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legal solutions
for life

Welcome to the first edition of Legal Insight for 2014.

Borrowers Beware

Have you ever borrowed a friend, family member or co-worker's car without first checking that it is registered? Most of us would assume, when borrowing a car that it is registered. But borrowers should beware, if you are caught driving an unregistered vehicle, you may be slapped with a fine, whether or not you are the vehicle owner.

As of 1 January 2014 registration labels have not been issued and are no longer required to be displayed on all light vehicles registered in Victoria, including cars. The small change is set to save Victorians millions of dollars but some are concerned that the change might lead to an increase in unregistered vehicle related offences and fines.



Section 7 of the *Road Safety Act 1986* (Vic) makes it an offence to use an unregistered vehicle on a highway, failing a permit to do so. Any driver, whether or not they are the owner of the vehicle, may be fined if caught driving an unregistered vehicle. Persons borrowing their friend or family member's car can no longer just check the sticker on the front windscreen but should ensure that they enquire about the registration status of the car

before taking it out on the roads. Employees driving company cars should do the same because although the company might end up covering the fine, any demerit points will fall on the driver.

Driver's borrowing someone else's car should take the time to ensure that the vehicle is registered. **Anyone can check the registration status of a vehicle by entering the plate details online at vre.vicroads.vic.gov.au or by calling VicRoads on 13 11 71.**

Words to the Wise
“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friend.”
 John the Apostle



Toughing Up On Workplace Bullies

1 January 2014 marks the start of the new workplace bullying laws. The *Fair Work Amendment Act 2013* came into effect at the beginning of this year, following a 2013 governmental report recognising the need to establish both fast and accessible ways to put a stop to workplace bullying.

Make sure that you and your business are prepared for the new changes, don't wait for issues to arise, get proactive and start implementing your anti-bullying and harassment procedures today.

For all employers and employees, please click on the following link for more information: hutchinsonlegal.com.au/toughing-up-on-workplace-bullies. **If you would like advice on this issue, please contact Edmund Saw on his direct line, 8873 6817 or edmund@hutchinsonlegal.com.au.**

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Did you know...

If you work in the city, our Melbourne office is ideally positioned to meet your legal needs. For a convenient lunch time appointment or consultation, give us a call.

If you would like to receive an electronic version of Legal Insight, please:

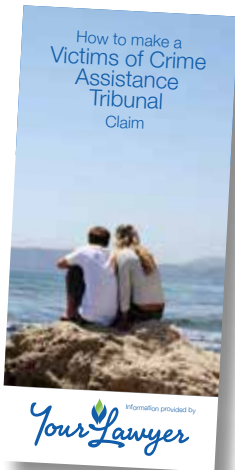
- send an email to office@hutchinsonlegal.com.au
- call Tristan Tottenham of our office on 9870 9870
- write to us at PO Box 450, Ringwood 3134

Serving Victims of Crime

We have some exciting news to share with you all in relation to our handling of Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal (VOCAT) matters moving forward. Hutchinson Legal will be passing all new VOCAT referrals onto a brand new law firm we have set up called YourLawyer.

YourLawyer is a new 'sister' law firm to Hutchinson Legal, and our entire VOCAT team will be transferring over to this new law practice.

This new practice has been set up to enable us to better meet the needs of our VOCAT clients, while allowing Hutchinson Legal to focus their attention on more traditional areas of law.



YourLawyer

Commemorated by Law

Anzac Day Act 1958 (Vic)

Commemorating the first major military action taken by Australian and New Zealand Army Corp (ANZAC) soldiers, the 25th of April first became known as "ANZAC Day" in 1916, just one year on from the landing at Gallipoli beach in 1915. Almost 100 years later and ANZAC Day is still recognised with various memorial services and parades across the nation. The preservation of 25 April as a day of commemoration and remembrance must be attributed, at least in part, to the fact that it has long been recognised and established by statute.

Under the current Victorian legislation, sporting events cannot be held on ANZAC Day without Ministerial approval, and even then, not before 1pm. This includes bicycle races, foot races, cricket matches, football matches or "any other game, exercise or contest of a kind usually conducted, carried on, contested or decided on a ground ... or in any building to which persons are admitted on payment of an admission fee or charge or after any donation has been sought from them for the purpose of witnessing the same." Interestingly, this does not include horse or dog races.

Similarly, cinemas across the State won't be screening movies before 1pm, unless they have been granted Ministerial approval to do

so. In fact, entertainment of any other form running before 1pm on April 25th requires a permit and must not detract from the ANZAC Day ceremonies. Also, factories and warehouses will remain closed for the entire day.

But even though many businesses and organizations won't be up and running until the afternoon, there is still plenty to do this ANZAC Day, with dawn and morning services in towns all across the country to honor those who gave their lives.



Invitation to Client FUNction



Mark your diaries; our next Client FUNction is just around the corner!

Date: Monday, 26 May 2014

Time: 6:15pm

Where: Hoyts Cinema, Eastland Shopping Centre, Ringwood

RSVP: to Tristan on 9870 9870, or tristan@hutchinsonlegal.com.au or via our website.

FastFACTS

16/05/02 11,430

The day the last remaining Anzac, Alec Campbell, passed away

Number of ANZAC troops that died on the Gallipoli Peninsula, now known as ANZAC Cove

300

Alleged number of wounded soldiers rescued by Private John "Simpson" Kirkpatrick, on the back of his donkey

1916

The first "ANZAC Day" ceremony

1,508,892

Number of Australian men and women who served in the major wars or conflicts throughout the 20th century

HUTCHINSON LEGAL

per Con Nottas & Grant Hutchinson

Tel: (61 3) 9870 9870

Fax: (61 3) 9870 5704

Email: office@hutchinsonlegal.com.au

PO Box 450, Ringwood 3134

Visit us at hutchinsonlegal.com.au

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