Racin'



Issue 384 Dec 2023/Jan 2024

NMRC CLUB AGM

The club's AGM will again be held online on **Monday evening 22nd January 2024 at 8.30pm**.

We invite all members to get involved in this event so if you would like to attend the online meeting please register via e mail at info@northernracingclub.com by Sunday evening, the day before. Joining instructions will then be sent out via e mail on Monday morning to those who have registered.

If you cannot attend or do not have internet access we would still like to hear from you if you would like to share any thoughts on how the club is being run.

Please send any written communications to NMRC at 53 Dalebrook Rd, Sale, M33 3LB.

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CHANGES CONFIRMED FOR 2024 'NATIONAL'

The Jockey Club has stated its primary aim is to reduce the risk of incidents during the race and, to that end, the maximum field-size for the Grand National will be cut from 40 to 34.

A large amount of focus was also centred on the first fence and the run from the start line to that first jumping test.

The Jockey Club has confirmed a decision to move the first obstacle 60 yards closer to the start and implement a standing start, which will apply to all races over the Grand National fences throughout the 2023-24 season.

This is aimed at reducing the build-up of potential speed for horses arriving at the first fence.

Other safety changes include alterations to the alignment of the running rail on the inside of the course to assist with the early capture of loose horses and reducing fence 11 by two inches, while horses will no longer be led by a handler on-course during the parade in front of the grandstands.

LAST CALL FOR ONLINE RACING QUIZ NIGHTS OVER THE WINTER MONTHS

During the worst of the Covid lockdowns the club held a number of racing quiz-nights. Thankfully those lockdown days are behind us but, as the dark nights draw in again, I thought it may be worth 'testing the water' to see if it is worth resurrecting these?

They will last 30-40 minutes on a monthly basis until the clocks go forwards again next year. Anyone with a computer, smartphone or tablet should be able to take part.

If interested please contact Phil Evans via e mail at info@northernracingclub.com

COMPETITION NEWS

59's DRAW RESULTS UPDATE

The latest '59's' winners are as follows:

October 7th – 26 – Diane Bates (Warrington) November 4th – 43 – Jill White (Helmsley) December 2nd – 40 – John Boswell (Ainsdale)

Your £50 prizes will be with you shortly.

The winning number is determined by the 'bonus ball' drawn in the UK Lottery on the 1st Saturday of the month.

Thanks to all who continue to support the draw. We currently have 3 numbers available – it costs £1pm to enter. Please e mail info@northernracingclub.com for further details.

HERITAGE HANDICAPS COMPETITION 2023

After 20 weeks of gruelling flat handicaps to try and fathom out, the competition came to a finale at Ascot in October on 'Champions Day'. Here are the results/prize winners:

Main competition

1st Rob McDermott	£150
2nd Chris Watson	£75
3rd Mike Campbell	£40

Wooden Spoon

Peter Flynn

Exacta/trifecta competition

1st Craig McConnachie £75

Thanks to all who took part and to Helen Goodwill for scoring the entries all summer!

SATURDAY NAPS+ N H TIPPING CHALLENGE

This year's competition started on November 18th so we have now completed three weeks of the twenty-one weeks that entries are being taken.

For the first time, we have varied the schedule slightly so we can include the English, Welsh, Scottish & Irish Grand Nationals.

Not that the other feature races are much easier, with tough handicaps to fathom out at Cheltenham, Haydock & Newbury so far!

Each of the three rounds comprises seven weeks of selections with there being £70 prizes for the winners and £30 prizes for the runner up in each round.

For the seasonal challenge the prizes will be: Winner £120; Runner-up £75; 3rd place £50 and 4th place £25.

The leaderboard after week 3 looks like this:

Total	Name & Entry No.
31.5	Jim Aitkenhead 29
27.8	Harold Woodward 50
27.25	Ken Unsworth 11
24.76	Eunice Flynn 21
22.68	Gordon Armistead 17
21.75	Steve Cawley 70
21.6	Jason Sandland 74
18.2	Linda Boswell 94
17.28	Paul Willoughby 33
16.6	Philip Doyle 105
15.52	Linda Harrison 34
15.1	John Boswell 13
14.44	Peter Flynn 20
13.7	Paul Halliwell 139
13	Harry Sandland 73
13	Diane Bates 68
12.76	Mark Banks 96
12.42	Floss Howes 36
12.2	Dave Edge 32
12	Terry Slocombe 135
11.6	Chris Watson 138
10.8	Wilf Watson 140
10.4	Brendan O'Meara 56
10.4	Colin Malone 01
9.7	Andy Condon 85

GORDON ARMISTEAD'S RACING DIARY

Friday October 27th Cheltenham

Another Cheltenham season and totally different from last year with no worries about the ground. Plenty of runners and competitive fields with three sixteen runner plus handicaps.

In the two-mile handicap hurdle Our Champ who had looked fairly ordinary in novice hurdles last season made it two from two for his new trainer Chris Gordon winning very easily. Already up eight pounds for his first win he will go up that again at least and can probably follow up. Runner up Black Poppy won the Swinton in the spring and will be competitive in something like the Greatwood back here in November.

In the two-mile novice chase My Mate Mozzie had the hurdle rating to win and was odds on but he has looked a bit soft in a finish more than once. He didn't have to battle to win and will find it harder when he steps up in class.

Gavin Cromwell has been in form for several weeks and he followed My Mate Mozzie with another easy win for Encanto Bruno in the two four novice hurdle. He did nothing wrong with John McConnell but the owner has moved a few horses to Cromwell and the horse looks the part. Runner up Mel Monroe had won an extremely moderate maiden hurdle at Downpatrick while third Tag Man who isn't a hearty battler had also been found a poor event at Listowel to win. They might hold this form down a bit.

It seems a bit early for a Grade 2 novice hurdle but the two-mile Sharp Novice has been moved to this meeting. Aintree 2022 bumper winner Lookaway made all in a race where all eight runners had won last time out so it looks decent form. He was out of sorts last season and while he looks a chaser he will probably see how it goes against the best novice hurdlers first. Irish challenger Toto Too was well backed but pulled too hard to ever get home.

Saturday October 28th Cheltenham

Haddex Des Obeaux had looked good at Warwick in February and was the right favourite for the two-mile handicap chase but Aintree Red Rum Chase winner Dancing On My Own was far too big a price at 14/1. I was at Listowel when he ran an excellent race when outclassed by Easy Game and yet there were only two bigger in the market than him here. Only the two really mattered for most of the race and it was still nip and took when Haddex Des Obeaux came down at the last. This was too short for Triple Trade a never nearer runner up and Notlongtillmay should come on for this with Laura Morgan not in form yet.

