



News

from The National Lottery®

17 December 2005

Christmas Comes Early for Tesco Syndicate

Santa Claus has already come to town in Pontypridd and delivered an early Christmas present to seven Tesco employees – the lucky syndicate has cashed in on a £97,425 Lotto win.

The syndicate members – who call themselves ‘The Magnificent Seven’ – work together in the security department at the Tesco superstore on the Treforest Industrial Estate. They bought the winning ticket at the store where they all work, and matched five numbers and the bonus ball in last Saturday’s Lotto draw (10 December).

Syndicate organiser Les Cosslett (46), who is from Llanishen in Cardiff, had a shock when fellow worker Perry Evans phoned him late on Saturday night to check their Lotto numbers. Les explained: “I had been working on a late shift, and when I got home Perry rang to say he thought we had won. When I saw the numbers, I just couldn’t believe it. I was very cautious about the whole thing until it was actually proved that we had won.”

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Les, who is married with seven grown up children, then had the job of informing the rest of the syndicate about the win. He commented: "It was a bit tricky – as they were all out at a staff Christmas party, so they were already feeling merry before I gave them the news!"

Les and his wife Sue are planning to spend some of the money on a family holiday to the Dominican Republic next September, and a trip to Alicante in May, as well as using some for home improvements. Les said: "It's not a life changing amount of money, but it will definitely make for a very merry Christmas and happy new year!"

The Magnificent Seven syndicate has been playing Lotto together for more than two years, with the same numbers, chosen originally at random. The winning Lotto numbers on Saturday 10 December were 10, 20, 23, 25, 30, 48 and the bonus ball, 31.

The other members of the winning syndicate are David Henwood and Anthony Spencer Rees, who both live in Church Village, near Pontypridd; Christopher Mapps, from Sirhowy, Tredegar; Leighton Jones, from Penrhiwceiber, near Mountain Ash; and Perry Evans, from Tynewydd, Treorchy, Rhondda.

This Saturday (17 December) there is a £5 million estimated Lotto jackpot and a £4.8 million estimated Lotto Extra jackpot available to win – while Friday's (16 December) EuroMillions Rollover jackpot is an estimated £37 million.

-Ends-

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Notes to Editors:

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- Camelot runs one of the most cost-efficient lotteries in the world, with around 5 per cent of total revenue taken in operating costs. At 40 per cent of total sales (28 per cent to Good Causes and 12 per cent in lottery duty to the Government), Camelot returns a higher proportion of lottery revenue back to society than any other lottery operator in the world. National Lottery retailers receive 5 per cent of total revenue in commission, and 50 per cent of sales is paid out to players in prizes
- Camelot is committed to the highest standards in player protection and social responsibility in both the retail and interactive environments. The National Lottery website, Sky Active and Play By Text services have been accredited by GamCare, the UK's national centre for information, advice and practical help regarding the social impact of gambling – while Camelot's approach to game design, test purchasing and retailer vigilance campaigns ensures player protection at retail. Camelot has been ranked among the top 30 UK companies in Business in the Community's 2005 Corporate Responsibility Index, becoming a sector leader in the leisure category
- For further information on Camelot, The National Lottery and its games, please visit the following websites: www.camelotgroup.co.uk and www.national-lottery.co.uk
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