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ASBESTOS NEWS

ASBESTOS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA (ACV) AND
GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES SUPPORT INC (GARDS)
GARDS is endorsed as a charity. Donations of \$2.00 & over are tax deductible.

NOVEMBER
2014
VOLUME 12
ISSUE 3

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JENNA & ANTHONY ARE WINNERS FOR THEIR DAD...

Neil



MEDIBANK PRIVATE MELBOURNE MARATHON OCTOBER 12TH 2014

Jenna and Anthony were among 32,000 people who took part in the festival of running. The race started at 7am in cool conditions and soon warmed to be a very beautiful day with great conditions for this event.

Jenna ran last year for ACV/GARDS and was pleased with her time. This year was made even more special as her brother also made the run with her. This was Anthony's first time and they both crossed the line together finishing in 2 hours and 9 minutes. What a wonderful effort by both of these terrific participants. Of course this run is not just about them it is about the person they are running for - their father in his memory. Neil Gray passed away at the age of 45. Jenna and Anthony were both born and raised in Newborough - Jenna was 10 years old and Anthony was 8 years old when their Father died from the asbestos related disease Mesothelioma. This November marks 21 years since his passing leaving a wife and four children to cope without him.

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DID YOU KNOW?

You can make an online donation to our group at our home page www.gards.org



You can find our link on the home page of the GARDS website or at facebook.com/GARDSInc

Major Sponsor of
ACV/GARDS



Victorian WorkCover Authority

MELBOURNE MARATHON cont....

As a tribute to their Father, both ran the half marathon at the Melbourne Marathon Festival on Sunday October 12th to help raise funds to support Gippsland locals who suffer from asbestos related diseases and support their families. They both wanted to help make a difference for other families.

We would like to thank the following people for their sponsorships and donations for Jenna and Anthony:

Wilhelm Koehlr and family x 2 donations, Dieter Koehlr x 2 donations, Ray & Maria Bickerton, Wendy Ng, Maureen Douglas, Craig Gray, Peter Neumann, Silvia Seiler, Bernard Koehler, Brendan Clarke and Wesley Edwards, Scott & Sam Oatway, Jackie Wilson, Dorothy Fleming, Anthony & Karen Gray and Jenna Gray. Their father Neil would be very proud of them. I know I speak for all concerned here at ACV/GARDS when I say we are

overwhelmed with your enthusiasm and support of our organisation and we thank you so much Jenna and Anthony for wanting to take care of other families who have suffered the same fate as yours. You are stars in our eyes and the money you have raised will help us to help other families just like yours.

Jenna and Anthony will be receiving a certificate of appreciation along with an ACV/GARDS glass to mark their great achievement.



Well done to you both.



GIPPSLAND TRADES & LABOUR COUNCIL MEMBER BENEFIT CARD PROGRAM

Don't forget to support the GTLC's Member Benefit card a range of Valley-based community organisations will receive extra funding through weekly members donations. GTLC acting Secretary Steve Dodd said a \$5 weekly membership fee would help support Asbestos Council of Victoria/GARDS and other volunteer organisations in need of additional funding.

"Currently at this point in time, ACV/GARDS rely on donations and sponsorships, so it's about giving these groups like ACV/GARDS an extra income stream to prop them up and do the work they need to do in the community" Mr Dodd said.

Mr Dodd said memberships would also provide discounts through participating local businesses. "It's about getting people involved with the trades and labour council network, with an added incentive to support local businesses and industry" he said.

He has called on businesses and the public to join the program.

If you are a business and would like to offer discounts in your store to members please get involved - you will receive free advertising on the GTLC web site. All community that are interested in obtaining a member benefit card to receive discounts on purchasing at a store involved please contact Val at GTLC - 0351 337 684 - the \$5 a week can be direct debited from your credit/debit card account.

ASBESTOS AWARENESS DAY EVENT 2014



Venue: Centenary Rose Garden, Commercial Road, Morwell

Date: Friday 28th of November 2014, 11.00am

The event highlights and raises the awareness of asbestos and its effects on sufferers, their families, the community, and the environment

There will be an ecumenical service to remember those who are suffering and those who have succumbed to asbestos disease, Beryl Stevens - Celebrant will officiate. There will be a time set in our ceremony where families will be able to lay flowers and pay tribute to their loved ones.

Coal Valley Male Chorus singing and led by musical director Gay Michau

Newborough Primary School choir singing and led by Principal Tim Delany

The ACV/GARDS bagpipers will be in attendance David Duncan & Bill Dunbar

Speakers for this event are:

Russell Broadbent MHR Federal Member for McMillan also the Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Group for Asbestos Related Disease (PGARD)

Lyll Watts - Lyll is living with Asbestos disease and he is an Activist for the cause & an ACV/GARDS member

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

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

There will be a free community BBQ with the compliments of the Gippsland Trades & Labour Council

All in the community are welcome.

ACV / GARDS Christmas LUNCH 2014

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 Xmas 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 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 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: Silks Restaurant - rear of Michaels Golden Hen - George Street, Moe

Date: Saturday 6th December 2014

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 28th November 2014.

FEDERATION TRAINING - PAINTING & DECORATING TEACHERS OF VICTORIA

In late August Vicki was invited to speak to a gathering of Managers from the Painting and Decorating section of Federation Training Centres from around Victoria. I class it as an honour to have been invited to speak again as I did last year.

The challenge is each time we meet to give new information on asbestos and the issues, also that I am able to make that information interesting

for the teachers to use with their students.

The tutorial was varied across many fronts - home maintenance, environmental, products that still contain asbestos, International issues and the political. We spent 3 hours exploring all of these subjects and many conversations ensued from the topics.

The feedback I received from the session was very positive and the teachers were very engaged with many and varied questions.

Since the tutorial I have had contact with some of the teachers who are

taking that knowledge to teach others about asbestos awareness and safety.

I want to thank the Painting and Decorating Managers for welcoming

me and making it enjoyable to share the information that we have. We hope with education around asbestos and the products it still lurks in that we can keep others safe armed with the knowledge that they gain.



Annual General Meeting
Date: Saturday 31st January 2015
Time: 2.00pm
Venue: 41 Monash Road, Newborough

Election of Positions falling vacant:
Secretary
Vice President
Committee Member
Election of Auditor for 2015/16

Returning Officer: Graeme Hamilton - Nomination forms can be collected from the ACV/GARDS office, 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.

IMPORTANT DATE

JAMES HARDIE NEEDS TO STEP UP AND BE COUNTED

Senior Management of James Hardie met with ACTU representatives and others on the 20th October to discuss the flagged shortfall in funds to asbestos sufferers compensation payments.

James Hardie say they might have to look at going to instalments to pay victims of asbestos products that they produced.

The Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund set up to pay claims to asbestos sufferers say that the money that is being put in by James Hardie is not enough to cover its predicted compensation liabilities in the next couple of years. This is the sad reality of how many victims of asbestos there are out in our community. The calculations that were used

to set the fund up may no longer be accurate in the years that have gone by and probably should have been revisited. The ACTU informed us that James Hardie management is seeking to rely on the draw down facility in the fund that was agreed to by the previous state and federal governments to cover shortfalls in the fund. Tax payers should not be contributing to the fund. This situation sits fair and square with James Hardie. The ACTU advised that James Hardie's management were rigid and not prepared to be flexible. The ACTU representatives said that both the Commonwealth and NSW Governments have also cast doubt over their intention to support the use of the compensation fund's loan draw down facility.

James Hardie we believe have a moral obligation to compensate asbestos victims - they knew their products would kill and they kept

peddling them to an unsuspecting community - where men, women and children could be their next victims. James Hardie should step up and be counted now and into the future to meet their obligations, if this means that they put more money into the fund when needed then - so be it. When times are good for the James Hardie company I think it is more than appropriate for James Hardie to kick in extra to the fund and top it up - that way when they can only make the 35% cash flow agreement it won't be such a burden to meet their obligations.

The ACTU informed the support groups that James Hardie made it quite clear that they believe paying compensation to asbestos sufferers in instalments is an appropriate solution to the shortfall, with a representative stating people want an upfront payment because they "want a trip to Vegas" shame on

James Hardie! - that is a disgraceful thing to say and very disrespectful.

Why don't James Hardie pay their shareholders' dividends in instalments that would be appropriate and then that would even out the money James Hardie owes to everyone. Shareholders of James Hardie should be disgusted in anyone who would demean innocent people who are dying from James Hardie products. Their shareholders are more than aware of James Hardies liabilities.

Maybe everyone who buys James Hardies products could pay for them in instalments, would that be appropriate?

We believe that the NSW Government and Prime Minister Tony Abbott should be sorting through this matter and they cannot stay silent on this issue and allow asbestos sufferers to be marginalised in this manner.

