

TAXI TALK

VOICE OF THE TAXI INDUSTRY

October 2015

ISSUE NO 569



ON THE RANKS SINCE 1966

Print Post Approved number 100004912



Ragamuffin

SPRING FLING STREET FESTIVAL

Victoria Street, Errol Street and the surrounding laneways will be transformed with live music, shopping, free activities and delicious cuisines.

There's the Sound Forest Stage with a number of North Melbourne venues displaying up-and-coming musicians; a Cultural Forest Stage showcasing a range of local community cultural performances; and the Dog Show to find the most obedient, best dressed pooch. Plus much, much more. Nearby food vendors will be cooking up a range of cuisines as you're transported across the world by the colour and music in this hub of cultural celebration.

DON'T BELIEVE WHAT YOU ARE TOLD!

Schmidt G4 Taximeters are
fully compatible with the new
Cabcharge Fareway Plus
EFTPOS Terminals



If you are being pressured into
removing your G4 Taximeter,
please contact us immediately.

 Schmidt Electronic Laboratories Pty Ltd

Phone (03) 9546 6990 or 1300 132 422 | Email info@schmidt.com.au | Website www.schmidt.com.au
Address 153 Osborne Avenue, Clayton South, VIC 3169 | ABN 20 005 631 710

Contents



6	Unforeseen Consequences It has been a most tumultuous time in our industry.
12	Around the States We take a look at what is happening around Australia.
18	Providing Service What is UberX?
20	Taxi Services Commission Updates on government issues effecting the industry.
27	Licence Statistics Comparison of monthly Victorian taxi and hire car licences
28	Spring has Sprung Warmer weather, itchy eyes, sneezing and wheezing.

proudly supporting these organisations since inception....



Views expressed in any article in Taxi Talk magazine are those of the individual contributor and not necessarily those of the publisher. The publisher cannot accept any responsibility for any opinions, information, errors or omissions in this publication. To the extent permitted by law, the publisher will not be liable for any damages including special, exemplary, punitive or consequential damages (including but not limited to economic loss or loss of profit or revenue or loss of opportunity) or indirect loss or damage of any kind arising from the contract, tort or otherwise, even if advised of the possibility of such loss of profits or damage. Advertisements must comply with the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010*. Responsibility for compliance with the Act rests with the person, company or advertising agency submitting the advertisement.

Taxi Talk magazine has agreed to advertise taxi clubs because those clubs have stated that they and their products comply with all applicable laws and regulations relating to insurance for taxi operators. Taxi Talk magazine has not independently verified these taxi clubs' compliance, and give no warranty and make no representation as to whether the taxi clubs are compliant. Operators should satisfy themselves as to a taxi club's compliance with laws and regulations through their own enquiries. These advertisements do not constitute recommendations by Taxi Talk magazine that operators purchase insurance products from taxi clubs. Taxi Talk magazine does not accept any liability or responsibility for any loss or damage suffered or incurred by any operator because a taxi club or its product or service is non-compliant.

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Toni F. Peters

FOUNDER

Stanley F. White

PUBLISHER

Trade Promotions Pty Ltd

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

Mrs Toni Peters
Trade Promotions Pty Ltd
PO Box 2345, Mt Waverley VIC 3149

Phone: 0400 137 866

Email: info@taxitalk.com.au

Website: www.taxitalk.com.au

DISPLAY ADS

All copy, editorial and artwork must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication date.

Advertisement sizes and costs can be downloaded at www.taxitalk.com.au.

CLASSIFIED ADS

\$30 for 35 words, \$60 for 70 words, etc. Email or Mail your classified advertisement by the 15th of the month prior to publication date, together with your payment.

SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS

1 year = \$35

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Via PAYPAL to info@taxitalk.com.au
- Direct Deposit to
Trade Promotions Pty Ltd
BSB 033065 A/c 312786
- Mail Cheque to Trade Promotions Pty Ltd
PO Box 2345, Mt Waverley VIC 3149



Taxi Talk magazine is wholly owned by Trade Promotions Pty Ltd. COPYRIGHT © Trade Promotions Pty Ltd 2015. All rights reserved. The "Taxi Talk - Voice of the taxi industry" heading and logos are trademarks of Stanley F. White. Copyright of articles and photographs of Taxi Talk magazine remain with the individual contributors and may not be reproduced without permission.

EDITOR'S DESK



Over the past few years, we have seen the introduction of many new internet/digital sharing businesses such as Uber and Netflix. This has had an impact on countries worldwide - especially UK, USA and Australia and people are becoming more and more dependant on digital services.

Uber has turned the world's taxi industries upside-down. It has caused strikes overseas and locally. Just last month, here in Australia, taxi drivers went on strike in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Canberra.

What did these strikes achieve? Did they stop UberX from continuing to operate? **No!** Did they get the price of licence plates increased? **No!**

Did they give more work to UberX? **Yes!** Did the taxi strikes give the travelling public a bigger option to try out UberX; let the public become more aware of just what UberX is? **Yes!** So, what did the strikes achieve for the Australian taxi industry?

"The leaders of these protests are taxi investors, not drivers. These same investors are the ones who have kept drivers' wages low and working conditions poor for decades before Uber arrived," a spokesman for Uber said.

"Instead of improving their own business, these plate owners are blaming others. Uber is not to blame for taxi drivers' poor working conditions. Taxi industry data shows that the taxi market has grown since Uber arrived," he continued.

The rules and regulations that protect taxis in Australia need to be reviewed, adjusted and done with fervour.

Last month goCatch, who has partnered with Mint Payments, installed their mPOS into 25 Sydney taxis on trial, with a view to rolling out their big installation this month into their 35,000 taxis that they currently liaise with.

This deal between goCatch and Mint Payments is a threat to the Cabcharge monopoly and also to Ingogo, who has recently partnered with Ingenico.

Cabcharge has been hit hard with the reduction of the credit/debit card surcharge from 10% to 5% and their taxi service fees have already dropped dramatically.

The ACCC dictates that all surcharges must be declared clearly before any transaction is completed and the federal government is considering imposing a limit on the value of the surcharge. The actual cost

of the credit/debit transaction is only 12c, or 0.5 per cent of the value of the transaction, whichever is less.

So, we now have Cabcharge, goCatch and Ingogo competing for a piece of the \$5.4 billion regulated taxi market and Uber keeps on growing, waiting and taking the Australian taxi industry head on.

Toni Peters
Editor

Taxi Talk - Voice of the Taxi Industry **TT**



HOME
delivery
every month
to your mail box



subscribe TODAY!

Never miss an edition of Taxi Talk magazine again!

Send \$35 and your mailing details and we will add you to our mailing list to receive a printed copy of Taxi Talk for 1 year.

Want more than 1 copy - no problem - send us an email and we will advise you of the mailing price.

Mail and cheques: PO Box 2345, Mt Waverley Vic 3149 Enquiries: 0400 137 866
Email: info@taxitalk.com.au Direct Deposit - Westpac BSB 033065 Account No. 312786

UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES

The Taxi industry went through a tumultuous time over the last few years. The Government and the Public argued that the industry needed a radical overhaul and that the taxi industry had to be reformed in order to give a cheaper and better service to the Public.

The Government implemented the recommendations of Professor Fels and it is claimed that the service improved.

We are led to believe that customer satisfaction improved significantly over the past couple of years.

Yet we still get told that Uber is providing a better service than the taxi industry.

Let us look at some of the major changes that affected the taxi industry in the last couple of years:

1. Introduction of about 600 more licences into the market.
2. The knowledge test for Drivers.
3. The mandated 55/45 split between operator and driver.
4. The immigration changes introduced by the federal Government.
5. The impact of Uber in the taxi market.

Each of the above actions had an impact on the whole or part of the industry and the public.

In some cases the impact was felt immediately and in others we have yet to see the results of certain actions that were taken.

The introduction of additional licences impacted most heavily on operators who operated a greater number of cars.

Numerous drivers took up the permits from the Government, operated them with their friends, thereby taking many drivers out of the pool.

The easy financing of these “business ventures” made it possible for many to try their hands at becoming an “owner”.

Several of these people will experience difficulties over the next couple of years or, worse, declare bankruptcy.

Unfortunately nobody cares. We made our money, buyer beware.

The knowledge test delivered another blow to operators of multiple cars.

