

Mercantile Rowing Club



MELBOURNE

Sixty-Seventh

**Annual Report**  
*and*  
**Balance Sheet**

SEASON 1946-7

# MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB



Princes Bridge,  
Melbourne.  
7th July, 1947.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sixty-seventh ANNUAL MEETING of the MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB will be held at the CLUB HOUSE on SATURDAY, 26th JULY, 1947, 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 Previous General Meeting.
- III. To elect Office-bearers for the ensuing year.
- IV. To consider the proposal of Alteration of the Rules as follows:—

“That Rule 14a be amended to read—  
‘Junior Members, the annual subscription shall be £1/13/6 until attaining the age of 21 years.’”
- V. Presentation of Trophies.
- VI. General.

Nominations for Office-bearers for the ensuing year will close at the Club House at 4 p.m., Saturday, 19th July, 1947.

By order of the Committee,

N. W. CAIRNES,  
Hon. Secretary.



# MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

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## *PRESIDENT:*

A. L. DOBBIE, Esq.

## *VICE-PRESIDENTS:*

T. F. BRENNAN, Esq.

C. N. McKAY, Esq.

Dr. R. A. COOPER.

Sir T. S. NETTLEFOLD, K.B.,

R. V. GREGG, Esq.

O.B.E.

E. KENNY, Esq.

J. H. PICKEN, Esq.

A. G. LINDBLADE, Esq.

G. W. SMITH, Esq.

J. M. MACFARLANE, Esq.

J. G. SPRIGG, Esq.

J. L. MOUNSEY, Esq.

M. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

## *CAPTAIN:*

Mr. A. H. CLARKE.

## *VICE-CAPTAIN:*

Mr. J. T. MITCHELL.

## *HON. SECRETARY:*

Mr. N. W. CAIRNES.

## *HON. ASST. SECRETARY:*

Mr. J. M. FLETCHER.

## *HON. TREASURER:*

Mr. C. A. R. CLARKE (Deceased).

Mr. J. N. ROBERTSON (Appointed 24th October, 1946)

## *COMMITTEE:*

Mr. K. BILNEY (Appointed  
11th November, 1946).

Mr. J. N. ROBERTSON.

Mr. J. BLAIR-HOLT

Mr. J. SHEARS.

Mr. L. L. B. MOLL.

Mr. D. STIRLING.

Mr. D. MORGAN.

Mr. E. 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. K. BILNEY.

Mr. M. S. WILLIAMS.

Mr. E. KENNY.

Mr. N. W. CAIRNES.

## *DELEGATES TO UPPER YARRA AMATEUR REGATTA ASSN.:*

Mr. E. VARCOE, Mr. J. MITCHELL.

## *DELEGATES TO THE METROPOLITAN ROWING ASSN.:*

Mr. J. SHEARS, Mr. L. L. B. MOLL.

## *REPRESENTATIVE TO MELBOURNE AMATEUR REGATTA ASSOCIATION (HENLEY):*

Mr. C. F. RAVEN.

## *DELEGATE TO VICTORIAN AMATEUR SCULLING ASSN.:*

Mr. K. BILNEY.



The late C. A. R. CLARKE  
Hon. Treasurer, 1916-1946



# THE SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Mercantile Rowing Club

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To the Members of the Mercantile Rowing Club:

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

The promise shown last year when your Club finished second in the Premiership has been fulfilled with the winning of the Junior Premiership. However, as a Club, we do not intend to rest on this success, but in the coming year we will aim to bring both the Senior and Junior Premierships to Mercantile. Therefore it should be our endeavour to strengthen the successful junior crews of this year and place the Club once again to the fore in Senior rowing. During the year our membership has increased considerably, and among the new members we have many strong and promising novices to whom we look for assistance in retaining the Junior Premiership.

At the commencement of the season we hoped to add an eight and a four to our fleet, thanks to the generosity of Messrs. J. T. Dunstan, R. W. Thursfield, and the late G. Hastie, but despite our every endeavour this has been impossible, due to the large demand for boats in Australia, and the scarcity of competent boat builders. Mr. L. L. B. Moll, with a small band of willing workers, has done a magnificent job in keeping the fleet maintained and serviceable. In order to obtain the full use of our equipment in the present period of scarcity, a new bow has been successfully built on to the clinker racing eight "A. R. Shannon," and the Best & Best eight "R. V. Gregg" has been recommissioned and will be ready for racing in the coming season.

