

Friday 8th May

CHESTER



1.30	CAA STELLAR GREAT CHESHIRE HANDICAP (2) 1¼m70y (2080 Metres)
RACE 1	(6) RESPOND (3) EL BURHAN (7) WHIP CRACKER
2.05	BOODLES DARLEY EBF MAIDEN STAKES (2) 1½m63y (2470 Metres)
RACE 2	(2) GALIYAN (4) JOULANY (3) GLORY OF THE SEAS
2.35	DEEPBRIDGE HUXLEY STAKES (Group 2) (1) 1¼m70y (2080 Metres)
RACE 3	(6) ROYAL RHYME (4) KING'S GAMBIT (1) BAY CITY ROLLER
3.05	LADBROKES CHESTER CUP (Heritage Handicap) (2) 2¼m140y (3750 Metres)
RACE 4	(3) MAXI KING (16) BLINDEDBYTHELIGHTS (8) GALILEO DAME
3.40	TOM JONES LIVE AT CHESTER RACECOURSE HANDICAP (4) 6f17y (1220 Metres)
RACE 5	(5) KINIRO (4) CLONMACASH (14) HOODIE HOO
4.10	LADBROKES GET A FREE RACE BET TODAY CHESTER PLATE HANDICAP (2) 2¼m140y (3750 Metres)
RACE 6	(10) SHRIMP SHADY (12) GIBSIDE (16) ST FAZ
4.45	IRISH THOROUGHBRED MARKETING HANDICAP (3) 5f15y (1020 Metres)
RACE 7	(4) ALVIN (6) CHAMPONIE (3) KOLKATA KNIGHT
5.20	CHESTER ROMAN DAY ON 30th MAY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (4) 1½m63y (2470 Metres)
RACE 8	(4) PATAGONIA GIRL (6) NIGHTSINWHITESATIN (14) NEWTOWN DUKE

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.

1.30

CAA STELLAR GREAT CHESHIRE HANDICAP (2) 4yo+ (Rated 0-105) £45,000 1¼m70y (2080 Metres)

RACE 1



Going: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

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

1 11 NORWALK HAVOC (23) s+t **95**
 60210-783 **5** 9-12 | 62.6kg
 Mrs J. Harrington, Ireland **D. B. McMonagle**
 Has good Leopardstown record, including successive wins in 1m listed race in October. Not at his best at the Curragh on his first 2 outings this year but right back on form when third to The Lion In Winter in another 1m listed race at Leopardstown 23 days ago. 1¼m has seemed to stretch him before.

2 6 GREAT DAVID (258) (D) **92**
 441/13555- **4** 9-11 | 62.1kg
 James Tate **James Doyle**
 Landed a 1¼m Nottingham handicap on his first start of 2025. Useful form in defeat at listed/Group 3 level after (including third in Dee over C&D) but returns to handicap company on reappearance from a mark which demands improvement.

3 7 EL BURHAN (IRE) (41) (C,D) t **99**
 113/1091-5 **4** 9-9 | 61.2kg
 George Boughey **Billy Loughnane**
 Successful over the extended 7f at this meeting last year. Firmly back on the up with a 1¼m win at Ayr (good to soft) last autumn and reappeared with a respectable fifth (Respond third) of 13 in the Rosebery at Kempton (11f) 6 weeks ago. Enters calculations.

4 14 AULD TOON LOON (IRE) (267) (CD) t **97**
 143/2001- **7** 9-6 | 59.9kg
 Tom Dascombe **Pierre-Louis Jamin**
 C&D winner who was a close second in this race on last year's reappearance. Ended 2025 with a career-best performance to win at Windsor (1¼m, firm) in August. Evidently capable fresh and C&D record affords him respect. Draw could be troublesome, though.

5 4 SAVVY VICTORY (IRE) (17) (D) **97**
 586054-47 **7** 9-5 | 59.4kg
 S. P. C. Woods **Clifford Lee**
 Smart at his peak but drew a blank in 2025 and hasn't shown enough in his 2 outings this year to think his losing run is likely to end now.

6 2 RESPOND (IRE) (41) (D, BF) h **100**
 62135-213 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg
 Andrew Balding **Oisin Murphy**
 Has continued his progress this year, settling better switched to front-running tactics when landing the odds at Chelmsford (1¼m) in March. Good third of 13 to Gamrai in Rosebery at Kempton (11f) 16 days later. Open to further improvement back on turf and plenty of appeal from good draw.

7 12 WHIP CRACKER (IRE) (20) s **98**
 920220-03 **5** 9-4 | 59.0kg
 Richard Hughes **Ryan Moore**
 Runner-up on 3 occasions in handicaps last term, including at Glorious Goodwood. Checked out rather tamely in the Irish Lincolnshire on reappearance but bounced back with a good third of 24 in the Spring Cup at Newbury (1m, good). Just as effective at 1¼m. Likely to be on the premises under Moore.

8 13 JANEY MACKERS (IRE) (181) (D) **95**
 31/660150- **4** 9-1 | 57.6kg
 David Menuisier **Hector Crouch**
 Useful effort to win a 1¼m Newbury handicap (good to soft) last September. Ran poorly in Doncaster listed race with a tongue tie added (quickly discarded) on final 3-y-o start. Reappears off 7 lb above the mark she defied at Newbury and a big career best will be needed.

9 1 BRAGBOR (35) (D) **96**
 1213224-7 **5** 8-13 | 56.7kg
 Richard & Peter Fahey **Warren Fentiman** (3lb/1kg)
 Consistent sort who has raced only on all-weather to date. Sound reappearance effort when seventh of 14 in a competitive 1¼m Newcastle handicap on Good Friday. Ought to be competitive if as effective on turf.

10 8 BRAVAIS (62) **88**
 22027-500 **6** 8-11 | 55.8kg
 Ian Williams **David Probert**
 Useful for Ger Lyons in Ireland last year but hasn't offered much in 4 starts for current yard, returning with a leg wound at Wolverhampton a couple of months ago. Engaged 4.10 here Thursday.

11 9 CLOUDS HILL (IRE) (5lb/2kg ex) (8) (D) **93**
 2217-1 **4** 8-10 | 55.3kg
 Charlie Johnston **Jason Hart**
 All-weather winner last year who improved to make a successful reappearance in 5-runner handicap at Yarmouth (1¼m, good to firm) 8 days ago, pushed out to score by 2 lengths. Has a 5 lb penalty in a much stronger race now.

12 10 CALLIANASSA (IRE) (26) **96**
 1103-1557 **5** 8-5 | 53.1kg
 Brian Ellison **Sean Dylan Bowen**
 All 4 wins on all-weather, the latest on 1m Newcastle reappearance. Respectable efforts in defeat since, including 4 lengths seventh of 11 back on turf at Musselburgh (1m) 26 days ago. First attempt at 1¼m.

