February saw GARDS volunteers ready to give out info and support. The Gippsland Home and Leisure Show Expo at Kernot Hall on the 8th, 9th and 10th of February attracted thousands of people from the 4 corners of Gippsland. GARDS was extremely busy attending to enquiries from those who sought information and support.

GARDS volunteers met many new people and gave out bags of information on home renovations. We also had people coming up requiring information on support of a loved who had been diagnosed with an asbestos related disease. We were glad that we were available to help out with connections to services that support families and sufferers.

GARDS would like to thank all those volunteers from our membership who took time out of their busy weekend to help come and staff the display.

Days like this in the community are valuable, not only to educate the community but to make relationships with many people from all walks of life who may not have had the opportunity to discuss their issues around asbestos unless we were there to chat with them openly and honestly about many troubling things that happen in our area around asbestos.

We hope that people made sense of how some areas about asbestos are handled by not only us but local council and the wider Australian Government.
There were a few hundred who attended the GARDS annual event to highlight awareness of asbestos and its effects on families and the community. The ecumenical service to remember those suffering and those who had succumbed to asbestos disease was conducted by Beryl Stevens - Celebrant.

Time was set in our ceremony where families laid flowers and paid tribute to their loved ones.

**Guest speakers were:**
- AMWU National Secretary & GARDS member - Paul Bastian,
- Returned Vietnam Veteran, President of the Moe RSL & GARDS Member - Ray Watson,
- GARDS Member & Daughter of Daniel Bryce who succumbed to Mesothelioma- Ann Bishop who was accompanied by her sisters, Maree Summers & Theresa Booth
- Secretary Gippsland Trades & Labour Council & GARDS Member - John Parker
- GARDS CEO/Secretary - Vicki Hamilton
- Newborough Primary School choir - The GARDS bag piper/s David Duncan & Bill Dunbar

A FREE BBQ lunch with the compliments of Gippsland Trades & Labour Council was enjoyed by all after the event.
50 people attend the free seminar on asbestos diseases where they gained valuable information on asbestos issues, had their legal questions answered and discovered their rights in relation to asbestos diseases.

Those who attended found out more about the Workplace Health and Safety regulations and learned more about the Palliative Care practice and education. Light refreshments were supplied during the night and we would like to thank our sponsor Maurice Blackburn Law firm.

Speakers were:
- Mary Ross-Heazlewood RN
  Project Worker Clinical Practice and Education
  Gippsland Region Palliative Care Consortium
- Stephen Plunkett
  Principal Lawyer
  Slater & Gordon Lawyers
- Andrew Dimsey
  Principal
  Maurice Blackburn Lawyers Pty Limited
- Darren Carman
  Consultant
  Mairin OHS & E Consultants

Chief Inspector Gary Raymond (Rtd) continues telling his best stories...

The GARDS crew pictured above were very privileged to hear about Gary and some of his very emotional stories that told of his experiences while rescuing those in need through tragedy and disaster and how through all of his life’s challenges he never lost his humanity nor his love for his Lord. Life might have tested him at times but through it all he has remained a servant of the Lord.

Gary was an inspiration to us all and we felt very honoured to have been able to listen to a truly wonderful human being doing unsung work in our community. The event was held at Old Gippstown, Lloyd Street, Moe. Approx 50 attended the inspirational talk.

just before Xmas our organisation was thrilled to receive a sponsorship donation.

The GARDS committee and members would like to thank Steve Plunkett, Rod Matthews and Staff for their continued support of our group. It means a great deal to us to have this respected law firm helping us to support asbestos sufferers and to advocate on asbestos issues in Victoria and Australia.

We value the friendship that our two organisations have built up over the years and look forward to many more in the future.

Once again thank you so much for your support.

Pictured below are the GARDS committee with Steve, Rod and staff presenting the cheque.
GARDS ON THE MOVE...

Warragul - GLASS GALLERY BUS TOUR - 26TH MARCH

The GARDS organisation has organised a bus trip to Lillico Glass Studio at Warragul. This special day out will be on the 26th of March 2013. We will be leaving the GARDS office at 10.30am and you will be able to purchase lunch in the summer house. The Gallery is the home of working artist Haydn John.

Members will be able to browse in the sun-filled gallery, and will be able to view and purchase a wide range of beautifully handcrafted glass designs, including many original and unique art pieces. Members will be able to wander through the tranquil gardens, enjoy browsing through the delicious treats available from the “Clearly Delicious Produce Store”, where you will find an assortment of country style preserves and homemade jams to suit every taste.

