

Wednesday 18th February

LUDLOW



2.00 FARM AND GARDEN MACHINERY LTD HEAVY HORSEPOWER MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 2m7f174y (4790 Metres)

RACE 1 **(3) ISLAND BRIDGE | (1) ASSERTIVE WALK | (2) DOCTOR ON CALL**

2.33 SUZUKI ATV "EBF" 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 1m7f169y (3170 Metres)

RACE 2 **(12) MISTERDOC | (11) HORNICA | (6) LEO WOOD**

3.05 MEADOWS AND HYNES MARES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 2½m11y (4030 Metres)

RACE 3 **(2) PARTY VIBES | (8) REGAL RENAISSANCE | (3) MOLTO BENE**

3.35 HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 2m7f171y (4780 Metres)

RACE 4 **(4) THE NEWEST ONE | (1) BUCKSY DES EPEIRES | (5) PETTY CASH**

4.05 MICHAEL LUMSDEN MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 1m7f169y (3170 Metres)

RACE 5 **(7) WESTLAIN | (5) DIAMONDS GALORE | (6) SENSE OF REASON**

4.35 FARM AND GARDEN MACHINERY LTD OVERGROWN HEDGES NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (5) 1m7f212y (3210 Metres)

RACE 6 **(4) FALCO DES PINS | (2) COUNT ADHEMAR | (1) ICARE COLOMBE**

5.05 SUZUKI KING QUAD HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 2m5f55y (4270 Metres)

RACE 7 **(5) THE EXPENSIVE ONE | (1) FRESH KICKS | (2) NAME ME NICELY**

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.

2.00

RACE 1

**FARM AND GARDEN MACHINERY LTD HEAVY HORSEPOWER
MAIDEN HURDLE (4) 5yo+ £10,000 2m7f174y (4790
Metres)****GBI RACING**Going: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 ASSERTIVE WALK (IRE) (48) 92
3-2 6 11-6 | 72.6kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

Showed plenty to work on when placed in a Chepstow bumper and made an encouraging start over hurdles 14 months on when second of 4 in novice at Windsor on New Year's Day. That form yet to be franked but still early days.

2 DOCTOR ON CALL (FR) (32) 94
1-234 6 11-6 | 72.6kg

Paul Nicholls **Dylan Johnston**

Has been a slow learner over hurdles since winning a bumper in 2024, still green when fourth of 13 in maiden at Taunton (5/2) 32 days ago.

3 ISLAND BRIDGE (IRE) (34) 100
03-422 6 11-6 | 72.6kg

Kim Bailey & Mat Nicholls **Tom Bellamy**

Progressive form over hurdles, runner-up in maidens last two starts, including over 21f here 34 days ago. Clear pick on form and return to further should suit.

3 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

8-11 Island Bridge, 10-3 Doctor On Call, 7-2 Assertive Walk

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ISLAND BRIDGE has shown progressive form over hurdles and sets a clear standard. Assertive Walk made an encouraging hurdling debut at Windsor after an absence and improvement is possible.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ISLAND BRIDGE 2. ASSERTIVE WALK 3. DOCTOR ON CALL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Bold Recruit 6-11-6	10-3	Billy Aprahamian	Gavin Sheehan	7
2024	Monks Meadow 6-11-6	evsf	Emma Lavelle	Tom Bellamy	10
2023	Great Snow 6-10-13	11-10	Neil Mulholland	Danny McMenamin	5
2022	Pulling Stumps 5-11-6	11-10f	Philip Hobbs	Tom O'Brien	7

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.33

RACE 2

SUZUKI ATV "EBF" 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICES' HURDLE (Qualifier) (4) 4, 5, 6 and 7yo £10,000 1m7f169y (3170 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 DARTMOUTH CASTLE (53) 84
6-145 6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Donald McCain

Theo Gillard

Fair bumper winner who was in need of the experience sent hurdling when fifth of 11 in 2m novice at Wetherby (11/1) in December, making mistakes. Needs to step up appreciably on that form to play a leading role.

