



ASBESTOS NEWS

GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES SUPPORT INC.
GARDS is endorsed as a charity. Donations of \$2.00 & over are tax deductible.

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GARDS Info page

DID YOU KNOW

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

WORKSAFE FUNDING

GARDS is very pleased to be granted a 3 year contract with WorkSafe Vic. This will help us to maintain our momentum with our services to provide information and support to sufferers, their families and the community. We are very proud to provide services to the Gippsland community and pleased to provide asbestos information to all who need our help regionally, interstate and internationally.

GARDS has many projects underway at this present time and involved on many committees that deal with asbestos issues both here in Victoria and interstate.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank past and present WorkSafe staff who support and work with us on a regular basis. We look forward with great enthusiasm to making positive change in helping to keep people safe into the future - we need to keep asbestos issues in the public arena and to keep pushing the boundaries for safe eradication of asbestos from our environment, so that future generations do not have to suffer the deadly illnesses that have brought so much heart ache in the past and present to good Australian families.

We are passionate and committed individuals who will keep on keeping on!!! Thank you WorkSafe for your enthusiasm and support of GARDS.

SIDNEY MYER FUND



SIDNEY MYER FUND

SIDNEY MYER FUND & THE MYER FOUNDATION

GARDS would like to thank Sidney Myer fund and foundation for their valued support for our families in Gippsland. The GARDS organization was thrilled to hear the news that a funding submission we had placed with them was successful.

This money will go to help our asbestos sufferers and their families. We deem it a great honour to have support like this to enrich the lives of our sufferers.

Without foundations such as this to help promote positive change in community groups such as ours we would find it very hard to deliver services and support those in need. Thank you to Kirsty and all who made this funding possible.

Make a Donation to our Group

using the secure engine of ourcommunity.com.au

CLICK HERE

Sponsor of Newsletter



Major sponsor:





Thank you to Rotary Club of Warragul



The Warragul Rotary Club's Gippsland Gourmet Gala dinner attracted more than 120 people and raised \$5,000 for GARDS. The annual dinner held at Danny's, in Warragul, saw a team of local chefs create an exciting five-course dinner ranging from braised ox check to Christmas pudding. Local wineries supported the function with a range of wonderful local wines and beer to compliment the meals. One Chef, Ray Gerrard, recently cooked for Robert De Niro on his Melbourne film set. GARDS was overwhelmed to have the support of Warragul Rotary and also the chefs from the Outpost Restaurant - John Snelling Ray Gerrard & Steven Clark, Sharon Reilly, Chambers Restaurant - Simon Sullivan, Wild Dog Restaurant - Ed McDonnell and the Butchers Shop Hotel - Kate Neilson. GARDS encourages everyone to support these great venues when you next decide to eat out. The meals were absolutely delicious. Thank you once again to all who made this possible. The money has purchased a portable oxygen concentrator. We have labelled the equipment to show who generously donated to our sufferers.

Pictured above: Ray & Di Massaro, John & Linda Alcoc, Vicki, Graeme & Tanya Hamilton, Dorothy Roberts & Marie Smith



Pictured above: President Ian Holdsworth & CEO Vicki Hamilton



Latrobe City Community Grants



GARDS wishes to thank Latrobe City staff and councillors for supporting our organizations newsletter by approving a community grant to us that goes part way to helping produce this vital link to our members and the wider community. The newsletter keeps people in touch with what is happening in the asbestos arena, around Medical/health, research, environmental and social/political issues.

We are so pleased to have support to help with our infrastructure, as many would know it is always hard to find funding to support organizations such as ours.

GARDS ON THE MOVE - RECYCLING TOUR



The GARDS crew attended the first tour of the season for Latrobe City of the recycling facilities that are processing the waste that residents discard as part of the home recycle program running in Latrobe City. Peter Collins the Waste Education officer enlightened our group to all the facets of recycling around green waste, cardboard, paper, aluminium, steel etc. and we were also treated to a tour of a facility that showed us how they recycle plastic into innovative ideas such as water tanks, road bollards, pellets etc.

During our tour we had morning tea at Power Works and watched a film on recycling.

As you can see our team of GARDS listened and learnt many more facets of recycle than they knew and awed at the amount of materials that can be recycled and turned into very useful and reusable items.

