

"SOS-NEWS Special Edition" <editor@saveoursnowy.cjb.ne t> 08/01/2006 09:02 AM

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Subject High Country Protest Cattle Drive

[IMAGE] [IMAGE] [IMAGE] [IMAGE] Read the Mission Statement Here [IMAGE] Subscribe to SOS-NEWS sosnowy@bigpond.net.au

8th January 2006

[IMAGE] Subscribers 12,758 [IMAGE]

## SOS-NEWS SPECIAL EDITION

#### [IMAGE]

[IMAGE]

L to R Graeme Stoney MP, John Lovick, John Hopkins and Kane Lovick, droving cattle on one of the old stock routes through the Victorian Snowy Alpine National Park Friday 6th January 2006.

# Progress report on the heritage cattle drives across the Alpine National Park

### [IMAGE]

Several small mobs of cattle are continuing to move slowly across the Alpine National Park. This is a week-long protest by many Mountain Cattlemen's families against the loss of their grazing licences and subsequent treatment by the Victorian Government.

[IMAGE]

While the focus was on one of the small and symbolic herds yesterday, today it is becoming apparent that there are several groups of cattlemen, each with a small mob of cattle. This protest is clearly being supported by mountain cattlemen from all sides of the Alpine National Park, all wanting a return to alpine grazing. [IMAGE]

The cattle and their drovers will be on the track for the next seven days as they travel to the annual Cattlemen's Get-Together to be held at Rose River near Whitfield next weekend. The cattle are not in the Park to graze, they are travelling through.

The protest is being fully supported by loby group Country Voice and the Mountain Cattlemen's Association and many other groups concerned at the direction the Victorian Government is taking with public land and national park management

[IMAGE]

These small mobs are travelling on the original stock routes and bridle tracks across the Victorian High Country. The mountain cattlemen have been banished by the Bracks' Government from the Alpine National Park for its political gain but at Australians cultural expense.

[IMAGE]

Many individual Mountain Cattlemen families are re-claiming the right to drive cattle on the original stock routes every year in a last ditch stand to preserve their traditions and heritage. To preserve their skills, they know they have to continue to train their young people and that is what is happening today in the High Country. There are several young people assisting droving the various mobs of

cattle.

[IMAGE]

Droving cattle on the original stock routes is a challenging prospect, but no more challenging than that faced by our forebears for the past 170 years. [IMAGE]

Then there were the chance of violent thunderstorms, snow and falling trees. [IMAGE]

The same hazards face the drovers and cattle on this heritage drive - These types of challenges are what developed the character of the Australian Bushmen. [IMAGE]

The Australian National Character developed from the Bush - the Anzacs at Gallipoli reflected that the spirit of Anzac was predicated on a Bushman's respect for genuine leaders and a healthy disrespect for pompous authority. [IMAGE]

The Mountain Cattlemen are fighting to save those truly Australian traits. Their removal from grazing the Alpine National Park by the Bracks' Government has virtually destroyed the mountain cattlemen's culture and heritage - That heritage is something truly Australian and now in grave danger of extinction. [IMAGE]

Respect and protection of all cultures in Australia is an essential ingredient of multiculturalism and this must include respect and protection of Australia's culture and character. The removal of the Mountain Cattlemen by the Bracks Government has gone against the basic principal of multi-culturalism and it stands condemned.

[IMAGE]

"If the Govt refuses to save our past we must do it ourselves and we will" president of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association, Doug Treasure said today. [IMAGE]

"The Mountain Cattlemen must continue to drive their cattle across the High Country each year or the culture and traditions of our small minority group will be quickly lost forever.

[IMAGE]

"This is a protest and a fight for the return of our leases which long term is the only thing that will ensure the preservation of the Mountain Cattlemen's culture and heritage.

[IMAGE]

"The families who are protesting on behalf of all Mountain Cattlemen ask the public to think about the things we are saying and ask you for your support" Mr Treasure concluded

#### [IMAGE]

For media contact and more information: [IMAGE] Doug Treasure 0427 456 353 or [IMAGE] Satellite phone 0147 141 897. [IMAGE] [IMAGE]

SOS will be following the trek of the Victorian farmers who were thrown off their leases in the High Country after 170 year because of Radical Green pressure on the Bracks government who need their vote support to govern at the expense of our heritage and a contrived science to eradicate the rural people from the land under a facade of eviroment preservation.

[IMAGE] *Editor* [IMAGE]

[IMAGE] Tune in to Australian Rural Radio on-line and listen to our test broadcast working best on broadband but 56 dialup will receive <u>Click Here</u>

You will require RealPlayer to listen - to download your free copy <u>Click Here</u> Full broadcast programs will commence on the 1st Feb 2006

## "SAVE OUR SNOWY"

[IMAGE]

Email us your story Here

Save Our Snowy Blog and Newsletter are edited by Mal Davies, being the products of concerned Australians that are exercising their constitutional freedom of speech concerning the Snowy Mountains raising public concern that these areas are targeted by government and certain interested parties who at their whim are removing our heritage, the horsemen and farmers with no redress or concern to accountability. Email address is <u>sosnowy@bigpond.net.au</u>

[IMAGE]

Visit S.O.S Blog at <u>http://saveoursnowy.blogspot.com</u> for daily updates on the Snowy Mountains contributions posted from concerned Australians.

[IMAGE]

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[IMAGE]

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[IMAGE]

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