

INDEX TO THE SECOND 2010 CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL MEDIA INFORMATION PACK

This media information pack was compiled by Racenews on Thursday, January 14, and is embargoed until noon that day. The pack contains the entries and related information for the 2010 Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase (Wednesday, March 17) and the Ryanair Chase (Thursday, March 18).

Page 1, the index, will be updated with each pack to ensure easy reference to the information received in the build-up to the 2010 Festival at Cheltenham from Tuesday, March 16, to Friday, March 19, which has prize money of over £3.4 million. If you have any queries about the information in the pack or its delivery, please ring Racenews on 020-7704-0326 or email racenews@racenewsonline.com. Each pack is also available on Cheltenham's Internet site, www.cheltenham.co.uk

Page	
1	Index to second 2010 Cheltenham Festival Media Information Pack
2	totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup introduction and news
3	2010 Festival Race Programme
4	Entry statistics for the totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup/Irish-trained Winners
5	Going at past Festivals
6	Records of trainers Nicky Henderson and Paul Nicholls at The Festival
7	2010 totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup entries
8	2010 totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup entries breakdown by trainer with past successes
9	2010 totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup analysis
10	totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup facts
11	totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup detailed past results
12	totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup Roll Of Honour 1
13	totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup Roll of Honour 2 and 2009 result in detail
14	Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase & Ryanair Chase introduction and news
15	Entry statistics for the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase & Ryanair Chase
16	2010 Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase entries & entries breakdown by trainer with past successes
17	2010 Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase analysis
18	Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase facts
19	Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase detailed past results
20	Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase Roll of Honour
21	Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase 2009 result in detail
22	2010 Ryanair Chase entries
23	2010 Ryanair Chase entries breakdown by trainer with past successes
24	2010 Ryanair Chase analysis
25	Ryanair Chase facts, roll of honour & detailed past results
26	Ryanair Chase 2009 result in detail



Meeting - The Festival, Dates - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, March 16 - 19
First race - 1.30pm each day
Tickets available from www.cheltenham.co.uk or by calling 08445 793 003

Embargoed until noon, Thursday, January 14, 2010

MASTER MINDED HEADS 24 ENTRIES FOR SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE

– 43 IN RYANAIR CHASE

KING CONSIDERING VOY POR & CRICK OPTIONS

Master Minded is among 24 entries for the Grade One Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase and aiming to become only the second horse to win the £320,000 two-mile championship three times, following Badsworth Boy in the 1980s. The seven-year-old is one of five entries for champion Jump trainer Paul Nicholls along with **Free World**, **I'msingintheblues**, **Takeroc** and **Twist Magic**.

A strong Irish entry of seven includes the 2009 Irish Independent Arkle Trophy victor **Forpadydepasterer** as well as **Big Zeb**, who was travelling well when falling four out last year, the 2006 victor **Newmill** and **Tranquil Sea**, already a winner at Cheltenham this season following his victory in the Paddy Power Gold Cup on November 14. The smart novice chaser **Sizing Europe** has also been given an entry.

Well Chief, the 2004 Irish Independent Arkle Trophy victor and twice runner-up in the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase, has been entered by David Pipe.

Voy Por Ustedes is no stranger to Festival glory having captured both the 2006 Irish Independent Arkle Trophy and the 2007 Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase. Alan King's charge has been entered once more for the latter contest and is also one of 43 entries for the Grade One Ryanair Chase, in which he finished second last year as the odds-on favourite.

The Sir Robert Ogden-owned nine-year-old was sixth on his latest start in the Grade One Lexus Chase over three miles at Leopardstown on December 29. King is yet to decide whether his charge will contest the two-mile Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase or the Ryanair Chase, staged over an extra five furlongs and worth a record £250,000 in 2010.

The Barbury Castle trainer revealed today: "Voy Por Ustedes came back A-one from his run in Ireland and in all likelihood will go to the Game Spirit Chase (two miles & a furlong) at Newbury next month. We will have a look at our options based on what he does there.

"We have given him entries in both the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase and the Ryanair Chase, so at this stage he could go for either race."

King has also entered **Oh Crick** in the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase. The seven-year-old triumphed in the Grade Three Johnny Henderson Grand Annual Chase at The Festival in March and added a further big-race success in the Grade Three Red Rum Handicap Chase at Aintree the following month.

King commented: "Oh Crick had a fantastic time last spring and we have given him an entry in the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase. He may run in one of those races at Kempton this weekend and then go to Ascot for the Victor Chandler Chase. We will take a view after that. I would be surprised if he is a Queen Mother horse but the stage of the season we are at, we just thought he was due an entry."

Also among the 43 entries for the Ryanair Chase are the Queen's **Barbers Shop**, the 2008 RSA Chase victor **Albertas Run** and **Poquelin**, successful over the course and distance in the Boylepsports.com Gold Cup last month.

For further information, please contact Cheltenham Racecourse's Communications Manager Andy Clifton on 07876 330 090

ENTRY STATISTICS

SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE TOTAL ENTRIES

2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
24	29	25	30	29	19	25	23	32	25
2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
22	28	19	17	21	15	16	24	20	15

SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE IRISH-TRAINED ENTRIES

2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
7	5	5	12	11	5	8	6	5	5
2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
3	5	2	4	3	0	1	4	2	2

RYANAIR CHASE NUMBER OF ENTRIES

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	
RYANAIR CHASE	43	48	57	46	54	39	<i>First run in 2005</i>

RYANAIR CHASE IRISH-TRAINED ENTRIES

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	
RYANAIR CHASE	18	13	18	15	16	10	<i>First run in 2005</i>

THE SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE

Class 1, Grade 1, 2m, £320,000 Total Prize Fund. 3.20pm, Cheltenham, Wednesday, March 17, 2010. For 5yo+ which are allotted a rating of 130 or more by the BHA Head of Handicapping following a review of the horses entered and after taking account of races run up to and including March 10 - horses which are not qualified for a rating in GB, IRE or FR may also be entered & such horses may be eligible providing the Handicapper is satisfied that the horse's racecourse performances up to and including March 10 would merit a minimum rating of 130 (the decision of the BHA Head of Handicapping shall be final). Weights: 11st 10lb. Allowances: mares 7lb. Entries closed January 12, entries revealed January 14 (**24 entries**), scratchings deadline February 16, £16,000 supplementary entry stage & six-day confirmation stage March 11. Final 48-hour declaration stage, 10am, March 15. Form figures supplied by Weatherbys and are correct up to and including the racing of Tuesday, January 12.

Form	Horse	Age	Owner	Trainer
0112-1U	BARKER (IRE)	9	Eamonn Duignan	Willie Mullins IRE
FF1-214	BIG ZEB (IRE)	9	Patrick Joseph Redmond	Colm Murphy IRE
04-F231	CORNAS (NZ)	8	The Gascoigne Brookes Partnership	III Nick Williams
P11F1-2	FIEPES SHUFFLE (GER)	10	Stall Jenny	Mario Hofer GER
111-21F	FIX THE RIB (IRE)	7	A Dean	Gary Moore
221-222	FORPADYDEPLASTERER (IRE)	8	Goat Racing Syndicate	Tom Cooper IRE
2332-22	FREE WORLD (FR)	6	Clive Smith	Paul Nicholls
100-411	GOLDEN SILVER (FR)	8	Violet O'Leary	Willie Mullins IRE
1102-63	I'MSINGINGTHEBLUES (IRE)	8	John Hales	Paul Nicholls
121212-	KALAHARI KING (FR)	9	Joanna Morgan	Ferdy Murphy
64U5-34	LORD HENRY (IRE)	11	Karola Vann	Philip Hobbs
63-4255	MAHOGANY BLAZE (FR)	8	Lorna Berryman	Nigel Twiston-Davies
2/111-13	MASTER MINDED (FR)	7	Clive Smith	Paul Nicholls
46-4224	NEWMILL (IRE)	12	Mary Hayes	John Murphy IRE
3F211-5	OH CRICK (FR)	7	David Sewell	Alan King
12230-1	PETIT ROBIN (FR)	7	Mr & Mrs John Poynton	Nicky Henderson
5104-45	SANTA'S SON (IRE)	10	Andrea & Graham Wylie	Howard Johnson
5-41111	SIZING EUROPE (IRE)	8	Ann & Alan Potts Partnership	Henry de Bromhead IRE
2350P0-	TAKEROC (FR)	7	Sandra Giles	Paul Nicholls
51-0020	TARTAK (FR)	7	Power Panels Electrical Systems Ltd	Tom George
56-2112	TRANQUIL SEA (IRE)	8	Nelius Hayes/Dermot Cox	Edward O'Grady IRE
F6F1-31	TWIST MAGIC (FR)	8	Barry Fulton Tony Hayward Michael	Lynch Paul Nicholls
3121-36	VOY POR USTEDES (FR)	9	Sir Robert Ogden	Alan King
F3//2-132	WELL CHIEF (GER)	11	David Johnson	David Pipe