2 GIMARIAS (IRE) (314) 85-
6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Mel Rowley

Charlie Deutsch

Showed limited ability in 2 bumper starts in the first half of 2025.

3 HOBNAIL (16) 8PP t
6 11-2 | 70.8kg



Claire Dyson

Lee Edwards

Of no account on early evidence.

4 JOEYBOTTLES (IRE) (16) 3-74 t
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero

Toby Wynne

Showed promise on debut in bumper at Perth last spring but hasn't seen his race out on either start over hurdles, fourth of 10 in maiden at Southwell latterly. Needs this for a handicap mark.

5 LE GENTLEMAN (FR) (154) 6PU-2 t
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero

Charlie Todd

Failed to complete both starts over hurdles in France prior to finishing second in 4-y-o event at Moulins (18.4f) on chasing debut in September. Has since left Patrice Quinton and had a breathing operation.

6 LEO WOOD (FR) (317) 3- 91
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Kim Bailey & Mat Nicholls

Tom Bellamy

Closely related to French hurdle winner/chaser Kashback Wood and half-brother to useful hurdler/very smart chaser Franco de Port (2m-2¼m winner). Showed promise when third in juvenile at Compiègne (17.9f) on hurdling debut in April 2025. Has left N. George & A. Zetterholm and should improve.

7 RIVER GLANCE (16) 76-8P7 h+t 34
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Emma-Jane Bishop

Lilly Pinchin

Yet to show much, including on the back of a breathing operation at Southwell latest.

8 SWINGFORTEFENCE (IRE) (15) 3-79 74
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Jennie Candlish

I. J. Power

Looks more one for handicaps after this run.

9 TITANIUM RING (IRE) (19) 2F5 84
5 11-2 | 70.8kg



Henry Daly

Sam Twiston-Davies

Produced a promising first effort when second of 11 in a Hexham bumper in November. Still finding in second when falling 2 out on Uttoxeter hurdling debut but rather underwhelming at Ffos Las since.

10 HEY FLINT (26) 6607 76
5 10-9 | 67.6kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies

James Turner (5lb/2kg)

Bit of promise in bumpers and on second hurdle start but low-grade handicaps will be more her bag.

11 HORNICA (IRE) (31) 4-762 h 99
6 10-9 | 67.6kg



Ben Pauling

Kielan Woods

Useful-looking mare who was thrown in at the deep end on her second start over hurdles and failed to match her hurdling debut form, but shaped well behind a promising sort at Windsor (2m) latest. Remains with potential and leading contender.

12 MISTERDOC (FR) (22) (BF) 51524 ★ 100
4 10-4 | 65.3kg



Dan Skelton

Tristan Durrell

Won a bumper in France and runner-up at Auteuil on hurdling bow in October. Shaped encouragingly when fourth of 7 in juvenile hurdle at Chepstow (10/11 fav) 22 days ago, running on under considerate handling with more to give. Better to come.

12 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Hornica, **9-4** Misterdoc, **5-1** Leo Wood, **18-1** Titanium Ring, **22-1** Dartmouth Castle, **28-1** Joeybottles, **33-1** Le Gentleman, **33-1** Hey Flint, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

MISTERDOC shaped with plenty of encouragement on his recent stable debut after 3 months off, finishing with more to give under considerate handling, so he's an appealing candidate in receipt of weight from his older rivals. Hornica shaped well behind a stablemate of the selection at Windsor on her latest start and hasn't yet shown all she can, with Leo Wood also of interest having shown promise on his sole outing over hurdles in France.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MISTERDOC 2. HORNICA 3. LEO WOOD

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025 **No Questions Asked** 7-12-0 1-5f Ben Pauling Ben Jones 10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.05**MEADOWS AND HYNES MARES' HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 5yo+ mares (Rated 0-130) £13,000 2½m11y (4030 Metres)**

