

**March/  
April  
2021**



# FINISH LINE

Cheltenham & Three Counties Race Club



## TIPSTER COMPETITION UPDATE: MARCH

Predictably, points scoring took a much better path than in past months influenced, of course, to the Festival, with **55 horses** recording a total of **476 points**, and the **average points per run** rising to a healthier standard of **9pts** – with Festival influence, where the range is between **6 and 11 average pts/run for the past 11 years** (since recording of more detailed statistics commenced). The effect of this sees the **Leaderboard** continues to include regular **Top Ten** participants, with **Keith Appleton** taking on pole position by just **12 points** over current runner-up, **Ken Watkins**. Our 'Congratulations' go to **Keith** who will receive the £10 prize.

**NB: ALL prizes will be confirmed and paid out after the end of the competition.**

#	NAME			FEBRUARY MONTH	FEBRUARY CUM'VE
1	<b>KEITH</b>	<b>APPLETON</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>463</b>
2	KEN	WATKINS	C	190	455
3	TERRY	POULSON	B	170	441
4	JIM	CLARK	A	160	438
5	KEITH	APPLETON	B	180	416
6	KEN	WATKINS	D	170	410
7	KEITH	APPLETON	A	180	401
8	ALAN	WELLSTEED	L	150	400
9	IAN	ATKINSON	A	180	395
10	MIKE	TROMANS	D	130	393

The **Highest Score for the Month** was also achieved by **Keith Appleton** who managed an impressive **200 pts** during **March**, with his 'E' entry, providing to gain a 10-point advantage over runner-up **Ken Watkins**, to earn himself the £10 prize.

#	NAME			FEBRUARY MONTH
1	<b>KEITH</b>	<b>APPLETON</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>200</b>
2	KEN	WATKINS	C	190
3	KEITH	APPLETON	A	180
4	KEITH	APPLETON	B	180
5	IAN	ATKINSON	A	180
6	TERRY	POULSON	B	170

Please don't forget that you can track the status of your entries on-line by using this link [https://www.ctcrc.co.uk/tipsters\\_2020\\_2021.html](https://www.ctcrc.co.uk/tipsters_2020_2021.html)

If you have any questions about your entry, or its status, please contact Tony Coleman either on 07795 146242 or by e-mail at [tonyandles@aol.com](mailto:tonyandles@aol.com).

## RICHARD DAVIS AWARD

For the Top Conditional Jockey riding at Cheltenham, Chepstow, Hereford, LudlowStratford, Warwick and Worcester during the period

7<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021

(Sponsored by the Cheltenham & Three Counties Race Club)

Scoring: a Winner 10 points, a Second 7 points, a Third 4 points, a Fourth 2 points.

### Latest placings (up to and including 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2021)

1 <sup>st</sup>	Richard Patrick	136 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ben Jones	135 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bryan Carver	129 pts
4 <sup>th</sup>	Max Kendrick	124 pts
5 <sup>th</sup>	Lily Pinchin	102 pts
6 <sup>th</sup>	Jack Tudor	100 pts
7 <sup>th</sup>	Page Fuller	95 pts
8 <sup>th</sup>	Charlie Hammond	93 pts
9 <sup>th</sup>	Ben Godfrey	92 pts



Richard Davis was a talented jump jockey tragically killed in a fall over fences in 1996. This award is named in his memory.

## Jo O'Neill Article

I hadn't led up a winner since November so I was delighted I led up Theme Tune (Timmy) when he won at Carlisle on February 22nd. He is small in stature with twiggy legs but he's a plucky enough and won gamely. He's owned by Trevor Hemmings so it's always great to give him winners.

I then led up another winner for Mr Hemmings when I was lucky enough to take Cloth Cap (Clothy) on an overnight to Kelso. To be honest, I was so delighted – he's one I care for daily down the pens (he's trained from the field and loves living out) but is officially looked after by Nick Healy. Yet, I've grown to love Clothy, who treats me with contempt and meanness. He often swings his hindquarters towards me, ears pinned back and little eyes glaring. He's a beautiful bright bay with a large star and though not the tallest, he is stocky and compact. We had a great journey up there and Clothy was a gentleman to travel, never stomping or kicking. I have been to Kelso a number of times over my time in racing and I always enjoy my visit – there's always a huge welcome and the

place is so tranquil and quiet. I had a wonderful stay in the Black Horse hotel in the centre of Kelso and all the travelling staff had a wonderful meal there in the bar area that was closed to everyone else. Due to pubs being shut because of the coronavirus regulations, it was the first time many of us had gone out and it was a treat! The food was very delicious and too filling so none of us had the desserts we'd planned on!



