



## Press release

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

# **BISHOP AUCKLAND BEST FOR BINGO: 19 YR OLD BINGO PLAYER CALLS 'HOUSE' ON £50,000 JACKPOT**

19 year old bingo fan Rebecca Walton, from Durham, received an unexpected boost to her Thursday night at Hippodrome Bingo in Bishop Auckland, when she called 'house' on a life changing £50,000 Jackpot on the **National Bingo Game**.

Rebecca is a firm fan of bingo, not only as a regular player, going along with her mam, who introduced her to the game, but she also works in bingo! Not at her now 'lucky' club, the Hippodrome Bishop Aukland, but at Apollo Bingo in Durham.

Rebecca was out at bingo, with her regular bingo buddy, her mam, on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August, playing at the evening session, when all her numbers came up on the **National Bingo Game**: as someone who works in bingo and is a regular player Rebecca knew she had won something, but was still not sure it was the big £50,000 Jackpot Prize until the caller confirmed it to the entire club. A huge cheer went up and players applauded.

Rebecca said: "I still can't believe it! I was shocked and completely overwhelmed: the best bit about bingo for me has always been that I get to spend time with my mam, but I am very grateful for the £50,000, which was totally unexpected.

"I have decided to share the prize with my mam, buy a new car and put the rest into savings for the future: we will still be coming to bingo though, that's for sure!"

Andrew Pedelty, Manager at Hippodrome Bingo commented, "After only being in the National Bingo Game for just over 7 weeks, when all Majestic Clubs decided to re-join, we were delighted to win the top jackpot prize of £50,000, which is a life changing sum of money for

Becca. The 19 year old plans to share it with her mam and is already making arrangements to buy a new car with her share and will then decide what to do with the rest.

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

“We are thrilled for Becca, our lucky **National Bingo Game** £50,000 Jackpot winner at Hippodrome Bingo: what a great boost to anyone’s savings account! We hope that she enjoys her winnings and the new car! It’s great to see clubs big and small can win BIG on the **National Bingo Game.**”

To find a participating club and for further information on the National Bingo Game visit [www.nationalbingo.co.uk](http://www.nationalbingo.co.uk). or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/NationalBingoGame](https://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](http://www.BeGambleAware.org)

**-ENDS-**

### **About The National Game**

- The National Bingo Game started in 1986, with the current format launched on 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### Hippodrome Bingo

Hippodrome Bingo is a small traditional club at the heart of the Bishop Auckland community and part of Majestic Bingo, the largest independent licensed bingo operator in the UK. For more information visit:

<https://majesticbingo.com>