ACV/GARDS is thrilled to advise everyone that over the last 12 months we have been helped by the community with donations to purchase a new change over van so that we could retire the old van which we purchased in 2011. We have been extremely lucky to have so many wonderful people out in the community who value our services and have made it possible for us to continue the work we do with this terrific asset - a new Volkswagen Multivan. We picked the van up with 17ks on the odometer in June 2015 from Massaro Motors in Morwell and have been notching up the Kilometres fast. The van is ideal for taking our medical equipment to our sufferers and transporting our information to tutorials and speaking engagements that we conduct throughout Victoria. We were thrilled to have Massaro Motors, EnergyAustralia, Morwell Bowling Club & Gippsland Trades and Labour Council make the purchase of this van possible. On our original van had the nick name of a person whose family donated toward the purchase of this van possible. On our original van had the nick name of a person whose family donated toward the purchase of this van possible. On our original van had the nick name of a person whose family donated toward the purchase of this van possible. On our original van had the nick name of a person whose family donated toward the purchase of this van possible.
It was a privilege and honour to be able to meet and interact with the apprentices at Bendigo TAFE. From our surveys which we gave the students to fill out we found out that they appreciated the content of the session, and found it interesting and useful. We want to thank the teachers who had the confidence to allow us to come in and give the students some knowledge of where they might find asbestos in their everyday work and home environment. We enjoyed meeting them and their questions to us were thoughtful and they stimulated a lot of conversation in the classes.
ACV/GARDS organisation was very pleased to hear that we were successful in receiving a grant to deliver Asbestos Awareness sessions in the Victorian community. We have already started and are travelling all around the State of Victoria delivering the sessions. We thank the Agency for having the confidence to fund us in our endeavours. Below are some pics of our students and their teachers at Bendigo TAFE. Please read a letter sent to us after we delivered an asbestos awareness session to the 3rd year students at Federation University.

REMINDER!!!!
ASEA are holding their second International Conference on Asbestos Awareness and Management 2015 at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre 22 – 24 November 2015 – for more information or to register for this year’s conference, visit their website: www.asbestossafety.gov.au

A NEW SUPPORTER FOR ACV/GARDS

ACV/GARDS was invited to the launch of John Bottomley’s Book and Report. The guest speaker for the event was The Hon Senator Doug Cameron who himself was a “tradie” and understood the machinations of both the book and report.

The complex way we think, live and work and how ideals are in stilled in all of us from a young age from those around us and how this effects our very being and everything we do. The report focuses on those silently suffering and the creation of widows and victims and the path to justice and dignity.

BOOK LAUNCH AND REPORT

Pictured above: Vicki Hamilton OAM CEO/Secretary - ACV/GARDS, Bette Phillips Manager Grief Work - CNIM, Hon. Senator Doug Cameron personal and national wellbeing. Author John Bottomley has written a thought-provoking book questioning our belief that the absolutising of work should be the primary source of meaning for human life in western cultures. Available for $29.95 from Morning Star Publishing, http://www.morningstarpublishing.net.au/

Our System Isn’t Geared for Death is a report of Creative Ministries Network into the experience of workers’ compensation for widows bereaved by a work-related death. This is Australia’s first theological and sociological pilot research study on the topic and is based on interviews with ten widows on workers compensation bereaved by their husband’s death.

Available from Creative Ministries Network. Enquiries:admin@cmn. unitingcare.org.au

ACV/GARDS is very happy to welcome Bree Knoester from Advice Line Injury Lawyers to our team of law firms who take special pride and professionalism in the work they do for asbestos sufferers and their families. Here is a little information on our newest firm in asbestos litigation to join our organisation. When you see Bree around our office or one of our events please go up and say Hi – she would be more than pleased to talk to you.

“Founded in 1975, by Clyde Holding and Peter Redlich, Holding Redlich is a national industrial law firm which prides itself on its strong social conscience. Over the years, the personal injury department at Holding Redlich has been involved in landmark asbestos litigation. In 1980, it obtained the first Supreme Court judgment for a worker suffering an asbestos disease. In the 1990s, it acted for hundreds of waterside workers with asbestos-related diseases in an international claim against Johns Mansville, a US manufacturer of asbestos products. In 2008, Holding Redlich created Adviceline Injury Lawyers, a separate division of Holding Redlich, to emphasise their focus on personal injury cases and the free advice line that they run every day where their lawyers answer the phone and help solve legal problems. Today, Bree Knoester is head of the Asbestos Litigation team. Bree was born in the Latrobe Valley and at an early age wanted to advocate for the rights of those in the local community. During university holidays she volunteered at local law firms in Morwell and once she was admitted to practice and commenced her legal career, she remained involved in cases for injured workers in the Latrobe Valley.

