

Friday 27th December

WETHERBY



11.50

WILLIAM HILL OFFERS TOP PRICE GUARANTEES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5)
3m26y (4850 Metres)

RACE 1 **(10) GLENGOLLY | (1) LET'S GO JOE | (6) GEORDIE NIGHT**

12.25

WILLIAM HILL MORE TOP PRICES NOVICES' HURDLE (4) (D.I) 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 2 **(6) MAGHLAAK | (1) KINGSTON JAMES | (8) SOLENT GATEWAY**

1.00

WILLIAM HILL MORE TOP PRICES NOVICES' HURDLE (4) (D.II) 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) CAMPAIGN TRAIL | (4) IDAHO VALLEY | (5) LAWRENNY**

1.35

WILLIAM HILL COMMITTED TO TOP PRICES NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 3m45y
(4870 Metres)

RACE 4 **(2) DARE TO SHOUT | (4) GRAND ALBERT | (3) WHATDEAWANT**

2.15

WILLIAM HILL BETTING DONE PROPERLY JUVENILE HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 5 **(8) HOSAAMM | (9) LIVANO BELLO | (1) CRUDEN**

2.45

WILLIAM HILL CASTLEFORD HANDICAP CHASE (2) 1m7f36y (3050 Metres)

RACE 6 **(3) HARPER'S BROOK | (1) MALYSTIC | (2) PAY THE PIPER**

3.20

WILLIAM HILL CHELTENHAM NRMB JANUARY 1st OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (Qualifier) (5) 2m
(3220 Metres)

RACE 7 **(6) HARBOUR ISLAND | (3) DRAYTON FLYER | (2) BLUE BELLAMY**

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.

11.50

**WILLIAM HILL OFFERS TOP PRICE GUARANTEES
CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 3yo+
(Rated 0-100) £6,000 3m26y (4850 Metres)**

RACE 1



Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weakly Contested**

	1 LET'S GO JOE (28) 54P-64521 6 12-0 76.2kg Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero Ended a losing sequence with a career best in 13-runner handicap hurdle at Doncaster (19.4f, good) 28 days ago. Up 5 lb but he's not taken lightly over this longer trip.	s+t	95	Ben Smith (8lb/4kg)	
	2 PERCULATOR (26) (CD) 4F4-09133 7 12-0 76.2kg Mark Walford C&D winner who posted a good third of 11 in handicap hurdle at Carlisle (19.3f, soft) 26 days ago. Back up in trip and can go well again off the same mark.	s		95	Tom Midgley
	3 GOOD BYE (GER) (16) 2341/8P7P 9 11-12 75.3kg Sara Ender Proved a model of consistency during 2022/23 campaign for this yard but he hasn't shown much spark in 4 starts since returning from a 17-month absence in June. Cheekpieces are retired here.	s		89	Tabitha Worsley
	4 ALMUHIT (IRE) (17) 0/07-57675 5 11-10 74.4kg Gary Brown Fairly useful maiden hurdler at his best but proving disappointing for this yard. Back up significantly in trip now with tongue tie added and cheekpieces also refitted.	s+t		91	Isabelle Ryder (10lb/5kg)
	5 THE QUESTIONER (IRE) (444) (CD) 2211343/2- 8 11-8 73.5kg Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero C&D winner who shaped well when second in handicap at Huntingdon (25f) 14 months ago. Yard is going well so he's very much one to consider despite his long absence.			100	Tristan Durrell
	6 GEORDIE NIGHT (43) 80/9457-52 5 11-7 73.0kg Nick Kent Shaped encouragingly with a hood removed after 6 months off when second of 9 in handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (23.1f, good) 43 days ago, finishing well. Likely player in his bid for a maiden success.			95	Tom Broughton
	7 JELSKI (GER) (38) (D) 6-3755579 10 11-7 73.0kg James Moffatt Back-to-back winner over fences at Cartmel last summer but it's been a struggle for the most part this year over fences and hurdles, treid in a visor on last two. Cheekpieces go back on now.	s		91	Leah Noreci (10lb/5kg)
	8 PADDY O'MAHLER (IRE) (13) 8F43-P667 6 11-6 72.6kg Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith Still a maiden and cheekpieces on for 1st time when a solid seventh of 16 in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (20.3f, good to soft) 13 days ago. Needs considering.	s		96	William Maggs
	9 THE BIG BREAC (IRE) (16) 9672 7 11-1 70.3kg Joel Parkinson & Sue Smith Lightly-raced maiden who posted a good second of 16 in handicap hurdle at Hexham (23.3f, soft) 16 days ago. Can give another good account.			95	Jack Power (3lb/1kg)
	10 GLENGOLLY (28) 0/P64756-5 5 11-0 69.9kg Billy Aprahamian Off 7 months/yard debut (formerly with Paul Webber) when a promising fifth of 13 to Let's Go Joe in handicap hurdle at Doncaster (19.4f, good) 28 days ago. Up in trip and big shout off a 2 lb lower mark.			98	Alice Stevens

