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Issue 87 - Thursday 11th January 2018**

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TODAY'S SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

1 - [Neo Investments](#)

Win Bet - 15:45 Catterick - Nendrum @ 7/4

2 - [BetTen](#)

Win Bet - 16:50 MEYDAN - Thunder Snow @ 6/5

3 - [Trend Betting](#)

Each Way Bet - 15:50 Clonmel - Giveabobback @ 33/1

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Dimitrov And Sharapova Can Prevail Down Under - By Ian Hudson

Grigor Dimitrov is a great talent but in the past his tennis career has been more about style than substance and his celebrity girlfriends. However, he can take his game to a new level by winning the Australian Open which begins on Monday in Melbourne. One of his exes is Maria Sharapova and she can also get her career back on track by winning the first Grand Slam tournament of the season but whether she should be playing is another matter.

The Australian Open is the first of the four Grand Slams and it is played outdoors on hardcourts. It's the height of the summer in the Southern Hemisphere so matches will be played in very high temperatures. Over five sets in the men's draw it is as much a test of fitness as skill. Prolonged matches are draining and extremely demanding physically so being in the best shape possible is key. Roger Federer is the favourite but sadly Andy Murray is not playing. He may be forced to retire but he is determined to play the sport he loves again but not in Australia this time.

The three-time major winner has not played competitively since limping out of the Wimbledon quarter-finals last summer. He has never won the Australian Open despite playing in five finals. Murray lost to Federer in 2010 and has been beaten four times in the final by Novak Djokovic. The Serb is another player trying to return from an extended break but unlike Murray he has managed to regain his fitness in time for a tournament he has won six times.

Federer has won one less title in Melbourne but he is the defending champion. He beat Rafael Nadal in five sets a year ago which meant the Spanish player could not add to his one Aussie Open from 2009. Dimitrov has never won a Grand Slam title but reached the last four in the 2017 Australian Open. He has a Win-Loss record of 70% which shows he can handle the courts and extreme temperatures. However, in 29 Grand Slams he has never reached a final and only made the last eight three times.

After several years of not quite delivering at the very highest level Dimitrov won the ATP World Tour Finals indoors on hardcourts in London at the end of last season. The event fell into his lap but he won all five matches so beat all-comers. Dimitrov's confidence must be high and he can take that form into this Grand Slam so he is the selection to win the 2018 Australian Open.

Sharapova returned to the sport last year after a ban for an illegal substance misdemeanour. She served her suspension so is now perfectly entitled to earn a living from tennis again. Sharapova has played 65 matches in the Australian Open and only lost 12. In the absence of Serena Williams she has won most Grand Slams of the entry and she can win her sixth major title in Australia this year. It's doubtful she will be celebrating with Dimitrov because they parted in 2015.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

Grand Nationals are like London buses. You wait ages for one then two come along at the same time. Fans of long distance handicap chases were originally deprived of the Welsh Grand National but it was finally run last Saturday after originally been abandoned on the day after Boxing Day. Now it's the turn of Catterick and their version which is a 30 furlongs slog called the North Yorkshire Grand National. It seems every self-respecting region of Britain now has its own National all named after the original run at Aintree in the spring. Its debatable any of today's runners is good enough to run in the National that matters most but SUN CLOUD won the Catterick marathon in 2014 and can be backed at [10/3 with William Hill](#) to win it again but I don't think any of the leading contenders for the big one will be worried.

After the dust has settled on the first legs in the semi-finals of the EFL (League) Cup the odds for Bristol City still stick out like a sore thumb. They are in the last four with Premier League superpowers but Manchester City, Chelsea and Arsenal have bigger fish to fry. If those top tier clubs try their hardest they beat Bristol City 95 times out of a hundred but if their desire and motivation dips BRISTOL CITY would have a one in 5 chance of causing an upset. That has to happen in the second match at home to City and the final against one of the London clubs but 50/1 with Betfred to win the trophy still seems big. They look like Championship promotion candidates and have the talent, desire and organisation to defy the odds and win the EFL Cup.

Rugby union was tried in the United States but it went down like a damp squib. However, US sports are a huge hit when matches are played in the UK. Where the NFL ventured first the NBA follows suit because Philadelphia are playing Boston at top level basketball at London's O2 Arena tonight. Boston have won both meetings this season but this is a neutral fixture which could go either way. Players will be out of their comfort zone on an unfamiliar court. There is no logic or specialist knowledge of the sport behind this bet but going UNDER 208 POINTS at [10/11 with Paddy Power](#) is the bet because they miss more than usual due to the venue.

