The GARDS organisation was thrilled to receive a donation from the Lions Club of Morwell to purchase a lightweight wheelchair for our sufferers to borrow. Pictured above are Lions Club members with GARDS members.

Vicki Hamilton CEO stated it is always nice to receive donations for equipment to help our sufferers, it is very special to receive donations from clubs such as Lions as we know how hard it is at the best of times to raise funds, and then to pick deserving organisations where such a donation will help people in need.

We would like to thank all at the Morwell Lions Club for helping us to support sufferers and families all over Gippsland.

The Lions Club of Morwell welcomed GARDS members Vicki Hamilton and Dorothy Roberts to one of their meetings in July to receive the wheelchair and meet some of the Lions members. We had a wonderful night and enjoyed meeting and talking with them.

The Lions club of Morwell do a wonderful job raising money for well deserving charities and are active in helping families and people in need of support through many ways such as simply giving a helping hand in a garden or pitching in with a few extra hands to get a job done that needs some person power, or a BBQ to assist at an event, or help out in disaster relief. The job of a Lion is many and varied, and good on them for being prepared to get in and have a go! Truly an Aussie thing to do.
Earthquake hits GARDS office

ON the 19th June at around 9pm the GARDS office was hit by an earth quake measuring 5.3 - we were at the time just breaking for supper from one of our monthly night meetings when the quake hit. It took us all by surprise first coming as a shake and then increasing in strength. Pictures fell from the walls and glass broke, our filing cabinet doors flew open and cupboards and the ceiling and walls shook.

Farewell to our Treasurer

GARDS was very sad to accept the resignation of a dear friend of our organisation but totally understood the work load John is under and the time he needs to put into his jobs. John has been our Treasurer since 2009 and we have appreciated the help he has put into this when he has been extremely busy with issues around Carbon tax, job losses, apprenticeships, Power stations and many more issues.

We wish John all the best and we will still keep in touch as many issues we deal with will still be of interest to him. John was presented with a gift of appreciation for his voluntary role.

John & his wife Alison has taken off on some well deserved long service leave and I am sure there will be no phones and certainly no papers to read where they are going.

Profile of our NEW Treasurer

The GARDS organisation would like to welcome to our committee David Fairbairn. David has put his hand up to help with the GARDS organisation where he can. He has been a member of the association since last year and is keen to take on some of the management side of GARDS.

David is one of our younger members in GARDS and would like to learn more about the issues that GARDS faces in the community. He has already helped us with hooking us up to Skype and updating the van’s SATNAV - thank you David. Below he has written his own hello to you all.

My name is David Fairbairn and I am privileged to be the newest board member of GARDS with the position of Treasurer, I appreciate this opportunity given to me and also the guidance that has been afforded to me by the organisation’s CEO Vicki Hamilton.

A few things for those who don’t know me, I am 27 years old and lived for a time in Latrobe Valley. I attended school in Traralgon until I was in grade 4 and my family moved to Endeavour Hills. I completed VCE at Eumemmerring Secondary College, Hallam and then went on to finish my double Diploma’s in both Microbiological and Aseptic techniques as well as Industrial and Environmental laboratory techniques in 2006. I have worked in several laboratories around Melbourne but currently work for an international chemical manufacturing company based in Dandenong. I have an interest in computers and new technology in general, I also have a pretty good sense of humour and enjoy comedy movies and TV shows in particular Big Bang theory and Family Guy. I always enjoy learning new things and gaining experiences, which since joining as a member last year, I have done both and hope to continue along this path to further aid the community and the cause which GARDS stands for. Hopefully I will see some of you at the next GARDS meeting.

ATTENTION TO ALL GARDS MEMBERS

RENEWAL FEES DUE IN SEPTEMBER 2012

The management of GARDS would like to bring to the attention of its members that all annual fees will be due and payable in September 2012. Can you please make sure your fees are paid by this time as this money goes part way to help subsidize our mail outs and newsletters to you during the year. The GARDS committee of Management appreciate your co operations in this.

We have a few cracks in our brick walls but lucky no one was hurt and damage was minimal in our office, but it certainly gave us all a fright. Other parts of Moe/Newborough experienced cracks in walls as we did, broken windows. Seismologist recorded the quake – almost 10km deep - at 8.53pm. The earthquake spread itself state wide, reaching as far as 10km across southwest of Moe in the state’s south-southeast, 18km west of Morwell, 30km off Traralgon and 78km southwest of Sale. We believe the quake was felt around Kilmore, Gippsland, Drouin, Rowville and inner-Melbourne. Many relatives and friends rang members to find out if they were alright.

Since that night there have been over 150 - 200 quakes of course all a lot smaller than the original - as I am writing this we have just now at 6pm had another quake of 2.7 hit on Wednesday night 18th July at 6pm. The building’s ceiling has just shaken. This quake follows one earlier this week that measured 2.2.

On Friday 20th July we had another quake of sizable force with a 4.3 - it is quite frightening as there is no warning.

