4385 Omeo Hwy Glen Valley VIC 3898 03 5159 7238 info@mittagundi.org.au

www.mittagundi.org.au ABN 41 005 502 625

## Mittagundi looks to sell the sheep paddock

20 years ago Mittagundi, with the generous assistance of its community, purchased a block of land at 4405 Omeo Hwy, Glen Valley (known as the sheep paddock). It was purchased to help protect Mittagundi and Glen Valley from unwanted development. Thankfully the proposed developments did not proceed and Mittagundi and Glen Valley remain beautiful and special places where we continue to run courses for young people who get to experience the best of what the Victorian alps have to offer.

The last 18 months has been a very difficult time for many, Mittagundi included. Sadly, we have been unable to run courses and hundreds of young people have missed what can be a life changing experience. While Mittagundi benefitted from government support and the generosity of our community, it has also been a major shock to our financial position. It has caused us to reflect on ways to ensure the security of Mittagundi so that we can continue to deliver our amazing courses going forward.

After much deliberation Mittagundi Council has decided it is time to try and sell the sheep paddock. If successful, the sale would provide funds to help protect from future shocks and allow us to update some of the vital equipment that support our courses. A couple of issues that have weighed heavily on the decision are that Mittagundi:

- has not made use of the property for sheep for a long time;
- has a very limited buffer to withstand future periods without course income;
- can no longer get building insurance and would have to fund 100% of any rebuild in the case of any natural disaster; and
- several of our much-loved troopies are coming towards the end of their working lives and will need to be replaced.

We also feel that the original purchase has now served its purpose and that the risk of undesirable development in the Valley is low.

The sale process is being managed to assure good governance and being run by Elders Real Estate from Omeo. Neither Mittagundi staff or Council will be involved in the marketing of the property. Should any member of the Mittagundi community be interested in the property, please direct enquiries to Elders.

If you have any questions about this announcement please contact Mittagundi Vice Chair, Jack Skermer (skermer96@gmail.com) or Treasurer Joe Seccull (Joe@ptps.com.au ).

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