The next day, Clothy won really well under Tom Scudamore. I was so proud and chuffed, mostly of Clothy but a teeny bit of myself. Down the pens, I have to work out the feed, grazing, daily routine,

administer some drugs and check their health – and I'm always worrying that I'll miss something. Yet, Clothy had won once again won a big race under my care!! And the best aspect to Kelso: each winning horse receives a big net of carrots. These misshapen, huge or tiny carrots kept 'my' boys happy down the pens for a solid week – as Clothy obviously didn't mind sharing them!

The run up to this year's Festival was really busy. As a marketing ploy, Jonjo's wife Jacqui and her PA Claire Bowring came up with the brilliant idea of sending the owners a small gift to compensate them not being able to go to Cheltenham.



Damson gin liqueur and lemon and cucumber gin liqueur, made by Foxdenton's in Buckinghamshire but with Jonjo O'Neill Racing and logo on the labels. I thought this a lovely touch and marketing at its finest.

Winners, particularly big winners, are a trainer's most effective marketing tool but nowadays, there are so many ways how trainers' market themselves. I had even seen small jute bags with the Jonjo logo on, and umbrellas and, a few years ago, there was a small line of merchandise! The office now creates a monthly newsletter and include the winners, news and interesting points of discussion. This and abundant positive social media, Jonjo O'Neill Racing is a lot more accessible and open.

My little Jack Russell turned four on March 16th – she always lacked in attention on her birthday due to it usually falling on the Cheltenham Festival! Yet, she loved her new squeaky ball and enjoyed a walk. And the following day, she got her own special treat. On her usual sniff round the yard, I saw her suddenly stop and pick something up. "Daisy," I called warningly. She clamped her tail,

flattened her ears and walked quicker than me (I was hampered by the horse I was leading).



She quickened her step and cantered out through the farrier's box but not before I caught sight of her prize: the golden pastry of a sausage roll, with only a single human bite taken out of it! That's one reason why she's banned from the yard on Sausage Roll Wednesdays but she always flouts the ban!

The Festival week really was fantastic and being held behind 'closed doors' didn't really strip away any of its gloss, maybe just a little of the atmosphere and, of course, crowd noise! Who would have predicted the skill and perfection of Rachel Blackmore; it was so inspiring and heart-warming. It had been a long five years since

our last Festival winner (Minella Rocco in the four-miler) and it was amazing when Sky Pirate won the Grand Annual under Nick Scholfield.



Sky P is a big yard legend, so quiet and tame and slow, it's actually unbelievable he's found his trip at two miles! It gave his groom Lauren Hay and head of travelling Harrison Day a fantastic day – and Harrison beat Lauren running up the track! Most fantastically, it gave the yard a major boost – the buzz was tremendous! We could, once again, hold our head up high with pride – especially as we were the only UK winners of the day. The one aspect of having a Festival winner during lockdown that was much missed was celebrating down the Plough Inn!

The next day, we had six runners at Uttoxeter – and had another brilliant day! Time To Get Up

won the Midland Grand National under Jonjo Junior – the boss' first victory in the race since Synchronised in 2010. Time To Get Up, a huge liver chestnut, was made for the race – an out and out galloper who jumped so well and he'd once finished a sound second to Monkfish in Ireland. So, the form and talent were there. He is adored and the firm favourite of his groom Lauren Hall – I think she's secured herself a lead-up in the Aintree version next year!



It's been fantastic to have had these big winners again – and definitely a relief. Whatever happens during the rest of the season, we've dragged ourselves out of the doldrums of the last few years. At times, the idea of having 'good' winners again was not graspable but slowly, we've built back up and have had a few days like a few years ago!

