

JK RELAY – Graythwaite.

I apologise for the delay in my write up and I am grateful for Andrew Gregory for including the results in the April newsletter – so I am not going into full details of JK relay results here - instead I would rather bring back memories of a great day at the races in photos.

In any case it was down to the collective effort of willing MDOCers to help with all organisational jobs, under Steve Fellbaum's lead, that we were able to field six competitive teams on the day. Those fortunate to run felt privileged to do so.

However it came as no surprise to me that we had no medals this year as I believe the tough terrain of the previous two days combined with the helping requirement, for some, not just one day, had an impact on performance – this of course being an explanation as opposed

to an excuse! For those of us running it was a relief to actually get out into some terrain where you could do precisely that – RUN! Quentin Harding's quality planning provided fast courses and the only whinging I heard, with regards the racing, was two women on last leg who had a 'bit of a scrap' over the finish punch without perhaps realising that it is the first over the line that counts! (The finish line being before the finish punches.)



The highlight was seeing the three youngest lads getting stuck into the competition on the Junior class (total age) M/W40- It was Dominic Wathey's (M10) first major relay experience and in a top field he did well to take over from the steady, more experienced James McCann (M16) to battle on through all technical hitches to handover to Ben Dempsey (M14) who had a flyer on last leg. Well done boys!



The girls were in great form both out in the terrain and in the...Map Issue tent!
The older boys were in equally fine form out in the woods but back in the Download tent they were...



....too busy trying to ignore me ;-)) and there's the famous Carol McNeil dashing past them on the right hand side of the photo.

Most fleet of foot and

running for our appropriately named 'All or nothing' JK Trophy team against the very best elite men, was our 'MDOC home grown' Tom Horton (photo left). His fellow team members Ali Thornton and Tom Fellbaum were no slouches either! To finish in 8th place in that class of field was AWESOME. As was the 6th place achieved by our 'Top Guns' on Mens Short Matt Fellbaum, Steve Dempsey and Alex McCann.

It was great to be able to make up a Mixed Ad Hoc Team of Alison Fryer (photo right), David Wathey and Steve Lang who had a creditable 11th place in the largest class.



I was pleased to receive many favourable comments from people about our team names (film theme) and was able to make light of comments received from team rivals who made enquiries about 'form' as I was able to explain that the Uptown Girls and Exotic Marigolds were either busy 'getting ready' or not quite in 'full bloom' yet and they should tread carefully until after the final showdown at the British!