ACV/GARDS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

On the 30th of September Mr Adrian Pick M.B.B.S., F.R.A.C.S.- Cardiothoracic Surgeon and Surgical Director of Acclaim Health Group attended our support group meeting, where 65 members had the chance to listen to Mr Adrian Pick talk about some of his surgical procedures.

Adrian has been in private practice for 18 years specialising in lung cancer curative procedures and the treatment of asbestos related diseases. He is a consultant surgeon at The Alfred, Southern Health Monash Clayton, Peninsula Health Frankston Hospital and Cabrini Malvern and Peninsula Private Frankston. **Gabrielle Pick**, also accompanied him, she is the Managing Director of Acclaim

Health Group, specialising in the identification of patients with asbestos related diseases through verbal history with a view to pre-surgical work up that will identify radio graphical evidence of exposure. Gabrielle works collaboratively with respiratory physicians, radiologists and pathologists to ensure patients are identified for asbestos disease and working with patients to access an efficient and effective palliative intervention. The team was not complete without

James Wise, the principal Lawyer of Acclaim Health Group, he is an experienced asbestos litigation lawyer who has successfully acted on behalf of countless sufferers of mesothelioma, asbestosis and asbestos related pleural disease living in Victoria.

He spoke about his many cases after having witnessed the devastating



effect an asbestos exposure related diagnosis can have on a patient and their loved ones. James told the meeting that he personally conducts all asbestos related disease claims and limits the number of cases undertaken each year to ensure that he gets optimal and expedient results for all his clients. . Special guests that attended were Peter Tighe the CEO of the Asbestos

Safety and Eradication Agency and his colleague Liam O'Dwyer

ACV/GARDS would like to thank Acclaim Health Group for sponsoring 3 members of our organisation to go to the International Asbestos Conference being held in Melbourne on the 16th, 17th and 18th of November at Crown.

WELCOME DINNER HOSTED BY ACCLAIM HEALTH GROUP

After the presentation at the ACV/GARDS office the Acclaim Health Group along with William Wise, Peter Tighe, Liam O'Dwyer, Union Organisers from the CFMEU, AMWU, Gippsland Trades and Labour Council, Regional Imaging, Dr. Bernard Rooney GP, and some of the ACV/GARDS committee dined at Neilson's Restaurant in Traralgon and talked about the issues around asbestos and the health of a community and its workers.

Peter Tighe CEO of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency talked in some depth about the need for the Agency and what it is trying to achieve now and into the future. We even had time to celebrate our President Dorothy Roberts's birthday that night as she celebrated her 78th year.

We would also like to make mention that the dinner was generously sponsored by Mr. Raji Fernando from Covidien - it was very nice to meet Raji and we enjoyed his company immensely. Thank you so much the night was a great success because of your generosity.



Annual fees are OVERDUE!!

ACV/GARDS fees are now overdue and were payable by the 30th September 2014 - we appreciate all those members who have already paid their fees.

We do not send out reminders as this adds to our costs - so we would appreciate it if you could make your payment as soon as you can. The fees due 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. Thank you to all of you for your membership as this gives us strength.



CLOSING DATES FOR ACV/GARDS OFFICE OVER XMAS / HOLIDAY TIME

The ACV/GARDS office will be closed over the holiday period.

Our office will close on: Friday the 19th of December 2014 at 4.00pm and we will resume full operations on Monday the 19th of January 2015.

Any urgent enquiries can be made to Vicki Hamilton via the ACV/GARDS phone 03 5127 7744 24/7

From all of us here at ACV/GARDS we wish each and everyone of you a merry and safe xmas &

A happy new year - thank you for supporting ACV/GARDS in 2014

We look forward to seeing you in 2015.

MAURICE BLACKBURN SPONSORSHIP

ACV/GARDS has been very fortunate to receive another sponsorship this year to help support asbestos sufferers and the work we do in the community.

We are pleased to be recognised in this manner and the sponsorship helps us to keep the office ticking over.

Pictured from right are Jane McDermott Principal of the

Asbestos Litigation Department with her colleagues Victoria Keays, Colleen Bolger and Sally Weir.

The team keep us informed on any new developments that they come across in asbestos litigation.

We hope that our sponsorship with them will continue into the future so that they may help us to continue the support we provide to asbestos sufferers. Thanks so much.



PALLIATIVE CARE CONFERENCE GIPPSLAND 2014

Pictured from left is Marie, Dorothy and Vicki who attended the Palliative Care Conference on Thursday 23 October - the conference ran for two days and was held at the RACV resort at Inverloch, this was a wonderful setting for a very good conference. The conference title was "Life and Death Matters: To treat or not to treat.....?"

Prominent speakers were:

Dr Andrew Wilcock, Spot light on palliative drugs - Reader in Palliative Medicine and Medical Oncology University of Nottingham and Honorary Consultant Physician, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, United Kingdom

Associate Professor Charlie Corke, Ethical considerations in intensive care

Professor Paul Komesaroff AM, The ethics of treatment.

The second day saw **Associate Professor Mark Boughey**, In hospice/palliative care who needs evidence

Emeritus Professor Ian Maddocks AM, Putting evidence to work in palliative care



Professor Robert Ianseck OAM, The refocus of comprehensive care towards the end of the Parkinson journey

Dr Jenny Hynson, Paediatric palliative care: helping families live with uncertainty

Dr Craig Clarke, Decision - making around late life

Dr Leeroy William, Renal end-of-life care

Dr Michael Franco, Towards better end-stage cancer prognosticating: the Monash Prognostic Indicator

Sondra Davoren and Dr Deborah Lawson, Understanding the role of law in end-of-life care

All in all the conference had some very challenging and thought provoking issues - with interactive participation from the conference participants - a worthwhile and valuable experience with a wealth of knowledge among the medical professionals gathered.

ASBESTOS AWARENESS MORNING TEA 2014



Gold coin donation on entry to ACV/GARDS for morning tea - scones, jam and cream

ACV/GARDS office - 41 Monash Road, Newborough

Tuesday 25th November - 10am available on site

ACV/GARDS Information on asbestos removalists, Respiratory Doctors, Surgeons, medical equipment, books & DVDs on asbestos, info sheets on where you might find asbestos.

Cancer Council Vic - booklets on health & well being.

Slater & Gordon Law Firm & Maurice Blackburn Law Firm, Advice Line Injury Law Firm & Acclaim Law Firm will be on site to answer any questions from the general public about litigation and personal injury

Mairin OHS&E Consulting will answer questions on sample testing, auditing of houses & will have examples of asbestos containing products on display for your viewing

Latrobe City - will be available with a display of the Domestic Asbestos Removal Kit & answer any questions

Morning tea sponsored by **Maurice Blackburn Law firm**

BRING ALONG FAMILY AND FRIENDS - ALL WELCOME !

LATROBE REGIONAL HOSPITAL OPEN DAY



On Sunday the 21st September the Gippsland Cancer Care Centre proudly showed off its news extensions at Latrobe Regional Hospital. The new Chemotherapy dept - dialysis, radiotherapy and the first floor expansion - which holds the executive suite of offices - the training unit.

The redeveloped Allied Health Dept tour gave people an opportunity to walk through the purpose-built facility and see what goes on in the occupational therapy kitchen, the indoor

and outdoor exercise areas, the paediatric gym and the hydrotherapy pool. Unfortunately construction of the new mental health mother and baby unit was not completed in time for the Open Day. The public enjoyed seeing Koko the Clown for the kids, Prime Possum, a Teddy bears picnic, sausage sizzle, mobile Cafe van, Traralgon West CFA displayed some of their fire fighting trucks and equipment and Helimed One flew in for a visit. Along with many health displays showcasing their support services. ACV/GARDS were pleased to talk with the general public about the services ACV/GARDS provide to the community.

Asbestos Snippets

IN AUSTRALIA

Bernie Banton launch of asbestos awareness bus in Canberra - September 2, 2014 - Emma Macdonald SENIOR REPORTER FOR THE CANBERRA TIMES -

Canberra's toxic asbestos legacy made it the perfect location to launch a new asbestos awareness van which will tour the country over the coming months.

The Bernie Banton Foundation, which promotes awareness and education around all forms of asbestos, launched its Mobile Asbestos Education and Awareness Unit at the ACT Legislative Assembly on Tuesday amid a crowd of politicians and families who have lost loved ones to asbestos-related disease.

Mr Banton was a former James Hardie worker, who brought much-needed publicity and compensation to asbestos victims before dying seven years ago from mesothelioma.

