

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB



MELBOURNE

SIXTY-SIXTH

Annual Report
and
Balance Sheet



SEASON 1945-46

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB



Princes Bridge,
Melbourne.
9th July, 1946.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Sixty-Sixth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the **MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB** will be held at the **CLUB HOUSE** on **SATURDAY, 27th JULY, 1946**, at **7.45 p.m.** (The **Annual Smoke Night** will be held at the conclusion of the meeting).

BUSINESS:

- I. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
- II. To confirm the Minutes of the Previous General Meeting.
- III. To elect Office-bearers for the ensuing year.
- IV. Presentation of Trophies.
- V. General.

Nominations for Office-bearers for the ensuing year will close at the Club House at 4 p.m. on Saturday, 20th July, 1946.

By order of the Committee,
N. W. CAIRNES,
Hon. Secretary.

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

PRESIDENT:

A. L. DOBBIE, Esq.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

T. F. BRENNAN, Esq.	J. L. MOUNSEY, Esq.
Dr. R. A. COOPER.	C. N. McKAY, Esq.
R. V. GREGG, Esq.	Sir T. S. NETTLEFOLD, K.B.,
E. KENNY, Esq.	O.B.E.
A. G. LINDBLADE, Esq.	J. H. PICKEN, Esq.
J. M. MACFARLANE, Esq.	G. W. SMITH, Esq.
	J. G. SPRIGG, Esq.

CAPTAIN:

Mr. J. BLAIR-HOLT.

VICE-CAPTAIN:

Mr. J. H. CLARK
(Resigned 11 Feb., '46).
Mr. A. H. CLARKE
(Appointed 11 Feb., '46).

HON. SECRETARY:

Mr. D. B. PALFREYMAN
(Resigned 12 Nov., '45).
Mr. A. GORDON
(Appointed 12 Nov., '45).
(Resigned 15 Apr., '46).
Mr. N. W. CAIRNES
(Appointed 15 Apr., '46).

HON. ASST. SECRETARY:

Mr. E. SHEARS.

HON. TREASURER:

Mr. C. A. R. CLARKE.

COMMITTEE:

Mr. J. M. FERGUSON (Appointed 13 May, '46).	Mr. C. SALEH (Resigned 15 Apr., '46).
Mr. A. GORDON.	Mr. J. SHEARS.
Mr. J. ROBERTSON (Appointed 13 May, '46).	Mr. G. STOOKE.
	Mr. G. TATNALL.
	Mr. E. K. VARCOE.

HON. AUDITOR:

Mr. F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A.

HON. SOLICITOR:

Mr. M. S. WILLIAMS, LL.M.

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION:

Executive Members: Representative Members: Elected Member:
Mr. A. L. DOBBIE. Mr. J. BLAIR-HOLT. Mr. M. S. WILLIAMS.
Mr. E. KENNY. Mr. J. H. CLARK.

DELEGATES TO UPPER YARRA AMATEUR REGATTA ASSN.:

Messrs. E. SHEARS, E. K. L. VARCOE.

THE SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Mercantile Rowing Club

To the Members of the Mercantile Rowing Club:

Gentlemen,— Your Committee has much pleasure in submitting for your consideration the Sixty-sixth Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

The most notable event of the year under review was the successful conclusion of the war, bringing hostilities to an end, and the return to the Club of members from all the Services. Twenty valued and esteemed members will not return. They made the supreme sacrifice.

Your Club was strongly represented at all regattas throughout the season, and finished second in the premiership, being defeated by four points after a determined effort to take the lead at the final regatta of the season, held at Bairnsdale.

The revival of country regatta racing was a pleasing feature of the year's activities. The large attendance of competitors and supporters from your Club at Nagambie, Geelong and Bairnsdale is ample evidence of the popularity of these regattas.

The resumption of the Australian Championships at Penrith, N.S.W., was marked by Victoria winning the King's Cup for the first time since 1932.

The Seven-Mile Time Trial for eight-oared boats has once again become a popular feature of our winter rowing.

A successful dinner to returning servicemen was held in the Club House, and a series of monthly dances at the Palms indicate that the social side of your Club's activities are as popular as ever before.

