

October / November 2014

# The Fencer

## ECU Cavalier School of Fencing Newsletter



### Note from the Editor

In October 2010, I recorded that our Club was at an all-time low – that club membership was well down and subsequently suffering from a lack of competitive spirit.

We were more or less a ‘social gathering’ – still a great place to be, but we needed the strength to move out of that space and take our rightful place, once more, among the top clubs of the state.

Clubs go in cycles and we can jump now to October 2014 to see what determination and hard work can achieve.

We have seen solid coaching teamwork which has produced a more cohesive and encompassing club training session. We have seen the implementation of a more structured Bladez coaching strategy.

With the introduction of the club handicap competitions, we have provided not only a good starting point for the beginners and the very young fencers to gain confidence, but also for all club members to be involved.

Needless to say, this has impacted positively on our levels of competition entry to state, national and, more recently, international tournaments.

These competitions now attract members from other clubs providing a most important social interaction necessary for our club.

The positive influence of these competitions on our club cannot be underestimated.

The changes made to the administrative executive have also had a very positive impact on the development of the club. Dividing the administration between a Secretary and Registrar has lightened the load, making it a less onerous option for a volunteer. With luck, this change coincided with a restructure in the administration of FencingWA. This simplified the management of the club fees and bookwork.

We have increased our profile with the State and National Associations – this is a very forward move.

The current Tournament Director and Development Officer positions have been undertaken by Cavs representatives. We now have a member of Cavaliers as a WA representative on the National Women in Fencing Commission. We have referees working towards national levels.

We participate strongly in the management of National Tournaments held in Perth with our expertise in Equipment and Armoury. The state Female Fencing Day is becoming a regular, well-run feature of Cavaliers.

Cavaliers is a club well on its way. We hope that the forthcoming elections for the 2015 Committee will provide the

necessary reserves for this energy to continue on into its 60<sup>th</sup> year.

*Gillian Kings-Lynne*

### Cavaliers Membership

#### Senior Male

Anderson Kalem  
Barrett-Lennard Chris  
Benetatos Chris  
Boujos Alex  
Brownrigg Leon  
Devenish Dylan  
Dul Andrew  
Foley Drew  
Gomez Jack  
Harbin Peter  
Harbin Piers  
Hodgson Toby  
Ivory Josh  
Kishi Lucien  
Kneale Damian  
Kwan Andrew  
Lee Yen-Sen  
Macintyre Simon  
MacRae Michael  
Middleton Mike  
Moorhouse Ryan  
Munro Andrew  
Ng Hendric  
O'Neill William  
Read Brodie  
Trichilo Gino  
Webster Stuart  
Wolfinger Seymour

#### Junior Female

Berti Brianna  
Calligan Zari  
Hadwin Orlando  
Hodges Laura  
Kneale Amy  
Rosario Alice  
Rosario Grace  
Sanchez Monica

#### Associates

Algaba Rhonda  
Herzog Neil  
Perry Ruffo

#### Contract Coaches

Davies Malcolm  
Hien Sven

#### Junior Male

Arnold Matthew  
Austin Thomas  
Calligan Hugh  
Foley Llewelyn  
Freedman Cameron  
Freedman Jarrod  
Freedman Lewis  
Haass Alexander  
Hepworth Fynn  
Luca-Morison Gabriel  
Marcus Sam  
Martin Darren  
McQuillen Patrick  
Rachetti Francesco  
Reynolds William  
Rosenberg Eli  
Rossaro Matteo  
Ruffo Antonio  
Steinkrug Kurt  
Stretton Mark  
Sweet Oscar  
Thomson Ryan  
Verana Joachim  
Wakelam Ellis

#### Senior Female

Bath Alia  
Black Marissa  
Carvosso Annabel  
Caunt Kylie  
Ellis Isobel  
Gulland Elizabeth  
Meredith Sarah  
Miller Bella  
Park Ivy  
Skerman Jindalae  
Ullaga Gabriella

#### Life Members

Donley Graham  
Jaffar Mahmud  
Kings-Lynne Gillian  
McMahon Gerald  
Osgood George  
Rogers Catherine

## Annual General Meeting

**To Be Held On  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
At the Club Venue  
3.30pm**

All Cavs Members are encouraged to attend.

