

Wednesday 20th November

# WARWICK



1.00

JOIN THE WARWICK RACECOURSE BUSINESS CLUB CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2m3f (3820 Metres)

RACE 1 **(2) JILAIJONE | (7) SOLAR SYSTEM | (4) BASKERVILLE**

1.35

THE DENIS O'CONNELL MEMORIAL NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 2m5f (4220 Metres)

RACE 2 **(1) BARLOVENTO | (4) MA SHANTOU | (6) RUBBER BALL**

2.10

WEATHERBYS AND NORTHAMPTON TOWN FC NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 2m54y (3270 Metres)

RACE 3 **(6) TELEPATHIQUE | (3) BOOSTER BOB | (4) MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE**

2.45

C & G CLADDING/SOLAR HANDICAP CHASE (4) 2½m (4020 Metres)

RACE 4 **(1) THE FLIER BEGLEY | (3) BALLYCAMUS | (4) PEARLY ISLAND**

3.20

BOOK NOW TO SECURE NYE TICKETS HANDICAP CHASE (5) 2m54y (3270 Metres)

RACE 5 **(5) COPERNIC DU MAZET | (7) PILLAR ROCK | (3) ABAYA DU MATHAN**

3.54

WELCOMBE HILLS VINEYARD HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 3m1f (5030 Metres)

RACE 6 **(7) DROP FLIGHT | (5) CHRIS COOL | (6) BUTLER'S BRIEF**

#### 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.

**1.00**

RACE 1

**JOIN THE WARWICK RACECOURSE BUSINESS CLUB  
CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 3yo+  
(Rated 0-120) £9,000 2m3f (3820 Metres)****GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, and flat with the exception of a fairly steep climb soon after the winning line which descends in gradual fashion to the turn into the back straight. Essentially a sharp track by virtue of the tight bends, notwithstanding a long back straight. Widely regarded as a tricky jumping track on account of five fences coming in quick succession in the back straight, but the casualty rate is one of the lowest in Britain. The tight nature of the course results in front runners/those ridden prominently tending to do well on both courses.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 CLASSIC MAESTRO (IRE) (240) 96**  
42221121- 6 12-0 | 76.2kg



Jennie Candlish

**Luke Scott**

Progressive hurdler in the mud last season, making the most of a good opportunity to complete a hat-trick in this sphere at Exeter (16.7f, heavy) when last seen in March. Safe to assume he could have more to offer but isn't sure to be as effective under these less testing conditions.

**2 JILAIJONE (FR) (12) t 97**  
223P05-42 5 11-11 | 74.8kg



David Pipe

**Gearoid Harney (6lb/3kg)**

Without a win since his British debut but went close a few times last season and ran creditably returning from 7 months off when fourth of 10 in handicap at Cheltenham (16.4f, good) in October. Readily brushed aside by Double Powerful at Fontwell since but there's no shame in that.

**3 CLOUD DANCER (IRE) (57) s ★ 100**  
71/3328-2 5 11-9 | 73.9kg



Gary &amp; Josh Moore

**Caoilin Quinn (3lb/1kg)**

Well backed and shaped encouragingly when second of 8 in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (17.7f, good) 57 days ago, closing all way to line. Cheekpieces on first time and must enter calculations.

**4 BASKERVILLE (IRE) (37) (BF) 98**  
205-U132 5 11-6 | 72.6kg



Alan King

**Oscar Palmer (10lb/5kg)**

Confirmed promise of previous run when landing a novice hurdle at Uttoxeter (15.8f, good to soft) in June and better form in defeat in handicaps since, looking as if he was marginally outstayed upped in trip after 3 months off at Hereford on most recent outing. Should go well again.

**5 ONE EYE ON VEGAS (27) s 97**  
7751134-U 7 11-2 | 70.8kg



Stuart Edmunds

**Murray Dodd (5lb/2kg)**

Improved for the fitting of cheekpieces, winning handicaps at Leicester and Hereford in January/February. Solid efforts next 2 starts and was held up when hampered and unseated fifth on return at Carlisle.

**6 BARRICANE (230) 96**  
00514133- 9 11-1 | 70.3kg



Olly Murphy

**Beau Morgan (3lb/1kg)** 

Not straightforward (has a lazy streak) but enhanced a decent strike rate when scoring over 25f at Huntingdon in February. Underperformed at Southwell on final outing but has won fresh before, so shouldn't be overlooked.

