

# Christchurch Tri-Agency Newsletter

*Easter edition 2018*



## Trading hours over Easter and on ANZAC Day

**Anzac Day morning, Good Friday and Easter Sunday form part of the three and a half sacrosanct days where alcohol sales are prohibited or restricted.**

**ALL premises holding an on-licence can only sell alcohol to persons present on the premises to dine.**

**All off-licensed premises are prohibited from selling alcohol. No exceptions.**

Parliaments view was that it would be reasonable to allow a person to enjoy a beer or a wine with their meal on these days, hence the dining provision. If you are functioning as a restaurant (providing meals) you may sell alcohol to a person as an accompaniment to that meal. Casual drinking is not permitted, this includes restaurants.

**What is dining?** Every year we have debates over what constitutes dining. In our view the matter is quite simple: Your customer is present for no other purpose than to consume a meal. Not to play the pokies, have a game of pool, or watch sport on TV.

A meal in our opinion is a sit down meal with a knife and fork. It's not a bowl of fries, a free selection of finger food, or order a pizza with your beer.

Again we will be out and about ensuring the requirements of the Act are met, so if you have any queries as to whether you should or can remain open, call the Alcohol Licensing Team, we are always happy to explain things.

**No ID,  
No service,  
No exceptions.**

**This should be your staff's  
mantra.**

**The tri-agencies conduct  
regular controlled purchase  
operations in Christchurch  
district. Make sure your  
premises is one that passes.**

# Dates for Easter and ANZAC Day special licence applications

This year these days fall on:

- Good Friday – 30 March 2018
- Easter Sunday – 1 April 2018
- ANZAC Day – Wednesday 25 April 2018

Remember to have your special licence applications for your Easter or ANZAC Day events lodged with us as soon as possible. Special licence applications will not be accepted for continuation of normal trading.

All applications must be made at least 20 working days before the event is held, otherwise they may not be accepted by the District Licensing Committee for consideration.

**Deadlines this year are:**

- **Easter 2018 – applications must be received by Thursday 1 March 2018**
- **ANZAC day 2018 – applications must be received by Friday 23 March 2018**

Short notice applications (made less than 20 working days before the event date) must be accompanied by a letter explaining the reason for lateness for DLC consideration. **You will need to have a good reason** as the Act refers to the reason for lateness as “*could not reasonably have been foreseen*”.



## Easter trading hours compliance



**Police will be actively monitoring licensed premises over Easter.**

This year licensees can expect to see Police checking compliance over Easter with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 as it relates to alcohol sales.

The law is quite clear that casual drinking is not permitted under any circumstances however sales of alcohol can legitimately be made to people on the premises who are there to eat a meal and in some other limited circumstances. (Section 47 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 refers.)

Police are aware that in recent years there has been considerable pressure applied by a few casual drinkers to be served and Police expect licensees will have good systems in place to prevent this.



*This newsletter is jointly produced by the  
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the Police Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit,  
and Community and Public Health Alcohol Licensing Officers.*

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