

Friday 8th November

HEXHAM



1.02	FIRST CLASS CATERING FROM FALCONS EVENTS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (5) 3m41y (4870 Metres)
RACE 1	(1) KELCE (3) RETURN FIRE (4) GIPSY LEE ROSE
1.37	WEATHERBYS nhstallions.co.uk MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2m48y (3260 Metres)
RACE 2	(2) JUST CALL ME LUCY (1) FROMHERETOETERNITY (4) REINA BLANCA
2.10	AT THE RACES APP FORM STUDY MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 2½m28y (4050 Metres)
RACE 3	(5) HELSGETAWAY (10) SHADOWFAX OF ROHAN (1) CHASINGOUTTHEBLUES
2.45	SIDGWICK MEMORIAL NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 1m7f133y (3140 Metres)
RACE 4	(1) CAITHNESS (2) THE CHURCHILL LAD (3) ONE MORE STROKE
3.20	bookiesbonuses.com OVER 200 UK BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2m48y (3260 Metres)
RACE 5	(3) FOREST BLAZE (5) MR LE PHILOSOPHE (9) NATIONAL QUESTION
3.55	mybettingsites.com EXPERT UK BOOKIE REVIEWS HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (5) 2m7f63y (4680 Metres)
RACE 6	(8) BERGENTOWN (3) FAINCHE (9) DEQUALL

KEY TO SYMBOLS

Top Rated: The horse with the best chance based solely on past form, specially tailored to a 0-100 scale.

Horses For Courses: A suitable track for the horse, compared to its lifetime record on similar courses as defined by Timeform's course data.

Jockey Uplift: The engaged rider has a notably higher Timeform Jockey Ranking than those who've ridden the horse on its most recent starts

Trainer Form: A hot trainer to follow, based on Timeform ratings-related measurements looking at the recent performance of runners.

1.02

RACE 1

**FIRST CLASS CATERING FROM FALCONS EVENTS
CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (5)
4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £9,550 3m41y (4870 Metres)**



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Weak**

- 1** **KELCE (IRE) (7)** s **100**
687/08-P2 6 12-0 | 76.2kg
 Neil Mulholland **Joe Anderson**
 Lightly-raced maiden in Ireland and, having understandably looked in need of the run on return/debut for new yard at Fontwell last month, he subsequently went close on recent chase debut in first-time cheekpieces (retained) at Uttoxeter (2½m, good to soft). Big player.
- 2** **LIGHTS ARE GREEN (IRE) (13)** (CD) **90**
2-P4441P5 7 11-10 | 74.4kg
 George Bewley **Edward Austin**
 Resumed winning ways in a handicap chase at Cartmel during the summer but it's been a low-key 2024 otherwise for this 7-y-o. Others preferred.
- 3** **RETURN FIRE (IRE) (13)** (CD) t **93**
1354U6-64 8 11-9 | 73.9kg
 Lucinda Russell **Patrick Wadge (3lb/1kg)**
 Ended last season out of sorts but wasn't beaten at all far back hurdling on his recent reappearance and he's of interest back here (winner of both completed starts over fences at this course) off a reduced mark.
- 4** **GIPSY LEE ROSE (FR) (248)** (CD) v+t **93**
38/531561- 10 11-4 | 71.7kg
 N. W. Alexander **Bruce Lynn (3lb/1kg)**
 Hit the target twice last season, taking a small-field 2½m Newcastle handicap (heavy) on latest outing in March. 3 lb rise by no means prohibitive and moving back up in trip won't be an issue, so she could have a say if fully tuned-up for this.
- 5** **EMPTY NEST (IRE) (154)** **82**
704333-PP 6 11-3 | 71.2kg
 Mark Walford **Tom Midgley**
 Still a maiden and opposable on the back of tame efforts here and at Market Rasen on his last 2 appearances.
- 6** **OCEAN LEGACY (IRE) (19)** **95**
6P0-F2043 7 11-3 | 71.2kg
 Rebecca Menzies **Aaron Anderson**
 Winless since last May 2023 but performed with credit on a couple of occasions for Dermot McLoughlin earlier this year and wasn't disgraced on debut for this yard at Sedgefield (26.3f, good to soft) 19 days ago. 2 lb lower here and each-way chance if able to build on that.
- 7** **ANGE ENDORMI (IRE) (35)** s **94**
21247-P33 8 11-2 | 70.8kg
 Lizzie Quinlan **Peter Kavanagh (3lb/1kg)**
 Winner of just one of his 14 starts over hurdles but pretty consistent on the whole in that sphere and latest third of 12 over 23.3f in first-time cheekpieces (retained) here last month was a solid effort. 1 lb lower now switched to fences and wouldn't be without hope if his jumping passes the test.
- 8** **GIBBERWELL (IRE) (188)** (CD) b **93**
2237P24-5 8 10-5 | 65.8kg
 Jake Thomas Coulson **Joe Williamson**
 Only fifth over this C&D on final start of last season but record here is otherwise strong (form figures at Hexham read 122245). On the downside, his record when fresh doesn't augur well ahead of this first run for 6 months.
- 9** **BANNSIDE (IRE) (13)** b+t **80**
67900/P 8 10-2(9-12) | 64.4kg (62.6kg)
 Ian Duncan **Alan Doyle**
 Pulled up on first run following 19 months off at Kelso recently and he's hard to fancy.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Kelce, **11-2** Gipsy Lee Rose, **6-1** Return Fire, **8-1** Ange Endormi, **10-1** Ocean Legacy, **12-1** Gibberwell, **14-1** Lights Are Green, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

