The Brumby Founding Stock of the Bogongs and Eastern Alps

PLATE XXIII
HORSES DESTINED FOR INDIA
PICTURED IN SALE YARDS AT MYRTLEFORD, 1890'S (SLV)

Alpine Brumby Heritage Values Report: Compiled by the Australian Brumby Alliance and supporters

Version: 20th February 2020

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1 Foreword

The Australian Brumby Alliance Inc. (ABA) charity was formed in 2008 by like-minded wild horse re-homers and lobby groups from across Australia in order to advocate at a national level for the recognition, management, preservation and welfare of Australian wild horses, also known as Brumbies.

Since commencing, the ABA and its member groups have been represented on NSW and Victorian Brumby management plans via National Parks and Wildlife services (NPWS) and Parks Victoria's key stake holder community feedback groups.

It is the ABA's belief that a sustainable population of Brumbies can be retained and have commissioned a scientific study with the University of Southern Queensland on the 'Environmental Impact of Feral Horses in the Australian Alps' to identify a safe minimum number of sustainable wild horse populations in Bogong High Plains and Eastern Alps.

Up to 2018 NSW and Victoria management plans promoted the reduction of all Brumby populations.

In 2018, NSW and Victoria went in opposing directions

The NSW Parliament passed the Kosciuszko Wild Horse Heritage act 2018 to recognise the heritage value of sustainable wild horse populations within parts of Kosciuszko National Park, and to protect that heritage through a wild horse heritage management plan. The 2018 Act also set out how that heritage value will be protected while ensuring other park environmental values will be maintained. The Victoria Government meanwhile went in the opposite direction and approved Parks Victoria's Alpine management plan to:

- Eradicate all wild horses living on Bogong High Plains, and
- Significantly reduce the Brumby populations in the Eastern Alps, then monitor and keep removing Brumbies until no damage remained

With all non-legal options exhausted, the ABA challenged Parks Victoria in the Federal Court under the Environmental Protection and Biological Diversity (EPBC) Act. It is the opinion of ABA that it is not possible to look at horse impacts in isolation from other non-native species such as deer and highly destructive wild pigs which have seen population explosions in recent years.

The ABA believe that wild Brumbies in Victoria deserve a degree of heritage protection as seen in NSW, and have conducted surveys that have shown the Victorian public support this position.

Heritage Report Purpose

This document has been created with help from ABA supporters conducting interviews with people whose ancestors worked the Victorian Alps, information gleaned from literature on the history of the Victorian Alps and online archives.

The key purpose of this document is to illustrate the heritage attributes of the Bogong High Plains and Victorian Eastern Alpine region Brumbies.

This document is a living document, and will continue to grow as our knowledge expands and we learn more from relevant key sources with deeper local knowledge and heritage skills. The ABA encourages anyone with oral history, family records or other relevant information in relation to the Brumbies of the Eastern Alps and Bogong High Plains to contact us. This ABA document will be used to begin the process that can inform future work to secure the retention of sustainable Victorian Alpine Wild Horse populations.

Origin of the term Brumby - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brumby

The *Australasian* magazine from Melbourne in 1880 said that Brumbies were the bush name in Queensland for 'wild' horses. Banjo Paterson stated in the introduction for his poem *Brumby's Run* published in the Bulletin in 1894 that Brumby is the Aboriginal word for a wild horse.[9] Its derivation is obscure,[10] and may have come about from one or more of the following possibilities:

1. Horses left behind by Sergeant James Brumby from his property at Mulgrave Place in New South Wales, when he left for Tasmania in 1804.[11]

2. An Aboriginal word *baroomby* meaning "wild" in the language of the Pitjara Indigenous Australians on the Warrego and Nogoa Rivers in southern Queensland.[12] The term is supposed to have spread from that district in about 1864.[13]

3. A letter in 1896 to the *Sydney Morning Herald* says that *baroombie* is the word for horse among the Aboriginal people of the Balonne, Nebine, Warrego and Bulloo Rivers.[14][15]

4. Baramba, which was the name of a creek and station in the Queensland district of Burnett, established in the 1840s and later abandoned, leaving many of the horses to escape into the wild.[16]

2   Introduction

The horse played a significant role in the social and economic development of early settlement of city and rural communities. Cattlemen bred and worked horses for essential daily activities such as transporting supplies and minding cattle. As settlers and their horses spread across Alpine regions looking for grazing, any horse 'escapees' interbred with the horse breeding populations in the distinct Victorian alpine regions of the Eastern Alps and Bogong High Plains. When horse breeding licenses ceased in 1946, owners rounded up what they could, leaving the rest to continue on as the Wild 'Brumby' Horses of today. One can say that every Australian has held a brumby in the palm of their hand as the brumby has featured on the Australian $10 note since 1993 and was included in the design of the new $10 note in 2017 (see 10.8 Currency).

Each Brumby population area is unique in that they can be traced back to their original founding stock through social history and genetics, and have evolved and adapted to the seasonal extremes of the locations where they are found.

Brumbies are an integral part of Australia's social history and hold important cultural and heritage value:

- The ancestors of today's Brumbies arrived with the First Fleets to Australia and were valued as an essential and versatile work horse.
- Ancestors of the modern-day Brumbies served during the Boer War and the two World Wars.
- Brumbies have become iconic to Australia, for example, the naming of rugby teams, army units, on paper currency and of course the film The Man From Snowy River which celebrated the heritage of Brumbies in Australia. They also featured at the opening of the Sydney Olympics viewed by people from all over the world.
- Brumbies bring tourists to Victoria's alpine regions with many local horse and adventure trail operators dependent on Brumbies remaining in the wild.
- The Australia ICOMOS 2013 Burra Charter explains that cultural significance enriches people's lives, providing a deep, inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, and to past lived experiences. Cultural significance embodies expressions of Australian identity and experience, reflects the diversity of our communities, tells us about who we are, the past that formed us, and our landscape. Such expressions of Australian identity are irreplaceable and precious, but now our beloved Bogong Brumby Heritage, that represents living remnants of the history and culture relied upon to shape our country – tragically face imminent, complete extinction!

If these Brumbies and their significant bloodlines are entirely removed from BHP, we will never again see those Wild Brumbies running free, never again feel the grace and history from them. We will be left with nothing - maybe a signpost – to tell future generation about how these majestic Brumbies evolved to forge an independent life on Bogong High Plains for a span of 140 plus years.

The Hon. Mark Pearson made a speech on the floor of Parliament in defense of the Australian Brumby:

"The brumby holds a special place in the Australian psyche, personifying Australian courage and the spirit of freedom. It holds a unique place in our history and has been immortalised in literature, film and songs. The brumby is depicted on the Australian $10 note, showing its wild posture, flaring nostrils and servitude to man. Today, just like the kangaroo, the brumby faces an uncertain future. The brumby is considered by some, including this Government, to be feral pests. Brumbies find themselves becoming increasingly marginalised on lands that have been their home for over a century. It is a home that was thrust upon them by early European settlers. With the onset of farm machinery, there was little need for the brumby and they were released into the wild to survive, or not.

That spawned a time of survival of the toughest, where natural selection saw the evolution of wild horses with the traits required to thrive in the Australian environment. The brumby has gallantly served humans, toiling on farms as stock animals, used during the building of roads and railways, and serving as police horses for those enforcing the law of the bush. They accompanied men to war, with over 70,000 horses losing their lives in World War I alone. Horses from New South Wales were drafted into the Light Horse Regiment during both world wars, and were still being caught and removed from some areas for this purpose well into the 1940s.

In October 2000, the slaughter of over 600 brumbies in the Guy Fawkes River National Park sparked widespread public outcry and national media attention. In response to this atrocity, an inquiry was conducted revealing numerous failings by the National Parks and Wildlife Service that led to the mass slaughter. In addition, the inquiry revealed, via DNA testing, that inbreeding amongst the Guy Fawkes brumbies is less than 5 per cent. As a result the Guy Fawkes brumbies achieved heritage status, the only such brumbies in Australia to do so. It seems we have not learnt from our past mistakes: killing is not the answer.

All of the so-called "feral" animals were brought to Australia by human beings. The horse was brought to Australia not out of love; we needed a useful work animal. We exploited them and then when they were not needed we disposed of them like objects and sent them on their way into the bush—wanted yesterday, unwanted today. They survived and adapted like any other being on this planet does, despite our continued persecution. If this Government gets its way, we will decimate their existence to such a degree that their heritage and bloodlines will be threatened.

I acknowledge that humane management is not a quick fix, one-size-fits-all, solution. It is our duty to ensure that we invest and utilise best practice and sound methods to estimate and report the true population. Where required, fertility control can be used. In parallel, investment in research and development of fertility control must occur. This method is used successfully with the wild horses of the Canadian Rockies and elephants in Africa. The use of fertility control means fewer brumbies born each year, resulting in a humane and sustainable management plan.

Mass slaughter does not equal management. Until governments realise this, it is likely that the continuous cycle of killing and responsive population growth will continue. Passive trapping and rehoming programs aim to capture horses with minimal interference from humans and release them to suitable rehoming groups. Whilst strict adherence

to best practice and horsemanship is critical to the success of such programs, this is another non-lethal strategy that both reduces numbers in the wild and maintains the cultural heritage and significance of the brumby. In closing, I challenge the persistent notion and labelling of "feral" animals. These animals are not feral; rather, they are wild, untamed survivors of humans' past failings. I once asked an Indigenous elder, "So what do you think makes an animal a native Australian?" He replied, "When it is born here."

https://markpearson.org.au/mark-defends-the-brumby-in-heartfelt-adjournment-speech/
https://youtu.be/OK4nMONzhCI

2.1 Brumby management in Victoria

2.1.1 Brumby management by Parks Victoria

Parks Victoria contracted the Alpine Brumby Management Association (ABMA) around 2000 to remove Brumbies from the Eastern Alps by Brumby Running. Later the ABMA added passive trapping to complement its Brumby running. Brumbies in the Bogong High Plains have been passively trapped by various individual contractors engaged by Parks Victoria since around 2005.

Parks Victoria's 2018 approved management plan will remove all (60-80?) Brumbies on the Bogong High plains by 2021 and reduce the eastern alpine Brumbies from 2,350 to 1,150 by 2021, Parks Victoria then plan to keep removing Brumbies until no damage is seen. Unfortunately to date Parks Victoria have failed to separate Brumby impacts versus rising deer/pig numbers, weather or human activities, nor assessed positive Brumby impacts; meaning they can claim that removing all Brumbies is essential to save Victoria's Alpine environment.

2.1.2 Brumby Rehoming in Victoria

Rehoming charities in Australia are run by volunteer groups with no government funding. Volunteering for such a uniquely skilled role results in a high burnout rate. The Victorian Brumby Association (VBA) has collected and rehomed around 550 Brumbies trapped under Park management plans for around 11 years. Unfortunately, the VBA has limited space and volunteers, meaning around 80% of Brumbies caught by Parks Victoria are sent directly to abattoirs. Dependent on raising money to deliver this service, the VBA created the Australian Brumby Challenge to encourage an increase in both Brumby gentling skills and rehoming outcomes.

2.2 Heritage Value Research Approach - Themes

In exploring the historical significance of the Victorian Alpine Brumby, the following themes have been identified during research into the history of the Australian Brumby in Victoria's Alpine regions of the Bogong High Plains (BHP) and the Eastern Alps (EA):

- Theme 1 - High Plain and Alpine Immigration
- Theme 2 - The Work of the Brumbies – Social and Economic Development
- Theme 3 - Mountain Cattlemen Horse Breeders of the Bogong High Plains and Eastern Alps
- Theme 4 - The Impact of Motorisation on the Horse Industry
- Theme 5 – Shared History
- Theme 6 - The Brumby in Australian Culture Today

These themes reinforce the need to retain truly wild Brumbies. The introduction of domestic horses which became the wild horses, also known as the Brumby, played a significant role in the social and economic development of these rural communities. Much of the explorers and early settlers physical environment was made possible by the work of the Brumby's ancestors, for example historical settlements, huts, hotels, Brumby yards, salting areas, many of which have heritage listing protection already.

It is opinion of Australian Brumby Alliance that the degree to which the intrinsic values that Brumbies have contributed to the development of Victoria merits a degree of recognition and protection.

3   Survey Reports and Research

3.1   Parks Victoria - Public Perceptions towards Wild horses in Victoria Report (2012)

The key findings from the Parks Victoria report into public perceptions towards wild horses showed that 55% agreed/21% disagreed that wild horses are part of the spirit and heritage of Victoria.

In relation to cultural heritage values, the survey found that 38% reported Brumbies as having a positive impact versus 20% noting a negative impact. For tourism, 43% reported that Brumbies have a positive impact on tourism compared to 15% who report a negative impact.

Overall, even when informed of potential environmental issues, the community still see wild horse as different to other pest animals.

3.2   Australian Brumby Alliance Survey – The Brumby Report (2019)

The Australian Brumby Alliance commissioned Lonergan Research to conduct a survey into the public perception of the Brumby in Victoria in 2019. In addition to the positive findings of the Parks Victoria 2012 report, the ABA survey showed there is strong support for small herds of Brumbies to remain in the wild.

* 9 in 10 (88%) of Victorians would support efforts to preserve a small herd of Brumbies living in the wild if there was little evidence of impact on their negative environmental impact on the Bogong High Plains.
* 4 in 5 (82%) Victorians believe that Brumbies are an important part of Australian history to preserve.
* Women are more likely to believe that Brumbies are an important part of Australia's history (87%; cf. men 77%). Those without a tertiary qualification are more likely than average to believe Brumbies are an important part of Australia's history to preserve (89%; cf. average 82%)

	Total (n=1,006)	Gender		Generation			Region of Victoria		Household Composition	
		Male (n=501)	Female (n=505)	Millennials (n=271)	Gen X (n=359)	Boomers (n=320)	Melbourne (n=772)	Rest of VIC (n=234)	Non-parents (n=677)	Parents (n=311)
Yes	82%	77%	87%	83%	83%	84%	82%	85%	83%	82%
No	18%	23%	13%	17%	17%	16%	18%	15%	17%	18%

3.3   Parks Victoria Alpine National Park Strategic Action Plan (2018)

Post-settlement heritage value of horses – (Extract - Feral Horse Strategic Action Plan 2018–2021 [1])

"Post-settlement cultural values including mining sites, stockyards and mountain huts are remnant evidence of the history of early European use of the Alps. Feral horses and perceptions of them in the natural environment can be linked to pioneer and grazing history.

The heritage values connected to post-European settlement industries (mining, farming and grazing) on lands that are now national parks are considered important to some sections of the community. The heritage values of 'Brumbies' were nominated as a primary interest by 10% of participants in their response to the Engage Victoria public review of the draft plan. There are divergent views around the historical values of horse presence in these parks versus the impact of horses on the natural environment and wildlife.

Historical evidence of the presence of horses in the Australian Alps is widely referenced (Context 2015, pp. 36- 38). High country grazing played a key part in horses being turned free for agistment and then recaptured by stockmen. It is important that the values of the Brumby and associated places, such as alpine cattlemen's huts, is known and shared through experience and information. It is acknowledged that the 'Brumby' is part of Australian folklore.

This plan recognises that the history of the horse in these places is important to some members of the community as a living link to the pioneer and grazing history in the Alps and adjacent agricultural lands, and it is also recognised that some people do not support their removal, either in part or whole."

3.4   Australian Brumby Alliance Research Project (2019 – 2025)

In order to demonstrate the sustainable number of wild Brumbies appropriate to each Victorian population area, the Australian Brumby Alliance (ABA) has engaged with the University of Southern Queensland to conduct a comprehensive research project. This multi-year research project commenced on 1st September 2019 with an initial report being scheduled for delivery in August 2020. The year-one report will inform robust scientific research in the subsequent 5 years, covering topics such as:
* Broad scale impact - % damage from all causes (horses, other animals – native/non-native, humans, extreme weather events)
* Horse densities, social behavior, diet and movement patterns
* And in time, Brumby founding stock genetics and genetic adaptions to living in harsh conditions and extreme high and low temperatures

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[1] https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/search?search=alpine+feral+horse   Alpine-NP-Feral-Horse-SAP-2018-21.pdf Page 9

