

ASBESTOS NEWS

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

ABN 77 687 118 554
INC. A0042386U

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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

SIDNEY MYER FUND TOPS



Pictured above is one of our GARDS members Ian Moore and his wife Betty taking possession of one out of 4 new oxygen concentrators bought with the generous grant made to us by Sidney Myer Fund. Ian suffers with severe asbestosis, and we have been able to loan Ian one of our new pieces of equipment. With this grant GARDS was also able to buy 3 conserving devices to regulate oxygen bottles. The equipment we loan free of charge helps us make life comfortable for our sufferers.

Ian was very excited to receive one of our new concentrators and stated it meant a lot to him to have support with such wonderful equipment bought with help and support from a great organisation such as Sidney Myer Fund. The GARDS organisation is always hopeful that the funding applications it makes to places like Sidney Myer fund are successful, and this time we were able to make a real difference to our equipment bank for future sufferers who may need help from GARDS. We were all very excited when the delivery arrived

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to our Group

using the secure engine
of ourcommunity.com.au

[CLICK HERE](#)



PRODUCTION SERVICES NETWORK BONZA DONATION



Pictured above are representatives of the PSN employees - Jim and management group- Boris and GARDS members accepting a truly wonderful donation.

GARDS was very happy to receive a donation from a great bunch of people who value and take pride in giving back to the community. The team who head up Productions Services Network Pty Ltd enthusiastically gave us a cheque made up of equal parts employees and company donation - this money was raised through good OH&S on the sites of the oil rigs with incident free work places.

The employees nominate a charity to receive the funds and since this program has been in place well over \$300,000 has gone back into the community.

What a terrific achievement to the company and workers to know that they are trying to make their working environment the best it could possibly be. This program is a win win for all. GARDS feels very humbled to accept donations from workers as well as employer groups who support us and understand the work we do.

We would like to thank all those who made this possible, the money will certainly help us to keep helping sufferers and families in the Gippsland region.

Thank You





SP AusNet DONATION



Our organisation was very fortunate to receive a generous donation from SP AusNet of an oxygen concentrator and an electronic conserving device that will be added to our equipment bank. Name plates have been placed on the equipment showing who donated it. These two items are welcome additions and will be eagerly sought after. As with all our equipment name plates are put on each item with the donor's name.

We thank the very generous team at SP AusNet for helping to make the life of our sufferers more comfortable. Socially conscious organisations really help to support families in need. Again thank you so much for your generosity.

Picture taken by: Marian Carrigy

Electricity Services East Regional Manager, Jim Haylock is pictured here with GARDS Vice President Dorothy Roberts, Marie Smith and Vicki Hamilton

LATROBE REGIONAL HOSPITAL INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY LUNCH



Friday 11th of March at Century Inn, Traralgon some of the GARDS members enjoyed the fundraising lunch for International Women's Day. LRH staff member Kelli Mitchener was recently recognised with a Netherlands Peace Keeping Operations medal for her efforts as an intensive care nurse in Afghanistan. Kelli enthralled us with her 3 month deployment and the successes and hard work that went into her time in a very challenging environment. I believe everyone who attended the function came away that day full of admiration for Kelli, a very special person.

The lunch raised \$3,365 for Operation LRH. Thank you to Century Inn for the wonderful service and food supplied on the day.

Pictured above from left to right: Marie Smith GARDS, Guest Speaker Kelli Mitchener, Amanda Cameron Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Dot Roberts GARDS and Lorraine Bartling Chair of the Latrobe Regional Hospital Foundation - picture taken by: Vicki Hamilton



Thank You



Pictured above are the GARDS committee with Steve Plunkett and Rod Matthews from the Morwell office

SLATER & GORDON SPONSORSHIP

GARDS was pleased to accept a generous donation from Slater & Gordon law firm. We would especially like to thank Steve Plunkett for his significant support to us over the years.

GARDS appreciates all donations that are made to the organisation as these go a long way in providing support and information to asbestos sufferers, their families and the community. Without the generosity of firms such as Slater and Gordon GARDS would not be able to function efficiently doing what they do best by supporting, informing and advocating for asbestos sufferers and their families. Thank you one and all at Slater & Gordon we really do appreciate your support.

ROSSMORE HOTEL YALLOURN NORTH

GARDS would like to thank the management and patrons of the Rossmore Hotel for their support to GARDS. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Pam & Julie De Vries for arranging the two nights of fundraising and helping on the nights. You are truly a wonderful community. Thank you so much from all at GARDS

GIPPSLAND COMBINED TRADES UNION PICNIC & SOCIAL CLUB

The GARDS organisation would like to give a big thank you to the Gippsland Combined Trades Union Picnic & Social Club members and their families for making a donation to our organisation. Our members & families appreciate your support as this money goes a long way to keeping our office humming along. It means a great deal to have your club support us in this manner.

