

## Volunteer Labour Keeps The LEAD Group Alive



In May of 2014 The LEAD Group launched a crowdfunding campaign on the Chuffed platform. The campaign was developed by Georgeina Clear (volunteer marketing and promotion staff) who was responsible for the creation of the campaign image as well as filing out all the necessary information on the Chuffed website as well as the calculation and accounting efforts necessary to get campaign off the ground and provide reasonable rewards.

David Czolij and Yiru Rocky Huang, were also a part of the team, responsible for the creation of the campaign flyer and distribution of its contents both digitally and physically. Rocky created an email campaign using MailChimp to broadcast to The LEAD Group's subscribers as well as assisted in the distribution of flyers to nearby business and houses.

Ultimately the campaign raised a total of \$2760 which is over the halfway mark of the original \$5000 goal. It brought in much needed funding and allowed The LEAD Group and GLASS to keep operating and contributed to the collation of our 2000 test results that we have collected over the past 8 years.



The Chuffed campaign has been a valuable lesson as well as an excellent group exercise for The LEAD Group and it really got the team to work together and boosted the morale of all involved. More information on that media release can be found here

<http://www.lead safeworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Medrel-20140605-Opportunity-to-Make-Your-Place-and-Australia-Lead-safe.pdf>).

It is the dedication and passion of its volunteers that has allowed The LEAD Group to continue its lead awareness promotion and advice service. It is important to note that it is due to the effort of our volunteers that we were able to survive our first year without funding.



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# Editorial

The LEAD Group is pleased to say that our recently launched website, 'Lead Safe World' ([www.lead safeworld.com](http://www.lead safeworld.com)), has been successful in providing an outlet for those who are environmentally conscious and health conscious to seek information about lead and provide a database of Solutions that deals with various areas of lead education such as detection, abatement, management, disposal etc. Our Solutions page (<http://www.lead safeworld.com/solutions/>) is an ever-growing wellspring of information regarding the aforementioned topics as well as the go-to place for practical advice about health and nutrition.

The Lead Safe World website promotes lead safety actions everyone can take, anywhere in the world, rather than being a broad-ranging archive of information about the history of lead, the health effects of lead, sources of lead contamination, etc., as our existing web site is ([www.lead.org.au](http://www.lead.org.au)).

We have continued to add to the Partners section (<http://www.lead safeworld.com/partners/>) of our Lead Safe World website and companies and when visiting the website, products and organisations which help manage lead poisoning and lead contamination will be easily-identified by Logos: 'Lead free', 'Lead safe' and 'Lead away.'

We are inviting sponsors, partnerships, and companies with proven solutions to lead problems, lead-free products and lead-safe services, to join us.

This issue of LEAD Action News also promotes the 2014 Lead-Safe World Volcano Art Prize; each month of the year is illustrated by a winning art entry on the subject of lead safety. A further 13 finalists in the art competition, who receive a Pictureproducts mug as their prize, are listed below. All the entries are awaiting your review and voting for the People's Choice Award, on three pages, at <http://volcanoartprize.com/peoples-choice/> so get your entries in and vote now!

With the Lead News section, we highlight a report on the city of Shymkent, Kazakhstan where 40,000 pre-school children have been poisoned by the still operation lead smelter, provide some insight on what is considered a safe lead level and offer some advice on making your home and yard lead safe. We should remind you that more information and solutions can be found at our Solutions page.

Sadly, on 21st of May 2014 professor Chris Winder, The LEAD Group's expert on occupational health and safety in relation to lead, died of a brain tumour. In tribute, this issue includes all the obituary notices that The LEAD Group gathered. Photos of the poem by Chris given to all the attendees of the funeral will also be included. The LEAD Group is now in serious need of a replacement of the calibre of Chris for both our Technical Advisory Board (TAB) and for the committee of The Lead Education and Abatement Fund (LEAF). Please call if you can offer to fill either the OHS lead expert role for TAB or the knowledgeable decision maker role of LEAF.



# 2015 Lead-Safe World Calendar

**ALL** 2014 Calendars have been **sold** but 2015 Calendars can be ordered now and they will be printed in October when the competition ends. You can order a 2015 Calendar through the link below.

Now is the time to submit your VAP entries and get voting to see the image you like in next year's calendar! Use this link to submit your entry:

<http://volcanoartprize.com/submitentry/>

Alternatively vote for your favourite entry by using the 'Like' button (must have Facebook account) by visiting this page: <http://volcanoartprize.com/peoples-choice/>

To see the 2014 calendar in all its glory visit: <http://volcanoartprize.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/2014-Calendar-FINAL-for-printer.pdf>

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## About the Volcano Art Prize (VAP)



### Volcano Art Prize

*By Hitesh Lohani, LEAD Group Volunteer, and  
Pristabhumi e-Magazine Publisher*

Following the success of the inaugural environmental Volcano Art Prize (VAP) competition in 2012, all those entries are in the VAP Archives at <http://volcanoartprize.com/vap-archive/> and the Judge's decision for the 2013 Volcano Art Prize Competition are out now (see below). We received many interesting artworks from all the participants and would like to thank all for your support and participation. However, if any of you missed out from this year's competition, you can now submit your artwork for the 2014 Volcano Art Prize competition. We would love to receive an entry from you. Be part of a worthy environmental art competition and take a step forward to help create a lead-safe world.

