

Racin'



Issue 393

June/July 2025

NMRC 2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

Thanks to those who have sent in ideas already. We would however like a lot more views from our members so please do tell us your thoughts!

Over the rest of 2025 the club will be reaching out to members to help us plan for the medium term.

This may involve changes in the way we currently operate and also incentives to get members 'more involved' in club activities.

To help us focus upon what aspects of the club you value most please send us your feedback together with any new areas where the club could potentially introduce new aspects to its offering.

Please contact your preferred committee member as listed on the last page of Racin' magazine.

EDITOR'S NOTES – SUMMER 2025

It seems a long time since the last issue of Racin when we were, of course, anticipating the finale of the jumps season. Sadly, both the Aintree and Ayr Nationals got media headlines they didn't want due to the loss of several horses on the track. We all know the BHA takes horse welfare very seriously although I do feel that the time has now come to place an upper age limit on Grand National runners given this year's race.

In days gone by a 13yo horse may have had an outside chance of handling the bigger fences well and finishing in the place money (albeit last 13yo winner was in 1923) and even the 11 & 12yo horses have not won since pre-2015 (with all subsequent winners aged 9yo or younger) - so let's not have owners/trainers making 'wrong decisions' just because of the huge prize money.

Like most other jumps fans, I love seeing the older horses still enjoying the game, but after a certain age, to be competitive, they should be contesting races with horses of a similar age/ability – either in veterans chases or in hunter chases. Indeed, perhaps a 'Veterans National' over a shorter trip of say 3m 4f could be considered if an upper age limit on the 'Grand National' were to be introduced?

Now, I know the 'Mullins' domination of jumps racing has split opinion in recent times, and whilst there is no denying his training ability, the question others ask is whether his domination is having an adverse impact on the sport both in Ireland and the UK. Apart from the big festivals and 'Saturday handicaps' there is too much uncompetitive racing with small fields in the UK and even the bigger fields in Ireland are not as competitive as they appear to be on paper! Having so many Mullins trained runners in the Sandown meeting was a big turn off for me albeit I understood why.

On the Mullins topic again, Patrick this time, I do wonder whether the jockeys rules need changing to stop the damage to the 'true' amateurs in the sport. Patrick is now aged 35 and has 879 wins 'under rules' at the time of writing. Conditional jockeys, on the other hand, need to be 26 or younger and have ridden less than 75 winners. If we allow 'quasi' professionals to ride in these races the sport is severely limiting the opportunities for up-and-coming riders.

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COMPETITION NEWS

59's DRAW RESULTS UPDATE

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

April 5th – 18 – Chris Watson
May 3rd – 09 – Dave Brookfield

The £50 prizes will be sent out 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 which helps cover some of the club's running costs.

We currently have FOUR available numbers - please e mail info@northernracingclub.com for further details. It costs just £1pm to enter, payable yearly or quarterly.

SATURDAY NAPS + CHALLENGE 2024/25

Congratulations to **Alan Hill** who just held off **Helen Goodwill** in Round 3 of this year's competition - prizes of £70 and £30 respectively have now been sent out to the winners.

In the seasonal challenge the top four finishers were:

1st **Alan Hill** - £120 prize
2nd **Andy White** - £70 prize
3rd **Paul Middleton** - £50 prize
4th **Ken Unsworth** - £30 prize

GRAND NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKE 2025

The winners were as follows:

Ian Hazel - £120 prize
David Edge - £36 prize
Glyn & Floss Howes – 2 x £30 prizes
John Lipton - £24 prize.

Thanks to all for taking part.

RACHAEL BLACKMORE RETIRES

As she retires from the saddle aged 35, Blackmore can rightly be called a game changer who was among the best of her generation.

In a sport in which male and female riders compete on a level playing field, punters did not focus on whether she was a man or woman. She was just a top jockey.

The self-effacing pioneer went about setting landmarks with a quiet humility as the first woman to:

- Win the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham, with Honeysuckle, in 2021
- Become the Cheltenham Festival meeting's leading rider, in the same year
- Win the National a few weeks later
- Land the Cheltenham Gold Cup, with A Plus Tard in 2022
- The daughter of a dairy farmer and a school teacher, she rode ponies as a child near her home in Killenaule, County Tipperary, in the Republic of Ireland.
- Blackmore gained a degree in equine science with hopes of becoming a vet but combined her studies with riding out and competing as an amateur.
- Her first winner came aboard Stowaway Pearl for John 'Shark' Hanlon at Thurles in 2011, and she turned professional four years later.
- Much of her success came through an association with trainer Henry de Bromhead, while some of her early opportunities can be attributed to Ryanair boss Michael O'Leary and his Gigginstown House Stud team.
- "We identified Rachael early on as a very good jockey - not a female jockey - and we put her on all the Gigginstown Horses with Henry and Joseph [O'Brien]," he said after her National victory.
- "Her hard work and intelligence has done all the rest."

DENNIS NOLAN

The club was very sorry to hear that Dennis, a former committee member, passed away in May this year. Dennis and his late wife Veronica were great supporters of the club in its early years.

Living in Preston they were also big supporters of club horses with Eric Alston and would always be on hand making cups of tea for members when we had stable visits. R.I.P. Dennis – a great racing stalwart and all-round good guy.

ALEX BIRD COMPETITION – SPONSORED BY THE RACING POST

Congratulations to **Cieran Cassidy** who won a £100 first prize in the Aintree round. **Matthew Slocombe** was runner up won £50 and in third place **Hugh McCauley** wins £20.

Paul Walker & Tim Cogan were joint winners of the Newmarket round winning £75 each with third placed **Keith Dodd** taking the £20 prize..

Next stop is Royal Ascot in June.



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HERITAGE HANDICAPS CHALLENGE 2025

The Heritage Handicap Competition is back for another season, a challenge for all flat racing fans. It will run throughout the main flat season starting on Saturday 7th June (Derby Day) and ending at Ascot in October on Champions Day.

This year the races chosen by the organiser (Helen Goodwill) will be the highest profile handicap race in UK each Saturday and Helen will e mail/text details to the entrants each week.

Entrants can select three horses which they think will win or be placed in the nominated race. Points will be awarded as per the Tote dividend (win and place) with the exception of 'world pool' races where SP's will be used to score the 4th placed horse if no Tote dividend is given. The number of places scoring points is to be determined by the number of runners in the race, using the normal each way rules. If you select more than one placed horse, you will score the points gained from all of them. A league table will be compiled with the total points scored.