His wife, Karen, is carrying on his life's work, having remarried a fellow asbestos campaigner Rod Smith, who lost his wife, Julie, to mesothelioma in 2011.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/bernie-banton-launch-of-asbestos-awareness-bus-in-canberra-20140902-10b9mh.html#ixzz3HQRQ6D73>

Yarralumla residents want answers on trucks of asbestos-contaminated waste from brickworks - September 2, 2014 - Kirsten Lawson CHIEF ASSEMBLY REPORTER FOR THE CANBERRA TIMES

Yarralumla residents will meet on Wednesday night to seek answers from the ACT government on how it plans to safely move up to 14,400 tonnes of asbestos-contaminated waste from the Yarralumla brickworks. Resident Paul Flanagan feared the government was set to "dig and dump", trucking the asbestos through the city, via Curtin and Weston Creek to west Belconnen, creating the risk of airborne asbestos. He estimated at least 700 truckloads would be generated. Mr Flanagan said residents, 300 of whom had signed a petition about the asbestos, wanted the site made safe, but they were concerned the government was rushing the job without proper consideration of the risks.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/yarralumla-residents-want-answers-on-trucks-of-asbestos-contaminated-waste-from-brickworks-20140902-10bdog.html#ixzz3HQSDcGpk>

Mr Fluffy asbestos victims group founder Brianna Heseltine may run for ACT election in 2016 with Labor - By Michael Donaldson and Kathleen Dyett - September 3, 2014

The founder of the Mr Fluffy asbestos victims group Brianna Heseltine has joined the Labor Party, prompting criticism from the Canberra Liberals.

Ms Heseltine established the Fluffy Owners and Residents' Action Group earlier this year, after her own experience as a homeowner affected by the potentially deadly loose-fill asbestos. She has led the campaign for government action, after revelations up to 1,000 houses could have residual asbestos insulation fibres despite a clean-up campaign two decades ago. An ALP spokesman has confirmed that Ms Heseltine has become a member and said the party viewed her as a possible candidate for the 2016 ACT election.

In a statement, Ms Heseltine said she had been asked by Mr Fluffy residents almost on a daily basis whether she would run for politics.

"During these times of deep uncertainty and strain, I ask for privacy about any possible future plans in politics which may or may not materialise depending on my own decisions, and party processes," the statement said.

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/24883207/mr-fluffy-asbestos-victims-group-founder-brianna-heseltine-may-run-for-act-election-in-2016/>

Asbestos can no longer be dumped at Ipswich waste centre - QT-Queensland times

ASBESTOS can no longer be dumped at any of Ipswich's waste centres after the potentially dangerous waste was banned from Riverview.

Ipswich City Council City infrastructure boss Cr Cheryl Bromage said the change to the Riverview Recycling and Refuse Centre now applied to domestic sources.

Cr Bromage said the council decided to stop accepting asbestos from residents at Riverview because it was too dangerous to manage at the site.

"Council is also concerned about the dangers to local residents transporting asbestos themselves," she said.

"We feel that only licensed professionals should be handling, transporting and disposing of asbestos materials given the extra care which needs to be taken with these items."

<http://www.qt.com.au/news/asbestos-is-banned-at-all-ipswich-dump-sites/2372917/>

Federal government closer to decision on Mr Fluffy asbestos - September 4, 2014 - Tom McLroy - Legislative Assembly reporter at The Canberra Times

Federal Employment Minister Eric Abetz and ACT political leaders have pledged to continue bipartisan efforts to resolve Canberra's loose-fill asbestos crisis and downplayed this week's controversy over lead campaigner Brianna Heseltine. Federal government departments are working to finalise the Commonwealth's contribution to the clean-up or demolition of the more than 1000 asbestos-contaminated homes in the ACT, and Chief Minister Katy Gallagher and Opposition Leader Jeremy Hanson both said they awaited a formal announcement and expert advice on safety.

A spokesman for Senator Abetz said on Thursday he was working closely with Ms Gallagher "to help progress a solution to the Mr Fluffy issue". "Minister Abetz has previously met with Ms Heseltine, as the spokesperson for affected owners and residents, and will continue to deal with her in this capacity," the spokesman said.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/federal-government-closer-to-decision-on-mr-fluffy-asbestos-20140904-10ccca.html#ixzz3HUNUc8p9>

The Block's foreman Keith Schleiger chips off about the show's many defects - SEPTEMBER 04, 2014 - HERALD SUN - LUKE DENNEHY

THE Block site on High St Prahran had a major hurdle before construction could begin this series — asbestos. Foreman Keith Schleiger said the Glasshouse office block had many more problems than previous productions when it came to the build. "It was a lot bigger and we discovered a lot of asbestos that we fixed, and also issues with the original structure that we had to repair as well," Schleiger told Confidential.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/entertainment/confidential/the-blocks-foreman-keith-schleiger-chips-off-about-the-shows-many-defects/story-fnn7ma1h-1227047568101>

Asbestos hampers investigation into Rozelle explosion - 6 Sep 2014 - David Spicer

The cleanup from a fatal blast at a convenience store may be made more difficult as the site is contaminated by asbestos. The explosion killed two people and a one-year-old boy on Thursday

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-06/asbestos-hampers-investigation-into-rozelle/5725044>

Rozelle blast site: Darling Street out of bounds as asbestos slows investigation - September 6, 2014 - Lisa Visentin

Police remain uncertain when the main road of Rozelle will reopen to traffic three days after a fire gutted an apartment building, killing three people including a one-year-old boy, as asbestos and blast damage slowed the police investigation. Police said the blast had caused so much damage to a neighbouring building it will have to be torn down. The criminal investigation has been delayed to allow removal of asbestos found in the wreckage of the apartment building, police confirmed on Saturday

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/rozelle-blast-site-darling-street-out-of-bounds-as-asbestos-slows-investigation-20140906-10dbsh.html>

Vacant shed on Defence land up in flames - BY CONOR BYRNE - NT NEWS - SEPTEMBER 06, 2014

A VACANT shed which was possibly containing asbestos has gone up in flames on Defence land in a Darwin suburb. Police have been investigating the fire at the large disused shed off Lee Point Rd in Muirhead, which was reported to police early on Saturday morning. Sergeant Wayne Newell said detectives and the Serious Crime unit were treating the blaze as suspicious. "We searched it out and there was no one in it," he said. "It's a vacant building on Defence land. It's all been stripped out. "The whole site has got asbestos signs everywhere."

<http://www.ntnews.com.au/news/northern-territory/vacant-shed-on-defence-land-up-in-flames/story-fnk0b1zt-1227050487328>

Asbestos concerns: Parts of WA's Rottneest Island locked down following suspected find - By Nicolas Perpitch - 9 Sep 2014

Parts of one of Western Australia's most popular family holiday spots have been barricaded off after blue material resembling asbestos was discovered littered across the area. Men clad head to toe in white protective suits, gloves and breathing masks have been collecting pieces of the suspicious debris on Rottneest Island. Most of the activity has been taking place next to holiday units in the Bathurst area, near the main settlement. The Rottneest Island Authority has put hazard tape through the bush behind Lancier Street down to the waterfront on Macedon Avenue, and erected steel fencing around each house in the area. Possible asbestos has also been spotted close to the main shops and the nursing post.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-09/asbestos-fears-force-lockdown-of-parts-of-rottneest/5731000>

James Hardie may draw on loan for asbestos compensation - 9 September, 2014 Matt McDonald

James Hardie may have to draw on a government loan to cover its asbestos compensation fund despite paying shareholders dividends of almost \$600m in the last two years.

SMH reports that the company pays about 35 per cent of its operating cash flow to the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (AICF).

The AICF, which was the result of an agreement between James Hardie and the NSW government, exists to compensate victims suffering from asbestos-related diseases such as mesothelioma.

In 2010, the NSW and Federal government's set up a loan scheme to assure compensation payments would be met even if James Hardie did not have sufficient funds to do so. The taxpayer-backed loans can be up to \$320 million.

The number of claims has increased and it looks like the company will not be able to meet the payments without access to the loans.

Senator Nick Xenophon slammed James Hardie for getting itself in this position as it pays its shareholders large dividends.

"The bottom line is if James Hardie can afford \$500 million to give to shareholders it can find the money to give to dying victims of their

product," Mr Xenophon said

<http://www.manmonthly.com.au/news/james-hardie-may-draw-on-loan-for-asbestos-compens>

Asbestos mulch testing ongoing -

INVESTIGATIONS into mulch contamination are continuing at the Bundaberg Regional Council's waste facilities following the discovery of asbestos in its University Drive mulch supply. Waste and Recycling spokesman Vince Habermann said the council had received "some favourable news" from the preliminary results of testing carried out in its mulch stockpile. "Initial test results from an independent lab have thus far confirmed that it was a very limited contamination of low-grade, bonded asbestos," Cr Habermann said.

"Tests are continuing along with a review of our green waste collection service. "However, a 100% guarantee that contamination will not occur in our green waste mulch would be impossible without the support of residents, who need to be prudent about how they dispose of dangerous or hazardous waste." He said the council was removing mulch purchased during the possible contamination period from 22 properties. "Due to the number of residents who had concerns about mulch purchased during this time, (the) council has resolved to remove it all rather than carry out lab testing on each property, which can be an expensive and long process.

