



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

AFFILIATED WITH
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' FEDERATION

MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION

OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED

ANNUAL REPORT 1987/1988

24th September, 1988

Victorian Farmers Federation
Farrer House,
24 Collins Street, Melbourne



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

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MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION

OF VICTORIA INC.

ANNUAL MEETING 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1988

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Members and Associates for their loyal support over the past twelve months. Pressure on Alpine Grazing has continued from the Government and conservation groups, but despite this our resolve has remained firm and morale high.

The proposed phase-out of grazing on the Bogong Plains and the Bluff is rapidly approaching and a campaign is under development to convince the Government to alter it's decision. Action separate from this course is necessary regarding the Broardbent country on the Snowy, and Frank Ryan's lease near Whitfield.

The purchase of Wonnangatta by the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands, and the subsequent closure of the surrounding grazing leases was a great disappointment to all those who know the area, and understand the management problems involved. The greatest loss however, is the loss to our heritage by the closure of this historic grazing property.

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The problem of pricing of Grazing leases remains. After a meeting at the Department on Thursday 8th September, 1988 the Department agreed to accept the recommendation of the pricing panel of \$3.00/head/season for both Alpine and Bush runs for the backlog of unpaid leases over the past three years. We are still waiting confirmation by letter which has been promised, and the Department will instruct its Regional offices of this decision accordingly. What the future holds is unknown.

In May I attended a two day seminar organised by the Weed Science Society of Victoria and held at Monash University. The Society is keen to promote better weed control on both private and public land throughout the State. I recommend that this Association join the Society as a member, to keep in touch with further developments in this area.

The radical Flora & Fauna Conservation Bill was passed in Parliament in a watered down form after intensive work and lobbying by this Association amongst concerned groups and individuals. We are yet to see what the ramifications of this Act will be. Likewise the Alpine Management Plan seeks to set up a huge Alpine Park by regulation rather than legislation.

The 'High Country Beef' concept is now being promoted throughout the State. After two meetings with Mr. Ron O'Dwyer the Association declined his invitation to

participate in this activity on the grounds that too many grey areas existed. The proposal was not clear cut, and was not clearly presented. There also seemed to be an inability to properly explain the corporate structure of such a venture.

The R.M. Williams Outback Heritage Award was presented to the Association in the form of a solid bronze statuette. This magnificent piece is something we can keep with pride.

Thanks to all those who once again helped out at the Showgrounds stall. It is an important public relations exercise as well as a source of income and therefore well worth supporting.

The 1988 Get-together at Castleburn was another successful one, many thanks to all those who contributed, best of luck to the Omeo Branch which is the host for 1989.

The outcome of this current State Election is of course of interest to us, however there seems to be little difference between the two major parties on conservation issues. We can only wait on the outcome to see if a Coalition or a Labor Government is elected.

Graeme has been monitoring the campaign and the issues in close detail so that if allegations are made against the Cattlemen they can be quickly answered.

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Over the next year many things may happen, it is impossible to predict what problems we may face as an organization, we must be ready and diligent and above all continue to work as a united team.

David Treasure.

22nd September, 1988



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER - ANNUAL REPORT

23RD SEPTEMBER 1988

It has been another difficult and mostly frustrating year for the Executive and particularly the areas of my responsibility.

The National Parks Bill has been hanging over our heads with the Liberal Party causing some concern, the Run charge issue is totally bogged down, and the Flora & Fauna Guarantee Bill was passed, and we now await the first effects of that.

One of my areas of responsibility is to interest the Press in our various problems. We managed to get some good mileage in the Age out of a snowgum which I nominated on the Great Divide, as one of Victorias 50 important trees.

The Wonnangatta issue which David Treasure and I took on gave us vast coverage. In Gippsland and on A.B.C. David received good time, and I flew to Wonnangatta with Channel 10, spoke twice on radio 3AW and other Melbourne stations, and the issue received good coverage in the print media.

Jim Commins had a full page story in the Australian on the disgrace of the Merambego station, and I was interviewed for the Adelaide Advertiser and the Brisbane Courier Mail - both articles were published.