**7 SOLAR SYSTEM (FR) (22) (BF) 99**  
7/4431-53 5 10-11 | 68.5kg



Philip Hobbs &amp; Johnson White

**Callum Pritchard (5lb/2kg)**

Confirmed previous promise with plenty in hand at Fontwell in April and wasted no time getting back on track after 6 months off when third in 15-runner handicap at Chepstow (19.4f, good to soft) 22 days ago, going a little in snatches. Needs considering for in-form yard.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**7-2** Jilajjone, **9-2** Baskerville, **5-1** Cloud Dancer, **5-1** Solar System, **13-2** Classic Maestro, **8-1** One Eye On Vegas, **16-1** Barricane

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

JILAIJONE's losing run is mounting up but there was no shame in being readily brushed aside by the thriving Double Power at Fontwell on his most recent outing, especially with that one extending his winning sequence in a competitive Cheltenham handicap last week, so David Pipe's 5-y-o is well worth another chance from an easing mark. Solar System and Baskerville head up the opposition in an interesting affair.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. JILAIJONE 2. SOLAR SYSTEM 3. BASKERVILLE**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>Lord of Cheshire</b> 6-11-8	10-3cf Nigel Twiston-Davies	Finn Lambert (3)	7
2022	<b>Warranty</b> 5-12-0	5-1 Gary Moore	Caoilin Quinn (6)	10
2021	<b>Getalead</b> 5-11-7	11-4 Claire Harris	David Prichard	7
2020	<b>Valse Au Taillois</b> 7-11-10	11-1 Johnny Farrelly	Mitchell Bastyan (3)	12

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**1.35****THE DENIS O'CONNELL MEMORIAL NOVICES' HURDLE (4)**  
**4yo+ £6,500 2m5f (4220 Metres)**

RACE 2

Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, and flat with the exception of a fairly steep climb soon after the winning line which descends in gradual fashion to the turn into the back straight. Essentially a sharp track by virtue of the tight bends, notwithstanding a long back straight. Widely regarded as a tricky jumping track on account of five fences coming in quick succession in the back straight, but the casualty rate is one of the lowest in Britain. The tight nature of the course results in front runners/those ridden prominently tending to do well on both courses.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 BARLOVENTO (IRE) (27)** **100**  
31-1 5 11-7 | 73.0kg



Olly Murphy

**Sean Bowen**

Confirmed debut promise when cosily winning a Southwell bumper in March and made no mistake on his first outing over hurdles when landing a 14-runner novice at Carlisle (20f, good to soft) last month, finishing well after conceding first run. Sets a good standard under a penalty.

**2 AMARILLOBYMORNING (IRE) (174)** t **79**  
3-0 6 11-0 | 69.9kg



Ben Pauling

**Callum Pritchard (71b/3kg)**

Runner up in an Irish point in April 2022 but not seen again until beaten a long way in 2 hurdles in the spring. Difficult to fancy after another 6 months off.

**3 JUMBLE JURY (FR) (4)** **60**  
45-0P 6 11-0 | 69.9kg



Neil King

**Lilly Pinchin**

Has won a point and hinted at ability on his first bumper outing but very little promise otherwise, pulled up at Uttoxter on Saturday. Can't be fancied.

**4 MA SHANTOU (IRE) (34)** **98**  
310-2 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Emma Lavelle

**Harry Cobden**

Fine start when third of 10 in a Fairyhouse bumper and, having moved to current yard for £120,000, opened his account impressively at Huntingdon next time. Looked as if in need of experience when second in a Wincanton novice on hurdles bow last month and is highly respected with that under his belt.

**5 DOCTOR MIDAS (FR) (193) (BF)**  
5 4 10-13 | 69.4kg



Nicky Henderson

**Non Runner**

NON RUNNER.

