

Saturday 30th May

STRATFORD



5.50	JULIE SATTERLEY WAVING GOODBYE TO 49 NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 2¼m148y (3760 Metres)
RACE 1	(3) MASKARVEL (1) MACHETE BEACH (4) USYK
6.20	HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY RICH WILDING MARES' NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2m70y (3280 Metres)
RACE 2	(3) LITTLE LADY LUCY (8) STELLARMASTERPIECE (5) BLUE SIAM
6.50	JULIE SATTERLEY 50th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 2¼m148y (3760 Metres)
RACE 3	(5) JUAN BERMUDEZ (2) FORGET THE WAY (3) HOPE RISING
7.20	FARMERS FRESH HANDICAP CHASE (3) 3m3f119y (5540 Metres)
RACE 4	(2) IMPERIAL ALEX (5) ESPERTI (1) IVANE
7.50	OWEN THOMAS MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (4) 2m213y (3410 Metres)
RACE 5	(5) ROCKS UP LATE (2) DELPOTRO (1) IN THIS WORLD
8.20	HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY STEVE COTTON HANDICAP CHASE (4) 2½m205y (4210 Metres)
RACE 6	(2) GATEAU DE MIEL (3) TWO TO TANGO (4) MIX OF CLOVER
8.50	SUN RACING SUMMER JUMPS CHAMPIONSHIP HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 2¾m7y (4430 Metres)
RACE 7	(2) TAO ENKI (9) MASONBROOK MEADOW (4) LION OF THE DESERT

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.

5.50

JULIE SATTERLEY WAVING GOODBYE TO 49 NOVICES' HURDLE (4) 4yo+ £12,000 2¼m148y (3760 Metres)

RACE 1



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



SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race


Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**


1 MACHETE BEACH (25) 98
3-1 5 11-7 | 73.0kg

 Jamie Snowden  **Gavin Sheehan**
Fairly useful Flat performer, scoring twice over 1½m for Harry Charlton in 2024. Offered plenty to work on switched to hurdling when third of 8 at Plumpton (2m) last May and made the most of a good opportunity at Hereford a year on. Not yet the finished article and the type to go on improving.


2 JA KLIPDRIFT (GER) 80
5 11-0 | 69.9kg

 Tom Gretton **Conor O'Farrell**
Lucky Lion gelding. Dam, 7f/1m winner abroad, sister to fairly useful hurdler/ useful chaser (stayed 19f) Jan Maat. 1 of 2 newcomers for the yard.


3 MASKARVEL (FR) (15) 100
24252-2 5 11-0 | 69.9kg 

 Alastair Ralph **Jonathan Burke**
Showed fair form when in the frame all 3 outings in Irish bumpers (for David Harry Kelly) and stepped up appreciably on his hurdling debut when second of 7 in 2m Huntingdon maiden in early March. Ran at least as well when filling same spot at Aintree and sets the standard.

4 USYK (IRE) (267) (BF) 85
426- 5 11-0 | 69.9kg

 Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies **Sam Twiston-Davies**
Showed fair form on the first 2 of 3 starts in bumpers last summer and bred to be suited by this longer trip on hurdling debut.

5 AT SUNRISE (13) 70
9/7P-4 5 10-7 | 66.7kg h

 David Weston **James Davies**
Well held in 2 bumpers/completed start over hurdles.

6 LA FILLE FRIDAY (FR) 80
5 10-7 | 66.7kg

 Tom Gretton **David Noonan**
Indian Daffodil mare. Dam unraced half-sister to smart hurdler (stayed 2½m) Aristo du Plessis. Yard not associated with first-time-out winners and likely best watched.

7 TAKE THE BOAT (IRE) (BF) 82
4 10-2 | 64.4kg

 Georgina Nicholls **Harry Bannister**
Fair performer at up to 1¾m on the Flat. Likely to be competitive if transferring that form to hurdling at the first attempt.