	11 SUPREME AUTHORITY (FR) (13) 0909-043 5 10-12 68.9kg Chris Grant Maiden hurdler but he recorded a good third of 16 in handicap at Newcastle (20.3f, good to soft) 13 days ago. Can't be discounted off an unchanged mark.	t		94	Charlie Maggs (3lb/1kg)
	12 MERSEY STREET (IRE) (40) U6-86942P 6 10-12 68.9kg Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill In good nick until pulled up in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (21.8f, good) 40 days ago. Needs to get back on track if he's to gain a breakthrough victory.			97	Benjamin Macey (10lb/5kg)
	13 BERGENTOWN (IRE) (13) 60-252446 7 10-8 67.1kg Jennie Candlish It's now 11 runs since his last win in 2023 but he comes here on the back of a solid sixth of 16 in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (20.3f, good to soft) 13 days ago. One for the shortlist.			95	Luke Scott
	14 STAR VANTAGE (IRE) (18) F/6F7F-784 7 10-7 66.7kg Rebecca Menzies Remains a maiden after 16 runs but he shaped encouragingly when fourth of 10 in handicap hurdle at Musselburgh (23.8f, good to soft) 18 days ago, not ideally placed. Must enter calculations.	h+t		95	Aaron Anderson
	15 ATLANTICEXPRESS (IRE) (16) 565-876F 5 10-5 65.8kg Lizzie Quinlan Remains winless and he was in rear when fell 8th in handicap hurdle at Hexham (23.3f, soft) 16 days ago. Easy to look elsewhere.	t		88	Peter Kavanagh (3lb/1kg)
	16 ROYLE STEEL (FR) (31) 31945-685 6 10-3 64.9kg Micky Hammond Yet to fire in three runs this term, coming in a well-held fifth of 13 in handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (16.8f, good to soft) 31 days ago. Not easy to make a case for.			88	Joshua Thompson (8lb/4kg)
	17 TEDDY MAC (16) 8P45-5475 5 10-2(10-1) 64.4kg (64.0kg) Ian Duncan Still a maiden but he recorded a creditable fifth of 16 in handicap hurdle at Hexham (23.3f, soft) 16 days ago. Ought to be in the shake-up.			95	Alan Doyle

17 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-2 Let's Go Joe, **17-2** Glengolly, **9-1** The Questioner, **10-1** Geordie Night, **10-1** Perculator, **11-1** Mersey Street, **14-1** Paddy O'mahler, **14-1** The Big Breac, **14-1** Supreme Authority, **16-1** Star Vantage, **18-1** Bergentown, **22-1** Royle Steel, **28-1** Teddy Mac, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

This is wide open but the vote goes to GLENGOLLY who shaped well on his stable debut when fifth at Doncaster and can build on it here off a reduced mark. Let's Go Joe, who scored at Doncaster that day, is feared most, although Geordie Night, Perculator and Star Vantage all need factoring into this very open contest too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GLENGOLLY 2. LET'S GO JOE 3. GEORDIE NIGHT

