



**NATIONAL™  
BINGO GAME**

## **FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO FEVER! As one lucky lady scoops £275,000**

It was a night to remember on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, as one lucky lady scooped a whopping £275,647.42 on the National Bingo Game at Mecca Bingo in Southend.

Mrs Appleby was playing bingo with her husband when her numbers came up. Mr and Mrs Appleby are regular players at Mecca Bingo in Southend and brought the club luck too by scooping the biggest win the club has ever seen.

Mrs Appleby says “I can’t believe I’ve won this amount of money, I am in absolute shock. I regularly play bingo at my local club with my husband but never imagined that we would walk away over a quarter of a million pounds better off, it’s a dream come true. I have always loved bingo, and obviously this win makes me love it even more!”

Club staff members are planning a celebratory party night for the couple within the next few weeks, when the couple will be treated to a VIP event at the club where they and their family and friends will enjoy a night of bingo, some bubbles and be presented with their cheque.

Barry Lyons, General Manager of Mecca Bingo, Southend says: “It was such great news, everyone was buzzing, the club was electric on the night and I couldn’t wait to congratulate Mr & Mrs Appleby”.

“The winners are a lovely couple who play with us regularly and I couldn’t be more pleased that they are receiving this life changing sum of money”.

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. 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, Mecca Mayfair Leeds and Mecca Southend 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, £250,000 and £275,000 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.