

Thursday 26th February

LUDLOW

1.32 BUTTY BACH NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 1m7f169y (3170 Metres)

RACE 1 **(1) TALES OF BRAVERY | (6) BURANO MURANO | (2) FINE FELLOW**

2.07 FORBRA GOLD CUP (Sponsored by FLOWFIT) HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 2m7f171y (4780 Metres)

RACE 2 **(8) ROCKINASTORM | (2) BALLYCAMUS | (4) MINELLA BLUEWAY**

2.42 PYONEER ALE MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2m7f174y (4790 Metres)

RACE 3 **(3) MAGICAL MAGGIE | (1) MASKED DANCE | (2) LOVE OF NEYMORE**

3.17 1985 LAGER HANDICAP CHASE (5) 2m7f171y (4780 Metres)

RACE 4 **(1) KIT'S COTY | (5) EVERYONESACRITIC | (2) ANYTRIXWILLDO**

3.52 RACINGTV CLUB DAY HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2m5f55y (4270 Metres)

RACE 5 **(3) LITTLE PI | (1) BROADWAY HONEY | (7) JUKEBOX JOKER**

4.27 NIGHTJAR BRITISH STOUT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 1m7f169y (3170 Metres)

RACE 6 **(1) THANK YOU BLUE | (2) AIM STRAIGHT | (3) RAGING AL**

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.

1.32**BUTTY BACH NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 4yo+ £10,000**
1m7f169y (3170 Metres)

RACE 1

GBI RACINGGoing: **Soft (Good to Soft in places)**

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	TALES OF BRAVERY (IRE) (33) (D)	h+t		100
	631 6 11-7 73.0kg			
	Dan Skelton		Harry Skelton	
	6-y-o who has improved plenty with each run over hurdles, making all to open his account at the third attempt in a Uttoxeter maiden (15.8f, heavy) 33 days ago. That wasn't a strong race by any means but he looks to have been found another good opportunity under a penalty.			
2	FINE FELLOW (77)			70
	38 6 11-0 69.9kg			
	Alastair Ralph		Jay Tidball (5lb/2kg)	
	Dunaden gelding who ran to a fair level when third on bumper debut at Uttoxeter (15.8f) last spring. Looked a staying type then and he was well below that level back from 7 months off in a slowly-run race when eighth of 12 in a Warwick bumper in December. Makes hurdles debut.			
3	JET STEEL (IRE) (33)	h		70
	43P 5 11-0 69.9kg			
	Tim Vaughan		Lorcan Murtagh	
	Stepped up on his debut bumper fourth when third of 7 in similar company at Plumpton (17.8f, soft) in December but tame start in this sphere faced with bottomless ground when pulled up behind Tales of Bravery at Uttoxeter (15.8f) 33 days ago. This can reveal more.			
4	LORD CHAMBERLAIN (28)			69
	0 5 11-0 69.9kg			
	Dominic Elsworth		Kielan Woods	
	Fair maiden on Flat for David Simcock during 2024 who offered little for the short-term following 18 months off (also tongue tied) when eleventh of 17 in a Wincanton maiden (15.2f) 4 weeks ago. Low-grade handicaps will be more his thing further down the line.			
5	MAGNA PATCH (286)			70
	0 6 11-0 69.9kg			
	Alastair Ralph		Jonathan Burke	
	Went close when runner-up in a point bumper but he proved easy to back and offered little when sixteenth of 17 in bumper at Aintree (17f, good to firm) on Rules debut back in May. Goes hurdling now after 9 months off as one of 3 runners from this yard.			
6	BURANO MURANO (7) (D)			81
	71 4 10-9 67.6kg			
	Denis Quinn		Callum Pritchard (3lb/1kg)	
	Modest maiden on the Flat but re-united with present yard, he improved on what he'd shown on his sole previous hurdles try when landing 9-runner Huntingdon maiden (15.8f) 7 days ago. Fair bit to like about manner of that success and this 4-y-o may have more to offer.			
7	JACQUETTE (113)			69
	60 6 10-7 66.7kg			
	Danni O'Neill		Tabitha Worsley (3lb/1kg)	
	Little promise in pair of bumpers during second half of last year.			
8	LADY BLACKMORE (FR) (35)			70
	5 5 10-7 66.7kg			
	Alastair Ralph		Ciaran Gethings	
	Bathyrhon mare who finished runner-up both starts in Irish points last autumn but was made to look very slow when fifth in a steadily-run Huntingdon bumper (15.8f) 5 weeks ago, outpaced from 4f out. Feasible to think longer trips will help her moving forward in this sphere.			

