



Welcome to Horwich Festival of Racing 2017

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th June 2017



What's On...
See inside for details of all the events throughout the weekend



Spectator Info...

Go-Ride

Get your core cycling skills sorted then have a go at our starter level races. Go Ride gives you the skills you need to become a better cyclist or put you on the road to an Olympic Medal!

HSBC UK Go-Ride is British Cycling's development programme for young people. The programme provides a fun and safe way to introduce young riders to the world of cycle sport and provides a platform to improve bike handling skills.

Lostock Athletic Club Invitation and NHS Fun Tri

Bolton NHS Fun Triathlon has joined forces with the organisers of the Lostock Athletic Club Invitation Tri to deliver a unique event for 2017.

Bolton Council and NHS employees from across the country will join invited local triathlon clubs in the opening attraction of the festival. This exciting development will see a brand new closed road cycle course and a new run route for the NHS Fun Tri, now in its 6th year.

The swim will remain at Horwich pool and the finish area with its usual attractions will remain in Old Station Park.



Timetable

			Registration Point	Start Location
Sun 4 June 2017	8.00am	Bolton Arena JustRide – Rivington Rumble CX-sportive – Pulse Pursuits		
Wed 14 June 2017	7.30pm	Horwich Cycling Club/HFoR Hill Climb (16 years plus)	The Bridge Hotel	Opposite Horwich Cemetery
Sat 17 June 2017	10am-7pm	Virtual Spin - Free Taster sessions throughout the day	In advance with Horwich Leisure Centre	Horwich Leisure Centre
	10am-4pm	Go-Ride Experience		St John's St car park
	12.00pm	Fun Swim Run	Horwich Leisure Centre	Horwich Leisure Centre
	2.00pm	Go-Ride Time Trials		Winter Hey Lane
	3.00pm	Lostock AC and NHS Bolton Council Fun Triathlon	Horwich Leisure Centre	Horwich Leisure Centre
	7.00pm	The Eric Wright Youth Cycle Races <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under 14's• Under 16's	Bowling Hut	Main start line
	8.00pm	Emerson Horwich Grand Prix (30 laps E/1/2/3/ categories)	Bowling Hut	Main start line
Sun 18 June 2017	10.00am	USN Bolton Arena Youth Cycle Races	Bowling Hut	Main start line
	10.00am	Sprint Orienteering	Queens Park Pavilion Cafe	Queens Park Pavilion Cafe
	10.45am	British Masters Athletics Federation 5km Walking UK Championships	Horwich Leisure Centre	Church Street start line
	10.50am	British Masters Athletics Federation 5km Running UK Championships	Horwich Leisure Centre	Church Street start line
	11.30am	Youth Cycling Relay (7-11 years teams of 4)	Bowling Hut	Main start line
	12.20pm	Joseph Holt Horwich Open 5km run	Scout Hut	Church Street start line
	1.05pm	5th British National Unicycle Road Race	Bowling Hut	Main start line
	1.50pm	Sprint Orienteering Final	Scout Hut	Main start line
	2.25pm	1 Lap Cycling Street Race (6-15 years)	Bowling Hut	Main start line
	2.45pm	Bolton at Home 1 Lap Fun Run (including fancy dress) judging of fancy dress at 2.30pm on Public Hall steps	Scout Hut	Main start line
	3.15pm	1 Lap Fun Cycle	Bowling Hut	Main start line
	3.35pm	Handicapped Criterium Cycle Race		

Introduction

Horwich Festival of Racing is a unique event taking place on the streets of Horwich town centre each summer and I am proud to be President of the Festival. Now in its 16th year it attracts competitors from around the country and from overseas.

Originating as a 'Cavalcade of Cycling' at Horwich Carnival in 1946 it has developed into a major mixed-discipline event and with the support, particularly, of Horwich Town Council and Bolton Council, this year it is again a two-day event which we hope will attract many more competitors and spectators to spend time in Horwich over the weekend.

