



National Cross Country Championships Sedgefield Co Durham Sat 21st Feb 2026

South of England champion Kate O'Neill achieved her highest national finish when she placed seventh in the National event at Sedgefield County Durham on Saturday, a three places higher than her seventh place in last year's event at Parliament Hill. Kate crossed the line in 29m 26 seconds, as the podium places went to Lucy Jones (Herne Hill: 28:54), Amelia Quirk (Bracknell 29:00) and Molly Smith (Herne Hill 29:02) It was an early birthday present for the distance specialist who celebrated her 25th birthday two days later. She was supported by Robyn Matson, who placed 155th over 25 places better than last year and her best results for many years and Stephanie Phillips who was in the top half of the field of well over 500.

Eight senior men also made the long trip to the northeast. Sam Atkins was first club athlete in 177th with John Whitehead in 318th Luke Chester (408th), John Barker 579th Tony Pecoraro 671st and Gary Atkins in 783rd completed the scoring six who were 41st team. Steve Walker (824th) and Roy James (937th) were the other finishers.