We were especially delighted with a feature article on Jim Commins's testimonial dinner which was written by John Lahey and appeared in the Age. As was planned, the dinner and subsequent article helped heal old wounds with the Government and the timing for such an event was perfect.

Sue Silvers, Helen and I represented the M.C.A.V. at Bryan Jameson's funeral and passed on the condolences of all cattlemen and associates to Bryan's widow, Pam.

I have spoken to gatherings at various schools over the past twelve months. These lectures usually last just over an hour and include the showing of the Cattlemens video.

We decided to do an advertising programme in conjunction with the Snowy 11 premiere, and two 15 second slides were shown before the movie for a period of 12 weeks at major City and Suburban theatres. We felt it was a good time to keep our name before the public as we were having a low spot in our public awareness programme - nothing much was happening last Autumn.

During the year we have organized several deputations to the Minister and Opposition parties mainly to keep our foot in the door and lines of communication open.

Sue Clay sent a submission to the Committee of Inquiry

into Folklife in Australia, commissioned by the Federal Government. In its report the Committee of Inquiry recognised the Mountain Cattlemen as a true type of occupational folklife, and also as an endangered occupation. We hope to use this lever in the future.

We were asked by the Australian Heritage Commission to provide information about the Cattlemen, and with the help of Sue Silvers we went through the old files which are stored at Minto Park. A great pile of material was sent off to the Commission and I understand they were quite impressed with the amount and content.

Whilst on the heritage theme, it was my task to co-ordinate the R.M. Williams Heritage Award function. We were delighted and honoured to be the first recipients of this annual award. We asked the President of each Branch to ride, plus Dennis Vickery to represent the Associates in a parade through the City to the new R.M. Williams store. I understand we received some publicity in the rural media, plus a short segment on Channel 10 news, but the lack of interest of the City media points to the fact that horses in the City have been 'done'. We did warn R.M. Williams organization about this, but they were keen to try that line to help publicise their new store and launch their annual award.

At the time of writing this, we were taking the Minister to task over the publishing of the full page colour

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photographs of the Bluff in the Sun and Age. The exercise was particularly grubby in our opinion, because at least \$70,000 of CF&L funds were used to promote Government policy during an election. Our point of view received a good run in the Age, ABC news and rural press.

Nobody knows what the future will hold, but the job is still in front of us with the election in full swing, and increasing and sophisticated pressure being applied by the conservation movement for the contiguous National Park. I am less optimistic that we can hold the line, unless there is a change of Government, and that is by no means certain.

In conclusion I would like to compliment David Treasure on his first year as President, and say how I have enjoyed working with him. Also a big thank you to Sue Silvers who continues to give the M.C.A.V. priority over her time. A special thank you to Tim Barker who has lightened my workload in the area of submission writing and keeping an ear to the ground.

Graeme Stoney,
September, 1988



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

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SECRETARY/TREASURER - ANNUAL REPORT

23rd SEPTEMBER, 1988

At a Central Council meeting on the 27th May, 1988 the fee structure of the Association was changed. Full member subscriptions were increased, and Associate membership was divided into 3 categories: Family memberships, single memberships and student/pensioner memberships. Family and single memberships were increased, whilst the student/pensioner membership remained at the former rate. There are currently 1,500 Associate members, and 78 full members. Associate memberships 2 years overdue were deleted from the list.

The year has been a very busy one with a significant increase in requests from students for information and material to assist in assignments.

My workload has been considerably lightened by the assistance of Anne Whittam and her computer, and by Tim Barker of the Policy Consultants, both of whom I wish to thank.

Financial results are down this year, due in part to the necessity of bringing the payment of Honorariums into line within the financial year in which they were granted, and an increase in advertising. Financial Statements are enclosed.

Sue Silvers,

22/9/88.

AUDITORS REPORT

To the Members:

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

I have examined the records of the Association for the year ended 30 June 1988 and in my opinion the attached Income and Expenditure Statement and Statement of Receipts and Payments show a true and fair view of the operations of the Association for the year ended thereon and that the Statement of Assets and Liabilities shows the state of affairs as at that date.



