

30 November 2007

## **Third Colchester Winner Is Right On Cue** *Good luck comes in threes, with hat trick of Lotto wins in two weeks*

A brush with destiny has literally paid off for Stephen Spear (54), a barman at the Colchester Billiards and Snooker Club, who touched the shoulder of a member of last week's jackpot-winning syndicate for good luck – and has now pocketed an incredible £158,317 Lotto prize of his own.

Stephen got his lucky break after he saw Diane Cook, a member of the £4.8 million winning syndicate from Hythe Offset Printing, to discuss the final details of a celebratory party she was holding at the club last Saturday morning (24 November 2007). He then went on to match five numbers and the bonus ball in that evening's Lotto draw – the third major lottery prize to be won in the Essex town in the space a fortnight.

Stephen found out about his win after asking his daughter, Melony Skillern – the Snooker Club manager – to check his Lotto numbers. He now plans to spend some of his winnings on a cruise down the Nile this Christmas and a trip Down Under in the New Year.

Stephen said: "I rubbed Diane's shoulder for good luck before going out to buy my tickets. Now I've won as well. It's just fantastic."

Melony explained: "On Saturday night I was at work helping to look after the party who were celebrating their syndicate win, when my father called and asked me to check his numbers. Neither of us could believe it when we realised he had matched five numbers and the bonus ball. It's just the most unbelievable series of coincidences this town is currently experiencing."

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Stephen has been playing the lottery since it began 13 years ago and bought his winning Lucky Dip® ticket, as always, from Claytons Newsagents on the High Street in Colchester. The winning numbers on Saturday 24 November 2007 were 1, 14, 25, 37, 39, 47 and the bonus ball 38.

Stephen's win extends the towns astonishing run of luck. Eileen Strange walked away with an amazing £909,414 share of the Lotto jackpot on Wednesday 14 November 2007, followed by the Hythe Offset Syndicate which hit the £4,800,414 Lotto jackpot on Saturday 17 November 2007.

This Friday's (30 November) EuroMillions jackpot is an estimated £10 million, while on Saturday (1 December) there is an estimated £7 million Lotto Rollover 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.

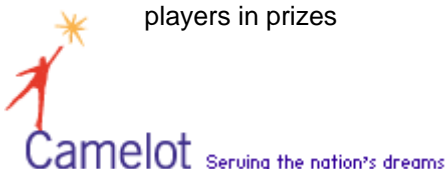
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#### Notes to Editors:

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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 the 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

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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 is ranked first in the leisure sector in Business in the Community's 2006 Corporate Responsibility Index
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