To add a bit of extra skill, those who successfully pick the first two home of any eligible race will go into another 'Exacta' league. This will be run separately from the main league. If all three selections finish in the first three places entrants will also receive a 100% bonus on the published Tote Exacta dividend.

The prize money will be allocated as follows: 80% of the entry fees will go into the main competition with 20% being given to the winner of the exacta league. If nobody selects an exacta throughout the whole season, the prize money for that league will be given to the Injured Jockeys Fund. The number of prizes available will be advised once the number of entries is known.

It costs £10 to enter with all entry fees added to the prize fund. If you wish to send entry fee electronically please e mail info@northernracingclub.com for details. To enter by post please complete the slip below.

Selections are accepted via text, email, WhatsApp or answer phone. Each initial entry will be acknowledged and an entry number allocated. If entrants also require a paper copy of the rules please send a SAE with the entry form - internet entrants will receive confirmation via e mail.

The competition is open to all registered members plus any other family members at the same address. If you have any other friends/family who would like to join in, please ask them to register as a FREE online member before entering the competition. Only one entry is allowed for each person.

'Default Entry Rule' for 2025: In the past, if an entrant failed to send in an entry (due to holidays etc) a default entry was used being the first three horses in the betting. For 2025 entrants are again asked to select three numbers (from 1-36) which will be used as a default entry should a 'regular' entry not be received. For the sake of clarity, if you selected number 36 and there were only 18 runners your default pick would be the nearest valid number – in this example number 18. Please include your 'default numbers' on the form below or advise Helen directly if you have already entered 'online'.

~~~~~

## HERITAGE HANDICAPS ENTRY FORM 2025

Please accept this entry for the 2025 Competition. I am also enclosing entry fee of £10 per person (payable to North & Midlands Racing Club). Please enclose SAE for paper copy of the rules.

Name(s).....

Address.....

.....

.....

Phone/Mobile..... Email.....

My three 'default entry' numbers are..... Reserve.....

Please return to Helen Goodwill, North & Midlands Racing Club, 124 Lindsell Rd, Altrincham, Cheshire. WA14 5NZ.

Half-Term Holidays



*Photo credit: Louise Pollard*

Yes, that's right, there's another school holiday! If you've got children or grandchildren to entertain this May half-term then let racing take the strain! We've got plenty to keep the youngsters occupied!

Redcar have a two-day meeting at the start of the week and Monday, May 26, is Zetland Gold Cup Family Day, the jewel in Redcar's racing crown but also FREE entertainment including bouncy castles, face painters and more!

While the Tuesday doesn't have the bank holiday additions, it is still free for under 18's!

Beverley on Wednesday, May 28, is another family day, with Gallagher's Funfair, face painting and Pony Parties, plus the outdoor Games Zone, which includes Mini Golf, giant Connect 4, giant Dominos and other games.

There are also race meetings at Ripon, Catterick and York so plenty of racing fun for all!

Go Racing In Yorkshire Future Stars Apprentice

After two rounds and three races, Mason Paetel has taken the early lead in the White Rose Saddlery sponsored series, winning two and being placed fourth to date.



*Overnight Oats, ridden by Mason Paetel wins the Go Racing In Yorkshire Apprentice Handicap at Ripon. Photo credit: Louise Pollard*

The next round takes place at Wetherby on Monday, June 2, which is an evening meeting.

### Go Racing In Yorkshire Ladies' Days

Wetherby's evening meeting on Monday, June 2, also sees the start of this year's Ladies' Days, the highlight of the social racing calendar.

All nine Yorkshire racecourses will be hosting a Ladies' Day and the winner of each best dressed competition, will go forward for the Go Racing In Yorkshire Best Dressed Final, which will be decided by public vote in September.

Make sure the dates are in your diary!

Tuesday 2nd June – [Wetherby \(evening\)](#)

Thursday 19th June – [Ripon](#)

Saturday 21st June – [Redcar](#)

Wednesday 6th August – [Pontefract](#)

Wednesday 13th August – [Beverley](#)

Thursday 21st August – [York](#)

Wednesday 27th August – [Catterick](#)

Saturday 6th September – [Thirsk](#)

Thursday 11th September – [Doncaster](#)

The winner of the best dressed final will enjoy a 'Country Getaway' courtesy of Country Huts on the Wolds, Lloyd Land Rover and Parnaby's.



*Jess Welch, winner of the Go Racing In Yorkshire Best Dressed Final 2024. Photo credit: Hannah Ali*

Get your Yorkshire fix by attending the Go Racing In Yorkshire Summer Festival.

Starting at Pontefract's evening meeting on Friday, July 18, which is also their beer festival and music night and culminating at York on Saturday, July 26, you can visit 89% of Yorkshire's racecourses in nine days!

For anyone trying to work out the remaining 11%, it's Wetherby!

The relaxed, festival vibe runs through the week where there's everything in terms of the racing, from the daily bread and butter through to Group races, afternoon and evening meetings, family days, music nights and Thirsk will once again be holding their Stable Staff charity race.

Racing Welfare is the charity of the week and they will be in attendance across the race meetings with their information stand, interacting with racing's workforce and holding exit collections. There will be a leading trainer, jockey and best-turned-out yard competition of the week, plus a prize for the moment of the day, culminating in the moment of the week. Festival Freddie is always a big hit with the youngsters, in his bid to give away a bucketful of sweets!

The competitive side of the jockeys can be witnessed before they even hit the racetrack in the 'Paddock and Chips' game, which takes place about an hour before the first race, in the Parade Ring.

Jockeys can earn money for Racing Welfare by scoring goals, each goal has a different value and their chipping skill is really put to the test! We can't wait!

**On Sunday 6th July Charlotte is tackling a 22 mile walk in the "Castle to Abbey Coastal Challenge" from Scarborough Castle to Whitby Abbey in aid of Racing Welfare. If you are able to make a contribution to spur us on please donate here <https://racingwelfare.enthuse.com/pf/charlotte->**

# SOUTH WEST NOTES – WITH GRAHAM ASHFORD

## Exeter April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Race 1 Selling Hurdle (class 4): A very low-grade race to start off the meeting. Breccia the winner in a very poor field. Brought in for just over £4,000. The Kim Bailey odds on favourite always in the rear never going and finished last (Bled).

Race 2 Nov. Handicap Chase (class 5): Linda Blackford Rangatira Jack made all and never looked in danger. Superb ride by the very underrated Bryndavid Carver. Not a great race from a form angle 3 runners pulling up.