7 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

11-8 Maskarvel, **13-8** Machete Beach, **7-1** Usyk, **14-1** Take The Boat, **33-1** La Fille Friday, **40-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

MASKARVEL was unlucky to bump into a promising sort for the time of year at Aintree earlier in the month and a reproduction of that form may well suffice, especially in receipt of 7 lb from his chief form rival Machete Beach, who should have more to offer in this sphere considering the above-average level he achieved in just a handful of runs on the Flat. Usyk showed some promise in bumpers last summer and shouldn't be overlooked with the longer trip sure to suit now hurdling.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. MASKARVEL 2. MACHETE BEACH 3. USYK

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Public Enemy 4-10-13	9-2	Anthony Honeyball	Rex Dingle	8
2024	Juan Bermudez 5-11-1	15-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	10
2023	Titanium Moon 5-11-7	8-15f	Donald McCain	Brian Hughes	4
2022	Quiet Thunder 4-10-8	50-1	Sarah Hollinshead	Chris Ward (5)	8
2021	She's All In Gold 4-10-6	10-3	Oliver Greenall	Henry Brooke	8

6.20

RACE 2

HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY RICH WILDING MARES' NOVICES' LIMITED HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 4yo+ fillies and mares (Rated 0-95) £7,150 2m70y (3280 Metres)



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

Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025 ^I	Auntie Maggie 6-11-6	10-11f	Alastair Ralph	Jonathan Burke	9
2025 ^{II}	Fillyfudge 6-11-8	10-3	Lemos De Souza	Jack Quinlan	8
2024	Getmetothemoon 5-11-7	7-2	Anthony Honeyball	Rex Dingle	12
2023	Pak Army 8-12-0	6-5f	Brian Barr	Bradley Harris (5)	7
2022	Noahthirtywored 6-11-9	10-3	Adam West	Lee Edwards	8

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

1 KOTTAYAM (FR) (38) s+t **98**

43F26PP0- 6 11-12 | 75.3kg



Dave Roberts *Lee Edwards*
Pulled up in 2 handicaps for Dylan Cunha in the autumn and fared little better on stable debut/return at Ludlow. Tongue strap back on along with first-time cheekpieces.

2 LIASSE D'ARGENT (FR) (18) t **88**

56-4 6 11-11 | 74.8kg



Tom Gretton *Conor O'Farrell*
Best of her 3 efforts over hurdles came when sixth of 13 in a C&D maiden last month, but that's still only poor form, and she'll need to improve now switched to a handicap. Wears first-time tongue strap.

3 LITTLE LADY LUCY (IRE) (38) (D) s **97**

5599PP11- 5 11-10 | 74.4kg



Neil Mulholland *Bradley Harris (3lb/1kg)*
Fair Flat winner for Joseph O'Brien who has proved a different proposition since the drop back to 2m/switch to positive tactics, following up her Wincanton success with ease under a penalty at Taunton, and a hat-trick beckons in a race where she may be able to dictate.

4 BURGEON (26) s+t **91**

5/56-P 5 11-2 | 70.8kg



David Killahena & Graeme McPherson *Nick Slatter (3lb/1kg)*
Fared no better for the switch to a handicap at Warwick on reappearance, and no surprise to see a first-time tongue strap fitted, given she looked a difficult ride.

5 BLUE SIAM (IRE) (17) s **99**

55-4 4 10-13 | 69.4kg



Syd Hosie *Benjamin Macey (5lb/2kg)*
Modest maiden on the Flat (stays 1¾m) who only ran to a similar level as previously when fourth of 8 on qualifying run at Newton Abbot, but cheekpieces go on for the first time over hurdles, and she's expected to make more impact now handicapping.

6 FOR LOVE OF BEAUTY (51) t **55**

5/687P5- 5 10-13 | 69.4kg



Noel Williams *James Davies*
Free-going sort again achieved little over hurdles when fifth of 8 on handicap bow at Taunton.

7 NOBLE MISS (106) h+b **97**

13/540P56- 5 10-12 | 68.9kg



Sarah Humphrey *Jamie Gambin (7lb/3kg)*
Won a bumper on debut in late 2024 but remains with little form over hurdles for current yard.

8 STELLARMASTERPIECE (FR) (129) s **100**

FP66/355- 6 10-10 | 68.0kg



Micky Hammond *Sean Bowen*
Potentially well handicapped on the best of her Flat form (easily forgiven latest start at Catterick), and with her yard in better heart than when last seen in this sphere, she merits serious consideration with Sean Bowen taking over.