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

4-7 Tales of Bravery, 3-1 Burano Murano, 22-1 Fine Fellow, 33-1 Magna Patch, 33-1 Jet Steel, 33-1 Lady Blackmore, 50-1 bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TALES OF BRAVERY has improved plenty with each run over hurdles to date, unchallenged when making all in a Uttoxeter maiden 33 days ago. That wasn't a strong race by any means but he's in top hands and looks to have been found a good opportunity to follow up under a penalty. Huntingdon scorer Burano Murano can provide chief resistance.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TALES OF BRAVERY 2. BURANO MURANO 3. FINE FELLOW

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Le Yacht 4-10-2	14-1	Tom Lacey	Richard Patrick	12
2024	Jour d'Evasion 5-11-0	11-10f	Henry Daly	Sam Twiston-Davies	7
2023	Jacks Profit 4-10-4	50-1	David Evans	Robert Dunne	12
2022	Knickerbockerglory 6-11-7	2-5f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	10
2021	Quinta Do Mar 6-11-2	10-3	Ben Pauling	Nico de Boinville	16

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.07

RACE 2

FORBRA GOLD CUP (Sponsored by FLOWFIT) HANDICAP CHASE (Qualifier) (3) 5yo+ (Rated 0-130) £18,000
2m7f171y (4780 Metres)**GBI RACING**Going: **Soft (Good to Soft in places)**

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 BEACHCOMBER (FR) (25) (D) s  **100**
P16-3PP53 **8** 12-1 | 76.7kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Richie McLernon

Career best when landing handicap chase at Kempton (24f, good to soft) last season and good third in Pat Taaffe Chase at Punchestown in May. Back to form reverted to hurdling when third at Musselburgh last time and it'll be interesting to see if he can back that up over fences.

2 BALLYCAMUS (IRE) (71) (CD)  **99**
1P14-2791 **9** 11-10 | 74.4kg

Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies **Sam Twiston-Davies**

Sketchy jumper but he was back to his best when landing a 6-runner handicap chase (9/2) at this C&D (soft) 71 days ago, showing the best finishing speed in a steadily-run race. Player from only 1 lb higher.

3 GALOP DE CHASSE (FR) (61) (C) **93**
1/23P4PP-5 **10** 11-5 | 72.1kg



Venetia Williams

Charlie Deutsch

Well handicapped on old form but badly out of sorts last season and didn't show much encouragement at Chepstow on his reappearance in December. Yard at least showing better signs at present. Engaged 5.00 Bangor Wednesday.

4 MINELLA BLUEWAY (IRE) (31) (CD) s **96**
2711-P3F2 **8** 11-4 | 71.7kg



Evan Williams

Isabel Williams

Won this race last season prior to following up from 4 lb higher mark at Uttoxeter. Low-key start to this season but seemed to benefit from a drop in a grade when returned to form when runner-up in a 4-runner handicap chase at Plumpton last month. Merits consideration.

5 PRINCE ZALTAR (FR) (19) **99**
P416234P **9** 11-1 | 70.3kg



Dan Skelton

Harry Skelton

Ex-Irish gelding made winning start for Dan Skelton at Newton Abbot handicap hurdle in September and held form well next 3 starts, better than ever back over fences when third at Doncaster in December. Disappointing both starts since (over hurdles last time), though, so others preferred.