As commendable as the intentions might have been the reality showed that the “Knowledge” failed.

Any test that has a failure rate of 98% is designed for failure rather than a test of competency and has led to a severe shortage of drivers for operators who operate multiple cars.

The decision to make it compulsory for existing taxi drivers, who held their DCs for less than 2 years, to complete the “Knowledge”, depleted the driver pool even further.

It provided ready-made “Uber Drivers” or forced drivers to seek alternate employment.



The mandated split of 55/45 between driver and operator introduced by the Taxi Services Commission sent some operators into liquidation and others to the brink of extinction.

This in itself is probably not a big deal for regulators as it only involves a relatively small percentage of the industry.

Multiple operators perform a very important role in the taxi industry.

They provide the main training ground for new drivers and deliver service to the public when and where others do not want to.

The effects of this will be felt progressively over the next few years.

The tightening of immigration laws by the Federal Government saw

many good drivers leave Australia, and go to Canada or go back to their country of origin.

Uber has already disrupted the taxi industry around world.

The taxi industry is, and has been, regulated primarily in the interest of the public.

There should be no doubt in anybody's mind that Uber acts primarily in the interest of its founders and their shareholders.

The Uber business model can only work if they work outside the existing laws or if they get these laws changed to suit their model.

Uber fares are not regulated and "surge-pricing" can make the charge to the customer many

times more expensive than a taxi fare.

Our government and our regulators have to decide if they bow to unscrupulous American business-interest or act in the interest of the Australian public.

Will we allow an American company to exploit and change our laws, so that it can destroy Australian lives by the use of money and deceptive behaviour?

We can only hope that our politicians are not blinded by money and see that Uber is only here in its interest and not ours.

Hans Altoff
Taxi Owner/Operator 



IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP WORKING?

I am a taxi driver and I'm sad to see that *Taxi Talk*, the voice of the taxi industry for the past 50 years, has been dumped by the Victorian Taxi Association (VTA).

The Queensland based Taxi Magazine Publishing Company (TMPC) will in future publish a magazine for the VTA.

This is a repeat of what happened some 20 years ago when the VTA commissioned TMPC to print their magazine, instead of *Taxi Talk* - that partnership didn't last long.

At the same time the VTA were cheeky enough to try and pinch the name "*Taxi Talk*" from the White family which legal action prevented the VTA from doing.

The latest VTA newsletter is waxing lyrical about their new magazine "*VicTaxi*" without offering any reason for dumping *Taxi Talk*. The rumour mill has it that this has been brewing for a long time, with the VTA applying pressure on *Taxi Talk* to stop accepting insurance cover advertisements from taxi clubs who are regular advertisers. *Taxi Talk* refused to be bullied into doing so, on ethical grounds.

So, what happens next? Are we expected to tolerate the out-of-date taxi industry content contained in the Queensland based magazine, like we did last time?

Or are we going to tell Silver Top Taxis and the Cabcharge-owned 13Cabs that it is about time taxi operators re-

fused paying any of their hard earned money to support what is now commonly regarded by the rank and file as a tired, if not useless, organisation.

The rank and file taxi operators have every reason to resent being forced to pay part of their monthly depot fees to an organisation that has represented them for many years and has not been able to stop the price of licences drop in value from \$500,000 in 2010 to \$273,000 today.

They also have every reason to resent being represented by an organisation that has failed dismally to stop, or even restrict, UberX infiltrating the Victorian taxi industry.

If anyone doubts the level of taxi operator discontent with the VTA then I suggest that they go out to the Taxi Holding area at Melbourne Airport and chat with as many taxi owners, operators and drivers as they can. I guarantee they will be lucky if they find anyone who has a good word for the current VTA.

What is the solution? There may not be one. Taxi Licences may never be worth \$500,000 again, more likely the UberX service will continue to grow (unrestricted) and further dilute the value of taxi licences.

N. Singh, Taxi Driver 

Send your opinion letter to

email: yoursay@taxitalk.com.au

or

post: PO Box 2345 Mt Waverley VIC 3149

Please include your name and full contact details for verification.

Your money transfer.
Their Diwali made a little brighter.



Send money to India with fees starting from **\$5***



1 800 049 087
moneygram.com.au
f/moneygram

 **MoneyGram.**
bringing you closer

Send at:



And anywhere you see the MoneyGram sign

*A higher consumer fee will be charged for send amounts which exceed AUD 50, being the maximum transfer amount for the advertised fee rate of AUD 5. In addition to the transfer fees applicable to a transaction, a currency exchange rate set by MoneyGram or its agent will be applied. MoneyGram, the Globe and MoneyGram Bringing You Closer are marks of MoneyGram. All other marks are the property of their respective owners. © 2015 MoneyGram.

**OPEN
7 DAYS**

TAXI UPDATES

CAR CENTRAL

**CALL
9AM - 9PM**

Best Deals In Town

04/2014 CAMRY HYBRIDS from **\$26,990**
GAS / PETROL / TAXI YELLOW

10/2013 CAMRY ALTISE from **\$18,990**
GAS / PETROL / TAXI YELLOW

08/2011 CAMRY ALTISE from **\$11,990**
GAS / TAXI YELLOW / METER / DOME / STICKERS

MORE CARS IN STOCK

Imct 9707
carcentral_1015

call 0425-83-88-55

DONATED CARS

DOUBLE BENEFITS

After 13CABS's David Brumby got a company car, he found he had no further use for his 2000 Statesman, but wasn't sure what to do with it. "I didn't really want to go through the hassle of trying to sell it," said Mr Brumby.

As a taxi driver with more than 40 years' experience, Mr Brumby is a regular reader of *Taxi Talk* and when he saw Kids Under Cover's "Unsellables" ad for its Donate Your Car program, he realised he'd found the solution he was looking for.

"It sounded like such a fantastic idea and it was so convenient," said Mr Brumby. "I made the call, filled in the form and then someone turned up and took the car away.

"I liked the fact that it solved my problem and that it's doing some good at the same time."

Kids Under Cover is a charity dedicated to preventing youth homelessness.

A young person may have many harmful experiences in their life, such as the breakdown of family

relationships, mental illness, domestic violence, unemployment and parental drug and alcohol abuse. When this is combined with a severely overcrowded home, it leaves young people without the physical and emotional space needed to deal with the effects of their experiences.

Kids Under Cover's early intervention approach is simple, unique and effective. At the heart of our work are the relocatable studios that provide stable and secure accommodation for young people at risk of homelessness.

We complement this with scholarships for education or job training to empower young people to achieve their goals. This combination has been shown to prevent young people from becoming homeless and to keep families together.

Since the launch of the Donate Your Car program in 2006, more than 8000 vehicles have been generously donated to Kids Under Cover.

All the proceeds from the sale of the cars go towards our work in preventing youth homelessness and donors are eligible for a tax-deduction for the amount the vehicle was sold for.

For more information, visit www.kuc.org.au 



THE UNSELLABLES

SPEEDY GONZALEZ

FROM POWERFUL TO POWERLESS

Sound familiar? Let us collect your unwanted car. We'll auction it and 100% of the sale proceeds will go toward preventing youth homelessness.

FREE CAR COLLECTION | ON A DAY THAT SUITS YOU | RECEIVE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPT

Let us take your car for good

1800 801 633
donateyourcar.org.au



Taxi Talk

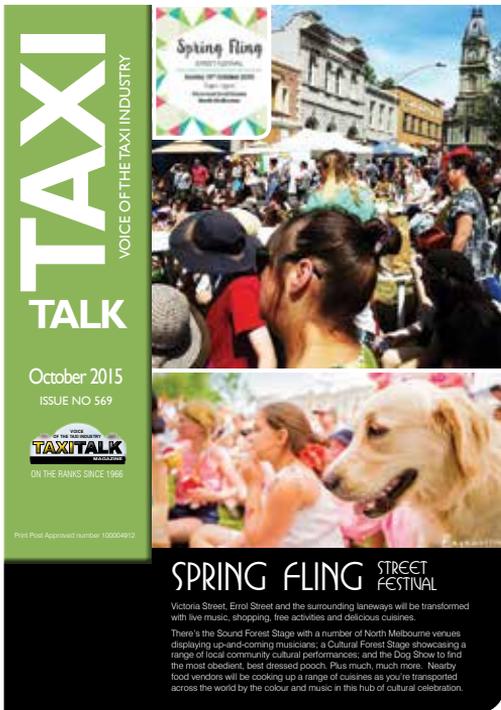
magazine

on the ranks since 1966

We've moved

Taxi Talk - Voice of the Taxi Industry,
Australia's premier taxi magazine
is now proudly independent.

