

Cabbies Turned Firefighters

Heroes may not be braver than anyone else. They are just braver for that moment!

ComfortDelGro hirers Tan Lye Thiam and Ng Jun Jie mustered up courage and turned firefighters in the wee hours of a rainy Sunday, 11 October 2020. They not only rescued a driver whose car had caught fire along the Kranji Expressway (KJE), but also put out the fire with their fire extinguishers.

Cabby Tan, 41, was driving along the KJE with a passenger when he witnessed a car hitting a wall divider. He and his passenger immediately got out of the taxi to check, and realised to their horror that the car's bonnet had caught fire!

Despite the risk, they pried open the door to pull the driver to safety, and called the ambulance. As it had started to pour, Cabby Tan gave his umbrella to the passenger to shelter the injured driver. He then tried dousing the flames with the fire extinguisher installed in his taxi. At that moment, Cabby Ng, who was driving along the KJE, stopped to help with his fire extinguisher as well. Together, they put out the fire in about 10 minutes before the authorities arrived.

Said Cabby Tan: "I was acting on instincts. Since my taxi is equipped with a fire extinguisher, I felt right to stop to help. I must really thank my passenger for pitching in to help me pull the man to safety and for sheltering him in the rain. I would also like to thank my fellow ComfortDelGro cabby for helping as well."

Cabby Ng thought nothing of it. The 33-year-old said: "Cabby Tan had done the heavy work

and I only stopped to help out by using the fire extinguisher in my taxi. I think this is a very good initiative on the part of the Company to equip all taxis with a fire extinguisher."

For their bravery, both cabbies have been given a Thumbs Up Award each from the Company, and will have their fire extinguishers replaced for free.

