

Monday 24th July 2017



Record number of entries for Barns Green Half Marathon and 10km races

A record number of runners have registered for this year's Barns Green Half Marathon and 10km races. With 10 weeks to go until race day, over 1100 runners have registered for the two races, 880 for the Half Marathon and 233 for the 10km race, two thirds of whom are female. This is a 50% increase on the figures at the same time last year.

Commenting on the entry levels, Barns Green Half Marathon Race Director, Vernon Jennings said, "We are delighted to have so many runners registered for our two races with still just over two months to go. We are particularly excited about the interest in the 10km race which is being run for just the second time. The new race has attracted a lot of interest from runners who don't want to run a half marathon but want to experience the competition and excitement of taking part in a professionally organised event with prizes and medals for every competitor. Our race is organised completely by volunteers and it is important that we can attract as many runners as possible to help us keep the event developing and flourishing".

The 2017 event will take place on Sunday 24th September and will be the 35th running of the Barns Green Half Marathon and the second year of the new 10 kilometer race which was introduced for the first time last year. The whole event is run entirely by volunteers and raises a lot of money for charity and also makes significant donations to various groups, youth and sports clubs in and around the village who help with the staging of the race. This year's official charity for the event is St Catherine's Hospice and already £1500 has been pledged by runners.

There will be a unique double this year as Horsham MP, Jeremy Quin will start both the Barns Green Half Marathon and 10km races. Of course there is a twist. Jeremy will be on a podium with a claxon to act as the official starter for the Barns Green Half Marathon which starts at 10am. Then he will get into his running gear and will actually take part in the 10km event which starts a few minutes later at 10.20am. Also it will be a special race for Horsham Joggers legend John Booker. This year's Barns Green Half Marathon will be his 35th and to mark the occasion he will be wearing the vest number 35.

Last year almost 1800 runners registered for the Half Marathon and 10k races which follow routes on closed roads through the lanes of Barns Green, Itchingfield, Christ's Hospital and close to Southwater through some of the most scenic countryside in West Sussex. Once again this year, there will be a number of bands and groups playing at different points on the race routes to help keep all the runners motivated.