Published monthly since 1966, Taxi Talk magazine has become the Victorian taxi industry's most valuable communication tool, representing every facet and section of the Victorian taxi industry.



- **Taxi Talk magazine**

Took its first faltering steps in May 1966 and for the first time in 60 years provided a forum for a common cause in the taxi and hire car industry.

- **Taxi news**

A progressive approach to sharing the industry's news to Victorian taxi owners, operators and drivers.

- **Monthly editions**

11 issues a year! (Feb - Dec)

- **Email notification**

Sent to your inbox monthly when the latest edition is published. Register at www.taxitalk.com.au.

- **www.taxitalk.com.au**

Updated monthly with the current magazine edition.

AROUND THE STATES

WAVS IN PERTH

Mr Davies, who has spastic quadriplegia cerebral palsy, uses an electric wheelchair and needs 24/7 care, said West Australian wheelchair users deserved a more reliable, safe and convenient transport alternative to taxis.

Mr Davies wants Uber to launch its Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle option, UberWAV, in Perth to utilise inactive disability vans, increase competition and make the system fairer on drivers and consumers.

“When I meet someone new who uses a wheelchair, my first question is: ‘Which drivers do you use?’ There are a few out there who are really good, and then there are those who just play the system”, he said.

“There is no mechanism for seeing what they are like when you make a booking. But with Uber you see their face, their name and their rating”, he continued.

Mr Davies said there were hundreds of wheelchair accessible vans

associated with disability service providers that were only in use during work hours.

“A ride-share app could be an avenue for carers to make some more money, and for associations to better use their fleet,” he said.

An Uber Australia spokesman said the company was speaking with WA disability groups for better ways to provide transport for people in fixed wheelchairs.

“While we have no plans to launch any additional services at this time, we will continue to explore how we can provide more transport options for Perthians with different accessibility requirements,” he said. **TT**

NO TASSIE OPPOSITION

Tasmania’s government said last month it would not regulate to stop the sharing economy.

Tasmania’s Infrastructure Minister Rene Hidding said he expected the taxi industry to compete with new players.

Like everywhere else in Australia, Tassie drivers believe there are already too many taxis on the road and they are concerned that competition will compound the problem.

In a statement Premier Will Hodgman said the sharing economy

represented challenges and opportunities, and the Government would be putting forward a policy position soon.

Uber has stated that it has had “meaningful discussions” with the State Government and would be providing more information on how ride sharing could work in the state, but had not set a start date. **TT**



SINCE 1978
Serving The Industry

The Owners Association **TAXI COVER**

NO. 1 FOR 35 YEARS

NO. 1 - TRUSTWORTHY

NO. 1 - RELIABILITY

NO. 1 - SERVICE

NO. 1 - PEACE OF MIND

MEMBERSHIP LINE
CALL NOW 9092 6082

1084 Centre Road Oakleigh South

AROUND THE STATES

FUNRIDE SELFIES

Last month UberX started offering \$4.99 Funrides around Adelaide.

An email to Uber's members in Adelaide encourages them to "take a fun selfie" while on one of the promotional rides and "upload it to social (media) to show your support for bringing ridesharing to SA".

Uber says that the Funrides are designed for the passenger's fun and amusement. It will also give the passenger a taste of how ride-sharing could work in Adelaide.

The Funrides promotion offers ride-sharing services for \$4.99, just below the \$5 threshold in SA's passenger transport regulations.

State Transport Minister Stephen Mullighan said his advice was that the promotion was in breach of the Passenger Transport Act and its regulations.

A spokesperson for Uber said, "Uber is familiar with the Passenger Transport Act and Regulations, and believes that the Adelaide Funrides promotion is compliant."

"We provided written notice of this \$4.99 Funrides promotion to the Minister several weeks ago, and had two follow up discussions with his office. The first we heard

of the Minister's objection is now, through the media."

"We hope the government does not simply bow to the wishes of the taxi industry. We will always support our partners, as we always do around the world," the spokesperson continued.

Uber FunRides go from the following locations:-

- The Beachhouse to Clever Little Tailor
- The Hilton to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre
- Adelaide Bowling Club to Kart Mania Gepps Cross



FIGHT UBER GOLIATH

Adelaide's taxi industry plans to fight the "Uber Goliath" with good service and safer rides home, not with strike action.

Taxi Council SA president Jim Triantafyllou said, "In a democracy, even a \$50 billion Uber Goliath cannot be allowed to think it's above the law," said Mr Triantafyllou.

"The safety laws that apply to small Aussie mum-and-dad businesses in the taxi industry should apply equally to any foreign company."

"The continued push by UberX to enter the South Australian market

raises very serious safety concerns in relation to regulation and the absence of other measures designed to protect passengers, such as cameras and GPS tracking, which are all provided in taxis," he continued



ACT DEREGULATION

UberX will be allowed into the Canberra taxi market, stated ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr.

“Without giving away all of the detail of the Government’s reform package, you can certainly expect that there will be a regulatory environment for Uber,” he said.

“But importantly there will be a lot of deregulation of the taxi industry in order to create a more level playing field.”

The Chief Minister said the industry needed to change.

“We will not be arresting Uber drivers. The bottom line in all of this is that the Government will not be able to arrest our way out of Uber’s entry into the market,” Mr Barr said.

Greens Minister Shane Rattenbury, who is assisting Mr Barr on transport reform, said it was not clear when Uber would arrive although it may do so before regulation is introduced.

“We are certainly working as quickly as we can to get regulation in place and we have indicated that Uber should expect that, and we trust they will abide by it,” he said.

Mr Barr said the trick would be to deregulate the taxi industry, helping traditional cabs better compete with the new technology and services. **TT**



TAXI finance

We are accredited with over 30 banks and other lenders

cheap rates **best service** **fast approvals**

cheap finance rates...
ALL TAXI LICENCES & VHA
CAR FINANCE
all taxi vehicles (cars and vans, VHA vehicles, limos and others)

EASY CAR LOAN APPROVALS... NO TAX RETURNS REQUIRED*
* conditions apply

GAP COVER \$30,000 AVAILABLE

yarrafinance
experts in commercial finance

Phone **9561 8876**
96 Garden Road, Clayton (near Ikea)

AROUND THE STATES

MINT PAYMENT

GoCatch will give 25 of its Sydney taxi drivers Mint Payment terminals in a month-long trial.

The partnership opens goCatch up to fare revenue from taxis hailed on street corners or cab ranks, rather than those booked through the app.

“Roughly half of all taxi jobs in Australia are hailed from the street or taxi rank, representing a big opportunity for goCatch to monetise payments for these journeys,” go-

Catch boss Ned Moorfield said in a statement.

The Mint Payments mPOS terminals consist of a pocket-sized card reader that uses the taxi driver’s smartphone or tablet as the EFT-POS machine.

Once the Sydney trial has finished goCatch will roll-out the Mint Payment terminals to their base of 35,000 registered taxi drivers (around half the national total) in a full-scale rollout.

GoCatch has received funding from a number of prominent investors including James Packer and Seek co-founder Paul Bassat. **TT**



IDENTITY CRISIS

NSW Transport Workers Union says the taxi industry problems are much bigger than Uber.

NSW TWU Secretary Michael Aird said the arrival of UberX was a challenge to the existing public transport regulatory scheme but it was nothing like a solution to the real crisis in the industry where drivers suffer from very low pay and unsafe working conditions.

“Taxi drivers are getting ripped off blind by operators and the com-

munity is getting a worn out service because of it,” Mr Aird said.

“Taxi drivers on average earn about \$10 per hour and there’s no penalty rates for nights, weekends and public holidays.

“That’s \$7.29 per hour less than the current Federal Minimum Wage and it’s no surprise these low levels of pay are directly linked to low poor safety and service outcomes.

“UberX is not the cause of or the solution to the industry’s problems, it just provides for a further decline in standards of safety and fairness for taxi drivers.”

- UberX drivers are not guaranteed any level of income.
- They do not receive any of the protections traditionally extended to employees and many other workers.
- They bear the entirety of the risk associated with their work both in terms of contingency of income and total absence of security in work.