4 Brumby Locations

4.1 Parks Victoria - Alpine National Park Strategic Action Plan (Extract 2)

Eastern Alps Region

Feral Horse Operational Plan

Bogong - Cobungra Area

Feral Horse Operational Plan
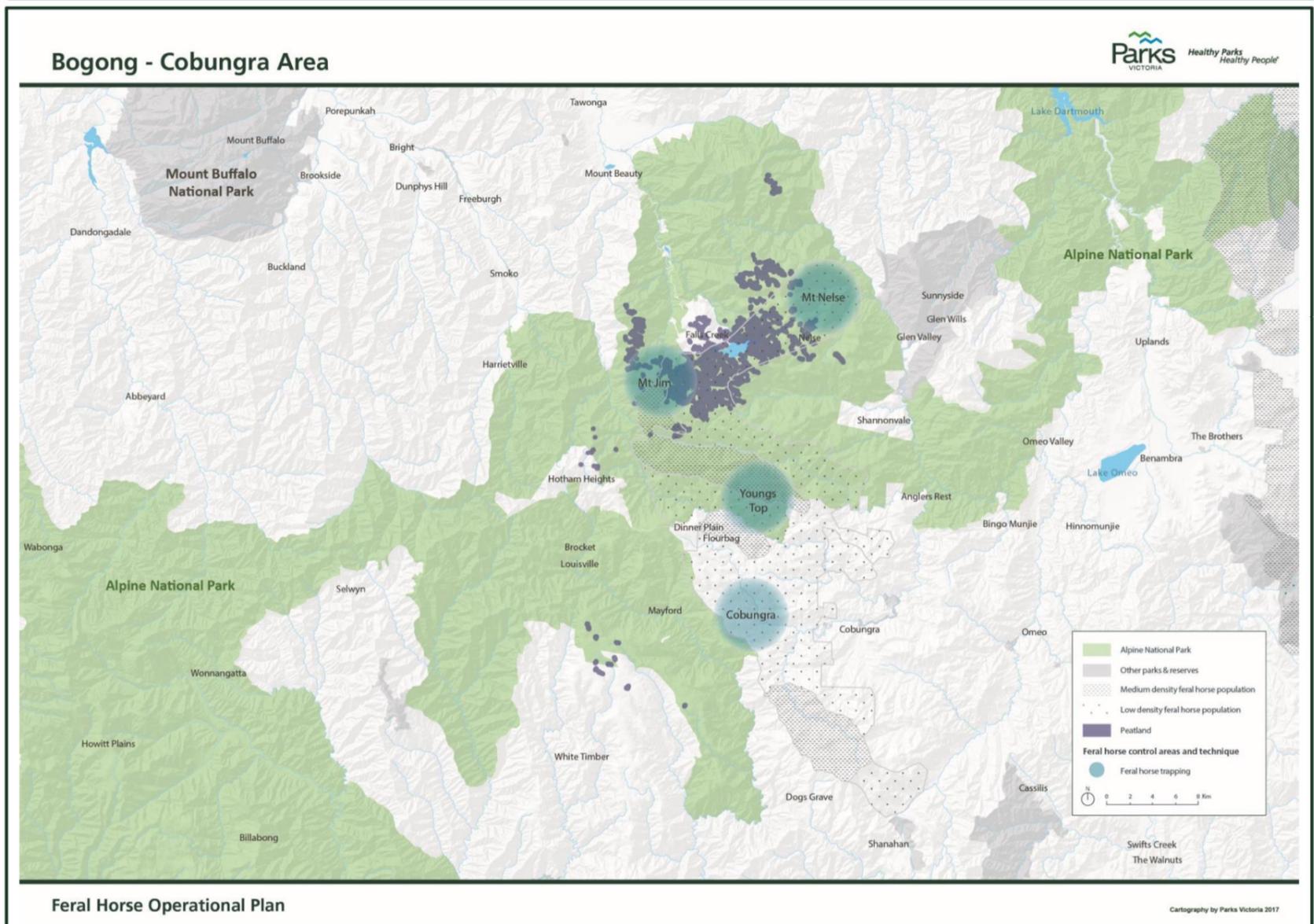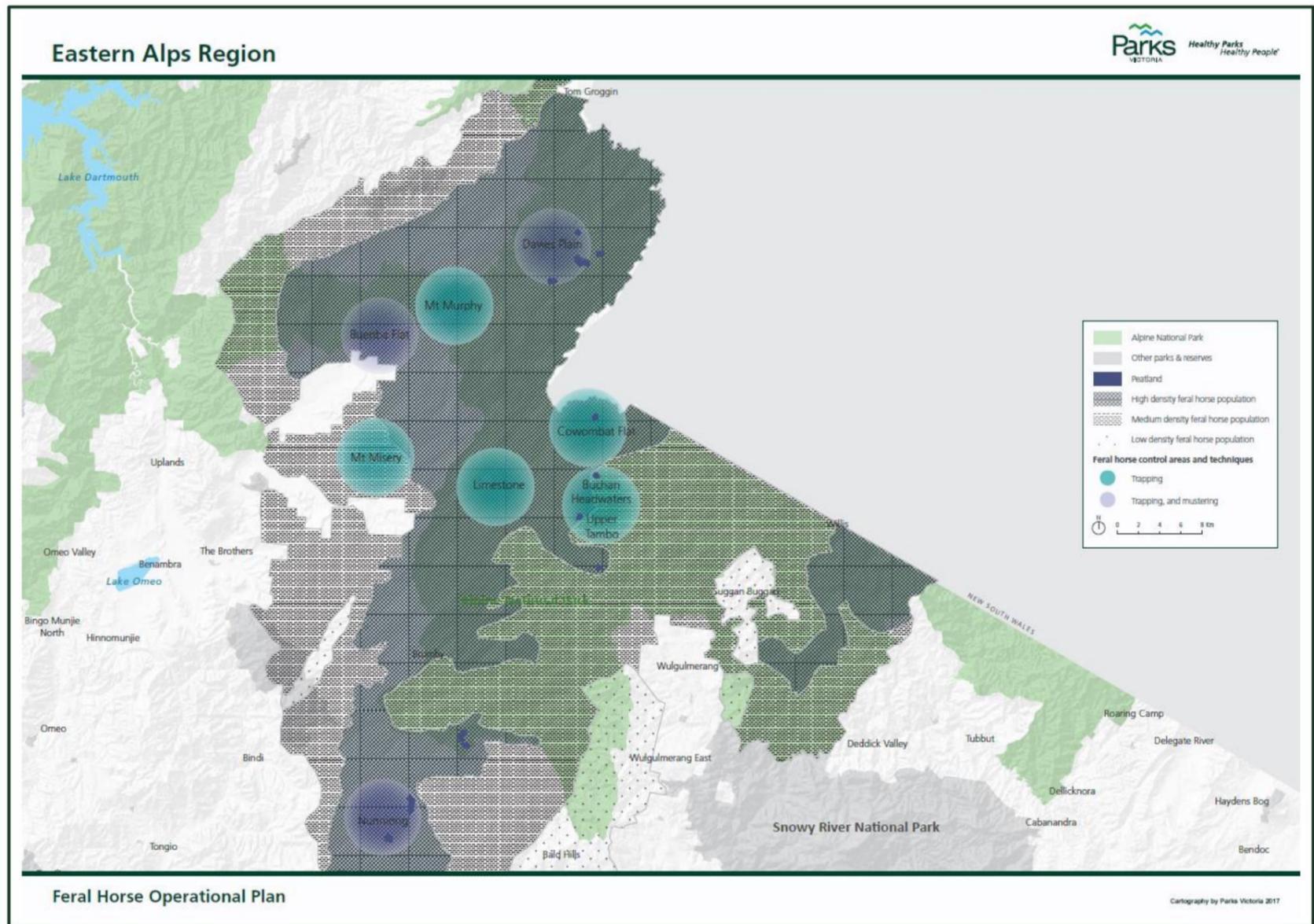
[2] https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/search?search=alpine+feral+horse   Alpine-NP-Feral-Horse-SAP-2018-21.pdf   Pages 36-37

4.2.1   Bogong High Plains 1930

The tracks highlighted in red show the historic horse tracks. Blue tracks are car accessible tracks.
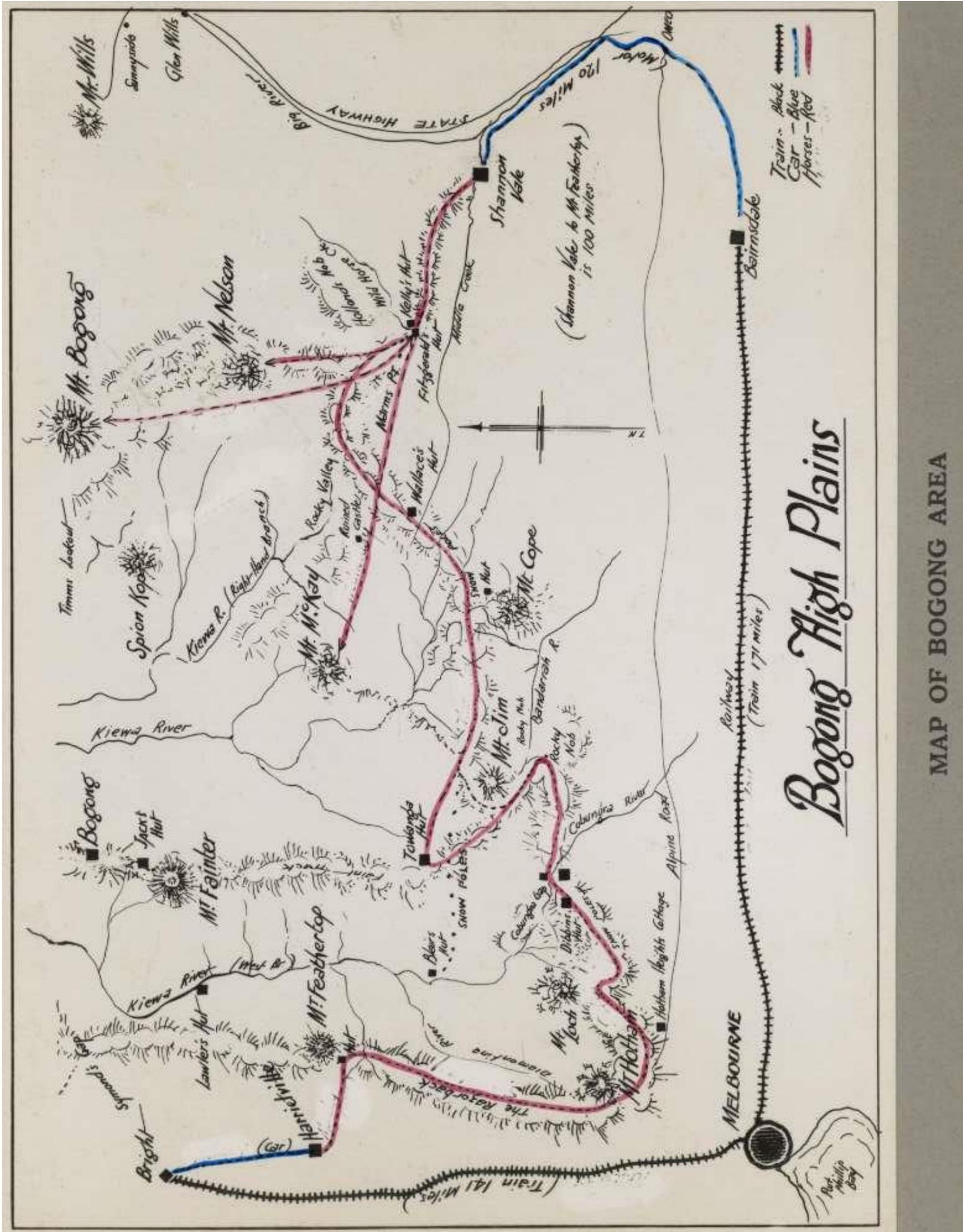
Victorian Government Tourist Bureau. **(1930).** *Bogong High Plains* Retrieved August 19, 2019, from http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-146545930

5 Theme 1 - Origins of the Brumby: High Plain and Alpine Settlement

5.1 Initial Settlement

http://www.nevictoria.com/nevg_mc.htm / Mountain Cattlemen (www.nevictoria.com)

There was little immediate response to the Hume and Hovell Expedition of 1824, but the 1836 expedition of Major Mitchell seems to have been the catalyst for the start of wide-spread settlement, and the early 1840s saw pastoral runs being set up all over the North-east.

Explorers McKillop, McFarlane and Livingstone had already reached the Omeo area from the Monaro Plains in 1835, and in the early 1840s, several pastoral properties were established in this area, including those of the Pendergast Brothers.

The Benambra Run was established in 1841, as was Hinnomunjie; whilst south-west of Omeo, Wonnangatta Station was set up by American migrant Oliver Smith in 1861. The Dargo area also became home to several pastoral properties in the 1870s, with the Treasure Family having established their Dargo Run in 1878.

North of the ranges, the Bogong High Plains were first documented by stockriders Brown and Wells in 1851, and as well as being enthusiastic about their new found homeland, the early settlers were keen to exploit the perceived benefits of grazing cattle on the nearby High Country.

5.2 The Early Settlers - Pre-license Grazing 1835 - 1887

"See there were no fences and you'd come upon a mob of very wild cattle and the first thing they did was bolt. You had to go after them and you got them rounded up and then you looked at them. Some would be yours, some would be some of your neighbours, some you didn't know whose the hell they were. " [3] (Check for source)

Early settlers made their way to Victoria over the Alps, taking with them the horses that would later form each area's founding stock. Most settlers were cattlemen but some focused on horse-breeding. The viability of settlement of mountainous terrains was dependent on the horse. Horses were bred specifically to endure not only the extremes of the high-country climate, but also staggering workloads and working conditions. Horses were a valuable commodity.

The settlers in the early days (1835-1860's) ran vast numbers of cattle in the Victorian alpine region. The Bogong High Plains were not discovered until 1851. Baron von Meuller (government botanist guided by stockmen or surveyors who knew the areas he visited but rarely acknowledged their contribution explains author Ian Stapleton), believing himself to be the first white man to visit the area, saw NO signs of cattle on the Bogong High Plains in 1854. It is possible, therefore, that stockmen had not driven cattle up to the snow-plains by this time.

Settler	Date	Homestead / Run	Size
James Macfarlane	1835—1859	Omeo B (Omio) or Mt Pleasant Station	51,200 acres
John Pendergast	January 1837	Omeo A (Homeo) or Three Brothers	25,000 acres
P.Coady Buckley	March 1839	Tongeo Mungie	36,500 acres
John Curtis	1845		
James Macfarlane	1846		
Dr.D.E.Wilkie	1849		
Edward	1853		
P.Coady Buckley	1839	Numla Mungee (Ensay)	38,400 acres
John Curtis	1845		
James Macfarlane	1846		
Dr.D.E.Wilkie	1849		
Edward Crooke	1853		
Edward Crooke	1841	Benambra (Edmund Buckley, first occupier in about 1836, never registered).	2,650 acres
Wm.Pendergast and Tom Sheean	1858		
Edward Crooke	1841—1859	Hinnomunjie (Earlier occupied in part by Hyland)	36,000 acres
Wm.Walker and Boyd Alexander Cunninghame	1845—6	Bindi (originally grazed by stock from Tongeo Mungie)	12,800 acres
James Macfarlane	1846—51		
Wright and Tandy	1848—53	Tom Groggin (Omeo Ranges)	20,000 acres
James Macfarlane	1858—60		

5.3 High Country Pastoral Grazing Licenses 1887-1946

In the days before motorisation, the horse breeding industry generated significant domestic and export trade. Horses were an essential tool of the local cattlemen and everyday rural and metropolitan life. The horse export trade generated significant wealth for Victoria with 193,886 horses exported between 1861 to 1931, mostly for military use.[4]

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3 Cattlemen of the High Country, Tor and Jane Holth (Need to check reference source from back notes)
4 Acknowledgement to A.T.Harwood Author of the book " Walers Australian horses abroad"

Figure 3.2
HIGH COUNTRY PASTORAL ALLOTMENTS, 1884
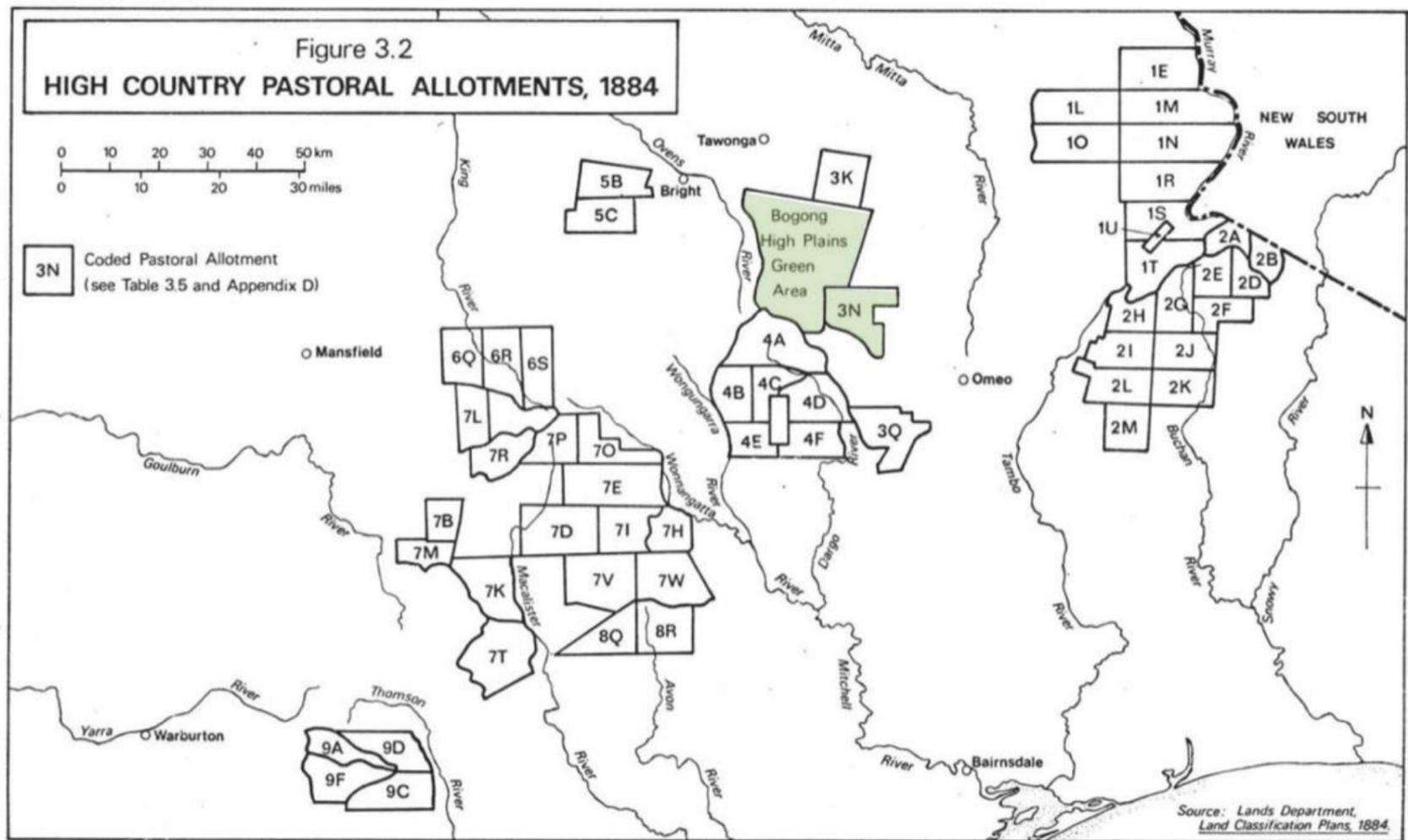
Key- Green shaded Bogong High plains area & 3N were used for horse grazing

Figure 2.1
HIGH COUNTRY GRAZING RUNS 1878
with major adjoining Mining Fields
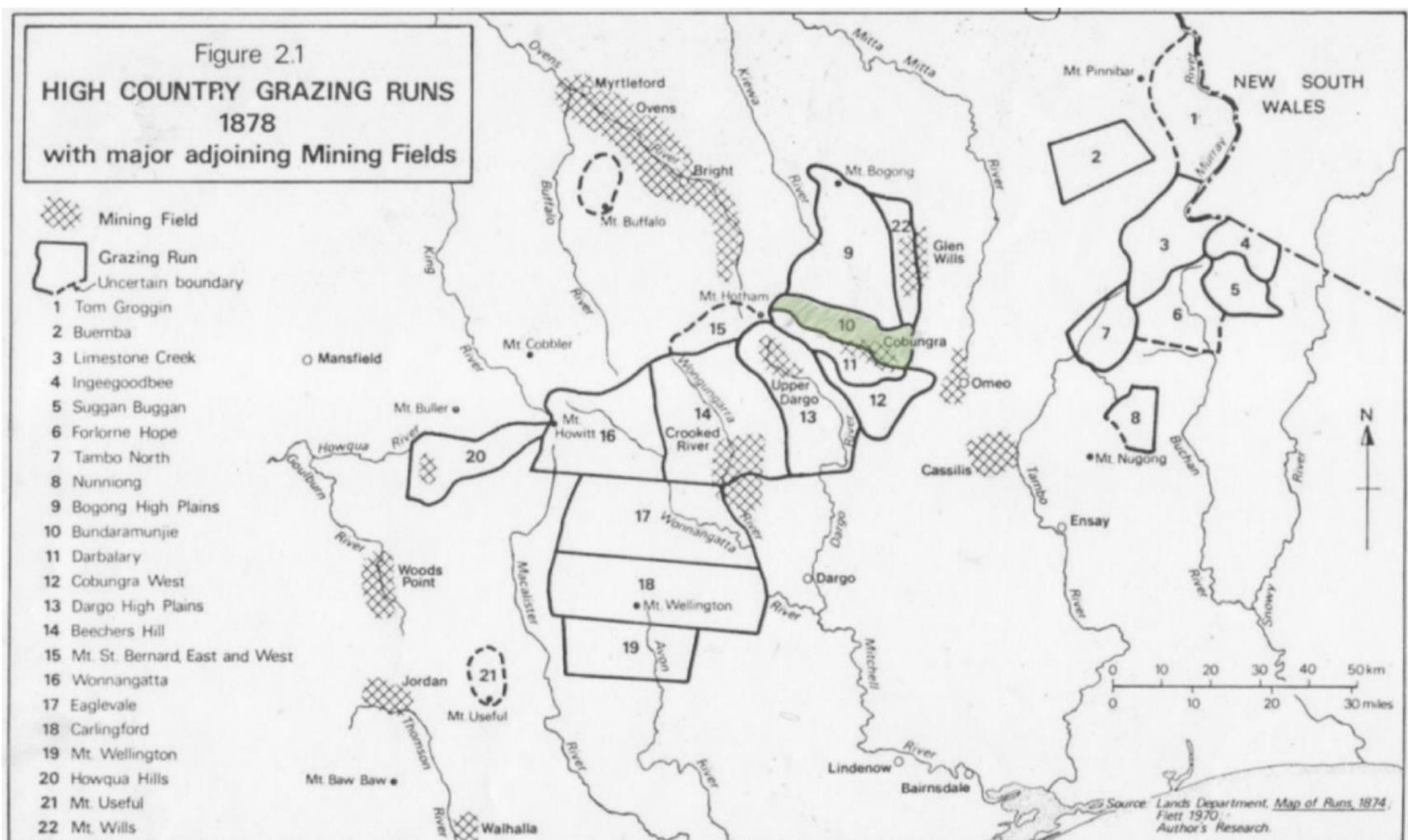
Key- Green shaded area 10 (between Mt Hotham and Cobungra) were used for horse grazing