Prior to the commencement of racing in the 1947-48 Season, we expect delivery of 24 tubular racing oars, ten of which are being imported from "Ayling," England. The Ayling oars have been very generously donated by Mr. R. W. Thursfield.

For the second successive year Victoria has won the King's Cup, and a great deal of credit is once again due to Mr. W. R. B. Todd, who coached the successful crews.

The social side of the Club's activities has been well patronised, a very popular function being Ladies' Day, at which there was a large attendance. Afternoon tea was served in the gymnasium.

Many points for the premiership were gained at country regattas, and it was pleasing to see large numbers of young members attending these popular fixtures. The hospitality of the country clubs is well known to most members, and visitors to the country regattas this year

received the same hearty hospitality as in former years. The transport of boats and members to these regattas by parlour coach was of great assistance to the success of the journeys.

A more detailed report of the Club's activities for the past season is submitted for review.

## Financial.

The amount of subscriptions received during the season was well above the average for the pre-war years.

However, the levy of £63 imposed by the V.R.A. for the King's Cup Crew, and rising costs of repairs to boats and oars have been a heavy drain on Club funds.

Once again, generous donations have been received from numerous members, which have been a great help to Club finances.

The Treasurer would greatly appreciate assistance from all members by their prompt payment of this year's subscription.

## Executive and Committee.

The loss of our late Treasurer, Mr. C. A. R. Clarke, during the year was a severe blow to the Club. Mr. J. N. Robertson was appointed by the Committee to the position, and has applied himself industriously to his important task. Mr. K. Bilney was appointed to the resulting vacancy on the Committee.

Twelve regular meetings of the Committee were held during the year, and attendances were as follows:—

K. Bilney . . . . . 8	A. L. Dobbie . . . . . 8	J. N. Robertson . . . . . 9
J. Blair-Holt . . . . . 10	J. M. Fletcher . . . . . 9	J. Shears . . . . . 12
N. W. Cairnes . . . . . 11	E. Kenny . . . . . 9	J. G. Sprigg . . . . . 9
A. H. Clarke . . . . . 11	J. T. Mitchell . . . . . 10	D. Stirling . . . . . 11
C. A. R. Clarke (dec'd) . . . . . 2	L. L. B. Moll . . . . . 11	E. K. Varcoe . . . . . 9
	D. Morgan . . . . . 11	

## Membership.

The increase of the membership by more than forty new members is very gratifying. Many old members have rejoined the Club, and among the new members are many who will play a prominent part in the future.

The membership list now stands as follows:—

Life Members . . . . .	9
Senior Members . . . . .	173
Junior Members . . . . .	23
Honorary Members . . . . .	13
Country Members . . . . .	6
Associate Members . . . . .	13

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## Donations.

The Club desires to record its appreciation of donations received from the following gentlemen:—

Messrs. J. Blair-Holt, T. F. Brennan, Dr. R. A. Cooper, Messrs. A. L. Dobbie, S. Guinn, G. Horder, E. Kenny, Sir T. S. Nettlefold, Messrs. F. Newport, G. R. G. Patterson, J. H. Picken, Geo. Smith, J. G. Sprigg, R. W. Thursfield, E. K. Varcoe.



## Boats and Oars.

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

RACING BOATS.	Practice Boats	Tub Boats
<b>Best &amp; Best</b>	S. C. Macrae .. 8	S. Guinn . . . . . 4
R. V. Gregg . . . . 8	C. F. Raven . . . 3	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
<b>Clinker</b>	G. J. Horder. . . 8	J. Watson . . . . . 2
J. H. Bailey . . . . 8	A. B. Sloan . . . . 8	Scull No. 1.
J. G. Sprigg . . . . 8	V. F. Mason . . . . 4	Scull No. 2.
E. Kenny. . . . . 8	A. P. Miller. . . . 4	
A. R. Shannon . . . 8	H. G. Taylor . . . 4	
L. B. Weire. . . . . 4		
C. A. Clarke . . . . 4		
W. Potter . . . . . 4		
W. Joseph . . . . . 4		
R. A. Cooper . . . . 2		

It will be noticed that the clinker racing eight "A. R. Shannon" and the practice eight "A. B. Sloan" reappear in the list of the fleet after an absence of some years, both these boats having been recommissioned in order to counteract the present difficulty of obtaining fleet replacements.