It's only \$10 for adults in OECD countries to enter, and other adults and all earthlings under the age of 18 enter for free!

Simply create a landscape-orientation image on the theme of lead-safety, by photographing or scanning anything – an artwork or real-life - related to lead (it's in people/animals/plants/old paint/soil/food/water/products etc) or lead-safety (while renovating/shooting/working with lead) or lead poisoning prevention (testing for lead/detoxing).

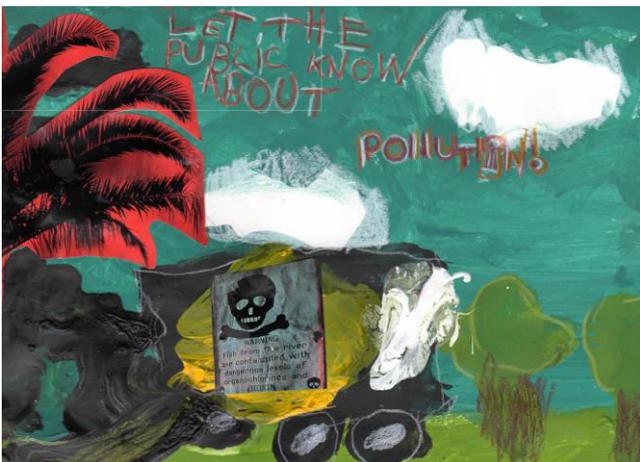


Browse our websites – [www.lead.org.au](http://www.lead.org.au) and as of today, [www.lead safeworld.com](http://www.lead safeworld.com) – to develop your own ideas. You can also see the 2012 and 2013 Volcano Art Prize finalists' entries, for inspiration, at <http://volcanoartprize.com/vap-archive/> and <http://volcanoartprize.com/peoples-choice/> respectively.

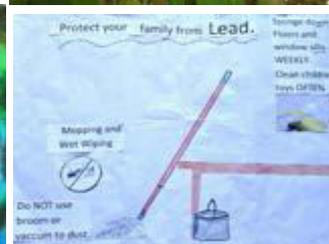
Please read the Conditions of Entry at the bottom of the home page at <http://volcanoartprize.com/> especially noting:

The single digital image must be between 1 MB and 3 MB and in landscape orientation, not portrait orientation. That is, winning entries will be printed in colour on a landscape A4 page.

Submit entries online at <http://volcanoartprize.com/submitentry/> before midnight on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2014.



Graphic: by our youngest entrant, and Finalist in the Volcano Art Prize 2013 and winner of a Pictureproducts mug. Artist Liam Hutchinson, Home School, aged 10. Title: Environment's Pollution. Lead-Safety Message: Let the public know about pollution





## Lead-Safe World **CALENDAR** 2014

In our lead-safe future, the only source of lead in air will be volcanoes.

These are the 13 winning entries, 2 of them by children. It was terrific that 7 children entered the competition this year, and all 7 won their image printed on a Pictureproducts mug.

Below are our current entries so far, please get your entries in at <http://www.volcanoartprize.com> before the due date.



'Walk on the Fire Side' by **Tony Lennon**



'Blake cradling Eden Lidia, 8 days old' by **Hue Kedge**



'Lead Safe World Logo over Lead Bars' by **Georgeina Clear**



'Every child deserves lead free skies' by **Elizabeth O'Brien**



## Free Subscription to e-Newsletter Notifications / Membership & Donation Forms

You can receive a free emailed notification whenever a LEAD Action News has been web-published just by filling in the Subscription Form at [http://www.lead.org.au/LEAD\\_Action\\_News\\_Subscription.html](http://www.lead.org.au/LEAD_Action_News_Subscription.html) - you can choose whether you want just those in English, Spanish or Chinese or those in ANY of those languages. Become a member of The LEAD group Inc. at [On-line membership donation form](#) (which also entails emailed notification when a newsletter is web-published and entitles you to discounts when you purchase any of our DIY-sampling laboratory lead analysis kits) / or make a donation to the Lead Education and Abatement Fund (LEAF) at <http://www.givenow.com.au/lead> or filling in the form at <http://www.lead.org.au/sb.html> or <http://www.lead.org.au/Donation%20LEAF.pdf>

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# Nutrition to Fight Lead Poisoning

This article was added to our Solutions page on the 29th of January, 2014.

If the blood lead results show a “less than” sign (<), then they are below the limit of detection for that lab. In response to blood lead levels above the limit of detection – either 1 or 2 micrograms per decilitre (1 or 2 ug/dL), we recommend a two-pronged approach:

1. Identify the lead source/s and remove the person from the source/s or the source/s from their environment.
2. Institute nutritional intervention by following the advice in this article.

If anyone in the family has a blood lead above 10 ug/dL the Dept. of Health should step in and send out their own lead assessor (at no cost to you) to your house. If they refuse to send someone (I can not think of any reason that they might refuse except for a lack of experienced and knowledgeable staff) purchasing one of our [DIY-Sampling lab-analysis lead test kits](#) is your best option, as the samples are collected by you but posted to a lab for analysis (the cost of analysis and an interpretive report is included in the kit price). You can test lead in your drinking water using 2 sample containers from the 8-sample Comprehensive Kit or, if you only want to test lead in drinking water, you can just buy the 2-sample Water Kit. If a child or adult has a blood lead level above the limit of detection, the Comprehensive Kit should be used – you can even ask a professional to use the Kit to collect the samples.