Figure 4.2
GRAZING ACTIVITIES
in the High Country
1900 - 1930
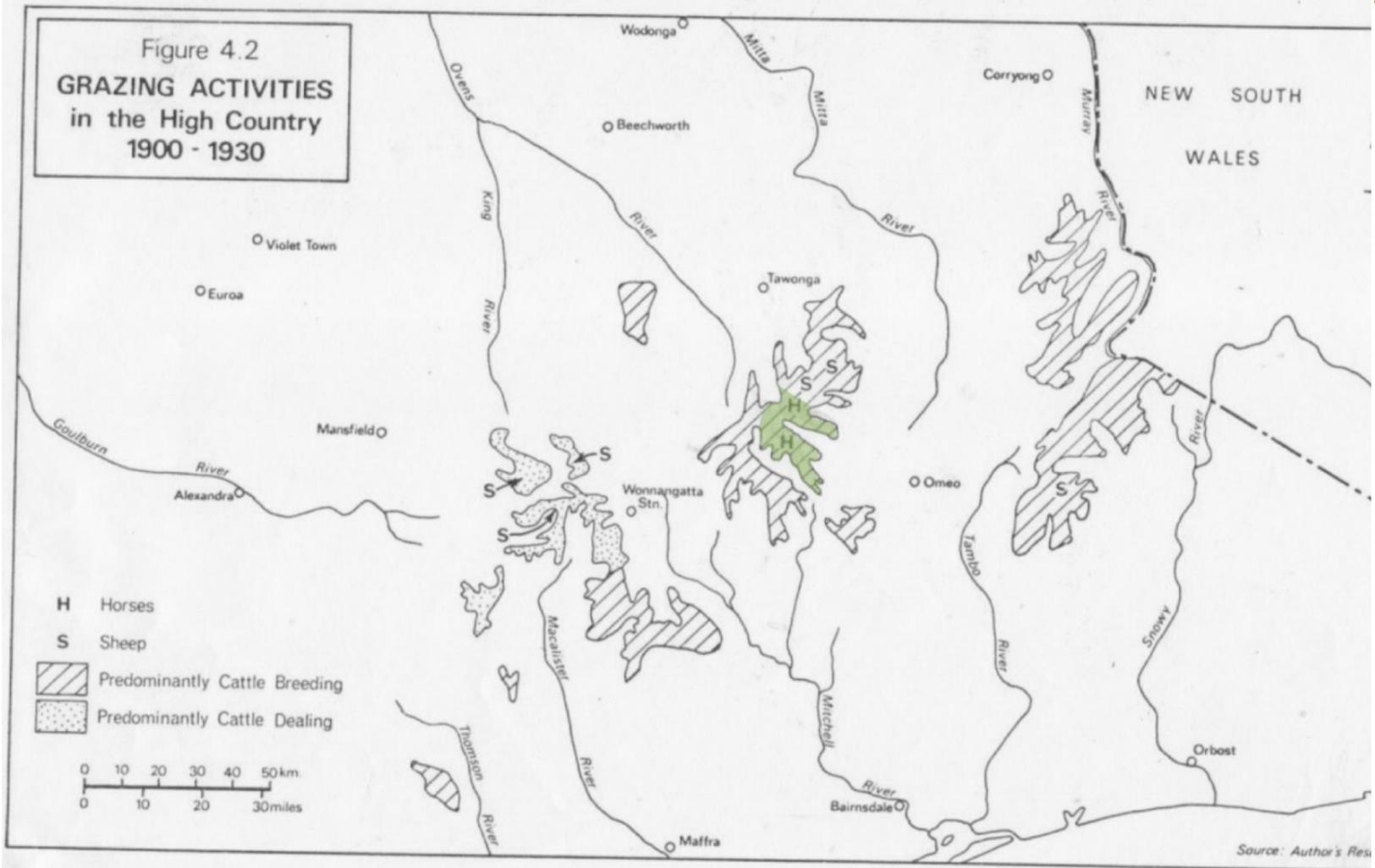
Key – Green shaded areas marked H were used for horse grazing

Figure 3.5
HIGH COUNTRY GRAZING BLOCKS,
1908 Sub-division
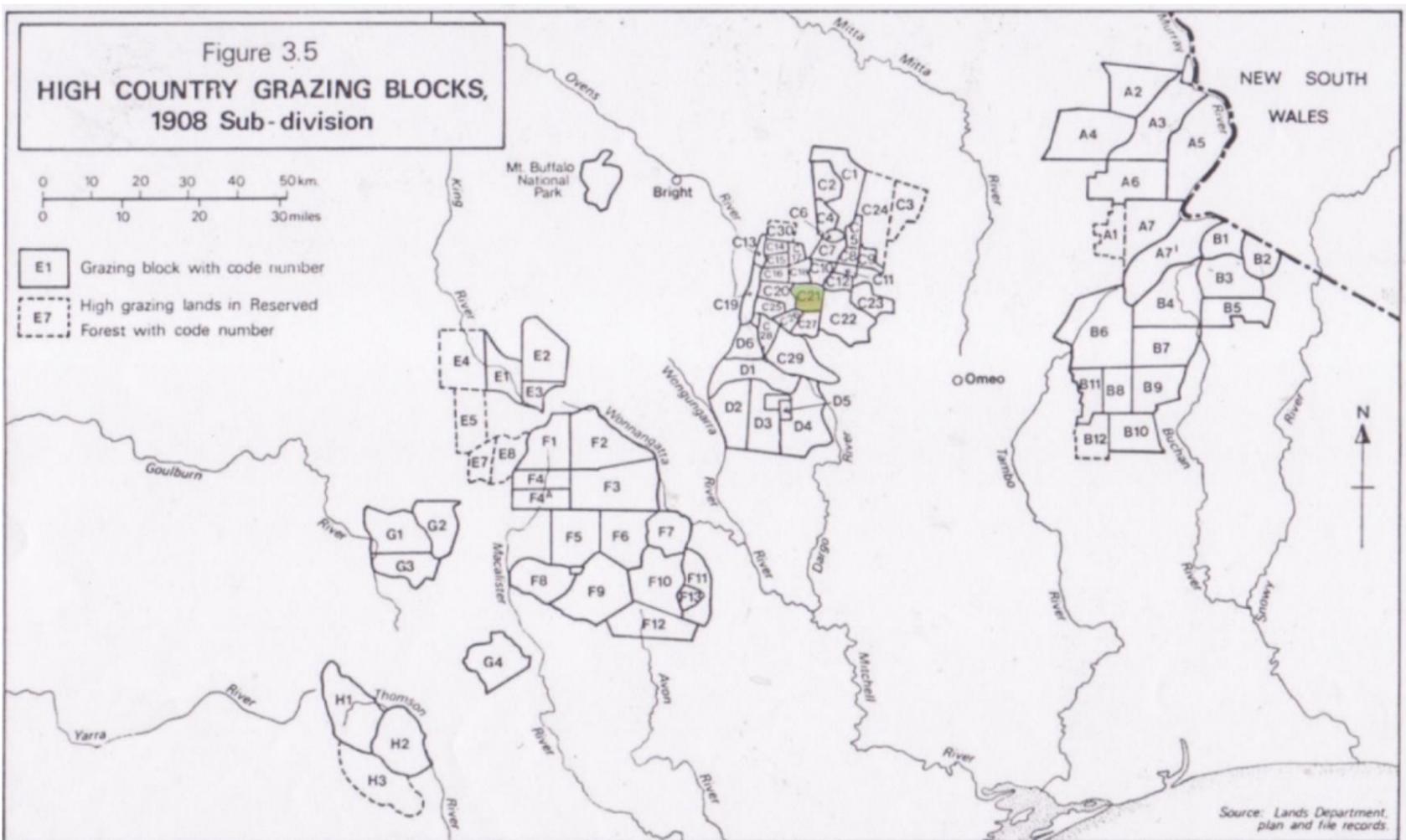
Key – Green shaded area marked C21 was used for horse grazing

B.H.P. GRAZING LEASES (1/1/76)
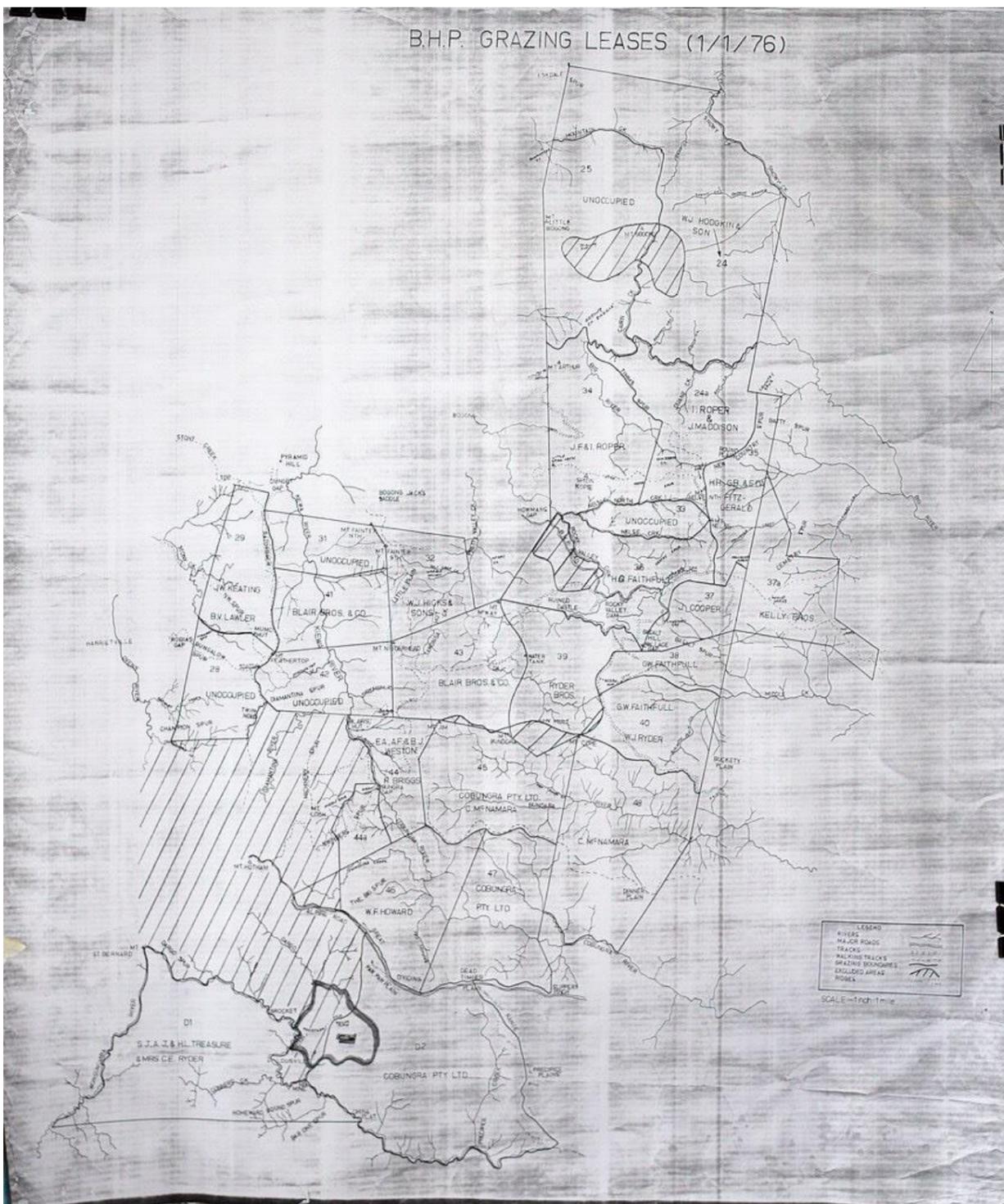
(to add horse grazed areas

Settler	Date	Homestead / Run	Size (acres)
Meighan, John	1859-1868	Omeo - Cobungra Station	
Meighan, John	1859-1861	Omeo - Darbalary	
Wilkinson, Frederick (Speculator)	1867-1868	Howqua Hills	
Whitbourne, John	1873-1887	Lindenow Flat - Carlingford	
Martin, William(Spec)	1874-1877	Howqua Ilills	
Gardiner (Melb)			
Maass, Hans.	1878-1884	Cobungra - Cobungra East	
Young, Osborne	1886-1908	Bundaramunjie 3N (Had horses)	33,000
Young, Osborne	1887-1908	Benanmbra – Bogong High Plains 'L' (had horses)	
Young, Osborne	1908-1913	Benanmbra – C21	
George Maddison & Peter Howman	1884/5-1900s	Un-licensed – 3G – Mt. Bogong/32,300 (horses)	
J. Holland	1886-1887	Mt. Phippe 3Q	26,900
Thomas Doyle	1886-1904	2M - Nunnett	15,600
Thomas Quinn	1886-1896	2L - Nunniong	26,800
Edward O'Rourke	1886-1901	2J - Forlorn Hope	24,700
Ann T. O'Rourke	1886-1901?	2G - Native Cat	26,700
Annie M. O'Rourke	1886-1901	2F - Upper Buchan	17,900
Thomas J. O'Rourke	1886-1901	2E - Native Dog	14,500
William O'Rourke	1886-1901	2B - McFarlanes Flat	13,300
Used by holders of Cobungra West	1887 plus	Mt. Phippe	26,900
Young, Samuel H	1887-1889	Omeo - Bogong High Plains 'B' (Had Horses)	
McNamara, Thomas	1887-1908	Omeo - Bogong High Plains 'A' (Had horses)	
Whyte, Alex	1887-1888	Omeo - Bogong High Plains 'D'	
Woodside, Arthur	1887-1888	Barwidgee - Bogong High Plains 'H'	
Wallace, William	1887-1908	Kergunyah - Bogong High Plains 'G'	
McMillan, Ewan	1889-1890	Gippsland - PA TW	
Weston, A. H.	1891-1922	Porepunkah - Mt. Buffalo	
Weston, B.	1891-1922	Porepunkah - Mt. Buffalo	

Settler	Date	Homestead / Run	Size (acres)
Christina Quinn	1896-(1902?)	2L - Nunniong	26,800
William Pendergast	1896 /7-1908	2B - McFarlanes Flat	13,300
J. C. Rogers	1901-1908	2J - Forlorn Hope	24,700
J. C. Rogers	1901-1908	2G - Native Cat	26,700
J. C. Rogers	1901-1908	2F - Upper Buchan	17,900
J. C. Rogers	1901-1908	2E - Native Dog	14,500
O'Rourkes	Up to 1901	2D - Mt. Wombargo	12,200
Rogers Family	After 1901	2D - Mt. Wombargo	12,200
McNamara, Albert Edward	1902-1908	Omeo - Bogong High Plains 'R' (Had horses)	
McNamara, Albert Edward	1902-1914	Omeo - Cobungra SA5O	
McNamara, Patrick	1902-1955	Omeo - Cobungra SA51	
McNamara, Thomas	1902-1914	Omeo - Cobungra SA46	
Fred C. Lowe	1902-1908	2L - Nunniong	26,800
McMichael, Thomas	1903-1921	Glenmaggie - Spring Hill SA2	
Fred C. Lowe	1904/05-1908	2M - Nunnett	15,600
Maguire, C	1907-1908	Dargo - Moroka - SA4 & 4A	
Marum, J. Kiernan	1908-1910	Tawonga - C7	
McNamara, Daniel	1908-1920	Omeo - C22	
McNamara, Daniel	1908-?	C29	
Wallace, William	1908-1914	Kergunyah - C18	
McNamara, Thomas	1908-1910	Omeo - C6	
Ware, John, Snr	1909-1932	Howqua Hills - E8	
McMichael, Arthur	1914-1920	Glenmaggie - F8	
Woodside, John	1918-1920	Barwidgee - Cl1	
Woodside, Arthur	1918-1920	Barwidgee - Cl2	
McNamara, Patrick	1918-1959	Qmeo - C21	
McNamara, T. J.	1920-1943	Omeo - C22	
Maddison, Thomas	1926-1959	Dederang & Tawonga - Cl	
Maddison, Edward L	1926-1928	Tawonga - C2	
Weston, Eric A.	1929-1958	Eurobin - C20	
Ware, John, Snr	1932-1935	Howqua Hills - E38	
McNamara, T. J.	1933-1946	Omeo - C21	
Maddison, G. T.	1934-1935	Tawonga - C2	
McMichael, W. J.	1934-1935	Glenmaggie - F8	

Key – Red highlights the people who bred horses on the high plains identified by the history contained in this document. *We have concentrated research into the Bogong High Plains Brumby founding stock links through to today's wild horses still living wild on BHP because that is the heritage population Parks Victoria insist on total extinction at present.*

Note: This is a living document; more detail showing the relationship to East Alpine heritage Horse founding stock settlers will be expanded\ in the next update. However we feel there are sufficient accounts in this document to give a broad link to the Eastern Alpine horse founding stock related to today's Brumbies still living wild in the eastern Alps of Victoria.

The families of Osborne Young and Thomas McNamara used their high plains licenses to breed horses across the Bogong High Plains unfenced area from 1879 until 1946 when BHP horse leasing ended. Owners caught what stock they could, leaving those not caught to continue the breed line that still live there as truly wild Brumby horses surviving on their wits, and living as independent, and free spirits.

1946   Horse grazing licenses ceased in the Bogong High Plains and license holders were told to remove their horses from the area.