It looked a match in the four-year-old conditions hurdle and with Spirit d'Aunou pulling his chance away Blueking d'Ornoux took the race with a bit in hand. He improved no end last spring after a wind op and is a fine specimen who will be competitive off his rating of 138 in handicaps.

Butch was given a pretty easy time of it out in front of the three-mile novice hurdle jumping well and still had reserves to battle back after being headed on the run in. His novice status runs out soon and he could easily go over fences straight away as he will be seven in the new year. Runner Up Antrim Coast used up a lot of energy closing from two out and is probably decent. Third Reverend Hubert is the sort for staying handicaps. There were plenty against Flooring Porter on his chase debut hence his 6/4 price but he jumped well in the main and had too much speed and class from the last fence. It will be interesting to see how his season goes when the better novices take him on. It was disappointing to see Weveallbeencaught fail to beat his stable mate Broadway Boy for second. He went off a bit towards the end of last season but being such a big lump he might just have needed this.

The Kemble Brewery was paddock pick for the bumper and defied the penalty in good style. I imagine he will go over hurdles. Runner up Valgrand was well clear of the pack and ran well. He was runner up in an Irish point that has not worked out well so this was a step forward. Of the others I liked fifth home The Northernlights owned by Scottish owner Raymond Anderson Green but trained in the south by Georgina Nicholls who has had a couple of winners since taking out her licence again.

Sunday October 29th Aintree

The Old Roan was ruined as a meaningful contest by the sun. The return of My Drogo after two years off was underwhelming as his jumping of the fences in the back straight wasn't great and he was well beaten. Hitman was well tailed off and something must have been amiss. I doubt if we will see Tommy's Oscar over two mile four again.

In the two four novice hurdle also reduced in jumps the odds on shot Inthewaterside who is a massive animal got very warm beforehand. He pulled in the race but still had enough to run on and snatch the race near the line. Runner up Jagwar also a hefty beast ran well on his British debut.

In the three-mile handicap hurdle Equinus was well backed and managed to win after a less than great display of jumping. If that improves he could step up in class while the runner up Secret Trix was well clear of the rest. Pembroke has been a bit of a talking horse since winning a Ludlow novice hurdle last season but is becoming disappointing and turned in a poor effort in the two-mile novice handicap chase. Mister Chewy was not a great battler over hurdles but took this easily and was ridden right out by Sam Twiston Davis. His 121 mark won't survive this and it will be interesting to see if they step him up in class and see how he goes when he has some challengers.

Saturday November 4th Wetherby

Cherie d'Am had beaten one other finisher in her point and three moderate sorts in her bumper but she was backed like defeat was out of the question in the eighteen-runner two-mile four novice hurdle. Held up off the pace she travelled smoothly up to the leaders and went away easily from the last. She looked useful but we will no more after another run. Runner up Wild Side of Life should easily take a northern maiden hurdle. His trainer Laura Morgan's horses are beginning to run like the stable is about to come into form.

The Edgar Wallace disputed it for most of the race in the two four handicap chase and made use of his drop in the ratings after the Kim Bailey stable was out of form last season. He might still get into a 0-130 handicap and can follow up. Second and third William Cody and Happy and Fine ran well on their seasonal debuts.

Three good ones in the mare's two-mile listed hurdle and You Wear It Well confirmed the form with Luccia making all as she does. There are plenty of these for her before she has to take on the Irish in March. Back in third Kateira ran like she needed the outing.

Thyme Hill and Dashel Drasher dominated the market for the West Yorkshire Hurdle but neither is getting any younger. Thyme Hill was beaten entering the straight and while Dashel Drasher battled like he does he was well seen off by Botox Has and Red Risk. This wasn't stayers hurdle form.

Bravemansgame looked to have the Charlie Hall won when he made a mistake at the last. He failed to pick up from it and maybe was just short of fitness as his original target had been the Betfair. Gentlemansgame on only his third chase start stayed on well and will go to Leopardstown at Christmas to see if he is a Grade 1 performer. Ahoy Senor is not one to place any faith in after another poor display.

Sunday November 5th Carlisle

Johnnywho ran out an impressive winner of the two four novice hurdle but the 16/1 quotes he received for the Ballymore Hurdle are just stupid. He beat a Cartmel winner who has been well beaten in Ireland since and was getting seven pounds. He looked a nice sort but still has plenty to prove.

Trelawne looked a nice sort giving weight away all round in the two four novice handicap chase. He will go up into the 140's after this so it will be interesting to see if they step him up to graded company. Blue Fin in second ran a race full of promise.

Not the best renewal of the Colin Parker. Winner Thunder Rock got himself over rated at 150 last season and has come down a small amount but still might find it hard in handicaps. Runner up Mahler Mission ran well over a trip well short of his best but again his UK rating of 151 looks high enough.

Bumpers are always hard to weigh up but Mister Meggit was very impressive putting twelve lengths into the well backed favourite in the last furlong. He looked like he would come on for the outing as well so hopefully he will be above average.

Tuesday November 7th Warwick

Salver a half-brother to Grade 1 hurdle winner Saldier ran out a good winner of the juvenile hurdle despite looking a bit green late on and seemingly not fancied. He only ran once on the flat so could be OK. Two divisions of the two-mile three novice hurdle with Nicky Henderson having an odds-on chance in each. In the first Jingko Blue whose point form looked strong looked like he would improve for the run. With his two market rivals pulling up with physical problems he still couldn't win as Personal Ambition saw him off. The winner didn't jump that well while Jingko Blue ran around a bit from two out. They both looked nice sorts and were well clear of the third. In division two which looked the weaker race Kintail also looked like he would improve but was good enough to beat Clondaw Royale who had looked moderate on his hurdles debut.

The two four novice chase was won by Stage Star last season and Iroko this year's winner looks like he will be very good over fences as well. Maybe a bit sticky over the first fences he warmed up and moved up to leader Golden Son on the bridle two out and eased away from the last. He won the Martin Pipe off 138 but looks like he will be much higher over fences. Runner up Golden Son won a graded hurdle in France without being a star but looks a chaser. Third Kilbeg King will be better over three miles.

Saturday November 11th Aintree

A really unsatisfactory afternoon with only the bumper run as planned as the first sunny day since the last meeting here ruined the card.

Only two fences omitted from The Grand Sefton and Geskille was up with the pace for the whole race and battled on well to win. Connections want to go for the National but that will depend on his rating. He won this off 138 so assuming he goes up four pounds a rating of 142 would have got him into the last two renewals. However, with the ridiculous decision to reduce the field to the seemingly arbitrary figure of 34 a rating of 142 would have got him into only one of the last six renewals and one year it needed a 146 rating. Not much else to be garnered from the day. Master Chewy reverted to type by giving away the two-mile handicap chase when it became hard work.

