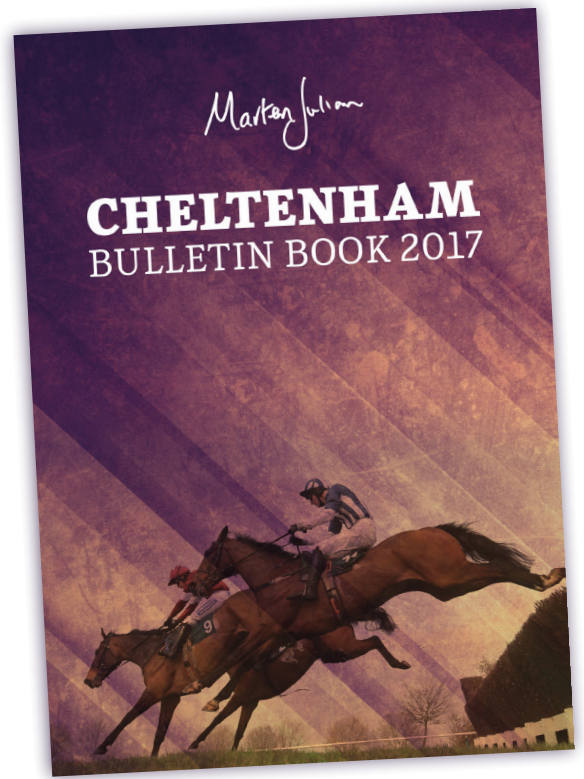


Marken Julian

CHELTENHAM BULLETIN BOOK 2017

Extracts



Page 32:

Willoughby Court is one of the better outsiders. Ben Pauling's son of Court Cave did well to win a couple of bumpers last season given his scope and stamina, running notably well when fifth to Bacardys in the bumper at Aintree in April. This season's hurdling campaign started at Market Rasen in November, where he finished second, before he made all to win twice over 2m 5f at Warwick.

A prominent ride seems to be the key with him, at least over this trip. Connections have the option of stepping up to three miles for the Albert Bartlett and that may suit him better. A quirky horse to train – he likes to work on his own – there is no denying his talent or tenacity. At around 14/1 I would respect his chance.

Page 43:

Double Cheltenham Festival Champion **Cause Of Causes** and former BetBright Chase winner **Rocky Creek** were all at sea on their first outings over the cross country fences. They should build on that experience and could prove dangerous if they can carry their class through to this discipline.

Cause Of Causes especially commands respect, especially if the ground is good. He is a dual-Festival winner and stays forever. Gordon Elliott says he has been schooling well over the cross-country fences at home and the trainer rates him his best chance of a second-day winner.

Page 64:

I would not discourage anyone from stepping in seriously on **Defi Du Seuil**, who could prove a class apart from his rivals. His credentials really are quite hard to fault. However in the hope the ground has a little ease in it I suggest an each-way interest in Mega Fortune. I like the way he stays on at the end of his races and his profile has an upward trajectory. Of the others watch out for Divin Bere if he runs here and, obviously, the progressive Master Blueeyes.

Page 68:

Penhill is very versatile, having won five times on the Flat with Luca Cumani and now five of his seven starts over hurdles for Willie Mullins. He won a Grade 2 over this distance in December and this is his only entry at the meeting.

Page 75:

All eyes were on **Pacha Du Polder** last year as dual Olympic gold medallist Victoria Pendleton stepped into the plate. He finished with a rattle up the hill having been held up with plenty of restraint in the early stages. He's made a winning return to action at Bangor in February when readily beating Grand Vision by a shade over three lengths. At ten years of age he is still relatively young for a hunter chaser and there's hope he can go a few places better than last year under a more confident ride.

Page 76 (Conclusion of the race that the above extract is from):

This is On The Fringe's race to lose. He arguably comes here in better form than previous years and it's hard to oppose the 12-year-old. However, this could turn into a tactically run affair and if Will Biddick aboard Ask The Weatherman were to go off in front, he could be hard to catch. **Pacha Du Polder** could spring the surprise. Keep an eye on Aupcharlie if the ground was heavy (Jodie Standing).