

MIDLAND VETS LEAGUE – REDDITCH 13TH MAY 2026

Worcester Ladies Team - got their season off to a flying start with a fine victory in the opening fixture at Redditch.

Amazingly in the 100m sprints Ros Townsend-Hope, Angela Bryant, Louise Kirby, Sara Saunders and Amy Pinkney were each winners in their respective age groups, Angela and Amy both setting PB's and new club records in the process, bettering records that had stood for several years! In the W35 race we also had the second placed athlete in the form of Jade Merry, so an excellent one-two emphasising our strength in depth.

The 2000m Race Walk saw Cat Hutchison and Di Brian (making her Worcester debut) continue the winning streak, each adding 8 more points to the team tally.

Katie Welch (with an injury) Emma Oldham and Louise Kirby ran really well in their 400m races, including two more fine victories.

Cat Hutchison was back after her race walk to compete at 1500m, coming second in strong winds and driving rain. Tracy Hinxman (competing down an age group) "stormed" around in 5'23.6 for a new club record, despite the atrocious conditions. They were joined at 1500m by Maggie Johnson-Myers who we welcomed back to the track after an absence of some 15 years. Maggie still holds the club's 1500m record in the W35-39 age category from the late 1990's so it was lovely to see her back in the team.

Meanwhile, in the field events, Emma Oldham secured an excellent win with a Discus throw of 19.85m whilst Iris Holder, although unable to run, hurled a Javelin 6.65m for 7 points and a new club record in the W85-89 age category.

In the Long Jump, Amy Pinkney leapt to victory with 4.09m and Julie Wakelam (making her debut for Worcester Vet Ladies) cleared 3.17 for second place, following it up with 17.12m in the Javelin for more valuable points. Julie had already run as a non-scoring guest at 100m, with her best time for several years.

Mel Garland achieved maximum points in both the Shot Putt and the High Jump.

And so to the final event, the 4x200 relay. On paper we fielded a very strong team in the form of Jade Merry, Emma Oldham, Sara Saunders and Amy Pinkney and they certainly matched expectations! The baton was safely transported twice around the track in just 2'01.3 which was a full 30 seconds ahead of the second placed team and a new Worcester Vet Ladies club record.

When we eventually saw the team totals our magnificent ladies team had won the match by an incredible 43 points, which we believe might be the largest winning margin in their long and distinguished involvement with the league.

Worcester Men's Team - results have been confirmed now and sent to Power of 10. We did indeed get the win which is a great start to the season.

Firstly well done to all the 100m runners. Several were running below their age group but still managed to score lots of points. Namely Ben Reeves 12.3, Stevie Bald 13.8, Peter Roberts 14.2 and Derek Naish 15.9 who between them picked up 23 points.

Thanks again to Derek Jackson for manfully filling the M70 slot despite suffering bruising from a fall.

Richard White predictably blew the opposition apart in his M60 400m in 62 secs whilst Richard Drewett completed his admirable four events with a good display in the M40 race. Richard also amassed a glut of points in the race walk (first), shot put and high jump; all in the space of an hour!

Toby Wort 4:32, Robbie Brennan 4:39 and Chris Ness 5:06 all won their 1500m races in emphatic style. This is an achievement that I'm not sure we have ever previously managed as a club. Before the races it was tight between us and Stratford and B and R but this gave us some very valuable breathing space.

Ben Reeves, Richard White, Stevie Bald and Peter Roberts produced an excellent display in the relay but B and R were just too strong on this occasion.

In the field Andi Cresswell threw 20:55 in the 2k discus to get second place and also picked up good points coming third in the long jump.

In an unusual event for him Roger Garland still picked up points in the M70 javelin whilst Chris Ness came third in the M50 edition of this event.