**6 RUBBER BALL (25)** **83**  
5 4 10-13 | 69.4kg



Neil King

**Jack Quinlan**

Irish point winner ran to a fair level when fifth of 14 in bumper at Cheltenham (16.4f, good, 22/1) 25 days ago. Should make a hurdler now stepped up in trip.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

6-5 Barlovento, 11-8 Ma Shantou, 8-1 Rubber Ball, 28-1 Amarillobymorning, 300-1 bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

BARLOVENTO added to his bumper success when getting up in the nick of time to make a winning hurdles debut at Carlisle and he's fancied to defy a penalty at the chief expense of useful bumper performer Ma Shantou, who could improve markedly with hurdling experience now under his belt. Rubber Ball made a promising enough start in a Cheltenham bumper last month and should have a future over jumps.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. BARLOVENTO 2. MA SHANTOU 3. RUBBER BALL

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2023	<b>Push The Button</b>	4-11-6	6-4jf	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Finn Lambert (5)	7
2022	<b>Ginny's Destiny</b>	6-11-0	18-1	Tom Lacey	Stan Sheppard	11
2021	<b>West Balboa</b>	5-10-12	2-1	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	5
2020	<b>The Glancing Queen</b>	6-10-12	4-6f	Alan King	Tom Cannon	6
2019	<b>Winter Getaway</b>	6-11-4	9-2	Philip Hobbs	Richard Johnson	12

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**2.10**

RACE 3

**WEATHERBYS AND NORTHAMPTON TOWN FC NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £18,000 2m54y (3270 Metres)****GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

Left handed, and flat with the exception of a fairly steep climb soon after the winning line which descends in gradual fashion to the turn into the back straight. Essentially a sharp track by virtue of the tight bends, notwithstanding a long back straight. Widely regarded as a tricky jumping track on account of five fences coming in quick succession in the back straight, but the casualty rate is one of the lowest in Britain. The tight nature of the course results in front runners/those ridden prominently tending to do well on both courses.

Pace Information: **Weak****1 INEDIT STAR (FR) (186) 92**

375/1222-2 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Nick Kent

**Tom Broughton (5lb/2kg)**

Dual bumper winner in France and useful form over hurdles. Runner-up all 4 starts for this yard, including back over fences at Bangor when last seen in May. Probably wants further than this nowadays.

**2 HELNWEIN (IRE) (207) (C, D) 92**

513/12421- 6 11-8 | 73.5kg



Alan King

**Tom Cannon**

Useful bumper winner who made a successful switch to hurdling at Warwick in November. Better form in defeat since, including when taking a big step forward to make a winning handicap bow at Sandown in April. Interesting chasing newcomer.

**3 BOOSTER BOB (IRE) (38) (D) 100**

13/1114P-1 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



Olly Murphy

**Sean Bowen**

Completed a hat-trick over hurdles in 2m novice at Sandown in December. Resumed progress when making a winning comeback/chase bow at Ffos Las last month, beating 2 subsequent winners. More to come and leading contender.

**4 MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE (IRE) (24) (D) 97**

1499P-1UR 7 11-6 | 72.6kg



Nigel Twiston-Davies

**Sam Twiston-Davies**

Fairly useful handicap hurdler around 2m and fine start over fences back from 6 months off when scoring at Stratford (17f) in September. Looked set to resume winning ways before running out at the last Aintree last month and headgear now applied.

**5 KAMAXOS (FR) (207) (D) 89**

143- 7 11-4 | 71.7kg



Roger Teal

**Lilly Pinchin**

Made light of a long absence to comfortably see off 6 rivals in 2m Sandown handicap hurdle in February. Decent efforts in defeat next 2 starts but not an obvious chasing type given his Flat background.

**6 TELEPATHIQUE (21) (C, D) 98**

410/21-1 6 10-10 | 68.0kg



Lucy Wadham

**Harry Cobden**

Confirmed debut promise when landing bumper here and much better for hurdles bow when scoring at Southwell a year ago. Looked a natural when making a winning start in this sphere after 11 months off at Fakenham 3 weeks ago. She seems sure to progress as a chaser.

**7 SOMETIMES ALWAYS (IRE) (1125) (D) 79**

9 10-8 | 67.1kg



Ian Williams

**Charlie Todd**

Fairly useful hurdler but has been off the track for over 3 years and makes chase bow in a warm event.

**8 COMMANDING VIEW (IRE) (186) (D) 90**

746/6102-1 6 10-5(10-3) | 65.8kg (64.9kg)



Mel Rowley

**Charlie Hammond**

Twice a winner over hurdles last season, including handicap at Bangor final start. However, no easy task on return/chase bow from 2 lb out of the handicap.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-4** Booster Bob, **7-2** Telepathique, **4-1** Moveit Like Minnie, **8-1** Inedit Star, **17-2** Helnwein, **16-1** Commanding View, **25-1** Kamaxos, **66-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