24 Entries

7 Irish-trained

1 German-trained

BREAKDOWN OF ENTRIES BY TRAINER WITH PAST SUCCESSES IN THE SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE

5 entries

Paul Nicholls (1999 Call Equiname, 2004 Azertyuiop, 2008 & 2009 Master Minded)

2 entries

Willie Mullins IRE

Alan King (2007 Voy Por Ustedes)

1 entry

Tom Cooper IRE

Henry de Bromhead IRE

Tom George

Nicky Henderson (1992 Remittance Man)

Philip Hobbs (2002 Flagship Uberalles)

Mario Hofer GER

Howard Johnson

Gary Moore

Colm Murphy IRE

Ferdy Murphy

John Murphy IRE (2006 Newmill)

Edward O'Grady IRE

David Pipe

Nigel Twiston-Davies

Nick Williams

Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase – Analysis

Master Minded is already firmly ensconced in the exclusive ranks of history's outstanding two-mile chasers but the Clive Smith-owned seven-year-old will attempt to carve his name among the all-time greats, should he land a third consecutive victory in the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham on Wednesday, March 17.

Badsworth Boy, successful in 1983, 1984 and 1985, is the only horse to have completed a hat-trick of wins in the Grade One race.

The Paul Nicholls-trained Master Minded, one of 24 entries for the two-mile steeplechase championship, slammed the Alan King-trained 2007 champion **Voy Por Ustedes** by 19 lengths for a breathtaking first victory in the race two years ago. He proved seven lengths too good for **Well Chief** in the 2009 renewal.

Well Chief, one of the few remaining links to the fantastic era of Moscow Flyer (successful in 2003 & 2005), Azertyuiop (2004), Flagship Uberalles (2002) et al, finished runner-up for the second time in the Seasons Holidays Champion Chase last season, having chased home Moscow Flyer in 2005. However, David Pipe's charge overturned the champion at Prestbury Park in November when winning the inaugural Connaught Chase over the course and distance, with Master Minded two places behind.

Well Chief was subsequently third to the Nicholls-trained **Twist Magic** in the Grade One Keith Prowse Hospitality Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown on December 5, and had to settle for second behind the Nicky Henderson-trained **Petit Robin** in the Grade Two williamhill.com Desert Orchid Chase at Kempton later that month.

A powerful Irish hand includes the Colm Murphy-trained **Big Zeb**, who fell four out in last year's contest and then failed by only a head to overhaul Master Minded in the Grade One Kerrygold Champion Chase at Punchestown in April. The nine-year-old was below par when fourth to Twist Magic in the Tingle Creek last time.

Sizing Europe is an exciting entry. Henry de Bromhead's talented novice chaser won the Grade One AIG Europe Champion Hurdle last season and is unbeaten in four starts over fences this term.

In November, **Tranquil Sea** became the first Irish-trained winner of the Grade Three Paddy Power Gold Cup for 19 years. Edward O'Grady's charge could line up alongside the 2009 Grade One Irish Independent Arkle Challenge Trophy victor **Forpadydeplasterer**, trained by Tom Cooper.

Barker defeated Forpadydeplasterer to win the Grade One Swordlestown Cup Novice Chase at Punchestown in April. His trainer, Willie Mullins, has also entered **Golden Silver** who saw off Tranquil Sea to win the Grade One Paddy Power Dial-A-Bet Chase at Leopardstown in December.

Newmill won the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase in 2006 for trainer John Murphy and the 12-year-old could make his fifth appearance in the race.

The German-trained entry for this year's race is the Mario Hofer-trained **Fiepes Shuffle**. The 10-year-old fell at the first in the 2008 renewal but showed his class later that year when defeating Petit Robin to win the Grade Two Desert Orchid Chase.

Returning to the British-based contingent, the Ferdy Murphy-trained **Kalahari King** built upon his Arkle second last season when winning the Grade One John Smith's Maghull Novices' Chase at Aintree the following month.

Oh Crick, one of two King-trained entries, won the Grade Three Johnny Henderson Grand Annual Challenge Cup at The Festival last term, while the Nicholls-trained quintet of entries is completed by **Takeroc**, **I'msingingtheblues** and **Free World**, who sports the Master Minded colours of Clive Smith. Nicholls has won the race four times, with Call Equiname (1999), Azertyuiop and Master Minded.

The Nigel Twiston-Davies-trained **Mahogany Blaze** split Well Chief and Master Minded in the Connaught Chase. The remaining entries are **Cornas**, **Fix The Rib**, **Lord Henry**, **Santa's Son** and the Grade Two winner, **Tartak**.

SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE FACTS

- 1.** The National Hunt Two-Mile Champion Chase was first run in 1959 and the Queen Mother's name was added to the race title in 1980, the year of her 80th birthday. The race was first sponsored in 2007 and Seasons holidays has been the backer since then.
- 2.** The race's roll of honour includes plenty of multiple winners. Badsworth Boy (1983-85) is the only three-time winner. The double winners are Fortria (1960 and 1961), Drinny's Double (1967 and 1968), Royal Relief (1972 and 1974), Skymas (1976 and 1977), Hilly Way (1978 and 1979), Pearlyman (1987 and 1988), Barnbrook Again (1989 and 1990), Viking Flagship (1994 and 1995), Moscow Flyer (2003 and 2005) and Master Minded (2008 and 2009).
- 3.** Irish-trained runners have a good record in the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase, winning 19 of the 50 runnings. Newmill, trained by John Murphy and ridden by Andrew McNamara, was the most recent Irish-trained scorer in 2006.
- 4.** Tom Dreaper has the best record of any trainer in the race, winning six runnings with Fortria (1960 and 1961), Ben Stack (1964), Flyingbolt (1966), Muir (1969), and Straight Fort (1970). Of current trainers, Paul Nicholls (1999 Call Equiname, 2004 Azertyuiop and the 2008 & 2009 winner Master Minded) has the best record.
- 5.** Flyingbolt was the shortest-priced winner when succeeding at 1/5 in 1966, while Another Dolly, who was awarded the 1980 race at odds of 33/1, provided the biggest upset.
- 6.** Pat Taaffe is the most successful rider with five wins, while Ruby Walsh (Azertyuiop 2003 and Master Minded 2008 and 2009) and Barry Geraghty (Moscow Flyer 2003 and 2005) are the only current jockeys to have landed more than one Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase.
- 7.** The oldest horse to have triumphed was the 12-year-old Skymas in 1977, while the youngest victor was Master Minded, who was just five when winning for the first time in 2008.
- 8.** A small but select field usually lines up for the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase. The largest field was in 1999 when 13 runners went to post, one while only five runners lined up in 1985, 1972, 1968, 1964, 1963 and 1961.
- 9.** The most successful owners are George Ansley, who enjoyed three wins with Fortria (1960 and 1961) and Straight Fort (1970), and Doug Armitage who had three victories with Badsworth Boy (1983, 1984 and 1985).
- 10.** Michael Dickinson trained the winner for three consecutive years with Rathgorman (1982) and Badsworth Boy (1983 & 1984). His mother Monica had taken charge of the training operation for Badsworth Boy's final success in 1985.
- 11.** In 1986, the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase winner Buck House subsequently met with that year's Cheltenham Gold Cup heroine Dawn Run in a special match race at Punchestown in April, 1986. It was Dawn Run who prevailed by two and a half lengths.
- 12.** The Irish Independent Arkle Chase is a good guide for future success in the Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase. Voy Por Ustedes (2007), Azertyuiop (2004), Moscow Flyer (2003 and 2005), Flagship Uberalles (2002), Klairon Davis (1996) and Remittance Man (1992) all won the novices' event before their Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase victory.

