

Caravan winner

Name _____ Date _____

Source: Sunday Mail (Australia) January 3rd 2010 republished online at:

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/m-man-lives-in-van-fixes-potholes/story-e6freo8c-1225815579444>



Use the article on page 5, or the online version (link above), to answer these English and maths questions.

There is a glossary on page 4 but try to work out the meanings of any unknown Australian language on your own first!

1. In what year was Paul born? (Second paragraph)
2. What change would Paul receive from \$5 000 000 when he bought the beer and takeaway? (Write this in words and as a number)
3. What was the date of the Lotto win? (Third paragraph)
4. What does the idiom 'as happy as Larry' mean? (Fourth paragraph)
5. Why does Paul use the phrase 'comfortable enough' when describing his living arrangements? (Fifth paragraph)

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6. If Paul rode his bike 12km each way to the news agency every Saturday morning; how far does he cycle each year?

7. On each trip he spent \$4.20 on a Lotto ticket. What did this cost annually?

8. What does the word 'swanky' mean? (End of the third column)

9. In what year did Paul move into the caravan park?

2004

2006

2005

10. If Paul invested his \$5 000 000 in a bank account at 10% interest paid annually;

how much is this each year?

how much is this each month?

(Remember the rule to calculate 10%?)

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Glossary for UK readers

aircon	air conditioning
aluminium run-around	small motorized boat
caravan	mobile home
Jurien Bay	a fishing town north of Perth in Western Australia
mud crab	highly-prized, edible tropical crab
shire	local government area
Slikpik	randomly selected computer-generated lottery ticket
Stubbies	brand of workman's shorts.
swag	bedding roll
thongs	flip-flops

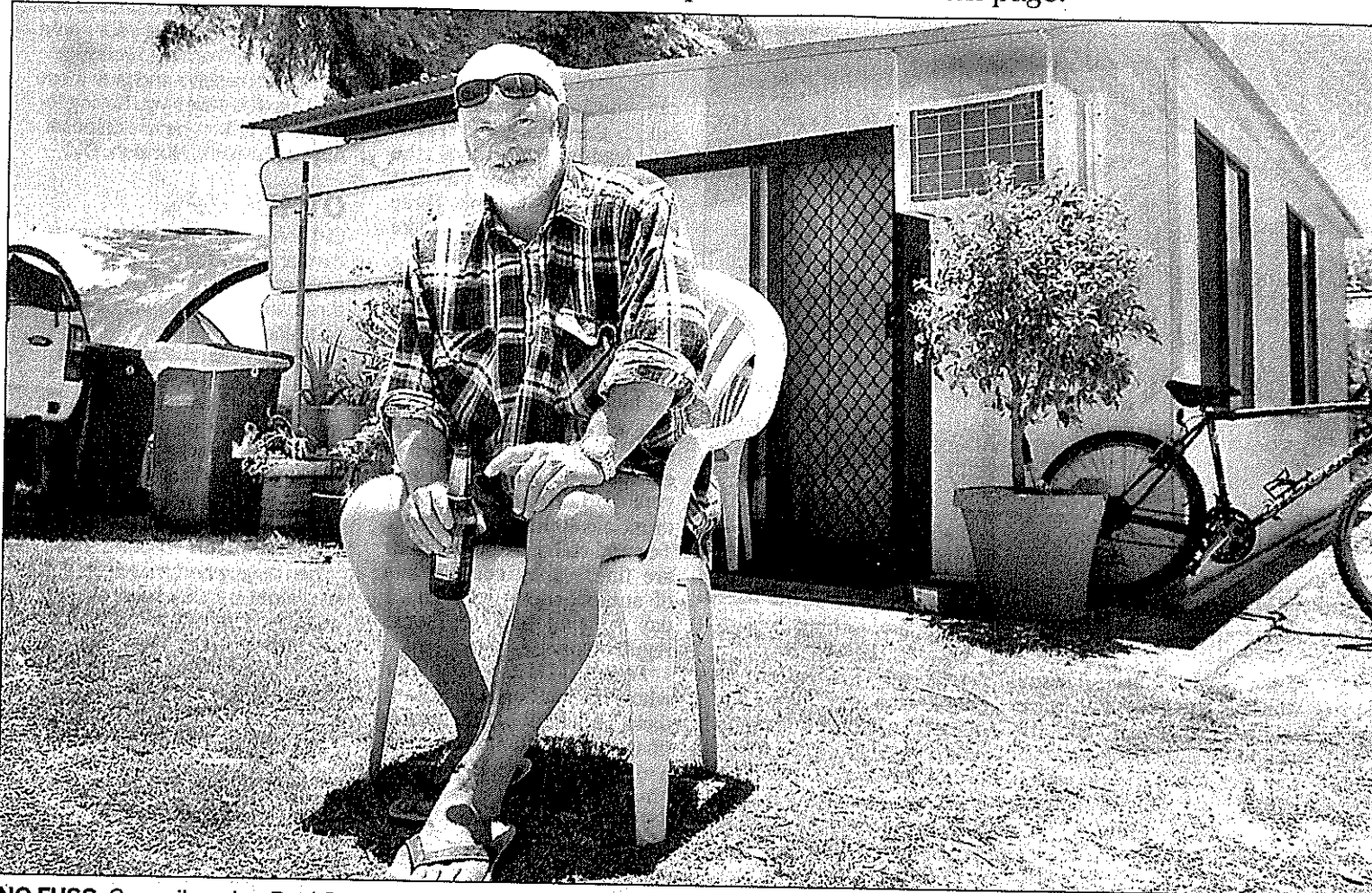
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Answers

