

LABOR BRANDS 'CATTLEMEN'!



● The real thing — Rosemary Varty, Liberal candidate, talks to a cattleman outside a booth.

by GLEN DOWER

THE member for Wantirna, Mrs Carolyn Hirsh (Labor), has made new allegations of less-than-honesty over the August 17 Nunawading Province election re-run.

For the Labor Party, the red faces have concerned fake Nuclear Disarmament Party how-to-vote cards.

And now, for the Liberal Party, it's fake mountain cattlemen.

Members and workers of the party dressed as cattlemen to hand out how-to-vote cards near polling booths on the day, claims Mrs Hirsh, M.L.A.

She said she visited about 10 polling booths on August 17 and recognised "people I've seen previously as Liberal Party workers at the booths, dressed as cattlemen".

'Recognised'

"I especially recognised two people, a man and a woman, dressed in funny old coats — they looked like people from the 'Man From Snowy River' film set — and wide hats," she said.

"I've been in and around elections for many years, especially in the federal electorate of Deakin, which covers most of the same area, and I have no doubt of what I saw.

"The support for the Liberal Party by the Mountain Cattlemen's Association is very questionable."

The appearance of the cattlemen, riding through the streets of the eastern suburbs in the weeks prior to the election, and handing out how-to-vote cards, had an effect on the vote, Labor Party officials say.



Fired up for the festival

DAMPER making and cooking over an open fire were fun at Ferntree Gully on Saturday at the Stringybark Festival. Trying their hand despite the wet morning are, from left, Fiona Alderman and sisters Melissa and Katie Fuller, all from Ferntree Gully. Picture: GUY THAYER.

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