** Tuesday 1st September**

**COSTA LOVER AND BARISTA TURNS AWARD-WINNING LATTE ART INTO TATTOO TROPHY**



A Costa Barista loves her job so much she decided to get the iconic Costa coffee beans tattooed on her arm.

Lucy White, 27 from Portsmouth has been announced as one of Costa’s most dedicated Baristas, and it’s not just due to her ink. Lucy decided to get her award-winning latte art inked as a permanent fixture on her wrist after the Costa award gave her more confidence.

Lucy said, "I love what I do, and I do what I love! The decision to get my tattoo shows my passion for my job, and love for coffee! I love working at Costa so much I even suggested it to my little sister, and she also got a job!"

The UK continues to become a country of coffee connoisseurs, which is why it is vital for Costa to use their 40 plus years of experience to consistently provide irresistible coffee, paired with quality food, in a welcoming environment.

Jim Slater, Managing Director at Costa said, “Our customers keep coming back because our specialist baristas are highly skilled, and are trusted to create a beautiful hand-crafted coffee every time. It takes time, training and dedication to be a Costa barista. We want all of our teams to enjoy their time with Costa, and hopefully create the occasional little moment of happiness for our customers too.”

Costa is celebrating its customers and employees throughout September and October, for more stories on Costa people visit www.costa.co.uk

**ENDS**

For further information please contact the Costa Press Office at Costateam@onegreenbean.com

 or call 0207 017 1014

**About Costa**

Costa is the UK’s favourite coffee shop, having been awarded “Best Branded Coffee Shop Chain in the UK and Ireland" by Allegra Strategies for five years running (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 & November 2014).

Winner of “Best Branded Coffee Chain in Europe” Allegra Strategies 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

With over 1,800 coffee shops in the UK and more than 1,100 overseas, Costa is the fastest growing coffee shop business in the UK and the second largest coffee shop operator in the world.  Founded in London by Italian brothers Sergio and Bruno Costa in 1971, Costa has become the UK’s favourite coffee shop chain and diversified into both the at-home and gourmet self-serve markets.

Costa employs over 12,000 people and is creating around 1,500 jobs this year and over 4,500 jobs in the next three years in the UK. We continue to be part of the Sunday Times Best Companies To Work For list.

Costa is committed to looking after coffee-growers. That's why we've established The Costa Foundation, a registered charity. The Costa Foundation's aims are to relieve poverty, advance education and the health and environment of coffee-