During the past few months the number of members attending the Club House during the week-ends has shown a large increase, necessitating many of the boats being used twice. With this renewed interest being shown by all members, it augurs well for the prospects of the Club in the forthcoming season.

Financial.

Subscriptions received during the year show a satisfactory improvement, and thanks are due to the members who have met their obligations promptly.

The cost of repairs (£190) is high, but it must be remembered that over a period of eleven years prior to the war repairs cost £140 annually. During the last four war years the amount was £35, indicating a definite lag. The position as regards repairs is now in much better shape.

Boats and Oars.

A complete list of the Club's present fleet is set out hereunder:—

RACING BOATS.	PRACTICE BOATS.	TUB BOATS.
Best and Best.	S. C. Macrae .. 8	S. Guinn 4
R. V. Gregg .. 8	C. F. Raven .. 8	H. Rush 4
S. J. Morell .. 8	J. L. Mounsey .. 8	J. H. Picken . . . 2
A. L. Dobbie .. 4	C. J. Nicholls .. 8	A. G. Lindblade 2
Clinker.	G. J. Horder .. 8	J. Watson 2
J. H. Bailey . . . 8	V. F. Mason . . . 4	
J. G. Sprigg . . . 8	A. P. Miller . . . 4	
E. Kenny 8	H. G. Taylor . . . 4	
L. B. Weire . . . 4		
C. A. Clarke . . . 4		
W. Potter 4		
W. Joseph 4		
R. A. Cooper . . . 2		

Two sets of oars were purchased during the season. Unfortunately, new boats are still unobtainable, and the best use must be made of our present fleet. In order that the fleet may be conserved, all members are urged to exercise the greatest care in handling boats and oars. The stroke of each crew should understand that he is responsible for the care of the boat and oars being used.

Mr. L. Spratling, the boat repairer employed by the V.R.A., has been of great assistance in re-commissioning the fleet, the most noteworthy example being the practice eight, "J. L. Mounsey," which he has practically re-built. The racing eight, "E. Kenny," was converted to swivels during the season, and our thanks are due to Mr. Mephan Ferguson, who made a man available to make and fit the arms of the riggers.

Coaching.

There was a noted improvement in the number of coaches who made their services available during the season, but in the coming season more crews than for many years past are expected to be training, and members whose racing is past are asked to come and impart the knowledge they gained during their racing careers.

We extend our thanks to Messrs. J. South, C. Saleh, J. Sprigg, T. Darcy, M. S. Williams, E. Varcoe, J. P. Appleby, J. H. P. Clark, G. E. Trickett, W.-Cdr. Connelly, G. Smith, K. Smith, D. Stirling, S. G. Richardson and J. Blair-Holt, who devoted so much time to coaching, thus assisting the Club in its efforts to gain the premiership.

Rowing.

Australian Championships.

11th May, 1946.

The Australian Eight Oared Championship for the King's Cup was resumed after six years, the race being rowed on the Nepean River at Penrith, N.S.W.

It is pleasing to record that Victoria registered its first success since 1932, in winning from N.S.W., Western Australia, South Australia, and Tasmania. Queensland was not represented.

Victoria was represented by J. Webster (South Melb.), bow; K. D. Grant (Melbourne), 2; R. J. Boyton (Melbourne), 3; A. H. Clarke (Mercantile), 4; L. A. J. Wilkinson (Footscray), 5; J. J. Mulcahy (Melbourne), 6; J. Foote (Melbourne), 7; W. J. Lambert (Richmond), stroke; P. Wilding (cox); W. R. B. Todd, coach.

The Sculling Championship for the President's Cup, held on the same day, was won on a row over by M. T. Wood (N.S.W.), the only other entrant, R. V. Rawlins (Victoria), being indisposed.

We extend our congratulations to the crew on their success, to Mr. A. H. Clarke, our own representative in the crew, and Mr. J. South, who was a selector, and also to Mr. W. R. B. Todd on his fine work in bringing Victorian Rowing to the forefront of the sport in Australia.

Regattas.

. Metropolitan Spring Regatta.

15th September, 1945.

