

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

1 Civil Service Athletic Association Events 2017

There are now six events within the CSAA Calendar and the emphasis now is very much on participation, enjoyment and the health benefits that these activities can bring to individuals,

With the increase of parkruns throughout the Country the CSAA has been keen to try and tap into that market and encourage some of those athletes to compete in the events detailed below. There has been some success here as a number of Departmental Team Managers have actually found new athletes, especially at the 10k, who have graduated from the parkrun background.

The following Tables highlight the top 3 athletes and Departments in each of the events held during 2017 (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	1st	Dept	2nd	Dept	3rd	Dept
Road Relay – Fastest Men	J Clarke	OS	M Darbyshire	HMRC	J Waite	HMRC
Road Relay – Fastest Women	S Francis	MINERVA	S Robson	MINERVA	K Pullin	HMRC
10k – Men	G Pennington	HMRC	N Winfield	DWP	R White	DWP
10k – Women	N Jackson	MoD	K Beecher	MoD	K Pullin	HMRC
Race Walk – Men	S Uttley	JUSTICE	J Brewer	HMRC	J Llewellyn	DEFRA
Race Walk - Women	L Bradley	HMRC	M Noel	MoD	M Moran	HMRC
Cross Country – Men	T Adams	DEFRA	K Doulis	MINERVA	D Nicholls	WG
Cross Country - Women	J Meek	MoD	V Carter	MINERVA	S Francis	MINERVA
Half Marathon – Men	G Pennington	HMRC	N Winfield	DWP	M Darbyshire	HMRC
Half Marathon - Women	C Woods	DWP	M Moran	HMRC		

Event - Teams	1st Team	2nd Team	3rd Team
Road Relays - Men	HMRC	ORDNANCE SURVEY	NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY
Road Relays - Women	MINERVA	HMRC	LAND REGISTRY
10k – Men	DWP	HMRC	ORDNANCE SURVEY OS
10k – Women	MoD	MINERVA	LAND REGISTRY
Race Walk – Men	HMRC	DEFRA	
Race Walk - Women	HMRC		
Cross Country – Men	DEFRA	MINERVA	ORDNANCE SURVEY
Cross Country - Women	MINERVA	MoD	HMRC
Half Marathon	HMRC	DWP	
Open T&F			
Masters T&F			

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Event Organisers for 2017 were:

Event	Venue	Organiser(s)
10k	Olympic Park, London	R Brand, B Brimage, N Hume, G Trainer,
Road Relay	Finsbury Park, London	G Trainer, R Smith
Race Walk	Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham	S Uttley
Cross Country	Parliament Hill, London	G Trainer
Half Marathon	Freckleton	N Hume
Open / Masters Track & Field	Stretford	G Clarke, B Brimage

2 2017 Event Summary

Participation during 2017 has been much as anticipated and whilst numbers have generally held up well against previous years, the main concerns were the Road Relays and Track & Field. Competitors are increasingly taking their own Annual Leave or Flexi-Leave in order to compete, which is a continued reflection upon the organisers and the quality of the events on offer, as well as the central and, in some respect, iconic London locations such as the Olympic Park and Parliament Hill Fields.

Based on a review of 2017 a decision was taken at the November 2017 Committee Meeting to ensure that the Road Relays and the 10k were not held within 2 weeks of each other in 2018, which did detract from the numbers at the Relays in 2017. The Budget Bid for 2018 has now been agreed by the CSSC SLC and the event dates have now been finalised for the year ahead so that athletes can pencil them into their plans and arrange for time off to compete.

The first event of 2017 was the Road Relays in March which suffered due to the fact that the 10k was only two weeks later. However, those who did participate enjoyed another two testing laps of Finsbury Park with a long gradual uphill to the finish. Hopefully the 2018 event will see an increased participation otherwise serious consideration will have to be given as to whether the Relays remain viable in their current format which was amended a couple of years ago when the Men's teams were reduced from 5 to 4 runners.

The 2017 10k Road Race, after a lot of planning and negotiation by colleagues in CSSC, took place, once again, in the London Olympic Park. Changing in the Velodrome was a great improvement for this year and with the start and finish just a few yards away there could be no cause for complaint on that front. The course itself had been improved based on feedback from 2016 and once again was a testing challenge as it was not as flat as some of the northern competitors expected. The feedback was very positive and apart from a couple of problems with the computerised results there were no significant issues and already plans are underway to return in 2018.

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 seventh consecutive year on what is practically his home course. The Women's title went to Celia Woods, a new athlete, representing DWP for the first time in this event. With a 14.00 start, good organisation and a friendly atmosphere the Championship will return there once again in 2018 and it would be good to see a larger Civil Service contingent from those living in the North West especially and also from the Ladies.

