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DID YOU KNOW?

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

Make a Donation



Using the secure engine of GiveNow.com.au

VISIT FROM VIETNAM GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR



The GARDS organisation hosted an afternoon tea and information session on asbestos issues in Australia and the role of GARDS as activists.

The Vietnam General confederation of Labour were on a OHS study tour. The participants from the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour pictured above are: Mr Mai Duc Chinh, VGCL Vice President in charge of I.R and OSH - Mr Nguyen Trung Son, Deputy Director, VGCL OSH Department -Mr Tran Dang Luu, VGCL OSH Activist - Mr Chau Nhat Binh, Deputy Director, VGCL International Department (Interpreter) with Manrico

Moro - Information Convenor -Australia Asia Worker Links - they described the visit to GARDS members Vice President Dorothy Roberts, Committee Member Marie Smith and CEO/Secretary Vicki Hamilton as a fact finding mission to find out more about the OHS policy and practices and trade union involvement in Australia: checking out Federal and State OHS laws and institutions in Australia; OHS practice at work; understanding OHS training; and the trade union role to ensure OHS particularly the role of health and safety representatives in the work place. GARDS would like to thank Luke van der Meulen, President, CFMEU Mining Division, Victorian

branch for organising the tour & information session.

The GARDS organisation were informed that the delegation were impressed by the activity of GARDS in Australia and particularly about the role of activists working with unions to support those affected by asbestos as well as fighting for prevention. The discussions that took place at the GARDS office were particular helpful in identifying the importance of addressing the risk of the continued use of asbestos. The GARDS organisation wishes our new comrades all the best in fighting asbestos issues in their own country and anytime they need help we are only a phone call away.



Part sponsor of this edition

Principal Sponsor



ASBESTOS AWARENESS DAY EVENT 2012



Venue: Centenary Rose Garden, Commercial Road, Morwell

Date: Friday 30th of November 2012

Time: 11.00am

The event highlights and raises the awareness of asbestos and its effects on families and the community.

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.

with the compliments of Gippsland Trades & Labour Council and all those in the community are most welcome to attend.

For further information contact **Vicki Hamilton** 0407 274 173 or the GARDS office: 5127 7744

Asbestos Awareness Day badges will be on sale for a cost of \$2 for those wishing to support us.

If you would like to purchase one before the day they can be purchased at:

- **Davies & Moller Chemist, Princes Dve, Morwell**
- **Mairin OHS&E Consulting - Kirk Street, Moe**
- **GARDS office 41 Monash Road Newborough.**
- **Bank mecu - Traralgon, Morwell & Moe branches**
- **Brya's Cafe - Albert Street, Moe**

Guest speakers will be:

- AMWU National Secretary, **Paul Bastian,**
 - GARDS Member - returned Vietnam Veteran, President of the Moe RSL - **Ray Watson,**
 - GARDS Member & Daughter of Daniel Bryce who succumbed to Mesothelioma- **Ann Bishop,**
 - GARDS Member, President Gippsland Trades & Labour Council, Cardinia Shire Councillor - **Collin Ross**
 - GARDS CEO/Secretary - **Vicki Hamilton**
- Vocalist/Musician - **Paddy O'Dowd**
Newborough Primary School choir
- The GARDS bag piper/s **David Duncan & Bill Dunbar.**

At the conclusion of the ceremony there will be a **free BBQ lunch**

Davies & Moller Chemist Asbestos Awareness Morning Tea 2012

Gold coin donation to GARDS for morning tea

**Davies and Moller Chemist
Princes Way, Morwell
Thursday 29 November
at 10am**

Asbestos Information available on site.

Asbestos Awareness Day badges will be on sale for a cost of \$2 for those wishing to support us.



Closing Dates for GARDS OFFICE over Christmas/Holiday time

The GARDS office will be closed over the holiday period.
Our office will close on:
Wednesday the 19th of December 2012 at 4.00pm and we will resume operations on Monday the 21st of January 2013.

ANY URGENT ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE TO VICKI HAMILTON VIA THE GARDS PHONE 5127 7744

From all of us here at gards we wish each and everyone of you a Merry and Safe Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you in 2013
Thank you for supporting GARDS in 2012

Annual General Meeting

Date:

Saturday 2 February 2013

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: 41 Monash Road, Newborough

Election of Positions falling vacant:

- **Vice President**
- **Secretary**
- **Committee Member**
- **Election of Auditor for 2013/14**

Returning Officer: Graeme Hamilton - Nomination forms can be collected from the GARDS office, downloaded from the GARDS web site or forwarded by post on request to 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 GARDS office.

ASBESTOS SEMINAR

Venue: GARDS office - 41 Monash Road, Newborough, Victoria
Date: Tuesday 27th November
Time: 6.00pm

Attend this free seminar on asbestos diseases to:

- Gain valuable information on asbestos issues
- Have your legal questions answered and discover your rights in relation to asbestos diseases
- Find out more about the Workplace Health and Safety regulations
- Learn more about the Palliative Care practice and education

Speakers include:

- Mary Ross-Heazlewood RN
Project Worker Clinical Practice

and Education
 Gippsland Region Palliative Care Consortium

- Stephen Plunkett
Principal Lawyer
Slater & Gordon Lawyers
- Andrew Dimsey
Principal
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers Pty Limited
- Darren Carman
Consultant
Mairin OHS& E Consultants
- Collin Ross
President
Gippsland Trades & Labour Council

Light refreshments will be provided.



Photo Album of Power Works Tour

The GARDS gang had a wonderful day out on tour at Power Works and then onto Loy Yang Power to tour the open cut mine and the power station itself.

All of us found the trip very interesting and even though we are all long term residents of this area we still found all the information interesting.

It was a real thrill to go down into the mine - it is a vast and open area. Very impressive. The power station itself is just such an enormous place and also very impressive as you travel around at the different areas of power production.

We want to thank Michele Chester at Power Works for making our day out a memorable one, she was wonderful.





Queensland Asbestos Symposium



GARDS CEO/Secretary was privileged to attend the Queensland Asbestos Related Disease Support Society Inc. Symposium on Friday 26th October with the compliments of the Society.