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2022	The Imposter 5-11-1	5-2	Nigel Hawke	Tom Buckley	19
2021	You Some Boy 6-11-7	6-1	Rebecca Menzies	Nathan Moscrop	15

SMART STATS:

£89.50 James Moffatt's profit to a £1 level stake when having only one runner on the card (hurdles) (saddles: **JELSKI**)
£38.50 Lizzie Quinlan's profit to a £1 level stake when having only one runner on the card (hurdles) (saddles: **ATLANTICEXPRESS**)

12.25**WILLIAM HILL MORE TOP PRICES NOVICES' HURDLE (4) (D.I)**
4yo+ £7,000 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 2

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weakly Contested**

1 KINGSTON JAMES (IRE) (29) (D) h **100**
1-4154 5 11-7 | 73.0kg



Lucinda Russell

Alan Doyle (51b/2kg)

Made a successful start under Rules in an Ayr bumper and struck at first time of asking over hurdles at Hexham (16.2f, good) in October. Hasn't gone on from effort since, though unsuited by slowly-run race last time. Enters calculations with hood applied.

2 BIG STORM BREWING (12) **80**
896 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Tristan Davidson

Harry Reed

Failed to beat a rival only start in bumpers and well held in 2 novice hurdles so far, though offered a bit more when sixth of 12 at Carlisle (17f, soft) 12 days ago. However, he'll be of more appeal in handicaps.

3 BORN IN THE WEST (IRE) (17) **84**
2658 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Sam England

Jonathan England

Point winner who made an encouraging start under Rules when runner-up in a Newton Abbot bumper in June. Hasn't built on that effort since, leaving David Pipe after his second bumper start, but he could yet do better given his initial bumper promise.

4 BURGLAR'S DREAM (IRE) (57) t **71**
6 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Tim Easterby

Sean Quinlan

Fair maiden on the Flat (stays 1¼m), but with tongue strap retained on the level he finished a well-beaten sixth of 8 in maiden at Newcastle (16.2f, good) on hurdling debut in October. Likely to need more time in this sphere.

5 FARMER JIMMY (20) **71**
3-67 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Mark Walford

Jamie Hamilton

Showed ability when third in bumper here on debut in March but went backwards from that effort on return. No threat from a long way out when seventh of 8 in novice at this C&D (heavy) on hurdles bow 20 days ago, so much more needed.

6 MAGHLAAK (21) **84**
444 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Adrian Keatley

Danny McMenamin

Fairly useful Flat winner for Charle Hills, including a Class 2 Goodwood handicap in May. Some promise in 3 starts over hurdles for current yard, making late headway at Sedgefield (16.8f, soft) 3 weeks ago. Remains with potential in this sphere.

7 SOLDIER DAN (IRE) (17) **72**
8 6 11-0 | 69.9kg



L J Morgan

K. Brogan

Placed on 2 of 5 starts in points, but having been unraced since April 2023 he probably needed the run when eighth of 10 in maiden hurdle at Uttoxeter (15.8f, soft) 17 days ago. This run should reveal more.

8 SOLENT GATEWAY (IRE) (D) s+t **72**
6 11-0 | 69.9kg



Donald McCain

Brian Hughes

Useful handicapper at best on the Flat who has largely struggled for form this year, though finished runner-up on two occasions. Lesser efforts the last twice, but he's one to note as he goes hurdling on first run for yard after leaving Hugo Palmer.

9 LAZY BONES (IRE) (230) **92**
4F3-0 5 10-7 | 66.7kg



John Norton

Conor Rabbitt (51b/2kg)

Some encouragement sole outing in bumpers and fair form on second start over hurdles when third in maiden at Navan (16f, heavy) in March. However, well held at Cork (19.2f, good) when last seen 7 months ago. First run for yard after leaving Gordon Elliott.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Kingston James, **7-2** Solent Gateway, **11-2** Maghlaak, **11-1** Born In The West, **12-1** Soldier Dan, **14-1** Big Storm Brewing, **14-1** Lazy Bones, **18-1** Farmer Jimmy, **22-1** Burglar's Dream

