: 07747 792712 g.aghajan@virgin.net
		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 November BVF Newsletter should be sent to:-

Gillian Aghajan
by 18th November 2012

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