It was a great chance to hear some very note worthy speakers such as Helen Colbert - President, Dr Maurice Heiner - Thoracic & Sleep Physician, Professor Brian McCaughey - Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Dr David Scheldt - Radiation Oncologist, Simone Dullaway - DOTS Occupational Therapy and Mr Thady Blundell - Society Legal advisor with Turner Freeman.

I took copious amounts of notes on the day and had a chance to catch up with a few of the speakers to ask

more questions of them.

Also a highlight of the time I spent in Queensland was catching up on all the news with the QARDSS gang and being able to spend some time with Barry Robson and Mike O'Donnell from Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia (ADFA) and Pam Sandys from Asbestos Victims Association (AVA).

I want to thank all those in QARDSS that made it possible for me to attend so that I could come back and share the information with our GARDS members in Victoria.

Pictured here some of the QARDSS members, myself and the ADFA gang at a dinner held later that night.

Thank you so much for a wonderful trip - GARDS appreciated the friendship and generosity shown by all.

GARDS on the move... Warragul

The GARDS organisation have organised a bus trip to Lillico Glass Studio at Warragul.

This special day out will be on the 26th of March 2013. We will be leaving the GARDS office at 10.30am and you will be able to purchase lunch in the summer house or take a packed lunch to have in the grounds of the garden.

The Gallery is the home of working artist Haydn John.

Members will be able to browse in the sun-filled gallery, and will be able to view and purchase a wide range of beautifully handcrafted glass designs, including many original and unique art pieces. Members will be able to wander through the tranquil gardens, enjoy browsing through the delicious treats available from the

“Clearly Delicious Produce Store”, where you will find an assortment of country style preserves and homemade jams to suit every taste.

We will return to the GARDS office by approx 2.30pm.

If you would like to join us on this tour can you please contact Vicki to make a booking and please indicate if you will be purchasing lunch at the Gallery for catering purposes - this is a private function and the venue will not be open to the general public while we are there.

The bus is being provided by GARDS free of charge to its members.

Can you advise us please of your attendance by no later than the end of Feb 2013. This will help us to know what size bus to order.

Looking forward to seeing GARDS members attend this great day out.



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

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

The lunch is free to financial members. Those wishing to bring a partner who is not a member will be required to pay \$18.50. Santa will be in attendance to see who has been naughty or nice and we will have a GARDS

Xmas raffle on the day and lucky door prizes to give away.

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

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

Venue: Moe RSL, Function room, Albert Street, Moe

Date: Saturday 8th December 2012

Time: 12 noon

Free to Financial Members of GARDS

Non members \$18.50 per person

Alcohol available at bar prices

For catering purposes please contact Vicki or the GARDS office RSVP by the 27th November 2012.

RENEWAL FEES DUE NOW 2012

The management of GARDS would like to bring to the attention of its members that all annual fees were due and payable in September 2012.

Can you please make sure your fees are up to date as this money goes part way to help subsidize our mail outs and newsletters to you during the year.

The GARDS committee of Management appreciate your co operations in this.

enHEALTH BOOK - ASBESTOS

A guide for householders and the general public

Below you will see a book that GARDS - other support groups from around Australia and many others have been trying to get taken out of circulation. This book which was created by the Australia Government and we believe it is a health hazard.

There are many statements in the book that are questionable and we believe are dangerous to public health.

For two years while this book was in draft we tried to have the sections we believe needing changing/adjusting to be removed. But we believe we were not taken seriously.

The book was then released in May of this year just before the Asbestos Management review was handed down to Federal Government by Geoff Fary. GARDS and many others have tried to make the Australian Government aware that there are questionable sections in this book that have the potential to cause people to engage in exceptionally dangerous activities by giving them an entirely false sense of security.

GARDS has written to Minister Tanya Plibersek MP Federal Minister for Health, to Minister David Davis MP Victorian Minister

for Health - we have had a Dr Gary Lum AM write to us saying that the Federal Health Dept believes the book is consistent with the World Health Organisations' strategic direction which encourages countries to take measures to prevent exposure to asbestos in place and during asbestos removal - GARDS wrote to the World Health Organisation and showed them the book and the letter that was written to us - The WHO wrote back stating that "If WHO's factsheet confirming that there is no threshold level for the carcinogenicity of asbestos was misinterpreted as an acceptance of low-level exposures and risks from home renovation works, that is not only a misunderstanding but also a misrepresentation of WHO's strategic position on asbestos. WHO's strategic position is, "Stopping to the exposure to asbestos is the most effective way to eliminate asbestos-related diseases." **WHO position on asbestos exposure - There is no safe threshold level of exposure to any type of asbestos.**

This book has also been brought to the attention of Minister Bill Shorten MP Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations - who stated in a media release on the 4th September at the Asbestos Summit, in Sydney

"There is no safe-level of exposure to asbestos. Any fibre can cause asbestos -related diseases.

A reporter at the Summit asked him how shocked was he to discover that in 2012, the Federal Department of Health is advising home owners, home renovators and the public that occasional exposure to large amounts of asbestos is unlikely to be harmful?.

Bill Shorten stated in part of his speech " First things first, I'm grateful to the Gippsland advocacy group who raised this issue with me about information put out in another ministry. It is misleading, that information, not in what you said but the point you're making. There are no safe exposure levels, full stop. So that's misleading. We've spoken with the Health Department getting the chief medical officers together - there is a COAG process. But that material, I don't support. That material which says you can have a safe exposure. No one has ever been able to tell me which fibre is the one which will kill you so therefore you've got to assume that any fibre will kill you."

REPORTER: But it is extraordinary isn't it, that the Department in 2012 can be saying this sort of stuff?

BILL SHORTEN: Well I think I answered your question the last time when I said that I find the material misleading. I don't agree with it. My gut reaction is that it was ridiculous and we'll fix it.

The newly formed National Asbestos Support Group network presented Minister Bill Shorten with a letter drawing his attention to issues that need his urgent attention. One of those being the enHealth booklet - it stated that - The national meeting of asbestos related disease support organisations expresses its grave concern and profound disappointment at the Australian Government publication "Asbestos a guide for householders and the general public". Content of this publication is inaccurate and potentially dangerous. This meeting demands that all forms of this publication be immediately withdrawn from circulation.