Over its history the festival has attracted big names and competitors including Jason Kenny, Laura Trott, Lizzie Armistead and Dame Sarah Storey.

It's a great opportunity for youngsters to take part and it will draw many more people into the town, but we do appreciate that as the event grows that there will be an impact on journeys around Horwich town centre. It may be a little crowded in Horwich this weekend but we have worked hard with Bolton Council and with our own traffic management contractors to provide clear alternative routes.

This is a fantastic local event and there will be plenty to see and do over the weekend. It will be a great spectator event – and it's free. We hope you enjoy it.

Barbara Ronson,
President of Horwich Festival of Racing

Bolton Council has been proud to work with the organisers of the festival over the last few years. This small group of volunteers do a fantastic job for the local community and the Council is very pleased to be able to support them. Investing in sports at a grassroots level is key to encouraging all ages, especially young people, to get involved in sport and improve their fitness and overall health.

Councillor John Byrne,
Bolton Council Cabinet Member for Culture, Youth and Sport

Our sponsors

Horwich Festival of Racing is pleased to acknowledge the support of our sponsors without whom this event could not happen. We would also like to thank officers of Horwich Town Council and Bolton Council for their hard work on the event and Bolton Mountain Rescue Team, RSS Events and Exclusec for providing services to the festival.



For more information or to get involved in delivering the festival visit www.horwichfestivalofracing.co.uk.

Competitors should visit the website to download an accommodation list and parking information.

See you in 2018!

Good to know...



Sprint Orienteering

This is a sport that combines running and navigation. Competitors are given a specially-drawn map showing the start and the finish and various control points that they must visit, in order, but picking their own route between each.

At each control point is a marker flag with a timing device attached. The athletes carry a chip which they "swipe" at the control point to prove they have visited it, and when. They download times from the chip after finishing and the runner with the fastest time is the winner.

In most races competitors are started individually at intervals so that they can't just follow each other. But the Horwich Town race is a bit different as runners start together and race head-to-head, so to prevent following there are different courses for different age classes, and some forks where courses split. No-one can tell which course another competitor is on, so they follow at their peril!

This weekend's races are organised by local South East Lancashire Orienteering Club (SELOC). More details of SELOC can be found at www.seloc.org.uk or about orienteering in general at British Orienteering's website on www.britisshorienteering.org.uk



Unicycling

Unicycling started in the 1890's mostly around circus performances but has now branched out into a number of areas; doing tricks (freestyle), jumping and riding over obstacles (street), riding up mountains or trails (MUNI) and road riding. There are also team games, mostly unicycle hockey in the UK.

Unicycling is a pretty niche sport and road riding is even more specialised. The National Unicycle Road Race is now in its fifth year at the Horwich Festival of Racing.

Most serious riders will be using big 36" wheels, enabling them to cover greater distance and go faster, but this is hard to balance and even harder to mount!

Cycling

In past years Horwich Festival of Racing has promoted national road circuit championships and a para cycling championship as well as a round of the National Road Circuit series with Olympic and World champions appearing on the streets of Horwich. Jason Kenny, Ed Clancy, Rob Hayles, Laura Trott, Dame Sarah Storey, Lizzie Armistead, Danni King and Joanna Rowsall have all competed here with many of these representing Great Britain at Rio 2016.

This year we have elite racing on the Saturday evening including the Horwich Grand Prix as the main spectacle and senior cycling on the Sunday there are plenty of opportunities for young people to take part on the Sunday including youth's individual and team relay events and a 1 Lap Fun Cycle for those new to two wheels with a medal for all children taking part. Also new for Sunday is the 'Handicapped Criterium' whereby senior competitors of all age categories compete together, setting off in waves according to their age group.



Running and walking

For the 11th year the festival is proud to host the British Masters Athletic Federation's 5km Road Walking UK Championship, alongside the BMAF National 5km Running Championship which also returns to Horwich on Sunday.

The annual Horwich Open 5km takes runners on three laps of the familiar town centre course while the 1 Lap Fun Run (optional fancy dress) provides fun for all and a medal for all children taking part.