1948   Voice of the Mountains[20] - Journal of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc. ISSN 0816-9764 Issue number 26 (2003) contains *McNamara Memories – The Hut Log Book*, an *extract* of the transcript of the log book located at Charlie Mac's hut, courtesy of the Omeo Historic Society. states that when M.F. McNamarra visited in 1948 he sighted about 70 head of cattle and 12 horses, highlighted on page screenshot below. *Note: Parks Victoria claim all horses disappeared from Bogong High Plains when horse grazing licences ceased in 1946. This document contains several references to show why not all horses were removed, despite permission to graze horses being withdrawn, and that the original horses were just leftalone because it was too hard to find ot remove them all)*

3rd Oct **1943** Came out from Bundara saw 54 head cattle 20 horses - arrived 11 pm had dinner started to rain at 12.30. J. M. McNamara

30 Nov 1943 Mick, Uncle Jack & I brought 126 head dry cattle to .... flat. J.P. McNamara
2 Dec 1943 Came out from Bundara brought 50 cows & calves. Had dinner here & going back saw seven unbranded calves, & about 25 head cattle & some horses. J.P. & J.M. McNamara

October 3rd **1944** Cattle brought out from Bundar 140 head mxd cattle. Strangers 3 Cooper 2 Naughtons 1 Fletcher1 Weston1 Lawler(132 TM)
J & McNamara

Oct 6th 1944 Brought out 63 head of cattle from Bundar (13) strangers   3 Fletcher
　　　　　　3 Hardys　　2 Coopers
　　　　　　2 Blair　　1 Matterson's
　　　　　　1 Weston　　1 Naughton
　　　　　　50 TM
J & M McNamara

26 on the way out & 43 at Dinner Plain seen strangers.
2 Ben C. 1 McConnell5 Naughtons1 Smith1 Kell 1 Fletcher. Jack & Mick McNamara

came out to Dinner Plain 8 Oct 1945 got hors Branded 3 foals 1 two year old colt cut two caug Jack Junr filly and learnt her to lead.
J. & J. & J. McNamara

Dry Cattle
Dec 5 **1947** J. & M McNamara brought 87 head cattle out one bullock Pat McNamara

August 27th **1948** M. F. McM
M.F. McNamara visited here came up over roc plain seen about 70 head of cattle & 12 head horses

Nov 4th 1948 Two days after Melb Cup Rimfire Dark Marnie 2nd Saxony 3rd
Jack and Mick came here up by rocky plain. Kill dingo in Harry Jagoe's trap seen nineteen head

1955   Mount Bogong summit closed to (all) grazing.

1958   Summits of Mount Feathertop, Mount Loch, and Mount Hotham closed to grazing.

1961   Completion of the hydro-electric scheme.

1980   Government accepted recommendations of the Land Conservation Council which included the establishment of the Bogong National Park of 81,000 hectares and the phasing out of grazing in certain areas by 1991.

Bogong High Plains Historic Grazing number examples

The High Country History Hub (HCHH) is a community project developed by The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria, the Mansfield Historical Society, Merrijig Public Hall and the Victorian Government. The HCHH is a digital library of the Victorian high country history from 1834 to now, including a wealth of knowledge and photographs relating to early settlement and the Mountain Cattleman's way of life. https://www.highcountryhistory.org.au/

Reference to sheep and cattle numbers to compare with today's Bogong High plains 80-100 Brumbies from an interview with James Edmondson 25/4/1977 by Peter Cabena as part of his Grazing the High Country: an historical and political geography of high country grazing in Victoria, 1835 to 1935 MA. thesis sourced from the High Country Heritage Hub.

- In 1902 there was an estimated 100,000 sheep on the BHP's
- In 1945 there was 9000 head of cattle on BHP's
- 1952: I had mustered Mt Nelse area and taken them over to Ta1835 to 1935wonga paddock & next day assisted the Tawonga brigade. We were going to come off in two mobs. Charlie Greilly, Herb Maddison & I with our cattle, the rest a day later. But the weather decided otherwise, snowing in the morning
- 1960: 1st heavy snow fall on 18th April, & it didn't thaw till spring. Many cattle & horses were not mustered

6   Theme 2 - The Work of the Brumbies – Social and Economic Tapestry

The social and economic importance of the Brumby cannot be underestimated. Victorian Alpine-bred free roaming horses were essential pre-motorisation in order to carry out everyday activities such as transport, haulage, cattle management and mustering, communications, farming and wars, in effect, serving the needs now addressed by modern day vehicles.

6.1   Transport and Haulage - The Packers (or Packhorse)[5]

The one mode of transport that played perhaps the most crucial role of any in the story of a European settlement of the High Country, was surely the humble packhorse. Even before the bullockies and teamsters pushed through, the packhorse had been plodding its weary way into almost every part of the trackless wilderness for years.

A packhorse required virtually no track at all, within limits it could follow just about wherever its owner could walk, and the early settlers had soon worked out ways of strapping every imaginable thing onto them. They really were the pioneers of alpine heavy haulage.

Thousands of them toiled their lives away hauling whatever was needed (machinery, equipment, tucker, furniture, building materials and even children) into the mountain for nearly a century, they were the lifeline to the all the people who lived beyond the roads, and when the Mines Department started criss-crossing the mountains with a network of hand-hewn tracks and roads in the 1860's, the poor old horses had to work even harder.

Bert Walker and Jack Lovick Snr. packing iron sheets in for the hut on Burnt Hut Spur, in 1926 or 1927

Just like the bullocks, the sad fact is that horses paid dearly for 'the building of Australia,' and the proof was often there for all to see. After the winter of 1900 for example, 20 dead horses lay scattered along the side of the old Yarra Track alone.

Just about anybody could get together a bit of a team and start a packing career. Anyone half handy could make most of the gear themselves, and the horses didn't have to be any-thing special. And if you could find a track where there was no competition, you could charge what you liked! Money for jam, you might say. But most horses don't take all that kindly to staggering up hill and down dale all day, loaded down with all manner of heavy, with awkward clobber, and it took a rather special person to master the art of keeping them in order.

Children on a packhorse. (JD)

A more normal load. (AJT)

There were all sorts of problems involved in reliably shifting someone else's prized possessions deep into the mountains by packhorse. For a start, a good, quiet, intelligent a packhorse has never been an easy thing to find and most of them didn't fit

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[5] Ian Stapleton, From Drovers to Daisy-pickers, 2006

into that category at all. Far from it! Their antics and shortcomings were frequently cursed, their breeding was usually somewhat doubtful, and nearly all their names are now long ae forgotten. But their collective contribution to High Country history has been colossal. So, what sort of men (or women) took on packing as a career? Well, they came in all shapes and sizes, and if they were still in it after a year or two, they'd probably got quite good at it. Apart from being good with horses they had to be physically strong, as the job involved a lot of hard work. In the saddle all day, lifting heavy pack bags or loadings on and off each horse every morning and night, camping out and living rough. And that was assuming all went well!

Many of the lesser packers probably had very short careers, whilst the good ones likely did rather well from it. Just like the taxi trucks of today, they were everywhere. And just as most successful taxi truck drivers will have been forgotten in 100 years, so have most of the packers.[6]

James Connell was a well-known packer around here in the early days. He was known as 'Eaglevale Jimmy' and he had a very good reputation as a reliable man with very quiet horses. He was often trusted with valuable and fragile loads into all sorts of rough places. His two specialties were children and explosives, (never at the same time of course), and he had an accident free record on both. He packed the kiddies in gin cases. The mother would usually carry the youngest baby in her arms, and the others would go in a gin case each, hanging one on either side of a good horse. Children are never the same weight of course, so he would even things up with rocks.

More often than not the horses would be Brumbies he'd broken in especially for packing children. They were usually very quiet when broken, and nearly always very sure-footed. He'd put a bag or a bit of bedding in with each child so they'd be comfortable, and he packed lots of them that way with not One mishap. No doubt about it, if you had kiddies to cart, Eaglevale Jimmy was your man.

6.2   The War Horse

From the mid-1840s there had been increasing export demand for the highly regarded "Waler" horses, referring to horses originally bred in New South Wales. This then expanded to include alpine bred horses sourced from the Victorian Eastern Alps and Alpine High Plains by the British Army for their remounts in India and later the Boer War and First World War.

The term "Waler" was used to designate all of our horses that went to war, regardless of whether they came from Cape York Peninsula, Western Australia or anywhere else in between. To call them a breed is nonsense. They have always been Australian stock horses bred for that purpose and no other. That they proved suitable for remount usage is something our early pastoralists can take credit for.

I have no gripe about them being known as Walers. I too am happy to call them that. After all, those that were used for military service deserve a distinctive title by which to remember them. [7]

The Australian Soldier is universally known as a 'Digger' and it would be wrong to suggest that he was bred for war. Both he and the Waler happened to be available when needed for that purpose and proved more than adequate to the task without thought of generic engineering. [8]

Ironically, Victoria generated 40% of Waler sales over this period, whereas NSW, where the term Waler originated, generated only 19%.

Article provided courtesy Jack Scott: Waler Exports to Market Zones 1861 to 1931

Waler Exports to Market Zones 1861 to 1931					
	Indian	**African**	**S.E.Asian**	**E.Asian**	**Total**
N.S.W.	52284	19791	10919	8216	91210
Vic.	152742	22108	16636	2400	193886
Qld.	121519	21432	4045	10733	157729
S.A.	22667	908	513	90	24178
W.A.	4723	5697	7248	1357	19025
Tas.	2	282	0	0	284
Total No.	353937	70218	39361	22796	486312
Total Exported 486312					
Total value 8,171,278 (Pounds)					

Acknowledgement to A.T.Harwood Author of the book " Walers Australian horses abroad"

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[6] Ian Stapleton, A Mountain Muster, 2012
[7] http://www.lighthorse.org.au/the-waler-a-breed-of-horse-legend-or-fact/

Figure 1From the records of the Australian Light Horse Association - Waler export

Movie: Army Remount Depot, Maribyrnong - https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/F00136

Midnight

Lieutenant Guy Haydon riding his gallant mare "Midnight".

During the second battle for Gaza "Midnight" remained continuously under saddle for 7 days . Haydon rode "Midnight" in the Charge at Beersheeba and both were shot as they reached the Turkish trenches, however Haydon was not mortally wounded.

Figure 2From the records of the Australian Light Horse Association

Spoken History, words taken from Peter Cabena's interviews.

Between 1975-1978 Peter Cabena interviewed many then current and past high country graziers as part of his Grazing the High Country: an historical and political geography of high country grazing in Victoria, 1835 to 1935 MA. thesis and thinks the notes have become more valuable as time has passed. The interviews below reinforce the heritage links to Bogong High Plains grazing by Osborne Young and the McNamara brother's for Indian remounts.

Name: Brenny Fitzgerald, date of Interview: August 1978
- George Fitz drove horses for Osborne Young to Sale via Dargo; and also to Wodonga. So did old McNamara.
- Osborne Young had the Bundara run & freehold & put cattle & horses on the tops. He had Herefords and a large number of horses bred for Indian remounts; also had thoroughbreds racing in Melbourne. He used the OY brand & sold at 4 years' old
- All the horse blokes mustered together. Horses were taken to the market at Sale. 4 or 5 blokes were needed for the journey. The route: head of Livingstone creek to Wentworth River along mining tracks, & came out at Bullumwaal, then along the road to Sale. Wodonga was a big market for horses too
- The horses were only half broken in when they left Omeo. They were shipped to India & when arrived were swam from the ship to shore. By the time they got to dry land they were broken in

Name: Arthur Dibbin, 75yo date of Interview 1977
- There were nearly 1000 horses over the HP's. Bred for Indian remounts. McNamara brothers were the biggest; also P Duane, John Lawler, Tawonga people. The horses were wintered in the bush; were a lot of wild horses

Name: Bill Gibson, date of Interview 16/11/1977
- **Osborne Young** was my uncle. He bred horses for many years; good, well-bred army re-mounts. He sold them at Wodonga. He grew the horses on the runs & sold at 3 yo. They were broken in in India. Jack MacNamara worked for OY, & took the horses up to the HP's.

Source: Peter Cabena's interviews as part of his Grazing the High Country: an historical and political geography of high country grazing in Victoria, 1835 to 1935 MA. thesis can be sourced on the High Country Heritage Hub.

APPENDIX B

HORSES FOR THE INDIAN ARMY - SPECIFICATIONS
AND CONDITIONS, 1889-1890

1.   ... it is hereby notified that the Government of India are
prepared to purchase about 2165 horses suitable for Army purposes
during the year 1889-90 classed as follows:

        Class I - Australian and Cape South African horses - 1285.
                In Calcutta - medium cavalry hussars, 295; field
                artillery, 385; horse, 220. In Madras - medium
                cavalry and hussars, 165; field artillery, 110;
                horse, 70. In Bombay - field artillery, 50;
                horse, 50.

        Class II - Country bred, 590. In Bengal - 49. In Bombay - 100.
                As many as possible full-grown horses, the remainder
                young stock from 1½ years old and upwards.

        Class III - Arabs and Persians, 290. In Bombay - field artillery,
                35; medium cavalry, 63. In Madras - native cavalry,
                192.

        Total 2165

2.   The purchases will be made in Madras, Calcutta and Bombay and at
various horse fairs and horse shows in India by remount agents under
the orders of the Director, Army Remount Department.

3.   The Calcutta land and remount depot will be open for the reception
of horses from 1st October to the end of the purchasing season, ...
purchasing to commence as soon after the arrival of the shipment as
the remount agent may direct.

4.   Horses and mares of all breeds will be received, but they must be
within the prescribed age, 4-6 years, except as regards country breds,
and in the case of Australian horses, 14 hands 3 inches to 16 hands
high. It is to be distinctly understood that in regard to Class I
and III remounts three year olds and mares in foal will not be
purchased.

5.   Greys will not be purchased for horse or field artillery.

6.   The average price for an Australian or Cape remount has been fixed
at 650 rupees which will be paid at the Indian port of purchase. The
average price for Arabs and Persians is 550 rupees; for other horses
according to their merits; but every horse present for purchase will
be valued separately and higher or lower prices may be given, provided
that the averages fixed above are not exceeded.

                                        E. G. BARROW
                                        for Secretary to the Govt.of India

(Source: Omeo Standard, 14.6.1889)

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6.3   Spoken History

Jim Flannagan, now in his 80s lives in Omeo is a cattleman and a former stockman who mustered wild horses off Bogong High Plains for the McNamara family.

Jim Flannagan said that "David King from Benambra used to break them in for the Indian Remounts" Jim explained that "the first McNamara's, Tom and Jack Mac, brothers and partners ... and they had bred horses for generations." He continued, "But like everything - Tom McNamara got old - he had a couple of sons that weren't much help .... so old Jack Mac said, "Leave the horses up there, they're all right". These horses from old Jack Mac's bloodlines are believed to still be a major part of the bloodlines of the Brumbies running free there today. Another Omeo cattleman Ron Connelly said "The first people to take horses up there were the Youngs from Benambra. They would take over 2000 up there (BHP) every year for the summer - and see if you wanted to go anywhere then you had to have a horse to put in a cart or ride - and so horses were worth more than cattle and that's what they used to breed them for.

Young's got a hut there, and a great big yard a monstrous yard it was probably eight foot high when I first saw it, and mustered the horses in there and drafted off 800 horses for the army. They would have all been three and four-year-old."

Terrence Carroll, lives in Omeo was contracted to trap Bogong High Plains Brumbies for Parks Victoria, around 2010-13. Terrance explained that even the modern Brumbies running today are not 'feral' they still carry the 'good' bloodlines stating that "the bloodlines would go back before McNamara." Terrance also explained that "people come here; they make a trip to come here and see those wild horses."

Ian Gibson, formerly a cattle grazier from Benambra, and direct descendant of Osborne Young. His great, great grandmother Bella married Osborne Young. The Gibson family of Benambra had Davies Plain license in late 1800s to early 1900s.

Figure 3Beersheba

Ian Gibson had worked for Charlie Mac from 1970-1980 and had until recently, the original "OY" brand that they used on the horses that were bred in that period. Ian explained that they sold the remounts to India and sent many to Australian troops in the First World War "They did because they had people breaking the horses in for sending as remounts. Plenty went to the Australian Army, and all those horses went to Beersheba and Egypt, and for fighting in the desert they were all sent from here," he said.

"I worked for Charlie Mac from 1970-1980. Oh yeah, there were heavy horses, big strong clumpery looking horses there that we caught and ran them into yards up there. There were heavy horses still there, but I don't know whether there is now. They're a breed of their own".

Ian was asked if it was true that Dave King (horse breaker and trainer for Charlie Mac) only had to ride the BHP horses that he was breaking in outside the yard twice before they could ship them off to India. "He told me himself that he and his brother Dick were breaking in for remounts" "The contract they had was to ride them outside twice. And then they were ready to go!" Ian said, "How did they get on when they went to India with these Indians?" He (Dave) said they [the Indian cavalry] used to take them down to the sea and get them out to the sea and hop on them there - they couldn't do much harm if they came off in the water! Some of the real heavy Young's horses pulled the guns.

Jack McNamara (90yrs old) grew up at Cobungra Station, Omeo. His uncle, Charlie McNamara, took over the McNamara run on BHP.

"I'm fifth generation; Charlie [McNamara] is my uncle and my father's brother. I know Osborne Young had a lot of horses up there .... about the turn-of-the-century. Horses were in great demand because everything was pulled around by a horse. People rode horses, and they pulled buggies. They supplied horses for the Indian army, and I suppose the Australian army and everything else.

It was a big thing, breeding horses for the Indian Army, remounts as they called them. And old Jack Mac - he is my great grandfather's brother - he broke a lot of horses in for Osborne Young when he was a young fella, and that's how the Macs got involved in horses. The horses were just about finished when I was a young fellow and my great uncles, they still had horses that were more or less running in the bush but they used to muster them every year and cull them and send them off for sale, and geld all the colts.

There were riding horses, but a lot of them were "Clumper" horses, and that was the sort of breed they had there. They had their little Clumper horses and a lot of people used to ride them too, good strong horses for stock work too.

I have very vivid memories. We used to run cattle out on Buckety Plain and that's where I came in contact with a wild mob or two of horses out there. There weren't very many. We used to run cattle there, and we used to give the salt to keep them quiet, and they liked the salt, and you'd keep them on your own run.

The horses would come in at night to get the salt, they wouldn't come anywhere near you in the day time.... about 20 horses and then there was another mob that I often used to see around the back, at Mt Jack, they call it Mt Cope now, there was a mob of seven or eight horses and I used to run into them a lot.

No doubt they would have [sent horses to First World War as army remounts] this was where the bigtime was with the horses, 1914 when the armies wanted a lot of horses. No doubt Australian troops would have ridden these horses.

Vince J, 70, lives in Orbost and is a descent of the O'Rourke family of Suggan Buggan and Black Mountain. He has 'run' Brumbies in the eastern Alps for many decades. He says the Brumbies still found around Suggan Buggan are distinctive of "the old type…leggy with boxy shaped bodies" that the O'Rourke's bred. Vince also says some of the Nunnett Plain and Nunniong Brumbies have bloodlines linked to the late 19th and early 20th century when there was a dairy herd at Nunnett.