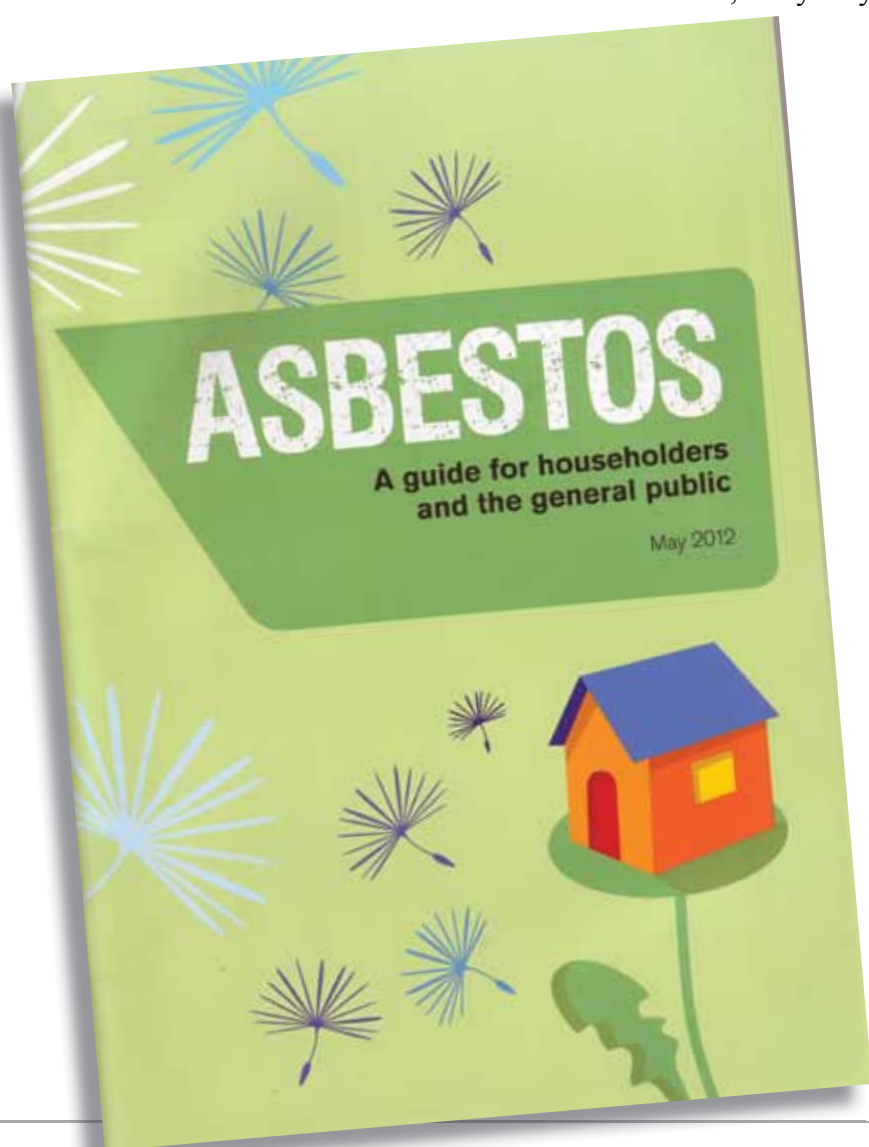
The National Asbestos Support Group network also had a meeting by phone hook up on 22/10/2012 with the Chief supporter of the book whose name appears in the front

pages - Professor Chris Baggoley the Australian Government Chief Medical Officer, also Chair, Australian Health Protection Principal Committee. In his discussions with us Professor Chris Baggoley stated that he looked at the language in the document and said the intention was to 'strike a balance' between a cavalier' approach and 'scaring the bejesus out of people'.

We informed Professor Chris Baggoley that the Australian Health Dept doesn't mind putting confronting pictures of rotting teeth and rotting feet on the front of cigarette packets and scaring the bejesus out of people who smoke or remember when ads in the media portrayed the grim reaper -when they were advertising about AIDS - but when it comes to an environmental carcinogen and warning the public of the very real dangers of that he doesn't mind sending a message that it is okay to expose yourself to "page 16 - However, very occasional exposure to a larger number of asbestos fibres (eg. unsafe home renovation or demolition next door) is unlikely to be harmful... **How ridiculous is this statement.**

Minister Bill Shorten also stated in his media release that "There'll be more Australians die from asbestos related diseases, than died in the whole of the First World War. Most concerning, at the moment, thousands upon thousands of Australians who engage in the national pastime of renovating their own home may well be inadvertently exposing themselves, and their family and their kids, to this **deadly, invisible killer**" - GARDS say "With the help of this book they will expose themselves" Well we can tell you at this present time as we go to print of our newsletter the book has not been taken out of circulation even though repeated attempts by GARDS and many others has amounted to **no movement by the Australian Government - how disgusting is this!!! A Government Dept that Professes to be the protector of Australian Health. Yeh Right!!!**

WARNING: THIS BOOK IS A HEALTH HAZARD - PLEASE DISCARD IN NEAREST BIN!!!!



Special People and Organisations

Regular donations made to us by these generous people from

GJ Crosby Contractors, Irene Elliott in Memory of Doug

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

- David Fairbairn, ■ Monash University Gippsland campus,
- John Foster, ■ Jack Fawcett,
- Paul Bastian - National Secretary of the AMWU,
- Vic Robinson, ■ Janet Hodson, ■ Robert Dunn,
- Giuseppe Iannantuono, ■ Jim Pearless, ■ Sister Joy Hanrahan, ■ Marion & Ray Harris, ■ Nellie Crane,
- Barry & Ivy Fanning,
- Luke van der Meulen CFMEU Mining Division, ■ Scott Hulme,
- Robert Rawlings, ■ Jessie and Duncan Fergus, ■ May Flanagan,
- Graeme Giblett for walking stick

Donations made in Memory of Jennifer Dunn

50 - Anonymous, \$10 Anonymous, \$5 - Anonymous, Margaret McMaster



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

THANK YOU SO MUCH

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

Online Donations \$200 - Anonymous, Lane Booth

Donations made in Memory of Henryk Rejmer

Richard & Pam Rejmer

Donations made in Memory of Daniel Bryce

Anne Bishop, Maree Summers, Paul Bryce, Theresa Booth



GARDS would like to thank David and Moira Duncan for their donation towards the lucky door prizes at the up and coming Xmas party. They are most appreciated and we are sure they will be a lovely surprise present for the GARDS members.

