



December 2014

News

A Message from the President

Barry Robson President,

Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia Inc.



Following two days of presentations, discussion and debate, the participants of Australia's 1st International Conference on Asbestos Awareness and Management agreed to continue working together towards an asbestos free Australia, through ongoing collaboration and communication between industry, employer groups, unions, governments at all levels, researchers, medical experts and health professionals, community groups and victims of asbestos-related diseases. The conference calls for continuing partnerships, working across communities and borders to support awareness and action.

Asbestos is a global problem which needs a global solution. The International delegates support the work Australia is doing to promote asbestos awareness and management, and commend the Australian Government for establishing the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and Council.

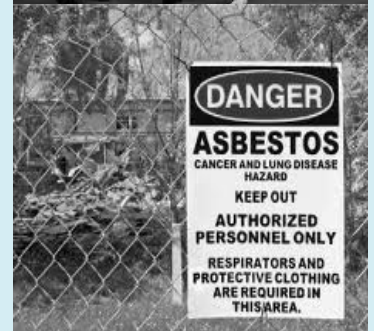
It is the consensus of all delegates that all forms of asbestos fibres kill and the only solution is to eliminate the sources. There is no known safe level of exposure to asbestos. This conference finds no scientific evidence to support the concept of controlled use advocated by some in the asbestos producing industry.

There are no valid reasons for the sale of asbestos to remain legal in any country. Australia has a leadership role to play globally and in particular, in the Asia Pacific, by helping developing countries transition from asbestos dependent to asbestos free societies.

Australia's asbestos legacy in the built environment remains an ongoing challenge for all levels of government, business and the community to identify practical solutions and eliminate the risk. The general public should not be expected to manage the risks posed by asbestos without assistance or education.

The conference calls for improved asbestos awareness training and stronger enforcement and penalties for those who do not comply with asbestos regulations. Asbestos-related diseases are avoidable. Support and care must be provided for people who contract diseases, including adequate and suitable compensation. Maximum effort must be made to prevent ongoing and future exposures in Australia and overseas.

The conference endorses an Australia free of the risks of asbestos.



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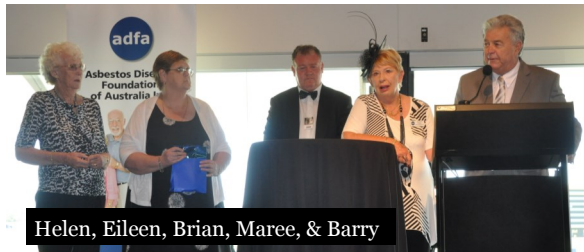
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The Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia Inc.