13 3 TRIPLE DOUBLE A (IRE) (20) (D) s+t **96**
 12544-177 **4** 8-4 | 52.6kg
 Hugo Palmer **Luke Morris**
 Completed a hat-trick around 1m in first half of 2025. Resumed winning ways when stepped up to 1¼m on Newcastle reappearance in February but has been found out off his revised mark since, including behind a couple of these in the Rosebery.

14 5 ECHALAR (IRE) (11) h **89**
 40-190667 **4** 8-2(7-13) | 51.7kg (50.3kg)
 Ian Williams **Duran Fentiman**
 Successful over 7f at Wolverhampton in January for Jane Chapple-Hyam but sixth is the best he's managed in 4 all-weather starts for Ian Williams. Reported to have bled from the nose when seventh of 9 at Wolverhampton (9.5f) last time. 3 lb out of handicap.

14 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-3 Respond, **13-2** Whip Cracker, **8-1** Auld Toon Loon, **9-1** El Burhan, **10-1** Clouds Hill, **12-1** Norwalk Havoc, **16-1** Bragbor, **18-1** Callianassa, **20-1** Janey Mackers, **25-1** Great David, **28-1** Savvy Victory, **28-1** Triple Double A, **33-1** Echalar, **200-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

RESPOND has a good draw for one who has been ridden from the front in recent starts and this progressive 4-y-o makes obvious appeal for a leading stable. El Burhan, who won at this meeting last year, was just under 3 lengths behind the selection at Kempton last time but is entitled to come on for that first run of the season and is feared most ahead of Whip Cracker.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. RESPOND 2. EL BURHAN 3. WHIP CRACKER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Let's Dream 4-8-2	33-1	Michael Bell	Warren Fentiman (5)	9
2024	City Streak 5-8-12	9-4f	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	7
2023	Pride of America 6-9-6	4-1	Amy Murphy	Hollie Doyle	9
2022	Baryshnikov 6-8-9	5-2	David & Nicola Barron	Connor Beasley	7
2021	Dark Pine 4-8-10	16-1	David Loughnane	Laura Pearson (5)	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.05**BOODLES DARLEY EBF MAIDEN STAKES (2) 3yo £40,000
1½m63y (2470 Metres)**

RACE 2

GBI RACINGGoing: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

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

1 5 EBEN AL KHAWANEEJ (IRE) (20) 77
6 3 9-7 | 60.3kg



Owen Burrows

Daniel Muscutt

Showed ability but looked badly in need of the experience when sixth (Glory of The Seas fourth) of 8 in 11f maiden at Newbury (good) on debut 20 days ago. Likely to progress but a big chunk of improvement will be needed if he's to provide his owner/trainer with a second successive win in this.

2 6 GALIYAN (22) 92
4 3 9-7 | 60.3kg

Andrew Balding **Oisin Murphy**

Galiway colt who very much caught the eye when 7 lengths fourth of 5 in a strong Newmarket novice (1¼m, good to firm) on debut 22 days ago, running green in rear but keeping on well in the final 1f. Up in trip. Has the potential for significant improvement.

3 3 GLORY OF THE SEAS (20) 84
2-4 3 9-7 | 60.3kg

Roger Varian **Billy Loughnane**

550,000 gns Sea The Stars colt who has shown plenty of potential on both starts, latterly finishing fourth of 8 in 11f maiden at Newbury (good) on reappearance 3 weeks ago. Should have more to offer.

4 4 JOULANY (IRE) (21) 100
24-3 3 9-7 | 60.3kg



Ralph Beckett

Hector Crouch

800,000 gns Sea The Stars colt who has shown useful form in defeat in his 3 starts, finishing a close third of 10 in valuable novice at Newbury (1¼m, good) on reappearance 3 weeks ago. The hood worn on that occasion is left off now. Up in trip. Sets the standard.

5 2 TAKE A CHILL PILL (22) 75
5 3 9-7 | 60.3kg

James Owen **Luke Morris**

18/1, showed ability when fifth of 10 in newcomers race at Newmarket (1m, good to firm) 22 days ago. In top hands but he'll need to improve a good deal for the significantly longer trip if he's to play a prominent role.

6 7 DISTORTED TRUTH (IRE) (69) 80
26 3 9-2 | 58.1kg



K. R. Burke

Clifford Lee

Camelot filly who showed fair form when second on 11f Kempton debut in January but folded tamely at Southwell (11f again) the following month. Off 10 weeks ahead of this switch to turf. Looks up against it.

7 1 MORNINGTONCRESCENT (IRE) (21) 82
6-6 3 9-2 | 58.1kg

Charlie Fellowes **Harry Davies**

Sixth in maidens at Wolverhampton (9.5f) and Newbury (1¼m) 4 months apart. Showed definite promise in a warm race at the latter track and the step up to 1½m promises to suit her.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-8 Joulany, **5-2** Galiyan, **6-1** Glory of The Seas, **18-1** Eben Al Khawaneej, **20-1** Take A Chill Pill, **22-1** Morningtoncrescent, **33-1** Distorted Truth

TIMEFORM VIEW:

GALIYAN made a highly promising start to his career in a good race at Newmarket and is taken to improve past the useful Joulany. Glory of The Seas looks best of the remainder.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GALIYAN 2. JOULANY 3. GLORY OF THE SEAS

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Al Wasl Storm 3-9-7	9-1	Owen Burrows	David Probert	6
2024	Mina Rashid 3-9-7	17-2	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	5
2023	Banderas 3-9-7	5-4f	Michael Bell	Ryan Moore	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.35

DEEPBRIDGE HUXLEY STAKES (Group 2) (1) 4yo+ £170,000
1¼m70y (2080 Metres)

RACE 3



Going: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

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

1 7 BAY CITY ROLLER (IRE) (181) 95
 1/2262241- 4 9-8 | 60.8kg



George Scott **Oisin Murphy**
 Runner-up in 3 Group 2s in France before easily winning a soft-ground Group 1 at Munich (1½m) on his final 3-y-o start, taking advantage of the odds-on favourite failing to fire. That very smart performance gives him leading form claims here, even under a 3 lb penalty.

2 4 HIGH STOCK (186) 92
 12044- 4 9-3 | 58.5kg



Andrew Balding **David Probert**
 Made a very good start to his career last spring, winning maiden at Newmarket and runner-up in the Dee over C&D this meeting. Ran well when fourth in a listed event at Goodwood on his penultimate start but rather laboured at Kempton after and he'll need to improve returning from 6 months off.

3 3 ICE MAX (26) 96
 7265711-5 5 9-3 | 58.5kg



K. R. Burke **Sam James**
 Made his class tell with an authoritative success in handicap company at York (1m, good) in October before following up in ready fashion in a Nottingham listed event (8.3f) later that month. Raced too freely when only mid-field in a Dusseldorf Group 3 last month but claims if able to bounce back.