We will return to the GARDS office by approx 2.30pm. If you would like to join us on this tour can you please contact Vicki to make a booking and please indicate if you will be purchasing lunch at the Gallery for catering purposes - this is a private function and the venue will not be open to the general public while we are there. The bus is being provided by GARDS free of charge to its members. Can you advise us please of your attendance as soon as possible. Looking forward to seeing GARDS members attend this great day out.

GWENFA HAMPTON KINDER - SALE

GARDS was invited to be a part of the opening of a new garden at the Gwenfa Hampton Kindergarten in Sale on the 13th November. The Kindergarten committee got in touch with GARDS when they found, to their horror, broken asbestos cement sheets buried in the garden where they were wanting to put a fairy garden. So the dilemma was to try and raise enough money to get the asbestos removed and the soil remediated. Fortunately GARDS was able to put the kinder committee onto Collex/ Veolia Environmental Services who we understood looked after the kindergarten extremely well. The committee were thrilled to have such a terrific community minded company help them. GARDS wants to thank Geoff Campbell and the team for helping to put the garden right for the children. Job well done!!!!

FOR SALE

Killer Company by Matt Peacock

By special arrangement with Matt Peacock we have been able to secure his book for an incredibly cheap price especially negotiated with Matt. If you would like to purchase a book please contact the GARDS office.

GIPPSLAND COMBINED TRADE UNIONS PICNIC & SOCIAL COMMITTEE

GARDS was very privileged to receive a donation cheque from Toby Thornton who represents the Gippsland Combined Trade Unions Picnic & Social Committee.

Donations to our organisation are always received gratefully, but they are even more special when we receive them because the workers deem us worthy!

The Gippsland Combined Trade Unions Picnic and Social Committee have been donating to GARDS for the last 5 years and this money is used to help support our families by keeping our office front open and taking our medical equipment to our sufferers to make their life more comfortable. GARDS gave the committee certificate of appreciation for their continued support of the work we do in the community. Without donations such as these the support we give would not be possible. It is a vital role that organisations such as this play in helping us to keep our support and advocacy going. So thank you to one and all who helped to keep these donations coming to us.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Was held Saturday 2nd Feb 2013 at 41 Monash Road, Newborough

Positions that fell vacant were: Vice President, Secretary, Committee Member

Dorothy Roberts was returned unopposed as the Vice President of the Association, Vicki Hamilton was returned unopposed as the Secretary of the Association. Ann Clegg did not renovate to the committee, and we were fortunate enough to have someone nominate for the committee position - he was elected to the position of committee member, his name is Ray Watson.

Congratulations to the new committee members of GARDS and we wish you every success in 2013/14 with all your endeavours. Our President Brian Clegg retired from his position just a week before the AGM so our President position is being filled by our Vice President Dorothy Roberts at this present time.

The GARDS organisation would like to thank Brian & Ann Clegg for their tireless work on our committee. Brian was President for 3 years and Ann was a committee member for 4 years.

We appreciate all the time and effort they gave to our organisation in so many ways.

They are going to spend more time pursuing leisure activities and deserve a well-earned rest.

We wish them all the best in their endeavours in the future and from all of us at GARDS thank you so much for giving up your time to make a difference for asbestos sufferers and their families.

Ann was presented with a glass table clock in appreciation of her commitment to GARDS and Brian was presented with a highly polished wall mounted Barometer and clock combination. We hope they will enjoy these and think of us when they are looking at them.

The GARDS organisation would like to welcome to our committee Ray Watson.

Ray is heavily involved in the community - he is very community spirited and we are happy to have his expertise on our committee. Ray is a returned veteran from the Vietnam war and President of the Moe RSL.

Ray believes he will be able to help in many ways and looks forward to meeting all our members in the future. Please feel free to say hello to Ray when you next see him.

The GARDS committee look forward to working with you Ray and to making a difference in our community and for Victoria.

THANK YOU
SO MUCH TO RETIRING PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE MEMBER

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER RAY WATSON

Pictured right is the GARDS crew at the Comcare Asbestos Forum.

Some two hundred people attended the forum which explored asbestos management and the impact it has in our workplaces, showcased case studies and looked at the practicalities of implementing the recommendation of the Asbestos Management Review.

Industry experts and asbestos disease sufferers shared insights and lived experiences to enhance asbestos awareness, education and collaboration. The forum was a chance for GARDS to highlight the bad information that was printed in the enHealth book “Asbestos - A Guide for Household and the General Public”

As you can see the committee and many others had bibs with slogans referring to the book and the book cover was printed on the back. The event took place at Melbourne - Intercontinental - 495 Collins Street - it was a very thought provoking forum and gave insight to many projects, research and what was happening in the asbestos scene.