PREVIOUS RESULTS - SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE

2009-WINNER-MASTER MINDED 6-11-10 Owner-Clive Smith; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-4/11 Fav

2ND-Well Chief 10-11-10 Owner-David Johnson; Trainer-David Pipe; Jockey-Timmy Murphy; SP-12/1

3RD-Petit Robin 6-11-10 Owner-Mr & Mrs John Poynton; Trainer-Nicky Henderson; Jockey-Barry Geraghty; SP-12/1
12 ran, Time-3m 59.50s, Dist-7, 2

2008-WINNER-MASTER MINDED 5-11-10 Owner-Clive Smith; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-3/1

2ND-Voy Por Ustedes 7-11-10 Owner-Sir Robert Ogden; Trainer-Alan King; Jockey-Robert Thornton; SP-5/2 Fav

3RD-Fair Along 6-11-10 Owner-Alan Peterson; Trainer-Philip Hobbs; Jockey-Richard Johnson; SP-12/1
8 ran, Time-3m 55.80s, Dist-19, 16

2007-WINNER-VOY POR USTEDES 6-11-10 Owner-Sir Robert Ogden; Trainer-Alan King; Jockey-Robert Thornton; SP-5/1

2ND-Dempsey 9-11-10 Owner-Tracy Brown; Trainer-Carl Llewellyn; Jockey-Noel Fehily; SP-20/1

3RD-River City 10-11-10 Owner-Sarah Rowley-Williams; Trainer-Noel Chance; Jockey-Tom Doyle; SP-33/1
10 ran, Time-3m 53.88s, Dist-1.5, 5 Evens Fav Well Chief (Fell)

2006-WINNER-NEWMILL 8-11-10 Owner-Mary Hayes; Trainer-John Murphy IRE; Jockey-Andrew McNamara; SP-16/1

2ND-Fota Island 10-11-10 Owner-J P McManus; Trainer-Mouse Morris IRE; Jockey-Tony McCoy; SP-4/1

3RD-Mister McGoldrick 9-11-10 Owner-Richard Longley; Trainer-Sue Smith; Jockey-Dominic Elsworth; SP-50/1
12 ran, Time-3m 51.50s, Dist-9, 1.5 2/1 Fav Kauto Star (Fell)

2005-WINNER-MOSCOW FLYER 11-11-10 Owner-Brian Kearney; Trainer-Jessica Harrington IRE; Jockey-Barry Geraghty; SP-6/4 Fav

2ND-Well Chief 6-11-10 Owner-David Johnson; Trainer-Martin Pipe; Jockey-Timmy Murphy; SP-7/2

3RD-Azertyuiop 8-11-10 Owner-John Hales; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-2/1
8 ran, Time-3m 54.30s, Dist-2, 13

2004-WINNER-AZERTYUIOP 7-11-10 Owner-John Hales; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-15/8

2ND-Flagship Uberalles 10-11-10 Owner-J P McManus; Trainer-Philip Hobbs; Jockey-Richard Johnson; SP-14/1

3RD-Tiutchev 11-11-10 Owner-The Liars Poker Partnership; Trainer-Martin Pipe; Jockey-Tony McCoy; SP-16/1
8 ran, Time-3m 54.10s, Dist-9, 1.5 5/6 Fav Moscow Flyer (UR)

2003-WINNER-MOSCOW FLYER 9-12-00 Owner-Brian Kearney; Trainer-Jessica Harrington IRE; Jockey-Barry Geraghty; SP-7/4 Fav

2ND-Native Upmanship 10-12-00 Owner-Sue Magnier; Trainer-Arthur Moore IRE; Jockey-Conor O'Dwyer; SP-12/1

3RD-Cenkos 9-12-00 Owner-Judy Stewart; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-7/1
11 ran, Time-3m 53.70s, Dist-7, 3

2002-WINNER-FLAGSHIP UBERALLES 8-12-00 Owner-Elizabeth Gutner & Michael Krysztofiak Racing; Trainer-Philip Hobbs; Jockey-Richard Johnson; SP-7/4 Fav

2ND-Native Upmanship 9-12-00 Owner-Sue Magnier; Trainer-Arthur Moore IRE; Jockey-Conor O'Dwyer; SP-9/1

3RD-Cenkos 8-12-00 Owner-Judy Stewart; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Timmy Murphy; SP-66/1
12 ran, Time-4m 7.70s, Dist-3, 0.5

2001- Cancelled

2000-WINNER-EDREDON BLEU 8-12-00 Owner-Jim Lewis; Trainer-Henrietta Knight; Jockey-Tony McCoy; SP-7/2

2ND-Direct Route 9-12-00 Owner-Michael Thompson; Trainer-Howard Johnson; Jockey-Norman Williamson; SP-5/1

3RD-Flagship Uberalles 6-12-00 Owner-Elizabeth Gutner & Michael Krysztofiak Racing; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Joe Tizzard; SP-11/10 Fav

9 ran, Time-3m 44.6s, Dist-sh, 6

1999-WINNER-CALL EQUINAME 9-12-00 Owner-Mick Coburn, Paul Barber and Colin Lewis; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Mick Fitzgerald; SP-7/2

2ND-Edredon Bleu 7-12-00 Owner-Jim Lewis; Trainer-Henrietta Knight; Jockey-Tony McCoy; SP-3/1 Fav

3RD-Direct Route 8-12-00 Owner-Chris Heron; Trainer-Howard Johnson; Jockey-Norman Williamson; SP-11/2
13 ran, Time-3m 59.2s, Dist-1.25, 3.5

1998-WINNER-ONE MAN 10-12-00 Owner-John Hales; Trainer-Gordon Richards; Jockey-Brian Harding; SP-7/2

2ND-Or Royal 7-12-00 Owner-David Johnson; Trainer-Martin Pipe; Jockey-Tony McCoy; SP-7/2

3RD-Lord Dorcet 8-12-00 Owner-John Hogg; Trainer-Alistair Charlton; Jockey-Brian Storey; SP-50/1
8 ran, Time-3m 50.8s, Dist-4, 5 5/2 Fav Ask Tom (6th)

1997-WINNER-MARTHA'S SON 10-12-00 Owner-Paddy Hartigan and Michael Ward-Thomas; Trainer-Tim Forster; Jockey-Rodney Farrant; SP-9/1

2ND-Ask Tom 8-12-00 Owner-Brian Stewart-Brown; Trainer-Tom Tate; Jockey-Russ Garrity; SP-6/1

3RD-Viking Flagship 10-12-00 Owner-Roach Foods Ltd; Trainer-David Nicholson; Jockey-Richard Dunwoody; SP-3/1
6 ran, Time-3m 50.1s, Dist-2.5, 0.5 5/2 Fav Strong Promise (5th)

SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER

CHAMPION CHASE

ROLL OF HONOUR

(Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase since 2007, Queen Mother Champion Chase 1980-2006, previously National Hunt Two Mile Champion Chase from when first run in 1959)

Year	Winner	Age/Wt	Jockey	Trainer	Owner	SP	Ran
2009	Master Minded	6-11-10	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	Clive Smith	4/11F	12
2008	Master Minded	5-11-10	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	Clive Smith	3/1	8
2007	Voy Por Ustedes	6-11-10	Robert Thornton	Alan King	Sir Robert Ogden	5/1	10
2006	Newmill	8-11-10	Andrew McNamara	John Murphy IRE	Mary Hayes	16/1	12
2005	Moscow Flyer	11-11-10	Barry Geraghty	Jessica Harrington IRE	Brian Kearney	6/4F	8
2004	Azertyuiop	7-11-10	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	John Hales	15/8	8
2003	Moscow Flyer	9-12-00	Barry Geraghty	Jessica Harrington IRE	Brian Kearney	7/4F	11
2002	Flagship Uberalles	8-12-00	Richard Johnson	Philip Hobbs	Elizabeth Gutner/Michael Krysztofiak	7/4F	12
2001	<i>No Race (Foot and Mouth)</i>						
2000	Edredon Bleu	8-12-00	Tony McCoy	Henrietta Knight	Jim Lewis	7/2	9
1999	Call Equiname	9-12-00	Mick Fitzgerald	Paul Nicholls	Mick Coburn,Paul Barber,Colin Lewis	7/2	13
1998	One Man	10-12-00	Brian Harding	Gordon Richards	John Hales	7/2	8
1997	Martha's Son	10-12-00	Rodney Farrant	Tim Forster	Paddy Hartigan/Michael Ward-Thomas	9/1	6
1996	Klairon Davis	7-12-00	Francis Woods	Arthur Moore IRE	Chris Jones	9/1	7
1995	Viking Flagship	8-12-00	Charlie Swan	David Nicholson	Roach Foods Ltd	5/2F	10
1994	Viking Flagship	7-12-00	Adrian Maguire	David Nicholson	Roach Foods Ltd	4/1	8
1993	Deep Sensation	8-12-00	Declan Murphy	Josh Gifford	Robin Eliot	11/1	9
1992	Remittance Man	8-12-00	Jamie Osborne	Nicky Henderson	Jim Collins	Evs F	6
1991	Katabatic	8-12-00	Simon McNeill	Andrew Turnell	Pell-Mell Partners	9/1	7
1990	Barnbrook Again	9-12-00	Hywel Davies	David Elsworth	Mel Davies	11/10F	9
1989	Barnbrook Again	8-12-00	Simon Sherwood	David Elsworth	Mel Davies	7/4F	8
1988	Pearlyman	9-12-00	Tom Morgan	John Edwards	Valerie Shaw	15/8F	8
1987	Pearlyman	8-12-00	Peter Scudamore	John Edwards	Valerie Shaw	13/8F	8
1986	Buck House	8-12-00	Tommy Carmody	Mouse Morris IRE	Mrs Phil Purcell	5/2	11
1985	Badsworth Boy	10-12-00	Robert Earnshaw	Monica Dickinson	Doug Armitage	11/8	5
1984	Badsworth Boy	9-12-00	Robert Earnshaw	Michael Dickinson	Doug Armitage	8/13F	10
1983	Badsworth Boy	8-12-00	Robert Earnshaw	Michael Dickinson	Doug Armitage	2/1	6
1982	Rathgorman	10-12-00	Kevin Whyte	Michael Dickinson	J Lilley	100/30	9
1981	Drumgora	9-12-00	Frank Berry	Arthur Moore IRE	D Monahan	25/1	9
1980	*Another Dolly	10-12-00	Sam Morshead	Fred Rimell	Ian Urquhart	33/1	7
1979	Hilly Way	9-12-00	Mr Ted Walsh	Peter McCreery IRE	J W Sweeney	7/1	9
1978	Hilly Way	8-12-00	Tommy Carmody	Peter McCreery IRE	J W Sweeney	7/1	10
1977	Skymas	12-12-00	Mouse Morris	Brian Lusk IRE	Mathew Magee	7/2	8
1976	Skymas	11-12-00	Mouse Morris	Brian Lusk IRE	Mathew Magee	8/1	7
1975	Lough Inagh	8-12-00	Sean Barker	Jim Dreaper IRE	A Martin	100/30	8
1974	Royal Relief	10-12-00	Bill Smith	Edward Courage	Edward Courage	6/1	6
1973	Inkslinger	6-12-00	Tommy Carberry	Dan Moore IRE	Mrs M Jenney	6/1	6
1972	Royal Relief	8-12-00	Bill Smith	Edward Courage	Edward Courage	15/8	5
1971	Crisp	8-12-00	Paul Kelleway	Fred Winter	Sir Chester Manifold	3/1	8
1970	Straight Fort	7-12-00	Pat Taaffe	Tom Dreaper IRE	George Ansley	7/4F	6
1969	Muir	10-12-00	Ben Hannon	Tom Dreaper IRE	Waring Willis	15/2	11
1968	Drinny's Double	10-12-00	Frank Nash	Bob Turnell	Paul Mellon	6/1	5
1967	Drinny's Double	9-12-00	Frank Nash	Bob Turnell	Paul Mellon	7/2	8
1966	Flyingbolt	7-12-00	Pat Taaffe	Tom Dreaper IRE	Mrs Jean Wilkinson	1/5F	6
1965	Dunkirk	8-12-00	Dave Dick	Peter Cazalet	Bill Whitbread	8/1	6
1964	Ben Stack	7-12-00	Pat Taaffe	Tom Dreaper IRE	Anne, Duchess of Westminster	2/1	5
1963	Sandy Abbot	8-12-00	Stan Mellor	George Owen	Mrs J D McKechnie	5/1	5
1962	Piperton	8-12-00	Dave Dick	Archie Thomlinson	Archie Thomlinson	100/6	7
1961	Fortria	9-12-00	Pat Taaffe	Tom Dreaper IRE	George Ansley	2/5F	5
1960	Fortria	8-12-00	Pat Taaffe	Tom Dreaper IRE	George Ansley	15/8F	7
1959	Quita Que	10-12-00	Bunny Cox	Dan Moore IRE	Mrs D R Brand	4/9F	9

*Another Dolly finished second to Chinrullah, who was subsequently disqualified after failing a post-race urine test

THE 2009 SEASONS HOLIDAYS QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE

RESULT IN DETAIL

£320,000 guaranteed, 2m Old Course, For 5yo+ which are allotted a rating of 130 or more by the BHA Head of Handicapping following a review of the horses entered and after taking account of races run up to and including March 4; horses which are not qualified a rating in GB, Ireland or France may also be entered; such horses may be eligible providing the Handicapper is satisfied that the horse's racecourse performances up to and including March 4 would merit a minimum rating of 130; the decision of the BHA Handicapper shall be final. Wweights 11st 10lb Allowances mares 7lb Entries 29 pay £380 1st Forfeit 20pay £760 Confirmed 14 pay £380 Penalty Value 1st £182,432, 2nd £68,48, 3rd £34,272, 4th £17,088, 5th £8,576, 6th £4,288