RACE 3

GBI RACINGGoing: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1	MINNIEMUM (60) (C)	93
	3121-512P 9 12-0 76.2kg Henry Daly <i>Tom Bellamy</i> Took well to fences last season and added another win to her tally over further here in November. Good second in listed mares race at Market Rasen next time but has bombed since.	
2	PARTY VIBES (IRE) (18) (D)	 100
	1P314-31P 8 11-13 75.7kg Henry Daly <i>Sam Twiston-Davies</i> Back to very best to win a competitive mares' handicap at Cheltenham (20.5f) in December. Blatantly found the test too much back hurdling at Sandown and worth another chance back chasing/returned to a suitable trip.	
3	MOLTO BENE (IRE) (35) (D)	t 99
	P757-1122 7 11-11 74.8kg Charlie Longsdon <i>Lilly Pinchin</i> Dual hurdles winner who bettered that form straightaway when making a winning return/chase debut at Bangor. Followed up at Huntingdon before second in listed events at Doncaster (back over hurdles) and Newbury. Remains on a fair mark.	
4	GEORGI GIRL (IRE) (33) (C)	s 92
	93533-494 7 11-9 73.9kg Philip Hobbs & Johnson White <i>Callum Pritchard (3lb/1kg)</i> Fairly useful winner over hurdles. Similar form but yet to score over fences and still to see a race out this season.	
5	THEONEWEDREAMOF (IRE) (60)	98
	1454-2125 7 11-7 73.0kg Dan Skelton <i>Tristan Durrell</i> Versatile ex-Irish mare who has made a positive start for her new yard, winning at Exeter before second at Cheltenham. Possibly found next run coming too soon and expected to bounce back after a break.	
6	MALAITA (33) (CD)	 97
	P5-65322P 10 11-2 70.8kg Mel Rowley <i>Toby Wynne</i> Winless since the spring of 2024 and seemed to lose interest after an early mistake at Windsor last month, though she was in decent form prior to that.	
7	POLITACUS (IRE) (61)	t 98
	44611/2-4P 8 11-1 70.3kg Fergal O'Brien <i>Liam Harrison</i> Successful twice over hurdles in spring 2024 but well held both starts since a 19-month absence, including on chase bow at Uttoxeter 9 weeks ago.	
8	REGAL RENAISSANCE (63) (C, D)	 99
	14622-23F 8 10-13 69.4kg Henry Daly <i>David Bass</i> Successful at Warwick last season off this mark and some decent efforts in defeat since, including here. Would surely have gone close had she not departed at the second last over C&D 9 weeks ago, and is a key player.	
9	HOLETOWN (FR) (38)	96
	4/68976-46 6 10-10 68.0kg Venetia Williams <i>Charlie Deutsch</i> Dual chase winner in France for S. Dehez. Well held both starts for current yard (over hurdles) after 13 months off but better expected returned to chasing.	

9 DECLARED RUNNERS

TIMEFORM VIEW:

PARTY VIBES had excuses over hurdles last time and is worth another chance back chasing having looked as good as ever when winning a competitive event at Cheltenham in December. Regal Renaissance has a good record here and could well figure again, while Molto Bene can't be dismissed back in handicap company.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. PARTY VIBES 2. REGAL RENAISSANCE 3. MOLTO BENE****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**2025 **Sacre Coeur** 9-12-0 4-1 Dan Skelton Harry Atkins (7) 8**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

BETTING FORECAST:

11-4 Molto Bene, **5-1** Regal Renaissance, **11-2** Party Vibes, **11-2** Theonewedreamof, **12-1** Holetown, **14-1** Minniemum, **16-1** Georgi Girl, **22-1** Malaita, **22-1** Politacus

3.35

RACE 4

**HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP CHASE (4) 5yo+ (Rated 0-120)
£10,000 2m7f171y (4780 Metres)****GBI RACING**Going: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 BUCKSY DES EPEIRES (FR) (15) s **94**
2/12SP-44U 7 12-0 | 76.2kg



Venetia Williams

Miss Lucy Turner

Made a winning chase debut in 4-runner handicap at Ascot (18.8f) on last season's return but hasn't gone on from that, unseating rider at the first at Taunton 15 days ago. He's now below that winning mark, though, with cheekpieces on first time.

