

# Capital Challenge Report for the LDWA London Group 2022 AGM

## Capital Challenge 2020

We cancelled this event, owing to COVID-19 lockdown. SiEntries (the company through which we manage event registrations and payments) were helpful in sorting out refunds to participants. LDWA members, who paid a £15 entry fee, received a refund of £12.20. Non-LDWA members, who paid £25, received £22.20. The amounts we retained covered our non-recoverable expenses for the cancelled event, and we broke even. Thanks to Pete Colley and to the staff (especially Andrew) at SiEntries for helping me work out the financial logistics.

## Capital Challenge 2021

The 2021 event was run as an anytime event, owing to COVID-19 guidance received from the National LDWA. We used the new route that we'd intended to launch in 2020. We had 99 people register for the event and 58 of those people recorded finishing times and were sent an e-certificate of completion. We charged £5 per entry and our only expense was SiEntries' fees, totalling £111.60. Our net profit was £383.40. We donated half of our profit (£191.70) to the National LDWA IT fund and retained the rest for our group. Many thanks to Gavin Fuller for sorting out the best way to get the route description and GPX files to participants using our London group website.

## Capital Challenge 2022

The event is scheduled for Saturday, 2 April. Registrations opened on 4 January and, as I write this in late January, the event is nearly fully subscribed. There are 22 marshals and we could use a few more.

We will inaugurate a new route that starts at City Hall (South Bank), runs out to the Thames Barrier, and then meanders through a series of parks and green spaces in South London, finishing in Anerley. To reduce plastic waste and expense, we will no longer provide bottled water at checkpoints – the route description indicates sources of drinkable water along the way. To reduce the risk of COVID transmission, we will have an open-air start and checkpoints and will control the number of people at the end-point venue. In keeping with the decision taken at our 2020 AGM, we will donate a portion of our profits to the National LDWA IT fund.

Thanks to Susanne Waldschmidt for developing the new route, to the many volunteers who helped to test and fine-tune it, to Paul Lawrence for helping to sort out a checkpoint in the wilds of Mottingham, and to Gordon Parker for solving PACER challenges, retraining marshals in the technology, and acting as 'headquarters' during the event.

## And beyond...

This will be my last year as organiser, but I will gladly offer my services as deputy to the next organiser. It's been very rewarding to watch two new routes come together, and to play my part in establishing them as regular Capital Challenge routes. I now know London better than I ever thought I would.

Jean O'Reilly  
Organiser, Capital Challenge  
22 Jan 2022