

*Land Transport Safety Division  
Vehicle Operations Branch*  
**Taxi and Hire Vehicle Newsletter**

**Issue 71 – October 2013**

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**Cruise Ship season - Hobart**

The first Cruise Ship of the new tourist season will be docking at Macquarie Wharf No 3 on Wednesday 23rd October at around 8.00pm. The Sea Princess will be the first of at least 37 Cruise Ships to visit Hobart in the coming months through to the end of April 2014 - carrying an average passenger load of around 2000 visitors per ship. (A full list of scheduled Cruise Ship arrivals can be found at: [http://www.tasports.com.au/port\\_services/arrivalscruise.html](http://www.tasports.com.au/port_services/arrivalscruise.html) )

In readiness for the new season, TasPorts has commissioned the new Terminal 2 facility to help cater for cruise ship passengers. TasPorts has also redesigned the passenger transport facilities and has allocated designated parking spaces and collection points for pre-booked tour vehicles, taxis and buses close to the entrance of Terminal 2. Tour operators that do not have a pre-booked client have been allocated space to advertise their tours and services at the forecourt to Macquarie Wharf No 1. Destination Southern Tasmania will manage entry to this forecourt area for the duration of the cruise ship season. (A map of the Terminal area is at: [http://www.tasports.com.au/port\\_services/cruise\\_shipping.html](http://www.tasports.com.au/port_services/cruise_shipping.html))

The Transport Commission has approved a temporary policy to trial the regulation of the access of Restricted Hire Vehicle and Luxury Hire Car operators to the cruise ship passenger market. For the first Cruise Ship visit of 24 October 2013, the Commission has declared the forecourt of Macquarie wharf No 1 as a site where Luxury Hire Car operators (with an approved vehicle displaying a Luxury Hire Car licence number-plate) and Restricted Hire Vehicle operators (with a small passenger vehicle displaying a RHV licence number-plate) are authorised to offer and accept bookings from Cruise Ship passengers.

LHC's and RHV's will not be authorised to offer or accept bookings at any other site or in any other circumstance in the Terminal precincts, unless the fare has been pre-booked and entry to the area to collect the pre-booked customers has been approved by TasPorts.

The success of the trial arrangement applied on 24 October will be assessed by the Commission in the context of future cruise ship arrivals. Transport Inspectors will be present in the Wharf area during the Cruise Ship season to monitor, educate and assist Passenger Transport Service operators to ensure that all Cruise Ship passengers enjoy their brief stay in Hobart.

Please note that Taxi operators who wish to operate their vehicle under the authority of a [Restricted Hire Vehicle licence](#) may apply for an RHV licence. Taxi operators who were accredited to provide taxi services at 1 July 2013 need only pay the small application fee. Taxi operators accredited after 1 July 2013 are required to pay the licence fee in addition to the application fee. It should also be noted that final authority over access to the Macquarie Wharf No 1 forecourt area lies with TasPorts and Destination Southern Tasmania (DST), not the Transport Commission. DST may impose other conditions of entry to the forecourt as part of their commercial operation. More details are available from Destination Southern Tasmania on (Tel) 03 6223 5650.

## **Previous Newsletters**

These may be viewed on the DIER website, at the following link;

[http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/publications/taxi\\_and\\_luxury\\_hire\\_car\\_newsletter2](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/publications/taxi_and_luxury_hire_car_newsletter2)

This newsletter is sent to all radio networks and taxi fleet managers, who will make copies available on request. Please make the Newsletter available to drivers. NOTE: DIER issues this Newsletter to operators by email ONLY, as it is easier, cheaper and quicker to do so. If you change your email address, please advise Phil or Alan as under.

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## **DIER Contacts**

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**Operators should note that queries on all general operational and housekeeping matters should be directed to;**

E-mail:

[operator.accreditation@dier.tas.gov.au](mailto:operator.accreditation@dier.tas.gov.au)

**Vehicle Standards and vehicle technical matters;**

6233 5214 or 6233 5314

**Driver licence and ancillary certificate queries;**

6233 5195

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