Let us hope for a miserable cloudy day on Becher Chase day.

Friday November 17th Cheltenham

Triple Trade went one better than at the October meeting in the two-mile handicap chase but he needed all of the trip to catch Calico. For all the world it looks like he will be better over two and a half but connections evidently think otherwise.

It was to be a very good day on the betting front but it needed a bit of luck to start it off. JPR One has certainly turned into a fine specimen and turned in an excellent display of jumping in the Arkle Trial but slipped on landing at the last and unshipped Brendan Powell. I was on Homme Public at 13/2 and having been in second for the entire trip he picked up the pieces. He should not have been the outsider of the four runners. Runner up Petit Tonnerre was a disappointing sort over hurdles and I would want to see him winning to prove he wants it. For much of his career Foxy Jacks was a wayward character who hung left proving unstearable on occasions. There were signs of better behaviour last winter and this summer he has become much more consistent winning the Midland National at Kilbeggan and placing third in the Kerry National. He was well overpriced at 20/1 in the morning for the Cross-Country Handicap. Making most he ran on well when challenged at the last. Jockey Gavin Brouder doesn't get many high-profile rides but was close to winning the Irish National last season. Runner up Latenightpass was an interesting runner as he usually only makes his rules appearances in the Aintree Foxhunters. He stayed the trip well. The class of the race in Galvin and Delta Work were well beaten under there big weights and will be much better suited by the non-handicap at the Festival. Captain Teague was long odds on for the two-mile five Grade 2 novice hurdle but looked like he would appreciate a longer trip when outpaced close home. I had thought that he would win so the without the favourite market looked the way to go. With the trainers of the first two in that market being out of form the 9/1 Minella Missile looked too big. He won well and is obviously decent. Third home The Big Doyen is a horse I like and there is a good handicap in him somewhere.

The two-mile novice handicap hurdle looked solid form with the first three Impose Toi, Donnacha, and Caithness all having futures.

Saturday November 18th Cheltenham

The French challenger Milan Tino was all the rage for the for the Triumph Hurdle Trial but I really didn't like him as an individual. It was a strange race with a bit of a pile up at the first and the second favourite Burdett Road held up a long way off the pace. Harry Cobden was seemingly unconcerned even two out and didn't begin to make ground until after the home turn and was still four lengths down at the last. He gathered in the leader An Bradan Feasa with the minimum of fuss to win by six lengths. Few 100 plus flat horses go jumping nowadays so it will be interesting to see how he goes when the top yards get their juveniles going On the stable visit last spring Mel Rowley told us that Latitude was being aimed at the Coral Gold Cup. It was interesting to see how he went in his warm up race the amateur handicap chase. He looked like he would come on for the outing and ran well till turning in. I was introduced to his breeders at Listowel and they were looking forward to Newbury so we will see how he goes.

Broadway Boy didn't have a Flooring Porter to take on in the staying novice chase and made all. He looks a real stayer and much more a National Hunt chase type then Browns Advisory. His stable mate Weveallbeencaught had looked really promising last season but looks really slow now.

A good renewal of the Paddy Power and a top-class performance by Stage Star. He seemed to get cheap leads for his wins last season but here he was challenged from early on but still travelled easily. He would probably have won by ten lengths but for his mistake at the last. Notlongtillmay chased him home and will go up in the ratings for getting beaten making it hard for him. The Real Whacker tried to lead and dropped away before the home turn. His stable are well out of form.

Augusta Kate was a super mare winning a Grade 1 and running in plenty of others including a Stayers Hurdle. Her first progeny Baby Kate fairly scooted up the hill to take the listed mare's bumper. She is only small so will probably stay bumpering this season. Paddock pick was Phil Kirby's Micks Jet who won here in April. She led till the last furlong and stayed on well for third.

Sunday November 19th Cheltenham

The Kemble Brewery took the bumper at the last meeting well and was 4/7 to make a winning debut over hurdles in the two-mile maiden. He crashed through the first and that about finished him. I saw Cannock Park make his debut in a bumper at Carlisle last spring when he finished second and he hardly looked like a Cheltenham maiden hurdle winner but he did this well making all. It wasn't a great race however. Jonbon was a lot calmer before the Shloer Chase than on previous occasions I have seen him and was very impressive against three decent opponents. I can't think El Fabiolo will travel over till March so the Tingle Creek and Clarence House are his to lose.

The Greatwood was only a 0-140 this year but very competitive. Iberico Lord has the look of one who can win another decent handicap pretty soon. Runner up Lookaway ran a fine race making most and can go back into novice company.

The bumper horses looked a nice bunch with the first three in the betting filling the places. Brechin Castle had too much speed for Fire Flyer and Moon Chime but all three should have a future.

Saturday November 25th Haydock

The Newton Novice Hurdle has been upped to Grade 2 and had a decent turnout. Kamsinas had run second in a Grade 2 at Cheltenham that had been boosted by the Greatwood run of Lookaway. He took this more easily than the winning distance would indicate. He evidently heads to Aintree for the Grade 1 on Boxing Day. It will be interesting to see what turns up for the race after hearing Nicky Henderson throwing his toys out of the pram about the race being moved from Sandown. Making Progress ran a fine race in second and could be one to improve as the season goes on maybe over a bit further. Favourite Bowenspark was backed off the boards but didn't impress in the parade ring and never really travelled in the race.

An interesting field for the two six graduation chase with Grand National third Gaillard du Mesnil favourite giving weight away. He looked fit enough but was quite easily seen off by novice Grey Dawning. The winner has grown since last season and turned a lot greyer. He was no match for Stay Away Fay at Exeter but jumped well and should find plenty of chases coming his way. Grade 1 hurdle winner Apple Away never really got into this on her chase debut.

Slate Lane* pulled early on in the Staying Handicap Hurdle but made just about all and became another plot landed by Emmet Mullins. I actually saw him run at Gowran last March for his previous trainer when beaten over fifty lengths in a moderate maiden hurdle. Mullins and owner Paul Byrne saw more promise than I did. Having bought him they started at Cartmel in the summer in a very weak novice and evidently this was the plan from then. Crambo had been favourite for the race all week but didn't get the best of rides before finishing fast for third.

The Betfair was a strange race. Going in reverse order on finishing Protektorat was obviously disappointing jumping very big at some fences like he was feeling something. Corach Rambler at least ran better than on his seasonal debut but never got into the race being outpaced before staying on well enough. He isn't a Grade 1 performer. Bravemansgame got himself into a mess before the race sweating and looking on edge. He had no real sparkle and found little at the end. Just maybe the Gold Cup last March bottomed him out. I wouldn't be backing him in anything at the moment. Royal Pagaille only had three runs last season and you wouldn't think he would be improving at coming up to ten years of age.