Gala Race Day - Saturday 1st November 2014

Rosehill Gardens Racecourse



Helen, Eileen, Brian, Maree, & Barry



Brian & Armando Gardiman



Brian Parker & Greg Cummins



Kate & Barry Robson



Judy Horobin



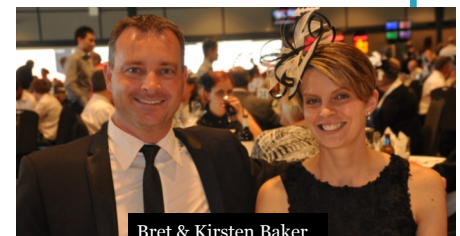
Agnes, Jeanette & Joan



Father John Boyle



Michelle Burgess, Sue Day



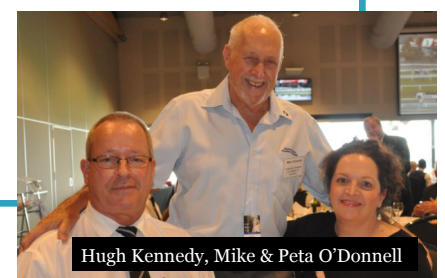
Bret & Kirsten Baker



Hayley & Jason Tanti



Carol Basile & Patricia Wagner



Hugh Kennedy, Mike & Peta O'Donnell



Brian & Kathy Parker



Judy & Joan



Prof. Nico van Zandwijk



Armando Gardiman



Frances



Brian & Mark Thompson



Blacktown Workers



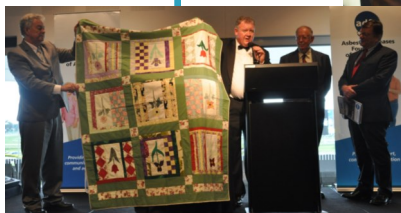
Nic Boss & Prof Nico



Lidoran Group—Helen Taylor



Mr. & Mrs Tony Khoury



Ladies Plane Competition



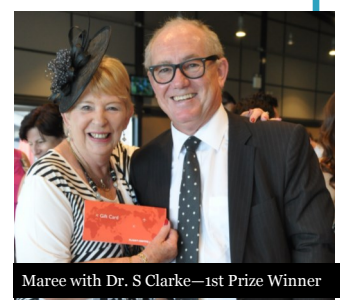
Men's Planes Competition



Ladies Plane Competition



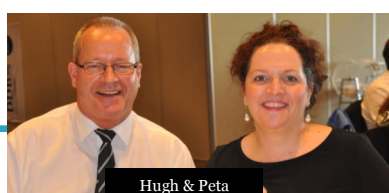
Brian & winner of Men's Plane



Maree with Dr. S Clarke—1st Prize Winner



Derrick McManus & winner of Ladies Plane & Brian



Hugh & Peta



Judi Lipp & friend



Maree Stokes & Eileen Day



Helen Davis & Eileen Day



Helen & Christine Davis & Kathy & Eileen Day



Best Dressed Family



Best Dressed Couple



Best Dressed Lady



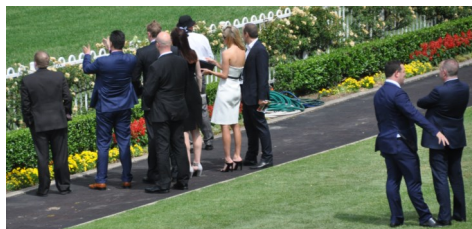
Best Dressed Man



Best Dressed Man



Tony & Jean



Our Raffle Tickets Winners:

1st Prize—S. Clarke

2nd Prize—R. Carlson

3rd Prize—Jackie Lahood



Best Dressed Lady

ADFA would like to extend to the Klinfalt family our condolences in the passing of Carol.

Our thoughts and wishes are with you all at this very sad time.

ADFA Executives..



The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency conference on 17-18 November was a great success, issuing a [communique](#) outlining the way forward towards an Australia free of the risks of asbestos.

It featured over 260 international experts in asbestos and industry, employer groups, unions, governments at all levels, researchers, medical experts and health professionals, community groups, and victims of asbestos-related diseases representing the diverse stakeholders who are affected by asbestos and asbestos-related diseases.

The conference discussed current challenges and practical solutions to addressing Australia's asbestos legacy and agreed to a final communique outlining the way forward towards an Australia free of the risks of asbestos.




ADRI CARERS WORKSHOP

Thursday 4th December 2014
09:30 am to 2:00 pm

Suitable for people currently, or recently, caring for someone
with malignant mesothelioma or lung cancer

PROGRAMME

- 09:30 - 10:00 Morning tea
- 10:00 - 10:30 Ready for a good laugh! - Sharon Gambrill
- 10:30 - 11:00 What can Carers NSW offer? - Mary Magias
- 11:00 - 12:00 Panel discussion - Your experiences - now & in the future
- 12:00 - 12:45 Lunch kindly supplied by  Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia
- 12:45 - 13:45 Care for yourself with Music - Jeannette Harvey
- 13:45 - 14:00 Close - Jocelyn McLean

What: ADRI Carers Workshop
When: Thursday 4th December 2014
Time: 9:30 am - 2:00pm
Where: Medical Education Centre
Gate 3 Hospital Road
Concord Hospital NSW 2139



RSVP by 28th November 2014 for catering purposes:
Kim Hadley, ADRI Office: (02) 9767 981 00 or
E-mail: kim.hadley@sydney.edu.au
Jocelyn McLean, Support Coordinator: (02) 9767 9854
Free call: 1300 237 400

Judy Horobin's Farewell — Wednesday 12 November

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all those who attended the morning tea/lunch on 12 November 2014 to farewell me on my retirement.

