



Clean Air Update

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Non-Smokers' Movement of Australia Inc,

Box K860, Haymarket NSW 1240.

Tel: 0419 257 605 Fax (02) 99058787, Website: <http://www.nhma.org.au>

Email: nhma@nhma.org.au

Everybody has the right to breathe clean air, free from the poisons in tobacco smoke.

If you can smell tobacco smoke, then the poisons are going into your lungs and your family's lungs and DOING HARM.

There is no legal obligation for any proprietor to provide a smoking space/area.

Smoking should not be allowed where it MAY DO HARM TO OTHERS

SET AN END-DATE FOR TOBACCO SALES IN AUSTRALIA

Why wait, Mr. Prime Minister and Mr. Treasurer – with a tight budget, do the sums and you will see that Australia could save billions by setting an early end-date for Tobacco sales and use in Australia.

Annual excise/revenue from tobacco is between \$7billion and \$9 billion but the officially agreed economic and social costs total approximately \$31billion – we need to spend more on helping smokers to quit, meanwhile protecting everybody by declaring tobacco smoke as a toxic air contaminant. There are still approximately 2,800,000 smokers – that's an awful lot of poison to avoid.



Joe, we need a bigger Tobacco Control
BUDGET !! (SMHpic)

We called on Prime Minister Abbott to set an early end-date, even earlier than New Zealand's 2025 as we are further ahead with tobacco control measures. We pointed out that tobacco kills more Australians than does any other single product and that there are readily-available alternatives. We also called on Mr. Abbott to follow-up and continue the process of suing Big Tobacco

for damages – this legal process had already begun with former Health Minister Roxon.

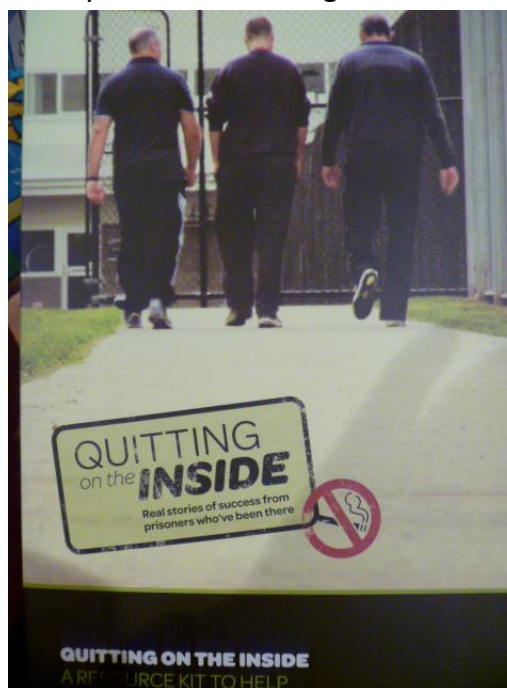
We finished by calling for assurance that no public funds are invested in tobacco in any way and for public advice to help everybody to disinvest in tobacco.

Australia's Prisons – smoke-free must be tobacco-free

At long last several State Governments acknowledge that prisons must be smoke-free, for the health and safety of inmates and workers and visitors and also to reduce health-care costs. Following New Zealand's lead, Queensland and Northern Territory have now gone smoke-free, New South Wales has a date of 20th August 2015 (next year) and other states have also set dates. Far too late, of course, for the Corrective Services officer in NSW who died, aged 45, in Jan.2011 from lung cancer caused by prolonged exposure to secondhand smoke in prisons throughout almost 20 years of working. He never smoked. He leaves a widow and two teenage children and no compensation – yet.

However, ***smoke-free must mean tobacco-free***, with tobacco being designated as contraband so that inmates can't have any access at all to the product to which they are addicted. After all, they are promised quitting assistance and alternative nicotine

products. There is no basic right to smoke and, with prisoner smoking rates at over 80%, by far the highest of any smoking group in Australia, health costs are astronomical. Inmates who manage to quit will be healthier and have better prospects to their own families when released. saving money and causing less damage



Huge thanks go out to ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) Australia who closed off their books in December 2013 after 20 years of strong leadership and very effective action through networks such as Smoke-free Australia and Smoke-free Children's Network fighting against Big Tobacco and on behalf of all tobacco's victims. We miss Anne Jones and Stafford Sanders very much and are delighted that they are always willing to help or comment when we need them. The battle is lonelier without them. Our resolve, however, is not diminished, as they knew it would not. Let's get on with the job as it's not done yet t!



Stafford Sanders AKA CiggyButts

With ASH gone, we find it even more important to extend our membership numbers which have depleted mostly as a result of many of our successes. We want to recruit some new members, to bring in new ideas and to help get the job done and the message out. There are major issues - smoking neighbours, pregnant smokers, smoke-free outdoor dining and drinking, high-roller casinos, smoke-free prisons, , and environmental damage from butts come to mind. Please encourage friends and family to join our very fine band.