TELEPATHIQUE took to chasing really well when scoring with plenty in hand at Fakenham 3 weeks so tops the shortlist despite a 13 lb rise. Booster Bob also arrives on the back of an impressive chase debut success, while Moveit Like Minnie is another who is clearly capable.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. TELEPATHIQUE 2. BOOSTER BOB 3. MOVEIT LIKE MINNIE**













**2.45****C & G CLADDING/SOLAR HANDICAP CHASE (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-120) £10,250 2½m (4020 Metres)**

RACE 4

**GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, and flat with the exception of a fairly steep climb soon after the winning line which descends in gradual fashion to the turn into the back straight. Essentially a sharp track by virtue of the tight bends, notwithstanding a long back straight. Widely regarded as a tricky jumping track on account of five fences coming in quick succession in the back straight, but the casualty rate is one of the lowest in Britain. The tight nature of the course results in front runners/those ridden prominently tending to do well on both courses.

Pace Information: **Weak**

<b>1</b>	<b>THE FLIER BEGLEY (IRE) (27)</b> (CD)		<b>100</b>
	P8-406311 9 12-2   77.1kg		
	Gary Hanmer	<b>J. Hogan</b> (3lb/1kg)	
	Fairly useful chase winner for Stuart Crawford in Ireland and returned to his best for current yard last month, scoring at this C&D before following up at Carlisle (20f, good to soft). Can make a bold bid for the hat-trick.		
<b>2</b>	<b>OPENING BID (22)</b> (C)	s	 <b>87</b>
	24P53519 9 12-1   76.7kg		
	Chris Down	<b>Harry Cobden</b> 	
	Won 5 times in 2023/24 and, making second start in cheekpieces, returned to winning ways at Exeter (19.2f, good) in October. However, failed to repeat that effort when well held at Chepstow 22 days ago. Bounce back called for.		
<b>3</b>	<b>BALLYCAMUS (IRE) (44)</b> (CD, BF)		<b>93</b>
	2141222-5 7 12-0   76.2kg		
	Nigel Twiston-Davies 	<b>Sam Twiston-Davies</b>	
	Made a successful debut over fences at Chepstow last December and added to his tally at this C&D the following month. Runner-up all 3 remaining starts last season, so no surprise to see him bounce back after below-par effort at Stratford on return.		
<b>4</b>	<b>PEARLY ISLAND (209)</b> (D)	s	<b>94</b>
	5P532132- 8 11-6   72.6kg		
	Lucy Wadham	<b>Tom Cannon</b>	
	Dual hurdles scorer who opened chase account at Huntingdon (19.8f) in March. Below best next time but quickly returned to form when runner-up back at that venue on final start in April. Capable of getting involved if ready to go after 6 months off.		
<b>5</b>	<b>DE TELLERS FORTUNE (IRE) (189)</b> (D)		
	P4-1 5 11-5   72.1kg		
	Nicky Henderson	<b>Non Runner</b>	
	NON RUNNER.		
<b>6</b>	<b>DECORATED (215)</b> (D)	t	<b>86</b>
	11/P2P445- 6 11-2   70.8kg		
	Oliver Signy	<b>Brendan Powell</b>	
	Won twice over hurdles last season and, following a breathing operation, hinted at a revival in first-time cheekpieces when fourth at Exeter (23.1f, heavy) in February. Went the wrong way next 2 starts, though, and off 7 months ahead of chase debut.		
<b>7</b>	<b>HEARD THAT (IRE) (10)</b>	t	<b>90</b>
	8564242-P 5 10-10   68.0kg		
	Olly Murphy 	<b>Sean Bowen</b>	
	Placed on second of 2 starts in points and fair form over hurdles last season, runner-up on 2 of his last 3 outings. However, after 7 months off (had breathing operation) he lost his action when pulled up at Ffos Las on chase debut 10 days ago.		

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**2-1** The Flier Begley, **7-2** Pearly Island, **4-1** Ballycamus, **7-1** Heard That, **12-1** Opening Bid, **16-1** Decorated

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

With Jack Hogan in the saddle, THE FLIER BEGLEY has proved strong at the finish when winning his last 2 starts, successful over C&D on the first occasion, and he can go on to land the hat-trick in his current form. Ballycamus could be the main danger.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. THE FLIER BEGLEY 2. BALLYCAMUS 3. PEARLY ISLAND**

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**3.20****BOOK NOW TO SECURE NYE TICKETS HANDICAP CHASE (5)**  
**4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £7,500 2m54y (3270 Metres)**

RACE 5

**GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft****SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

Left handed, and flat with the exception of a fairly steep climb soon after the winning line which descends in gradual fashion to the turn into the back straight. Essentially a sharp track by virtue of the tight bends, notwithstanding a long back straight. Widely regarded as a tricky jumping track on account of five fences coming in quick succession in the back straight, but the casualty rate is one of the lowest in Britain. The tight nature of the course results in front runners/those ridden prominently tending to do well on both courses.