<http://www.news-mail.com.au/news/asbestos-mulch-testing-ongoing/2382873/>

Health professionals get schooled about asbestos - September 11, 2014 - Natasha Boddy - Canberra Times reporter

Rates of asbestos-related diseases in Canberra are predicted to rise in the next six years. Australia has one of the world's highest rates of malignant pleural mesothelioma, a common asbestos-related lung disease, according to Judy Rafferty, a nurse educator for asbestos-related diseases with Lung Foundation Australia. "We mined it, manufactured it, imported it and, after the Second World War, most of our houses were built with asbestos and we now find ourselves as probably one of the biggest house renovators in the world," she said. "The National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness in Australia has identified that figures for asbestos-related diseases are about to rise." Ms Rafferty said rates of asbestos-related illness in the ACT were similar to the rest of Australia. "At this stage, we see about 770 patients diagnosed with pleural mesothelioma per year in this country and what we're anticipating is that in the next decade, we're about to see a rise," she said.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/health-professionals-get-schooled-about-asbestos-20140911-10f3ts.html>

Asbestos crisis: Hundreds of New South Wales residents concerned over potentially deadly fibres - Louise Willis and Jonathon Gul - 10 Sep 2014

Hundreds of New South Wales residents have asked for their homes to be tested for potentially deadly loose fill asbestos. Asbestos fibres were pumped into roof spaces of houses in the ACT and nearby New South Wales areas in the 1960s and 1970s by the Mr Fluffy insulation company. Earlier this year it was revealed another two companies used loose fill asbestos as insulation in other areas of New South Wales. Loose fill asbestos has been identified in 13 homes in the Yass Valley, Palerang and Queanbeyan Council areas. More than 1,000 homes in Canberra suburbs were insulated with loose-fill asbestos, and may have to be demolished. The New South Wales Government is holding an independent investigation and offering a free asbestos testing service to see how many properties could be affected. The Member for Monaro John Barilaro said WorkCover has received more than 400 inquiries and 199 requests for testing so far.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-10/hundreds-of-new-south-wales-residents-concerned-over-loose-fill/5732428>

Why taxpayers underwrite the James Hardie asbestos compo fund - September 14, 2014 - Timothy Binstead and Simon Evans

The federal and NSW governments may have to top up the James Hardie compensation fund for those injured through contact with asbestos, it was revealed this week, despite the company remaining profitable. Shareholders before sufferers, or sane and shrewd? Tim Binstead and Simon Evans peer through the dust. Q. Why is the fund backed by a taxpayer-guaranteed loan? A bit of background first. The Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund is a separate entity from James Hardie. The fund was established in 2006 after an agreement between James Hardie and the federal and NSW governments. Under its terms, James Hardie pays 35 per cent of its annual operating cashflow into the fund, which compensates victims suffering from asbestos-related diseases such as asbestosis and mesothelioma. KPMG publishes an annual actuarial report tracking the fund's liabilities and estimated future liabilities in light of the number, types, and size of claims.

<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/why-taxpayers-underwrite-the-james-hardie-asbestos-compo-fund-20140912-10fwsp.html>

WA tops country as 'third wave' deadly asbestos victims diagnosed - September 17, 2014 - Leanne Nicholson - Deputy editor, WAtoday

West Australians are being diagnosed with mesothelioma at a higher rate than anywhere else in the country, with two out of every three victims likely to have contracted the deadly disease at work.

Asbestos Snippets

Last year 95 West Australians were among the 465 men and 110 women who were told the shattering news they had contracted the terminal disease as a result of exposure to the deadly fibres.

Twenty per cent of those diagnosed were younger than 65 and included home renovators or "third wave" victims after miners and manufacturers, or "first wave", then tradesmen.

WA recorded a diagnosis rate of 3.9 people per capita [100,000 people], double that of Victoria and New South Wales with 1.8 people per capita diagnosed.

The national rate of newly diagnosed cases in 2013 was 2.2, with Queensland and South Australia recording 2.6 and 2.5 people respectively. The sobering figures from the Australian Mesothelioma Registry were compiled for Mesothelioma in Australia 2013, a report organised and funded by Safe Work Australia and Comcare. The national figures come amid news white asbestos was found outside bungalows on Rottneest Island, one of WA's most popular holiday destinations. White asbestos is used to manufacture brake pads, linings, blocks, clutch plates and gaskets. It was previously used in insulation, cement materials, vinyl flooring, piping, sealants before it was banned. Lawyer Simon Millman from Slater and Gordon said younger sufferers of asbestos-related diseases were being diagnosed. "With a 30 to 40-year lag between exposure and diagnosis, it was predictable that the majority of new cases identified in this report were in the 65 and over age bracket, but regrettably nearly 20 per cent of new cases were people under 65," he said.

Read more: <http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/wa-tops-country-as-third-wave-deadly-asbestos-victims-diagnosed-20140918-10ibd4.html#ixzz3HW8UHGGE>

Owners of asbestos-contaminated homes fear they could be forced out of neighbourhood - September 17, 2014 - Kirsten Lawson - Chief Assembly reporter for The Canberra Times

Members of the Mr Fluffy homeowners' group are outraged at the suggestion homes could be subject to a compulsory buyback, with owners forced to compete on the open market to get their blocks back. "People are contacting me furiously behind the scenes saying we have children in our local schools, we volunteer in our areas, we look after the next-door neighbour who has a disability. The idea that we will be driven off our land is just too much to bear," Fluffy Owners and Residents Action Group spokeswoman Brianna Heseltine said. "People have a deep emotional attachment to their family homes and governments should not forget that in the formulation of a reparations scheme." It was unacceptable that owners might be "flung on to the open market" and forced to compete for new homes. ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher will not discuss the details of the buyback and demolition scheme, which is still being negotiated with the Commonwealth, but she confirmed this week that a compulsory buyback, with cleaned blocks then sold on the open market, was on the table. She also said the ACT government wanted flexibility in the scheme, and the situation of people who wanted to stay on their land was being "factored into our thinking", but she stopped short of guaranteeing that people would be allowed to stay. The Government wanted to minimise the cost of the scheme and that meant realising the value of the land, she said.

http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/owners-of-asbestoscontaminated-homes-fear-they-could-be-forced-out-of-neighbourhoods-20140917-10i39h.html

Rev Fred Nile to chair Mr Fluffy committee - Sept. 18, 2014, 3:39 p.m.

Shadow Minister Steve Whan has successfully moved to establish a cross party Parliamentary Committee to inquire into the problem of so called "Mr Fluffy" loose fill asbestos insulation in homes in NSW. "In moving for this committee I was very much hoping for a bipartisan approach to a very serious problem for home owners and for public health in the South East region," Mr Whan said.

"I am very pleased the Government has supported the establishment of the committee. "The committee will be chaired by Reverend the Hon Fred Nile MLC with members including myself, the Hon Mick Veitch MLC, the Hon Nile Blair MLC, John Kaye MLC from the Legislative Council and two Government Members from the Legislative Assembly, one of whom is expected to be John Barilaro MP.

"I'm hopeful that this will be an important achievement in the long fight to have the Mr Fluffy issue properly dealt with in NSW. I have never wanted to make this a political fight and that's why I am pleased Mr Barilaro and I will both be on the committee, with a very experienced cross bench chair.

http://www.merimbulanewsonline.com.au/story/2569105/rev-fred-nile-to-chair-mr-fluffy-committee/?cs=1477

Asbestos scare after truck smash on Kwinana Freeway - 20 Sep 2014

A truck rollover has sparked an asbestos scare and shut down part of the Kwinana Freeway for several hours. The truck was carrying a load of asbestos sheets believed to be from a building demolition. It rolled near the Rowley Road overpass at Aubin Grove on Saturday morning and another truck ploughed into it. One man was taken to Royal Perth Hospital where he remains in a stable condition. Fire crews moved the sheets off the road and repackaged them in plastic. A pollution response crew from the Department of Environmental Regulation finished the clean-up.

http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-20/asbestos-on-freeway-after-truck-smash/5758114

Mr Fluffy homes can be demolished safely, asbestos taskforce head Andrew Kefford says - September 19, 2014 - Kirsten Lawson - Chief Assembly reporter for The Canberra Times.

As Canberrans turn their minds to the hazards of a mass demolition of Mr Fluffy asbestos houses, Asbestos Taskforce head Andrew Kefford has

moved to reassure people it can be done safely.

The land would be remediated with soil removed to the point where tests showed no remaining asbestos, he said.

Some Mr Fluffy home owners are concerned about ongoing stigma attached to their properties, even once the houses are gone and the topsoil replaced.