The most usual exposure pathway for lead poisoning in young children is ingestion (from the fingers or objects that go in the mouth) of dust or soil, so dust wipe samples and soil samples from areas in the home and yard that are accessed by the child/ren, are the best samples to test for lead. But for adults, the most usual exposure pathway (excluding lead-



contaminated medicines, beverages, food or cosmetics) is inhalation – most often during renovation or demolition activities on older buildings, but also during many hobby and occupational exposure scenarios. You should go through all the sources and pathways of lead poisoning that we have managed to list (it is by no means including ALL lead sources as new sources are created regularly) [here](#) before determining what to test (if anything needs testing once you get the blood lead test results).

For the full newsletter on the topic (including links to all references) please go to:

1. [LEAD Action News Vol 10 No 2 \(LANv10n2\) Food, Nutrition and Lead Absorption](#) – newsletter including articles on veganism and nutrition to fight lead poisoning (including all references)

AND

2. [Fact sheet: Nutrients that reduce lead poisoning](#) (a summary of the above newsletter article).

A more recent addition to this article is “[Garlic Beats Drug in Detoxifying Lead Safely From Body](#)” and you can follow the link on that page, to [Natural Agents for Lead Poisoning](#) for more info on garlic and pectin (and sauna) and other natural agents for the treatment of lead poisoning. I find that the easiest way to incorporate more pectin in to your diet is by eating citrus peel every day e.g. marmalade or grated lemon or other citrus zest and the white pith under the zest. This white pith contains the most concentrated fruit source of pectin, and it is easier to grate if you air-dry the citrus fruit – e.g. by the open kitchen window, for a day or so after grating the zest off. You can grate the white pith and then air-dry the fruit for another day (or more, depending how thick the pith is) before grating off more pectin-rich pith. As citrus juice is a great source of vitamin C, the final use of this “best-pectin-fruit-source” is the juice or pulp. I add citrus pectin to practically everything these days – including green smoothies!

Pectin and garlic every day for the rest of your life is a great antidote to the lead you took in every day that you were alive during the leaded petrol era (1935 to 2002 in Australia). In the USA, it is estimated that 1 in 10 people alive during the leaded petrol era (1921 to 1995 in the USA), will have their life cut short by lead (mainly through heart attack or stroke). The most concerning health impact of lead exposure for humans is that lead raises your blood pressure. People with hypertension should particularly be aiming to completely avoid further exposure to lead, and to remove lead from their bodies, in order to live a longer, healthier life.

Also, I have just finished reading “Clean, Green and Lean” by Dr Walter J Crinnion and interestingly, as a naturopathic physician, he advises everyone to eat organic food in order to reduce both toxic intakes and body burdens, which complies with my own anecdotal evidence collected by asking hundreds of people (over two decades) their blood lead level and whether they eat organic food. There seems to be a trend in that people who eat organic food are more likely to have a low blood lead level. The book is currently discounted at Book Depository in the UK and they do not charge postage.



# Lead Research/News

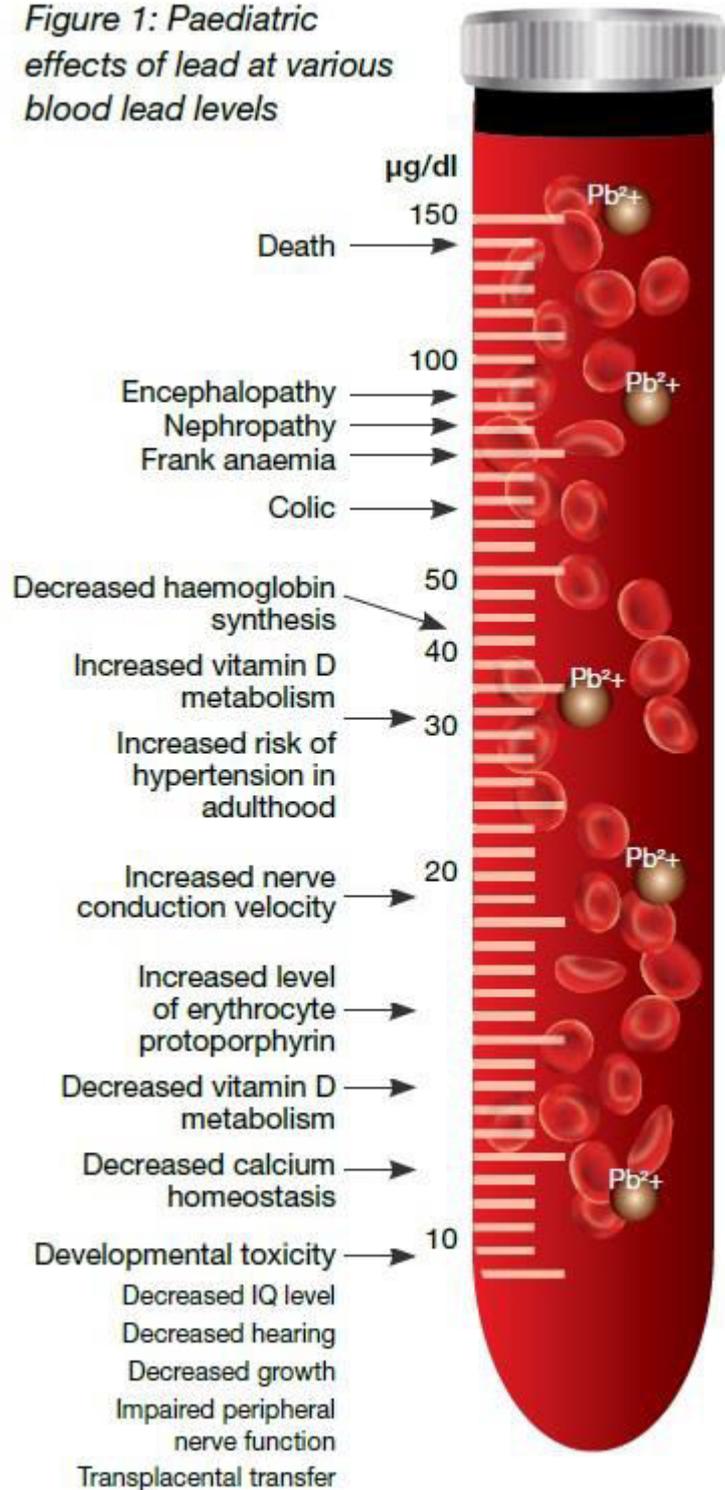
## How to Reduce Lead Poisoning Amongst 40,000 pre-school children in Shymkent, Kazakhstan

