

Thursday 5th March

# NEWCASTLE



**4.55** MIDNITE AIN'T YOUR GRANDAD'S BOOKIE HANDICAP (5) 1¼m42y (2050 Metres)

RACE 1 **(3) BINTKEND | (7) BEARWITH | (8) MAO SHANG WONG**

**5.30** BET £10 GET £40 WITH BETMGM HANDICAP (5) 6f (1210 Metres)

RACE 2 **(4) TACTICAL BLITZ | (1) ARISHKA'S DREAM | (9) MARRA DONNA**

**6.00** ALWAYS GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY AT BETMGM NOVICE STAKES (4) 1m5y (1610 Metres)

RACE 3 **(1) BILLECART | (3) WUOOD | (4) TOO DARN SPICY**

**6.30** WIN £250,000 WITH BETMGM'S GOLDEN GOALS HANDICAP (3) 7f14y (1420 Metres)

RACE 4 **(1) DOCTOR KHAN JUNIOR | (3) NIKOVO | (4) TALIS EVOLVERE**

**7.00** READ MEG NICHOLLS' BLOG AT [betmgm.co.uk](https://betmgm.co.uk) HANDICAP (6) 7f14y (1420 Metres)

RACE 5 **(12) DREAM FOREVER | (5) POPTY PING | (1) RAVEN'S VIEW**

**7.30** MIDNITE: BUILT FOR 2026 NOT 2006 HANDICAP (5) 5f (1010 Metres)

RACE 6 **(5) LION'S HOUSE | (10) OUR ABSENT FRIENDS | (3) JUAN LES PINS**

**8.00** DAILY PROFIT BOOSTS AT [betmgm.co.uk](https://betmgm.co.uk) CLASSIFIED STAKES (6) 1m5y (1610 Metres)

RACE 7 **(1) ESQUE ELEGANCE | (5) SIR MAXI | (9) WOODRAFF**

## 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.

**4.55****MIDNITE AIN'T YOUR GRANDAD'S BOOKIE HANDICAP (5)**  
**4yo+ (Rated 0-75) £7,100 1¼m42y (2050 Metres)****RACE 1****GBI RACING**Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **Favours High** Pace Information: **Even**

**1 8 MONTY BEAU (38)** **94**  
2231-33 **5** 9-9 | 61.2kg



Hugo Palmer

**Jack Callan (5lb/2kg)**

Improved when making a winning handicap debut at Wolverhampton (8.6f) in December and, in first-time cheekpieces, again ran well when third of 10 at the same course (9.5f) last time, despite racing freely from widest draw.

**2 4 HAVEYOU MISSEDME (33) (C)** **98**  
6/60146-35 **8** 9-7 | 60.3kg



Iain Jardine

**Andrew Mullen**

Winner at Redcar (14f) in November and shaped well back down in trip when third over C&D in January. Unsited by emphasis on speed when fifth of 7 here last time, so will need things to drop right kept at this distance.

**3 6 BINTKEND (IRE) (16) (BF)** **97**  
44-3 **4** 9-6 | 59.9kg



Roger Varian

**Jack Mitchell**

In need of the experience both starts last year, before requiring a stiffer test of stamina when third of 7 in maiden at Wolverhampton (9.5f, 6/4) on return 16 days ago. Remains with potential now handicapping.

**4 7 IMPERIAL TROOPER (IRE) (29)** **97**  
680339-26 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg



Jennie Candlish

**Lewis Edmunds**

Bounced back to best making only second start on all-weather when runner-up over C&D on return. Shaped as if still in good form when sixth of 13 at Kempton (11f) a month ago and he should benefit from this drop back in trip.

**5 1 LIGHTNING COMPANY (IRE) (44) (D)** **98**  
4/856020-0 **8** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Ben Haslam

**Paul Mulrennan**

Winner over hurdles last summer and ran well on second start back on the Flat when runner-up at Pontefract in October. However, well held over C&D both subsequent outings.

**6 2 NATZOR (FR) (82) (CD)** **99**  
2301/8000- **6** 9-4 | 59.0kg



Lizzie Quinlan

**David Nolan**

Both career victories at this C&D, but after a spell over hurdles he finished down the field in 4 starts back on the level last year. Cheekpieces reapplied.

