

Worthing chosen to host cycling series

A FAST and exciting new cycling event is coming to Worthing this summer.

The town has been selected as one of six locations in the UK to host the Street Velodrome Series – a pop-up racing competition for professional and amateur riders.

Action from the event will be broadcast across 180 countries by the likes of Sky, Channel 4 and Eurosport.

Professional cyclist Peter Mitchell, from Upper Beeding, has backed the series' debut in Worthing to be a big success.

He said: "I know a few riders who have done them. I have heard they are really good fun. Having seen it, it looks incredibly exciting, challenging and dramatic."

"It certainly makes cycling more accessible. Track cycling is the least accessible part of cycling, as you need a lot of equipment. Road racing you can do with what you are. There's not

By DAN CAIN
dan.cain@worthingherald.co.uk
01903 282363

really a velodrome within an hour-and-a-half's drive from Upper Beeding."

Peter has had to decline an invitation to take part in the event though, as he does not return from his honeymoon until August 3.

"It's a real shame," he said. "I would've loved to have done it."

Worthing Borough Council intends to hold the two-day event on Beach House Grounds, next door to the Splashpoint leisure facility.

Carl Thompson, series director, said: "We are delighted to have the opportunity to bring the excitement and action of the televised Street Velodrome Series to Worthing. The south coast resort is an ideal addition to our national tour due to its cycling legacy and the council's ambition

to promote greater cycling participation. It has an excellent and growing reputation as a cycle friendly town and an ideal location for cycle tourism, being at the foot of the South Downs. Worthing also boasts one of the country's oldest cycle clubs in the Excelsior Club established 128 years ago."

The action is made up of head-to-head pursuit races between two riders – just like the racing in the Olympic velodrome during London 2012.

Entry to the event for both amateur participants and spectators will be completely free. All the necessary equipment needed, including race specification bikes, is provided by StreetVelodrome free of charge with each amateur rider also given expert coaching prior to their attempt to qualify to race against the professionals.

The total cost of the event is estimated to be £21,500 and

will come from council funds.

A report by Scott Marshall, Worthing Borough Council's director for the economy, reads: "The cost to host the event can be offset considerably (and possibly cost neutral) by a mix of selling advertising space for the event and by creating a wider community festival around the event space based on food, drink and crafts stalls."

Val Turner, Worthing Borough Council's cabinet member for health and well-being, said the event was an 'excellent idea'.

She said: "I know that a lot of kids locally enjoy cycling and I think it will be a great event for the town."

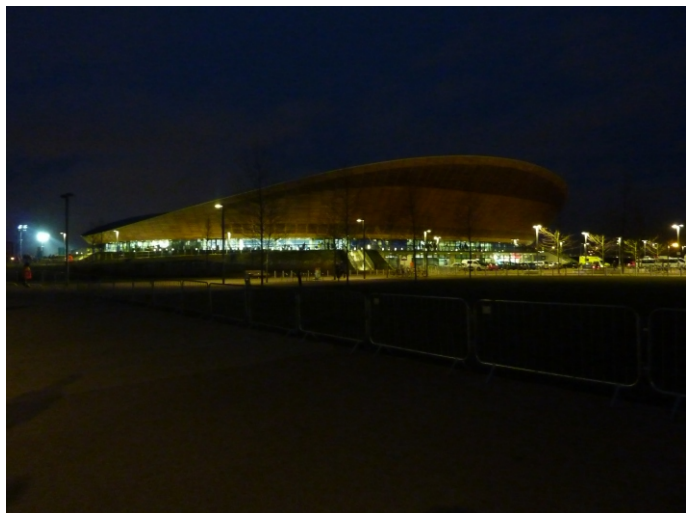
After the six regional events have taken place, a final winners event will take place in London.

For more information on the Street Velodrome Series, visit www.streetvelodrome.co.uk

**CLUB RUN
ELEVENSES AT AMBERLEY
SUNDAY 2 JANUARY 2015**



MEMBERS' TRIP TO LONDON REVOLUTION SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2015



**CLUB MEMBERS
AT THE NEW LOCAL CYCLE CAFÉ
STAN'S BIKE SHACK**



**WORTHING HERALD
THURSDAY 12 MARCH
2015**

Excelsior hold first time trial

WORTHING Excelsior Cycling Club held their first time trial of the new season on Sunday.

