INTER-COUNTIES CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

 PRESTWOLD HALL, LOUGHBOROUGH MAR 12TH 2022

 A total of 63 athletes competed for Northamptonshire at the Inter-Counties Cross Country Championships held at Prestwold Hall near Loughborough. Achieving the highest individual placing was Rugby & Northampton’s Megan Stenhouse in the U20 Women’s race over 6k when she finished in a superb 12th place with a time of 26:58. In the same age group Finlay Ward (R&N) was the 41st man home over 8k in 30:41. The best team position for the County came from the U13 Girls in 21st spot with Imogen Bennetts of Northampton AC leading them home in 32nd place over the 3k course in 13:22 and holding off County champion Olivia McGhee (R&N) by two seconds and two places. Completing the team were the Kettering pairing of Iona Ellwood ( 157th) and Peyton Almond (193rd) with 14:29 and 14:45 respectively. The Senior Women competed over 8k and Wellingborough’s Alice Belcher finished in 51st spot on 34:49 and was followed by clubmate Kelly Barnett in 120th with 36:58. Corby’s Ellie Welch recorded 38:03 (156th) and the Silson AC pair of Helen Heley (40:48) and Julie-Ann Hammond (41:25) finished 228th and 240th respectively. Closing out the scoring six for the county was Louise Kemp (Wellingborough & District) in 264th position on 44:42, which put the team in a creditable 26th place. Northants U15 Boys champion Arthur Tilt (R&N) was the first man home again in a magnificent 55th spot when he covered the 4k distance in 15:11 with Ben Smith from the same club finishing next in 84th with 15:27. Daventry AC’s Joshua Orchard was 118th in 15:41 and completing the quartet which finished 23rd in the team race was R&N’s Benjamin Westmoreland-Alexander ( 151st in 15:54). Another athlete finishing in the top 100 in his respective age group was Banbury Harriers Skip Snelson. In his first race as a Senior Man he clinched 79th position recording 36:18 over the 10k course to lead home the mens squad for 33rd place. Backing him up in the scoring team were Jack Bond of R&N (187th in 38:54), Jason French of Wellingborough (264th in 41:19), Luke Greenfield of Daventry (271st in 42:17), Adam Eales of Corby (277th in 42:57) and Joshua Cannell of Kettering (285th in 43:58). The U17M finished in 29th over a distance of 6k and Stirling Green (Northampton AC) led them home in 110th spot on 25:11 followed by County champion Ruben Snelson of Banbury (127th in 25:39). Lucas Rogers and Lucas Mansell of Kettering were 161st and 183rd respectively in 26:20 and 26:52. Northampton AC’s Jack Twining recorded 13:09 in the 3K U13 Boys to finish in 118th place with R&N’s Freddie Harris six seconds adrift in 141st. Edward Joyce of Corby (187th in 13:35) and Jake Clarke of R&N (197th in 13:40) completed the squad that finished 32nd. Kate Pomerleau of Daventry AC led home the U15 Girls to finish 128th with 17:56 over 4k and she was joined in the team by Alexa Brownlee of Corby (209th in 18:55), Eva Stuart-Hill of Northampton AC (213th in 18:56) and Jemima Cooper of R&N (214th in 18:56) to claim 39th spot. The U17 Women covered 5k and finished in 38th place. Ashleigh Walters of Corby finished 140th in 24:08 with Silson’s Amy Harris next on 25:40 for 208th. Jemima Lambert (R&N) and Cara Roberts (Northampton) recorded 26:28 (228th) and 26:52 (230th) respectively.