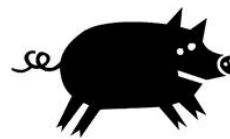
Thank You



FARM WORLD 2011

GARDS members attended the Annual Farm World event that encompasses 4 days of displays and all manner of farm equipment, health displays, craft and machinery, wood chopping events and much more. The 4 day event holds something for everyone in the family. Sunday saw some of the GARDS committee giving out information on the services provided by the organisation and talking with the public on issues around domestic asbestos in the home and on the farm.

The day was a great success, the members met many people from all walks of life. We hope that those who sought our information found it helpful. We thank Central West Gippsland Primary Care Partnership, Community Projects Manager Gina Boyanton for allowing us to share their Marquee at the event.



EPA OPEN HOUSE

The EPA hosted an open house forum on the 17th March in Traralgon so that those in the community could come along and discuss burning issues that they wished addressed or to find out information of particular interests in which the EPA were involved. There were regional and broader issues around waste and landfill management. GARDS representatives attended the forum to discuss their concerns about domestic asbestos and protecting the public. We hope our concerns have been taken on board and look forward to seeing change in this area of EPA's work.

The Draft model Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations and model Codes of Practice

GARDS has been reviewing the draft Harmonisation of the OH&S act. We have put together comment on issues within the Asbestos section around definitions and procedures it feels are not addressed adequately and is asking for clarification on some issues that we feel are not defined enough within the draft.

Many interested parties from all over Australia are having their say about this draft. Deadline for comments was 4th April 2011.

We will wait to see the final standard that evolves from consultation



CENTRELINK TRARALGON CALL CENTRE



The GARDS organisation was overwhelmed with the enthusiastic fundraising done by the CentreLink call centre workers in Traralgon. The committee was thrilled to receive a donation cheque from the management and staff. GARDS and other charities were invited to lunch at the centre which was provided by the workers' social club and all the charity groups who were lucky enough to receive a donation from the management and workers had an opportunity to display the sort of services that they provide in the community. Pictured above is Chris Pelz from CentreLink presenting the cheque to Vicki and the GARDS team, Dorothy, Marie and Ann.



AGM NEWS



On the 5th of February 2011 the GARDS Annual General Meeting was held. Vice President, Secretary & Committee member were elected. Those who were elected to the positions were: Vice President: Dorothy Roberts, Secretary: Vicki Hamilton, Committee Member: Ann Clegg Congratulations to you all on gaining your positions - these members were elected unopposed. The organisation wants to thank you for a wonderful and a truly magic year full of surprises in 2010.

FEES NEWS

At the AGM it was passed that the membership fees will all be due on the 30th September every year to fall in line with the new financial date of the organisation. This should make it easier for members to remember when their fees are due. The membership fees have remained the same price and when the fees are due in September the newsletter will remind all members that their fees will be due. Remember there will be no reminders sent out in the mail. Thank you for your assistance in making this work.





PAGE 7. GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES SUPPORT INC

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
Jessie & Duncan Fergus, Stan & Ivy Brown, Marie Smith, Laurie & Gwen Hall, May Flanagan, Jeff Constantine, Maree Hall, William Skinner, Mick Chopping, Ray Whittaker, Ian Moore,
Donations in Memory of Doug Elliott - R & V Partridge, R & F Stephens, Anonymous to the total of \$72.25, Heather Edwards,
Donations in Memory of Alec Bathgate - Barbara Bathgate & Family, Shirley Riches & Family, Cliff & Loretta Lowater, Margaret Parry, Anonymous donations to the value of \$120,
Donations in Memory of Stan McConnell - Anonymous \$50, W Wilkinson, Anonymous \$10

Transfield Worley Power Services Loy Yang

Pictured right is: Mick Billings who is the Mine Site Manager, Steve Crawshaw - Power Station Site Manager and Paul Wallin - Finance Manager with Carl Stanley from the company along with the GARDS committee. The Transfield Worley group were treated to a morning tea at the GARDS office and they explained their business at the Loy Yang site to the GARDS group.

In turn the GARDS group explained what the organisation did in the community and how far reaching the GARDS support and advocacy goes. GARDS would like to thank all those who made it possible for the wonderful donation from the workers and firm.