The TWU believes action is necessary to address the industry crisis and to protect the interests of the community using taxis and the workers providing it. **TT**

UTC

PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE & 3RD PARTY COVER FOR

VICTORIAN TAXIS AND HIRE CARS

- Taxis are covered by a major Australian Insurance Company for 3rd Party Property damage up to \$30 million.
- Quick repairs and brand new parts used.
- Fast recovery for loss of income.
- Lower annual contribution.
- Additional Policies available Public Liability and Personal Accident.



Always refer to the product disclosure statement for product information before making any financial decisions

For more information contact

Jaspreet - 0433 171 422 or Manvinder - 0433 413 628

3/177-181 Northbourne Road, Campbellfield

Phone 9303 9069 Fax 9303 7084 Email unitedtaxiclub@hotmail.com

TRINITY BODY WORKS

- Taxi resprays from \$1365 (excl GST - conditions apply)
- Quality smash repairs
- Quality equipment and premium paints
- Quick repair time

Contact Maninder Pal

0498 259 986 or 9303 9069

OZWAY TRANS

- Taxi Shifts Available (Day and Night)
- Close changeovers
- Clean and good taxis
- 24/7 roadside assistance

Contact Gaurav

0424 079 000 or 9303 9069

PROVIDING SERVICE

I am a concerned operator, owner, driver and President of the Victoria United Taxi Industry, which was formed to represent the 5000+ small businesses who provide a constant 24/7 point-to-point passenger transport service.

Behind these small businesses are Victorian taxi industry people - licence holders, operators and drivers, with the support of colleagues and suppliers – who are entrusted to provide the service to the travelling public.

Unrepresented but trying to have our voices heard, searching for the answers to the many vexed questions we are all trying to come to terms with, and we thank *Taxi Talk* for their assistance.

With all the conjecture, emotion and uncertainty surrounding Illegal Transportation Services (ITS), clarification on some issues was sought by approaching Uber. Thank you to Brad Kitschke: Director of Public Policy Australia and New Zealand, Uber, for the time he made available for a very informative Q&A discussion from which I was able to draw the following conclusions.

What is UBER X?

This Illegal Transportation Service (ITS) has been marketed by Uber and seemingly supported by small sections of the general public, media, regulators and some politicians as a “great NEW Technological Innovation that will revolutionise the Passenger Transport Industry”.

What is the REALITY?

1) A Technology Platform (app) that allows customers to request a booking and have it dispatched to a car – Driver Partner to provide the service. Sound familiar – are they a Network Service Provider?

If upgraded functionality is offered as the difference between the Uber app and the existing Networks/Gocatch/Ingogo apps that have been around for quite some-time, it cannot be claimed as a great new technological innovation but just more of the same.

2) Provides an Electronic Payment facility for customers – again sound familiar?

UberX would appear to fit the Electronic Payment Provider model, they collect a charge from the customer, pay the driver and retain the difference.

Through a ‘smoke and mirrors’ technique they try to maintain the customer pays nothing for their payment service, but the driver pays a 20% Licence Fee.

3) Service Provided

- Consider this example: A customer needs to go from Point A to Point B



GOT A QUESTION
regarding the
Victorian Taxi
Industry

WRITE TO US TODAY
and send your questions to Brian at
email: q&a@taxitalk.com.au or
mail to: Taxi Talk Q&A,
PO Box 2345,
Mt Waverley Vic 3149

Together we may find the solution to a brighter future for the taxi industry in our quest to better serve the public interest, our customers.



- Case 1 - uses UberX app goes from Point A to Point B - pays a charge
- Case 2 - calls personal taxi goes from Point A to Point B - pays a charge
- Case 3 - Calls 13 **** or uses App goes from Point A to Point B - pays a charge
- Case 4 - Pre books a Hire-car goes from Point A to Point B pays a charge

In all four cases the customer is provided a transport service in a vehicle with a driver.

Case1 (UberX) however believe they do not have to abide by Rules, Regulations and Legislation that control Cases 2, 3 and 4 because they somehow maintain that the same is different. How?

Other Issues:

- Unlicensed vehicles
- Unaccredited drivers. Uber claim that Licence and Criminal Background checks are done (Crimtrack)
- Don't need Knowledge Test. They have a licence that should be enough to go to work.
- Surge Pricing. Decided by an algorithm that works on demand. Seems a bit 'rubbery'

and open to manipulation and takes very little surge (1.5) to erode any customer benefit (lower fares) that is claimed to be the driving force behind this operation.

- Blood Alcohol Content (BAC). airline pilots, train drivers, tram drivers, bus drivers, taxi and hire-car drivers are required by law to have a BAC of 0.00 (and rightly so) for passenger safety, but not if you are an Uber driver.

You can fool some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people all the time.

Uber have managed to hoodwink sections of the public, potential drivers, sections of the media and even some of the authorities as to the benefits of their great new method of transport.

A great deal of time, effort and money has been spent by the Victorian government to produce a reform package to take our Industry forward with the interests of customers, drivers and operators being of concern.

The reform package, considered to be the right way forward by gov-

ernment, has and is still being implemented.

Then Uber arrives to enter the passenger transport market and claims it has new innovative technology to revolutionise passenger transport.

In reality it provides exactly the same service (transporting passengers for reward) as existing providers and therefore as a new entrant MUST abide by the same Rules, Regulations and Legislation as existing participants have to.

They cannot be allowed to flex their 'money muscle' and insist they do not like the existing structure and have it changed to accommodate their needs.

Regulations are required to protect the public's interests and safety.

Minister for Transport, your parting words at the first Ministerial Forum meeting were "let's work together to make this great industry better".

To do this you must stand up to this Silicon Valley bully, not just for our industry but for all Victorians and do as the ATO did and enforce the LAW.

Brian Gammon
President
Victoria United Taxi Industry 



AARON de Rozario

Taxi Services Commission

INDUSTRY

This is my first edition as CEO of the Taxi Services Commission (TSC) and I understand that *Taxi Talk* is an important channel for keeping you updated with everything that is happening within the industry.

I've only been in the chair just a few weeks but already I'm becoming acquainted with many of the issues within the Victorian taxi and hire car industry and I look forward to meeting some of you through our various forums and meetings in the coming months to discuss matters in more detail. **TT**

CEO on INDUSTRY UPDATE



The Taxi Services Commission has reverted back to using legislative terminology; **taxi booking services** reverted to **NETWORK SERVICE PROVIDERS** and **permit holders** reverted to **OPERATORS**. This aligns with current legislation.

Emailing of Licensing forms

The Taxi Services Commission continually strives to maintain ease of communication with its clients. As part of a review and subsequent trial in July/August in the Licensing section, the TSC has updated its processes so that we will accept certain applications/documents via email.

This service will aim to reduce counter wait time and provide another avenue for clients in Victoria to supply documents to the TSC.

All application submissions must be made in one single attachment and submitted to the following email address licensing.applications@taxi.vic.gov.au

For all other enquiries Licensing@taxi.vic.gov.au will still remain.

The following may be accepted via email, any and all documentation relating to;

- Taxi Assignments
- New Taxi Applications
- New Hire car Applications
- Relevant Person forms
- TSC Informed Consent Forms
- Substitution Forms
- Nominations Forms
- All supporting documentation that is certified

Under no circumstance will the TSC accept;

- A Transfer application for Taxi or Hire Car
- An Application relating to a deceased Estate
- Documents relating to a settlement of a transfer

More information regarding this process is available at our website at www.taxi.vic.gov.au 

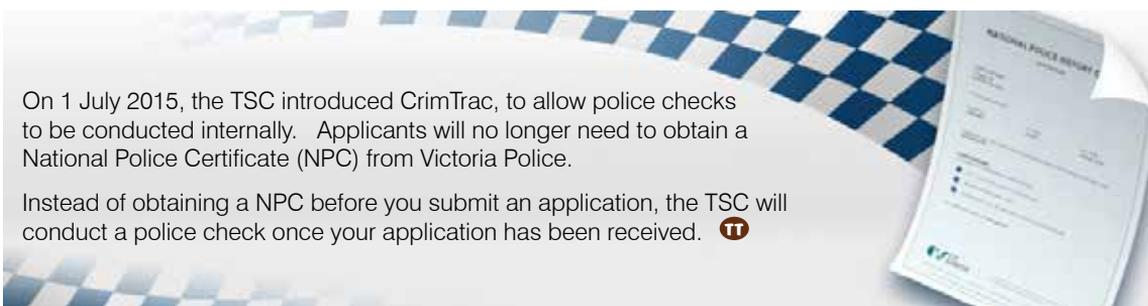
TAXI CAB UPDATE

TSC now using

CrimTrac

On 1 July 2015, the TSC introduced CrimTrac, to allow police checks to be conducted internally. Applicants will no longer need to obtain a National Police Certificate (NPC) from Victoria Police.