Pace Information: **Strong**

**1** **OSTRAVA DU BERLAIS (FR) (295)** h **94**  
1d442/P555- 6 12-0 | 76.2kg



Venetia Williams

**Ned Fox (5lb/2kg)**

Fair maiden hurdler/chaser for Patrice Quinton in France. Failed to match that form for his current yard last term but resumes after a wind op here so possibilities.

**2** **PADDY IN THE CADDY (IRE) (19)** **91**  
06715-7 5 11-11 | 74.8kg



Philip Hobbs &amp; Johnson White

**Sean Houlihan**

Lightly-raced winner over hurdles. Underwent breathing surgery ahead of his chasing debut but raced too freely when a well-held seventh at Uttoxeter (2m4f) 19 days ago. Needs to settle better.

**3** **ABAYA DU MATHAN (FR) (48) (CD)** s+t **96**  
1-3425754 12 11-10 | 74.4kg



Gary Hanmer

**J. Hogan (3lb/1kg)**

C&D winner who got back on track when fourth of 11 in handicap chase at Southwell (15.8f, good to firm) 48 days ago. Ought to be in the shake-up.

**4** **JOHNNY MAC (IRE) (22) (D)** t **96**  
36/P111-7P 9 11-8 | 73.5kg



Matt Sheppard

**Lee Edwards**

Completed a hat-trick for his current yard at Leicester in January but yet to fire in a couple of 2m handicaps at Ffos Las and Bangor this autumn. Needs to take a big step forward.

**5** **COPERNIC DU MAZET (FR) (22) (BF)** ★ **100**  
3323-F 4 11-7 | 73.0kg



Oliver Greenall &amp; Josh Guerriero

**Robert Dunne**

Brought along steadily and looked set to make a winning chasing debut when falling 2 out (in front going well) in 2m1f Bangor handicap chase 22 days ago. Up 5 lb but still weighted to gain compensation.

**6** **BOOM BOOM (IRE) (44)** **99**  
P3PP-635P 6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Rob Summers

**Beau Morgan (5lb/2kg)**

Got off the mark in 2m maiden hurdle at Wincanton in April 2023 for Nicky Henderson but it's largely been a case of heavy defeats since switched to the larger obstacles.

**7** **PILLAR ROCK (IRE) (22)** **98**  
0768-46 5 11-1 | 70.3kg



Dan Skelton

**Tristan Durrell (3lb/1kg)**

Modest maiden hurdler but this half-brother to 3 winners represents a top yard and remains with potential now going over fences.

**8** **MISS MARETTE (29) (D)** s **92**  
34-P50566 8 10-6 | 66.2kg



Chris Down

**Ben Ffrench Davis (5lb/2kg)**

Winner over hurdles over a year ago but has struggled for the most part since, cheekpieces tried when sixth in 2m1f Exeter handicap chase 29 days ago. More is required.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**3-1** Copernic Du Mazet, **7-2** Paddy In The Caddy, **11-2** Abaya Du Mathan, **8-1** Pillar Rock, **9-1** Miss Marette, **9-1** Ostrava Du Berlais, **16-1** Johnny Mac, **22-1** Boom Boom

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

COPERNIC DU MAZET took a big step forward on his fencing bow at Bangor and looked the probable winner when coming down 2 out so is fancied to make amends here. Dan Skelton's chasing newcomer Pillar Rock could emerge as the chief threat with C&D winner Abaya Du Mathan also well in the mix. The returning Ostrava Du Berlais could have a say too if breathing surgery has a reviving effect.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. COPERNIC DU MAZET 2. PILLAR ROCK 3. ABAYA DU MATHAN**



**3.54**

**WELCOMBE HILLS VINEYARD HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-120) £9,000 3m1f (5030 Metres)**

RACE 6



Going: **Good to Soft**

Left handed, and flat with the exception of a fairly steep climb soon after the winning line which descends in gradual fashion to the turn into the back straight. Essentially a sharp track by virtue of the tight bends, notwithstanding a long back straight. Widely regarded as a tricky jumping track on account of five fences coming in quick succession in the back straight, but the casualty rate is one of the lowest in Britain. The tight nature of the course results in front runners/those ridden prominently tending to do well on both courses.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 IKARAK (FR) (284)** **100**  
12/221168- **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Olly Murphy **Sean Bowen**  
French import who opened his account on these shores in a Worcester novice in October 2023. Followed up from the front at Newcastle (234m, soft) next time but then found life tougher back in handicap company last winter. Since moved to an in-form yard and the market will be revealing. Headgear off.

