

Mansfield Harriers returned to local action this weekend after the highs of hosting the National Cross Country Relays at Berry Hill Park for the 20th time.

The second fixture of the Booth Decorators League took place at Chaddesden Park in Derby where Mark Johnson showed no sign of his recent calf injury, running strongly to finish in third place in a time of 23:53.

Johnson will be hoping that he has shaken off the injury he sustained at the first North Mids league fixture four weeks ago as he fights to prove his worth win a place in the Mansfield team that defend their county cross country title in early January.

Tim Raynor secured another top 20 finish at Chaddesden, clocking 25:19 to take 16th spot whilst Dougie Flett and Alan Crewe both returned to racing action after long term injuries. Flett was 29th in 26:55 with Crewe 36th in 27:55.

Vinny Johnson and Grant Saxton finished within six seconds of each other, Johnson making the top 50 in 48th with a time of 28:31 whilst Saxton was just outside, clocking 28:37 for 51st place.

Phil Shaw was just five seconds behind Saxton, recording a time of 28:42 to secure 54th place.

First lady back for Mansfield was Georgia Milton, completing the course in 30:06 to take 74th place with Eva Williams, 20 seconds behind her taking 83rd spot but securing the first VL40 position.

OTHER MANSFIELD FINISHERS – 61: Jonathan Mitchell - 21:05, 63: Jason Foster- 29:17, 73: Pete Collinge – 30:05, 77: Julian Wood – 30:14, 101: Clare Coombes – 31:22, 108: Carl Lancaster – 31:30, 111: Wanda Curley – 31:58, 113: Alice Mortiboy – 32:06, 131: Pat Carlan – 33:11, 140: Mandy Carmicon – 34:11, 146: Louise Harrison – 34:53, 152: Sharon Armitage – 35:17, 155: Tina Green – 35:42, 162: Denise Winfield – 37:22, 163: Alan Smith – 37:23, 171: Emily D’Aguair – 39:02.

Berry Hill Park played host to the second fixture in the Nottinghamshire Schools Cross Country League where harriers members took the honours in four of the eight races.

Nicole Goulding and Alex Rieley dominated the Year Seven races with each of them taking on the field from the start and developing commanding leads.

Ellie Saxton came home first in the Year 8/9 Girls race whilst Archie Raynor ran a controlled race to take the Year Five/Six Boys event.