Growing up in Traralgon, Bree witnessed firsthand the devastating effect of the widespread asbestos use that had occurred up until the 1980s at many local industries and employers. Her father worked at Loy Yang and her grandfather was a local builder. For many years prior to 2014, Bree was a barrister with chambers in the Melbourne CBD. In March 2014, Bree left the Victorian Bar where she acted for many injured workers in the County and Supreme Courts and joined the partnership at Adviceline Injury Lawyers. Bree wanted to return to working with and helping clients on a day to day basis – something you don’t get to do as a barrister.

In January 2015, Bree opened an office in Kirk Street, Moe which is dedicated to servicing her asbestos clients in the Latrobe Valley. Bree tells us that she is loving the opportunity to reconnect with this community. Bree also works in the Adviceline Melbourne and Springvale office and is passionate about helping asbestos sufferers navigate the legal system and providing support to families after a diagnosis.”
Vicki was invited to speak at a recent get together of the Gippsland Branch of the Order of Australia at the Traralgon Winery.

Always a great get together of people from all walks of life. Vicki spoke to those gathered about all things asbestos – from where to find it – to what imports are coming into Australia and the health impact this has on the community and families. She also spoke about her organisation and the fact that it had been established in 1991 and had supported the people of Gippsland/Victoria in all that time. All in all a wonderful lunch and get together with a great bunch of people who learnt a lot about asbestos they did not know.

Uniting church Rutherglen Road Opportunity Shop Donation

As you know ACV/GARDS were successful in an application that we made to the Uniting Church Opportunity shop. The money purchased a home oxygen concentrator, which had a plaque placed on it to say it had been donated by them.

We also had a bit of money left over to be able to purchase some more ACV/GARDS Information trifold brochures for the community. We had the brochures printed with purchased through a donation made by the Uniting Church Rutherglen Road Opportunity shop.

To show our appreciation we asked the volunteers from the shop to come and have afternoon tea with us, which they did. We thanked them all very much for helping to add to our bank of concentrators so we could retire one of our older machines.

ACV/GARDS on the move

All those interested in coming with us for the excursions that are planned in September and October – here are some details, please contact the office for written information to be forwarded to you on the finer details of the trips.

Tour of Latrobe City Landfill and Recycling Facilities Tuesday September 29th 9.30am bus leaving the ACV/GARDS office – please bring lunch to have either on the trip or after at our office. Closed in shoes must be worn. Will arrive back approx. 2 – 2.30pm Walhalla

Train Ride and Lunch at Wally Pub Wednesday October 28th 9.30am bus leaving the ACV/GARDS office – it is advised to wear covered in comfortable shoes. The train ride will be for an hour and then lunch at the Walhalla pub – the menu is quite extensive and the prices are reasonable. $13 return for train ride – needs to be paid in advance to Vicki – lunch is at the traveller’s expense. We would like nos for lunch the week before we go please. Otherwise you can take your lunch but will have to have it in the park nearby.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

ACV/GARDS membership fees are due 30th September 2015. Could you please make sure you pay your fees. We do not send out personal reminders for membership as this adds burden to our costs. The fees do not cover the costs associated with being a member of the organisation but they do help to go towards some of the information that is sent to you. We thank all those who support us by being a member as this gives us strength and unity. Thank you to those members who pay 2 and 3 years in advance.

OAM LUNCH

Venue: Centenary Rose Garden, Commercial Road, Morwell

Date: Friday 27th November 2015 11.00am

Our guest speaker will be Peter Tighe Chief Executive Officer – Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency.

Speaker TBA

Steve Dodd - Secretary of the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council and an AMWU organiser.

Vicki Hamilton OAM - CEO/Secretary - Asbestos Council of Victoria/GARDS.

Rev David Howie Officiating - Ecumenical service within the event for families.

There will be a free community BBQ with the compliments of the GTLC at the conclusion of the event Musicians, Newborough Primary School Choir and the Coal Valley Male Chorus along with ACV/GARDS bagpipers. All are welcome.

Newborough Primary School Choir and the Coal Valley Male Chorus will perform a concert in the community.

There will be a free community BBQ with the compliments of the GTLC at the conclusion of the event Musicians, Newborough Primary School Choir and the Coal Valley Male Chorus along with ACV/GARDS bagpipers. All are welcome.

Our guest speaker will be

Steve Tighe – sponsored by:

Maurice Blackburn Law Firm

At the conclusion of the event, there will be a free community BBQ with the compliments of the GTLC, Newborough Primary School Choir and the Coal Valley Male Chorus along with ACV/GARDS bagpipers. All are welcome.

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Thank you to those members who pay 2 and 3 years in advance.
ACV/GARDS was a part of a delegation that was organised by the ACTU on June 23rd 2015 – 6 asbestos support groups and unions from around Australia took part in meetings informing senior advisors of Ministers of Parliament and heads of Depts. such as Border Force. Our reason for making this trip together was to enlighten those in Parliament to an alarming occurrence of the importation of asbestos products into Australia.

