

Middlesbrough AC take the major honours at the nymac relays.

The sun disappeared but that didn't spoil another fantastic night at Stewart Park for the North York Moors AC Tom Wall relays. More than 500 runners and Athletics supporters descended on the park where the ever popular event sees four runners in a team, each running one leg of one mile.

As expected, the main events, male and female open, were contested by Middlesbrough AC, New Marske Harriers, and Middlesbrough & Cleveland Harriers. In the men's event Middlesbrough & Cleveland's Greg Jayasuriya got off to a flying start but by the half mile marker he only had a lead of 1 metre in front of Max Creasey of Middlesbrough AC in spite of getting there in 2 mins and 8 secs. In third place at the half mile marker was New Marske Harriers' Harry Allen, again just 1 metre behind second placed Max but the first to appear from the trees at the changeover line was Greg, setting the evening's joint fastest leg time of 4 mins and 24 secs. Greg got the verdict over Harry Allen who was credited with the same time by virtue of the judges' viewing of the photo finish. Greg has now won the fastest leg title every time for this event apart from 2018 when Olympian Marc Scott smashed the record. Unfortunately for Greg his three team mates couldn't overcome the combined force of Middlesbrough AC's remaining three runners who won event in a time of 18 mins and 42 secs

Not to be outdone by the men, Middlesbrough AC's Philippa Stone led her team to victory not only breaking the female open record (21 mins and 9 secs) but smashing her own individual leg record, becoming the first woman to break the 5 minute barrier completing the very testing mile course in 4 mins and 50 secs.

Host club North York Moors AC took first place in the men's M200 category where the total ages of the 4 runners must add up to a minimum of 200 years. The club have now won this event category 11 times out of 11. Clubs from as far afield as Sunderland and Whitby came with M200 runners but again failed to wrestle the trophy from North York Moors proving them to be '*top dogs*' in veteran running. Again the female runners were not left in the shade. In the ladies F160 category where the total ages of the 4 runners must add up to a minimum of 160 years, North York Moors comfortably beat the rest of the veterans by a margin of 22 secs leaving the host club happy with the evening's work.

North York Moors AC will hold their next relay event at Stewart Park on May the 26th 2022

Results:

Male open team prize winners:

Middlesbrough AC: Max Creasey, Bailey Spence, David Millward and Joseph West in 18:42

2nd Darlington Harriers

3rd Richmond and Zetland

Female open team prize:

Middlesbrough AC: Caroline Lambert, Bethany Bergstrand, Eden Creasey and Philippa Stone in 21:09 (New record)

2nd New Marske Harriers

3rd Middlesbrough AC (B)

Male veteran 200 year team prize:

North York Moors AC: Victor Brudenell, Alasdair Tatham, Paul McClean and David Hughes in 21:54

Female veteran 160 year team prize:

North York Moors AC: Tracy Biney, Catherine McShane, Kirsty Struthers and Shelli Gordon in 25:12

Mixed gender category:

Darlington Harriers: Colin Taylor, Macy Kelly, Mia Wetherill and Adam Mitchell in 21:51

Fastest male leg:

Greg Jayasuriya (Middlesbrough & Cleveland) in 4:24

Fastest female leg:

Philippa Stone (Middlesbrough AC) in 4:50