4 5 KING'S GAMBIT (IRE) (23) (D) 94
 37/46352-2 5 9-3 | 58.5kg



Harry Charlton **James Doyle**
 Won the London Gold Cup on return last year and even better form when placed in listed/Group races next 3 outings. Ran creditably despite looking in need of a greater test when 3¼ lengths second of 6 to Damysus in the Earl of Sefton (9f) at Newmarket 3 weeks ago and he holds solid claims.

5 2 LAMBOURN (IRE) (237) (C) 100
 15/211154- 4 9-3 | 58.5kg



Aidan O'Brien, Ireland **Ryan Moore**
 Last year's Chester Vase winner looked the leading middle-distance 3-y-o when taking the 18-runner Derby at Epsom before pulling out all the stops to follow up in the Irish Derby. Mid-division in the Voltigeur and St Leger subsequently and he's not certain to be suited by shorter trip on return.

6 8 ROYAL RHYME (IRE) (19) (D, BF) 98
 54673/35-6 6 9-3 | 58.5kg



K. R. Burke **Clifford Lee**
 Campaigned mostly in Group 1 company since winning the Brigadier Gerard Stakes just over 2 years ago. Ran only twice in 2025 but shaped as if retaining ability when sixth to Starford in Alleged Stakes at the Curragh on comeback, going with plenty of zest before lack of recent run told late. Player.

7 9 STARFORD (IRE) (19) (D) 95
 711217-51 4 9-3 | 58.5kg



Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland **D. B. McMonagle**
 Smart handicap performance to win over 11f at Listowel last September and made the breakthrough at pattern level in the Alleged Stakes at the Curragh (1¼m, heavy) 19 days ago. This trip is perhaps a minimum for him though, so the speed-favouring nature of Chester might not suit quite as well.

8 6 SKY SAFARI (76) (D) 95
 120111-21 5 9-0 | 57.2kg



James Fanshawe **Daniel Muscutt**
 Signed off 2025 by winning pair of Kempton handicaps and 10-runner listed event at Lingfield (1m) in November. Better than ever when beating 4 rivals to take the Winter Derby (1¼m, all-weather) back at Lingfield 76 days ago but no certainty that she'll be as effective back on turf.

9 1 SPARKS FLY (40) (CD) 95
 111/8381-0 6 9-0 | 57.2kg



David Loughnane **Billy Loughnane**
 Mudlark recorded a hat-trick of listed race victories in late 2024 and produced the best effort of an otherwise mediocre 2025 campaign when taking the Group 3 Prix Perth (1m, soft) at Saint-Cloud in October. Probably needed the run there on return but she looks opposable with conditions against her.

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Lambourn, **9-2** Bay City Roller, **6-1** Royal Rhyme, **6-1** King's Gambit, **7-1** Starford, **12-1** Ice Max, **18-1** Sky Safari, **33-1** Sparks Fly, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ROYAL RHYME presumably had his problems to be seen just twice in 2025 but he shaped very well for a long way on return at the Curragh and he might be worth chancing in a competitive-looking renewal of the Huxley. King's Gambit kept good company last year and was an encouraging second over a shorter trip at Newmarket last month, so is shortlisted alongside the likeable Bay City Roller, who signed off his 3-y-o season by winning a Group 1 in Germany.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ROYAL RHYME 2. KING'S GAMBIT 3. BAY CITY ROLLER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	The Foxes 5-9-3	13-8f	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	6
2024	Passenger 4-9-3	7-4	Sir Michael Stoute	Richard Kingscote	6
2023	Point Lonsdale 4-9-3	5-6f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	6
2022	Solid Stone 6-9-3	4-1	Sir Michael Stoute	Ryan Moore	4
2021	Armory 4-9-1	6-5f	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	4

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.05

**LADBROKES CHESTER CUP (Heritage Handicap) (2) 4yo+
£170,000 2¼m140y (3750 Metres)**

RACE 4



Going: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

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

1 13 AIMERIC (186) (C, BF) 93
24332/275- 7 9-12 | 62.6kg

Jennie Candlish *Darragh Keenan*
Ran close to his smart best when second in 1¾m Musselburgh handicap last spring but followed that with 2 poor runs in the autumn and, having left Karl Burke, could only manage a remote fourth on his recent hurdle debut for new connections. Plenty to prove.

2 1 A PIECE OF HEAVEN (FR) (35) t 97
1732/3-22 8 9-6 | 59.9kg

Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *D. B. McMonagle*
Lightly raced in recent years but his seconds in conditions races at Dundalk (10.7f) and the Curragh (1¾m, heavy) this spring suggest all his ability remains. One of 3 for Joseph O'Brien. Should be able to get a handy position from his inside stall.

3 8 MAXI KING (IRE) (181) ★ 100
0568/3434- 6 9-5 | 59.4kg

Kevin Philippart de Foy *Toby Moore (71lb/3kg)*
Won first time out in 2023 and 2024. Creditable efforts in defeat in good races last season, ending his campaign with fourth of 22 in November Handicap at Doncaster (1½m, heavy). Good record fresh and capable of having a big say if his stamina holds up in trip (unproven beyond 1¾m).

4 11 TASHKHAN (IRE) (181) (CD) 92
930/66070- 8 9-3 | 58.5kg

Brian Ellison *Ben Robinson*
C&D winner in autumn 2023 but that was his last success on the Flat. Fit from hurdling (won a maiden over the winter) but little in his recent Flat exploits to suggest he'll come out on top here.

5 10 SPIRIT MIXER (41) (C) ✓ 97
7215714-3 8 9-1 | 57.6kg

Andrew Balding *Rob Hornby*
Four-time course winner at up to 2m. Arrives on the back of a creditable reappearance third over 2m at Kempton but seventh is the best he's managed in 2 previous attempts in this race.

6 15 BERKSHIRE SUNDANCE (IRE) (35) s 97
12/181-011 6 9-1 | 57.6kg

Andrew Balding *Oisin Murphy*
Enhanced his very good strike-rate in handicaps when winning a competitive 2m race at Newcastle on Good Friday in first-time cheekpieces (retained). A further 7 lb rise demands more but no surprise were he to find it.

7 16 DURAJI (IRE) (70) 95
6584940-6 5 9-0 | 57.2kg

Richard Hughes *Finley Marsh*
Useful performer. Hooded first time, respectable sixth of 8 in 2m handicap at Lingfield on reappearance in February (final start for Dermot Weld). The hood is discarded on first start for new yard. Well treated on peak form but stall 16 could be awkward.