Mr Kefford confirmed information would remain on the building file of the 1000 affected homes, showing they had been part of the loose-fill program and the demolition and remediation since. But he said the properties would be clean.

http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/mr-fluffy-homes-can-be-demolished-safely-asbestos-taskforce-head-andrew-kefford-says-20140919-10fkrt.html

Principal told to resign over students' exposure to asbestos - September 22, 2014 - Jewel Topsfield - Education Editor for The Age

The former principal of a Thornbury primary school, Chris Sexton, has "formally relinquished" his position at the school following a departmental investigation into the exposure of children to asbestos. Mr Sexton was stood down from Wales Street Primary in February after two prep classes were potentially exposed to asbestos particles in dust in the carpet. The Age understands a departmental inquiry found Mr Sexton was negligent in his handling of the asbestos issue and he was told to resign from the school. In a letter to parents, regional director Janette Nagorcka said Mr Sexton was "taking up a new opportunity in the department". "Chris has been a hard-working and popular principal of Wales Street Primary for the past seven years," she wrote.

http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/principal-told-to-resign-over-students-exposure-to-asbestos-20140922-10kde4.html

Sydney asbestos dumper fined \$225,000 - 23 SEP 2014 -

A man has been fined almost a quarter of a million dollars for dumping waste containing asbestos in Sydney's southwest. A serial asbestos dumper, who illegally dropped more than 80 tonnes of dangerous waste in Sydney's southwest, has been fined \$225,000. Dib Hanna trespassed on a private property at Picnic Point in April 2012 and dumped the waste containing asbestos.

He also dumped another truckload at a public park owned by the Bankstown Local Council on the same day. The tip truck driver has previously been prosecuted 11 times and fined more than \$200,000 for similar offences. His fine payment plan extends until 2072. The latest fine comes 18 months after he was found to have breached a court order by dumping the waste at Picnic Point and given a three-month suspended sentence. In his judgment, Land and Environment Court judge Brian Preston found Hanna dumped the waste in public to avoid paying tipping fees.

http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2014/09/23/sydney-asbestos-dumper-fined-225000

Barilaro urges Mr Fluffy buy-back in NSW - Sept. 26, 2014

A cross-party parliamentary committee into loose-fill asbestos insulation in homes in NSW has been established as Member for Cooma-Monaro John Barilaro pushes for his government to undertake a buy-back scheme of affected homes. Loose-fill asbestos installed by the Mr Fluffy company in the 1960s and 70s in homes in the ACT and South East of NSW has become a nightmare for families living in these asbestos-filled homes. It's also proving a financial headache for state and territory governments. The ACT Government has proposed a buy-back scheme of homes but has not released full details as it still negotiating to cost share with the Commonwealth. The ACT Government undertook a clean-up of Canberra homes in the 1980s however in the past 12 months more homes have been identified.

http://www.begadistrictnews.com.au/story/2586893/barilaro-urges-mr-fluffy-buy-back-in-nsw/?cs=12

Old asbestos factory 'kills' 16 Melbourne residents - October 12, 2014 -

At least 16 people from one Melbourne suburb have reportedly been killed by a deadly asbestos factory that closed in 1983. The owners of the former Wunderlich factory in Sunshine North have been paying compensation to victims, the latest of which died on Thursday, the Herald Sun has reported. At least 16 people who grew up in streets near the factory have died of asbestos-related diseases, with another eight believed to be sick. None of the victims worked in the plant. Residents who lived in the area during the factory's boom days from the 1950s-70s said asbestos would be visible in the air and would coat cars and windows. After being informed of the deaths by the Herald Sun, the Victorian Health Department has ordered an urgent investigation into the matter. "Contamination of any site with asbestos or any other potentially carcinogenic material is a concern and residents should seek expert advice if they suspect there are loose asbestos fibres or broken asbestos sheeting in their home," a spokesman said.

The victims have all lived within a 1km radius of the old factory - an area encompassing about 2000 homes.

http://www.9news.com.au/national/2014/10/12/01/17/over-a-dozen-dead-of-asbestos-in-melbourne-suburb

Asbestos found in homes near Vic factory - AAP October 19, 2014

The Victorian government will examine new tests which found asbestos dust on ceiling cavities of homes near the old Wunderlich asbestos factory in Melbourne. The asbestos toll from the Wunderlich factory in Sunshine was reported as 16 last week. This figure has risen by a further 17 possible deaths, the Herald Sun reported on Sunday. The newspaper also conducted independent tests on dust in eight roof spaces from houses near the factory and found six contained invisible asbestos dust. Victorian Premier Denis Napthine said the results on the tests would be examined by a special taskforce. "The EPA can assess that material and establish a task force to examine that information and to work with local

council, local community and house owners to get the best information available to assist those house owners in the area," he said on Sunday.

Dr Napthine said there was an "enormous" amount of support for residents who had concerns about their health or the local environment and urged them to talk to their local GP and the council. Wunderlich was sold to CSR in 1969 and then to James Hardie in 1977. It stopped operating in the 1980s.

https://au.news.yahoo.com/vic/a/25295286/asbestos-found-in-homes-near-vic-factory/

Asbestos toll rises from factory of death as fallout continues - Ruth Lamperd and Monique Hore - Herald Sun - October 18, 2014

THE asbestos toll from "Melbourne's" factory of death has doubled since last week, with scores more reports of nearby residents who have died or who are sick.

The shock news comes as tests for the Sunday Herald Sun on ceiling cavities near the old Wunderlich factory in Sunshine North revealed widespread contamination.

Federal Opposition Leader Bill Shorten has called for asbestos to be removed from affected houses.

The Health Department last week conducted air quality tests on schools in the area and found no evidence of asbestos in the air. Local GPs were warned that patients may present with asbestos diseases, and residents were warned about the dangers of renovating without protective clothing.

The Sunday Herald Sun revealed last week that 16 people were known to have died and eight had fallen ill from mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis simply from living near the Wunderlich factory.

Since then, the Sunday Herald Sun has learned of another 17 possible deaths and seven further people sick as a result of exposure to the deadly asbestos fibres. Despite revelations that two houses — of two tested — had ceiling space asbestos contamination, no public authority was willing to take responsibility for broader house testing in the area. So last week, the Sunday Herald Sun commissioned contamination experts to sample dust in

roof spaces from eight further houses north and east of the factory. The laboratory report showed six of those eight contained invisible asbestos dust. None of the houses had asbestos roof tiles. It took the number of contaminated houses to eight out of 10 tested. Compton Pd resident Peter Thomson, whose ceiling space test confirmed asbestos fibres, was angry at the lack of information. "If it wasn't for the Sunday Herald Sun this still would not have come out," he said. "There could be 2000 or 3000 homes sitting on a time bomb. It leaves a dirty taste in your mouth and makes you feel sick."

http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/asbestos-toll-rises-from-factory-of-death-as-fallout-continues/story-fni0fit3-1227094913564?nk=aac7028b9adaae02428694d39138bc9

Wunderlich factory: victims and families of those with asbestos - related illness describe shock and anger 7.30 By Dan Oakes 22 Oct 2014

Victims and the families of those who were struck by asbestos-related illness, linked to a former factory in Melbourne's west, have spoken of their shock and anger at having been exposed to the deadly material.

It has emerged this month that dozens of people who lived around the former Wunderlich factory in Sunshine North have contracted cancer, asbestosis and other conditions after asbestos was left unsecured at the site. Chris Frohlich's mother lived in Ernest Street, about a kilometre from the Wunderlich factory, for 20 years - up until 1965. She died in September last year of aggressive lung cancer. Her father died of pulmonary fibrosis, and her brother of mesothelioma. Until now, Mr Frohlich's family had struggled to explain the unlucky run of lung disease-related deaths in the family, but news of the Wunderlich factory's deadly legacy has made things clearer. "We just couldn't understand how one family could be so unlucky, how four people could come down with lung disease," Mr Frohlich told the ABC.

http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-22/asbestos-related-illness-linked-to-factory-in-melbourne/5833120

Wunderlich factory: Homes around Melbourne factory given all clear over asbestos levels - 1ST NOVEMBER, 2014

Environmental testing has found no detectable levels of asbestos in homes tested around a former factory in Melbourne's west, despite an increase in local mesothelioma cases. The Wunderlich factory in Sunshine North manufactured asbestos sheeting until the early 1980s. The Victorian Cancer Registry found 16 people near the site developed mesothelioma in the 12 years to 2013. An independent hygienist, overseen by Environment Protection Authority Victoria, was commissioned to test levels at the factory and surrounding sites to see if there were any links to the increased cancer cases. Mesothelioma is an aggressive asbestos-related cancer affecting the lungs and abdomen. In a statement, Environment Protection Authority Victoria said it found asbestos in five roof cavities of the factory, but was an amount that could not be breathed.