KELCE produced a near-faultless round of jumping when narrowly outpointed on his recent chase debut at Uttoxeter, and he will prove hard to beat off the same mark here (due to go up 3 lb for that effort) with improvement likely now moving up in trip. C&D winners Return Fire and Gipsy Lee Rose are taken to fill the places, in that order of preference, while chase-debutant Ange Endormi and Ocean Legacy are also worthy of consideration.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. KELCE 2. RETURN FIRE 3. GIPSY LEE ROSE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Rostello 8-12-0	9-1	Dr Richard Newland	C. M. Leonard	8
2022	Return Fire 6-12-2	7-2	Lucinda Russell	Patrick Wadge (10)	11
2021	Kaphumor 5-11-0	5-1	Sue Smith	Thomas Willmott (3)	11
2020	Mcginty's Dream 9-11-8	4-1	N. W. Alexander	Grant Cockburn	8
2019	Square Viviani 8-11-7	11-2	Micky Hammond	Billy Garrity (3)	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.37

RACE 2

WEATHERBYS nhstallions.co.uk MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4yo+ fillies and mares £9,000 2m48y (3260 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 FROMHERETOETERNITY (IRE) (23) (D) s+t  **100**
70/00P-271 7 11-7 | 73.0kg

Jennie Candlish **Sean Quinlan**

Runner-up in handicap at Wexford (17.2f) in May, before seeming stretched by longer trip when seventh of 18 at Listowel (20.4f, good) the following month. Left Declan Queally and fitted with cheekpieces, she displayed much-improved form when successful at Worcester 3 weeks ago. Sets the standard.

2 JUST CALL ME LUCY (211) **92**
4178- 6 11-0 | 69.9kg



Mark Walford

Jamie Hamilton

Related to a point winner and bolted up on second bumper start at Carlisle (17f, soft) in December. Fared as well as could be expected when mid-field in Grade 2 company at Aintree and she's a major player on hurdles debut.

3 LADY BUTTERCUP (16) (D) **78**
99-16 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Donald McCain

Brian Hughes

Left previous bumper form well behind when landing 6-runner contest at Warwick in September. Low-key hurdles debut at Southwell since, though.

4 REINA BLANCA (IRE) (61) **81**
4 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Donald McCain

Theo Gillard

Sea Moon filly. Dam (b78), in frame once in bumpers, half-sister to smart hurdler/chaser (stayed 25f) Tazbar. Shaped like a stayer in a Fontwell bumper in September but kept to 2m for hurdles bow.

5 SUNSET HILL (IRE) (27) **79**
65 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Susan Corbett

Nathan Moscrop

Unplaced in points and minor promise only both starts under Rules.

6 UOKHUN (IRE) (296) **78**
4/P- 6 11-0 | 69.9kg



Tim Easterby

Danny McMenamin

Arcadio mare who is bred to stay well and shaped with some encouragement when fourth of 11 in bumper at Musselburgh (15.6f, good to soft) last March. Off 10 months after and looked in need of the run on hurdles debut in January. Tongue tie on having missed further 9 months.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-10 Fromheretoeternity, **9-4** Just Call Me Lucy, **9-1** Reina Blanca, **20-1** Sunset Hill, **22-1** Lady Buttercup, **25-1** Uokhun

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Likely to develop into a match between JUST CALL ME LUCY and Fromheretoeternity, with marginal preference for the former in receipt of 7 lb in the hope she takes to hurdling at the first attempt.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. JUST CALL ME LUCY 2. FROMHERETOETERNITY 3. REINA BLANCA

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023 **Lunar Discovery** 6-11-0 9-4f James Moffatt Charlotte Jones (3) 13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race


2.10**AT THE RACES APP FORM STUDY MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 4yo+
£9,000 2½m28y (4050 Metres)**

RACE 3


GBI RACINGGoing: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.