1. In what year was Paul born? (Second paragraph) 1958
2. What change would Paul receive from \$5 000 000 when he bought the beer and takeaway? (Write this in words and as a number) \$ 4 999 950
Four million nine hundred and ninety nine thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars
3. What was the date of the Lotto win? (Third paragraph) November
4. What does the idiom 'as happy as Larry' mean? (Fourth paragraph)
Very happy
5. Why does Paul use the phrase 'comfortable enough' when describing his living arrangements? (Fifth paragraph) It's good enough for him
6. If Paul rode his bike 12km each way to the news agency every Saturday morning; how far does he cycle each year? $12 \times 2 \text{ trips} \times 52 \text{wks} = 1248 \text{km}$
7. On each round trip he spent \$4.20 on a Lotto ticket. What did this cost annually? $\$4.20 \times 52 = \218.40
8. What does the word 'swanky' mean? (End of the third column)
Expensive
9. In what year did Paul move into the caravan park?
2004 2006 2005
10. If Paul invested his \$5 000 000 in a bank account at 10% interest paid annually;
how much is this each year? \$500 000
how much is this each month? $500\,000 \div 12 = \$41666.66$

Caravan's fine for \$5m winner

Read the article below and answer the questions on the next page.



NO FUSS: Council worker Paul Cousins celebrated his Lotto win with a carton of budget beer and a Chinese takeaway meal.

Money hasn't changed council worker

Trevor Paddenburg

A COUNCIL worker who won \$5 million in Lotto still lives in a caravan.

And Paul Cousins, 52, has no plans to retire from his job repairing potholes for the local shire, despite the huge windfall.

The West Australian battler – the nation's most frugal multi-millionaire – only spent \$50 on a carton of budget beer and a Chinese takeaway meal to celebrate the win two months ago.

And he reckons he's "as happy as Larry" in the caravan he has lived in for the past five years.

"It's been comfortable enough all these years," he said.

Mr Cousins, a lifelong Lotto

player, bought the \$4.20 Slikpik ticket from his local Jurien Bay newsagent.

When his numbers came up, he rode his battered bicycle to the newsagent to verify the win.

"Well I couldn't drive, could I? Someone had stolen my car a week earlier," he said.

"When I found out it was \$5 million, I bought a pack of ciggies, had a few beers and some Chinese and went into work like normal the next morning."

His only concession to becoming an overnight multi-millionaire was to buy a new Jeep and to financially help out his parents and five siblings, who all live in WA.

"I'm just the same simple

bloke," said Mr Cousins, wearing a pair of thongs, Stubbies and a flannel shirt as he sat outside his caravan and told *The Sunday Mail* his amazing story.

"Mind you, it's nice having a car that's got aircon."

While he's banking most of the \$5 million fortune, a new out-board motor for his aluminium runabout is at the top of the shopping list.

"The old one's been bugged for a long time," said the bachelor, who is also in the market for a new bed.

"I've been sleeping on a swag in my caravan but I reckon I might get a nice new air bed."

Swanky holidays aren't on his radar either.

"I might take a trip to Boddington or Goomalling to see some family," he said.

"Maybe I'll head up north and see what the mudcrabs are like, but I'm not an overseas sort of bloke."

The multi-millionaire's sister, Sherilee Laidlaw, 44, said her brother "might buy himself a new fishing rod, but that's about it".

"You wouldn't even know he had the money, only the bank would know," she said.

Brother-in-law Rod Laidlaw said the mammoth cash jackpot win couldn't have happened to a nicer bloke.

"He can hardly read or write, but he knows numbers," Mr Laidlaw said.

The Sunday Mail January 3, 2010