

CHELTENHAM RACECOURSE MEDIA RELEASE

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BYRNE GROUP PLC ANNOUNCED AS LATEST FESTIVAL SPONSOR

Cheltenham Racecourse today announced that Byrne Group PLC has become the latest sponsor at The Festival.

The company, one of the UK's fastest growing concerns in the project management and construction services sector, is backing the Byrne Group Plate, the £80,000 Grade Three handicap chase run over two miles and five furlongs, which is the fifth race on Ladies Day, Thursday, March 18, and shown live on Channel 4 television. The race was previously known as the Festival Plate.

Patsy Byrne, Chief Executive of Byrne Group PLC, said: "Racing has been a passion of mine for as long as I can remember and I have enjoyed some great days on the racecourse as an owner and a sponsor.

"We had previously supported a race on Festival Trials Day, but to become a sponsor at The Festival is a real thrill and something of which everyone at the company is very proud."

Peter McNeile, Cheltenham's Director of Sponsorship, added: "Patsy Byrne is one of life's enthusiasts and his enjoyment of racing is infectious.

"We're delighted that Byrne Group PLC is continuing its sponsorship at Cheltenham to back the Byrne Group Plate and I'm sure that one of the most competitive races of the week will continue to flourish under the Byrne Group banner."

The Festival 2010 takes place from Tuesday to Friday, March 16 to 19.

**Further information from Andy Clifton, Cheltenham's Communications
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