Judging of the fancy dress will take place just before the start at the Public Hall.

History of the festival

Welcome to Horwich Festival of Racing which, over the past 15 years, has grown to become one of the most popular sporting events in the North of England.

This unique event attracts competitors not only from local areas but all over the United Kingdom and from abroad. Originally known as Horwich Carnival Races, the event was re-named to reflect the wide variety of sporting activities which take place on closed roads in the centre of Horwich.

It originated as a 'Cavalcade of Cycling' put on by Horwich Cycling Club at Horwich Carnival in 1946 when tandem and sidecar, boneshaker bikes and several tricycles were ridden through the streets by members of the Club. The first Carnival Race was held on Friday 6 June 1977 to celebrate the Silver Jubilee when cyclists raced for 32 miles around the streets of Horwich. The streets weren't closed to traffic and over the years there were a few near misses! So much so that the open road circuit was closed down in 1989.

When Commonwealth Games fever gripped the North West in 2002 our President, Barbara Ronson, asked Horwich Cycling Club to resurrect the Carnival Races as a day of multi-sport races and we're now in our 16th year and have become the Horwich Festival of Racing.

Over the years, the event has staged the British Cycling Elite Mens and Womens Circuit Championships, British Para-cycling Circuit Championships, British Masters 5K national championships for running and walking, Penny Farthing road racing, Sprint Orienteering, Unicycle National Championship and other big names involved with the festival include:

Local bike builder Terry Dolan
Horwich international Vinny Smith
Commonwealth Games gold medalist Willie Moore
Former British Cycling National Coach John Herety

Former Horwich Cycling Club member and current UCI President and former British Cycling President Brian Cookson

Nowadays Horwich Festival of Racing is dedicated to providing an opportunity for the community to take part in and enjoy watching sport within a safe and positive environment. We believe that participation in sport brings benefits for all within the community.

The course...

Key

- 1 The Crown
- 2 Scout hut registration point
- 3 Bowling hut registration point
- 4 Public hall
- 5 Main start / finish line
- 6 Start line for 5km races running/walking (Sun only)
- 7 Horwich Leisure Centre
- 8 Go-Ride Experience (Sat only)
- 9 Aldi
- 10 Controlled vehicle crossing point, giving access to inner triangle within road closures

Registration Points

- 2 Scout Hut - running, sprint orienteering and fun run
- 3 Bowling Hut - all cycle races
- 7 Horwich Leisure Centre - BMAF, Triathlon and Fun Swim Run



Getting here and parking

Road closures

Due to the nature of the event a number of roads will be closed in Horwich to facilitate the activities safely as numbers joining are expected to increase significantly.

Signposted diversions will be in place and marshals will be present to assist residents and businesses to use the alternative routes around the town centre. The diversions are as follows:

2pm to 11pm on Saturday 17th June and 8am to 6pm on Sunday 18th June

- Chorley New Road from the Crown Roundabout to Winter Hey Lane
- Winter Hey Lane for its entire length to Lee Lane
- Lee Lane to the Crown Roundabout

As well as the above roads being closed, please note there will be no access onto these roads from any adjoining roads. This is with the exception of the usual vehicle crossing point at Curteis Street and Rock Street to ensure residents and businesses can get in and out of this area each day. Everywhere is accessible for pedestrians.

Public transport

The event site is easily accessible by public transport. To find the best route for you please visit www.tfgm.com. You can also check bus diversions for the weekend.

Parking

Parking will be limited across the site area over the weekend, so please check the website for updates.

Accommodation

If you require somewhere to stay over the weekend or somewhere to eat please visit www.horwichfestivalofracing.co.uk for a full list of accommodation and local facilities.



Horwich Means Business – HMB

We're a group of local Businesses supporting local business in Horwich. Together we work to welcome more shoppers into our brilliant town centre to eat, shop, enjoy.

We also organise the amazing Horwich Christmas Treasure Hunt, this year it's on 14th December. See you there!

 @horwichmeansbusiness