

LAST MINUTE TICKET PURCHASE WINS HEART FOUNDATION HOUSE (LOTTERY NO. 59 – KERIKERI)

Tauranga's Pat Lomas' last minute decision to purchase a ticket in the Heart Foundation's Lottery saw her become the proud owner of a house in Kerikeri, Northland.

Together with husband Nick, Pat has purchased Heart Foundation Lottery tickets for several years, but never thought she would win a prize, let alone the half a million dollar first prize, Jennian Home.

"For me, purchasing tickets is like giving a donation to a great cause, the chance to win a prize is just an added bonus," says Pat.

Pat's family has a history of heart disease. Her father and uncles all died prematurely from the condition, her brother and sister have both had heart attacks and Pat herself takes medication for high blood pressure.

"The Heart Foundation does a wonderful job through funding research and its public awareness programmes. Anything that can make heart health prospects better for our children, is worth supporting," she says.

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 cardiac care, heart-related research and free education programmes for schools and communities across the country.

The couple is yet to decide what to do with the new house long-term, but plans to spend many weekends there in the coming months enjoying all the "winterless North" has to offer.

"Nick jokes that he could quite happily retire in Kerikeri next weekend and the kids are keen for many weekends away with friends. The house is just fabulous, with lovely colour schemes and beautifully set-up, while the outdoor area is huge!" says Pat.

The family was so keen to see their new house that they drove up early to collect the keys from Heart Foundation and Jennian Homes' representatives.

"Everyone was so wonderful showing us around the house. We were still fairly overwhelmed and there was a lot to take in, so next weekend there'll be more exploring," says Pat.

Jennian Homes is the major sponsor of the Heart Foundation Lottery, and is proud to be able to give back to the community by building six new homes for the Heart Foundation Lottery programme this year.

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The Heart Foundation Lottery – Supported by Jennian Homes.

The Heart Foundation Lottery is undoubtedly the charity's most successful fundraising activity. 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.