

Mansfield Harriers Under 13s came away from the Midland Cross Country Championships with more medals at the weekend.

In what is turning into a competition for supremacy between the boys and girls teams the youngsters had another excellent day at Stafford Common.

Both squads are developing some real strength in depth now and just a week after the County Championships team title the trio of Lewis Ashmore, Alex Rieley and Sam Johnson, along with fourth counter George King, added Midlands Silver to their haul.

The positions changed from last weekend – county silver medal winner Ashmore and bronze medal winner Rieley battling it out to the line where, despite both being given a time of 10:16, Ashmore was given the nod for 11th spot, Rieley taking 12th with last weeks champion Johnson in 23rd in a time of 10:37.

George King made sure of the silver team medal with his 37th place finish, leaving Mansfield just seven points behind eventual team champions Halesowen AC. Finny Quilty was just four seconds behind King in 37th.

In a field that was the third biggest of the day (behind the Senior Men and Senior Women) Molly Johnson produced Harriers best individual performance finishing in sixth individual spot in the U13 Girls event in a time of 11:06.

Johnson added a Midlands team bronze to the individual county title she took last weekend with Nicole Goulding (17th), Claire Norris (22nd) and Ella Shirley (24th) joining her on the rostrum. Caelidh Ross (39th) and Emma Heath (57th) both made the top half of the field too.

In the Senior Men's race Nottinghamshire champion from last weekend, Billy Farquharson, was involved in a great competition at the front of the race. The Notts AC athlete finished in third place just six seconds behind the winner and took some noticeable scalps in the process.

First Senior home for Mansfield was James Mee, finishing in 31st spot in a time of 43:21 with Stuart King next back, clocking 45:15 to take 57th. Steve Davies (126th) and Tim Raynor (143rd) both made the top half of a field that numbered 354 finishers.

Ryan Saxton continued his return to fitness after injury with a strong run to take 18th place in the Under 17 Men's race, sister Ellie coming home as first Harrier in the Under 15 Girls race.

Others to finish in the top half of their respective fields included Charlotte Bellingham (32nd), Hannah Hardy (35th) and Chevelle Baxter (36th) in the U15 Girls, Hannah Wragg (24th) and Claire Talbot (28th) in the U17 Women, and Tom Wragg, 39th in the Under 15 Boys.

OTHER MANSFIELD FINISHERS: U13G – 69: Emma Cundy, 102: Sophie Beckingham, 116: Philippa Mitchell, 122: Abigail D'Aguiar. U15G – 48: Alice Mortiboy, 60: Tamsin Smith, 65: Hayley Silver, 71: Amelia Mitchell, 76: Harriet Codd, 81: Alice Keogh, 84: Eleanor Winning, 88: Hazel Blount. U17W – 38: Rachel Brandham. U20W – 15: Emma Wilkinson, 20: Kate Raynor, 22: Gina Radford. SL – 94: Ann Brown, 100: Clare Coombes, 115: Amanda Hardy, 118: Maddy Collinge, 127; Sharon Armitage, 139: Denise Winfield U13B –

63: Bailey Wardle, 78: Ben Hardy. U15B – 83: Sam Dobb, 93: David Wilkinson, 98: Jordan Boam, 112: Jonny Brown, 120; Will Farr. U17M – 89: Alex Heath. U20M – 32: Luke Marshall, 45: Chris Brown. SM – 190: Graeme Wilkinson, 252: Jonathan Mitchell, 275: Jason Foster, 309: Jonathan Hardy, 318: Grant Saxton, 321: Ade Bellingham, 332: Ian Dobb

On the other side of the Atlantic Mansfield Harrier Luke Cragg continued his racing form with an outing on the track over 3000m.

In a highly competitive field in Seattle Cragg produced a new personal best of 8:05.91, taking him into fourth position on the UK rankings and just missing out on the club record, set last year by Steve Lisgo, by a tenth of a second.

