



# News

from The National Lottery®

8 November 2005

## Lotto Jackpot Is Just 'Purr-fect' For Gloucestershire Couple

A Gloucestershire couple are like the cats that got the cream after winning a £4,459,670 share of Saturday's Lotto Rollover jackpot (5 November 2005) – but 'paws for thought' for Sooty the cat who helped bring them good luck.

Superstitious Barbara and Michael Ayres (47), usually get their dog Jack to lick the lottery ticket each week before the results are announced for good luck. On Saturday the couple forgot their weekly ritual with Jack and instead noticed that their cat Sooty had her paw firmly placed on the ticket as the results were read out.

Barbara (47), who works at BHS in Gloucester, commented: "We watched the draw on TV and I realised Sooty had her paw on it. I got the ticket off her and when I checked the results, I literally burst into tears when I realised that we had scooped the jackpot – it was the most amazing feeling. Now that the news has sunk in we are thinking about ways to spend the money, but there will definitely be a few treats for Sooty."

- m/f -



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Husband Michael (48), an avid coarse fisherman and fan of Gloucestershire rugby club – who works at the Footwear Warehouse in Gloucester – is looking forward to an early retirement and spending his leisure time enjoying his favourite hobbies thanks to the lucky win. He said: “At the moment I really don’t know what to do, I am still in shock. It’ll seem odd to retire at 48 but I’m really looking forward to it!

The couple always buy a Lucky Dip<sup>®</sup> ticket for the Saturday Lotto draw. The winning ticket was bought at Tesco, St Oswald’s, Gloucester. The winning Lotto numbers on Saturday 5 November were 12, 13, 21, 26, 32, 39, and bonus ball was 17.

This Wednesday (9 November), there is an estimated £2.8 million Lotto jackpot available to win and a further £2.4 million estimated jackpot up for grabs on Lotto Extra – while Friday’s (11 November) EuroMillions jackpot is an estimated £30 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



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- 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](http://www.camelotgroup.co.uk) and [www.national-lottery.co.uk](http://www.national-lottery.co.uk)
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