

14 July 2006

‘They’re Lovin’ It!’ Cardiff Couple Scoop £1.3 Million Lotto Jackpot

Lucky Cardiff couple, Emma Cox and Luke Pittard – who both work at the same McDonald’s restaurant in the city – are making a ‘super-prize’ meal of celebrating, after being served up a tasty £1,369,847 portion of last Wednesday’s Lotto jackpot (12 July 2006).

The couple’s big win continues the exceptional run of lottery luck in Wales this year. Other major Welsh winners since the beginning of March have included Swansea ex-teacher, Mike Straddon, who enjoyed £1.3 million of Lotto success on 1 March; Llanelli great-granddad, Bob Bradley, who received a £3.5 million 83rd birthday Lotto jackpot bonus on 11 March; and Cwmbran factory worker, Gareth Cooper, who won £2.4 million on 19 April 2006. More recently, Cardiff University student, Paul Thomas, ended up £100,000 richer when a quick trip to buy some cereal from his local shop on Sunday 11 June, resulted in him winning the top prize on a National Lottery Scratchcard.

Emma (28) and Luke (23) – who have been together for four years and have a two year-old daughter named Chloe – both still live with their respective parents. They are delighted that, among other things, their big win will enable them to buy their first family home. It was Emma, who lives in Splott and works as an area manager for McDonald’s in Pontprennau, who discovered that they had won, when she switched on the television to check the winning numbers on Thursday morning – although she had been given a clue earlier.

Emma explained: “It’s funny because on the day I bought the ticket, I went back to work and there was a money spider on my hand so I said to one of the girls that I was going to win the lottery that night – obviously never believing it would happen!

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“I’ve played the lottery since it started. I think I’m still a bit stunned, as anyone would be, but obviously absolutely over the moon. I’m still recovering from the shock but looking forward to starting to spend some of the winnings.”

She added: “The whole family’s on cloud nine and we’re looking forward to a nice holiday – possibly a cruise as I’ve always wanted to go on one – and then we’ll start looking for a new house. Chloe’s only two so is a bit young to understand it all really, but I’m sure she’ll be suitably spoilt!”

The winning Lotto numbers on 12 July 2006 were: 18, 20, 26, 27, 28, and 39. Emma bought the winning Lucky Dip® ticket on Wednesday at the Co-op on Splott Road.

This Wednesday (19 July), there is an estimated £2.5 million Lotto jackpot available to win – while every Lotto play slip now comes with its own Dream Number. It is up to players to mark ‘yes’ to give their Dream Number its chance of winning up to £500,000 – or choose a Dream Number Lucky Dip. There is also an estimated £17 million EuroMillions Rollover jackpot up for grabs this Friday (21 July).

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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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