It certainly has been a very eventful month of July. The news this month that Iran has had devastating earth quakes has certainly touched a nerve with all of us here.
PALLIATIVE CARE CONFERENCE
Life and Death Matters: Let’s Talk about it

On the 27th & 28th of July GARDS committee attended the 5th Annual Palliative Care Consortium - starting with a dinner at Century Inn, Traralgon on the Friday night, pictured below. Following on the next day at Monash University with the screening of “The Unspoken” leading in with speaker Dr Natasha Michael, talking about “Skills at the bedside: From consultation to communication”

The conference program was a mix of presentations and workshops by palliative medicine consultants, allied health professionals and carers, as well as film screenings, a photographic exhibition and an Artist in Residence. A highlight of the day was the creation of a “Disambiguation Room” - a multifunctional art-space incorporating light, sound, music, smell, texture, colour and image designed to help alleviate stress and anxiety.

There were info sessions/workshops conducted through the day on:

- Palliative care in the non-malignant setting - Dr Michael Franco,
- Communicating with dementia clients - Ms Bernadette Crabtree,
- Methadone in palliative care with Dr Brian McDonald,
- A culturally inclusive approach

with Ms Ljubica Petrov
✓ Spirit Doll Workshops with Ms Monica Finch
✓ Finishing up with a Screening of A Story About Care - Produced by the Canadian Virtual Hospice and the Canadian Assoc of Schools of Nursing.

We would like to thank the organisers of this conference - it was a meaningful event for us and we could relate to so much of what was being said.

It was also wonderful hearing about ways of pain management that can make a real difference between a good death and a distressing one for all.

It gave us hope that there was real pain management for our asbestos sufferers.

Below are some of the people who attended the conference from other areas around Gippsland, they too, commented on it being a worthwhile information gathering day.

Pictured from back left: Rex Baker from Warragul, Leonia Williams from Sale
Front left: Dorothy Roberts, Marie Smith and Vicki Hamilton from the GARDS organisation.

We look forward to next year’s Conference program and meeting with others who help and provide care to those in the community in need.

REMINDER:
Asbestos Awareness Week Events coming up in November 2012

The GARDS organisation would like to remind its members and interested public that our Asbestos Awareness day will be held by GARDS in the Centenary Rose Garden, Commercial Road, Morwell. 30th November at 11am with speakers of interest yet to be confirmed - musicians - free community BBQ.

Other planned events in that week include an Asbestos Seminar at the GARDS office to be held 6pm - date to be confirmed and morning teas being held at the Davies and Moller Chemists in Morwell located at their sites in Tarwin Street & Princes Way. The dates for the morning tea are 29th of November, commencing at 10am in both stores.

Don’t forget Bankmecu in Moe, Morwell and Traralgon are selling our Awareness Badges in the month of November. More about this in the next newsletter.
GARDS wanted to say how very sad we all were to hear that one of our dear friends of GARDS had passed away.

We held Graeme in high esteem, he had been a sponsor of GARDS since 2005 and every month from 2005 onwards he had donated money to our organisation. This generous man and his family gave so much of themselves. Graeme and his sons helped GARDS & GTLC by doing the demonstration of asbestos removal for the Asbestos in the Home Removal DVD.

Not many firms I know would have given so freely of their precious work time to help the community to try to educate and to make aware the dangers of asbestos in doing a small removal job.

Graeme was a hard worker who tried never to let anyone down. Graeme’s phone was always ringing with people wanting information or jobs done - he was always in demand.

I guess that shows the measure of Graeme’s worth with the work he was doing by the number of phone calls he would receive.

Nothing was ever too much trouble for Graeme, it didn’t matter what time I called or whether he even knew the answer he would talk with me and if he didn’t know the answer to some of my questions he would find out for me.

GARDS feels very honoured to have had the privilege of getting to know Graeme and his family. Graeme was a true blue Aussie who will be missed by all.

G&J CROSBY CONTRACTORS PTY. LTD.
- Demolition
- Asbestos
- Excavations
- Hire or Contract Second Hand Building
- Materials Available

The GARDS team for the 4th year were at Monash University Medical School - Gippsland campus. We were privileged to be a part of the tutorial for the medical students. This year there were approx 100 students learning about the impact that asbestos has on the sufferers and their families. They too learnt about the social, emotional and environmental issues that are brought about by this deadly material - asbestos.

The students had lots of questions for our team of community experts and we hope that with the experience provided by the speakers that they got a real insight into the effects that asbestos has in a community.

The GARDS team that took part this year certainly gave the students an understanding of what it is like from the effect it has on a sufferer and the family who have to cope with the diagnosis of asbestos disease, not only in their family environment but also with the day to day health issues that they must face.

GARDS would like to thank Rhonda Dunn, Marie Smith & Dorothy Roberts for sharing their stories with the students. We would also like to thank Dr Margaret Simmons for making this happen.

Pictured above from L to R : Dr Margaret Simmons, Dorothy Roberts, Rhonda Dunn, Marie Smith

GARDS have booked a bus & organised a tour with Power Works out to Loy Yang for Tuesday the 25th September. If you would like to come on this tour we will be away for approx just over 3 hours. We would be leaving the GARDS office at 10.30am to head to Power Works.

The cost of the trip is being subsidized by GARDS with a half price admission for the tour at $7.50 per person if you are bringing a non member it will cost $15.00 per person. GARDS is also paying for the bus. You are required to wear comfortable well fitting covered in shoes. We will arrive back at the GARDS office at approx 1.45pm where we will have your BYO lunch and chat. If you would like to stay for lunch at the office please bring your lunch and we will keep it for you in our kitchen till we return.