**7 5 BEARWITH (19) (CD)** **99**  
58738-531 **8** 9-3 | 58.5kg



Harriet Bethell

**Aiden Brookes**

Took advantage of a drop in the weights when winning over C&D 19 days ago, scoring readily despite having to wait for a clear run. Back up 3 lb but he's a reliable performer on all-weather so can remain competitive.

**8 11 MAO SHANG WONG (IRE) (19)** **100**  
052-834 **4** 9-1 | 57.6kg



David O'Meara

**Mark Winn**

Made more impact on second handicap start when third at Wolverhampton (8.6f) in January and, in first-time hood (now discarded), backed that up when fourth of 9 over C&D 19 days ago, despite having not been ideally placed. Respected.

**9 3 BOUBYAN (IRE) (44)** **96**  
006385-67 **4** 9-0 | 57.2kg



Michael Appleby

**Jason Watson**

Shaped as if back in form at Wolverhampton (8.6f) on final outing last year, but added to his patchy record with 2 lesser efforts in January, last of 7 at Southwell (11f) on latest outing 6 weeks ago.

**10 10 MINERS GAMBLE (IRE) (47) (BF)** **98**  
02608-459 **5** 8-5 | 53.1kg



Brian Ellison

**Cam Hardie**

Remains with only one success, though wasn't seen to best effect on first 2 starts this year. Disappointing when ninth of 12 at Southwell (1m) last time, but he's now dropped below his winning mark and remains lightly raced at this longer trip.

**11 9 ANA EMARAATY (IRE) (6) (CD)** **99**  
733-41845 **6** 8-5 | 53.1kg



Jim Goldie

b

**Lauren Young (5lb/2kg)**

Opened account for the year over 7f here in January, his fifth course success. Caught further back than ideal when fifth of 11 at Wolverhampton (8.6f) 6 days ago and he's versatile with regards to trip as he moves back up in distance.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**11-4** Binkend, **5-1** Bearwith, **7-1** Monty Beau, **8-1** Mao Shang Wong, **11-1** Miners Gamble, **11-1** Imperial Trooper, **14-1** Ana Emaraaty, **14-1** Haveyoumissedme, **18-1** Boubyan, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

BINTKEND emerged with credit faced with an inadequate test at Wolverhampton on her return and she could be capable of better making her handicap debut. Roger Varian's filly gets the vote ahead of last-time-out C&D winner Bearwith, with Mao Shang Wong also considered.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. BINTKEND 2. BEARWITH 3. MAO SHANG WONG**

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**5.30**

**BET £10 GET £40 WITH BETMGM HANDICAP (5) 3yo (Rated 0-70) £7,100 6f (1210 Metres)**

RACE 2




Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **Against Low** Pace Information: **Strong**


**1 8 ARISHKA'S DREAM (5) (D, BF) 100**  
524-312 3 9-9 | 61.2kg

 **Jason Watson**  
Much improved when winning maiden at Wolverhampton last month and backed that up when only narrowly denied in 9-runner handicap at Lingfield (5/2) 5 days ago. Has tended to race freely but could still have more to offer in handicaps.


**2 6 MIGHTY VEGA (IRE) (38) (D) s+t 95**  
50165-45 3 9-8 | 60.8kg

 **Kevin Stott**  
Winner of a Kempton novice on third start but hasn't kicked on in handicaps since, though caught wide throughout when fifth of 8 at Wolverhampton in January. First run since leaving Lemos De Souza.


**3 7 ELIZABETTY (IRE) (27) (C) h 93**  
5527-713 3 9-8 | 60.8kg

 **Ben Robinson**  
Off the mark in 7f novice at this course in January and confirmed that improvement sent handicapping when third of 7 over 1m here 27 days ago, despite having raced freely. Has something to find, though, as she drops back in trip.


**4 10 TACTICAL BLITZ (42) 95**  
642 3 9-8 | 60.8kg

 **Hollie Doyle**  
Has been going the right way in his 3 starts so far, beaten only by a next-time out winner in 12-runner maiden at Southwell last time. Could be ready to open his account having been gelded ahead of handicap debut.