WILLIAM G CRUMP FASA CPA
Certified Practising Accountant

20 September 1988

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1988

Receipts

Bank Interest		419.53	
Donations		776.56	
Gross Proceeds - Bush Dance		11,675.00	
Net Proceeds - Get Together	12,415.58		
Transfer - Marketing to Gippsland	<u>5,000.00</u>	17,415.58	
Photocopying		5.00	
Reimbursement of Expenses		289.44	
Subscriptions - Members		5,352.50	
- Associates		7,501.00	
Testimonial Dinner		1,180.00	
Transfers - Marketing		17,500.00	
- ANZ Bank - Contra		937.50	
- Branches - Omeo		600.00	
- Mansfield		351.29	
- North Eastern		3,063.82	
- Term Deposit		<u>17,639.63</u>	
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>			84,706.85

Payments

Advertising	7,731.91	
Artists Fees	250.00	
Audit Fees	640.00	
Badges - Associate Members	1,320.00	
Bank Fees & Government Charges	306.52	
Bush Dance Expenses	6,617.10	
Donation - Lancefield Hospital	50.00	
Consultants Fees - Policy Consultants	6,133.00	
- R W Condon	3,149.18	
- D Sexton	<u>500.00</u>	9,782.18
Capital Purchases -		
Facsimile Machine & Installation	3,288.61	
Typewriter	299.00	
Photocopier	1,100.00	
Toilets	554.40	
Expenses - President	3,252.60	
- Executive Officer	2,102.80	
- Marketing Officer	691.76	
Fees & Subscriptions	447.00	
General Expenses	762.49	
Honorariums - 1986/87 - President	3,000.00	
- Executive Officer	3,000.00	
- Secretary/Treasurer	3,000.00	
- Marketing Officer	750.00	
- 1987/88 - President	3,000.00	
- Executive Officer	3,000.00	
- Secretary/Treasurer	5,000.00	
- Marketing Officer	750.00	
- Marketing Officers Assist.	750.00	
Insurance	838.65	
Medical and First Aid - Functions	200.00	
Postage	2,722.81	
Printing and Stationery	5,215.17	
Repairs - Office Equipment	95.00	
Testimonial Dinner	3,564.00	
Presentations - Testimonial Dinner	699.50	
Telephone	531.80	
Transfer - ANZ Bank - Contra	937.50	
- Term Deposit	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>80,750.80</u>

EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS

\$ 3,956.05

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THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 30 JUNE 1988

Assets

Cash at Bank -		
Central Account	5,946.97	
Marketing Account	5,456.52	
Social Account	109.23	
Branches - Mansfield	2,938.14	
- Omeo	108.07	
- North East	625.86	
- Gippsland	<u>598.50</u>	15,783.29
Sundry Debtors - Marketing		214.00
Stock on Hand - at cost - Marketing		10,113.20
Fixed Assets - at cost		
Cash Register	431.00	
Facsimile Machine	3,288.61	
Typewriter	299.00	
Photocopier	1,100.00	
Toilets	<u>554.40</u>	<u>5,673.01</u>
	<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	31,783.50

Liabilities

	<u>Nil</u>
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	\$31,783.50
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Note

Prepaid Legal Fees \$358.23

The above amount is held in the Solicitors

Trust Account on account of legal fees.

Accrued interest on the above amounts to \$85.64

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

MARKETING ACCOUNT

TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1988

Sales 37,925.11

Less Cost of Sales

Stock on Hand 1 July 1987 8,068.10

Purchases

Windcheaters, T Shirts, etc 17,479.95

Books, Stickers, etc 3,936.00

Port 5,304.00

34,788.05

Less Stock on Hand 30 June 1988 10,113.20

Cost of Goods Sold 24,674.85

GROSS PROFIT 13,250.26

Add Other Income

Interest Received 1,801.13

Royalties - Thomas Cook 1,394.00 3,195.13

16,445.39

Less Operating Costs

Advertising 526.40

Bank Fees 148.41

Credit Card Charges 95.31

Insurances 275.79

Petty Cash 100.00

Rental - Melbourne Show Stand 1,506.00

Secretarial Fees 56.35

Telephone 828.57

3,536.83

NET PROFIT \$12,908.56

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