I love springtime, with the lambs bouncing around in the emerald fields, the trumpet-faced daffodils and the racehorses' summer coats start appearing, The fluffy, thick winter coat starts to moult and the summer coat is sleek and shiny in comparison. On April 1st, I took Frisco Bay (Frisky) to Uttoxeter and he had a beautiful coat; he didn't have clip lines and I even put quarter marks on his hindquarters. I should have known he was well before he won over hurdlers under Richie McLernon at 14-1! I was chuffed to go and it's always a great day to lead up Richie on a winner, because he's a huge part of the yard. Richie had to send him on early on the final circuit – I had stopped watching before the last as there was another runner looming! Luckily, Frisky stayed in front!



ACROSS CLUES

- 1. Harry Fry inmate who maybe does wear appropriate headgear (2, 3, 3, 4)
- 6. Anderson, Tizzard or Gortroe (3)
- 8. Tears For Fears, winning owners of the 2016 Grand National (4, 3, 5)
- 9. That top European race with the false straight (3)
- 10. Edwards, NH jockey, rides for 32 across (3)
- 11. A chicken meal; apparently horse trotting races used to be held here (4)
- 12. Three letter abbreviation of birthplace of horse; shown on racecard (1,1, 1)
- 13. The Cordin that is David Pipe's Combined (6)
- 14. Racing broadcasting company (3)
- 15. One of the Nationals (6)
- 17. Michael, the Newmarket based trainer..... Sir (6)
- 18. Harry Whittington's French red charger (2<sup>nd</sup> word) (3)
- 20. An award for the groom after a few laps of the parade ring (1,1,1)
- 22. Also known as Arena (3)
- 23. Studying of form; student activity before an exam (8)
- 24. De Sousa, had an altercation a while back with a former champion jockey (4)
- 25. Race with the biggest TV audience – initials (1, 1)
- 26. Mr. Wedge, the Welshman (4)
- 28. Leaky Racing Post Correspondent and pundit - surname (5)
- 30. Arkle had many a battle with this Mill (5)
- 32. Shropshire based NH trainer – surname (5)
- 33. Slay, the opposite to backs (4)

# CROSSWORD

<b>1</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>4</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>7</b>
		<b>8</b>												
												<b>9</b>		
		<b>10</b>								<b>11</b>				
<b>12</b>				<b>13</b>										
												<b>14</b>		
<b>15</b>					<b>16</b>		<b>17</b>							
				<b>18</b>		<b>19</b>							<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
		<b>22</b>						<b>23</b>						
				<b>24</b>									<b>25</b>	
<b>26</b>								<b>27</b>		<b>28</b>				
				<b>29</b>		<b>30</b>								<b>31</b>
<b>32</b>										<b>33</b>				
				<b>34</b>										
								<b>35</b>						

- 34. Fergal O'Brien trained Cove; there are 5 of them (5)
- 35. He loves a "Photo" and "That's one for the Judge" does this commentator (8)

By Jamie Sharp

DOWN CLUES

- 1. Kim Bailey trained horse, pre-metric and with a presence (8,4)
- 2. Pam Sly's potential star; action to pick something up? (11)
- 3. One of many stars at Seven Barrows (6)
- 4. "Right said ----", 1 of the seasons and also a race at The Cheltenham Festival (4, 6)
- 5. Eight furlongs with no bends (8,4)
- 6. Female trainer based in Highworth, Wiltshire (2,5)
- 7. Rice Talson, veteran trainer based in Lancashire (4,6)
- 10. Versatile Pond House incumbent, ran in a Galway hurdle and the 2020 Cesarewitch (11)
- 16. One of the famous Carberry's (Christian name) (4)
- 19. Part of the Mullins battalion, aka as The Machine (8)
- 20. Not small; Julie Camacho's Misérables horse (3,3)
- 21. McCoy, Mullins.....either of those (4)
- 27. Lump on a big odds on losing favourite and your fingers will be (5)
- 28. Scottish racecourse (5)
- 29. Does a farrier have a lucky one? (4)
- 31. Charlie the Lambourn Trainer, not a woman (4)

## John Hales Article

In the lead up to the Festival we decided that we would leave a number of our promising younger horses until Aintree. We will soon find out whether this was a good decision.

