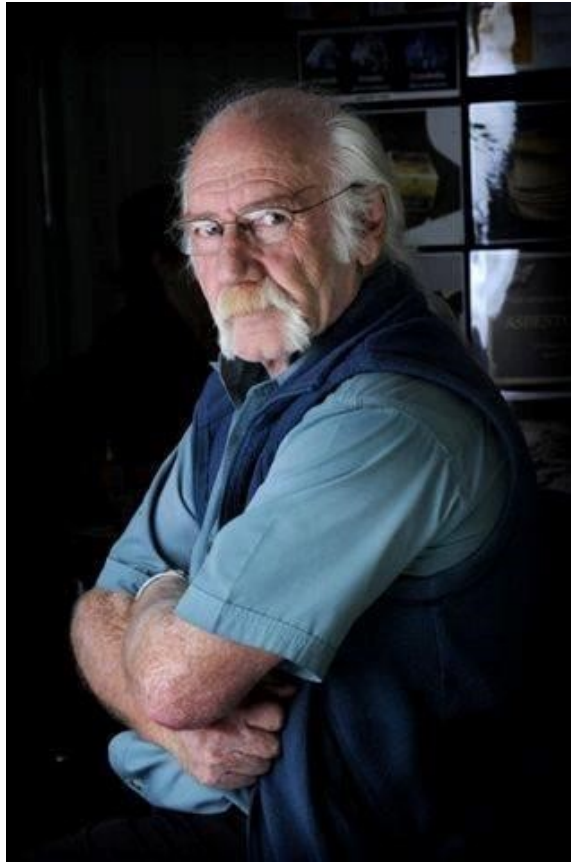


Vale Terry Miller - 1942-2018



Terry worked at the James Hardie pipe factory at Elizabeth for over 20 years where he was exposed to asbestos dust. Years later he was diagnosed with asbestosis.

Terry was part of a small group of asbestos victims that met in 2000 and formed the Asbestos Victims Association. The Association quickly grew, with hundreds of victims turning to the group for support. Terry became the group's Secretary in 2002 and later went on to become the Association's President. He served as President for over 10 years until 2017 when his health made it no longer possible to continue the role.

Terry's many achievements include lobbying the South Australian government for the introduction of the Dust Diseases Act 2005 (SA), which has made it easier and faster for hundreds of asbestos victims to claim the compensation they deserve. Under Terry's leadership, the Asbestos Victims Association created a permanent memorial at Pitman Park, Salisbury, now the site of a yearly service dedicated to asbestos victims and their families.

Terry's unwavering commitment to helping others was truly unique. He dedicated countless hours to helping others, even when his own health was failing. Terry was a true working class hero.



Newsletter

May/June 2018

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

Welcome to this edition

Office Location

Level 3
60 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Postal Address

PO Box 4066
Elizabeth South
SA 5112

Tel: (08) 8212 6008
Mobile 0418 894 657

Country Callers:
1800 665 395

Email:
ava-sa@bigpond.net.au

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

Facebook Page:
[https://
www.facebook.com/
asbestosvictimsassocsa/](https://www.facebook.com/asbestosvictimsassocsa/)

Executive Committee:

President

Kat Burge

Vice President

Peter Baxter

Office Manager/ Treasurer

Pam Sandys

Committee

Maxine Williams

Les West

Lesley Shears

Gloria Hinks

Doreen Ryan

Rosanna Tepper

Tracy Dietrich

This is our first 8-page production. Please read and send us your opinions. We encourage members to contribute items to our quarterly newsletters. Reminder - membership renewals are due at the end of June each year. Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 27th June 2018. Due to unforeseen circumstances, it could not be planned for earlier date. It will be held in our office, starting at 10.00am, and all members are invited.

Workers' Memorial Day - 28th April, 2018

On 28th April each year a very special service is held at Pilgrim Uniting Church in the city to acknowledge and remember those who have died as a result of their work. Our volunteers and some of their family members attended, to both bring photographs and stories, and help put faces to names to some of those who are more than a workplace statistic.

The groups who support this event, (Safework SA, SA Unions, Asbestos Diseases Society SA, Asbestos Victims Association SA, and the SA Council of Churches and the Pilgrim Uniting Church) acknowledge the effort that members of VOID (Voice of Industrial Death) make to ensure that these voices are heard, and that those who have lost love ones, and in particular young children who grow up without that special ongoing relationship with a parent or grandparent, are able to experience an opportunity to share memories and be supported.



Those who attend are able to bring photos or mementoes to place with personalised candles. This year were given another memento, also hand-made by VOID volunteers and friends, which were individually constructed to signify hearts that are broken, the wings that carry our loved ones, and the many steps of our journey to piece together our own lives. Gestures such as this and the opportunity to light candles for our loved ones are very special. At the end of the service a small group of blue doves are released outside the church, signifying eternal love, hope, endurance, teaching, and of course, justice. Following that, instead of releasing balloons as in previous years we were able to take our own individual white doves and release them, placing our own significance on the journey they undertake as they flew from our hands.