8 6 GALILEO DAME (IRE) (39) 96
0622/000-2 5 8-12 | 56.2kg

Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *Ryan Moore*
Won over hurdles in February prior to making a good return to the Flat when second of 11 in handicap at Navan (1¾m, heavy) 39 days ago, clear of rest. Her hurdles exploits provide hope that she'll have the stamina for this longer trip. Shortlisted under Ryan Moore.

9 7 MOON OVER MIAMI (FR) (34) 98
11/5461-5 5 8-12 | 56.2kg

Ralph Beckett *Hector Crouch*
Couldn't make it 4-4 on turf when fifth of 13 to Team Player in 1¾m Musselburgh handicap over Easter but it still rates a respectable return from 12 months off and he should be all the sharper now. Remains unexposed as a stayer and one of the more likely types.

10 17 PUTURHANDSTOGETHER (IRE) (222) 96
73217/31- 5 8-11 | 55.8kg

Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland *Billy Loughnane*
In good form last autumn, including a Flat win in the Irish Cesarewitch at the Curragh (2m, soft). Failed to get involved in good handicap hurdles at Cheltenham and Fairyhouse this spring but could fare better back on the Flat. The outside stall is far from ideal, though.

11 9 ZANNDABAD (IRE) (237) t 98
366/7049- 7 8-10 | 55.3kg

A. J. Martin, Ireland *Clifford Lee*
Looked unlucky not to go very close when fourth at last year's York Ebor meeting and scored twice over hurdles in the autumn. Never involved in a Grade 1 novice hurdle back from a break at Aintree last month but should strip fitter with that behind him. Third in this off 1 lb higher in 2024.

12 12 TEAM PLAYER (34) (C) t 97
132313-11 4 8-10 | 55.3kg

Ewan Whillans *Greg Fairley*
Has won both starts for Ewan Whillans, latterly a well-contested handicap over 1¾m at Musselburgh (soft) over Easter, with reopposing Moon Over Miami fifth. Hit with a 9 lb rise but he did it readily and may have even more to come for his new stable.

13 3 CHEMISTRY (IRE) (78) 97
120/304-84 5 8-9 | 54.9kg

Jennie Candlish *David Probert*
Listed winner over 1¾m for Aidan O'Brien in 2024. Fourth of 11 in 2m Newcastle handicap in February (final start for Ivan Furtado) shows he's still useful and he made a successful hurdle debut for Jennie Candlish at Sedgefield last month.

14 5 LIPS FREEDOM (GER) (201) t 87
352150/50- 6 8-9 | 54.9kg

Andrew Kinirons, Ireland *Ashley Lewis (51lb/2kg)*
Proved a different proposition over hurdles under a change of tactics (also tongue tied first time) when winning 2¼m Downpatrick handicap (soft) 6 weeks ago. Listed winner on the Flat in Italy earlier in his career but hasn't shown enough in his Flat starts for this yard to fancy him here.

15 14 ALPHONSE LE GRANDE (IRE) (14) (CD) t 99
81/08587-0 7 8-9 | 54.9kg

A. J. Martin, Ireland *Jamie Powell*
Won the Plate over C&D in 2024 and landed the Cesarewitch at Newmarket later that year. Failed to win in 2025 but wasn't seen to best effect on several occasions, including at Royal Ascot. Likely he needed last month's Cork reappearance over an inadequate trip and this test is much more suitable.

16 4 BLINDEDBYTHELIGHTS (GER) (41) (BF) b 99
4/222-2 6 8-9 | 54.9kg

Sir Mark Prescott Bt *Luke Morris*
Has hung under pressure but his form is largely progressive, returning from 8 months off to finish second again at Kempton (2m) 6 weeks ago. Well drawn for one who is usually ridden prominently and won't need to pull out much more for a change of headgear (first-time blinkers for cheekpieces).

17 2 PEAKY BLINDER (GER) (29) s 94
63391-1 4 8-8 | 54.4kg

Andrew Balding *Jason Watson*
Low-mileage son of Soldier Hollow who ended 2025 with a win over 1¾m at Redcar (good to soft) and improved again to readily see off 4 rivals on 2m Southwell reappearance 4 weeks ago. Has a good draw and interesting having snuck in at the foot of the weights.

17 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

17-2 Blindedbythelights, 17-2 Galileo Dame, 10-1 Moon Over Miami, 10-1 Berkshire Sundance, 10-1 Puturhandstogeth, 11-1 A Piece of Heaven, 12-1 Spirit Mixer, 14-1 Team Player, 16-1 Zanndabad, 18-1 Peaky Blinder, 20-1 Maxi King, 22-1 Alphonse Le Grande, 22-1 Duraji, 25-1 Chemistry, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A strong record fresh swings the vote the way of MAXI KING. His form in top-end handicaps at up to 1¾m last season is solid and a bold bid is likely under Toby Moore if his stamina holds. Blindedbythelights, Galileo Dame, Moon Over Miami, 2024 Chester Plate winner Alphonse Le Grande and the unexposed Peaky Blinder head the many dangers.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MAXI KING 2. BLINDEDBYTHELIGHTS 3. GALILEO DAME

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	East India Dock	4-8-8	9-4f	James Owen	Harry Davies	15
2024	Zoffee	8-8-7	9-1	Hugo Palmer	Harry Davies	16
2023	Metier	7-9-1	5-1	Harry Fry	Saffie Osborne	16
2022	Cleveland	4-9-0	6-1	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	14
2021	Falcon Eight	6-9-10	15-2	D. K. Weld	Frankie Dettori	16

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.40

**TOM JONES LIVE AT CHESTER RACECOURSE HANDICAP (4)
4yo+ (Rated 0-80) £30,000 6f17y (1220 Metres)**

RACE 5



Going: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

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

1 15 BRIGHT (IRE) (91) (D) 99
5250661-0 **6** 9-7 | 60.3kg
Mark Loughnane **Billy Loughnane**
Back to his best when winning 10-runner handicap at Newcastle in December but wasn't seen to best effect the way the race developed back there 5 weeks later. Freshened up since but faces an uphill task from stall 15.

2 5 ROSENPUR (GER) (9) (C) h 99
016320-26 **6** 9-7 | 60.3kg
Jennie Candlish **Darragh Keenan**
Had a highly productive and busy 2025, winning 5 times on all-weather/turf (including twice here). Resumed with a solid second at Catterick last month but was unable to build on that at Musselburgh a week later. Respected back at this track.

3 10 NOBLE CONSORT (226) (D) v 99
1/2112161- **5** 9-7 | 60.3kg
Julie Camacho **Non Runner**
NON RUNNER.

4 1 CLONMACASH (37) (D) v 99
41277341 **5** 9-7 | 60.3kg
Adrian McGuinness, Ireland **Adam Caffrey**
Did the job well when winning 7f handicap at Dundalk in January and doubled his tally for the year back at that same course 5 weeks ago, a good test over 6f suiting him well. 3 lb rise far from insurmountable and he's landed the plum draw.