We would like to thank Peter Collins from Latrobe City, Pine Grow, Power Works, Dasma and Kiel Industries for a trip we all will never forget.



We would also like to thank Julianne Richards from Rawson Erica bus lines for taking us all around the country side that day. She did a wonderful job. We highly recommend anyone wishing to find out where your recycle goes contact Peter Collins and he will arrange a tour for your group or organization - it is well worth a look.



ASBESTOS SUMMIT UPDATE - taken from the AMWU website

Safe asbestos Free Environment by 2030

Our aim is to eliminate asbestos related disease and exposures to all forms of asbestos in Australia.

Australia has an unenviable record of one of the world's highest rate of asbestos related diseases and a legacy of asbestos containing materials (ACMs) in many workplaces and buildings- public and private, commercial, domestic and industrial.

The use of all forms of asbestos in Australia has been banned since 2003, including its import and export. But, because of the legacy of its use, we have not solved the problem of asbestos exposures – for either people at work or in the general community. The current evidence is that

1. despite a general level of awareness about the dangers of asbestos, workers are unsure and unclear about specific safe work practices
2. householders are not aware of the extent and nature of ACMs in domestic dwellings
3. affected householders are unsure and unclear about specific safe work practices for home maintenance and improvement
4. the condition of asbestos containing building materials is deteriorating and
5. the safe disposal of ACMs, especially for householders, is difficult and very often not properly followed.

To eliminate deadly asbestos related disease in Australia we must decrease and eventually eliminate all exposures to asbestos.

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

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

This National Asbestos Summit calls for the establishment of a National Asbestos Authority (NAA) for a Safe asbestos Free Environment by 2030.

The Summit calls on all levels of government to work with organisations like those represented here, in the establishment of such an Authority so that we can extend and implement successful and safe asbestos awareness, control and eradication programs across the nation.

National Strategies

In support of achieving the outcomes identified in the National Declaration for *Safe Asbestos Free Environment (SaFE) Australia* some useful strategies to pursue these objectives include

- increase the awareness on where ACMs are located, in environmental, industrial, commercial and domestic settings
- general public education must include advice to homeowners on the identification and safe handling of ACMs in existing domestic housing stock
- for local governments and environment protection agencies to train and license contractors for safe asbestos waste disposal and for the provision of adequate dedicated secure and permanent waste disposal sites
- a consistent national scheme of notifications of *known* asbestos exposure to contact a specific and appropriately resourced government entity which would have the responsibility to provide referral and education (eg akin to the existing notification system for infectious diseases.)
- ensure that national OHS regulations provide protection from industrial exposures to asbestos containing materials.

ASBESTOS SUMMIT UPDATE

- Waste Disposal laws for ACMs must provide for dedicated asbestos waste areas, assist residents for safe removal and disposal and compliment other OHS, building and planning laws.
- Building and planning and waste disposal laws must complement national OHS based Asbestos Regulations, using such mechanisms as:
 - audit of public buildings particularly in the health and education sectors, with asbestos registers and a target of prioritised removal by 2030;
 - in the commercial and industrial sectors; asbestos registers that include the program of prioritised removal by 2030 and a requirement for vendors and landlords and/or their agents to notify buyers and tenants of the asbestos register i.e. asbestos safety certificates;
 - for domestic housing stock, a requirement for the disclosure of ACMs , at the point of sale, with the purpose of the eventual removal of asbestos from of housing stock;
 - landlords (including governments) and vendors and/or their agents in the residential dwelling sector being obliged to notify buyers and tenants of the presence of ACMs i.e. asbestos safety certificates.

National system of accreditation for asbestos assessors and auditors

Review performance of asbestos removalists

Additionally governments must make arrangements for the allocation of funds in a coordinated approach for medical research.

Proposal to establish a National Asbestos Authority

A National Asbestos Authority (NAA) should initially be established as an independent authority with the appropriate powers to coordinate and enforce all of the aspects contained in the range of tasks and matters listed in this Declaration.

The NAA would work best as an independent body, as a statutory Authority. Its coverage and agenda would not be limited to workplaces so that it could develop a total community approach.

The activities of the NAA could be overseen by a board of management consisting of a representation from key stakeholders from unions, the community, asbestos disease support groups, health groups and government.

