



Melling Manor in Lancashire

Two-pound lottery ticket

- 1 An 18th-century country home worth £800,000 was the prize at a raffle. Marie Segar, a finance worker, learned on Tuesday that she was the new owner of the house, after purchasing the winning ticket for just £2. Segar will also get the title of Lady of Melling, which was sold off in a lottery alongside the property. She joked that she would be changing the name on her bank card to Lady Marie because of that.
- 2 The six-bedroom semi-detached Melling Manor in Lancashire was raffled off by Dunstan Low, who was struggling to sell it on the open market. Low, 37, bought the Georgian six-bedroom property in 2014, where he lived with his wife Natasha and their two children. Low received no offers for its asking price of £800,000, so came up with the idea of selling enough £2 tickets to recoup his money. The draw attracted entries from as far as China, Russia and Mauritius by those hoping to win the mansion, which has a ballroom, cinema room, wood-burning stove, parking for six cars and far-reaching views of the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales.
- 3 When he called Marie Segar to inform her of the good news, she accused him of “winding her up” and she just couldn’t believe it. She also got the title of Lady of Melling, which was given to the raffle as a prize by its previous owner, St John’s Hospice. Low said he has raised almost £900,000 from the raffle and that Segar had actually purchased 20 tickets.
- 4 Graphic designer Low said he has been flooded with offers from people around the world asking him to raffle their properties for them. He added: “I have no regrets at all about the way we did this – I wouldn’t change a thing. It was stressful but it has been an amazing experience. I want to congratulate Marie on her win and I really hope that she enjoys the house.”

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