



Ashburton District Licensing Agency Newsletter

December 2009

CHRISTMAS

With the Christmas Season upon us, it is timely to remind licensees and duty managers of their responsibilities regarding host responsibility, and in particular intoxication. Being proactive to prevent persons becoming intoxicated on your premises is part of being a "good host". Providing food, non-alcoholic drinks, and arranging safe transport options are conditions of on and club licences.

At this time of year there is often a greater number of persons in town who have been to work functions, who are intoxicated and should not be allowed to enter licensed premises.

Christmas Trading Hours

Christmas Day falls on a Friday this year. Bars/taverns must close no later than 12 midnight on Christmas Eve, 24 December, and may not operate on Christmas Day. Restaurants may operate on Christmas Day providing *they are operating as a restaurant*. Similarly, off sales are not permitted on Christmas Day.

There is no "official" New Years Eve party this year. It is expected that this will result in a larger than usual number of people in bars and taverns. Premises are encouraged to have adequate security for what could be a busy night.

Contact Details

If you have any queries regarding this newsletter or any other liquor licensing issue please contact Alison Batcheler on 03 3077729 or 0272746687 or alisonb@adc.govt.nz Licensing forms are available from the Councils Website www.ashburtondc.govt.nz or in person at 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton.

On Licence Food conditions

The Liquor Licensing Authority has advised that the food condition for all new on licences has been amended to reflect the requirement to "*promote food and advise it's availability throughout the premises*".

The food condition should now read: "*A range of food choices must be readily available at all times that the premises are open. Menus must be visible and food should be actively promoted. A minimum of three types of food should be available. The range or style of food will be as shown on any menu submitted. Alternatively the range of food should include such items as paninis, pizzas, lasagna, toasted or fresh sandwiches, wedges, pies, filled rolls and/or salads.*"

Have a safe and enjoyable festive season



Controlled Purchase Operations CPOs

A Controlled Purchase Operation in October resulted in a sale to a minor. Any sale is disappointing and all licensees are advised to review their sales procedures, especially regarding which staff may sell liquor. Adequate training is essential for staff authorised to sell liquor

Please circulate this newsletter to duty managers and bar staff

18 year old patrons in school uniform

A licensee has advised that he recently refused to sell liquor to 18 year-olds in his premises, who were wearing school uniform. This group of students were present during school hours without parents/guardians.

Furthermore he did not allow 18 year old college students who were not in uniform, to purchase liquor and sit at the same table as their underage school friends in school uniform. He also contacted the school.

The licensee is to be commended for his stance in this situation.

The Act places **no obligation to sell liquor to any person**, and it is hoped that other licensees and duty managers will adopt a similar approach.

Ashburton College and Mt Hutt College Methven Principals advise that they consider it inappropriate for students in school uniform to be purchasing or consuming liquor in licensed premises and have requested they be contacted **immediately** if this occurs.

Contact details are:
Ashburton College -ph 308-4193-Grant McMillan;
Mt Hutt College Methven -3028437-Cathy Ewing.
Your co-operation in this matter is requested.

Remember - The Act places no obligation on the licensee to sell liquor at any time or to any person