**2 PLANET LEGEND (IRE) (43)** **95**  
16/472-32P **5** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Dr Richard Newland & Jamie Insole **Sam Twiston-Davies**  
Ran right up to form when placed in a brace of handicaps at up to 25.1f during the spring and found only one too good back from a break at Worcester in September. Folded as though amiss at Huntingdon since so needs to shrug that effort off.

**3 TIGERBYTHETAIL (IRE) (32)** **88**  
U3-3 **8** 12-0 | 76.2kg

Tom Ellis **Miss Gina Andrews**  
Prolific pointer who showed fairly useful form on the first of his two outings in hunters earlier this year. Has held his form between the flags but never really looked like justifying support back over timber last month (22f). Step up in trip may help switched to a handicap with cheekpieces on.

**4 ERNEST GRAY (IRE) (29) (C)** **95**  
P3/7142-65 **7** 11-12 | 75.3kg

Alan King **Tom Cannon**  
Won 3m handicap chase at Southwell in January but ran another moody race back there in May and again looked hard work returned to hurdling at Exeter a month ago. Opposable with headgear still off.

**5 CHRIS COOL (24) (D)** **97**  
6/12313-5 **8** 11-10 | 74.4kg

Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero **Ben Smith (71b/3kg)**  
Generally solid record over hurdles and got back on the up when seeing off an unexposed rival (pair clear) at Huntingdon (25f) in April. Good third at Ludlow final start and yard on better form than when he made his reappearance at Aintree. Jumping remains a concern but he's on a good mark.

**6 BUTLER'S BRIEF (IRE) (22) (C)** **95**  
5F-6P6731 **9** 11-9 | 73.9kg

Alastair Ralph **Murray Dodd (71b/3kg)**  
Course winner who responded well to pressure when landing 10-runner handicap at Bangor 3 weeks ago. Retains handicap scope up 4 lb so has to be of major interest.

**7 DROP FLIGHT (FR) (27)** **98**  
6P31F-783 **9** 11-2 | 70.8kg

Dan Skelton **Mr Ben Sutton (51b/2kg)**  
Landed 5-runner hunter at Exeter in March prior to falling early in the Foxhunters' Chase at Aintree the following month. Easily best effort for this yard when a keeping-on third over 20f at Carlisle a month ago and he now looks ready to strike back up in distance.

**8 GOLD CLERMONT (FR) (249)** **93**  
62/318146- **8** 10-11 | 68.5kg

Andy Irvine **Philip Armson (31b/1kg)**  
Enhanced good strike rate over fences for current yard with a career-best win at Fontwell (28f) and backed that up with good fourth in the Eider at Newcastle (33.2f, soft) in February. Fared as well as could be expected in the Midlands Grand National and she's much lower in the weights over timber.

**9 SPORTY JIM (IRE) (57)** **94**  
P23-PP6P4 **7** 10-8 | 67.1kg

Rob Summers **Beau Morgan (51b/2kg)**   
Low-mileage 7-y-o who has yet to really fire for his current yard, albeit he's dropped a long way in the weights and showed a touch more here in September.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**4-1** Drop Flight, **5-1** Butler's Brief, **11-2** Chris Cool, **15-2** Tigerbythetail, **8-1** Ikarak, **10-1** Planet Legend, **10-1** Gold Clermont, **18-1** Ernest Gray, **18-1** Sporty Jim

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

It's taken Dan Skelton a little time to find the key to DROP FLIGHT but his Carlisle effort at the start of the month was a lot more like it and back up in trip, he now looks ready to cash in on a good mark. Chris Cool has his jumping issues but is very dangerous if keeping the mistakes down, with Butler's Brief likely to be on the premises, too.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. DROP FLIGHT 2. CHRIS COOL 3. BUTLER'S BRIEF**

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race