Race 3 Nov. Handicap Hurdle (class 4): The winner Koukeo (O'Neill) showed a vast improvement in form, heavily bet in the ring will be interesting to see how he performs next time. Paul Nicholls Super Saint ran no sort of race.

Race 4 Handicap Hurdle (class 4): My only bet on a very poor card Paul Nicholls Seeyouinmydreams running out an easy winner. Bet on course which I don't usually do took 9/4 finished 11/4 got that one wrong that will teach me to stick to Betfair SP. The favourite Mel Rowley's Commanding View had nothing left when asked.

Race 5 Handicap Chase (class 4): Bowen's A Definite Getaway just doing what he had to and jump round (2/5) Making all bar a fall he was always going to win. Poor 4 runner affair.

Race 6 Hunter Chase: Very easy winner Snap Fish (H.Ryhall) ridden by the very competent Robbie David went clear early in the straight and ran out an easy winner.

To sum up a very poor card think drying ground had a lot to do with it. I try not to criticise Racecourses but Exeter need to upgrade their facilities. Not my favourite racecourse.

## Newton Abbot April 10<sup>th</sup>

Race 1 Handicap Chase class 4: The favourite Yes Indeed (8/13) made short work of the opposition. Small field and no value in form.

Race 2 Con.Jockeys Handicap Hurdle class5: Kayley Woollacott gelding Iris Des Issards looked fit and ready in the paddock and took this going away at the line. The D. Pipe horse Johannes ran a strange race, pulling up like he might be feeling something.

Race 3 Maiden Hurdle class 4: Kieran Burke mare Northern Symphonie took this showing a vast improvement in form (nibbled at in the ring) The Bowen's favourite Mighty Fleur (1/1) found nothing when let down.

Race 4 Handicap Hurdle class 4: Now becoming a standing dish at N.A. Coconut Twist (Daisy Hitchens) won this with some ease plenty of 7/2 early came home to some mighty cheers. A mention for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgina Nicholls Musique De Fee ran a very solid race and should be winning soon.

Race 5 Handicap Chase class 3: Best race on the card. The Owners Group Jaramillo was given plenty of vocal from myself and others. Looked magnificent in the paddock and landed some heavy bets for myself and friends. Not much to say about the other 2 runners.

Race 6 Bumper class 4: The Hobbs team took this with Call Me Legend. The Jeremy Scott Border Gem who finished 2<sup>nd</sup> is one worth keeping an eye on. The mare looks to have plenty of improvement to come.

A very enjoyable afternoon as always at Newton Abbot.

## Newton Abbot April 19<sup>th</sup>

Race 1 Maiden Hurdle class4: A very easy win for the favourite Harry Fry Walk on High (2/5) the gelding never looked in any danger of defeat Kayley Woollacott mare who finished 4<sup>th</sup> Barford Grover looks to have a race in her.

Race 2 Handicap Hurdle class 5: Ben Clarke's El Bandido Pancho taking this making all. Military Tycoon (N.Mulholland) stuck on well but was no match for the winner. 4 pulled up and a R.O not a great race.

Race 3 Handicap Chase class 5: Evan Williams Pooroldmackey got off the mark and should Winn again off his current mark. Still running a bit green so plenty to come from this one. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Begin The luck ran a solid race in 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Race 4 Handicap Hurdle class 4: It would have been very disappointing if John Betjeman (Mark Gillard) had not won this, an easier race he could not have found. Made a mess of the last but hung on well. Not the horse he was.

Race 5 Handicap Chase class 3: Would not be a Newton Abbot meet without a Tizzard winner. Scar face ridden with patience by Freddie Gingell to lead at the last to win going away. The favourite Royal Jewel (Hobbs) most of the time weak in a finish ended up 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Race 6 Handicap Chase class 5: The winner Puddlesinthepark (Evan Williams) ridden with supreme confidence by Adam Wedge led at the last going away at the line with a ton on hand. My own selection Janeslittlevoice ran a mighty race to finish 2<sup>nd</sup>, great bit of training by Harriet Tucker to get the mare back. Race 7 Handicap Hurdle class 4: Moonset (Neil Mulholland) a very fortunate winner Coconut Twist (Daisy Hitchens) had the race in safe keeping but a major blunder at the last nearly unseating the jockey Robbie David. Christopher Wood (V. Williams) ran a solid race in 3<sup>rd</sup> and I am sure will find a race soon. Great day at the track bring on the next meeting.

#### Newton Abbot 7<sup>th</sup> May

Nice card to get stuck into today.

Race 1 Handicap Chase Class 2: Great race to start of the meeting Emma Lavelle Light N Strike well punted and landing some nice bets. Ben Jones gave the gelding a great ride oozing confidence a long way out, a slight mistake at the last but won going away with plenty in hand.

Race 2 Novice Hurdle Class 4: Skelton Roxanne(2/5) duly won but was not impressive very poor race form of little note.

Race 3 Nov. Handicap Chase Class 5: Skelton's Gwennie May Jem won this very easily. Made him a (1/3) shot on my sheet and was very surprised there was plenty of 1/1 about (helped myself). The gelding was in a different league to this and looked amazing in the paddock Nothing of any note on the other runners.

Race 4 Handicap Hurdle Class 5: Never a Newton Abbot meeting without a Tizzard winner. Sweet Caryline made all give a clever ride by Brendan Powell finished 6/4 but plenty of 2/1 early Landed some nice bets.

Race 5 Handicap Chase Class 5: Small field but good for punting the favourite A Definite Getaway a big negative in the paddock. The winner the Nicholls Onethreefivenotout looked fit and ready in the paddock. Backed the winner and the Tizzard horse Killer Kane against the favourite The winner 9/2 in places made a mistake at the last but Cobden had a ton in hand.

Race 6 Handicap Hurdle Class 5: Biggest gamble of the day Al Sayah (N.Mulholland) took this very easily bet down from 7/2 to 11/8 never a moments doubt. Landed some very heavy bets. Quick mention to Clearance who ran a solid race in 4<sup>th</sup> be back at his favourite N.A. soon.

Not very often just everything goes right but a super punting day.

#### Newton Abbot May 14<sup>th</sup>

Race 1 Novice Hurdle class 4:

The Owners Group horse Courageous Strike (Nicholls) had no problem landing this 3-runner affair (1/8). Should progress further from here.

Race 2 Nov. Handicap Hurdle class 5: Nice winner for the John O'Shea yard Get the Value very well bet in the ring (7/1-9/2) winning this like this was his day. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Gardiner's Stringinhisstep finished off his race but no match for winner. Leaving his previous form behind there should be a small Handicap in him.

Race 3 Handicap Chase class 4: As I have said in previous write ups the Tizzard team when in form have winners here. Belgarum (4/1) winning this not always the best of jumpers but Freddie Gingell got a good tune out of him. The favourite Christian Williams' Unspeakable wants easier ground.

Race 4 Handicap Hurdle class 4: Another winner for the Tizzard yard American Land (5/2) all though very weak in the market held on to win. My only bet of the day and landed some tasty wagers.