6 ABOUTDAMNTIME (IRE) (33) s+t **96**
1656-813P **7** 11-0 | 69.9kg



Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero

Craig Nichol

Landed a thin event at Catterick in November and ran at least as well in a better field when a close third at Wetherby over Christmas. Pulled up at Uttoxeter last time, though, so will need to bounce back.

7 TOMMYS CHARM (IRE) (42) s **89**
12/52-FPP **8** 10-12 | 68.9kg



Kerry Lee

Ciaran Gethings

A fair 2m4f hurdles winner who upped his game when close second at Wincanton last January. Very little promise in 3 starts this year, though, and cheekpieces are now reached for.

8 ROCKINASTORM (IRE) (39) (CD)  **97**
11253-F57 **9** 10-10 | 68.0kg

Henry Daly **David Bass**

Had a productive 2024/25 season, scoring over C&D and at Wetherby. Yet to trouble the judge this year, but shaped as if back in form when seventh of 16 at Windsor (28.7f, soft) and is back at a potentially lenient mark at a track where he goes well.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Ballycamus, **4-1** Minella Blueway, **9-2** Beachcomber, **8-1** Rockinastorm, **10-1** Aboutdamntime, **10-1** Galop De Chasse, **12-1** Prince Zaltar, **16-1** Tommys Charm

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Bottom-weight ROCKINASTORM produced his most encouraging effort of the year at Windsor last time and he should prove more effective over this shorter trip, so he's fancied to add to his good Ludlow record. Ballycamus has to be considered from only 1 lb higher than when winning over C&D last time, whilst last year's winner Minella Blueway is also shortlisted.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. ROCKINASTORM 2. BALLYCAMUS 3. MINELLA BLUEWAY****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	Minella Blueway	7-10-9	11-4	Evan Williams	Adam Wedge	4
2024	Arizona Cardinal	8-12-0	11-4jf	Stuart Edmunds	Ciaran Gethings	5
2023	Le Cameleon	8-11-4	14-1	Mrs Jane Williams	David Noonan	6
2022	Java Point	7-11-0	6-4f	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	5
2021	Head To The Stars	10-10-11	13-2	Henry Daly	Tom O'Brien	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

2.42

RACE 3

PYONEER ALE MARES' HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 4yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-125) £12,000 2m7f174y (4790 Metres)Going: **Soft (Good to Soft in places)**

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 MASKED DANCE (FR) (22) (C) 99
30P-22512 8 11-13 | 75.7kg



Mel Rowley

Charlie Deutsch

Solid form when resuming winning ways here in December and stuck to her task well when length second to Magical Maggie at this track earlier this month. Step up in trip looks a positive on that evidence and she can go well again.

2 LOVE OF NEYMORE (13) (D, BF) 98
143-5134U 8 11-11 | 74.8kg



Robbie Llewellyn

Charlie Price

Split a couple of subsequent winners when fourth in a stronger race at Windsor and was strong in the betting before whipping round/unseating at the start last time. Game mare wouldn't be one to discount.

3 MAGICAL MAGGIE (22) (C) 100
435/563-41 9 11-9 | 73.9kg



Alastair Ralph

Ciaran Gethings

Likeable type capitalised on a career-low mark in bringing up a fourth course win here last time (21.2f), staying on well having helped force the pace with Masked Dance. 3m likely to be within range and she has solid claims to add to her fine course record.

4 TANKARDSTOWN DIVA (IRE) (31) (CD) 96
272112F1 7 11-7 | 73.0kg



Tom Ellis

Jack Andrews

Course winner has won her previous 3 starts over hurdles, the latest a smooth success in 5-runner handicap at Plumpton last month. More on her plate in better company, however.

5 RING O ROSES (40) 94
34U23-U8P 8 11-3 | 71.2kg



Henrietta C Knight

Richie McLernon

Again proved a difficult ride when pulled up at Haydock last month and step up in trip may not suit given her free-going ways.