Please advise Vicki by early September to book your seat on the bus spaces are limited. We look forward to seeing you and having a wonderful day with plenty of photos to remember the moment.
As indicated previously, sweats and weight loss. Intensity and may include night symptoms if ignored will increase It must be emphasized that early pneumonia. Other respiratory problems like Mesothelioma. These symptoms can be quite mild even overlooked. Symptoms can be quite mild even overlooked. Symptom on their own will not usually identify the disease and are often misdiagnosed as asthma or other respiratory problems like pneumonia. It must be emphasized that early symptoms if ignored will increase in intensity and may include night sweats and weight loss. As indicated previously, mesothelioma takes a long time to incubate within the body before symptoms appear and cause suffering. This presents a very difficult challenge for doctors and the medical community in diagnosing the disease and in many cases patients with this disease are either not aware that they have it or do not ask the doctor to specifically check the symptoms. You must disclose your work history particularly if you have ever been exposed to asbestos fibres. The disease starts in the pleura which is the lining of the lung which is very thin and hence difficult to detect with concentrational imaging and by the time it is found you have a challenge ahead of you. Unknown trigger factors actually cause the cancer to grow. It is important to understand that there is no measurable safe limit exposure to asbestos dust. All exposure no matter how minute is dangerous. At this stage of your lives it is time for you to be vigilant about your health and be a mate to a work colleague and take responsibility. Have the screening so that you can go into your senior years with anticipation of reaping the fruits of your hard earned labour with a happy and healthy retirement.

If you have been exposed to asbestos in the work place give yourself and your family the best New Years present ever. Make an appointment with a respiratory specialist who will arrange a full lung screening for you. Mesothelioma is on the increase and will continue to show itself in increasing numbers over the next 20 years. Please do this now as a priority not when you think you have time, but now. I titled this article Hide & Seek because that is the nature of asbestos related disease particularly Mesothelioma. Mesothelioma takes a long time to develop inside the human body. It is often difficult to identify symptoms. In the early stages there may not have been any symptoms at all. Common early symptoms include shortness of breath, cough and chest pains. Also small lumps appearing on the chest which could be mistaken for a large insect bites that just don’t go away. These symptoms can be quite mild even overlooked. Symptoms on their own will not usually identify the disease and are often misdiagnosed as asthma or other respiratory problems like pneumonia.

Asbestos Hide & Seek
Written by GARD Member Margaret Cook

In memory of her husband Graeme, known to his work mates as “Cookie” as if they were just the usual. Be vigilant and don’t think because your exposure was 20-30 years ago and you feel generally healthy you are immune. Mesothelioma comes out of hiding when you least expect it.

Are you nursing a loved one with a terminal illness?

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

The Latrobe Valley Palliative Care Fundraising Association “provides financial assistance to patients and their families” by paying for equipment hire needed in the patient’s home to help them be more comfortable and make it easier for their carers. If necessary, we can assist with financial help for medication and oxygen.

This service operates with the hard work of volunteers and the generous public who help us raise the funds needed to run the service, thereby making a big difference to numerous lives. Would you care to Join us? Call No list below.

We have also been aware of the need to train workers in the Aged Care Homes within the Valley; wishing to honour our two late leaders Angela Dempsey/Bernadette Carstein we have set up a Scholarship in their names.

Last year we paid for 11 Aged Care personnel this year we have 16 doing the course of “Palliative Care - A Short Course” at Monash University, Churchill.

CALL 0202 689 827 or 5167 1589
To discuss how we can assist with the comfort of your loved one and make it a little easier for you.
Regular donations made to us by these generous people from

GJ Crosby
Contractors,
Irene Elliott
in Memory of Doug

We would like to take this opportunity to thank individuals who have donated to us in different ways over the last few months:
- Vic Robinson
- Jenny Jackeslen
- Larissa Curtis
- Jim and Kathleen Peerless
- Godfrey Sargent
- Donald Stewart
- Anonymous donation from Altona
- Vlad, Michael and Pauline Jelinic
- Russ Evans
- Marie Smith
- Gerald and Pat Moore

Thank you so much Norton family from all at GARDS.

Online Donations
$200 Anonymous

Donations made in Memory of Henryk Rejmer
Dorothy Rejmer and families, JA and JF Murray

Donations made in Memory of Ray Goldsbrugh
Spooner family, Alex Fievez, J. Murfett, Anne and Trevor Law, E and TJ Sultana

Donations made in Memory of Daniel Bryce
Finders Christian Community College,
Anonymous donation, Jenny Fox, Vikki Coghill, Y and D Stewart, B. Booth

NORTON FAMILY DONATION
A phone call to the office took us by surprise as a family who knew of our good work in the community decided to donate an oxygen concentrator for use by our sufferers. What a wonderful gesture from a family who had not long ago lost a loved one with breathing problems - they have donated the concentrator in Memory of Karleen Ann McDiarmid.

GARDS will place a name plaque on the machine as we normally do with donations stating who donated it and in memory of their loved one.
Thank you so much Norton family from all at GARDS.

MAURICE BLACKBURN SPONSORSHIP
GARDS would like to thank Maurice Blackburn Law Firm for their continued sponsorship of GARDS.
We especially would like to thank Andrew Dimsey for his continued commitment & support to GARDS

ACTU DONATION FOR SYDNEY SUMMIT NO 2
GARDS would like to thank all the staff at GARDS committee who make a donation towards helping some of the GARDS committee members to have you support them in this manner.