8 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

7-4 Little Lady Lucy, **11-4** Stellarmasterpiece, **9-2** Blue Siam, **16-1** Liasse D'argent, **20-1** Kottayam, **20-1** Burgeon, **25-1** For Love of Beauty, **33-1** Noble Miss

TIMEFORM VIEW:

LITTLE LADY LUCY could get the run of the race, and she appeals most in her bid for a hat-trick. Stellarmasterpiece returns to hurdles on a potentially handy mark, though, and looks the type to benefit from the strong handling of Sean Bowen, while handicap debutante Blue Siam is another of interest.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. LITTLE LADY LUCY 2. STELLARMASTERPIECE 3. BLUE SIAM

6.50

RACE 3

JULIE SATTERLEY 50th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION HANDICAP HURDLE (3) 4yo+ (Rated 0-130) £12,650 2¼m148y (3760 Metres)Going: **Good to Firm (Good in places)**

Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 IN THE AIR (FR) (49) (C, D) 88
54121217- 8 11-13 | 75.7kg



Alastair Ralph

Ciaran Gethings

Won 3 times in handicap chases last year but he looked rusty on return to hurdles at Chepstow following 6 months off and may still need this.

2 FORGET THE WAY (10) 98
3626215-2 9 11-10 | 74.4kg s+t



James Owen

Jonathan Burke

Latest success came in a 6-runner selling handicap at Huntingdon in November. Enhanced his good record when fresh with a solid second at Warwick on return and is expected to go well again.

3 HOPE RISING (IRE) (23) 98
121212R-3 5 11-9 | 73.9kg



Jamie Snowden

Gavin Sheehan

Three-time winner blotted her copybook when refusing to race at Chepstow on final start last season, but she looked more straightforward when third of 5 at Huntingdon on reappearance and is entitled to come on for that run.

4 HALF A CHANCE (IRE) (7) 98
325340-4U 7 11-7 | 73.0kg s



John Joseph Hanlon, Ireland

Paddy Hanlon (5lb/2kg)

Went close on a couple of occasions in handicap hurdles last year. Unable to build on a promising debut over fences when unseating (beginning to lose ground at the time) in a Cartmel novice chase latest but is weighted to be competitive now back hurdling.

5 JUAN BERMUDEZ (15) (CD) 100
5/310652-2 7 11-2 | 70.8kg s+t



Henry Oliver

Lilly Pinchin

As good as ever when runner-up over C&D last month and again found only one too good at Aintree last time (pulled clear of the rest). All 3 of his previous course wins have come at this this time of the year and he has excellent claims to enhance that record.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-2 Forget The Way, **3-1** Juan Bermudez, **3-1** Hope Rising, **11-2** Half A Chance, **10-1** In The Air

TIMEFORM VIEW:

JUAN BERMUDEZ has been knocking on the door and can gain a deserved fourth course success. Forget The Way also goes well at this time of year and is feared most.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. JUAN BERMUDEZ 2. FORGET THE WAY 3. HOPE RISING

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

7.20**FARMERS FRESH HANDICAP CHASE (3) 5yo+ (Rated 0-125)
£13,650 3m3f119y (5540 Metres)**

RACE 4

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

Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Very Weak**

1 **IVANE (FR) (100)** (BF) v **98**
F1124264- 8 12-0 | 76.2kg



James Owen

Jonathan Burke

Yet another good advert for James Owen, landing the Durham National back in this sphere at Sedgefield (29.2f) in October. Creditable efforts on 3 of his 4 subsequent runs over fences prior to failing to justify support back over hurdles at aforementioned track on latest start. Given a break since.

2 **IMPERIAL ALEX (IRE) (25)** s **100**
P2/21075-2 9 12-0 | 76.2kg



Tom Lacey

Stan Sheppard

Bounced back to his best back down in grade when beaten only by a fellow weight plunger in 9-runner handicap chase (9/2) at Ffos Las (3m, good) 25 days ago, conceding first run. Nudged back up 4 lb but still looks ahead of his mark.

3 **YES DAY (IRE) (45)** b **90**
PF63068P- 8 11-5 | 72.1kg



Jonjo & A.J. O'Neill

Jonjo O'Neill Jr.

Looked one with problems towards the end of last season and first-time blinkers need to spark a revival.

4 **BALLYNAHEER (IRE) (36)** s+t **98**
12211415- 7 11-2 | 70.8kg



David Dennis

Rian Corcoran (5lb/2kg)

Quickly resumed winning ways at Market Rasen (3m) in April but that was a decidedly weak affair and he turned in another poor effort at Ffos Las since. Bounce back required.