Unanimously agreed June 29th 2010 Sydney NSW

Background

All forms of asbestos cause lung cancer and mesothelioma, both fatal illnesses.

Due to Australia's very heavy industrial use of asbestos for insulation, in friction products and in house-hold building products until 1983, an estimated 40,000 people will get an asbestos-related disease over the next 20 to 30 years.

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



BERWICK OPPORTUNITY SHOP A BIG THANK YOU

GARDS committee and members want to thank the ladies/men who supported GARDS with a monetary donation to help our

organization in its work to support asbestos sufferers and their families. You are a terrific bunch of volunteers who do a wonderful job. We at GARDS feel very privileged to receive a donation from a hard working bunch of volunteers who make a difference in the community.



ALSTOM BOYS HAZELWOOD ARE TERRIFIC !

GARDS were very thrilled to receive a donation from the workers at Alstom -

what a wonderful bunch of people fundraising for our organization. It is an honour to think that the workers want to help our asbestos sufferers and families to try and make life a bit more comfortable for them in their time of need. - Thank you!



GARDS XMAS LUNCH 2010

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 Silks Restaurant, Moe (it is situated behind Michaels Golden Hen). The menu this year will be buffet style lunch including 2 roast meats and all the trimmings with plum pudding and custard/cream or Fruit Salad if you so desire. The lunch is free to financial members and those wishing to bring a partner who is not a member will have to pay \$25.00.

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: Silks Restaurant – situated behind Michaels Golden Hen, George Street, Moe

Date: Saturday 4th December 2010

Time: 12 noon

Free to Financial Members of GARDS

Non members \$25.00 per person

The restaurant is BYO.

For catering purposes please contact Vicki

or the GARDS office RSVP by the

29th November 2010.



MAURICE BLACKBURN LAW FIRM



GARDS was pleased to accept a donation from Maurice Blackburn law firm to help with the support we give to sufferers. Firm Principal Andrew Dimsey acknowledged the work that GARDS does in the community.

Vicki Hamilton CEO, stated that they were proud to make a difference in the lives of asbestos sufferers. It is always our goal to support families any way we can and it is a bonus along the way that we can identify areas where we are able to make real change to support services for sufferers, and to educate our community so in the future we can try to prevent others from unnecessary exposure to this deadly carcinogen, and thus eliminate the disease from our community.



BEYOND THE SMOKE STACKS

It is the most stark health issue to ravage the Latrobe Valley, yet so many are suffering in silence. Elizabeth Bacchetti looks at the devastating after-effects of our once asbestos coated power plants.

As a blade of light streams through the narrow window, tiny snow-like flakes pleasantly glisten in the air. Men in overalls disturb the calm, rushing through the myriad of hazy dust while busily performing repairs on the mechanical and electrical equipment around them. As the building surges and shakes, more dust falls, the men breathe in, sweating, laughing and sharing a joke. From the outside, steam billows from the giant cooling towers as Victoria wakes up, turning on their heaters, boiling their kettles and toasting their morning bread.

By day's end, Elaine Callow's husband Trevor leaves with the grey strands of his hair cased in a thick mat of dust. Elaine stands on the back veranda of their home in Moe, shaking the dust from his work clothes. She yells at her son to go inside, insisting she doesn't want him trolling through the house covered in dust. At the time she had no idea that what she was doing would later prove to be a deadly ritual for many wives, girlfriends and children.

"People only have to come and have a look at me now to realise how bad it is," says Elaine.

At 74 years of age, Elaine has an unforgiving form of cancer. She sits in her home in a frail and anguished state. Her poor quality of life reflects the lack of warning around the dangers of asbestos, which was widely used in construction and also in the running of the power stations with pipes and machinery covered in asbestos. The rate of asbestos disease among power industry workers is seven times that of the State average. Today, many people in the Latrobe Valley are still suffering, with conservative predictions that the number of asbestos-related diseases will peak by 2020.

The Latrobe Valley also faces another generation of sufferers, from those who went unprotected onto their properties after the recent bushfires and those currently conducting home renovations. Risk information was hidden from those affected and even now, the vast suppression and denial of asbestos related-diseases has made awareness a slow and difficult process. For many, like Elaine, their asbestos-related disease was contracted by second-hand contact.

