# The magazine for HASSKA members



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12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY CHALLENGE

PLAIN SAILING WITH HASSRA p9

The cost of living p11





# Get Away with HASSRA's £7,500 Holiday Competition

The new year is traditionally the time to start planning your holidays. With a top prize of £1,500, HASSRA is giving you the chance to push the boat out with one of 12 fantastic holiday vouchers worth a total of £7,500. Who sang the popular sixties hit, Summer Holiday?

- A) ROY ORBISON B) CLIFF RICHARD
- C) BUDDY HOLLY

All you have to do is answer the easy holiday-related question to be in with a chance of winning. Just visit HASSRA Holiday Competition and submit your answer now!

All correct entries received by the closing date of **29th January 2023** will go into the draw and the winners will be selected at random. SO HAVE A GO AND GOOD LUCK!

You must be signed in to your HASSRA Live account to take part.

# The World is your Oyster with HASSRA

Thinking of booking a holiday in 2023 or beyond? Make the most of the fantastic range of holiday offers available to all HASSRA members. Whether you are planning on exploring the British Isles, a family holiday in Europe or enjoying a leisurely cruise around the Mediterranean, Scandinavian fjords or even the Caribbean, **HASSRA** has something for everyone – even down to the airport parking with **APH**.

To find out more, visit the Holiday Offers section on HASSRA Live now!



Butlin's 👯 eurocamp



Haven





HOSEASONS



# Welcome to the final livelife of 2022

At the time of writing, England's World Cup exploits have just come to an end. It was great while it lasted for England and Wales but obviously wasn't meant to be. It's minus 6 degrees outside and Christmas is just around the corner. There couldn't be a better time to take advantage of our fantastic new offer -25% off all barista-made hot drinks at 1,000s of coffee shops around the country with Coffee Club. And what's even better, it's completely **FREE** for HASSRA members. **See page 10 for details.** 

Some great news for HASSRA members. There will be no subscription increase in the new year and, as we look ahead to 2023, many of us will be thinking of trying to get away for a well-earned holiday. **Check out page 2** to see how you can save with HASSRA's holiday partners, plus there's lots of chances to win in our £7,500 holiday voucher competition to help you on your way.

With the ongoing financial uncertainty, our friends at The Charity for Civil Servants will be holding a number of live presentations over the next few months, just for HASSRA

members, to talk about the cost of living and how the Charity can help you. Find out more and sign up on **page 11**.

The HASSRA Lottery gives you the chance to win big prizes throughout the year. Read about one extremely lucky member who scooped the £30,000 jackpot in our first ever Double Money Lottery draw. **See page 4 for details**.

We want you to end this year and start the next with our 12 Days of Christmas Activity Challenge. Keeping active is especially important at this time of year and will help with both your physical and mental health. **See page 7** and get involved with the chance to win some great prizes.

Finally, we want to continue to make HASSRA the best it can be. It's never been more important to recruit and retain as many members as possible. Spread the word and make sure everyone becomes part of something special where you work! And don't forget, you can remain a HASSRA member if you retire or leave your current job for any reason.



Wishing you and your loved ones a happy Christmas with the hope that 2023 brings with it better times for us all.

*Robbie Miller* Editor

## **HASSRA** regional contacts:

East of England hassra.eastofengland@dwp.gov.uk East Midlands hassra.eastmidlands@dwp.gov.uk Fylde hassra.fyldeinbox@dwp.gov.uk London hassra.london@dwp.gov.uk North East hassra-northeast@dwp.gov.uk North West hassra.NW@dwp.gov.uk Scotland hassra.scotland@dwp.gov.uk South East hassra.southeast@dwp.gov.uk South West hassra.southwest@dwp.gov.uk Wales hassra.wales@dwp.gov.uk West Midlands hassra.westmidlands@dwp.gov.uk Yorkshire and The Humber hassra.yorkshireandhumberside@dwp.gov.uk

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## Editorial

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# HASSRA Lottery

With 120 guaranteed winners sharing £63,000 every month, including a massive jackpot of £15,000 and a second prize of £10,000, the **HASSRA Lottery** gives you the very best chance of winning big.