5 11 KINIRO (206) (D) ★ 100
30346331- **4** 9-7 | 60.3kg
Dan Horsford **Oisin Murphy**
Found some improvement to land a second career success in 9-runner handicap at Lingfield (6f) 6 months ago, getting a good run through along the inside but settling things nicely nonetheless. Has since left Harry Charlton (40,000 gns) but considered with Murphy retaining the partnership.

6 8 MIRACULOUS (IRE) (30) (CD) 98
4130279-6 **4** 9-7 | 60.3kg
Tim Easterby **S. B. Kirrane**
C&D winner last July but having ended his time with Roger Varian well below par, he shaped as if badly needing the run on first start for this yard at Catterick last month. Handicapper continues to ease his grip (now below his last winning mark).

7 3 SECRET GUEST (30) (D) 96
838-62058 **6** 9-6 | 59.9kg
Bryan Smart **Paul Mulrennan**
Fourteen runs since last win in 2025 and never figured back on turf at Catterick last month.

8 6 JONNY CONCRETE (IRE) (231) (D) s 99
91/122790- **5** 9-6 | 59.9kg
Iain Jardine **Jason Hart**
Returned an improved model last season with a win and couple of runner-up efforts before his form tailed off in the summer. Returns just 2 lb above his last successful mark and his usual cheekpieces are reapplied.

9 14 KIRKDALE (IRE) (27) (D) v 98
46224-411 **4** 9-6 | 59.9kg
Edward Bethell **Hector Crouch**
Has returned an improved model after an 11-week break this year, winning back-to-back handicaps at Wolverhampton and Southwell last month, things setting up nicely for his late charge last time. In good heart but is the type who needs things to drop right and stall 14 may prove problematic.

10 16 QUEUE DOS (29) (D) b 98
6710341-4 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg
J. S. Moore **Taylor Fisher**
All 4 of her wins have come at Wolverhampton, including a career-best effort when scoring on Boxing Day. Below form after 3 months off back there recently and has it all to do from the widest stall.

11 13 AISLING OSCAR (IRE) (12) s 98
11274427 **5** 9-5 | 59.4kg
Adrian Keatley **Toby Moore (71lb/3kg)**
Matched a 30-year modern-day record of 8 straight handicap wins at Southwell in February and emerged with credit in defeat over a trip on the short side for him when runner-up over 6f at Wolverhampton in March. Not quite so good back on turf last time and others preferred kept to this trip.

12 2 MANILA SCOUSE (213) (D) t 97
76167044- **7** 9-5 | 59.4kg
Tim Easterby **Duran Fentiman**
Opened his 2025 account at Thirk last summer and held his form pretty well thereafter, including back over the minimum trip at Leicester on final outing. Has gone well fresh in the past so certainly not ruled out for a yard amongst the winners.

13 12 INTERVENTION (12) (D) 98
62780404 **9** 9-5 | 59.4kg
Michael Appleby **Harry Davies**
Was kept busy last year and recorded 4 wins, including the Great St Wilfrid Handicap at Ripon (6f). Went without his usual headgear and did all he could from a slipping mark when fourth of 10 in handicap at Nottingham (5f, good) 12 days ago and quickly returns to 6f.

14 4 HOODIE HOO (IRE) (18) (D) t 98
8408246-2 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg
Charles Hills **Jason Watson**
Wolverhampton maiden winner last spring and has posted some solid efforts in defeat since, not least returning from a 6-month absence when second of 5 in handicap at Lingfield (6f) recently. Every chance he will go close with that under his belt.

15 9 PAWS FOR THOUGHT (IRE) (202) (CD) 99
89273109- **8** 9-5 | 59.4kg
Donald McCain **Pierre-Louis Jamin**
Eased in weights and confirmed promise of previous start when landing 9-runner handicap here in September (sixth course win). Ended his campaign on a bit of a low note with a couple of below-par efforts and it's hard not to think he'll prove vulnerable to younger legs.

16 7 THE GOOD BISCUIT (9) (D) 99
499311-32 **5** 9-4 | 59.0kg
Ruth Carr **Warren Fentiman (31lb/1kg)**
Ended 2025 with victories at Pontefract and Catterick in October. Has picked up from where he left off this season, getting the race run to suit when second of 6 in handicap at former track (6f, good) 9 days ago. Each-way claims once again.

16 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-1 Kirkdale, **6-1** Clonmacash, **7-1** Kiniro, **9-1** The Good Biscuit, **14-1** Intervention, **14-1** Hoodie Hoo, **16-1** Miraculous, **16-1** Manila Scouse, **18-1** Rosenpur, **20-1** Bright, **33-1** Paws For Thought, **33-1** Queue Dos, **33-1** Secret Guest, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Cases can be made for a number of these but the most persuasive is for KINIRO, who was an authoritative winner on final start for Harry Charlton at Lingfield back in October and can pick up from where he left off with Murphy retaining the ride. Clonmacash arrives on the back of a career-best effort and having landed the plum stall, he may provide most resistance. Hoodie Hoo and Rosenpur are another couple worthy of a mention, too.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. KINIRO 2. CLONMACASH 3. HOODIE HOO

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.10

LADBROKES GET A FREE RACE BET TODAY CHESTER PLATE HANDICAP (2) 4yo+ £50,000 2¼m140y (3750 Metres)


RACE 6





Going: **Good**


Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.


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


1 13 HAMSIYANN (IRE) (193) t **91**
 2/80- **6** 9-12 | 62.6kg
 **A. J. Martin, Ireland** **Oisin Murphy**
 Shaped well when runner-up to a stablemate in this corresponding event in 2024 but well held both starts in this code since and ran poorly at Aintree on most recent jumps start, adding to the belief that he's become something of an underachiever.


2 8 SAX APPEAL (23) **96**
 31-257383 **6** 9-12 | 62.6kg
 **Charlie Johnston** **Jason Hart**
 Enjoyed a productive campaign in 2025, winning 7 times. Form mixed more recently but was probably ridden a little too aggressively at Beverley (2m) last time.


3 4 TRIBAL STAR (IRE) (35) s **97**
 430-3344 **5** 9-10 | 61.7kg
 **Adrian McGuinness, Ireland** **Adam Caffrey**
 Typically gave another good account of himself on a British raid when fourth of 12 in 2m handicap at Newcastle last month. Cheekpieces refitted on this return to turf and he has solid each-way claims.


4 17 WHO'S GLEN (FR) (213) (C) ✓ **96**
 15/250865- **5** 9-10 | 61.7kg
 **Donald McCain** **Paul Mulrennan**
 Finished a respectable fifth in last year's Chester Cup (for Andrew Balding) but regressed after and, while placed on his last 2 hurdle outings, the form is only fair.


