



Cheltenham honours Best Mate

A life-size bronze statue of three-time Gold Cup champion *Best Mate* will be unveiled on the opening day of the Cheltenham Festival. The popular horse collapsed and died last November while beginning his preparation for this year's race

Winners of three or more Gold Cups

Best Mate 2002-04

Arkle 1964-66

Cottage Rake
1948-50

Golden Miller
1932-36

Feature races day by day

Smurfit Champion Hurdle

(2 miles $1\frac{1}{2}$ furlong) Tues, Mar 14

Queen Mother Champion Chase

(2 miles) Weds, Mar 15

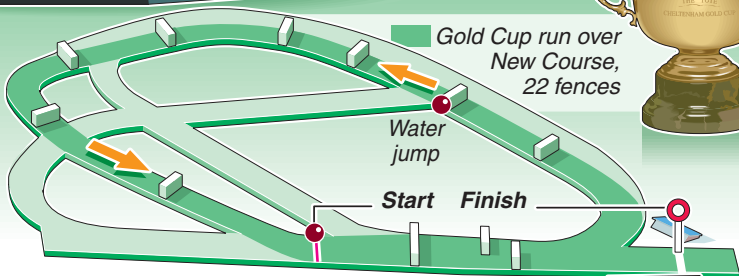
Ladbroke World Hurdle

(3 miles) Thur, Mar 16

Totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup

(3 miles $2\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs) Fri, Mar 17

Sculpture by Philip Blacker



Cheltenham Festival statistics

- ▶ Prize money: £2.8 million – Gold Cup £400,000
- ▶ On course betting turnover: £40 million, average of over £2 million per race