6 I AM THE MOON (21) 98
12443-U61 7 11-2 | 70.8kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies

James Turner (5lb/2kg)

Didn't take to chasing but well-backed, quickly resumed progress returned to hurdles/positive tactics when successful in 6-runner handicap at Doncaster (19.4f, heavy) 3 weeks ago, driven out. Up in grade but could have untapped potential back over 3m.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Magical Maggie, **7-2** I Am The Moon, **9-2** Masked Dance, **9-2** Love of Neymore, **9-2** Tankardstown Diva, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

Four-time course winner MAGICAL MAGGIE can confirm her recent superiority over Masked Dance, the longer trip unlikely to hinder either given how they shaped here last time. Love Of Neymore is another likeable mare and she's respected on her Windsor form.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MAGICAL MAGGIE 2. MASKED DANCE 3. LOVE OF NEYMORE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Felicie du Maquis	10-12-0	10-1	Clive Boulton-Brooks	Richard Patrick	6
2024	Della Casa Lunga	6-12-0	2-1f	Clive Boulton-Brooks	Cameron Iles (7)	8
2023	Lets Go To Vegas	5-11-5	9-2	Alastair Ralph	Jonathan Burke	10
2022	Glimpse of Gala	6-11-4	11-8f	Charlie Longsdon	Bradley Roberts (7)	6
2021	Didonato	6-11-12	6-1	Alan King	Tom Bellamy	9

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.17**1985 LAGER HANDICAP CHASE (5) 5yo+ (Rated 0-100)
£7,500 2m7f171y (4780 Metres)**

RACE 4

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

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: **Strong**

1 KIT'S COTY (IRE) (71) (CD) 97
36586-134 **8** 12-0 | 76.2kg



Emma Lavelle

Jonathan Burke

Hit and miss performer justified support to make a winning reappearance over C&D in October following a breathing operation. Not in same form either start since (well held fourth here 71 days ago) but often goes well after a break. Could be worth a chance.

2 ANYTRIXWILLDO (IRE) (42) 99
1-P34PF4Z **8** 11-12 | 75.3kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Richie McLernon

Isn't one for maximum faith but turned in his best effort of the season when second in 9-runner C&D handicap last month. Claims if in similar form.

3 SANDSCAPE (57) 95
2P8-42355 **6** 11-11 | 74.8kg



Henry Daly

Sam Twiston-Davies

Split a pair of next-time-out winners on reappearance this season but has gone the wrong way since, for all his latest start can be forgiven. Should make a chaser (dam won a point) and he returns from a break with his yard in good form.

4 HAUT FOLIN (FR) (6) (D) 94
22PPP-P3P **9** 11-10 | 74.4kg



Venetia Williams

Charlie Deutsch

Best effort for a while when third over C&D last month and while yard in better form now, his overall record (pulled up in 5 of previous 6 starts, including latest 6 days ago) tempers enthusiasm.

5 EVERYONESACRITIC (IRE) (15) 100
122-74331 **7** 11-7 | 73.0kg



Evan Williams

Isabel Williams

Landed 2m5f handicap chase at Hereford for second year in succession earlier this month. Will need to defy a career-high mark to make it a double (as he did last year) but he is fairly reliable for one in this grade.

6 YES AND YES (IRE) (118) 98
94/4133-47 **9** 10-12 | 68.9kg



Belinda Clarke

Lee Edwards

Backed up Chepstow success with a couple of creditable efforts in the spring but his form has gone the wrong way since and he hasn't stood much racing for one his age.

7 MARTALMIX'JAC (FR) (21) 96
223-573P2 **9** 10-4 | 65.3kg



Mel Rowley

Shane Quinlan (3lb/1kg)

Winless since early 2024 but has run creditably around 2½m this season and should appreciate the return to 3m. Not handicapped out of this.