*Editor's Note: Slate Lane has subsequently been diagnosed as having picked up a career ending injury.

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS - COMPILED BY BRIAN GOODWILL

Every couple of years I ask a number of knowledgeable people to recommend a horse to follow over the coming seasons. This has unearthed a number of winners with Malcolm Tomlinson in particular coming good with his previous selections (Malystic and Windsor Avenue) having won at fancy prices; the latter was 40/1 when he obliged.

The key to profiting seems to be to keep on following the horses long after your actual Christmas Jumper is back at the bottom of the wardrobe. Thanks to all who have contributed.

DONNACHA (Gordon Armitstead)

Trained by Nigel Hawke, he ran second to the very well backed Impose Toi in a two-mile novice handicap hurdle on the Friday of the Cheltenham November meeting off a rating of 112. He has only gone up five pounds for the run and off that mark the trainer should find a handicap he can win.

ES PERFECTO (David Carr)

Three years after finishing second to top-class chaser Bravemansgame in a novice hurdle at Newbury, Es Perfecto is finally set to make his own mark over fences.

He was off for nearly two years after that season but has been nursed back to health by Alan King and showed he was worth waiting for when runner-up on his chasing debut at Cheltenham.

His jumping was a joy to watch and he should progress into a smart handicapper over 2m4f to 3m.

JPR ONE (John Blance)

The Irish will probably win the Arkle Chase at Cheltenham in March. You don't need to be Nostradamus or Phil Bull to work that out, but the performance of JPR ONE in the Arkle trial at Cheltenham in November at least suggested that there are still some potentially high-class novices in this part of the British Isles. The alert amongst you will recount that he didn't actually win the other week - he capsized at the last when booked for first position - but his jumping prior to that had been faultless, gaining ground at every fence. It was a run that backed up an impressive chasing debut at Newton Abbot in which, as the outsider of three, he beat two more vaunted rivals including one, Iceo, already rated 145. He also managed to do that looping said rivals around the final bend, thus conceding quite a bit of ground.

Trainer Joe Tizzard is already mentioning the Henry VIII Chase at Sandown as his next assignment and there is every chance that he can get compensation for Cheltenham there. Also, if his novice career doesn't hit quite the heights I expect, his handler should be able to earmark a winnable handicap or two in the fullness of time. Maybe even the Grand Annual back at Cheltenham.

LOOKING AS YOU ARE (David Fitzgerald)

The first horse that I've (jointly) bred myself. She has had three runs in bumpers so far, finishing 2nd on each occasion. There may well have been a winning start at Southwell back in the spring had her rider not dropped her stick turning for home and the form of her subsequent runs at Hexham and Huntingdon has been well advertised.

Despite the "2-22" form figures, there is NOTHING wrong with this filly's attitude, quite the opposite in fact. She is set to have one more bumper run back at Huntingdon on 10th December, where she will go for some black type. That won't be an easy assignment, but it is worth a gamble before starting her hurdling career in the New Year, almost certainly over further than 2m.

Looking As You Are has done plenty of schooling at home, which has gone well. The mares' final at Newbury (a race her trainer won with Bourbon Beauty in 2021) has been discussed as a potential end of season target, but that is a fair way down the line and there can't be any hold-ups for her to end up there. This filly is very special to me and every race she runs in will be carefully considered. I have no doubt she's capable of winning a few.

MAXIMILIAN (Malcolm Tomlinson)

Trained by Donald McCain. Won his bumper well, followed by two novice hurdles. He was then beaten into 3rd over an inadequate trip (2m4f) in a grade 2 at Sandown (a race in which he also bled). Stepped up to 3m in a Grade 2 at Doncaster, he beat the subsequent Ballymore winner Stay Away Fay before staying on to be 2nd in the 3m championship for novices at the Grand National meeting (Stay Away Fay again behind in 4th). This horse has the potential to be a top-class staying chaser for the North

PALIO (Tim Peters)

I'm going to select the Alan King trained three-year-old Palio. Modest on the flat, but I'm keen to see how he fares once he qualifies for a handicap mark over hurdles. He caught my eye when a distant second to the very smart Burdett Road at Huntingdon, but he travelled nicely for much of the contest. Palio is in good hands with King, and he's one to note once he gains more experience and spring ground.

MOONLIT POTTER (Richard O'Brien)

Over the years, Henry Daly's runners in bumpers have regularly improved markedly from their first run to their second, so it's well worth taking note when a horse from his Shropshire yard shapes well on its debut. The latest cab off the rank is Moonlit Potter, who finished fourth in the mares' bumper that closed Wetherby's card at the end of November. This looked quite a well-contested race of its type and Moonlit Potter was beaten less than four lengths in fourth, despite being hampered late on behind a well-backed Jamie Snowden-trained newcomer. Moonlit Potter, whose pedigree contains numerous classy winners including the mighty Denman, should be much more clued-up next time and can win a similar event before making her mark over jumps.

SAINT DAVY (Darren Owen)

Saint Davey looks a nice prospect on the back of two wins last season, firstly in a Carlisle bumper, then when gamely winning a maiden hurdle narrowly at Chepstow.

The Jonjo O'Neill trained six-year-old was stepped up to grade 1 company at Aintree in the spring but was in reality short on experience for that assignment.

The intention is to go novice chasing and this winner of an Irish point looks an ideal candidate for staying chases in the future.

THE JUKEBOX MAN (Mark Slater)

The Jukebox Man comfortably beat a next time out winner in his only Irish point. On joining Ben Pauling, he chased home the potentially smart Gidleigh Park (advertised the form at Exeter on Monday) at Chepstow on his bumper debut in March and built on that initial promise by going one better at Ffos Las three weeks later. Returning to the Welsh track for his first start over hurdles and stepping up to two and a half miles, he scored easily, quickening up well in the testing conditions. With a turn of foot to complement his stamina he can defy a penalty and is the type to make his mark in decent handicap company in the new year.

NO TACKLE (Stewart Machin)

One to keep an eye out for in an ordinary handicap hurdle especially when the ground is deep. Trained by Sam Drinkwater. Didn't really work out for him over fences on his seasonal debut but there might be some scope in his hurdles mark.

SPRINGWELL BAY (Richard Hoiles)

Looked a nice horse last season and even though he was not up to Grade 1 company on his final start that turned out to be a very strong form race. Returned to action with a comfortable success under top weight at Cheltenham and a rise of six still leaves him looking well treated off 143. The Lanzarote could be a potential target before a move back up into Pattern company before the end of the season.