The work of converting the fleet to swivels as new oars are purchased is being continued, and at least two more eights should be converted prior to the commencement of racing in the coming season.

There has been a considerable loss of oars by breakage, partly due to the age of the oars, but also caused by careless handling.

It cannot be stressed too strongly the care which must be exercised in the use of both fleet and oars, particularly now that it is so difficult and costly to obtain replacements and repairs.

## Coaching.

The Club is indebted to those members who have devoted so much time to the coaching of crews throughout the season. We all realise the time devoted by the coaches to this important phase of the sport—very often time which they can ill afford—and we welcome this opportunity to express our appreciation of their work and sacrifice in imparting to the oarsmen of to-day the necessary knowledge to gain success in the sport of rowing.

Two old members in Messrs. J. L. Mounsey and P. M. Wade, who have rendered service to the Club over a long period reappeared among the coaches in order to assist the Club at a difficult time. At great inconvenience to their private interests they made themselves available, and we appreciate the affection for the club and the sport which prompted their action, and are glad to record the success which resulted from their labours.

Therefore it is with pleasure we give thanks to the following gentlemen for the valuable coaching service rendered during the past year: Messrs. J. Barton, K. Bilney, K. Connolly, W. Gray, A. P. Miller, J. L. Mounsey, K. Pope, S. G. Richardson, J. N. Robertson, L. Rogers, C. Saleh, J. South, J. G. Sprigg, G. Smith (senr.), G. Smith (junr.), H. Shears, D. Stirling, R. W. Thursfield, P. Troughett, W. Turnbull, P. M. Wade, C. Ward.

## Rowing.

### Australian Championships.

7th May, 1947.

The Australian Eight-oared Championship for the King's Cup was rowed on the Swan River at Perth, W.A.

Victoria was represented by J. Webster (South Melb.), bow; C. Gibbs (Footscray), 2; K. McWilliams (Footscray), 3; L. A. G. Wilkinson (Footscray), 4; R. J. Boynton (Melbourne), 5; L. Slorach (Banks), 6; H. Lambie (Banks), 7; W. J. Lambert (Richmond), stroke; D. Salmon (Corio Bay), cox; W. R. B. Todd, coach; J. Williams (Mercantile), emergency.

We extend our congratulations to the coach and crew for retaining the Cup for the second year in succession.

The Sculling Championship for the President's Cup held on the same day was won by M. T. Wood (N.S.W.) with R. V. Rawlins (Victoria) second.

Your Club was represented in the interstate rowing by J. Williams (emergency), and Mr. J. South was again one of the selectors.

#### STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

*Champion Eights.*—The race was rowed on the Lower Yarra course and attracted an entry of six crews. Corio Bay was successful, winning from Banks. Your Club was not represented.

*Champion Fours.*—Banks was successful in this event, which was rowed on the Lower Yarra. Your Club was not represented.

*Champion Pairs.*—This event, which was rowed on the Lower Yarra was won by Preston from Banks. Your Club was not represented.

*Champion Sculls.*—This event was rowed over 2½ miles downstream on the Lower Yarra and was won by J. Webster (South Melb.) with R. Rawlins (Melbourne) second. Your Club was represented by J. Williams.

*2,000 Metre Sculling Championship.*—Rowed downstream on the Lower Yarra and was won by your representative, J. Williams.

*Champion Junior Eights, 26th April, 1947.*—Rowed over a 2-mile course on the Lower Yarra, Mercantile won from Melbourne. The Club representatives were B. Johnston (bow), J. Fletcher (2), H. Duncan (3), J. Farmer (4), L. Moll (5), R. Aitken (6), J. Neill (7), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), P. M. Wade (coach).