It said it did not pose any health risk to homeowners unless the asbestos was disturbed. The EPA also tested six homes near the site to assess possible risks and "to reduce the anxiety of homeowners told through the media their homes contained 'deadly asbestos'".

http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-31/former-melbourne-factory-given-all-clear-over-asbestos-levels/5857084

Asbestos Snippets

Canberra's Mr Fluffy asbestos home buyback could cost \$1 billion: ACT Government - By Lisa Mosley and Kathleen Dyett - Mon 20 Oct 2014, 5:23pm

Some Canberra homeowners have already demolished their properties that are contaminated with Mr fluffy asbestos. (ABC News)

The cost of buying and demolishing Canberra houses contaminated with deadly Mr Fluffy loose-fill asbestos insulation could reach \$1 billion, the ACT Government says. More than 1,000 houses in Canberra had loose-fill asbestos pumped into the roof spaces by the Mr Fluffy company in the

1960s and 1970s. A Commonwealth-funded clean-up program in the 1980s and 90s failed to remove all the asbestos material, which can cause the lung cancer mesothelioma when breathed in. The ACT Government has sought the Federal Government's assistance to respond to the crisis, and has previously flagged property buy backs, remediation or demolition as options. But a decision is yet to be made about what action will be taken and the ACT's share of the cost. Chief Minister Katy Gallagher said analysis showed that about 1,000 asbestos-contaminated houses would need to be purchased at market rates. She said some affected homeowners had sent her valuations for their properties, in anticipation of Government assistance. "People are moving to get valuations done and certainly the ones I've seen have been in excess of \$1 million," she said. "They're done by legitimate valuers and I have no reason to question them." She added: "I don't think anyone's trying to blow these figures out to be more concerning than they are." Ms Gallagher said if the demolition program went ahead, the ACT Government would have to find ways to recoup the cost and that it had approached the Commonwealth Government for assistance. "There is an issue about cash flow and there is an issue, if we proceed with a demolition program, how fast people would want to relinquish their homes and move out," she said. "The true cost will not be known until we finish the program. "We're still talking with the Commonwealth and again, haven't had any response from them." The ACT Government had indicated it would try to recoup up to \$700 million dollars through land sales.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-20/canberra-mr-fluffy-cleanup-could-cost-a-billion-dollars/5827704>

Asbestos contamination nightmare just beginning for residents in NSW - Nick Grimm reported this story on Tuesday, October 28, 2014

MARK COLVIN: As we've heard, there are plenty of householders outside the ACT's borders who are living in Mr Fluffy-contaminated houses, but won't be covered by this deal.

A number of New South Wales properties have already been found to contain loose-fill asbestos, and the number's growing.

What will happen to them?

Nick Grimm reports.

NICK GRIMM: The law firm Maurice Blackburn has been providing legal help to "Mr. Fluffy" homeowners in the ACT.

There had been talk of a class action being mounted. That looks less likely in the wake of today's deal between the Commonwealth and the ACT, but legal action is still a possibility, as lawyer Theodora Ahilas, who heads up the firm's national asbestos practice, explains.

THEODORA AHILAS: If you develop an asbestos-related disease, which can be brought back or deemed to have been caused by a Mr Fluffy exposure, for example, then that should be looked at individually on its merits and advice should be given accordingly and a course of action may be mounted totally separate to anything that happens with the government in terms of a buyback.

The government will not buy back anybody's legal entitlements for personal injury. They can't do that, and people wouldn't give away that entitlement separate.

<http://www.abc.net.au/pm/content/2014/s4116545.htm>

Buyback and demolition program announced for ACT 'Mr Fluffy' homes - Released 28/10/2014

More than one thousand Canberra houses affected by 'Mr Fluffy' loose fill asbestos insulation will be bought and demolished by the ACT Government following an in principle agreement with the Commonwealth Government, Chief Minister Katy Gallagher announced today.

The Commonwealth will offer to provide the ACT with a \$1 billion concessional loan towards the cost of the program. The Chief Minister also released the report by the Asbestos Response Taskforce on the Long Term Management of Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation in Canberra Homes, which recommends the demolition of these homes as the only enduring solution.

"It is a clear recommendation from the asbestos taskforce report that the only way to solve the Mr Fluffy saga once and for all is to demolish affected houses. For Mr Fluffy homeowners, we believe this program will offer a fair and flexible solution which will remove the risk of loose fill asbestos not only to homeowners and tenants, but to the broader community," the Chief Minister said.

http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/open_government/inform/act_government_media_releases/gallagher/2014/buyback-and-demolition-program-announced-for-act-mr-fluffy-homes

House prices could rise as a result of Mr Fluffy asbestos buy-back - Date October 28, 2014 - Meredith Clisby - Canberra Domain Editor

The Real Estate Institute of the ACT has warned of an artificial price boom with hundreds of Mr Fluffy families looking for new homes following confirmation of a buy-back scheme. The Commonwealth will provide a \$1 billion concessional loan to the ACT to enable the government to buy back and demolish all 1021 Mr Fluffy homes within the next five years. The homes will be purchased at full market value as though they were not affected by the remnant loose-fill asbestos.

Affected home owners will be able to sell their homes back to the government as soon as January.

<http://canberratimes.domain.com.au/real-estate-news/house-prices-could-rise-as-a-result-of-mr-fluffy-asbestos-buyback-20141028-11d0sz.html>

Chief Minister Katy Gallagher sheds tears during Mr Fluffy buyback scheme address - ABC - October 31, 2014

ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher has shed tears in the Legislative Assembly while delivering an update on the \$1 billion Mr Fluffy buyback and demolition scheme.

This week the ACT Government agreed to accept a concessional loan of \$1 billion from the Commonwealth to help pay for the demolition of the 1,021 properties affected by potentially deadly loose-fill asbestos.

But the decision to demolish all of the homes has been a difficult moment for Ms Gallagher's Government.

On Thursday as she updated the ACT Legislative Assembly on the buyback and demolition scheme, the Chief Minister showed some of the strain, shedding tears and pausing to wipe her eyes during the address.

Ms Gallagher told the assembly she could not let the shadow of Mr Fluffy hang over the ACT any longer.

"1,021 houses is a big call, but I cannot see any other way through this. We cannot let this legacy continue, it has plagued this city for more than half of Canberra's history. It must end and it will with the buyback scheme being put in place this week," she said.

Impact statement tabled in assembly

But it was the stories of the families that live in the homes that were the focus on Thursday.

All have been combined into a group impact statement, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly today by the Chief Minister.

Many accounts speak of the social isolation and guilt that has come with living in a Mr Fluffy home.

"I am confused and anxious about what the future holds ... I feel very distressed most of the time and there is never a day that goes by where I do not cry," one statement said.

Another read: "This cannot be real ... how do we come out of this unscathed? At best, at some point in the future we get a new home but that is little comfort when the rest of our lives we'll be wondering if and when we or our children will get an asbestos-related illness. What kind of life is that?"

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/25390991/chief-minister-katy-gallagher-sheds-tears-during-mr-fluffy-buyback-scheme-address/>

INTERNATIONAL

Widow makes desperate plea after husband's asbestos-related death - Aug 31, 2014 - Birmingham Mail -By Alison Stacey

Terry Hodges was diagnosed with terminal cancer just days before jetting to Cyprus to celebrate his wedding anniversary

A heartbroken widow, whose husband was diagnosed with asbestos-related cancer on their first wedding anniversary, is appealing for information that could help understand his death. Terry Hodges was diagnosed with terminal cancer just days before jetting to Cyprus to celebrate his anniversary with wife Carole.

The 67-year-old was told the cancer was linked to the toxic material after finding a lump on his chest in May 2011, and died a year later.

<http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/widow-makes-desperate-plea-after-7689358>

Asbestos death widow to sue firm despite winning 'final' settlement - By Somerset Standard | Posted: August 31, 2014

The widow of a welder who died from an asbestos-related disease hopes to benefit from a significant new court ruling.

Julien Lloyd, of Frome, whose husband Cliff developed mesothelioma years after working at Port Talbot, Swansea, and died of the disease in 2012, is bringing a claim for compensation against her late husband's employers with the help of Bath law firm Withy King, despite him having agreed a "full and final settlement" in the past.

A new court ruling, announced on August 15, means that victims of industrial diseases who have settled their claims before the full extent of their illness has been established, may now reapply to the courts for further compensation. Helen Childs who specialises in industrial diseases cases and is a partner at Withy King, said: "The new ruling is very good news for hundreds of families, including my client Mrs Lloyd and her family.

<http://www.fromestandard.co.uk/Asbestos-death-widow-sue-firm-despite-winning/story-22839769-detail/story.html#ixzz3HQWkuAu5>

ASBESTOS: THE KILLER THAT STILL SURROUNDS US - By Harry De Quetteville

It's been illegal for decades, but asbestos is everywhere, embedded in our homes, schools, offices and shops. It's now killing more people in Britain than anywhere else in the world. Andrew Lawson was the kind of man whose force of personality could shake things up, even in a gargantuan organisation like the NHS. A consultant anaesthetist, he devoted his career to sparing the sick both the agonies of illness and the torments of treatment. Among those who sought him out, his wife remembers, was an MI6 officer who had to live with the crippling after-effects of torture.