Asbestos, as everyone knows, has been banned in Australia since Dec 2003 but it has been silently coming in from products from China, India, America, Russia and many other places who still produce products containing asbestos. These products, of course, have no labels stating that they may contain asbestos and there is a variety of things that are coming into this country, such as in 2012 Great Wall cars and Chery Ute 24,000 with 17 asbestos gaskets in some models and 12 asbestos gaskets in other models. Buyer beware of these cars and utes even though the ACCC initiated the company to providing training for Dealerships and giving those who purchased the vehicles the option to take these cars to the dealerships and have most of the asbestos gaskets removed if the purchaser felt so inclined to do so, or opt for stickers to be placed in the engine bay or exhaust area where these gaskets are located – this will not be all these vehicles that will go back to dealerships and other motor vehicle repairers may not even know about the asbestos in these vehicles. Let alone may not have access to the training video. Which ACV/GARDS was advised was on line but has not been able to find it to this day. There are many of these vehicles which will never be repaired till they need attention. They might be on sold and the stickers that are supposed to be placed in the engine bays and exhaust pipes might have fallen off or be covered over with road dirt. Many vehicles are serviced by their owners in later life, and farmers often do their own repairs to these vehicles. ACV/GARDS poses the question, what happens to these vehicles when they come to the end of their life for disposal – how will they be disposed?

Asbestos products should be or?

Asbestos has been found in other imports coming into this country in brakes, trains, boilers, drilling equipment, barges, tugs and many other items of goods. Above in the pictures is a CSI kit (ACV/GARDS has in its possession) that was bought on line from a private seller here in Australia, and we believe it was also available quite freely in children’s toy stores here in Australia as another CSI kit was purchased at an Op shop in Victoria. The necklace of asbestos was also purchased on line and now we believe through an alert in the United States that crayons – yes, crayons have been found to have asbestos in them. In all of these products there was no warning of the presence of asbestos. The list is becoming endless and people must be ever vigilant when purchasing something from overseas. EWG (environmental Working Group) were quoted as saying in a media release on news.com.au – 22nd July after our trip to Canberra. CRAYONS made with cancer-causing asbestos are the last thing you want your child to be putting their mouth. But an investigation by public health watchdog the EWG Action Fund has found kids’ crayons sold in Australia contained the deadly material — along with several other toys shipped down under by online retailers. Now the head of the Australian Border Force, the new agency merging customs and border control, has promised a crackdown. The toys alleged to contain asbestos include a CSI-style science kit with “forensic” powder, a necklace and several brands of children’s crayons. “We didn’t expect to find asbestos in crayons. But it’s there,” said EWG senior analyst Sonya Lunder. “The results are significant because even trace exposure to asbestos can cause cancer and other fatal lung diseases.” The products that test positive for asbestos, all of them made in China, were:

- Amscan crayons
- Disney Mickey Mouse Clubhouse crayons by Greenbrier International Inc.
- Nickelodeon Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Crayons by MH Inc.
- Saban’s Power Rangers Super Megaforce crayons by Greenbrier International Inc.
- Black fingerprint powder in the Toys R Us Eduscience Deluxe Forensics Lab kit
- White fingerprint powder in the Buy-Rite Inside Intelligence Secret Spy kit

ABF Commissioner Roman Quaedvlieg told The Australian the dangerous products were slipping “below the radar” and vowed to bolster the force’s seizure efforts.

But he admitted the agency had struggled to win convictions “because of the difficulty in terms of proving the source and the “intent”.

ACV/GARDS has had conversation with two Executive from Australian Border Force since the meeting with Roman Quaedvlieg in Canberra and there is a hot line set up by the Australian Border Force for anyone who thinks they might have a product containing asbestos.

“The Australian Border Force (ABF) has been actively working with industry, consumer groups and the ACCC to ensure that any imported crayons or other products that may contain asbestos are identified, traced and responded to appropriately. The ABF has established a multi-stage operation that, in the first phase, has had its officers working in partnership with importers and retailers to establish immediate assurance about products of concern through accredited testing. This is a priority matter for the Department and we welcome continued partnership and encourage any information about imported products of concern to be reported to the Department on 1800 009 623.”

You can also go to the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency web site where there are contact details for each state and more info on importing asbestos into this country https://asbestossafety.gov.au/ managing-importation-asbestos-australia.

