



Newsletter

March 2016

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

Welcome to this edition

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Dozens of Australian building sites contaminated by illegal Chinese asbestos imports say authorities.

More than 50 building sites across the country are suspected of illegal asbestos contamination from Chinese produced products particularly in building materials. Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency CEO Peter Tighe says he is aware of some 64 sites where asbestos tainted concrete fibre sheeting has been used in construction.

Eleven of these sites are being monitored here. In South Australia Victims Groups, and Unions are concerned as more and more products are brought into Australia because of the wind down of manufacturing in this country

Importing asbestos into Australia has been banned for more than a decade, but asbestos is still slipping into the country from places like China, in products often clearly certified as **"Asbestos Free"**

Building Products are not the only imports containing asbestos coming in. There have been motor vehicles, car parts, crayons, that have come under the scrutiny of Australian Border Force. The problem we have here is that it is almost impossible to check every product that comes into Australia. ABF said that cargo identified as "high risk" is physically examined. They have a watch list of more than 40 products. The CFMEU have found wall panels they were installing in a building in Victoria. The Chinese company's claim was Asbestos Free but when tested it was found to contain asbestos.

Terry Miller Asbestos Victims Association SA is worried that this continues to occur, and even though Chinese companies, and others claim asbestos free, that may or may not be true. Terry Miller has stated that ABF and Australian Customs just do not have the resources to inspect everything that comes into the country.

"What I would like to see is any company who is caught sending asbestos contaminated product into Australia the whole cargo should be returned at their costs.

I would also like to see that company and all it's subsidiaries banned from sending any product to Australia for 3 years.

As for the companies in Australia who place these product orders obviously do it because they get it cheaper but is the quality cheap as well?. We know it can contains asbestos and that can KILL. So these companies, if they use these products and know it may contain asbestos they should be fined a minimum of One Million Dollars.

The site below may still be available ? Bulk of source from Angelique Donnellan ABC

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-02-14/australian-building-sites-contaminated-with-chinese-asbestos/7166674>

Something to Ponder

How much deeper would the ocean be, if SPONGES didn't grow in it?

Why buy a product that it takes 2000 flushes to get rid of?

Why do they report power outages on TV?

Turmeric – the wonder spice

Have you discovered turmeric yet? This anti-inflammatory turmeric tea is a great immune enhancer. Turmeric is a fantastic herb to include in your diet as it has great healing properties and is non-toxic.

Ingredients

2 cups water.

1/2 teaspoon ground turmeric.

1 teaspoon grated ginger.

1 teaspoon rice malt syrup.

1 tablespoon lemon juice.

Directions

Add all ingredients besides the lemon juice to a small pot on medium heat.

Allow the tea to simmer lightly for 5-10 minutes.

Take pot off the heat and stir through the lemon juice.

Strain tea through a sieve and into two glasses.

Contribution from Lesley Shears



WHYALLA SUB BRANCH

John Arthur reports

Hi all,

Things have been rather quiet so far. Even the meeting numbers have been down a bit, we have had a few new members join us, and unfortunately we have lost a few members.

I would still like to see some of the older members turn up for our get together that is held every third Thursday of each month. Lunch is held at 12 noon on the day. Bring a friend and share some of your experiences with like minded people.

John

Meeting Dates:

Third Thursday of each month

Venue:

87 Essington Lewis Ave, Whyalla. Phone: 8645 0555

PORT AUGUSTA SUB BRANCH

Geoff Maul reports

Dear Members

G'day all

We at AVA Port Augusta branch are still meeting on the first Friday of each month and we would like to see more people attend and also bring a Family member / friends meet with others, and enjoy a cuppa.

If you have concerns regarding asbestos or have seen something a little suss tell us and we will follow up any issues I travelled over to Quorn a little while ago as there was some concern with small asbestos pieces left lying on a house demolition site. After enquiries from a concerned resident to council and the EPA and to AVA Port Augusta it looks like it has been dealt with.

