

Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources

Land Transport Safety Division

Vehicle Operations Branch

Taxi and Luxury Hire Car Newsletter

Issue 63–March 2012

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Annual administration fee for taxi and luxury hire car licences

A reminder to all operators that the fee – payable for each licence – is due on 1 April 2012, as advised in Newsletter 62 of January 2012.

Taxi licences:

Fees for licences operating in respective taxi areas for 2012-13 are:

Hobart and Launceston - \$613.20

Devonport/Ulverstone/Burnie/West Tamar/Perth/George Town/New Norfolk - \$462.00

All other areas - \$254.80

Luxury Hire Car licences

The annual administration fee for Luxury Hire Car licences for 2012-13 is \$358.40.

Notices concerning the fees for all licences were posted to licence owners in early February. As with previous years, the fee for each licence is due on 1 April 2012.

All operators are reminded that if a fee is not paid by 1 April, the licence lapses. A taxi or luxury hire car service cannot be provided under a lapsed licence. Where the fee is unpaid after 28 days the licence number-plate is void and will be cancelled, and can be seized by a Transport Inspector. Payment of a late fee will re-instate the ability to provide a taxi or luxury hire car service.

If operators have any questions on the fees, please telephone 6233 5396.

New Personal Property Security Register

The Australian Government has recently established the Personal Property Security (PPS) Register. This is a register where details of security interests in personal property can be registered and searched and supercedes (among other things) each State and Territory Register of Encumbered Vehicles and Bills of Sale Register.

Personal property is defined as any form of property other than land, buildings or fixtures that form part of it or a right (such as water rights), entitlement or authority. To be considered personal property, one person must be able to transfer the ownership of the property to another person.

Some common examples of personal property are boats, caravans and cars. Personal property also includes non-material items such as taxi licences.

The PPS Register is relevant for organisations or people who finance the purchase of taxi licences, as security interests in taxi licences will be registered here.

What does this mean if I am buying a taxi licence?

If you are considering purchasing an existing taxi licence, you are advised to search the PPS Register to find out whether a security interest is registered against the licence before you buy the licence. This will allow you to see whether a finance company or bank has an interest in the licence.

You can search online at <https://transact.ppsr.gov.au/ppsr/Home>

or phone 1300 007 777. A small fee will be charged for this search.

DIER does not require buyers of taxi licences to search the PPS Register before buying a licence, but strongly recommends that you do so for your own protection. If you have not searched the Register, you will have no protection if a financier with a registered interest in the licence wishes to claim against it.

What does this mean if I am providing finance for a taxi licence?

If you have a security interest against personal property, such as a taxi licence, you should register your security interest in order to protect it.

The Commonwealth Personal Property Securities Act 2009 is intended to protect buyers of personal property where they are not aware of an existing security interest (that is, where the buyer has searched the PPS Register, but the interest is not registered on it). If this happens, the sale of the property effectively voids the unregistered security interest and the person with the interest no longer has any claim to the property.

The PPS Register does not affect any legal requirements DIER has in place for the ownership of taxi licences. All licence transfer processes remain the same. For example, if a finance company repossessed an owner-operator taxi licence, the licence could still only be transferred to a person who meets the requirements to hold one of these licences.

Where can I find out more?

If you need further information, you should refer to the PPSR website at <http://www.ppsr.gov.au/AbouttheRegister/Pages/default.aspx>

or you may need to obtain your own professional advice.

DIER has no involvement with the PPS Register and is not able to answer any questions about it.

Salamanca Arts Centre's 35th anniversary

The article under has been provided by the Salamanca Arts Centre to give advance notice to taxi drivers in the Hobart region regarding the 3-day celebration of the Salamanca Arts Centre's 35th anniversary, which will take place 30 March - 1 April 2012.

Salamanca Arts Centre

77 Salamanca Place
Hobart Tas 7004

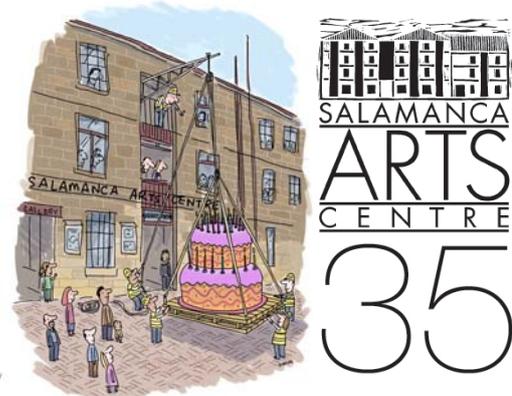
THE BIG WEEKEND

30 MARCH -1 APRIL, 2012

Celebrating 35 years of Salamanca Arts Centre

1 March 2012

Dear Sir/Madam



FOR DISTRIBUTION TO TAXI DRIVERS AND STAFF

2012 is Salamanca Arts Centre's 35th Anniversary, as Hobart's heart of the arts and to celebrate we are presenting a weekend of free events, **Friday 30 March – Sunday 1 April, 2012**, which will be held in and around Salamanca Arts Centre (SAC) and Salamanca Place.