Staff of Gippsland Water

What a great surprise it was to receive a donation cheque in the mail from Scott Bermingham the fundraising Treasurer & the staff of Gippsland Water - they have been over a number of years great supporters of GARDS and we appreciate their continued support to our organisation.

Thank you to all of you, we really are so happy that you continually keep on supporting us year after year.

Home Taste Chinese Restaurant

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



they told him never to show emotion to always stay in control after all, there was no one to rescue the police rescuer...

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

Thursday 22 Nov:

- with Crossing the Gap, 6:30 pm Gormandale contact Ben 0438741662

Saturday 24 Nov:

- 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at Old Gippstown, Moe Sponsored by GARDS (gold coin donation)

Saturday 24 Nov:

- Primary School Performing Arts Centre, 47-87 McDonald St, Morwell

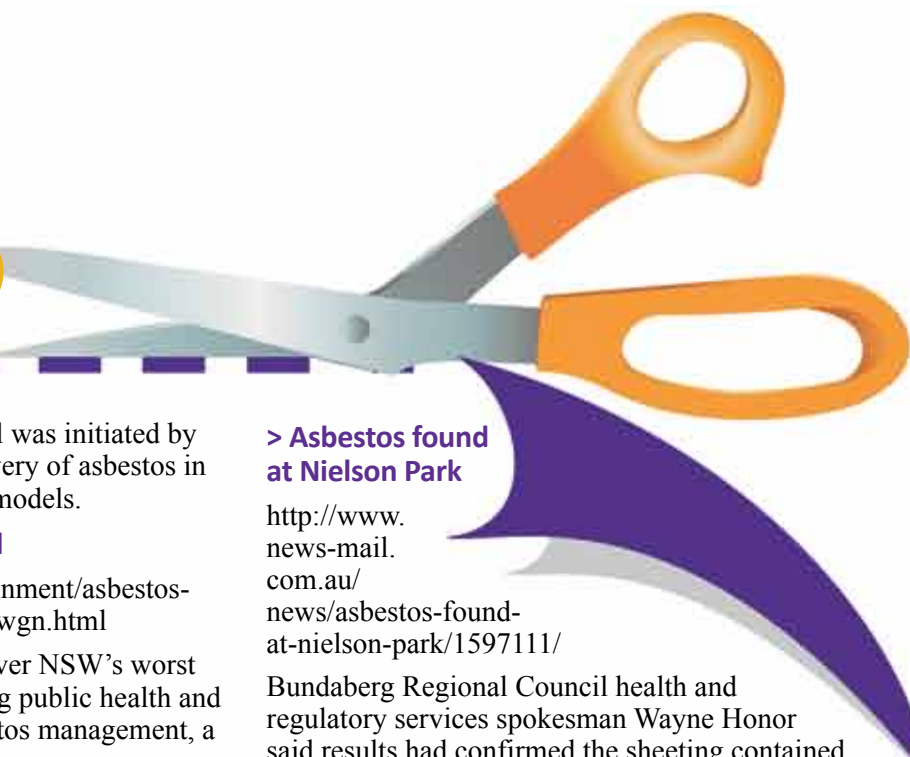
7: 30pm, Gary will speak about his life and faith Followed by supper Cost \$10-

RSVP by Thursday 22 Nov. would be appreciated to organise catering Max 51346683 or Peter 51741897 or Ron 51743110

Sponsored by FGBMFI ~ Central Gippsland Chapter



Asbestos Snippets



IN AUSTRALIA

Mum's asbestos warning

<http://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/news/mums-warning-after-asbestos-battle/1509591/>

– Mother-of-one Michelle Warren wants other families to think twice before paying a tradesman upfront.

> Asbestos dumping alert in south-east

<http://www.dandenongjournal.com.au/story/278891/asbestos-dumping-alert-in-south-east/>

– Residents are knowingly dumping asbestos on their front lawns in the hope it will be taken away during hard rubbish collection. But a waste management company contracted to pick up the hard rubbish in Melbourne's south-eastern suburbs says it won't be tricked into doing people's dirty work for them.

> Sydney Harbor Remediation Project at Barangaroo South Halted After Asbestos ...

<http://www.mesothelioma.com/news/2012/08/sydney-harbor-remediation-project-at-barangaroo-south-halted-after-asbestos-found.htm>

– Lend Lease, a company hired to ship remediated material from Barangaroo South, has stopped work after asbestos was discovered among pieces of “fibro cement.” Though the discovery of the carcinogen is startling and dampens the overall energy of the entire harbor revitalization project, authorities assure the public that the asbestos that was found is “bonded.”

> Unions push for asbestos removal by 2030, government review reports results

<http://www.safetowork.com.au/news/unions-push-for-asbestos-removal-by-2030-government>

– Australia's manufacturing union and the council of trade unions are pressing for the nationwide removal of asbestos by 2030 following the release of a comprehensive federal report on the hazardous substance.

> Wharfies angered by asbestos discovery

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/270180/wharfies-angered-by-asbestos-discovery/>

– Illawarra wharfies responsible for handling the soil shipped from Barangaroo to Port Kembla say they feel betrayed after asbestos was found in the first shipment.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) this week revoked developer Lend Lease's permission to ship about 600,000 tonnes of soil to Port Kembla after a small amount of the deadly substance was spotted after it was unloaded

> Asbestos takes to the streets in Chinese vehicles, sparks recall by importer

<http://www.safetowork.com.au/news/asbestos-takes-to-the-streets-in-chinese-vehicles>

– While Australia continues to make progress in its war on asbestos, the battle is not so easily won. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) announced last week that the organisation is overseeing a recall of roughly 23,000 Chinese vehicles that were recently

shipped to Australia. The recall was initiated by importer Ateco after the discovery of asbestos in several Great Wall and Chery models.

> Asbestos clean-up delayed

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/asbestos-clean-up-delayed-20121019-27wgn.html>

STATE government inaction over NSW's worst derelict asbestos mine is risking public health and exposes shortcomings in asbestos management, a report says.