Instead of obtaining a NPC before you submit an application, the TSC will conduct a police check once your application has been received. **TT**



Industry compliance

Operation Houdini

Operation Houdini continues during September with TSC Industry Compliance Officers targeting unlicensed vehicles, unaccredited drivers, touting and vehicles that operate outside the conditions of their licence.

A mix of undercover and covert operations are conducted by TSC officers and to date, a total of 301 Penalty Infringement Notices have been issued for a variety of offences including unauthorised operating,

driving a commercial passenger vehicle without accreditation, operating outside licence conditions and touting.

The TSC utilises information provided by industry participants and members of the public regarding illegal conduct involving commercial passenger vehicles.

If you wish to provide intelligence regarding suspected illegal operations to the TSC, please do so using our feedback form. **TT**



Assistance animals

education event

Do you know what your responsibilities are when transporting assistance animals?

On Wednesday October 21, the TSC will hold an event at the Melbourne Airport holding yard between 12noon and 2pm to educate drivers about assistance animals.

Guide Dogs Victoria and Service Dog Training will also be on hand to answer questions and demonstrate best practice when helping passengers with a dog. Materials will be provided to help drivers to recognise different assistance animals and what to do if the animal has no visible identification.

All drivers are welcome to participate in this education event. 

WEDNESDAY
October 21

**MELBOURNE
AIRPORT
HOLDING
YARD**

12noon - 2pm



**WE HAVE
MOVED**

**TAXI SERVICES COMMISSION
IS NOW AT
1 SPRING STREET**

The **Customer Service Centre** is located on the ground floor, with the entrance on Flinders Street.

SURVEY RESULTS

As part of our commitment to the continuous improvement in areas of stakeholder engagement and communication, stakeholders were asked to complete a survey in April/May 2015. Insync, an independent research firm, was again engaged by the TSC to conduct the survey on its behalf.

The survey was distributed to 5,791 stakeholders. Overall, [1159 stakeholders responded to the survey](#) (19% response rate) which was more than responded in 2014; 1087 responses (24%).

Demographics

As in previous years, the majority of respondents reside in [greater metropolitan Melbourne](#) (80%), and have been interacting with the TSC for [10 years or more](#) (35%). A higher proportion of respondents were from [TSC regulated industries and industry associations](#) (87.9%) with the large majority of this group being [taxi drivers](#) (48%).

A significant amount of the feedback this year has centred around UberX. Therefore, it is no surprise that the topics that stakeholders would like more information on are [compliance activity against illegal operators](#) (56%) and [ride-sharing apps](#) (40%).

The Victorian Government established the Ministerial Taxi and Hire Car Forum (Forum) and a sub-group to specifically consider matters relating to ridesharing. The sub-group presented their findings to the full Forum in July, 2015.

These findings will be used by the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources to prepare advice for the Minister of Public Transport to take to government.

Not surprisingly with the emergence of the ride-sharing issue, as well as the continued implementation of the industry reforms, overall satisfaction across many areas of the business was lower when compared to last year.

Satisfaction with TSC activities

Stakeholders who participated in the survey are most satisfied with [in-person enquiries at the Customer Service Centre](#) in Melbourne, however the level of satisfaction has marginally declined since 2014.



Overall, stakeholders are least satisfied with [complaint investigations and handling](#).

However, there has been an improvement in satisfaction with the [Multi Purpose Taxi Program, industry accreditation and licensing](#) since 2014.

Trust of the TSC/frequency of communication

The perceptions of the TSC as being trustworthy have decreased compared to last year, with a 2-3% decline in satisfaction across all statements, including 'the TSC does what it says it will do' (36% favourable, down from 38% in 2014).

Responsiveness of Communication

One-in-two stakeholders who participated in the survey believe that the TSC keeps me updated on things that affect me (52% favourable). Overall though, the areas relating to responsiveness of communication continue to decline, representing an opportunity for further improvement.

TSC communication tools

As was the case in 2014, the majority of stakeholders prefer to receive information from the TSC via [email](#) (92%). Mobile forms of communication continue to be popular, with stakeholders indicating that they would

be interested in receiving information via [mobile SMS](#) (39%) and/or an iPhone/Android App (29%). There was also a notable increase in stakeholders wanting to update their records online (23%; up 7%).

Satisfaction with TSC communication tools

Overall, satisfaction with the [TSC website](#) (54%) has improved compared with 2014. Satisfaction with the [taxi eNewsletter](#) (60%) and [printed forms](#) (43%) has held relatively steady as has [interactive online forms](#) (43%) and [information brochures/flyers/posters](#) (39%). Both the [hire car eNewsletter](#) (43%) and [consultation papers](#) (36%) showed a decline in satisfaction since last year.

Stakeholder advocacy and overall satisfaction

This analysis assessed stakeholder advocacy and how likely survey respondents were to speak well of the TSC to others. When compared with the results in 2014, the proportion of 'promoters' (those likely to speak positively of the TSC) increased by 1%, the number of 'passive' stakeholders (those not holding a strong opinion) decreased by 1%, and the proportion of 'detractors' (those likely to speak negatively of the TSC) held steady on 62%.

Overall, a third (31%) of stakeholders who participated strongly agree that they are happy with the level of service provided by the TSC. Stakeholders believe that the TSC should dedicate more attention to [transparency](#) (52.9%) and [accountability](#) (48.9%) to improve stakeholder satisfaction.

From here, the TSC plan to focus on the following areas:

- improving satisfaction and consistency of service delivered to you across all business areas

- improving communication and accessibility to information with particular emphasis on developing their online capability, content and services; and
- improving their engagement and interaction with you on reform matters or those issues most affecting the industry/stakeholders.

For full details of the survey results, visit the Taxi Services Commission website. 



This year the TSC is sponsoring the
**DISABILITY SPORT & RECREATION
FESTIVAL**
3 December 2015
Federation Square

Want to play basketball?
Ever played basketball in a wheelchair?
We need you !



As part of the TSC's involvement in this year's Disability Sport and Recreation Festival, we will be participating in the wheelchair basketball challenge.

We need drivers to volunteer to play on the TSC team on the day.

The event takes place over the lunch period and is a great opportunity to engage with the disability sector.

Interested in participating?

email Crystal at crystal.serblan@taxi.vic.gov.au 

**AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
REBUILDERS**



Vange

Ph: 9388 - 8748
109 Nicholson St, **East Brunswick**

TAXI

**TRANSMISSIONS AT
TAXI PRICES**

- HOLDEN - FORD - TOYOTA

**TECH AUTOMATIC
TRANSMISSIONS**



Sam

Ph: 9464 - 5188
277a Holt Parade, **Thomastown**



ELECTRIC PORSCHE

An all-electric sports sedan, the Porsche Mission E concept, was unveiled at the Frankfurt Motor Show last month.

Tesla is paving the way, but the big players in the auto industry are not far behind, and Porsche is giving us a quick look at what's coming down the road with the Mission E.

It's a four-door, four-seat sports car rather in the mould of the Panamera, offering a pair of "permanently excited synchronous motors" driving all four wheels. Together, they offer something north of 600 horsepower.