Above is the delegation of support groups, ACTU and unions in Canberra meeting with Richards Marles MP, Shadow Minister for Immigration & Border Protection.
IN AUSTRALIA
States/Territories sign up to national asbestos plan - Friday, 28 August 2015 – Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency

The first endorsed National Plan on Asbestos Safety and Eradication was launched by the Minister for Employment, Senator Eric Abetz last month to help increase the rate of elimination of asbestos. This is the first time such a plan has been endorsed by state, territory and local governments, and it is a direct result of the work of two unions and asbestos disease support groups Summit in 2010 and 2012 which led to the then Labor government initiating an advisory panel to review, establishing what then became the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and the development of a National Strategic Plan. "Asbestos is the first disease of the mid-1980s, the legacy of this substance in Australia is tragic, with consequences over the coming decades still to come," he said. "We must coordinate, measured and strategic in the way we content with asbestos management." Senator Abetz said. “This plan will result in coordination between states and territories to reduplicate the deadly effects of asbestos on Australians, as well as help put Australia at the forefront of global efforts to reduce asbestos substance.”

Asbestos found on sport ovals – 30th April –

"It is understood the government will present the model in Mesothelioma in Australia 2014. It is the fourth report presents data for patients diagnosed during the calendar year 1 January 2014 - 31 December 2014.

Asbestos in rushing renovations - 20150901-gjcok9

"A WORLD-FIRST study by researchers at Flinders Medical Centre has pinpointed the spicery as a vital ingredient in the fight against deadly mesothelioma. The Flinders' team has used the peperospirosis to slow the growth of mesothelioma tumours in human patients. Its active ingredient curcumin has anti-inflammatory properties and research has indicated some anti-carcinogenic properties. Researchers at Flinders have been checking whether this can be used along with other standard therapies to treat malignant mesothelioma, an aggressive cancer caused by the inhalation of asbestos.


Emergency situation has exposed flaws in council procedures by saying “out of bounds for an asbestos removal officer to determine that the contaminated waste came from a source other than council.


Not knowing who owned the building site, neighbour Wai Mun Mak began subsiding into Mr Hindi's property. The West Australian's Last Chance drive was launched by Senior reporter for The Canberra Times.


The strict ban on asbestos more than 30 years ago in Sweden has produced a tangible decline in mesothelioma throughout the country. It has helped fuel the growing debate about establishing a similar asbestos ban in the U.S. and Canada.

Asbestos

receiving a diagnosis that defined his life. He had mesothelioma, the rare and deadly asbestos cancer.

When he asked the hard question the answer was shocking. From the dates of his cancer diagnosis and the dates of mesothelioma cases, there is a 13-year gap, expecting between the two. This meant the miniscule shards of asbestos he had inhaled had been in his body for some 30 years. The specialist explained that they would have passed through his lungs, which are porous and riddled with the membranes around his lungs. Eventually, they probably gave rise to circulating cancer cells which his immune system was unable to fight.

http://www.azf.com/lifestyle/health/azfacts/azf

ou never knew when asbestos cancer is lying dormant in your body.

Lodden still turns on asbestos dumping - Aug. 25, 2015 - Bendigo Advertiser

Loddon Shire Council residents are being warned to refrain from dumping asbestos at landfill sites across the municipality.

The warning follows the discovery of the toxic substance at one of council’s four landfill sites during a routine inspection by the Environmental Protection Authority. Mayor Gavin Holt said the council had invested $100,000 across landfill sites at Boort, Inglewood, Newbridge and Pyramul Hill to improve the facilities and conduct maintenance works.

The works included a general tidy up of the waste management sites to address windblown litter, earbark and the reconfiguration of cell efficients.

At Holt confirmed the works also included the removal of asbestos in the vicinity of the landfill sites. “Loddon Shire Council is reminding residents that asbestos cannot be removed from a landfill site at one landfill,” he said.

“Dumping of asbestos at Loddon’s waste facilities can create a significant cost to council.”

Exposure to asbestos may cause a range of illnesses, including abdominal cancer, mesothelioma cancer and more.

Medical studies have also suggested links between asbestos exposure and other cancers, including those of the gastrointestinal tract, throat, kidney, brain, bladder, voice box, and gallbladder.

Victoria has 16 landfill sites which accept domestic and commercial asbestos, including Euroa and Wandella, near Kerang. http://www.bundigusadvertiser.com.au/story/3303797/warning-on-asbestos-dumping/?x=3239

Bulla tip bans asbestos to administrative blender sparks state review into landfill licences - August 21, 2015 - Nataila Savaino - Home Leader

An inspection of the Bulla tip has sparked an independent review into asbestos landfill licences – AN ADMINISTRATIVE MANDER allowing asbestos to be dumped at a Bulla tip without proper permit by an “exacerbarator.”

Our investigations have revealed that the most recent licence amendment to BTQ to have been issued by environmental protection authorities in the past did not follow EPA’s usual stringent approval process that aims to ensure best practice environmental management. Mr Fegan said, “This administration error is unacceptable and that is why I am taking these steps to address the matter.”