The article '[A Poisonous Legacy](http://bit.ly/1jIUE7)' in The Chemical Engineer (<http://bit.ly/1jIUE7>) details the case of the city of Shymkent in Southern Kazakhstan with its still operating lead smelter, where an estimated 40,000 pre-school children are poisoned with lead and other heavy metals. Remediation has been proposed by the International Task Force for Children's Environmental Health (ITFCEH).

In Table 1 of the article, Shymkent stood out as a severe problem in terms of lead and arsenic content in soil (49-24,896 mg/kg of lead found in soil). Page 3 of the article also details the effects of lead and other heavy metals; see Figure 1 to the right for 'Paediatric Effects of Lead at Various Blood Lead Levels'. The proposal for remediation can also be found on page 3 and details reduction of concentration (soil mixing) and removing soil from contact (disposal in safe location).

We hope that you'll find this information useful and assist with your lead abatement procedures. Additionally, this serves as a reminder for OECD countries that international companies working overseas should pay special attention to following the legislation of the country of origin and country of operation. It is commonly written in these legislations that companies must pay attention to the impact of their operations on the community and the environment.

Figure 1: Paediatric effects of lead at various blood lead levels





# Changing Ideas About What is a Safe Blood Lead Level

The table I have in mind when I interpret blood lead levels is called “Blood Lead” and can be found [here](#) ([http://www.cdc.gov/exposurereport/pdf/FourthReport\\_UpdatedTables\\_Sep2012.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/exposurereport/pdf/FourthReport_UpdatedTables_Sep2012.pdf)).

My best guess, based on the one, the only national blood lead survey ever done in Australia, is that typically the mean blood lead level for Australian children is about 7 years behind the mean blood lead for US children.

The (November 2012) recommendation of The LEAD Group is that everyone has a blood lead level below 1 microgram per decilitre and that action be taken to lower blood lead levels that are above 1 microgram per decilitre.

You can find a list of news articles generated by two professors from our Technical Advisory Board (Professor Mark Taylor and Professor Chris Winder), on the subject of lowering Australian guidelines on blood lead available online [here](#).

Nearly a year ago, the Today Tonight Ch 7 Lead Story was broadcast on 5th March 2013, and is [available online](#) (with a fact sheet). The Ch 7 news headline “The health of as many as 100,000 children under the age of five is under threat from lead pollution, linked to intellectual and behavioural problems” refers to Professor Taylor’s estimate that 100,000 Australian children under 5, probably have a blood lead level above 5 ug/dL.

There are two media releases that explain the dangers of blood lead levels above 2 micrograms per decilitre in both adults and children:

[9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 “Current ‘acceptable’ blood lead levels too high, Overwhelming body of research supports The LEAD Group’s call for a change in national policy”](#) and [3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 “Radical new policy on prevention of lead poisoning”](#).

The fact sheets referred to in the most recent media release above are online at:

“[Dangers of a blood lead level above 2 µg/dL and below 10 µg/dL to adults](#)” and “[Blood lead testing: who to test, when, and how to respond to the result](#)” is also very useful.

For older research findings on health effects of higher blood lead levels, usually above 10 ug/dL, please refer to [our most popular fact sheet of all time](#).

For the most recent and most comprehensive analysis of all research on the effects of low-level lead exposure, please see the “[NTP MONOGRAPH ON HEALTH EFFECTS OF LOW-LEVEL LEAD](#)” (June 13, 2012 pre-publication copy).

