

Shattered Lives: the human face of the asbestos tragedy

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Reviewer: Paul Kraus

However depressing the subject of this book may be, this is an important publication because increasing numbers of Australians are being affected by asbestos disease.

We are presented with a number of people who have lived, suffered and in many cases died with an asbestos-related disease, most notably mesothelioma, the cancer caused by asbestos exposure.

This book is perhaps too focused on Perth and Western Australia because that is where the majority of these cases are. Yet this illness exists nationally.

My main criticism is that the book gives little, if any, hope for those diagnosed with mesothelioma, yet there are strategies for living with this illness that need to be publicised.

This reviewer is a long-term survivor of the illness and has been able to manage it reasonably well.