



29 January 2008

Hemel Hempstead Couple Win The Triple

A retired couple from Hertfordshire are celebrating after they scooped the amazing £18,992,109 Lotto Triple Rollover jackpot last Saturday (26 January 2008).

Steve (58) and Ida (68) Smith from Hemel Hempstead play Lotto regularly but they almost missed out on this fantastic prize when Steve forgot to buy an extra few Lucky Dips.

Steve, a retired chargehand hospital porter, explained: "We always buy a few lines for Lotto every Wednesday and Saturday but this time, because it was a Triple Rollover, Ida asked me to buy some extra Lucky Dips, just in case.

"I'd completely forgotten until Ida reminded me when we were driving home from seeing family on Saturday afternoon. Luckily, I saw a shop ahead so we stopped off and bought three Lucky Dip tickets – and it was one of those that hit the jackpot!"

Ida, who used to work in the laundry at the same hospital, said: "I was just getting Sunday lunch ready when Steve went to check our numbers on Teletext but none of them were winners. I still had the Lucky Dip tickets so I started checking those and saw we'd matched three numbers."

Steve continued: "Ida said we'd matched three numbers but I had a look at the ticket and told her we'd matched four. Then I looked again and realised we'd matched all six! We couldn't believe it. We left the Teletext pages on for hours and just kept looking at it, worrying the numbers might change!"

Top of the shopping list is a four-bedroomed bungalow with some land for stables and a paddock as well as a top-of-the-range Range Rover. The couple's first priority, however, is to look after their family and friends before embarking on a shopping spree for new clothes.

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Steve said: "I've always loved horses and it would be fantastic to have some land where we could keep them. It's amazing to have become multi-millionaires overnight but we are just looking forward to making our family comfortable."

Steve bought the winning ticket – a Lucky Dip[®] – at Sarratt SPSO, The Green Sarratt, Rickmansworth. The winning Lotto numbers on Saturday 26 January were: 1, 2, 6, 13, 38, and 43.

This Wednesday (30 January), there is an estimated £2.5 million Lotto jackpot available to win – while Friday's (2 February) EuroMillions jackpot is an estimated £11 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
Camelot Press Office 020 7632 5711**

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.