The Past

Portrait of Governor Lachlan Macquarie, 1822

Packed Grandstands on opening day, 4 April 1925

Parading Yard on opening day, 4 April 1925

Horse racing at Warwick Farm, 1930's

Jack Brabham racing in the International 100 race, 1961

Jim Carr, AJC Chairman, in front of the new Paddock Stand, 1982

1788
- First horses arrive in Australia

1798
- First land grants in Liverpool area

1810
- Governor Lachlan Macquarie founded the town of Liverpool in November

1880
- Original land grant of Warwick Park was made to William Alexander Long

1882
- Long sold Warwick Park estate to William Forrester who became one of the most successful trainers of his time

1884
- Long finished extending his property across the river, building stables and tracks; estate known as Chipping Norton. "Warwick Park" becomes "Warwick Farm".

1889
- Long and E.A. Oatley were principals in the formation of Warwick Farm Racing Club
- First Warwick Farm Racecourse railway platform opened on the main southern railway line followed shortly after by a new privately owned branch line

1890
- Liverpool Turf Club formed holding races at Woodlands; by 1892 known as Liverpool Horse and Galloway Racing Club

1912
- Part of the site containing the racetrack and associated buildings was transferred to the ownership of Warwick Farm Racecourse Company Limited. The rest was retained by Oatley who increased his personal landholding in the same year with the purchase of land to the south, now known as Coopers Paddock

1914
- After the outbreak of World War 1 the racecourse was one of several sites in the Liverpool area occupied by the military

1922
- The Warwick Farm Racing Club shareholders decided to wind up the company and sell the course. The Sydney Morning Herald reported on 18 November 1922 the racecourse was to be purchased by the Australian Jockey Club for the sum of Seventy-five thousand pounds

1923
- The purchase of the racecourse was completed and the first meeting was held on 27 January that year. The course was subsequently closed for two years to allow an extensive construction period to take place

1925
- Horse racing recommenced with the Official Opening on 4 April 1925
- First running of the Chipping Norton Stakes and was won by Wallace Mortlake

1935
- The AJC purchased the remaining land including Coopers Paddock

1939
- Warwick Farm taken over again by the military, initially by the Second and Third Anti Tank Regiment of the Australian Army

1942
- September saw Warwick Farm de-hired by the Australian Army and allotted to the United States Army. Camp Warwick, the US Army Service of Supply (USASOS) was established and was then passed onto the Royal Navy as a general service depot

1952
- Racing recommenced following the military occupation on 28 June with a record breaking crown of 37,250 attending the first race meeting back

1956
- Competitive polo introduced with the hosting of the Countess of Dudley Cup

1961
- Jointly used for horse racing and car racing in conjunction with the Australian Automobile Racing Company. The first car raceday held on 29 January 1961
- Hosted the Australian Grand Prix in: 1963 won by Jack Brabham, 1967 won by Jackie Stewart. 1970 & 1971 won by Frank Matich
- Last major car race, the Australian Touring Car Championship was held on 15 July 1973 and was won by the late Peter Brock

1970
- First running of the Liverpool City Cup, won by Blue Plume and ridden by Bill Camer

1979
- The racecourse was closed for renovation

1982
- The new Paddock Stand, renamed the J.H.B. Carr Stand was opened by the Governor, Sir James Rowland on 27 February

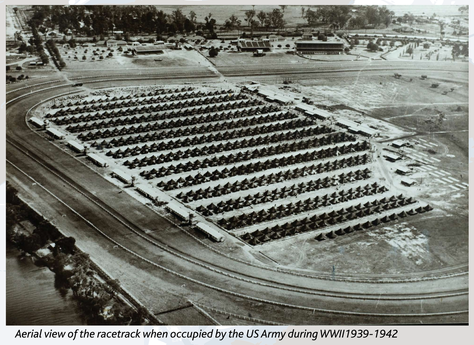
1990
- The last train ran on Saturday 18 August

2009
- 31 August AJC Chairman Ron Finemore announced plans for in excess of $25 million for a major upgrade of Warwick Farm Racecourse's infrastructure
- William Inglis' Managing Director Mark Webster announced plans the famed sales complex was set to relocate from Randwick to Warwick Farm as part of the $25 million facelift of the racecourse
- 19 December William Inglis sign the contract for the purchase of 9.5 hectares (23 acres) of land from the Australian Jockey Club at Warwick Farm

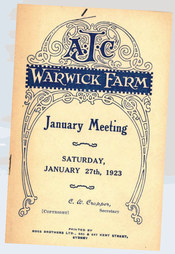
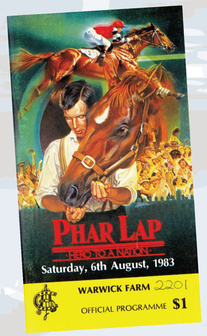
2010
- 6 March sees the return of Saturday racing to Warwick Farm with the Gr 1 Chipping Norton Stakes and Gr 2 Liverpool City Cup

Portrait of William Alexander Long

Betting ring and semaphore board area, 30 June 1923


Aerial view of the racetrack when occupied by the US Army during WWII 1939-1942

County polo meeting at Warwick Farm, 1956

Blue Plume winning the first Liverpool City Cup, 1970

Tie the Knot winning for the third successive year in the Chipping Norton Stakes, 2001.
Tie the Knot later went on to win its fourth in 2002.