Race 5 Handicap Chase class 4: Local trainer Chris Down took this with Opening Bid (2/1) great jump at the last to put the race to bed. Time to Bite never got in to his rhythm and ran a poor race. Not a great 4 runner affair.

Race 6 Hunter Chase class 5: Montana (11/2) the winner for local trainer Edward Walker (Ottery St. Mary). The horse had some good back form and no surprise to see him win. The favourite Bardenstown Lad never jumped a twig and pulled up.

Race 7 Bumper class 4: I was really taken with the Nicholls mare Takeonedayatatime. She made all and won nicely should make a nice horse. The Kayley Woollacott mare Musique Des Champs(3<sup>rd</sup>) ran well but no match for the winner should find a race or two.

# YORKSHIRE POINT TO POINT REPORT BY ANDY WHITE

## **DERWENT HUNT AT CHARM PARK**

The curtain came down on another Yorkshire Area pointing season when the Derwent Hunt held their 'SCARBOROUGH RACES' meeting on Sunday 11 May. It was yet another warm sunny day with a good-sized Crowd in attendance. The seasons leading riders were also confirmed at the meeting.

Clerk of the Course Jack Teal had a winning start as he rode his own WHATS THE SOLUTION to claim the opening Conditions race. This completed another good year for the Teal stable with plenty of promising young horses.

A win on BENEFACT in the Restricted and a walk-over for LONG HOP in the maiden meant that TOM EASTERBY was this seasons Yorkshire men's champion pipping JOHN DAWSON. BENEFACT likes the faster ground and had won five days earlier at the Zetland meeting at Witton Castle, again under rider Tom Easterby.

A win for TITANIUM BULLET in the Conditions level two race for Veteran and Novice riders saw eighteen-year-old FELIX FOSTER claim this seasons leading male novice rider award.

A third-place finish in the ladies open resulted in ROSIE HOWARTH keeping hold of her Ladies Title from PIPPA BROWN who was this year's Lady Novice Rider.

PRECIOUS BOUNTY ridden by MAXINE BEALBY for her father Ashley travelled up from Rutland to win the lady's open race and in doing so claimed a fourth victory of the season. The combination followed this up a week later when adding a fifth win when travelling south this time to win at the Surrey Union meeting.

## **OTHER APRIL AND MAY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The dry spring had an impact on field sizes but allowed all planned Yorkshire area meetings to take place although the first Sheriff Hutton meeting was put back two weeks because of the weather.

## **MIDDLETON HUNT AT SHERIFF HUTTON**

Top honours at the second Sheriff Hutton meeting of the season on 6 April went to CHARLES CLARK who trained EMIR SACRE to win the conditions race under JOE WRIGHT and the feature GRIMTHORPE GOLD CUP Open race with BLUE SANS under TOM EASTERBY.

Another combination having a double on the day were trainer CHERRY COWARD and Jockey ISLA JOHN winning the Hunt Members race on odds on favourite ZHIGULI and the maiden race with DOTRE DAME.

## **BEDALE HUNT AT HORNBY CASTLE**

Another sunny day saw a massive crowd in attendance at this meeting on Saturday 12 April

PIPPA BROWN riding HOLLYWOOD HARMON for York based trainer Alexander Wilson in the conditions race and JARDIN CARRE in the closing maiden completed a fine double.

DIANA WHITE rode her own KILLER CLOWN for trainer AMIE WAUGH to success in the ladies open. JOHN DAWSON rode the winner of the Men's open on his wife Alice's odds-on favourite SURPRISE ATTACK

## **ZETLAND HUNT AT WITTON CASTLE**

The May Day Bank Holiday meeting saw SURPRISE ATTACK win for the fifth time this season when claiming the men's open for the team of JOHN and ALICE DAWSON. The days leading rider award went to Felix Foster for three placed efforts.

## **Yorkshire Hunter Chase News**

Will Milburn's CULLIN HILLS good form continued as the mare won April's open Hunter Chase at Hexham before putting up an impressive performance in finishing a short head second to Gina Andrews LATENIGHTFUMBLE in the Mares Open Hunter Chase at the Cheltenham Hunter Chase meeting in early May.

The Tate family's Great Notions won the Heart of England Maiden Hunter Chase at Hexham on the 10 May ridden by John Dawson and is one to follow for the future. This came after the sad loss through illness of their stable star and Cheltenham Festival winner Sine Nomine.

There are still some pointing fixtures in the midlands and south until mid-June and the annual Hunter Chase evening meeting at Stratford is this year on the evening of Friday 30 May.

## GORDON ARMISTEAD'S RACING DIARY

### Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup> Aintree

#### **Manifesto**

I thought Jango Baie was far too short for this after being gifted the Arkle even if this was over the extra half mile. He again became outpaced and ran on towards the end but here he never looked like getting up. He will be up to three miles but some headgear might be needed to overcome his flat spots in races. Headgear seemed to get Impaire Et Passe to travel much better than at the DRF and he took this nicely. He could get a bit further but I imagine he will be kept to this trip. Gidleigh Park set a good pace and jumped well in the main. He looked to stay the trip well after also being entered in the two miler. Croke Park looked really well but didn't run his race and faded tamely in the straight. He is better than he showed here.

#### **Anniversary**

A poor renewal with the Fred Winter winner Puturhanstogether in as a short-priced favourite. Murcia had a thirteen-pound pull from Cheltenham but the change of tactics also made the difference as she helped force the pace. She isn't big and might struggle in open company but Punchestown and maybe Auteuil will come first. Runner up Live Conti could be the one with a real future and seemingly unfancied he ran well. He doesn't look a juvenile hurdler and it will be interesting how they campaign him next season before he goes chasing after that.

#### **Bowl**

None of the placed horses from the Gold Cup came on with the great British white hope Grey Dawning in as favourite. As at Haydock he was there to win the race at the last but was run down by the enigmatic Gaelic Warrior. The jumping right seems a thing of the past and he just doesn't like Leopardstown. He will without doubt be in the Punchestown Gold Cup and it will be interesting to see how he gets on there. Grey Dawning won't be winning a Gold Cup if he doesn't stay the trip here. Stage Star didn't get home either in third while course specialist Ahoy Senor ran no sort of race.

#### **Aintree Hurdle**

It was a bit surprising to see Constitution Hill here after he struggled with the trip two years ago. He made all that day but perhaps the trip was the reason Nico de Bonville allowed himself to be trapped on the inside turning for home. Normally he would have kicked forward on the bend off the slow pace but Danny Gilligan on Wodhooh made the first move and when Paul Townend saw that happen he joined him in trapping Constitution Hill in. You couldn't blame De Bonville for the fall as the horse just repeated his Cheltenham leap but he shouldn't have been where he was. Hopefully he will still go to Punchestown and we will see what happens there. The race was perfect for Lossiemouth with a slow pace she could quicken off. The amazing Wodhooh finally met her match but again ran a career best.