5 10 KATE O'RILEY (34) **94**
 1/1504-623 **4** 9-9 | 61.2kg
 **James Owen** **Luke Morris**
 Matched the pick of last year's form trying 1¼m for the first time when a distant third in a listed race (33/1) at Musselburgh (1¼m, soft) on latest start. Has a more realistic chance now returning to handicap company and her pedigree provides hope she'll stay the still longer trip.


6 5 KINGSTONIAN (227) **97**
 8/20413- **4** 9-9 | 61.2kg
 **Joseph Patrick O'Brien, Ireland** **D. B. McMonagle**
 Made the most of a good opportunity when off the mark in a 1½m maiden at Tramore in August. Didn't fully see out the 2f longer trip on his handicap debut/final start for Mrs J. Harrington at Listowel next time so stamina is an obvious question mark.


7 2 MR ESCOBAR (IRE) (434) b+t **98**
 26/0- **8** 9-9 | 61.2kg
 **W. P. Mullins, Ireland** **Sean Dylan Bowen**
 Quirky sort who landed the odds in a Sedgefield novice in November 2024. Placed in 2 handicaps at Plumpton on consecutive days later that season but disappointing since (including over fences). First-time blinkers need to have a positive effect on return to this code.


8 12 CALL MY BLUFF (IRE) (3lb/1kg ex) (21) (C) s **97**
 94-91 **9** 9-6 | 59.9kg
 **Dominic Ffrench Davis** **John Egan**
 Took advantage of a much-reduced mark to end a losing run that stretched back to June 2021 in 6-runner handicap at Newbury (16.5f, good) 21 days ago, albeit seen to something like maximum effect. Carries 3 lb penalty and circumstances unlikely to be so favourable this time.

9 1 CARLTON (29) v **87**
 15221-215 **6** 9-5 | 59.4kg
 **James Owen** **David Probert**
 Recorded win number 7 at Chelmsford in February and followed up in convincing fashion back over hurdles at Huntingdon. Possibly amiss when well beaten at Southwell subsequently but faces no easy task returning to turf in this code.


10 11 SHRIMP SHADY (35) (BF) ★ **100**
 1/372-4412 **4** 9-5 | 59.4kg
 **Andrew Balding** **Rob Hornby**
 In good order on the all-weather since returning from a break in December, emerging on top in a very tight finish at Wolverhampton (1¼m) in March. Progressed again when finding only one too good upped to 2m at Lingfield since and should be at least as effective back on turf.


11 15 IMPERIAL SOVEREIGN (IRE) (12) **98**
 036423-43 **5** 9-5 | 59.4kg
 **Philip Kirby** **Billy Loughnane**
 Remains with just a sole success - which came on debut when with another yard - but nevertheless offered something to work on back on turf when third in 6-runner (1¼m, good) handicap at Nottingham recently. Step back up in trip in his favour and Billy Loughnane is a positive jockey booking.


12 16 GIBSIDE (13) (CD) ✓ **99**
 787615-56 **7** 9-4 | 59.0kg
 **Tim Easterby** **Duran Fentiman**
 Proved at least as good as ever when landing this race from a 1 lb lower mark last year and has tuned up for his repeat bid with a couple of spins over shorter trips.

13 7 IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU (IRE) (223) (C, BF) s **97**
 42311/018- **6** 9-4 | 59.0kg
 **Jennie Candlish** **Darragh Keenan**
 Showed the benefit of his reappearance when resuming winning ways in determined fashion here (2m) in August. Failed to meet expectations back over hurdles 10 days later though and was below form returned to this code at Ripon on final start in September. Off since.

14 3 MORNING AIR (FR) (334) **90**
 442/98- **5** 9-2 | 58.1kg
 **Venetia Williams** **Jason Watson**
 Not discredited when ninth of 15 in last year's Chester Cup but not in the same form at Goodwood next time and has been disappointing in 3 runs over hurdles this year. Plenty to prove.

15 6 WAHRAAN (FR) (23) h+t **93**
 988572-64 **8** 9-2 | 58.1kg
 **Jessica Bedi** **Shay Farmer (7lb/3kg)**
 On a going day when fifth in competitive handicap at Galway Festival on stable debut last summer but hit-and miss under both codes since, typically doing plenty wrong when fourth of 5 at Beverley (2m) on most recent outing. Others more persuasive.

16 14 ST FAZ (FR) (3lb/1kg ex) (12) s **99**
 06/0-11171 **6** 9-2 | 58.1kg
 **Adrian Keatley** **M. P. Sheehy**
 Resumed his progress to make it 4 wins from 5 starts for current yard in 8-runner handicap at Musselburgh (2m, good) 12 days ago, suited by emphasis on stamina. Has more on his plate in this company but thriving and shouldn't be taken lightly under a penalty.

17 9 BOXING GREAT (IRE) (140) **97**
 4/2783551- **6** 9-0 | 57.2kg
 **Karl Thornton, Ireland** **R. C. Colgan**
 Landed a gamble when opening his account in 14-runner handicap at Dundalk (2m) in December. Longer trip well worth exploring on return to turf.

17 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-2 Shrimp Shady, **9-1** St Faz, **11-1** Tribal Star, **12-1** Kingstonian, **14-1** Gibside, **14-1** Boxing Great, **14-1** Kate O'riley, **16-1** Imperial Sovereign, **16-1** Call My Bluff, **16-1** Sax Appeal, **20-1** Hamsiyann, **22-1** It's All About You, **22-1** Who's Glen, **25-1** Mr Escobar, **25-1** Carlton, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

SHRIMP SHADY has a progressive profile, going down only to one in the form of his life at Lingfield on his most recent outing and, with every reason to believe he'll be at least as effective back on turf, he looks a solid proposition, especially with the still longer trip likely to be within range. Last year's winner Gibside should be spot on for his repeat bid having warmed up with 2 runs over shorter trips, while St Faz continues to thrive for his current yard and must be shortlisted.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. SHRIMP SHADY 2. GIBSIDE 3. ST FAZ

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Gibside 6-9-11	9-1	Tim Easterby	Duran Fentiman	11
2024	Alphonse Le Grande 5-8-10	17-2	A. J. Martin	William Buick	16
2023	Zinc White 5-9-11	33-1	Ian Williams	Jim Crowley	14
2022	Bellatrixa 5-9-4	13-8f	Venetia Williams	Franny Norton	11
2021	Green Book 4-8-6	5-1	Venetia Williams	Franny Norton	13

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.45

**IRISH THOROUGHBRED MARKETING HANDICAP (3) 3yo
(Rated 0-90) £30,000 5f15y (1020 Metres)**

RACE 7



Going: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

Draw: **Strongly Against High** Pace Information: **Extreme**

1 9 EXCLAMATION (IRE) (20) (D) 93
201250-90 3 9-9 | 61.2kg

Grace Harris *Ashley Lewis (51lb/2kg)*
Doncaster novice winner who failed to give his running dropped into a similar grade at Thirk last time (reportedly lost his action) and has something to find at the weights, even if back on song.