*Champion Lightweight Junior Eights, 26th April, 1947.*—Rowed over 1½ mile course on the Lower Yarra, Melbourne winning a thrilling race from Richmond. Your club was unsuccessfully represented by W. Morrison (bow), C. Murrell (2), R. Milner (3), N. Kerrigan (4), G. Sheppard (5), T. Payton (6), W. Shears (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), A. P. Miller (coach).

## Regattas.

### Melbourne Regatta.

16th November, 1946.

*Senior Eight.*—W. Wallace (bow), J. Williams (2), F. Spencer (3), P. Macpherson (4), L. Moll (5), A. H. Clarke (6), D. A. Calder (7), G. Hiller (stroke), J. Fielden (cox), J. South (coach) were unsuccessful.



*Senior Four.*—J. Radcliffe (bow), W. Trickett (2), J. S. Neill (3), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), J. Barton (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Junior Eight.*—J. Berry (bow), B. Burke (2), D. Morgan (3), H. Duncan (4), F. Fogarty (5), J. Thomas (6), E. Shears (7), A. Atkins (stroke), B. Lynch (cox), L. Rogers (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Eight No. 1.*—J. Stuble (bow), G. Smith (2), G. Hyett (3), K. Connolly (4), I. H. Green (5), M. F. Jeffries (6), C. Wilkinson (7), N. Mackey (stroke), G. Smith (coach), W. Beames (cox) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Eight No. 2.*—S. G. Richardson (bow), K. Summerfield (2), P. Kerr (3), K. Wilson (4), J. Craig (5), W. Young (6), R. Milner (7), N. Kerrigan (stroke), T. Kendall (cox), C. Ward (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Eight No. 3.* G. Robertson (bow), A. D. Brown (2), J. Donaldson (3), N. Morrison (4), W. Morrison (5), B. Johnston (6), T. W. Shears (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), K. Bilney (coach), won their heat but were defeated in the semi-final.

*Maiden Four No. 1.*—C. Murrell (bow), T. Payton (2), H. Mahoney (3), G. Epstein (stroke), J. South (cox), P. Troughett (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Four No. 2.*—W. Gluyas (bow), J. W. Peterson (2), B. F. Kain (3), J. Lemaire (stroke), C. Lynch (cox), W. Turnbull (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Eight.*—O. Broughton (bow), L. Poore (2), W. Blakely (3), D. McDonough (4), K. Leggett (5), D. Crichton (6), R. Francis (7), W. Craddock (stroke), T. Kendall (cox), D. Stirling (coach) were unsuccessful.

## Henley Regatta.

23rd November, 1946.

The crews which represented your Club at the Melbourne Regatta competed without success.

## Nagambie Regatta.

26th December, 1946.

*Junior Four.*—H. Shears (bow), L. Moll (2), F. Fogarty (3), J. Williams (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), J. South (coach) won easily.

*Maiden Four No. 1.*—B. Johnston (bow), J. Fletcher (2), G. Tippet (3), R. Aitken (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), C. Saleh (coach), won by 1½ lengths.

*Maiden Four No. 2.*—W. Gluyas (bow), J. W. Peterson (2), B. F. Kain (3), J. Lemaire (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), W. Turnbull (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Four.*—O. Broughton (bow), K. Peterson (2), K. Leggett (3), D. Crichton (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), D. Stirling (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Pair.*—N. Morrison (bow), W. Morrison (stroke), J. Murphy (cox) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Eight.*—V. Moll (bow), R. Fullagar (2), G. Hyett (3), V. Lillistone (4), H. Davies (5), J. Morton (6), B. Johnston (7), R. Smith (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. P. Miller (coach) were unsuccessful.

## Rutherglen Regatta.

1st January, 1947.

*Junior Four.*—H. Shears (bow), R. Aitken (2), L. Moll (3), J. Williams (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), J. South (coach) were again successful.

*Maiden Four.*—Your representatives at Nagambie were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Pair.*—Your representatives at Nagambie were successful.

*Maiden Eight.*—Your representatives at Nagambie won this event easily.

## Upper Yarra Regatta.

25th January, 1947.