ADFA has, and always will have, a special place in my heart as will the victims of asbestos disease and their families.

I consider it a privilege to have acted for so many victims and I cherish the friendships that I have formed with their families.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Judy Horobin



Farewell and Happy Retirement Judy, you will be missed very much, from the Executives, Staff & your friends at ADFA.

Central Coast Asbestos Diseases Support Group

Support, information & advocacy for people living with asbestos diseases.



Maree Stokes, Vice President AFDA

Co-ordinator Central Coast Asbestos Diseases

Support Group

Some members from Central Coast Support Group arrived by mini bus at the Granville office to farewell Judy Horobin lawyer from Turner Freeman this gave our members the opportunity not only to say a goodbye to Judy but also meet with other members . A lovely morning tea, and we will all miss Judy.

The executive committee attended the first International Conference on Asbestos Awareness & Management in Melbourne the conference had many sponsors and was organised by The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency. Speakers from USA Japan and The International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS) and many Australian interested parties were speaking in various rooms it was a very busy few days.

The Asbestos Awareness Day service will be held at the Maritime Museum on Friday 28th November at 10.30am for 11am start a light lunch will be served. Central Coast Support Group members a minibus will be leaving Ourimbah RSL car park at 8.30am and at Penang car park at 8.45am leaving the function about 1.30pm.

CCads Christmas luncheon will be on Wednesday 17th December in the newly renovated dining room at the Ourimbah RSL club at 12 noon all past and present members welcome the Executive Committee will join us for a happy Christmas get together .

Our normal meetings will resume on Wednesday January 28th 2015 and February 25th and every 4th Wednesday of each month.

The Asbestos Diseases Foundation AGM will be held on 10th December we hope many members will attend and for those I don't see I wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful 2015. I will be thinking of those who have lost loved ones this year and to those who are suffering.

Goodbye for now



Don't forget be involved with www.dustedcommunity.com

Cheers Maree Stokes

Support Group Meetings

4th Wednesday of every month

1pm—3pm

Ourimbah Bowling Club

6– 22 Pacific Highway,

Ourimbah NSW

Contact:

Maree Stokes

0419 418 190



Asbestos cancer survivor in International Award

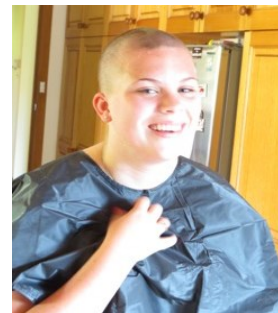
Louise Williams of Gisborne is a long-term survivor of mesothelioma (asbestos) cancer and is currently undergoing further chemotherapy. But earlier this year she was able to travel to the US to accept an award for her advocacy work. The Asbestos Diseases Awareness Organisation presented Louise with The Alan Reinstein Award at a conference in Washington in April. Louise is the social media spokes person for ADFA and Australian director of Global Ban Asbestos Network and works hard to raise awareness of asbestos diseases. Asbestos is a killer. Louise says that in the early 1900s it was known that asbestos was a carcinogenic and yet through pure greed it continued to be used on a worldwide scale, in particular for its fire resistance and insulation qualities, plus it was relatively inexpensive. In 2003 asbestos was banned in Australia, however the majority of buildings, including homes built before 1990, are likely to contain asbestos building materials. There is no known safe level of exposure to asbestos fibres/dust. The time from exposure to being diagnosed can take from under 20 years to 40 years. You do not have to have worked with asbestos—many women, daughters and sons have been diagnosed after being exposed when workers brought asbestos fibres/dust home on their clothes, or when they were present and helped during a renovation or building a cubby house many years before. Home renovating is now thought to be the biggest cause of exposure to asbestos fibre/dust in Australia. Lack of awareness of the dangers of asbestos by tradespeople and DIY renovators is placing many people at risk. “I only know to fight—and fight hard”, she

has spurred me on to advocate for the sufferers of asbestos-related diseases and their families and for greater awareness of the dangers of asbestos, and prevent people from being exposed in the future”. If anyone would like to contact Louise, email eradicateasbestos@gmail.com

Abstract taken from:
Gisborne Gazette—November 2014



A Shining Light in One So Young



So it was the day! On the 23/11/14 I shaved my hair off to raise awareness for the Asbestos Disease Foundation of Australia.

