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**Committee members**  
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Brendan Shears

**Fleurieu representative**  
Catherine Wegener

**Whyalla Support Group**  
Marlene Arthur

## Family Benefited from the AVA Beinke Bequest

For some time now we have been fortunate enough to assist members who have applied to access our Beinke Bequest fund.

This fund was established because of the generosity of one of our members who passed away as a result of mesothelioma, and who wished to support others who were living with an asbestos related disease, and who have to travel to Adelaide for treatment or care. As a result, AVA can now assist you and your family/carer with the costs of travel, and short-term accommodation, and even contribute to the cost of meals, and items which meet the criteria. We were able to do so recently.



Earlier this year, Brian and Charmaine were living their dream of spending a year travelling around Australia. It was when they had reached SA that Brian became unwell. The nearest Emergency Department was at the Victor Harbor Hospital, and it was there that Brian and Charmaine were given the devastating news that Brian had mesothelioma. Brian was transferred to the Flinders Medical Centre to seek further detailed diagnosis and a plan for treatment. Their situation was worsened by the fact that their support system of family and friends were back in NSW.

It was at this point that Charmaine contacted AVA. AVA was able to call upon two of our volunteers, Catherine and Ruth, who coordinate the AVA Fleurieu support group. Catherine and Ruth made contact with the couple and were able to comfort and support them, provide information, and be available to talk about issues that arose. Brian embarked on treatment lasting many weeks at Flinders Medical Centre. The drain on emotional and physical energy which resulted, plus the cost of daily travel for treatment, change to accommodation arrangements, and managing meals was an added and unexpected burden.

The Beinke Bequest is available for just such a situation, and in response to their application, AVA was able to reimburse Brian and Charmaine for a proportion of their expenses.

After some months in Adelaide, Brian was well enough to travel home to NSW where he can continue treatment with support from family and friends. Brian and Charmaine have been full of praise for the treatment and support they received in South Australia.

If you feel that you, or someone you know, may be eligible to make an application to access the AVA Beinke Bequest fund please contact our office so that we can discuss how we can be of assistance, and provide support to you and your family.

## 2023 Memorial Day Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am



Our annual Asbestos Victims Memorial Ceremony is held every year during National Asbestos Week, when issues relating to asbestos disease, and asbestos management are highlighted, generating further awareness and discussion across Australia.

This awareness is something that many of us have gained through direct experience, and for those of us who have lost a friend or loved one to an asbestos related disease, our Memorial Ceremony holds special significance. It is a time to reflect, a time to honour those who we have lost, and a time to recognise that we are not alone. It is also a time when we can inform others and share the reality or the ongoing impact that asbestos has had on the health and wellbeing of so many members of our community. Each year more sectors from our community, including politicians, local councillors, government agencies, union members and

health and safety workers join AVA to acknowledge their commitment to ongoing vigilance in addressing issues relating to asbestos legacy and safe management and eradication of asbestos in the future.

Our Memorial Ceremony is held at **Pitman Park**, in **Salisbury**, where a permanent, natural rock monument bears plaques to commemorate the many lives lost, and those who have fought on behalf of workers and asbestos victims. The Council of the City of Salisbury has been instrumental in establishing and maintaining this memorial and provides support with the logistics of planning and hosting this event in one of their own picturesque settings.

The ceremony is planned to provide a time to come together with a balanced programme of music, shared stories, and information, and includes reflection and an opportunity to lay flowers in memory of loved relatives or friends who have died as a result of asbestos exposure. A cross in our field of white crosses can be provided for your loved one if you contact AVA before the end of October.

At the end of the ceremony, you are welcome to join our complimentary sausage sizzle and soft drinks, provided by retired union members, which gives you an opportunity to mix with one another.

Can you please RSVP by calling AVA. If there are any changes to the ceremony we can notify you, or if you have any queries relating to access, we can discuss them with you.



## AVA Whyalla office



John Arthur, who recently passed away, started the AVA group in Whyalla many years ago. His wife Marlene is being supported by the volunteer group – the friendship of others means so much at times like these. We are grateful to John & Marlene for their many hours of work for the asbestos cause.

Maxine and Pete drove to Whyalla in September to attend a meeting of the group. They presented them with a new teardrop banner and materials for the group's Annual Memorial Service in November.

As you can see from the photo, the Whyalla volunteers are a cheerful bunch!

## Salisbury Community Health Expo

AVA had a stand at the Salisbury Community Hub to boost awareness of the dangers of asbestos and encourage people to be proactive about any health issues that may arise. Despite the rainy weather (or perhaps because of it – the hub is a warm and welcoming space and serves good coffee) there were a good number of visitors who came in for advice, health & diet tips, and the giveaways and samples.

## Engineered stone regulations kick in

Strict new regulations for the processing of engineered stone products came into effect from the 1st of September in a bid to reduce the risk of dust diseases.

More info : - <https://tinyurl.com/engineeredstone>



## Bunnings Trade Expo October 19 2023

Calling all tradies! Put this date in your diary - the Bunnings Trade Expo is back across Australia for 2023. The latest and greatest in tools and technology will be on display, all under one roof. This is your opportunity to talk to the experts, upgrade your tools or restock your inventory.

It is also an opportunity to talk to us about how to make you and your mates safer when managing asbestos.



# Asbestos Victims Memorial Day

**DATE: 24 November 2023**



## Social Mornings

2nd Wednesday of the month  
at AVA (Lvl 9/60 Waymouth Street)

**11 October**

**8 November**



### 2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

- 19/10 Bunnings Trade Show
- 28/10 Kapunda show
- 24/11 Asbestos Memorial Day (National Asbestos Week)

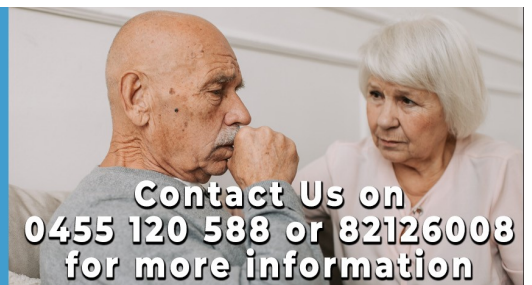


**LIVING WITH AN  
ASBESTOS DISEASE?**

**NEED HELP WITH  
YOUR EXPENSES?**

Do you need to travel and or stay in Adelaide for treatment or care?

AVA can assist you and your family with the costs of travel and short-term accommodation while you are having treatment or care in Adelaide.



**Contact Us on  
0455 120 588 or 82126008  
for more information**

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