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A fairly useful winner on the Flat, MAGHLAAK caught the eye when staying on for fourth at Sedgefield 3 weeks ago and he is taken to build on that effort to open his hurdles account. Kingston James could bounce back in a first-time hood and is feared most, ahead of hurdling-debutant Solent Gateway.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. MAGHLAAK 2. KINGSTON JAMES 3. SOLENT GATEWAY****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2022	Quick Sharpener 5-11-0	17-2	Dr Richard Newland	Charlie Hammond	17
2021	Harbour Lake 5-11-5	8-13f	Alan King	Brian Hughes	5
2020	Lunar Sovereign 4-10-12	15-2	Fergal O'Brien	Paddy Brennan	8
2019	Black Pirate 7-10-12	5-2	James Ewart	Brian Hughes	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1.00**WILLIAM HILL MORE TOP PRICES NOVICES' HURDLE (4)
(D.II) 4yo+ £7,000 2m (3220 Metres)**

RACE 3

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weakly Contested**

1 **CAMPAIGN TRAIL (IRE) (27)** (D) t  **100**
 1 4 11-7 | 73.0kg



Kim Bailey

Tom Bellamy

Progressive stayer on Flat for Ralph Beckett in 2023. 200,000 gns purchase in the autumn of that year and overcame a sizeable absence fitted with a tongue strap (also had breathing op) in tidy fashion on his Doncaster hurdling debut last month. Sure to progress and can defy a penalty.

2 **ARNIE (IRE) (21)**
 5 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Danny Brooke

Miss Pippa Brown (71b/3kg)

Malinas gelding. Third of 4 finishers sole outing in points in May and offered little in a Sedgfield bumper on his Rules debut 3 weeks ago.

3 **GOOD COMPANY (14)** **84**
 F6 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero

Craig Nichol

Hinted at ability prior to falling 2 out at Bangor on hurdling debut in November but was always behind in a similar event back there 2 weeks ago.

4 **IDAHO VALLEY (IRE) (21)** **98**
 33 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Donald McCain

Brian Hughes

Won his only start in Irish points in February. Failed to repeat his first effort over hurdles when third at Sedgfield (16.8f) 3 weeks ago but it remains early days.

5 **LAWRENNY (22)** **98**
 421-5 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Jennie Candlish

Sean Quinlan

Progressive in bumpers, opening his account at Newcastle (16.9f, heavy) in March, staying on to lead post. In need of the experience sent hurdling after 9 months off when fifth of 9 at Leicester 22 days ago. Down in trip and may need a bit more time to fulfil his potential in this sphere.

6 **MOONLIGHT MONARCH (20)** **85**
 2/5 5 11-0 | 69.9kg



Michael & David Easterby

Jamie Hamilton

Bred more for the Flat but a good sort physically and second of 5 on debut at Kelso January 2023. Understandably shaped as if needing the run 23 months on over C&D recently.

7 **MR MISTOFFEELES (IRE)**
 4 11-0 | 69.9kg



Sam England

Jonathan England

Dam half-sister to useful hurdler (2m winner) Improvisation. Fairly useful on Flat (stays 1¼m), well below form last 2 starts. Has left Hughie Morrison ahead of hurdle debut. Market can point the way.

8 **MYTHICAL (FR)**
 7 11-0 | 69.9kg



Simon Whitaker

Tom Midgley (31b/1kg)

Modest handicapper nowadays on Flat (stays 1¾m), one of better recent efforts last time. Makes little appeal on hurdle debut.