**5 5 ESPONA BAY (IRE) (52) (BF) 92**  
066252-2 3 9-6 | 59.9kg

 **Kieran O'Neill**  
Wasn't able to justify favouritism (11/10) but again ran well when second of 9 at Wolverhampton in January, form which has been boosted since. Still looking for a breakthrough victory, though, on first start since leaving Michael Bell.


**6 11 FILLE UNIQUE (IRE) (103) 86**  
4325- 3 9-6 | 59.9kg

 **Paul Mulrennan**  
Modest form when making the frame each of her first 3 starts and ran to a similar level when fifth of 7 in nursery at this course (5f) in November. Improvement required from current mark but looks worth a try at this trip.


**7 9 MORETONS (30) 94**  
334552-67 3 9-4 | 59.0kg

 **Amie Waugh (31b/1kg)**  
Encouragement on final 2 starts in 2025 but hasn't looked straightforward this year, hanging badly right when last of 7 at Wolverhampton (5f) a month ago. Headgear discarded having left George Scott.


**8 4 SPARKLING PINK (164) (D) 89**  
6251688- 3 9-3 | 58.5kg

 **Jack Nicholls (51b/2kg)**  
Made a winning nursery debut at Pontefract in July but went backwards from that effort in 3 subsequent outings, eighth of 9 at Leicester when last seen in September.


**9 1 MARRA DONNA (IRE) (22) (BF) 96**  
859-33 3 9-3 | 58.5kg

 **Mason Paetel (51b/2kg)**  
Unable to justify market support in 2 handicaps this year, though pulled clear of the rest despite still looking green when third of 5 at Southwell (13/8) 22 days ago. Capable of getting involved with good-value claimer on board.

**10 2 PIVOTAL TERMS (27) 90**  
70637-8 3 9-1 | 57.6kg

 **Andrew Mullen**  
Placed once from 5 starts in Ireland last year, but on first run since leaving Joseph G. Murphy she was below form when eighth of 11 in handicap at Wolverhampton (7f) 27 days ago, again racing freely.

**11 3 LINA CODINA (52) b 90**  
8987-9 3 8-5 | 53.1kg

 **Cam Hardie**  
Failed to make much impact in 4 outings on turf last year and fared no better when last of 9 in handicap at Wolverhampton on return. Has since left Nigel Tinkler and now tried in blinkers.

11 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**10-3** Arishka's Dream, **4-1** Marra Donna, **9-2** Tactical Blitz, **13-2** Espona Bay, **10-1** Elizabetty, **16-1** Mighty Vega, **18-1** Fille Unique, **28-1** Moretons, **28-1** Pivotal Terms, **33-1** Sparkling Pink, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

TACTICAL BLITZ continued his progress when second to a fellow improver at Southwell in January and he is taken to go one better sent handicapping. Arishka's Dream went close on his first handicap outing at Lingfield last week and isn't taken lightly, while Marra Donna could also be in the mix.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. TACTICAL BLITZ 2. ARISHKA'S DREAM 3. MARRA DONNA**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Frankies Dream</b> 3-9-9	7-2	Jennie Candlish	Paul Mulrennan	9
2024	<b>Arlington</b> 3-8-9	9-1	Bryan Smart	Andrew Breslin (3)	8

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**6.00****ALWAYS GAMBLE RESPONSIBLY AT BETMGM NOVICE STAKES  
(4) 3yo+ £10,000 1m5y (1610 Metres)**

RACE 3

Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Very Weak**

**1 4 BILLECART (IRE) (237)** **100**  
4- **3** 9-7 | 60.3kg



K. R. Burke **Rowan Scott**  
Bred to be useful and made an encouraging start when fourth of 12 in a Newmarket maiden in July, form which has worked out very well. Absent since but the one to beat with improvement to come.

**2 1 SHIMMERING SPIRIT (IRE) (14)** **72**  
4 **3** 9-7 | 60.3kg



Nigel Tinkler **Faye McManoman**  
With hood applied for debut, showed a bit to work on amidst inexperience when fourth of 5 in novice at this course (7f) 2 weeks ago. Looks one for further down the line, though.

**3 3 WUOOD** **81**  
**3** 9-7 | 60.3kg



Richard Hannon **Joe Leavy**  
Night Of Thunder colt. Dam, runner-up at 7f, sister to very smart winner up to 9f Diego Velazquez and closely related to very smart winner up to 2m Broome out of useful 2-y-o 5f winner Sweepstake. Makes plenty of appeal on paper.