COMCARE ASBESTOS FORUM
26TH NOVEMBER 2012
Special People and Organisations

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 for your generosity and kindness. We are so proud to be a part of such a giving community.

Donations made in Memory of Ian Kinder
Joan Kinder and family, Neale & Cheryl Mooney

Donations made in Memory of Geoff Ditterick
Elizabeth Ollquist

Donations made in Memory of Ray Rowley
P Norton, Fay Hawke, Shirley Corin,

Donations made in Memory of Bob Ruiter
Nell Ruiter, Wendy Bright

Jean Harwood - Donation
The GARDS organisation would like to thank Jean for her generous donation of multiple gifts towards our GARDS Xmas raffle for 2013. Jean donated towels and tea towels along with plastic containers for the kitchen. We appreciate your generosity. The Harwood family also donated half a dozen tinnies to our GARDS Xmas raffle in 2012. It is a very generous gesture.

BANKMECU DONATION
What a great surprise it The GARDS organisation would like to thank bankmecu for their donation of pre-loved office equipment. We were so happy to receive the phone call asking if we could use the office furniture - we sure can!!!! Thank you so much to you all, we will make sure it gets well used.

Hon. Johan Scheffer MP
GARDS would like to thank you so much for all the support you give to our organisation. Nothing we ask is ever too much trouble for you or your staff when called upon to assist.

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Rawlings Family Donation
The GARDS organisation would like to thank Len Rawlings for donating a fan to our GARDS Xmas raffle in 2012. He has also donated a serving plate to be either used by the organisation or raffled as we see fit. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Rossmore Hotel
We would like to thank Dennis & Jill O’Gorman and the patrons of the Yallourn North Rossmore Hotel for the support we receive on the Friday night meat raffles. It is great to see everyone and catch up with all the local news. Looking forward to seeing you all this year in 2013.

DAVIES & MOLLER CHEMIST
ASBESTOS AWARENESS MORNING TEA 2012
Again this year another successful morning tea was held in Morwell. The staff at Davies and Moller raised just over $330 from their event and helped to raise awareness amongst their customers.

Pictured right were two of the pharmacy staff with GARDS member, Lyall Watts and his friend Gary who travelled up by train to be there to support the event.

It is wonderful to have such terrific support from businesses in the community and from Members who go out of their way to support these events.

Thank you so much for your generosity, it is most welcome.

Donations made in Memory of Win Feeley
Anonymous $20

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

Linforth Family Donation
The GARDS organisation was pleased to receive a phone call from Dean Linforth who informed us that he wished to make a donation of an oxygen concentrator that his mother Nola had used when she was sick. The family no longer had use for it and decided that it would be best used and appreciated by asbestos sufferers so they donated it to us. We thank the Linforth family very much for thinking of our organisation and we will be putting a plaque on the machine to say “Generously donated by the Linforth Family in Memory of Nola and Phil. Thank you for your generosity, it is most welcome.

Graeme Woods
Thank you so much for your donation in Memory of your father

Linforth Family Donation
Dean Linforth, Nola, Phil, Noela and Phil.

Regular donations made to us by these generous people from

GJ Crosby
Contractors
We would like to take this opportunity to thank individuals who have donated to us in different ways over the last few months:

Shirley Fletcher, Ray Watson, Ken & Lorrie Rowlinson, Rose Nechwatal, Chris Healy, Godfrey Sargent, Lyal Watts, Peter Hawkins, Margaret Williams, Ray Whittaker, Dorothy Grace, Frank & Dawn Eadie, Donald Stewart, Joyce Crane, George Davis, Nellie Crane, Ian Kinder, Pinky and Tony Lau for their continued support.

We would like to again thank Hon. Johan Scheffer MP, Marie Smith, Maree Hall, Joseph Marschalek, Peter Collins & Cheryl Mooney.

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IN AUSTRALIA

Devil's Dust: in search of asbestos worker Jeremy Tear Matt Peacock, whose book Killer Company inspired the new ABC mini-series Devil's Dust, searches for a man he interviewed 34 years ago about his time working at James Hardie’s asbestos insulation factory. All radio reporters have interviews they save up...


Union warning on Asgard asbestos

It also claims there is still flammable, or easily- crumbled, asbestos present at underground electricity substations in Sydney’s CBD. ETU NSW Secretary Steve Butler said at least two people are developing either mesothelioma or asbestos at Asgard each year.