It costs just £1 to enter the draw, and you can buy up to 20 entries each month to increase your chances of a win. Compare this with most major UK lotteries, where you have to guess a sequence of numbers, often resulting in no overall winners for weeks on end, or having to share your win with others.

THE ODDS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES:		
СОЅТ	CHANCE OF JACKPOT WIN	GUARANTEED WINNER
£1 per month	1 in 99,000	$\checkmark$
£10 per month	1 in 135,000	$\checkmark$
£4 four-weekly	1 in 1,000,000	×
£2 per week	1 in 45,100,000	×
£2.50 per week	1 in 139,800,000	×
	COST £1 per month £10 per month £4 four-weekly £2 per week	COSTCHANCE OF JACKPOT WIN£1 per month1 in 99,000£10 per month1 in 135,000£4 four-weekly1 in 1,000,000£2 per week1 in 45,100,000

The **HASSRA Lottery** held its first ever Double Money Draw in October with every winner receiving twice as much cash as usual. Michael Davenport from HASSRA South West was the lucky jackpot winner, scooping a massive £30,000.

He told us, "I joined HASSRA when I first started as a Work Coach in 2020. I mainly use the cinema discounts as I'm a film buff, and it works out to be great value. I also like to use the discounts on attractions when I have a weekend free with friends. I also bought three monthly Lottery tickets just to chance my luck. I know the chances are better with HASSRA than most other lotteries, but you still never really believe you'll be the winner... until it suddenly happens.

Let's be clear – I have never won anything in my life. I was working from home on the day I received the fateful email. I didn't check it straight away as I thought it would just be a promotional newsletter and I tried to not be distracted from the task in hand, preparing for a customer interview. Anyway, after a bit of admin, I eventually opened the HASSRA Lottery email. I completely misread it at first and thought I'd won £3,000 which was amazing in itself. I'm not sure I actually believed it was real at first, but had the interview to do and pushed it to the back of my mind. When the interview was completed, I went back and opened the HASSRA page to check the results to ensure it was genuine - that was when I saw it was £30,000. I don't think my response can be published. Needless to say, I was in shock and no idea what to think. I received a call from HASSRA shortly afterwards to confirm the win and, even then, I don't think I sounded grateful as I was still shell-shocked. I knew it was going to be life-changing for me. It soon became real enough when a couple of days later it was there in my account.



I've been able to clear the few debts I had and now have sound financial freedom going forward. I have also been able to help some family members which is truly priceless. I grew up in a very poor household with my mother working four jobs to support us. To to be able to properly help and give something back to her now is by far the best part and something I am eternally grateful to HASSRA for.

My only purchase so far has been a cheap hoover (pushing the boat out, eh!) but I am now planning an actual holiday for the first time in 10 years for my whole family. I will also use the money to help pay for driving lessons for my two teenage daughters, as well as any other sudden expenses that pop up.

This is my first win with HASSRA. I still cannot believe it but I really know how fortunate I am, especially with it being a double prize draw. It's made a whole world of difference to me and my family, and I cannot express my gratitude enough. The workplace camaraderie plus all the offers and discounts is value enough to become a HASSRA member, but add in a cheap lottery ticket on top that can make dreams come true. It's a no-brainer!"

FIND OUT MORE AND GET YOUR TICKETS AT **HASSRA LOTTERY**.





# HASSRA WINNER IS TOP DRAWER

The 2022 HASSRA National Art Competition challenged our budding artists to submit their efforts in three categories – Drawing, Painting and Mixed Media & 3D. This year's theme was Communication and Engagement. There were over 80 entries and, again, the standard was exceptional. Judge and acclaimed British artist, Lizzie Thurman, said:

"Thank you once again HASSRA for inviting me to judge the work of your talented members. I've thoroughly enjoyed the experience, although due to the high quality of the entries, judging was far from easy!!"

The overall winner and winner of the Drawing category was Kevin Haworth from HASSRA North West.

Lizzie said, "I have chosen this extraordinarily accurate depiction of Robert de Niro as the Winner for several reasons:

Firstly, this stunning portrait could not have interpreted the title of COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT with any further conviction!