The GARDS group's 1st venture out this year was to visit the site where the local papers of Gippsland are printed in Morwell. The facility was very impressive with all printing machines hard at work.

The group learnt so much about how the papers are processed, wrapped and bundled to their respective communities. Literally thousands of tonnes of paper are used to create the news for individual communities in Gippsland. We thank Peter Giles far left for taking us on the tour of the facility.



GARDS ON THE MOVE EXPRESS PRINT





INTERNATIONAL WORKER'S MEMORIAL DAY

Well it's that time of year again when GARDS holds its Annual Wreath Laying ceremony to coincide with International Workers Memorial Day on Thursday April the 28th in the Centenary Rose Garden, Commercial Road, Morwell at 11.00am.

There will be a free BBQ with the compliments of Gippsland Trades and Labour Council. All in the community are welcome to attend to honour and celebrate the lives of those suffering or who have lost their life to a work related accident or illness. Invited speakers are WorkSafe Victoria mystery guest, Country Fire Authority Shane Mynard - Operations Officer, Gippsland Trades and Labour Council,



We will allow time in the ceremony for an ecumenical service which will be conducted by Reverend Stephen Briggs from the Moe & Traralgon Baptist Church. Those who would like to bring flowers & pay tribute to workers who were tragically taken from us or who are suffering as a result of work place accidents are welcome to do so.

Of course, our resident bag pipers David Duncan and Bill Dunbar will be in attendance and singer/guitarist Danny Boothman from the Strzelecki String Busters will be there. Please BYO chair. Limited seating will be available. Undercover area will be supplied in case of inclement weather conditions.

We would love to see all of you join us for this occasion and show families from the Gippsland community how much you care.

Speak Out Against Bullying On BIG EARS DAY



Pictured left are: Some of the general public & Women's Action Coalition group members who attended the **Speak out Against Bullying on Big Ears Day**, held in Traralgon's Victory Park.



25th of March at the Sound shell in Victory Park saw speakers from WorkSafe Victoria and the President of the Gippsland Trades & Labour Council speaking on bullying in the workplace. A speaker for the Women's Action coalition, Ann Murphy, spoke about workplace bullying and said it was difficult to determine how prevalent workplace bullying was because of a lack of statistics and because it can take various forms. A sentiment that was echoed by the speaker from WorkSafe Victoria. There are no statistics, so there can be a denial that it's there. Because it often culminates in a physical illness or a mental ailment it is often put down to stress. Bullying can take many forms from emotional, verbal, straight out one person picking on another and the collective silent treatment and ostracising of someone.

GIPPSLAND ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES SUPPORT INC

G.A.R.D.S. SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS FOR 2011 1.30PM – 3.30PM

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

Tuesday 22nd February

Tuesday 29th March

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

Tuesday 24th May

Tuesday 28th June

Tuesday 26th July

Tuesday 30th August

Tuesday 27th September

Tuesday 25th October

Frid 25th Nov – Asbestos Awareness Day, Rose Garden, Morwell

Christmas Break-up to be advised

G.A.R.D.S. NIGHT MEETINGS FOR 2011 7.30PM – 9.30PM

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

Tuesday 15th February

Tuesday 15th March

Tuesday 19th April

Tuesday 17th May

Tuesday 21st June

Tuesday 19th July

Tuesday 16th August

Tuesday 20th September

Tuesday 18th October

Tuesday 15th November

Christmas Break-up to be advised



GARDS Inc. Membership Form

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

GARDS NEW MEMBERS Joining Fee **\$5.00**
PLUS

GARDS Annual Subscription 2011

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.....

G.A.R.D.S. INC.
WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE
SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

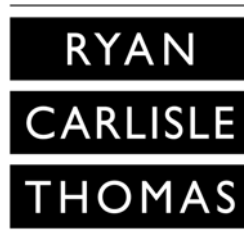


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compensation solicitors



Your Voice



LAWYERS





Gippsland Asbestos Related Diseases Support Inc.



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

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.

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

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY to THURSDAY:

10.00am – 4.00pm

FRIDAY: BY APPOINTMENT

CALL IN FOR A CHAT & CUPPA

UP AND COMING EVENTS

Our Night/Day Meetings

Tuesday 29th March - Express Print tour

**Thurs 28th April – International
Worker's Memorial Day
Centenary Rose Garden,
Commercial Road, Morwell**

Tuesday 24th May - Peter Armour -
Financial Consultant CentreLink

Tuesday 28th June - Stephanie Cohen -
Gamblers Help

Tuesday 26th July - Gippsland Water
Factory tour

Tuesday 30th August - Katie Yeomans -
Inspirational speaker