

James Mee took the honours at the Mansfield Building Society sponsored Mansfield 5K. Pete Doherty from Mansfield Building Society presented Mee with his prize after a fine run which saw him finish 25 seconds clear of the rest of the field over the two lap course which started and finished in Berry Hill Park. John Cooper from Ridgeway Textiles who supported the event with prizes was also present to help present prizes.

Stuart King chased Mee hard but couldn't close the gap, taking second spot in 15:56 with Richard Harris of Bingley Harriers third in 16:02.

With the first ten spots featuring athletes from 6 different clubs as far south as Newham and Essex Beagles and as far north as Sale Harriers, Danny Heathcote was third harrier home taking 5<sup>th</sup> place in a time of 16:17. Chris Brown ran well to squeeze into the top 10, finishing 10<sup>th</sup> in 16:43.

Ryan Saxton took the honours as the top under 17 male with an excellent 11<sup>th</sup> place finish, clocking 17:07. Saxton has real potential and showed in this race that he was able to control his pace and mix with the seniors.

Steve Grainger finished in 13<sup>th</sup> spot, taking the prize for the first VM40 back with a time of 17:16.

Pete Stafford was next harrier home in 17<sup>th</sup> place with his time of 17:32 taking the VM50 prize. Richie Talbot was 9 seconds behind Stafford, coming home as second junior in 20<sup>th</sup> spot overall and was just 5 seconds ahead of 21<sup>st</sup> placed Doug Ross.

Claire Talbot was the first Mansfield female home in 47<sup>th</sup> spot overall taking the first prize in the junior ladies event with her time of 20:32. The first place spot in the women's race went to Lincoln Wellington's Blue Haywood who completed the course in 17:40. Second ladies prize went to Katie Clark from Kingston upon Hull with Charnwood's Claire McCittrick taking 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mansfield took a clean sweep of the female veterans prizes, Claire Coombes taking the VL35, Tina Green the VL45 and Maddy Collinge the VL55 with times of 22:31, 23:23 and 23:25 respectively.

**OTHER MANSFIELD HARRIERS FINISHERS:** 23rs: Mike Mumford – 18:11, 26<sup>th</sup>: Rob Smith – 18:20, 30<sup>th</sup>: Jonny Lowe – 18:37, 33<sup>rd</sup>: Ian Conn – 18:47, 34<sup>th</sup>: Mark Johnson – 18:49, 35<sup>th</sup>: Thomas O'Mara – 18:57, 43<sup>rd</sup>: Grant Saxton – 20:16, 48<sup>th</sup>: Philip Shaw – 20:59, 54<sup>th</sup>: Kate Raynor – 21:26, 57<sup>th</sup>: Tony Gelsthorpe:- 21:43, 58<sup>th</sup>: David Robertson – 21:50, 62<sup>nd</sup>: Kahli Johnson – 21:53, 63<sup>rd</sup>: Julian Wood – 21:55, 64<sup>th</sup>: Alan Crewe – 21:56, 67<sup>th</sup>: Paul Asher – 22:11, 71<sup>st</sup>: Keith Mellors – 22:27, 77<sup>th</sup>: Carl Lancaster – 22:54, 82<sup>nd</sup>: Carol Hartin – 23:34, 85<sup>th</sup>: Clark Williamson – 23:40, 86<sup>th</sup>: Julie Grainger – 23:53, 90<sup>th</sup>: Jane Stafford – 24:31, 93<sup>rd</sup>: Denise Winfield – 24:44, 97<sup>th</sup>: Fay Gardner – 26:03, 99<sup>th</sup>: Sharon Armitage – 26:13, 104<sup>th</sup>: Lorraine Garvey – 27:24, 107<sup>th</sup>: Amanda Shaw – 28:25.

Earlier in the week Mansfield turned out a big team at the first fixture of this season's Booth Decorator's Road Race League at Derby.

Ryan Saxton continued his excellent form – the 14 year old finishing in seventh spot overall in a time of 26:36 nearly a minute quicker than his nearest Mansfield rival – Luke Marshall who came home in a time of 27:33 for 16<sup>th</sup> place.