1 MASTER MINDED (FR) (Clive Smith) Paul Nicholls 6-11-10 Ruby Walsh 4/1F
2 WELL CHIEF (GER) (David Johnson) David Pipe 10-11-10 Timmy Murphy 12/1
3 PETIT ROBIN (FR) (Mr & Mrs John Poynton) Nicky Henderson 6-11-10 Barry Geraghty 12/1
4 NEWMILL (IRE) (Mary Hayes) John Murphy IRE 11-11-10 Robbie Power 100/1
5 SCOTSIRISH (IRE) (Double R Stables Llc Syndicate) Willie Mullins IRE 8-11-10 Paul Townend 40/1
6 MAHOGANY BLAZE (FR) (Lorna Berryman) Nigel Twiston-Davies 7-11-10 Paddy Brennan 40/1
7 ASHLEY BROOK (IRE) (Elizabeth Ellis) Kevin Bishop 11-11-10 Richard Johnson 66/1
8 SANTA'S SON (IRE) (Andrea & Graham Wylie) Howard Johnson 9-11-10 Denis O'Regan 33/1
9 MARODIMA (FR) (Mark & Lavinia Sherwood) Rebecca Curtis 6-11-10 Nick Scholfield 100/1
F 4 OUT BIG ZEB (IRE) (Patrick Joseph Redmond) Colm Murphy IRE 8-11-10 Robert Thornton 12/1
F 2 OUT TWIST MAGIC (FR) (Barry Fulton, Tony Hayward & Michael Lynch) Paul Nicholls 7-11-10 Sam Thomas 16/1
F last BRIAREUS (Miss E Lambourne) Andrew Balding 9-11-10 Tony McCoy 16/1

12 ran Distances: 7, 2, 1 1/2, 5, 7, 11, 15, dist **Time:** 3m 59.50s
Breeder: Marie-Christine-Gabeur **Breeding:** b g Nikos - Haute Tension (FR) **Totes:** Win: £1.40 Places: £1.10, £2.60, £2.20 Exacta: £7.30

Winning Trainer: PAUL NICHOLLS **Date of birth:** 17/05/62 **Based:** Heighes House, Manor Farm Stables, Ditcheat, Shepton Mallet, Somerset
Background: Paul Nicholls, the son of a policeman, was born in Olveston, Bristol, on April 17, 1962, and has been training at Manor Farm Stables in Ditcheat, Somerset, since taking out a licence on November 1, 1991. He started out as a jump jockey and twice rode the winner of the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury, in 1986 and 1987. He partnered 130 winners between 1980 and 1989, and nominates the best horses he rode as Broadheath, Playschool and Seagram. Between 1989 and 1991, he was assistant trainer to former Devon-based David Barons, who sent out Seagram to win the 1991 Grand National at Aintree during that time. Having strongly challenged Martin Pipe for the jump trainers' championship for several years, most notably when pushing his great rival right to the last day of the 2004/05 campaign, he claimed his first title in the 2005/06 season, and followed up in the following campaign, with the hugely-talented Kauto Star being the flag-bearer with victories in the Old Roan Chase at Aintree, the Belfair Chase at Haydock Park, Sandown's Tingle Creek Chase, the King George VI Chase at Kempton, Newbury's AON Chase and the totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup. He also trains Denman, who defeated stablemate Kauto Star in the 2008 totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup. Paul Nicholls pulled off the amazing feat of saddling seven winners and three seconds from his 10 runners on Saturday, November 7, 1998, and made history when he became the first trainer to saddle six winners on the same card, at Wincanton, his local track, on Saturday, January 21, 2006. Another highpoint in his training career came at the 1999 Cheltenham Festival, as he captured the major chase on each of the three days - Flagship Uberalles scored in the Irish Independent Arkle Chase, Call Equiname in the Queen Mother Champion Chase the following day and, best of all, See More Business took the totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup. Nicholls was the most successful trainer at The Festival in 1999, 2004, 2006, 2007 and 2008. **Cheltenham Festival Wins (21):** JCB Triumph Hurdle (2008 Celestial Halo), The Irish Independent Arkle Chase (1999 Flagship Uberalles, 2003 Azertyuiop), Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase (1999 Call Equiname, 2004 Azertyuiop, 2008 & 2009 Master Minded), totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup (1999 See More Business, 2007 Kauto Star, 2008 Denman), Christie's Foxhunter Chase (2004 Earthmover, 2005 Sleeping Night), Johnny Henderson Grand Annual (2004 St Pirran, 2007 Andreas), County Hurdle (2004 Sporazene, 2006 Desert Quest), Ryanair Chase (2005 Thisthatandtother, 2007 Taranis), Supreme Novices' Hurdle (2006 Noland), RSA Chase (2006 Star De Mohaison, 2007 Denman) **1000th Domestic Winner:** Noble Action (Bumper, Folkestone, November 15, 2004) **First Trainer to Saddle Six Winners on One Card:** Saturday, January 21, 2006, at Wincanton **Number of Winners (1992/03-2007/08):** 20; 29; 28; 53; 56; 82; 110; 71; 83; 136; 152; 127; 152; 148*; 124*; 151* (first trainer to win more than £4 million in prize money in a season); *Champion Trainer **Wins this Season:** 133

Winning Jockey: Ruby Walsh **Born:** May 14, 1979 **Background:** Ruby (short for Rupert) is associated with the powerful stables of Paul Nicholls in Britain and Willie Mullins in Ireland. He is the son of 11-times Irish amateur champion jockey, Ted Walsh, now a trainer and television pundit. Ruby is the second of Walsh's four children and his younger sister Katie is a successful amateur. He in his father's footsteps when capturing the Irish amateur riders' championship (1996-97) at the age of 19 while still studying for his Leaving Certificate. He was crowned champion Irish National Hunt jockey in his first season as a professional (1998/99) and has taken the title a further five times (2000/2001, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/7 and 2007/08). Walsh has won the John Smith's Grand National twice - in 2000 aboard Papillon, trained by his father, and the Willie Mullins-trained Hedgehunter in 2005. He followed Papillon's Aintree triumph with an Irish Grand National victory aboard his father's Commanche Court but surpassed that achievement in the 2004/2005 season when his John Smith's Grand National success aboard Hedgehunter was augmented by wins in the Welsh National (Silver Birch) and Irish Grand National (Numbersixvalverde). He narrowly missed out in that season's Scottish Grand National when his mount, Cornish Rebel, finished a short-head second to Joes Edge. In the 2007/08 season he was leading rider at the Cheltenham Festival for a third time (he also took the accolade in 2003 and 2007) with three wins. **First Winner:** Siren Song, Gowran Park, July 25, 1995 **Cheltenham Festival Wins (21):** David Nicholson Mares' Hurdle (2009 Quevega), Ballymore Properties Novices' Hurdle (2008 Fiveforthree, 2009 Mikael D'Haguenet), JCB Triumph Hurdle (2008 Celestial Halo), Weatherbys Champion Bumper (1998 Alexander Banquet, 2005 Missed That), Mildmay Of Flete (2002 Blowing Wind), Irish Independent Arkle (2003 Azertyuiop), Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase (2004 Azertyuiop, 2008 & 2009 Master Minded), Grand Annual (2004 St Pirran), County Hurdle (2004 Sporazene, 2006 Desert Quest), Ryanair Chase (2005 Thisthatandtother, 2007 Taranis) Anglo Irish Bank Supreme Novices' Hurdle (2006 Noland), William Hill Trophy (2006 Dun Doire), RSA Chase (2007 Denman, 2009 Cooldine), totesport Cheltenham Gold Cup (2007 Kauto Star) **1,000th Winner in Ireland:** Rare Article, Smirnoff (Mares) Maiden Hurdle, Thurles, May 4, 2008 (became only the second jockey to complete the feat after Charlie Swann) **Number of Wins in Britain (1998/99-2007/08):** 1; 1; 5; 13; 77; 62; 81; 69; 73; 69; **Wins in Britain This Season:** 60

THE RYANAIR CHASE

Class 1, Grade 1, 2m 5f, £250,000 Total Prize Fund. 2.40pm, Cheltenham, Thursday, March 18, 2010. For 5yo+ which are allotted a rating of 130 or more by the BHA Head of Handicapping following a review of the horses entered and after taking account of races run up to and including March 11 - horses which are not qualified for a rating in GB, IRE or FR may also be entered & such horses may be eligible providing the Handicapper is satisfied that the horse's racecourse performances up to and including March 11 would merit a minimum rating of 130 (the decision of the BHA Head of Handicapping shall be final). Weights: 11st 10lb. Allowances: mares 7lb. Entries closed January 12, entries revealed January 14 (**43 entries**), scratchings deadline February 16, £11,500 supplementary entry stage and six-day confirmation stage March 12. Final 48-hour declaration stage, 10.00am, March 16. Form figures supplied by Weatherbys and are correct up to and including the racing of Tuesday, January 12.

