

## I HAD THE TIME OF MY LIFE

Held at the Marriott Hotel at West India Quay, The Magical Taxi Tour Christmas Gala was a fun filled evening. Many of those present were drivers who had taken part in the 2007 annual trip to Disneyland Paris and also present were sponsors of the trip. Phil Davis, Chairman of the Disney Committee, started the evening's festivities off with a speech thanking everyone for all their support, especially the unsung heroes his hard working Committee. During the course of the evening a raffle was held, along with a charity auction and also a prize donated by the Master of The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers this year, was raffled. In total £2500 was raised on the evening, enough to pay for 2.5 cabs on next year's trip.

Every year in Disney on the Saturday evening a gala dinner is held when Disney characters come along and join in the fun with the children. Jamie Owens, a licensed taxi driver, runs the disco at this event and it is always a sure fire winner with children and adults alike. So it was most fitting

that the disco at the Christmas Gala Dinner was also run by Jamie. He told guests that it had been decided by the Committee that the trip would adopt the song "I've had the time of my life" from the Dirty Dancing movie and show as the theme tune for the trip.



From now on this will always be the last song played at gala dinners and all drivers have to do is learn all the words. Perhaps some of them might even like to learn the moves...

Throughout the evening photos and video clips of the 2007 trip were played on a large screen and everyone was reminded of why the hard work of everyone involved in the Disney trip is so worthwhile. Miles of smiles from the children, thumbs up from the windows of cabs and some big "thank you's" from the children. The images bring home the enormity of the trip and the sight of so many taxis in a convoy is a testament to those drivers prepared to donate their time and vehicles to the event, as well as the sponsors who donate so much to make it all possible.

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