Small ponies possibly Timor or Cape Ponies, hauled the milk sled down the sheer escarpment on an old bridle trail to the butter factory in Swifts Creek. Historically Cape Ponies were often used as army remounts, especially where they were bred in South Africa. They were bigger horses in their original form:

license documents show that Thomas Doyle ran the dairy herd up there at Nunnett during the rabbit plague of turn of century. Vince says on good authority, an earlier dairyman, a German, whose name he can't remember, carved the bridle trail out of the rock face - a story that clearly deserves much more research!

Husbandry was not a strong point during the Boer War, horses endured extreme hardship and died in unprecedented numbers. 60% of the horses died in combat or as the result of mis-treatment as opposed to 3% of human combatants. The distances were great, and Boer forces did not just move along railway lines. The Cape Ponies of the Boers were used to the rough grass of the Karoo; the horses from overseas were not. Cavalrymen trained in lush climates were used to their horses gaining much of their sustenance form available local forage, that was not the case in South Africa. Australian soldiers, good horsemen, were used to being able to rest horses as on the farm at home, there were always fresh ones. In South Africa there was no such luxury. The well-trained British cavalrymen, and the New South Welshmen, trained at Aldershot, knew the requirements to rest and look after their mounts, the movement required and a lack of understanding by Army staff, however, meant that few of the husbandry requirements were able to be met. Thus, we have the example of the 500 horses ridden to death in the relief of Kimberley, and the overall 60% attrition rate.[8]

The wastage was particularly heavy among British forces for several reasons: overloading of horses with unnecessary equipment and saddlery, failure to rest and acclimatise horses after long sea voyages and, later in the war, poor management by inexperienced mounted troops and distant control by unsympathetic staff. The average life expectancy of a British horse, from the time of its arrival in Port Elizabeth, was around six weeks.

Horse Memorial - Port Elezabeth

Horses were on occasion slaughtered for their meat. During the Siege of Kimberley and Siege of Ladysmith, horses were consumed as food once the regular sources of meat were depleted. The besieged British forces in Ladysmith also produced chevril, a Bovril-like paste, by boiling down the horse meat to a jelly paste and serving it like beef tea.[9]

The Horse Memorial in Port Elizabeth is a tribute to the 300,000 horses that died during the conflict. The inscription on the base reads:

THE GREATNESS OF A NATION
CONSISTS NOT SO MUCH UPON THE NUMBER OF ITS PEOPLE
OR THE EXTENT OF ITS TERRITORY
AS IN THE EXTENT AND JUSTICE OF ITS COMPASSION

ERECTED BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION
IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICES OF THE GALLANT ANIMALS
WHICH PERISHED IN THE ANGLO BOER WAR 1899-1902

Jill Mather in one of her six war horse books, "*Forgotten Heros - The Australian Waler Horse*"[19], provides insight into the horrors for those involved.in wars dependant on horse power and the essential strong bonds rider and mount developed.

Legends created by these horses must never die. That is why it is so important to preserve what is left of the remount which created such a reputation on the battlefield. It did not end there – they are feted as an essential all-purpose Australian horse. The pioneers needed a special horse….. Stories have been left behind. They are pitifully few in number, but those that are available ;leave no stone unturned to praise the horse…… many were so traumatised by the news that their faithful mate would not be coming home; they simple could not talk about it.

Unreliable rainfall has always been the bane of the continent. NSW and Victoria were leaders in the in the breeding market, being the largest importers of stock…. The climate lent itself to the breeding of horses capable of covering seventy or so miles in a day without hay or supplements….. Horses from India as well as the Cape horse contributed to the imports, with only the strongest horses surviving. The demand for stock horses in the mid to late 1800's was keen. Droving was the most suitable method of moving cattle over vast distances. Pastoralist's stations finally produced a suitable horse that was enduring, had strong bone, a comfortable gait. Speed and a good temperament.

Often the ammunition had to be unloaded and placed on the horse's back in huge canvas envelopes and delivered to the front line. Once (carriage) driver Banks fell into a shell hole, and was stuck fast in the mud. He was in a fix with not a soul around to help. There was nothing else left to do so he called in his two trusty horses. "Here Daisy … here Belle" … then, left Daisy … back girl … back" The horses' eyed the water sodden pit and Daisy obeyed the commands turning her rear towards the floundering driver until he could grasp her tail. With a gentle but steady pull forward she used her strength to ease her master out of the crater, slowly but surely. The love of the horses gave their master's the strength to carry on and no more so that the Army Service Corps.

[8] The Australian Boer War Memorial, https://www.bwm.org.au/horses.php
[9] http://www.rdgmuseum.org.uk/history-and-research/did-you-know/?n=horses-and-horseflesh-losses-in-the-boer-war

Gun horses were active drought animals, fast on their feet, but strong and reliable. Were they not entitled to the name Waler too or were they simple referred to as heavy horses? It was never limited in applications to the Calvary charger, or officers' horses. "*Records from the Australian Imperial Force in Sinai and Palestine by M. S. Gullet stated that horses were of all types including large sturdy ponies, cross breeds, and part thoroughbreds*"

Charles Doherty 12th A.L.H. (Forgotten Heros) records how at essential these Australian horses were at Beersheba, when *after years of gruelling warfare from the Sinai and onwards, had, after days of reduced rations, carried an average of 18 stone in weight over forty miles of steep and rugged country in one night. Then, following a burning day, after being without water for 27 hours, they carried off this gallant charge – four miles through flying lead and over ground interspersed with natural and artificial obstacles, any of which should be quite sufficient to make the finest horse quail.*

The horses never failed and each became as one man – a team….. each horse knew every little nuance. A little pressure from the knee, a voice, and when a man crouched in the shadow of his horse the horse rarely moved, *their big eyes staring into the desert, wars and nostrils were forever twitching, whose bodies were instantly ready for the leap into the saddle and the wild plunge back into the blackness of the sheltering night.* (Jill Mather's "Forgotten Heros)

6.4   The Cattleman's Horse

Figure 4 Mustering in the High Plains

Extract - Cattlemen & Huts of the High Plains, Harry Stephenson
There is magic in the word mustering - The muster varies somewhat in duration and method from place to place, with the Bogong High Plains seeing the most complex and concentrated mustering with fourteen license holders mustering 4,200 head of cattle and after drafting, driving them out by seven different routes.

All combine to muster across the whole of the fenceless High Plains, yard the daily round-up in several widely dispersed stock-yards, draft the entire mob into fourteen different herds on completion and drive their cattle out by seven routes. But the mustering in all areas has much in common.

Cattlemen leave their home properties well mounted, pack-horses loaded with a week's or more food and all necessary equipment and cattle dogs eager for the fray. They ride to their own grazing grounds or to rendezvous with other cattlemen at the bush huts, strategically placed in the High Plains and used, generally twice yearly — at Autumn mustering and again in early Summer, when the cattle are returned to pasture.

From Spring to early Autumn, the snow plain regions, mostly between 4.500 and 5,500 feet, but occasionally as on Mt Bogong, Hotham, The Cobberas and the higher parts of the Bogong High Plains, reaching to 6,000 feet, are known best to a privileged few cattlemen and bushwalkers.

They are dramatically different from the plains of the lowlands, with irregular areas of coarse snow-grass flecked with masses of wildflowers in a glorious profusion of yellows, white, pinks, blues and mauves, clumps of white and green snow gums, branches twisted to grotesque shapes from bearing the burden of heavy winter snows, winding crystal clear streams edged with great boulders and bordered on all sides with sloping wooded spurs that are the stock routes to the plains below.

The stockmen proceed in the first instance to round up the large and obvious mobs. In most of the alpine snowplain areas a deficiency of salt in the water and herbage makes the cattle 'salt-hungry' and it is an established practice for stockmen to scatter salt and announce its presence with the well recognised cry of S- A-L-L- L - T, to which the Cattle respond, emerging from the cover of snow-gum thickets and secluded feeding places.

Although mustering does not necessarily require fast riding, it demands Skilled horsemanship from riders and powers of endurance from the horses. There are sometimes long descents into log strewn gullies, leaps to clear a fallen tree, sharp manoeuvres to avoid low hanging branches and then Steep ascents to bring the cattle out on to the tops. In all the work the well trained cattle dogs are invaluable, consolidating the mob, urging along the Stragglers and racing to head off the recalcitrant beast that decided to "take off' in the opposite direction.

At the end of the day the cattle are driven into large stock yards of "dog-leg" or similar construction, which have been constructed from snow gum logs and are a permanent feature of the landscape. Once the cattle have settled down in the holding yards, the stockmen return to the huts for the evening meal.

7 Theme 3 - Mountain Cattlemen Horse Breeders of the Bogong High Plains and Eastern Alps

Of the many pastoralists in the Victorian Eastern Alps and Bogong High Plains, several focused on providing horses for the local and export markets on a massive commercial basis. The residual Brumby populations can be linked directly to key historic pastoralists in the Victorian Alps, for example, today's Brumbies running on Young's Tops and the Pretty Valley are direct decedents of a commercial mob first established by Osborne Young in the 1880's.

One local says the Brumbies still running around Suggan Buggan are of "the old type" that the O'Rourke's bred and leggier than the other Brumbies of the region. Guide says the Nunnett Plain Brumbies have bloodlines linked to those horses that pulled the sled (also known as a horse sleigh), possibly Timor or Cape Ponies that were also bred as army remounts: A story that clearly deserves much more research! (VI)

Eastern Alpine areas:

- James McFarlane 1835-1859 0pened up the area and had Omeo" B" license (or Mt Pleasant)
- John Pendergast (Omeo) In 1865 most of their cattle died. J. Pendergast earn money packing and catching/breaking wild horses.
- Edward Crooke horses 1841-1859 Hinnoomunjie Run-Thoroughbreds
- David O'Rourke horses 1843-1855

Bogong High Plains:

- Osborne Young 1858 started in Benambra - bred draft horses, Clydesdales, thoroughbred horses.
- Osborne Young 1879 to 1913 took out Bogong High Plains run licenses for his horses.
- Mick & Tom McNamarra took over from Osborne Young and his descendants continued horse breed line on BHP licenses until 1945.

Modern Brumbies running on Young's Tops and the Pretty Vallley are direct decedents of a commercial mob first established by Osborne Young in the 1880's and continued by the McNamarra's to 1946 when horse licenses ceased Owners removed all but hard to catch behind.

The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria (MCAV) was formed in the 1950's, with membership today still including descendants of these early alpine pioneer families. The Mountain Cattlemen, often referred to as "stockmen" in literature referenced in this report, provide an ongoing connection with Australian bush culture and early pioneering heritage.

The MCAV support the retention of heritage mobs of Brumbies and oppose complete eradication of our famous horses. (https://www.mcav.com.au).

The MCAV vision for retention of heritage Brumby mobs is consistent with ABA proposals.

"There are only a few significant groups that consistently (and with credibility) promote issues like the retention of Brumbies and other public land management issues. Of those, the Mountain Cattlemen's Association (MCAV) has been probably the most prominent on issues over many, many years." Graeme Stoney (MCAV 2019).

7.1 Eastern Alps

7.1.1 James McFarlane

James McFarlane played an important part in opening up the Omeo district. McFarlane arrived around 1833-1834 settling at at McFarlane's Flat before moving to Omeo in 1835. McFarlane had managers on his runs and ran upwards of 5,000 cattle at Mt Pleasant. Managing the runs and stock grazing would have required a continuous supply of large numbers of horses.

7.1.2 Edward Crooke [10]

Hinnomunjie Station

Edward Crooke founded Hinnomunjie in 1841 by taking over Hyland's Morass Creek run and the adjoining flats of Livingstone Creek and the Mitta Mitta River and stocking the area with 2000 head of cattle.

Crookes main interest, however, was in horses and with the backing of his father, a successful businessman in England, and his knowledge of remounts required by the Indian Army, he turned the Hinnomunjie run over to the breeding of thoroughbreds. He imported stallions from England and also a brood mare named Hinnoomunjie which were walked from Eden after landing there. This was the foundation of one of Australia's largest horse- breeding studs.

The discovery of gold in Omeo in 1851 was about 300 yards from the Hinnomunjie station huts. The discoverer was George Day, superintendent for Crooke. This discovery brought many miners into the district who caused much inconvenience for Crooke, who reported that they became resident on nearly every watercourse and kept cattle from the best pastures.

At first Crooke was chiefly concerned with raising fat cattle and he persevered with his efforts to have the road to the Melbourne market improved. With others in January 1863 he bought the *Rebecca* for the New Zealand trade. Next month, carrying seventy prime bullocks from Port Albert, she was wrecked off Clarke Island in Bass Strait.

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[10] Cattlemen & Huts of the High Plains, Harry Stephenson

By then Crooke's interest had switched to horses and, encouraged by his brother in Calcutta, he became an important supplier for the Indian market. By the 1870s there were 1400 horses at Lucknow station and 500 at the Holey Plain.[11]

They also seemed to consider it their privilege to help themselves to meat and anything else they could lay their hands on. For some years there was no police protection and little law and order. Together with the transport difficulties, it was understandable that Crooke sold his interests in the Omeo district.

After holding the various runs which totaled more than 100,000 acres, Edward Crooke relinquished the last of his license areas in 1859.

Hinnomunjie continued as a cattle station with Matthew Hervey in occupation for 1859-1867, after 'which time it passed into the hands of William, and later Charles and John Degraves.

7.1.2.1 Spoken History

Viringia Imhoff spoke to Richard Crooke at Holey Plain, Gippsland, descendent of Edward Crooke, Hinnomunjie Station, Omeo in 2019. Richard told me:

"Edward Crooke had about 1000 horses at Hinnomunjie (1830s - 1943s) and at Bindi (near Ensay). He used to run horses for a while, and they used to go to India…probably Walers. It was all licensed country and then the gold miners started stealing everything. He moved down to Lucknow Station between the Nicholson and Mitchell Rivers (near Bairnsdale)."

Richard didn't know anything about the "Steeltrap" breed that was recorded as being part of Edward Crooke's stock. However, I think might mean his horses had bloodlines back to Steel Trap, English thoroughbred 1815.

7.1.3 Davey O'Rourke [10]

David O'Rourke came across from Monaro with his brother Christopher in 1843, bringing 70 horses and two sires to Black Mountain. The latter were a black stallion called Peacock, and Gander, a Grey. They were of the Steeltrap breed, and were turned on to portion of the Black Mountain afterwards known as Turnback, where the bridge across the Snowy River was recently built.

These were the first horses brought into this portion of Gippsland and from them originated the Brumbies which became so numerous in later years.

Davey O'Rourke, a tall, powerful man of eccentric habits, though a great lover of horses, seldom rode. He would walk through the mountains for many miles carrying with him a small supply of food, camping for a night or so near his horses and then move on. Sometimes he would walk from Appin, near Sydney. One morning he started out from the station and stated he would not return until the following evening. However, he made his appearance the same night — a very weary man.

He then related to his brother Jim, the story of how he tried to take a short cut to reach his "caboose". "But, by god," he said, "I never got there. I got into a place where the hills are kissing one another. Never go there, Jim. I turned back, I did. twenty times or more."

Ever after that incident, the historic crossing over the Snowy River retained the name of Turnback. Davey O'Rourke, who gave the name to this crossing, was unmarried. He died intestate at Appin, near Sydney, and as horses were then valueless, his were never mustered.

They roamed the mountains of East Gippsland and multiplied in a few years. And so commenced in this part of Gippsland the wild horses which have been made famous in Australian literature.

Wild horses, or Brumbies, as they were termed amongst horse dealers, were in later years mustered in large numbers. It was a familiar sight at the early horse sales in Gippsland to see strings of them being driven in to offer at auction sales, which in those days occupied at least three full days.

Davey O'Rourke had a penchant for naming landmarks, their ruggedness and strange contour reminding him of familiar places in the Emerald Isle. So on the descent of Turnback Mountain is found Beaver Castle.

Other landmarks named by him are Hanging Rock. Farther north, on the Suggan Buggan fall, and nearby, aptly designated, is World's End Creek. Turnback Crossing, subsequently became known as McKellar's Crossing, taking this lame from the residents who had charge of the ferry.

Since the second steel bridge has been erected over the Snowy River at this point it has been officially called McKellar's Crossing.

My grandfather, being of a roving nature, turned his attention to southern parts of Gippsland and sold out his interests in Gippsland East to Captain Jones. Later, my granduncle, Christy O'Rourke, purchased the properties from Captain Jones, and lived for the rest of his life at Black Mountain.

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[11] Crooke, Edward (1810–1873), Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 3, (MUP), 1969, J. Ann Hone

Article: Black Mountain Brumbies – Horse Mustering with the O'Rourke's, J. M. MacKenzie, "Pastoral Review", September 16, 1919

I WENT UP TO NORTH GIPPSLAND over 35 years ago to join my brother who owned, in partnership with the O'Rourke Bros., a big tract of country stretching from the head of the Murray (which there went under the name of the Limestone) to the Snowy River at a place called Willis, on the N.S.W. border.

The O'Rourke's, three brothers, owned, with my brother, this country, which was called the Black Mountain Run. The Black Mountain was, I think, taken up by my father and uncle of these brothers.

At the time I write of, there were only two fences between Bruthen and the Snowy River, one at the Buchan boundary — Buchan was then owned by Ricketson — and the other at the top of Turnback Mountain, the boundary between Black Mountain and Suggan Buggan. The latter place was owned by Ned O'Rourke, a cousin of the Black Mountain O'Rourkes. Good old Ned, of Suggan Buggan was a real white man, and a character in his way. He has passed in his checks a good many years, but I can see him now riding after cattle and handling a mob of touchy ones, born to the game, as cunning as a fox, and as keen as mustard.

Soon, this wild, and rugged country and the surrounding districts became the home of a community of wonderful bushmen and wonderful horsemen and horses. Every man's living depended on his ability to ride and track and steer a pathway by the sun and stars.

At that time North Gippsland was full of wild horses right up to Kosciusko and all through the Black Mountain country, As boys the O'Rourkes used to run them, but they had not been molested for years. The O'Rourkes and my brother decided to see if they could make anything out of them. They were all comparatively young men at the time - probably not over 35 years.

David O'Rourke was a fine stamp of bushman, over six feet and wiry, a good steady rider, not dashing, but generally in the right place after a mob of Brumbies or cattle. John O'Rourke was one of the best horsemen I have ever seen, and a regular fire-eater after stock. I can see him now after a hard run, his flashing, and his horse pretty well all out. He could let some language fly about if his mob was not kept in the tailers when he had brought them in sight. He was always night on the tail of a mob, sending them through the thickest scrub as hard as his horse could pelt, giving a mob of Brumbies no time to swerve or turn. Michael O'Rourke rode well over 18 stone. Good old Michael! He had the best judgment in the bush after stock of any man I have ever seen. He was never bustled or at a loss, and was always in the right place, and generally about at the finish. It took a good beast to get away from Michael if he was riding old Darkie, a cranky devil of a black horse, which was as powerful as a bull, and would follow a beast like a dog.

What a company gathered for those old "Brumby" runs (they were "wild horses" in those days. "Brumby" was a much later word.)