Pace Information: **Very Weak****1 CHASINGOUTTHEBLUES (IRE) (22) 94**

5 5 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Mark Walford** *Jamie Hamilton*
 £22,000 purchase having finished placed all 4 starts in Irish points. Noted being outpaced before keeping on again when fifth of 10 in a Carlisle novice (17f, soft) on hurdles bow 22 days ago and this increase in trip promises to suit. Worth a second look.


2 DANNO'S DOLLAR (IRE) (23) 79

87P-70 5 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Mark Walford** *Sean Quinlan*
 Little impact both starts in bumpers for Sandy Thomson and similar story in trio of hurdle starts for present yard. Can only be watched at present.


3 EXPRESS RUN (IRE) (7) 93

62 5 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Justin Landy** *Ryan Mania*
 Failed to justify support when down the field only start in bumpers but showed more of what he's about when second of 9 in novice hurdle at Wetherby (19.7f, good) on hurdles bow 7 days ago. Will need to brush up his jumping, however.


4 FAIRLY FULLING (IRE) (146) h 79

49-790 6 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Jane Walton** *Ross Chapman*
 Safely held all 3 starts in bumpers but did shape much better than distance beaten suggests on second start over timber when eleventh of 14 in a 2m novice here in June, faltering entering straight. Off since but handicaps likely to be more suitable moving forward.


5 HELSGETAWAY (IRE) (23) ★ 100

523-7 5 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Lucinda Russell** *Derek Fox*
 Showed ability in bumpers and promising start in this sphere/after 6 months off when seventh of 13 in novice hurdle at Wetherby (19.7f, good to soft) 23 days ago, outpaced before staying on gradually. Looks sure to improve for that initial experience.


6 KIDMAN (IRE) (243) 92

2/4- 8 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Simon Waugh** *Charlie Maggs (71b/3kg)*
 Lightly-raced hurdler who improved when second of 4 in novice at Newcastle (22f) in November 2022. After a further 16 months off, shaped as if retaining his ability when fourth in a Kelso maiden in March, so worth a second look back from another 8 months off.


7 RED SAM (253) s 79

PP- 5 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Mark Walford** *Tom Midgley (31b/1kg)*
 Black Sam Bellamy gelding. Discouraging start in pair of hurdle outings earlier this year, pulled up on both occasions. Passed over after 8 months off with cheekpieces reached for.

8 WEE ALKI (IRE) (83) 91

6 5 11-4 | 71.7kg
 **Susan Corbett** *Nathan Moscrop*
 Alkaadhem gelding. Half-brother to a point winner. 8/1, sixth of 11 in bumper at Perth (16.2f, good) on NH debut 83 days ago. Makes hurdles debut. Up in trip.

9 AUTHORIZED MISSION (202) 91

066- 4 11-3 | 71.2kg
 **Chris Grant** *Danny McMenamin*
 Authorized gelding who took small steps forward with each run for Iain Jardine, sixth of 11 in bumper at Ayr (2m) in April. Switched yards ahead of hurdles bow and interesting to see what the market makes of him.

10 SHADOWFAX OF ROHAN (IRE) (83) h 96

424 4 11-3 | 71.2kg
 **Micky Hammond** *Brian Hughes*
 In-the-frame all 3 starts in bumpers but below pick of form starting out for new yard when fourth of 11 in bumper at Perth (16.2f) in August. Hood goes on for hurdles debut and booking of Brian Hughes an obvious plus. Not discounted.