### Agenda:

#### Meeting Open:

Present: Apologies:  
Minutes of Last AGM:  
President's Report:  
Secretary's Report:  
Treasurer's Report:  
Registrar's Report  
Coaches Report:  
Equipment Report:  
Vote on Mission Statement:  
Vote on amended Constitution  
and new complaints procedure:  
Nomination of Committee 2015  
Election of Committee 2015  
Meeting Closed:

All Committee Positions will be open for renewal.

New 'blood' is essential to an effective committee. We urge everyone to read the job descriptions and consider the possibility of helping out on the Committee.

Importantly we require an efficient Tournament Officer – a role which has remained sadly vacant this year.

A new opening has been created for a Communications Officer to handle club promotion including the newsletter.

Please speak to current Committee members to find information on any position and to ask questions.

The traditional Sausage Sizzle will be organised to follow the meeting

## Job Descriptions

A Notice for the AGM has been sent to you including the descriptions of all Committee Jobs.

We are hoping for stability and strong support from fencers in this coming year.

## TOURNAMENT OFFICER

Be responsible for promotion of tournaments to club members, mainly those new members wishing to compete for the first time.

Advise newcomers of the procedure and facilitate the registration procedure.

Liaise between Fencing WA Tournament Director and Cavaliers' members for tournament procedures / timetable changes.

Organise the Cavaliers' DT Team for the Fencing WA tournaments which are hosted by Cavaliers.

Advertise and be responsible for making up a team of volunteers for the appropriate competitions.

Help to advertise and promote all competitions to the members with the aim of making Cavaliers a proactive club in the field of interclub competition.

Also help with intra-club comps if necessary.

Be familiar with the Referee List and ensure that the required referees will turn up.

## COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Be responsible for communications to club members, and in particular the quarterly newsletter.

Coordinate and compile content for the newsletter.

Format the newsletter in an appropriate format to be both emailed to members as well as printed to be made available as a "hard copy" for members and interested parties.

## Club Handicap Competitions

All competitions start at 1pm at Cavaliers. All welcome

1<sup>st</sup> November Foil Handicap  
8<sup>th</sup> November Epee Handicap  
15<sup>th</sup> November Sabre Handicap

Check Cavs website for details.

## FencingWA Tournaments

1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> November  
Veteran Epee and Novice Foil

8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> November  
WAFA Activity Day at Excalibur  
U/13 Foil FINAL

22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November  
Open Foil, Epee and Sabre FINALS

30<sup>th</sup> November  
Awards Presentation High Tea

See Fencing WA website for details  
<http://www.fencingwa.com/>

## AFF Tournaments

5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December  
Australian Open and Veteran  
National Championships in Canberra

See AFF website for details:  
<http://www.ausfencing.org/home/>

## Overseas Tournaments

10<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November  
Commonwealth Open and Veteran  
Championships in Largs, Scotland

## FencingWA Committee Meetings

All members are invited to attend the FencingWA meetings.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

## Commonwealth Open and Veteran Championships 2014

This article was printed in the  
Stirling Times Community  
Newspaper on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
Picture by Marcus Whisson

***“Focus is on play to win”***



Peter Harbin

PETER Harbin says age has not dampened his competitive spirit.

The 81-year-old will represent Australia at next month's Commonwealth Fencing Championships in Scotland.

## WAIS Opportunity

FencingWA has been invited by WAIS to participate in an athlete-focused life skills program which would be offered as part of a broader high performance State Squad program. Spaces are strictly limited and will initially be offered to fencers who are aiming to participate in the 2015 national cadet championships.

Mr Harbin said although the sport was physically taxing, he still possessed an inner drive to win.

*“It does require good reflexes but also you need to want to win, I’ve got this urge to win all the time.”*

*“You’re not there to sort of trail along, I fence to win,” Mr Harbin said.*

*“It’s very taxing because your body is falling apart and you’re trying to improve your style, but you know I knock off people regularly in their 20s.”*

Mr Harbin travelled to Australia from England in the 50s on a family holiday and quickly found he did not want to return.

