

# PRIVATE HIRE NEWS

WINTER 2009/10 ISSUE 48



**The news magazine of the Licensed Private Hire Car Association  
incorporating the London Private Hire Car Association**

Welcome to issue 48 of **Private Hire News**, which heavily features our recent **AGM** and **Road Show** at the magnificent **Marriott International Hotel** at **Heathrow**.

In spite of very bad traffic problems on the **M4** due to a major accident and problems on the railway system, many **members, guests, sponsors** and a *host of important speakers* made it to the venue.

We are very grateful to former **Chairman** and **LPHCA Founder** **Gideon Fiegal**, **Jeroen Weimar** – **TfL's Surface Transport Chief Office**, **Charles Belcher** – **TfL Board Member**, **John Mason** – **PCO Taxi & Private Hire Director**, **Jan Saunders** – **Business Manager** at **SGS**, **Chief Superintendent** **Joe Royle** and **Commander Mark Gore** of the **Metropolitan Police** for attending.

In addition, the **Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA)** once again provided their **Transport Director**, **Hugh Sumner** to give another wonderful **Olympic Update** presentation whilst newly appointed colleague **Roger Silvers** – **ODA Client manager** for **Taxi & PHV** manned their stand.

Other special stands included **GoSkills** with **Lisa Devayya** and **Chris Patefield**. With representatives from the enforcement officers organisations – **Bryan Denby** from the **National Association of Licensing Enforcement**

**Officers (NALEO)** and **Jeffrey Leib** from the **Institute of Licensing Officers** present, we really had an industry gathering. Finally we were delighted to be able to host **Martin Grout** from **Luton District Council** and **Ron Beckett** from **London Councils**, plus many support personnel from the above who manned stands and supported their bosses on the day.

The **AGM**, as always, brings together a lot of people and the event would not be possible without our **sponsors** and **staff**, so a great deal of photographs are in this edition to thank them.

For those unable to attend, or beaten back by the very unfortunate traffic and rail problems, all is not lost as for the first time *we videoed the whole event* very successfully with the very professional help of **Paul Gibson** of the **Sussex Press Agency**.

Much is within this edition of **Private Hire News** but there is even more on the website, please have a look, even if you attended you will be able to use the content and check facts about what was said, discussed and agreed.

*Members can even download the PowerPoints® and full transcripts from the website.*

Outside of the big **AGM** write-ups are articles on our response to the **Department for Transport's (DfT's) Driving Hours Consultation**, an open letter from **London Mayor Boris Johnson** to the **London Private Hire Operators and Drivers** about his **Air Quality Strategy** as well as a brief mention of the **Mayor's DRAFT Transport Strategy Consultation**, to which we will be responding.

We also publish our regulatory assessment feedback to the **Dft** on the so-called loophole closure, where we give our frank response to them on the *'review of the impact of the repeal of the Private Hire contract exemption'*. Has it worked???

There is a great montage of photographs of the very successful **'First Annual LPHCA fundraising Golf Day'** with a brief write up and acknowledgement of the generous **Sponsors**.

**Talking of Grading** this time covers **Making the Grade** and there is a new feature at the back end of the magazine called **'Odds and Ends'** covering some snippets of industry information that regularly hit the **LPHCA** office.

The **Association** continues to welcome **New Members** and reminds everyone that our collective power and respect is a very powerful tool for our industry, which is borne out by the **quality** and **quantity** of those who attended our **AGM** and **Road Show** in difficult trading times.

Since the last publication, we have had or attended meetings at or with the **DfT**, the **Met Police**, **TfL**, the **PCO**, **Lacors**, the **Olympic Delivery Authority**, **Drive 09**, the **Mayors Air Quality Advisor** and the **Private Hire Board**.

In addition we have had an **AGM & Road Show**, 'half a dozen' **Platinum Members Meetings** and fielded thousands of calls and emails.

As always we are very grateful to **LPHCA Members** for your phenomenal support and **membership**, which enables us to keep hopefully moving our industry forward.

*Steve Wright, MBE – Chairman*

## **PUBLISHER:**

Private Hire News Ltd.  
Talbot House, 204 - 226 Imperial Drive, Harrow,  
Middlesex, HA2 7HH  
Mob: 07956 329288 Fax: 01442 380607  
PHNEWS@btinternet.com  
www.privatehirenews.co.uk

**EDITOR:** Steve Wright

## **ADVERTISING:**

Mob: 07956 329288 Fax: 01442 380607

## **DESIGN/ARTWORK**

Bowberry House Design Ltd  
design@bowberryhouse.co.uk

## **PRINTER**

The Colourhouse Ltd  
Alan Anderson: 020 8305 8355

## **CONTRIBUTORS:**

Steve Wright, Geoff Wright,

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