

FOUNDERS DAY CHARITY BALL

The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers held their Annual Founders Day Dinner on 23rd June. Held in the Prince Consort Rooms, at the Honourable Artillery Company in City Road, the event was an evening of good food, good entertainment and great company. Liverymen, Freemen and their guests were welcomed to the Charity Ball by the Master, Patricia Stanley and her Wardens. The reception marked the beginning of the evening in the brand new £6.5 million venue, which was opened by HM the Queen only a short time before on 13th June.

The Master gave a wonderful speech saying how proud she was to have been Master of The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers during the past year. She spoke of some of the events she had attended, including the War Disabled trip, where she took three veterans whose ages totalled 260 to Worthing. Pat also thanked Mary Whitworth, the Clerk to the Company and the Beadle, John Sheen, for all their hard work throughout her year.

A raffle was held during the course of the evening, which raised a large sum for charity. After the dinner, everyone enjoyed dancing to the excellent band, who were most appropriately called Good Company. The band had travelled all the way from Bournemouth to entertain guests. Deputy Master, John Beesley, thanked Patricia, the first lady Master of the Company, for all her sterling work during her year.

A big thank you goes to ComCab, Dial-a-Cab and Radio Taxis Group for their sponsorship of this fund raising dinner. Thanks also go to HALT and Journey pay for their involvement.

CHARITY AWARD

Master Elect, Chairman Alan Parker, of the Company's Awards Committee presented this year's Charity Award to Mr Siddharth Adatia. The award is given each year and this year's winner is a cab driver. Mr Adatia is the father of a child who travelled on the first Magical Taxi Tour to Disneyland Paris. Phil Davis, Chairman of The Magical Taxi Tour Committee remembers this

trip well. Mr Adatia daughter touched the hearts of everyone involved on the trip and was allowed to switch on the Christmas lights at Disneyland Paris. She had travelled in the cab with her mother and their driver was Kenny Flemwell. During the brief weeks of her life after the trip, his daughter talked constantly of the trip and her excitement inspired her father to later give up his job and do The Knowledge so that he could put back into the taxi trade as thanks for the enjoyment the trip had brought into their lives. Sadly his daughter passed away but Mr Adatia joined the Knowledge School run by Malcolm Linskey and passed his Green Badge some six years ago. Since gaining his badge, Mr Adatia has been involved with many of the different taxi trade charities which involve children, driving for them.



Master Pat Stanley meets HRH Princess Anne at one of the events she attended this year

WCHCD GOLF DAY AT NAZEING

As a social event that would raise some money for the Charitable Trust, Court Assistant Brenda Bartlett organised a very enjoyable golf day at Nazeing golf club in early June with over 20 participants. Despite early cloud, the day stayed fine and after a fortifying bacon roll we teed off in three and four balls. The course was interesting and challenging enough for a good round to be had by all. Participants ranged from a group of four from Dial a Cab, to fleet proprietor members Eddie Crossley and Jimmy Sewell, as well as individual members, all watched over by the Company Beadle, John Sheen.



On returning to the club house for a well earned drink and three course dinner, we sat in bright late evening sunshine to hear the results. The contest winner was Bobby Norris, very closely followed by Ricky Stacey and third prize went to Alan Burnham. As well as winning a golf bag as contest winner Bobby Norris also won the nearest the pin prize.

A great day was enjoyed by all and hopefully next year's event will attract even more golfers.