Next copy deadline for Racin' will be Sunday 28th January

Graham Lee faces a tough fight by HAROLD HEYS

I MUST have seen close on 50 Grand Nationals at Aintree. Of course I don't remember all of them, but I do recall very clearly the *two* winners I managed to back – and Ginger McCain's hat-trick in the 70s with the immortal Red Rum. And the 2004 win by Amberleigh House which gave Ginger a wonderful fourth win in the race.

I remember this race particularly because the rider was Graham Lee whom I rated very highly. They hacked round the first circuit. Then, steadily they began to move up. Approaching second Becher's they were about seventh and heading for the Melling Road they were fourth or fifth behind Hedgehunter and, I think, Clan Royal.



Hedgehunter came down at the last and didn't move*. Clan Royal raced on to the elbow in front. Amberleigh House finished like he was on wheels, taking it up close to the line and went clear to win by three or four lengths. "Smooth" doesn't describe it. "Magical." is nearer

And now feel desperately sorry for Graham Lee as he lies in a hospital bed with spinal injuries after being unseated at the start of a five-furlong handicap at Newcastle on November 10.

Yes, a five-furlong race. Because, of course, over ten years ago the top-flight National Hunt rider

switched codes. In his late 30s, and after a thousand winners and several serious falls, he decided, before the start of the 2012 Flat season, to switch codes and continue his riding career on the Flat. In his late 30s, with a family to watch out for – he and his wife have a son and a daughter – it seemed a logical, if unusual, transition. **Photo above:** Happy Days! Graham Lee comes in after winning the Grand National on Amberleigh House. *Photo: Liverpool Echo*

It hasn't been a particularly easy switch. It was boosted, of course, by victory in the Ascot Gold Cup of 2013, but he settled down well enough to a Flat life. He hasn't broken any pots, apart from the Gold Cup, presented to him by the late Queen, but neither has he broken any bones – till being thrown from the five-year-old plodder Ben Macdui in that all-weather handicap. Ben Macdui is the second highest mountain in Britain. It's in the Cairngorms.

Graham is now in the spinal unit at James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough where he will remain for the foreseeable future. The injury to his vertebrae has affected his movement. He will be helped every step of the way by the Injured Jockeys' charity and there has quickly been wonderful financial support from the racing community.

On social media, racing presenter Derek Thompson led the chorus of good wishes: "Graham Lee is simply one of the finest both in and out of the saddle. A top-class horseman and the first to say 'hello' at the racecourse – always the one for a laugh and a joke. Sending prayers and strength, Big Fella, for a successful recovery."

Well said, Derek. But, at 47, the popular Irishman probably won't be back in the saddle any time soon.

LEE'S INJURY is a reminder of the problems all jockeys face. A day earlier Luca Morgan, champion conditional over jumps the previous season, retired from the saddle at just 22, a decision that highlighted the daily weight struggle that many riders endure.

Morgan joined such stars as Harry Cobden, Sam Twiston-Davies and Brian Hughes when he secured the Conditionals' title in the spring. But he told the *Racing Post* that his body had "paid the price." After the last day of the season last April], he had a week off and went to Tenerife with his family. He said he didn't eat "like crazy" and he was being careful because he had rides waiting for him. When he returned he weighed himself and found he had 17lb to lose in a few days.

Morgan then suffered a foot injury and he was using the facilities at Oaksey House in Lambourn to work his way back to fitness, Weight came off but not enough." I just couldn't see myself being able to do it any longer. It's not healthy, I'm not a healthy person at the moment and my body is crying out for help," he said.

*Hedgehunter did of course win the Grand National the following year and was 2nd in both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National the year after. The horse died in January 2023 on his 27th birthday.

READERS LETTER - FROM MARTIN GLEAVE

Thank you for the newsletters. Some very good and interesting articles, I thought the article by Andy Stallard was spot on. I think the use of colour photographs is also a noticeable recent improvement.

I have to say my interest in racing has somewhat diminished, mainly due to the pandemic, in recent years. I suspect this is like a lot of other people. Probably it is a combination of factors, but racing has changed in recent years and moved in directions that contradict what attracted me to the sport in the first place. The admission charges, small fields, and in general poor-quality cards, stag and hen parties, make finding a good racing day out difficult to find.

ITV may cover racing in a populist and also specialist way, and attempts to cover a lot of different constituencies, but manages to come across at times as being rather smug, and even condescending. It does a reasonable overall job, and is certainly better than nothing.

A couple of recent minor examples of things racing needs to think about. I was attempting to go to Perth races, on August 2nd, and the times of the races were changed after I had booked train tickets. That made it difficult to attend more than four races on the six-race card. The meeting had race times on a 6-race card, put back form a starting time of 14.00 to 14.10, with subsequent knock on for other race times. The field sizes were seven runners and under, so not really an attractive card anyway. I had to get a train back to Glasgow, so it was not really worth going for three or four races. In the end I decided not go to the meeting.

Last week, some friends of mine who live down south, and go racing a few times a year, went to Huntingdon on Monday, and Newmarket on Friday. At Newmarket, they were all drug tested and swabbed before entry, including my friend's 86-year-old father! I am well aware that drugs on racecourses are a problem, especially on big festival days, but a bit of common sense needs to be seen.

Sorry if this sounds negative, and I will go to Aintree next year, for the Thursday of the Grand National meeting.

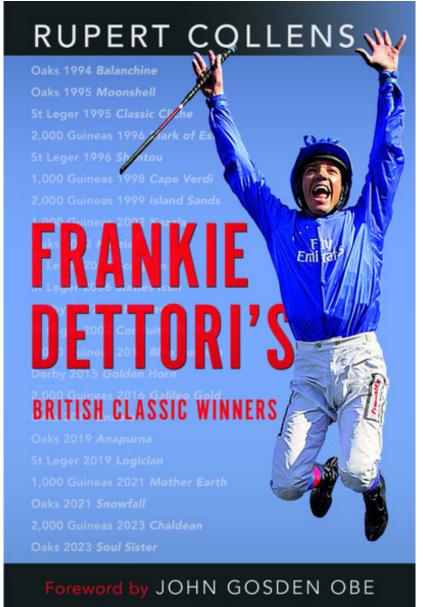
Editor's Note: I have sometimes seen drug detecting dogs at courses I have attended but have never been drug tested. To be honest I don't know what my reaction would be if I were. On the one hand the courses are trying to stop such antisocial behaviour - which is good - but even if I were not offended by being tested, the experience can only be negative in that you would wonder what sort of place you are going into! We all have to go through security checks at major venues nowadays, whatever our ages (children excepted), but drug checks are different to that experience. That said I suspect that if not all adults were checked the tracks would be accused of racism, sexism or ageism in todays world.