> Qld govt ups fight against asbestos

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/national/15153624/qld-govt-ups-fight-against-asbestos/>

Asbestos exposure in schools has been going on for a very long time and it is really frightening for parents because there is no way of telling (whether) your child ... has inhaled asbestos fibres if the circumstances occur where they may become ...

> Government to set up asbestos register | Toowoomba Chronicle

<http://www.thechronicle.com.au/news/government-set-asbestos-register/1587660/>

EVERY six days one Queenslander is diagnosed with terminal cancer because of asbestos exposure.

> Botanic gardens asbestos clean-up

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2012/10/22/3615672.htm>

The clean-up is part of an \$86,000 government contract to remove asbestos from the Gardens, after scraps were found by Gardens staff earlier this year. Staff had since banned mowing the lawns to avoid contact and to leave the material undisturbed until ...

> WorkCover Authority of New South Wales - Asbestos removal and ...

<http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/trainingassessment/Trainersandassessors/Pages/asbestos-removal-RTOs.aspx>

From 1 January 2013, only Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) accredited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and registered by WorkCover

> Asbestos in 10% of homes

<http://www.news-mail.com.au/news/asbestos-10-homes/1593675/>

“I am particularly concerned about high risk products like low density asbestos fibre board and asbestos backed vinyl floor sheeting, both of which are highly prone to releasing fibres into the air when disturbed,” Dr Flegg said. “I have instructed the ...

> Managing asbestos—its dangers and its risks page

http://www.comcare.gov.au/news_and_media/media_centre/managing_asbestosits_dangers_and_its_risks

Media release. - 23 Oct 2012. An asbestos forum is being held in Melbourne to explore better management of asbestos and understand its impact on Australian ..

> Asbestos found at Nielson Park

<http://www.news-mail.com.au/news/asbestos-found-at-nielson-park/1597111/>

Bundaberg Regional Council health and regulatory services spokesman Wayne Honor said results had confirmed the sheeting contained a portion of chrysotile asbestos bonded in cement. “The small pieces are likely to have come from an old kiosk building ...

COMCARE ASBESTOS FORUM, MONDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2012

The Comcare Asbestos Forum will explore asbestos management and the impact it has with our workplaces, showcase case studies and look at the practicalities of implementing the recommendation of the Asbestos Management Review.

Industry experts and asbestos disease sufferers will share insights and lived experiences to enhance asbestos awareness, education and collaboration. The forum will provide participants information and support employees who may suffer or care for those with asbestos related diseases.

Location: Melbourne - Intercontinental - 495 Collins Street - 8.30am - 5.00pm free of charge

Phone: 1300 366 979 or register on line at the link below

http://www.comcare.gov.au/events/2012_comcare_asbestos_forum

THE Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has ruled that engine and exhaust gaskets containing asbestos do not have to be removed from about 24,000 Chinese-built Great Wall and Chery vehicles, even though such parts have been illegal on cars sold in Australia since 2003.

Instead, warning labels must be applied to the engine bays, while gaskets will only be replaced if they, or the components they are attached to, need to be replaced during routine servicing or repair.

SHAME ON THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO BE ALLOWING THESE CARS TO REMAIN IN CIRCULATION - BUYER/OWNER BEWARE!!!!

INTERNATIONALLY:

> Asbestos cancer compensation scheme is 'too limited and too late' for victims

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/law/2012/aug/19/asbestos-victims-compensation-scheme-warning?newsfeed=true>

– A scheme to compensate victims of asbestos cancer will not come into force for two years, so many will die before receiving any money, the government is being warned.

Asbestos Snippets

> New CS study touts benefits of Aspirin in Cancer treatment

<http://www.mesothelioma.com/news/2012/08/new-ac-s-study-touts-benefits-of-aspirin-in-cancer-treatment.htm>

– A new study by the American Cancer Society emphasizes what many researchers and medical professionals have thought true for years – a daily regimen of aspirin may very well help keep individuals from developing cancer.

> Asbestos 'likely to be in 70% of Gloucestershire schools'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-19301819>

– More than 70% of schools in Gloucestershire are likely to contain asbestos, the BBC has learned. Figures obtained by a Freedom of Information (FOI) request reveal more than 200 of the 302 state schools in the country could contain the material.

> Researchers explore potential Mesothelioma treatment involving Genetically-Modified Immune Cells

<http://www.aboutmesothelioma.net/2012/08/researchers-explore-potential-mesothelioma-treatment-involving-genetically-modified-immune-cells/>

– The August bulletin of the National Cancer Institute features a clinical trial involving immunotherapy for patients with advanced Mesothelioma and other cancers that express mesothelin, a specific protein.

> Daily Aspirin May Reduce Cancer Deaths, American Cancer Society Says

<http://www.aboutmesothelioma.net/2012/08/daily-aspirin-may-reduce-cancer-deaths-american-cancer-society-says/>

– A daily aspirin may help prevent cancer, according to American Cancer Society researchers.

A large new study, published online this month in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, offers more evidence of a positive association between taking an aspirin and modestly lower cancer mortality. Still, questions remain about the size of the health benefit, the authors of the study say. No one should start an aspirin regimen without consulting a doctor first because even low dose aspirin does cause stomach bleeding in some patients.

> Targeting the Powerhouse of Cells May Lead to a New Treatment for Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma

<http://www.mesotheliomahelp.net/blog/2012/08/targeting-the-powerhouse-of-cells-may-lead-to-a-new-treatment-for-lung-cancer-and-mesothelioma>

– Anyone who has tried to improve their exercise performance, such as running faster or jumping higher, may know that mitochondria plays a key role in providing the energy needed to meet those goals. Mitochondria are considered the powerhouse of cells because they provide cellular energy, and many people believe the more present in cells the better. However, a new study found

that in the case of lung cancer cells, regulating the numbers of mitochondria in the cells could help shrink the tumour. This finding may also be beneficial to other cancers, such as mesothelioma, that can be chemo-resistant.

Mesothelioma? Scientists Quantify Nanofiber Health Risk to Workers

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/08/120822112208.htm>

– Health risks posed to people who work with tiny fibres used in manufacturing industries could be reduced, thanks to new research.

