



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

AFFILIATED WITH
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' FEDERATION

MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS NEWS

Newsletter of the MCAV
P O Box 294 Mansfield 3722

March 1996

BUSH DANCE

MCAV regrets to advise that the Bush Dance which was to be held at the Showgrounds in Melbourne in March (advertised in the 1996 Voice of the Mountains) has been postponed for the time being. Members believe that the venue is too large, and it would be difficult to attract enough support to fill it. Centenary Hall needs at least 900 people to make any event held there worthwhile. We hope there will not be too many disappointed supporters. The proposal for a Bush Dance to be held some time in the future will be considered later in the year.

1996 GET TOGETHER 'KILBRIDE'

Many associate members and supporters have asked why the Get Together was switched, at short notice, from the Howson family property 'Tarcool' to Guy's 'Kilbride'. The decision to change venue so late in the planning stages was forced upon the MCAV by the need to obtain a town planning permit from the Shire of Wellington. A letter from the Shire to MCAV in July, 1995 wished the Association success, and expressed pleasure that the Get Together was to be held in the Shire, there was no mention of the need to obtain a town planning permit. Indeed the MCAV has never been required to obtain such a permit in the past. On the 30th October MCAV was advised by the Shire that such a permit was necessary. During the application process, a group of concerned residents objected to the application because they believed that the road into the site was inadequate, and that there would be problems with increased traffic. Although the objection was withdrawn by the residents at the 11th hour, the conditions which the Shire required to be met in respect of the road, and other matters, were unable to be met by MCAV. An urgent telephone call to David Guy secured 'Kilbride' as an alternative venue, and we thank David and Dianna most sincerely for coming to the rescue. As 'Kilbride' was also within the Shire of Wellington, a permit was still needed. MCAV continued with its organisation and advised the Shire that the Get Together would take place at 'Kilbride' on the original dates.

For those who attended the Get Together, and there were over 3,000, the weekend was a great success. It was a pity that the pleasure of the weekend was marred on

the Friday night when two groups of people held noisy parties into the dawn and upset their neighbouring campers. However these people left the site before the Saturday night, and things settled down. It is important to understand the needs of others and to be considerate when camping in a confined space, as we all know.

Well, the weather was hot, the Bands were terrific, and everybody seemed to have a good time. As usual the dog high jump was a crowd pleaser, and we were all thrilled for Tim Faithfull when he raced in to take his second Cattlemens Cup.

Results from the weekend were as follows:

Mountain Cattlemens Cup - 1st Tim Faithfull, 2nd Rick Hodge, 3rd Barbara Cooper-Babidge.

Junior Mountain Cattlemens Cup - 1st Luke Mitchell, 2nd Diana Hurley, 3rd Adam McCormack.

Run-a-muck Cup - 1st Drew Holloway, 2nd Liam Wagge and 3rd Brett Hau.

Leigh Woodgate Open Race - 1st Rick Hodge, 2nd Paula Morgan and 3rd Derek Faithfull.

Jim Treasure Memorial Sprint - 1st Shelley Battams, 2nd Susannah Doyle and 3rd John Treasure.

Associates Dash - 1st Rick Hodge, 2nd Sharon Pendergast and 3rd Shelley Battams.

Wally Ryder Horse Walking Race - 1st Luke Mitchell, 2nd Steve Ryder and 3rd Danielle Clemson.

Great Australian Packhorse Race - 1st Neville Wright, 2nd Gordon Moon and 3rd Richelle Wright. Neatest Pack went to Kaye Hildebrand.

Relay Race - 1st Marshall, 2nd Cooper and 3rd Treasure.

Dog High Jump - 1st Rob McKimmie's 'Erckle', 2nd 'Banjo' owned by Derek Gibbs, and 3rd Pat O'Briens 'Gus'.

Open Whipcracking - 1st Noel Cutler, 2nd Jack Cross 3rd Craig McDonald and 4th Adam Holden.

Ladies Whipcracking - 1st Diana Hurley, 2nd Rosemary Hurley, 3rd Aleshia Sievers and 4th Irene Higgins.

Junior (16 & under) Whipcracking.

1st Diana Hurley, 2nd Jarrod Fulton, 3rd Adam Holden, 4th Aleshia Sievers.

