



**ASBESTOS DISEASES SOCIETY
of AUSTRALIA INC.**

MEDIA RELEASE – 22 AUGUST 2017

**ASBESTOS DISEASES SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA WALK FOR
RESEARCH AND AWARENESS 2017**

MERREDIN TO PERTH –10 SEPTEMBER 2017 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2017

The Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Inc (ADSA) is a caring charitable organisation that has for more than 35 years provided a unique service to asbestos diseases sufferers, their families, and the Western Australian community, assisting with the many issues arising out of exposure to asbestos and its devastating consequences. The epidemic of asbestos diseases in Western Australia is affecting members of the community from all walks of life in greater numbers as each year passes. In 2016 the ADSA recorded 300 asbestos caused deaths.

Mr Robert Vojakovic AM, JP, President of the ADSA said, "There is no safe level of asbestos exposure and mesothelioma can be contracted with only minimal exposure to asbestos from home renovations or unsafe work practices. Asbestos was used in commercial, public, and residential buildings in Australia from 1920 to 1987 and indeed recent illegal imports have also been used in our buildings. For many years to come carcinogenic asbestos fibres will remain in the community and it is essential that people are aware of what they need to do to reduce the risks for themselves and their families."

The Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Walk for Research and Awareness 2017 is from Merredin to Perth via Bruce Rock, Quairading, Beverley, York, and Northam. This is an annual event to raise lifesaving funds for the Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Phd Scholarship in Mesothelioma supervised by Professor Anna Nowak and the NCARD team at the University of Western Australia and also to raise awareness of the risks of asbestos exposure.

The ADSA invites Merredin and Central Wheatbelt community members to join the ADAS Walk Team in Merredin for the official start of the ADSA Walk 2017 Monday 11 September at 9am at the Merredin Visitors Centre and to walk with the team out of town on the first leg of the ADSA Walk 2017.

Mr Vojakovic continues, "On Thursday 14th September 2017 the ADSA Walk Around Town will be held in Northam from 10am to 2pm, this is a community event and I encourage all supporters to join the ADSA Walk Team for a few laps of the 2km circuit and to enjoy a day out in the country raising awareness of the deadly risk of asbestos in our community and to support the ADSA Walk Team's fundraising efforts to find a cure for mesothelioma and save lives."

Persons wanting to make donations towards lifesaving research can do so by telephone: 1800 646 690 OR online at www.asbestosdiseases.org.au

Media Contact person: Simone Vojakovic
Ph: (08) 9344 4077 Mobile: 0400 922 542
Email: simone@asbestosdiseases.org.au