The Open and Masters' Track & Field Championships was again a combined event but yet again the number of competitors was a cause for concern. However, with an ageing Civil Service and a general lack of interest in Track & Field this is an area that requires some fresh input and could require some innovative ideas to generate new participants to ensure that this competition continues and grows. On the positive side the older athletes and especially those who have retired enjoy the competition and the opportunity to compete and catch up with each other.

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Race Walk Championship was once again well organised by the Police as it was held within the Ryan Cup event (CSAA v Police). This is a small event but numbers remain constant and still attracts a quality field. However, due to a decline in Police contestants, the Police organisers might decline to host in 2018 so already plans are being discussed to hold the CSAA Championships alongside the 10k at the Olympic Park and invite the Police to compete if they wish.

The last event of the year was the Cross Country at London's Parliament Hill Fields course and once again the October date was ideal with good weather but a course that had hardly an inch of mud on it. Thanks go to the staff and volunteers from CSSC who helped to marshal the course ensuring that athletes and members of the public were aware of each other's presence.

During 2017 the Civil Service Athletic Association events have appealed to all standards of runner and across all age groups which has been recognised by the introduction of M70 Medals for the 10k and Cross Country. CSAA & CSSC continue to work together to provide opportunities for athletic events within the Civil Service which meets the WorkLife Challenges that many Departments promote. CSAA athletes also continue to compete to a very high standard in club athletics, whilst others are just as happy to participate in their local parkrun as evidenced by the parkrun challenge co-ordinated by CSSC.

Once again 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 2017 events and to all the other Committee Members who assisted on the day and played their part in promoting athletics within the Civil Service.

The above Events together form the Queenborough Championship, which was inaugurated in 1927, for the best Departmental Sports Association. However, during recent years the emphasis on winning the overall Championship has diminished, as most Departments do not have the strength in depth to be realistic contenders for this valued and historic Trophy. History remains important for CSAA and the Queenborough Trophy will continue to be presented, as changes in Government could mean a shift in the balance of power in future years. What is also recognised by CSAA/CSSC is the changing nature of work and life within the Civil Service and the increased activity in health and fitness and how best to encourage more people to participate for health and enjoyment.

Final Queenborough Positions for 2016 - 17

	Open T&F	Vets T&F	Relay	10k	Half Marathon	Race Walk	XC	TOTAL	Pos
HMRC/RCSL	50	45	56	34	35	47	34	301	1
DWP/HASSRA	40	60		36	29	17	38	220	2
MINERVA	45	40	35	22	3		19	164	3
DEFRA	45	20		6		49	23	143	4
MoD/DSRA	10	15		38			42	105	5
ORD SURVEY		5	28	28			8	69	6
BT	10	25						35	7
GOV ACTUARY DEPT (GAD)			14	12				26	=8
LAND REGISTRY			12	14				26	=8
ROYAL MAIL/PO						25		25	10

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

NAT CRIME AGENCY			16				7	23	11
MIN OF JUSTICE	10					4		14	12
OFFICE OF NATIONAL STATS							12	12	13
DEPT of TRANSPORT							4	4	14
UK BORDER FORCE							2	2	=15
WELSH GOVERNMENT							2	2	=15
HOME OFFICE				1				1	17

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

3 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 for athletes of all abilities, 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, in a changing work place, are always under review. Today, more than ever before, the changes taking place within Government, the wider community and the ways in which sport is evolving is having a profound impact upon those wishing to maintain a fit and healthy lifestyle. 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 recognises that our best athletes also require a good level of competition, especially if they are to progress and at the same time continue to support the traditional events. Many of them appreciate the opportunity to compete against athletes from different parts of the country in a well organised race under the auspices of CSAA & CSSC.

4 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 objectives of CSAA. However, anyone who is prepared to assist at any of the events, without the responsibility of becoming a Committee Member, is equally welcome as a willing volunteer. If anyone wishes to discover more about what is involved or offer their services for a particular event then please contact the Secretary or a member of the Committee for more information. Volunteers remain the lifeblood of the sport and CSAA will welcome anyone who lives locally and wishes to assist at any event. For example, this might involve timekeeping, number recording, course marshalling, officiating, handing out race numbers, course marking etc and would assist the Committee in so many ways and continue to maintain the high quality that athletes currently enjoy when participating.

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Committee Members for 2017

President Marian Holmes OBE

Chairman: Gerry Trainer

Secretary: Nick Hume

Treasurer: Paula Booth

Life Vice Presidents: Bill Berry, Brian Craig, Dave Evans, John Hall, Neil Hornsby, Nick Hume, Bill Kingston, Alan Mason, Roger Smith, Ted Wingrove,

Committee: Bob Brimage, Gaye Clarke, Michaela Dempsey, Grete Howarth, Jason Holt, Steve Marklew, 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 the Committee 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.