5 **ESPERTI (IRE) (26)** **99**
11P5211-2 9 11-2 | 70.8kg



David Rees

Sean Bowen

Thriving this autumn, winning back-to-back handicaps at up to 29f prior to fine second up in grade at Fakenham latest. Likely to give another good account.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Imperial Alex, 9-4 Esperti, 5-1 Ivane, 7-1 Ballynaheer, 10-1 Yes Day

TIMEFORM VIEW:

IMPERIAL ALEX was denied only by a fellow well-treated rival who got first run on him at Ffos Las on his most recent outing and still looks ahead of the assessor despite being nudged back up 4 lb in the weights. Esperti arrives in excellent heart and is the clear second choice.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. IMPERIAL ALEX 2. ESPERTI 3. IVANE

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Stans The Man	8-11-5	7-2	Ella Pickard	Ben Godfrey	7
2024	Hidden Heroics	7-12-0	7-2f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	10
2023	Tommie Beau	8-12-3	5-4f	Seamus Mullins	Micheal Nolan	4
2022	Forgot To Ask	10-11-9	14-1	Tom George	Jonathan Burke	7
2021	Ballyegan Hero	10-10-6	11-2	Paul Henderson	Nick Scholfield	6

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

7.50**OWEN THOMAS MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (4) 5yo+
(Rated 0-110) £8,000 2m213y (3410 Metres)**

RACE 5

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

Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Weak**

1 IN THIS WORLD (FR) (26) (D) t **94**
212/74P5-5 8 12-0 | 76.2kg

Rob Summers *Robert Dunne*
Fairly useful winner over both hurdles and fences for Dan Skelton. Yet to make a significant impact for current yard but did stop the slide when fifth of 8 in 2m handicap at Warwick on most recent outing, a couple of errors prevent him from doing better still. Now needs to build on that.

2 DELPOTRO (FR) (18) (D, BF) h+t **99**
2/1P1243-2 6 11-11 | 74.8kg

Charlie Longsdon *Sean Bowen*
Free-going front-runner who goes particularly well at Sedgefield, notching second success at that course in September. Mixed back since however, coming out on the wrong side of a match when turned over at 1/3 at Hereford latest. Hood refitted but unlikely to get an easy time up front.

3 TURPIN GOLD (187) (C, D) **98**
11521420- 10 11-8 | 73.5kg

Tom Lacey *Stan Sheppard*
Landed a third win for Tom Lacey with a smooth success in handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (17f) in August. Found his good run of form coming to a halt at Kempton in November and now makes a belated switch to chasing, with little in his pedigree suggesting it will suit.

4 BOBBARELLI (7) (BF) h+t **87**
P622-3 9 11-4 | 71.7kg

Nigel & Willy Twiston-Davies *Miss Amber Jackson-Fennell (71b/3kg)*
Dual point winner who confirmed his opening mark a fair one when second of 9 in 19f handicap hurdle at Taunton (19f) in March. Disappointed back over hurdles at Bangor last week, however, and likely to face competition for the lead.

5 ROCKS UP LATE (IRE) (193) (D) t **100**
111P1637- 6 11-2 | 70.8kg

Ben Pauling *Ben Jones*
Bagged a fourth win last season at Worcester in August. Found good run of form coming to a halt at Lingfield in November but appeals as the type to bounce back following a break and breathing operation.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

15-8 Rocks Up Late, 11-4 Delpotro, 11-2 Bobbarelli, 13-2 In This World, 7-1 Turpin Gold

TIMEFORM VIEW:

ROCKS UP LATE has had a breathing operation since his dip in form last autumn and is taken to bounce back following a break despite likely competition for the lead. Fellow front-runner Delpotro is feared most ahead of In This World, who hinted at a revival at Warwick last time.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. ROCKS UP LATE 2. DELPOTRO 3. IN THIS WORLD

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Iskar d'Airy 7-11-12	11-8f	Gary & Josh Moore	Caoilin Quinn	6
2024	Isholo du Vivien 6-10-10	13-2	Donald McCain	Theo Gillard	7
2023	Elios d'Or 9-11-5	11-4	Robert Walford	Harry Kimber (3)	4
2022	Larch Hill 9-11-11	9-1	Charles & Adam Pogson	Brian Hughes	6
2021	Lock's Corner 7-11-12	11-4	Jonjo O'Neill	Richie McLernon	3