Hector, mounted on old "'Phil'; his brother Farquhar, a wild and reckless horseman with all the dash but lacking the cool judgment of his elder brother; George Johnstone of Tubbut Station, a hard riding Englishman; Fred and Ned Smith, Billy Cobyam one of the full-blooded aborigines, with judgment and horsemanship combined.

Perhaps Bob Moon from Buchan might be one of the party. The wonder man who seldom seemed to do more than trot or canter and still was always just where he was wanted and riding a fresh horse when the others had bellows to mend, Bob was probably the best white tracker that Australia ever knew. His keen eyes never spoiled by reading small print or any other kind of print for that matter.

Bob Moon has long since been gathered to his fathers and surely, if horses are over the divide, Bob is mounted on a prancing steed stamped with an RTC (The brand was that of Ricketson, who held a large area of the land in the Buchan district in the early days).

Through the haze of years, I can see Dave and Billy Kiss in charge of a wild-eyed mob of Monaro cattle; Barry passing through with a mob of stores for the Gippsland market; Barry haggard from long night watches and wild rides with mobs that rushed till they would jump when a leaf falls.

I can see young Farquhar MacKenzie on 'Ora', Sam Gilbert on a Buchan grey that would have delighted the heart of a Desert Arab; young Charlie Gilbert on 'Bluey'; George Harrison from the Murray; Charlie Woodhouse from Monaro; Joker Johnstone on 'Sea Spray'; Harry Biggs from Glenmore, the furthest outpost of the Buchan, on a raw-boned bay that was miles better than he looked; Charlie Biggs on old 'Stumpy', a horse without a single hair in his tail; Andrew Davidson, Jimmy Dixon, young Bob Moon, Tom Connors in the days when his beard was black, Ted and Tom Cox; one Jim O'Keefe, Frank Welby with a team of fiery R.T.C.s and Tom Hamilton from Ensay with his four greys.

H. Mackenzie came from the Billabong with the reputation of a crack horseman, which I think he gained partly by sweating Willie and Ned Kennedy's horses, they having a good many more in those days than they could handle. He kept his reputation up well in the mountains, and was a hard man to beat in any country. For dash at a critical time and for judgment he had few equals. He could ride any sort of horse and knock 2 good quarters out of him. Hector was perhaps the dandiest horseman of them all. Six feet two inches of wire and whipcord, hands gentle as a woman's and as strong as steel, he had an easy graceful seat that drew old horsemen's eyes when he rode into Moree from his N.S.W. property forty years later.

I have ridden behind all these men, and it is not easy to say which was the hardest to follow. I think for real dash and smashing through John O'Rourke took the cake. For myself, I didn't feel altogether out of the running as I was able to follow them.

We had a good deal of hard work putting up trap yards with long, light wings, we prepared for the first run. Horses were got in and shod, everyman doing his own shoeing in those days. The horses were of the good old sort -- like cats on their feet and game as pebbles. I shall never forget the first run we had, and wish I could describe the country as I can see it now. There was a patch of fairly level ground called Wulgulmerang Forest, which sloped off in almost perpendicular spurs to the lower country on the Buchan River and Farm Creek. I had some adventures on that same Farm Creek in later years, which, however, do not belong to this yarn.

Down these spurs the Brumbies went for water. If they were disturbed they always kept to the sidelines, never going straight down if they could avoid it.

We built our yard on one side, and ran wings just under the brow on each side nearly to the top.

On this particular run D. O'Rourke went out to start the job. He knew almost to a mile where every mob ran, and which way they would make. Michael was on Darkie and F. Mackenzie on a fine bay horse called Phil, a very hot-headed horse with the reputation of being a bolter if he was in a bad humor. These two were to take the mob from Davie and bring them along towards the wings where John O'Rourke and I were waiting, one on each wing, about half a mile from each point, and well hidden in scrub. Our job was to take the mob from the other two and send them down the spur towards the yards as hard as we could pelt.

I must say while I was waiting for my turn to come I had great doubts as to how I was going to do my part. The spur was as steep as the side of a house, and timber and undergrowth as thick as it could stick. I remember | was riding a horse called The Toad -- a sweater, by-the-by -- named from a habit he had of swelling himself out when first mouthed, and giving three or four flying bounds before settling down. I had many a good ride on him afterwards.

My instructions were: "As soon as the mob passes you, after them like blazes, and don't give them a chance to turn on the wing".

I looked at the spur, which seemed steeper and steeper, and at the timber which seemed much thicker than the day before, and had many doubts.
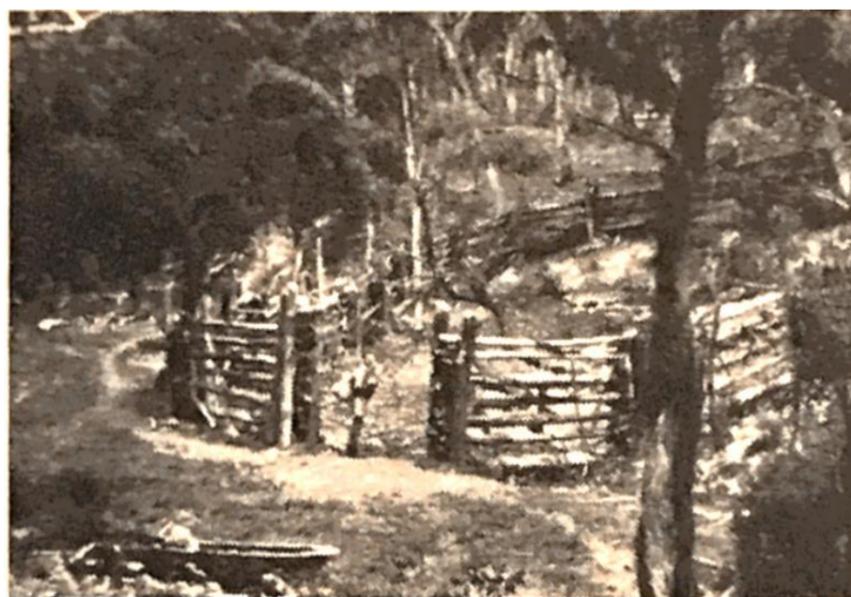
5Brumby Trap on Limestone Creek

John O'Rourke was riding a little bay horse called The Arrow, and he took some riding through scrub or downhill. The least bit of humbugging with him and up would go his head, and he would race through the scrub straight on end — no doubt thus getting his name.

After waiting what seemed a very long time, well hidden in the scrub, we heard the thud of galloping horses — there is no other sound like it, and once heard it is never forgotten. On they came, nearer and nearer. The Toad, beginning to jump about with excitement, and my feet jingling in the stirrups with fright. Now scrub is smashing and stones rattling as the mob gets nearer, galloping so close that you could cover them with a table-cloth. The king of the mob is now in the lead — early in the run he was at the tail of his mob keeping his mares together. He is a jealous fellow, the King of the Harem, and keeps good watch on his mares to see that none single off. But now that the matter is serious he is taking the lead for he sees a

man on each side of his mob riding hard and quietly. There is no shouting or cracking of whips at this game; one shout, and the whole mob would probably wheel short round on its tracks, and the run would be spoilt. The old king is not very much alarmed yet; he has often before been sent for a spin, and he looks for safety round the side of the spur as usual. The mob is beginning to waver a bit just as they come abreast of my stand, but they flash past at top speed and I take up the running. I just see my mate on the other flank, and know I will have to ride as I have never ridden before to keep my end up, but the old Toad was full of go, and | had lost my fright, and found no difficulty in keeping well on the mob's tails.

They were now mad with fright, and fairly threw themselves down the wings, smashing many a sapling on the way. I glanced across and could see my mate well abreast of me and riding hard. The Arrow head up and going for his life. The mob made a wheel towards my side, and I thought it was all up, but | put on an extra spurt and straightened them up again. I could now see the wings closing in, and down went the mob straight into the big yard and through into the smaller yard beyond. We had a temporary gate up before they turned again, and there they were, securely yarded — a big chestnut stallion, eight mares and a couple of foals. More foals started with the mob, but the pace was too hot and they dropped out.

The mob was in the pink of condition - fat, with coats like satin. Some of the old mares had manes to their knees. We were all together again now, and rode the run over again. Someone asked me "How did you get on through the timber?" — I said: "I never saw a darned tree" which was absolutely true. [had no recollection of pulling my horse off a single tree ~ he did it all himself. Later on I found that the secret of success in riding in rough country is summed up in the words "Let your horse alone". I asked H. Mackenzie if Phil had bolted. He said: ''The beggar hadn't time''. ,

The horses were in the yard but they had to be branded and taken home, all of which is another story.

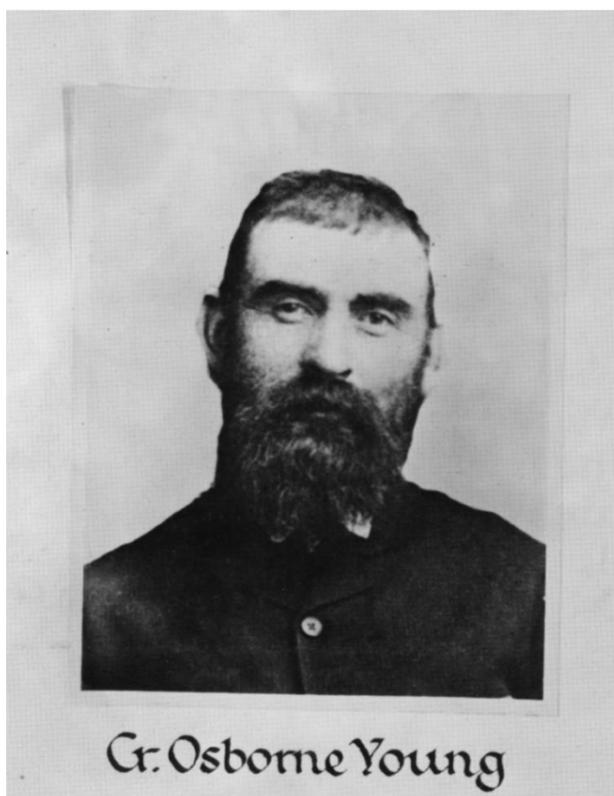**Pioneers of Suggen Buggan** (W. G. Tweedie, 1937)

Memories of settlement nearly a century ago in the Suggan Buggan country between Buchan and the New South Wales border, were re-called during a visit to the district made by the Minister of Lands, Mr. Lind, and a number of departmental officials last week. At the present time the territory is overrun by rabbits, but there remains in good condition the home of the O'Rourke family, which made the journey from Sydney by bullock dray. Searching for suitable pastures for a herd of cattle, the O'Rourke's passed Mt Kosciusko, and eventually reached the Suggan Buggan country, where one member of the family started a cattle ranch. Except for its doors, windows and shingled roof, the homestead is still sound. Even the water-washed stone surrounds of the garden plots are in position, and the poplar and acacia trees are in wonderful condition.

Thousands of cattle were run by the O'Rourke family, and the descendants of horses which broke away and 'went bush' are now running wild in the back country. They are of all sorts and colors, and, according to Mr. Lind, would be highly valuable if broken in. Two hundred yards from the homestead is a school building in which members of the pioneer family were taught by a governess brought from Sydney. Mr. Lind remarked that at Black Mountain a tombstone was to be seen bearing an inscription that one member of the family, aged 54 years, was buried there in 1844. The popular belief, however, was that an error had crept in, and that the date should have been 1864.

'Melbourne Age."- Printed, and published by (W. G. Tweedie, 1937), Caveat Street, Bombala, at the Bombala Times ' General Printing Office, Maybe-street, Bombala, Monaro, New South Wales.

7.2   Bogong High Plains

7.2.1   Osborne Young [12]

Osborne Young took up land at Benambra and when he left Mr. Rand. Mr. Rand started him with horses, gave him horses, I don't know how many.' Osborne selected his land on Omeo Plains at Benambra with his brother, Sam, in 1858.

Osborne Young was originally a horse breeder in Benambra and George Fitzgerald recalls droving for Young in 1882, when he took as many as one hundred and sixty head from Benambra to Sale, travelling via the Livingstone, Wentworth and Dargo Rivers to Dargo (the Cobungra stock route) and thence via Waterford and Cobannah. George also took Young's horses to sales at Wodonga.

Young took out his first High Plains license in 1879 when he acquired the Bundaramunjie run which he held until 1889. Between 1886 and 1913, he also held three other runs on the Bogong High Plains. Young's Hut was the third to be built on the Bogongs, following the Tawonga (1888) and Wallaces (1889). It was located about 8 miles from Mt Cope and 3 miles from the site later to be occupied by Dibbins Hut, at an altitude of 5,500 feet. Construction was timber sides and shingle roof, later to be replaced with iron.

Osborne Young was a one-time President of the Omeo Shire Council, and as befits a horse breeder, was President of the Omeo Racing Club. His brother S.H.Young, also held a grazing license on the High Plains for a brief period between 1887 and 1889.

Photo credit: Peter Cabena Grazing Thesis

[12] Cattlemen of the High Country, Holth

'He had two brothers came out' continued Bella. 'Sam was with him for a long time and got married and the other brother [Alec] lived up at Chiltern. I never met him. My mother's name was Christina Gibson. My father was living at Benambra when he met her.' Osborne bred horses for several years before expanding into cattle. By Bella's time 'we had paddocks all over the place - Cobungra, Bundara, Mountain Lodge and Gibb and out on the mountain tops.'

The cattleman most knowledgeable about the activities of Osborne Young was Charlie McNamara, born in 1907, whose cousins Jack and Tommy (or T.J.) McNamara, were stockmen for Young for many years. 'He [used] to breed gunners and remounts and horses for use in the country — delivery horses and hacks. A gunner was about a half draft. A clumper was a bit lighter again. He'd breed his own stallions. He had a lot of stallions, mostly in the paddocks.' In Bella's words: 'My father had a mixed lot. He had draft horses, Clydesdales, thoroughbred horses. One year he sold ponies that went to India and they took prizes.'

Bill Hollonds of Benambra, born in 1885, remembered that Osborne 'liked good horses and he always had a horse ready for the Omeo races. Osborne Young had a horse called Kilkenny and he won a lot of races and he sired a lot of good horses, He went to Melbourne and he didn't last long because he was alright in the country but not fit enough for the metropolitan area.'

Bill's cousin, Stewart Hollonds, recalled that Osborne 'had more horses than anybody ever had on the High Plains. This was about 1900. George Higginson, one summer he helped drive 600 horses [of Young's] in one mob off the High Plains down Omeo way.'

'I suppose Young might have had 1500 or 1600 - might have had more', reckoned Charlie McNamara. 'Bill Chapman and old Jack Mac broke in 300 horses into the saddle in one mob without stopping, took [Young's] bullocks down to Sale and they averaged him £5 a head and next month he took his horses down and they averaged him £17 ahead. They branded over 300 foals.'

Bella remembered that 'Mum's brother, James Gibson, when I was about two or three years old, said he helped with a mob of horses — there were 1100 head. Horses had to be brought down from the High Plains on account of the snow so some'd be brought into the paddocks and some'd just be driven off the tops - they'd still be in the mountains.

7.2.2 The McNamarra's [2]

Mick talked his brother, Tom, into selecting land at Cobungra too, Together they launched into all sorts of enterprises - packing stone from remote mines to crushing plants, hauling supplies in from Harrietville over 'Old Baldy' (Mt Hotham), and pioneering the summer grazing of horses and cattle on the Bogong High Plains, a tradition carried on by snr descendants for over 130 years. [13]

Mick shared a licensed area on the (Bogong) Plains with his brother Tom, and he had several other bush licenses around the place. They worked in with Youngs a lot too, running horses on the Plains. Mick Mac bred horses for many years, remounts for the Indian Army, and others for sale at the auctions at Wodonga and Bairnsdale. He ran cattle too, of course. and would drive a few from Cobungra to Dargo every so often, and butcher them there. A round trip of about 70 miles. He is said to have ridden from Cobungra to Omeo and back, 'a distance of some 18 miles), at the age of 93.

7.3 Jack McNamara

Jack McNamara breaking in one of the hundreds of horses bred by the McNamaras. (*Photograph Charlie McNamara*).

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[13] From Drovers to Daisy Pickers

7.4   Charlie McNamarra [14]

On bush trap-yards for Brumbies;

"There were lots of these trap-yards about in the bush in the early days, often just a rough little yard thrown together out of fallen dry timber. They'd put up a bit of a frame above the gate, see, and hang a bag down from that. This bag'd have a strong stick through the bottom of it, poking well out of each side of the bag. The stick'd be hanging inside the fence on either side so that you could push it inwards to get in, but not back the other way to get out.

They'd bait the yard with salt, or sometimes oats, and a horse'd come along and poke his way in, but when he got in there, he couldn't get out. They could be cruel bloody things though. A fair few horses starved to death in 'em." [2] **(Holth)**

Ruby Staples, nee Rundell, who was born in 1907 and lived at Rundell's Alpine Lodge, recalls that "we saw a lot of the Macs. Mick McNamara, granddad, had the most beautiful head of white curly hair. There was Ned and Mick and Paddy and Charlie and old Mr. McNamara — all lived together.

When we knew them the only one married was Tom Mac., and cousins of Charlie, a couple of them married. Apart from that it was a family of men. Charlie was a few months younger than I was. We used to look forward to seeing him because he'd tell us stories about riding and that sort of thing. He taught us to ride through the bush.'

Although Charlie mined at Brandy Creek during the Depression and had a variety of jobs, at heart he is a mountain cattleman. To him breaking in and riding horses on the Bogong High Plains is the supreme joy.

'I worked for these Macs, cousin Jack and T.J. of Wilson's Creek, managed their cattle from 1950. Then they dissolved partnership and when old Johnny [Jack] went on his Own he took me with him.

'I used to be with him when I was a young fellow. I used to break in horses for him. First, we used to catch them. We'd throw the halter on the head the same as a lasso, a good greenhide halter, just wait and let him go round and throw it on his head and there you are, you had him.

We used to do what you call lunge him, you let him go round this way and hunt him another way and pull him another way until finally he started to face up to you. Then you'd put a rope breeching on him — tie a loop in it and put it right over the rump and up through the halter and you pull that breeching on his buttocks. You have a loose noseband in the halter so as it can't pull on his jaw, you don't have it tight on his jaw at all.

You learn him to lead, tie him up, bag him down. We'd put the tackle on him then, rein him up at night, might go up with a lamp, catch him and tighten him up. 'Next morning we'd go early and we'd drive him round in long reins, lead him out of the yard on horseback, lead him round on horseback, outside and all over the place, drive him outside in long reins, out in the paddock, saddle him up and ride him out, get him again that afternoon and ride him again.

Oh, it didn't take long to break a horse in. I've broke in hundreds of the buggers. We bred hundreds of horses, what they call clumpers mainly, hairy legged blokes, good sturdy horses. We used to breed these gunners and remounts for the Indian Army. Well, then, of course they stopped taking the horses and then we used to breed polo ponies. They used to buy 'em for polo ponies and mourning horses for the hearses.'

Charlie is as good a yarn-spinner as any of his ancestors and one he sometimes tells in his Dinner Plain hut is this: "This fella, he was reared in Omeo, and he was a great storyteller, and it didn't matter what yarn you told him, how far-fetched it was, he could go one better. He worked on the road with these fellas and they were getting sick of him.