<http://s.telegraph.co.uk/graphics/projects/Asbestos-the-killer-that-surrounds-us/index.html>

Worker killed in asbestos plant accident - Press Trust of India | Dhenkanal (Odisha) September 7, 2014

A worker of a private asbestos manufacturing unit was killed after being trapped under a machine at Korea area here in Dhenkanal district today, a company official said.

Sanjay Dehruy (31) was critically injured when he was trapped under a machine in the factory, the plant's works manager R N Singh said. Dehruy, a resident of nearby Dholoposhi village, was taken to the district headquarters hospital which referred him to a private hospital at Cuttack where he died, Singh said.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/worker-killed-in-asbestos-plant-accident-11409700656_1.html

Understanding asbestos and mesothelioma - Suzanne Carlile, September 16, 2014 at 1:49 am - September 16, 2014

Mesothelioma is a rare form of cancer that develops in the lungs, most often caused by exposure to asbestos. While treatments for mesothelioma are improving, it remains a very difficult cancer to treat, and it has no cure. Mesothelioma is a rare form of cancer that develops in the lungs. It is caused by exposure to asbestos, a mineral fiber the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission says was once "added to a variety of products to strengthen them and to provide heat insulation and fire resistance." While treatments for mesothelioma are improving, it remains a very difficult cancer to treat, and it has no cure.

<http://newsok.com/understanding-asbestos-and-mesothelioma/article/5342517>

Asbestos News Roundup: 9.18.14 - Fire Fighters and Asbestos Disease - September 18th, 2014. By Lucy C

Fire Fighters and Asbestos Disease - According to a study done by The National Fire Administration/NIOSH, published in the October 2013 issue of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, the rate of mesothelioma among firefighters studied was twice that of the general US population.

The study is one the largest of its kind done to date, and looked at mortality patterns and cancer incidence among career firefighters. The researchers evaluated a pool of approximately 30,000 firefighters employed in San Francisco, Chicago and Philadelphia between 1950 and 2009.

They found, as have previous studies, that firefighters, through the course of their work, are exposed to known and suspected carcinogens like formaldehyde and benzene. The study shows that such exposure is linked to an increased risk of developing certain cancers.

<http://www.lawyersandsettlements.com/blog/asbestos-news-roundup-9-18-14-fire-fighters-and-asbestos-disease.html>

Winnipeg contractor in botched asbestos job has criminal past - John Sirenn's criminal record dates back to 1959, court documents show - CBC News Posted: Sep 29, 2014 Sep 29, 2014

A Winnipeg contractor who was recently sanctioned for a botched asbestos removal job has a long criminal history that includes convictions for fraud and theft, the CBC News I-Team has learned.

Workman Industries owner John Sirenn's criminal record dates back to 1959 with convictions for cashing thousands of dollars in fake cheques and for stealing copper wire and electronics from other businesses, according to court documents. The documents also show he once fled from a traffic check stop when he was not licensed to drive. His vehicle crashed into a hydro pole that fell within inches of a woman's head.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/winnipeg-contractor-in-botched-asbestos-job-has-criminal-past-1.2779785>

High Court halts government plans to increase asbestos victims' legal costs Rochdale Online - 04 October 2014

A judicial review judgement handed down yesterday in the Royal Courts of Justice has halted government plans to increase legal costs for the victims of the asbestos related cancer mesothelioma. This is an extremely aggressive disease usually affecting the pleura around the lungs, life expectancy after diagnosis is approximately nine months and the only known cause in this country is exposure to asbestos.

In his judgement the Honourable Mr Justice William Davis ruled that according to the Government's own Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act of 2012 (LASPO) a review had to be carried out into the likely consequences of such plans before they could be implemented. Commenting on the 'review' the Government did undertake he concluded that "no reasonable Lord Chancellor, faced with the duty imposed on him by Section 48 of the Act, would have considered that the exercise in fact fulfilled that duty". He has called on the Lord Chancellor to carry out a proper review.

<http://www.rochdaleonline.co.uk/news-features/2/news-headlines/91709/high-court-halts-government-plans-to-increase-asbestos-victims-legal-costs>

Campaigner's warning over asbestos 'epidemic' in Tameside - Oct 08, 2014 20:00 - By Beth Abbit

A deadly asbestos-related cancer has killed the equivalent of a Tameside resident every other month for the past three decades. Shocking figures show that 193 people died from mesothelioma - a cancer linked to exposure to the man-made material - between 1981 and 2011. The terminal cancer killed 169 men and 24 women over that time. And experts claim the number of people dying of asbestos-related diseases, such as mesothelioma and asbestosis, could increase.

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/campaigners-warning-over-asbestos-epidemic-7895778>

Asbestos Snippets

Family claim they are being killed off by asbestos after two cousins die following exposure to deadly powder

- Oct 20, 2014 08:32 - By John Jeffay

A FAMILY claim they are being killed off by deadly asbestos after two cousins died following exposure to the powder. Two other members of the family are also fighting the effects of working with the insulation and fire-proofing material. Charlie Glass, 68, and cousin Tommy Glass, 80, are both fighting for their lives. Charlie has already lost his brother Tommy at the age of 63 and his cousin George, also Glass, aged 80, to mesothelioma. Joiner Tommy died in 2011. He had helped build the operating theatre at Glasgow's Victoria Infirmary with asbestos panels. George was a plasterer who worked for Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Corporation. Retired electrician Charlie and cousin Tommy

struggle to breathe because of pleural plaques linked to asbestos exposure.

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/family-claim-being-killed-asbestos-4465842>

Waste including suspected asbestos dumped in Nelson - Sunday 2 November 2014

A THREE foot high mound of asbestos has been dumped in a Nelson street.

Residents are concerned about the dangerous substance, which a wagon tipped into Bank House Road on Wednesday, especially as there are families living nearby and a nursery. Residents in Leeds Road say that Bank House Road, at the back of their street, has been plagued with fly tippers for years after the council knocked down the houses there.

Only a couple of houses in Bank House Road remain occupied but the surrounding streets are lived-in and despite numerous complaints to the council, residents say the problem is getting worse. Six council workers in white protective suits attended the scene on Thursday afternoon and put a cover over the asbestos and brought a huge skip, but as yet, it has not been removed.

http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/11574106.Waste_including_suspected_asbestos_dumped_in_Nelson/

UP DATE ON - MULTARI V SELTSAM - Wrongs Act 1958!

WIN! WIN!

As we reported in our last newsletter a recent decision in June 2014 of the Supreme Court of Victoria in Multari V Seltam Pty Ltd had a significant impact on the Victorian asbestos compensation jurisdiction, causing uncertainty for some asbestos disease sufferers seeking compensation.

As a result of this decision, Part VBA of the Wrongs Act (Vic) 1958 has been found to apply to sufferers of asbestos related diseases, where they have been exposed to asbestos outside of employment governed by Victorian workers' compensation schemes. For example, Part VBA will apply to claimants who were exposed to asbestos through home renovation work, or if they were exposed to asbestos dust washing the contaminated work clothes of their partners. Part VBA requires that these claimants obtain a 'significant injury' certificate in order to obtain damages for pain and suffering compensation. This process requires an assessment by a specially qualified AMA practitioner that the person has a 5% whole of body impairment.

The application of Part VBA to certain classes of asbestos disease sufferers creates an extra burden on vulnerable claimants already suffering under the weight of their diseases. It may also lengthen compensation claims by many months. There is no reason why

claimants with terminal, insidious, asbestos related conditions should face unnecessary delay and red tape while attempting to receive fair compensation for themselves and their families.

Asbestos Council of Victoria/GARDS wrote letters to the Victorian Attorney General and our local State politicians to try and have this unjust and cruel red tape changed for asbestos sufferers before the State Government went into care taker mode before the up and coming elections on the 29th November. We are very pleased to advise our readers that the State Government did make changes to the Wrongs Act - this is the contents of a letter sent to us from the Justice Department.

Win Win Win Win!!!!

You will be PLEASED to hear that the Government has now made the Wrongs (Part VBA) (Asbestos Related Claims) Regulations 2014, which exempt sufferers of asbestos-related disease (defined as asbestosis, asbestos-induced carcinoma, asbestos-related pleural diseases, and mesothelioma) from the operation of Part VBA of the Act. The regulations commence on 30th October 2014 - it was also stated in a media release that the Government will examine whether legislation should be introduced into the next Parliament to apply the changes to any proceedings

already issued that may have been affected by the Supreme Court's decision this year.

