

LTFUC 'TAXI SAFARI' TO WOBURN SAFARI PARK

by Ray Levy

On Tuesday 19th May 2009 over 300 'special needs' and disadvantaged children received a special treat when they were collected from three schools in Mill Hill and Barnet and taken in two convoys consisting of 100 taxis on a 'Taxi Safari' to Woburn Safari Park. We are deeply grateful to the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor John Marshall, for sparing the time to go to one of the Barnet Schools to wave the children off. This outing was the first one to take place in the 81st year of the London Taxidriers' Fund for Underprivileged Children and what a triumphant success it was.



The children were buzzing with excitement just riding in a taxi, let alone having the thrill of going on a Safari trip and it was great seeing the joy and enthusiasm on their faces. On arrival at Woburn, the two convoys either went straight on the Road Safari, where you can go round as many times as

you like to see the animals, or straight in to the Safari Lodge Restaurant to enjoy a huge yummy lunch, with masses of chips on offer and ice cream covered faces. The rest of the afternoon was left for everyone to sample what the Park had to offer.

Some went on the great Foot Safari, where the children can mingle with an amazing range of smaller animals from cute lemurs, wallabies and squirrel monkeys to a huge Burmese python. Great fun was also being had on the Swan themed pedal boats and the train and some children made a



dash for the Mammoth Play Ark for lots of indoor fun, with the drivers frantically chasing after them. Luckily it was a warm and dry day with a few intermittent light showers, which did not affect the day at all.



At 4.00pm it was time for tea and whilst everyone delved into their goody bags, a boy from the Mill Hill School surprised us all by taking the microphone and asking the crowd to give three cheers to the Committee and drivers – how lovely! At 5pm it was back to the taxis and

the return journey home.

The Honorary President, Honorary Chairman and the committee would like to thank the Metropolitan Police and the Bedfordshire Constabulary for ensuring we had a safe journey. Chief Superintendent Joe Royle of the Metropolitan Police later commented: "The Transport Operational Command Unit was pleased to be able to lend its assistance to this charitable event. Our expertise in roads policing and the helpfulness of all the officers involved, helped to ensure a smooth journey and enjoyable day for all."

We also thank Fords at Dagenham (Welfare Dept) for the loan of their mini bus and are grateful to Bob Collins for driving it. We also extend grateful thanks to the RAC and St. John's Ambulance who accompanied us and to London Communications, LBC, BBC London Radio and Talk Sport for their coverage and particularly to Louise Beale from ITV Anglia, who was filming in my cab on the Road Safari trip. She told me she was enjoying herself so much, but regretfully had to leave early to get us on the news, but was very keen to join us on our next outing on 14th July to Southend-on-Sea.



A brilliant day was had by all and we must extend grateful thanks and appreciation to Woburn Safari Park and the Woburn Lodge Restaurant for their kind hospitality. We are also deeply grateful to Lovells for their sponsorship and to LTI Vehicles for sponsoring the fuel. Last, but not least, we must once again thank all the wonderful drivers who gave up a day's work to take the children out and, of course, all the fantastic helpers, as without you all there would be no outings. On behalf of the children we thank you all for helping us to make this memorable day possible. Images taken on the day can be found on our website at www.ltfuc.org.uk

PCO Notice 17/09

Transport for London
Public Carriage Office



Supplementary Notice 7: Under bonnet fires in TX4s Remedial work by LTI and final date for completion

Further to PCO Notice 40/08 issued on 25 November 2008, the PCO can confirm that the remedial work on the majority of TX4s licensed in London has now been completed. The PCO would like to thank all affected owners for their cooperation during this very difficult period.

However, LTI has informed the PCO that a small number of owners are still failing to attend Mann and Overton for the remedial work to be carried out. The PCO also understands that there may be some TX4s being brought into London from other parts of the country and being presented for licensing before they have had any remedial works completed.

Due to the serious safety related nature of this remedial work the PCO is concerned to ensure that the work is completed on all affected TX4s without further delay. In support of achieving appropriate completion of this remedial work the PCO will now take the following actions:

Existing licences

- The PCO will write to the owners of licensed TX4s up to VIN 205838 who have not yet attended Mann and Overton for the remedial work to be carried out requiring that they do so by 31 May 2009 or face suspension of the vehicle licence.

New licences

- With effect from the date of this PCO notice, all TX4s up to VIN 205838 attending SGS for licensing inspections must have had the remedial work carried out and this must be supported by LTI certification confirming that the remedial work has been completed by Mann and Overton, the LTI agent. Failure to have the remedial work completed or to present the relevant LTI certification will result in refusal of the vehicle licence.

Owners must ensure that the LTI certification remains with the licensed vehicle when in service and be made available during any 'on-street' compliance inspection by an authorised officer.

Mary Dowdye
Head of Standards and Regulations

21 May 2009
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MAYOR OF LONDON