

Lottery winner looks to future

Callie wants to treat her family with the winnings

Teenager Callie Rogers was "jumping and screaming" when she realised she had become the National Lottery's youngest ever millionaire.

The 16-year-old, from Cockermouth, Cumbria, described the moment at a media conference on Tuesday, as she recalled when she realised she had won the £1,875,000 prize on Saturday.

Callie told reporters at the conference organised by lottery company Camelot she was dog-sitting for a friend when the draw took place.

She said she rushed home to check the numbers - 1, 10, 17, 23, 29, and 35 - which she chose on the basis of family birthdays.

Callie, who lives on a council estate with her foster parents, was one of eight winners sharing the £15m prize.

On Tuesday she posed for pictures with boyfriend Gary Fidler, 25, who was with her when her numbers came up.

Foster mother

And she said she was looking forward to taking her first holiday abroad.

She said: "Hopefully I will make us all comfortable. I want to help my family but I won't change.

"I'm still going to shop in the same shops and do the same things."

But Callie, who left school in December last year, said becoming a millionaire will mean a different future.

She said she was going to go travelling for two years, then would like to do GCSEs and become a social worker.

One of the first things she hopes to buy is a new wheelchair for her foster mother, Sheila Holmes, that will enable her to get up and down kerbs more easily.

Shop worker

She also plans to pay for grandmother Joan to visit her sister, whom she has not seen for seven years, in Australia.

"I will not go wild and spend loads. I'm going to take some advice and see an accountant."

Callie, who will be 17 in December, is going to treat herself, and said she wants to buy a Peugeot 206 convertible when she learns to drive.

She said: "My brother also wants a motorbike and my sister said she wants a suitcase to go on holiday with."

Callie has been working since leaving school in a number of jobs, as a shop assistant, a waitress, and at the Cocker mouth Co-op, and she will be happy to take a break.

The teenager does the National Lottery every few weeks and always uses the same numbers. She buys a Lucky Dip as well

Lottery 2

Callie Rogers, 16, a foster child who lived on a council estate, admitted yesterday to "not having a happy moment" since scooping the £1.9 million jackpot.

Three months ago she was earning £3.60 an hour at her local Co-op. But since her win she has suffered robbery, an estrangement from her father, the break-up of two relationships, faced accusations in tabloid newspapers of stealing another girl's boyfriend and been allegedly threatened with blackmail.

The teenager from Cockermouth, Cumbria, vowed at the time of the win that her new-found wealth would not change her life.

She was photographed beaming, holding a giant cheque, and won praise for her kind intentions and down-to-earth attitude.

Her first big purchase would be a wheelchair for her foster mother, she said. After that she planned to return to education, sit her GCSEs and become a social worker. It seemed that, with her level-headed perspective, she stood a good chance of having a normal life.

But speaking yesterday about the last few weeks' events, Callie burst into tears and said: "Terrible things have been said about me. I've been accused of stealing somebody's boyfriend - that isn't true."

Brian Holmes, her foster father, said: "I think she is handling everything well for a 16-year-old but the point is, she is only a 16-year-old."

After winning the lottery Callie said she would not "go wild" and planned to seek advice from an accountant. "Hopefully I will make us all comfortable," she said. "I just want a normal home, nothing posh. I want to help my family but I won't change. I am not interested in designer clothes. I have lots of friends who have been there for me and I will be there for them."

She applied for a passport, took her first foreign holiday and bought a few luxuries for herself, relatives, friends and her then boyfriend, Gary Fidler.

These included a £200,000 bungalow for her foster parents, although the couple eventually decided they did not want to leave the community where they had lived for 18 years.

Soon afterwards, however, the teenager fell out with her father Geoff. She bought him a £7,000 motorbike and they were later reconciled.

And despite spending £4,000 on gifts for Mr Fidler, 25, she discovered two weeks after her win that he had been pledging his love for an ex-girlfriend.

After Callie ended their relationship, the timberyard worker allegedly demanded £20,000 for the two years' wages that he claimed she promised to pay him when he gave up his job.

Callie was then robbed by a woman who took £50 from her purse after calling at her house to borrow money.

Her next liaison was with Simon Winthorpe, a mechanic, for whom she bought a £7,000 car and paid £3,000 to act as chauffeur as she is too young to drive.

Two weeks later he vanished, prompting Callie to say: "I can't believe I was stupid enough to put the car in his name but I am fast learning to trust no one."

Her latest relationship is with a friend of Gary Fidler, an unemployed factory worker called Nicky Lawson. But Joanne Thompson, his former girlfriend and the mother of his child, sold her story to a national newspaper last weekend.

Miss Thompson accused the teenager of "worming her way into his affections, buying our daughter presents and him clothes".

And on Wednesday, Callie was accused of using her money to entice another girl's boyfriend, in another tabloid story. Also this week, her step-grandfather was released from prison after a sentence for rape.

The teenager said: "Some days I don't even want to leave my house because people just scream abuse at me. Two months ago I thought I was the luckiest teenager in Britain. But today I can say I have never felt so miserable."