Don't forget to protect yourselves from tobacco-smoke –cover mouth and nose with your hand whenever a smoker is nearby, and quickly warn friends and family to do the same. Call ahead to venues and insist on smoke-free premises. Ban smoking on your property – contractors, visitors – show how it's done. Most people don't smoke anyway.

NSMA Founder Brian McBride and his wife have not yet recovered full recompense despite winning their case regarding rights at retirement villages, and regarding solicitors' obligations to their clients. We fully support the claim that all retirement villages and nursing homes must be smoke-free, for the health, safety and comfort of residents, workers, and guests. Smoking visitors should be directed off the property, while smoker residents can be assisted with alternative nicotine products. We are painfully aware of the dangers of smoke seepage and smoke drift within and around multi-unit housing and find it ridiculous that individual complexes should be obliged to treat each complex separately and develop their own regulations. Older citizens should be spared such details, and should move into their retirement homes knowing they will be safe and healthy.

Please keep in touch via our website or email address nsma@nsma.org.au, or Facebook Non-Smokers' Movement of Australia Inc.

Margaret Hogge Hon. President, NSMA Inc.

The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing. — Albert Einstein

Why are we waiting for Smoke-free Multi-Unit Housing?

Despite numerous pleas and consultations with many authorities, the message that secondhand tobacco smoke can drastically affect one's neighbours, via smoke seepage (within buildings) and smoke drift (around and into buildings), has not yet impacted with Public Housing, Retirement Housing, and Strata Housing legislators.

Compelling evidence from USA, as well as continuous, desperate pleas and tales of smoke-related illnesses and major disputes with smoking neighbours have not yet resulted in regulations to protect residents in their own homes. Probably the closest is that secondhand smoke can be regarded legally as nuisance – you bet it is, but far worse! NSMA continues the battle on behalf of several members and for all residents of multi-unit housing.

Smoke-free public transport waiting areas – bus, train, taxi, ferry

We understand that New South Wales could be first State in protecting all public transport users from secondhand tobacco smoke as well as from promoting smoking. Smoking is banned at all times from waiting areas, whether covered or uncovered. A perimeter of ten metres from any such space would be a minimum safe standard. At last, children and older people and regular commuters, everyone, can use public transport more safely, without being enveloped in clouds of toxins – enforcement has been slow so far but with a huge majority of non-smokers, and some good (albeit tardy) signage, we see some improvement. NSMA had been calling for such legislation for many years.



The National Party of Australia continues to accept donations from Big Tobacco, not seeming to grasp that this smacks of bribery. As Deputy Prime Minister, Nationals Leader Warren Truss wields much influence, but who influences him? No politician can claim lack of bias in decision-making and legislating when propped up by donors such as Big Tobacco. Just look at the never-ending avalanche of graft and corruption coming out of the recent ICAC inquiries. We cannot trust a tobacco-dependent politician to make healthy laws regarding tobacco.

Smoking in Detention Centres – no response from our Immigration Minister More to come on this important issue, especially in the light of success with smoke-free/tobacco-free prisons, for health and safety, especially of children.

Smoke-free Oceania Conference, Auckland, October 2013

Our Kiwi hosts were understandably elated at their Government's agreement to set a 2025 end-date for tobacco in their country. We congratulated the wonderful Hon. Tariana Turia, Maori Party MP for



her strong contribution towards this achievement.

We also supported the NZ push for smoke-free cars carrying children with a last-minute petition from many Australian delegates, encouraging NZ to protect the most vulnerable and voiceless in, as we stated back in 2006/7, “the smallest room they ever enter”.

Smoking during pregnancy is a huge problem in the Pacific/Oceania– we need conferences such as this to share best methods to help the unborn, infants and mothers.

Our poster presentation “Cigarette Butt Return and Disposal Concept” attracted favourable comment – NSMA needs to promote this simple concept further amongst environmental groups – smokers should not be able to purchase cigarettes unless they return the equivalent number of butts – (average weight would suffice) plus the packaging, for disposal per stringent poison regulation methods, paid for by the manufacturers.

NSMA's suggestion (as part of our earlier Plain Packaging Submission) was that the next step should include some alteration to single stick colouring – this concept came under further (brief) discussion.

Our delegate constantly wore a jacket imprinted with Big Tobacco's 1980's quote: **“WE DON'T SMOKE THAT S**T, WE JUST SELL IT. WE RESERVE THAT RIGHT FOR THE YOUNG, THE POOR, THE BLACK AND THE STUPID”**.