*“We came out to Australia for a holiday for six months and I got a job as a Jackaroo; I thought ‘I don’t want to go back to pharmacy’, so I did that for two years in Wagga Wagga, in New South Wales, and we started a small fencing club in Wagga,” he said.*

The Scarborough resident, who began fencing at 15 and now runs the York Motor Museum, said he continues to practise most days.

Mr Harbin said his favoured category of epee required speed and precision, meaning he practised most days.

*“If you go to hit and you miss, someone will hit you, that’s why I have a tennis ball hanging in the garden on a piece of string that I practise on,” he said.*

Mr Harbin has won 18 championships, including one Australian championship.

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## Cavs Fencers at the Commonwealth’s in Scotland

**Largs, Scotland  
10<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**“300 athletes from 20 countries  
and one of the world’s fastest  
sports”**

The Commonwealth Veterans’ Championships 2014 is being run at the same venue as the Open Championships between the 16th and 19th November 2014

## CONGRATULATIONS CAVS ENTRANTS

**Men’s Foil**  
Dylan Devenish

**Women’s Sabre**  
Marissa Black

**Women’s Veteran Epee**  
Isobel Ellis

**Men’s Veteran Epee**  
Peter Harbin

See the website for all  
information and results.  
“Watch Live” from 10<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Nov

<http://www.cfc2014.org/>

## Cavs Committee 2014

<b>President</b>	Grace Rosario
<b>Vice President</b>	Malcolm Davies
<b>Secretary</b>	Jindalee Skerman
<b>Registrar</b>	Isobel Ellis
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mahmud Jaffar
<b>Coach Coordinator</b>	Kylie Caunt
<b>WAFA Rep</b>	Seymour Wolfinger
<b>Equipment Manager</b>	Drew Foley
<b>Armourer</b>	Perry Ruffo
<b>Armourer Assistant</b>	Andrew Munro
<b>Librarian</b>	Leon Brownrigg
<b>Tournament Officer</b>	Position Vacant
<b>Website Manager</b>	Malcolm Davies
<b>Social Secretary</b>	Dylan Devenish
	Llewelyn Foley
<b>ECU Liaison</b>	Dylan Devenish



## Female Fencing Day

FencingWA presented its 3rd annual Female Fencing Day – hosted by **ECU Cavalier School of Fencing** at Mt Lawley on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

The Female Fencing Day is organised to encourage female participation in fencing.

Past, present and future female fencers are invited to participate in this event.

The event is about having fun and getting to know the female members of the fencing community rather than actually competing.

Entry to this day is free with a casual friendly atmosphere to welcome even the most hesitant beginner. All ages are welcome.

Tea, coffee and light refreshments are also provided on the day.

The format includes team and individual events as well as a 'have a go' session for newcomers.

The continuing success of this event is testament to the energy and enthusiasm of the wonderful ladies at Cavs.



## A 'Female Fencer' writes .....

### ***FEMALE FENCING DAY***

***"WA held its third annual Female Fencing Day on 13 September 2014, to encourage the participation of girls and women in the sport.***

***We held friendly competitions in foil, epee and sabre and also held a "have a go" session for beginners of all ages.***

***We all had a fantastic day just having some fun with other girls and women from different clubs. I only started fencing a little less than 18 months ago and I don't get a chance to meet that many other girls at competitions (particularly those in different weapons), so this was a great opportunity to make some new friends at a fun, social event.***

***Some of us also decided to try competing in other weapons - with varying degrees of success (in my case, not much success at all, I'm definitely sticking with epee)!***

***Thanks Fencing WA and Kylie Caunt for organising this year - can't wait for the next one!"***

***Jinny Skerman***



## Women in Fencing Commission

**At the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Fencing Federation in May this year it was decided to establish a Women in Fencing Commission in line with the FIE initiative.**

