

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

1 CSAA Aims and Objectives

The CSAA aims to encourage active participation in athletics amongst all members of the Civil Service Sports Council. The Association's Committee acts on this remit by organising an annual series of national championship events, and also entering representative teams in matches against the RAF, the Police and the Fire Service. As part of its wider involvement in Civil Service athletics the Committee maintains links where possible with Regional and Departmental Organisers in an attempt to ensure that events are run to a high standard and that participation records are maintained to illustrate the numbers taking part. Based on these figures decisions can be taken as to how future events might be organised and advertised in an effort to increase participation.

The main principles for CSAA remain constant but how these are met are always under review in light of the changes taking place within Government and the wider community and the ways in which sport is evolving. This has seen an increased emphasis on participation for health grounds and whilst this undoubtedly has long term benefits for the general population, CSAA is still very much committed to providing competition across the whole spectrum of abilities and encourages everyone to participate for the enjoyment of sport. CSAA also recognises that our best athletes require a good level of competition, especially if they are to progress and and at the same time continue to support the traditional events, because they appreciate the opportunity to compete against athletes from different parts of the country in a well organised race.

2 The CSAA Committee

The CSAA is an elected body and the Committee meets three times a year to discuss matters relating to the forthcoming events. The AGM is held in January to which all members are welcome to attend. There are places on the Committee for anyone who is genuinely interested in contributing to the CSAA. However, anyone who is prepared to assist at any of the Championship Meetings without the responsibility of becoming a Committee Member is equally welcome. If anyone wishes to discover more about what is involved or offer their services for a particular event please contact the Secretary. Volunteers are the lifeblood of the sport and CSAA will welcome anyone who lives locally and wishes to assist at events. For example help with timekeeping, number recording, course marshalling, officiating etc would assist the Committee in so many ways and assist in maintaining the high quality that athletes currently enjoy when participating.

Committee Members for 2014

President Marian Holmes OBE

Chairman: Gerry Trainer

Secretary: Nick Hume

Treasurer: Paula Booth

Vice Presidents: Ken Best, Bill Berry, Brian Craig,

Dave Evans, John Hall, Neil Hornsby, Bill Kingston,

Alan Mason, Roger Smith, Ted Wingrove, Nick Hume

Committee: Bob Brimage, Gaye Clarke, Grete Howarth, Steve Marklew

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Steve Norris, Ian Statter, Ros Townsend-Hope, Steve Uttley

Within the Committee there is a wide range of knowledge and experience that covers all aspects of the athletics spectrum. A number of members also serve in volunteer capacities from national to local level for Clubs, Counties and National Associations and/or are qualified Coaches, and/or Officials thus bringing increased expertise to the organisation of CSAA events.

3 The Queenborough Championship Events

There are now six Championship Events which together form the Queenborough Championships for the best Department/Sports Association with the Braben-Whiffen Trophy for the most improved Department. The reduction in the number of events was due to the need to combine the Open Track & Field Championships with the Masters Track & Field Championships. This came about because of falling numbers in the Open Event and because the majority of competitors are in the Masters categories. This is a good example of CSAA reviewing its programme of events and responding to changes and trends within the participating community.

As part of the on-going review the CSAA has taken the opportunity to revise its calendar of event dates and moved the Road Relays from October to March and brought the Cross Country forward by a month. Also following another very hot July day for the 10k it was agreed with CSSC to revert back to an April one when hopefully the weather will be kinder to the athletes and officials.

The following Tables highlight the top 3 athletes and Departments in each of the Queenborough events during 2014 (except T&F) and it is always pleasing to see some of the smaller Government Departments taking some of the honours, though the large Departments still continue to dominate most of the events.

