

TAXI
GLOBE



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BRIAN CHALLENGES BORIS AND KEN TO RUN LONDON MARATHON

Taxi drivers such as Carlos Olivera and his brother Silvio are amongst those in the taxi trade who have run the London Marathon raising money for worthy causes such as The Magical Taxi Tour. The Marathon is a famous event and places are always sought after, so if Mayor Livingstone and Boris Johnson take up Brian Paddick's challenge, they will need to get their entries in fast.

The Liberal Democrat Mayoral candidate has thrown down a challenge to his rivals to join him in running the London Marathon on 13 April. Brian Paddick said:

"Running London is an extremely tough and demanding job and the Mayor needs to be mentally and physically fit. I am running the London Marathon this year and I challenge all Mayoral candidates to join me - it will be a real test of their mettle.

"If people vote for me on 1st May, they know I will be fit for office." Brian is running for three charities: Downs Syndrome Educational Trust, Stroke Association and Elton John Aids Foundation. All three charities are very close to Brian's heart: his father died from a stroke, his nephew suffers from Downs Syndrome and he is a keen supporter of the fight against Aids.



Carlos Olivera

If you wish to donate to any of these causes just follow any of the following links:

1. The Stroke Association:
www.justgiving.com/brianpaddick4strokeassociation
2. The Down Syndrome Educational Trust:
www.justgiving.com/brianpaddick4downsyndromeeducationaltrust
3. The Elton John Aids Foundation:
www.justgiving.com/brianpaddick4eltonjohnaidsfoundation

FLIGHTS MOVE TO TERMINAL 5

With the opening of Heathrow Airport's Terminal 5 just a few weeks away, the airlines have announced details of their moves to different terminals. If taxi drivers are taking passengers to the airport, it would be as well to check passengers have the correct up to date information.

British Airways will move the majority of its operations to the new terminal, scheduled to open at the end of March. This is all of its long haul flights, currently operating from Terminal 1. Its remaining flights - mainly short-haul services to European destinations - will move to Terminal 3.

American Airlines, Cathay Pacific, Japan Airlines, Royal Jordanian, Finnair, Iberia and Qantas will operate all of their flights from Terminal 3. These moves will be taking place throughout 2008 and into early 2009. The new terminal will boast the largest suite of airline lounges in the world for first class, Club World, Club Europe and Gold and Silver Executive Club passengers flying with British Airways.

New lounges will also be built in Terminal 3, which will be available for use by British Airways' first and business class customers and premium flyers with Qantas, Finnair and Iberia.

Terminal 5 has taken 7 years to construct at a cost of £4.3 billion. The terminal has 112 shops and restaurants as well as a first class lounge cinema. High tech equipment set to benefit passengers includes X-Ray machines that will be able to process passengers without having them remove their shoes and belts. There are 96 check in desks and floor to ceiling windows give outstanding views of the runways, aircraft, countryside and even Windsor Castle and Wembley Stadium.

MID-YEAR SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Latest figures from the PCO state that the current first time pass rate for vehicles undergoing a mid-year inspection is 63%. In addition, of those vehicles that have failed the inspection, the most common reasons for failure are diesel emissions (smoke test) 17%, taximeter/printer (failure to produce the certificate) 6%, shock absorbers 6% and brakes 3%. Although some taxis are failing on more than one thing.

Alan Matthews, Head of Projects and Developments at the PCO, said: "All drivers and owners of licensed taxis are reminded that with effect from 2 April 2008, all taxis undergoing a mid-year safety inspection will be subject to the ramp element of the mid-year inspection."

The Taxi Delivery and Contract Management Team can be contacted on 020 7126 1638.

