

“LUCKY INVERCARGILL” – CITY’S RESIDENTS AGAIN WIN MAJOR PRIZE (LOTTERY NO. 68 GOLDEN BAY)

Losing a relative at a young age inspired an Invercargill couple to purchase Heart Foundation lottery tickets as a way to donate to the charity.

Sue and Brian Eade never imagined that the ticket purchase would actually win them the major prize of a \$430,000 fully-furnished Jennian Home in Golden Bay, Nelson.

This makes the couple the third Heart Foundation lottery first prize winners from Invercargill in the last 15 months.

“When my non-smoking, fit brother in law died at 52 from a sudden heart attack, as a family we decided to support the great work the Heart Foundation does in educating people to have a regular heart check,” says Sue.

“His death was a wake up call to all of us and showed the importance of having regular check ups, as often you just don’t know what is going on in your body. Purchasing tickets in each lottery was our way of contributing, we didn’t really imagine that we would get that winning phone call.”

Sue took the call at work in the couple’s business, “The Tile Place”, and initially thinking it was a sponsorship call, asked Heart Foundation Lotteries Manager Gail McIntyre to hold while she finished serving customers.

“The couple I was serving said ‘maybe you’ve won the lottery house’, but I doubted that...they must have heard my scream of delight as they were leaving. I really couldn’t believe it,” says Sue.

The Eades have spent time in their new three-bedroom home but, due to the travelling distance, have decided to put it on the market. However, not before Sue removes the furnishings and décor that she likes.

“The house is amazing and finished beautifully, plus all the furniture and adornments are exactly what I would pick, so they’re coming back to our place,” she says.

“We may buy a holiday home slightly closer to us, but I think we’ll just wait and see for the time being.”

Gail McIntyre says the Heart Foundation Lottery is one of the charity’s major revenue-generating activities.

“Since the lottery’s inception in 1996, and through the generosity of our supporters, the lottery programme has contributed approximately \$12 million dollars to the Heart Foundation,” says Gail.

Cardiovascular disease (heart disease and stroke) is the number one cause of death for both men and women in New Zealand - accounting for 40% of all deaths annually. The funds raised through the lottery programme contribute towards the Heart Foundation’s work, which includes funding vital heart research, advancing cardiac care for those who have suffered a heart event and promoting healthy lifestyles.

Annually, the Heart Foundation runs six lotteries; each offering a new, fully-furnished Jennian Home as first prize as well as other significant runner up prizes including overseas travel and a new car.