



Newsletter

December 2014

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

Office Location

Level 3
60 Waymouth Street
Adelaide S.A.

Welcome to this edition, the last for 2014 of our newsletters

2014 has been a very busy year for us at AVA talking with many people and dealing with many enquiries. We have also had quite a few new members join us, many unfortunately with new diagnosis.

Postal Address

PO Box 4066
Elizabeth South
SA 5112

James Hardie asbestos fund wants to pay compensation in installments

Hardies want to get approval from the courts to pay victims in instalments rather than lump sum settlements. Well let me try to explain to the Heartless Board and their Multi Millionaire CEO Louis Gries Asbestos victims do not die by instalments.

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

We want James Hardie to continue to do well and continue to make profits. They have a moral obligation to the people. NOT only the workers but the innocent children who were exposed to Hardies products and have died as a result or are suffering today.

Email:
ava-sa@bigpond.net.au

Under the scheme, scheduled to come into effect from July 1 next year, some proven claims will be paid to victims in instalments rather than as a lump sum, and some other liabilities will be deferred.

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

The situation comes as the company's top executive received a substantial pay increase last year. According to James Hardie's 2014 annual report, chief executive Louis Gries received \$US11.7 million in total pay in 2014, up from \$US7.9 million. **Must be a real struggle to live on this sort of money.**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

It is pleasing that the ACTU and other Unions have voted unanimously to:

President

Terry Miller

(1) Take legal action to block any application by the AICF to the Supreme Court to have asbestos victims paid compensation in instalments.

Vice President

Kat Burge

(2) Continue to negotiate with James Hardie representatives for an ex-gratia payment to ensure the Fund meets any shortfall.

Office Manager

Pam Sandys

(3) Hold the NSW and federal governments accountable to their commitments to provide a loan facility to the Fund to ensure victims are paid full and prompt compensation.

Treasurer

Pam Sandys

(4) Facilitate and resource a campaign to harness community, political and shareholder pressure on the company and the governments to meet their legal and moral obligations.

Chairman

Rotating

Asbestos Victims Association SA fully supports actions by the ACTU and we make ourselves available to get involved in any campaign to make Hardies treat victims fairly and with respect

Events Officer

Peter Baxter

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and you get rid of all but just one, what do you call it?

Why doesn't GLUE stick to the inside of the bottle?





KATZ_KORNER

ASBESTOS VICTIMS MEMORIAL CEREMONY 2014

The annual memorial service was held at Pitman Park Salisbury on Friday 28th of November 2014 with well over two hundred family and friends of our many victims who have passed away due to that insidious disease caused by exposure to asbestos.

Deputy Premier / Attorney General, Minister John Rau was one of the speakers, but the most powerful talk of the day was presented by Tracy Dietrich wife of Rob who, at just 44 years of age succumbed to Mesothelioma earlier this year.

As far too many of you know, the effect of something like this is not just with the victim, tragic as it is, but the family and friends are also devastated as they must continue on, asking themselves "how can this happen"?

Early in the New Year we will have a professionally produced DVD of the Ceremony available if you would like a copy. Cost will be kept to the bare minimum. AVA would like to thank everyone who was able to attend and a **special thank you to the PIPERS from Royal Caledonian Society of SA, as usual they were truly heart string tuggers.**

After the ceremony all the floral tributes were taken to cancer wards at two hospitals

AVA has already started making bookings for 2015 Regional shows and Field Days, taking bookings from Suburban Community Groups etc, so if you belong to any group and would like us to come and do a presentation about asbestos, contact us and we will work out details. **T: (08) 8212 6008 or E: ava-sa@bigpond.net.au**

ALL THE BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR FROM US AT AVA

WHYALLA SUB BRANCH

John Arthur reports



Hi all,
Our Memorial Service went well, Annie Paterson's three granddaughters sang a song dedicated to their late grandfather, William Paterson. Geoff Maul and his wife Colleen came down from Port Augusta, Geoff gave a speech. Eddie Hughes MP also gave a talk. Norma Matters conducted the service, as usual did a great job. We have lost three members since September.