**Kylie Caunt has taken on the role of representative for Western Australia alongside Alanah Maclaurin who will represent the junior girls.**

**Here is the letter to the AFF from Ben Peden, President of FencingWA**

*"Adam (Reynolds),*

*Kylie Caunt has agreed to take on the role of WA representative for the Women in Fencing Commission.*

*Kylie has been fencing in Western Australia for a number of years now, and has been actively competing in the open and veteran national circuit in her chosen weapon of epee. Kylie has taken on numerous roles in the past including Treasurer of FencingWA, various administrative tasks in her club (ECU Cavaliers School of Fencing) and has also been very active coaching within the Club (including as the club's head coach). Kylie has also been central in organising our Female Fencing Days in recent years.*

*I will leave it to Kylie to fill in any relevant dates and correct any omissions I may have made.*

*Kylie will also be supported in the role by Alanah Maclaurin as our junior representative. Alanah is a member of UWA Fencing Club, also fencing epee, and is a member of the AFT.*

*Regards, Ben Peden."*

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## Photos Female Fencing



L to R Laura Hodges, Marissa Black, Freya North-Hodges (Exc)



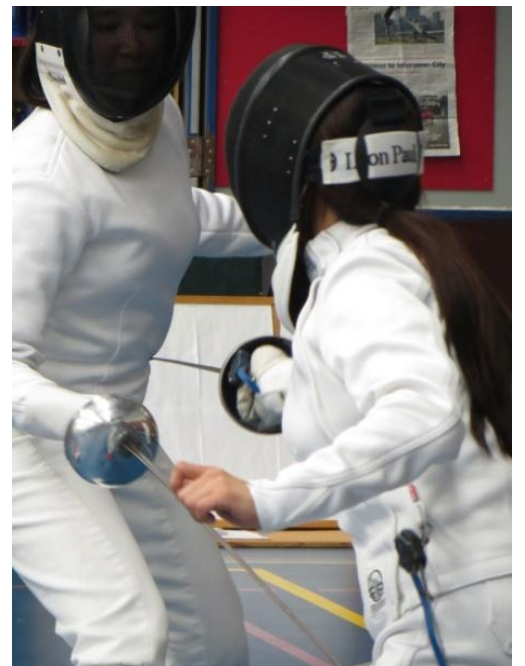
L to R Ivy Park, Anne Bauer (SF), Jinny Skerman, Marissa Black



Marissa leading the Have a Go group for newcomers



Gillian Kings-Lynne with zucchini soup





## FencingWA Awards Presentation High Tea

**The Western Australian  
Fencing Association  
invites all  
fencers  
and their families  
to the  
2104 Award  
Presentation**

**High Tea  
At Yokine Bowling Club  
10 Wordsworth Avenue  
Yokine WA 6060  
on  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**2pm  
Three Weapon Italian Relay  
3pm  
Awards Presentation**

**Variety of cakes and savoury  
food provided with tea,  
coffee and soft drinks  
Other drinks available for  
purchase**

**Dress Smart Casual  
Tickets \$10 per head  
via website**

**Host Club Curtin  
Swordfish Fencing Club**

### Editor:

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**Web Site:** [www.cavaliers.com.au](http://www.cavaliers.com.au)

**Contributions:** Article from *Stirling Times*,  
Sarah Meredith, Jinny Skerman, Kylie Caunt,  
Drew Foley, Ben Peden, Timothy Kings-Lynne

**Photos:** Sarah Meredith, Jinny Skerman,  
Susannah Kings-Lynne

**Fencing Information:** AFF/WAFA website,  
Commonwealth Games website

## Bronze Level Bladez

### New Achievement Levels in the Bladez Group

*"We have introduced levels of achievement to the Bladez group and have had our first grading on the 14th of September.*

*We had four young fencers go up to the first level 'Bronze'.*

*These are **Gabriel Luca-Morison** (left), **Ellis Wakelam** (middle), **Matteo Rossaro** (right) and **Amy Kneale** (not present)."*