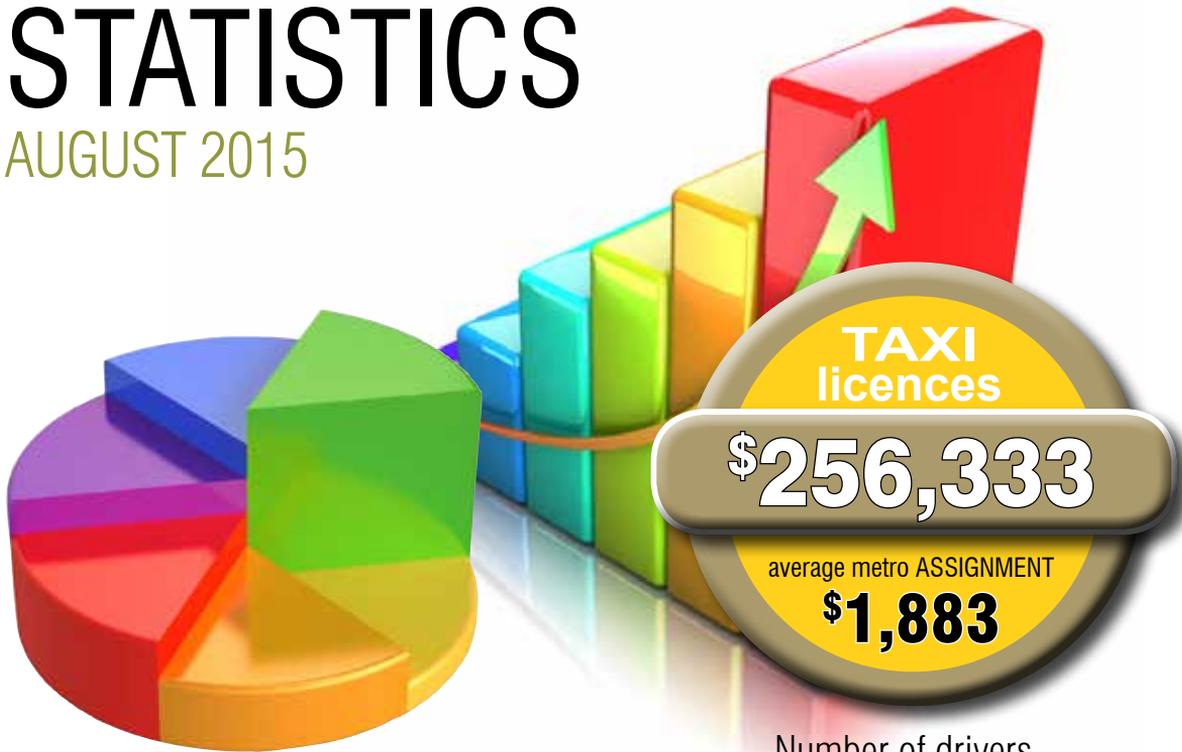
The battery pack sits low in the chassis of the car to help handling, much like Tesla's Model S. It'll go a long way, too: up to 500km (310 miles) on a charge, juicing up from empty to 80 percent in just 15 minutes with an integrated DC charger.

The Mission E is bristling with tech inside and out. An eye-tracking system keeps the information centered and visible for the driver. A holographic display with gesture recognition means you can wave your hands at 3D icons rather than stabbing touchscreens.

Now, Porsche just has to take the challenge to Tesla in real life, and build their dream electric car. **TT**

STATISTICS

AUGUST 2015



Number of drivers

Active drivers15,402
Accredited drivers (taxi, hire car & bus)44,122

Compliance outcomes

Vehicle Inspections 2,190
Rectification Notices 144
Infringement Notices 66
Official Warning notices 7
Regulation 19 notice 6

Taxi zone	Licence type	# of licences 30/6/14	# of licences 30/6/15	# of licences 13/9/15	Changes since 30/6/14	Changes since 30/6/15
Metro	Conventional	3,826	4,399	4,331	505	-68
	WAT	504	492	484	-20	-8
	Total	4,330	4,891	4,815	485	-76
Urban	Conventional	357	400	406	49	6
	WAT	75	79	80	5	1
	Total	432	479	486	54	7
Regional	Conventional	253	261	261	8	0
	WAT	75	77	74	-1	-3
	Total	328	338	335	7	-3
Country	Conventional	126	126	128	2	2
	WAT	36	34	34	-2	-2
	Total	162	160	162	0	0
Totals	Conventional	4,562	5,186	5,126	564	-60
	WAT	690	682	672	-18	-10
	Total	5,252	5,868	5,798	546	-70

The above figures are updated and published on the Taxi Services Commission website each week. Figures shown consist of both active licences and those that have been approved but have not yet been operationalised at the time of reporting.

HIRE CAR LICENCES \$41,533

Number of Victorian Hire Vehicle Licences

Metropolitan Hire Cars 1,080
Country Hire Cars 62
Special Purpose Vehicles 962
Restricted Hire Cars 617
TOTAL 2,721

The metro taxi licence average price of \$256,333 is based on the 9 genuine market based transactions that occurred in the metropolitan zone during August 2015.

The Taxi Services Commission's standard practice is to only count those licence transfers where a genuine market based transaction has occurred. They do this by applying a number of standard business rules. The aim of these business rules is to identify genuine market based transfers of taxi licences and to base average price calculations on these transactions only. Therefore, where it appears a non-market based licence transfer has occurred, these transactions are excluded in the calculation of licence values. An example is where a licence holder transfers the licence to a new business name but still retains ownership of the licence. 



SPRING HAS SPRUNG

While Spring time promises warmer weather for all, it also means itchy eyes, sneezing and wheezing for the 7 million Australians with asthma or allergies.

Increased pollen in the air (often worsened by hot, dry and windy conditions), plus thunderstorms and temperature changes, make Spring a time to be on high alert for asthma and allergy symptoms.

Other common allergic triggers of asthma, including dust mites, pets and mould, can also have a negative effect.

These allergens tend to collect over the winter, leading to a potentially dangerous build-up of these common asthma triggers in your home.

The National Asthma Council Australia recommends the following tips to reduce the impact of Spring on your asthma or allergies:

During the pollen peak

- Try to avoid the outdoors on days with a high pollen count (particularly 7–9 am and 4–6 pm), on windy days or after thunderstorms.
- After being outside, take a shower (or wash your face and hands thoroughly) and wash your clothes. Pollens stick to your body and washing immediately after reduces

the amount of pollen transferred into your home.

- Dry your sheets and clothes indoors. Outdoor clotheslines can leave your laundry coated with pollen.
- Don't mow the grass yourself, and stay inside when it is being mown.
- Remove any plants you are sensitive to from your garden. Talk to your local nursery about allergy-friendly alternatives such as Australian natives and highly flowered plants.
- Speak with your GP, make sure you have your prescribed medication and also that you have an asthma action plan.

Spring cleaning tips

- When cleaning, use a damp or electrostatic cloth to dust hard surfaces (including floors). This dramatically reduces the

dust in the air while cleaning.

- Make sure mattresses and pillows are low allergy, or encased in mite-proof covers.
- Do not forget your car in the spring cleaning routine. Cars often contain allergens or respiratory irritants as air intakes may scoop up pollen allowing it to be spread into the car interior and air ducts can collect leaves and other debris, which can retain moisture, allowing mould to grow. Replace all filters and clean out car vents.
- Carpets need to be vacuumed regularly – however vacuuming increases some allergens in the air for up to 20 minutes. If you have asthma, ask someone else to do the vacuuming for you and wait for 20 minutes before re-entering the room.
- Change or clean all old filters such as on air conditioners or air purifiers. **TT**

HYBRID IS THE FUTURE



Visit Melbourne City Toyota



FINANCE AVAILABLE AT CAMPAIGN RATES*

Melbourne City Toyota
621 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000
www.melcitytoyota.com.au

(03) 9282 8888

*T.A.P. Pics for illustration purpose only. E&OE. LMCT 10618



Oh what a feeling!