The channelled stare of this method actor is terrifying in its intensity, while the accuracy of drawing, skill and sensitive mark making has created a mesmerising portrait that describes every rigid detail of a man fully focused and never to be challenged!

To have researched and translated such an image is, without doubt, the work of an extremely talented draughtsman. This is a brilliant and sensitive execution of a technical drawing that is most deserved of enormous congratulations and merit – Brilliant!"

Category winners each received £100, runner up prizes were £50 and highly commended members each received £30. The Overall Winner received an additional £50. Congratulations go to all our prize winners. The vast array of HASSRA's creative talent can be seen on our Flickr pages and on the **Art Competition pages** of HASSRA Live.



The winner of the Painting category was Caroline Hunt from HASSRA South West





The winner of the Mixed Media & 3D category was **Samantha Clark** from **HASSRA Fylde** 

# HASSRA MEMBERS TAKE THEIR BEST SHOT!



Due to the success of our previous virtual National Photography Competitions, members were once again invited to submit their creative efforts online in 2022.

Photographers were given three categories – People & Animals, Landscapes and World in Motion - and the response was quite remarkable with nearly 600 entries. As in previous years, the standard was extremely high making the judging process extremely difficult.

Category winners each received £100, runner up prizes were £50 and highly commended members each received £30. The Overall Winner received an additional £50.

**Congratulations go to all our prize winners.** All prize winning entries can be seen on our Flickr pages and on the **Photography Competition pages** of HASSRA Live. However, the overall winner and winner of the People & Animals category was **Andrew Price** from **HASSRA London** with this outstanding portrait.







The winning entry in the World in Motion category was this wonderful image from **Jayne Kelly** from **HASSRA Fylde**.



# HASSRA 12 Days of Christmas Activity Challenge

As we say goodbye to 2022 and head into the New Year, we want to get you off to the best start possible while giving you the chance to win some great prizes too!

If cycling is your thing, join the HASSRA Cycling Club on Strava and complete a ride of at least 5km on six or more days between Sunday, 25th December 2022 and Thursday, 5th January 2023.

If you prefer to keep both feet on the ground, join the **Let's Get Moving Club** on Strava and complete a run, jog or walk of at least 1km during the same 12 days.

You will need to use the phrase HASSRA 12 Days when recording each activity on Strava to be eligible.

So get on your bike or pull on your footwear and complete our 12 Days of Christmas Activity Challenge.

Every HASSRA member who completes the challenge will be entered into a prize draw to win one of **10** Love2Shop e-vouchers worth £100. Double your chances of winning a prize while increasing your exercise levels - complete both the **Cycling Challenge** and **Let's Get Moving Challenge** within the 12 Days of Christmas and you will be entered into both prize draws!

Make sure you read the full Rules of Entry for each discipline before taking part in the Challenge and we wish you the **Best of Luck**!

Run, jog or walk your way to prizes

Let's Get Movina

## Cycling Challenge

Get on your bike and reap the rewards

# IMPORTANT FOR MEMBER

As other organisations increase their subscriptions, HASSRA members will continue to pay just £2.45 per month in 2023, ensuring a first-class membership package at no extra cost, including:

- Big savings on cinema and home-streaming products
- Exclusive access to the HASSRA Lottery paying out £756,000 in cash prizes annually
- Lots of online events on HASSRA Live with the chance to win prizes
- Savings on theme park and attraction tickets
- Half-price tickets on family days out during the HASSRA Summer Promotion
- Free competitions and giveaways with prizes throughout the year
- Discounted FULL membership for English Heritage and Cadw
- A massive programme of national and regional sports and leisure activities
- Discounts on UK and European family holidays, including airport parking
- A network of local office and activity clubs.

And don't forget, you can remain a HASSRA member if you retire or leave your current job for any reason

# Summer Savings

The 2022 Summer Promotion proved to be another huge success, with thousands of our members taking advantage of the huge discounts offered on the normal gate prices at some of the nation's most popular attractions and theme parks.

Members saved nearly £350,000 during the promotion. The most popular offer was Blackpool Pleasure Beach with 5,000 tickets sold, followed by Gulliver's World Warrington (3,000) and Flamingoland (2,500). Don't forget to check out the great deals available for 2023 on the Offers section of HASSRA Live.