9 **GODDESS AFRANA (IRE) (18)** **77**
 53-56 4 10-7 | 66.7kg



Nigel Hawke

Lorcan Murtagh

Modest in bumpers and well held both starts over hurdles, albeit out of depth last time.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-6 Campaign Trail, **9-2** Idaho Valley, **13-2** Lawrenny, **11-1** Mr Mistoffelees, **33-1** Moonlight Monarch, **33-1** Arnie, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

CAMPAIGN TRAIL, a progressive stayer on the Flat, overcame a lengthy absence in tidy fashion on his Doncaster hurdling debut last month and looks to have been found a good opportunity under a penalty. Idaho and Lawrenny can battle it out for minor honours.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. CAMPAIGN TRAIL 2. IDAHO VALLEY 3. LAWRENNY****SMART STATS:****39%** Tom Bellamy's strike rate on hurdling favourites (rides: **CAMPAIGN TRAIL**)

1.35

RACE 4

WILLIAM HILL COMMITTED TO TOP PRICES NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (3) 4yo+ £12,000 3m45y (4870 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weakly Contested**

1 THE FOUR SIXES (IRE) (32) (C) 99
74132F2-P 6 11-10 | 74.4kg



Olly Murphy

K. Brogan

Found improvement on debut for Olly Murphy when winning 6-runner handicap hurdle on Boxing Day here 12 months ago. Placed all 3 subsequent completed starts that season but disappointed on chase bow/return at Kempton last month.

2 DARE TO SHOUT (19) t ★ 100
8562P-212 7 11-10 | 74.4kg



Ann Hamilton

Danny McMenamin

A fairly useful winning hurdler who built on a promising chase debut when landing a 4-runner contest at Carlisle last month. Excellent second behind an exciting prospect at Kelso since and good chance he can resume winning ways.

3 WHATDEAWANT (IRE) (23) s 95
38/35 8 11-6 | 72.6kg



Lucinda Russell

Alan Doyle (51b/2kg)

Useful novice hurdler for Willie Mullins during 2021/22 campaign, best effort when third in the Ballymore at the Cheltenham Festival. Has never stood much racing, however, and below par both starts over fences for this yard 7 months apart. Headgear on now.

4 GRAND ALBERT (IRE) (26) 94
23212-3 6 10-11 | 68.5kg



Donald McCain

Brian Hughes

Winning Irish pointer who improved with each start over hurdles last term and made a decent start to his chase career when third at Carlisle on return this month. Return to further will suit and sure to improve switched to a handicap.

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-8 Dare To Shout, 2-1 Grand Albert, 6-1 The Four Sixes, 7-1 Whatdeawant

TIMEFORM VIEW:

DARE TO SHOUT has improved switched to fences this season and holds solid claims as he bids to resume winning ways. Grand Albert made a decent start in this sphere when third at Carlisle and is the obvious threat stepping back up in trip.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. DARE TO SHOUT 2. GRAND ALBERT 3. WHATDEAWANT

SMART STATS:

£28.58 Lucinda Russell's profit to a £1 level stake with chasers running in first time headgear (saddles: **WHATDEAWANT**)

25% Olly Murphy's strike rate at WETHERBY since the start of the 2020/21 season (saddles: **THE FOUR SIXES**)

41% Danny McMenamin's strike rate on chase favourites (rides: **DARE TO SHOUT**)

2.15

WILLIAM HILL BETTING DONE PROPERLY JUVENILE HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 3yo £7,000 2m (3220 Metres)

RACE 5




Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**


Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Weakly Contested**


1 CRUDEN (75) (D) t **98**
 1 3 11-7 | 73.0kg

 **James Ewart** *Ryan Mania*
 Fairly useful on Flat (stays 11.5f) winning maiden at Limerick in May. Well prepared to make a winning hurdles debut at Cork in October, finding plenty. Left Mrs J. Harrington 25,000 gns later that month and while he has a penalty to carry, he's entitled to progress.


2 AMANCIO t **89**
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Gary Brown** *James Davies*
 Fair handicapper on Flat (stays 10.5f), well below form last time. Sold from Jack Channon for 16,000 gns later in October and had plenty of racing prior to this hurdles debut. Tongue tie on.


3 BELCAMO (26) **91**
 24 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Alex Hales** *Kielan Woods*
 From the family of fairly useful hurdler (stayed 2¾m) Hawkhill and scored on the Flat at Goodwood in June. Promising start over hurdles last month but not in the same form at Leicester since.

