

What has been happening at the Oselya? May 2009

Our first working bee was held on 25 – 26 April with a massive turnout of enthusiasts. The weather was WET, WET, WET but the real men were not deterred by the cold and uncomfortable conditions.



There was plenty to do in clearing the fallen trees at the Tarasivka where the plan is to refurbish the toilet block and get some sanitary facility operational.

Chainsaws were going all weekend in the wet conditions and the fires provided some relief from the cold.



Most of the volunteers who stayed the night slept in their cars as there is little room to roll out a bed. Nevertheless, there were no complaints and the next day we were all back onto the chainsaws and burning the debris.

Mother nature has been hard at work in greening up the bush with trees starting to show good regrowth and the grass on the fields has come back with little evidence of a fire.



Pathways and tracks had been cleared to allow easier access around the tabir as there are trees on the ground everywhere.

A special thankyou to Wally Rava from Geelong, who went to great lengths in sourcing a petrol driven fire pump, so as the boys can fill up the water cube and have ready water for washing and offcourse for those private matters. Thankyou Wally for your effort.

A special thankyou to Tullamarine Bus Lines who have loaned CYM a portable building for our accommodation. This building will provide shelter and sleeping quarters for the lads and lassies who wish to stay for the weekend and enjoy some hard work and build strong friendships in this rebuild chapter of our Oselya.



A special thankyou to Andrea and Nicky Ckuj, for using their contacts in organising this facility.

NEXT REBUILD WORKING BEE May 16 – 17, You will need to bring your own sleeping facilities if staying the night. We have a BBQ, no fridge and no power as yet. Please call Nicky Ckuj on 0438 308 752, as this is important for our grant application.

On The Project Side.

Funding:

There has been a great deal of activity within the departments. Funding and Grants department headed by Andrea Ckuj, have been busy putting together fundraising events for the Benefit Concert which was held May 3rd. A great effort where a handsome sum of \$1550.00 was raised in the foyer tool sale.

The Benefit Concert organised by Melanie Dechnicz and Mary Lech which was held at the Clock Tower in Moonee Ponds, was a great success netting a nice sum of \$5815.00. Well done team and well done to Verchovyna and Cheremosh.

Finance:

Jason Price has been advised that our insurance money has been released and CYM should be receiving a cheque in the next week or so. Unfortunately the expected sum has been reduced by \$25,000.00 due to a discrepancy in the policy. This means more fundraising. At this point in time, most of the monies received from insurance will be invested in a bank for a short term to give CYM the best return possible. Peter Sikora with his financial skills will ensure that the monies invested will work hard for the Oseredok.

Demolition and Clean-up:

We have received a quotation form two contractors to clear the Tarasivka of all the burnt and dead pine trees. The Demolition and Clean-up heads Daniel Kohut and Nicky Ckuj are waiting for the power company SP Austnet to clean up their tree felling so as they can get a new price on tree clean-up work.

Electrical:

Nick Wasyl head of electrical is still waiting on power to be connected to the Tarasivka. There have been delays from SP Austnet in getting this work done. There seems to be a problem with their transformer which needs repair or replacement. We have to sit and wait.

Ecology:

The ecology department headed by Pavlo Masendych and Shanya Sikora, have had a big success in having Melbourne University get involved in the landscape architecture of the Ploshcha. It has been confirmed by the University that our Oselya will be the main feature of study by students in the second semester. RMIT have also expressed interest, however there is no confirmation that they will get involved at this stage. Great work guy's.

Building:

The building department headed by Steve Jury, has been discussing many options and strategies in the needs of the ploshcha to hold a tabir. Some basic concepts have been discussed and plans on what buildings need to be focused on and in what priority. It has been agreed that a kitchen and dining facility needs to be built first if there was to be a tabir in 2010-2011. Some basic concept designs have been put together based on available funds. These are only concept ideas up for discussion.

Tarasivka toilets will be completed first as this is the cheapest option to get facilities operational so as working bees can be planned for many to attend and assist.

Project Managers Word:

I ask everybody who is able to attend the next working bee **May 16 – 17** to please make a strong effort to come up even it's for a day. There is a hell of a lot of cleaning to do, especially ALL the bottles that have been thrown into the bush over the years. These need to be picked up now and disposed off. Cutting felled trees and burning off the debris. This work will go on for some time, so please make an effort. We **ALL** enjoy the Oselya and see it as our own holiday home, but it is not up to a handful of a few to do the work for all. If you are not able or are not prepared to do some time, then make a handsome financial donation for every working bee you cannot attend and make your contribution in that fashion. This Oselya belongs to all members and not just a handful. Put in with your time or put in with your wallet. See you at the working bee.

Andrij Lech PROJECT MANAGER