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Helsingetaway, **9-2** Shadowfax of Rohan, **11-2** Chasingouttheblues, **13-2** Express Run, **8-1** Kidman, **10-1** Wee Alki, **12-1** Authorized Mission, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

HELSGETAWAY showed plenty to work on when finishing midfield on hurdles debut at Wetherby 23 days ago and with that experience unlikely to be lost on him, he can find the requisite improvement and come out on top. Hurdles-debutant Shadowfax of Rohan and Chasingouttheblues are others to consider, along with the returning Kidman.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. HELSGETAWAY 2. SHADOWFAX OF ROHAN 3. CHASINGOUTTHEBLUES

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023 **Great Pepper** 5-11-4 3-1 James Moffatt Charlotte Jones (3) 13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.45**SIDGWICK MEMORIAL NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 4yo+
(Rated 0-120) £12,650 1m7f133y (3140 Metres)**

RACE 4

Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Very Weak****1 CAITHNESS (IRE) (35)** **100**113606-32 **8** 12-1 | 76.7kg

Lucinda Russell

Derek Fox

Comfortable all-the-way winner of maiden/handicap over hurdles at Kelso last year. Hit-or-miss over timber since but made an encouraging start after 4 months off when head-second of 5 to The Churchill Lad on chase debut over C&D (good) 5 weeks ago. Can turn the tables with that rival here.

2 THE CHURCHILL LAD (IRE) (22) (CD) **h** **99**9-4673312 **5** 11-13 | 75.7kg

Rebecca Menzies

Ross Chapman

Hit the target 3 times over hurdles and perfect start in this sphere when seeing off 4 rivals over C&D last month, beating Caithness by a head. Ran creditably behind a rejuvenated second-season novice at Carlisle since and should continue to give a good account.

3 ONE MORE STROKE (IRE) (209) **t** **95**2113- **5** 11-9 | 73.9kg

Donald McCain

Brian Hughes

Made a promising start over hurdles last season, winning novices at Catterick and Carlisle. Done for finishing speed but still ran well in handicap at Newcastle (16.9f, heavy) when last seen in April and chasing could be just his bag. Tongue tie goes on.

4 BALLYFORT (IRE) (13) **h+t** **95**5635-0 **6** 11-1 | 70.3kg

N. W. Alexander

Bruce Lynn

Shaped with plenty of promise in novice hurdles last season and was presumably having a pipe-opener after 7 months off when a never-dangerous eleventh of 15 on handicap debut at Kelso (16.2f, good to soft) recently. Attention now turned to chasing (maiden in Irish points).

5 DREAM JET (IRE) (35) **98**P-5212433 **6** 10-11 | 68.5kg

Brian Ellison

Craig Nichol

Fair hurdler who opened his chase account at Market Rasen in July, overcoming a slipping saddle. Good efforts since, placed again but not seeming at his best after just 3 days off when third of 5 to The Churchill Lad at this C&D (good) 5 weeks ago. Not out of things from 2 lb lower.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 The Churchill Lad, **3-1** Caithness, **10-3** One More Stroke, **4-1** Dream Jet, **10-1** Ballyfort

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Cases can be made for all the quintet, but the suggestion is CAITHNESS, who went down by a head to the race-fit The Churchill Lad on chasing debut over C&D 5 weeks ago and can turn the tables now 1 lb better off with that rival here. One More Stroke, who was runner-up on both starts in Irish points earlier in his career, rounds off the shortlist making his return/chase bow fitted in a tongue tie.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. CAITHNESS 2. THE CHURCHILL LAD 3. ONE MORE STROKE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	One Mill Harbour	6-11-9	9-4f	James Moffatt	Charlotte Jones (3)	6
2022	Captain Quint	6-11-9	15-8f	Rose Dobbin	Craig Nichol	6
2021	Crack du Ninian	6-11-6	3-1jf	Jennie Candlish	Sean Quinlan	7
2020	Sao	6-11-5	9-1	Rebecca Menzies	Nathan Moscrop (3)	5
2019	Saint Freule	6-11-13	15-8	Lucinda Russell	Blair Campbell (3)	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.20

RACE 5

**bookiesbonuses.com OVER 200 UK BOOKMAKERS
HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 3yo+ (Rated 0-100) £9,000
2m48y (3260 Metres)**



Going: **Good**

Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 A DAY TO DREAM (IRE) (30) s 95

52U33 4 12-0 | 76.2kg
Ollie Pears **Brian Hughes**
Modest on Flat and just similar form over hurdles, not quite on his game when only third of 6 at Sedgfield last time. Others look better treated.

2 SKIDDAW (IRE) (245) 93

0/57PF- 6 11-11 | 74.8kg
N. W. Alexander **Bruce Lynn**
Showed ability on first couple of hurdling outings but failed to kick on from that. Interesting to see if there is a market move for him returning from 8 months off.