Novice Four:—W. Humphrey (bow), H. Tippett (2), J. Ferguson (3), N. Spalding (stroke), J. Buchanan (cox) won this event.

Melbourne Regatta.

10th November, 1945.

Maiden Eights.—G. Sheppard (bow), A. Martin (2), W. Oberhanst (3), G. Smith (4), W. Wallace (5), H. Clarke (6), J. Richards (7), H. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), J. South (coach) were defeated in their heat.

Maiden Fours.—H. Duncan (bow), D. Powell (2), J. Neill (3), J. Ferguson (stroke), R. Fisher (cox), C. Saleh (coach) were successful in this event.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—R. Milner (bow), J. Shears (2), W. Shears (3), D. Palfreyman (stroke), T. Darcy (coach and cox) were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Pair.—A. Gordon (bow), G. Tatnall, T. Darcy (coach and cox) won their heat, but were defeated in the final.

Maiden Sculls.—J. Williams won this event. K. Bilney finished second.

Novice Fours, No. 1.—H. Mahoney (bow), R. Scott (2), K. Wilson (3), J. Donaldson (stroke), H. McGregor (cox), J. H. P. Clark (coach) were unsuccessful.

Novice Fours, No. 2.—V. Mead (bow), N. Morrison (2), F. Spencer (3), T. Payton (stroke), T. Fielden (cox), T. Darcy (coach) were unsuccessful.

Metropolitan Regatta.

1st December, 1945.

Maiden Eights.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (2), H. Duncan (3), A. Clarke (4), W. Hidgcock (5), D. Powell (6), J. Neill (7), J. Ferguson (stroke), R. Fisher (cox), C. Saleh (coach) won this event in fine style.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—R. Milner (bow), J. Neill (2), N. Morrison (3), T. Payton (4), A. Gordon (5), G. Tatnall (6), W. Shears (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), J. South (coach), won this event very easily.

Maiden Sculls.—K. Bilney won this event.

Nagambie Regatta.

January, 1946.

Maiden Four.—L. Moll (bow), H. Clarke (2), F. Fogarty (3), J. Williams (stroke), R. Williams (cox) won this race.

Lightweight Maiden Four.—R. Milner (bow), N. Morrison (2), W. Morrison (3), T. Payton (stroke), J. Fielder (cox), D. Stirling (coach) were defeated.

Upper Yarra Regatta.

26th January, 1946.

Junior Four.—H. Duncan (bow), H. Clarke (2), J. Neill (3), J. Ferguson (stroke), R. Williams (cox), C. Saleh (coach) were successful after a very close race.

Maiden Eight.—A. Levy (bow), R. Scott (2), F. Spencer (3), A. Martin (4), F. Fogarty (5), P. Wright (6), W. Oberhanski (7), R. Beaton (stroke), J. Fielden (cox), J. P. Appelby (coach) were successful in their heat but were defeated by three feet in the final.

Maiden Pairs.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (stroke), J. Fielden (cox) won comfortably.

Lightweight Maiden Eight.—G. Sheppard (bow), C. Murrell (2), W. Morrison (3), T. Payton (4), B. Johnson (5), G. Tatnall (6), W. Shears (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), J. South (coach) were successful in this event.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—G. Richardson (bow), N. Morrison (2), R. Milner (3), A. Gordon (stroke), R. Fisher (cox), were unsuccessful.

Handicap Sculls.—J. Williams was defeated. K. Bilney was defeated.

Melbourne Regatta.

16th February, 1946.

Junior Eight.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (2), H. Duncan (3), A. Atkins (4), W. Hidgcock (5), H. Clarke (6), J. Neill (7), J. Ferguson (stroke), R. Fisher (cox), C. Saleh (coach) won comfortably.

Junior Four.—J. Radcliffe (bow), W. Trickett (2), S. Sanderson (3), J. Mitchell (stroke), P. Audas (cox) were defeated.

Maiden Eight.—G. Sheppard (bow), G. Tatnall (2), F. Spencer (3), G. Epstein (4), F. Fogarty (5), P. Wright (6), W. Oberhanski (7), R. Beaton (stroke), R. Williams (cox), J. P. Appleby (coach) won the heat and final in good style.