Trevor Leeding won the morning ten-mile race on the tricky G10/70 country lane based course in an excellent time of 24min 21sec.

The 2014 evening ten-mile series champion Simon Atkinson finished second, just 13 seconds behind.

The club's veteran champion Mike O'Gorman was third, a further eight seconds back, with a time of 24-43.

Colin Barton and Jeremy Wooton both returned to action after long-term injuries.

The fastest ride of the morning was by a private entrant, Dominic Maxwell, of Sussex Revolution, in 23-44.

Other times: Roger Smith (private entry) 24-16; Jeremy Wooton 25-42; Rick Hughes 25-56; Phil Frean 26-58; Andrew Haste 27-09; Colin Barton 27-52; Shaeff Potter (junior) 28-28; Bruce Samuels (private entry) 29-12; Jack Churchill (private entry) 29-14; Elliott Whitehead (private entry) 31-29; Graeme Gill 31-48; Joan Lennon 33-00; Martin Booker DNF.

**WORTHING HERALD
THURSDAY 19 MARCH
2015**

Excelsior hold first time trial

WORTHING Excelsior Cycling Club held their first time trial of the new season on Sunday.

Trevor Leeding won the morning ten-mile race on the tricky G10/70 country lane based course in an excellent time of 24min 21sec.

The 2014 evening ten-mile series champion Simon Atkinson finished second, just 13 seconds behind.

The club's veteran champion Mike O'Gorman was third, a further eight seconds back, with a time of 24-43.

Colin Barton and Jeremy Wooton both returned to action after long-term injuries.

The fastest ride of the morning was by a private entrant, Dominic Maxwell, of Sussex Revolution, in 23-44.

Other times: Roger Smith (private entry) 24-16; Jeremy Wooton 25-42; Rick Hughes 25-56; Phil Frean 26-58; Andrew Haste 27-09; Colin Barton 27-52; Shaeff Potter (junior) 28-28; Bruce Samuels (private entry) 29-12; Jack Churchill (private entry) 29-14; Elliott Whitehead (private entry) 31-29; Graeme Gill 31-48; Joan Lennon 33-00; Martin Booker DNF.

**CLUB MEMBERS
ENJOYING THE MILAN - SAN REMO
AT BROOKSTEED ALE HOUSE**

SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2015



Mike enjoys age group success

CYCLING

sport@worthingherald.co.uk
Twitter: @Worthing_sport

AFTER hosting two club events this year, there was a week's lull before Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club run their annual Long Furlong circuit race this weekend.

A number of the club's riders are looking to use that race as a form guide for selecting pairs to compete in April's Sussex two-up team time trials.

The one Worthing rider in open race action over the past few days was veteran Mike O'Gorman. Last week, he travelled to Hampshire to participate in the Farnborough & Camberley ten-mile event.

His time of 23min 10sec was more than a minute quicker than in the same event last year and was sufficient to win in his age category.

This weekend, it was the turn of the Southern Counties hilly events around the base of Leith Hill. In Saturday's ten-mile race, a time of 25-37 in the windy conditions placed him 13th out of 74 riders and gave him another age category victory.

The following day in the 25-mile event, he recorded 1-07-02 to finish 24th out of 72 riders and was second in his age category.

Excelsior hampered by the weather

POOR weather conditions affected Worthing Excelsior Cycling Club's third club event of the season on the Long Furlong circuit on Sunday.

In strong winds and rain, a third of the field decided the course was not fit and did not start the race.

The descents down Long Furlong were the most difficult parts, with both headwinds and crosswinds combining to make things particularly difficult.

Trevor Leeding was the first Excelsior rider to finish, by a considerable margin as he got home in 42min 52sec. Mike O'Gorman was second in 44-51 and Simon Atkinson finished third in 44-59.

Southdown Bikes' Roger Smith was the fastest rider on the day with 42-25, while junior Excelsior rider Shaeff Potter's enthusiasm was rewarded as he finished in 51-54.

Other times: Martin Booker 45-38; Phil Frean 52-06; Chris Radd 53-08; Colin Miller 1-02-33; Barrie Le Grove (Royal Navy Royal Marines CA) 1-02-58.

■ Excelsior's new member, Andrew Haste, competed in his first open event last weekend and finished the Southdown Bikes hilly 34k event in 1-03-32.