The GARDS organisation wants to reiterate its appreciation of all the wonderful people/organisations/companies who donate to us. Without all of you helping us, we would not be able to support sufferers and their families. We rely totally on your generosity and kindness. We are so proud to be a part of such a giving community.

THANK YOU SO MUCH
The GARDS organisation would like to acknowledge the support that we get from Bob & Val Cornelis South Gippsland Agent for Air Liquide and also Tony Robinson East Gippsland Agent for Air Liquide. Both these agents fit our oxygen concentrators and conserving devices for our sufferers when ever needed - they do this for us as a donation to our organisation. You are truly wonderful people who should be commended for your good deeds.

Donation in Memory of Barney Evans
All of us at GARDS would like to thank Jean Evans a wonderful GARDS member for her generous donation in made in memory of her husband Barney.
We were so thrilled to receive your donation to help us support other asbestos sufferers and their families. It was truly a kind hearted gesture to make coming from a family that once used the services of GARDS for their loved one.

Bankmecu staff Donation
GARDS would like to thank all the staff at the Bankmecu offices - we were pleased & pleasantly surprised to receive the donation - it means a great deal to all our members to have you support them in this manner.

Rossmore Hotel
Yallourn North Bowling Club Yallourn North
Well, again this year we have been lucky enough to go among the Yallourn North community, where money was raised for GARDS by both the Rossmore Hotel and the Bowling Club. We are so pleased to be welcomed by such a terrific community who make us feel like one of their own.

We look forward to doing this as we meet up with a lot of the locals each time we are up there.

We would like to thank Jill & Dennis O’Gorman, Publicans for having us at the hotel and Mal Paulet for doing a great job selling tickets for the meat raffle at the bowling club to raise money for us.

Home Taste Chinese Restaurant
The GARDS organisation would like to again thank Pinky and Tony Lau for their continued support & friendship with our organisation.
Asbestos
Snippets

Neighbours living in fear of Asbestos on West Ryde site
Residents of West Ryde are fearful of their futures after a two-year battle to have asbestos removed from a nearby vacant block.

Hope for early Mesothelioma diagnosis
Asbestos-related compensation claims expected to climb
Ten of the most polluted places on the planet

WorkCover New South Wales has completed its investigation into the discovery of asbestos at a Central Coast ambulance station, which forced its immediate closure last month.

Unions call for asbestos authority
Unions will push for the establishment of a National Asbestos Authority to protect people and to remove asbestos from homes and public and commercial buildings.

Asbestos found at Pilbara mine sites from quarry
The Department of Mines and Petroleum is investigating asbestos contamination in the Pilbara.

Asbestos risk deemed low at Parliament House
Consultants have assessed an asbestos find at Parliament House in Adelaide and confirmed there is little health risk.

Department says fibres at mine site are safe
The Department of Mines and Petroleum says asbestos fibres discovered in the Pilbara do not pose a threat to humans.

Asbestos uncovered in Darwin Botanic Gardens
The Northern Territory Government is developing a management plan to deal with the removal of asbestos uncovered in Darwin’s George Brown Botanic Gardens.

Calls to clean up NSW asbestos mine
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-07-24/calls-to-clean-up-nsw-asbestos-mine/only-3-submissions-on-asbestos-mine-plan-4126648
Coordinators of a draft plan to manage asbestos are calling for more input, after receiving only three submissions one month into the consultation period.

Asbestos in Australia

Asbestos fears over proposal
A controversial proposal to redevelop the former James Hardie site at Camellia sparked fears of a fourth wave of asbestos-related disease not only of its biggest critics has been won over.

Probe continues into asbestos scare
Work is yet to resume at a building site at Kurunna, west of Cairns, after asbestos scare earlier this month.

Diesel fumes cause cancer: WHO agency
Diesel exhaust causes cancer, the World Health Organisation’s cancer agency has declared, a ruling it says could make it important as a public health threat as second-hand smoke.

Asbestos scare for State Parliament
The South Australian House of Assembly chamber could be closed for several months to determine whether asbestos has been disturbed and is widespread in its ceiling, potentially costing hundreds of thousands of dollars to clean up.

Asbestos court win leaves BHP exposed
BHP Billiton could face claims for millions of dollars in punitive damages after a South Australian court ruled that it exposed its workers to asbestos dust when it knew of the dire potential health consequences of doing so.

Asbestos victims welcome court ruling
A large multi-center Australian study has revealed what researchers say could be an important new biomarker for mesothelioma.

Australian Study reveals new Mesothelioma Biomarker
A large multi-center Australian study has revealed what researchers say could be an important new biomarker for malignant mesothelioma.

Works stops at Barangaroo over Asbestos
Construction workers at Sydney’s Barangaroo development are refusing to return to work at the southern end of the site following the discovery of asbestos.

Calls for Canada to ban asbestos exports to India
Given Australia’s experience with asbestos, the Gillard Government is being urged to step in and tell Canada not to export its asbestos to India.

Ambulance asbestos scare
Red Hill Nature Reserve is the latest victim of previous dumping of rubbish, with old buried asbestos now breaking through the surface of the ground.

Red Hill Nature Reserve is the latest victim of previous dumping of asbestos, with old buried asbestos now breaking through the surface of the ground.

