

# PUBLIC HEALTH FORUM

29 OCTOBER 2009

## Asbestos Community Education Seminar

**You're invited to attend a free education seminar on asbestos. What is it, why is it dangerous and how can we prevent the risk of asbestos exposure?**

In January 2009 the state-of-the-art Asbestos Diseases Research Institute, the Bernie Banton Centre, was opened at Concord Hospital. This is the world's first asbestos research institute. The Centre commemorates the late Bernie Banton. Bernie tirelessly campaigned to help for victims of asbestos diseases. The Centre promotes the education and prevention of asbestos-related disease and works to discover solutions for victims of asbestos-related disease.

There is a high risk of asbestos exposure in our community given the number of renovations occurring on Federation and Californian bungalow homes. Many people believe that asbestos is found only in homes around the 1950's and earlier. However, asbestos was widely used in homes built up to the mid-1980s. This seminar will dispel the myths and give you the facts to keep you and your family safe from asbestos-related cancer and mesothelioma, a cancer which most often occurs in the lining of the lung.

At this seminar, the Centre's director, Professor Nico van Zandwijk will head a discussion on asbestos-related cancer and prevention. Professor van Zandwijk is an internationally renowned researcher in thoracic oncology.

Karen Banton, Bernie Banton's wife, will speak about her personal story and also her role in setting up the Bernie Banton Foundation.

Philip Hibbs from Hibbs and Associates Pty Ltd will provide sound advice to home renovators and outline the services his company offers in hazardous materials management.

## Panellists

### **Professor Nico van Zandwijk**

Director, Asbestos Diseases Research Institute  
Bernie Banton Centre, Concord Hospital

### **Philip Hibbs**

Director, Hibbs & Associates Pty Ltd

### **Karen Banton**

Bernie Banton Foundation



**When** Thursday, 29 October 2009 from 6.45-9pm

**Where** Concord Hospital's Conference Room, Gate 2, Hospital Road, Concord West

**Bookings** This is a free event however bookings are essential. Reserve your place on 9911 6433 or email [business@canadabay.nsw.gov.au](mailto:business@canadabay.nsw.gov.au).