Rob Smith took 20<sup>th</sup> place in 28:03 after a battle with Tim Raynor who was one spot and 11 seconds behind. Brian Borrill just missed out on the top 50, taking 51<sup>st</sup> spot in 30:14, just 2 seconds ahead of John Harrison in 52<sup>nd</sup>. Trevor HIscox chased these two hard but couldn't quite make up the pace, taking 54<sup>th</sup> in 30:22.

Youngster Tom Wragg took 57<sup>th</sup> in 30:31 with the final top 60 placing going to Daniel Ward, 59<sup>th</sup> in 30:36.

It was a youngster's night as Demi-Jade Jakymelen took first spot in the junior ladies event and was first Mansfield female home with her time of 32:39 taking 99<sup>th</sup> overall.

In the team event Mansfield's women go into the second fixture in bronze medal spot with the men in 5<sup>th</sup> and the combined team also in third.

OTHER MANSFIELD FINISHERS: 67: Grant Saxton – 31:58, 90: Clive Russell – 32:12, 92: Jack Longstaff – 32:27, 98: Dave Peet – 32:38, 109: Julian Wood – 32:55, 115: Jason Foster – 33:04, 124: Pete Collinge – 33:26, 129: Kate Raynor – 33:43, 135: Steve Wragg – 34:07, 140: Holly Blount – 34:43, 145: Claire Coombes – 35:08, 160: Maddy Collinge – 35:55, 166: Tina Green - 36:27, 167: Carl Lancaster – 36:29, 175: Pat Carlan – 37:05, 187: Dave Ward – 38:27, 188: Sue Watkinson – 38:29, 189: Louise Harrison – 38:31, 191: Denise Winfield – 38:34, 195: Sue Bellingham – 38:49, 200: Michelle Peet – 39:19, 207: Charlotte Bellingham – 39:59, 218: Angela Davies – 41:14, 227: Elaine Greaves – 43:48.

Graeme Wilkinson led home a contingent of 3 Harriers all making their Marathon debut at the Flora London Marathon. Wilkinson ran consistently throughout the 26.2 mile course to clock an excellent time of 3:15.11, finishing in 2033<sup>rd</sup> overall and 461<sup>st</sup> in the VM40 category.

Colin Fell celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday one day before the Marathon and chose this auspicious occasion to make his debut and marked this with 418<sup>th</sup> spot in the VM50 category with his time of 3:45.37 taking position 5820 overall. Wife Christine did equally well with a run of 4:06.32 to take position 2229 in the ladies race – her time of 4:06.32 taking the 257<sup>th</sup> spot in the VL45 category.

4 Mansfield youngsters qualified to represent the East Midlands in the London Mini-Marathon, run over the last few miles of the famous course prior to the marathon runners coming in. The quartet had a great experience being transported to and from the event and staying overnight in London.

Sam Johnson finished 33<sup>rd</sup> in the 11/12 year old boys event in 18:03 with Bailey Wardle 48<sup>th</sup> in 18:41. Molly Johnson was 36<sup>th</sup> in 19:41 in the 11/12 girls and Tom Wragg 66<sup>th</sup> in the 13/14 boys clocking 18:33

The Sheffield Half Marathon took place at the same time as the London Marathon and Steve Taylor led home a quartet of Mansfield runners. This was part of Taylor's preparation for the upcoming London Marathon and he should be well pleased with his run of 79:51, taking 54<sup>th</sup> position in a field of nearly 4600 finishers.

Luke Marshall made his half marathon debut, finishing 108<sup>th</sup> in 84:31, just ahead of Tim Raynor, 132<sup>nd</sup> in 85:28. Jason Short completed the line up, finishing with a time of 1:44.58 in 1268<sup>th</sup>.

Away from the road and on to the track but staying in Sheffield Mansfield track and field athletes used the Sheffield Open to start their summer seasons. Christie Childs produced one of the best performances of the day with a new PB of 2:16.0 in the 800m going on to record 60.47 over 400m..

Will Stone also doubled up over the 800m and 400m recording a big PB of 2:10.61 over 800m and running 58.74 in the 400m. Ryan Childs did likewise with times of 52.93 and 2:03.20.

