



from The National Lottery

10 July 2007

Ulsterman Wins £1.6 Million On Lotto

Londonderry man, Denis Doherty (60), scooped £1,655,605 in last Saturday's Lotto draw (7 July 2007) – thanks to a child crying in his local shop.

When the retired Du Pont worker went to buy his weekly lottery ticket, a woman behind him was trying to calm down her young son. This prompted him to quickly choose a random selection of numbers, which luckily resulted in him winning a one third share of the Lotto jackpot.

Denis explained: "The boy wanted his mother to buy him sweets and was getting very upset. I didn't want to hold things up so I just wrote down the first numbers that came into my head – it took a matter of seconds.

"Had I been able to take more time to think I have no doubt I would have selected some different numbers. None of the numbers had any personal connections like birthdays or anniversaries and had I remembered the date was 07/07/07, I might have been tempted to put in a seven!"

Denis and his wife, Patricia (49), live in the Waterside area of Derry – and have no plans to move. When they discovered their good fortune, the Dohertys' first family phone call on Saturday night was to Spain where their elder daughter, Geraldine (27), is a teacher. She flew straight home to join a celebration with her parents and younger sister, Denise (26). The lucky couple are yet to make plans about how to splash out with their new-found wealth.

Patricia said: "We're not going to rush into anything. We will sit back, relax and take it in. Neither of us drinks at all – so there won't be any champagne. But I do need a new electric tin opener!"

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Super-fit Denis will not be over-indulging, despite the fact that he has become the fifth largest National Lottery winner in Northern Ireland to go public – he is a long-distance runner who watches what he eats and drinks. The big win will not put an end to his hobby of ‘doing things up’ either.

Denis commented: “I go for long runs twice a week to keep me in trim for the annual Waterside half marathon – I have been running it for years for charity and hope to keep going for a few years yet. I go around car boots sales buying up anything from old oil heaters to any sort of antiques and I get great pleasure restoring them like new.”

Denis bought his lucky Lotto ticket at Spa, Trench Road. The winning Lotto numbers on Saturday 7 July were 16, 22, 28, 30, 33, 35, and the bonus ball was 37.

Tomorrow night’s Lotto jackpot (Wednesday 11 July) is an estimated £2.5 million, while this Friday’s (13 July), there is a £36 million estimated EuroMillions jackpot available to win. 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 Lucky Dip.

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- Camelot runs one of the most cost-efficient lotteries in the world, with around 5% of total revenue taken in operating costs. At 40% of total sales (28% to Good Causes and 12% 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% of total revenue in commission, and 50% 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 40 UK companies in Business in the Community's 2006 Corporate Responsibility Index, and is sector leader in the leisure category
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