2 JACKS PARROT (FR) (60) (D) s+t **98**
1/72435-43 7 11-12 | 75.3kg



Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero

Mr Huw Edwards (3lb/1kg)

Without a win last term but made the frame on 3 of his 5 outings. Stepped forward from his return over hurdles this season when third in the Tommy Whittle at Haydock (25.6f, good to soft) in December and he can give a good account back down in grade.

3 LANDEN CALLING (IRE) (29) (D) s+t **92**
22515/44-4 10 11-11 | 74.8kg



Fergal O'Brien

Mr Lucas Murphy (7lb/3kg)

Fairly useful handicap chaser at best, winning twice in 2023/24. However, raced only 3 times since that season and after 15 months off he looked very rusty when tailed-off fourth of 7 at Leicester (22.7f, soft) in January.

4 THE NEWEST ONE (IRE) (49) (D) v **98**
45PP5-7P2 11 11-9 | 73.9kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies

Miss Amber Jackson-Fennell (7lb/3kg)

Cheltenham winner in October 2024 before form went the wrong way later in the season. However, dropped back in grade he took a step back in the right direction when runner-up at Warwick (24f, good to soft) last time. Major player with visor applied.

5 PETTY CASH (IRE) (58) (D, BF) ★ **100**
P3/21-26 9 11-5 | 72.1kg



Henry Daly

Miss Eleanor Williams (5lb/2kg)

Opened chase account at Chepstow (23.6f) following a breathing operation on second of 2 starts last season and good second at same course in November following a 12-month absence. Went backwards from that effort at Huntingdon last time, but he's not ruled out after another breathing operation.

6 VEE DANCER (IRE) (26) b+t **98**
P-PP 11 11-1 | 70.3kg



Ryan Potter

Mr James King

One-time fair performer on the Flat/over hurdles but has offered little for current yard since returning from 20-month absence in November 2024, pulled up back over hurdles both starts this season. Tried in blinkers for chase debut.

7 DYNO DAVE (IRE) (19) **93**
546-U4 8 10-11 | 68.5kg



Nicky Henderson

Mr Henry Main (5lb/2kg)

Failed to progress over hurdles early last year and has been let down by his jumping in 2 starts over fences this term, chance-ending mistake 3 out when fourth of 7 in handicap at Ffos Las (23.8f, heavy) 19 days ago. He remains lightly raced, though.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

2-1 The Newest One, **7-2** Jacks Parrot, **4-1** Bucky Des Epeires, **11-2** Petty Cash, **10-1** Dyno Dave, **22-1** Landen Calling, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Preference is for THE NEWEST ONE who, with his sights lowered, made more impact than previously this season when second at Warwick in December. In first-time headgear he could be ready to take advantage of his reduced mark, though Bucky des Epeires is also interesting with cheekpieces added, while it would be no surprise to see Petty Cash bounce back.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. THE NEWEST ONE 2. BUCKSY DES EPEIRES 3. PETTY CASH

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Ballycamus 8-12-0	5-1	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Mr Toby McCain-Mitchell (3)	6
2024	Rockinastorm 7-10-7	13-8f	Henry Daly	Miss Gina Andrews	6
2023	Seigneur des As 5-9-13	7-4f	Milton Harris	Miss Gina Andrews	6
2022	Bobhopeornohope 7-11-9	4-1f	Kim Bailey	Miss Gina Andrews	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.05**MICHAEL LUMSDEN MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (4)
4yo+ (Rated 0-120) £9,000 1m7f169y (3170 Metres)**

RACE 5

Going: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Even**

1 ICE IN THE VEINS (IRE) (16) (D) h 93
2-124117 6 12-0 | 76.2kg



Dan Skelton

Charlie Todd

Won back-to-back small-field novice hurdles in November but was too free when tailed off on handicap debut at Kempton (7/2) 16 days ago on the back of a breathing operation. Again looks up against it at the weights.