Lightweight Maiden Eight.—G. Robertson (bow), D. Stirling (2), R. Milner (3), W. Morrison (4), S. G. Richardson (5), B. Johnson (6), W. Shears (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), J. South (coach) were defeated in the heat.

Barwon Regatta.

2nd March, 1946.

Open Eights.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (2), H. Duncan (3), A. Atkins (4), W. Hidgcock (5), H. Clarke (6), J. Neill (7), J. Ferguson (stroke), R. Fider (cox) C. Saleh (coach), won this event in good style.

Maiden Eight.—S. Johnston (bow), G. Smith (2), A. Martin (3), J. Fletcher (4), I. Holyman (5), P. McPherson (6), H. Tippett (7), R. Aitken (stroke), R. Williams (cox), J. Blair-Holt (coach) were defeated in their heat.

Lightweight Maiden Eight.—J. Ward (bow), D. Palfreyman (2), G. Robertson (3), A. Gordon (4), J. Donaldson (5), N. Morrison (6), C. Murrell (7), T. Payton (stroke), J. Fielden (cox), G. Smith (coach) were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Four.—W. Morrison (bow), B. Johnson (2), W. Shears (3), J. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), J. South (coach) were successful in this event.

Junior Four.—W. Trickett (bow), K. Smith (2), L. Moll (3), J. Mitchell (stroke), P. Audas (cox), were defeated in the heat.

Maiden Four.—F. Spencer (bow), G. Sheppard (2), W. Oberhansli (3), R. Beaton (stroke), J. French (cox), M. S. Williams (coach) were unsuccessful.

Bairnsdale Regatta.

20th April, 1946.

Junior Four.—H. Duncan (bow), L. Moll (2), F. Fogarty (3), W. Hidgcock (stroke), R. Fisher (cox) were defeated in the final.

Junior Pair.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), were successful in this event.

Maiden Eight.—P. McPherson (bow), J. Fletcher (2), G. H. K. Tippett (3), J. Williams (4), A. Martin (5), I. Holiman (6), J. Thomas (7), R. Aitken (stroke), R. Fisher (cox), W/Cdr. Connelly (coach) were defeated by a narrow margin.

Maiden Four.—J. Chitty (bow), J. Morton (2), F. Spencer (3), R. Beaton (stroke), J. French (cox) won the heat, but were unsuccessful in the final.

Lightweight Maiden Four.—J. Donaldson (bow), C. Murrell (2), W. Morrison (3), T. Payton (stroke), J. French (cox), won this event.

Lightweight Maiden Pair.—W. Shears (bow), J. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox) won this event.

Novice Four.—O. Broughton (bow), V. Moll (2), F. Kain (3), J. Lemaire (stroke), R. Fisher (cox) won the heat, but were defeated in the final.

Sale Regatta.

22nd April, 1946.

Junior Four.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale were again unsuccessful.

Junior Pair.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale were unsuccessful.

Maiden Eight.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale after a hard race won this event.

Maiden Four.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale again won their heat, but were unsuccessful in the final.

Lightweight Maiden Four.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale were defeated in the heat.

Lightweight Maiden Pair.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale completed the double by winning this event.

Novice Four.—Your representatives at Bairnsdale again won their heat, but were defeated in the final.

Metropolitan Regatta.

25th May, 1946.

Novice Eight.—M. Naylor (bow), R. Smith (2), B. Kain (3), J. Lemaire (4), I. Green (5), V. Lillistone (6), V. Moll (7), C. Wilkinson (stroke), J. French (cox), G. Smith (coach) won their heat, but were unsuccessful in the final.

Novice Four.—L. Erickson (bow), J. Saunders (2), W. Craddock (3), R. Francis (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), S. G. Richardson (coach) were defeated.

Lightweight Novice Four.—O. Broughton (bow), L. Poore (2), A. Kohn (3), T. Peterson (stroke), T. Kendall (cox), K. Smith (coach) were defeated.

V.R.A. Open Eights

16th March, 1946.

