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# ASBESTOS NEWS

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

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF ASBESTOS AWARENESS



Friday 27th November saw a numerous people from all walks of life attend the ACV/GARDS Asbestos Awareness Event.

It was great to have in attendance and as a speaker at the event Peter Tighe CEO of the Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency. Peter highlighted the need for more community awareness around asbestos issues and the need for organisations such as ACV/GARDS speaking out on issues such as imports containing asbestos that are coming into Australia on a daily basis. In recent times, September, ACV/GARDS was alerting and warning the Government and families about asbestos in crayons and other imported asbestos products that can be purchased on line and brought into Australia. George Davis ACV/GARDS member and a person who is

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### DID YOU KNOW?

You can make an online donation to our group at our home page  
[www.gards.org](http://www.gards.org)



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# THE IMPORTANCE OF ASBESTOS AWARENESS

From page 1...

living with mesothelioma spoke candidly about the disease and how he copes with his day to day life activities while dealing with this illness. George likes walking his dog Charlie, and playing the tuba in the Latrobe City Brass Band. He is trying to continue both of these things. Steve Dodd, Secretary of the Gippsland Trades & Labour Council and AMWU organiser, spoke about asbestos in the industry sections and how building materials and tiles and all sorts of items are coming into Australia with asbestos in them. He spoke about being

ever vigilant. David Howie conducted the ecumenical service, where those in our midst could come and lay flower tributes to their family members and friends who had passed away from asbestos disease. We were joined by the Coal Valley Male Chorus, Newborough Primary School Choir, Paddy O'Dowd singer/musician and Bill Dunbar Scottish bagpiper who travelled from Lakes Entrance to be with us. We would like to thank the Gippsland Trades and Labour Council for providing the BBQ for the community and Maurice Blackburn for sponsoring the food.

Vicki stated that community organisations like ours must speak up and protect unsuspecting Australians – we are trying to protect other Australians from falling foul of asbestos exposure whether it be through home renovations, building products that are coming in from overseas, cheap crayon imports, science kits, necklaces, brakes and so much more. We do not want anyone else to suffer as our families have from a very preventable disease, through asbestos awareness and education we can try and protect people.





# DAVID DUNCAN LIFE MEMBER OF ACV/GARDS

**On the 27th November at the Asbestos Awareness Day event David Duncan was honoured with a Life Membership of ACV/GARDS in front of the very community that he had been playing his bagpipes to for more than 10+ years at our events.**

David was forced to retire from playing the bagpipes because he was running out of puff.

He did this very reluctantly. David was overcome with emotion when he received his medal and certificate and it came as a total surprise to him. He was so overcome with emotion it was hard for him to speak but he did say how wonderful it was to be honoured in this way, and thanked all those who made this possible.

We say thank you to you David Duncan for always being there for us and caring about the community – you have served them well.