Juvenile (10 years & under) Whipcracking. 1st Wayne Campbell, 2nd Brian Campbell, 3rd Rick Quilford, and 4th Paul Osborne.

Veterans Special Whipcracking. 1st Ken Hallett, 2nd Graeme Errikson, 3rd Bill Hodgeson and 4th Clive Hodge.

MCAV would be very pleased to hear from Associate members and supporters as to what events held at the Get Togethers are of interest to them, and suggestions for events or demonstrations which would make the Get Together more interesting. Drop us a line with your thoughts.

NEW MAZDA 'B' SERIES SOON.

Mazda is one of MCAV's long time, much appreciated sponsors. You will have seen the Mazda presence at the Get Togethers - vehicles lent to the Association for the duration of the weekend, marquee, and podium, to say nothing of the terrific assistance from Kevin Wanstall and Ken Saunders. It is with pleasure we would draw the following to your attention:

Mazda will soon release a long awaited diesel engine addition to it's two and four wheel drive, "B Series", pick-up and utility range of commercial vehicles.

This new model features an all new 2.5 litre 3 valve/cylinder light weight new generation diesel engine, which has a power output of 64Kw and 174Nm of torque.

It boasts performance the equal of other popular 2.8 litre diesel engines and, accordingly is considerably quieter in operation.

The new diesel 4 x 4 and the familiar 2.6 litre petrol model will be offered in two specification levels including the new 'SDX' which includes such features as, driver activated electric locking front hubs, electric windows, electric mirrors and central locking.

The diesel will be available in either dual cab, or cab-chassis configuration and the 4 x 2 diesel will be offered as cab-chassis.

Petrol models are due for release in late April, while the diesels will follow about six weeks later.

Now, I have absolutely no idea whatsoever of what that was all about. All I can say is that I have finally switched the red Honda for a new Mazda 323 and I just love it. Thanks Mazda, and special thanks to John Andrews.

However anybody interested in the new Mazda B Series should get in touch with our friend Kevin Wanstall at Mazda. Address is 37 Lorimer Street, Southbank, Vic 3006, telephone (03) 9698 5910, Facsimile (03) 9696 4923.

Lets support our supporters!

CATTLEMENS HUTS

Members have expressed concern regarding the use of their huts by members of the public. Cattlemens Huts are not locked, and are often used by visitors to the area for shelter. Unfortunately there have been some abuses of the huts - misuse of log books, failure to replenish fire wood, and problems with rubbish. The Association has discussed problems with huts with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Last year a booklet was produced by DCNR and The Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs. It contains useful information and a code of etiquette regarding huts, but fails to provide the information that cattlemen have a right of first call over the use of the hut whilst engaged in their grazing operations, and that cattlemen are likely to arrive at their hut at any time of the day or night, and at any time during the year.

DCNR Chief Ranger, Mr Bob Jones, has advised that a Code of Practice is being developed for use throughout the Australian alps. MCAV has written to the Committee producing the code setting out what is required information for members of the public visiting the huts. We hope that our concerns are addressed in this Code of Practice rather than being left out by the current booklet - 'Hut Etiquette'.

Grazing licences address the rights and duties of cattlemen in respect to their huts. Members will note that it is their duty to maintain the hut in good repair and to provide adequate traditional shelter and refuge for the public. Cattlemen have the right of first call on the hut whilst engaged in their grazing operations. Cattlemen have a right to a small locked space in the hut for storage purposes. Any modification or rebuilding of any hut can only be done with permission of the Director General after consultation with the Alpine Advisory Committee.

There was some confusion recently regarding a locked space and modification of a hut. What is the difference? Modification can be explained as any work done which will alter the external appearance of the hut. For example, blocking in of part of a verandah. On the other hand no permission is needed for a locked area built into the interior of the hut.

Getting back to the prior rights of cattlemen to the use of huts during grazing operations, it is noted in the Management Plans that DCNR will acknowledge a prior right by providing appropriate information inside the hut. We hope the Department will agree to appropriate signage.

MARKETING.

A MAIL ORDER LIST OF MCAV GOODS IS INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT VOICE OF THE MOUNAINS. OWING TO A SLIGHT HITCH ALL MAIL ORDERS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO P O BOX 294, MANSFIELD 3722, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.