"My husband was just doing his job to pay for our house and the things we needed, yet in doing so he was killing himself and bringing it home to me, which is now killing me," she says.

Asbestos is a mineral rock that consists of tiny fibres. It was widely used as insulation and many other products such as brakes, building materials, pipes, backing on tiles and floors, also in tiles and floor tiles etc. The fibres can be breathed in causing serious illnesses such as asbestosis, mesothelioma and lung cancer. It can take up to 40 years for symptoms to present. Between the opening of the Yallourn power station in 1924 and the late 80's, 146,000 workers went through the State Electricity Commission of Victoria. Those workers' took the fibres home on their clothing to their families

Trevor Callow worked at the old SEC and Hazelwood. He battled asbestosis for 16 years before he passed away in June of 2009. Three months later, Elaine was diagnosed with mesothelioma, the most fatal of the asbestos-related diseases. For two years, doctors had been treating Elaine for pleurisy, but when they finally looked beyond the copious amounts of fluid, they discovered why she felt as though she was "being strangled in the lungs". Cancer had been eating away at her insides.

The news came as another devastating blow. "I cried from the doctors all the way down to Slater and Gordon to put in a claim straight away. I'd already lost my husband by then. It was out of my control," she recalls.



BEYOND THE SMOKE STACKS cont....

Elaine sits in her home most days unable to exert energy on even the simplest of tasks, like going into the garden or baking a cake. In a sadly nostalgic way, Elaine remembers what it was like to be fit, playing her favourite sport, squash, and being involved in the community. Finding out she had mesothelioma was more than she could take.

“I guess it shows that nothing stops this illness from sneaking up from behind you,” she says.

There is no cure for this disease, let alone a sufficient treatment. Even though the disease is built up in Elaine’s lungs, the doctors suspect that there is also new growth emerging.

Elaine feels mostly anger for being given an unnecessary “life sentence”. Her future is in the hands of the unforgiving disease, a cruel master of her fate. Her voice becomes shaky as she reflects upon her appearance. “There is nothing much left of me, I’m just all skin and bone. Not much meat on my body anymore, you know. I’m sitting here slowly dying and there is nothing I can do and I’m angry at the world because the world’s responsible for it.”

Her frustration stems from the fact that nobody ever told any of the workers about the risk of asbestos. She says the SEC would put up warning signs around certain areas of the power station, but it was useless because it was everywhere, a thick sheet over the atmosphere. “When they eventually found out why people were dying, no one ever wanted to talk about it,” she says. Elaine and Trevor wanted to change this mentality.

While Trevor was alive, he became heavily involved in the Gippsland Asbestos Related Disease Support group. Elaine also fought tirelessly for the GARDS, spreading awareness, attending the meetings and even walking a large portion of Morwell to get signatures to have a cancer unit built at the Latrobe Regional Hospital in Traralgon.

Vicki Hamilton is the CEO and Secretary of GARDS. She lost both her father and grandfather to asbestos - related disease.

“Asbestos support groups are a very unique thing, not only do we all have a common foe but the disease is incurable, so the people who come to our group find it difficult to go to other cancer support groups and sit with people who have breast cancer, because they have a hope of being cured, whereas those with asbestos-related disease know there is no cure,” she says.

GARDS began in 1991 as an afternoon cup of tea to support the increasing number of widows in the area. Eventually, they started asking questions about the lack of services available.

GARDS has spread asbestos awareness information throughout the area, supplied families with support group meetings, free medical equipment to make life more bearable and keep families connected with information they need, GARDS advocated for new drugs and research and worked with occupational health and safety regulations and on awareness campaigns. Their lobbying brought a \$21 million dollar cancer care centre to the Latrobe Regional Hospital in 2006. Up until then, 80 per cent of cancer patients at Monash medical centre in Melbourne were people commuting from the Valley.

According to Hamilton, the power stations in the Latrobe Valley were warned of the dangers of asbestos by the United Kingdom in the late thirties, yet the problem had manifested itself beyond control or care. It was everywhere.



BEYOND THE SMOKE STACKS cont....

“Any house built up until the late 1980s will have asbestos in it, whether it is under the eaves or floor or in some textured paints and tiles etc.”