Form	Horse	Age	Owner	Trainer
03-P136	ALBERTAS RUN (IRE)	9	Trevor Hemmings	Jonjo O'Neill
15//11-FP	ARAN CONCERTO (IRE)	9	John Corr	Noel Meade IRE
1/210-43	BARBERS SHOP	8	The Queen	Nicky Henderson
0112-1U	BARKER (IRE)	9	Eamonn Duignan	Willie Mullins IRE
1F2-F40	CHAPOTURGEON (FR)	6	David Johnson	Paul Nicholls
1110-31	CONSIGLIERE (FR)	7	E A P Scouller	David Pipe
121-11P	DEEP PURPLE	9	Paul Green	Evan Williams
113-412	DEUTSCHLAND (USA)	7	Allan McLuckie	Willie Mullins IRE
221-222	FORPADYDEPLASTERER (IRE)	8	Goat Racing Syndicate	Tom Cooper IRE
1/0411/-3	GLENCOVE MARINA (IRE)	8	John Brennan	Willie Mullins IRE
100-411	GOLDEN SILVER (FR)	8	Violet O'Leary	Willie Mullins IRE
125F-U0	GWANAKO (FR)	7	The Stewart Family	Paul Nicholls
111P-1U	HERECOMESTHETRUTH (IRE)	8	Paul Barber & Maggie Findlay	Paul Nicholls
161-P25	IMPERIAL COMMANDER (IRE)	9	Our Friends in the North	Nigel Twiston-Davies
13/4/-12P	IN COMPLIANCE (IRE)	10	Mrs B Mulryan/Mrs Noeleen Mccreevy	Dessie Hughes IRE
04-1030	J'Y VOLE (FR)	7	Hammer & Trowel Syndicate	Willie Mullins IRE
36/111/1-	JACK THE GIANT (IRE)	8	Hanbury Syndicate	Nicky Henderson
11-3213	JONCOL (IRE)	7	Kay Browne	Paul Nolan IRE
43-3U24	MADE IN TAIPAN (IRE)	8	Frances Duffin/Sean Corby	Tom Mullins IRE
12235-3	MASSINI'S MAGUIRE (IRE)	9	Alan Peterson	Philip Hobbs
111-12P	MASTER MEDIC (IRE)	9	Pell-mell Partners	Robert & Sally Alner
46-4224	NEWMILL (IRE)	12	Mary Hayes	John Murphy IRE
P4-61r0	OUR VIC (IRE)	12	David Johnson	David Pipe
13606-4	PABLO DU CHARMIL (FR)	9	Joe Moran	David Pipe
140-P55	PANJO BERE (FR)	7	Paul Chapman & Elizabeth Kiernan	Gary Moore
12230-1	PETIT ROBIN (FR)	7	Mr & Mrs John Poynton	Nicky Henderson
1133-12	PLANET OF SOUND	8	Charles Lloyd-Baker	Philip Hobbs
300-121	POQUELIN (FR)	7	The Stewart Family	Paul Nicholls
3/1122-1	PUNCHESTOWNS (FR)	7	Judy Wilson	Nicky Henderson
31414-1	RARE BOB (IRE)	8	D A Syndicate	Dessie Hughes IRE
32-2245	SCHINDLERS HUNT (IRE)	10	Slaneyville Syndicate	Dessie Hughes IRE
54-3543	SCOTSIRISH (IRE)	9	Double R Stables Syndicate	Willie Mullins IRE
1F3-132	SIEGEMASTER (IRE)	9	Gigginstown House Stud	Dessie Hughes IRE
0-61103	SNOWY MORNING (IRE)	10	Quayside Syndicate	Willie Mullins IRE
02021-F	SOMETHING WELLS (FR)	9	Favourites Racing XVIII	Venetia Williams
2350P0-	TAKEROC (FR)	7	Sandra Giles	Paul Nicholls
51-0020	TARTAK (FR)	7	Power Panels Electrical Systems Ltd	Tom George
105151	THE FONZE (IRE)	9	J A Dunphy	Eoin Doyle IRE
2345-24	TIDAL BAY (IRE)	9	Andrea & Graham Wylie	Howard Johnson
56-2112	TRANQUIL SEA (IRE)	8	Nelius Hayes/Dermot Cox	Edward O'Grady IRE
3121-36	VOY POR USTEDES (FR)	9	Sir Robert Ogden	Alan King
41P-251	WATCH MY BACK	9	Tony Ambler	Ferdy Murphy
11112-1	WILL BE DONE (IRE)	9	Mr & Mrs R N C Hall	Donald McCain Jnr

43 Entries

18 Irish-trained

BREAKDOWN OF ENTRIES BY TRAINER **WITH PAST SUCCESSES IN THE** **RYANAIR CHASE**

7 Entries

Willie Mullins IRE

5 Entries

Paul Nicholls (**2005 Thisthatandtother**, **2007 Taranis**)

4 Entries

Nicky Henderson (**2006 Fondmort**)

Dessie Hughes IRE

3 Entries

David Pipe (**2008 Our Vic**)

2 Entries

Philip Hobbs

1 Entry

Robert & Sally Alner

Thomas Cooper IRE

Eoin Doyle IRE

Tom George

Howard Johnson

Alan King

Donald McCain Jnr

Noel Meade IRE

Gary Moore

Tom Mullins IRE

Ferdy Murphy

John Murphy IRE

Paul Nolan IRE

Edward O'Grady IRE

Jonjo O'Neill

Nigel Twiston-Davies (**2009 Imperial Commander**)

Evan Williams

Venetia Williams

Ryanair Chase – Analysis

This year's Grade One Ryanair Chase, which carries record prize money of £250,000, has attracted a superb entry of 43.

Paul Nicholls, successful in the race with *Thisthatandtother* (2005) and *Taranis* (2007), looks set to have another strong hand in this year's renewal with Grade Three *Boylesports.com Gold Cup* victor **Poquelin** among his five entries.

The champion trainer has also entered Grade One winner **Herecomesthetruth**, last season's Listed *Jewson Novices' Handicap Chase* winner **Chapoturgeon**, **Takeroc** and **Gwanako**, who was fifth in last year's Ryanair Chase.

Imperial Commander landed the spoils in this race last year for local handler Nigel Twiston-Davies and the nine-year-old could re-oppose the second, the Alan King-trained **Voy Por Ustedes**, who went down by three lengths.

Nicky Henderson saddled *Fondmort* to victory in the 2006 Ryanair Chase and a particularly strong quartet from the master of *Seven Barrows* includes The Queen's **Barbers Shop**, who was third behind *Kauto Star* in the *King George VI Chase* at *Kempton* on *Boxing Day*.

Last year's *Seasons Holidays Queen Mother Champion Chase* third **Petit Robin** could step up in distance following success over two miles in the *Grade Two Desert Orchid Chase* at *Kempton Park* in *December*, while the hugely talented but fragile **Jack The Giant** may bid to enhance his superb record over fences. Henderson has also given an entry to last year's *Ladbrokes World Hurdle* runner-up **Punchestowns**, who made an exciting debut over fences when taking a *Grade Two novice chase* at *Newbury* at the end of *November*.

The only other trainer to have tasted Ryanair Chase success is David Pipe, who sent out **Our Vic** to victory in 2008. The veteran chaser may be joined in this year's race by stable-companions **Pablo Du Charmil** and the prolific **Consigliere**.

