

With Britain's biggest ever EuroMillions winners Joe and Jess Thwaite telling the world of their jackpot scoop, we ask...



Would you go public if you won the lottery?

YES

'Why not share your good fortune?'

Rosie Mullender, 44, is an author. She lives in east London.

When Joe and Jess Thwaite announced they'd won the record £184m EuroMillions jackpot, my first thought was to wonder what I'd do with so much money. After daydreaming about a superyacht with its own branch of Domino's and a swimming pool filled with cash, I began wondering whether I, too, would decide to go public if I hit the jackpot. And the conclusion was: why not?

The Thwaites reasoned it would be too difficult hiding such riches from their nearest and dearest, and they do have a good point. If I started rocking up at my local Wetherspoon clutching a gold-topped cane and wearing a top hat (that's what millionaires wear, right?) I'd



have quite a lot of explaining to do.

Although I might receive an avalanche of begging letters, I'd simply hire a personal assistant – preferably one who looks like Chris Hemsworth in the *Ghostbusters* reboot – to deal with them.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to share your good fortune by helping someone whose much-loved shop is closing because of rent hikes, or a child whose bike has been stolen? So, yes, I would go public, and I wouldn't worry too much about losing my privacy. After all, my superyacht has really good security...

❖ *The Time of my Life* (£11.99, Sphere) by Rosie Mullender is out on 7 July

NO

'Who could you trust?'

Katie Robertson, 49, is a ceramicist. She lives in south London with son Arthur, 10.

As a single mum, my finances are stretched. I've always dreamed of moving out of my rented flat and buying a large house beside the sea. A lottery win would allow me to do that.

I'd have bifold doors leading to a big garden and an airy studio for my business. We'd head to the beach after school so Arthur could surf. And we'd travel across the US in a luxury Winnebago.

If people questioned our drastic life changes, I'd stay vague and certainly wouldn't share my story in the press. If the world knew you'd won millions, who could you trust?

As I would share some



of the money with my closest relatives and best friends, I'd let them in on the secret but would ask them to stay quiet.

One of my reasons for keeping shtum is that I'd love to meet someone, having been single for years. But if I joined a dating agency and my dates recognised me as 'that lottery winner' how would I know if they liked me for my personality or my money?

Being rich would mean that I could organise free art events, teaching community groups to make ceramics. No one would need to know how I'd funded them. I'd just focus on making people smile.

❖ Katie runs her own ceramics business at outlandishcreations.com