

# *The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria*

affiliated with  
The Victorian Farmers and Graziers Association

Post Office  
Ensley, Vic. 3895

President

Secretary

9th October, 1984.

Dear Associates and Friends,

Re: Notice of Meeting to form a "Friends of the Cattlemen Association".

Firstly, the Mountain Cattlemen wish to thank you all for your unqualified support for their recent Melbourne campaign against any enlargement of the Alpine National Park. It has become obvious since the ride that literally thousands of people wish to help the Cattlemen in some positive way. It has also become clear that there is a growing feeling in the community against the selfish, impractical and extremist policies of some conservation groups which have gone too far in their demands.

The issue has now become a lot wider than just grazing in the High Country, and the community is addressing itself to the whole question of sensible management and practical use of the Alpine region for the benefit of the widest cross-section of people in our community.

It is plain that there exists a need for a group to be formed to support and promote middle of the road conservation and management of the Victorian High Country. This concept does include some areas of Alpine National Parks, but not the whole region. Therefore, the suggestion has been put from several quarters to form a "Friends of the Cattlemen" organisation to take the place of the Mountain Cattlemen Associate membership status many of you hold at present. It is envisaged that the organisation would have its own President and committee, and draw up its own constitution and ideals, bearing in mind the reasons for which it was formed. The Mountain Cattlemen at present have several projects on the go with which assistance and advice would be appreciated from a group such as this. The most urgent is the publishing of a colour information book to counter the extremist conservation argument. Mr. Harry Stephenson thought of this idea and has offered assistance with its production. We also need to establish a marketing outlet in Melbourne for windcheaters, t shirts, stickers and posters.

The major long term assistance we need is lobbying.

We understand that the Government will not introduce the Legislation to extend National Parks until after the State election next Autumn. The fate of this Legislation therefore hangs on the election, control of the Upper House, and the attitude of the Opposition if the Government win back power. From now until the matter is resolved we need help.

THE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE FORMING OF "FRIENDS OF THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN" WILL BE HELD AT 7.00PM ON OCTOBER 25TH, 1984 AT ROOMS 5 TO 8 EXHIBITION BUILDING, NICHOLSON STREET, CARLTON.

..../Cont.

I will convene the meeting and both I and Graeme Stoney will speak. Other cattlemen will be present to meet you all.

Supper will be served and we are attempting to allow an hour for people to mingle after the meeting.

Yours sincerely,



*per* JIM COMMINS,  
President,  
Mountain Cattlemen of Victoria.  
Ensay.

Please tear off and post to:

Mrs. Sue Silvers, 28 Cityview Road, North Balwyn, 3103.  
Telephone: 03 8593165

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(Block letters please)

NAME

FULL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

I WILL/WILL NOT be attending the "Friends of the Mountain Cattlemen" meeting on October 25th, 1984 at Rooms 5 to 8 Exhibition Buildings, Nicholson Street, Carlton.

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Please send me more information after the meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: We do need to know numbers to assess supper and other arrangements.

Yours friends are very welcome.

If you are bringing friends please advise the number.