



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

AFFILIATED WITH
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' FEDERATION

ASSOCIATES OF THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN

NEWSLETTER NO. 9 - MARCH, 1987

(Copies to all Mountain Cattlemen and Associate members)

Ross Brown, Marketing Officer for the Association reports that stalls selling our windcheaters, t shirts, singlets, books, stickers etc. have been held at Mansfield Mountain Country Festival, Dandenong Show, Mansfield Cattlemens Get Together, Heyfield Timber Festival, Wandin Field Day, Pakenham Picnic Race Meeting, and have done very well. Thanks to all Members and Associate Members who have willingly donated their time and energies to make these shows such a success for the Association. Coming up are the Dargo Walnut Festival, and the Red Hill Show. The presence of the Association at these shows is an excellent way of keeping the Cattlemen before the public, and spreading the word about the Cattlemens' fears of a contiguous Alpine National Park. Ross Brown has moved house, and his new address is 70 Kay Street, Traralgon, 3844. Associate Members can purchase any of the Cattlemens goods from Anne Whittam, 357 Springvale Road, Forest Hill, 3131. Telephone: (03) 878 7536.

1987 GET TOGETHER - SHEEPYARD FLAT

The annual Get Together, held this year in February at Sheepyard Flat out of Mansfield was another tremendous success for the Association, and congratulations are extended to the Mansfield^{ch} Branch and Associate Members who helped with the massive organization which made the weekend the success it was. Over 2,600 people attended the weekend. The Cattlemens Cup was a thriller as usual and won by Ken Connley after the judges found that Chris Stoney, first over the line, did not have enough water in his billy. A highlight of the weekend was the launching of the book "Movement at the Station" written by Bryan Jameson and launched by Professor Geoffrey Blainey. Professor Blainey was presented with a Cattlemens hat, and a blue sash as a "first for book launching". Lazy Larry provided the music for the dancing on Saturday night, and was not permitted to stop playing until the early hours of Sunday morning. Apart from the Mansfield Branch which had the Get Together running like a well-oiled machine, thanks must go

to a couple of people for their extra efforts. Dr. Richard Heath had a first aid post operating over the weekend from the Friday afternoon until Sunday evening. Apart from attending a serious accident on the Friday afternoon, he also treated a large number of people for small miseries to large accidents, and his dedication and assistance was most gratefully appreciated. Linda Barraclough and Debbie Squires were in charge of collecting and accounting for the cash received at the gate, and took on the responsibility with efficiency and good humour. Thanks also to all the Associates who helped man the stall. Sales made a record that weekend!

CENTRAL HIGHLANDS BY-ELECTION

The Central Highlands by-election held on the 21st March 1987 loomed as a threat just as dangerous as Nunawading in 1985. The Association took a lower profile in Central Highlands than at Nunawading, and took half page advertisements in several key newspapers throughout the electorate in the week preceding polling day. The Association entered the campaign because the issues at stake were identical to those which brought the Cattlemen into Nunawading. Shortly before the by-election the Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands had told the President and Executive Officer that she would be re-introducing to Parliament the Contiguous Alpine National Parks Bill which the Legislative Council had rejected in April 1986. The size of the Central Highlands Province made it impractical for the Cattlemen to stage a mounted demonstration, and their case was put through the local papers.

It is now history that the Liberal candidate, Mrs. Marie Tehan won the Upper House seat, and we are confident that if in fact the Legislation is introduced, it will once again be rejected by the conservative parties, who see a contiguous Alpine Park of this magnitude as a threat to multiple-use of renewable resources, as well as the end of mountain grazing.

PETITION TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER EXTENSIONS TO CURRENT ALPINE PARKS

The enclosed Petition has been forwarded to this Association by another group who support multiple-use of the Alpine area. It is currently circulating amongst a number of recreational and other user groups. The Association would like every Member and

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Associate Member to collect 9 signatures and return the Petition to the Secretary, Mountain Cattlemens Association of Victoria, 13 Tuxen Street, North Balwyn. 3104 as soon as possible. Further copies of the Petition are available from the Secretary. Phone: Sue Silvers, (03) 857 5316.

KEEP THIS DATE FREE: 11th JULY, 1987

The Association is again organizing a Bush Dance. The Cobbers have been booked to provide music, and arrangements are well underway. A venue is currently being considered in the Melbourne area, but camping facilities will be available, and there are plenty of motels nearby for those who like their creature comforts. More information will be available when the venue and other arrangements are confirmed. Those of the Members and Associate Members who attended the last Bush Dance at Berwick will remember the success this was, and this coming Dance will be even better and bigger, so write the date into your diary now, and start to organize your friends and relations!!

"MOVEMENT AT THE STATION - The Revolt of the Mountain Cattlemen"

This book was launched at the Get Together by Professor Blainey. The Association has copies available to Members and Associate Members at a reduced price, and an order form appears with this Newsletter. Price is \$13.00. The book is excellent, and Bryan Jameson spent over a year travelling around the mountains and working to bring this project to fruition. We highly recommend this book to all.

If you would like a copy please complete the form below and send to:

ANNE WHITTAM, 357 SPRINGVALE ROAD, FOREST HILL. 3131
with your cheque or money order for \$14 being \$13 cost plus \$1 postage.

Please send me copy/s of "Movement at the Station"
I enclose my cheque money/order for \$.....

Please post book/s to:

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....
.....POSTCODE.....

BENDIGO EASTER FAIR - APRIL 1987

Alan Drash, an Associate Member from Bendigo has written to the Association inviting any Members or Associate Members to ride with the Cattlemen in the Easter Saturday Horse and Harness Parade, and the Easter Monday Gala Procession. This is a good opportunity for any Associate Member to ride in procession with the Cattlemen, and further information can be obtained from Alan Drash, Bridle Vale Stables, Axedale, 3551 or telephone (054) 397 312.

If any Associate Member wishes to assist the Mountain Cattlemen by holding a stall over the Easter weekend at Bendigo, please contact Ross Brown, Marketing Officer, 70 Kay Street, Traralgon, Telephone:

MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS PORT 1986/7

The third edition of the Mountain Cattlemens Port was released at the Get Together at Sheeppyard Flat in February. The design on the jug was done, once again, by Don Porter and compliments the two previous editions. There are a limited number of these jugs available. Price \$17.00

Contact Anne Whittam, 357 Springvale Road, Forest Hill 3131 or Ross Brown, 70 Kay Street Traralgon for your supplies.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

11th July for Bush Dance - start getting a party organised now.

Complete Petition and forward to S. Silvers, 13 Tuxen Street, North Balwyn. 3104

We the undersigned, while accepting the need for environmentally sound management of all natural resources, request that no further areas of public land in Victoria be dedicated as National Parks.

Further Parks will unnecessarily restrict several Rural industries that rely on access to public land for their existence and many recreational activities will be severely curtailed. The Government has shown that it lacks the resources to manage existing Parks and any additions will place impossible demands on restricted State budgets and overtaxed resources.

Further Parks will result in significant employment losses, a decrease in tourist/recreational activity and the downgrading of existing Parks.

In particular, current moves to significantly expand the Alpine National Park and to create substantial new Parks in East Gippsland should be abandoned in favour of Management Plans that maintain the status of existing National Parks whilst allowing multiple use of all other areas.

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