#### **Other Races**

Gracchus de Balme and Jet Plane were always the first two in the Hunter Chase and nothing got to them. I had expected Lifetime Ambition to be up with the pace but he was held up for some reason. He was not asked for an effort till far too late. Cheltenham third Willitgoahead faded on the run in and was disappointing.

Sans Bruit came to the Red Rum off the same mark as last year and again made all jumping his rivals into the ground even on the faster going. It wasn't the best renewal with most runners being in the grip of the handicapper.

Seo Linn stepped up from her listed Cheltenham win to take the Nickel Coin after always being prominent. I doubt she will ever jump a hurdle and her next run will be in a flat maiden. There will be plenty of hurdle winners come from the race next season although paddock pick Kapability was virtually pulled up. Others I liked were Kingston Queen and Betty's Daisy.

## **Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> Aintree**

### **Mildmay**

Caldwell Potter stepped up from his handicap win at Cheltenham to take his second Grade 1. He made all and jumped really well including at the last when he was being pressed by Jordans. With Dancing City's fall taking out Quai De Bourbon and Handstands the flat result is not one of a future Gold Cup challenger but we will see. Jordans was well beaten in the Plate at Cheltenham and he will surely be back in handicaps in the future. Dancing City's jumping let him down again while Quai De Bourbon was actually jumping better than in his previous runs when brought down. Handstands is a super looking beast and after being eased down once he was hampered there seems no reason why he can't go to Punchestown.

### **Top Novice Hurdle**

Once Salvador Mundi settled over the first three hurdles it seemed inevitable that he would win this. The fast pace suited him and Romeo Coolio did not have the pace from two out. I got talking to the breeders of Romeo Coolio before the race and they agreed he needs another half mile but said the stable thought this was the easier race to win than the Mersey. He will be chasing next season. Salvador Mundi will probably go to Punchestown to take on Kopek Des Bordes. Karbau ran a much better race than at Cheltenham and might be better over further. He looks more a hurdler than future chaser. The British novices were well beaten again with Tripoli Flyer who somehow started favourite barely jumping a hurdle and hanging badly right-handed. Royal Infantry found little from turning in while Diva Luna evidently pulled up lame.

### **Melling**

They set off like this was a mile race and it took a while for Jonbon to get to the lead. His jumping was good and while he tired on the run in the result was never in doubt. What can they do with El Fabiolo? He looked superb but his jumping was hit and miss before he threw himself at the eleventh from miles away.

### **Sefton**

A poor renewal with the first three already having handicap ratings in the 120's. Leaders Battle Born Lad and Moon Rocket went to fast from the start and both ended up pulling up. Not surprisingly both jockeys reported that their mounts stopped quickly. That left favourite Califet En Vol in front turning in but he had had enough by two out. At that point Mister Meggit loomed up looking all over the winner. Unfortunately, Jonjo Jr decided he wanted to look at himself on the big screen several times instead of concentrating on the final hurdle with the result the horse made a mess of it. The jockey had done the same on the run in of the three-mile handicap earlier on the card and nearly got caught out. It's nowhere near the first time and let's hope he finally learns his lesson. In the end probably the two best judges of pace Gavin Sheehan and Sean Bowen came through to take first and second. The winner Julius Des Picton should make a decent staying handicap chaser at a level. The runner up Minella Rescue has already been beaten off 121 in a handicap hurdle.

### **Other races**

An extraordinary performance from Gentleman De Mee in the Topham coming from last to first after a bad mistake at the first fence. It was a classy event with half a dozen who had run in Grade 1's. This was only the third time Gentleman De Mee had run over further than two miles since he started favourite for Galopin Des Champs' Martin Pipe. He stayed it well and all his best form has been in the spring. I backed some front runners at prices and looked like collecting when Lisnamult Lad was clear at the last but the one loose horse in the race Ash Tree Meadow decided to barge into him twice on the run in.

The big Cheltenham talking horse Kopek De Mee turned up for the two-mile four handicap hurdle and was easier in the market. He was outpaced two out but stayed on well on the run in and just failed. He is a big rangy sort who should make a chaser and stay three miles.

Be Aware was a strange favourite as he is a horse that doesn't win and had turned in a moderate effort at Cheltenham. He was the same here never in the hunt at any stage. Impose Toi was in the last two early on and finished a good fourth. There is a good handicap in him maybe over a tad further.

## **Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> Aintree**

### **Mersey Novice Hurdle**

The British had the first two in the betting here. Tripoli Flyer's form had been shown to be below this level and while he was unfortunate at the start he was well seen off. Horaces Pearl won the bumper here last season. He had won his two small field novices but was stepping up in class and was found wanting. Most of the field from that bumper have won over hurdles this season but it hasn't produced any stars.

I thought Regent's Stroll would be the star British hurdler of the season but his temperament got the better of him in the Challow and he has been slowly brought back to a peak. Here he tried to make all and saw off the first two challengers in Koktail Divin and Funiculi Funicula before Honesty Policy nabbed him in the shadow of the post. He should make a staying novice chaser if they can keep his head together. The winner Honesty Policy only won his point last October and his maiden hurdle in February. He will be suited by going up in trip and jumping fences.

No Lulamba here and I hope he isn't going to be another Henderson horse that we only see once in a while.

### **Liverpool Hurdle**

Hiddenvally Lake doesn't make the track too often and for the second year running he came here on just his third outing of the season. Third last year he stepped up for a comfortable success. Robcour had the first and second at Cheltenham so he was saved for this. Favourite Kitzbuhel was stepping up in class and distance and was originally bound for the Aintree Hurdle before Lossiemouth took his place. He took a bit of a tug early on and might have failed to get home. He looked like another summer might do him the world of good.

### **Maghull**

Kaliff Du Berlais made all and jumped his rivals into the ground. He will be in the top two-mile open races next season and will make them all go. Runner up Brookie went on my tracker as a novice hurdler in Ireland but never went on and appeared to be less than enthusiastic. Transferred from Tony Martin to Anthony Honeyball for the same owner he immediately started winning starting from a mark of 115. This was easily a personal best but it could cost him a decent handicap mark. I didn't like the way L'Eau Du Sud finished the race off and am not sure about him for next season.

