

from The National Lottery



9 March 2007

Patience Is A Virtue For West Ham Fans As They Claim Barking Lotto Jackpot

A Barking couple have proved that all good things come to those who wait – after being Lotto millionaires for over a month without realising it, the lucky West Ham fans are now celebrating netting a fantastic £2,561,750 win from the Lotto draw which on Wednesday 7 February 2007.

Lynn and Terry Patience only discovered they had won after The National Lottery® ran a publicity campaign in their local media asking lottery players in the area to check their old tickets – as the massive jackpot prize in Barking had not yet been claimed. Fortunately for them their daughter heard about the missing ticket on the radio and told her mum to check their tickets.

Today (Friday 9 March), the happy Hammers supporters celebrated hitting the nail on the head with their Lotto win, with bubbles of champagne at Upton Park. According to Lynn (50), an operations supervisor for a courier company, her husband Terry always keeps their Lotto tickets in a draw and only checks them every now and then.

She explained: “Our daughter knows what Terry is like with the Lotto tickets, so when she heard about the missing ticket on the radio she was on the phone saying we should check our tickets because we might have won the jackpot. When Terry took them into Thames View Post Office I just had a feeling it might be us. I could not believe it when Terry called me from the shop to say we had won – everything has been a blur since!”

Lynn added: “Whenever there is something on the news about missing winners I often say at work how I could be a millionaire and not know it, and now I really am. We still can’t believe it.”

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Now the couple are busy deciding what to do with their win, and say that looking after the family is their top priority and that they will definitely be having a party to celebrate their good fortune. They have often dreamed of moving house, so a new home is definitely on their shopping list – as they love going to Spain, a villa on the Costa Brava is also on the cards. There will be a few trips to West Ham as a treat for the children and grandchildren who are also keen supporters.

The winning numbers were chosen from family birthdays and Lynn has been playing the same line on both Wednesdays and Saturdays for about 12 years. The ticket was purchased from Thames View Post Office in Barking and the winning numbers on 7 February were 6, 16, 18, 29, 30 and 35.

With all National Lottery draws, players have 180 days from the day of the draw to claim their win if they have the winning ticket. Anyone who believes they have the winning ticket for any of the National Lottery draws within the 180-day deadline should call the **National Lottery Line** on **0845 910 0000**. If no-one comes forward with the winning ticket before the prize claim deadline, then the prize money, plus all the interest it has generated, will go to the Good Causes – adding to the £19 billion already raised through sales of lottery tickets since The National Lottery[®] launched in November 1994.

Tonight Friday (9 March) the EuroMillions jackpot is an estimated £10 million and on Saturday (10 March) there is an estimated £4.7 million Lotto jackpot. 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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Notes to Editors:

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- To date, over £19 billion has been raised for Good Causes by The National Lottery, and more than 250,000 individual awards have been made across the UK – the biggest programme of civic and social regeneration since the 19th Century. The National Lottery has given away over £29 billion in prizes and created more than 2,000 millionaires or multi-millionaires since launch in 1994
- 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 is ranked first in the leisure sector in Business in the Community's 2006 Corporate Responsibility Index
- 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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