

Press Release

**Brighton Pier Hosts Tickets 2 Wishes VIP Fun Day for Local Families**

Over the weekend, bacta member Brighton Pier hosted a fun-filled VIP day for local Rays of Sunshine families.

In addition, Mike Brocklehurst, Arcade Operations Manager at Brighton Pier and team, also presented Rays of Sunshine with a generous cheque for a further £3,500, raised via the Tickets2Wishes initiative, which turns left over redemption tickets collected in the arcade into magical wishes.

Prospective parliamentary candidate for the Labour Party, **Lloyd Russell-Moyle** also attended the event on the pier and was full of praise. *“It’s incredible to see such wonderful charitable giving through bacta and Rays of Sunshine’s initiative, #Tickets2Wishes, helping families and children with life limiting conditions experience a fun day out - thank you for supporting Brighton in this way,” he said.*

Attending was 16-year-old Cameron, from Brighton, and his family. In early 2016, the teen was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia, which he underwent intensive chemotherapy treatment for. He is currently in remission and doing well. Rays of Sunshine granted his wish in April 2017 to go to Orlando, visit the famous parks and attend the WWE Wrestle Mania Special show.

Five-year-old Hunter, also attended with and his family. At just a week old, he was diagnosed with the childhood eye cancer, Retinoblastoma. He has undergone intensive treatment and remains under close observation to ensure his tumours remain stable. Rays of Sunshine is granting his wish to have a special day out incorporating all his favourite things including a helicopter ride and monster trucks.

**Neil Blackmore, Marketing Manager at Brighton Pier,** said:*“We are proud to host Cameron, Hunter and their families. The work Rays of Sunshine does is so inspiring and we’re extremely proud as a local family business to be a part of bacta and the #Tickets2Wishes campaign to help other families and create important memories for them.”*

**Jane Sharpe, CEO of Rays of Sunshine** said: *“A huge thanks to Brighton Pier for hosting such a fun-filled day for Cameron, Hunter and their families this weekend. Family days out like these give our families the chance to create special memories and spend quality time together. We are so grateful to the bacta charitable trust and its members for supporting the Tickets2Wishes fundraising scheme. It is only with the support of our valued partners, like bacta, that we can continue our work to brighten the lives of seriously ill children. Thank you to all of the customers who have donated their tickets to grant magical wishes”.*

**James Miller, President of bacta said**: *"Tickets2Wishes is a fantastic charity initiative that brings together bacta members, like Brighton Pier and local families that have recently had their wish granted by Rays of Sunshine. Tickets 2 Wishes is all about friends and families coming together to have fun and make happy memories, and by supporting Rays of Sunshine through the Tickets2Wishes scheme we can go on to grant other wishes to deserving families across the country.”*

Bacta is a long-term charitable supporter of Rays of Sunshine, to date, bacta members have raised £500,000 through its charitable trust and partnership with Rays of Sunshine.

Editor information:

About bacta:

Bacta represents the owners and operators of seaside amusement arcades, over-18 amusement centres, and the companies that hire machines to pubs, clubs, bowling alleys, bingo halls and similar venues.  It also represents the manufacturers and distributors of all types of amusement equipment.  This can range from children’s rides, to jukeboxes, fruit machines in pubs and clubs, crane grabbers, penny falls, tuppeny nudgers, test your strength machines, videos, pool tables and gaming machines

[www.bacta.org.uk](http://www.bacta.org.uk)

About Rays of Sunshine

Rays of Sunshine Children's Charity was formed in 2003 to brighten the lives of seriously ill young people and their families across the UK by granting wishes and providing ongoing support in hospital and within the community. [www.raysofsunshine.org.uk](http://www.raysofsunshine.org.uk). Over 7,000 wishes have been granted since the Ray of Sunshine Children’s charity was formed and their work has touched the lives of more than 60,000 children and young people, not to mention their siblings and parents.