I am proud to say that I have raised \$740.10 in the past month that I have been collecting. I can't believe how amazing this experience has been and I am so grateful for the amount of support this has gotten. This not only helps an amazing charity who is already so close to home but it helps other beautiful families out there which have been affected by this disease.

ADFA thanks Olivia for her very brave act of shaving her hair in the hope to raise money and awareness for adfa. If you would like to contribute to Olivia please contact Jean at the office and she will pass on Olivia's contact details.

Thanking you Olivia Arnold...ADFA Executives

OUT & ABOUT WITH ADFA

Barry Robson and Eileen Day attended “The Asbestos Education Committee and the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute” national launch of the Asbestos Awareness Month on Friday 31st October 2014 at the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute, Bernie Banton Centre, Concord Hospital.



Jenny, Nic, Barry & Tilly



Eileen & Robert Murch



Barry Robson



Don Burke

Living Holroyd Expo

Barry Robson and Eileen Day held a stall at Holroyd Council's Living Holroyd Expo on Saturday 25th October 2014.

The Council holds the expo for locals to find out about services on offer throughout Holroyd City. The expo showcases services including health, safety, children, youth, aged care, disability, community development and environmental sustainability.

ADFA aims to help make their contribution to the awareness and understanding of the dangers of asbestos in the community and consequently to help reduce the numbers of victims in the future.



Notice of Annual General Meeting of



Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia Inc.

Dear Member,

Notice of Annual General Meeting to be held on
10th December 2014 at 1:00pm at

Suite 3, 133-137 Parramatta Road, Granville

All position's vacant

**After the meeting we will be having our
Christmas Party.**



Please come and join us.

Farewell from Susan Murone in honour of her Father Barry Tulloch

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It is also fitting to quote the moving words spoken by daughter Susan Murone (nee Tulloch) at the funeral service for Barry at Brookwood on 14 November 2013 attended by more than 400 people. Susan had spent quality time with her father in the days and weeks before his passing.

"Dad would be incredibly humbled by your attendance today and the support you have shown our family, but he has left me a short list of things he wanted to say:

1. Thank you to all the people that helped make 3112 a reality. Fulfilling his childhood dream of owning his own steam train gave him enormous pleasure, and we all know it would not have been possible without the help of so many of you in the room today. He is eternally grateful.

2. To my dearest Elizabeth, I have lived a full life and achieved more than I would have imagined in my 69 years. All of this would not have been possible without your continuous love and support. You are an amazingly strong and supportive wife, who never

stopped me chasing my dreams, even right to the end.

3. Lastly, my entire family would like to remind everyone about the dangers of asbestos. We all still live amongst it. There is still no way to accurately diagnose mesothelioma early, and there is still no cure. Dad was an incredibly healthy 68-year-old man who happened to work with asbestos. If you could please take away one thing from today, it is that there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos."

Notable people in the media have said that "news and human-interest are created by extraordinary people doing ordinary things and by ordinary people doing extraordinary things". Barry Tulloch would have agreed that he was 'just an ordinary bloke', but what he did and what he achieved during his life were in many ways extraordinary. He will be missed by many, who appreciate and are thankful for his outstanding contribution to steam and to rail heritage. ▴

Merry
Christmas

HOL



*The Executives and Staff at
ADFA wish you all a very
Merry Christmas and a
Safe and Happy New Year
We thank you all for your
continued support for 2014
and look forward to 2015..*

Next Meeting 11th February 2015—hope to see you there...

From the Desk of Our Lawyers

As we approach the end of 2014 we continue to be plagued with increasing numbers of persons being diagnosed with mesothelioma and with the possibility that James Hardie will move the Supreme Court of New South Wales to seek to pay settlement of judgment monies to victims of asbestos disease by installments. 2015 could see asbestos victims around the country lobbying politicians and seeking the support of the general public to oppose the payment of settlement or judgment monies by installments.

