

Mansfield Harriers put up a brave fight in their campaign to be the champions of Midland Track and Field League Division One but just lost out to Bristol and West by the narrowest of margins.

Despite beating the South-West club by half a point in the last match, staged on home soil, at Berry Hill Park, it wasn't quite enough to take the title. The two clubs ended up tying for top spot with City of Stoke but with Bristol taking the title having scored 1389.5 match points against Mansfield's 1358.5 over the four match series.

Rachel Gair took on Olympic representative Zoe Derham in the Hammer and produced a lifetime best throw of 60.91m, finally cracking the 60 metre barrier that she has worked hard all season to beat.

There was a new club, and league, record, for the Mens 4x400m quartet – Adam Sansom, Sam Cordin, Martin Cook and Paul Wright running a time of 3:19.2 to ease to a comfortable victory.

This followed two strong 4x100m relay performances – Lucy Spray anchoring the Women's team home and, despite closing 10 metres on Rugby & Northampton in the home straight, just failed to secure top spot being given the same time but second place. Martin White anchored the Men's team to victory with a strong last leg and an impressive dip on the line.

Despite strong headwinds Mansfield's sprinters picked up useful points – Martin Cook winning the B string 100m and taking second in the 200m with Sam Cordin taking 3rd in the A string 100m and 2nd over 200m. Paul Wright was third in the 400m with Stefan Wilcockson clocking a new PB of 52.0 to take second in the B string.

Claudia Rogers made her debut for Harriers in the B string 200m running to victory in a time of 26.7 whilst Lucy Spray took the A string 400m in 59.1.

Adam Sansom produced a strong finish after a well paced race in the 400m Hurdles to take first place in 56.2, Jonny Newell making it a double with victory in the B string in 59.7. James Hardy made his debut over the Senior 110m Hurdles clocking a highly respectable 15.9 secs.

Daniel Winter demonstrated his growing potential as a steeplechaser, running the 3K distance for the first time and finishing second with a time of 10:36.1, James Mee winning the B string. Stuart King ran a season's best of 1:57.2 to take second in the 800m, Danny Barks producing a blistering finish from 200m out to win the B string. King and Winter both went on to gain more useful points with second in the A and B string 1500m.

On the field Lee Peters and Greg Millar both threw over 50 metres to take good points in the Javelin – Peters producing a season's best of 55.40 and Millar a personal best with the senior weight of 50.04m.

Steve Woolley scored a victory over younger son Richard in the Hammer with a personal best of 33.65m, putting just under a metre on Richard's 32.66m throw.

Matt Woolley was not to be outdone by the rest of the family, setting a season's best of 3.50m to take second place in the Pole Vault.

Claire Beaumont took two B string third spots with a new PB of 19.95m in the Hammer and a best throw of 16.81m in the Javelin, Chloe Elphick producing a new PB of 27.97m in the A string. Elphick also took 3rd in the Pole Vault clearing 2.10m with Laura Massey 2nd in the B string with 2.00m.

Jackie Massey turned out at the last minute to take second place in the B string 3000m. This was a brave run having had a cast removed from her wrist just a week ago having broken it during a training run.

Earlier in the week Rachel Brandham ran a season's best of 2:21.04 over 800m at the Watford BMC meeting whilst Lucy Spray and Rachel Gair were in action at the Loughborough LEAP European Permit meeting. Spray ran 64.54 over 400m Hurdles with Gair throwing 57.07m in the Hammer.

Pete Stafford led home a small Mansfield contingent at the Notts 5 Road Race finishing in 12th position in a time of 27:52. Trevor Hiscox was 33rd in 31:59 with Julian Wood 69th in 34:58. Jane Stafford and Eva Williams represented the women finishing 99th and 100th in 37:44 and 37:45 respectively.