



Lion Hunter

While talking about the pedigrees of sons of Danehill can get a little repetitive, I am finding it interesting to assess the way this particular stallion is working and compare it to compatibility notes I wrote for one of his owners a couple of years ago.

With the exploits of Lovely Jubly taking several of the headlines in juvenile racing this season, her sire Lion Hunter has basked in her reflected glory. This is a particularly enviable position when one takes into consideration the fact that she is spearheading his first crop to race.

The winner of the Gold Coast Magic Millions and subsequently the Group 3 Champagne Stakes at Doomben, Lovely Jubly is out of Jaboulet, by Vice Regal (NZ). **VICE REGAL** is not only the damsire of Lovely Jubly, but also appears as the second damsire of Lion Hunter's stakes placed son, Bullala. The affinity may come from Vice Regal meeting with Lion Hunter's dam Pure of Heart, who, to start with, creates a duplication of War Relic. War Relic is inbred 2 x 2 to the full brothers Fair Play and Friar Rock. To reinforce this pattern, Pure of Heart adds a further seven lines to Fair Play, with Vice Regal adding another one.

In the case of Lovely Jubly, the added boost may come from the fact that her second damsire is In The Purple, who is out of a mare by Coaraze. He traces directly to Fair Play and Fairy Gold's half sister, St. Lucre.

Bullala is from a mare by Cossack Warrior, a son of Bletchingly. Many of Lion Hunter's sire Danehill's Australian Group One performers have **STAR KINGDOM** through their dams. Most successful carriers of Star Kingdom for Danehill have been the broodmare

sires **LUSKIN STAR** (Shovhog, Merlene and Dashing Eagle) and **MARSCAY** (Catbird, as well as the two year old stakes winners Mannington and Springsteen, the latter from a mare by Marscay's sire Biscay). **BLETCHINGLY**, a son of Biscay, appears in the pedigrees of Danehill's Group One winners Redoute's Choice, Special Dane and West Point (Group Two).

Bletchingly has the added attraction of tracing to **TWINE THE PLAIDEN**, who is also the ancestress of Danzig, sire of Danehill.

Bullala's damsire Cossack Warrior carries Aureole and Alcide, who are members of the **ALOPE** family. Pure of Heart's damsire Doutelle is also a member of this line. Atan, Round Table, Known Fact, Foxlaw, Above Suspicion, Parthia and Knight Commander are other members to seek to reinforce this family in matings with Lion Hunter.

VAIN as a damsire or second damsire is valuable in a mating with Lion Hunter. His pedigree carries many common elements with that of Lion Hunter's second dam, Audrey Joan. These include Court Martial, Nasrullah, Solario, Son-in-Law and Plucky Liege. Vain appears as second damsire of Roar Talent, a city winning son of Lion Hunter.

A son of Lion Hunter that has caught my attention pedigree-wise is Hubcapper. Having had only one start at the time of writing, Hubcapper ran second by half a length (after hanging out in running) to Thunder On over 1000 metres at a Randwick midweek meeting. He is out of a mare by **PREGO**, a half brother to Lion Hunter's dam, Pure of Heart. This mating creates inbreeding to their dam Audrey Joan 3f x 3m. This dynamic pattern is backed up by the presence of Bletchingly as his second damsire.

Daughters and granddaughters of **SIR TRISTRAM** should also work well with Lion Hunter. Group One winners Nothin' Leica Dane, Danske and Dane Ripper are by Danehill out of mares with Sir Tristram prominent. The VRC Victoria Derby (Group 1) winner Blackfriars is out of a mare by Sir Tristram's son, Grosvenor, while the Group 3 VRC Blue Diamond Prelude winner Mannington has Sir Tristram as her granddam's sire. Sir Tristram mares would be particularly compatible with Lion Hunter as he carries Doutelle, who is a close relative of Sir Tristram's damsire, Round Table.

Broodmares carrying Habitat, such as those by **GRAND LODGE, BARATHEA, ARCH SCULPTOR, ASHABIT, BASSENTHWAITE, CROSSWAYS, DEFECTING DANCER, EXPORT PRICE, GAY HABIT, HABITUATE, IMPERIAL SEAL, LORD SEYMOUR** and **RED TONY**, will work well with Godswalk's sire, Dancer's Image. Another relation which should work well in the pedigrees of mares is Northfields, including those by broodmare sires such as **OPEN DAY**.

The **VAGUELY NOBLE** line is working well with Danehill (including producing Group winner Danarani in Australia). Mares by New Zealand based sire **NOBLE BIJOU**, a son of Vaguely Noble, therefore look appealing for Lion Hunter. Vaguely Noble is from the same family (**LA TROIENNE**) as Buckpasser in Lion Hunter. This influential line can be strengthened by the addition of such members as Private Account, Ardan, Bimelech, Polish Navy, Bupers, Francis S., Hook Money, Cornish Prince, Poker, Mr. Busher, The Axe II, Pardal and Jet Action in mares.

Broodmares carrying His Majesty's brother **GRAUSTARK** are also proving interesting. In Australia, Danehill over mares carrying Graustark have produced Group Two winner Rose o'War and Group 3 winning two year old, King of Danes. **WHISKEY ROAD** and **OUR POETIC PRINCE** are also from this line. The New Zealand-based Group Two winning son of Danehill, Danroad, has Whiskey Road in his dam's pedigree.