3 FOREST BLAZE (23) 93

40-59 5 11-10 | 74.4kg
Mark Walford **Jamie Hamilton**
Bumper debut fourth at Newcastle wasn't completely devoid of promise but beaten a long way over hurdles subsequently. Seems a likely improver on handicap debut with a recent run behind him.

4 BRIDGETJOANS (30) v 97

45722-0P0 5 11-8 | 73.5kg
Simon Waugh **Charlie Maggs (7lb/3kg)**
Looked rusty after 4 months off when pulled up in handicap hurdle (50/1) at Perth and failed to step up on that at Sedgfield a month ago.

5 MR LE PHILOSOPHE (251) s+t 88

463- 4 11-1 | 70.3kg
Rebecca Menzies **Nathan Moscrop**
Fairly useful on Flat in France (stays 1½m), winning 2 handicaps in 2023. Signs of promise in three hurdling outings last winter and, while recent efforts on the level have been poor, he's worthy of interest.

6 GRIFTER (8) v 96

503/P-320 5 10-10 | 68.0kg
Jennie Candlish **Sean Quinlan**
6/1, eleventh of 14 in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (16.9f, good) 8 days ago. Ran creditably on penultimate outing and warrants respect in a poor race.

7 BLENDED STEALTH (44) s 95

477-42363 7 10-8 | 67.1kg
Lizzie Quinlan **Peter Kavanagh (3lb/1kg)**
Long-standing maiden but made the frame on his first 3 starts of the last campaign and returned with a respectable third at Perth 44 days ago. Cheekpieces go back on and he's worthy of respect.

8 NORSE REIVER (24) 87

086-79P8 5 10-4 | 65.3kg
Gillian Boanas **Danny McMenamin**
Showed little in a brace of bumpers and has fared no better over hurdles to date.

9 NATIONAL QUESTION (IRE) (8) s ★ 100

959-072 4 10-2(10-0) | 64.4kg (63.5kg)
Adam Nicol **William Maggs (5lb/2kg)**
Excellent second of 14 in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (16.9f, good, 40/1) 8 days ago. Has to be taken seriously despite being marginally out of the weights.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 National Question, **4-1** Mr Le Philosophe, **11-2** Forest Blaze, **17-2** Grifter, **9-1** Blended Stealth, **12-1** A Day To Dream, **16-1** Skiddaw, **33-1** Bridgetjoans, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

FOREST BLAZE has likely been brought along with handicaps in mind and his opening mark is lenient based on bumper form, so he gets the nod over fellow handicap debutant Mr Le Philosophe. National Question should also be considered after a solid showing at Newcastle 8 days ago.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. FOREST BLAZE 2. MR LE PHILOSOPHE 3. NATIONAL QUESTION

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Serious Ego 10-11-6	9-2jf	Nicky Richards	Conor Rabbitt (5)	10
2022	Les's Legacy 5-11-10	10-3f	Susan Corbett	Dillan Hurst (7)	14
2021 ^I	Baraboy 11-10-0	16-1	Barry Murtagh	Danny McMenamin	11
2021 ^{II}	Heart of Kernow 9-11-7	9-1	Nigel Hawke	K. E. Buckley (5)	11
2020	Evita du Mesnil 6-10-12	80-1	Daragh Bourke	Harry Reed (3)	13
2019	Wor Verge 6-11-3	18-1	Susan Corbett	James Corbett (5)	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.55

RACE 6

mybettingsites.com EXPERT UK BOOKIE REVIEWS
HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier) (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100)
£9,000 2m7f63y (4680 Metres)




Going: **Good**


Left handed, undulating, with a steep climb from the end of the back straight to the finish. Races over hurdles are generally steadily run, but be wary of horses kicked for home a long way out, the testing finish regularly catching out those who look to be moving comfortably before meeting the uphill section. Fences are rightly regarded as easy, though casualty numbers are still higher than such as Sandown, Ascot and Warwick, probably on account of the standard of runner being low.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 JELSKI (GER) (74) v **95**
 166-37555 10 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **James Moffatt** *Leah Noreci (10lb/5kg)*
 Back-to-back winner at Cartmel last summer off higher marks but continues to operate below his best this term. Hard to side with.

2 DILLARCHIE (146) s+t **97**
 9214P-446 7 11-6 | 72.6kg

 **Joanne Foster** *Emma Smith-Chaston (3lb/1kg)*
 Scored at Sedgefield (27f) in February but not easy to catch right since, only sixth over C&D last time. Others appeal more.