The Philip Hobbs-trained **Massini's Maguire** has run excellent races on both his previous appearances at *The Festival*, having landed what is now the *Neptune Investment Management Novices' Hurdle* in 2007 and been third to *Cooldine* in last year's *RSA Chase*. Hobbs may also be represented by last season's *The Irish Independent Arkle Challenge Trophy Chase* third **Planet Of Sound**, who triumphed in the *Grade Two Haldon Gold Cup* on his seasonal return prior to taking second behind the *Jonjo O'Neill*-trained *Albertas Run* in a *Grade Two Chase* at *Ascot* in *mid-November*.

Deep Purple landed a brace of *Grade Two* contests at *Wetherby* and *Huntingdon* for *Evan Williams* before disappointing in the *King George VI Chase*, while the *Tom George*-trained **Tartak** may also drop back down in distance after taking seventh in the *Boxing Day* feature.

The 2008 *Irish Independent Arkle Challenge Trophy Chase* winner **Tidal Bay**, from the stable of *Howard Johnson*, may bid to improve on the fourth he took behind *Imperial Commander* in this race last year, while the *Venetia Williams*-trained **Something Wells** may also aim for further *Festival* glory, having triumphed in the *Festival Plate* last season.

Other notable entries include the *Donald McCain*-trained **Will Be Done** and **Panjo Bere**, from the yard of *Gary Moore*, who landed *Grade Two* contests last season, the *Ferdie Murphy*-trained **Watch My Back**, and **Master Medic**, successful in a *Listed handicap chase* for *Robert and Sally Alner* at *Ascot* in *October*.

A bumper entry of 18 from *Ireland* is headed by the *Edward O'Grady*-trained **Tranquil Sea**, who notched an impressive four and a half-length success over *Poquelin* in the *Grade Three Paddy Power Gold Cup* at *The Open* in *November*.

The progressive eight-year-old, successful in the *Grade One Punchestown Novice Hurdle* in 2008, was runner-up in the *Grade One Paddy Power Dial-A-Bet Chase* at *Leopardstown* in *December*, which was won by the *Willie Mullins*-trained **Golden Silver**.

Mullins is responsible for a total of seven entries and the *Irish champion trainer* could also run **Scotsirish**, who was third behind *Golden Silver* at *Leopardstown*, *Grade One* scorers **Barker** and **Glencove Marina**, **Deutschland**, **Snowy Morning** and the only mare among the entries, **J'y Vole**.

The *Paul Nolan*-trained **Joncol** stormed to a convincing victory in the *Grade One John Durkan Memorial Chase* at *Punchestown* at the start of *December* before being headed close home to be third in the *Grade One Lexus Chase* at *Leopardstown* later the same month, while last season's *The Irish Independent Arkle Challenge Trophy Chase* hero **Forpadydeplasterer** may bid for more *Festival* glory for *Co Kerry* handler *Tom Cooper*.

A quartet of entries from *Dessie Hughes* consists of last year's third **Schindler's Hunt**, who went on to be second in *Grade One* company at *Aintree* and *Punchestown*, *John Durkan Memorial Chase* runner-up **In Compliance** and *Punchestown Champion Novice Chase* victor **Rare Bob**. The *Co Kildare* handler may also be represented by recent *Leopardstown handicap chase* second **Siegemaster**, who is owned by *Ryanair* chief executive *Michael O'Leary*.

Newmill gave trainer *John Murphy* the biggest success of his career when taking the 2006 *Queen Mother Champion Chase*, while the *Irish contingent* is completed by **Aran Concerto**, a three time *Grade One* winner over hurdles and fences for *Noel Meade*, the *Tom Mullins*-trained **Made In Taipan** and *Grade Two* scorer **The Fonze**, from the stable of *Eoin Doyle*.

RYANAIR CHASE - Facts & Figures

1. The Ryanair Chase was introduced to The Festival in 2005. It replaced the Cathcart Chase, although the conditions of the race changed slightly with it being open to all horses rather than being restricted to first and second season chasers.
2. The first three renewals were run as Grade Two contests. It became a Grade One affair in 2008.
3. The Daily Telegraph backed the inaugural contest, with Irish airline Ryanair taking over the sponsorship for 2006. Michael O'Leary, Ryanair's chief executive, came close to winning his company's money in 2008 when owning the runner-up Mossbank.
4. Fondmort, the 100/30 joint-favourite, was landing his fourth race at Cheltenham when victorious in 2006. Our Vic, successful in 2008, was winning for the third time at the course and has a further four Cheltenham placed efforts to his name, including when runner-up in the 2007 Ryanair Chase.
5. Last year's winner Imperial Commander also boasted previous winning form at Cheltenham, with four previous successes at the course to his name including victory in the Grade Three Paddy Power Chase at The Open in November, 2008.

RYANAIR CHASE – ROLL OF HONOUR

(Ryanair Chase from 2006, Daily Telegraph Chase 2005)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Age/Wt</u>	<u>Jockey</u>	<u>Trainer</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>SP</u>	<u>Ran</u>
2009	Imperial Commander	8-11-10	Paddy Brennan	Nigel Twiston-Davies	Our Friends In The North	6/1	10
2008	Our Vic	10-11-10	Timmy Murphy	David Pipe	David Johnson	4/1	9
2007	Taranis	6-11-00	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	Mrs A B Yeoman & C R Whittaker	9/2	9
2006	Fondmort	10-11-00	Mick Fitzgerald	Nicky Henderson	Bill Brown	100/30JF	11
2005	Thisthatandtother	9-11-03	Ruby Walsh	Paul Nicholls	Graham Roach	9/2	12

RYANAIR CHASE - Past Results

2009-WINNER-IMPERIAL COMMANDER 8-11-10 Owner-Our Friends In The North; Trainer-Nigel Twiston-Davies; Jockey-Paddy Brennan; SP-6/1
 2ND-Voy Por Ustedes 8-11-10 Owner-Sir Robert Ogden; Trainer-Alan King; Jockey-Robert Thornton; SP-4/5 Fav
 3RD-Schindlers Hunt 9-11-10 Owner-Slaneyville Syndicate; Trainer-Dessie Hughes IRE; Jockey-Paddy Flood; SP-22/1
 10 ran, Time-5m 18.34s Dist-2, 0.75

2008-WINNER-OUR VIC 10-11-10 Owner-David Johnson; Trainer-David Pipe; Jockey-Timmy Murphy; SP-4/1
 2ND-Mossbank 8-11-10 Owner-Gigginstown House Stud; Trainer-Michael Hourigan IRE; Jockey-Davy Russell; SP-4/1
 3RD-Turko 6-11-10 Owner-The Stewart Family; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-7/1
 9 ran, Time-5m 10.24s Dist-5, 7 100/30 Fav The Listener (5th)

2007-WINNER-TARANIS 6-11-00 Owner-Mrs A B Yeoman & C R Whittaker; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-9/2
 2ND-Our Vic 9-11-05 Owner-David Johnson; Trainer-David Pipe; Jockey-Timmy Murphy; SP-7/2
 3RD-Billyvodan 8-11-00 Owner-Trevor Hemmings; Trainer-Henry Daly; Jockey-Richard Johnson; SP-20/1
 9 ran, Time-5m 10.60s Dist-nk, 0.5 7/4 Fav Monet's Garden (4th)

2006-WINNER-FONDMORT 10-11-00 Owner-Bill Brown; Trainer-Nicky Henderson; Jockey-Mick Fitzgerald; SP-100/30 Jt Fav
 2ND-Laccoudal 7-11-00 Owner-Carol Skan; Trainer-Philip Hobbs; Jockey-Richard Johnson; SP-20/1
 3RD-Impek Owner-Jim Lewis; Trainer-Henrietta Knight; Jockey-Tony McCoy; SP-100/30 Jt Fav
 11 ran, Time-5m 3.00s Dist-1.25, hd

