

Спілка Української Молоді

Осередок ім. Гет. Івана Мазепи – Мельборн Ukrainian Youth Association – Melbourne Inc.



9th February 2009

MONDAY UPDATE FROM CYM MELBOURNE ON DEVASTATION AROUND BUXTON

The Board of the Ukrainian Youth Association (CYM) Melbourne thanks all those within the CYM and wider Ukrainian community for their support & concern in this very difficult time. It is obviously very difficult for us to get back to each individual that has called or left messages, so we will continue to put out updates to the wider community on a regular basis.

Our many friends and acquaintances within the devastated communities around our Oselya have been greatly impacted by this unbelievable tragedy. The number of lives lost continues to rise, the amount of devastation has not ended. We ask each of you to remember our friends in your prayers. Many have lost their lives, many more have lost their loved ones, and we still have many out their fighting the fires to try and gain some control over these fires.

The CYM Executive remains in contact with the local authorities, and the local CFA, who will try to get to our property as soon as time allows. We know that the fires have swept through the area, and we are preparing for the worst, whilst still remaining hopeful that any damage is minimal. What has happened is done – and we will need to deal with this. Plans are being drawn up to deal with the many possibilities.

We understand the concerns about CYM Oselya however we strongly discourage anyone trying to drive up and access the property, firstly for your own safety and secondly if there has been damage to our property we will need to conduct an investigation. The roads leading to our oselya are closed, and will remain so for a while yet. There is a need to clear the roads of fallen trees, conduct victim identification in the Narbethong & Marysville area, and also to ensure that the general area is in fact safe to enter. We emphasize that there is NO ACCESS TO OSELYA KARPATY. Once roads do re-open we ask that members allow our time for our authorised personnel to conduct a proper and thorough investigation of any damage in preparation for our insurers. Regardless of the level of damage there will be plenty of opportunities to come up to Tabir for upcoming working bees in the coming period – so please make yourself available for those weekends as we will need lots of help, if in fact we have been affected.

REMINDER CYM Melbourne has launched Appeal to help our locals

We remind everyone, that our appeal to help the people of the local communities is in full swing. We ask for clothing for children and adults, for toys for the children to give them some joy in these hard times, they will also need blankets, and toiletries and other basic essentials. We also seek financial donations in order to purchase boxes of fresh fruit & vegetables which they also need.

Our delivery to the local community centre is targeted for this Friday, so please pass on all donations by this Thursday.

<u>HOW CAN I DONATE?</u> People can contact Nicky Ckuj on 0414 260 195 or Andrea Ckuj on 0412 918 393 or home 9354 4494, to organise a drop off time for their donated goods.

Goods & Donations will also be taken at CYM Expo (between 6pm & 8pm) this Tuesday at Essendon.

Cash Donations can also be made directly into the CYM Melbourne account as follows:

Direct debit: Dnister credit Co-op BSB 704-235 Acc No.00000958 Name: Ukrainian Youth Association-Melb Ref: your *name*-"Fire Appeal"

Head Office:

Postal Address: E-mail Address: Outdoor Education Centre: Ukrainian Youth Assoc. of Australia – Melbourne Inc. 3 - 11 Russell Street, Essendon Victoria 3040 P.O. Box 372, Essendon Victoria 3040 Australia melbourne@cym.org Maroondah Highway, Buxton Victoria 3711 A.B.N.: 65 749 051 991