

GOLD CUP DAY AT CHELTENHAM

PUNDITS' PICKS OF THE DAY



RUBY WALSH



MICK FITZGERALD



MATT CHAPMAN



FRANK HICKEY



PADDY POWER

1:30PM

TRIUMPH HURDLE

- RW** The one I like is the strong-staying **A Wave of The Sea** each-way.
- MF** I've been impressed by **Goshen** this season.
- MC** I will take on Solo with the Gary Moore-trained **Goshen**.
- FH** I don't fancy Solo but am all over **Aspire Tower** to make amends for his fall at Leopardstown.
- PP** **Aspire Tower** looks the bet of the meeting to me despite his fall last time.

2:10PM

COUNTY HANDICAP HURDLE

- RW** Massively competitive but the lightly-race **Embittered** is under the radar.
- MF** **Ciele de Neige** was unlucky at Newbury in the Betfair Hurdle and can get compensation.
- MC** Former winner **Mohaayed** will be bang in the mix again.
- FH** **You Raised Me Up** ran a cracker last time and is very unexposed. He could be value at a big price.
- PP** Willie Mullins has five runners and **Ciel de Neige** may be the best of them.

2:50PM

NOVICES HURDLE

- RW** **Ramses de Teillee** is the type of tough, strong, horse you need to win this.
- MF** **Latest Exhibition** won impressively at the Dublin Racing Festival and can follow up.
- MC** **Thyme Hill** for the master Philip Hobbs.
- FH** **Janidil** has plenty of experience and could improve again for the step up in trip.
- PP** **Cobblers Way** stayed on well at Leopardstown last time and the trip will suit.

3:30PM

CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP

- RW** The Festival feature. The reigning champ **Al Boum Photo** will regain his crown.
- MF** **Al Boum Photo** looks primed to repeat his Gold Cup win of last year.
- MC** **Delta Work** and Paul Nicholls' **Clan des Obeaux** are my two against the field.
- FH** Al Boum Photo was an impressive winner last year and is a fair price to repeat his win. Clan Des Obeaux, Delta Work and Lostintranslation all have credentials but **Al Boum Photo** is the one to beat.
- PP** **Lostintranslation** has that bit of class and can win the Gold Cup.

4:10PM

FOXHUNTER CHASE

- RW** I really like **Billaway**. Patrick Mullins could cap a great week with him.
- MF** **Shantou Flyer** has a very good each-way chance.
- MC** **Hazel Hill** won it well last year and I see no reason why he won't go in again.
- FH** **Staker Wallace** is very interesting, despite looking to be JP McManus's second string.
- PP** **Billaway** is improving at just the right time in the Foxhunters Chase.

4:50PM

GRAND ANNUAL CHASE

- RW** **Greaneteen** looks well handicapped for UK trainer Paul Nicholls.
- MF** **Paloma Blue** looks to have been laid out for this. **Lisp** has a chance too.
- MC** **Lisp** is my each-way hope for trainer Alan King.
- FH** **Eamon An Cnoic** has run well here previously and is on a fair mark now.
- PP** **Paloma Blue** has been getting there all season and can finally get his head in front.

5:30PM

JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE

- RW** Five O'Clock beat **Front View** at Thurles last time but the Joseph O'Brien-trained runner can reverse the form in the last race of the Festival.
- MF** **The Bosses Oscar** has a live chance while Flash of Steel has a good each-way chance.
- MC** **Column of Fire** each-way for Gordon Elliott. He will love a big field to attack late and stays strong.
- FH** **Front View** has a big chance in the Festival finale.
- PP** Rule no.1 of Cheltenham, always back JP Mc Manus in the very very last race. I'm going for **Front View**.



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