Event - Individuals	1 st	Dept	2 nd	Dept	3 rd	Dept
10k – Men	T Aldred	HMT	T Griffiths	Minerva	G Pennington	HMRC
10k – Women	A Snook	HASSRA	L Chisholm	HMRC	M Roberts	DfT
Race Walk – Men	J Hall	DEFRA	S Uttley	Justice Dept	J Brewer	HMRC
Race Walk - Women	L Bradley	HMRC	M Noel	DEFRA	T Mills	HMRC
Cross Country – Men	M Cummings	HMRC	D Summers	DEFRA	H Bampton	MoD
Cross Country - Women	V Carter	Minerva	M Roberts	DFT	S Frances	Minerva
Half Marathon – Men	G Pennington	HMRC	D White	HASSRA	N Winfield	HASSRA
Half Marathon - Women	N Sheel	Minerva	K Dunford	HASSRA	T Barlow	NHS PA

Event - Teams	1 st Team	2 nd Team	3 rd Team
10k – Men	HMRC	MoD	HASSRA
10k – Women	DEFRA	HMRC	HASSRA
Race Walk – Men	DEFRA	HMRC	HASSRA
Race Walk - Women	HMRC	DEFRA	RM/PO
Cross Country – Men	HMRC	DEFRA	MoD
Cross Country - Women	MINERVA	HMRC	DEFRA
Half Marathon	HASSRA	HMRC	MINERVA
Open T&F	HASSRA/HMRC	-	DEFRA
Masters T&F	HASSRA	HMRC	DEFRA

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Event	Venue	Organiser(s)
10k	Battersea Park, London	N Hume, J Yarrow, G Trainer
Race Walk	Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham	S Uttley
Cross Country	Parliament Hill, London	G Trainer
Half Marathon	Freckleton	N Hume
Open / Masters Track & Field	Manchester	G Clarke, B Brimage

Note: Road Relays moved from Oct 14 to Mar 15

Event Summary

2014 saw another year when CSAA provided a full programme of Championship events which attracted a good number of participants, despite falling numbers within the Civil Service which still provides the overwhelming number of competitors and the difficulties with obtaining time-off for sporting events.

Once again the 10k Road Race, 3 Mile Fun Run and 1 Mile Walk in Battersea Park, London proved popular with CSAA and CSSC working together to provide an excellent event on once again another very hot day of the year. This is now the flagship event for CSAA and CSSC and hopefully will continue to grow in the coming years.

The Half Marathon Championships were once again incorporated within the Freckleton Half Marathon Race near Preston. Gary Pennington won the Men's title for the fourth consecutive year on what is practically his home course. Once again the feedback from the athletes was good and they felt honoured to be part of the 50th Freckleton Half Marathon. Even the CSAA Secretary felt motivated to compete on this historic occasion, despite temperatures in the high 70's Fahrenheit.

The Open Track & Field Championships and the The Master's Track and Field was combined for the second time and the lessons learned from the first time meant that the meeting was a much better experience for all the athletes.

The Race Walk Championship was once again well organised by the Police as it was held within the Ryan Cup event which saw the Police Team retain the Trophy.

The final event of the year was the Cross Country at London's Parliament Hill and bringing it forward a month meant the weather was excellent for racing at an iconic venue and thanks go to the staff from CSSC who once again helped to marshal the course.

Civil Service athletic events, whilst having a high competitive element, continue to appeal to runners who enjoy the challenge of different terrain and improving their own fitness. By working closely together CSAA & CSSC have provided ideal opportunities for this within the workplace.

Thanks must go to Gerry Trainer, Roger Smith, Gaye Clarke, Bob Brimage, John Hall, Steve Uttley and Nick Hume who all played major roles in the successful organisation of the events and to all the other Committee Members who play their part in promoting athletics within the Civil Service.

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Final Queenborough Positions for 2013 -14

	Race Walk	Open T&F	Vets T&F	Relay	XC	Half Marathon	10k	TOTAL	Pos
HMRC	61	60	55	73	51	24	48	372	1
HASSRA	9	40	55	35	27	33	40	239	2
DEFRA	49	35	25	23	18		27	177	3
MINERVA		35	35	22	19	22	17	150	4
DSRA		20	25	10	46		21	122	5
ORD SURVEY				36	11			47	6
HMT					5		7	12	=7
Dept of TRANSPORT							12	12	=7
BT			10					10	9
CABINET OFFICE					7			7	10
MIN OF JUSTICE		5						5	11
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM					4			4	=12
NHS PA						4		4	=12
SPARTA					3			3	14
UK ANTI DOPING							1	1	15

Appendix A now lists the Queenborough Trophy Winners from 1927 to the present day and is an interesting commentary on the changes that have taken place within the Civil Service over that time.