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Red Hill Nature Reserve is the latest victim of previous dumping of asbestos, with old buried asbestos now breaking through the surface of the ground.
Asbestos Snippets

No policing of Asbestos for NSW Police, an Ombudsman’s report has found

Police were exposed to asbestos in homes and workplaces because of systemic failures in how the State Government and the Police Force managed property, an Ombudsman’s report has found.

Asbestos soil removed from Botanic Gardens

The Northern Territory Environment Department says some soil with suspected remnants of asbestos has been removed from Darwin’s Botanic Gardens.

QLD gas hub workers ‘exposed to asbestos’

Workers on an island at the heart of Australia’s gas boom have been exposed to asbestos by their American employer, a union says.

Row over Asbestos found at LNG Plant

A row has broken out over white asbestos contained in prefabricated buildings brought in from overseas to build a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility in Queensland.

‘Electronic Nose’ sniffs out Mesothelioma

Australian researchers have successfully used an electronic nose in a diagnostic breath test for the deadly Mesothelioma cancer.

Union threatens Court action over Asbestos

A union is threatening Federal Court action against US engineering firm Bechtel after workers were exposed to asbestos on a Queensland work site.

INTERNATIONALLY:

Long-term Mesothelioma survival possible with Tri-Modal approach

The case of a Peruvian woman treated for Mesothelioma in Italy is more evidence that this rare cancer is not only increasingly treatable, but can even be survivable.

Environmental Disaster divides Families

You might think that a disaster or serious illness affecting your family and community would bring people together—overcoming differences in the face of diversity. However, in some cases, the opposite may be true.

Mesothelioma Patient testifies before U.S. House of Representatives

Late last week, a 10-year survivor or peritoneal Mesothelioma testified before the U.S. House of Representatives, asking them to fund crucial research that would allow victims of asbestos-caused cancer to potentially live a longer life.

Mesothelioma patients hopeful Vaccine for NSCLC Patients will benefit them too
http://www.survivingmesothelioma.net/blog/2012/09/mesothelioma-patients-hopeful-vaccine-for-nsccl-patients-will-benefit-them-too

Few rare diseases have a vaccination available to prevent the disease from developing, or to serve as a treatment for the disease once diagnosed.

Study: Japan Mesothelioma deaths will rise until 2027

Deaths from Mesothelioma cancer in Japan will continue rising steadily until the number peaks in 2027 and begins to decline, according to an alarming study done recently at the Hamamatsu University School of Medicine.

Golf legend Fred Couples directs Presidents Cup money to Mesothelioma Research Funding
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012/04/18/golf-legend-directs-presidents-cup-tournament-money-to-mesothelioma-research-funding

Champion PGA golfer Fred Couples has designated $25,000 in charitable contributions to the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation, Couples and the organization confirmed.

International Research reports advances in Diagnosis and treatment of Mesothelioma
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012/04/19/international-research-is-reporting-advances-in-diagnosis-and-treatment-of-mesothelioma

Potential advances in the diagnosis of Mesothelioma and the treatment for the disease are being reported this week from different parts of the world, another indication that the fight against this cancer has become an international battleground.

Asbestos causes controversy at Olympic Training Facility

The training facility being constructed for the 2012 basketball Olympics is being built on top of an asbestos-filled parkland, causing environmental campaigners to protest.

Delay of new UK Laws means thousands will die of Meso before receiving Compensation

Terminally ill Mesothelioma victims throughout the United Kingdom are facing yet another delay in compensation now that the government has announced that a 2010 law meant to help them get the money they deserve more quickly will not go into effect until 2013…at the earliest.

Researchers in European Lung Cancer Conference say diagnosis and treatment of Mesothelioma improving

Hundreds of doctors, researchers, and scientists at the 3rd European Lung Cancer Conference received good news this week about advances in the diagnosis and treatment of asbestos-caused Mesothelioma cancer.

Body Clock’ Chemical could help fight Mesothelioma

One of the chemicals responsible for helping establish the body’s internal rhythms may also help doctors fight Mesothelioma.

Asbestos exemption to ‘no-win no-fee’ changes

Sufferers of asbestos-related cancer will initially be exempt from compensation until 2013 from the government changes to “no-win no-fee” rules, a justice minister has said.

Regulations on asbestos levels strengthened
http://view.koreaherald.com/list/view.phd?ud=201204204010455c2p=0

The South Korean government said Tuesday it will tighten regulations on the use of asbestos by examining levels of the carcinogenic construction material in public buildings and other sites.

Research suggests a role for new Radiation Technology in treating Mesothelioma patients

Radiation is one of the standard treatments for Mesothelioma patients, though the cancer is famously difficult to treat.

Study: Experienced hands work best with IMRT for Mesothelioma patients
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012/04/26/duke-study-imrt-mesothelioma/

According to one study done by the radiation oncology researchers at the Duke University Medical Centre, patients who are treated by radiologists with more experience had better success rates.

Clinical trials at NCI showing promising results for Mesothelioma treatment
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012/05/25/nci-mesothelioma-clinical-trials-hausa

Fifteen years after medical oncologist Rafiit Hassan started studying the complexities of Mesothelioma and the tumor antigen to attack it, he is seeing tangible rewards for his work.