Our thanks to all who contributed to this beautiful service. Photos of the service and further information can be found on VOID website :
<http://www.void.org.au> and on the VOID Facebook page

Serafina Salucci



The Asbestos Victims Association congratulates Serafina Salucci on receiving a Member, general division, of the Order of Australia (AM) on Australia Day 2018. The honour was awarded for significant service to community health, particularly as an advocate for people with asbestos related diseases.

Serafina was diagnosed with mesothelioma in 2007 when she was 37 years old, married with four young children.

She had a cough that wouldn't go away and went to see her GP. The diagnosis was devastating - she had never heard of mesothelioma and had never worked with asbestos nor been involved in renovation.

As a child Serafina remembers her father buying his first car and building a garage out of fibro in their backyard. She and her brothers would play with the off-cuts of fibro - playing with it and kicking it around.

This exposure was the most likely cause of her diagnosis thirty years later.

She was initially put on a chemotherapy regime for a year.

This was followed up with a pleuro pneumonectomy (removal of a lung) and a lengthy course of radiotherapy.

Since then she has had her diaphragm, right kidney and half her liver removed.

Serafina is an inspiration in the way she has faced her situation and fought to make a difference for other people, making a positive out of a devastating situation. She has worked to raise public awareness of asbestos-related disease.

Her involvement includes:

- ♦ The Pleuropneumectomy Support Group (Baird Institute)
- ♦ Advocate for the National Asbestos Awareness campaign
- ♦ Member of the Consumer Review Panel for the Cancer Council of NSW.
- ♦ Participation in the Asbestos Management Review set up by the Federal Government, and in 2012 was part of a group that travelled to Canberra to meet and speak to politicians, including PM Julia Gillard.
- ♦ Successfully lobbying for the establishment of a national Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency in 2013.
- ♦ Asbestos Awareness ambassador

Serafina intends to continue her work raising awareness and funds for research into asbestos related disease.

She says "I want people to be educated that it is still out there. If they are renovating, be cautious and wherever possible call in a professional to deal with it.

I don't want people to get this disease in the future."

Field Days and Shows



South East Field Days, 16-17th March, 2018

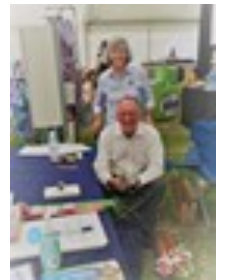


AVA had an information stand at the Lucindale show and Pete once again had set up a good display of pictures in relation to where asbestos can be found, identification of asbestos, products containing asbestos, correct ways to dispose of asbestos.

ABC South East radio were broadcasting from the showground and we had the opportunity of doing a live interview.

Lucindale is a very well attended show and a lot of information was given out to the public, many questions asked in relation to removal, renovations, how to dispose of it and exposure regarding to health.

We participated in the Blue Yakka trail, a fundraising run by the local school. The school benefits by selling bags and the children follow a trail to different stalls to receive a small gift from stall holders. We gave away 400 bubble blowing tubes.



A successful show, AVA's aim is to be available to provide information in any way we can regarding the dangers of asbestos, also health factors, and to offer free seminars to those who would be interested in having us come and speak to various groups.

Kapunda Fair & Show, Friday April 19th & Saturday April 20th. It was the first time I have visited Kapunda and enjoyed my day on the Asbestos Awareness Stand with my fellow AVA volunteers. We had a perfect day weatherwise on Friday and I enjoyed the interaction with the friendly country folk and the towns people..

We had many interested people stop and chat and told us their stories of asbestos exposure on their farms and also at their workplace. We handed out some free gifts which were popular as it was an introduction for dialogue. A very successful day. Doreen



Goolwa Community Presentation Thursday, 19th April

At the Goolwa Hub, a Community Meeting Place, members of the Asbestos Victims Association came to Goolwa to conduct an information session about the dangers of asbestos.

As a result, a Friendship Group has been formed. It will be open to all sufferers of an asbestos related disease and any family members .
Meeting details on page 7.

Tradie Mate Show , Wayville Show grounds Friday, Saturday, Sunday 4th - 6th May.

We had a nice big stand with lots of pictures and information regarding asbestos. The show is very interesting, with many tradies and members of the public asking questions on many topics such as removal, imports, safety equipment and renovations. The younger apprentice workers were eager to learn, particularly how to get asbestos identified - and what to do if they do think they have come across asbestos on a work site.

Planning your estate – before it's too late!

Having a professionally-drafted estate plan is incredibly important, not just for yourself but also for your family.

An estate plan usually includes a Will, Enduring Power of Attorney and an Advance Care Directive.