## It's a cracker!

The HASSRA Christmas Cracker has recently been drawn with £50,000 of cash and electronics given to 200 lucky members all in time for Christmas.

£5k jackpot winner, Donna Garbutt from East of England, said

Thank you so much, HASSRA. It's made my Christmas. I didn't have any plans and it was just going to be a quiet one. But as soon as I got the call to say I'd won that all changed. I'm looking forward to a great Christmas now, mainly being able to spoil my family.... it's definitely going to be a good one!

Donna Garbutt HASSRA East of Engla

Check out the full list of winners at HASSRA Christmas Cracker 2022 Results.





# Plain Sailing with HASSRA

CSSC's flagship sailing event brings together crews from HASSRA and many other departmental associations from across the country for what is always a great event and a fantastic experience. The next event is being held from Monday 5th June to Friday 9th June 2023.

HASSRA is looking for crew members of all abilities to take part, racing from Cowes on the Isle of Wight, with yachts chartered from Fairview Sailing at Port Hamble Marina, near Southampton.

It's a 5-day long programme of inshore and offshore races, providing a fantastic opportunity to enjoy some exciting, competitive sailing and racing.

First-time applications are particularly welcomed and any novices who are selected will receive instruction and guidance from the more experienced crew members.

## VISIT HASSRA SAILING PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY.

Applications are required ASAP but must be received by 10th March 2023.

## September Festival -rescheduled for Spring 2023!

As you are aware, the highlyanticipated September 2022 Festival was cancelled at the very last minute due to the unfortunate passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II. This resulted in a huge amount of disappointment for everyone involved. The HASSRA team, who had invested so much time and effort in organising the event; the regional team managers and all the volunteers, ready to help deliver another fantastic weekend and, last but not least, all the participants who were poised to compete for the coveted HASSRA National Championship titles.

We are delighted to announce that the postponed festival will now take place at Warwick University over the weekend of March 31st to April 2nd 2023. It will be a slightly smaller event than usual but will follow the same format, culminating with the Saturday presentation dinner. Due to seasonal weather conditions and availability of facilities, some of the original events will not be possible.

#### However, the expected line-up is:

Articulate, Darts, Chess, Fitness Workshop, Gym based Triathlon, Pool, Pop Quiz, Snooker and Squash.

We look forward to seeing as many of September's volunteers and competitors as possible. Where necessary, we will be looking for replacement candidates. We will be in touch with your regional team managers in due course.

## **FESTIVAL DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

## 7-9th July and 8-10th September

The July and September 2023 festivals are not affected by the additional Easter festival and their events will be published shortly.





## Frank the foody.

He loves cooking and fancies himself as a bit of a chef. He enjoys entertaining and cooking for his friends and family. He has also just saved money on his car and home insurance with us.

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 $\star$   $\star$   $\star$ 

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# **THE COST OF** MNG

The Charity for Civil Servants' Money Advice Team has recorded a podcast to answer questions about the effects of the cost of living crisis from both a financial and wellbeing perspective.

Most of us have been affected by the current 'cost of living' crisis to some degree, alongside the uncertainty of rising energy prices. We have also developed a webinar, which is available on demand and is hosted by Elaine Jefferys, head of the Charity's Money Advice Team. Our podcast and webinar both provide information, hints and tips on how to prepare for the increased costs we are currently facing.

Over the coming months the Charity has arranged three HASSRA member-only events around the cost of living. We're able to provide these webinars due to the fundraising that has taken place this year - so many thanks to all those who have supported the Charity. Sign up to join these exclusive events!

Financial wellbeing and planning, Wednesday 14 December at 12:30pm duration 30mins

We know that, for some people, poor financial wellbeing can have a detrimental effect on their physical and mental wellbeing. Join us for our talk covering the key features of financial wellbeing, including budgeting and dealing with a redundancy or loss of income, debt advice and the steps you can take to help yourself.