Research into the health risks posed by nanofibres -- used to strengthen objects from tennis rackets to airplane wings -- has pinpointed the lengths at which these fibres are harmful to the lungs

> The Future of Mesothelioma Treatments

<http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/08/23/future-mesothelioma-treatments/>

– The research and treatments being performed in clinical trials and facilities across the world are leading doctors to more effective procedures for current and future mesothelioma patients.

Some have shown modest results while others have outright failed. Some have demonstrated significant potential. Collectively, all attempts at new treatments mean progress towards a brighter future. It's likely that you aren't familiar with all of the following emerging treatment options.

EGFR Mutation Seen as Key Target for Successfully Fighting Lung Cancer ...

<http://www.mesotheliomahelp.net/blog/2012/09/egfr-mutation-seen-as-key-target-for-successfully-fighting-lung-cancer-mesothelioma>

Chemotherapy administered after surgery (adjuvant therapy), which is standard in lung cancer and mesothelioma treatments, has demonstrated a survival benefit, noted Joel Neal, MD, of Stanford University who presented the findings last week at the 2012

>Study: Skin Tumours May Identify Increased Risk of Mesothelioma

<http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/09/14/study-skin-tumors-may-identify-increased-risk-of-mesothelioma-cancer/>

Specific skin spots may be an indicator of a person's increased risk for developing malignant mesothelioma or skin cancer, according to recent discoveries made by researchers at the University of Hawaii. Researchers say these mole-like tumours identify ...

>US Government approves compensation for people suffering from malignant ...

<http://topnews.net.nz/content/224322-us-government-approves-compensation-people-suffering-malignant-mesothelioma-after-911>

US Government approves compensation for people suffering from malignant mesothelioma after 9/11 attacks The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health on the eve of the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks announced that first responders and ...

>The Link Between Asbestos Exposure and Mesothelioma

<http://www.menafn.com/menafn/1093559178/The-Link-Between-Asbestos-Exposure-and-Mesothelioma>

In two-thirds of all mesothelioma cases, the victims have one thing in common. At some point in their life, they were exposed to asbestos. Patients diagnosed with mesothelioma

Mesothelioma Doctors: We Need More Patients in Clinical Trials

<http://www.asbestos.com/news/2012/09/19/mesothelioma-doctors-we-need-more-patients-in-clinical-trials/>

One of the most important steps any cancer patient can take — especially for a mesothelioma cancer patient — is the step into a clinical trial, a leap of faith that goes well beyond one's own best interest. It's what makes progress possible. It's ...

>Mesothelioma: Canada Finally Stops Supporting the Killing Machine

<http://www.mesotheliomalegalblog.com/2012/09/mesothelioma-canada-finally-stops-supporting-the-killing-machine/>

September 19, 2012 By Chris Placitella Leave a Comment. Published: September 17, 2012. by Bill Chappell. Canada's leaders have ended their country's longstanding resistance to asbestos being called a dangerous material under United Nations guidelines, a decision that reflects a shift in the leadership of Quebec province, home of Canada's asbestos industry.

■ Carbon Nanotubes: The Next Mesothelioma Risk?

<http://www.survivingmesothelioma.com/news/view.asp?ID=001367>

There's more evidence that carbon nanotubes, cylindrical carbon molecules used in nanotechnology, electronics, optics and other fields, may cause mesothelioma in the same way that asbestos does. Because of their special mechanical and electrical ...

■ Hawaii Researchers Find Link to Mesothelioma Through Skin Lesions and BAP1

<http://www.mesotheliomahelp.net/blog/2012/09/hawaii-researchers-find-link-to-mesothelioma-through-skin-lesions-and-bap1>

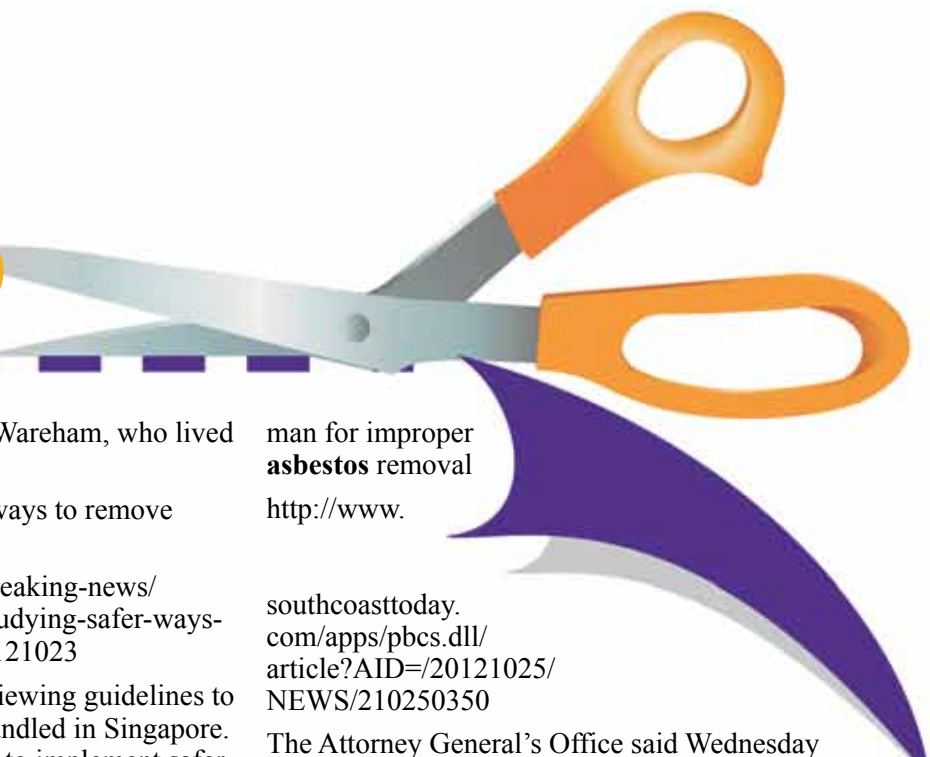
Early detection of mesothelioma has shown to positively influence a patient's survival by increasing treatment options and improving their quality of life while battling the cancer. Stopping tumour growth and preventing metastasis is especially critical ...