The Final Funding Agreement entered into between James Hardie Industries and the NSW Government in 2006 was based on an estimate of James Hardie's future asbestos liabilities being \$1.5 million dollars. This figure was based on estimates provided by the accounting firm KPMG as to the likely future instance of asbestos related disease in Australia. In its 2006 report KPMG predicted a peak in the level of mesothelioma claims in Australia to occur in 2014. This however has not happened. In its latest report to the Asbestos Injuries Compensation Fund (AICF) (the fund set up to administer the James Hardie claims), KPMG now predicts a peak in the years 2016 and 2017, however they warn this date could be pushed back due to an increasing number of mesothelioma claims. Indeed, KPMG in 2013 estimated that the number of claims brought against James Hardie by persons suffering from mesothelioma in 2014 would be 300. They were wrong. There were in fact 317 claims, an almost 30% increase on the expected numbers. This has resulted in KPMG increasing the expected number of mesothelioma claims for the next three years which has in turn increased the total future liabilities of the AICF by \$334.2 million.

It is as a result of the latest KPMG report that the AICF on 15 September 2014 advised James Hardie and the NSW Government that it believed it would have a shortfall to fund claims in 2017 and that as a result it was seeking to enter into discussions in relation to an Approved Payment Scheme (APS). An APS would allow James Hardie to pay the full amount of judgments and settlements for asbestos victims by installments. It is unclear what time period that James Hardie would seek to pay such claims (2 years? 5 years? 10 years?) however any payment by instalment must be seen in the context of the average life expectancy of a person with mesothelioma is 155 days from diagnosis. The AICF has advised that unless alternative arrangements can be made it will seek the approval of the New South Wales Supreme Court to establish an approved payment scheme to operate from 1 July 2015.

The AICF has a loan facility with the NSW and Federal Governments which allows it to borrow under certain conditions up to an agreed amount of \$320 million. The amount of money available to be drawn down at any one time depends on the value of the insurance policies benefiting the AICF, which as at 31 March 2014 is \$240.3 million. The AICF is seeking that the amount of money available to be loaned not be limited and that the full amount of the \$320 million being made available. It is hoped that if this money is made available then James Hardie will not need to enter into an approved payment scheme. To date however no agreement has been reached with the NSW and Federal Governments to allow this to happen.

Given that James Hardie was by far the largest manufacturer of asbestos cement building products in Australia and giving the increasing number of claims by third wave victims (those exposed out of work during the course of home renovations or other bystander exposure) the number of claims against James Hardie will only increase. Many of the third wave victims tend to be younger which results in larger settlements of judgments as a result of claims for economic loss or for the loss of capacity to provide services to children. The end result is that the estimate of James Hardie's future asbestos liabilities on which the final funding agreement is based is an underestimate of what its real liabilities will be. It will then be a matter for the various Australian State and Federal Governments, lawyers and asbestos victims to once again hold this company to account and ensure that further money is made available to pay asbestos claims. It should be noted that James Hardie is a profitable company. In the period since the establishment of the AICF in 2006 the company has paid to the Fund US\$667.3 million. In the same period the company made a profit US \$2,516.8 million and paid US \$556 million in dividends. Its CEO earns over \$11 million a year and the company plans to spend \$200 million a year over the next three years expanding its plant capacity in the United States.

Turner Freeman are continuing to work with ADFA to ensure that all asbestos victims are paid their lump sum compensation on settlement or judgment. We will keep you advised of any further developments. In the meantime, would like to take this opportunity to wish all of ADFA members are happy Christmas and festive season and a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year.

**Turner
Freeman**
Lawyers

Tanya Segelov

CHILDREN AT RISK.