*Senior Eight.*—B. Johnston (bow), H. Shears (2), H. Duncan (3), A. H. Clarke (4), F. Fogarty (5), J. Clemens (6), L. Moll (7), R. Aitken (stroke), J. Fielden (cox), C. Saleh (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Junior Eight.*—W. Wallace (bow), W. Trickett (2), I. McCowan (3), J. Morton (4), F. Spencer (5), J. Mitchell (6), E. Shears (7), J. Fletcher (stroke), M. Mounsey (cox), J. L. Mounsey (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Four No. 1.*—G. Hyett (bow), N. Mackie (2), H. Davies (3), R. Smith (stroke), M. Mounsey (cox), A. P. Miller (coach) won their heat but were unsuccessful in the semi-final.

*Maiden Four No. 2.*—W. Morrison (bow), T. Payton (2), W. Shears (3), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), K. Bilney (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Four.*—R. Milner (bow), N. Morrison (2), G. Robertson (3), A. D. Brown (stroke), B. Jeffrey (cox), D. Stirling (coach) were unsuccessful.

## Albert Park Regatta.

27th January, 1947.

The same crews as for the Upper Yarra Regatta, with the addition of a Senior Pair represented your Club at this regatta.

*Senior Pair.*—G. Smith, junr. (bow), K. Smith (stroke), B. Jeffrey (cox), G. Smith, senr. (coach).

All crews were unsuccessful.

## Ballarat Regatta.

1st March, 1947.

*Junior Eight.*—W. Wallace (bow), W. Trickett (2), H. Duncan (3), J. Mitchell (4), J. Neill (5), J. Williams (6), B. Johnston (7), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), J. South (coach) won easily.

*Maiden Eight.*—W. Morrison (bow), J. Shears (2), F. Kain (3), B. Burke (4), I. Green (5), N. Mackie (6), W. Shears (7), G. Smith (stroke), W. Beames (cox), J. L. Mounsey (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Four.*—A. Kohn (bow), W. Craddock (2), G. Robertson (3), A. D. Brown (stroke) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Pair.*—T. Payton (bow), C. Murrell (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), G. Smith, junr. (coach) were unsuccessful.



## Barwon Regatta.

8th March, 1947.

*Junior Eight.*—Your representatives at Ballarat completed a winning double.

*Maiden Eight.*—Your representatives at Ballarat were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Four.*—Your representatives at Ballarat were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Pair.*—Your representatives at Ballarat were unsuccessful.

## Bairnsdale Regatta.

5th April, 1947.

*Junior Eight.*—B. Johnston (bow), J. Fletcher (2), H. Duncan (3), J. Farmer (4), L. Moll (5), R. Aitken (6), J. Neill (7), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), P. M. Wade (coach) won this event easily.

*Junior Four.*—B. Johnston (bow), R. Aitken (2), J. Neill (3), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), P. M. Wade (coach) were successful.

*Maiden Eight.*—J. Saunders (bow), J. W. Peterson (2), E. C. White (3), J. Chitty (4), B. Kain (5), K. Wilson (6), G. Robertson (7), M. F. Jefferies (stroke), W. Beames (cox), K. Connolly (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Four.*—W. Morrison (bow), H. Mahoney (2), W. Shears (3), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), A. P. Miller (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Pair.*—V. Moll (bow), D. Macrae (stroke), B. Lynch (cox), R. Thursfield (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Pair.*—O. Broughton (bow), K. Peterson (stroke), B. Lynch (cox), S. G. Richardson (coach) were unsuccessful.

## Bairnsdale Regatta.

7th April, 1947.

*Junior Eight.*—Your representatives at the Saturday Regatta were again successful in this event.

*Junior Four.*—Your representatives at the Saturday Regatta were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Eight.*—The crew of the previous regatta was again unsuccessful.

*Maiden Four.*—Your representatives were unsuccessful.

*Maiden Pair.*—Your representatives of the previous regatta were again unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Maiden Pair.*—This crew was again unsuccessful.

## Metropolitan Spring Regatta.

14th September, 1946.

*Novice Eight.*—J. Stubble (bow), J. Lemaire (2), B. F. Kain (3), K. Connolly (4), I. Green (5), M. Jeffries (6), J. Hill (7), R. Smith (stroke), W. Beames (cox), G. Smith, junr. (coach) were defeated in the final.