As regards changing race times this can happen when races are 'divided' to create an extra race. Apart from that, changing race times at the last minute should really be avoidable but I suspect tracks put betting shop punters needs ahead of actual racegoers. You were probably rather unlucky that 10 minutes affected travel times for you.

Frankie Dettori's British Classic Winners - New book by Rupert Collens

Frankie Dettori is certainly one of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries' truly great international jockeys. Italian by birth – he rode his first winner there – we have been lucky in England that he came to live in Newmarket aged fifteen and has ridden mainly here.

A great and popular figure, quietly and privately he has done much for disabled people. In fact, he is a good example by any standards of a superb sportsman on and off the racecourse.



Perhaps most famous for riding all seven winners at Ascot on 28 September 1996, his record in the English classics over 30 years gives a true indication of his ability and dedication

There is no doubt that England's five classic races, the 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas which both run in late April/early May at Newmarket over a mile, the Oaks and Derby which run in early June at Epsom over a mile and a half, and the St Leger which runs nearly two miles in mid-September at Doncaster, are very, very important races on the international racing scene.

Frankie Dettori's record in them is super – 23 wins. Since 1945, he and Lester Piggott are the only jockeys to ride at least two winners of each of the classics. To put Frankie's record into perspective, Sir Gordon Richards, 26-time champion flat jockey between 1925 and 1953, rode only fourteen classic winners.

This highly readable but erudite book devotes a double page spread to every winning ride, and there is a colour section of photographs of him aboard his winning mounts by the famous racing journalist John Crofts.

Dettori's first classic winner was in the 1994 Oaks at Epsom on Balanchine and his last in 2023, once again in the Oaks, on Soul Sister. This book is a superb record of greatness in the saddle over 30 years.

Originally priced at £20 the book is currently available at just £14 (plus postage) from the publisher's website at https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/Frankie-Dettoris-British-Classic-Winners-Hardback/p/24123

We also have a copy of the book available as a prize in our Xmas racing competition on the next page.

FRANKIE DETTORI BOOK COMPETITION

To win our book prize, kindly donated by Pen & Sword Books, please answer the following questions about Frankie – the winner will be the entrant with the most correct answers/points scored and, if there is a tie, a draw will be made to decide the winner.

- Q1. What was Frankie's mothers occupation?
- Q2. How tall is Frankie?
- Q3. In what position did Frankie finish when entering Celebrity Big Brother in 2013?
- Q4. How may Epsom Derby rides did Frankie have to achieve his first win? Answer should be stated as 'won on attempt xx'.
- Q5. When he was involved in the plane crash, to which racecourse was he travelling?
- Q6. Name the Queen Mother Champion Chase winner that he bred?
- Q7. What were the winning accumulator odds of Frankie's 'Magnificent 7' day at Ascot?
- Q8. Can you name Frankie's UK residence that is being rented out during his stint in the USA?

I will award 2pts per correct answer and 1pt for a 'near miss

Please send entries to NMRC by Saturday 27th January 2024 at 53 Dalebrook Rd, Sale, Greater Manchester M33 3LB or via e mail to info@northernracingclub.com

FESTIVE TRADITIONS CONTINUE AT CATTERICK RACES

Catterick Racecourse is preparing for three thrilling National Hunt fixtures scheduled to take place over the festive period, on Tuesday 19 December, Thursday 28 December and New Year's Day.

The festivities begin with Christmas at Catterick, when the Christmas lights will be up, and the course will welcome the choir from St Francis Xavier School in Richmond to sing Christmas carols for racegoers ahead of the first race.

The Injured Jockey's Fund will be at the course with a selection of Christmas gifts and stocking fillers suitable for any racing enthusiast – the ideal occasion for some last-minute Christmas shopping!

Emma Stevenson, General Commercial Manager said: "We're delighted to welcome St Francis Xavier School Choir to the racecourse for Christmas at Catterick. The 19th December marks the first of our festive fixtures and hearing the carols being sung as racegoers arrive creates such a joyous atmosphere!"

With seven races scheduled, kindly sponsored by Hillcrest Home Care, Nawton Racing Club and Vickers Bet, the racing action on 19 December gets underway at 12.30pm, with the gates opening to the public at 10.30am. Next up on the calendar is the Sky Bet Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 28 December. One of the feature meetings at the North Yorkshire racecourse, it always proves popular with racegoers - offering the perfect opportunity to enjoy some fresh air and post-Christmas fun with friends and family!

Raceday sponsors Sky Bet have generously supported all six races on the day, with the first race due to take

place at 12.30pm and the last scheduled for 3.25pm.

Sky Bet Head of Sports PR, Michael Shinners, said: "We're delighted to be once again sponsoring at Catterick on the 28th December. It's always a great atmosphere over the Christmas period and we look forward to seeing some competitive National Hunt racing."

On 28 December, the gates will open to the public from 10.30am, and racegoers wearing a Christmas Jumper on the day will be given the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win a Christmas stocking full of goodies, including a voucher for two Grandstand & Paddock admission tickets to a meeting of the winner's choice at Catterick Bridge in 2024.

In addition, every equine winner on the day will receive a



Christmas stocking full of goodies – the horses' stockings, however, will be filled with carrots and polos! Together with Sky Bet, the racecourse has also arranged a small Christmas gift for every member of stable staff working on the day to say thank you for all their hard work over the Christmas period.

The festive race days will culminate with racing on New Year's Day, as Catterick Racecourse hosts the first fixture of the 2024 Yorkshire racing calendar – a favourite among many racegoers and a tradition the racecourse is delighted to continue this year.

Tickets will be available will be available to purchase at the gates at each meeting, while advanced booking discounts are available up until 48 hours prior to each race day, either online at catterickbridge.co.uk or by calling the racecourse office on 01748 811478.

Under 18's are admitted free of charge and there is a complimentary shuttle bus service from Richmond Market Place approximately one hour prior to the first race each day.

Photo credit: Hannah Ali.

Go Racing In Yorkshire Update - Racing Into 2024 With A Season Ticket

Racegoers in Yorkshire can once again purchase the best value ticket in racing as the Go Racing In Yorkshire season ticket is back on sale for the 2024/25 season.

Offering Grandstand & Paddock admission to all 182 scheduled fixtures in Yorkshire, plus a range of additional benefits, it is a must for those who enjoy a trip to any of the nine Yorkshire racecourses.