British Lung Foundation targets DIY home renovators to prevent Mesothelioma
http://www.mesotheliomahelp.net/blog/2012/05/british-lung-foundation-targets-diy-home-renovators-to-prevent-mesothelioma

The British Lung Foundation (BLF) is running an asbestos awareness campaign focused on do-it-yourself (DIY) home renovators. The campaign called “Take 5 and Stay Alive” is aimed at preventing DIYers from becoming victims of lung disease caused by asbestos exposure.

New asbestos regulations come into force in Northern Ireland

The Control of Asbestos Regulations (NI) 2012 came into force in Northern Ireland on Monday 28 May 2012. The Regulations, which came into force in England, Wales and Scotland on 06 April, update previous asbestos regulations to take account of the European Commission’s view that the UK had not fully implemented the EU Directive on exposure to asbestos.

Asbestos makers falsely claim material safe, WHO says

Certain business operators in Thailand are denying the widely known fact that all forms of asbestos are dangerous, claiming chrysotile, or white asbestos, is safe, the World Health Organisation said.

Study asks do your genes put you at greater risk of developing Mesothelioma?
http://www.aboutmesothelioma.net/

As a trained geneticist, Ricki Lewis, a new book about gene therapy called The Forever Fix, wonders why some people develop Mesothelioma from inhaling microscopic asbestos fibres and others do not.

...... CONTINUED ON PAGE 9
Gene Therapy approaches Milestone: Potential to Cure Diseases caused by Inherited Gene Defect
http://www.aboutmesothelioma.net/2012/07/
gene-therapy-approaches-milestone-potential-to-cure-diseases-caused-by-inherited-gene-defect

- You can expect to hear a lot more about gene therapy as a treatment for serious diseases in the years ahead. Gene Therapy is still an experimental treatment in the United States, but holds the potential to cure genetic disorders by replacing a defective gene with a corrected copy of the gene. As the New York Times noted, gene therapy neared a milestone this week.

Old Asbestos-laden Exxon Valdez still causing controversy
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/19/

The ship that once dumped millions of gallons of crude into pristine Alaskan waters is sitting still off the coast of India, its fate in the hands of environmentalists who don’t want the shipbreakers at the Alang shipyard to dismantle it.

New class of Cancer Drugs should help Mesothelioma patients
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/08/
new-cancer-drugs-mesothelioma/

A new wave of more-accurately targeted and less-toxic cancer fighting drugs that involve armed antibodies is on the horizon now, based upon a presentation made last weekend at the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

New Drug combination yields disappointing results in Mesothelioma Clinical Trial
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/13/
mesothelioma-clinical-trial-drug-combination/

Results from a recent Phase II clinical trial found that adding brevacizumab to the common Mesothelioma treatment combination of gemcitabine and cisplatin did not improve survival times for malignant Mesothelioma patients.

Georgia Cancer study could reshape treatment options for Mesothelioma
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/14/
georgia-cancer-study-mesothelioma-treatment/

Treatment for cancerous tumours could change significantly if recent groundbreaking research done at the University of Georgia becomes accepted.

Rising costs of Cancer drugs shape future of treatments
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/18/
drugs-costs-future-cancer-treatment/

The increasing costs of cancer drugs in the United States is pushing cancer doctors to evaluate the treatments they recommend to patients, including those with Mesothelioma.

Mesothelioma added to 9/11 Compensation Fund

New Yorkers and first responders at risk of Mesothelioma and other cancers because of 9/11 toxic exposures are now in line for compensation if they need it.

VA Study finds missed opportunities to learn about Mesothelioma compensation (including Lawsuits)
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/18/
va-study-finds-missed-opportunities-to-learn-about-mesothelioma-compensation-including-lawsuits

According to a recent U.S. Department of Veterans’ Affairs study, doctors, nurses and other health care workers seem to be missing the chance to counsel patients with Mesothelioma about legal options and potential compensation for their cancer.

Study: Peritoneal Mesothelioma more common with Non-Occupational asbestos exposure
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/19/
peritoneal-mesothelioma-asbestos-exposure/

Peritoneal Mesothelioma is much more common among those exposed to asbestos in a non-occupational setting than it is among those who are exposed in the workplace.

Asbestos and shift work boost work-related cancer deaths to over 8,000 per year

Around 8,000 cancer deaths in Britain each year are linked to occupations – especially those where asbestos, diesel fumes or shift work is involved – a new study has shown. This equates to around 5 per cent of all cancer deaths in Britain.

Slime protects community from asbestos-lined water pipes
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/18/
Slime_protects_community_from_asbestos-lined_water_pipes

According to microbiologist Ray Cullimore of Regina, Saskatchewan, bacteria growing in the city’s capital’s water pipes appears to be preventing Mesothelioma expert Dr Sugarbaker designated as Pioneer Award recipient from The Meso Foundation
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/22/
mesothelioma-expert-dr-sugarbaker-designated-as-pioneer-award-recipient-from-the-meso.foundation

Dr David Sugarbaker will be honoured with the Pioneer Award by the Meso Foundation for his lifetime work in Mesothelioma research and treatment development.

Penn surgeon makes headway against a rare lung cancer
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/22/
mesothelioma-expert-dr-sugarbaker-designated-as-pioneer-award-recipient-from-the-meso.foundation

The University of Pennsylvania team battles pleural Mesothelioma, a rare, ferocious, incurable type of lung cancer.