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

8.20

**HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY STEVE COTTON HANDICAP CHASE (4)
5yo+ (Rated 0-115) £9,150 2½m205y (4210 Metres)**

RACE 6



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

Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Uncontested**

1 LACRIMA (FR) (26) t **89**

2271118-8 5 12-0 | 76.2kg

Nick Scholfield *Harry Reed*

Fairly useful chaser who landed hat-trick of claimers in France last summer/autumn for Nick George & Amanda Zetterholm. Has made little impact both outings for current yard, including back over the larger obstacles last time, and could only consider if backed.

2 GATEAU DE MIEL (FR) (53) (C) t **100**

P/21472P4- 10 11-9 | 73.9kg

Fergal O'Brien *Tom Broughton (3lb/1kg)*

Course winner last summer who ran well on first outing since leaving Barry Brennan when runner-up in Wincanton hunter (2½m, soft) in March. Disappointing both subsequent starts under Rules but has been given a chance by the assessor on first run for another new stable.

3 TWO TO TANGO (37) (C) s **98**

53/232213- 8 11-9 | 73.9kg

Emma Lavelle *Charlie Todd*

Winless following 11 attempts over hurdles but off the mark in this sphere at the fourth time of asking when gamely seeing off his 4 rivals with first-time cheekpieces enlisted here (19f) in March. Held back by a clumsy round of jumping at Warwick subsequently but obvious chance if bouncing back.

4 MIX OF CLOVER (200) (CD) s **96**

F/327361P- 12 11-6 | 72.6kg

Alastair Ralph *Jonathan Burke*

Inconsistent veteran who bounced back to form to justify support when winning a 5-runner C&D handicap in October. However, typically followed that with a bad run at Hereford next time and it's hard to know what form he'll be in on this return from 6 months off.

5 BOOM BOOM (IRE) (192) (C) t **95**

FP/31187P- 8 10-2(9-13) | 64.4kg (63.0kg)

Rob Summers *Robert Dunne*

Showed plenty of ability remains when landing back-to-back course handicaps here last summer. However, lost his form badly later in 2025 and returns from a 6-month absence from 3 lb out of the weights.

5 DECLARED RUNNERS

BETTING FORECAST:

5-4 Two To Tango, **10-3** Gateau De Miel, **5-1** Mix of Clover, **15-2** Lacrima, **14-1** Boom Boom

TIMEFORM VIEW:

A thin handicap in which it could pay to side with GATEAU DE MIEL, who is back on the same mark as for his latest success (registered at this venue) now setting out for another new yard. Two To Tango can provide the main threat if jumping more fluently than on his most recent start.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. GATEAU DE MIEL 2. TWO TO TANGO 3. MIX OF CLOVER

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Village Master 6-12-0	6-4	Warren Greatrex	James Bowen	5
2024	Rotten Row 7-11-10	3-1f	Gary Hanmer	Robert Dunne	9
2023	Begin The Luck 7-11-2	9-2	Brian Barr	Harry Reed	4
2022	Light N Strike 6-11-11	11-4	Emma Lavelle	Tom Bellamy	7
2021	Forecast 9-11-2	11-2	Dr Richard Newland	Sam Twiston-Davies	5

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race

8.50

RACE 7

SUN RACING SUMMER JUMPS CHAMPIONSHIP HANDICAP HURDLE (5) 4yo+ (Rated 0-105) £7,150 2¾m7y (4430 Metres)





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


Left handed, sharp; the high number of falls/unseats in recent years is due to the size of the fences and the fact that so many races are well run. A water jump was introduced near the winning post in March 2008, although this is not jumped on the final circuit. The hurdles track also has more than the normal number of well-run races, jockeys often opting to strike for home sooner than normal because of the relatively short straight.

Pace Information: **Weak**


1 AMERICAN TRIO (IRE) (11) v **92**
 001-2 **5** 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **Fergal O'Brien** **Liam Harrison**
 Lightly-raced 5-y-o was much improved in a change of headgear when easily landing a gamble in a novice selling hurdle at Exeter, before running at least as well in defeat behind a well-treated one in a thin handicap at Huntingdon.


