

21 November 2007

Thame Couple Swap Bedtime Cocoa For Champagne After Lotto Win

A couple from Thame had their dream come true when, just before their heads hit the pillow, they realised they had scooped £105,503 on Lotto on Saturday 17 November 2007, by matching five numbers and the bonus ball.

Bruce Blyth (49), a British Airways engineer, and his wife, Elaine (46), a teaching assistant at Mill Lane school, live in Chinnor with their three sons – Robin (21), Toby (19) and Dominic (10). The couple, who have been playing the lottery for 12 years, were just getting into bed when Elaine checked the numbers on Teletext.

Bruce said: “When she saw the numbers on the screen she must have asked me five times to read out our numbers and then she said she thought we had won. We went online, checked the numbers again and then saw the amount we had won. We were absolutely ecstatic, running around the bedroom. We headed straight to the fridge for some champagne, we didn’t feel very tired after that!”

After stashing the Lotto ticket safely in Bruce’s underwear drawer, the couple went out with their family the following day for a celebratory lunch and are now deciding on how to spend their windfall – paying off the mortgage, a Christmas to remember and an elaborate holiday next year are on the cards.

Bruce and Elaine buy two tickets each week – a Lucky Dip® and one containing the same combination of regular numbers. It was this ticket, which has made them £105,503 richer.

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Elaine said: “We picked the numbers so long ago that we can’t even remember what they represent but it was that line that matched the draw on Saturday so it’s now our lucky line and we’ll definitely continue playing with that one!”

The couple bought their winning ticket at the Co-op in Chinnor. The winning Lotto numbers on Saturday 17 November were 11, 16, 20, 22, 27, 46 and the bonus ball number was 29.

Tonight’s Lotto jackpot is an estimated £2.5 million, while Friday’s (24 November) estimated EuroMillions Rollover jackpot is £19 million. 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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**For further information, please contact
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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
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