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DID YOU KNOW
You can make an on line donation to our group at our home page
www.gards.org

Make a Donation to our Group
using the secure engine of ourcommunity.com.au

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Above GARDS bagpipers
David Duncan & Bill Dunbar - Left
Richard Elkington - Chair of the Regional Development Australia Gippsland Group.
This was just some of the high standard of guests who added their voice to the growing outrage about asbestos issues in Victoria and Australia that are just being ignored and marginalized. The demand to do more is collecting momentum.

Major sponsor:
Asbestos Awareness Continues

Top Left
John Parker
GTLC & Top
Right - Steve
Meyer - whose
father-in-law
Doug is
affected by
mesothelioma.

Middle right
Newborough
Primary
School Choir
& directly Far
Right Paddy
O'Dowd

Australia had consumed 700,000 Tonnes of asbestos by 1980s. Mesothelioma will be more common than Melanoma and Ovarian Cancer in the next 5 years. 20,000 people will lose their life to mesothelioma by 2020 and for every mesothelioma there are at least 2 lung cancers caused by asbestos and eight other asbestos related diseases in a community. These are some of the facts that were highlighted in speeches to make the public aware of how much asbestos products have affected our lives & is still in our community. There needs to be a great deal of work done by all over the coming years. Cont. page 3
The current evidence is that
1. despite the general level of awareness about the dangers of asbestos, workers are unsure and unclear about specific safe work practices
2. Householders are not aware of the extent and nature of Asbestos Cement Materials in domestic dwellings
3. Affected householders are unsure and unclear about specific safe work practices for home maintenance and improvement
4. The condition of asbestos containing building materials is deteriorating and
5. The safe disposal of ACMs, especially for householders, is difficult and very often not properly followed.
6. To eliminate deadly asbestos related disease in Australia we must decrease and eventually eliminate all exposures to asbestos.

To achieve that, governments and the community generally must adopt programs to safely and systematically remove Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs) from the built environment.

Internationally, the Australian government must also take a leadership role through trade and other forums to work towards an international ban on the mining, use, and sale of asbestos.

Although Australia banned the import and export of materials containing asbestos in 2003 (with a few exemptions), many parts of our work and home environments are still contaminated and people are still being exposed to asbestos.

Waste disposal of domestic asbestos is patchy, poor and inadequate in most areas of Victoria and throughout Australia.

We have a duty of care to our future generations to try and keep them safe and eliminate asbestos diseases from our community.
SHINE LAW FIRM DONATION

Pictured Left to right back row: Ann Clegg, Brian Clegg, Rhonda Dunn, Vicki Hamilton
Front row from right to left: Dorothy Roberts, Marie Smith, Shine Office Manager Caroline Flake and Alex her daughter.

We were pleased to receive a donation from Shine to help with our support of sufferers and their families. It is always a thrill to receive donations at anytime but they are always more special when the recognition comes from firms who are engaged in asbestos litigation as they know only too well how much time goes into doing support and advocacy to help sufferers and their families and to effect change into the future so that other generations do not share the same fate of those past and present. We also thank Shine for their invaluable service to GARDS in the past few months, it has been greatly appreciated.

mecu

To the Management and Staff of Moe, Morwell & Traralgon branches we would like to say how very pleased we were that you supported Asbestos Awareness Week and our organisation. Thank you one and all

DAVIES & MOLLER PHARMACY

GARDS wishes to thank Management and Staff for their great morning tea, awareness campaign & fundraiser for Asbestos Awareness Week. You are just the best - from all of us at GARDS

We would like to thank the workers (BOYS) of Alstom for the wonderful monetary donation made to us on the day of the Asbestos Awareness Event. It was a truly lovely surprise and we appreciate your efforts and support. Thank you to Duane Morrell

GARDS wishes to thank Management and Staff for their great morning tea, awareness campaign & fundraiser for Asbestos Awareness Week. You are just the best - from all of us at GARDS

The Panel Christmas Wrap Donation
You are a great bunch of people! - thank you so much for supporting us!!! Your donation will certainly be put to good use helping us to continue our work in the community

GARDS FEES DUE & PAYABLE

If you have not paid your fees this year they are due and payable. We are not sending out reminders as we have done in the past as the costs prohibit us from sending reminders and second reminders to members. These fees go part way to help send the newsletter to you and any other info that we send. The GARDS committee would appreciate your cooperation in this.
GARDS XMAS PARTY