

SPARTA Newsletter

May 2022



SPARTA Fitness Class
Every Friday 12.30
Live Online or in GMH
It's FREE

SPORTS DAY LATEST

Welcome to the May edition of the SPARTA Newsletter.

As reported last month **Entries for Sport and Wellbeing Day are now open.** You can now enter all the team and individual events.

The DfT ExCo have already entered a team in the softball. Now is your only chance this year to get a team together to take on the might of the Private Office and the rest of the board.

To avoid disappointment, get your entries in early. We can only accept so many entries for each event so once the event is full it is full.

Full details are now on our website at the address below and will be updated regularly between now and Sport and Wellbeing Day.

<https://www.spartarecreation.co.uk/sports-day>

Check out the exclusive revealing of the Sport and Wellbeing Day poster later in this newsletter.

As preparations for Sport and Wellbeing Day progress you will be glad to hear that our new offices in

Birmingham, Leeds and Wolverhampton are enthusiastic to be involved by sending teams to Chiswick.

The Birmingham office are also very keen to set up new SPARTA Regional Association. I hope that the Leeds and Wolverhampton offices are able to follow suit.

If you want to see the Sport and Wellbeing Day trophies and you are visiting Great Minster House, then you will find that SPARTA has a new trophy cabinet in the canteen.

Currently on display are many of the Sport and Wellbeing Day trophies including the Cricket, Football, Petanque and Pool trophies.

In this month's newsletter we also have an update from the Civil Service Choir on the next page of their plans for this year and how they are looking forward to their members returning to the office on a more regular basis.

Have a great month.



SPARTA TEAM ENTERS CS 10K & 5K RACE

18th May in Battersea Park, London.

SPARTA is really excited to announce that we have entered a full team for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Challenge Event the Civil Service Athletics Association 10km Championships and 5km Fun Run.

If you have time to come along and support the team then the 5km starts at 2.15pm and the 10km at 3pm.

It would be great to have your support on the day.

A full report of the race will be in the next newsletter.

If you are interested taking part in any future running or athletics events then please do get in contact with me at SPARTA@dft.gov.uk

Check out the SPARTA website for upcoming events



CS CHOIR

The Civil Service Choir lifts our hearts with their voices again

The Civil Service Choir thrived in lockdown by bringing its members from across the country together online to record songs. If you have not seen these online recordings, then you are really missing out as they are superb and well worth listening to.

Now that staff have begun to return to the office the choir has been slowly resuming its pre Covid routine.

They recently held their first Saturday workshop in over two years and had over 30 people participating.

They also had a choir of 26 people singing at the Civil Service Awards in April.

The leader of the choir, Stephen Hall, is looking forward to more staff returning to the office on a regular basis so that the choir can resume activities somewhere near to pre Covid levels.

To help the choir to resume these activities they have recently launched a survey among their members.

The survey covers many areas including days that their members

would like to rehearse, when are the best times for them and what choir events they would hope to be involved in later this year.



The choir really values the views of its members and is all inclusive.

The choir even arranges very popular trips to concerts. A small group of members attended a concert in April and more events such as this are being planned for later this year.

Check out their online recordings here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3MDHR-tt8c>

If you are interested in joining the choir details can be found on our website at

<https://www.spartarecreation.co.uk/civil-service-choir>



UPCOMING SPARTA CLUB FIXTURES/EVENTS

May

10th 19th 26th & 31st – Superstars Cricket matches – Chiswick and Wandsworth Park

10th – History Society Event - Why Family History Matters – Emily Brand

18th – CS 10km & 5km Fun Run – 2:15pm onwards – Battersea Park, London

25th – SPARTA Golf Society President's Day – Orsett GC

Details of club contacts can be found on the SPARTA website

WANT TO START A CLUB OR MAYBE JUST HELP AT A CLUB?

SPARTA are always looking to build on our portfolio of clubs. If you want to start a club or are already running one and want SPARTA's help, then please get in contact.

Want to help at a current club? Then please get in contact with us: SPARTA@dft.gov.uk

Details of current club contacts can be found on the SPARTA website

www.spartarecreation.co.uk/



NEWSLETTER EXCLUSIVE

We reveal the new Sport and Wellbeing Day poster

We are really pleased to exclusively reveal in this newsletter the poster for this year's Sport and Wellbeing day.

Designed by DfT artist, Chris Fung, the poster features various aspects of our very popular event.

Chris works in Finance Directorate and his art has featured in several exhibitions in Great Minster House.

Chris also helps in running the SPARTA History Society.

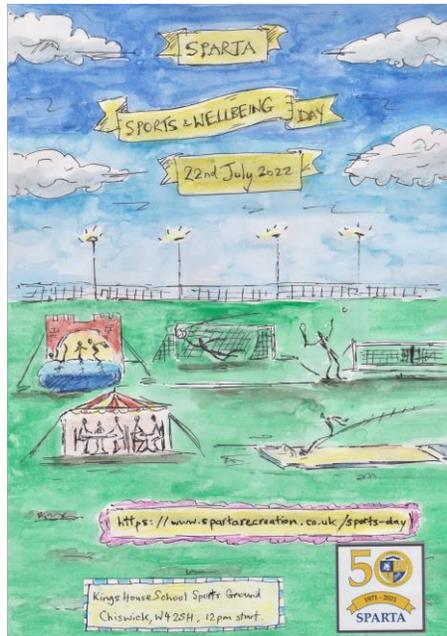
His design, commissioned by the SPARTA Committee, features people enjoying themselves at Sport and Wellbeing Day. There are people playing Tennis and Football, others having fun in the bouncy castle and some enjoying a social break and even someone doing a long jump.

All this is set to the background of the green fields of Chiswick with its beautiful blue sky.

We thank Chris for all his hard work in producing this wonderful new design for us.

I am sure that all of you will be looking forward to enjoying all the activities that we have planned for Sport and Wellbeing Day.

We have a very special day planned as we celebrate SPARTA's 50th Anniversary.



Keep an eye out for Chris's poster appearing around the DfT and DLUHC buildings.

If you have any questions about the day please do get in touch with me at SPARTA@df.gov.uk



SPORT AND WELLBEING DAY VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help at Sport and Wellbeing Day so far.

We still need extra volunteers to help make the day a huge success.

You could help by doing any number of jobs on the day from updating results to helping at the entrance or just helping people to find where they should be going. You don't have to be sporty to help make a huge difference.

If you are interested in helping then please do get in touch with me at SPARTA@df.gov.uk



THE SPARTA CLUBS

SPARTA supports a number of clubs and associations across the UK and is always looking to start new clubs. Here is just a taster of the current clubs

CD CLUB 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/cd-club

SPARTA GOLF SOCIETY 
www.spartagolf.co.uk/

YOGA CLASSES 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/yoga

SUPERSTARS CRICKET CLUB 
www.superstarscricket.org.uk

SOFTBALL CLUB 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/softball

YOUR CLUB HERE
Start a club and it can be advertised right here

CIVIL SERVICE CHOIR 
www.civilservicechoir.org.uk

HISTORY SOCIETY 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/history-society

FITNESS CLASSES 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/fitness-class

TENNIS CLUB 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/tennis

TENPIN BOWLING 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/tenpin-bowling



Check out all the SPARTA clubs on our website

SPARTA
SPARTA@dft.gov.uk

Phone 07884 390878
www.spartarecreation.co.uk