Despite asbestos being “a really wonderful product” she says “it’s a pity it kills you”. With no cure and limited knowledge of the disease, Hamilton says “it doesn’t matter who you are, everybody will have breathed into their lungs asbestos fibres, we all breathe them in, they are in our environment, what triggers you to "succumb to an asbestos disease, nobody knows yet" There needs to be a lot more scientific research around this issue.

A man walked into her office five years ago and he said out of a group of 33 men who worked under the same conditions, he was the only one still alive and had no signs of the disease.

Elaine Callow is a living reality of the kind of devastation the disease can have on people’s lives. Many others in the Latrobe Valley suffer alongside her.

“People will say ‘you poor thing’, but I don’t want that. I just want the word to be out there to stay away from it, keep away from this disease. It’s just hanging around, waiting to get the next person and there is nothing you can do about it.”



VALE TO ELAINE CALLOW



Dear Elaine lost her battle with mesothelioma on the 4th September 2010. Elaine was held in high esteem by the GARDS organisation and will be sadly missed. But she will not be forgotten. Her memory will live on in those who knew her well. She would want us to go on making a difference in the lives of others affected by this deadly carcinogen. She would want us to keep up the fight to rid Australia of this deadly material and to eventually eradicate it from our communities.

We will miss you very much Elaine and we enjoyed our visits with you in those last few months. Elaine was one of the GARDS treasures. Rest in peace Elaine your battle is now over - till we meet again.

1936 - 2010

Latrobe Regional Hospital Foundation 2010 GALA Ball

As a hospital foundation member I and two of my GARDS members attended the ball held on Saturday 14th August at Monash University Auditorium, Churchill. The ball raised more than \$112,000 on the night. What a great achievement by so many wonderful supporters for a truly worthwhile cause.





RYAN CARLISLE THOMAS LAW FIRM



GARDS received a cash donation from Ryan Carlisle Thomas law firm. Shaun Marcus - lawyer & Richard Dirks, partner with the firm presented a cheq to the organisation in acknowledgement of the tireless work GARDS is doing in the community and further afield.

Vicki Hamilton CEO/Secretary stated that the organisation was effecting change in many areas of the community around support, advocacy and education. We are always pleased to receive donations to help us further our work. Making a difference in the lives of asbestos sufferers and their families has always been our goal and it is a bonus that along the way we have had the chance to make real change for the future and try to prevent others in the community from unnecessary exposure to this deadly carcinogen. We are very proud of our achievements. The two lawyers presented the cheque at the afternoon support group meeting and were treated to afternoon tea. **Pictured above are some of the GARDS members with Shaun and Richard**

CSR UPDATE

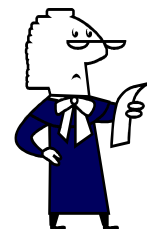


GARDS has been making enquiries as to what is happening with CSR but with the Federal elections and all that took place with installing a new government it seems that CSR took a back stall at this present time. There has been a letter written to Prime Minister Julia Gillard seeking a meeting with her over the CSR demerger of their sugar business and the sale of that business to an overseas corporation for \$1.75 billion. Now that the new Federal Government is in place we may be able to push forward with our request.

In the meantime though CSR have been very hard to get along with by dragging out the process of settling claims. GARDS is hearing about many cases that involve CSR that seem to be dragging on and on.

Seems to us that CSR better get their act together and stop this attitude of " it must be someone else's product it couldn't be ours". When all the facts have been presented in court CSR why don't you be a good corporate citizen and do the right thing? It is disgraceful that our sufferers and their families are put through this emotional roller coaster by CSR in such an undignified way with an uncaring attitude towards the very families they made knowingly sick with their wonder products . You should be ashamed of yourselves - pick up your game and show some sense of humanity towards the very people you have sent to untimely graves.

I remember a CSR representative saying to me that they are not like James Hardie - Come on - convince me and the sufferers & families you are putting through this hellish nightmare that you are caring corporate citizens - yeh right!!!