The Festival itself was a huge disappointment as far as the Champion Chase was concerned. When Politologue arrived at the pre parade ring it was noticed that he had blood coming from his nose. We called a vet to check it out but it was only 14 minutes to the start of the race and there was not sufficient time to scope him. The vet said in the circumstances he could not be sure that it was not a burst blood vessel in which case he would probably have blood in his lungs. Had this been the case it could have had fatal consequences had we decided to run. We withdrew the horse from the race and he went back to the stables to have a proper scope to make a proper assessment. The scope revealed there was not a burst blood vessel and the horse had probably knocked his head in his stable before he was led to the pre parade ring. It was even more

frustrating watching the race when the red hot favourite did not get up the hill in a slowly run race. Had Politologue been in the race we would have set a much faster pace and with his proven ability to get up the hill we felt we could have won the race. The news of the scope clearly showed there was not a burst blood vessel and the vets concluded it was just a nose bleed and he could have raced. However in the circumstances we made the right decision and the best interests of the horse was paramount.

We now have a fresh horse and I am looking forward to watching him in the Melling Chase at Aintree. We will have some promising young horses at Aintree.



Monmiral

On the Thursday we will run Monmiral in the Juvenile Hurdle. This horse has never been beaten

in 4 races in France and UK. I believe he will start favourite and we hope he will extend his unbeaten run.



We will also run Protektorat on the Thursday. We are going to wait until next season before we run him over 3 miles.



Protektorat



On the Friday we will run Politologue in the Melling Chase which he has previously won when he had a great battle with Min. We are now starting to rough some horses off ready to come home for the May grass. The following horses have now finished for the season Good Ball, Lakota Warrior. Both of these horses we believe have a bright future and you will see them in better races next season.

From now until the end of the season at Sandown we are giving our full support to Harry Skelton in his quest for the jockeys title. Although Fidelio Vallis was very impressive in his recent win and is trained by Paul Nicholls we are hoping we can make him available for Harry to ride. It will probably depend on whether Harry Cobden is still in the jockeys race. We now have Aintree and Sandown to look forward to and I am keeping my fingers crossed for Harry Skelton to win the jockeys title.

NB: This article was received on the Monday before Aintree on the Thursday. We now know the results from Aintree. Speedy recovery to Harry Cobden and all the best to Harry Skelton for the jockeys title.

## Q&A with Andre Klein

In this month's newsletter we have two Q&A's from personnel who both have key roles within the racing industry. First up is Andre Klein, Community Project Manager at Cheltenham Racecourse and he is also the General Manager at Warwick racecourse. CTCRC would like to thank Andre for his time and contribution to the newsletter.

**Q** How did you become involved within the horse racing industry and has your career always been within this sector

**A** From the day I understood that you had to work to earn a living, I didn't want to do anything else but work in horse racing. In fact, I still remember a chat at school with some chap who came to discuss careers with us. I was maybe 12 at the time. He suggested the army, and I said, no thanks, horse racing. It wasn't a surprise to anyone. Both my Grandads were racing nuts, my Dad was too, and our family ran a racing pub near Lambourn. I've loved racing as long as I can remember, and rather bizarrely, I have always a fascination with

racecourses, the theatres of the sport, more than any other element.

**Q** What ultimately inspired you to take up working within the industry

**A** I was lucky enough to have a girlfriend who used to hand out the prizes at Baden Baden so I blagged my way to a summer job there. Then after University, I went travelling in Australia, where a chance opportunity arose for me to work at Morphettville Racecourse in Adelaide. I did a variety of roles for the South Australian Jockey Club, which I guess was my apprenticeship for 4 years, and then headed to New Zealand to manage my first racecourse down in the South Island. 15 years later, after a wonderful Southern Hemisphere racing experience where I did pretty much everything I wanted to in racing, I came home to work in racing here for The Jockey Club.