### **National**

A much better race to watch than last year and a good story both with the owner and Patrick winning for his dad. I had the winner on my short list after the Paddy Power when he was third but the weight rise for the Thyestes win had dampened enthusiasm. Apart from Perceval Legallois who I had backed at 28/1 I couldn't have any of the favourites winning. Down by the paddock before the race (Iroko looked outstanding and was paddock pick) I saw that Nick Rockett had drifted to 33/1 from about the 10/1 he was after winning the Bobbyjo. He wasn't going to win at that price without me being on.

On starting prices. How did Hitman who would need a horsebox to stay the trip and hates winning anyway start a shorter price than the winner or third home Grangeclare West?

### **Bumper**

Green Splendour had this under control from some way out and ran out a ready winner. Both he and third home Koktail Brut had been well beaten at the DRF but the stronger pace here suited the winner. Runner up Destination Dubai had appalling point form being pulled up twice but it must not have stayed as the switch to bumpers has seen a different tale with two wins and this good run. As in the mares bumper the paddock pick Le Labo finished tailed off.

## **Wednesday April 16<sup>th</sup> Cheltenham**

The two-mile four novice hurdle has seen some decent winners and while Jax Junior is no superstar he was well backed to give weight away to most of his rivals. After disappointing in the Albert Bartlett the drop back in trip suited him. He should make a decent handicapper over fences next season. Runner up Dr Eggman was beaten at very short odds four times before finally winning his maiden hurdle and is another for chasing next season.

Sean Bowen has won plenty of races from seemingly impossible positions this season and I was glad to have him on my side in the three-mile handicap hurdle. Long Draw jumped poorly and looked beaten at the top of the hill but came through to win going away. Sean will certainly be a worthy champion jockey.

## **Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> Cheltenham**

Theatre Native took a good hold early in the two miles four novice handicap chase but jumped really well and when Rachel Blackmore sent her for home she scooted away to win easily. She will take a big hike for this but there are more wins in her.

The listed two-mile four hurdle went to Golden Ace last season and while Jubilee Alpha won't follow the same path she has done she will find joy in some of the many graded /listed mares hurdles next season. She was settled well off the pace but Harry Cobden always seemed confident he had things in hand.

### **Tuesday April 29<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

Turnups in two of the three Grade 1's. In the two-mile novice hurdle Salvador Mundi under Patrick Mullins went too fast before halfway and him being a Grade 1 winner Paul Townend on Kopel Des Bordes felt obliged to follow. Both fell in a heap in the last quarter of the race and Irancy came from well off the pace to pick up the pieces. The winner a half-brother to multiple winner Darasso should go on over fences next season. Salvador Mundi settled at Aintree but this was back to his previous ways. He may stay hurdling. Kopek will be over fences but will have to jump those better than his hurdles.

Ballyburn was awful value at 11/8 for the three-mile novice chase and even with his two market rivals failing to finish he couldn't win. His jumping was average and if he goes back to hurdles he appeared not to last the three miles either. He joins the likes of Facile Vega and others who were the next big thing but proved to be just very good. Champ Keily got the trip well but doesn't appeal as a Gold Cup contender for next season. It was a shame to see Lecky Watson fall as his jumping had looked rock solid beforehand and Impaire Et Passe had nowhere to go in being brought down.

Marine Nationale followed up from Cheltenham in the two-mile chase with Fact to File never travelling on his drop in trip. It was a pity that Il Etait Temps ran at Sandown and also that the jumping woes of El Fabiolo continue.

The field for the valuable Goffs sales bumper looked on the moderate side and another big priced Willie Mullins winner on the day in Wonderful Everyday. She won cosily to give Ruth Dudfield her first winner in three years. The one from the paddock was her stable mate Maith An Buachaill who came from well off the pace for fourth. The first two handicaps went to British raiders with 50/1 shot Buy Some Time winning the Albert Barlett final and Ascending Lark making it six from six since joining Harry Derham.

The Gavin Cromwell horses have not been in as good a form as earlier on in the season but Bud Fox took the maiden bumper easily.

### **Wednesday April 30<sup>th</sup> Punchestown**

Galopin Des Champs was 100/1 for his first venture into Grade 1 company and 8/1 for the Martin Pipe he won off a rating of 142. There was a chance he could have been bits of odds against here for only the fourth time in eighteen chasers but he shortened near the off to 5/6. The result was not in doubt from early on and he probably didn't have to be right up to his best to finally win the Punchestown Gold Cup. Certainly one of the best I have seen running. Hopefully Spillane's Tower will be seen out more times next season while Monty's Star will be aimed at Aintree.

Galopin Des Champs' first Grade 1 win came in the three-mile novice here and this year it looked a match between Jasmin De Vaux and Honesty Policy and so it proved. Despite losing his irons at the last Paul Townend got Jasmin home to follow up from Cheltenham. His jumping is getting better and the intention seems to be fences next season so we will see how that goes. As expected Honesty Policy got the trip well and no doubt he too will be over fences come the autumn.

A small field for the Champion Bumper and Bambino Fever again showed she is the best in the field this season. She beat Switch From Diesel who was running in a ridiculous twelfth bumper to give the mares the one two. The geldings this season have not looked a good bunch and we will see if they improve for jumps later in the year.

I liked Kaid D'authie when I saw him at Christmas and after failing in Grade 1's the winners of one hurdle saw him win again. I doubt if I have ever backed a winner who jumped so poorly as he ignored many of the hurdles. He is a very big animal and hopefully he will jump better over fences.

The graded mare's bumper went to Carrigmoonaspruce beating Aintree winner Seo Linn and if they had run in the Grade 1 it could well have been a clean sweep for the mares in that race.

After two big priced each ways had run well in the handicaps on day one the pattern continued today. 20/1 shot Cloonainra jumped the last like she would win the c.j.s race but just hit the wall and I was glad she hung on to fifth for the place money.

Riaan has been coming back into form over the season and just when he looked like winning James Du Berlais-under a change of tactics-decided it was the day when he would not chuck away a winning opportunity.