8 EST ILLIC (IRE) (15) 98
732/47-75P **12** 10-2(10-1) | 64.4kg (64.0kg)



Sarah-Jayne Davies

Tabitha Worsley (3lb/1kg)

Temperamental veteran who is winless since 2020 and remains easy to oppose.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

3-1 Everyonesacritic, **9-2** Kit's Coty, **5-1** Anytrixwilldo, **11-2** Sandscape, **7-1** Martalmix'jac, **11-1** Haut Folin, **12-1** Yes And Yes, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A well-backed winner over C&D earlier in the season, this could be the time catch KIT'S COTY following a break. Everyonesacritic bids to land a double for the second consecutive season but is yet to win off a mark this high, while Anytrixwilldo finished second here last month and could feature if in similar form.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. KIT'S COTY 2. EVERYONESACRITIC 3. ANYTRIXWILLDO

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Faitque de L'Isle	10-11-0	9-4f	James Evans	Miss Lucy Turner (5)	6
2024	Supervisor	10-11-12	10-3	Venetia Williams	Ned Fox (5)	8
2023	Kestrel Valley	9-10-11	6-5f	Kerry Lee	Richard Patrick	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

3.52**RACINGTV CLUB DAY HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-100) £7,000 2m5f55y (4270 Metres)**

RACE 5

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

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 BROADWAY HONEY (IRE) (93) 94
8-533 6 12-0 | 76.2kg



Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies

Sam Twiston-Davies

Half-sister to the yard's smart staying chaser Broadway Boy and she showed a bit more than previously when third of 7 in novice hurdle Hereford (19.7f, good, 25/1) in November. Type to improve now handicapping.

2 WAKEY WAKEY MAN (IRE) (18) 92
06063826 6 11-13 | 75.7kg



Cian Michael Collins, Ireland

F. Brickley (7lb/3kg)

Maiden who showed bit more than previously when runner-up at Fairyhouse (14/1) last month. Not so good at Navan since, but worth keeping an eye on in the betting making his first start on these shores.

3 LITTLE PI (FR) (21) (C) 100
55-76P221 8 11-6 | 72.6kg s



Sam Allwood

Toby McCain-Mitchell (5lb/2kg)

Holding form well and ended long losing run in 6-runner handicap at Huntingdon 3 weeks ago. Nudged up 3 lb and fancied to go very close in his current groove.

4 RATHMACKNEE (IRE) (57) 95
47P0-4453 10 11-3 | 71.2kg



Danni O'Neill

Caolin Quinn

It's now 17 runs since his last win in 2022 and typically failed to see his race out with much purpose when a well-beaten third of 8 in a chase at Warwick (20/1) on New Year's Day. Returns to hurdles from a much-reduced mark but hard to enthuse over.

5 OCEAN WALZ (FR) (22) 88
22/280-68 6 11-3 | 71.2kg



Rosemary Gasson

Ben Poste

Has shown precious little in 4 starts over hurdles, including on handicap debut over C&D just over 3 weeks ago.

6 KINGSTON KID (IRE) (475) (D) 99
74F669/AP- 9 11-1 | 70.3kg s+t



Georgie Howell

Tabitha Worsley (3lb/1kg)

Boasts just the one win from 27 runs and, having left Eugene O'Sullivan, offered nothing both starts for this stable in 2024. Has stacks to prove after his lengthy lay-off.

7 JUKEBOX JOKER (IRE) (22) (BF) 98
604487-12 6 10-13 | 69.4kg



Evan Williams

Isabel Williams

Failed to measure up to market expectations in handicaps at Chepstow and Ffos Las on final 2 starts of last season but looked an improved model when striking on reappearance at Warwick (19f, soft) last month. Ran well in finding one too good at Sedgfield since so not discounted.

8 AN BUACHAILL RUA (IRE) (34) 99
33-0565 6 10-13 | 69.4kg



Sheila Lewis

Callum Pritchard (3lb/1kg)

Point winner whose standout effort this season came when fifth at Hereford (19.7f, good) in November. Softer ground possibly the reason for his last couple of below-par efforts so easy to have reservations about should more rain arrive.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

6-4 Little Pi, **3-1** Jukebox Joker, **15-2** Wakey Wakey Man, **9-1** An Buachail Rua, **9-1** Broadway Honey, **33-1** Rathmacknee, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

