

## LTFUC TAKE PART IN 2008 LORD MAYOR'S SHOW *by Ray Levy*

Each year, taxis take part in the spectacular Lord Mayor's Show and this year is no exception. On 8th November, a 'taxi' batmobile accompanied by Batman & Robin, a 'pink rabbit' taxi, a giant 'taxi' float and 30 'batmen' from the Bournemouth Carnival Band will make up the spectacular theme of the LTFUC's entry into this year's show. This year marks the 793rd Lord Mayor's Show and to wind up their own 80th anniversary year celebrations, the London Taxidriers' Fund for Underprivileged Children will be joining the three mile long procession as it winds its way through 1.7 miles of streets in the Square Mile to introduce the 681st Lord Mayor of the City of London.

The lead taxi in the procession will be driven by a committee member and will show the fund's name, followed by a brilliant Taxi Batmobile designed and driven by taxi driver Steven Bell as Batman, who will be joined by his wife Wendy as Robin. Next to this will be the Pink Rabbit taxi, also designed by Steven, and both of which have won first prize for best decorated taxi on our annual outing to Southend-on-Sea. Behind them will be a 36 foot long giant taxi, alongside which will be 30 members of the Bournemouth Carnival Band, all dressed as Batmen, playing continuous music to the vast crowds. Behind the float will be two more committee members of the LTFUC, who will be driving their taxis decorated to show the many locations



we have visited over the past few years. The special passengers the taxis will be carrying are very deserving children, who I am sure will remember the day for a very long time. The LTFUC will also have committee members and supporters walking alongside the taxis.

The procession will begin at 11am at the Mansion House following a military flypast. It will travel from Mansion House, down Cheapside to St. Paul's Cathedral, where the Lord Mayor will arrive at 12.10pm to be blessed before proceeding to the Royal Courts of Justice on the Strand. There he swears allegiance to the Sovereign. The procession then makes its way back to the City, finishing at around 2pm. At 5pm the Lord Mayor will light the touch paper to the spectacular Lord Mayor's fireworks display on the River Thames, between Blackfriars Bridge and Waterloo Bridge.



The committee of the LTFUC hope many drivers and their families will come along and give us their support with a wave and loud cheer, at the same time enjoying the other 6,000 performers in the procession. The nearest tubes are Bank, Mansion House and St. Paul's, or you can always catch a cab!!



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