

## READERS LETTERS

Dear Committee,

May I start by saying a very big well done to you and the other Trade groups in coming together in the recent Trade Demonstration. I have driven a cab for nearly 15 years and I am delighted that the Club has made such positive inroads in working together with the other driver unions, as I never believed that going it alone got us anywhere with those in power.

Carry on the good work fellas.

Roy  
Woodford

Dear Stan,

I am writing in to say a big thank you for all your help in dealing with the Public Carriage Office for me. I must say that after coming in to see you, and subsequently our meeting at the Yard where you put up a brilliant case for me, I cannot thank you enough.

I have never been in trouble before with the PCO but when the letter dropped on my door mat from them, I never slept for a week. Thanks again Stan for all your help, and I wish the Club all the best for the future. Its the best 50p a day I ever spent.

Tony  
Wimbledon

Dear Chairman,

Firstly, well done for the Demo, I think we need more of the same to be honest, as I have had more than enough of how we are being treated. Also when I tuned into the James Whale show on LBC on the day of the Demo, I thought when you told the Guy from Westminster Council about the £20 minimum fares at Whitcomb Street, he hadn't a clue they were doing this, but he let them rank up anyway.....

Keep up the good work and I will see you at the next Demo.

Steve  
Buckhurst Hill

Dear Committee,

I have worked out why we are in such a mess in this Trade. Both me and My son attended the fantastic demonstration and after wards we both had to go back to work. My son is on one of the Radio Circuits and later on in the evening he accepted a job which turned out to be covering a car companies account. He tells me that when the Car Company cannot cover one of their jobs a Licensed Taxi is sent to keep them happy and save the account.

This is our biggest problem, why are we helping the enemy to survive ?

Alan  
Finchley

## GREEN SHELTER SHAMBLES

The Badge has been running a series of articles regarding our great cab shelters and those who dedicatedly run them for the benefit of the Licensed Taxi Drivers who work within this Great Capital of ours.

The cabmans shelter fund was established in 1875 and we have come to take them for granted.

But it has come to our attention at the LCDC that the funds privileged charitable status faces a potential threat. The Charity Commissioners state that..." If the Commissioners have not received overdue documents, charities may be removed from the register".

And it appears the Cabmens Shelter Fund could fall foul of this rule. Our enquiries reveal that ;

1. There are no current trustees listed
2. No financial returns have been made for the years 2005, 2006, and 2007.
3. The returns for 2004 were not submitted until September 2008 - that is 1046 days late.
4. The returns for 2003 were over 3 years late, that is 1,205 days.
5. In the 2004 accounts the auditors commented that  
"...the evidence available to us was limited because £17,620 of the companys recorded turnover comprises cash receipts, over which there was no system of control prior to the inclusion thereof in the accounting records on which we could rely for the purposes of our audit....There were no satisfactory audit procedures that we could adopt to confirm that cash receipts were properly recorded " ( page 3 of the accounts )
6. In the 2003 accounts the auditors made an identical observation in respect of £10,875 cash receipts ( page 3 of the accounts )  
You can check these facts for yourself by logging on to [www.charity-commission.gov.uk](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk) and entering the charity registration number 236108 name "Cabmens Shelter Fund "

Please let us know what you think.

Perhaps our fears are groundless. We would willingly give the Secretary of the Fund and Trustees the opportunity to explain the situation for themselves.

In the meantime the LCDC remains a passionate supporter of the Shelters. They provide a very welcome and valuable service and are a vital part of the Cab Trades proud history and heritage. We have consequently been in touch with the Charity Commission about our concerns.

## THE LCDC HAS NOW MOVED TO:

UNIT A 303.2  
TOWER BRIDGE BUSINESS COMPLEX  
TOWER POINT  
100 CLEMENTS ROAD SOUTHWARK  
LONDON SE16

## THE LCDC'S NEW CONTACT NUMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

020 7394 5553  
020 7232 0676