



PRESS RELEASE

Issued: 07 December 2016

Children and their families take to the skies to search for Santa

Yorkshire children supported by ten charities and organisations across the region today searched for Santa in the sky, marking the start of the festive season with Leeds Bradford Airport and Monarch.

More than 150 children, their carers and parents joined the very special 'Search for Santa' flight. Beforehand, there was a children's party in the Yorkshire Premier Lounge when face painters and a magician entertained the guests before they boarded the flight. Staff from across the airport dressed in costumes to ensure there was plenty of Christmas spirit throughout the fun packed day.

Once in the air, the flight soared above the Yorkshire landscape and coastline, during which time Santa appeared so everyone could have a sing-a-long together. When everyone arrived back into Leeds Bradford Airport, gifts were handed out to all of the children, who also had a photo with Santa on his arrival into Yorkshire.

Kayley Worsley, PR and Public Affairs Manager at LBA, said:

"Today has been a tremendous success; we're really pleased to have once again hosted this lovely day with Monarch to help create special memories for children and their families facing incredibly tough times. At LBA, we are focused upon providing the very best opportunities for travel and supporting our community members with a range of exciting activities.

"It has been such a fun day and we hope that everyone has really enjoyed their Search for Santa flight. The children and their families are incredibly courageous and it's such a pleasure to welcome them all to LBA."

Pauline Prow, Chair of the Monarch Foundation, said:

"We are delighted to be working with Leeds Bradford Airport again this year on the Search for Santa flight that helps make Christmas extra special for remarkable children and their families. Our teams on the ground and in the air have loved making it a day to remember for everyone including those families from our Monarch Foundation charities – Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity, Macmillan Cancer Support and Blind Veterans UK. The children really are an inspiration to all the Monarch teams involved."

The charities and organisations taking part were:

- NHS Leeds Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust
- Martin House Children's Hospice
- Multiflight and guests from Children's Heart Surgery Fund and Yorkshire Country Cricket Club
- Reuben's Retreat
- One In A Million
- Cancer Research UK
- Bradford City FC and invited guests from Bradford Teaching Hospitals
- Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity
- Blind Veterans UK
- Macmillan Cancer Support



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