LITTLE PI looks an improved model since being returned to hurdles and Sam Allwood's 8-y-o is fancied to supplement his recent Huntingdon success from 3 lb higher. Broadway Honey looks the type to improve now handicapping, so she's marginally put forward as the main threat ahead of Jukebox Joker, who made it back-to-back good efforts since front-running tactics were adopted at Sedgfield earlier this month.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:**1. LITTLE PI 2. BROADWAY HONEY 3. JUKEBOX JOKER****WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**2025 **Charming Getaway** 8-10-9 5-2f Mel Rowley Charlie Deutsch 9**SMART STATS:**

No Smart Stats available for this race

4.27

RACE 6

**NIGHTJAR BRITISH STOUT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS'
HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-105) £7,000
1m7f169y (3170 Metres)**Going: **Soft (Good to Soft in places)**

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: **Uncontested**

1 **THANK YOU BLUE** (7lb/3kg ex) (7) (D) **99**
55544911 **9** 12-7 | 79.4kg



Jennie Candlish

Lewis Stones

Arrives in career-best form having won twice at Sedgefield earlier in the month, latterly in 12-runner handicap (19.8f, soft). Obvious claims of completing the hat-trick under a 7 lb penalty.

2 **AIM STRAIGHT** (25) **100**
5-64664 **6** 11-6 | 72.6kg **s+t**



Alastair Ralph

Toby McCain-Mitchell

Fared much better than previously over hurdles when fourth of 8 in handicap at Market Rasen (16.6f, good to soft) on most recent outing. Must enter calculations in first-time cheekpieces and tongue strap combination.

3 **RAGING AL (IRE)** (45) **97**
U705 **5** 11-5 | 72.1kg **h**



Tim Vaughan

Callum Pritchard

Fair maiden on Flat who showed more than previously in this sphere when fifth of 12 in novice hurdle (100/1) at Hereford (16.2f, soft) on latest start. Into handicaps now and appeals as the type to progress further.

4 **OLIVIA KATE** (48) (C, D, BF) **96**
235-5F145 **7** 11-1 | 70.3kg **s**



Matt Sheppard

Ned Fox

Has tendency to jump left but bounced back from a fall at Ludlow when doubling her tally at Leicester (15.5f, heavy) in December. Lost little caste in defeat back up in trip at the same course (20.5f, heavy) next time but underperformed at Exeter on most recent outing.

5 **NO GUARANTEE** (25) (CD) **94**
63891156 **6** 10-12 | 68.9kg **v+t**



Alexander Gibbons

James Turner

Landed back-to-back handicaps in December, the first over C&D. Ran creditably faced with an 8 lb higher mark at Wincanton but found run of good form coming to a halt at Market Rasen latest.

6 **GIVE HER HOLLIE (IRE)** (42) **95**
70P7-P04P **6** 10-5 | 65.8kg **b+t**



Cian Michael Collins, Ireland

F. Brickley (7lb/3kg)

Poor maiden who seemed to be perked up by first-time blinkers when finishing a respectable fourth of 20 at Down Royal on Boxing Day. Failed miserably to repeat that effort at Fairyhouse since, though.

6 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-10 Thank You Blue, **9-2** Aim Straight, **13-2** Raging Al, **9-1** Olivia Kate, **12-1** Give Her Hollie, **14-1** No Guarantee

TIMEFORM VIEW:

THANK YOU BLUE arrives in career-best form and is taken to complete the hat-trick under a 7 lb penalty. Aim Straight and Raging Al look most interesting of the opposition.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. THANK YOU BLUE 2. AIM STRAIGHT 3. RAGING AL

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Greatness Awaits 6-11-8	9-2	Alastair Ralph	Murray Dodd (8)	9
2024	Hara Kiri 7-12-0	13-8f	Oly Murphy	Dylan Johnston (3)	8
2023	Thankyourluckystar 7-12-0	9-2	Alastair Ralph	Jay Tidball (6)	7
2022	Poker Master 5-10-10	7-4f	Philip McBride	Tom Buckley	9
2021	Thinque Tank 5-10-2	4-1f	Charlie Longsdon	Tom Buckley (3)	17

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race