### USE THIS LINK TO JOIN ON THE DAY

Debt and mental health, Tuesday 24 January at 12:30pm – duration 30mins

In this session we explore the link between debt and mental health, the difficulties that people find in talking about money, how people feel towards money and how this can affect wellbeing. We also look at how wellbeing affects the way we manage our money. We'll examine mood styles and how these can influence our behaviours around money. We'll look at gambling and addiction, and how these can affect finances.

USE THIS LINK TO JOIN ON THE DAY

Money worries? We're here for you

Money and stress, Wednesday 8 February at 12:30pm – duration 30mins

Money worries can cause stress, affecting many different aspects of our lives. Dealing with the practical side of money worries is only one part of the problem. Stress, shame and self-criticism can make situations seem overwhelming and can sometimes act as a barrier for seeking advice. In this session, the Charity's Money Advice and Wellbeing Team will look at ways to keep stress levels under control so we can move forward and manage our emotional wellbeing.

USE THIS LINK TO JOIN ON THE DAY

During these webinars we'll talk about the Charity's Money Advice and Guidance Service and how the Charity can help you. So why not sign up now?

The Charity for Civil Servants supports all current, former and retired civil servants and their dependents throughout their lives, listening without judgement and offering practical, financial and emotional support.

## Livelife Challenge – The Winners.

Nearly 200 HASSRA members travelled Around the World in 180 Days with over 50,000 miles covered and more than £2,000 being raised along the way in support of The Charity for Civil Servants.

As this year draws to a close, we would like to reflect on the last six months and celebrate those teams, clubs and individuals who rose to the Challenge - raised the most money, travelled the furthest distance and undertook the Challenge in the most diverse ways.

## MOST MONEY RAISED:

## Individual

- 1st Kesia Elliott (£319)
- 2nd Charanjit Purewal (£255) James Aucott - (£253)
- 3rd Jo Jones (£107)
  - Kate Grant (£106)

## Club

1st - Crawley Gatwick Diamond - (£309) 2nd - Coventry Cofa Court - (£290)

A huge thanks to everyone who took part throughout the and raised some much-needed funds for The Charity for Civil Servants. KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR NEXT YEAR'S CHALLENGE.

#### FURTHEST DISTANCE TRAVELLED: Individual

1st - Paul Warren (7,686 miles)

- Club
- 1st Fareham (4,283 miles)
- 2nd Shrewsbury (3,723 miles) Telford Southwater - (3,412 miles)

#### Team with the greatest number of different activities undertaken:

Telford Miles & Smiles – 20 different activities (Jo Jones, Steve Orton, Angelika Sala, Maria Fodor, Andrea Davies, Harj Sahota).

# Mammoth Charity Cycle Ride for a Bloody Great Cause



Each year, members of **HASSRA** Norwich Kiln House nominate a local charity to fundraise for. The 2022 vote was for **Norfolk Blood Bikes**. The charity covers the whole of Norfolk, transporting blood products, samples and vaccines between the three major hospitals in the county and further afield. There are 96 people involved in the Norfolk Blood Bike team. All volunteers, they undertake this essential work without any government funding.

Over the course of the year, Kiln House members have organised dress down days, quizzes and many other activities. However, two HASSRA members in particular, Karl Steward and Paul O'Donovan, decided to raise the stakes and cycle to every DWP site and the three main hospitals in Norfolk over 380km during three days in September. Karl and Paul were joined along the way by Blood Bike volunteers, and other HASSRA members, providing lots of support and encouragement throughout.

Burning nearly 3,000 calories each day, they visited 10 DWP sites and the three main hospitals serving Norfolk. The total distance covered over the three days by Karl and Paul, plus their guest cyclists, was just short of 1,000 kilometres. A truly magnificent achievement for such a worthy cause.



Make sure you check out their **Tour of Norfolk blog** on the HASSRA website, giving a blow-by-blow account of the trials and tribulations of their challenge, along with some great photos.

Norfolk Blood Bike team were extremely grateful for the sterling efforts made by Karl and Paul on behalf of the charity, and for all the donations many of their friends and colleagues have made so far.

A massive Well Done from all your **HASSRA** colleagues too!





Has your HASSRA club gone the extra mile for charity in 2022? Get ready to tell us what you've done and how much you've raised. We'll be in touch with all clubs in early 2023 for your updates.