



ZOOM F1 CHARITY AUCTION RAISES OVER £24,737.00 FOR STARLIGHT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

- OVER £24,737 RAISED FOR NATIONAL CHILDREN'S CHARITY
- GRAEME LOWDON IMAGE ATTRACTS HIGHEST BID AND SELLS FOR £2,000
- ONLINE AUCTION LIVE NOW WWW.COYS-ZOOM.CO.UK

On Friday 3rd February, the stars of Formula 1 and racing enthusiasts gathered for the 5th annual ZOOM Charity Gala Auction at London's InterContinental Park Lane Hotel in aid of Starlight Children's Foundation, a national charity that provides entertainment in hospitals and hospices across the UK and grants wishes-of-a-lifetime for seriously and terminally ill children.

A selection of photographs taken and signed by F1 drivers and team principals were auctioned in front of a star-studded audience by Chris Routledge, managing director of COYS, and raised over £24,737 for Starlight.

The biggest sellers from the evening were photos taken by Graeme Lowdon, Bernie Ecclestone and Lewis Hamilton. This year's most generous bid so far was for a photo taken by Graeme Lowdon of a sketch he did of Jenson Button and raised £2,000.

Notable attendees from the world of F1 who turned out to support the event included Jolyon Palmer, Anthony Hamilton and Nicki Shields as well as celebrities Heather Small, Lizzie Cundy and Stephanie Pratt.

The remaining lots have been entered in the ZOOM online auction which is now live at www.coys-zoom.co.uk. The online auction enables fans around the world to bid for photographs taken by their favourite drivers and F1 personalities. This includes photos from personalities such as Sergio Perez, Carlos Sainz and Martin Brundle.

This is the first year that ZOOM has supported Starlight and it has proved to be the perfect partnership. Starlight has a long-standing relationship with Formula 1 and every year the charity takes a group of Starlight Wish children to the Monaco Grand Prix to meet the drivers and soak up the atmosphere.

Christian Sylt, co-founder of ZOOM, said, *"I'd like to thank everyone who made the fifth ZOOM event possible - the teams, drivers and everyone else who took a photo, Bernie Ecclestone, our sponsors, the guests and, of course, Starlight. We're very proud to help them continue to make dreams come true for sick children."*

Neil Swan, Chief Executive of Starlight, said, *"We're delighted that the auction raised over £24,000 for Starlight and we would like to say a huge thank you to ZOOM for choosing to partner with us! We also want to thank the F1 community and everyone that attended the event for their generous support."*

"The money raised will be used to brighten the lives of Starlight's seriously ill children by helping to grant wishes-of-a-lifetime and provide a year-round hospital entertainment programme to distract children from the pain and isolation often caused by their illness and giving both them and their families happy memories, whatever the future may hold."

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About ZOOM

ZOOM is an initiative from Money Sport Media, the publisher of Formula 1 business data guide, Formula Money (www.formulamoney.com). The first event took place in September 2012 and the fifth event will be held early in 2017.

About Starlight Children's Foundation

Starlight grants once-in-a-lifetime wishes for seriously and terminally ill children, restoring the magic and fun of childhood and giving the whole family happy memories to share, whatever the future holds.

Starlight also creates entertainment in every hospital and hospice throughout the UK. Sick children laugh their way through pantomimes, go out on Starlight Escapes, play games and watch films on the Starlight Fun Centre, and enjoy the toys and puzzles of the Starlight Distraction Box. Happy children respond better to treatment and Starlight helps children to forget about their illness and simply have a bit of fun.

To refer a child for a wish or to make a donation, please go online at www.starlight.org.uk. For every £1 you donate, 91p goes towards helping Starlight's very ill children.

N.B. Starlight should be referred to as 'Starlight Children's Foundation' or 'Starlight' never as 'the Starlight Children's Foundation', 'the foundation' or 'Starlight Foundation'.