*Sarah Meredith  
Bladez Coach*



Bladez Achievers

## More Photos Female Fencing Day



Steve Johnson assisting  
with Female Fencing Day



Isobel Ellis and Anne Bauer



L to R Ivy Park, Jinny Skerman, Anne Bauer,  
Emily Siggs, Freya North-Hodges, Marissa  
Black



Kylie Caunt – DT of Female Fencing Day



L to R Jinny Skerman, Marissa Black, Ivy  
Park at Female Fencing Day

## Valued Volunteer City of Stirling

Each year the City of Stirling acknowledges nominated volunteer workers within local Sporting Clubs. Each nominee is invited to attend a special evening where they are interviewed and given due recognition – in addition to lots of free goodies!! An annual dinner is held mid-year where special winners are announced.

We congratulate **Kylie Caunt** and **Drew Foley** for each receiving a successful nomination - each the winner of their category.

### Kylie Caunt winner of Community Coach Award



*"Hi All*

*I have been nominated for the above award and would like to thank the people/person who put in the nomination.*

*When I saw that the letter was from the City of Stirling, my immediate reaction was 'what have I forgotten to pay' followed closely by 'what by laws have they changed now. So the contents of the letter were a big surprise.*

*It did put a smile on my face after a very trying day at work.*

*Regards Kylie"*

Kylie started fencing at the ECU Cavalier School of Fencing in August 1999 as a Foilist. It was two years before she realised that Epee

would be her favourite weapon. Her one foray into Sabre (where she took 3<sup>rd</sup> place), was as an emergency fill-in for a team at a state level competition.

Kylie's first serious tournament was at a national tournament in Adelaide in 2003 where she bravely faced her national counterparts. While she had little luck against the much higher level of competition, she came away a wiser fencer and with a much greater awareness of the strength required to move forward.

Since then, Kylie has been a regular contestant at both local and national tournaments. Her best result at a national competition was 6<sup>th</sup> place in Perth in 2007 in Women's Open Epee. In 2008, also at the Perth nationals, she took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Women's Veteran Epee in her age group and 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall.

Kylie has been the coaching coordinator on the ECU Cavalier School of Fencing committee since 2012, but has been heavily involved with the club as a member for many years before joining the committee.

Kylie has always been a staunch club member and one to give back to the sport as much as she has earned from it. In 2003, she held the WA Fencing Association Treasurer's position for two years – at that time raising money for the first of the recent nationals to be held in Perth.

In 2009, Kylie took the Australian Fencing Federation Level 1 Coaching Course. In 2013 she completed her Level 1 coaching qualifications in Epee. Kylie has been a coach at the club for many years.

### Drew Foley winner of Valued Volunteer Award

*"Hi Everyone,*

*I too have been nominated and feel very humbled that someone out there considers me deserving.*

*Like Kylie, I saw the letter and thought it must be something administrative to be dealt with or an update on the impact of pending council mergers.*

*So thank you to the faceless men and women out there plotting behind the scenes!!*

*Have a great day everyone, Drew"*



Drew Foley started fencing to be involved actively with his sons. At the end of 2011 he participated in a "Parents Have a Go" session at a competition in which one of his sons was competing. In the beginning of 2012 he began fencing at the ECU Cavalier School of Fencing.

Drew also wanted to "give back" to the club and so took up the position of Equipment Officer in 2012. He has remained in this position since. With a collection of clothing and equipment valued at around \$50,000, the job of Equipment Officer is not one which could be taken lightly.

The task involves hours of volunteer time, much of which is done at home. Drew does all of this over and above his job as an architect as well as his other sports and family commitments.

Drew also regularly participates in State and National level competitions in Epee and Sabre. He thinks that he is best described as "socially competitive" and says that: "Anyone who has seen me at a comp would know that I have the biggest grin from ear to ear regardless of the score!"

Drew has fenced in the Cavalier's Sabre team with his two sons, Llewelyn and Lohhrin (forming an all Foley Family Team!) as well as in the Cavalier's Epee team defeating Singapore with a convincing score.

*..Jinny Skerman and Gillian K- L*

**T shirt Design by Timothy  
Kings-Lynne 2000**