The result of the investigation resulted in asbestos being dumped in an area that was not assessed in line with EPA processes.


Asbestos protocol to settle the dust - 21 Aug 2015 - PSN news online – Independent News for the Australian Public Service

Concave has agreed to adopt a Rapid Response Protocol on asbestos that will enable Government agencies to work across jurisdictions and portfolios.

Developed by the Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities’ (HWSA) Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group, the Protocol allows Agencies to work together when products have been identified as containing asbestos. The original protocol to the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, the Protocol “will ensure that pertinent information is shared by all Agencies with an interest in eradicating asbestos and addressing the health and environmental risks posed by asbestos.”

The Protocol can be accessed by clicking the button below.


INTERNATIONAL

Protocol calls for removal of asbestos from a landfill site at St Peters for WestConnex is unsafe - August 17, 2015 - Scrutin Sharples Inner West Courier Inner City

The removal of landfill containing potentially deadly asbestos from a WestConnex construction site was stopped by protesters last week who say the health of local residents is at risk.

Police were called to the landfill site at St Peters in Sydney’s inner west today after a group of protesters had set up a blockade on Friday. The protesters believe the site contains up to 70 Olympic-sized swimming pools of asbestos in the ground. WestConnex Action Group spokesman Janet Dand-Dwyer said residents had watched trucks leave the site with loads only half covered despite high wind speeds.

Asbestos Snippets

**INTERNATIONAL ASBESTOS MEMORIAL COMMISSIONED BY CLYDEBANK ASBESTOS GROUP UNVEILED 30 MAY 2015**

ACV/GARDS has had a friendship and link to the Clydebank Asbestos Group for many years now and we often talk and share news. When ACV/GARDS found out that Clydebank wanted to raise money for a memorial we asked members of our group if they would like to donate to this as some of those shipbuilders sought out a new life in Australia amongst our community and we felt very connected to them. So members of our group donated on behalf of ACV/GARDS the organisation and now this dream has come to fruition. We hope to build a permanent memorial here in the next few years and realise our hopes for remembering all those who have lost their lives through asbestos exposure in our community. Joe O’Neill a member of the Clydebank Asbestos Group has written a news piece below just giving a brief of how it all came together.

It was decided to make something that would be definitive of the Clydebank area. The artist submitted the idea of the monument being in the form of a large frame builder, which would be built on the site of the old shipyard, John Brown’s where all the great Queens were constructed and launched. As the years went on we met with all sorts of problems, such as gaining permission, land development and possible objections from the airport authorities as the site was on the flight path for the descent into nearby Glasgow Airport. Because of these things, it was decided to scrape the project and look for something else that would be equally fitting to remember those who had gone. Eventually it was decided that a new structure would be built in a prominent place in the town. This turned out to be a wise action. The memorial is a wonderful work of art. It takes the form of 5 stainless steel plinths 2 metres high. The site is awash with asbestos due to the factory being in the old shipyard where many thousands of innocent people continued to die as a result of contact with the material. Because of this, the fight must continue to obtain truth and justice for these people.

On behalf of the group I send our fraternal greetings to all those at ACV/GARDS in the sure and certain knowledge that our objectives are the same.

Joe O’Neill

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**ACV/GARDS SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS**

We would like to thank the speakers we have had at our support group meetings this year, they have been interesting and diverse. Thank you for taking the time to come and speak with us, they have been truly interesting conversations we needed to have.

Feb – Peter Armour – Financial Advisor at Centrelink
March – Bryan & Noely Whelan – Scooterin About
May – Dr Sonia Allen – Adjunct Senior Lecturer Mqhs University
June – Val Prokopiv – President of Gipsland Trades & Labour Council
July – Darryl Whittaker – Director of DWI Productions
August – Dr Joanne Porter – Deputy Head of School - Bachelor of Nursing Program Coordinator- School of Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare -Faculty of Health - Federation University

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**ACV/GARDS NEW WEB SITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

We would like to thank Italicherry Design studio Wendy McEwan for all the great work she is doing for us – she has been very generous with her time & expertise

**www.italicherrydesign.com.au**

All those who have donated to our information on the web site.

We will be placing their logos on our new web site shortly in appreciation

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**Droitwich Spa High School asbestos-finds forces closure – 6 May 2015**

From the section Hereford & Worcester – BBC News

Parts of a Worcestershire school have been closed after asbestos was detected. Droitwich Spa High School has been closed to Year 9 students while tests are carried out. A statement on the school website said parts of the school were likely to be closed for “at least the remainder of this week”. Head teacher Natalie Waters said: “It is likely that at least one year group will need to stay at home on each day.” Student safety a “low level of background asbestos” was detected by surveys working on a number of new windows in the main classroom block, the school said. An “emergency programme of expert testing” is under way, with classrooms being occupied once they have been deemed safe.