Gallagher plea to PM as asbestos talks fail - Canberra Times

New feature Personalise your news, save articles to read later and customise ... Talks aimed at resolving Canberra’s buried asbestos crisis have ...


Asbestos - The Silent Killer

Latest News Safe Work Australia is currently developing model Asbestos work health and safety laws as part of an initiative of the Council of Australian


Asbestos rear its toxic head | The Advocate A TASMANIAN man dying from exposure to asbestos decades ago recently lost his battle before getting a cent in compensation.


Port Kembla backflip: asbestos-tainted soil to go

But the deal came unstack in August when the first load was found to contain pieces of asbestos, despite “rigorous testing” and assurances it would be safe.


Family's asbestos fears

Wanting to breathe life into their home the Mead family hired a tradesman who could have been unlicensed and had possibly exposed them to what they believe is asbestos. Home owner Geoff Mead is worried about the health of his family and hopes to find...


Asbestos risks

Penrith City Star Asbestos, present in most old houses, continues to be responsible for many diseases affecting home owners who renovate without being aware of the risks.


Camellia asbestos plant plan withdrawn

Parramatta Sun The controversial plan to build a waste treatment plant on a Camellia site formerly used by James Hardy to manufacture asbestos has been withdrawn by the ...


Asbestos risk after bushfires can be safely managed

DHHS Director of Public Health and Chief Health Officer, Dr Roscoe Taylor, today said concerns about asbestos should not get in the way of a sensible and careful ...


Fairhaven lifesavers lobby for asbestos removal - ABC News ...

Surf lifesavers on Victoria’s Great Ocean Road are calling on the state government to pay for removing asbestos from their clubhouse. The club is in the middle...


FMP workers urged to join asbestos register

The Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU) is encouraging people who worked at Ballarat’s FMP factory to register with lawyers if they are concerned about asbestos-related illnesses. The brake and clutch manufacturer was formerly known as ...


Residents call for action on asbestos washing up at Henley Beach

An Environmental Protection Authority spokesman said if people found asbestos on the beach they should not touch it and instead contact their local council or a licensed asbestos removailand. Henley Beach man Leon Diou has been removing asbestos ...


Warrumbungles fire triggers asbestos risk fears

There is concern about how far asbestos fibres from houses destroyed in the Warrumbungles fire near Coonabarabran in north western New South Wales have spread. Visual assessments carried out at 36 properties have found 31 of them contain asbestos.


Solar, asbestos and gas all a risk in flooded homes

Mr Pringle said asbestos could be found in many different locations in homes built up to the 1990s, not just in walls, and that people should leave the job to professionals to avoid dangers to health. He said checking checking gas, electricity and ...


Asbestos warning after flood

Household debris, such as kitchen bench tops, chests, wardrobes, shelves and cabinets, are unlikely to contain asbestos and can be disposed of without any concern with general rubbish but only remove materials already broken and dislodged. Contact ...


Asbestos threat to fire and flood victims

There are concerns asbestos fibres in homes damaged in the Warrumbungle fire near Coonabarabran in northwest NSW have already spread.

Initial assessments by Warrumbungle Shire at 36 properties found 31 sites contained asbestos, and the council’s public works committee now working on an asbestos management plan.


Fire-hit homeowners warned of asbestos threat

Homeowners affected by bushfires are being urged to avoid any exposure to asbestos while clearing their properties.

Until the late 1980s, the deadly fibre was commonly used in roofing, sheet walls, ceilings and in moulded products.


Safety officers inspect cinemas site over asbestos concern

QUEENSLAND Workplace Health and Safety officers were called to inspect the old Gladstone Civic Cinema site after public concern the asbestos sheeting in the structure was not being removed correctly. It’s believed the QWHS inspector visited the site on Friday.


Gippsland asbestos related disease support inc.
Deadly dust a silent killer in homes

The nation now has the highest rates of fatal asbestos cancer—mesothelioma—in the world, and medical researchers predict the total number of mesothelioma cases will reach at least 18,000 by 2020 as a result of asbestos exposure at home or at work.


The Western Weekender - Council developing asbestos policy

The safe management and disposal of asbestos across the City will soon be made easier, thanks to a policy being developed by Penrith Council.

The Asbestos Policy will consolidate and refresh existing policies and procedures. It will outline roles and responsibilities across various areas including education, and the management of land and waste in the community. The policy will also determine how Council responds to and manages asbestos risks in its own buildings.