**Q** What are your tasks associated with your current role as General Manager at Warwick Racecourse

**A** Blimey, that's a hard question to answer because it covers so many areas and no two hours, let alone days are the same. It is

truly a brilliant job and I love it. I am blessed with a great team at Warwick, who like me, are passionate for the sport. They all have specialist jobs to do and are very good at their areas. I guess my job is to try and bring it altogether, and of course, tie our work into the bigger framework of Jockey Club and the various national teams. I am a big believer that the racecourse has to play a meaningful role in the local community and spend a lot of time dedicating myself to that. It's slow burn strategy, but has been really worthwhile on lots of levels. I like nothing more than our locals coming to track, bringing friends and being proud of having the racecourse on their doorstep.

**Q** Warwick has always been popular with trainers, owners and indeed racegoers – why do you think this is so

**A** Location is good for one. We are pretty easy to reach. Very central. The investment in the track itself and the good work the track team do means that trainers can have a level of confidence. We have a nice varied programme and our good races come at good time of year, especially in the novice divisions. From a racegoers point of view,

it's intimate, you get close to the horses, and it only takes a small crowd to create a big atmosphere. It truly is a gem of a racecourse, and I think it still remains under celebrated. Sixth oldest course in the world, you know. Read the great book Chris Pitt has just written on it.

**Q** If someone wanted to start a career in the racing industry but not attached to a stable how do they start the process

**A** It's a lot to do with being prepared to travel or move in lots of cases. The chances of the ideal job coming up at your local track at the right time, is pretty slim but there are always jobs somewhere. Many of the team at the top of the Jockey Club started in hospitality sales, where the most of the opportunities lie. I think if the office, rather than out on the track, or with horses, is you, then sales is your best bet and then work your way towards a GM role from within. Get some sales experience under your belt and on your CV. Show an interest in racing. Get a foot through the door. The Jockey Club is very good at creating career progression and movement from sales to operations and elsewhere is far from uncommon.

**Q** What initiatives could racing implement to reach out to a wider audience with the aim of increased interest and ultimately increase foot fall through the gates

**A** There is a lot of work being done on answering this question. A lot of it is now about increasing awareness about the sport, making it accessible. We've done a grand job of catering for the fan. ITV is vital, newspaper coverage, clever and engaging social media, celebrating our heroes, finding good ambassadors that reach different people outside our usual marketing reach. Us fans take it for granted that people understand, but most people haven't a clue. It is a complicated sport in many ways, although nothing is simpler than first past the post. I also believe that getting people to the track and giving them a good day out, is absolutely critical. That, and getting people close to the horses, are the healthy way to grow racing with the goal being ownership rather than betting.

**Q** Does the racecourse work with the local community in an attempt to develop business growth and potential interest within racing

**A** As I mentioned earlier working with the community is in my

opinion the most important singular task in my personal role. We have engaged at so many different levels it's hard to know where to start and over such a long period. But put it this way, I have the CEO of the District Council, our Chamber of Trade leader, the local football club chairman, and president of the local residents committee all on speed dial. The relations are vital and take time. The one thing we are really glad to be part of is a group called St Marys Land Working Party, which sounds pretty odd, but it has 20 members from all the organisations, sporting, cultural, residential, environmental, conservational etc that operate around the racecourse. We've produced a master plan in conjunction with the Council. This working partnership has delivered immeasurable good things; from footpath and cycleways, to car park improvements. It demonstrates that if a group of diverse people can get together, join their dots up, prioritise, organise their objectives, anything can be achieved. We are currently applying for a lottery grant, which includes the development and enhancement of our heritage grandstand amongst many other

things. There is no way we could have done this on our own.

**Q** Who do you turn to for advice

**A** It depends what on!  
Racing tips – My Dad and Tommy Williams our Operations Executive.

Life advice – My wife, Zoe.

Fashion and Haircut – Boris Johnson.

Work – I'm beginning to trust my own judgement more as I get older!

**Q** Favourite TV racing presenter/ summariser

**A** I do like Stewart Machin and Richard Hoiles. Both so down to earth and knowledgeable. Great ambassadors for the sport. A pleasure to listen to and learn from.