**4 2 TOO DARN SPICY** **76**  
**3** 9-2 | 58.1kg



Richard Fahey **Cam Hardie**  
35,000 gns yearling, £320,000 2-y-o, resold 2,000 2-y-o. Too Darn Hot filly. Dam, 1¼m winner, half-sister to smart winner up to 1¼m (stayed 2m) Red Galileo out of useful 1½m winner Ivory Gala. May just be better for this first experience.

4 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

8-15 Billecart, 3-1 Wuood, 8-1 Too Darn Spicy, 22-1 Shimmering Spirit

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

A 380,000 gns purchase as a yearling, BILLECART knew his job on debut when fourth in a hotly-contested Newmarket maiden last summer and looks to hold leading claims on his return. Well-bred newcomer Wuood could be the one to give the selection most to think about.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

1. BILLECART 2. WUOOD 3. TOO DARN SPICY

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Rahiebb</b> 3-9-4	13-2	Roger Varian	Jack Mitchell	9
2024	<b>Inisherin</b> 3-9-6	4-6f	Kevin Ryan	Tom Eaves	7
2023	<b>Canberra Legend</b> 3-9-7	8-11f	James Ferguson	Daniel Muscutt	8
2022	<b>Oceania Legend</b> 3-9-9	9-4	James Ferguson	Daniel Muscutt	8

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**6.30****WIN £250,000 WITH BETMGM'S GOLDEN GOALS HANDICAP  
(3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-95) £15,200 7f14y (1420 Metres)**

RACE 4

Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Even**

**1 4 DOCTOR KHAN JUNIOR (34)** (C, D) **100**  
115/77-41 **7** 9-9 | 61.2kg



Geoff Oldroyd

**P. J. McDonald**

Raced only twice last year but worked his work back to his best when winning 9-runner handicap at Southwell in January, rallying to lead again late on. Can make another bold bid.

**2 2 GRAND TRAVERSE (IRE) (57)** (C, D) **96**  
1612665-6 **6** 9-6 | 59.9kg



Geoffrey Harker

**David Allan**

Won first 2 starts on all-weather, with latest success over 7f at Kempton in August. Hasn't progressed since but beaten only a length when sixth of 7 at the same C&D in January. Cheekpieces removed on first run since leaving Archie Watson.

**3 6 NIKOVO (8)** (C, D) **99**  
02887-233 **7** 9-5 | 59.4kg



Michael Herrington

**Jason Hart**

Winner of this race in 2025 and has been shaping up well this year, disadvantaged by a steadily-run race when third of 5 at Kempton 8 days ago. Can make his presence felt back at this venue.

**4 8 TALIS EVOLVERE (IRE) (34)** (C, D, BF) **98**  
04205-125 **6** 9-2 | 58.1kg



Richard Hannon

**Joe Leavy**

Took advantage of reduced mark at Southwell in January and good second over 1m here next time. Only fifth of 9 in race won by Doctor Khan Junior at Southwell (7f) last time, but he's worth another chance given promise of first 2 starts this year.

**5 1 ELDRICKJONES (IRE) (13)** (C, D) **97**  
097414-44 **7** 9-1 | 57.6kg



Roger Fell

**Mark Winn**

Recorded a fourth C&D success in December and has made the frame all 3 starts since, fourth of 12 at Southwell (1m) on latest outing 13 days ago. Can give his running once more returned to this track.

**6 7 PERSUASION (IRE) (142)** (D) **98**  
18740260- **9** 9-1 | 57.6kg



David &amp; Nicola Barron

**William Pyle (3lb/1kg)**

Has a fine record at Haydock and runner-up there in September. However, ended the year with a lacklustre effort when fourteenth of 15 at Leicester the following month. Has tended to need his reappearance run for current yard.

**7 5 SUNRISEONTHEBOYNE (IRE) (27)** (D) **96**  
4582671-9 **4** 8-12 | 56.2kg



Ben Haslam

**Andrew Mullen**

Four-time winner in Ireland in 2025, successful at Listowel on final outing in September. However, always behind when ninth of 11 over C&D on seasonal/stable debut last month and this is a tougher contest.