Over 2.5 Goals And Finding An Edge - By Eddie Lloyd

As promised a few weeks ago, I have put together a simple way of finding some value in the Over 2.5 goals market for those football bettors out there. We're basically going to look at the last 10 seasons of each team in the Premiership and use a simple calculation to see if we can find some value in the current market for this Saturday's games.

First up then, head over to the link below and see what games we have for the Premiership, this Saturday -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/scores-fixtures/2018-01-13>

We can see that there are 7 fixtures and we're going to quickly analyse these games using the head to head feature over at Soccerbase -

http://www.soccerbase.com/teams/head_to_head.sd

The first game is Chelsea v Leicester and we need to enter this into the team boxes. This will show a page with all of the games the two teams have ever played.

Head to head			
Chelsea vs. Leicester			
			
Chelsea v Leicester			
	CHELSEA WINS	DRAWS	LEICESTER WINS
League	46	27	24
League Cup	4	1	1
FA Cup	5	2	0
Total	55	30	25
2017/2018			
PREMIER LEAGUE	Sa 09Sep 2017	 Leicester 1 - 2 Chelsea	
2016/2017			
PREMIER LEAGUE	Sa 14Jan 2017	 Leicester 0 - 3 Chelsea	
PREMIER LEAGUE	Sa 15Oct 2016	 Chelsea 3 - 0 Leicester	
EFL CUP	Tu 20Sep 2016	 Leicester 2 - 4 Chelsea	
2015/2016			
PREMIER LEAGUE	Su 15May 2016	 Chelsea 1 - 1 Leicester	
PREMIER LEAGUE	Mo 14Dec 2015	 Leicester 2 - 1 Chelsea	
2014/2015			
PREMIER LEAGUE	We 29Apr 2015	 Leicester 1 - 3 Chelsea	
PREMIER LEAGUE	Sa 23Aug 2014	 Chelsea 2 - 0 Leicester	

By scrolling down, we need to count how many games they've played over the last 10 years. I make it 10 games. From this, we then need to count how many games have resulted in 3 or more goals.

We enter this into the calculator, below -

GAMES	OVER	PERCENTAGE	ODDS	
10	8	80	1.25	
HOME	AWAY	PRICE	BET TYPE	BET?
Chelsea	Leicester City	1.25	OVER	1.57
Crystal Palace	Burnley	3	OVER	NO
Newcastle United	Swansea City	1.86	OVER	2.25
Watford	Southampton	1.57	OVER	2
Tottenham Hotspur	Everton	2.44	OVER	NO

You'll see the odds are displaying as 1.25 in the top line, on the right-hand side. Now, if history is to repeat itself then these two teams should score 3 or more goals in 80% of their games.

We head over to the market and see what the bookies are offering -

+ Over 2.5	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.53	1.54	1.53	1.57	1.53	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.55	1.57	1.55	1.53	1.55	1.57	1.55	1.57	1.53	1.57	1.57	1.56
+ Under 2.5	2.35	2.25	2.37	2.38	2.48	2.5	2.38	2.5	2.45	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.45	2.4	2.3	2.38	2.35	2.39	2.35	2.45	2.4	2.5	2.38	2.36

We can see that we're able to get best priced 1.57 for over 2.5 goals. I make this a bet and we can work through the rest of the games. If two teams don't have 10 years worth of data, then we leave them out of our analysis and move onto the next game. If a game doesn't offer value, then we leave them alone.

In the above example of our excel sheet, we can see that Crystal Palace v Burnley aren't a bet because the odds available are less than our 3 (or 2/1).

This is what I will be betting on, this weekend -

All over 2.5 Goals to be scored in 90 minutes -

Chelsea v Leicester

Newcastle v Swansea City

Watford v Southampton

1 point Trixie (3 doubles and a treble) = total outlay = 4 points

If all games end in over 2.5 goals, then the return is 18.24 points, or just over 14 points profit.

Let's hope for a good Saturday.

[OVER 2.5 GOALS CALCULATOR](#)

There are three qualifiers for the Turbo Winner System -

13:35 Clonmel - Draconien

15:15 Clonmel - Head Turner

20:00 Chelmsford - Marshall Aid