**Q** What is a typical race day for you

**A** Okay – I stay the night before all race days in hostel. I get up at 5.30am. I run two laps of the track. Pass on my probably unwanted comments to the Clerk and the Track Manager. I then head to Jockeys room have a shower. At 7am, I meet up with Tommy and we go through every room, unlock

doors, turn on TVs, radiators, check the lights and identify any jobs that need doing. Check all the hospitality areas. Back to the office. Coffee. Full staff briefing half an hour before gates. Then the fun begins.....

**Q** What are your hobbies

**A** Too old for rugby and football now sadly. So I run a lot, never less than 3 times a week, and fish for trout and salmon whenever I can and wherever I can. Love nothing more than a riverbank at dusk, with the expectation of a sea trout on the fly.

**Q** Favourite holiday location

**A** Highlands of Scotland or Greece.

**Q** Pet hate(s)

**A** People who talk well, talk loud, dominate conversations but don't talk sense!

**Q** Food heaven and food hell

**A** My brother's scallops (he's a great chef). Probably death by tapioca.

**Q** Best horse you have seen at Warwick

**A** Allmankind is my favourite

horse. And may end up being the best. But Champ won at Warwick. And Buveur D'Air won over fences here as well. Not a lot of people remember that!

**Q** What do you think racecourses could do better to make stable staff's experience better

## **Q&A** *with Stewart Machin*

**Q** How did you become involved within the horse racing industry and has your career always been within this sector

**A** I wanted to be a commentator from a relatively early age. I was 27 when I made my racecourse debut and so, no, I haven't always been involved in horse racing. I did a few jobs along the way – the dream job is rarely the one we are lucky enough to start out with. It takes time.

**Q** What ultimately inspired you to take up working within the industry

**A** I wanted to find out if I could cut it as a commentator. If not, it was back to the day job.

**Q** Commentating on the 2020

**A** A good welcome, decent food and somewhere nice to sit in the warm, eat lunch, watch the races and chat to their colleagues. Not rocket science.

By Jamie Sharp

virtual Grand National must have seemed slightly strange but what was it actually like

**A** Spring 2020 was a strange and disturbing time for everyone. I was lucky enough to have a distraction for a few days prepping for and working on the programme. My part was very small and pretty straightforward – it was the day job but wfh. The real skill lay with the production team who, working remotely, successfully put together a tv programme in next to no time.

**Q** I believe that your prep work for the above race included the compilation of a coloured information chart for all runners, which is not unusual for most races. Ultimately the card was auctioned off with the money going to the NHS. Whose thoughtful idea was this and how much was raised –

\*editor's note, whatever the answer, I'm sure our members would applaud this gesture

**A** It wasn't exactly a Picasso (I didn't take art at school)! Nick Luck was the inspiration. I floated the idea tentatively past him and he did all the hard yards. There were some generous bidders and the Rt Hon. Phillip Davies, MP (a staunch fan and friend of racing) got the final nod at well over £2000 - an extraordinarily charitable act.

**Q** If someone wanted to start a career in the racing industry as a commentator or a presenter where would you advise them to start the process

**A** Be realistic about your basic skill levels. Can you do the basics? Do you have the knowledge and enthusiasm? If yes, practice and practice some more. As with anything worth having – it's going to be tough at times. I did a full time 'real' job for three years whilst using weekends and leave to build up work in racing. Oh, and get used to driving because you're going to be doing a lot of it!

**Q** What initiatives could racing implement to reach out to a wider audience with the aim of increased interest and ultimately increase

foot fall through the gates

**A** Tough question, greater minds than mine are wrestling with this. I guess, strip it back to basics. What are we trying to sell – I gain the impression sometimes racing hasn't worked out what it's chief selling points are or what audience it's trying to attract.

**Q** Even before the current restrictions were imposed the level of prize money within racing was being questioned, how do you think that racecourses can address this situation once the restrictions are lifted. This season's Irish Arkle was worth €125k and yet the Scilly Isles, also a Grade 1 novice chase was only worth £35k

**A** I wouldn't even know where to start here! I do think the prize money debate would sometimes be better discussed out of the media. Do the racing public (as opposed to racing professionals) really care about prize money? I'm a cricket fan but I have no idea what the prize money for, say, winning The Ashes series is and I don't care either. Knowing, won't enhance my enjoyment.