*Novice Four No. 1.*—E. White (bow), N. Mackey (2), G. Hyett (3), R. Fullagar (stroke), J. South (cox), P. Troughett (coach) were defeated in the final.

*Novice Four No. 2.*—W. Blakeley (bow), W. Young (2), J. Baker (3), K. Summerfield (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), J. Robertson (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Novice Four No. 1.*—O. Broughton (bow), K. Peterson (2), A. Kohn (3), W. Craddock (stroke), C. Ward (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Four No. 2.*—J. Erickson (bow), L. Poore (2), R. Francis (3), D. McDonough (stroke), D. Stirling (coach) were unsuccessful.

## Novice Regatta.

10th May, 1947.

*Novice Four No. 1.*—P. Parker (bow), J. Saunders (2), C. Dawson (3), M. Jeffries (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), K. Connolly (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Novice Four No. 2.*—F. Volk (bow), J. Bradshaw (2), D. Roche (3), G. Bade (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), W. Gray (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Novice Four.*—K. Leggett (bow), D. Crichton (2), G. Robertson (3), W. Craddock (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), H. Shears (coach) won this event.

*Novice Pair.*—W. Blakeley (bow), K. Summerfield (stroke), W. Bailey (cox) were unsuccessful.

*Lightweight Novice Pair.*—O. Broughton (bow), K. Peterson (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), S. G. Richardson (coach) were unsuccessful.

*Novice Scull.*—V. Moll was unsuccessful.

## Premierships.

### PREMIERSHIP POINTS.

#### Senior.

Club.	Points.	Club.	Points.
Corio Bay . . . . .	52	South Melbourne . . . . .	8
Banks . . . . .	26	Rutherglen . . . . .	4
Richmond . . . . .	16	Melbourne . . . . .	3
Preston . . . . .	10	Mercantile . . . . .	3
Footscray . . . . .	8		

Your congratulations are extended to Corio Bay Rowing Club on their fine performance in winning the Senior Premiership.

#### Junior.

Club.	Points.	Club.	Points.
Mercantile . . . . .	66	Bairnsdale . . . . .	10
Mildura . . . . .	56	Nagambie . . . . .	8
Melbourne . . . . .	54	South Melbourne . . . . .	5
Richmond . . . . .	44	Wendouree . . . . .	4
Banks . . . . .	32	Sale . . . . .	4
Corio Bay . . . . .	30	Footscray . . . . .	4
Yarra Yarra . . . . .	30	Shepparton . . . . .	4
Barwon . . . . .	24	Ballarat City . . . . .	4
Wahgunyah . . . . .	20	Bendigo . . . . .	2
Hawthorn . . . . .	12	Rutherglen . . . . .	2
Albert Park . . . . .	12	Colac . . . . .	2



## Head of the River.

Your congratulations are extended to Wesley College on their success in this event and to the coxswain, J. Fielden, who has been a successful coxswain with the Club.

The relationship between Scotch College and the Club continued on the same happy level thanks to the co-operation of the Captain of Boats, and Mr. Mitchell with the Club Executive.

## Club Races.

### PRESIDENT'S FOURS — 21st September, 1946.

Eighteen crews competed for trophies donated by Mr. A. L. Dobbie; the winning crew was W. Morrison (bow), J. Fletcher (2), H. Davies (3), G. Epstein (stroke), J. South (cox).

### PICKEN-WILLIAMS EIGHTS — 24th May, 1947.

Once again the Club is indebted to these two esteemed members who generously donated the trophies for this event which attracted an entry of 72 members. The race was won by A. Abromwich (bow), J. Shears (2), W. Morrison (3), D. Crichton (4), H. Duncan (5), R. Smith (6), H. Shears (7), G. Epstein (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox).

### CLUB FOURS — 7th June, 1947.

An entry of 12 crews was received for this event, the winning crew being I. O. Black bow, D. Crichton (2), W. Wallace (3), J. Williams (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox).

### CLUB PAIRS — 28th June, 1947.

This event was won by W. Morrison (bow), D. Crichton (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox) from a field of 14 crews.