### **Thursday May 1<sup>st</sup> Punchestown**

Two favourites who were beaten at Cheltenham returned to winning ways. Majborough soon pulled himself to the front in the two-mile novice chase and made the best of his way home. His tendency to jump to his left got

worse as the race went on and might be a problem in open company but his jumping overall was much better than at Cheltenham.

Teahupoo made it a complete sweep of the Grade 1 staying hurdles for Robcour beating Asterion Forlonge who finished second in the race for the third season running. Aintree winner Hiddenvally Lake ran no sort of race.

It doesn't matter what sort of race it is Joseph O'Brien usually has a horse for it and he broke new ground winning the La Touche over the banks with Busselton. He beat fellow Kerry National winner Desertmore House in a good quality renewal with the course specialists Three By Two and Vital Island following them home.

J.J. Slevin was having a good meeting and the trainer and jockey followed up the listed mare's novice hurdle with 33/1 shot Cottesloe Sunshine. Odds on shot Sixandahalf was another Cromwell horse to run below form.

Twenty-three in the two-mile handicap chase and Mirazur West set a tremendous pace reminiscent of his full brother Ferny Hollow, He faltered at the last and Petit Tonnerre stayed on to lead under Richie McLernon. He is a horse I have given some stick too but the change of jockey seems to have made the difference. He was the first of three British winners on the day. Jeriko Du Reponet took the three-mile handicap hurdle reversing Cheltenham places with Doddiethegreat. He will go back over fences next season and hopefully whatever blew his mind at Sandown will not be repeated.

The winners of one bumper has been won by some top-class horses and it looked a good field again. The Alan King trained Baron Noir took advantage of a wayward display by El Cairo to take the race. Favourite Ksar Fatal ran poorly after his Gowran win on heavy. The winner was about paddock pick with fourth home Dani Donadoni also catching the eye.

### **Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> Punchestown**

Probably the biggest crowd I have seen for any day here. The big Champion Hurdle rematch with the last three Cheltenham winners was the star attraction but it ended up being very one sided. Constitution Hill looked at one time a bit reluctant to line up, leapt the first like he was scared stiff and he never looked happy before falling away when the pace quickened. It looks a long way back now. Apart from at Christmas State Man just runs his race and usually gets the job done. He had this in safe keeping from a long way out and beat Golden Ace by about what he would have done at Cheltenham. The mare ran a fine race as did Kargese.

Final Demand also made all in the two four grade 1 novice hurdle jumping well and steaming clear in the straight. Chasing awaits at three miles. The Yellow Clay made mistakes and was well beaten when falling heavily at the last and it was good to see him get up from it. Runner up Lovely Hurling stepped up from a maiden hurdle win. He looks a chasing sort but is short on experience to go that way in the new season.

Kargese looks the sort to be a better chaser and we need some more chasing mares as the Grade 2 here only had four runners and two are headed into retirement. It was easy for Dinoblue and while she will be back Allegory De Vassey is already in foal to Jukebox Jury. Brides Hill also reportedly heads to the paddocks.

They were spread all over Kildare in the two miles three maiden bumper and the well backed Soldier in Milan ran out a good winner. He won his point over a year ago so must have had a hold up but he should make his mark over hurdles at staying trips. It was a treble for Emmitt Mullins after It's On The Line won the Champion Hunter for the third time and Sea Music the two four novice handicap chase. The latter will be heading for Galway but will probably not get into the Plate with his rating so The Galway Blazers will be his race.

### **Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> Punchestown**

Everyone seemed to know Brighterdaysahead wasn't the one for the Mare's Champion Hurdle as she drifted from long odds on to 6/4 second favourite. She travelled well enough but was beaten turning in any this was well below her best. She will evidently go chasing next season. Winner Jade De Grugy soon took the pace up and led home a one two for owner Kenny Alexander. She will follow the same route next season and her Cheltenham prospects will be enhanced if Lossiemouth goes for the Champion Hurdle.

Lulamba turned the tables on Poniros in the Four-Year-old Champion Hurdle. I am not sure the juveniles have been the greatest bunch this season but he will surely improve as he gets older. He isn't the size of Sir Gino or Majborough were last season so we will see if he stays hurdling or goes over fences. Triumph winner Poniros looks a flat runner and will be off to Royal Ascot in June. Murcia ran at least as well as at Aintree and of the Mullins maidens in the race I liked Larzac who finished sixth and he looked a chaser in time.

Shanbally Kid had barely beaten a runner and jumped poorly in his six chases before today mainly at two miles. Up to just short of four miles he trotted up on the bridle. With the ridiculous situation of this week being in

the new season as far as the British are concerned he will no doubt have the National Hunt Chase as his seasons target.

Having won the bumper on the Friday Emmet Mullins took today's with the very well backed Vitorio Piel who made all. The trainer still owns this one but probably for not much longer. The runner up It's Only A Game was paddock pick and was twelve lengths clear of the third and the first two should certainly have a future. Fifth home Brosna Queen a full sister to Queens Gamble looked far from wound up and should do better in time. The final banks race of the meeting went to Vital Island who had been fourth two days before in the La Touche. This was his twenty first start over the Punchestown banks and he beat four rivals rated 140 plus. It was a second winner on the week for owner trainer Ritchie O'Keefe.

### **Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> Haydock**

A good ride from Freddie Gordon on the Swinton winner Our Champ. Normally a front runner he was settled just off the pace today with plenty of others wanting to force the pace. He came to take it up two out for a ready win. The jockey was riding here for his father but is attached to the Henderson yard where although he has a 20% strike rate he is underused. It was another moderate renewal of the Swinton with the winner dropping in class from the County Hurdle and the Sussex Champion Hurdle.

The stayers handicap hurdle saw the first two from Cheltenham's April meeting Long Draw and Harbour Lake taking on Challenger Series winner Tiny Tetley. Long Draw again got himself behind but even though the race was slightly longer than at Cheltenham the sharper track counted against him in making up the ground on Harbour Lake. Tiny Tetley up eight pounds split the two on them having looked the likely winner at the last. A pair of cheek pieces might stop Long Draw getting so far off the pace as he can't keep giving his rivals a start. Quite how they managed to find a patch of false ground on the hurdles track which resulted in there only being two jumps in the straight after weeks of dry weather is a mystery. Equally puzzling is why the missing flight could not have been placed somewhere else in the straight.