3 FAINCHE (IRE) (209) (BF) t **99**
 864/P3232- 7 11-5 | 71.2kg

 **Micky Hammond** *Brian Hughes*
 Remains winless following 24 attempts but enede last term in good heart, runner-up in 3m Newcastle handicap in April. Very much one to consider after a lay-off with Brian Hughes back up.


4 TWOPLACESATONETIME (IRE) (35) s **98**
 7P3-P7 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

 **Rebecca Menzies** *Aaron Anderson (5lb/2kg)*
 Lightly-raced maiden. Respectable seventh of 12 in handicap hurdle over C&D (good) 35 days ago. No forlorn hope with cheekpieces on for the 1st time.


5 BEAT THE BOUM (184) **92**
 3P5-5 5 11-1 | 70.3kg

 **Jackie Stephen** *Joshua Thompson (7lb/3kg)*
 Lightly-raced maiden. 22/1, very good fifth of 16 in handicap hurdle at Kelso (20.9f, good). Off 6 months but possibilities.

6 BOOLAMORE CLASSIC (IRE) (188) s **82**
 48U-0 5 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **N. W. Alexander** *Danny McMenamin*
 Modest maiden hurdler. 17/2 and cheekpieces on for 1st time, creditable tenth of 16 in handicap hurdle at this C&D (soft) 6 months ago. Needs to build on it on his return.


7 COLONEL MANDERSON (FR) (35) (CD) b+t **97**
 5P681PP-P 8 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **William Young Jnr** *Derek Fox*
 Revived in first-time blinkers to cause a surprise over C&D in September 2023. Pulled up all 3 starts since, however, so it's easy to look elsewhere.


8 BERGENTOWN (IRE) (36) ★ **100**
 89660-252 7 10-11 | 68.5kg

 **Jennie Candlish** *Sean Quinlan*
 On a losing run but he posted a very good second of 11 in handicap hurdle at Southwell (24.3f, good to firm) 36 days ago. Has to be taken seriously nudged up 1 lb.

9 DEQUALL (35) (C) b **97**
 8968-26P2 8 10-6 | 66.2kg

 **Stuart Coltherd** *Peter Kavanagh (3lb/1kg)*
 Course winner who comes here on the back of a good second of 12 in handicap hurdle over C&D (good) 35 days ago. This course winner can give another good account in his bid to end a lengthy losing sequence.


10 ATLANTICEXPRESS (IRE) (35) t **89**
 565-87 5 10-6 | 66.2kg

 **Lizzie Quinlan** *Conor Rabbitt (5lb/2kg)*
 Well held on her debut for Joseph O'Brien at Punchestown in February and has offered little for her current yard, last of seven here (2m4f) 35 days ago.

11 LADY HAMILTON (IRE) (15) **98**
 36-543338 5 10-6 | 66.2kg

 **Wilf Storey** *Ross Chapman*
 Still a maiden and only eighth of 9 in handicap hurdle at Carlisle (20f, good to soft) 15 days ago. Hard to make a case for.

12 ROBERT D'ORES (FR) (109) s+t **96**
 U8PU-PP86 7 10-2(10-0) | 64.4kg (63.5kg)

 **George Bewley** *Jonathon Bewley*
 Still a maiden but he posted a good sixth of 10 in handicap hurdle at Cartmel (25.4f, soft) 109 days ago. Has since had a wind op and not discounted with tongue strap also back on.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Bergentown, **9-2** Dequall, **5-1** Fainche, **10-1** Dillarchie, **11-1** Robert D'ores, **12-1** Jelski, **14-1** Lady Hamilton, **18-1** Boolamore Classic, **20-1** Beat The Boum, **22-1** Twoplacesatonetime, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

BERGENTOWN rates the pick of these weights on the back of his very good Sedgefield second so edges the vote in this very open handicap. The returning Fainche could emerge as the main danger now reunited with Brian Hughes, although Dequall, Twoplacesatonetime and Beat The Boum all need factoring in too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. BERGENTOWN 2. FAINCHE 3. DEQUALL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2023	Solway Primrose 9-10-2	13-2	Lisa Harrison	Danny McMenamin	8
2022	Fenland Tiger 6-11-10	6-4f	Sam England	Jonathan England	13
2021	Mcgarrry 7-10-7	5-6f	Philip Kirby	Thomas Dowson	12
2020	Cudgel 7-11-0	9-4f	James Walton	Conor O'Farrell	7
2019	No Trumps 5-11-12	11-8f	Charlie Longsdon	Tom Buckley (7)	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race