Asbestos inspections and clearance certificates are now compulsory ...

From January 1 2013, all licensed asbestos removal works in NSW must have a clearance inspection, with a clearance certificate issued.


INTERNATIONALLY:

New Drug Showing Early Promise in Slowing or Stopping Mesothelioma Spread

A combination of researchers from France, Australia and the United Kingdom have uncovered a new drug that can prevent the spread of mesothelioma cancer within the body by activating a particular tumour suppressor gene. Their findings, presented Nov.


Statin Use Could Reduce Mortality in Mesothelioma Patients

Researchers from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine announced at CHEST 2012 that non-small cell lung cancer patients who have surgery may improve their overall survival and reduce the risk of recurrence by taking statins, a class of ...


Top mesothelioma research breakthroughs of 2012

Mesothelioma biomarker. Dr. Harvey pass, a professor of thoracic oncology at Nyu Langone medical center in New York City, found a biomarker that is significantly elevated in mesothelioma patients. Pass and his team of researchers found that the protein...

http://www.mesotheliomahelp.net/blog/2012/12/top-mesothelioma-research-breakthroughs-of-2012

Mesothelioma risk created by careless thieves

Pipe thief has mesothelioma risk some thieves in Massachusetts may end up paying with their lives for stealing copper pipes from abandoned buildings. That is because the thieves inadvertently exposed themselves to mesothelioma-causing asbestos fibres...


School under investigation for using students to remove asbestos

A private religious school in Berea, Ohio is under criminal investigation after it was discovered to be putting its students to work last year clearing asbestos from a building being prepared for future classes, reports NBC affiliate WKYC TV.

http://politico.topix.com/homepage/4078-school-under-investigation-for-using-students-to-remove-asbestos

Asbestos covered up in quake-damaged homes

The asbestos-ridden homes have been decontaminated as residential repairs ramp up around Christchurch but many have had the toxic substance left behind and concealed by plasterboard. Asbestos removalist Steve Burke says if the problem is hidden with ...


Asbestos in homes a ‘health landmine’

Asbestos in the ceilings of more than 4000 earthquake-damaged homes will be left encased behind plasterboard - a situation that according to a leading medical adviser says is a health “landmine”. The Earthquake Commission (EQC) estimates 43,000.


Asbestos ‘repairs’ will leave a disgraceful legacy - Dyson...

Christchurch-based Labour MP Ruth Dyson has called for an urgent response from the government following news that asbestos in the ceilings of more than...


Mesothelioma: an explanation of that big word you hear on TV This article


Asbestos limit found exceeded in 17 disaster-hit spots in Japan

The safety limit sanctioned by the world health organization (who) as regards to asbestos levels were found to have been exceeded in 17 locations at building dismantling sites in places devastated by the 2011 great east Japan earthquake, according to ...


Covering asbestos in cracked ceilings ‘not safe option’

The Demolition and Asbestos Association says a policy of covering undisturbed asbestos in cracked ceilings is not a safe option. As part of the Earthquake Commission’s quake repair programme, contractors in Canterbury are encasing undisturbed asbestos...


Ohio School Facing Serious Charges After Students Were Used to Haul Away ...

The buckeye education school, a small religious-affiliated school in Middleburg heights, is now under criminal investigation for exposing those teenagers...
Asbestos Snippets

to a variety of asbestos materials as they helped gut the former YWCA building that was purchased...

http://www.asbestos.com/news/2013/01/11/ohio-school-facing-serious-charges-after-students-were-used-to-haul-away-asbestos-materials/

Pakistan: Heading towards Asbestos Ban?

Pakistan may join 55 other countries in imposing an asbestos ban, if its National Assembly acts according to Standing Committee on Human Resource...

http://news.cision.com/sokolove-law/e/pakistan--heading-towards-asbestos-ban--c9356090

Iran pays a high price for cheap Chinese products

Gillissen explained why asbestos were particularly harmful to the human body: “Asbestos is very resilient – the body’s defense cells have great difficulty getting rid of the substance.” Thus the particles accumulate inside the body over long periods of...

http://www.dw.de/iran-pays-a-high-price-for-cheap-chinese-products/a/1654760

Government ‘insensitive’ to the dangers of asbestos

Twenty former dockyard workers demanding compensation for asbestos-related illnesses yesterday rejected the Government’s plea that it had done everything possible to ensure their safety and argued that the masks they were given were flimsy and ...


