



17<sup>th</sup> March 2015

## **SATURDAY NIGHT BINGO FEVER!**

### **As one lucky player scoops over £136,000**

It was a night to remember on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February, as one lucky lady scooped a whopping £136,385.45 on the National Bingo Game at Mecca Bingo in Brierley Hill.

The winner, who wishes to remain anonymous, has been playing bingo for over seventy years. Having beat cancer twice and losing her husband a decade ago, bingo has remained a constant in this winner's life. Around the time of her diagnosis, her daughter found a white feather and the family have kept it as a token of hope.

The regular player goes to bingo every week with her best friend. The friends have been playing bingo for decades and have said they will split the winnings three ways with another friend.

This big win has come as a huge shock to her and her family. Whilst sharing the money with her friends, she will also be using the win to celebrate with close friends and family.

Donna Brownadhill, Duty Manager of Mecca Bingo, Brierley Hill says: "The atmosphere in the club was tremendous. I was so emotional announcing the win on the night."

"I am so ecstatic that this win occurred in our club. This lady truly deserves this amazing amount of money. It really was a night to remember."

Taking part in the National Bingo Game couldn't be easier. Simply visit your local club or go online to find the nearest participating one.

Playing the National Bingo Game All players must be aged 18 or over. The National Bingo Game is played under the provisions of The Gambling Act 2005 and under National Bingo

Game Rules. Players should always gamble responsibly and play the National Bingo Game within their limits. For more information and advice visit [www.gambleaware.co.uk](http://www.gambleaware.co.uk).

For updates on the National Bingo Game Jackpot follow **Twitter @NationalBingo** and visit [www.nationalbingo.co.uk](http://www.nationalbingo.co.uk). To stay up to date on bingo news, winners, fun and games join our Facebook page **Facebook/nationalbingo-game**.

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**Visit [www.nationalbingo.co.uk](http://www.nationalbingo.co.uk)**

#### **Notes to editors**

- Total prize money distributed to date is over £1BILLION!
- There have been 18 National Bingo Game Jackpot winners so far winning over £2MILLION from Mecca Bingo Sale, Mecca Bingo Huddersfield and Castle Bingo Nantgarw, The Globe Donnington, Leo Leisure Eastleigh, Mecca Bingo Wishaw, Mecca Bingo Oldbury, Mecca Bingo Thanet, Castle Bingo Barnes Hill, Mecca Bingo Aberdeen, Castle Bingo Nantgarw, Winners Bingo Thetford, Carlton Bingo Hartlepool, Castle Bingo Bridgend, Leo Leisure Ryde, Mecca Bingo Beeston, Mecca Bingo Blythe, Apollo Barrow-in-Furness and Mecca Mayfair Leeds winning £115,000, £110,000, £81,000, £91,000, £91,000, £74,000, £154,000, £132,000, £250,000, £250,000, £250,000, £73,000, £270,000, £187,000, £250,000, £72,253, £250,000, £107,101 and £250,000 respectively.
- 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 offers players at participating clubs the chance to win one or more of three cash prizes including the Jackpot Prize, National Prize and House Prize.
- The biggest bingo win ever was on 23 March 2008, when Soraya Lowell from Motherwell, North Lanarkshire scooped GBP £1,167,795, while playing The National Game at Club 3000 in Coatbridge.
- Between 120 - 200 clubs link together to play the National Game twice a day, every day, except Christmas day.
- 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 big money.
- 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 President Barack Obama's step-mother!
- A number of celebrities also started their careers in bingo calling including Simon from boy band Blue, EastEnder's Shane Richie, Russell Crowe and Kian from West Life.