So they had this story made up and when they came back to work after dinner they said to [another] fella, "Did you get him, Charlie?" "No, I missed him again. He wasn't there when I went home and I had me dinner in a hurry and left me stick at the gate and he was out and I didn't get him." And this storyteller fella said, "What was that?" "A snake," said Charlie, "he's down on the short cut I take home, in the rocks.

Every time I see him I haven't got the stick." "You want to do what I do", said the storyteller. "Oh, what do you do?" "Wait til he gets about halfway down the hole, grab him by the tail and pull him out, crack him like a whip and break his back."

7.4.1   Pendergast's of Omeo [15]

In 1837, three Pendergast brothers, John, Thomas & William took up the license for Homeo Run (Omeo A), followed by other cattlemen looking for new grazing areas. All early pioneers that travelled to Omeo plains came from the Monaro district of NSW.
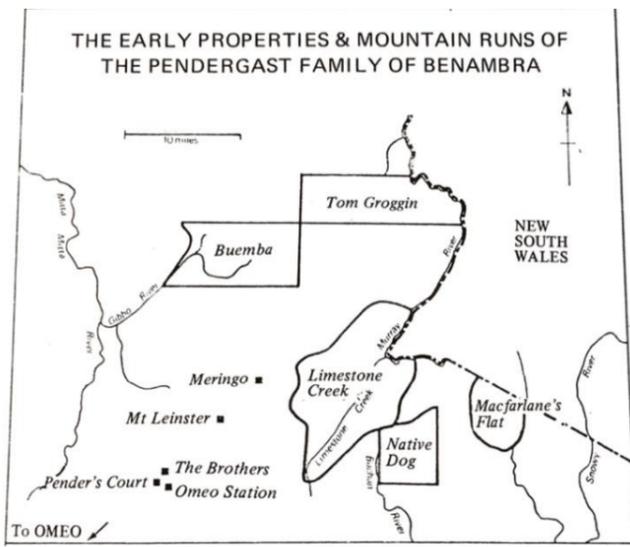
William made his home lower down the creek. He planted a number of poplar trees, and the property was given the name of "The Poplars'. This property is still in the hands of his descendants.

James confined his attention to the Mt.Leinster, area and later married Mrs.Sheean, widow of Mr.Sheean, who was the late owner of Benambra Station. Later they settled with their family at Kimberley Park, Benambra.
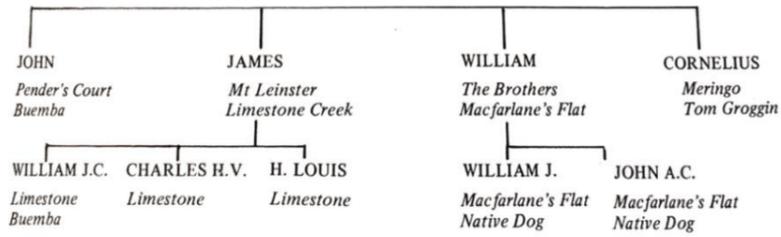
Cornelius, William, John and James Pendergast, sons of John Pendergast who settled at Omeo A in 1837.

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14 Holth, Cattlemen of the High Country 2nd Ed., 2008
15 Cattlemen & Huts of the High Plains, Harry Stephenson

THE EARLY PROPERTIES & MOUNTAIN RUNS OF
THE PENDERGAST FAMILY OF BENAMBRA

THE FOUR SONS OF JOHN PENDERGAST
WHO SETTLED AT OMEO A IN 1837

JOHN	JAMES	WILLIAM	CORNELIUS
Pender's Court	Mt Leinster	The Brothers	Meringo
Buemba	Limestone Creek	Macfarlane's Flat	Tom Groggin

WILLIAM J.C.	CHARLES H.V.	H. LOUIS	WILLIAM J.	JOHN A.C.
Limestone	Limestone	Limestone	Macfarlane's Flat	Macfarlane's Flat
Buemba			Native Dog	Native Dog

Cornelius, William, John and James Pendergast, sons of John Pendergast who settled at Omeo A in 1837.

A severe winter in 1865 killed most of their cattle and James left to earn money by packing and catching and breaking wild horses. With the profits he earned James established a new herd and introduced Hereford bulls and Hereford cows, which could withstand the cold better than Shorthorns. Today, Herefords are the generally accepted breed throughout the High Plains in all parts of the Alpine Region.

All the pioneer cattlemen who came to the Omeo district in the 1830s and 1840s held their licenses for a period and eventually left the district. Only the Pendergast's stayed and they must be considered the pioneers of the Omeo-Benambra country. Before the end of the century more Pendergast's and their young families arrived from Campbelltown and settled nearby.

8   Theme 4 - The Impact of Motorisation on the Horse Industry

After World War I, the demand for horses by defense forces declined with the growth in mechanization, which led to a growth in the number of unwanted animals that were often set free. Throughout the 20th century, mechanised farming led to further reductions in demand.

Horse Meets Car[16]

Horse meets car—Harry Petersen and a party encounter competitors in the Light Car Trial of 1921 at Rundell's Lodge. By the early 1920s horse breeders in the high country were suffering declining sales as the car became increasingly popular. (Photograph Carmel Petersen and Austin Mehrens).

Early tourism Omeo-Bright Road

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[16] Cattlemen of the High Country, Holth

Omeo Coach ca. 1894-ca. 1909

9 Theme 5 – Our Shared History

"But equally as important our old people were animal lovers. They would have had great respect for these powerful horse spirits. Our people have always been accepting of visitors to our lands and quite capable of adapting to change so that our visitors can also belong, and have their place. Learning their ways and gaining true understanding. A caring and sharing culture. The ultimate communicators."

<div align="right">

David Dixon
Djiringanj/ Ngarigo
August 2017

</div>

9.1 The Men from Snowy River

'The words been passed around about the *Men from Snowy River*, Their story wasn't forgotten and not allowed to wither, For a wise and strong Bugeenj woman who listened to her Elders, Nurtured the seed of future story tellers'. The connection between my family (Hoskin and Mundy) and the Brumby (Australian Wild Horse) isn't that well known.

My great great grandfather Jack Hoskins (born 1853- died 1900 Bega NSW), and great gran uncles via my Mundy family ancestry, were stockmen who drove Brumbies from the Australian Alps down to Tathra to be transported upon steamer ships bound for Sydney that departed from Tathra wharf.

(Me and Mum circa 1982 - Bega NSW)

This is a local story told to me by my mother Margaret Rose Dixon (nee Mundy/ Hoskins).

Whenever we would pass through Kalaru, on our way to Tathra, Mum would always point over to the Blackfellows lake area and tell about our family ancestry and the Brumby connection. I remember mum's story well.

Back in the 70's and 80's the road to Blackfellows Lake displayed a large cut out sign of a tribal man with a spear pointing the way to the lake. You couldn't miss the turnoff, the sign was very prominent.

Blackfellows Lake is where one of the first "Aboriginal reserves" in NSW was established. This Aboriginal reserve was established in the 1880's, nearly twenty years prior to Australian federation (1901).

Aboriginal reserves: Aboriginal reserves were parcels of land set aside for Aboriginal people to live on; these were not managed by the government or its officials. From 1883 onwards, the Aboriginal people who were living on unmanaged reserves received rations and blankets from the Aborigines Protection Board (APB), but remained responsible for their own housing.
Some of the first reserves created by the Board were at *Bega* (1883)
(History of Aboriginal stations and reserves - NSW DECC)

The Hoskin and Mundy family lived at this reserve. My great great grandfather Jack is listed as being at the Blackfellows Lake reserve within the NSW State Archive records. Although the reserve is quoted as being at Bega, the old Aboriginal reserve was specifically located at Blackfellows Lake Kalaru NSW, which is approximately 12km south east of Bega.

Mum always told of how our family drove the Brumbies down from the Ngarigo to the Djiringanj. A story handed down to her from her Elders. This history was something Mum was quite proud of, and obviously retold this story so the young people could retain this knowledge and hand it down to future generations.

Our family used the old ancestral pathways to drive the Brumbies, and they knew these pathways well. Ancestral pathways via Postmans Track west of Candelo, or via Tantawangalo, were viable routes. These ancestral routes were also used by

colonists, once they realised their existence, for driving stock and also constructing roads because these pathways navigated the easiest grades through the dividing range.

When mum told me this story it made me think of our old people and how they would have used their knowledge of the land and animals to capture the Brumby. Trapping wild horse in the Alps wouldn't have been an easy task. There's a lot of country in the Snowy Mountains. Like our ancestors, the Brumby grew its own knowledge and connection with the land for its survival, so ancestral knowledge and skills of land and nature would have been key to their capture.

The Mundy side of my ancestry also lived at Delegate Aboriginal reserve (gazetted 1892 - 1957) on the Monaro, and also at Wollondibby within the Koskiosko National Park. The Mundy's are Ngarigo people. Living at Wollondibby close to the Alps would have been central to capturing the Brumby from the wild before the long and arduous journey driving the horses to the coast.

Jack Hoskins and his family lived upon the Aboriginal Reserve at Blackfellows Lake/Lagoon (then called Cohens Lake). There were two reserves at Blackfellows Lake. The first Aboriginal reserve was gazetted in 1883 (R895 - 112 acres) before being revoked. The second reserve (R17616 - 55 acres) at Blackfellows Lake was gazetted in 1893 with our family recorded on the reserve up to 1925. This second reserve, which encompassed part of the first reserve was created for Jack Hoskins and his family. Aboriginal Protection Board records make reference to the local Bega police constable recommending land acquisitions up to 40 acres each for Aboriginal families on the Bega River.

The Aboriginal reserve at Blackfellows Lake is where the Brumbies were rested and tamed. They were then taken to the old steamers at Tathra wharf. Agricultural works, for their own food and produce for external markets, was also carried out on the reserve. Our family also had interests in the fishing industry within the Bega River, and off the coast of Tathra. This was my family living between two cultures...adapting...surviving....trying to provide for kin via shared contribution.

Aboriginal cultural significance

The Aboriginal communities of the Monaro and Yuin Nation have an association with this area going back at least 6000 years.

Tathra wharf and headland reserve is located within the Djirringanj language area of the Monaro and Yuin nations and has been used by current and previous generations, including the traditional owners, for a variety of activities.

Traditional language was and remains very important to the various tribes and clans of the Monaro and Yuin people to interact and keep the bloodlines thick.

In the 1880's the Monaro/Ngarigo Aboriginal people were droving brumbies from the Snowy Mountains to the wharf for transportation to Sydney.

The brumbies would be brought down by stockmen including Jack Mundy, Bill Mundy and other members of the Mundy family, and Jack Hoskins. The horses were rested for a few days at an Aboriginal reserve near Coens Lake now known as Blackfellows Lake at Kalaru before being taken to the steamer wharf at Tathra.

The reserve at Kalaru was large in area and was also used by the Aboriginal people to produce crops for the markets in Sydney. And, Aboriginal people worked on farms in the area helping grow and harvest produce, as well as working in the timber and fishing industry.

European settlement commenced in 1820 and the local aboriginal community, the Djirringanj people, played a significant role in regional agricultural pursuits which provided much of the produce sent from the wharf.

The Tathra headland and surrounding areas remain a place of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance. These places continue to provide a venue for celebrations and events for all the community.

(Australian Engineering/ Bega Valley Shire Council 2008)

Some of the horses would have made their way onto farms, but it's also possible that some made it to the front lines of the Second Boer War 1899-1902 in South Africa, as the timelines coincide. And Brumbies were used within this war. This is where the legendary Australian Light Horse first seen military action.

But equally as important our old people were animal lovers. They would have had great respect for these powerful horse spirits. Our people have always been accepting of visitors to our lands and quite capable of adapting to change so that our visitors can also belong, and have their place. Learning their ways and gaining true understanding. A caring and sharing culture. The ultimate communicators.

This was a Ngarigo and Djiringanj venture that promoted, and enacted, self-determination. Answers to why this reserve was closed (closing date unclear at time of publication) can probably be found within the same 'undermining' tactics used at Coranderrk Aboriginal Reserve in Victoria (1863-1924). The Blackfellows Lake area is prime real estate today within the Bega Valley Shire. It's sad to think that our family had access to land and agency within "settler" society back then at Blackfellows Lake but fast forward a couple of generations later and our people are found struggling to survive at Bega's waste facility as "fringe dwellers."

Original people having "success" within Australian society, especially self-determination via business/ commerce, isn't one of great renown. The glaring absence of this type of stature, within Australian history, regarding Original peoples isn't due to the lack of effort, or commitment to innovation on the part of our people, when afforded equal opportunity as opposed to rhetoric and the fake perception of equality. It's pretty much expected these days when dealing with government and the Crown...that continue to impose a paternalistic and prescriptive mindset and attitude. Opportunity is given but then it's

undermined if we show any signs of actually becoming self-sufficient. Never allowing our people to live peacefully upon our own ancestral lands has been an observed pattern.

(Brumbies in the Australian Alps: photo courtesy of Paul McIver paulmciver flickr)

One only need to look at early statements recorded within early Hansard transcripts, parliamentary library and media publications to find discriminatory and racist diatribe aimed at Original peoples, and 'cultural other', that spotlights prominent Australian government officials pronouncing Australia to be for the "white man" only. Unfortunately, this discriminatory legacy of economic and social exclusion based upon race is still very much alive and well within Australian society today.

First Nations people have a long history as contributors to the building of the Australian nation. Locally our people have contributed within the livestock, fishing, agricultural, dairy and timber industries. However this important history continues to remain unacknowledged at a local community level due to indifference and ignorance. Only for our Elders retaining, and sharing knowledge of our history, valuable insights into our past would have been forgotten and/or lost forever.

It should also be noted that in circa 2001 the resident NPWS archaeologist proposed a search of the old Blackfellows lake Aboriginal reserve using ground penetrating radar. The purpose of the search was to locate the burials of Jack Hoskins and other members of my family. This was also confirmed via a face to face conversation that I had with the archaeologist about the proposed search at the time. I don't think the search eventuated due to development and ground disturbance. So it's not certain where the final resting place of Jack is located, only that he passed away within the Bega area in 1900, but the old reserve as the place that Jack and other members of my family are buried is a reasonable assumption. The area in question was named Cohens Lake but was later changed to Blackfellows Lake.

Stories that bring to light our peoples contributions to local industry, community building and our shared humanity break through the racist stereotypes and narratives that are constructed upon false foundation. The first people's played a significant role in helping to build our community to what it is today...economically, socially, intellectually, culturally and spiritually.

The strength of spirit of our people is something to be honored, admired and payed tribute. Contributing within local industry in order to gain economic agency to survive, and just some basic respect, must have been a massive challenge considering the barriers of racist attitudes and actions our people had to navigate and ultimately endure.

Our collective journey is one that requires us to acknowledge OUR collective past and strive to right the wrongs and realise justice is possible. This is a shared history, not a segregated one...it depends on how you view it I suppose. It's a shared history, the good along with the bad. Our family story about our interwoven history with the Brumby, as told by our Elders, is one that reminds us that reconnecting with our past can be a powerful connector to conversation, ideas and possibilities that can unify rather than divide. Which is, within itself, a giant leap toward justice and healing for everyone.

Hopefully this small but significant story can be a platform to build upon as we access more information so our full story can be told.

I'd like to pay tribute to my mother Margaret Rose Dixon (nee Mundy/ Hoskins) for sharing her story with me. I'd also like to acknowledge Paul McIver for allowing me to share his wonderful pictures of the Brumby.

My name is David Dixon and I'm a proud Ngarigo and Djiringanj mawa (male), and this is my retelling of my Elders story of the Ngarigo, Djiringanj and the Brumby....The Men from Snowy River.
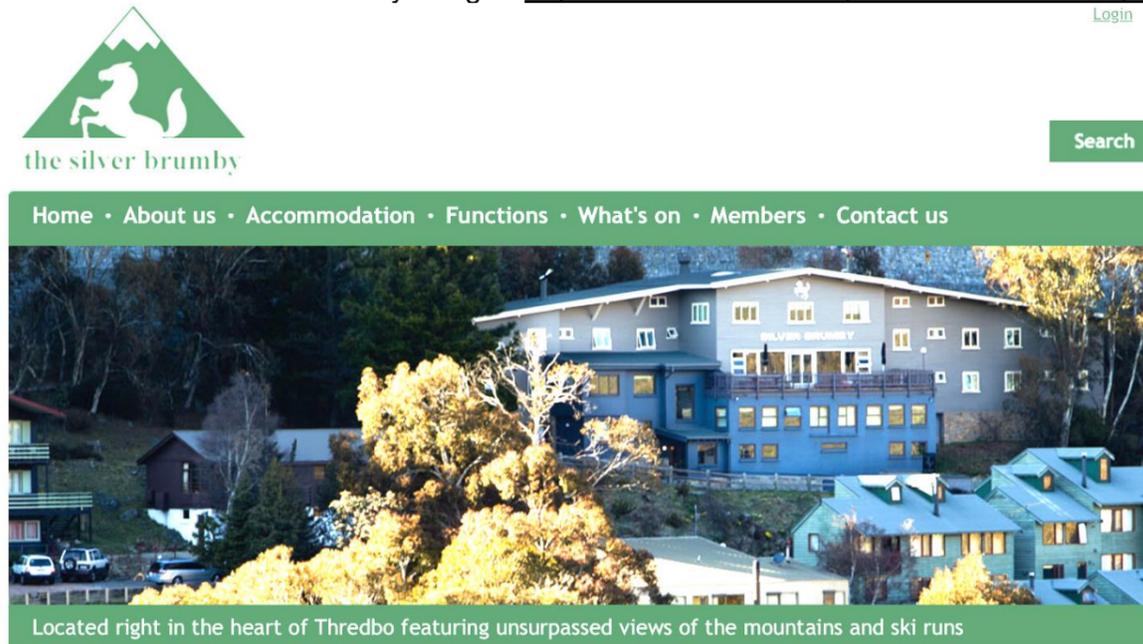
Contributed by:
David Dixon
Djiringanj/ Ngarigo, August 2017 ©
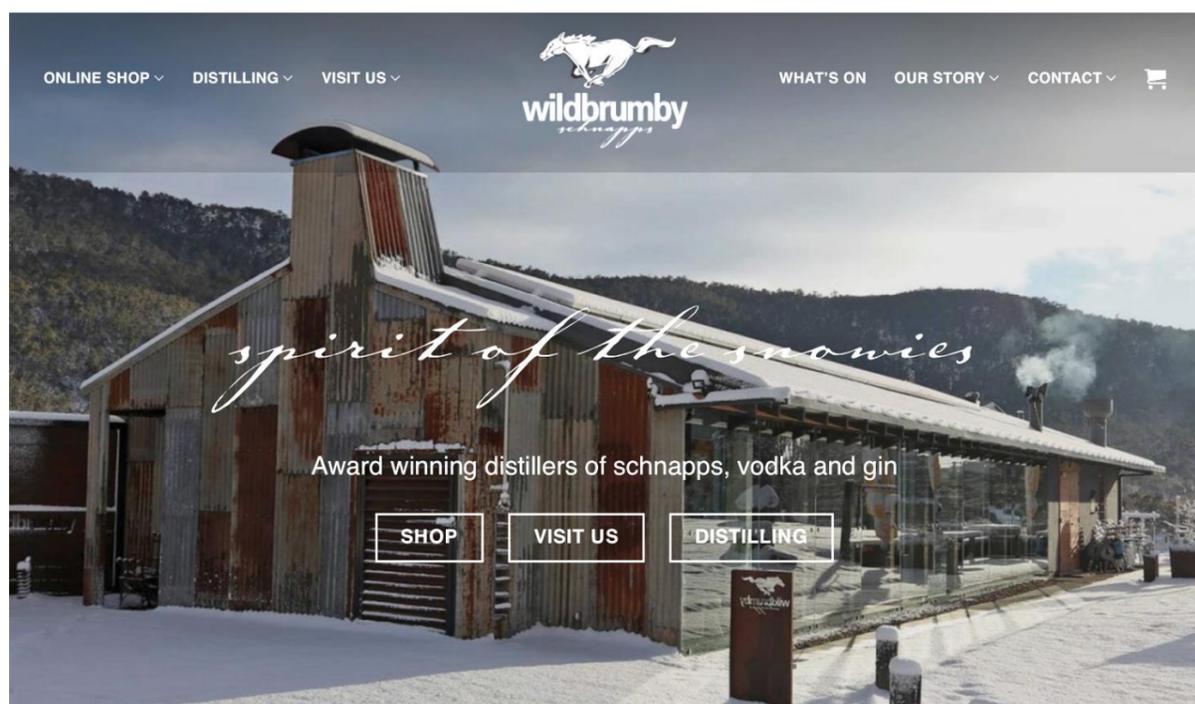
10 Theme 6 - The Brumby in Australian Culture Today

10.1 Tourism & Entertainment

The Man From Snowy River story - https://www.bushfestival.com.au/program/horse-events/brumby-policy/
Brumbies are a very relevant part of the Man From Snowy River story. The history and cultural significance of the Brumby and our Mountain Cattlemen is an integral part of our local community identity, and is the foundation on which The Man From Snowy River Bush Festival and its program of events is founded.

