

## JIM RAINBIRD APPOINTED AS NEW MASTER FOR WCHCD

The Election Court for The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers was held at The Guildhall on 20th May 2010. Jim Rainbird has been elected as the new Master for The Worshipful Company of Hackney Drivers. He will take office in September, following in the footsteps of the current Master, Michael Davis. A taxi driver on Dial-a-Cab, Jim is well known to many in the trade for his signature “Tigger” hat as he refuels taxis taking part in the annual Magical Taxi Tour, run by The WCHCD. Each year an Election Court is held to decide who should hold the offices of management of the company, with new positions being taken up in September. This year the other elected officers are Brenda Bartlett as Renter Warden, Eddie Crossley as Upper Warden and Brian Rice as Lower Warden.



Brenda is a licensed taxi driver, whilst Eddie Crossley, a badge holder, is a garage proprietor at Richmond Road in Hackney and Brian is Chairman of Dial-a-Cab and still holds his badge. All were congratulated by the Master Michael Davis. The Company may be relatively young in terms of a Livery Company, but it is progressive

and enthusiastic and these new appointments will see the Company further strengthened as it endeavours to promote the taxi trade, as well as carrying on with its charitable works and education in the form of the Guide Course.

Following the Court Meeting there was luncheon, where the guest speaker was Ruth Martin, the Headteacher from The Royal Docks Community School. This is the school the WCHCD has an affiliation with, supporting the pupils with prizes each year for achievements, both academic and socially. Ruth Martin was delighted to talk to those present and tell them how proud she is of her school and how delighted everyone there is with the relationship with the Company. Ruth was brought in to the school to help raise its standards and it continues to do this. It serves a diverse community and The WCHCD is pleased to be able to offer support.

If you would like to know more about the WCHCD, please contact The Clerk, Mary Whitworth on 01494 765922. More details of the Company, events and its history can be found on the website [www.hackneycarriagedriverscompany.com](http://www.hackneycarriagedriverscompany.com)

## CAB GUIDES COLLECT CERTIFICATES AT ELECTION COURT LUNCH

The latest students to have completed the Cab Guide Course run by The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers, were presented with their certificates and badges on 20th May. Congratulating the students on their achievement in passing their exams, Master Michael Davis gave out the certificates and Cab Guide badges before the Election Court Lunch. Many of the students joined the Master, his Wardens and guests, as well as Liverymen and Freemen of the Company in the Members Dining Room at The Guildhall. For the students, the location may have brought back memories of the nervous feelings they had when they took the Cab Guide Course exam a few weeks before, including a guided walk, which began in the yard at the Guildhall. The walk was on a lovely sunny Sunday morning and due to the number of students involved this time, the group was split in two. Some of the students later had to compete with the bells of St Paul's Cathedral as they gave their talk but all of them presented an interesting informative talk despite the noise!

Congratulations go to all the students. Course co-ordinator Graham Woodhouse was pleased that the students enjoyed the course and a new course will begin in September. There are still some places available on this course so if you wish to know more about the course content or to sign up please contact The Clerk, Mary Whitworth, who will be pleased



to help. You can either telephone her on 01494 765922 or email her [wchcd@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:wchcd@tiscali.co.uk)