2005-WINNER-THISTHATANDTOTHER 9-11-03 Owner-Graham Roach; Trainer-Paul Nicholls; Jockey-Ruby Walsh; SP-9/2
 2ND-Fondmort 9-11-00 Owner-Bill Brown; Trainer-Nicky Henderson; Jockey-Mick Fitzgerald; SP-9/1
 3RD-Rathgar Beau 9-11-03 Owner-One-O-Eight Racing Club; Trainer-Eamon Sheehy IRE; Jockey-Shay Barry; SP-9/2
 12 ran, Time-5m 11.90s Dist: 0.5, 2.5 7/4 Fav Our Vic (PU)

THE 2009 RYANAIR CHASE RESULT IN DETAIL

£220,000 guaranteed, For 5yo+ which are allotted a rating of 130 or more by the BHA Head of Handicapping following a review of the horses entered and after taking account of races run up to and including March 5. Weights 5yo 11st 9lb; 6yo+ 11st 10lb Allowances mares 7lb Entries 48 pay £250 1st Forfeit 35 pay £500 Confirmed 12 pay £250 Penalty Value 1st £125,422, 2nd £47,058, 3rd £23,562, 4th £11,748, 5th £5,896, 6th £2,948

1 IMPERIAL COMMANDER (IRE) (Our Friends In The North) Nigel Twiston-Davies 8-11-10 Paddy Brennan 6/1
2 VOY POR USTEDS (FR) (Sir Robert Ogden) Alan King 8-11-10 Robert Thornton 4/5F
3 SCHINDLERS HUNT (IRE) (Slaneyville Syndicate) Dessie Hughes IRE 9-11-10t Paddy Flood 22/1
4 TIDAL BAY (IRE) (Andrea & Graham Wylie) Howard Johnson 8-11-10 Denis O'Regan 13/2
5 GWANAKO (FR) (The Stewart Family) Paul Nicholls 6-11-10 Ruby Walsh 16/1
6 MONET'S GARDEN (IRE) (David Wesley Yates) Nicky Richards 11-11-10 Davy Condon 20/1
7 MISTER MCGOLDRICK (Richard Longley) Sue Smith 12-11-10 Dominic Elsworth 40/1
8 KNIGHT LEGEND (IRE) (Martin St Quinton) Jessica Harrington IRE 10-11-10t Andrew Leigh 100/1
PU BEF 4 OUT OUR VIC (IRE) (David Johnson) David Pipe 11-11-10b Timmy Murphy 9/1
PU BEF 2 OUT L'ANTARTIQUE (FR) (Mary Durkan) Ferdy Murphy 9-11-10 Graham Lee 33/1

10 ran

Distances: 2, 3/4, 4 1/2, 1 1/2, 6, 3, 17 Time: 5m 18.34s

Breeder: Laurence J Flynn

Breeding: b g Flemensfirth (USA) - Ballinlovane

Totes: Win: £7.80 Places: £2.20, £1.10, £4.10 Exacta: £13.50

Winning Trainer: NIGEL TWISTON-DAVIES **Based:** Grange Hill Farm, Naunton, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire **Date of birth:** 16/5/57
Background: Rode as an amateur for Fred Winter, Fred Rimell and Kim Bailey. The Gloucestershire handler combined training as a permit-holder with his farming interests throughout the 1980s, having his first winner with Last Of The Foxes, who he also rode, at Hereford in March, 1982, before the agricultural recession prompted him to make training his full-time profession. He took out a full training licence in 1989, recording his first win as a public trainer in December of that year with Babil at Newbury. Born on May 16, 1957, as an amateur jockey Twiston-Davies rode 17 winners under Rules and gained a further 17 point-to-point victories, and served as assistant trainer to Richard Head and Fred Rimell. A childhood neighbour and friend of Peter Scudamore, he went into partnership with the former champion jump jockey to set up stables at Grange Hill Farm, Naunton, Gloucestershire, although Scudamore is no longer involved in the venture, having teamed up with Denis Caro in 2002 and then his father Michael. Twiston-Davies has adopted and developed the pioneering techniques of Martin Pipe, such as interval training and regular blood tests for his string, enabling him to rapidly raise his profile among the training ranks. An essentially shy man, he momentarily shocked Des Lynam after Earth Summit's Grand National success in 1998 by telling the BBC presenter in front of millions of viewers "I don't do interviews". Trained his 1,000th winner at Stratford in October 2006. **Cheltenham Festival wins (10):** Ryanair Chase (2009 Imperial Commander), National Hunt Chase (2009 Tricky Trickster), William Hill Trophy Chase (1992 Tipping Tim), Royal & SunAlliance Hdle (1993 Gaelstrom, 2004 Fundamentalist), RSA Chase (1993 Young Hustler), Letheby & Christopher Supreme H (1994 Arctic Kinsman), JCB Triumph Hurdle (1998 Upgrade), Pertemps Final H'cap Hurdle (2000 Rubhahunish, 2008 Ballyfitz) **Wins (1982/3-2007/08):** 0, 0, 4, 4, 1, 3, 2, 8, 19, 31, 76, 72, 81, 74, 52, 69, 65, 87, 4, 35, 31, 79 ; 69; 59; 60; 87; **Wins this Season:** 71

Winning Jockey: Paddy J Brennan **Born:** Ardrahan, Galway, April 13, 1981 **Background:** Brennan spent the summer of 1995 working for County Kildare handler Gerry Stack before embarking on a five season apprenticeship with the leading Irish trainer Jim Bolger, for whom he rode eight winners. The first of those came on Ivory Isle at Gowran Park in August, 1998. He became too heavy and tall for the Flat and moved to Paul Nicholls' stable as a conditional jockey in 2001. He stayed there for two and a half years, riding winners for Nicholls and Jeff King, before joining Philip Hobbs in the 2003/4 season as one of that yard's conditionals. Brennan also struck up a good rapport with Ashley Brook, on whom he won the Grade One Maghull Novices' Chase at Aintree in 2005, and enjoyed a first Cheltenham Festival success that year aboard Shamayoun in the Fred Winter Juvenile Handicap Hurdle. Brennan was appointed as retained rider to owners Andrea and Graham Wylie for the 2006/7 season after dropping by trainer Howard Johnson's County Durham yard for a cup of tea and toast. He rewarded those connections when guiding Inglis Drever to victory in the 2007 Grade One Ladbrokes World Hurdle at Cheltenham - the gelding's second success in the race. Brennan, who wanted to return to the south of England, left Johnson at the end of the 2006/07 season and joined Naunton-based handler Nigel Twiston-Davies at the start of the 2007/08 campaign **Cheltenham Festival Wins (4):** Ryanair Chase (2009 Imperial Commander), Pertemps Final (2008 Ballyfitz), Fred Winter Juvenile Novices' Handicap Hurdle (2006 Shamayoun), Ladbrokes World Hurdle (2007 Inglis Drever) **First Winner:** Ivory Isle (Derrinstown Stud Apprentice Handicap, Gowran Park, August 12, 1998) **Other Big Race Wins:** Grand Sefton Handicap Chase (2005 Hakim); intercasino.co.uk Molyneux Novices' Chase (2006 Lennon); Sea Pigeon Handicap Hurdle (2002 Benbyas); Wensleydale Juvenile Novices' Hurdle (2006 Degas Art) Charlie Hall Chase (2007 Ollie Magern), BoyleSports.com International Hurdle (2007 Osana), Old Roan Chase (2008 Knowhere), John Smith's Hurdle (2008 Pettifour), Paddy Power Gold Cup (2008 Imperial Commander) **Number of Wins (2000/01-2007/08):** 3; 9; 15; 19; 67* (*Champion Conditional Jockey); 60; 80; 104; **Wins This Season:** 76