



Newsletter

MAY-JUNE 2014

"There For Our Members Whenever and Wherever They Need Us"

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter

Office Location

Level 3
60 Waymouth Street
Adelaide S.A.

Postal Address

PO Box 4066
Elizabeth South
SA 5112

Tel: (08) 8212 6008
Fax: (08) 8212 7008
Mobile 0418 807 834
Country Callers:
1800 665 395

Email:
ava-sa@bigpond.net.au

Web Site:
<http://www.avasa.asn.au>

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Does SOUTH AUSTRALIA have a progressive Council regarding Asbestos ?

We start this newsletter with a congratulations to a progressive council in NSW, the Holroyd Council, in the heart of Sydney's western "fibro belt" and with some of the strictest rules on renovating fibro houses, has taken the initiative to alleviate both the financial and environmental pain of removing asbestos. It has picked up two awards in the process. Getting rid of old asbestos building materials is so expensive that many renovators and builders resort to illegal dumping of the highly toxic material.

Apart from the cost of employing specialist demolition trades, the local tip charges hundreds of dollars to take it. Last year the council trialled a free collection of up to 10 square metres of non-friable, or bonded, asbestos waste at residential properties to minimise its disposal in garbage bins and public places – possibly the first such service in Australia.

Demand for the service has been overwhelming, with 8.92 tonnes of asbestos collected from 136 households over nine collection days since last June. Three more collection days will be held by the end of next month and there is a waiting list.

Whilst is a trial it must save many dollars and reduce illegal dumping for both residents and council (sourced from an article in SMH)

David MacFarlane, former managing director of James Hardie Industries

The man credited with deciding in 1978 to eliminate asbestos from James Hardie products said he thought at the time that widespread health concern about its use in building materials was a "**media beat-up**". David MacFarlane was the managing director of James Hardie Industries between 1978 and 1989 and has never before given evidence about his role in the company, which manufactured and distributed building and other products containing asbestos.

He told the Dust Diseases Tribunal in Sydney on Tuesday that on taking the top job he received a brief from the Hardie board "My job was to get rid of asbestos ... just to do it as quickly as possible," he said. The directive was issued because "asbestos was getting very expensive" and "asbestos was in bad odour around the world".

In extraordinary evidence to the tribunal, Mr MacFarlane said that at the time he thought "**the risk side of it was overdone**" and "**there was a lot of talk about it but I didn't think it was as dangerous as people said, if it was properly controlled**".

Under cross-examination by Peter Semmler QC, he said he was so comfortable with the product that "I went on using it myself ... A common thought at the time was that dust inhaled in small degrees over a long period of time didn't do much damage".

"Who held that view?" Mr Semmler asked, to which Mr MacFarlane replied: "The world did."

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP, DUE 30TH JUNE TO HELP US WITH RISING COSTS WE WILL BE SENDING YOUR RECEIPT WITH THE NEXT NEWSLETTER UNLESS YOU REQUIRE IT BEFORE HAND.

Something to Ponder?

How can a SLIM CHANCE and a FAT CHANCE be the same, while a WISE MAN and a WISE GUY are opposites?



KATZ_KORNER

SCHOOL ROCKS!

In the photo are rock samples of Australia that had been distributed to all schools in the 50-60s. Take note of the Blue Asbestos Crocidolite mined in Wittenoom WA. and Chrysotile samples

The sample was not encased in plastic etc, I imagine being such an interesting mineral with fibres exposed it would have been handled a lot.

Many schools would probably still have these tucked away in a cupboard or had been given to students to take home.

Last week Peter, Terry and I did the 2 day Ag Fair in Broken Hill. On the Friday it poured down with rain and our corner of the marquee got flooded out, but to our advantage we had to move further out into the aisle, and as people came in for shelter we had some fascinating enquiries and chats with the locals. The next day was fine but ever so windy and I think most of the town turned up so it was so busy. We gave out every bit of the info we had taken up to share and have had many enquiries since.

Makes everything we do all worth while.

Some of the venues we have planned for 2014

Eyre Peninsular (Cleve) 12-14th August Gawler 30-31st August, Riverland Field Days 19-20th September, and numerous other places

WHYALLA SUB BRANCH

John Arthur reports

Hi All,
Our monthly meetings are still well attended but I would still like to see more members join in. Meetings & get together are held every third Thursday of each month, the advert for these meetings are advertised in the Whyalla News every week under the heading of Community Diary.

B.I.S. Ind. Whyalla have just donated \$ 400.00. To the AVA Whyalla Support Group. This donation is very much appreciated by the group, and will go towards Office equipment.

We still run into these DIY home renovators, SHE'LL be right mate, wait 20 or thirty years and see if SHE'LL be right.

