

MDOC RELAY REPORTS 2015 cont. by Vicky Thornton

BOC RELAY – Cannop Ponds.

Last year after the BOC relays I wrote “WOW what a day”.... and at the end I said and so until next year..... So it's next year.... and now I can say it again “**WOW what a day**”!!!



Cannop Ponds provided varied, hilly and fast terrain – perfect for an exciting relay. I have to say I was a little disappointed with the arena set up especially after the splendid view of all aspects of the relay action we got at the JK! I am sure however from an organisational and planners point of view that there would have been good reasons for the layout and the spectator control offered entertainment and that finish hill was brutal! The day was only marred by the fact that a few of our number needed to pull out due to injury or



sickness and I do hope that you are all fully recovered or at least getting there.

There were some notable performances – Sue Birkinshaw in particular definitely showed that she has the staying power of her son, but then we all know that, she was running W50 last leg!

And the “all Hindle team” – MDOC DAD’S ARMY! - on Mixed Adhoc, the largest class, were able to show all teams, except one, a clean pair of heels meaning that they grabbed silver position and only 4mins down on EPOC....but Trevor, Carolyn and Laura definitely took first place with their team name.



Next up on the podium, also in silver position, were MDOC’s FAST & FURIOUS on Men’s Short. Here’s Steve Dempsey looking furious and fast on second leg on the run in having taken over from Alistair Thornton who came in second after first leg. Alex McCann on the anchor leg was able to keep it together to secure the medals only 4 mins down on DVO and 4 mins ahead of HH. Alex took off without his medal which has hopefully caught up with him by now.



Yet more medals for MDOC with MAMMA MIA to grab the bronze place in the W50’s after hard fought battles on every leg with DEEside’s DEEcaffinated who

had obviously not had enough caffeine! Heather Fellbaum showed her class on the run-in hill leaving Vets Internationals Elizabeth Jackson DEE and Jackie Hallett BOK in her wake. Hazel Hindle ran her socks off and then tactically dropped in only just





behind DEE allowing me to go off exactly where I like to be, chasing, with the main pressure now on DEE. This resulted in a cat and mouse game out in the forest with Sara Campbell and an extremely close finish with the MDOC cheers helping loads - thank you! On Women's Short there was nothing FOOTLOOSE about Alice Fellbaum as she sped along the run in pulling her team up to ninth place overall following steady runs by Alison Fryer and Jane McCann.

For our team out on M/W70 a control was GONE WITH THE WIND for Rae Lomas but team members Dave Mawdsley and Andrew Gregory both had solid runs.



THE INCREDIBLES on Junior Adhoc were struck with misfortune as key runner Ben Dempsey was feeling sickly (possibly something inedible, not so incredible?) and he was sadly unable to run but at least James McCann and



Dominic Wathey were able to see their good times and realise that if they had had Ben a position in the top five may have been possible and incredible!

MDOC 50 SHADES OF GREY (not my name choice!) on the M50 class Dave McCann, Chris Rostron and Steve Fellbaum hung in there to come 13th out of 21 and the MDOC GONE GIRL team of Julie Brook, Cecilia Fenerty and Sue Birkinshaw on W50 were consistent to come 17th overall.



And finally we had MDOC FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD Pete Lomas, Marie Roberts and David Wathey together on Mixed Adhoc 37th out of no less than 58 teams!

So it's good bye from me as Team Captain... Many thanks to all of you for the fun I have had in this role....long may it last!