Charlotte Russell, General Manager of Go Racing In Yorkshire said,

"The season ticket is suitable for anyone who goes racing in Yorkshire on a regular basis. It also makes a perfect gift for a racing fan and with 65 weekend and bank holiday, plus 23 evening fixtures it offers great value to those with weekday commitments as well. It gives flexibility as pre-booking to attend meetings is not required, simply turn up when you can, enjoy the racing and leave when you want to."

A season ticket holder can also attend select Yorkshire County Cricket Club reciprocal fixtures

and some racecourses offer discounts on hospitality offerings.

Current season ticket holder, Richard Grummitt said,

"I have been with Go Racing In Yorkshire for three seasons and will undoubtedly rejoin in 2024. The financial savings are excellent and I have always paid for my membership by the end of September - and that is without attending the St Leger or the Ebor Festival.

"I believe the programme to not only be a tremendous initiative for Yorkshire, but also to be arguably the best initiative in British racing for the regular racecourse visitor."

To find out more about the season ticket and to book, please visit the Go Racing In Yorkshire website - https://goracing.co.uk

<u>Editor's Note:</u> In alphabetical order the season tickets will cover Beverley, Catterick, Doncaster, Pontefract, Redcar, Ripon, Thirsk, Wetherby & York.

LOOKING FOR A LAST-MINUTE XMAS GIFT?

'No Snail' by David Owen – Tells the story of L'Escargot

L'Escargot was a wonder horse, one of only two to have scaled the twin peaks of steeplechasing: the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National. He won on the biggest stages in Britain and Ireland – and on one of the biggest in the USA. His victories spanned nine seasons. He triumphed on the flat, over hurdles and over fences, and at distances from two miles to the National's gruelling four miles and 856 yards.

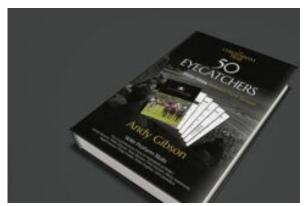
When he surged clear of Red Rum – the best Aintree horse ever – to claim victory in the National on that strange, anti-climactic day in 1975, it was one of the most dramatic acts of party-pooping in the history of sport. Yet, for those who had managed his destiny since 1966 from a base on the edge of The Curragh, it meant the fulfilment of a decades-old ambition.

Despite L'Escargot's remarkable achievements, his name – wildly inappropriate as it was – has largely faded from memory. Looking back, even Ginger McCain, Red Rum's trainer, felt L'Escargot did not receive the credit he was due. Now, at last, *No Snail* tells the story of this extraordinary, uncomplaining warrior and elevates him to his rightful place in horse racing's pantheon.

NMRC Members offer - Signed copy (with a personal message, if desired for a gift) for £15, postage included.

Please order directly from David Owen at davidowen58@netscape.net

50 Eyecatchers For The 2023/2024 National Hunt Season – Andy Gibson



In this new addition to the Cheltenham Trail portfolio I offer 50 short essays on horses of interest (Eyecatchers) for the new season.

To order a copy of my '50 Eyecatchers' book please e mail Andy Gibson directly.

What Is An Eyecatcher?

There is usually more upside to noting an interesting performance when you believe the majority are more likely to have missed it. My **Eyecatchers Service** considers horses that may go under the radar for many, some obvious ones,

and a few interesting performances from horses I may be keen to oppose on another day. Spotting winning and losing efforts that may be underestimated or overestimated in the future can be key.

Eyecatchers can come in all shapes and sizes and those that have performed in an apparently poor way are as interesting as any; especially when you believe you can understand why they may have disappointed. Equally, I like to consider a few superstars when my analysis suggests that they might not be quite as good and/or reliable as the hype suggests.

I will also commence with my 'Eyecatcher Service' from late October. This service will be free until the end of 2023. If you would like to join 'Free Of Charge' please email me on:

info@thecheltenhamtrail.co.uk

Price: £15

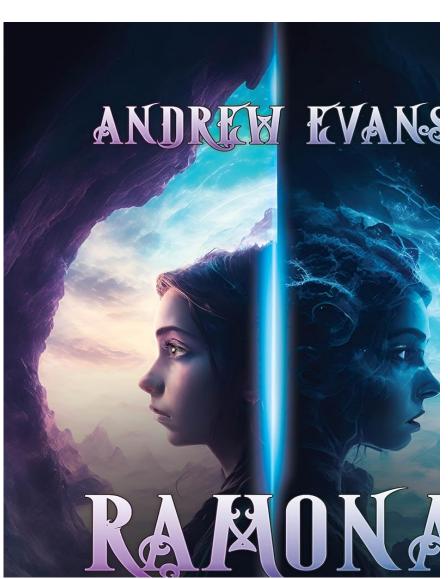
HEXHAM ANNUAL MEMBERS BADGE FOR 2024

Details of membership are as follows:- Single Membership £155.00, Senior Single £130.00, Double Membership £250.00 Senior Double £210.00, for 2024 we are providing members with 3 guest vouchers which can be redeemed on any weekday fixture. As well as access to the 14 meetings we host next year and the members room where free tea, coffee and biscuits are provided there is also reciprocal visits arranged to over 50 racecourses in Britain and Ireland.

For further details visit https://hexham-racecourse.co.uk/page/racing-guide/annual-membership or call 01434 606881

RAMONA IN THE REALMS - NEW BOOK BY ANDREW EVANS

Inspired by the Harry Potter books this is the first book in a proposed trilogy telling the story of Ramona.



When a young couple take a coastal holiday to celebrate with their new baby, they hope to return home with happy memories. Now, it seems they may not return at all. For they have crossed the line into an alternate reality, one which has been taken over by a malevolent and totalitarian sorcerer.

The ethereal spirits of these realms need a saviour. Their senses pick up on the arrival of the young family. In particular, the baby. The child was born of magic and the prophecies state that she can defeat this cruel new force. A growth acceleration is administered upon the baby. One of body, mind and soul. This is the tale of Ramona in the Realms. The wizard who did not know she was a wizard... Yet.

Along the way, you will meet all manner of characters and visit marvellous and unpredictable places. These realms are a world you will not want to leave.

"Fast paced, gorgeous world building, more twists and turns than the Hairpins of Mont Vernier and just as scenic.10/10, high recommended!" – KJ Fieler, author of *Shadow Runner*

Available at Amazon and all good book shops!

POINT TO POINTING WITH ANDY WHITE

The 2023-2024 Point to Point Season has started with meetings in the south of the country although some meetings have been cancelled due to the wet autumn.