World Health Organisation released this video on Chrysotile asbestos Voices from South East Asia – released earlier this year 2015

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTF3f3gXPFI

Pacific region awash with asbestos 2 September 2015 – Radio New Zealand International

For the first time, authorities in the Pacific now have an idea of just how much asbestos there is in the region, and are trying to work out how to get rid of it before it becomes a health risk.

A survey has found that some South Pacific countries are awash with the hazardous building material which can lead to lung diseases or cancer. The Pacific environment agency SPREP says that until now there’s only been anecdotal evidence about the quantity and condition of asbestos in the region. SPREP’s Pacific project manager, Stewart Williams, says the survey, done with European Union assistance, found that the once-common building material is widespread, including in public buildings such as schools and hospitals.


Two companies fined for serious breaches in the removal of asbestos – HSE - Health & Safety Executive UK - 19 August 2015

A construction management company and a director of a construction company were fined for serious safety failings whilst working on a construction site at Kensington Church Street, London. Work was carried out by three employees of construction firm Cowen Builders Limited, of Chelmsford exposed them to asbestos over several days after it was disturbed. It will be several years before it is known if the exposure will result in asbestos related disease causing ill health and death. Westminster Magistrates’ Court heard how, in May 2013, Cowen Builders Limited (CBL) had been contracted by Paragon Management UK Limited (Paragon) to carry out work at the premises. Prior to this work asbestos had been identified in a survey by Paragon.

Paragon failed to provide the details of the survey to CBL prior to the work starting. CBL failed to consider the possibility of asbestos being present and then continued the work without adequate measures in place after it was known the asbestos had been disturbed. Paragon Management UK Limited, from Austin Friars, London, was fined a total of £20,000, and ordered to pay £3,773 in costs after pleading guilty to an offence under Section 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. They were also ordered to pay compensation to each of the three workers. Kenneth W Cowen, sole director of Cowen Building Limited of South Woodham Forest, Chelmsford, Essex, was fined £15,000, and ordered to pay £2,733 in costs after pleading guilty to offences under Section 2(1) and 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/uk/uk-uk-england-hereford-worcester-32605337

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HAZELWOOD POWER & ALSTOM DONATION

Pictured left: GDF SUEZ Hazelwood Outage Manager, Chris Van Der Valm congratulates Alstom Outage Manager, Jason Price on a job well done on the recent Unit 5 Outage.

Unit 5 Outage OH&S performance rewards local health organisations, GDF SUEZ Hazelwood and outage contractor Alstom, are celebrating the excellent safety record of over 230 employees and contractors involved in the ‘Unit 5 Outage’.

A suggestion raised with management by the Industrial Relations consultative and Health and Safety committees to recognise the safety performance of the workforce, has led to local organisations Asbestos Council of Victoria/GARDS and Latrobe Regional Hospital Cancer Care Centre being chosen to receive a donation of $2,000 each.

A safety initiative, the donations have been made possible by an exceptional safety performance which has seen a low incident rate throughout the 70 day outage.

Alstom Outage Project Manager, Mr Jason Price attributes much of the outage success to the relationship established between management of GDF SUEZ Hazelwood, Alstom and the outage workforce.

“The relationship between management and the workforce not only led to the idea of making a donation to two local health organisations, but has also attributed to the strong safety record during the outage,” Mr Price said.

“The workforce’s attention to detail and planning of tasks has played an integral role in ensuring the safety of all involved. Our focus throughout the two month outage has been on safety in all that we do from small to larger tasks, it is of prime importance.”

Safety has been at the forefront of all those involved as they aim to keep a safe workplace with no incidents or harm to anyone.

Work will continue over the coming weeks as the scope of works is completed. ACV/GARDS would like to thank all involved in this donation to us. It is very much appreciated and will support asbestos sufferers and their families – it was a very lovely surprise from a bunch of great people.

Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday 30th January 2016
Time: 2.00pm
Venue: 41 Monash Road, Newborough

Election of Positions falling vacant:
- President
- Treasurer
- Committee Member

Other business to be conducted - Election of Auditor for 2016/17 – Change of Membership fees

Returning Officer: Graeme Hamilton - Nomination forms can be collected from the ACV/GARDS office, or down loaded from the ACV/GARDS web site or forwarded by post on request to ACV/GARDS Secretary - Completed nomination forms need to be received by the Returning Officer no later than 7 days prior to the election to PO Box 111, Moe, Vic. 3825 or handed in at the ACV/GARDS office. please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.

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 carer. 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 the number listed below.

CALL 0429 689 827 OR 0351 273 283

To discuss how we can assist with the comfort of your loved one and make it a little easier for you.