**8 3 AISLING OSCAR (IRE) (5)** (C, D) **98**  
11-111127 **5** 8-7 | 54.0kg



Adrian Keatley

**Barry McHugh**

Matched a 30-year modern-day record of 8 straight handicap wins when scoring at Southwell early last month. Lost little in defeat when second over 1m here next time, but run of good form halted when seventh of 11 at Southwell 5 days ago.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**3-1** Doctor Khan Junior, **4-1** Aisling Oscar, **5-1** Talis Evolvere, **11-2** Nikovo, **7-1** Eldrickjones, **14-1** Grand Traverse, **18-1** Sunriseontheboyne, **22-1** Persuasion

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

DOCTOR KHAN JUNIOR has been getting a clearer run with his racing again and showed a likeable attitude when making most at Southwell last time, so he can build on that effort to follow up. He is taken to see off the challenge of last year's winner of the race Nikovo, with Talis Evolvere completing the shortlist.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. DOCTOR KHAN JUNIOR 2. NIKOVO 3. TALIS EVOLVERE**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Nikovo</b> 6-9-4	10-3	Michael Herrington	Billy Loughane	7
2024	<b>Billy Mill</b> 6-8-6	16-1	Rod Millman	Cam Hardie	13
2023	<b>Anif</b> 9-9-8	15-2	Michael Herrington	Tom Eaves	7
2022	<b>Saisons d'Or</b> 7-9-5	7-2	Jedd O'Keefe	Jack Garritty	6
2021	<b>Saisons d'Or</b> 6-9-8	11-2	Jedd O'Keefe	Jack Garritty	11

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**7.00****READ MEG NICHOLLS' BLOG AT [betmgm.co.uk](http://betmgm.co.uk) HANDICAP (6) 3yo (Rated 0-60) £6,000 7f14y (1420 Metres)**

RACE 5

**GBI RACING**Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **Against Low** Pace Information: **Even**

**1 5 RAVEN'S VIEW (IRE) (63) 90**  
67-6 3 9-9 | 61.2kg



Michael Dods *S. B. Kirrane*  
Showed more than previously when sixth of 8 in a novice over 6f at Newcastle (125/1) in January. Will benefit from return to 7f+ and is the type to do better now handicapping.

**2 12 KINGOFTHECARNIVAL (FR) (143) 87**  
476- 3 9-8 | 60.8kg



Archie Watson *Hollie Doyle*  
Still green when sixth of 12 in a novice over 7f at Kempton (200/1) in October. Seemingly brought along with handicaps in mind so is open to improvement on reappearance.

**3 7 PANTHERE NOIR (90) 82**  
64433753- 3 9-7 | 60.8kg



Lucinda Russell & Michael Scudamore *Jason Hart*  
Remains a maiden and continued below form when third of 4 in a handicap at this C&D (14/1) in December. Handicapper gives him a squeak after a 3-month break.

**4 3 LASER LUCK (12) 92**  
530-6 3 9-7 | 60.3kg



Gemma Tutty *Kaiya Fraser*  
Lightly-raced filly who seemed unsuited by a speed test stepping back down in trip when sixth of 7 at Lingfield (11/2) on yard debut 12 days ago. Return to 7f should suit.

**5 9 POPTY PING (19) (D) 99**  
32312-462 3 9-7 | 60.3kg



David O'Meara *Mark Winn*  
Off the mark in first-time visor at Southwell in December and rather in-and-out since, back to form when second of 8 at here (1m) 19 days ago. That made it 6 of 7 starts in the frame at this venue so considered with the drop to 7f in her favour.

**6 11 ARCHANGEL JOSEPI (IRE) (19) 100**  
46424-373 3 9-6 | 59.9kg



Brian Ellison *Ben Robinson*  
Well supported and duly returned to form when third of 8 in a handicap here (1m) 19 days ago. Back in a 0-60 but may prove vulnerable to a less exposed rival.

**7 8 MAXIMUM VELOCITY (IRE) (204) 80**  
677- 3 9-6 | 59.9kg



Nigel Tinkler *Rowan Scott*  
Little impact in 3 turf maidens last summer, seeming unsuited by the drop back to 5f when last seen at Beverley in August. Wouldn't be the first from this yard to prove a different proposition now handicapping on all-weather debut.