There was also great interest for Pointing / Hunter Chase fans at the Cheltenham November Meeting as the Ellis Family's 10-year-old LATENIGHTPASS ran a storming race to finish a close second to the Mouse Morris Irish raider Foxy Jacks in the Glenfarclas Cross County Chase. LATENIGHTPASS moved from Tom Ellis to Dan Skelton two weeks prior to the meeting and produced an excellent round of jumping under regular rider Gina Andrews. The horse will remain at the Skeltons under the care of Gina's sister Bridget Andrews for a try at the next Cheltenham Cross County Chase at the January meeting. A previous winner of the Aintree Foxhunters over the National fences, a return to Aintree may be on the cards in either the Foxhunters or even the Grand National although cutting the field size of the National to 34 may restrict that ambition. Anyway, it was great to see the horse perform so well at Cheltenham given the race also featured the Gordon Elliot fancied pair Delta Work and Galvin.

I'm sure the Ellis team will continue to have plenty of fire power throughout the point-to-point season as they look to retain the leading National trainer title.

In the North one jockey missing will be 54-year-old Veteran Will Ramsay who following another fall has announced his retirement from the saddle.

Who will challenge for the Yorkshire leading riders title following last year's success for John Dawson and Rosie Howarth. The Easterby's Will and younger brother Tom, who has had some winners on the flat this summer, will no doubt continue to have plenty of winners throughout the season. There will also be the opportunity to see future Conditional Jockeys as young riders start their pointing careers as they progress from pony racing circuit.

Whilst fans in Yorkshire have to wait for the first meetings until early in the new year and those in the Northwest area even later, there is one meeting in Northumberland before Christmas.

Sunday 17 December – Ratcheugh Racing Club at Alnwick

In Yorkshire the first meeting is the always well supported Yorkshire Area Point to Point at Mick Easterby's in Sheriff Hutton on Sunday 14 January. Just of the A64 Northeast of York, it is a great venue. A tip from past experience if you are attending is to park at the top of the hill near the entrance. It makes exiting easier especially if the rain continues. This is followed by the Sinington Hunt at Duncombe Park in Helmsley on 4 February, a beautiful setting for a great day out, well I'm biased, I now live in the town (see photo below).

In the Northwest, the West Mercian area meetings are at Bangor on Dee and Sandon Staffordshire in March and two meetings at Tabley, Knutsford are and April and May.

Further details are on www.pointtopoint.co.uk where you can find full details of meetings, entries and results. You can subscribe to their free "Go Pointing" Newsletter sent to your inbox every Thursday with meeting previews, reports and news.



Important Message From John Gosden



The Gambling Act of 2005 was obviously unable to foresee the ubiquitous arrival of the iPhone. It is this that has placed a casino in everyone's pocket and it is this that has changed the face of betting.

Online gaming casinos are merely instantly accessible FOBTs. They require no more than an addictive personality for a person to be drawn in and seduced by the bright colours and offers.

Start playing repetitively and the algorithms will hook you, whereas gambling on horseracing requires deep research, a high degree of knowledge and understanding of a host of factors, including form, going, draw, distance, pedigrees, jockey and trainer. It is not a casual 'shoot from the hip' bet. It is not the same as putting it all on black or red.

Online casino gaming is where the Gambling Commission should be targeting its focus. However, the interim affordability checks do not differentiate it from racing and are absolutely not frictionless. They are having the unintended consequence of pushing people to the unregulated black market, where they will have no protection.

Prohibition did not stop people drinking but instead created speakeasies, bootlegging and crime. If someone wants to drink or bet, they will find a way.

It is increasingly clear that the present affordability checks are not fit for purpose. Any subsequent legislation that is blunt and ill-defined will damage the racing industry, whose relationship with betting is historical, sophisticated and symbiotic.

As <u>Martin Cruddace's letter</u> points out, there are many better avenues to achieving many of the regulator's aims without resorting to a sledgehammer to break the nut. It also still remains a mystery as to why the Gambling Commission has not yet published its findings of the original consultation on affordability checks from two and a half years ago.

The horseracing and breeding industry in this country is the most respected internationally for its quality and standing. It is also a huge asset to UK plc. The Gambling Commission and government need to begin to understand this fact before another great British industry is destroyed.

Please, therefore, join me in signing British racing's petition that calls on the government to think again.

Sign the petition now. It takes less than two minutes

NMRC'S WEBSITE REVIEW 2023

First of all a reminder to members that the festive racing meetings between Boxing Day and New Year's Day will have the main races covered on our daily 'Festival Guides' page on the main website at https://the-nrc.weebly.com/

After that the next festival guides updated will be for the Cheltenham & Aintree festivals next spring.

On the 'Racing Systems' website the following 'systems' are faring best at the courses highlighted for National Hunt meetings over the last 5 years - as at December 2023. The system 'scores' are updated monthly on the club website.

*Trainer Traits (3+ wins in last 10 years): Cartmel, Galway, Newbury.

*Jockey Traits (3+ wins in last 10 years): Kelso, Naas.

Course & Trainer (past course winner coupled with trainer having RTF score of 60%+ in Racing Post): Fairyhouse, Haydock, Ludlow.

<u>Trainer past wins (trainers with one/two past wins in a race in last 10 years):</u> Aintree, Ascot, Cork, Huntingdon. Leicester, Lingfield.

<u>Blinkers 1st Time (also includes hoods, visors):</u> Carlisle, Cork, Exeter, Gowran, Hexham. Kilbeggan, Newbury, Plumpton. Southwell, Tramore, Wetherby.

<u>Rested at least 365 days (under same code – flat or jumps):</u> Down Royal, Downpatrick, Exeter, Fontwell, Kilbeggan, Sedgefield, Wincanton, Worcester.

<u>Irish Raiders:</u> Aintree, Cheltenham, Kelso. It is also worth following UK trained horses at Punchestown.

First Race after wind operation: Aintree, Ascot, Carlisle, Lingfield, Southwell, Warwick.

<u>Second race after wind operation:</u> Catterick, Doncaster, Ffos Las, Hexham, Huntingdon, Newton Abbot, Stratford.

*Days Last Ran (number of says since last run before winning): Ascot, Cheltenham, Naas.

Past winning horses (carrying same/less weight): Carlisle, Sedgefield.

Past winning horses (carrying higher weights): Fontwell, Galway.

Longest travellers of the day at meetings (mainland UK): Kelso, Stratford

*These statistics are updated bi-monthly on the club website.

For all-weather flat racing followers the draw facts data will be updated early in the new year.

Once the turf flat racing season resumes in April, the turf draw facts data will also be updated.

Providing Carlisle can still use our 'Trends Guides' in their race cards we shall also add the same data for each meeting to our Carlisle trends web page.

If members have any feedback on the club website please e mail to info@northernracingclub.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR MEMBERS – FROM YOUR NMRC COMMITTEE

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