MAJOR EVENTS

this month in Melbourne

<p>2 October</p>		<p>GRAND FINAL FRIDAY - for the first time ever Victoria has a public holiday on the day before the infamous AFL Grand Final is played.</p>	<p>All over Victoria</p>
<p>3 October</p>		<p>AFL GRAND FINAL - thousands of footy fans pack the stands of the MCG. Millions more tune in around the country and around the world, via satellite, for a piece of the action between this year's two top AFL teams.</p>	<p>Melbourne Cricket Ground Jolimont</p>
<p>8 - 25 October</p>		<p>MELBOURNE FESTIVAL - is one of Australia's flagship international arts festivals and one of the major multi-arts festivals of the world.</p> <p>Each Festival brings a feast of dance, theatre, music, visual arts, multimedia and outdoor events from renowned and upcoming Australian and International companies and artists to Melbourne.</p> <p>Over 30 years, 11 Artistic Directors strived to create the festival of Melbourne in all its dimensions. Through excellence, diversity and accessibility, Melbourne Festival presents the best possible artistic experience to as many people as possible.</p> <p>It offers a wide variety of venues and ticket prices, plus many free events. www.festival.melbourne</p>	<p>Various venues in and around Melbourne</p>
<p>16 - 18 October</p>		<p>AUSTRALIAN MOTOR CYCLE GRAND PRIX - It's one of the fastest tracks in the world full of action, excitement and superb racing. Witness riders from across Australia unite and take over Phillip Island to experience world class racing.</p>	<p>Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit</p>
<p>17 October</p>		<p>CAULFIELD CUP DAY - featuring some of the world's best horses, best dressed racegoers and best chefs in town.</p> <p>The internationally-renowned, \$3 million Group 1 BMW Caulfield Cup will be run and is the world's richest handicap race on turf over 2400m.</p>	<p>Caulfield Racecourse Station Street, Caulfield</p>
<p>18 October</p>		<p>SPRING FLING STREET FESTIVAL - an annual event to celebrate North and West Melbourne as a connected, creative community.</p> <p>Over 15,000 people will see the transformation of Victoria Street, Errol Street and surrounding laneways with a jammed packed day of live music, shopping, free activities, delicious food and even a dog show!</p>	<p>Various streets in and around North Melbourne</p>
<p>24 October</p>		<p>COX PLATE - The who's who of the Australasian turf have won this \$3,050,000 race. Phar Lap, Kingston Town, Rising Fast, Dulcify, Gunsynd, Super Impose, Octagonal, Might and Power, Sunline, Northerly and more recently champion mare Makybe Diva and So You Think. It is the third richest race in Australia.</p>	<p>Moonee Valley Racecourse Moonee Ponds</p>

Metropolitan Taxi Club

TAXI COVER PROTECTION

We provide:-

Comprehensive Insurance

Third Party & Public Liability Insurance

(QBE Insurance up to \$32,500,000)

- FREE legal advice
- NO joining fee
- FAST claims recovery
- FAST repair turn-around
- GENUINE replacement parts
- LOWER annual contributions



360 BRUNSWICK ROAD
BRUNSWICK

PHONE 9388 0722

EMAIL daniel@metropolitantaxiclub.com.au OR vi@metropolitantaxiclub.com.au

BRUNSWICK ROAD COLLISION CENTRE (Melbourne)

- Taxi resprays from \$1200 (conditions apply)
- Quality jobs
- Quick repair time

Contact Ibrahim
0422 431 823 or 9380 9935

BRUNSWICK ROAD COLLISION MECHANIC CENTRE

- Low prices
- Fast services

Contact Daniel or Ibrahim
9388 1425 or 9388 0722

MORELAND TAXIS P/L

- Taxi shifts available (day and night)
- New and clean taxis
- 24/7 roadside assistance

Contact Jel
9388 1425 or 9388 0722



CONFERENCES

this month in Melbourne

2 - 4 Oct	MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CONFERENCE (MIBSC) 2015 - aims to provide an opportunity to academics and practitioners around the world to discuss and share the contemporary issues of business and business research.	Bayview on the Park 52 Queens Road Melbourne
5 - 8 Oct	MUSEUMS AND THE WEB ASIA CONFERENCE - connects an international network of leading museum innovators.	Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre
6 - 7 Oct	NATIONAL WATER POLICY SUMMIT - Australian Water Association's Summit will discuss the key policy issues for the water sector.	Windsor Hotel Spring Street Melbourne
14 - 17 Oct	NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AUSTRALIA'S CIVIL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY - tackling the key issues facing the civil contractor industry whilst providing organisations with insights into the areas that will drive their businesses forwards into the next year.	Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre
14 - 15 Oct	ENDING DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE - With domestic and family violence at the top of the national and state agendas, now is the time to come together and explore how we can take the next steps and move things to the next level.	Bayview on the Park 52 Queens Road Melbourne
20 - 23 Oct	PEX PUBLIC SECTOR 2015 - is shifting the focus from problem-driven to opportunity driven. By bringing together the innovators, champions and early adopters in process improvement across the public sector	Rydges Swanston Swanston Street Melbourne
22 - 24 Oct	CoBRA CONGRESS - will deal with controversial issues in aspects of breast cancer care, with presentations, debates and discussions. The congress will provide a forum for key opinion leaders to effectively debate unresolved clinical and therapeutic dilemmas.	Pullman on the Park Wellington Parade East Melbourne
26 - 27 Oct	SAFE AND SECURE HOSPITALS CONFERENCE - allows for a unique gathering of security, clinical, police, legal and ambulatory representatives to work towards the common goal of making hospitals a safer place for staff, patients and visitors.	Marriott Hotel Cnr Exhibition & Lonsdale Streets Melbourne
28 - 30 Oct	21ST CENTURY TENSIONS AND TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA - The conference seeks to explore the tensions between discourses of Africa as a location of hope or crisis and the nature of transformations in Africa and the African diaspora that respond to these.	Deakin University 550 Bourke Street Melbourne
30 Oct - 1 Nov	PAX AUSTRALIA combines an exciting program of international & local features, connecting the world's leading gaming publishers & developers with local game industry representatives to showcase games.	Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

COMING SOON

to Melbourne

BROADWAY TO OZ

Hugh Jackman at Rod Laver Arena
24-26 November 2015



SOUND OF MUSIC

at Melbourne's Regent Theatre
from 13 May 2016



NEED A JOB?

NEED A DRIVER?

These listings are FREE. Operators and drivers send details of your DRIVER or JOB advertisement to info@taxitalk.com.au or sms 0400137866

Maxi Taxi Driver Wanted

and Night Driver wanted. Regular job Monday to Friday, good income. Change over in Box Hill. Call David 04193 922 88

Silver Top Drivers – South Eastern Suburbs

All Shifts and flexible hours. Home changeover option. Full Time set price hungry from \$950 excl gst (conditions apply). Set price 24 hr hungry shifts from \$150 excl gst (conditions apply). Call 9555 1155 or 0414 566 779.

Silver Top Taxi Driver Wanted

If you are interested as a Silver Top Taxi Driver - part time - day or night shift - and you are at least 25 years old or over, with at least 5 years experience. Changeover Rowville. Please contact Tony 97639881

Driver Needed

Day, night or both. Yellow Cabs in Caulfield area. Station Wagon. AI 0417 363 079. **TT**

THE NEW TOYOTA HYBRID CAMRY IMPRESSIVE FROM EVERY ANGLE



TOYOTA

Refined, desirable and packed full of the latest technology, Camry effortlessly combines enviable efficiency and advanced security with impressive performance. All Camry models are available with the highly responsive 2.5L Dual Variable Valve Timing with intelligence (VVT-i) petrol engine.

Whatever you require in a vehicle, Berwick Toyota has a huge range to choose from to help you get the job done. That is why partnering with Berwick Toyota Fleet really makes Better Business Sense. As a Fleet Customer, you can rely on Berwick Toyota.

Contact Jennie Mann by

email to JennieM@berwicktoyota.com.au
or call 0449968070 now at **Berwick Toyota**
for all your taxi needs.