Smoke-free Cars with Children – Let's hear it for Northern Territory, later this year. We are reliably informed that the relevant legislation is due to be passed by end October 2014 – this is extremely important, for protection of children from exposure to tobacco smoke's toxins for long periods sometimes, in a very small space. Enforcement may be an issue, but not having this valuable legal protection has been a serious omission. (See also above report re New Zealand.)

AROUND OUR WORLD

1. **Ten years ago, on 29th March 2004, all of Ireland's indoor workplaces were declared smoke-free, a move which led the world.** Compliance was well over 90% within a few months and even smokers were better off, some deciding to quit, and others smoking less. This led the way for an avalanche of smoke-free legislation around the world, with many politicians only prepared to follow rather than lead with the gutsy changes which have introduced safe, smoke-free workplaces especially for itinerant, marginalized, casual workers in the hospitality industry. We still await gutsy change for Victoria, NSW and ACT to remove the dodgy definition of "outdoors" from something where a room which is 75% enclosed can be treated as "outdoors". Our response at the time, in 2004, sung woefully during protests outside some of our "Irish" pubs was:- *Oh Danny Boy, the smoke, the smoke is clearing now, From pub to pub all 'round the Emerald Isle. The Irish people have a healthier future now. Oh when, oh when, will WE begin to smile?* We sent hearty congratulations to Irish Cancer Society in March 2014
2. .On a recent visit to **London, UK**, I stopped in to see our colleagues at **ASH UK**, who are heavily involved in helping smokers to quit. CEO Deborah Arnott swears that electronic cigarettes are a huge asset for many smokers, helping them to quit tobacco even though they continue in their nicotine addiction. (We respect ASH UK position but suggest that there is still not enough information about the effects of e-cigarettes before they should be allowed on the open market, and that e-cigarettes are attractive to young would-be smokers, as well as taking up/keeping up the smoking habit.)

ASH UK is launching a strengthened new program to help drive down smoking during pregnancy.
3. Great news from **China** – Beijing is to ban smoking in indoor workplaces, a huge step forward, and, although not nationwide, will almost certainly be extended before long. China has a major conflict of interest in that the State owns the bulk of the tobacco industry. The health costs as the population ages must be prohibitive. Motto seen outside a School "Genius comes from hard work –Tobacco helps you succeed " – *we acknowledge there is a long walk ahead for our friends in China – best wishes.*
- 4 **USA President Barack Obama**, who has quit smoking, applauded major Pharmacy **CVS**'s action to stop selling tobacco products and to help smokers to quit. The company will apparently forfeit approximately \$2billion annual revenue. Hopefully, other pharmacies, including Walgreen's, will follow the CVS example.

Opinion piece from 11 year old.

Smoking bans are a great idea

Sept. 11, 2014, midnight

I'VE recently been made aware Victoria is planning to introduce new laws that will fine people who smoke in or around schools. I think it's a fantastic idea. My school has been researching a topic called "making healthy choices". We have researched smoking. I think all schools and kinders should get behind the act. In my opinion, adults are walking billboards; does Victoria really want to advertise smoking to school and kindergarten kids? I think Victoria's next generation should be cigarette free. I think by enforcing this law we are a step closer to being a smoke-free generation. Passive smoking is a big problem and by introducing this law the passive smoking rate may reduce. I am so glad our teacher showed me this article; I think this law should definitely be enforced. Schools would be so much cleaner without cigarette butts and they may get a better reputation if people didn't smoke around the schools and kinders.

— HANNAH CHICK, 11, Victory Lutheran College

In contrast:

"I believe that nicotine is not addictive." USA 1994



Nick Greiner AC was Premier and Treasurer of New South Wales from 1988-1992. Since his retirement from politics he has been heavily involved in the corporate world. In 1994 Greiner was made a [Companion of the Order of Australia](#) "for (his) service to public sector reform and management and to the community. He went on to hold directorships with many of Australia's leading companies. **Greiner was chairman of the board of WD&HO Wills and then British American Tobacco Australia for the period 1996 to 2004** Nick holds an Honours Degree in Economics from Sydney University and a Master of Business Administration with High Distinction from Harvard Business School. He is a Life Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Life Member of the South Sydney Rugby League Club.

Discarded cigarette packet found near airport



Printed on rear of pack:-

“Our journey began, as they often do, with little more than an idea – to create a premium cigarette that was free of additives. Once that goal was achieved, our very next stop was the creation of earth-friendly growing programs, and then tobacco grown under organic specifications, to lessen our farmers’ impact on the environment. We’re proud to have produced the first cigarette made with organic tobacco.”

(Makes me go all warm and fuzzy! Ed.)



Per Healthway W.A.2009

Old poster, sadly a current problem.