2 TAO ENKI (FR) (25) (BF) s  **100**
 57/5357-2 **6** 12-0 | 76.2kg

 **Alastair Ralph** **Ciaran Gethings**
 Low-mileage 6-y-o produced an improved effort in first-time cheekpieces when runner-up at Hereford last time, and with this significantly longer trip expected to suit, he's fancied to go one better.


3 ROXBORO RIVER (IRE) (22) (CD) **93**
 914PP40-7 **7** 11-12 | 75.3kg

 **John Joseph Hanlon, Ireland** **Paddy Hanlon (5lb/2kg)**
 Below form since winning over C&D in July off a 1 lb higher mark but he did at least step up on his reappearance run when a creditable seventh of 15 in a handicap hurdle at Downpatrick last time.


4 LION OF THE DESERT (IRE) (10) h **95**
 093491-13 **6** 11-11 | 74.8kg

 **Grace Harris** **Joe Anderson (3lb/1kg)**
 Front-running type came up short in his bid for a Ffos Las hat-trick when third of 5 there last time. Will need to jump better on a sharper track, though is clearly in fine heart and could get an easy lead.


5 SHESONNET (IRE) (26) **96**
 5852P-1 **5** 11-10 | 74.4kg

 **Ben Case** **Harry Bannister**
 Caused something of a surprise when making a winning return/handicap debut at Warwick (21f) and while she's still unexposed over this sort of trip, there's no guarantee that things unfold as favourably here.


6 PARIKARMA (IRE) (56) b **95**
 144/385- **9** 11-6 | 72.6kg

 **Samuel Drinkwater** **Miss Imogen Mathias (7lb/3kg)**
 Well held on first Flat start for new yard at Southwell last time but should at least appreciate stepping back up in distance off a career-low hurdles mark.


7 MISS TIARA (38) t **96**
 9P/259634- **6** 11-1 | 70.3kg

 **Jeremy Scott** **Lorcan Williams**
 Maiden has hit the frame on both starts since a second breathing operation but was reported to be coughing post-race following her latest fourth of 8 at Taunton last month.


8 GREAT D'ANGE (FR) (171) t **93**
 4P2235PP- **10** 10-10 | 68.0kg

 **Alexander Gibbons** **Tom Broughton (3lb/1kg)**
 Returns from 5 months off having shown no form in 3 starts for current yard.

9 MASONBROOK MEADOW (IRE) (26) **97**
 971544P-2 **5** 10-2(10-1) | 64.4kg (64.0kg)

 **Seamus Mullins** **Benjamin Macey (5lb/2kg)**
 Produced her best effort to date when runner-up at Fakenham latest (might well have notched a second career win had she jumped the last better) and another bold bid is expected with her stable going well.

10 SHES ALL PRIDE (IRE) (38) **92**
 377/P38- **6** 10-2(9-8) | 64.4kg (60.8kg)

 **Deborah Cole** **Sean Bowen**
 Made more impact than previously when third over C&D on handicap debut but she failed to repeat that effort from out of the weights at Ludlow and hopes probably rest on some Sean Bowen magic.

BETTING FORECAST:

9-2 Tao Enki, **11-2** Shesonnet, **7-1** Masonbrook Meadow, **15-2** Lion of The Desert, **15-2** American Trio, **8-1** Miss Tiara, **12-1** Shes All Pride, **14-1** Roxboro River, **16-1** Parikarma, **50-1** bar

TIMEFORM VIEW:

TAO ENKI posted an improved effort when second at Hereford and with the step up in trip likely to suit, he appeals most. Masonbrook Meadow is a likely danger for the in-form Seamus Mullins yard, while Lion Of The Desert could go well if getting into a rhythm on the front end.

TIMEFORM 1-2-3:

1. TAO ENKI 2. MASONBROOK MEADOW 3. LION OF THE DESERT

WINNERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS:

2025	Laravie 6-11-11	15-2	James Owen	Alex Chadwick (5)	15
2024	Supreme Yeats 8-11-8	11-8f	Dan Skelton	Harry Skelton	10
2023	Lighthouse Mill 6-10-11	9-4	David Dennis	Gavin Sheehan	7
2022	Thirsty Farmer 8-10-12	5-2f	Richard Hawker	Sean Houlihan	7
2021	Always Able 6-11-1	13-2	Matt Sheppard	Stan Sheppard	11

SMART STATS:

No Smart Stats available for this race