RAAF Donation - Sale




DINING IN NIGHT CHARITY FUNDRAISER

In October GARDS was very honoured to receive a donation from the 04/10 Initial Officers' Course at the RAAF base at Sale. The dining-in night is an event steeped in military tradition. The evening is chaired by an MC known as Mr Vice. One particular element of the night is known as 'banter', this is an opportunity for staff and course members to challenge one another for certain 'faux pas' that they may have committed whilst on course. Based on the severity of the offence, members are expected to pay a fine at the discretion of Mr Vice. If the member is able to provide a quick-witted counter argument, then the fine may be turned on the accuser.

These fines form the basis of fundraisers for worthwhile causes like GARDS. Humour aside, those members' minor misfortunes will help to make someone else's life better, who has suffered a great deal more. Mesothelioma and other asbestos diseases are a problem that affects Australia at its core.

As future officers of the ADF, we thought it fitting to support an issue that hits home. Also, to support an organisation like GARDS allows us to help the local Gippsland community, which supports us. On behalf of the 04/10 Initial Officers' Course, I would like to wish GARDS all the best in their mission to make life better for sufferers of asbestos related diseases. Written by T. Cocks FLGOFF - Assistant Entertainment Officer/'Mr Vice', OTS Students' Mess, RAAF Base, East Sale. GARDS wishes to thank all those who took part in this night - we always appreciate donations given to us but they are made more special when we know how much goes into the fundraising and how much people care for our sufferers and their families - we would also like to give a big thank you to Steven Meyer SGT - Many Many thanks to you all - God bless you!!!

FEES DUE AND PAYABLE

If you have not paid your fees this year they are due and payable by the 31st October 2010. All GARDS members fees are due by this date. We will not be sending out reminders as we have done in the past as the costs prohibit us from sending reminders and second reminders to members anymore. Please pay this by the end of the month, the GARDS committee would appreciate your cooperation in this.





ASBESTOS AWARENESS DAY EVENT FRIDAY 26TH NOV

Venue: Rose Garden in Morwell Date: Friday 26th of November

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. There will be a time in our ceremony where families will be able to lay flowers and pay tribute to their loved ones. Guest speakers will be...

▪ **Guest speakers TBA**

GARDS this year will have Newborough Primary School choir & Paddy O'Dowd will be singing. At the conclusion of the ceremony there will be a **free** BBQ lunch 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 0407274173 or the GARDS office: 5127 7744

Asbestos Awareness Day badges with our feather symbol 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 any mecu credit in Moe, Morwell, Traralgon and the GARDS office - 41 Monash Road, Newborough



LV POWER INDUSTRY COHORT STUDY



The Latrobe Valley Power Industry Cohort study, commenced in 2008 under the guidance of University of Melbourne researchers Associate Professor Tony LaMontagne and Dr Andrew Holloway, is moving into its final stages. As participants in the study will recall, Tony and Andrew are inviting current or former Latrobe Valley power industry workers who enrolled back in 2008 to donate three blood samples, approximately one year apart. The last of these three blood samples are being collected now, and if participants haven't already received a letter about this, then it will arrive soon. The procedure is the same as in previous years, with any office of Gippsland Pathology ready to accept a sample (please don't donate your sample on Friday if possible!).

Andrew Holloway has moved from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre to the University of Melbourne, but the contact number for the study (**1800 060 183**) remains the same if participants have any queries about the study. Andrew and Tony are continuing analysis of mesothelin levels, and are in the midst of relating the information provided in the questionnaires early in the study with mesothelin levels to evaluate the utility of mesothelin in assessing the risk or extent of asbestos related disease. Tony LaMontagne recently presented some preliminary information about the study to the International Mesothelioma Interest Group (IMIG) scientific meeting in Japan. There was considerable international interest in the study, especially now that it is in its final stages. Those participants who consented to their samples being used in other asbestos related disease related research will be pleased to know that small amounts of their blood samples are likely to be sent overseas shortly to help other groups with their valuable research.

Tony and Andrew will be coming to the Latrobe Valley in the near future to present data about the study to people interested in the results the study has generated. More information will be provided a bit closer to the date. As usual, Tony and Andrew would like to sincerely thank all the participants in the study, without whom none of this work would have been possible.