Our group wish all members and their family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Meeting Dates:

Third Thursday of each month

Venue:

87 Essington Lewis Ave, Whyalla. Phone: 8645 0555

PORT AUGUSTA SUB BRANCH

Geoff Maul reports

Hi,

The aged Expo in October went off well, plenty of people came through with about 30 stalls set up on information to do with peoples health etc .I would like to thank Garry Smith for his help on these days.

Colleen and myself went to Whyalla for the November memorial day, a very moving service .

A lovely B B Q & cakes were put on for members & visitors.

Several people spoke on the dangers of asbestos .I spoke on the hi-cost on removal and the cost on dump sites. They all want to see the free dump sites to come a standard practice everywhere.

Colleen and myself thank our members for their attendance for 2014 and wish everyone

MERRY XMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.



We invite anyone, who would like attend, to come along to our monthly meetings which are held on the **First Friday of each month. 10:00 am from February 2015 onwards**

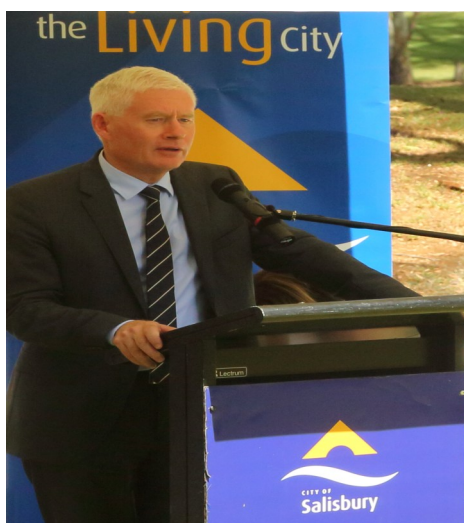
Venue: Port Augusta Bowling Club, Corner Marryatt & Jervois Street. You can contact Geoff on 8642 2884.



TRACY



JANET REMEMBERS



DEPUTY PREMIER JOHN RAU



OUR WONDERFUL PIPERS

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 2015 Social Mornings

January 14th, February 11th, March 11th, April 8th, May 13th June 10th, July 8th, August 12th,

September 9th, October 14th, November 11th, December 9th, 2015



Having 'the talk' By Beth Castell, Turner Freeman Lawyers

As grim a topic as it might be, it is one of those 'talks' we should all have – and sooner rather than later.

I'm talking about death and incapacity; thinking about questions such as who you would want to give your assets to when you pass away, who should be your executor and manage your estate, as well as who you would want making medical and lifestyle decisions for you if you were unable to make them yourself.

Planning for the future and life's 'what ifs' is something you should do not only for your own peace of mind, but also for that of your loved ones. Estate planning saves your family and friends the added stress, cost and time of trying to sort out your affairs for you, at an already difficult and distressing time for them. The three most important estate planning documents are your Will, Enduring Power of Attorney and Advance Care Direction.

A **Will** is for when you pass away and allows you to give clear instructions as to what you want to occur with your assets.

An **Enduring Power of Attorney** allows you to name who you would like to make financial and legal decisions for you (such as paying your bills and dealing with your property) if you required assistance or were unable to make those decisions yourself.

An **Advance Care Directive** allows you to specify who you would like to make medical and lifestyle decisions for you if you were unable to make them yourself. You can also include any wishes you have about medical treatment, living arrangements and end of life care in this document.

A few hours of talking about your Will and other estate planning documents now, with a lawyer who specialises in Wills and Estates, will bring peace of mind to you and your family.

Please Put This IMPORTANT Date In Your Diary NOW

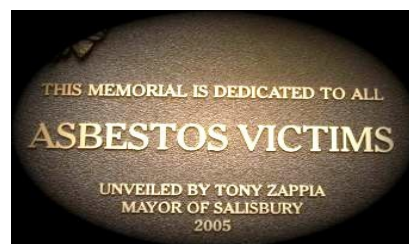
Asbestos Victims Memorial Day

DATE: Friday November 27th 2015

VENUE: Pitman Park SALISBURY

TIME: 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Speakers TBA



A V A 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

Newsletter sponsored and printed by Adco Print

PATRONS

**The Hon. Jay Weatherill Premier of SA
Senator Nick Xenophon
Jacqueline Raphael, J.P.**

**Tony Zappia Federal Member for Makin
John Camillo State Secretary AMWU**