**8 6 SOUTH COAST STAR (IRE) (20) 97**  
774-3 3 9-6 | 59.9kg



Hugo Palmer *Jack Callan (5lb/2kg)*  
Lightly raced filly who a well-beaten third on handicap debut after 10 weeks off at Wolverhampton recently but there wasn't a great deal of promise to take. Up-and-coming 5-lb claimer takes over.

**9 10 SIRHANA (IRE) (20) 83**  
7-664 3 9-5 | 59.4kg



Richard Fahey *Cam Hardie*  
Has shown little in 4 starts, including on handicap debut at Wolverhampton last month.

**10 1 POPULUS (IRE) (51) 85**  
95-6 3 9-5 | 59.4kg



Stephen Hanlon *Lauren Young (5lb/2kg)*  
Little impact in 3 starts, the latest on yard debut over C&D in January. Huge step forward required on handicap debut.

**11 2 MERESIDE PRINCESS (IRE) (63) 97**  
048334-3 3 9-4 | 59.0kg



David & Nicola Barron *William Pyle (3lb/1kg)*  
Saw her race out well back down at 6f despite having again been keen enough early on in a change of headgear when third of 8 at Southwell (12/1) in January. This return to 7f may help.

**12 4 DREAM FOREVER (IRE) (23) 99**  
96688-2 3 9-1 | 57.6kg



Jedd O'Keeffe *P. J. McDonald*  
Ran easily his best race after 5 months off when second of 12 in a handicap over 6f (18/1) just over 3 weeks ago. Leading claims with that under his belt and 7f set to suit at least as well.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**5-1** Dream Forever, **6-1** Popty Ping, **7-1** Archangel Josepi, **7-1** Kingofthecarnival, **10-1** Raven's View, **12-1** Mereside Princess, **12-1** Laser Luck, **14-1** Populus, **20-1** South Coast Star, **20-1** Maximum Velocity, **25-1** Panthere Noir, **40-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

DREAM FOREVER ran a cracker on return from 5 months off when runner-up here last month and with this step up to 7f sure to suit, Jedd O'Keeffe's charge can go one better at the expense of Popty Ping, who made it 6 out of 7 in-frame starts at this course recently and looks sure to go well again. Handicap-debutants Raven's View and Kingofthecarnival may both feature, too.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. DREAM FOREVER 2. POPTY PING 3. RAVEN'S VIEW**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Manton Road</b> 3-9-10	3-1f	Gay Kelleway	Luke Morris	10
2024	<b>East Bank</b> 3-9-8	22-1	Craig Lidster	Tom Eaves	8
2023	<b>Bella Kopella</b> 3-9-10	4-1	Nigel Tinkler	Rowan Scott	8
2022	<b>Storm Asset</b> 3-9-5	10-11f	Michael Wigham	Franny Norton	9
2021	<b>Almost An Angel</b> 3-9-4	9-2cf	David Evans	Darragh Keenan (3)	13

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

7.30

**MIDNITE: BUILT FOR 2026 NOT 2006 HANDICAP (5) 4yo+**  
**(Rated 0-75) £7,100 5f (1010 Metres)**

RACE 6



Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Strong**

**1 3 CASTAN (29) (CD)** **96**  
764053-22 **6** 9-9 | 61.2kg

**Bryan Smart** **Paul Mulrennan**  
Going through a good spell with 3 consecutive placed efforts, most recently second of 6 over C&D (5/1) last month. Could well add to his 4 C&D wins.



**2 12 MOONSTONE BOY (IRE) (17) (D)** **98**  
009050-47 **5** 9-9 | 61.2kg

**Jennie Candlish** **Lewis Edmunds**  
Failed to come on for recent run/yard debut when seventh of 8 over 6f at Wolverhampton (8/1) 17 days ago. Back to minimum trip rates a plus.



**3 9 JUAN LES PINS (13)** **100**  
53589-330 **9** 9-8 | 60.8kg

**Michael Appleby** **Jason Watson**  
Losing run stretches back to June 2023. Ran well when third of 12 at this C&D in January but was flat when tenth of 11 at Southwell (6/1) just under 2 weeks ago. Record tells us everything about how he needs things to drop just right but is dangerously well handicapped.