Raced over 2½ miles on the Lower Yarra.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (2), H. Duncan (3), J. Blair-Holt (4), W. Hidgcock (5), A. H. V. Clarke (6), J. Neill (7), J. M. Ferguson (stroke), R. Williams (cox), C. Saleh (coach) were unsuccessful.

V.R.A. Open Lightweight Eights.

Raced over 1½ miles on the Lower Yarra.—W. Morrison (bow), N. Morrison (2), C. Murrell (3), T. Payton (4), B. Johnson (5), G. Tatnall (6), W. Shears (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. French (cox), J. South (coach) won this event.

Open Sculls 2½ Miles.

J. Williams finished second in this event.

V.R.A. Open Pairs.

5th May, 1946.

Raced over 1 mile on the Lower Yarra.—H. Shears (bow), R. Beaton (stroke), J. French (cox) were defeated.

Sculling.

Throughout the season the Club was represented in all sculling events by K. Bilney and J. Williams, both having a measure of success.

K. Bilney won the Herald Shield.

J. Williams won the Sculling Ladder Trophy donated by Capt. Jarrett.

Premiership.

	Points		Points
Melbourne	82	South Melbourne	10
Mercantile	78	Essendon	6
Footscray City	30	Mildura	6
Richmond	22	Banks	4
Wahgunyah	16	Nagambie	4
Bairnsdale	16	Preston	4
Corio Bay	12	Albert Park	2
		Hawthorn	2

Your congratulations are extended to the Melbourne Rowing Club on their success in winning the Premiership.

Head of the River.

13th April, 1946.

We extend our congratulations to Scotch College on their success.

Mr. C. Saleh, who achieved so much success with our own crews during the year, was the Scotch College coach.

The long association between Scotch College and the Club continues with mutual advantages to both parties.

Inter-Varsity Boat Race.

8th June, 1946.

Melbourne University won this event at Mannum, South Australia. J. M. Ferguson, a member of the Club, rowed in this crew. Your congratulations are extended to Melbourne University, and J. M. Ferguson on their success.

Combination Race.

Young & Jackson Eights:—Conducted by Melbourne Rowing Club. D. Fraser stroked the winning crew with W. Shears (7).

Picken-Williams' Eights:—Once again two old and valued members provided the trophies for one of the most successful combination events of the season with an entry of eleven crews. D. Palfreyman stroked the winning crew with P. Day (bow) and T. Darcy (cox).

Old Oarsmen's Eights:—J. Shears stroked the winning crew with W. Shears (7), W. Wallace (5) and J. Fielden (cox).

Corio Bay Fours:—F. Spencer rowed (3) in the winning crew with W. Wallace (bow).

Club Races.

MERCANTILE FOURS — 9th September, 1945.

Nine crews competed in this event, which was won by K. Wilson (bow), J. Williams (2), H. Duncan (3), G. Tatnall (stroke), J. Tait (cox).

CLUB FOURS — 1st June, 1946.

Thirteen crews competed in this event, which was won by J. Hill (bow), C. Murrell (2), D. Morgan (3), J. Mitchell (stroke), J. Murphy (cox).

Sprigg Time Trial

During the war years this event became a race for four-oared crews, but with the renewed interest being shown in rowing, Mr. J. G. Sprigg considered the time opportune to re-introduce the original course of seven miles for eight-oared crews. Our thanks are due to Mr. Sprigg for providing this interesting and popular winter event.

Points Competition.

The Captain, Mr. J. Blair-Holt, presented a trophy for competition among members. Points are awarded: 1 for each start and 2 for each win in all events held during the season. The competition for this trophy is keen, and the successful member will not be known until the conclusion of the Sprigg Time Trial on the day of the Annual Meeting.

COXSWAINS' TROPHY:—Mr. E. K. Varcoe has presented a trophy for coxswains, to be decided on points, to be awarded in the same manner as for the Captain's Trophy. Master J. French is the successful coxswain.

Mr. M. Bailey, who was a successful coxswain himself, has presented a shield for annual competition among the coxswains, the winning coxswain each year to receive an individual trophy. This trophy is to be awarded to the coxswain with the greatest number of wins in regatta races. Master J. French is the first coxswain to win this trophy.