4 Individual Achievements by CSAA Athletes

The highlights below are just a few of the many noteworthy achievements that athletes within the Civil Service have achieved during 2014 whilst representing their Country or local athletics club across all age ranges showing that Athletics in its widest sense is a sport for life. The list is by no means comprehensive and apologies to anyone who has been overlooked:

Tom Aldred was 1st in the prestigious Amsterdam Half Marathon in a time of 67.21 which ranked him 19th M35 in the country.

CSAA Track & Field organiser Gaye Clarke competing as a F50, won medals in numerous competitions around the World which included the European Veterans Championships, World Masters Indoor Championships, British Masters Championships and local leagues.

CSAA Vice President, John Hall, won a Silver Medal in the 10k Walk in the World Masters Championship.

Victoria Carter was ranked 29th in the Women's F40 Marathon Rankings and 7th in the F40 29 miles list.

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Joe Appiah won Gold at the British Masters Indoor Championships whilst Heath Bampton won the V45 British Masters Half Marathon Champs

In the F60 Category Maggie Statham won Gold in the British Masters 5,000m Championships and ended the year ranked 1st overall in her age category for the 5,000m and 10,000m and 2nd at 3,000m.

5 Final Round-Up

CSAA was once again honoured to have a winner of one of the main CSSC awards when HMRC athlete, **Christina Brewer** (pictured below), was presented with the Centels Salver for Best Sportswoman for 2013 at the 2014 Annual Conference.



At the recent North West CSSC Conference, CSAA Treasurer, **Paula Booth**, received a CSSC Certificate of Recognition for all her work with CSAA and CSSC Manchester.

In 2014 CSAA Life Vice-President Bill Berry wrote a book about his lifetime in sport. Bill said: “I have written a book about my lifetime's involvement with sport covering my fifty years as a competitor and thirty-five years as a coach. Over the years many people have asked me how I became involved in coaching but the idea for the book was originally suggested by a cycling pal - Alan Hill. We often talked about our various sporting experiences and Alan used to say to me *"you should write a book about your athletic experiences and trips"* but I thought no more about it. However a couple of years ago Alan was diagnosed with cancer and eventually passed away in *St Michael's Hospice* in Herefordshire. In 2013 I read about a cyclist who had written a book about his life of cycling to raise funds in memory of a friend who had died in similar circumstances to Alan's. So I decided to write my book and I am selling it to raise money for St Michael's Hospice. All the profits from the sales will go to the Hospice and your help in supporting this very worthwhile cause would be much appreciated.”

CSAA continues to communicate with its athletes via the excellently maintained CSAA website at www.csaa.org.uk which provides information on all Queenborough events and Regional Championships where known plus results within a day or two of the event. The CSSC website provides a link to the CSAA website thus increasing the opportunity for new participants to become involved in one of the events. These channels are obviously successful as can be seen from the uptake of the CSSC Half Marathon and 10k Subsidy Schemes.

Finally, and once again, I must pay tribute to the hard working and dedicated Committee who volunteer countless hours of their own time to ensuring that athletics events for Civil Servants are organised to the very highest standards with due consideration for the Health & Safety of all competitors. At these events Medical personnel are in attendance but fortunately are very rarely required to exercise their knowledge and skills. As volunteers much of the expertise within the Committee is also fed back into local athletic clubs, County and National Associations and/or by coaching or officiating at meetings up and down the country. Volunteers are and will always be the lifeblood of the Committee and without this dedication the CSAA would not be the vibrant Association that it continues to be. The assistance of the CSSC staff at events such as the 10k and Cross Country is always very welcome, whilst for other events local officials (England Athletics

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

qualified) are only too happy to assist, as they know that CSAA events are well run and the offer of refreshments and travel expenses is always welcome!