Berwick Toyota

751 Princes Highway, Berwick. Phone 9707 4455
berwicktoyota.com.au



LMCT537 MCK222185



ROAD CLOSURES

this month in Melbourne

Street	Dates	Details	Purpose
Collins Street and King Street Melbourne	until 9 November 8:30pm to 5am Sunday to Thursday nights 6am to 3pm weekends	Full closure of the Collins Street eastbound carriageway between Spencer Street & King Street. Partial closure on the King Street northbound carriageway between Flinders Lane & Collins Street	Drainage Renewal Works
Elizabeth Street Melbourne	Until 10 October 9:30am - 3pm weekdays 7am to 4pm weekends	Full closure of carriageways (both directions) between the Haymarket Roundabout and Victoria Street.	Tree Pruning Works
Moray Street & Catherine St Southbank	Until 30 October 7am to 7pm weekdays 8am to 3pm Saturdays	Partial closures on the Moray Street carriageway between City Road and Moray Street. Full closures of the Catherine Street carriageway between Moray Street and Clarke Street.	Sewer connection works
Drummond St Carlton	30 Sept & 1 October 7am to 7pm	Full closure of southbound carriageway between Princes Street and Cogan Street, with contra-flow on the northbound carriageway.	Crane lift to erect site tower crane
Therry Street Melbourne	9 October to 27 Nov 3pm - 11pm Fridays	Full closure of carriageway between Queen Street and Elizabeth Street.	Food Truck Market
La Trobe Street Melbourne	10pm Friday 9 October to 9pm Sunday 11 October	Full closure of westbound carriageway between Elizabeth Street and Queen Street.	Crane lift to erect site tower crane
Queen Street Melbourne	6am Saturday 10 Oct to 8pm Sunday 11 Oct	Full closure of southbound carriageway between Bourke Street and Collins Street.	Crane Lift of chiller units
Meyers Place Melbourne	11 October 8am to 8pm	Full closure of laneway between Little Collins Street and Bourke Street.	Event Closure
Grattan Street Parkville	17 October 8am to 4pm	Full closure of westbound carriageway between Elizabeth Street and Flemington Road.	Crane lift of MRI
Various roads in North Melbourne	18 October 11am to 6pm	Full closure of Victoria Street between Curzon & Leveson Streets Errol Street between Arden and Victoria Streets Queensberry Street between Curzon & Leveson St Hawke Street between King & Victoria Streets	Event - Spring Fling Street Festival



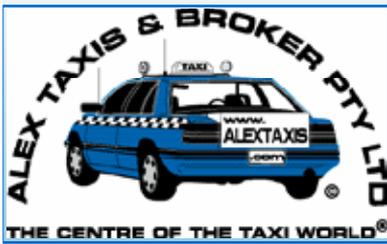
DO YOU HAVE...

Advertise in TAXI TALK

- something to sell?
- a service to offer?
- a new product?

Voice of the Taxi Industry

Contact Toni Peters
P: 0400 137 866
E: tonipeters@taxitalk.com.au



www.ALEXTAXIS.com



TAXI
PLATES



119 Errol St Nth Melb Call Jimmy 0412 717 616

MetroClub TAXI COVER



- > Fastest recovery for loss of income
- > Prompt repairs carried out
- > Well equipped workshop in Tottenham
- > Quick repairs to put you back on the road ASAP
- > Genuine parts used
- > Get rewarded for no claims and not at fault claims
- > 3rd party property / public liability cover \$30 Million
- > 24hr Help Hotline 0425 837 766
- > TAXI YELLOW RESPRAYS FROM \$1090 (inc GST)

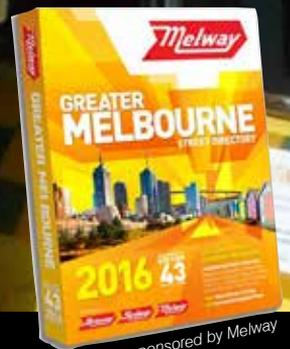
119 Errol St Nth Melb Call Chantel 9348 9507

DRIVER OF THE MONTH



ASHIQ HUSSAIN

Ashiq started driving taxis with West Suburban Taxis in 2009 and is currently driving with Geelong Cabs. Ashiq enjoys being a taxi driver, loves the flexible hours and has no troubles from any of his passengers. He accredits this to his quiet and caring demeanour. 



proudly sponsored by Melway



TRADE DIRECTORY



HYBRID IS THE FUTURE 

Visit Melbourne City Toyota



Lower your operating costs with Hybrid

Call us TODAY!

Melbourne City Toyota
621 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000
www.melbcitytoyota.com.au

(03) 9282 8888

*T.A.P. Pics for illustration purpose only. \$30E. LMCT 10818

Oh what a feeling!



**ADVERTISE
HERE**

contact: Toni Peters
phone: 0400 137 866
email: tonipeters@taxitalk.com.au

**HOME
delivery**
every month
to your mail box



subscribe TODAY!

Never miss an edition of Taxi Talk magazine again!
Send \$35 and your mailing details and we will add you to our mailing list to receive a printed copy of Taxi Talk for 1 year.
Want more than 1 copy - no problem - send us an email and we will advise you of the mailing price.

Mail and cheques: PO Box 2345, Mt Waverley Vic 3149 Enquiries: 0400 137 866
Email: info@taxitalk.com.au Direct Deposit - Westpac BSB 033065 Account No. 312786

**TAXI & VHA
LICENCE PLATES**

from **\$250,000**



0412 717 616
119 Errol Street
North Melbourne
www.alextaxi.com

THE CENTRE OF THE TAXI WORLD

GAFFNEY WHEELS & TYRES



**NEW
TAXI
TYRES**

- Hankook ● Nexen ● Wanli
- Blue Streak ● Minerva
- Goform ● Rotalla
- Maxxis ● Bridgestone
- Dunlop ● Achilles

2nd hand tyres from \$40

195 60R15	\$85
215 60R16	\$75
225 60R16	\$105
225 55R17	\$115
225 50R17	\$115
235 45R17	\$100
235 60R17 (4WD TAXI) ..	\$135
195 R15LT	\$100
195 R14LT	\$90
185 R14LT	\$80

FREE Wheel Alignment and Balancing

Free when you purchase and fit 4 new taxi tyres
Free rotation after 10,000 kms

SPECIALS

Taxi Service from	\$70
Taxi Brakes from	\$70
Wheel Alignment	\$25
Wheel Balance Steel	\$5
Wheel Balance Aluminium	\$10
Puncture Repairs	\$15

REPLACE WINDSCREEN from \$150

\$135 

Phone 9350 7265 116 Gaffney Street COBURG
Open Mon-Fri 8am-6pm Sat 9am-3pm

all prices include GST

specials classified ads

ads wanted licences services lease for sale plates specials buy

REGIONAL TAXI PLATES FOR SALE OR LEASE

Yarra Valley area out from Lilydale. Work provided from 13Cabs. Plenty of work. Call Nick on 9337 9017.

ASSIGNMENTS WANTED

Paying \$1750 per month plus GST. Ring Russell at Savid Taxis - Taxi Operator for over 40 years. Business hours 9584 7700 or 0407 044 229.

MT LICENCE WANTED TO BUY

No brokerage fee. Fair Price offered & Quick settlement Call Spiro on 0414566779

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Direct Deposit to
BSB 033065
Account 312786

Via PAYPAL to info@taxitalk.com.au

Mail Cheque to
Trade Promotions Pty Ltd
PO Box 2345
Mt Waverley VIC 3149



COFFEE TIME

Great a great cuppa when you're next at Melbourne Airport. Call in to Melrose Lounge at the Taxi Holding Bay and have a coffee with Sam while you are waiting for your fare.

advertisers' directory

Alex Taxis & Broker Pty Ltd	35	Tech Automatic Transmissions	25
Automatic Transmission Rebuilders	25	The Owners Association	13
Berwick Toyota	33	UTC Inc	17
Car Central.....	9	Victoria Taxi Club	39
Gaffney Tyres.....	37	Yarra Finance	15
Kids Under Cover.....	10		
Melbourne City Toyota.....	29		
Metro Club Inc.....	35		
Metropolitan Taxi Club	31		
Moneygram	9		
Schmidt Electronic Labs.....	2		



VICTORIA TAXI CLUB

providing cover to the
taxi and limousine industry
since 1998



VICTORIA TAXI CLUB

128 Errol Street, North Melbourne

tel 9326 3808 | fax 9326 4808 | email vic.taxi@bigpond.com

AFL 2015 GRAND FINAL

GRAND FINAL FRIDAY

Friday 2 October 2015 is a public holiday across the whole of Victoria

Saturday October 3 @ MCG

TOYOTA AFL GRAND FINAL PARADE

Friday October 2 - This is a chance for supporters of all age groups to see their favourite players who will take to the field in the Grand Final. Marching bands, roving entertainment and many others will join the cavalcade of Toyota HiLux vehicles carrying the two Grand Finalist teams along the route from the Old Treasury Building to Yarra Park at the MCG.



FREE LIVE SITE at Yarra Park - Wednesday September 30 until Grand Final Day October 3.

LIVE on BIG SCREENS - the 2015 Toyota AFL Grand Final.

FOX FOOTY STAGE with Fox Footy shows and hosts including player appearances, AFL 360, League Teams, Bounce and full comprehensive coverage on Grand Final Day.

KIDS' ZONES - Woolworths AFL playground, NAB Auskick clinics, Nickelodeon slime booth and more.