Social Activities.

VICTORY DINNER:—A Victory Dinner, given as a welcome to returning servicemen, was held in the Club House on the 1st December, 1945, and, thanks to the organising ability of Mr. G. Stooke, proved an outstanding success, giving those who had been away an opportunity to meet new members and renew the acquaintances of old members, whom they had not seen for several years.

PALMS DANCE:—The first dance for several years proved a great success, both socially and financially, being attended by members and friends, who thoroughly enjoyed this function. The Social Committee, under the direction of Mr. G. Horder, worked hard for the success of the dance. It is hoped that the remainder of the series will prove equally popular.

General.

There has been no replacement of boats in the club during the past seven years, and at present none are being built in Victoria. Nevertheless, it is pleasing for members to know that the club will be in a strong position for the purchase of boats as soon as they become available, thanks to the generous donation of £100 towards the purchase of an eight, as promised last year by Mr. J. T. Dunstan, and the promise of a four by Mr. R. W. Thursfield. These generous and practical expressions of interest for the club's welfare are greatly appreciated by all members.

In addition, a cheque for £50 has been received from the Estate of the late Geoff Hastie for the purchase of a boat. Geoff, who was a successful maiden and junior oarsman, and vice-captain prior to his enlistment, was always a keen club man and an energetic executive officer. That his thoughts were of the Club, even as he left Australia on Active Service, is shown by this legacy.

All members will be glad to know that Jack Bailey has now returned home after a long sojourn in hospital, and is recovering from his illness.

During the year Doug Brooke was transferred to Tasmania. This move is a promotion for Doug on which we congratulate him, but regret that it has temporarily taken from us an enthusiastic member.

One of our keen light-weight oarsmen of pre-war years, John Ward, has left Australia to take up a position in South Africa. We wish him every success in his new venture.

To Mr. J. G. Sprigg, who, by his energy in instructing novices, is responsible for the fine type of young oarsman we have available for regatta racing in the coming season, we extend our thanks for this valuable work of teaching novices.

To Mr. T. Darcy and Masters J. French, R. Fisher, J. Buchanan, M. McGregor, J. Fielden, R. Williams, A. Audas, J. Murphy, T. Keñdall and J. South Jnr., we extend our thanks for faithful services as coxswains.

Your good wishes for future happiness and prosperity are extended to Messrs. C. F. Raven, A. W. Dobbie, D. H. Fraser, W. A. Trickett, P. Vanderkelen, K. Pope and G. J. Horder, who were married during the year.

To Messrs. R. Thursfield, D. Palfreyman, J. Radcliffe and their wives we extend congratulations on the occasion of additions to their families.

To our list of decorated members we are proud to add the name of Geoff Hiller, who has been awarded the D.F.C.

During the season football matches were played against Richmond and Melbourne Rowing Clubs, your club team being successful on both occasions.

Arrangements are in hand for a revival of the popular Banks-Mercantile Golf Tournament which created so much friendly rivalry in pre-war years.

We were pleased to welcome to the club old members in Messrs. U. R. Smith, Gilbert Castieau, F. Hyett, Les Johnson, Ted Gill and Reg Perry.

The object of the visit of Messrs. Smith and Hyett was the introduction of their sons, Russell and Geoff, to whom we extend a hearty welcome, and hope they will enjoy a life-long association with the club in a manner similar to their fathers.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, the retiring committee wishes to thank the members for their support throughout the season, and solicits similar support for the incoming Committee.

On behalf of the Committee,

N. W. Cairnes,

Hon. Secretary.

Addendum.

The 1945/6 season will long be remembered as that which saw an end to six years of war, and a resumption of Premiership rowing.

One of the most gratifying features has been the manner in which members who served in the various branches of our Forces lost no time in renewing their association with the Club, and, in many cases, resuming competitive rowing. Amongst them were some who had the misfortune to be prisoners of the enemy, and there is little doubt that their return to normal life has been greatly facilitated by once more mingling with their rowing friends of pre-war days.