Thank You To Some Special People & Organizations

Regular Monetary donations made to GARDS by - G & J Crosby Contractors & Doug & Irene Elliott

In kind donations made to us by - Peter Butcher & Associates - PBA Financial Group, Jenni Rohde - Wish Marketing

Brian & Ann Clegg, Stan & Ivy Brown, Vic Robinson, Joe Iannantuono, Graeme Woods, Loy Yang Power, Anonymous donation of \$270, John Swinnerton, Stan & Ivy Brown, Nunzio Bianconi, Ken Jackson, James Pearlless, Ritchies - Churchill

Donations made In Memory of Kevin Fanning - June McIntosh, Newborough Football Club Past Players Association, Linda Hall,

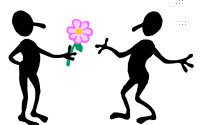
Donation made In Memory of Bill Young - Bibby Family - Neil Alexander,

Donations made In Memory of Neville Aitken - Barbara Aitken, Terri & Joe Albert, Glen Aitken & Family, Mary Lang, Graham & Doreen Trotter, Pat & Jeff Pacheco, J & A Key, C Griggs, Anonymous, Anthony Landmann, Julie Wright,

Donations made In Memory of Elaine Callow - Jacqui, Darren & Jacob Fry, Jim & Pam Bertuch, BJ & LJ Fry



Thank You



GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES SUPPORT INC

G.A.R.D.S. SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS FOR 2010 1.30PM – 3.30PM

Meetings are held at – **GARDS Premises - 41 Monash Road, Newborough**

Tuesday 23rd February

Tuesday 30th March

Wed 28th April – Memorial Wreath Laying – Rose Garden, Morwell

Tuesday 25th May

Tuesday 29th June

Tuesday 27th July

Tuesday 31st August

Tuesday 28th September

Tuesday 26th October

Frid 26th Nov – Asbestos Awareness Day, Rose Garden, Morwell

Xmas Break up - 4th December at 12 noon, Silks Restaurant, Moe

G.A.R.D.S. NIGHT MEETINGS FOR 2010 7.30PM – 9.30PM

Meetings are held at – **GARDS Premises - 41 Monash Road, Newborough**

Tuesday 16th February

Tuesday 16th March

Tuesday 20th April

Tuesday 18th May

Tuesday 15th June

Tuesday 20th July

Tuesday 17th August

Tuesday 21st September

Tuesday 19th October

Tuesday 16th November



GARDS Inc. Membership Form

Name.....
Address.....
P/Code.....
Telephone.....Email.....
Occupation.....

GARDS NEW MEMBERS Joining Fee

**\$5.00
PLUS**

GARDS Annual Subscription 2010

- 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 GARDS Inc., second the nomination
of the Applicant for membership of the Association.

Signature of

Signature of
Secunder.....Date.....

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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 below in the "About GARDS Inc 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.

GARDS INC. EVENING MEETING

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.

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: 51277744

Fax: 51260354

Email: info@gards.org

Web site: www.gards.org

ABOUT G.A.R.D.S. INC.

Committee of Management

President:

Brian Clegg - 51762286

Mobile 0427007505

Vice President:

Dorothy Roberts – Ph. 51274174

Mobile 0407274174

CEO/Secretary:

Vicki Hamilton – Ph. 51278219

Mobile 0407274173

Treasurer:

John Parker

Mobile 0419747756

Member:

Marie Smith – 51271427

Mobile 0427271427

Ann Clegg - 51762286

Mobile - 0439662282

G.A.R.D.S. FEES

Joining Fee - \$5.00

Annual Fees:

Pensioners/Concession/

Unemployed - \$3.00

Employed persons - \$11.00

MEETINGS:

Support: Last Tuesday of month,
1.30pm – 3.30pm

Evening: 3rd Tuesday of month,
7.30pm – 9.30pm

UP AND COMING EVENTS

Our Night/Day Meetings

26/10/2010 - 1.30pm

*Ann Lovison - LV Palliative Care
Fundraising Assoc Inc.*

26/11/2010 - 11.00am

*Asbestos Awareness Day
Centenary Rose Garden, Morwell*

4/12/2010 - 12.00 noon

*GARDS Xmas lunch
Silks Restaurant - Moe*

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY to THURSDAY:

10.00am – 4.00pm

FRIDAY: BY APPOINTMENT

CALL IN FOR A CHAT & CUPPA