■ Cancer patients living longer - report

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/lifestyle/news/article.cfm?c_id=6&objectid=10835545

But sadly pancreatic cancer and mesothelioma remain incredibly lethal. They have the lowest survival rate with less than 10 per cent of patients alive five years after diagnosis. Women generally survived longer than men and younger people had higher ...

Asbestos Snippets



■ Lawyers for Libby asbestos victims are working toward settlements with W.R. Grace & Co., BNSF Railway Co. and certain insurance companies in what Grace has deemed a “global resolution.”

http://www.dailyinterlake.com/news/local_montana/article_b01405d8-1b0e-11e2-b712-001a4bcf887a.html

The settlements would give victims varying amounts of financial compensation for exposure to toxic asbestos dust linked to the former Grace vermiculite mine near Libby. Since the extent of the disease and death caused by asbestos exposure came to light in late 1999, the Centre for Asbestos Related Diseases clinic in Libby has acquired a caseload of more than 2,800 patients and has continued to add new patients.

■ Family fighting for justice for dad who died of an **asbestos**-related cancer

http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/9999505.Family_fighting_for_justice_for_dad_who_died_of_an_asbestos_related_cancer/

The family of a former Watford joiner, who died of an asbestos-related cancer, are fighting for justice for their father by asking former colleagues to come forward with further information.

Grandfather-of-eight Michael Wareham, who lived in ...

■ Government studying safer ways to remove **asbestos** in buildings

<http://www.straitstimes.com/breaking-news/singapore/story/government-studying-safer-ways-remove-asbestos-buildings-20121023>

The Manpower Ministry is reviewing guidelines to improve the way asbestos is handled in Singapore. It will take a close look at how to implement safer ways of removing asbestos from buildings, and engage competent contractors to do such work. The ...

■ Widow needs help tracking **asbestos** death information

http://www.croydonguardian.co.uk/news/localnews/10004295.Widow_needs_help_tracking_asbestos_death_information/

A devastated widow whose husband’s death was caused by exposure to asbestos has launched an emotional appeal urging former colleagues to come forward with information. Wood machinist Brian Grover, 69, died on April 30 this year after an 18-month ...

■ Attorney General files suit against Acushnet

man for improper **asbestos** removal
<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20121025/NEWS/210250350>

The Attorney General’s Office said Wednesday it has filed suit against Acushnet resident Ronald Oliveira for allegedly failing to properly remove asbestos-laden shingles from properties he was renovating. The lawsuit against Oliveira seeks up to \$25 ...

Hinkley A-related asbestos deaths concern coroner

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-20084182>

A coroner has expressed concern about the number of former construction workers at a Somerset nuclear power station who have died as a result of exposure to asbestos. West Somerset coroner Michael Rose said that in the past 14 years he had personally ...

Community Expo

The GARDS organisation likes to get out to as many people in the community as it can and inform and educate to the dangers of asbestos and where asbestos products might be in our community/ environment.

Just recently on the 14th of October we were at Old Gippstown Moe handing out information packs and speaking to those interested in finding out more about getting asbestos removed from their homes as part of a renovation. About 600 people attend the day at Old Gippstown. We were able to give away many bags of information and speak with people who had been newly diagnosed with asbestos related diseases.



Are you nursing a loved one with a terminal illness?

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

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

This service operates with the hard work of volunteers and the generous public who help us raise the funds needed to run the service, thereby making a big

difference to numerous lives. Would you care to Join us? Call No list below.

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

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

CALL 0202 689 827 or 5167 1589

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

Asbestos Summit No 2 Sydney

3rd and 4th September, 2012

GARDS attended the second Asbestos Summit in the first week of September along with other support/advocacy groups and unions from around Australia.

The Summit was called after the Asbestos Management Review had published its 12 recommendations. The Review advisory group comprised of: Mr Jim Barrett, Mr Paul Bastian, Mr Lindsay Fraser AM, Prof Robert Guthrie, Mr Tim Hammond, Ms Sylvia Kedziak AM, Prof Bruce Robinson, Ms Tanya Segelov, Prof Nico Van Zandwijk. The report can be found at: <http://www.deewr.gov.au/WorkplaceRelations/Policies/AMR/Pages/AMRReport.aspx>

Above left are a set of panellists who attended the 4th Sept gathering comprising of Margot Hoyte - ACTU, Prof Ian Olver - Cancer Council Australia, Geoff Fary - Chair of Asbestos Management Review, SERAFINA SALUCCI - mesothelioma sufferer and Minister Bill Shorten MP. each spoke of their involvement in asbestos issues and what they hoped to see come out of the Summit. Above Right are all the Asbestos Support/Advocacy groups gathered on the 3rd Sept to discuss the issues that were most important to them. See below their recommendations.

Response to Asbestos Management Review, 4 September 2012

The Asbestos Summit 2 congratulates Minister Shorten for his support of the recommendations of the AMR and the immediate establishment of the Office of Asbestos Safety. We note that this Office is due to provide a comprehensive response to the recommendations by the end of 2012 and a National Strategic Plan by 1 July 2013.

The Summit welcomes the statement of bipartisan support by Senator Eric Abetz and calls on all state and territory governments to register their active support for the establishment of a National Asbestos Authority and

the implementation of the National Asbestos Strategy.

The participants in the Summit commit to generating strong bi-partisan support, at all levels of government for the establishment of the national asbestos authority and the Strategic Plan.

The Second Asbestos Summit supports the recommendations of the Asbestos Management Review Report and calls on all governments in Australia to work together to achieve the review's ultimate aim of "eliminating asbestos disease in Australia".

The Report includes a National Strategic Plan, which would commit the Australian governments and the wider community to:

- Asbestos awareness campaigns for the public that are targeted and evaluated
- Asbestos education for those working with asbestos
- Prioritised removal of asbestos containing materials from government and commercial buildings by 2030
- Adoption of asbestos content reports for residential properties constructed prior to 1987, to be administered by local government
- Adoption of national standards for licensed operators to handle, remove, transport, and dispose of asbestos
- Audit of ACMs in government and commercial buildings and disposal sites
- Review of adequacy of existing disposal sites
- Continuance and expansion of the mesothelioma Register
- Sufficient funding for medical research
- Continued leadership role for Australian government in securing a global ban on asbestos
- The Second Asbestos Summit welcomes the bipartisan support given to the AMR Report and calls on all governments in Australia to support the establishment of a new



national agency, the Australian Asbestos Awareness and Management Agency, to expedite implementation of the report's recommendations.