2 SIR HOBNOB (35) 93
71-3526 5 11-7 | 73.0kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies

Sam Twiston-Davies

Fair bumper winner who has shown similar form in this sphere, finishing second in 2m Leicester novice (soft) in November. Ran as well as could have been expected from a stiff-looking mark when mid-field at Newbury since but probably needs the handicapper to relent more.

3 SOLEIL D'ARIZONA (FR) (16) (D) h+t 95
2P1-21410 6 11-7 | 73.0kg



Dan Skelton

Liam Harrison

Fairly useful on Flat in France and this free-going front runner has enjoyed a productive time over hurdles, winning three of her last 6 starts (all on good ground or firmer). Well held reverted to handicap company after a break last time, however.

4 PHINEAS BUNCE (IRE) (53) 90
42-357 5 11-4 | 71.7kg



Dan Skelton

Tristan Durrell

Reached the frame in both bumpers last season and showed promise again when third of 8 in Fontwell novice hurdle on reappearance. Tailed off on his next 2 starts however, bleeding on latest, and breathing operation since needs to have made a big difference.

5 DIAMONDS GALORE (63) ★ 100
623P-22 6 11-4 | 71.7kg



Nicky Henderson

James Bowen

Twice runner-up in novice hurdles this season, latest 12-runner event at Ludlow (4/1) 9 weeks ago, having a good crack at the winner but turned away late. Potentially well treated switched to handicap company.

6 SENSE OF REASON (30) 98
44 5 11-3 | 71.2kg



Charlie Fellowes

Tom Cannon

Fair 10f Flat winner who has shown promise when fourth on both starts over hurdles this winter, his jumping showing he's still learning. Step forward could be forthcoming on early switch to a handicap.

7 WESTLAIN (IRE) (13) (D) h 99
01751 4 11-1 | 70.3kg



Jack Jones

Lorcan Williams

Fair maiden on the Flat who, fitted with a hood, left hurdles debut form behind when 66/1-winner of juvenile at Fontwell (17.7f) in November. Resumed progress when scoring easily at Huntingdon earlier in the month and 9 lb rise may not prevent a follow-up.

8 REGAL CAVALIER (FR) (60) (D) 94
82-4P 6 10-6 | 66.2kg



Max Young

Ben Poste

Won on the Flat in France in 2024 and all or nothing over hurdles, running poorly after 7 months off in handicap at Hereford (28/1) in December. Tough to assess at present.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-4 Westlain, **5-2** Diamonds Galore, **7-1** Phineas Bunce, **12-1** Sense of Reason, **12-1** Ice In The Veins, **14-1** Sir Hobnob, **33-1** Soleil D'arizona, **66-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

WESTLAIN scored with such authority when doubling his hurdles tally at Huntingdon earlier this month that a 9 lb rise may not stop him going in again. His main threat looks Diamonds Galore now she's going handicapping, while Sense of Reason is totally unexposed after just 2 runs in this sphere.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. WESTLAIN 2. DIAMONDS GALORE 3. SENSE OF REASON****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	Continuance	4-10-3	5-1	Martin Keighley	Sean Bowen	9
2024	Latin Verse	4-11-2	4-1jf	Syd Hosie	Harry Reed	11
2023	Patient Dream	5-11-3	7-4f	Donald McCain	William Maggs (10)	8
2022	Mr Grey Sky	8-11-6	11-8f	Kim Bailey	David Bass	8
2021	Eddiemaurice	10-11-6	8-1	John Flint	Robert Dunne	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.35

RACE 6

**FARM AND GARDEN MACHINERY LTD OVERGROWN HEDGES
NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (5) 5yo+ (Rated 0-100)
£8,000 1m7f212y (3210 Metres)**

Going: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 ICARE COLOMBE (FR) (33) **95**
38/357-554 **8** 12-0 | 76.2kg



Fergal O'Brien

J. Hogan

Maiden who ran bit better than previously over fences when fourth of 9 in handicap at Market Rasen (5/1) last month, making good progress end of back straight before weakening from 2 out. First-time cheekpieces applied and could take another step forward.

