

### **SURPRISE PHONE CALL = DREAM HOME (LOTTERY 61 – ONE TREE POINT)**

Kelly McLaughlin nearly did not answer the phone one night just prior to Christmas, but she was glad she did after learning she had won first prize in the Heart Foundation lottery - a half million dollar home in One Tree Point, Ruakaka.

The Invercargill resident has bought the charity's house lottery tickets since its inception in 1996, but never dreamed of actually winning the new three-bedroom Jennian Dream home.

"As a nurse I am constantly reminded of the good work that the Heart Foundation does, and I know that it needs money to fund vital heart health research," says Mrs McLaughlin.

"For me, purchasing a lottery ticket is my way of donating to the cause, but you do get that added bonus of perhaps winning the first prize home – I'm still blown away that it was us."

Though the mother of three and proud grandmother has not been directly affected by heart disease, several family members have had heart health check ups over the years.

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 Heart Foundation is the charity working to stop New Zealanders dying prematurely from heart disease. It does this through funding vital heart research and continuing education of cardiologists, improving heart disease risk assessment and cardiac care, and promoting heart healthy lifestyles.

Due to the geographical distance, Mrs McLaughlin and her husband Barry have made the difficult decision to sell the new home, but not before the family spent a few days relaxing in their prize home and exploring the region.

"The house is just beautiful, such lovely flow and the décor is fantastic. However, due to the distance it is just not practical, so unfortunately we have placed it on the market," says Mrs McLaughlin.

"We are still talking about what to do with the windfall when the house sells. It is really hard to believe our good luck."

The next Heart Foundation lottery offers a four bedroom home in Wanaka, valued at \$540,000, as first prize. The house is open to view at 48 Frye Cres, Riverside Park, Albert Town, Wanaka or visit [www.heart.org.nz](http://www.heart.org.nz) for ticket information. The lottery closes on 5 March 2010.

Jennian Homes is the major sponsor of the Heart Foundation Lottery, and is proud to be able to give back to the community through supporting such a worthy cause.

**ENDS**

**For more information and images please contact:**

Gail McIntyre  
Direct Marketing and Lottery Manager  
The Heart Foundation

P: 09 5268566

M: 027 673 8665

E: [gailm@nhf.org.nz](mailto:gailm@nhf.org.nz)

**The Heart Foundation Lottery – Supported by Jennian Homes.**

The Heart Foundation Lottery is one of the charity's major revenue-generating activities. Each lottery (six per year) offers a top prize of a superb family home built by Jennian Homes worth approximately \$500,000, as well as runner up prize packages comprising a wide range of items from cruise ship holidays to new cars.

Since its inception in 1996, and through the generosity of our supporters, the lottery programme has contributed approximately \$12 million dollars to the Heart Foundation. These funds have gone towards a range of activities, including funding vital heart research, advancing cardiac care for those who have suffered a heart event, and promoting healthy lifestyles.