In regatta racing Mercantile had a very successful season, and missed winning the Premiership by the narrowest of margins—4 points. It is worthy of mention that this satisfactory result was gained mainly by young members who came through from the Novice class to win every race up to the Open Eights, which replaced the Senior Class of pre-war days.

This could only be accomplished by the enthusiasm of every member, and by the splendid services rendered by all who were concerned in coaching from the beginners' stage right through the various classes.

To all those concerned, and to the Executive officers and committee, in whose hands rested the management of the Club, I would like, as President, to express sincere thanks and appreciation. In this connection special thanks are due to Mr. J. Blair Holt, who rendered sterling service as Captain during the 1944/5 and 1945/6 seasons.

It is fitting also to thank all who stuck by the Club throughout the dark years of war, with the result that it was maintained in a vigorous condition despite the many difficulties experienced.

Finally, we think with reverence and regret of those who did not return to rejoin their Clubmates. They will always be remembered by us.

A. L. DOBBIE, President.

Obituary.

All members will learn with sorrow of the deaths of Messrs. G. T. Hastie, J. F. Major, R. B. Scholefield and K. A. Braithwaite while prisoners of war in the hands of the Japanese.

"They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them."

Former old members in Messrs. K. C. Wootten, A. Dorman, B. Connor, R. E. Dawson and H. Stooke passed away during the year. Members will regret the passing of these old friends who did much to build the club and foster rowing in the past. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the relatives of the above-mentioned members, and to Mr. G. Tatnall, who suffered a bereavement of his father.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1945-46 SEASON

LIFE MEMBERS.

Clarke, C. A. R.	Ivens, P. C.	Stooke, V.
Dobbie, A. L.	Kenny, E.	
Guinn, S.	Potter, W.	

SENIOR MEMBERS.

Aitken, R. R.	Grabham, B. L.	Prendiville, E.
Appelby, J. P.	Green, I. M.	Raven, C. F.
Aspinall, J. O.	Green, M. E.	Richards, J. C.
Baker, J.	Greenshields, J. A.	Richardson, S. G.
Bailey, J. H.	Grimes, G. H.	Rogers, L. W.
Bailey, M.	Hansen, M. E.	Rorke, A. T.
Batson, A. V.	Hidgcock, W.	Ross, W. G.
Beaton, R. H.	Hill, J.	Rowley, T.
Bennett, J. B.	Hiller, G. R.	Rush, R. T.
Bilney, K.	Huntley, C.	Saleh, C.
Birch, W. C.	Hyett, C.	Sanderson, S. O.
Bissett, I.	Jones, J. McD.	Shears, E.
Blair-Holt, J.	Kerr, R. J.	Shears, H.
Bolton, R. S.	Lemaire, J. E.	Shears, J. D.
Brooke, D. C.	Lindblade, A. G.	Shears, T. W.
Broughton, O. S.	Long, D.	Smith, Gordon
Brown, A. D.	Lyster, W. R.	Smith, G. H.
Browne, F. R.	Macartney, J.	Smith, K. A.
Burton, A. J. M.	Macrae, D. M.	Smith, R. T. R.
Butler, B.	Mahoney, H.	Somerville, J. M.
Butler, L.	Marsh, T. W.	Soward, R. S.
Cairnes, N. W.	Mead, V.	Spencer, H. T.
Calder, D. A.	Miller, A. P.	Starr, N.
Chitty, J.	Milner, R.	Stooke, G.
Clark, J. H.	Moll, L.	Sullivan, B.
Clarke, A. H. G.	Mollard, K. F.	Syme, R. York
Cliff, R.	Morgan, D.	Tatnall, G. F. G.
Cooper, R. A.	Mounsey, J. L.	Thomas, J. C.
Cooper, K. N. W.	Murrell, C.	Thursfield, R. W.
Corrigan, B. W.	McCombe, C.	Treharne, A. G.
Corteen, L.	McDonald, F.	Trickett, G. E.
Craddock, W.	McFarlane, J. M.	Trouchet, P. A.
Davies, M. H.	McKay, T.	Turnbull, W. R.
Dennis, D.	McKeown, J. W.	Unsworth, I.
Dixon, C. E.	McLean, D. V.	Varcoe, E. K.
Donaldson, J.	McLennan, W. K.	Wade, G. C.
Dowd, M. C.	Naylor, M. C. L.	Wadey, W.
Duncan, A. R.	Neill, James	Wallace, W.
Duncan, G. R.	Neill, John	Watson, N. P.
Duncan, H. D.	Nicholls, D. R.	Webster, G. H.
Dunstan, J. T.	Nixon, N. V.	White, E. C.
Eadie, J.	Oberhansli, W.	White, H. R. H.
Fairbairn, J. L. L.	Oldfield, F. D.	Wilkinson, C. V.
Ferguson, J.	Palfreyman, D. B.	Williams, J. G.
Fletcher, J. M.	Payton, T.	Williams, M. S.
Fogarty, F.	Pitt, W. G.	Wilson, K.
French, L.	Ponsford, H. M.	Wright, P.
Gordon, A.	Powell, D.	

JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Day, R. F.	Johnson, B.	Robertson, G. A.
Erickson, I. J.	Johnston, S. C.	Saunders, J.
Gluyas, W.	Kain, B. F.	Scott, R.
Graham, R. S.	Lillistone, V.	Spalding, N. J.
Holyman, G. I.	Morrison, N. V.	Sumpton, B.
Humphrey, W.	Macpherson, P.	Tippett, G.
Jeffries, N. F.	Peterson, K. F.	Vincent, L. W.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Burmeister, C.	O'Reilly, J.	Stephenson, C. E.
Gibbs, A. A.	Rush, H. R.	Sturrock, J. McL.
Hill, L. C.	South, J.	Wade, P. M.

COUNTRY MEMBERS.

Dakin, A. E.	Gregg, R. V.	Reidy, J. J.
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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Ahlston, P.	Morgan, N.	Tibbets, I. D.
Evans, E. A.	Kendall, W. J.	Varcoe, E. K.
Fosdick, L.	Stewart, S. C.	Wade, P. A. (Jnr.)
Grant, W. J.	Stooke, T. B.	

REVENUE ACCOUNT for 12 months ending 30th June, 1946.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
Subscriptions £505 9 3	Repairs to Boats, Oars and Shed £190 6 1
Less V.R.A. Capitation Fee 37 16 0	Depreciation 181 9 3
Donations £467 13 3	General Expenses 20 12 4
Interest 193 8 6	Lighting, General & Water Rates 42 10 10
Entrance Fees, Club Races 17 18 8	Insurance 44 1 4
	Telephone 8 12 8
	Trophies, Club Races 16 9 0
	Freight, Country Regattas 44 1 6
	Coxswains' Expenses, Country Regattas 4 0 0
	Entrance Fees, Regattas 0 17 6
	Boat Staging 2 2 0
	Upper Yarra Regatta 1 1 0
	Metropolitan Rowing Committee 0 10 6
	Balance transferred to Capital 137 18 5
£694 12 5	£694 12 5

Audited and found correct—

F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A.,

Hon. Auditor.

C. A. R. CLARKE,

Hon. Treasurer.

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June, 1946.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Sundry Creditors	£188 0 8	Boat House	£2,182 1 1
Subscriptions Paid in Advance	16 15 0	Less Depreciation	50 0 0
Boat Building Reserve	7 14 8		£2,132 1 1
Capital as at 30th June, 1945	£3,403 8 5	Boats and Sculls	£563 0 0
Add Balance from Revenue	137 18 5	Less Depreciation	102 2 6
this Period	3,541 6 10	Oars at Valuation	460 17 6
			286 0 0
		Club Fittings	72 10 0
		War Bonds	500 0 0
		Sundry Debtors	44 14 6
		Subscriptions Outstanding	29 7 0
		Repair Material on Hand	20 0 0
		Bank of New South Wales	£26 3 3
		Savings Bank	182 3 10
			208 7 1
			£3,753 17 2

Audited and found correct—

F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A.,

Hon. Auditor.

C. A. R. CLARKE.

Hon. Treasurer.

1914

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Wholly set-up and printed
in Australia by
J. T. PICKEN & SONS
265-275 Franklin Street
Melbourne

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