Your Will clearly sets out who will be your executor and represent you upon your death, and who is to inherit from you. It puts your wishes in writing, and makes it easier for your family members to tidy things up when you've gone (such as dealing with banks and other institutions) and to make sure your intentions are carried out.

Without a will, the law says who will inherit from you – this can get very messy depending on how you own your assets and your relationship status, and might be the opposite of what you would have wanted.

An Enduring Power of Attorney allows you to choose people you trust to help you out with your financial and legal affairs. The people you name in the document can step into your shoes and deal with your assets and liabilities as if they were you. They can also sign legal documents and run legal matters on your behalf.

An Enduring Power of Attorney is very helpful if you are travelling, unwell or have lost your capacity perhaps due to illness, injury or ageing. Without you naming them in this document, your husband or wife and kids do not automatically have the ability to make these decisions on your behalf.

An Advance Care Directive sets out who you want to make medical and lifestyle decisions for you if you have lost the ability to make those decisions yourself. You can also specify any wishes you might have, about where you live, what treatment you want, whether you would want life support removed, and so on. Having your wishes clearly set out in this legal document can make difficult decisions that little bit easier for your loved ones.

If you need someone to act on your behalf, but have left it too late and are mentally unable to make an Enduring Power of Attorney and Advance Care Directive yourself, your family will have to make an application and have a hearing at the SA Civil and Administrative Tribunal ("SACAT").

It is never too early to prepare an Estate Plan.

Don't be one of those who leave it too late.



SA Asbestos Coalition

The SA Asbestos Coalition is made up of representatives from various groups and interested individuals who are committed to raise public awareness about the dangers of asbestos in the community and the need for justice for the victims of asbestos disease.

Members include SafeWork SA, the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI), Health Safety Environment Australia (HSE), the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Members of Parliament, Comcare, asbestos support groups, unions, legal firms, doctors, asbestos removal companies and training organisations. The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (ASEA) is also represented. Meetings are held bi-monthly, and anyone with an interest is welcome to attend.

The Coalition advocates for legislative change nationally, rather than state by state as there are different laws in each state. In 2017 its members made submissions to the Senate Economics References Committee's inquiry into non-conforming building products, which dealt with the illegal importation of products containing asbestos as well as non-compliant external cladding materials in Australia.

Since 2005, the coalition has been involved in the following:

- ♦ Active involvement in the James Hardie campaign
- ♦ SA Asbestos Action Plan
- ♦ Changes to the Dust Diseases legislation
- ♦ Improved access to compensation for victims of asbestos disease
- ♦ Information booths at home and tradie shows
- ♦ Support for asbestos victims at memorial ceremonies
- ♦ Link with global campaigns to rid the world of asbestos
- ♦ New national regulations remaining strong and secure

Participation in the SA Asbestos Coalition allows AVA to keep up to date with new developments and co-operation between agencies allows us to can reach more people.

Recently, the Coalition sponsored the production of a booklet:

“Asbestos—Safe removal at Home”. It is based on the 2016 booklet produced by Asbestos Awareness— <https://asbestosawareness.com.au>

This booklet should be available from some local council offices, or it can be downloaded from: <http://www.asbestos.sa.gov.au/>

News from AVA - Whyalla Group

If we can assist in any way with asbestos matters:

Phone our office on 86450555,
or drop into: Shop 5, 87-89 Essington Lewis Ave.

After hours - 0416482673, or 86453322.

News from AVA - Port Augusta Group

Everybody is welcome, do come along and join in our discussions.

Meetings: Port Augusta Bowling Club, Corner Marryatt & Jervois Streets.
Contact Geoff on 8642 2884.

New AVA Support Group—Goolwa

Local residents are encouraged to come along to our monthly meetings being held at The Hub, 10am on the first Wednesday of each month.

ASEA News

The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency has recently published reports giving information on the following topics:

Illegal Dumping, Review of Issues and Initiatives.

Review of Asbestos Management Practices in Disaster Planning.

There are many reports, fact sheets - and useful advice - on ASEA's website:

<https://www.asbestossafety.gov.au/publications>

OH&S Advice Sessions

AVA is able to provide up-to-date information - informal seminars to small to medium sized groups.

Contact us on - E: ava-sa@bigpond.net.au

W: www.avasa.asn.au

P: 0418 894 657

Diary dates

Asbestos Victims Memorial Day

DATE: Friday November 30th 2018

VENUE: Pitman Park SALIBURY



Please remember:

AVA's Annual General Meeting @ 10.00am, Wednesday, 27th June 2018

Membership Subscriptions become due from July.

Contributions to our quarterly Newsletter are always appreciated.

**Your social mornings -
Remember you are not alone.**



You are welcome to share a cuppa with us and other members on the second Wednesday of each month from 10am onwards. Stay as little or as long as suits you.



Dates: 13th June, 11th July, 8th August, 2018.

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