Cement Contractor receives $48 million in Asbestos suit
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/18/
cement-contractor-receives-48-million-in-asbestos-suit.htm

An elderly man who worked for more than 30 years as a cement contractor and construction superintendent in several Southern California locations and for several different companies has been awarded $48 million by a California court.

Canadian Government knew about Asbestos dangers but kept pushing exports
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/06/
Canadian-government-knew-about-asbestos-dangers-but-kept-pushing-exports.htm

A Canadian news outlet has discovered that federal government officials acknowledged the dangers of chrysotile asbestos at least a decade ago.

Quebec throws a lifeline to deadly asbestos industry
http://www.thestar.com/opinion/editorial/opinion/article/1225806-
-quebec-throws-a-lifeline-to-deadly-asbestos-industry

According to Quebec Premier Jean Charest, his government’s decision to breathe life into Canada’s all-but-dead and internationally discredited asbestos industry has nothing to do with electioneering.

Asbestos roofs pose a health threat to kids in 60 schools (India)
http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-07-15-
kozhikode/32685037_1_asbestos-government-schools-roofs

For the children of many schools in the district, the asbestos roofs over their head are posing a serious health hazard. Obvious to the fact that the asbestos is carcinogenic, they continue to attend classes.

Immunotherapy for Mesothelioma shows promise
http://www.

Despite the continuing efforts of researchers around the world, there is currently no standardized cure for Mesothelioma. But a growing number of studies have pointed to the value of unconventional treatments like immunotherapy for Mesothelioma.

Mesothelioma survivors, Doctors mark Symposium with passion
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/07/16/
mesothelioma-symposium-marl/

From the opening introduction by executive director Kathy Wiedemer until the closing remarks two days later by associate chaplain George Winchester, there was one unmistakable emotion that carried through the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation Symposium last week. Passion.

Indian ports stuck with toxic waste dumped by Europe
http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-07-17/
india/32712799_1_indian-ports-toxic-waste-major-ports

Hazards products including dead batteries, arms waste like empty shells and cuttibles, toxic substances, waste oil and carcinogens like asbestos are making their way to the 7,600-km-long Indian coastline, posing a serious threat to hundreds of fragile ecosystems along the shores.

The asbestos bailout: your tax dollars, not well spent
http://www.montrealgazette.com/business/asbestos+bailout+your
+dollars+well+spent/6954088/story.html

Instead of letting markets drive mining investment in Quebec, the provincial government is bailing out the asbestos industry using taxpayer money – and this is for a product that is harmful to human health.

The Jeffrey Mine loan makes sense, demand for asbestos is high
http://www.montrealgazette.com/opinion/Jeffrey+Mine+loan+mas
es+sense+Demand+for+asbestos+high/690390/story.html

Alana Wilson’s opinion piece of July 19 (“The asbestos bailout: your tax dollars, now well spent”) draws conclusions based on erroneous facts. As with any argument based on misconceptions and half-truths, the conclusions that follow do not hold.

Scores of Indian children exposed to asbestos daily
http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/07/scores-of-indian-
children-exposed-to-asbestos-daily.htm

Asbestos roofs that sit over the heads of school children in at least one Indian

Human Rights court is to hear asbestos case
http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20120730/local/
Human-rights-court-is-to-hear-asbestos-case/43969

About 20 former dockyard workers suffering from the effects of asbestos has filed a lawsuit against the government.

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Asbestos Snippets

Could a Lung-on-a-Chip lead to Mesothelioma treatment breakthrough?
http://www.mesotheliomanhelp.net/blog/2012/07/ lungonchip-could-eventually-lead-to-a-mesothelioma-treatment-breakthrough

The Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering is developing an organ-on-a-chip system. This seemingly science fiction technology could eventually replace the animal model for drug testing. It may also allow Mesothelioma researchers to mimic the absorption of asbestos particles in a lung leading to a breakthrough in treating or preventing the disease.

Mesothelioma rates higher near Exposed Asbestos

Disturbing naturally occurring asbestos, whether for farming or building, can significantly raise the risk of Mesothelioma and several other cancers. That is the conclusion of a Chinese study comparing the distribution of mortality rates of six kinds of cancer with land use patterns in the Dayao area of China.

National Mesothelioma Virtual Bank connects Clinicians and Scientists in fight against Mesothelioma

– In the past 15 years, there have been great advancements in medical treatment for asbestos related diseases such as Mesothelioma. In order to promote swift and significant progress in medical development, the University of Pittsburgh has melded a bridge between the treatment and research community to aid in Mesothelioma care.

Asbestos ruling a relief for Widows
http://www.staff.co.nz/national/7324495/ Asbestos-ruling-a-relief-for-widows

– A 2006 New Zealand High Court victory for asbestos victims and their families has paved the way for hundreds of others to receive compensation of $100,000 or more.

> Asbestos opposition growing in Thailand, warns advocate

– An anti-asbestos advocate warns that one of the countries that consumes the most asbestos in the world is seeing a growing resistance to the use of the mineral and that it could mean big problems for the Jeffrey Mine.

> Scientists press for global asbestos ban

– A call for the global ban on all forms of asbestos was made today by more than 150 international organizations. The statement, released Tuesday, calling for the ban on the mining, use and export of all forms of asbestos has already been approved by over 150 public health organizations and scientists from at least 20 countries.

