

## GLOBAL NEWS



### WHO ELSE BUT A CALIFORNIAN CABBY GRANNY...!

An elderly San Franciscan grandmother was doing shopping with her taxi-driving son-in-law. He was looking in some old record stores in the famous hippy area of Hyatt and Asbury while she was making some food purchases. Granny returned to the cab first and found four men in it. She dropped her shopping bags, drew a handgun and proceeded to scream at them at the top of her voice shouting that she knew how to use the gun and would if she had to!

The men didn't hang around for a second invitation but got out and ran like hell. The granny then loaded her shopping bags into the back of the cab and got into the passengers seat waiting for her son-in-law to return so that she could tell him what had occurred. He returned soon after, but walked straight past her. The cab was parked four or five spaces further down and was identical to the one granny had 'protected' from the real owner and his three friends!

She reloaded her bags into the son-in-laws cab and they decided to drive to the police station to report her actions. The sergeant nearly tore himself in two with laughter and pointed to the other end of the counter where four, very pale males, were reporting a car jacking by a mad elderly woman! No charges were filed...

### SCOTTISH SPEEDING HEARSE DRIVEN BY TAXI DRIVER!

A Scottish taxi driver from Kirkcaldy in Fife who was in the process of applying to renew his hackney carriage licence, was caught speeding while driving a hearse! James Mitchell - who was a part-time cabby in addition to his job as a funeral director - had a body in the back of the vehicle when he was caught by police, Fife Council's central regulation sub-committee were told at the licence enquiry. Mitchell, aged 68, was driving the hearse at 47 mph in a 30mph zone. He explained to the councillors that he had been "a bit late" for a funeral.

But despite the hearse incident, several other traffic convictions and despite police opposition, councillors approved a one-year renewal but gave Mr Mitchell a stern warning.

One of his fellow taxi drivers told Taxi Globe: "James is the only cab driver in Fife who prefers business when it's dead!"

### CANADIAN NURSES STOP STRIKE TO DELIVER TAXI BABY

Striking nurses at a Montreal community health clinic downed their picket signs recently to help a woman deliver her baby in the back seat of a taxi. The cab was on its way to the hospital when the driver spotted four nurses picketing in front of a clinic. The woman was obviously in great pain and delivering, so the cab driver pulled over and the nurses jumped in to help. "I heard her screaming so we ran to the car and I opened the door," said Anne Bourbonnais, one of the striking nurses, "the baby was almost out." Another nurse who helped, described the scene as "...very moving. I still have goose pimples thinking about it!" The woman passenger delivered a healthy eight-pound girl.

"It wasn't due until the end of next week," said proud husband and father Vissi Mputu, "and we just can't thank the cab driver enough for his quick-wittedness..."

The strike, however, continued afterwards. "But we'll always help in emergencies" the nurses told Taxi Globe...

### MEXICAN CABBY WANTS CHILLI EATING WORLD RECORD

A Mexican taxi driver from Mexico City wants the world record for chilli eating. Manuel Quiroz says that for him, eating chillies is akin to eating fruit! Not only can he eat dozens of Mexico's spiciest chillies, but he can also rub them on his skin and even squeeze the juice into his eyes without so much as a blink!

The cabby says he discovered his talent when he was seven and has challenged others to chilli eating contests and claims he has never lost. He is now trying to enter the Guinness book of records to recognise his abilities. Mad Manuel says that chillies are the pride of Mexico and that it's only fitting that the chilli eating champ comes from there, too...



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