And for the latest (May 2012) US policy on childhood lead poisoning prevention, see “[CDC Accepts Advisory Committee Recommendation to Replace “Level of Concern” for Lead Poisoning with New Reference Value](#)” which basically states that the new blood lead action level for children under 5 years of age in the US will be 5 micrograms per decilitre (half the old action level of 10 ug/dL).



In Germany, since 2009, children up to the age of 14 get action from their doctor and the health department, if the blood lead level exceeds 3.5 ug/dL and the action level for women is 7 ug/dL and for men 9 ug/dL.

In Western Australia, the health department investigates, including home lead assessment, any blood lead level above 5 ug/dL for a child up to the age of 5 yrs.

Canada is currently considering making blood lead levels above 1 ug/dL the new action level, so that's what The LEAD Group has asked the federal government to consider for Australians of all ages, so we can lead the world in having the most stringent response level, just like we currently lead the world in the volume of lead exports.

See for instance, the "[Health Canada Final Human Health State of the Science Report on Lead](#)" states: "Health effects have been associated with BLLs as low as 1–2 µg/dL... It is considered appropriate to apply a conservative approach when characterizing risk; accordingly, additional measures to further reduce exposures of Canadians to lead are warranted."

[Taylor, Winder, Lanphear call to lower Australian intervention PbB, MJA](#) states:

"...reviews [by the World Health Organization, Germany's Human Biomonitoring Commission and US national agencies such as the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Toxicology Program and Environmental Protection Agency, as well as Health Canada] indicate that the current [Australian] National Health and Medical Research Council [NHMRC] guideline for lead (10 ug/dL) is too high and should be revised downwards."

Hopefully this information will motivate you to contact your Federal Health Minister to ask the Health Minister why your federal health department has not revised the blood lead action level downwards.

Please make your tax-deductible donation at <http://www.givenow.com.au/lead>

If your company offers pro bono services to charities in your community or charities working globally (like us), please let us know how to apply.

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## How to Make Your Home and Yard Lead-safe

Great news! "Lead Safe Blitz VIDEO: a step-by-step guide to protecting your family from lead" by Hunter New England Health, NSW Health Department, made in 2006, has been uploaded (at my suggestion) to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1zkvJGH1uA> and it includes interviews with parents, a TAFE painting and decorating teacher, Hunter Health lead expert Dr Craig Dalton, and Argenton Primary School students singing their rap song with the catchy chorus:

"We've gotta wash our hands,  
We've gotta mop our floors,  
We've gotta stop that lead dust  
From getting indoors



We've gotta wash, mop,  
And stop that lead dust!"

The first step in making your home & yard lead safe is to watch that video (and maybe teach your children to sing the song!), and the second step is to buy a LEAD Group DIY–sampling Laboratory Lead Analysis kit. You can order a kit online [here](#) or phone 02 9716 0014 with your credit card details.

The kit instructions advise you on how to collect various sample types and post them to the lab for lead analysis, and The LEAD Group then provides you with recommendations on making your yard and home lead safe, dependent on your specific results.

For example, if you have peeling or chalking paint, and the result is greater than 0.1% lead, we will advise you to follow the lead safe paint management techniques [here](#), and to check out the “Lead Paint and Human Health” video made by the National Painting and Decorating Institute [here](#).

If you have a high biohazard level of lead in your ceiling dust, you should take a look [here](#) to see if there is a member of the Australian Dust Removalists Association (ADRA) in your area, who can vacuum your ceiling void for a fabulous whole-home detox. If you have or plan to have children, we recommend you definitely test “dust wipe” and soil samples and we can then advise you on how to make your home lead safe (see e.g. Lead Aware Housekeeping fact sheet [here](#)) and your yard lead-safe for children (see e.g. “Is Your Yard Lead Safe” [here](#)).

If you have a rainwater tank, or other non-mains water, that you use for drinking (by humans or animals) or garden-watering, or even for swimming, we advise on how to be sure the water is lead-safe (E.g. see [this link](#) which lists EVO Building Products’ lead-free flashing called “Wakaflex” which we recommend you use in place of leaded flashing on your rainwater collection roof; and there are more solutions to the common problem of lead in rainwater [here](#), and [here](#)).

If you have or plan to have a vegetable garden or chook-run, we tell you how to make them lead-safe (in the recommendations which are part of the kit, but [also here](#)).  
All the best with making your home and yard lead-safe!

You will also find additional information in the form of links to NSW Reference Centre and NSW Government Publications [here](#).

You can buy a lead test kit at:

[www.leadsafeworld.com.au/solutions/lead-group-diy-sampling-lab-analysis-lead-test-kits](http://www.leadsafeworld.com.au/solutions/lead-group-diy-sampling-lab-analysis-lead-test-kits)

If you can gain any media attention for our service, new website and for our art competition, and to ensure that GLASS is government-funded in FY2015, please do so!!!

Follow us on twitter: @TheLEADGroupInc

Subscribe to us on YouTube: [globalleadgroup](#)

Facebook: The Lead Education and Abatement Design (LEAD) Group Inc.

LinkedIn: [LinkedIn Page](#)



# Lead Alert: The six step guide to painting your home

If you're doing or considering any renovation or repainting work or if you live in a home built before 1970 with flaking or peeling paint, this pamphlet in PDF format will serve as an excellent guide for testing for lead, proper removal methods, preparing the surface for painting and disposal of waste.

