

# London's Black Cab Drivers Deliver Magic: 65 Taxis Unite for Charity's Biggest Zoo Adventure

Saturday 12 July, 2025

Professional coordination sees 200+ special needs children enjoy perfect day out as 97-year-old charity showcases the best of London's taxi trade

**LONDON, 12 July 2025** – The professionalism and community spirit that defines London's black cab trade was on full display this week as 65 licensed taxi drivers coordinated seamlessly to transport over 200 special needs children and their families to Hertfordshire Zoo for the London Taxi Drivers' Charity for Children's (LTCFC) annual outing.

The precision operation, which saw drivers converge at Isle of Dogs ASDA car park before forming an impressive convoy, demonstrated the organisational excellence that has made London's taxi service world-renowned. Following live coverage on GB News, the event has been hailed as a perfect example of the trade's ongoing commitment to community service.

"This is what our trade is really about," said Tony [Chairman], speaking after the successful day. "Sixty-five professional drivers, all volunteers, working together like clockwork to bring joy to children who need it most. It's the kind of coordination that only comes from decades of experience on London's streets."

The charity, now in its 97th year and approaching its centennial in 2028, has been organising these events since 1928, making it one of the longest-running examples of the taxi trade's charitable work. All participating drivers hold enhanced DBS checks and TfL licenses, with many having volunteered for many decades.

### TRADE EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

The logistical achievement was significant: 200+ passengers, wheelchair-accessible vehicles throughout, fuel compensation provided, and a day-long commitment from drivers who gave up their earning time to volunteer. The operation ran without a single hitch, reflecting the professionalism that passengers experience daily across London.

Each child was gifted a goodie bag and a Louie toy, with lunch, ice cream and drinks provided throughout the day, ensuring every family enjoyed a truly magical experience at no cost to them.

Driver liaison John, who coordinates the volunteer network, noted: "The response from our drivers is always incredible. These are busy professionals who could be earning, but they choose to give their time because they understand the difference we make to these families."

### POSITIVE REPRESENTATION

At a time when the taxi trade faces various challenges, events like this showcase the human side of London's black cab service. The charity's work has gained recognition at the highest levels, with committee members recently attending a Royal Garden Party in recognition of their charitable contributions.

The event also highlights the trade's adaptability and community focus, with drivers and children coming together to have fun while maintaining the personal service that has defined London taxis for generations.

# LOOKING AHEAD

With the charity approaching its centennial, organisers are planning special events to mark nearly 100 years of taxi drivers supporting London's most vulnerable children. The volunteer driver network, though facing recruitment challenges as drivers retire, continues to demonstrate the values that make London's taxi trade unique.

LTCFC extends grateful thanks to Mary and her team of staff at Asda, DCL Insurance Brokers, Location Medics, the AA, Sean and Mirna from London Taxi Radio for the radios, The Worshipful Company of Tin Plate Workers, Josh Woolnough and his biker friends who made up the LTCFC Outriders, Ears PLC, Stanway Engineering of Chingford for their generous sponsorship of the Best Decorated Cab competition, and the brilliant staff at Hertfordshire Zoo for their continued support in making these events possible.

### Media:



















### **ABOUT LTCFC**

Founded in 1928, the London Taxi Drivers' Charity for Children is entirely volunteer-run, with all committee members being licensed London taxi drivers. The charity serves over 1,500 children annually, focusing on those with special needs and autism. All events are free for families, funded entirely through donations and the volunteers' own time.

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