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FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION FOR WCHCD

It was on 23rd June 1654 that an Ordinance for the Regulation of Hackney Coachmen in London was ordered by the Lord Protector, Oliver Cromwell, together with his Council. This provided the legislation for the formation of the Fellowship of Master Hackney Coachmen. This was disbanded some years later but it is the history of that original fellowship upon which The Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers was founded.

So on 23rd June 2010, The Master, Michael Davies, together with his Wardens, Liverymen and Freemen of the Company along with their guests attended Founders' Day Luncheon to celebrate. The venue for the lunch was the elegant Grade 1 listed Trinity House. Following a champagne reception in the Court Room, lunch was served in the Library. The dining tables were



each named after various lighthouses around the country and diners could see the Tower of London and beyond on this lovely sunny afternoon. The guest speaker was Colonel Mike Russell, Commandant Defence Logistics School, who gave an entertaining speech. This was an opportunity for many in the cab trade to take time out of a busy working week to attend and the lunch was well attended and enjoyed by everyone.



Colonel Mike Russell, Commandant Defence Logistics School

from lighthouses and buoys through to the latest satellite navigation technology. It inspects over 10,000 local aids to navigation provided by port and harbour authorities, and those positioned on offshore structures. Along with the other two GLA's for the United Kingdom and Ireland, Trinity House is funded by the General Lighthouse Fund. The fund is supported by Light Dues, a fee levied on commercial shipping calling at ports in the United Kingdom and Ireland. The rate of Light Dues has fallen in real terms for over a decade with the rate either being frozen or cut.

Trinity House is also a major maritime charity, which operates as a separate entity to the GLA. The charity is wholly funded by its endowments. It spends around £3 million every year on the welfare of mariners, education and training of future seafarers, promoting safety at sea and fulfilling its role as a Deep Sea Pilotage Authority.



AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Trinity House is the General Lighthouse Authority (GLA) for England, Wales and the Channel Islands, providing and maintaining nearly 600 aids to navigation. These range

THE SEARCH FOR THE UK'S MOST PUKKA BLACK CABBIE IS ON

Caring cabbie Don Pratt recently made news headlines when he was left a £250,000 tip after one of his customers passed away. He was left more than £250,000 in pensioner Mary Watson's will. He had spent two decades driving Mary to and from her local shops and when she died, aged 86, she left Don her whole estate which included her house and savings. Now the father-of-four has been snapped up by car care expert Turtle Wax to lead and judge its national search for the 'UK's Most Pukka Black Cabbie'.

Speaking at the launch of the search Don, 65, from Newquay, said: "Being a good cabbie is much more than simply ferrying passengers from A to B; in any one day you can be called upon to be a counsellor, a critic and a confidant. Treating customers and other drivers on the road with courtesy and respect certainly paid off for me! I am delighted that at last there will be some recognition for the great work carried out by cabbies across the UK everyday."

Turtle Wax is calling for people to nominate black cab drivers who are prepared to go the extra mile for their customers and who take absolute pride in their cab, inside and out. Andrew Freeman from Turtle Wax, said: "Who better to launch our search than Don Pratt, who personifies what it means to be a good cabbie. He knows how difficult and demanding the job can be and will be a perfect judge. We think of him as the Simon Cowell of taxi drivers - he speaks and we listen.

"The UK is famous for its black cabs. They provide a great service to millions of people across the country, but it's not an easy job. Cabbies need to be patient, helpful, calm and have 'The Knowledge'!

"We want to find the most pukka and deserving 'Black Cabbie' in the UK that has all of these attributes, making the industry and the UK proud."

Entries for the competition will be judged by Don Pratt and representatives from Turtle Wax. The winner will receive £2,000 worth of pampering for their cab, a short city break worth £500 and a year's supply of Turtle Wax Black Box. Two runners up will also receive £250 worth of holiday vouchers, as well as a year's supply of Black Box. Don added: "I know the standard of entries will be extremely high and I am looking forward to helping decide who will be crowned the UK's Most Pukka Black Cabbie."

To nominate a cabbie all you need to do is go to www.turtlexblackbox.co.uk/mostpukkablackcabbie and follow the instructions.

The closing date for entries is Monday July 26th, 2010 and the winner will be notified on Monday August 2nd, 2010. Terms and conditions apply.

For more information on Turtle Wax/Black Box and for full terms and conditions please visit www.turtlexuk.com.