Paint containing lead was used in many Australian homes prior to 1970, but those built more recently may also present a risk to your health. Ideally, homes with paint containing lead should be assessed and rectified by trained professionals. Anyone painting a house or doing maintenance that could disturb paint containing lead should avoid exposing themselves and their families, neighbours and pets to its hazards so it's important to follow these guidelines and stay lead safe!

Link to Pamphlet here: <http://www.lead safeworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/lead-paint-fifth-edition.pdf>

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## Chuffed Campaign Report

The Chuffed Campaign ended on the 26th of June, 2014 and helped us raise \$2760 dollars. Those who have donated, we owe you a world of thanks and you have not only given us extra resources to utilise valuable existing data but you have also helped The LEAD Group and GLASS continue into the future! Thank you!

You can find a list of contributors below and additionally we would like to thank those of you who have helped by spread the word about this campaign as you have donated valuable time which helped this project gain much needed traction.

Special Thanks:

Elizabeth O'Brien, Georgeina Clear, David Czolij, Miriam Camilleri



	Daniel McCoppin	\$350.00
	Christopher Perkins	\$350.00
	Tamsin Cull	\$350.00
	Anonymous	\$255.00
	Anthony Wright	\$255.00
	Anonymous	\$255.00
	Anonymous	\$255.00
	Anonymous	\$105.00
	Paul deveson	\$105.00
	Johnny Nikolaou	\$70.00
	John Nikolaou	\$70.00
	Alycia Bailey	\$70.00
	Noela Whitton	\$45.00
	Elizabeth O'Brien	\$35.00
	Bob Paino	\$25.00

### List of Contributors



# Eulogy for Chris Winder

By Elizabeth O'Brien

The Chris Winder that I knew, through The LEAD Group, the environmental NGO campaigning on lead safety, was a hugely intelligent, witty and compassionate man.

Above all, he understood systems – by which I mean, he understood the way industry, government and media work and interact, and, most of all, what communities need in terms of knowledge and strategy in relation to occupational health and safety.

He extended his expertise in toxicology beyond the limits of occupational health and safety for workers, to their families as well. He shared his extensive knowledge with campaigners, and went in to bat for them. He never stopped learning, and sharing his knowledge, whilst understanding that people in a position to make change happen, sometimes need encouragement, to take into account new information, without their feeling a loss of face. It's called 'finessing', at which he was a respectful expert.

Chris Winder's legacy becomes apparent if one Googles his name. There are 70 articles by him on The LEAD Group's web site alone. His influence extends over many toxics: including heavy metals other than lead, pesticides, and 'aero-toxics' (toxics in aircraft cabins).

With his advice, help, strategizing and support, The LEAD Group has been able to extend its reach from that of a local environmental health NGO to a globally recognised collaborator with the United Nations and the World Health Organisation.

He always said, whenever he lent me an important book or video about lead, "If you don't give this back, you'll owe me your first born."

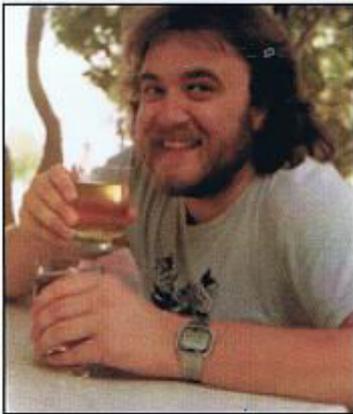
Whenever I was totally frustrated with what seemed to me to be deliberate misinformation from industry, or the glacial rate of change in government policy (I am speaking of glaciers before global warming), Chris would always advise me to 'never assume conspiracy, when you can assume ignorance instead.'

Chris used his extensive knowledge to make the world a safer place.



# Vale: Professor Chris Winder

*In Loving Memory Of*



*Christopher Winder*

*15 August 1951 ~ 20 May 2014*



*A gentle soul begins  
his next chapter...*



*The sultry sun, the azure sky  
The fleecy, budding clouds  
Oh how I long to catch the winds  
Far from the hurtling, throttling crowds*

*I'd slip my earthly bonds  
I'd loose all sense of time  
And find myself in peacefulness  
Where all I sense is mine*

*To a world where there is no wrong  
To a world where peacefulness reigns  
And there'll be no worldly elements  
No fear, no sadness, no pains*

*There will be unlimited self-sufficiency  
There will be warmth of good  
And everyone will be contented  
Like everybody should*

*This world on which I long for  
With serenity on each breath  
Is only likely after  
The mortal pains of death*

*— Christopher Winder*



Our sincerest thoughts and sympathy for the family of Professor Chris Winder who passed away 21 May 2014.

**Christopher WINDER**  
**Sydney Morning Herald Funeral Notice**

URL: <http://tributes.smh.com.au/obituaries/smh-au/obituary.aspx?n=christopher-winder&pid=171099752>

WINDER, Professor Christopher  
15.8.1951 - 21.5.2014

Everloving father to Adam. Adored brother of David, Norma, Pauline and Roz. Esteemed colleague and educator to many and many more alike. A gentle soul that touched so many lives along the way.

Speaking words of wisdom - let it be  
Aged 62 years

Family and friends of CHRIS are warmly invited to attend his Celebration of Life Service at Centennial Parklands Dining. Cnr of Park Rd and Grand Drive (access Robertson Rd Gates) on Monday (May 26, 2014) commencing at 11am.