4 BENVYOY (IRE) (90) t **79**
 4 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Jo Davis** *Tom Bellamy*
 Fair maiden on Flat (sold from Henry de Bromhead £6,500 in July). Half-brother to useful 2m hurdle winner Arabian Revolution (scored first time up in this sphere) but he was in need of the experience at Market Rasen in September. Tongue strap on.

5 CAPLA LAZARUS (IRE) (BF) **89**
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Michael & David Easterby** *Nathan Moscrop*
 Fair form in minor events on Flat (stays 1¼m), below expectations when second at Wolverhampton last time, looking a hard ride. Hurdles debut.


6 CATALAN KING **88**
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Alex Hales** *Harry Bannister*
 Fair maiden on Flat (stays 15f) for Ed Bethell, well held in handicap last time. Work to do on hurdles debut.


7 FINE POINT (IRE) (40) **89**
 425 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Nigel Hawke** *Lorcan Murtagh*
 Fair maiden at up to 10.5f on the Flat in Ireland and showed benefit of his hurdles debut experience when second of 5 in juvenile hurdle at Newcastle in October. Found out in a deeper race at Fontwell.


8 HOSAAMM (10) (BF) ★ **100**
 2 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Adrian Keatley** *Brian Hughes*
 Useful performer on Flat (stays 1½m) for Owen Burrows. New connections acquired him for 78,000 gns in October and made a satisfactory start over hurdles despite failing to justify his short price at Catterick. Cheekpieces off and he seems sure to improve.


9 LIVANO BELLO (FR) (108) **97**
 3 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Micky Hammond** *Danny McMenamin*
 Showed plenty when 4¾ lengths third of 11 to Static in claimer at Auteuil on hurdling debut, racing keenly and chasing leaders. Claimed from Hugo Merienne after for €30,600 and should do better for new connections.


10 NORMANDY LEGEND (35) t **89**
 P34 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero** *Craig Nichol*
 A fair 1m Flat maiden for James Ferguson. Changed hands for 20,000 gns in July but looks one for handicaps over hurdles on what he's displayed so far.

11 RAINED OFF s **75**
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Mark Walford** *Jamie Hamilton*
 Little show in minor events/maiden on Flat. Cheekpieces on for hurdles debut.

12 SCOTLAND THE BRAVE h+t **88**
 3 11-0 | 69.9kg

 **Tristan Davidson** *Harry Reed*
 Showed fair form when mid-division on second of 2 starts in minor events on Flat. Hurdles bow.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Hosaamm, **7-2** Cruden, **4-1** Livano Bello, **11-1** Belcamo, **18-1** Capla Lazarus, **20-1** Fine Point, **20-1** Amancio, **25-1** Normandy Legend, **33-1** Scotland The Brave, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

HOSAAMM looked in need of the experience when second starting out over hurdles at Catterick and, given his Flat ability, above-average improvement is surely forthcoming. Livano Bello is also open to progress so is second choice, ahead of Cruden, who must carry a penalty.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. HOSAAMM 2. LIVANO BELLO 3. CRUDEN

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2022	Start In Front 3-11-0	11-2	Rebecca Menzies	Sean Quinlan	14
2021	Kayfast Warrior 3-10-12	10-3	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	7
2020	Hacker des Places 3-11-6	6-4f	Paul Nicholls	Angus Cheleda (7)	8
2019	Hasankey 3-11-0	9-2	L J Morgan	Ryan Day	10

SMART STATS:

£19.53 James Ewart's profit to a £1 level stake when having only one runner on the card (hurdles) (saddles: **CRUDEN**)

2.45**WILLIAM HILL CASTLEFORD HANDICAP CHASE (2) 4yo+
(Rated 0-150) £25,000 1m7f36y (3050 Metres)**

RACE 6

Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Uncontested**

1 MALYSTIC (19) (CD) **100**
67P33-2P5 10 12-0 | 76.2kg



Peter Niven

Brian Hughes

Ended last term with a couple of solid efforts in defeat and good start to this season when going close in a Kelso handicap in which the first 2 pulled clear of the rest. Has failed to fire both subsequent starts but now back down to the mark off which he landed this in 2022 and he's 2-2 over C&D.