The tiniest particles that may be a threat as bad as asbestos

Bosse sentenced to 16 years for Italian asbestos deaths. Europe is failing to control a burgeoning industry in microscopic materials, prompting claims that it has failed to heed the lessons from millions of asbestos deaths, according to a hard-hitting ...


State Supreme Court clarifies causation standard in asbestos case

The unique and overwhelming features of the grandfather of all mass torts, asbestos, has created bad law in many jurisdictions, procedurally and substantively. One important example is the issue of causation, and the questions that arise from an injury. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=c2b00d09-7388-4618-9d4f-d1b3d4d11dec

Texas firm at center of asbestos fraud case seeks summary judgment

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (Legal Newsline) — A Houston firm alleged to have made inconsistent claims about the origin of a client’s mesothelioma is now asking a U.S. bankruptcy court to enter a summary judgment in its favour. However, the company being sued ...


Government says it did what it could on dockyard asbestos

The Government has insisted with the European Court of Human Rights that it took all necessary measures, including changing legislation, to address the problem of carcinogenic asbestos in the dockyard. The management provided employees with masks ...


Exxon Gets Worker’s $17.5 Million Asbestos Verdict Tossed

Rubert “Bert” Minton was exposed to asbestos when he worked on 17 Exxon oil tankers as a supervisor for his employer, a shipbuilding company in Newport News, Va., for over a decade. He developed mesothelioma, a cancer caused by asbestos exposure that attacks the lung’s linings.

Risk leaves Japan with toxic asbestos

Marks & Spencer ‘warned over asbestos risk’

Marks & Spencer was warned customers and staff may have been put at risk from asbestos contamination more than 10 years before receiving a £1m fine. A contractor told the BBC he warned the firm in 1998 that refurbishment work at its London Marble Arch store was breaching asbestos removal guidelines.

Post-trial briefs in Bondex asbestos bankruptcy case due Feb. 6

Like any former asbestos defendant who files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, the debtors in this case, who specialized in the manufacture of chrysotile asbestos-containing joint compound designed for do-it-yourself home use, have created a trust that will pay money to those who claim they have developed asbestos related diseases such as mesothelioma, a cancer that affects the lining of the lungs.

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.
GARDS has been helping the Painting and Decorating Section of GippsTAFE with asbestos awareness training sessions to its students.

This year will be the 3rd year we have been enlightening GippsTAFE to where they may find asbestos when they are on the job, and also of the medical and OH&S issues that arise from finding asbestos on the job.

At the beginning of March this year 2013, GARDS, conducted a tutorial on asbestos awareness to Managers of TAFES from around Victoria. The sessions are interactive to get the most possible from those participating.

Pictured here are TAFE staff getting involved and active in the session. These sessions will be duplicated to the Painting and Decorating Section of GippsTAFE students in a month’s time. Sessions that GARDS conducts are always fresh to suit the ever changing climate of issues and areas of interest. This keeps it vibrant and emotive. We would like to thank the TAFE system for giving this opportunity to enlighten and educate.

The 15th of March the Gippsland Trades & Labour Council invited those interested to come along to the Labour Day dinner at the Turfside Function Centre.

Invited guest speaker was Cath Bowtell, Victorian ALP President. Cathtalked about past and present Labour day battles at election, times and said the one in September is no different to any other election it will be a battle but they are ready for that battle.

John Parker, Secretary of the GTLC spoke about the very important relationships it has in the community and the events it stages and the ones it is a part of in some way. One being the GARDS Asbestos Awareness Day Event in November each year and how important that is to their members.

Some 150 people attended the event at Turf Side Racing Club Moe.

Pictured left are Members of GARDS with Cath Bowtell and the Hon Johan Scheffer MP, Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria.
Pictured on the next few pages are some of the GARDS members enjoying the Xmas lunch provided by GARDS to its members. I think the pictures tell you the story. We would like to thank so much the Moe RSL for providing us with the private function room, and the wonderful lunch. The food was absolutely terrific and there was plenty of it. We would also like to thank Ray Watson who offered to be our Santa this year. Ray has his own Santa suit - not many people I can say own their own Santa suit - go Ray!

The GARDS Xmas raffle raised $186 on the day. We want to thank all those GARDS members who attended and made the day such an enjoyable event. To those members who donated gifts for the raffle we thank you so much for your generosity. To the winners on the day we hope you enjoy your prizes. We were also thrilled that our invited guests of honour Hon. Johan Scheffer and his PA Vivien Gunn and also Peter Butcher and his wife Florence could attend. It means a great deal to have those who support us come and meet our members and enjoy the frivolity of the day.