**Obituary Contributions from Colleagues of Chris Winder**

Chris was a founding member of The LEAD Group's Technical Advisory Board, founded in the early 1990s, and also served for a time on The LEAD Group Committee in the 1990s, as well as being a founding member of the Lead Education and Abatement Fund (LEAF) Committee, but more than that, he was an invaluable proponent of lead-safety at work and campaigner for good public health policy due to his heartfelt desire to protect children, especially unborn children, from lead.

The Chris Winder that I knew, through The LEAD Group, the environmental NGO campaigning on lead safety, was a hugely intelligent, witty and compassionate man. Above all, he understood systems – by which I mean, he understood the way industry, government and media work and interact, and, most of all, what communities need in terms of knowledge and strategy in relation to occupational health and safety.

He extended his expertise in toxicology beyond the limits of occupational health and safety for workers, to their families as well. He shared his extensive knowledge with campaigners, and went in to bat for them. He never stopped learning, and sharing his knowledge, whilst understanding that people in a position to make change happen, sometimes need encouragement, to take into account new information, without their feeling a loss of face. It's called 'finessing', at which he was a respectful expert.

Chris Winder's legacy becomes apparent if one Googles his name. There are 70 articles by him on The LEAD Group's web site alone. His influence extends over many toxics: including heavy metals other than lead, pesticides, and 'aero-toxics' (toxics in aircraft cabins).



With his advice, help, strategizing and support, The LEAD Group has been able to extend its reach from that of a local environmental health NGO to a globally recognised collaborator with the United Nations and the World Health Organisation.

He always said, whenever he lent me an important book or video about lead, “If you don’t give this back, you’ll owe me your first born.”

Whenever I was totally frustrated with what seemed to me to be deliberate misinformation from industry, or the glacial rate of change in government policy (I am speaking of glaciers before global warming), Chris would always advise me to ‘never assume conspiracy, when you can assume incompetence instead.’

Chris used his extensive knowledge to make the world a safer place.

*Elizabeth O'Brien, President, The LEAD Group Inc.*

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I will always remember him as a larger than life figure, full of good humour and more than happy to share his expertise with a struggling novice. I thought he was wonderful. So sad I can't be there as we are still overseas.

*Michelle Calvert, Vice President of The LEAD Group Inc.*

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Chris has not only contributed enormously to workplace safety but has made a substantial contribution to community safety in Australia. His expertise in and contribution to practical toxicology has been enormous. I look forward to another community leader stepping up to continue Chris’s lifelong passion for the wise and safe use of chemicals in our lives, and the prevention of workplace, public health and environmental toxicity effects of chemicals.

*Caroline Reid, Director of Occupational Hygiene, Safe Work Australia.*

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It is with great sadness that we learned this week that Professor Chris Winder passed away in Sydney following a long illness. Chris’ specialty was toxicology and chemical safety. He was Professor in Toxicology and Occupational Health of the School of Risk and Safety Sciences of the University of New South Wales and then Professor in Toxicology and Occupational Health and Academic Coordinator, Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management Programs at the Faculty of Business, Australian Catholic University.

Chris has also been editor in chief of the Journal of Health, Safety and Environment and served on and chaired Standards Committees including Standards Australia committee SF/1, developing standards for occupational health and safety management systems (AS/NZS 4804 and AS/NZS 4801) and he was a community representative for public health on the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) Community Engagement Forum. Chris was a Fellow of the Safety Institute of Australia.



Chris was dedicated to improving the lot of workers through his general contribution and specifically when he represented the ACTU on national chemical committees and assisted the ACTU and individual affiliates on various chemical issues. It was a joy to receive his incisive report-backs. They were speckled with witty comments and observations – a rare gem in the context of sometimes dry and tedious debate. Chris took up community and worker concerns: issues that were not always supported by big chemical interests. That made his work even more significant, never shying away from debate. Many of us were privileged to have worked with him on committees – in my case, the NICNAS CEF – for many years. Chris was a lovely, funny and highly principled person. His death is a loss, and he will be sadly missed.

*Cathy Butcher, OHS Co-ordinator, Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC) – previously at ACTU*

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I want to express my immense respect for Chris as an educator, ethical researcher and public intellectual. I hadn't seen Chris for about 15 years, although he clearly made a strong impression on me.

I got to know Chris when he worked at the National Occupational Health & Safety Commission because I was working on reproductive health risks (especially lead) in relation to sex and pregnancy discrimination in employment, for the Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner. Subsequently, I got to know him when I was a guest teacher on occupational exposure and sex discrimination in the Master's program at UNSW. We were co-authors of a paper that summarised the situation. I was also a member of the Technical Advisory Board of the LEAD Group.

In those capacities, I learned from Chris' teaching about how researchers could (and were) replacing the use of animals, and to minimise harm. I am very pleased to see his ethical practices were recognised and awarded – something he valued highly, since it is part of his profile on The Conversation.

I got to witness Chris communicating with integrity nor resiling when his actual work was being pressured by Big Lead. As a top researcher and teacher, Chris gave his knowledge and support, generously to community organisations, as I know to the LEAD Group. He foresaw the value of reducing environmental and occupational exposure of lead, by reducing reliance on primary sources and promoting recycling. He was progressive in supporting reduced occupational exposure and effective practices that would also reduce reproductive risk.