2 COUNT ADHEMAR (IRE) (28) **87**
63-355 **6** 11-11 | 74.8kg



Donald McCain

Theo Gillard

Lightly-raced maiden who showed a bit more on handicap/chase debut when fifth at Catterick last month. Can build on that with drop back in trip a positive.

3 MODEL APPROACH (IRE) (17) (D) **83**
5-4250807 **5** 11-10 | 74.4kg



Evan Williams

Conor Ring

Dual juvenile hurdler winner for Adrian Keatley. Back in form when second in Newton Abbot selling handicap in September (only run for Daisy Hitchens) but well below that level in 5 outings for this yard since.

4 FALCO DES PINS (FR) (15) **100**
62/P888-63 **6** 11-7 | 73.0kg



Venetia Williams

Charlie Deutsch

Second in a big-field hurdle on final start for previous connections in France. Didn't show much in 4 starts in handicap hurdles last term but stepped up from return/chase debut when third at Taunton earlier in the month (had breathing operation prior). Fancied with yard showing signs of a revival.

5 MAKE SUNSHINE (IRE) (37) **83**
943-36PPP **7** 11-0 | 69.9kg



Ryan Potter

Sam Twiston-Davies

Fell heavily on comeback in December and pulled up on both runs since. Without a win in 17 races, but booking of Sam Twiston-Davies on her chasing bow offers some cause for optimism, and she's one to note should support come given connections.

6 O'GRADY'S HILL (IRE) (19) **79**
22264-545 **7** 11-0 | 69.9kg



Sarah-Jayne Davies

James Best

Point winner who was runner-up in a bumper/maiden hurdles for Harry Derham in summer 2024. However, she hasn't made a positive start for her new yard, well beaten on both starts in this sphere last month.

7 BLACKIJO DAGROSTIS (FR) (49) **84**
5-66244P5 **7** 10-13 | 69.4kg



Matt Sheppard

Richard Patrick

Still a maiden and he went with no more zest for the fitting of cheekpieces at Warwick 7 weeks ago. Leap of faith required to get involved.

8 JACKSON'S BAY (IRE) (28) **84**
7545-P397 **5** 10-4 | 65.3kg



Evan Williams

James Turner (5lb/2kg)

Maiden who finished closer than previously when third of 6 in handicap at Newton Abbot (16.8f, soft) in September. Well below that level in 2 starts since and needs this switch to the larger obstacles to spark a revival.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

13-8 Falco Des Pins, **5-2** Icare Colombe, **7-1** Count Adhemar, **14-1** Blackijo Dagrostis, **14-1** Jackson's Bay, **20-1** Make Sunshine, **25-1** Model Approach, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Venetia Williams has endured an extremely lean season by her high standards, but there were more positive signs over the weekend and FALCO DES PINS is taken to open his account having shown more after a breathing operation when third at Taunton just over a fortnight ago. This drop back to 2m should suit Count Adhemar, so he's put forward as the main threat, with Icare Colombe seeming best of the rest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. FALCO DES PINS 2. COUNT ADHEMAR 3. ICARE COLOMBE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Dunstall Rambler	7-11-11	9-2	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	7
2024	Thatza Dazzler	6-10-5	20-1	David Brace	Connor Brace	10
2023	Estate Italiana	6-10-2	7-2	Alexandra Dunn	Jamie Brace (7)	6
2022	Duneomeno	6-9-8	9-1	Christian Williams	Jack Tudor (3)	9
2021	Ben Brody	11-11-6	9-2	D. J. Jeffreys	Max Kendrick (3)	10

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

5.05**SUZUKI KING QUAD HANDICAP HURDLE (4) 4yo+ (Rated 0-120) £9,000 2m5f55y (4270 Metres)**

RACE 7

GBI RACINGGoing: **Soft**

Ludlow is a sharp, right-handed, oval track, with a nine-fence chase circuit about a mile and a half and a run-in of 250 yards, requiring riders to steer left after the last to avoid taking the wrong course. Probably on account of so many races being well run the fences claim far more casualties than might be expected, Ludlow sitting comfortably in the top half dozen for fallers and unseats. The hurdle course, which runs on the outside of the chase course, has easier turns. Whereas the chase course is flat, the hurdle course has slight undulations but they rarely provide difficulties for a long-striding horse.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 FRESH KICKS (IRE) (31)  **100**
5-2164 6 12-0 | 76.2kg

Nicky Henderson **James Bowen**

Comfortably landed the odds in 2m4f maiden at Plumpton in December. Failed to stay longer trip on handicap bow at Ascot 3 weeks later, but back on track at Windsor last time and combination of 3 lb drop in weights and ease in class should ensure he's very competitive.