Freddie Steady Go was paddock pick for the bumper but the race was run at a crawl which certainly didn't suit him. He is from the second crop of Frontiersman a son of the superstar mare Ouija Board. Frontiersman could do with a decent performer. Freddie Steady Go should win hurdle races later in the season.

The now gelded 2023 Dewhurst runner up Alyanaabi looked the only runner in the listed seven-furlong Spring Trophy who didn't need the run. He made all in a moderately run affair and evidently will go down in trip after this. What this was worth is anybody's guess.

## **Racecourse Association Launches 2025 Summer Jumps Championship**

- New Championship for Summer Jumps Racing to take place between 24<sup>th</sup> May-19<sup>th</sup> September.
- All summer jumps fixtures within promotional period included.
- Prizes for champion summer jumps jockey, owner, trainer and small trainer.

The Racecourse Association (RCA) is pleased to present details of the 2025 RCA Summer Jumps Championship.

The new, points-based Championship will include all summer jump racing fixtures from Cartmel's Season Opener on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May until Newton Abbot's fixture on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

The RCA Summer Jumps Championship has been created with cross-industry support and a set of aims which include providing a clear, recognisable narrative for summer jumps racing; seeking to maintain the momentum from a positive set of race programme metrics in 2024; and to celebrate the fantastic summer of sport provided by summer jumps and the venues which host it.

Overall champions will be crowned in four categories: jockey, owner, trainer and small trainer (trainers with fewer than 30 winners in the traditional British Trainers' Championship). The overall prize will be £7,500 for each category, making the total prize pot £30,000 in 2025. The winners of the Champion Jockey and Owner categories will be given the choice to claim the winnings or donate to a racing charity of their choice. For the Champion Trainer and Small Summer Jumps Champion Trainer categories, the prize money will be distributed amongst stable staff at the winning yard.

Race Points will be accumulated depending on finishing positions and field size for each race. The breakdown for the points awarded in the RCA Summer Jumps Championship will be as follows:

| Field Size | 1 <sup>st</sup> place | 2 <sup>nd</sup> place | 3 <sup>rd</sup> place |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <5         | 5 points              | N/A                   | N/A                   |
| 6-7        | 5 points              | 3 points              | N/A                   |
| 8+         | 10 points             | 5 points              | 2 points              |

Throughout the Championship, the RCA will provide updates on results and standings via the RCA Summer Jumps Championship hub [here](#).

**Kevin Walsh, RCA Racing Director, commented:** “It has been a longstanding aspiration of the RCA to develop a Championship to celebrate summer jumps racing. I am pleased that with the support of stakeholders across the sport we have been able to launch the Championship this year, which should create additional excitement for followers of summer jumps racing and reward the most successful jockeys, owners and trainers who support it.

“This inaugural Championship will hopefully be the first of many, and we look forward to growing this new asset to British racing’s calendar with the support of the participating racecourses and members of the Thoroughbred Group.”

**Geraldine McKay, Director of Racing at Cartmel Racecourse, commented:** “Here at Cartmel Racecourse, we are delighted to be the launch fixture of this inaugural championship, celebrating all things summer jumps. “At Cartmel Racecourse, summer jumps is critically important and we hope this championship will allow us to spread the love and create a narrative around the season which helps all participants understand the importance of the season.”

## CATTERICK BEER FESTIVAL RACEDAY RETURNS – A CELEBRATION OF RACING, REAL ALE & LIVE MUSIC



Catterick Racecourse’s 2025 Flat season continues in style on **Saturday 24 May** with one of its most popular fixtures – the **Catterick Beer Festival Raceday**, held in association with **Pennine Brewing Company**.

Now in **its seventh year**, the event marks a firm favourite on Catterick’s racing calendar. Local independent brewery **Pennine Brewing Co.**, based in Well, will once again be offering racegoers the chance to sample **ten different ales and ciders** throughout the afternoon.

The action kicks off at **1.40pm** with the **Pennine Brewing Company Maiden Stakes**, while the final race of the seven-race card is scheduled for **5.15pm**. After racing, the festivities continue with **live music from The Black Marcs**, and the course will remain open until **6.30pm**, giving attendees even more time to enjoy the beer festival atmosphere.

Pennine Brewing Company’s **Debbie Clayton** commented:

“All of us at Pennine Brewery are thrilled to be part of the seventh Catterick Beer Festival! It’s a highlight on our calendar every year, and we’re just as excited this time around. We’ll be bringing along a fantastic range of our award-winning brews for racegoers to enjoy, and we can’t wait to raise a glass with you to celebrate great beer and racing!”

Alongside the on-track action and live entertainment, there will be **free children's activities** in the Course Enclosure, including a **Bungee Run, Rock n Roller challenge, bouncy castle, and soft play area** to keep young racing fans entertained.

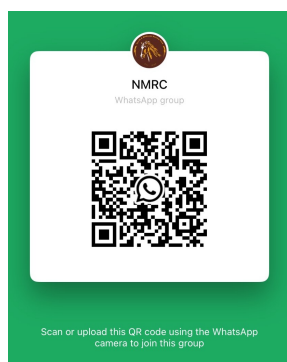
**Emma Stevenson**, General Commercial Manager at Catterick Racecourse, said:

"We're thrilled to be continuing our partnership with Pennine Brewing Company. The Beer Festival Raceday is always a highlight – a great day out for everyone, with racing, live music, craft ales, and plenty of family-friendly entertainment."

**Gates open at 11.30am**, and a **free shuttle bus** service will run from **Richmond Market Place** approximately an hour before the first race.

**Tickets** will be available on the gate, with **advance and group booking discounts** available until **midnight on Thursday 22 May**. To book, call **01748 811478** or visit [www.catterickbridge.co.uk](http://www.catterickbridge.co.uk).

**Under 18s go free** when accompanied by an adult. **Concessions** are available for students, over-65s, and military personnel, both in advance and on the day.



**NMRC WhatsApp Group** – Not everyone uses Facebook so this group will compliment/add to the information shared there. Keith Dodd has already started adding content and you can join the group by scanning the QR code on the left (if any problems contact Keith via the contact details below).

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*Next Racin' Deadline is Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July*