

# Civil Service Athletic Association

## ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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### 1 Civil Service Athletic Association

2021 was another year disrupted by the global pandemic with CSAA having to revise its plans as the year progressed and the Government Guidelines changed from what seemed like one month to the next.

What had promised to be almost a full calendar events was eventually whittled down to two plus one Virtual Event in March as CSAA reacted to the on-going situation within the Country. The Committee met, via Zoom, on a regular basis and this proved beneficial for keeping in touch with each other.

### 2 Events During 2021

The first event in 2021 was a Virtual Road Relay held over 3 Miles with athletes completing a course near to their home and submitting a time. With 76 participants, including CSSC HQ, it was considered a success with the Virtual Champions being: Women (Team of 3) Minerva, Men (Team of 4) HMRC, Mixed Team (2 Men & 2 Women) Minerva. In the Office Team Category it was a win for Dover District Council ahead of CSSC Head Office.

It was then a long wait until the Open & Masters Track & Field Championship at Coventry along with the Police. This was another very good day of athletics but numbers were impacted by the on-going concerns with Covid and perhaps a wish on some athletes' part not to travel. However, all who attended from competitors to officials were just glad to be back out on the tack and field again. Thanks go to Gaye Clarke & Bob Brimage for all their hard work in arranging the event.

The final Championship was the Race Walk organised by the Police at Canon Hill Park, Birmingham which included the historic Ryan Cup Match. CSAA Organiser Steve Uttley once again walked to success in the Men's 10k event leading CSAA to victory in the Ryan Cup. HMRC won the Department Race but numbers were again low. In the Women's 5k Maurren Noel once again took the title but with only two CSSC athletes this is a concern for the future.

Unfortunately due to the low number of entries for the 10k a pragmatic decision was taken to cancel the event and the same happened with the Cross Country which given the rise of the Omicron variant might have been for the best.

### 3 The CSAA History

Work continued on the CSAA History 1864 – 2021 and has now been published on the CSAA Website. There are still gaps to be filled but one major source of information, the CSSC Journals, still await investigation. These have now been scanned and it is hoped that on-line access can be made available as they hold a wealth of information from the 1920s – 1970s.

### 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. This year Meetings have been held via Zoom and worked very well. The AGM is usually 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

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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.

**The elected Committee for 2021, with the Meeting held in January, was as follows:**

**President**            Marian Holmes OBE

**Chairman:**        Ian Statter

**Secretary:**      Nick Hume

**Treasurer:**     Paula Booth

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

**Committee:**      Bob Brimage, Claire Cameron, Gaye Clarke, Michaela Dempsey, Steve Hallas, Grete Howarth, Jason Holt, Steve Norris, Nick Parker, Ros Townsend-Hope, Steve Uttley

Accounts Examiner: J Dransfield

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

Already CSAA are planning ahead for 2022 in the hope that events will take place. The Road Relay planned for March has been cancelled due to the uncertainty around numbers willing to travel to London and also the doubts around time-off work at the present moment with staff shortages due to the virus. New ideas for the events are welcomed but it is hoped to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a 10k in Battersea Park in May and to continue to work closely with CSSC.

**Nick Hume    CSAA General Secretary    January 2022**