Accommodation – Silver Brumby Lodge - https://www.silverbrumby.com.au/Aboutus.aspx

Wildbrumby Schnapps - https://wildbrumby.com/

Lonely Planet - https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/brumby-week-wild-horses-australia

Brumby's Bakery - https://www.brumbys.com.au/about-us/

Like most successful businesses, Brumby's had a modest beginning. The first store, known then as "Old Style Bread Centre", was opened in the Victorian suburb of Ashburton in 1975. Over the next decade the "Old Style Bread Centre" was introduced and expanded in Queensland. During the '80s, **it was believed that the brand would be stronger with a "truly Australian" identity** – **so the Brumby's brand was bo**rn. By the early '90s, Brumby's had become a true franchise success story. Our Stories — learn more about Brumby's in the community.

Brumby Week - https://www.brumbyweek.com/
https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2017-09-01/taming-wild-horses-in-the-outback/8862908

Bogong Horseback Adventures - https://bogonghorsebackadventures.weebly.com

Easter Pack Horse Adventure

A mountain of experiences with Bogong Horseback Adventures jammed into four days. Riding the best of the High Country, camping at the bushranger Bogong Jack's hideout. Canter to the top of the Bluff where you can view Mount Feathertop and Mount Fainter at just over 6,000 feet. Ride onto Pretty Valley and the sweet pastures of the Bogong Brumbies.

This ride offers spectacular views and delicious campfire meals. Then the expedition descends back into the Valley of the Kiewa via Big Hill to all the comforts of Spring Spur, swapping your swag for a luxurious bed and delicious home cooked dinner.

Carpark   Family Friendly   Birdwatching   Camping   Horse Riding
Extended   Animal Led   Adventure and Outdoors Tours
Cultural and Theme Tours   Food and Wine Tours
Disabled access available, contact operator for details.   Moderate
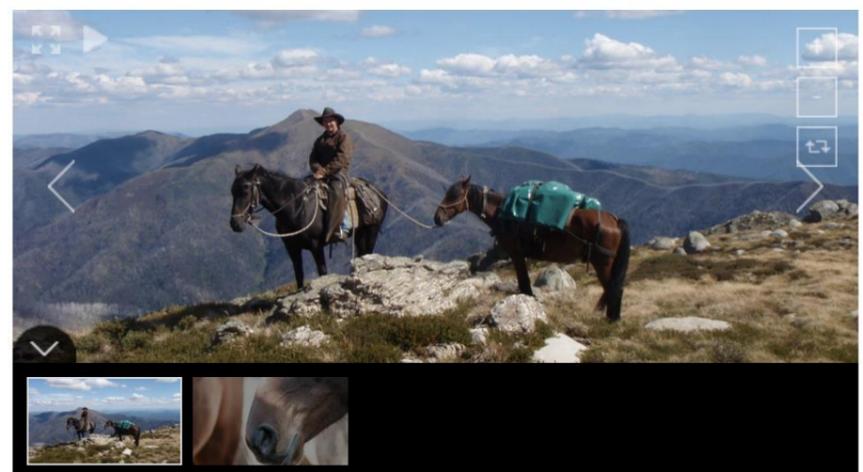
10.2 Sydney 2000 Olympics Opening Ceremony & Arena Show
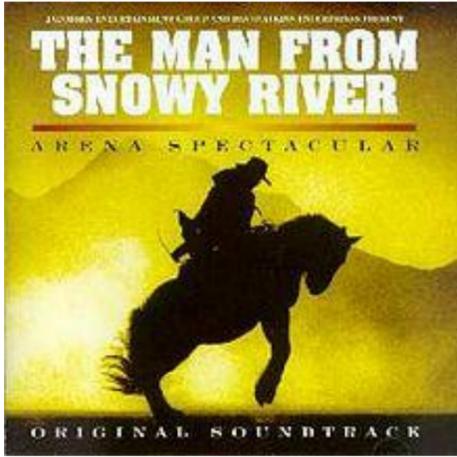
During the opening sequence of *The Man from Snowy River: Arena Spectacular*, Steve Jefferys and his stock horse Ammo reprised their entrance at the beginning of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony. Steve Jeffreys' wife Sandra Langsford also took part in both the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony (in which she was one of the 140 riders) and also took part in *The Man from Snowy River: Arena Spectacular*, in which she was one of the featured crack riders (expert riders). Steve Jefferys and Sandra Langsford also trained Ammo (the rearing horse), and Drummond (the colt from old Regret), as well as training Jana, the Border Collie (Banjo Paterson's dog).

10.3 Australian Army, Brumby Troop - Helmand Afghanistan

Goodman, left, on deployment in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, with members of **Brumby** Troop, in 2010. MAY 2017

MH MAY 2017 115

Princess visits gunners

MEMBERS of 8/12 Mdm Regt deployed to Afghanistan met Princess Mary of Denmark during her visit to Helmand province late last year, southern Afghanistan.

The gunners (pictured above) were deployed with the British Army's 1 Regt, Royal Horse Artillery.

While visiting Danish troops deployed in Helmand, the Australian-born Danish Princess made time in her busy itinerary to visit the 15 Aussie artillerymen of "Brumby Troop".

The gunners were based at forward Operating Base Armadillo supporting British and Danish ISAF troops, as well and Afghan National Security Forces.

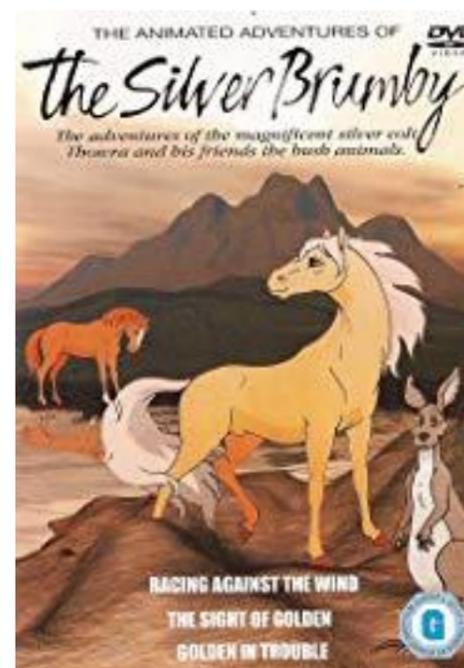https://www.pressreader.com/australia/mens-health-australia/20170501/284331134552990

10.4 Films & Television
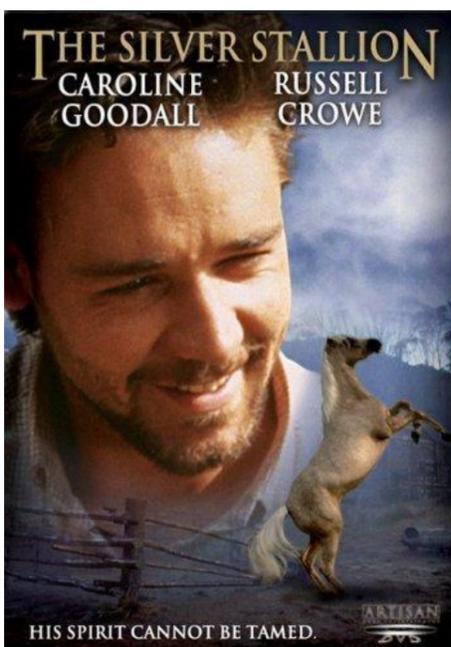
The Silver Stallion – King of the Wild Brumbies
https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0108137/?ref_=ttmi_tt

The Man from Snowy River
https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0084296/
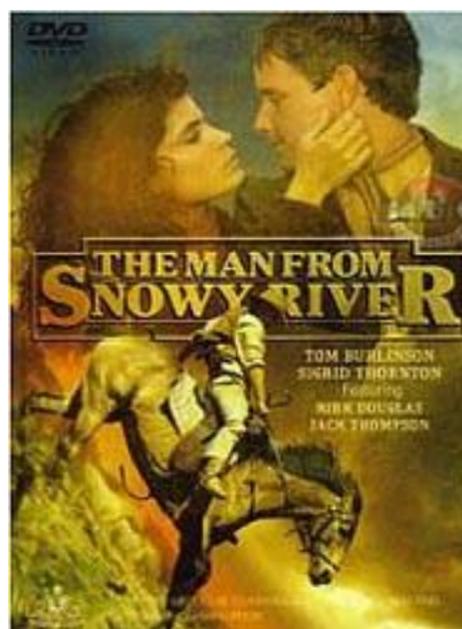
The Silver Brumby
https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0343306/?ref_=nv_sr_6?ref_=nv_sr_6
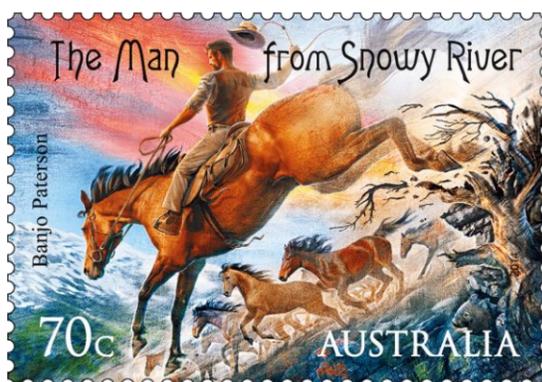
10.5 Brumby Rugby Team

10.6 Books
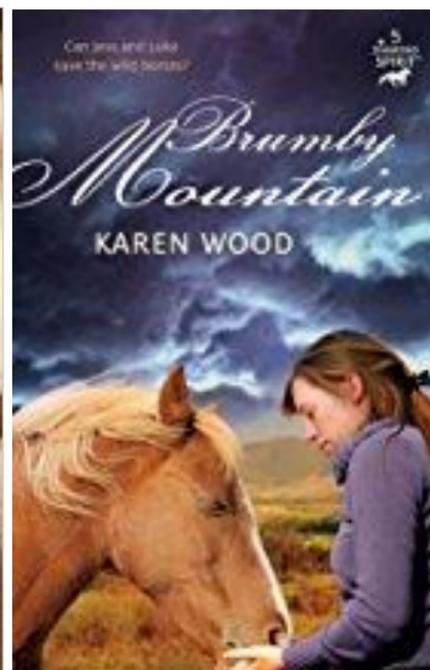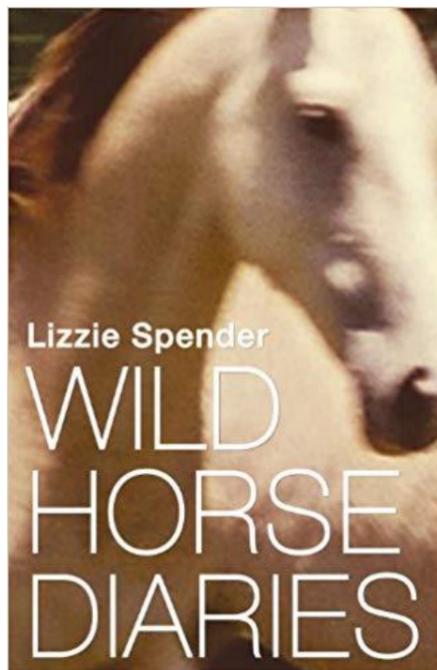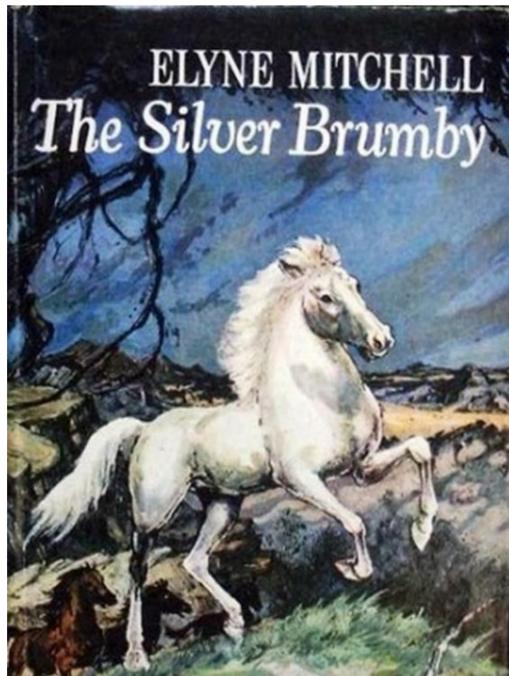
10.7 Postage Stamps – Australia Post

10.8 Currency

The polymer **note**, designed by Max Robinson, features Andrew Barton (**Banjo**) **Paterson** on the obverse with a horse from the Snowy Mountains region, and a wattle plant, also included is his signature. ... Dame Mary Gilmore is on the reverse with 19th-century heavy transport with horse and cart and verses from her poetry.

Australian 10-dollar note 1993-2017.

Australian 10-dollar note 2017-present day

The Man From Snowy River by A.B. "Banjo" Paterson

Introductory verses:

There was movement at the station, for the word had passed around That the colt from old Regret had got away,
And had joined the wild bush horses — he was worth a thousand pound, So all the cracks had gathered to the fray.
All the tried and noted riders from the stations near and far
Had mustered at the homestead overnight,
For the bushmen love hard riding where the wild bush horses are, And the stock-horse snuffs the battle with de(light.

There was Harrison, who made his pile when Pardon won the cup, The old man with his hair as white as snow;
But few could ride beside him when his blood was fairly up —
He would go wherever horse and man could go.
And Clancy of the Overflow came down to lend a hand,
No better horseman ever held the reins;
For never horse could throw him while the saddle-girths would stand, He learnt to ride while droving on the plains.

And one was there, a stripling on a small and weedy beast,
He was something like a racehorse undersized,
With a touch of Timor pony — three parts thoroughbred at least — And such as are by mountain horsemen prized.
He was hard and tough and wiry — just the sort that won't say die — There was courage in his quick impatient tread;
And he bore the badge of gameness in his bright and fiery eye,
And the proud and lofty carriage of his head.

But still so slight and weedy, one would doubt his power to stay, And the old man said, 'That horse will never do
'For a long and tiring gallop — lad, you'd better stop away, 'Those hills are far too rough for such as you.'
So he waited sad and wistful — only Clancy stood his friend — 'I think we ought to let him come,' he said;
'I warrant he'll be with us when he's wanted at the end,
'For both his horse and he are mountain bred.'

The Man From Omeo "Old Critter

It was there he rode
Amongst the Woollibutts and Gums,
Over rocks creeks and wombat holes
With the Brumbies on the run.
Across bogholes and undergrowth |
Out onto the plains, .
Up and down the rough terrain
In the Great Dividing Range.

T'was there he caught the wild ones
For the big Rodeo Show
That they hold every Easter
In the Alps at Omeo.
And Bill could hold his own :
With the strong and the bitter,
That's how he got his nickname
Just called "The Old Critter".

He'd never ever give in
If pelted from a horse, |
Straight back into the crush
He'd break it in due course.
And the scars that he wore 1
Had a story of their own,
He'd been gored by bulls and scrubbers
Whilst working all alone.

The word passed thru out the district
That mid October day,
T'was just around breakfast time
Bill Faithfull passed away.
It was the Boss from up above
Said "Billy you must go,
But you'll always be remembered
As The Man from Omeo".

There'll be talk around for ages
Of the things "Old Critter" done,
Round the rodeos and Stockyards
Also the shearing runs,
But the locals won't forget him
As the setting sun goes down,
He was part of the heritage
In that alpine town.

Yes there was Harry Dale the Drover
And tales of Saltbush Bill,
The Man from Snowy River
Which is just across the hill.
Lance Skuthorpe the Showman
Of the famed Rodeo,
And now Billy Faithfull
The Man from Omeo.

— Johnny Faithfull, Perth.

BRUMBY'S RUN by A.B. "Banjo" Paterson

Brumby is the Aboriginal word for a wild horse. At a recent trial a N.S.W. Supreme Court Judge, hearing of Brumby horses, asked: "Who is Brumby, and where is his Run?"

It lies beyond the Western Pines
Towards the sinking sun,
And not a survey mark defines
The bounds of "Brumby's Run".

On odds and ends of mountain land,
On tracks of range and rock
Where no one else can make a stand,
Old Brumby rears his stock.

A wild, unhandled lot they are
Of every shape and breed.
They venture out 'neath moon and star
Along the flats to feed;

But when the dawn makes pink the sky
And steals along the plain,
The Brumby horses turn and fly
Towards the hills again.

The traveller by the mountain-track
May hear their hoof-beats pass,
And catch a glimpse of brown and black
Dim shadows on the grass.

The eager stockhorse pricks his ears
And lifts his head on high
In wild excitement when he hears
The Brumby mob go by.

Old Brumby asks no price or fee
O'er all his wide domains:
The man who yards his stock is free
To keep them for his pains.

So, off to scour the mountain-side
With eager eyes aglow,
To strongholds where the wild mobs hide
The gully-rakers go.

A rush of horses through the trees,
A red shirt making play;
A sound of stockwhips on the breeze,
They vanish far away!

.   .   .   .   .

Ah, me! before our day is done
We long with bitter pain
To ride once more on Brumby's Run
And yard his mob again.

The Bulletin, 21 December 1895.

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