This last statement made in the media release was because we had asked for the regulations to operate retrospectively - meaning we wanted those who had already initiated cases to be included in the legislation change - this was so those sufferers did not fall through the cracks. ACV/GARDS will pursue this when the new government is installed after the elections which are coming up on the 29th November 2014.

Thank you to all concerned that made this happen - The Attorney General Hon. Robert Clark and his department, Gary Blackwood MP Member for Narracan, Minister Russell Northe MP, Johan Scheffer Upper House Member for Eastern Victoria and those who helped with writing letters - the law firms who represent asbestos sufferers, unions - you all did a great job for a wonderful out come for Victorian asbestos sufferers and their families.

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.

Special People and Organisations

Regular donations made to us by these generous companies
GJ Crosby Contractors
 thank you to Judi, Kerri and all the family and we would also like to thank Paul Erbs and Darren Carman and all the team at **Mairin OHS&E Consulting**
 We would like to take this opportunity to thank individuals who have donated to us in different ways over the last few months:

- Anonymous \$50,
- Sister Joy Hanrahan,
- Margaret James,
- Giuseppe Iannantuono,
- Brian & Ann Clegg,
- Marilyn Reid,
- Dorothy & Robert Ridley,
- Joan & Larry Smith,
- Jessie & Duncan Fergus,
- Jack & Pat Fawcett,
- Elsie & William Reilly,
- Anne Bishop,
- Rhonda Dunn,
- Jenny Snape
- Barry & Ivy Fanning



On line donations

- Rebecca Thornton,
- Wendy Ng,
- Maureen Douglas,
- Craig Gray,
- Peter Neumann,
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- Brendan Clarke,
- Wesley Edwards,
- Tom & Doreen Tumilty,
- Hebbly Macfarlane,
- Wally & Patricia Wilkins,
- Carol Lasic,
- James & Paula Myatt,
- Rodney Gamlin,
- John & Janet Barnard,
- Bill & Eileen Riddle,
- James & Pamela West and family,
- The Farmer Family,
- Michael West & Amy King,
- Peter & Ginny West and family,
- Alicia Lanthois and family,
- Jane West & Terry Wilkins

Donations made in Memory of - Peter Lucas

- K Jones,
- Anonymous \$10,
- Anonymous \$100,
- Barry Russell,
- Rebecca Thornton

Robert Rawlings

He donated a \$20 gift card to the ACV/GARDS Xmas raffle - we thank him so much for thinking of us and contributing to the raffle prizes.

Donations made in Memory of - Jim Sargeant

- Parents Committee of the Doyle-Halpin Irish Dancing School - Ireland

Donations made in Memory of - Walter Calcraft

- Dorothy Calcraft and family

Donations made in Memory of - Laurie Hall

- Gwen Hall

Donations made in Memory of - Bryan Williams

- Roger Doyle

Donations made in Memory of - Barney Evans

- Jean Evans

Donation made in Memory of - Kenneth West

- Tom & Doreen Tumilty,
- Hebbly Macfarlane,
- Wally & Patricia Wilkins,
- Carol Lasic,
- James & Paula Myatt,
- Rodney Gamlin,
- John & Janet Barnard,
- Bill & Eileen Riddle,
- James & Pamela West and family,
- The Farmer Family,
- Michael West & Amy King,
- Peter & Ginny West and family,
- Alicia Lanthois and family,
- Jane West & Terry Wilkins

Home Taste Chinese Restaurant

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



Donation Made in Memory of George Ridley

We would like to thank Graeme Ridley and family for the generous donation made to our organisation. You can be sure that the money you have donated will be used to support asbestos sufferers and their families.

South Gippsland & East Gippsland Agent for Air Liquide

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

Rossmore Hotel

We would like to thank the managers We would like to thank the Rossmore Hotel publican, staff and patrons for supporting the ACV/GARDS org by allowing us to fundraise at the hotel. 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 in late December 2014.

Donation made in Memory of - Jeff Wass

- Anonymous \$10,
- Jan, Graham,
- Katie & Stephen Bloomfield,
- P Edwards,
- Anonymous \$10,
- Anonymous \$10,
- Anonymous \$20,
- Anonymous \$10

Morwell Bowling Club

We would like to thank the management of the Morwell Bowling Club and a big thank you to Michelle Curtis who is helping to raise money for ACV/GARDS.
 Please support the club and you will be supporting us too.
 Thank you so much to all - it is great to have you in our corner.

'I'll Be There!'

Songs and stories of solidarity

"I liked the way the history of the choir and union movement were woven into the personal stories. And the humour! And the balance between text and song. I liked that there was acting but it didn't distract from the music. The music was exceptional."

"I have long been a fan of the choir. Love the songs, the stories the songs tell, and their origins. The choir is keeping alive a grand tradition. The songs still resonate, and connect with contemporary struggles for social justice."
Arnold Zable

The Victorian Trade Union Choir is performing this show in Morwell on **Saturday 13 December 2014 at 7pm at Kernot Hall, Princes Drive and Monash Way, Morwell**

An inspiring music theatre show featuring songs and stories of solidarity that people really connect with. It was created, produced and performed by the Victorian Trade Union Choir in collaboration with award winning playwright Rebecca Lister and our musical director Michael Roper. Sold out seasons at Trades Hall in 2012 and at La Mama in 2013.

This Darkened Room, a song written by choir member, Mary Caruana for the musical Dust, about Lisa Moran, whose treatment for mesothelioma required her to stay out of the sunlight, will be sung and in Morwell the story will be Vicki Hamilton's.

Booking details: [facebook.com/VictorianTradeUnionChoir](https://www.facebook.com/VictorianTradeUnionChoir) or vtu.choir@gmail.com

For tickets to this performance please phone the box office on 51763333 and book your seats



GARDS Inc. Membership Form

Name:

Address:

Postcode: Telephone: Email:

Occupation:

GARDS NEW MEMBERS Joining Fee \$5.00

PLUS

GARDS Annual Subscription 2014/15

- 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: ____/____/____

Committee of Management

President:

Dorothy Roberts
Ph. 03 5127 4174
Mobile 0407 274 174

Vice President:

Marie Smith
Ph. 03 5127 1427
Mobile 0427 271 427

CEO/Secretary:

Vicki Hamilton
Ph. 03 5127 8219
Mobile 0407 274 173

Treasurer:

David Fairbairn
Mobile 0403 319 520

Member:

Collin Ross
Mobile 0402 420 398

Ray Watson
Ph. 03 5127 4361
Mobile 0401 092 291

ACV/GARDS Fees

Joining Fee: \$5.00

Annual Fees:

- Pensioner/Concession 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

ACV/GARDS SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS FOR 2015

1.30PM – 3.30PM

Meetings are held at –

ACV/GARDS Premises
41 Monash Road,
Newborough

- Tuesday 24th February
- Tuesday 31st March
- Tuesday 28th April - International Workers Memorial day, Rose Garden, Morwell
- Tuesday 26th May
- Tuesday 30th June
- Tuesday 28th July
- Tuesday 25th August
- Tuesday 29th September
- Tuesday 27th October
- Frid 27th Nov – Asbestos Awareness Day, Rose Garden, Morwell - 11am
- Christmas Break-Up TBA

ACV/GARDS NIGHT MEETINGS FOR 2015

7.30PM – 9.30PM

Meetings are held at –

ACV/GARDS Premises
41 Monash Road,
Newborough

- Tuesday 17th February
- Tuesday 17th March
- Tuesday 21st April
- Tuesday 19th May
- Tuesday 16th June
- Tuesday 21st July
- Tuesday 18th August
- Tuesday 15th September
- Tuesday 20th October
- Tuesday 17th November
- Christmas Break-Up TBA

UP COMING EVENTS Our Night/Day Meetings

SUPPORT GROUP
24 February, 2015
Speaker to be advised

SPECIAL EVENTS

25 November 2014
Asbestos Awareness Morning Tea
ACV/GARDS office - 41 Monash Road Newborough - gold coin donation on entry

28 November 2014
Asbestos Awareness Day event
Centenary Rose Garden, Commercial Road, Morwell

SPECIAL EVENT
ACV/GARDS XMAS LUNCH
6 December 2014, 12 noon
Silks Restaurant, Moe

CALL IN FOR A CHAT AND CUPPA



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.

We are situated at:
**41 Monash Road,
Newborough,
Victoria. 3825**
**PO Box 111,
Moe, Vic. 3825**
On line donations
<http://www.givenow.com.au/gards>

Phone: **03 5127 7744 24/7**
Fax: **03 5126 0354**
Email: info@gards.org
Website: www.gards.org
SKYPE: **VickiGARDS**



[facebook.com/GARDSInc](https://www.facebook.com/GARDSInc)

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 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.



THANK YOU **ACV/GARDS Inc.** would like to thank these sponsors and supporters



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