2 2 TEMPLE OF ATHENA (2) (CD) 94
05163-170 3 9-8 | 60.8kg

Brian Ellison *Ben Robinson*
Added to last season's C&D nursery victory when successful on reappearance at Wolverhampton. Mid-field in a listed race at Bath next time before finishing well held over 6f here on Wednesday.

3 12 KOLKATA KNIGHT (IRE) (38) (D, BF) 99
10541-2 3 9-6 | 59.9kg

Tom Dascombe *Pierre-Louis Jamin*
Dual juvenile winner was much improved when running a next-time-out scorer close on his return (following a gelding operation) at Wolverhampton in late-March, and that form puts him firmly in the mix, for all his draw is a tricky one.

4 11 ALVIN (IRE) (61b/3kg ex) (11) (D) 100
56-41831 3 9-6 | 59.9kg

George Scott *Hector Crouch*
Promising sort made amends for his unlucky third on All-Weather Finals Day when comfortably winning a Bath handicap last time, and while stall 11 is far from ideal, he's well-in under a penalty.

5 15 OLD IS GOLD (IRE) (14) (D, BF) 92
31830-6 3 9-5 | 59.4kg

Andrew Balding *Non Runner*
Strong-travelling sort had some solid 2-y-o form but wasn't seen to best effect on his return (gelded in the interim) at Sandown. He isn't one to write off this season but has a poor draw to overcome on this occasion.

6 7 CHAMPONIE (59) 96
11 3 9-4 | 59.0kg

George Boughey *Billy Loughnane*
Beat a next-time-out winner to justify support on debut at Newcastle before following up with a bit in hand at Wolverhampton in March, and while this is a very different test for one who's still learning, she's thoroughly unexposed ahead of her handicap/turf debut.

7 13 INCA HEIGHTS (IRE) (216) (D) 89
19200- 3 9-4 | 59.0kg

Clive Cox *Clifford Lee*
Backed up his Newbury debut success when runner-up in a Salisbury novice but was found out in a pair of valuable sales races after and faces a tall order from stall 13 on his handicap bow. Has been gelded.

8 14 WATCHA SNOOP (IRE) (2) 90
2180-0 3 9-4 | 59.0kg

Hugo Palmer *Oisin Murphy*
Stiff tasks following a convincing Ascot novice success last September and well held on return in 6f handicap here on Wednesday.

9 4 SCHRODINGER'S CAT (20) (D) 94
6223421-2 3 8-13 | 56.7kg

Grant Tuer *Oliver Stammers*
Deservedly opened his account in a Redcar novice on final start for Harry Charlton and matched that form (on the back of a gelding operation) when runner-up on stable debut/return at Thirk. Has a handy draw and should be competitive again.

10 8 ARLO'S GIRL (98) (D, BF) 83
1-4 3 8-13 | 56.7kg

Joseph Parr *Luke Morris*
Beat a next-time-out winner in smooth fashion when successful on debut at Lingfield last summer but didn't get anywhere near that form when fourth of 6 at Southwell in late-January, and it's hardly a positive that she's been off for a further 3 months ahead of this handicap/turf debut.

11 1 AMBISHIO (IRE) (14) (D) 93
42060-124 3 8-13 | 56.7kg

Michael Appleby *Harry Davies*
Has run well on both starts since making a winning return at Southwell, finishing fourth of 9 in this grade at Sandown last time, and he has the plum draw to utilise his speed.

12 5 PROOF (27) (D) 93
4435143-1 3 8-12 | 56.2kg

Charles Hills *Jason Watson*
Showed a good attitude to see off Ambishio when doubling his tally on reappearance/all-weather debut at Southwell, though he's probably vulnerable off 5 lb higher in a deeper race.

13 6 HENRYTHENATE (35) (D) 93
156-11987 3 8-12 | 56.2kg

Patrick Morris *Jack Dace (51lb/2kg)*
Started 2026 with back-to-back wins over this trip at Lingfield but again didn't prove as effective over 6f there on final start for Stuart Williams. Upped in grade for stable debut, though, and yet to prove as effective on turf.

14 10 ONE AND GONE (IRE) (14) 95
3134-3473 3 8-11 | 55.8kg

Ian Williams *Ryan Kavanagh (51lb/2kg)*
Speedy sort was a winner on stable debut at Kempton (6f) in November and having confirmed himself in good form when third on first try over 5f at Sandown last time, he makes appeal with this test expected to suit.

15 3 WYLE COP (USA) (22) 92
40430-130 3 8-9 | 54.9kg

Jack Jones *Jason Hart*
Wolverhampton maiden winner didn't look at home on the track when trailing the field in first-time cheekpieces at Ripon on his latest start, though it remains to be seen whether 5f around Chester is what he needs.

15 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-2 Alvin, 6-1 Champonie, 9-1 Kolkata Knight, 10-1 One And Gone, 10-1 Proof, 12-1 Schrodinger's Cat, 12-1 Ambishio, 16-1 Temple of Athena, 16-1 Old Is Gold, 25-1 Watcha Snoop, 25-1 Arlo's Girl, 33-1 Wyle Cop, 40-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Impressive Bath winner ALVIN is a sprinter on the up and may have enough in hand under a penalty to overcome a wide draw. The pace is likely to be strong and hat-trick seeking Champonie could be a serious danger if able to keep tabs early, while Kolkata Knight has to enter calculations on the form of his Wolverhampton second. Speedy One And Gone is another to note going around a bend for the first time on turf.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ALVIN 2. CHAMPONIE 3. KOLKATA KNIGHT

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Redorange 3-9-6	11-10f Clive Cox	Rossa Ryan	10
2024	Knicks 3-8-8	11-1 Michael & David Easterby	Joanna Mason	8
2023	Danger Alert 3-9-4	12-1 George Boughey	William Buick	10
2022	Live In The Dream 3-9-1	11-8f Adam West	Ryan Moore	6
2021	Showalong 3-8-12	13-8f Tim Easterby	David Allan	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

5.20

CHESTER ROMAN DAY ON 30th MAY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-80) £30,000 1½m63y (2470 Metres)

RACE 8



Going: **Good**

Left handed, very sharp. A circular course that's only just over a mile round, it's on the turn almost throughout and has a run-in of under two furlongs, heavily favouring those that race to the fore as it's easy to find trouble with little time to recover. A high draw at Chester is a major disadvantage, even in middle-distance races, and particularly so in large fields.

