



Caring for Our People

Manaakitia ā tātou tāngata

August 2018

Malo e lelei! Talofa lava! Bula! Greetings! Goeie dag! Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa!

Asbestos ... Again!!

Some people have said... “we don’t need an asbestos management plan for the parsonage – it’s not a work place!”

Sorry! Parsonages and residential rentals require asbestos management plans too!

Our residential properties become workplaces whenever a contractor or a volunteer go there to undertake work for us. Therefore an asbestos management plan is required.

Here are some other less well known asbestos facts I have come across:

- The landlord is responsible for ensuring an asbestos management plan is in place and the tenant is responsible for following that plan. Sometimes we are the landlord, sometimes we are the tenant!
- NZ consultants are very keen about using an outstanding UK standard. However NZ has used asbestos somewhat differently than the UK and plaster is a common asbestos criminal in NZ. (wallboard plaster, plaster over concrete, decorative plaster, lath and plaster). Always question your consultant’s asbestos report if they haven’t considered plaster!
- Fire doors AND their doorframes used to contain asbestos! I used to think fire doors were solid timber, they call them solid core doors after all. Now I discover it is a solid core of asbestos, which makes more sense to stop fire than a timber door – solid or not. Beware if you drill holes or fit door hardware to fire doors AND their doorframes – find out more about your fire doors!
- 755 AD, King Charlemagne ordered a tablecloth made of asbestos to prevent it from burning during the fires that occurred during feasts and celebrations. I have no idea if this is true or not but it sounds like an idea!
- In the 1800s the Italians used asbestos fibres in their bank notes!



If asbestos is contained, either with paint, or inside doors or ceiling spaces/wall spaces. Then it is safe.

If asbestos containing materials are breaking down, like dusty plaster, crumbling eaves/soffits, then it is bad.

Our asbestos management plans are designed to help us manage the risk and avoid bad asbestos.

If you need a hand – call me.

- I will be starting an asbestos management plan roadshow this month so watch this space for a roadshow date near you!
- I will be creating a network of consultants that will undertake the start of your asbestos management plan. They will be doing it to the Church standards and you will have a usable plan at the end of the process. I can confirm some names by the end of this month

Go to this page http://www.methodist.org.nz/caring_for_our_people/asbestos_management_plans and click on the links for Information Leaflets 42 and 42a.

Me mahi tahi tātou mō te oranga o te katoa

We should work together for the wellbeing of everyone.

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