Many readers of previous ADFA NEWS publications may recall the name Alan Purcell. Alan, who lives in Perth has for many years waged a singular campaign for the abolition of leaf blowers, and in particular the use of these machines used by cleaning staff in our schools. Those ear splitting and annoying devices that are so prevalent in our society these days, and appear to find a ready use in filling our gutters with all types of debris and rubbish to end up in our rivers and oceans, have also a more sinister aspect. It is a proven fact that dust particles disturbed by their usage may hang motionless in the air, even for a period of weeks, especially when used in enclosed areas such as school rooms and hallways. In many cases they are so tiny they can be invisible to the naked eye and compared to the use of a broom as an example would be like a storm and a mild shower of rain. Many parents of school aged children who suffer from diseases such as Hay Fever, Asthma and other breathing difficulties may not even be aware of the effect that the class room may be having on their child and could well be the cause of their child's discomfort. Most certainly those educators and health authorities charged with a duty of care of our children should be aware of the inherent danger these leaf blowers present and not treat this serious situation with ignorance and apathy. Little concern has been given to teachers and auxiliary staff employed in our schools who are exposed to dust particles disturbed and distributed by leaf blowers on a daily basis. Of more concern we have schools across the country which have undergone renovations and extensions in past years that have now been found to have discarded Asbestos lying in and about school playgrounds. (Alan has supplied photos of some of this deadly material in such areas). Asbestos is the perfect fodder for leaf blowers being often invisible and composed of razor sharp tiny shards, when once having lodged in the wall of the lung may remain dormant for many years before becoming "alive" with devastating effects causing Mesothelioma cancer and always fatal. It is reliably reported that in the state of New Jersey in the U.S. some 470 teachers have so far died as a result of contracting Mesothelioma possibly in many cases in the class rooms where Asbestos was freely used and further to that it is estimated that for every teacher who died some nine students would contract the disease at some time in their future life. There are alternatives to leaf blowers such as vacuum cleaners and authorities should look towards ending their use particularly in schools as a matter of urgency. We can only thank Alan for his one man crusade and hope the many hours he devotes to helping divest our schools of these potentially harmful appliances do not fall upon deaf ears.

I have to apologise for the wrong spelling of his name in a previous article and would like to take this opportunity to correct that, and at the same time I urge anyone who feels the need to investigate further, or has a child or children attending a school that may be affected in the nature described here is to contact the principal in writing and seek reasons why these machines should not be banned. Alternatively, they may contact Alan at the following address:

Dr. Alan Purcell (PhD,MA,MVB)

10A Greenock Ave. Como, Western Australia 6152.

Phone 08 94508472 Mobile 0415517665 e-mail purcellae@aapt.net.au

MIKE O'DONNELL

Thank you to our Supporters



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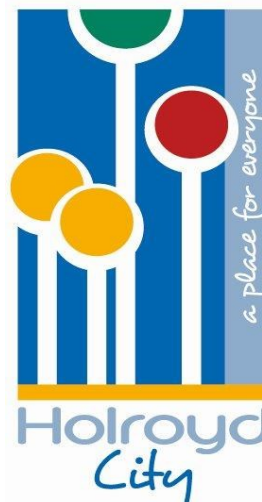
**Dust Diseases
Board**



WASTE CONTRACTORS &
RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION
OF N.S.W



Furzer Crestani
Chartered Accountants



**ROCKDALE
CITY COUNCIL**
On Historic Botany Bay



*Merry
Christmas*



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you first. always.

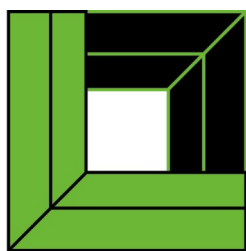


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NEWCASTLE and HUNTER



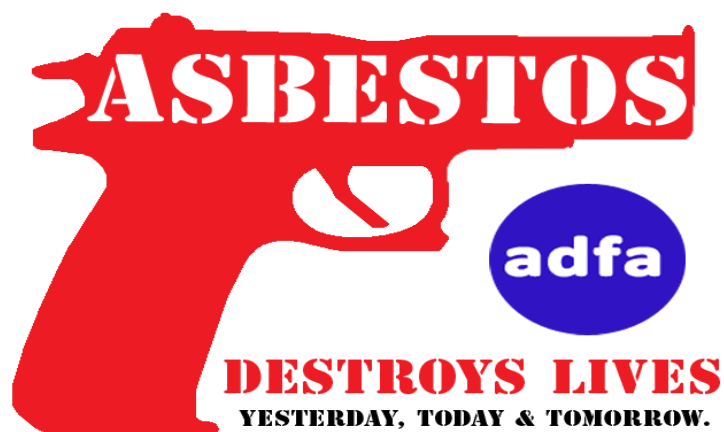
LIDORAN
GROUP



Action Demolition & Asbestos Removal Pty Ltd



Specialised Industrial Services



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