

[Obtaining a licence](#)
[Existing licence holders](#)
[Information for Health Professionals](#)
[Acquiring a firearm](#)
[Firearms dealers](#)
[Exemptions](#)
[Forms & reference info](#)
[Paintball](#)

INSIDE

THIS ISSUE:

Updated Firearm Application and Renewal Forms

Advise to all Firearms holders, on new forms coming your way in 2023.

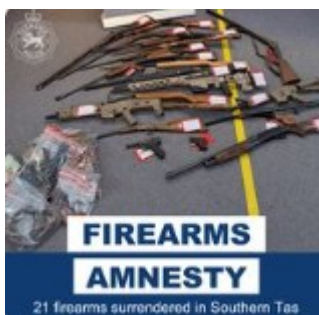
What has changed, and why.

Firearms Amnesty - Mobile

Between August and September, people in Southern, Northern and North West of Tasmania surrendered over 70 firearms.

"It's pleasing that over the last three weekend, Tasmanians have taken the opportunity to surrender firearms to police at mobile amnesty locations across the State".

"At mobile firearms amnesty days in Bridgewater and Glenorchy, 21 unregistered firearms and a quantity of ammunition were surrendered to police", said Senior Constable Paul Hyland.



It is important to remember that under Tasmanian permanent amnesty, people can surrender illegal and unwanted firearms, firearm parts, ammunition, or gel blasters that imitate a firearm, without being prosecuted.

A message from the Manager

In the next few weeks Firearms Services will commence using new application and renewal forms. They have changed substantially and you will notice this when you come to use the new form.

Often in the past, requesting additional information meant substantial delays to the process. Ultimately, the new forms seek to collect new information that we hope will speed up our processing times.

Collecting this important information on the forms should speed up the process by days, if not weeks. Of course, if the information is not volunteered at the time of completing the forms, the usual delays will result. At least this way it won't impact those that do the right thing other than in a positive way.

Never assume Firearms Services have the information already, this will cause you not to complete a form correctly. Each form, each time is a separate application to either renew a licence or to apply for a licence. The form should be completed with full disclosure on each occasion.

Where people omit things from their form it has the effect of being interpreted as a deliberate attempt to withhold important information. I recommend full disclosure, it positions the applicant as a person that is acting with honesty and integrity.

In closing, I wish to thank the clubs and their committee members, range officers etc for supporting members in their compliance with safety standards and the Firearms Act while at your facilities.

Best wishes for the remainder of 2023 and if your at Burnie Show come and say hello..

Kerry Shepherd

Manager | FIREARMS SERVICES

Safe transport, safe use and safe storage of firearms - in everyone's interest.

Upcoming changes to the Firearms Licence Application Form and Firearms Renewal forms

From late 2023, Firearms Services will be sending out new renewal application forms to those licence holders required to renew their firearms licence.

Additionally, those wishing to apply for a new licence will be able to download the updated form from our website, or contact us to have one posted.

Changes to the Firearms Licence Application:

- New questions about interstate and international living
- New questions about firearms possession interstate and internationally
- New questions about criminal history
- New questions about mental and physical health
- New advice regarding storage of firearms

Changes to the Firearms Renewal Application:

- New questions about criminal history
- New questions about mental and physical health
- New questions about storage
- Updated Genuine Reason and Proof section

As the regulator of the *Firearms Act 1996*, Firearms Services are required to ensure that all applicants are assessed on correct and true information provided by the applicant or the licence holder, for the purpose of being 'fit and proper'. Therefore, there will be a new paragraph on the front page of both the Firearms Licence Application and Firearms Licence Renewal Forms:

"It is an offence for a person, in making an application or providing information, to either make a statement knowing it to be false or misleading or to omit any matter knowing that without that matter, the application or information is false or misleading.

*Doing this is both an offence pursuant to Section 126 of the Firearms Act 1996 and a basis to **refuse an application** for a firearms licence or **cancel an existing firearms licence**.*

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or both".

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Protecting Member Information

A reminder to all clubs and ranges of securing information about members during hours of operation and non-operation.

Firearms Services have been notified of a recent incident that may have resulted in membership information being stolen from a club.

It is suggested that membership information should be locked away at the end of each day. If you lock away your cash, lock away your records too!

Note: This is not a legislated requirement, nor a formal part of your General Conditions of Operation.

Firearms Services in the North West!

We are returning to the North West to attend the Burnie Show.

Look for the Tasmanian Government Exhibit tent!

When: Friday, 6th and Saturday, 7th October.

Where: 329 Ridgley Highway, Romaine

If you have a question about firearms, please come and see us!



Feedback and Suggestions

Firearms Services would like to hear from you about what you would like to see in the newsletter each quarter.

We welcome any feedback and suggestions to ensure that the information we provide to you, is informative and relevant.

Should you wish to submit a request, please email Firearms Services

Firearms.Services@police.tas.gov.au

Title your email: Newsletter Suggestion

We will respond to you within 14 days to advise if the suggestion will be able to be included in the newsletter.



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