In summary CSAA has maintained its long held traditions during 2013, whilst continuing to adopt a flexible approach to changing situations within the Civil Service. CSAA is always ready to welcome athletes of all abilities to its events and to encourage new volunteers to assist with running the events and taking on new roles within the Committee. If this Report has encouraged you to become involved please contact Nick Hume or any other Committee Member for further details.

A Serious Challenge for 2015

At the end of 2014 an edict was issued to all Government Departments by Cabinet Office regarding the withdrawal of Special Leave for CSSC and Departmental Sporting activities. The impact of this is still being assessed and responses are awaited from the larger Departments, but without a doubt this is the most serious challenge facing SRB's in many years as the impact upon participation and the viability of events cannot be realistically assessed at this stage. CSAA will be discussing this at the Committee Meeting following the AGM and seeking advice and guidance from CSSC as well as taking into account the statements made by individual Departments upon Special Leave.

Nick Hume

**CSAA General Secretary
January 2015**

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Appendix A

Queenborough Trophy Winners 1927 - 2014

Year	Department		Year	Department		Year	Department	
1927	Air Ministry	1	1961	Ministry of Aviation	3	1988	HASSRA	1
1928	C&E	1	1962	IR	4	1989	HASSRA	2
1929	C&E	2	1963	Ministry of Aviation	4	1990	IR	8
1930	C&E	3	1964	IR	5	1991	IR	9
1931	C&E	4	1965	MOD Army Dept	1	1992	IR	10
1932	C&E	5	1966	Ministry of Pensions & NI	1	1993	IR	11
1933	IR	1	1967	Ministry of Social Security	1	1994	IR	12
1934	C&E	6	1968	Ministry of Technology	1	1995	IR	12
1935	New Scotland Yard	1	1969	Ministry of Technology	2	1996	IR	14
1936	New Scotland Yard	2	1970	Ministry of Technology	3	1997	IR	15
1937	New Scotland Yard	3	1971	IR	6	1998	IR	16
1938	IR	2	1972	Not Competed		1999	HASSRA	3
1939	IR	3	1973	DHSS	1	2000	IR	17
1947	London Telecom	1	1974	DHSS	2	2001	IR	18
1948	London Telecom	2	1975	DHSS	3	2002	IR	19
1949	PO Savings Dept	1	1976	DHSS	4	2003	IR	20
1950	PO Savings Dept	2	1977	DHSS	5	2004	IR	21
1951	PO Savings Dept	3	1978	DHSS	6	2005	IR	22
1952	PO Savings Dept	4	1979	DHSS	7	2006	HMRC	1
1953	PO Savings Dept	5	1980	MOD (PE)	1	2007	HMRC	2
1954	PO Savings Dept	6	1981	IR	7	2008	HMRC	3
1955	C&E	4	1982	DHSS	8	2009	HMRC	4
1956	London Telecom	3	1983	DHSS	9	2010	HMRC	5
1957	Ministry of Supply	1	1984	DHSS	10	2011	HMRC	6
1958	Ministry of Supply	2	1985	DHSS	11	2012	HMRC	7
1959	Ministry of Supply	3	1986	DHSS	12	2013	HMRC	8
1960	Ministry of Aviation	2	1987	DHSS	13	2014	HMRC	9

The Table above details the winners of the Queenborough Trophy and also is a historical commentary on how Government Departments have transformed during this time. However a clear theme running throughout this period is the strength of the HMRC and its predecessors of C&E and IR. The only viable challenger is DWP/HASSRA but even so it is 15 years since they last lifted the Trophy.



Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Pictured above are the MINERVA Women's Team who won the Cross Country Team Title at Parliament Hill on 15th October 2014 for the first time in their history.



The CSAA Women's Representative Team pictured before the annual SEAX Trophy Competition between CSAA and the RAF which CSAA won on 16th January 2014.



Gary Pennington (HMRC) wins the CSAA Half Marathon at Freckleton, 22nd June 2014, for the 4th consecutive time.