John. PS. We just became great grandparents for the tenth time last night.

Meeting Dates:

Third Thursday of each month

Venue:

87 Essington Lewis Ave, Whyalla. Phone: 8645 0555

PORT AUGUSTA SUB BRANCH

Geoff Maul reports

Hi,
This past month or so has been fairly quiet although we have had a number of enquiries regarding asbestos and the handling of it.
If you know anyone who may need some advice please get them to contact us

We invite anyone, who would like attend, to come along to our monthly meetings which are held on the **First Friday of each month.**

Venue: Port Augusta Bowling Club, Corner Marryatt & Jervois Street. You can contact Geoff on 8642 2884.

Pls Note: Geoff & Colleen will be caravanning to Queensland for July and August meetings If anyone needs assistance could they contact **Garry Smith phone 8642 5331**



VALE RAY COLBERT 21st MAY 2014

Ray Colbert was born in Western Queensland, moving to Brisbane in his childhood. Ray spent more than ten years of his life in the Navy, and it was during this time that he was first exposed to asbestos.

In 2002, Ray was diagnosed with asbestosis, a scarring or fibrosis of the lung tissue that occurs when the body's own immune system fails to expel asbestos fibres. It is a slow onset disease, with shortness of breath on exertion generally being the first noticeable symptom

Committed to protecting others from the terrible effects of asbestos related diseases, Ray joined the Queensland Asbestos Related Disease Support Society (QARDSS) in 2005 and was an active member of the society ever since. His passion and incredible drive for helping others have been an inspiration to all those who have met him.

We at AVA knew and worked closely with Ray and the Queensland Support Group for many years Ray was a true fighter in his endeavors to get the Asbestos awareness message across he is a man who will be sadly missed but genuinely respected.

AVA extends our sincere condolences to his wife Helen and family.

**2014 Asbestos Awareness Conference Washington DC**

Australia was represented by Barry Robson at the recent world conference on asbestos, held last month in America. Barry is from the NSW Asbestos Support Group, ADFA

His speech was recorded and has been uploaded to the following internet site:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b795bx7nHfU>

YOUR SOCIAL MORNINGS

These mornings are held in our rooms at Level 3 - 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide on the SECOND Wednesday of every month, starting at 10am, but early birds are welcome, and you can stay as long or as little as suits you.

They are not formal meetings, so that gives each of you an opportunity to meet with and talk to others who maybe in a similar situation.

Remember you are not alone.**Dates for 2014 Social Mornings**

June 11th, July 9th, August 13th, September 10th, October 8th, November 12th, December 10th, 2014



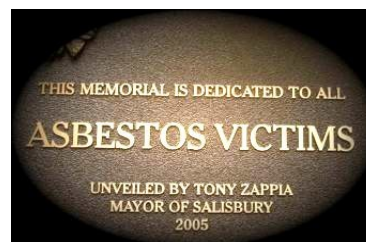
FROM AVA's LEGAL ADVISOR ANNIE HOFFMAN**Noise Induced Hearing Loss**

Many industries associated with asbestos in the past were also very noisy industries. We often find that our clients that suffer from asbestos related diseases are also suffering from noise induced hearing loss. If you have worked in noisy conditions you may have a claim for noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus (buzzing or ringing in the ears). Working in industries such as manufacturing, mining, building, construction, transport and infrastructure may give rise to these conditions. However, exposure to excessive noise in *any* workplace may allow you to claim compensation for your hearing impairment.



If you suffer from noise induced hearing loss and/or tinnitus you may have an entitlement to have your medical expenses paid, including the cost of hearing aids. If accepted, WorkCover SA (or the self insured employer) will pay for your hearing aids for the remainder of your lifetime. If your noise induced hearing loss and tinnitus is at least 8.8% you will also have an entitlement to lump sum compensation.

You are entitled to make claim a for compensation for noise induced hearing loss even if you are not working or you have retired.

Please Put This IMPORTANT Date In Your Diary NOW**Asbestos Victims Memorial Day****DATE: Friday November 28th 2014****VENUE: Pitman Park SALISBURY****TIME: 10:30 am to 11:30 am****Speakers TBA****AVA THANKS THE FOLLOWING MAJOR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS****TURNER FREEMAN****WORKCOVER CORPORATION****ADCO PRINT****SAFEWORK SA****Shop Distributive & Allied Employees' Association****Construction, Forestry, Mining, & Energy Union Con/& Gen Div****City of Salisbury Council****Australian Manufacturing Workers Union****Public Service Association of South Australia****The Australian Workers Union (SA)****United Voice S A Branch****International Fire & Safety Equipment P/L****The Police Club Inc. S.A.****Newsletter sponsored and printed by Adco Print****PATRONS**

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