

MUM DOUBLES HER MONEY

When Patricia Cook topped up her Travelex Cash Passport™ at the The Co-operative Travel in Bradford in June, she didn't expect to receive a phone call several weeks later telling her that she had won £800. But that's exactly what happened as part of a national random prize draw run by the The Co-operative Travel for its prepaid customers.

Patricia said: "I was really surprised when I received the phone call. It was wonderful to hear that I had won the competition and the amount of money that I had topped up on my card."

Patricia originally started using the card on the suggestion of the The Co-operative as she felt unsafe carrying around so many travellers cheques and her ID.

"I have been using the The Co-operative Travel Cash Passport™ for about three years on the suggestion of the agent who deals with foreign currency exchange. I don't like carrying large sums of money around or carrying my passport as ID to cash travellers cheques.

"I usually travel annually to the USA to visit my American-born son and daughter and this is a much safer and more efficient way of carrying money. It is accepted at all the places you would normally use a credit card, cash or travellers cheques and is a much cheaper option as the only additional fees incurred are with ATM withdrawals and these are only a nominal fee (all mine have been \$2.50 per withdrawal regardless of the amount).

Taking advantage of the two cards available to The Co-operative Travel Cash Passport™ users, Patricia loaded up her card with dollars to help her son Robert pay for his college bills in America. Currently studying at Wingate University in North

Carolina on a sports scholarship, 19 year-old Robert can then use his card to access the funds.

“When my youngest son was offered a place at Wingate University in North Carolina in 2007 on an academic/athletic scholarship, The Co-operative Travel Cash Passport™ once again proved to be the best option to transfer funds from here to the USA.

“Having Robert as an additional card holder on my account, I can load up here with dollars to help pay his expenses. Robert uses his card like a normal bank card at ATMS, in shops, restaurants and just about anywhere he needs to spend money. It works so well and we have peace of mind knowing that the money is being safely transferred and also have the back up and security in case he loses his card.”

Robert said: “I love the convenience of the Cash Passport™. It is completely hassle-free and I can use it anywhere and I don’t need to carry ID around with me all the time. It is safe and secure, there are no transaction fees involved except the ATM withdrawal fee of \$2.50 which allows me to withdraw up to \$800 a day. Other methods we’ve used involved exchange rate fees and bank transfer fees etc. which can soon mount up. There are no charges when I use it in a store or at a restaurant or filling station. Mum just needs to top-up in England and within minutes it is available for me to use in the States. We both have every confidence that our money is safe and secure.”

How will Patricia spend her winnings? “I think I will use it towards Robert’s expenses at Wingate and save some of it for my next visit to America - it will be nice to see everyone and take them all out for a meal.”