I'd like his son to know that he can be very proud of his father's work and its ongoing benefit to people and all living things. He was a pleasure to be with.

*Dr Chloe Mason, PhD, MEnv Stud, BLaws, BA (Hons), Legal Practitioner NSW, Visiting Fellow, Associate, Institute for Sustainable Futures (AISF), University of Technology of Sydney (UTS)*

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Dr Chris Winder, Professor in Toxicology and Occupational Health at the Australian Catholic University had spent his life fighting to protect workers and communities from exposure to toxic chemicals and when no one else from academia would speak out to



defend them, you could always count on Chris to come to their aid. We worked with Chris on issues to do with dioxin, lead, asbestos and industrial pollution for over 2 decades and to hear that he had died last night from a brain tumour is both tragic and so very sad.

*Mariann Lloyd-Smith, Senior Advisor, National Toxics Network (Taken from NTN Facebook Page)*

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Chris was an influential leader in OHS science and health risk assessment in Australia. Chris was a strong and passionate advocate for chemical safety and safe use of chemicals in Australian workplaces.

He was instrumental in leading the establishment the scientific principles underpinning the Chemicals regulatory system in Australia- formulating the NICNAS technical assessment policies and processes as the organisation was formed. He established best practice methodology and approach for the toxicology, human health and safety and environmental risk assessment paradigms within the new regulatory body and brought both expert knowledge and practicality.

He believed in evidenced based decision making and has ensured professionals he trained have sound knowledge of the science underpinning regulatory toxicology and OHS chemicals assessment. He was an aspiring teaching and an respected advisor. He will be sadly missed by the profession and all who dealt with him.

*Margaret Hartley FTSE, CEO, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering*

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Chris was one of the few people who made the links between occupational health and environmental health in his teaching and research and was probably instrumental in getting the Journal of Occupational Health and Safety changed to the Journal of Health, Safety and Environment. One important thing he did which may have been overlooked was to draw public attention to the aero toxic syndrome caused by oil fumes in aircraft. For this research he and his PhD student were criticised by Qantas who initially denied there was a problem and sought denigrate the PhD student.

Chris would have been pleased to see the WHO make the relatively recent recommendations for the reduction in blood lead standard well below the current Australian standards for workers and the public.

Please pass my condolences and my comments onto Adam Winder.

*Warwick Pearse, ex-Director, Chemical Assessment Branch, Worksafe Australia, ex-teacher of Health Studies at University of Western Sydney Macarthur at Campbelltown. Now Associate Professor, Faculty of Health, School - Public Health and Social Work, Queensland University of Technology.*

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On behalf of Patrick Murphy - Chair of the SIA Board of Directors, we offer our sincerest thoughts and sympathy for the family of Professor Chris Winder who passed away early



Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> May after a long battle with a brain tumour. Chris was a giant among OHS pioneers in Australia, especially in chemical safety and toxicology.

Chris began working in OHS in 1985 and held academic positions as Professor in Toxicology and Occupational Health of the School of Risk and Safety Sciences of the University of New South Wales and then Professor in Toxicology and later Occupational Health and Academic Coordinator of the OHS programs at Australian Catholic University. Chris has also been editor in chief of the Journal of Health, Safety and Environment and served on and chaired Standards Committees including Standards Australia committee SF/1, developing standards for occupational health and safety management systems (AS/NZS 4804 and AS/NZS 4801) and he was a community representative for public health on the National Industrial Chemicals Notification Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) Community Consultative Committee. Chris is a Fellow of the Safety Institute of Australia.

Many Australian OHS professionals and educators will have known Professor Chris Winder, worked with him, been taught by him or had masters or PhD projects supervised by him. He will be sorely missed.

*Danielle Laffey, General Manager – Operations, Safety Institute of Australia Ltd*

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It is difficult to capture all that Chris did during his time at WorkSafe/ NOHSC - but he certainly did a lot. These were difficult times as, due to the tripartite structure of WorkSafe, Chris had to work through Committees satisfying all parties. He also had to make sure of the compatibility of the plans for NICNAS with international approaches here, that NICNAS aligned with the EU system and linked into the OECD chemical committee. There was much negotiation by Chris!

Chris had a great deal of essential input into NICNAS. Besides inventing the name and setting up the early procedures, he set up the assessment section, supervising the recruitment of technical staff, laying out application tracking processes and training assessors at a time when they were in short supply. He also established the standard for transparency in the early reports.

From Chris's early days at WorkSafe he was largely responsible for the production of the Guidance Note for Material Safety Data Sheets, and for the Guidance for Labelling of Hazardous Substances. He also provided major input into many chemical issues.

On the personal level Chris had a terrific sense of humour and produced many cartoons (of which I had a collection which was lost in a move) and had a comedy act with a couple of others. All this was at a time when threats to close WorkSafe were "just round the next electoral corner."

Senior management may have viewed Chris's humorous style as somewhat subversive but it gave an enormous boost to staff morale. He was bright, talented and supportive of his colleagues.

*An old colleague of Chris's from NOHSC and NICNAS days, Alison Holland*

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