The Taxi Council wishes to congratulate all drivers, Award nominees and the following winners:-

The 2005 Taxi Driver of the Year - Winner: Lorraine Rendall

Jointly presented by Paul Andrews MLA representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure and Bill Hazell, National Manager Kleenheat AutoGas

The prize consisted of:-

4xburner BBQ – Kleenheat AutoGas

3 Nights Accommodation at the Holiday Inn Burswood in a Metro Spa Room with buffet breakfast included in the Sirocco restaurant plus three $100 dinner vouchers – courtesy of the Burswood Entertainment Complex

$1,000 spending money – Taxi Council WA

Gourmet Deluxe Hamper – Paddington Ale House

Luxury Gift pack from the Burswood Entertainment Complex

Radio 6PR gift

Reason:-

A wife nominated Lorraine for her wonderful actions the day her husband fell off the roof and scraped both of his shins to the bone.

The wife was at work when her husband called. He had dragged himself in to the house and to the phone and was bleeding profusely. Having not brought her car to work, Cathie rang for a taxi to take her home urgently. Lorraine picked up Cathie and took her home and said that she would come inside with her to see how badly injured he was. Cathie said “we found him in the hallway, covered in blood. Lorraine decided that she could get us to hospital faster than an ambulance. We wrapped him in towels and covered her taxi in sheets and proceeded to hospital with a minimum of fuss”. Cathie went to say “a few weeks ago, Lorraine called in to my workplace to enquire how my husband had got on

over the last few months. If there is any way that Swan taxis rewards its drivers, please make sure that Lorraine's wonderful actions are recognized".

Taxi Driver of the Year Finalists (x10)

Each winner received:

Gourmet Hamper and $100 dinner voucher – Paddington Ale House

Events Polo Shirt & Cap

Framed Certificate

Hashmatullah Sashardoost

For helping and comforting a passenger whilst taking her to hospital when her Father-in-law was dying

Phillip De Mello

Nominated by several passengers for his friendly and professional service and always going that extra mile in assisting his passengers.

Martin Cappleman

Helping to make a 14 year old boy's life more secure and happy. The boy is confined to a wheelchair and uses Martin's services on a regular basis.

Henry Korda (no picture available)

Nominated by Bunbridge School for his excellent service in transporting a class of students with special needs every Thursday for the last five years.

Lorraine Rendall

For helping an injured man get to hospital for urgent medical treatment.

Shahram Haidari

For always being a prompt, reliable, pleasant, professional and very good driver.

Charlie Mannino

Several passengers nominated Charlie for his immaculate appearance, spotless taxi and very professional service.

Murray Doyle (no picture available)

Murray assisted an injured passenger, who was a visitor to Perth, and took her to a chemist and where he organized crutches for her.

Ioan Ticos

Passengers were flying to Broome and left a fishing rod in Ioan's taxi. When they arrived in Broome they were overjoyed when the fishing rod appeared on the baggage conveyor. Ioan had found the fishing rod and checked it on to their flight for them.

Graham Wescombe

Graham helped the passenger locate his dying dog and showed a great deal of kindness and compassion.

Specialist Awards

Each winner received:

Gourmet Hamper and $100 Dinner Voucher – Paddington Ale House

Overnight Accommodation including breakfast – Holiday Inn Burswood

Luxury gift pack from the Burswood Entertainment Complex

Framed Certificate and Awards Polo Shirt

Tourist Taxi Driver of the Year

Winner: George Luxa

Presented by Jennifer Duffecy, Director of Visitor Servicing, Tourism Western Australia

Reason:-

For assisting visitors from Singapore find accommodation early one morning. The passengers said "We do not know what we would have done without his help as the streets were all deserted. He spent a lot of time with us and kept our spirits up with his optimism and his patience".

Safety Taxi Driver of the Year Award (WA Police Service)

Winner: Hin Ling HUO

Presented by Inspector Mark Twamley from the WA Police Service

Reason:

Hui Ling followed correct procedure for returning lost property and handed a wallet in to the police that contained a substantial amount of money. The passenger had been frantic when he realized his wallet was missing and is extremely grateful to Hin Ling for his prompt actions and honesty.

WA Access Taxi Driver of the Year Award

Winner: John Shearer

Presented by Di Ritson, Community Access and Information Branch, Disability Services Commission

Reason:-

John has received many nominations this year commending him on the special assistance and service which he provides to passengers confined to wheelchairs.

One nominee said that John had been driving their son, Joel who has cerebral palsy, for some years and that he had become an important part of their lives. The Mother described the ways that John went out of his way to help her son and said “to our family it has become more and more apparent that without John our lives would be all the complicated. He also has become good friends with Joel and for that we are most grateful. I believe that John is a very special man and for that he should be recognized”.

After the Awards had been presented, MC Howard Sattler, acknowledged and thanked the following major sponsors and supporters for their valued contributions in making these Awards and Cabbie Day possible:

Kleenheat AutoGas

Radio 6PR

Department for Planning & Infrastructure

Burswood Entertainment Complex Resort Casino

Perth Airport

Tourism Western Australia

Disability Services Commission

Swan Taxis

Western Australia Police Service

Paddington Ale House

Broadwater Pagoda

McInerney Ford