We write to share with you details of events, which involve road closures and increased visitation to your local area.

Friday 30 March, 6pm-11pm: Kelly's Steps Second Landing Party

Free concert held on Kelly's Steps, Kelly's Lane Salamanca. Bands ranging from bluegrass to rock will play short sets on the landing above Kelly's Steps with audiences watching from the laneway and Kelly's Garden (Salamanca Art Centre outdoor venue).

Public can enter and exit via Kelly St and Salamanca Place. **Road closure at the end of Kellys Street to McGregor St, 5pm-11.30pm. Accessible for local resident traffic. Expected attendance 1000 (throughout the course of the night).**

Saturday 31 March, 1pm – 1.05pm: Davey Street

A short traffic delay will occur **on Davey St between Murray St and Salamanca Place at 1pm – 1.05pm**. The traffic delay will not affect Metro bus services, but taxis and hotel bus services should be aware and may seek alternative route.

Sunday 1 April, 2pm – 2.40pm: The Pageant

A family-friendly pageant starring a community cast and school children will tell stories from the history of SAC. Located on Salamanca Place in front of the SAC building with a stage located on the footpath and audience on the street and Salamanca Lawns. As part of the set a giant piñata in the shape of an industrial lift, will be suspended by a crane located with the road closure area.

Road closure Salamanca Pl, Woobys Lane to Kelly's Steps, 8am – 5pm. Expected attendance approx 1000.

In the coming weeks we will send you a flyer with a full program of events, which we hope you can share with your staff and clientele. In the meantime more details are available on the Salamanca Arts Centre website, www.salarts.org.au and I would be happy to discuss the events with you anytime ether by phone or in person.

Kind regards

Kate McDonald
SAC35 Producer
Salamanca Arts Centre
62 34 8414 / M: 0402 071 984

Transport Access Scheme – Interstate taxi vouchers

Members of taxi concession schemes operating in other Australian States and Territories who visit Tasmania can arrange to be issued with Interstate Taxi Fare Concession vouchers before they leave home. These vouchers can be used by the scheme member to receive the same taxi fare concession they would receive in their home State or Territory, and should be accepted by Tasmanian taxi drivers.

Interstate taxi fare concession vouchers collected from interstate visitors can be redeemed from the Transport Access Scheme in exactly the same way as Tasmanian taxi vouchers are, and the same level of trip information is required to be completed.

Please contact the Transport Access Scheme on 6233 5199 if you have any questions about Interstate Taxi Fare Concession Vouchers or their use in Tasmania.

Statutory Declarations – lost, stolen or damaged licence number-plates

From time to time, operators need to contact DIER to obtain a replacement licence number-plate.

DIER requires wherever possible a damaged plate to be returned to DIER. Where a damaged or lost plate cannot be physically returned to DIER, a Statutory Declaration must be completed by either the person leasing the licence, or the licence owner.

The Declaration must describe the circumstances and date of the loss, theft or damage. For taxi licences, the Declaration must be completed by either the person leasing the licence, or the licence owner.

For luxury hire car licences, the licence owner must complete the Declaration.

Declarations completed by persons other than these will not be accepted. Remember to have the Declarations appropriately signed by a Commissioner for Declarations or a Justice of the Peace, dated and witnessed. Service Tasmania staff are Commissioners for Declarations.

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

This newsletter is also 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.

DIER Contacts



Vehicle Operations Branch

Danny Johnson, Manager, 6233 5390

Transport Operator Accreditation

Jeremy Gleeson (Manager) – 6233 5198

Phil Harvey - 6233 5376

Alan Kearsley - 6233 5396

Branch Fax: (03) 6233 5210

Operators should note that queries on all general operational and housekeeping matters should be directed to Phil.

E-mail:

Phil.harvey@dier.tas.gov.au

Vehicle Standards and vehicle technical matters;

6233 5214 or 6233 5314

Driver licence and ancillary certificate queries;

6233 5195

Regional Managers – Transport Compliance

South – Mark Kramer – 6233 5280

North – Pat Quarrell– 6336 2696

North-West – Harry Marshall – 6434 6486