5 Final Round-Up

CSAA continues to communicate with its athletes via the excellently maintained CSAA website at www.csaa.org.uk which provides information on all the Queenborough events and Regional Championships where these are known plus the results within a day or two of the event taking place. The CSSC Website complements the CSAA site and both assist in attracting new participants to become involved in one of the advertised events. These channels are obviously successful as can be seen from the uptake of the CSSC Subsidy Scheme and Park Run Challenge during 2017.

Finally, and once again, I must pay my own tribute to the hard working and dedicated Committee who volunteer countless hours of their own time to ensure that athletic events for Civil Servants are organised to the very highest standards, along 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. The skills of the CSAA Committee are also utilised for the benefit of local athletic clubs, County and National Associations and/or by coaching or officiating at meetings up and down the country and sign-posting newly discovered Civil Servants to our events. Volunteers are and will always be the lifeblood of the Committee and CSSC and without this dedication the CSAA would not remain the vibrant Association that it continues to be. The assistance of the CSSC staff and local volunteers at events such as the 10k and Cross Country is always very welcome, whilst for other events, such as the Track & Field, local officials (England Athletics qualified) are only too happy to assist, as they know that CSAA events are well run and the offer of refreshments and some travel expenses are always welcome!

In summary CSAA has maintained its reputation during 2017 and continued to adopt a flexible approach to changing situations within the Civil Service workplace. Both the CSAA and CSSC are ready to welcome athletes of all abilities to their events and to encourage new volunteers to assist with the administration of the Championships and even with taking on new roles within the Committee.

If you should **wish** to become involved further with the CSAA, please contact Nick Hume or any other Committee Member for further details.

Nick Hume CSAA General Secretary **January 2018**

Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Appendix A

Queenborough Trophy Winners 1927 - 2017

Year	Department		Year	Department		Year	Department	
1927	Air Ministry	1	1962	IR	4	1990	IR	8
1928	C&E	1	1963	Ministry of Aviation	4	1991	IR	9
1929	C&E	2	1964	IR	5	1992	IR	10
1930	C&E	3	1965	MOD Army Dept	1	1993	IR	11
1931	C&E	4	1966	Ministry of Pensions & NI	1	1994	IR	12
1932	C&E	5	1967	Ministry of Social Security	1	1995	IR	12
1933	IR	1	1968	Ministry of Technology	1	1996	IR	14
1934	C&E	6	1969	Ministry of Technology	2	1997	IR	15
1935	New Scotland Yard	1	1970	Ministry of Technology	3	1998	IR	16
1936	New Scotland Yard	2	1971	IR	6	1999	HASSRA	3
1937	New Scotland Yard	3	1972	Not Competed		2000	IR	17
1938	IR	2	1973	DHSS	1	2001	IR	18
1939	IR	3	1974	DHSS	2	2002	IR	19
1947	London Telecom	1	1975	DHSS	3	2003	IR	20
1948	London Telecom	2	1976	DHSS	4	2004	IR	21
1949	PO Savings Dept	1	1977	DHSS	5	2005	IR	22
1950	PO Savings Dept	2	1978	DHSS	6	2006	HMRC	1
1951	PO Savings Dept	3	1979	DHSS	7	2007	HMRC	2
1952	PO Savings Dept	4	1980	MOD (PE)	1	2008	HMRC	3
1953	PO Savings Dept	5	1981	IR	7	2009	HMRC	4
1954	PO Savings Dept	6	1982	DHSS	8	2010	HMRC	5
1955	C&E	4	1983	DHSS	9	2011	HMRC	6
1956	London Telecom	3	1984	DHSS	10	2012	HMRC	7
1957	Ministry of Supply	1	1985	DHSS	11	2013	HMRC	8
1958	Ministry of Supply	2	1986	DHSS	12	2014	HMRC	9
1959	Ministry of Supply	3	1987	DHSS	13	2015	HMRC	10
1960	Ministry of Aviation	2	1988	HASSRA	1	2016	HMRC	11
1961	Ministry of Aviation	3	1989	HASSRA	2	2017	HMRC	12

The Table above details the winners of the Queenborough Trophy and is also 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 19 years since they last lifted the Trophy.



Civil Service Athletic Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Appendix B

Pictorial Highlights of 2017



The winning Civil Service women's squad members Nichola Jackson, Megan Roberts, Natasha Sheel and Sue Francis.



Tom Adams and Jo Meek win the CSAA Cross Country Titles for Men and Women respectively