

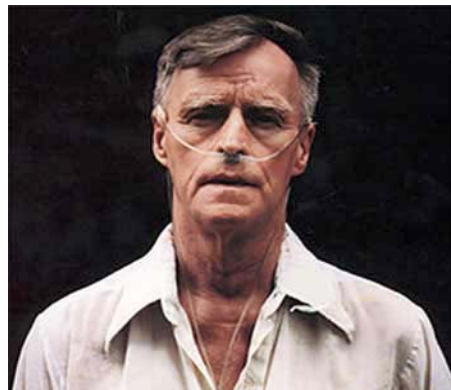


Greater Manchester Hazards Centre
Greater Manchester Asbestos
Victims Support Group



Asbestos: From Magic Mineral to Killer Dust

The history of Turner and Newall
1879– 2005



Public Meeting in the Great Hall,
Rochdale Town Hall

Wednesday 16th March 2005

At 7pm

With Dr Geoffrey Tweedale, Tony Whitston
and Save Spodden Valley Group

Come and hear why and how the redevelopment of the T&N
site must have public health as the main priority

Turner Brothers began asbestos production in 1879 on the Rochdale site. Initially asbestos was seen as a magic fibre but soon workers became ill due to inhaling the very fine, microscopic fibres into the lungs. Asbestos can cause asbestosis, pleural plaques and thickening, lung cancer and mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the lungs) but these diseases may take 10 to 50 years to develop. In the UK alone 5,000 people die each year due to asbestos-related disease and many thousands more worldwide. Many people now dying were exposed to asbestos in the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

Turner & Newall was bought by Federal Mogul in 1998 and sold to MMC in Spring 2004. MMC in conjunction with Countryside Properties, submitted a planning application to Rochdale MBC in December 2004, to build about 600 homes on the site of the asbestos factory.

Greater Manchester Hazards Centre and G.M. Asbestos Victims Support Group share the concerns of local people that digging up an old asbestos factory has the potential to put people at risk of breathing in carcinogenic asbestos fibres. Local people know workers and others who have died from asbestos exposure. They know how dusty processes were on site, and where asbestos was dumped.

Save Spodden Valley Group has campaigned for the site to be developed in a safe, responsible way and the Hazards Centre supports their efforts to ensure that the site is only developed if it can be shown to be done without putting people's health at unacceptable risk.

It's time asbestos stopped killing: come to the meeting and hear the basis for the legitimate concerns about development of the site.

Speakers:

Geoffrey Tweedale author of 'From magic mineral to killer dust Turner and Newall & the asbestos history' will talk about the history of asbestos manufacture on the Rochdale site

Tony Whitston of G.M. Asbestos Victims Support Group will talk about how asbestos affects people who used to work or live round the site & their struggle for justice now Federal Mogul is in voluntary bankruptcy

Jason Addy Save Spodden Campaign will bring the story up to date with the planning application and the fight to ensure this only occurs if it can be done without putting the health of local people, workers and future residents, at risk of asbestos related mesothelioma in 10-50 years.

For more information contact:

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'Magic Mineral to Killer Dust Turner & Newall and the Asbestos Hazard'
by Dr. Geoffrey Tweedale, 2000, Oxford University Press