Draw: **Strongly Against High** Pace Information: **Very Strong**

1 3 SECRET BEACH (IRE) (30) (D) t **97**
3210421-9 5 9-12 | 62.6kg

Donald McCain *Jack Dace (3lb/1kg)*
A dual winner last summer for Ben Brookhouse. Had a breathing operation before coming in only ninth of 10 in handicap at Nottingham (1¼m) on his return last month. More needed for his new yard.

2 9 SPORTINGSILVERMINE (IRE) (20) (D) **99**
233227-00 5 9-12 | 62.6kg

James Owen *Mason Paetel (3lb/1kg)*
A reliable and dual winner in 2025. Yet to fire this spring though, hooded when thirteenth of 14 in handicap at Newbury (1¼m) 20 days ago. Headgear is quickly discarded with.

3 15 PLAYTIME (202) (CD) h **98**
56196- 5 9-12 | 62.6kg

Gordon Elliott, Ireland *Rose Dawes*
C&D winner for Andrew Balding in September. Scored over hurdles (rated 123) for his new yard at Leopardstown in March so got to be respected back in this sphere.

4 14 PATAGONIA GIRL (27) (C) ✓ **98**
7/351130-2 4 9-12 | 62.6kg

Hugo Palmer *Jack Nicholls (3lb/1kg)*
Course winner last June who resumed from 8 months off with a very good second of 13 in handicap at Yarmouth (1¼m) 27 days ago. Merits serious consideration now back up in trip with relatively few miles on the clock.

5 7 SIOUXFONIC (IRE) (27) (D) s **94**
21-39 5 9-12 | 62.6kg

James Owen *P. A. Harnett*
Fair bumper winner who also landed maiden at Wolverhampton in December. Not disgraced on his handicap debut when ninth of 13 at Yarmouth (1¼m) 27 days ago. Back up in trip now with cheekpieces added.

6 2 NIGHTSINWHITESATIN (20) (BF) s **98**
2311442-2 4 9-11 | 62.1kg

Edward Bethell *Toby Moore (7lb/3kg)*
Bagged handicaps at Nottingham and Newbury last summer. Returned from 6 months off with a good second of 12 in handicap at Thirsk (1½m) 20 days ago. Promising 7 lb claimer up and can make her presence felt again.

7 12 MAASAI MARA (34) b **97**
478/4 6 9-10 | 61.7kg

John O'Shea *Alec Voikhansky*
Unreliable type. Hooded for 1st time when a good fourth of 7 in handicap at Wolverhampton (1½m) 34 days ago, having hopeless task from position. Blinkers go back on now.

8 11 AL MOOTAMARID (IRE) (576) t **88**
363677/ 5 9-9 | 61.2kg

Dominic Elsworth *Taylor Fisher*
A fair winner for Marco Botti in 2023/24. In winning form over hurdles last summer for his current yard but needs to hit the ground running after 9 months off.

9 5 RENESMEE (11) s **97**
66831325 6 9-8 | 60.8kg

Michael Keady *Kyle McHugh (7lb/3kg)*
Back to winning ways at Chelmsford in March and she posted a good fifth of 9 in handicap at Wolverhampton 11 days ago. No forlorn hope stepping up in trip.

10 4 L'EAGLE AID (IRE) (26) (CD) **95**
325116-56 5 9-8 | 60.8kg

Charlie Johnston *Ashley Lewis (3lb/1kg)*
C&D winner last July. Lightly raced since and not discredited when sixth of 14 in handicap at Musselburgh 26 days ago.

11 8 DANCE TIME (35) (D) b **98**
201143-45 6 9-6 | 59.9kg

David Loughnane *Alexandra Egan (5lb/2kg)*
A two-time all-weather scorer last autumn and back in good nick this spring, fifth of 14 in handicap at Lingfield (2m) 35 days ago. Blinkers are added.

12 6 TERRORISE (26) **97**
49/51060-0 5 9-5 | 59.4kg

Brian Ellison *Shay Farmer (5lb/2kg)*
Emphatic winner at York (2m) last July but ended 2025 with a poor run there and fared no better after a breathing operation on his return when beating only one at Musselburgh 26 days ago.

13 13 WISE COUNSELLOR (232) **88**
62253354- 4 9-4 | 59.0kg

Daniel Steele *Joe Bradnam (7lb/3kg)*
A fair maiden for Andrew Balding in 2025. Yet to offer much over hurdles for his current yard though so has it to prove back in this sphere.

14 1 NEWTOWN DUKE (IRE) (167) t ★ **100**
44/037841- 5 9-4 | 59.0kg

Ian Williams *Ryan Kavanagh*
Got off the mark in 12-runner handicap at Newcastle (1m) in November. That race has worked out and he's weighted to go well after a break if his stamina holds out over this much longer trip (has looked worth another try over it).

15 10 OMAN (IRE) (69) (CD) **90**
09251-227 8 9-4 | 59.0kg

Tony Carroll *Zak Wheatley*
Has proved a reluctant sort but he took this in 2024 and in good nick until finishing seventh of 8 in handicap at Lingfield (1¼m) in February.

16 16 IMPERIAL TROOPER (IRE) (18) **96**
0339-2633 4 9-3 | 58.5kg

Jennie Candlish *Warren Fentiman*
Thirteen runs since his last win in 2024 but not discredited when well backed and third of 9 in handicap at Redcar (1¼m) 18 days ago. Consistent.

16 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-1 Patagonia Girl, **5-1** Nightsinwhitesatin, **10-1** Playtime, **11-1** Imperial Trooper, **12-1** Newtown Duke, **12-1** Siouxfonic, **14-1** Renesmee, **20-1** L'eagle Aid, **22-1** Dance Time, **25-1** Sportingsilvermine, **28-1** Al Mootamarid, **33-1** Terrorise, **33-1** Maasai Mara, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

PATAGONIA GIRL shaped well after an absence when runner-up at Yarmouth last month and can build on it here to bag a second course victory. Nightsinwhitesatin also made an encouraging return when second at Thirk and is next on the list ahead of Newtown Duke and Playtime.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. PATAGONIA GIRL 2. NIGHTSINWHITESATIN 3. NEWTOWN DUKE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Small Fry 4-9-12	13-8f	Gary & Josh Moore	Ashley Lewis (7)	12
2024 ^l	Oman 6-8-10	22-1	Tony Carroll	Zak Wheatley (3)	7
2024 ^{ll}	Chase The Dollar 6-9-9	18-1	David Loughnane	Connor Planas	8
2023	Greystoke 5-9-11	11-2	Alan King	Benoit de la Sayette	11
2022	Haseefah 5-9-9	20-1	Alan King	George Bass (3)	15
2021	Potenza 5-9-4	85-40	Harry Eustace	Theodore Ladd	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race