**4 1 POP STAR (IRE) (14) (D)** **96**  
242346-79 **6** 9-6 | 59.9kg

**Iain Jardine** **Andrew Mullen**  
Quirky type who placed a few times last summer and autumn for Alice Haynes. Yet to fire in 3 starts for present stable, however.



**5 11 LION'S HOUSE (17) (CD, BF)** **99**  
806-69313 **5** 9-5 | 59.4kg

**Linda Perratt** **Kaiya Fraser**  
Has been revived by dropping into lower-grade company, building on his best AW effort this season when winning over C&D last month (strong form), justifying support. Unlucky not to follow up when third at Wolverhampton since (denied run) and he's got more races in him.



**6 10 DARK KESTREL (IRE) (14) (CD)** **96**  
4048-9618 **6** 9-4 | 59.0kg

**Antony Brittain** **Harry Russell**  
Regular here who got away from the stalls better than usual when adding to his tally over C&D last month, staying on to lead close home. Didn't have a great deal of room to work with when down the field since.



**7 5 ALBEGONE (27) (D)** **96**  
1308068-2 **8** 9-3 | 58.5kg

**Tim Easterby** **David Allan**  
Returned to form when second of 10 in a handicap at this C&D (25/1) last month, looking like he'd timed his challenge to perfection only to be nabbed by one played later. This 8-year-old hasn't had many tries on all-weather and should have more to offer now back on song.



**8 7 DIGITAL (IRE) (14) (CD)** **94**  
61-221512 **8** 9-2 | 58.1kg

**Ruth Carr** **James Sullivan**  
3-time C&D winner this winter and ran a crack when finding one too strong under a penalty here a fortnight ago, beaten a head. Nudged up 2 lb and would be folly to ignore.



**9 4 BLUE FORCE (IRE) (13) (CD)** **96**  
8491-6585 **5** 9-0 | 57.2kg

**Antony Brittain** **Cam Hardie**  
Won at Wolverhampton in December but has largely struggled since. Latest fifth of 12 at Southwell (33/1) was a step back in the right direction and he ought to benefit from this return to 5f.



**10 8 OUR ABSENT FRIENDS (IRE) (14) (CD)** **99**  
3451-2834 **8** 8-13 | 56.7kg

**Tristan Davidson** **Jason Hart**  
3-time C&D winner, most recently in December. Made the frame in 3 of 4 starts since, latest when fourth of 9 a fortnight ago. In the mix.



**11 6 HARB (14) (CD)** **93**  
45604-351 **7** 8-13 | 56.7kg

**Tristan Davidson** **C. Horgan (51b/2kg)**  
Went without headgear and landed C&D handicap a fortnight ago. That was his eighth career success, but it's probably worth noting he's yet to string back-to-back wins together.



**12 2 WATER OF LEITH (IRE) (16) (CD, BF)** **98**  
64-224422 **8** 8-11 | 55.8kg

**Jim Goldie** **Lauren Young (51b/2kg)**  
Proving consistent with back-to-back seconds at Wolverhampton last month, though beaten at odds on just over a fortnight ago. Returns to this C&D where a previous winner and drops back to the minimum trip.



12 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**6-1** Water of Leith, **13-2** Digital, **7-1** Harb, **15-2** Albegone, **8-1** Castan, **10-1** Lion's House, **12-1** Juan Les Pins, **16-1** Our Absent Friends, **20-1** Moonstone Boy, **20-1** Blue Force, **20-1** Dark Kestrel, **33-1** Pop Star

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

An open-looking sprint with plenty of course regulars in action. Preference is for LION'S HOUSE, who was unlucky not to record back-to-back wins having a rare start away from this track at Wolverhampton last month and Linda Perratt's 5-y-o has more races in him from this mark. Our Absent Friends has held his form well since notching a third C&D win so heads up the dangers, with Juan les Pins and Digital also considered, too.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. LION'S HOUSE 2. OUR ABSENT FRIENDS 3. JUAN LES PINS**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025 **Ganesha** 4-9-4      9-4 Phillip Makin      Rowan Scott      6

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

**8.00**

RACE 7

**DAILY PROFIT BOOSTS AT betmgm.co.uk CLASSIFIED STAKES (6) 4yo+ (Rated 0-50) £9,000 1m5y (1610 Metres)**



Going: **Standard**

Left-handed, oval. Newcastle switched from turf to all-weather during the winter of 2015/16, and like Wolverhampton, the surface it uses is tapeta. It differs from the majority of the all-weather tracks in that as well as a traditional oval, it has a floodlit straight mile course, which is uphill for the final four furlongs, meaning an ability to see out the trip is essential and those who press on too early can prove vulnerable in the later stages.

