



6 May 2008

Golden Gwent Toasts Another Winner With Thunderball Jackpot Win!

A grandmother from Nantyglo has become the latest 'Golden Gwent' winner, after scooping a Thunderball jackpot of £250,000 in Saturday's draw (3 May 2008).

Retired factory-worker Eileen Jones, 68, a grandmother of eight, has lived alone in a council flat in Nantyglo since her husband died 11 years ago. Eileen only knew of her amazing windfall after she returned home from a Bank Holiday break and checked her numbers on Teletext.

Eileen said: "I had to check the numbers over and over again, because I didn't believe it could be right. I phoned my two sons, Glyn (47) and Robert (43), and they came over straight away to double check the numbers for me. I am still in shock!

"I can't believe I have won this sort of money – my late husband was a miner and I worked in a factory. We always got by and had the odd holiday but I never dreamed I would have this much. When my husband died, I had to sell our house and have since moved to a council flat. Now I've got £250,000, I can't wait to buy a house of my own. I want my own front door again!"

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Eileen is the latest lottery winner from 'Golden Gwent' – one of the UK's luckiest lottery hotspots. She joins six other lottery winners in the area who have won in the last two years: Cwmbran couple Gareth and Jenny Cooper won £2,470,699 in April 2006 and retired Crumlin miners, John Ackerman and John Stinchcombe, shared the £11,544,846 Lotto Double Rollover jackpot later in August later that year.

Last year was even luckier for Gwent – Celestina Setterland, from Newport, won £1,173,269 in January and in April Jennifer Southall from Newport won £8,372,751 and Joanne Gilbert from Abertillery, scooped £1,146,742. The most recent winner was Susan Wall from Blaina who won £2,443,024 in September 2007.

Eileen plays Thunderball with a regular set of numbers and bought her winning ticket at the Co-Op Store in High Street, Blaina. Her winning numbers were 2, 7, 11, 30, 33, and the Thunderball, 8.

This Wednesday's (7 May) The National Lottery jackpot is an estimated £2.5 million while Friday's (9 May) EuroMillions Draw is an estimated £31 million. Every Lotto 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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- 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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