



Press release

21st June 2018

HEART FELT MOMENT FOR OLDHAM BINGO PLAYER AS THEY COLLECT £50,000 JACKPOT WIN

It was a bitter sweat moment for Steven Bray when he stepped up onto the stage tonight at Mecca Bingo Oldham to collect his £50,000 **National Bingo Game** Jackpot cheque: neither of his parents, who introduced him to the game he loves, were there to see him collect his prize.

Steven, a 35 year old hire controller for Hirestation, was enjoying a night at Mecca Bingo Oldham on Tuesday 5th June, when the evening took an exciting and unexpected turn as he called 'house' on the **National Bingo Game**, successfully claiming the club prize and a whopping £50,000 Jackpot. Steven is a regular at the club, attending one or two nights a week, having been introduced to the game by his late parents: Steven lost his mother to a heart attack aged 55 in July 2011 and his father at 69 to the same condition only last September.

Mecca Bingo Oldham held a special party night for all their customers to celebrate Steven's lucky win, which saw everyone tuck into a free buffet and raise a glass as they watched Steven receive his giant cheque on stage. Attending with him were his sister and some of his bingo buddies, who are hoping that a little of his luck will rub off on them

Winner Steven Bray said:

"I got introduced to bingo by my late mother and father and have been coming to Mecca once or twice a week for about 7 years. I have won a few times but this is the first time I have won such a big amount of money! The win was a shock and I'm still getting used to winning such a big amount: my mum and dad never won such a large amount when they were alive, so may be the win is gift and bit of luck from them."

"Bingo is a little bit of me time, away from a hectic life: I have two jobs that keep me extremely busy, so it is nice to take a relaxing break. Bingo is a good buzz, especially when waiting for

that last number to be called and it's good to meet new people: it's a laugh and you never know you could win big! It was great to get my giant cheque, as I still can't quite believe it."

When asked how he planned to spend his winnings Steven said:

"My long term plans are to pay off some of my mortgage and have a few holidays as I like to go abroad as much as I can: I have been looking at the Maldives, as I have always wanted to go there and now I will be able to. But first up is hosting a thank you party at my house for family and friends, with the food and drink on me: we will toast my parents."

Tony Beverley, Club Manager at Mecca Oldham said: "It is great to see one of our longest standing players win the **National Bingo Game**: he really couldn't believe it when we told her there and then he had won a £50,000 Jackpot. The whole club cheered and we are thrilled to be a £50,000 Jackpot winning club on the new National Bingo Game."

Alastair Stewart, Business Development Manager at the **National Bingo Game** said:

"We are thrilled for our lucky **National Bingo Game** £50,000 Jackpot winner at Mecca Oldham and hope that he enjoys his winnings, and of course the trip to the Maldives. We love making winners and this is our 11th £50,000 Jackpot winner on the new **National Bingo Game** since we launched on 30th April this year."

To find a participating club and for further information on the **National Bingo Game** visit www.nationalbingo.co.uk. or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/NationalBingoGame) and Twitter.com @nationalbingo.

All players must be aged 18 or over. The National Bingo Game is played under the provisions of The Gambling Act 2005 and played under National Bingo Game Players' Rules. Players should always gamble responsibly. For more information and advice visit www.BeGambleAware.org

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

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Images are available in the Drop Box link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/iukr57rboqwlu9m/AACE9HGznUVR-_lBotd_tYGLa?dl=0

About The National Game

- The National Bingo Game started in 1986, with the current format launched on 30th April 2018
- The new National Bingo Game is a Full House only game and offers players the following prizes:
Club Prize – won in every club, on every game
Jackpot Prizes of £50,000, £1,000 and £100
- To win a Club Prize a player must be the first in their participating venue to successfully complete a full house.
- To win a Jackpot Prize a player must be the first in their participating venue to successfully complete a full house as follows in the following number of calls:
16 numbers or less to win £50,000
20 numbers or less to win £ 1,000
24 numbers or less to win £ 100
- Tickets for the National Bingo Game are £1 for 2 tickets OR £2 for 5 tickets
- Total prize money paid to date by the National Bingo Game is over £1BILLION!
- The National Bingo Game is the UK's second largest computer controlled game in the UK, the national lottery being the largest
- The National Bingo Game is played twice a day, every day, 364 days a year
- Around 270 clubs across the UK offer the National Bingo Game, including Gala, Mecca, Majestic, Castle, Carlton and Beacon, in addition to a wide range of independent clubs
- National LIVE is a linked interval game also provided the National Bingo Game Association.
- Over three million people play bingo regularly in the UK (at least twice a week)
- A night out at the bingo can cost as little as £15-25 each, including game books, duty, food and drink
- Most common reasons for playing bingo are because it's fun: it offers companionship and the chance to socialise as well as winning cash prizes
- Celebrities love bingo! Catherine Zeta Jones can thank bingo for her career after her dad won enough to afford to send her to theatre school; other celebrity fans include: Denise Van Outen, Scott Mills and former President Barrack Obama's step-mother!
- A number of celebrities started their careers in bingo, including Chris Tarrant, Simon from boy band Blue, East Ender's Shane Richie, Russell Crowe and Kian from West Life.

About Mecca

Owned by the Rank Group Plc, Mecca is one of the largest Bingo and Slots operators in the UK. Mecca provides popular games, fun and entertainment through its 85 clubs and via Meccabingo.com online and mobile channels.

Strictly over-18s only. Please bet responsibly. www.begambleaware.org

For further information on the clubs and online via: www.meccabingo.com