If implemented, the report's recommendation will mark a turning point in history, a moment when our country agreed that we did not have to live with asbestos in our built environment and when we determined as a nation that the continuation of asbestos-related disease will not be tolerated.

The Declaration of the first Asbestos Summit in 2010 stated the aim of eliminating asbestos related disease and exposure to all forms of Asbestos.

In the words of the Review Chair, Mr Geoff Fary, the report provides an opportunity for governments "...to demonstrate national and international leadership on the issues. We could become the first nation to commit to the objective of the ultimate elimination of asbestos related disease".

Minister Shorten has committed to this objective today.

The Asbestos Diseases Support groups made the following recommendations from the National Meeting held on the 3rd of Sept to Minister Bill Shorten and presented them to him at the Summit on the 4th Sept.

The letter contents is as follows:

We write to advise you of the outcomes of today's national meeting of asbestos disease support groups and draw to your urgent attention the motions from today's meeting.

The meeting agreed to participate in a joint statement from the Second National Asbestos Summit to be held on Tuesday Sept 4th 2012 supporting the recommendations of the Asbestos Management Review and calling on all government in Australia to work together to achieve the Review's ultimate aim of "eliminating asbestos-related disease in Australia".

It was the view of the meeting that the voices of asbestos disease support organisations must be clearly heard

as part of the establishment of an Australian Asbestos Awareness and Management Agency and the development and implementation of a national strategic plan on asbestos. The following motion received unanimous support:

Motion 1: "This meeting agrees to form a national network of asbestos related disease support organisations"

Moved: R Smith (Bernie Banton Foundation)

Seconded: B Robson(ADFA)

The meeting also passed the following motions and resolved to send them to you as a matter of high priority. We urge you to give them your attention to ensure misinformation regarding asbestos and dangerous asbestos products is not further proliferated in Australia.

Motion 2: "The national meeting of asbestos related disease support organisations expresses its grave concern and profound disappointment at the Australian Government publication: "Asbestos- a guide for householders and the general public". Content of this publication is inaccurate and potentially dangerous. This meeting demands that all forms of this publication be immediately withdrawn from circulation"

Moved: V Hamilton (GARDS)

Seconded: E Day (ADFA)

Motion 3: " This meeting condemns all forms of illegal importation of asbestos into Australia and the apparent inability of government to effectively prevent these importations. In particular, the meeting notes the importation over the last several years of Great Wall and Chery vehicles from China containing asbestos parts. This meeting calls for a full product recall and that the asbestos containing parts in these vehicles must be safely replaced over the next twelve months. The meeting also calls for immediate measures to ensure the effective enforcement of customs and border security laws in relation to asbestos containing products".

Moved: S Wallace (AFTF)

Seconded: J Carter (ADSSA)





GARDS Inc. Membership Form

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

Committee of Management

President:

Brian Clegg
 Ph. 5176 2286
 Mobile 0427 007 505

Vice President:

Dorothy Roberts
 Ph. 5127 4174
 Mobile 0407 274 174

CEO/Secretary:

Vicki Hamilton
 Ph. 5127 8219
 Mobile 0407 274 173

Treasurer:

David Fairbairn
 Mobile 0403 319 520

Member:

Marie Smith
 Ph. 5127 1427
 Mobile 0427 271 427

Ann Clegg

Ph. 5176 2286
 Mobile 0439 662 282

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

**CALL IN
 FOR A CHAT AND
 CUPPA**

GARDS NEW MEMBERS Joining Fee \$5.00

PLUS

GARDS Annual Subscription 2013

- 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: ____/____/____

G.A.R.D.S. SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS FOR 2013

1.30PM – 3.30PM

Meetings are held at –

**GARDS Premises
 41 Monash Road,
 Newborough**

- Tuesday 26th February
- Tuesday 26th March
- Tuesday 30th April
- Tuesday 28th May
- Tuesday 25th June
- Tuesday 30th July
- Tuesday 27th August
- Tuesday 24th September
- Tuesday 29th October
- Friday 29th November – Asbestos Awareness Day, Rose Garden, Morwell

G.A.R.D.S. NIGHT MEETINGS FOR 2013

7.30PM – 9.30PM

Meetings are held at –

**GARDS Premises
 41 Monash Road,
 Newborough**

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

UP AND COMING EVENTS

Our Night/Day Meetings

Tuesday 27 November
Asbestos Seminar For All - Night Forum
 GARDS Office 6pm. Light refreshments available.

Thursday 29 November
Morning Teas at Davies and Moller Chemist, Morwell **10am**

Friday 30 November
Asbestos Awareness Event - Centenary
 Rose Garden, Morwell **Commencing at 11am**

Saturday 8 December
Christmas Lunch - Moe RSL Free for
GARDS Members 12noon-3pm

Office Closed
 from 19th December 2012 until 21st
 January 2013. Can still be contacted by
 phone 24/7 for emergencies.

Saturday 2 February
GARDS AGM 2pm
 41 Monash Road, Newborough

Tuesday 26 February
Robyn Garcia - Salts of the Earth
 Traralgon

Tuesday 26 March
Bus Tour to Lilloo Glass Studio
 Warragul



GARDS Inc. Support

GARDS provides support and information to asbestos sufferers, their families and carers. This includes home visits by GARDS volunteers, a telephone information/support service 24 hours, 7 days a week. GARDS has an office, which is open for sufferers, their families, carers and the general community to access at the times listed in the information section.

GARDS INC. Support also conducts a monthly meeting (1.30pm – 3.30pm) on the last Tuesday of the month) where guest presenters are invited to provide information about support services of all kinds and any other topics of interest that the members might find of relevance. The meetings also provide a gathering place

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

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

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

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

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: **5127 7744**

Fax: **5126 0354**

Email: **info@gards.org**

Web site: **www.gards.org**

SKYPE: **VickiGARDS**



GARDS Inc. Evening Meetings

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

These meetings provide a focal point for information

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



GARDS Inc. would like to thank these sponsors and supporters

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