Human Rights court is to hear asbestos case
http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20120730/local/ Human-rights-court-is-to-hear-asbestos-case.430695

About 20 former dockyard workers suffering from the effects of asbestos inhalation have taken their battle for compensation to the European Court of Human Rights, which has given the Maltese Government four months to reply. They are joined by the family of another worker who died from cancer caused by asbestos.

Fighting Mesothelioma: Canada lose a Battle, U.S. gears for another

Canadian Mesothelioma advocates have lost a major battle in their fight against asbestos, while their American counterparts gear up for another battle of their own in Washington.

Could a Lung-on-a-Chip lead to Mesothelioma treatment breakthrough?
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December 2012

GARDS

Christmas Lunch 2012

Well it is that time of the year again where we all get together for a bit of merriment and mirth.

This year’s Annual Xmas party and lunch will take place at Moe RSL, Function Room, Albert Street, Moe. The menu this year for lunch is a trio of meats (Turkey, Beef & Pork) served with Roast Potatoes/pumpkin, Cauliflower au gratin, Carrots & Peas, Gravy & all the trimmings with plum pudding and warm brandy custard or Fruit Salad & fresh cream if you so desire.

The lunch is free to financial members. Those wishing to bring a partner who is not a member will be required to pay $18.50. Santa will be in attendance to see who has been naughty or nice and we will have a GARDS Xmas raffle on the day and lucky door prizes to give away.

We hope to see all of our members on this special day so that we can share the joy of Xmas together.

If you would like to join us, here are all the details:
Venue: Moe RSL, Function room, Albert Street, Moe
Date: Saturday 8th December 2012
Time: 12 noon
Free to Financial Members of GARDS
Non members $18.50 per person
Alcohol available at bar prices
For catering purposes please contact Vicki or the GARDS office RSVP by the 27th November 2012.

The ACTU & Cancer Council of Australia are hosting the 2nd Asbestos Summit in Sydney at the Menzies. The unions & interested parties including the support groups will meet on the 4th of September. The pre summit meeting of support groups will be held on Monday 3rd.

On the agenda for Tuesday the 4th. will be the Asbestos Management Review announcements with Minister Bill Shorten making the announcements from the review. Some of the GARDS committee will be in attendance.

GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASE SUPPORT INC. (GARDS)
GARDS Inc. Membership Form

Name: .........................................................................................................................
Address: .......................................................................................................................
Postcode: ....... Telephone: ......................................... Email: .....................................
Occupation: ...................................................................................................................

GARDS NEW MEMBERS Joining Fee $5.00

PLUS

GARDS Annual Subscription 2012
1. Concession (Pensioner/unemployed) ........................................... $3.00
2. Full Rate (employed) ................................................................. $11.00

Upon my admission as a Member, I agree to be bound by the rules of GARDS Inc.
Signature: .......................................................... Date: ___/____/____

Please return to GARDS Inc. with payment, PO Box 111, MOE, Vic. 3825

Office Use Only

I . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ., a Member of the GARDS Inc. nominate the Applicant for Membership of the Association
Signature of Proposer: . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .Date:

I . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ., a Member of the GARDS Inc. second the nomination of the Applicant for Membership of the Association
Signature of Proposer: ................................................. Date: ___/____/____

GARDS Fees
Joining Fee: $5.00
Annual Fees:
Pensioner/Concession ........................................ $3.00
Unemployed ................................................. $3.00
Employed persons ........................................ $11.00

Meetings
SUPPORT:
Last Tuesday of month, 1.30pm - 3.30pm
EVENINGS:
3rd Tuesday of month, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Office Hours
Monday to Thursday
10am - 4pm
Friday - By appointment
GARDS provides support and information to asbestos sufferers, their families and carers. This includes home visits by GARDS volunteers, a telephone information/support service 24 hours, 7 days a week. GARDS has an office, which is open for sufferers, their families, carers and the general community to access at the times listed in the information section.

GARDS INC. Support also conducts a monthly meeting (1.30pm – 3.30pm) on the last Tuesday of the month) where guest presenters are invited to provide information about support services of all kinds and any other topics of interest that the members might find of relevance. The meetings also provide a gathering place for experiences; GARDS Support is open to anyone whose lives have been affected by asbestos, their families and the general public.

GARDS loans out free of charge to asbestos sufferers - oxygen bottle regulators, conserving devices, oxygen home concentrators, wheel chairs, oxygen bottle carriers, nebuliser, walking frames & walking sticks.

We also have an extensive library of books, DVDs and CDs on asbestos issues, health, social and environmental that we loan free of charge to those wishing to improve their knowledge.

GARDS can provide professional counselling with a qualified psychologist free of charge for those who have been diagnosed with asbestos related disease and also their family members. If preferred telephone counselling can be arranged.

GARDS Inc. Evening Meetings

GARDS has an organisational, activities and advocating arm. Interested financial members can come along to evening meetings, which are, conducted 7.30pm – 9.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

These meetings provide a focal point for information sharing and problem identification. The aim of this group is to focus on improving health and support services and any other issues deemed relevant to improving overall outcomes to asbestos sufferers, their families and the general public. Thus ensuring asbestos-related issues are kept in the public eye and trying to rid our environment of asbestos products.