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Fareham Mechanic Drives Off With £5,000 Christmas Bonus For Life

Christmas dreams do come true with National Lottery Scratchcards

Young Fareham mechanic, Lee Dimond (23), will be enjoying life in the festive fast lane for years to come after scratching his way to the top prize of £5,000 every Christmas for life* on the Christmas Bonus Scratchcard from The National Lottery.

Lee, who lives in Cosham and works for Fareham Tyre and Autocare, was wondering how to pay back a £2,000 loan when he bought the winning Christmas Bonus Scratchcard on his way to work last Thursday morning (22 November 2007). After realising he had won when he scratched it off in his car, Lee has already assigned this year's £5,000. Paying off his £2,000 loan is at the top of his shopping list, but as a performance car enthusiast, he also plans to put the remaining money towards his dream car – a 200 SX Nissan.

Lee commented: "I was worried about paying back my loan but now there is no need – £5,000 is the perfect Christmas present, and I'm lucky enough to get it every year for life."

He added: "I was in total shock when I scratched the Christmas Bonus Scratchcard and realised I had won. I've been buying Scratchcards for the last two years but I usually win a couple of quid at a time. This time it really did pay off!"

Lee continued: "I told the boys at work as soon as I got there but they didn't believe me until I showed them the Scratchcard. I was really nervous about losing it so I locked it in my boss' glove compartment until the end of the day. I carried on working but we all went out that night to celebrate and enjoyed quite a few drinks."

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National Lottery Scratchcards offer players the chance to win a whole range of instant cash prizes at their fingertips – and make the perfect extra seasonal gift to pop in the post, put in a Christmas stocking, use as a place setting at the Christmas table, or to give workmates as an extra ‘Secret Santa’ treat.

Costing £2 to play and available now at more than 26,000 National Lottery retailers across the UK, the Christmas Bonus Scratchcard could really make players’ Christmas dreams come true – with eight chances to win on each ticket and top prizes of £5,000 every Christmas for life available to win*.

Tomorrow’s (Wednesday 28 November) Lotto jackpot is an estimated £2.5 million, while on Friday (30 November), there is an estimated £10 million 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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Notes to Editors:

- Camelot Group plc is the licensed operator of The National Lottery and is committed to raising money for the Good Causes designated by Parliament. Camelot is not responsible for distributing or awarding these funds
- To date, over £20 billion has been raised for the Good Causes by The National Lottery, and more than 280,000 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 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
 - 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
 - Players of all National Lottery games must be aged 16 or over
 - The crossed fingers logo is the registered trademark of the National Lottery Commission
 - reMnet™ is the regional media network of Paratus Communications.
- * The top prize of £5,000 every Christmas for life is subject to UK tax as applicable.**