**Q** Which course has the best facilities for your role as a commentator

**A** There are some very good ones. The view across the Knavesmire from the York commentary box is sublime.

**Q** Which commentary would you say was your best and why

**A** Any commentary where I can limit the number of mistakes can be regarded as moderately successful.

**Q** What would you say has been your most embarrassing moment live on TV

**A** Probably too many to mention! I do recall completing my round up of Midlands National day, many years, ago with a somewhat “merry” female racegoer crouching down out of camera shot and threatening to grab me in a delicate area. Thankfully, she didn’t and I got to the end of the piece alive.

**Q** If you had the chance to commentate on another sporting event what would it be

**A** Cricket on radio – you get a lunch and tea interval and often get sent cakes and other edibles from listeners.

**Q** Have you a preference for

commentating or presenting

**A** I’m exceptionally fortunate to have the opportunity to do both. I tend to view myself as a commentator who presents rather than the other way around.

**Q** What are your hobbies

**A** I get paid to indulge my principal one! I like cricket, read a lot of crime fiction (Agatha Christie has taught me extensively about poisons), gardening (in a very amateurish way) and reducing the volume content of bottles of red wine.

**Q** Favourite holiday location

**A** I’m not a big holiday person really – maybe because I don’t really do a proper job! I’ve enjoyed several trips to Italy, though.

**Q** Pet hate(s)

**A** Lots!! Drivers who only plan as far ahead as the car in front when driving on motorways.....

**Q** Food heaven and food hell

**A** Italian, I guess, would be my food style of choice. Milky tea!

By Jamie Sharp

## ***Natter from Sarah***

Hello All,

Apologies for late/short newsletter as some articles did not arrive.

A brilliant Cheltenham was had by all even if it was from in front of the TV sitting on the sofa.

We are still in desperate need of a Treasurer so if anyone is willing to pick this up I would be eternally grateful.

We have an online auction going at present to raise money for our charities so please do head along and place your bids for some wonderful lots.

[https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/auction/detail/auction\\_id/5475](https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/auction/detail/auction_id/5475)

## ***Stable Visits***

Stable visits now have opening and closing dates to apply by and please only apply for one stable visit on each email. Please see calendar on the website for details.

Saturday June 26th Jo Davis Stable Visit - Highworth  
Wednesday July 21st Upton Viva Stud Visit - Edgehill  
Wednesday 13th October Cullentra Stable Visit - Ireland.  
This is subject to any Covid Restrictions on travel and Punchestown Races being open to spectators.  
Saturday 16th October Charlie Longsdon Stable Visit - Chipping Norton.  
ctcrcstablevisits@gmail.com

## **Publication No. 340 - Spring 2021**

President: Edward Gillespie

Vice President:

[www.ctcrc.co.uk](http://www.ctcrc.co.uk)

[info@ctcrc.co.uk](mailto:info@ctcrc.co.uk)

Twitter: [twitter.com/CTCRaceClub](https://twitter.com/CTCRaceClub)

Facebook: Cheltenham and Three Counties Race Club

### **Regular club meetings held at:**

The New Victory Club,

Burlington House,

Lypiatt Road,

Cheltenham,

GL50 2SY.

01242 690351

### **Contact Details:**

Chairman: Sarah Matthews [ctcrcchairman@gmail.com](mailto:ctcrcchairman@gmail.com)

Vice Chair and Secretary: Helen Cameron

Treasurer: Vacant

Membership Secretary: David Bishop [bishopdjk@aol.com](mailto:bishopdjk@aol.com) 01451 821216

Stable visit organiser: Sarah Matthews [ctcrcstablevisits@gmail.com](mailto:ctcrcstablevisits@gmail.com)

07729 847724

Magazine Editor: Sarah Matthews [ctcrcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ctcrcnewsletter@gmail.com)

### **Valued Committee Members:**

Peter Collier, Rosemarie Davies, Mike Lawrence, Antonia Lord.

**Disclaimer:**All opinions expressed are the personal views of the authors. CTCRC and the editor take no responsibility for the accuracy of the contents. All photographs are used under copyright and may not be reproduced without permission.

**Club Events and Magazine are on the website so please keep checking. Please all stay safe in these very testing times.**