Draw: **N/A** Pace Information: **Even**

**1 8 ESQUE ELEGANCE (IRE) (14)** **100**  
0688-4322 **4** 9-9 | 61.2kg

Stephen Hanlon *Lauren Young (5lb/2kg)*  
Yet to win but was placed for a third consecutive start for current yard in 9-runner classified stakes over C&D (11/2) a fortnight ago. Looks sure to go well again.

**2 9 FUEL THE FIRE (IRE) (216)** **88**  
9768/76- **4** 9-9 | 61.2kg

Wilf Storey *Greg Fairley*  
Has little worthwhile form, including in first-time cheekpieces on latest outing.

**3 6 LADY DELILA (IRE) (34)** **83**  
079405-73 **6** 9-9 | 61.2kg

Iain Jardine *Mohammed Lyes Tabti (5lb/2kg)*  
Poor maiden but not long with Iain Jardine and latest third of 10 at Wolverhampton (8.6f) shows she can be competitive in classified company.

**4 2 MARTIN'S BRIG (IRE) (40) (CD)** **92**  
5223658-9 **9** 9-9 | 61.2kg

David Thompson *Mark Winn*  
3-time C&D winner though out of form recently, beating only one home in 10-runner classified stakes (20/1) over C&D in January. Hard to recommend on current evidence.

**5 3 SIR MAXI (18) (C)** **97**  
40-794283 **8** 9-9 | 61.2kg

Sam England *Cam Hardie*  
Shaped as if back in form returned to a more suitable trip when third in 10-runner event over C&D on most recent outing. Capable of going well again.

**6 5 STARSHOT (IRE) (18) (C)** **88**  
713753-84 **6** 9-9 | 61.2kg

Lawrence Mullaney *S. B. Kirrane*  
Very hard to win with and looks vulnerable from a win point of view despite running creditably in a reapplied tongue strap in a similar event over C&D on latest start.

**7 1 TOP GUN TINA (40) (D)** **85**  
7670-5446 **6** 9-9 | 61.2kg

David Thompson *Andrew Mullen*  
Seems to be going through the motions at present, finishing sixth of 10 in a classified stakes over C&D (20/1) on latest start. Others more persuasive.

**8 7 WHERE'S THE CRUMPET (60) (CD)** **95**  
3143738-3 **8** 9-9 | 61.2kg

David Thompson *Aiden Brookes*  
Shaped as if back in form when third of 12 at Southwell (22/1) in January. Shouldn't be far away if backing that up.

**9 4 WOODRAFF (9) (C, BF)** **98**  
156-36224 **5** 9-9 | 61.2kg

Ruth Carr *James Sullivan*  
Runner-up twice in similar events in February and shaped as if still in good form when fourth of 8 at Southwell (15/8F) on latest start. Should remain competitive back at 1m.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

**BETTING FORECAST:**

**10-3** Sir Maxi, **4-1** Woodraff, **9-2** Esque Elegance, **13-2** Wheres The Crumpet, **10-1** Starshot, **14-1** Lady Delila, **16-1** Martin's Brig, **16-1** Top Gun Tina, **50-1** bar

**TIMEFORM VIEW:**

ESQUE ELEGANCE is still searching for a first success, but she ran another good race for her current yard when runner-up over C&D on her most recent outing and a reproduction of that form may well suffice. Sir Maxi goes well at this track and heads up the opposition, along with Woodraff, who is also knocking on the door.

**TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**

**1. ESQUE ELEGANCE 2. SIR MAXI 3. WOODRAFF**

**WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	<b>Danehill Star</b> 4-9-9	15-2	Tony Carroll	Jack Doughty (3)	8
2024	<b>Ana Emaraaty</b> 4-9-9	2-1f	Jim Goldie	Paul Mulrennan	9
2023	<b>Agonyclite</b> 4-9-2	6-1	Ben Haslam	Paul Mulrennan	11

**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race