2 NAME ME NICELY (IRE) (26) **91**
6-704 6 11-12 | 75.3kg

Kim Bailey & Mat Nicholls **Tom Bellamy**

Has been shaping up well with handicaps in mind, faring best of those held up when fourth of 13 at Doncaster 4 weeks ago, jumping better than previously. Opening mark demands improvement but that should be forthcoming up in trip.

3 LORD OF ALL SAINTS (FR) (69) h+t **96**
6/4111P-07 6 11-9 | 73.9kg



Harriet Dickin

James Best

Progressive in handicaps last season, completing a hat-trick in good style at Sandown (19.8f, soft). It's been downhill all the way since, though, and he remains 5 lb above last winning mark.

4 MANIGOD (FR) (38) t **98**
222 5 11-9 | 73.9kg



Warren Greatrex

Harry Bannister

Half-brother to high-class hurdler Vauban. Fair form on Flat in France, placed 4 times. Left P. Decouz €40,000 in July and runner-up all 3 starts over hurdles so far. Can remain competitive now handicapping.

5 THE EXPENSIVE ONE (IRE) (96) **98**
6/13-21P0 6 11-7 | 73.0kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies

Sam Twiston-Davies

Half-brother to The New One and confirmed previous promise over hurdles when making all in novice handicap at Stratford (18.7f) in October. Excuses both starts since at Cheltenham and retains potential in handicaps with this step up in distance expected to suit.

6 D'JO DELA BARRIERE (FR) (107) (C) **95**
35555115 7 11-5 | 72.1kg



Evan Williams

Miss Eleanor Williams (71b/3kg)

Won twice in quick succession from the same mark in October but was last of 5 in handicap chase at Hereford the following month. Returns to hurdles after a break.

7 SPITALFIELD (IRE) (16) **98**
74-223F06 8 11-4 | 71.7kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

Strong-travelling sort but not the most fluent jumper. Ran up to his best when placed 3 times during the summer but well held completed starts since.

8 BRODERICK (IRE) (32) **98**
921223-59 6 11-1 | 70.3kg



Jennie Candlish

William Shanahan (51b/2kg)

Ninth of 17 in handicap hurdle at Haydock (33/1) 32 days ago after an 8-month absence, typically hanging left. Needs to revive to figure.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

10-3 Fresh Kicks, **7-2** Manigod, **11-2** The Expensive One, **6-1** Name Me Nicely, **11-1** D'jo Dela Barriere, **12-1** Broderick, **14-1** Spitalfield, **16-1** Lord of All Saints

TIMEFORM VIEW:

THE EXPENSIVE ONE has had an excuse on both starts at Cheltenham since making all at Stratford in the autumn and, back from a break with the step up in distance in his favour, he could be the answer. Fresh Kicks also eases slightly in grade and is feared most, for all Name Me Nicely is a potential improver.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. THE EXPENSIVE ONE 2. FRESH KICKS 3. NAME ME NICELY****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	Whatsupwithyou	11-12-0	4-1	Ben Pauling	Elliott England (10)	8
2024	Canty Bay	7-11-11	5-2	Emma Lavelle	Tom Bellamy	6
2023	Quoi de Neuf	9-12-0	6-1	Evan Williams	Adam Wedge	8
2022	Judicial Law	5-11-8	10-1	Jonjo O'Neill	Jonjo O'Neill Jr.	11
2021	Frenchy du Large	6-11-6	7-2	Venetia Williams	Robert Dunne	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race