ACV/GARDS Christmas LUNCH 2015

Well the end of year is fast approaching - so we turn our thoughts for a get together for a bit of merriment and mirth.

This year’s Annual Christmas party and lunch will take place at Silks Restaurant, Moe (it is situated at the rear of Michaels Golden Hen).

The menu this year will be buffet/smorgasbord style lunch including and not limited to 2 roast meats & more - with all the trimmings. Dessert will be plum pudding and custard/cream or Fruit Salad if you so desire. Tea and Coffee. Santa will be in attendance to see who has been naughty or nice and we will have a Christmas raffle on the day. We will also be trying something new this year where everyone (males attending bring male present and females attending bring female present) a Kris Kringle present (wrapped) to the value of no more than $10 along for under the tree to share after our meal. These need to be given to the person in charge of tickets so that you get a ticket to pick a Kris Kringle present after lunch.

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

If you would like to join us, here are all the details:

Venue: Silks Restaurant - rear of Michaels Golden Hen - George Street, Moe
Date: Saturday 5th December 2015
Time: 12 noon

Free to Financial Members of ACV/GARDS
Non-members $22.00 per person
BYO drinks

For catering purposes please contact Vicki or the ACV/GARDS office RSVP by no later than the 27th November 2015.

ASBESTOS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA / GARDS INC.
Regular donations made to us by these generous companies:
Judi, Kerri and all the family & we would also like to thank Paul Erbs & Darren Carman and all the team at Mairin OHS&B Consulting

We would like to take this opportunity to thank individuals who have donated to us in different ways over the last few months:
- Marian Cartigly
- Anonymous $4
- Seamus Harrick
- Terry Mead
- Ray Logan
- Ken & Lorrie Rowlinson
- Scott Hulme
- Jim & Shirley Connaghan
- Barry & Elaine Quirk
- Shirley Fletcher
- Jenny Snape
- Ray & Marion Harris
- Robert Rawlings

A big thank you from us to Lynne Mansfield for the wonderful knitted rugs she has made and raffled off. They are absolutely beautiful and so much care has gone into them. If you are lucky enough to win one in our raffle you will be warm and snug with a handcrafted original by Lynne.

The ACV/GARDS organisation would like to again thank Pinky and Tony Law for their continued support & friendship with our organisation.

The ACV/GARDS organisation would like to acknowledge the support that we get from Paul Cornells 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 whenever 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.

South Gippsland & East Gippsland Agent for Air Liquide

Donations made in Memory of – Peter Fenech
- Sharyn Fenech
- Michelle Fenech
- Jason Fenech

Donations made in Memory of – John Jackson
- Doreen Jackson

We would like to thank the Rossmore Hotel publican, staff and patrons and the Yallourn North Bowling Club Mal Paulet and club members for supporting the ACV/GARDS org by allowing us to fundraise at the hotel and the bowling club.

We have made some great acquaintances and the Yallourn North community make us feel very welcome. Thank you to all of you who buy the raffle tickets and we will see you in September 2015.

ACV/GARDS wishes to acknowledge one of our deceased members Peter Black, who on his passing has donated some of his time to us. Thank you - Give him a call on 0439 349 014 www.safepower.net.au

Irene Williams
ACV/GARDS would like to take this opportunity to thank very much Irene Williams for the wonderful donation she made to our organisation of a preloved home oxygen concentrator. Irene’s husband, Gerald was not an asbestos sufferer but she wanted to donate the machine to somewhere that it would do the most good. We are thrilled that you thought of us and you can be assured it will be put to good use. A plaque has been placed on it reading “This equipment was generously donated in Memory of Gerald Williams”

John Hewson
Thank you to John Hewson for helping with his expertise in the purchase of one of our new computers and then volunteering to set it up in the office. Couldn’t have done it without you.

ACV/GARDS would like to take this opportunity to thank Bernie and Ian Kirkup for the very generous donation of equipment that they chose to donate to our organisation – comprising of adjustable chair, shower stool and walker. It will certainly be appreciated by our asbestos sufferers and be in high demand. Thank you so much for thinking of us.

Irene Williams
ACV/GARDS would like to take this opportunity to thank very much Irene Williams for the wonderful donation she made to our organisation of a preloved home oxygen concentrator.

Irene’s husband, Gerald was not an asbestos sufferer but she wanted to donate the machine to somewhere that it would do the most good. We are thrilled that you thought of us and you can be assured it will be put to good use. A plaque has been placed on it reading “This equipment was generously donated in Memory of Gerald Williams”

Anonymous Donation
ACV/GARDS received a donation of a preloved portable oxygen concentrator, which when we have had it serviced and checked we will loan out to asbestos sufferers who require oxygen and are going on holidays or to doctor’s appointments in Melbourne. With a portable machine it is much easier to get around and takes the hassle out of organising oxygen wherever you go. Thank you to our anonymous donor.