2 PAY THE PIPER (IRE) (41) (CD) **97**
32-421212 9 11-10 | 74.4kg



Ann Hamilton

Sean Quinlan

Went close in the novices' handicap on this card in 2021 and done little wrong in 4 starts this season, winning twice at Kelso and runner-up on 2 occasions here, including over C&D in October. Rising 10, he holds no secrets from the handicapper but the fact that he's in good form counts for plenty.

3 HARPER'S BROOK (IRE) (9) (D) **98**
2/0210-P52 8 11-8 | 73.5kg



Dan Skelton

Kielan Woods

Has his quirks but plenty of ability, too, as he displayed when a good second at Ascot last December before going one better at Sandown (left clear at the last) for Ben Pauling. First 2 runs for present yard were low-key but much more like it when second at Newbury last time. Big player.

4 PARISENORE (FR) (61) (C, D) **96**
27-519233 8 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nicky Richards

Danny McMenamin

Did the job well when opening chase account at Perth (2½m, good to firm) in June and arrives here on the back of a string of creditable efforts in defeat, including when dropping back to 2m at Aintree last time. Possibilities here off an unchanged mark.

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Pay The Piper, 9-4 Harper's Brook, 4-1 Parisenore, 5-1 Malystic

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Supporting HARPER'S BROOK may not be for the faint-hearted but he is nevertheless appealing having returned to form when second to an unexposed 5-y-o at Newbury last time. That was just third third run for Dan Skelton (and his first since cheekpieces were refitted, headgear in which he had performed well on two of the three previous occasions worn) and he's on a winning mark. 2022 winner Malystic will be a threat if able to bounce back, while both Pay The Piper and Parisenore have claims, too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. HARPER'S BROOK 2. MALYSTIC 3. PAY THE PIPER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2022	Malystic 8-11-10	13-2	Peter Niven	Danny McMenamin	9
2021	Eclair d'Ainay 7-10-2	4-1	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	6
2020	First Flow 8-11-7	11-10f	Kim Bailey	David Bass	5
2019	Marracudja 8-11-1	6-1	Dan Skelton	Bridget Andrews	7

SMART STATS:

3 Dan Skelton's number of winners in past 10 runnings. (saddles: **HARPER'S BROOK**)

£33.81 Nicky Richards's profit to a £1 level stake with only one runner on the card (chases) (saddles: **PARISENORE**)

29% Dan Skelton's strike rate at WETHERBY since the start of the 2020/21 season (saddles: **HARPER'S BROOK**)

3.20

RACE 7

WILLIAM HILL CHELTENHAM NRMB JANUARY 1st OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (Qualifier) (5) 4 and 5yo £4,999 2m (3220 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Good to Soft (Good in places)**

Left handed, galloping. Nine fences to a circuit again now, though the four in the home straight have been switched to the inside of the hurdles track after problems caused by the realignment of the nearby A1. The signs are the fences still punish those who aren't accurate. It's a very fair test for any horse but is ideal for the free-running, long-striding sort.

Pace Information: **Insufficient Data****1 FULL FORCE GALE (IRE) (75) (D) 97**

1 4 11-9 | 73.9kg



Tom George

James Reveley

Out of a winning hurdler and made the ideal start when landing a 7-runner bumper at Ffos Las on debut. More to come and should be involved.

2 BLUE BELLAMY (30) 100

32 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Richard Bandey

Harry Bannister

Placed 3 times from 4 completed starts in points and bright start under Rules, confirming promise of his Worcester debut third when runner-up at Market Rasen (16.6f) a month ago. Should go well again.

3 DRAYTON FLYER (IRE) 97

5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Olly Murphy

Beau Morgan (51b/2kg)

£56,000 3-y-o, Lauro gelding. Half-brother to a point winner. Dam, pulled up in point, half-sister to fairly useful hurdler/chaser (winner at around 2m) Herons Heir. Noteworthy newcomer.

