

18 January 2008

Pudsey Couple Click Onto Lotto Prize

A couple from Pudsey, Leeds, are celebrating the New Year in style after scooping £70,092 by barely lifting a finger! The couple matched five numbers and the bonus ball in the Lotto draw on Saturday 5 January 2008 playing interactively at National-Lottery.co.uk.

Nicola Schofield (37) and her husband Daniel (34), who have a three year old daughter, couldn't have wished for a better start to 2008 and plan to celebrate in style. By playing online Nicola didn't need to brave the recent cold, wintry weather to buy her winning ticket, it was so simple she didn't even have to check her numbers, she received notification of her win via email.

Nicola explained: "I was on holiday at Centre Parcs when I found out we had won. I checked my email inbox, and rang Daniel straight away. I was so shocked when I saw our numbers as we had been discussing our Lotto 'wish list' only a few days previously! We started celebrating immediately with lots of pampering treatments and activities."

Nicola, a financial services recruitment consultant, and Daniel, a medical sales rep, plan to visit friends in Hong Kong, treat themselves to a Nintendo Wii and pay off part of their mortgage. Sharing their good fortune with family and friends is also on the cards. Nicola continued: "The win is the perfect amount of money to give us piece of mind. It will make our finances easier and has also given us the opportunity to buy a few luxuries that would normally have taken months of saving. Winning has made us realise that it really can be anyone that wins, we feel extremely lucky."

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The couple have played the Lotto since it started in November 1994, playing the same numbers – which include birthday dates and lucky numbers - every Saturday and Wednesday through their account at www.National-Lottery.co.uk. The winning numbers on Saturday 5 January 2008 were: 2, 3, 12, 20, 33, 49 and the bonus ball was 11. Nicola realised that they had won when she received an email from the lottery asking her to check her online account.

At National-Lottery.co.uk, players can buy tickets for all of the National Lottery's draw-based games, including Lotto, Dream Number and EuroMillions. Once they have set up an online account at National-Lottery.co.uk, they can also play a range of Instant Win Games – interactive versions of Scratchcards, including Monopoly and Deal or No Deal – to win prizes up to £100,000.

Tonight's EuroMillions rollover jackpot is an estimated £41 million while tomorrow (19 January) there is an estimated £7 million Lotto rollover 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:

- 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

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- 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
- 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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