Advice Line Injury Lawyers Donation
ACV/GARDS were very pleased to receive a donation to the organisation. We thank Bree Kneoster for making this happen. Thank you so much.

We would like to thank Swee Lim for the exceptional service he gave ACV/GARDS – testing and tagging our equipment. Swee generously donated some of his time to us. Thank you - Give him a call on 0439 349 014 www.safepower.net.au

Donations made in Memory of – Mary Hedgell
- Rob Wright

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- Muriel Glover

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Donations made in Memory of – Mary Hedgell
- Rob Wright

Vivien Gunn
Thank you to Vivien Gunn for her terrificiscal knowledge one of our working relationships. It is always nice to receive donations from the community/members – this means a great deal to us!

Sally’s Hair Design Newbourough
ACV/GARDS would like to thank Sharon Blanch and her wonderful staff and clients for donating to us and helping to support asbestos sufferers.

Donations made in Memory of – Mary Hedgell
- Rob Wright

South Gippsland & East Gippsland Agent for Air Liquide

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Occupational Health & Safety

We would like to thank Swiee Lim for the exceptional service he gave ACV/GARDS – testing and tagging our equipment. Swiee generously donated some of his time to us. Thank you - Give him a call on 0439 349 014 www.safepower.net.au

Advice Line Injury Lawyers Donation
ACV/GARDS were very pleased to receive a donation to the organisation. We thank Bree Kneoster for making this happen. Thank you so much.

Jenny & Ken & Mans
She has made us raffle off.

Jean & Ron Harwood
Jean and Ron Harwood a big thank you for the donation to the raffle of a bottle of Whiskey and also a Golf umbrella

Bugs & Consulting
Give him a call on 0439 349 014

Anonymous Donation
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ACV/GARDS Inc. Membership Form

Asbestos Council of Victoria/Gippsland Asbestos Related Diseases Support Inc.
ABN: 77 687 118 554 - Inc. No. A0042386U

Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
Postcode: ___________________ Telephone: ___________________ Email: ___________________
Occupation: _______________________________________________________

ACV/GARDS NEW MEMBERS Joining Fee $5.00
PLUS
ACV/GARDS Annual Subscription 2015

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 ACV/GARDS Inc.

Signature: ____________________________________________________________________________________________________________ Date: ______/_____/____

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

Office Use Only

I ___________________________________________ , a Member of the ACV/GARDS Inc. nominate the Applicant for
Membership of the Association

Signature of Proposer: ______________________________ Date: ______/_____/____

I ___________________________________________ , a Member of the ACV/GARDS Inc. second the nomination of the Applicant
for Membership of the Association

Signature of Seconder: ______________________________ Date: ______/_____/____

ACV/GARDS SUPPORT GROUP
MEETINGS FOR 2015

1.30PM – 3.30PM

Meetings are held at –
ACV/GARDS Premises
41 Monash Road,
Newborough

- Tuesday 29th September - Bus Trip
- Wednesday 28th October - Bus Trip
- Frid 27th Nov – Asbestos Awareness Day, Rose Garden, Morwell - 11am
- Christmas Break-Up
- 5th December - Silks Restaurant at 12pm

ACV/GARDS NIGHT MEETINGS FOR 2015

7.30PM – 9.30PM

Meetings are held at –
ACV/GARDS Premises
41 Monash Road,
Newborough

- Tuesday 15th September
- Tuesday 20th October
- Tuesday 17th November
- Christmas Break-Up
- 5th December - Silks Restaurant at 12pm

ACV/GARDS AGM 2016

Sat 30th January 2016 – 2pm
41 Monash Road, Newborough

President * Treasurer Committee Member
Other business to be conducted Election of Auditor for 2016/17 Change of Membership fees

UP COMING EVENTS

Our Night/Day Meetings

Bus Excursions:
September 29th Tour of Recycling Plants
October 28th Walhalla Train Ride and lunch at Wally Pub

SPECIAL EVENTS IN NOVEMBER 2015

ASBESTOS AWARENESS MORNING TEA
Friday 13th November – 10am
41 Monash Road, Newborough
Entry: gold coin donation

ASBESTOS AWARENESS EVENT
Friday 27th November – 11am
Centenary Rose Garden Commercial Road, Morwell
ACV/GARDS INC. SUPPORT

ACV/GARDS provides support and information to asbestos sufferers, their families and carers. This includes home visits by ACV/GARDS volunteers, a telephone information/support service 24 hours, 7 days a week. ACV/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.

ACV/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; ACV/GARDS Support is open to anyone whose lives have been affected by asbestos, their families and the general public.

ACV/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.

ACV/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.

ACV/GARDS INC. EVENING MEETING

ACV/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.