

TONY ELLIS GETS COMMENDATION FROM CITY OF LONDON POLICE

ComCab driver Tony Ellis received a fourth commendation from the police for his efforts in helping roll-out his Cabwatch scheme across the City of London.

Commissioner for the City of London Police, Mike Bowron, presented Tony with a commendation for his sterling work on both Cabwatch and the marshalled taxi ranks he has helped establish within the square mile. At a special ceremony at the City of London headquarters in Wood Street police station, Tony was in remarkable company as he joined long serving police officers and heroic members of the public who were also awarded commendations for exceptional service.

Tony said: "It's always an honour to receive a commendation but to receive this alongside people who have put their lives on the line is very humbling. The work that I and Computer Cab have put in to make Cabwatch and the marshalled ranks work is very rewarding, none of us put the effort in expecting commendations; we do it because it is good for the taxi trade and good for the London public.

"It doesn't stop here, we will continue to strengthen our excellent

relationship with the City of London as it benefits every taxi driver who makes their living here."

The Cabwatch scheme was launched by Tony Ellis three years ago to help taxi drivers keep an eye out for missing children.

The police would send a free text message to all drivers registered on the scheme and if a taxi driver saw anything that could help the police they call a number and state the child's whereabouts. Within the first 3 months of operation in Bromley a missing boy was reunited with his parents and the scheme became adopted by more boroughs. The City of London police chose to use Cabwatch as an easy way to alert taxi drivers about security alerts and incidents in the square mile and City of Westminster police have also adopted the scheme.

Tony Ellis' has also been nominated by Computer Cab plc for an Outstanding Contribution award for his tireless charity work both in and out of the taxi trade.



MYTON HOSPICE RECEIVES A HELPING HAND FROM LTI VEHICLES

Staff at LTI Vehicles have raised an amazing sum of £4636.20p for the Coventry based Myton Hospice. Currently, a national campaign to 'Help a Hospice', has highlighted the issue regarding how expensive it is to fund and maintain hospices. Hospices aim to give people the best possible care when they are faced with terminal illness, and to support their families and friends through the most difficult of times. To put it into perspective, it costs £380 per day per patient and £35 per hour to run a hospice and this was why Coventry based LTI Vehicles decided to give most of the proceeds of their fund raising activities to Myton Hospice.

Donations will also be made to the Air Ambulance,

McMillan Nurses, Alzheimer's Association and Clic. Rose Jardine PA, LTI Vehicles said: "Everyone has been hugely supportive of our fund raising activities and without their help it would not have been such a success. Hospices provide specialised care and the running costs are huge and we can't thank enough the people who have and continue to support us."

Peter Shillcock, Managing Director LTI Vehicles said: "We were delighted to help this cause as it is very important to make aware how vital it is to continue fundraising. We were also happy that we could also donate to other worthwhile charities as well."



Pictured from left to right: Rita Patel, Allison Forrest, Robert Page, Janet Johnson, Becky Campbell, Derek Chalmers.

NEW GUIDE BADGE

The Education Committee of the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers has a new guide badge available. The new badge now includes the word "Worshipful" and the area that was available for the drivers name contains the words: 'QUALIFIED TAXI GUIDE'. Drivers who have passed the course can go to the shop at Knowledge Point and on showing their old badge buy the new one for £5.

The next Guide course starts in September and covers interesting topics such as Architecture and a cab drivers guide to buildings and The Great Fires of London, and includes walks around London. Drivers who have already attended the course are saying that even if your passenger isn't on a tour, just having the knowledge to talk to him about parts of London as you take your journey has increased tips by far.

For further details telephone Graham Woodhouse on 01702 711 466 or mobile 07939 070 224.



ECO WARRIORS PLAN HEATHROW DISRUPTION

A large group of eco warriors are planning a Greenham Common style camp at the perimeter fence at Heathrow airport on 14th August. Their aim is to disrupt travel and holiday plans in a protest over climate change and global warming.

Camp for Climate Action will last eight days this year, following on from a camp held at Drax power station last year. The effect of Heathrow's planes on the climate is equivalent to 31 million tonnes of CO2 emissions per year. Organisers say the camp at Heathrow will "oppose the lunacy of the government's airport expansion plans, target industry giants profiteering from the climate crisis, and raise awareness of the need to fly less."

"All our efforts to tackle climate change are undone by operations like Heathrow. It's time to get serious. Instead of expanding airports, we should be talking about closing them," said Lindsey Harris of the Camp for Climate Action. Mass direct action will disrupt the activities of the airport and the aviation industry, but in the interests of public safety there will be no attempt to blockade runways.