If you have been diagnosed that you may have an asbestos related issue talk to us we may be able to help you with some useful advice / suggestions

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 2016 onwards

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

ASBESTOS and NATURAL DISASTERS

There have been some devastating bushfires in Australia this summer, and thanks to the graphic images on television we saw how quickly things can develop.

As the fire shows its fury while destroying homes and sheds etc, any asbestos involved can become friable and then airborne. These fibres can travel enormous distances in wind thus causing possible dangerous situations in other areas.

Remember homes and sheds can have asbestos in many areas such as roof, insulation, fences, floor, coverings, vehicles and so on, we remind you that should you ever be in an unfortunate situation like this or even flooding listen to the emergency services people they will have a good idea where asbestos (if any) is and also any other danger that maybe present.

REMEMBER when you start to clean up your area make sure you use appropriate personal protection. If you need help ask there would be people around to support you your local council for instance. SES people and others.

ASBESTOS SAFETY & ERADICATION AGENCY

ASEA held an International conference in Brisbane at the end of November 2015 in relation to asbestos and many of the issues associated regarding it.

It was very well attended with people from Vietnam, Keynote speaker was **Luong Mai Anh Ministry of Health Vietnam, Deputy of Health and Environment. And Tran Tuan Director of Research and Training.**

They spoke of conditions in their country and the fact that Crocidolite (blue) and Amosite (brown) are banned but Chrysotile (white) is still used.

Dr Barry Castleman Environmental Consultant U S A

He spoke about world production has flat lined since 2000– 85% to Asia no protection for workers showed many photos of dumped asbestos sheets and people picking thru it. Canada has not mined since 2012 but RUSSIA stepped in.

There were many of Australian contributors

Nadine Hulme– Project Manager Response and Recovery N S W

Steve Moran — Work Safe NZ

Talked of effects with Earth Quakes

Allison Reid Ass/Prof Public Health Curtin University

All of our States Support Groups attended as well. AVA was represented and participated with “our girls” L to R



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 2016 Social Mornings



April 13th—May 11th, —June 8th, —July 13th,— August 10th, —

September 14th, —October 12th, — November 9th, —December 14th

Asbestos: Home Renovators Beware

Australia's widespread use of asbestos has left a legacy of asbestos-containing material in our built environment. Almost every home built or renovated before 1990 contains some form of asbestos building material.

Making people aware of where in their homes they could find asbestos is important given the number of do-it-yourself home renovators. It is also important that people understand what to do having established where it is.

On SafeWork SA's [YouTube page](#) you will find two asbestos safety segments filmed as part of the Master Builders Association of South Australia's 'Building Ideas' TV program in 2012 and 2013.

There is a lot of good information on this web site it is produced for and by SA Govt with other contributors involved.

<http://www.asbestos.sa.gov.au>

<http://www.asbestos.sa.gov.au/resources.html>

Asbestos Safety for Home Renovators in South Australia

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tR12-nl3PXQ&list=PLo4mf6efyi_G0RL__BrVSvn-SVGw-4d5

Video with Brett Pfeffer

Asbestos for Home Renovators

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tR12-nl3PXQ&list=PLo4mf6efyi_G0RL__BrVSvn-SVGw-4d5

Video with Mandy

Kay

Please Put This IMPORTANT Date In Your Diary NOW

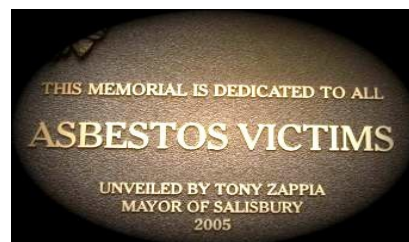
Asbestos Victims Memorial Day

DATE: Friday November 25th 2016

VENUE: Pitman Park SALISBURY

TIME: 10:30 am to 11:30 am

Speakers TBA



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