4 GEORDIE MACKEM 92

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Brian Ellison

Craig Nichol

Jack Hobbs gelding. Half-brother to fair hurdler Lunar Shadow. Out of a bumper winner and not a forlorn hope on debut.

5 GODFREY BOUILLON (IRE) 94

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Donald McCain

Theo Gillard

Kayf Tara gelding. Dam (c130/h128), 2m-3m hurdle/chase winner, half-sister to fairly useful hurdler/useful chaser (stayed 3¼m) Danny Whizzbang. Interesting if the market speaks in his favour.

6 HARBOUR ISLAND (FR) 99

5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Olly Murphy

K. Brogan

€70,000 3-y-o, Ultra gelding. Half-brother to 3 winners, including useful hurdler/chase winner Jon Snow and fair French hurdler Cookilayone. Of obvious interest given connections and looks the first string.

7 HIGHLAND LADIE (IRE) 93

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Sandy Thomson

Ryan Mania

€30,000 3-y-o, Highland Reel gelding. Half-brother to 2 winners, including Marmelada. Dam unraced. Noteworthy newcomer.

8 MIDNIGHT POTTER 93

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Adrian Keatley

Danny McMenamin

Blue Bresil gelding. Half-brother to bumper winner/useful hurdler Midnight Tour and bumper winner Miss Fleming. Bred to go well in this sphere.

9 SYFONIC SAM 92

5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Rebecca Menzies

Nathan Moscrop

Black Sam Bellamy gelding. Brother to useful hurdler/chaser Captain Cattistock, and closely related to 3 winners, including fairly useful staying chaser Bretney. Worth a market check.

10 THE FINAL BRIG 93

4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Mark Walford

Jamie Hamilton

Doyen gelding. Closely related to 3 winners, including fairly useful hurdle winner/smart chaser Into Overdrive and fairly useful hurdler/useful chaser Over To Sam. Interesting on pedigree.

11 TIMELY APPROACH (13) 79

7 4 11-2 | 70.8kg



Tracy Waggott

Tom Midgley (31b/1kg)

Bred for the Flat but only a hint of ability when seventh at Newcastle on debut 13 days ago. Needs to step forward plenty from that.

12 ANNA'S LADY 79

4 10-9 | 67.6kg



Ian McInnes

Aaron Anderson (51b/2kg)

Monsieur Bond filly. Dam of little account on Flat. Doesn't make much appeal on paper.

13 SUN RISING LEGACY (IRE) 79

5 10-9 | 67.6kg



Alex Hales

Kielan Woods

£5,000 3-y-o, Ocovango mare. Half-sister to useful hurdler/chaser Dromore Lad and bumper winner Sun Rising Hill. Wears cheekpieces.

13 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Blue Bellamy, **9-2** Harbour Island, **6-1** Drayton Flyer, **13-2** Full Force Gale, **11-1** Godfrey Bouillon, **14-1** Midnight Potter, **18-1** Highland Ladie, **18-1** The Final Brig, **25-1** Syfonic Sam, **25-1** Geordie Mackem, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

HARBOUR ISLAND and Drayton Flyer are both appealing on pedigree and represent the same connections that do well in this sphere, so they might be the pair to concentrate on, with the first name marginally preferred. Blue Bellamy has experience and should go well again.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. HARBOUR ISLAND 2. DRAYTON FLYER 3. BLUE BELLAMY****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2022	Tarras Wood 4-11-2	2-1f	Paul Nicholls	Bryony Frost	14
2021	Grey Dawning 4-11-0	9-2	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	12
2020	Mr Glass 4-11-0	15-8f	Paul Nicholls	Megan Nicholls	9

SMART STATS:

25% Olly Murphy's strike rate at WETHERBY since the start of the 2020/21 season (saddles: **DRAYTON FLYER and HARBOUR ISLAND**)

81 The number of KAYF TARA's progeny that have won their first bumper (Sires: **GODFREY BOUILLON**)

21% Donald McCain's strike rate in early season (saddles: **GODFREY BOUILLON**)