

In a big week for local athletics James Mee produced a double victory on the road and on the track whilst local youngsters returned with four medals from the Aviva English Schools Championships.

Mee ran to a comfortable victory at the fourth Notts AAA Road Race league fixture at Worksop, opening up a 30 second lead on his nearest rival, before running a new PB over 5000m to take the honours in the BMC B race at Solihull on Saturday night. His time of 14:35.84 took eleven seconds off his previous best.

All Saints student Thomas Peters, son of Dad, Mansfield Harriers' leading thrower Lee Peters, threw over 60 metres for the first time, his new PB of 60.07m taking the silver medal in the Junior Boys Javelin. Peters is ranked second on the all time list in this age group and is a real talent for the future.

Charlotte Gair returned to form to take bronze in the Senior Girls Discus, her best throw of 42.99m being just 1cm short of her PB. Coach Paul Gair just missed out on his second medal of the weekend when Sutton-in-Ashfield's Bethany Mitchell finished fourth in the Senior Girls hammer with a new PB of 46.73m. Claire Beaumont, Gair's third athlete competing at the Championships, had a best throw of 34.21m in the same competition as Mitchell.

Chris Clarke took bronze in the IB Shot with a best throw of 14.20m and David Lagerberg made it three medals for Joseph Whitaker School, with a bronze in the IB 400m.

Lagerberg was the fastest qualifier in round one, winning his heat in 49.33, and then going on to win his semi-final in 48.71s. In a tough final he entered the home straight in fifth spot before producing a late surge to take third spot, only missing out on silver by 0.08 of a second. His time of 48.27 is a new personal best and is the fastest time run by a Mansfield athlete of any age.

Second claim Mansfield member Joe Dunderdale, who competed earlier in the season for the club in the National Junior League took Gold in the Senior Boys Javelin with a new PB of 62.60m. Greg Millar was ninth in the same competition; his best throw of 54.38m just 9cms short of the new lifetime best he set last weekend at Bedford. Becky Woolley was also ninth in the IG Javelin, her best throw measuring 37.84m.

Chloe Elphick qualified for Saturday's final in the Inter Girls Triple Jump with a new PB of 11.28m in the preliminary rounds and went on to finish eighth in the final with a best jump of 11.07m. There was also a new PB for Stuart Street in the JB Long Jump, the youngster who is new to athletics this season finishing fifth in his first major competition with a best jump of 5.80m.

Caelidh Ross, with an August birthday and being at the bottom end of her age group, was possibly the youngest athlete at the whole championships and the experience will have done the Quarrydale student good for the future. Ross clocked 2:27.19 in her 800m heat.

Robyn Foster and Ryan Saxton attended the championships for the first time too, Foster running 13.29 in the JG100m heats and Saxton clocking 9:12.13 in the IB 3000m. There was a new PB for another first timer, Sutton-in-Ashfield's James Shaw, who ran 4:22.53 in the JB 1500m. Adam Sansom returned to racing after a six week lay off with a foot injury and ran a respectable 57.26 in the SB 400m Hurdles.

Martin White took a bronze medal in the 200m at the British Masters Championships at Cardiff in a time of 24.15. He also ran in the 100m, clocking 12.19 for sixth place.

With James Mee leading home a contingent of 42 Mansfield Harriers on the roads of Clumber Park the club go into the final race in the series of five, at Teversal in August, in medal spots in three of the four team categories.

Danny Barks produced a solid run to be the second Harrier home, finishing in sixth spot with a time of 26:46 – good evidence that his endurance base is building well and looking in good shape for next weekend's National Track Championships at Gateshead.

Steve Grainger produced his first ever top ten finish, a time of 27:54 taking tenth spot and with Pete Stafford (17th in 28:24), Jonny Lowe 28th in 29:06 and Rob Smith 29th in 29:09 this quartet won the Veterans Team event on the night and moved 75 points ahead of Long Eaton AC in the overall race series.

Chris Dale pulled out after the first mile, the youngster unsurprisingly tired after his Gold medal winning performance in the 18-19 age group category at last weekend's European Triathlon Championships in Ireland.

With Mark Johnson also being forced to walk in from 3 miles with a calf injury it was left to Denis Cormican to take the spot as third counter in the Senior age group. Cormican finished in 42nd spot in a time of 30:23, Mark Jenkins ten seconds behind him in 45th position.

Final two spots in the team went to Chris Day (51st in 30:45) and Brian Harris (56th in 31:09), Graeme Wilkinson just missing out being one place and one second behind Harris.

Jackie Massey had another strong run, finishing again in third place in a time of 30:14 and retaining her second place spot in the race series. Kahli Johnson continued her improving form with an excellent 20th place finish in a time of 34:25 and took herself within one place of the medal positions in the series in the 35-44 age group.

Hannah Colton was third Mansfield lady in and is another athlete to have shown massive improvement over the four races to date. Colton started out with a 64th place finish at Epperstone, improving to 52nd at Holme Pierrepont, 36th at Erewash and finished 28th in a time of 35:44 at Worksop.

Sue Day was 31st in 36:04 and joined Massey and Johnson as scorers in a Veterans team that sits in silver medal spot with one race to go. Sally Smith (36th in 36:42) and Mandy Cormican (41st in 37:12) joined Colton as the senior lady scorers.

OTHER MANSFIELD FINISHERS: MEN – 62: Stuart King – 31:21, 73: Trevor Hiscox – 32:19, 85; Carl Emery – 33:13, 107: Julian Wood – 34:42 110: Ivan Colton – 34:54, 141: Dave Ward – 37:25, 158: Colin Fell – 39:40, 163: mark Johnson – 40:41, 168: Keith McQuinn-Roberts – 41:02. WOMEN – 42: Emma Wilkinson – 37:16, 43: Rachel Brandham – 37:16, 44: Helen Scott – 37:16, 48: Maddy Collinge – 37:32, 53: Claire O’Mara – 38:12, 55: Carol Hartin – 38:15, 58: Tina Green – 38:26, 59: Julie Grainger – 38:44, 70: Chris Fell – 39:39, 76: Faye Gardener – 39:54, 81: Denise Winfield – 40:43, 88: Angela Davies – 41:31, 94; Linda Wilkinson – 42:21, 100: Chris Huntington – 43:42, 103: Michelle Peet – 44:50, 106: Elaine Mayfield – 46:36.