Over 400m Adam Sansom produced a new outdoor PB of 51.36 along with a new PB of 11.71 in the 100m. Neal Baines continued his comeback with an impressive 11.36 over 100m and 23.12 over 200m.

Sam Cordin and Stuart King both prepared for the upcoming British Universities Championships – Cordin clocking 22.2 over 200m and King 8:46.06 over 3K.

**OTHER MANSFIELD PERFORMANCES:** 100m – Ancell Maxwell: 12.02, Chris Ashmore: 12.47, Robyn Foster: 13.85, Rachel Norris: 13.95, Claire Beaumont: 14.45, Beth Mortiboy: 15.14. 200m – Ancell Maxwell: 24.25, Chris Ashmore: 25.72, Robyn Foster: 28.07, Rachel Norris: 28.81, Claire Beaumont: 29.68, Elise Glover: 30.26. 800m – Jess Grieves: 2:23.24, Claire Norris: 2:39.32, Keira Abbott: 2:40.21, Jess Smith: 2:42.55, Abigail D'Aguiar: 2:44.84. Long Jump - Adam Sansom: 6.05, Chris Ashmore: 5.17, Beth Mortiboy: 3.65, Jack Foster: 3.34. Shot Putt – Rachel Norris: 5.23. Javelin – Lee Peters: 50:57, Lucy Banner: 27:46, Claire Norris: 8.53.

The first meeting of the Midland Premier Division in the National Junior League saw Mansfield travel to Birmingham's Alexander Stadium. With a very young team, many of whom still have 4 years after this season to make their mark in this league, Harriers performed very well.

James Hardy ran a new PB of 14.9 in the 110m Hurdles with Charlotte Gair doing likewise in the Discus with a best throw of 37.77m.

Jess Grieves improved her PB to take second place in the women's 400m Hurdles whilst Adam Sansom ran strongly to take second spot in the men's event. Sansom also produced a new PB of 6.12 to take 4<sup>th</sup> spot in the Long Jump.

Brother and sister Claire and Richie Talbot produced a double over 3K, Claire taking first in the Women's "A" string in 10:59.41 and Richie taking the Men's "B" string in 10:14.43. Ryan Saxton completed a busy week in the "A" string 3000m, taking 6<sup>th</sup> place in 10:02.51. Kate Raynor couldn't quite hold off a late challenge in the "B" string 3000m and finished in second spot.

Another brother and sister pairing took good points in the 800m – Christie Childs running well to secure second spot in the "A" string in 2:18.03 and brother Ryan taking 4<sup>th</sup> in the men's with 2:02.91. Both went on to run legs of the 4x400m relay which saw both men's and women's teams finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Laura Bennett had a good run out over the 10m Hurdles leading for most of the race but just being pipped at the post by training partner Emma Komocki of Notts. Bennett also took useful points in the Shot, Long Jump and 200m.

New recruit Lara Thomas and Amie Grainger produced maximum points in the women's 1500m steeplechase taking "A" and "B" string races respectively whilst Hannah Wragg and Laura Brown both took second in the 1500m.

Alex Lloyd was third in the 400m B string having a busy day also competing in the 400m Hurdles, 110m Hurdles, High Jump and 4x400m Relay. Dale Jacobs joined him in the High Jump and also had promising comeback in the 100m and 200m before running an excellent final leg in the 4x100m Relay to bring the team home in 3<sup>rd</sup> spot.

The final result was close with harriers finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place – just one point behind third and 5 ahead of fifth. Final placings were – Birchfield: 473, Cannock and Staffs: 416, Charnwood: 386, Mansfield: 385, Notts: 380, West Wales: 373, CDAV: 308, Cardiff: 293.

Other members of a Mansfield team that had great team spirit and showed real potential were: Jonathan Cordin, Ollie Fell, Tom O'Mara, Daniel Ward, Jack Longstaff, Greg Millar, Conor McHale, Alex Heath, Claire Beaumont, Emma Wilkinson, Gina Radford, Beth Farr and Chloe Elphick.

