



News

from The National Lottery®

23 September 2005

Lotto Win Is Just What The Doctor Ordered

Pulses were racing at the Aston Clinton Surgery in Aylesbury when a 30 strong syndicate won £108,089 on the Lotto. The syndicate, which is made up of doctors, nurses, receptionists and administrators matched five numbers plus the bonus ball in the Lotto draw on Saturday 17 September 2005.

Syndicate organiser Heidi Doncaster (42), a Supervisor at the surgery; explained how there was more than a little luck involved in the win after she had mistakenly entered the wrong numbers. "When everyone gave me their numbers, there was one line that contained the number 49, but I accidentally ticked the box for the number 40", she said. "As it turned out, that mistake was worth over £100,000 as that was the winning line!"

The syndicate discovered their good fortune when their computer failed. Heidi explained: "On Monday, a few of us had been talking about how great it would be to win the lottery, little realising we already had. We thought nothing of it, but about an hour later I was unable to get into our normal medical system on my computer so decided to check our Lotto numbers online. I couldn't believe it when first three, then four and then five numbers matched."

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Heidi continued: “At that point I was getting really excited and asked a colleague to double-check. It was only then that we discovered that we’d also matched the bonus ball. Doctor’s surgeries are supposed to be quiet places and I’m pretty sure we’d have been told off for making too much noise if our boss hadn’t won lots of money too!”

Various members of the syndicate are already planning what to do with their winnings, as Heidi explained: “Some are going to take holidays to far off places like Florida, and my husband and I are going to use the money to treat my three children, Lianne (12), Sian (10) and Robert (6).”

The syndicate has been playing Lotto for four years and each member selects one line every Saturday, with Heidi buying the tickets a month at a time from TCS Aylesbury Bedgrove Centre. “We’re going to keep playing, and hopefully I’ll make a few more mistakes when filling in the tickets,” joked Heidi.

The winning numbers for Saturday 17 September were 9, 21, 23, 31, 40, 46 and the bonus ball, 8. This Saturday (24 September) there is an estimated £8.5 million rollover jackpot available to win on Lotto, while this Friday’s (23 September) EuroMillions jackpot is an estimated £10 million.

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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 and Sky Active 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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