### SPRIGG TIME TRIAL.

It is many years since Mr. J. G. Sprigg first presented the trophies for this event which has become a recognised feature of our winter activities. The interest of members has never flagged over the years as the large number of crews completing the seven-mile course each year proves. Last year the event was won by V. Moll (bow), C. Wilkinson (2), H. Duncan (3), H. Shears (4), L. Moll (5), P. Wright (6), F. Spencer (7), R. Beaton (stroke), J. French (cox) in 45 minutes 20 seconds.

### POINTS COMPETITION.

The Captain, Mr. A. H. Clarke, presented a trophy for competition among members. Only a few points separate the leading competitors, and the result will not be known until the completion of the Sprigg Time Trial on the day of the Annual Meeting. Last year the trophy donated by Mr. J. Blair-Holt was won by Mr. W. Shears.

*Coxswains' Trophy.*—The shield presented by Mr. M. Bailey for annual competition among the coxswains, has been won by Master B. Jeffery, who has won 9 regatta races during the season.

Mr. E. K. Varcoe has presented a trophy for the most improved coxswain. Master John Murphy is the successful coxswain, and is to be congratulated on the regularity of his attendance and the service he has rendered the Club throughout the year.

## Social Activities.

*Ladies' Day.*—More than 60 visitors were entertained at afternoon tea in the Gymnasium when a very successful Ladies' Day was held to mark the opening of the season. Racing for trophies donated by the President was an added attraction for the visitors. Your thanks are conveyed to Mr. Deane Morgan for his work in organising this function.



**Annual Dinner.**—The Annual Dinner was held at “The Victoria” on the 28th November, and was attended by 120 past and present members.

**Dances.**—“The Dorchester” was the scene of several delightful dances which proved very popular with all members. Mr. Deane Morgan was responsible for the success of these functions.

**Golf Tournament.**—Mr. A. Sloss revived the Banks-Mercantile Golf Tournament, which was a very popular function in pre-war years. An enjoyable day’s golf resulted in the cup coming to Mercantile.

## General.

Throughout the years of his association with the Club, Mr. Harvie Picken has always kept the Club in the foreground of his thoughts. A successful oarsman in his younger days, he has retained his interest in rowing and the Club since giving up competitive rowing. His attendance at all Club functions, and the donation of trophies for Club races is an indication of this thought for the welfare of the Club. With the difficulty of printing and the shortage of paper the Annual Report would never have been published in its usual fullness and style during the war years if it had not been for the good offices of our old friend, who not only arranged for the publication of the reports, but did so at his own expense.

Herb. Shears, Harry Duncan and Jack Shears, who worked so ably under the direction of Laurie Moll in maintainancing the fleet, have earned the appreciation of all members.

The Club has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. R. Roberts for major boat repairs.

To Deane Morgan and Dave Stirling your thanks are tendered for the fine job they have performed in the cleaning of the Club House during the year.

Masters W. Beams, J. Fielden, B. Jeffery, T. Kendall, B. Lynch, C. Lynch, M. Mounsey, J. Murphy, J. South and P. Troughett have rendered great service as coxswains during the year.

Your good wishes for future happiness and prosperity are extended to Messrs. J. McD. Jones, C. Saleh, A. Gordon, J. Hill, J. Neill, G. Hyett, N. Watson, A. H. Clarke, K. F. Mollard, W. Abromwich, and L. Rogers, who joined the ranks of the benedicts during the year.

To Messrs. C. Harry, G. H. Davies, K. Pope, J. Thomas, G. Epstein, and C. F. Raven, and their wives we extend our congratulations on additions to their families.

By the transfer on business to Sydney of Dick Beaton and Frank Spencer we lost two promising young oarsmen.

It was pleasing to see Wal. Oberhansli and Peter Wright back in a boat after a long absence with leg injuries.

The appointment of Alan Gordon to an important position with U.N.O. in America has temporarily deprived the Club of a valuable member.

Mr. J. G. Sprigg continues to devote his time to the instruction of the novice oarsmen with beneficial results to the Club.

## Conclusion.

The retiring Committee thank members for their co-operation and support during the year, and hope that the same assistance will be rendered to the incoming Committee in the approaching season which we face with confidence.

For and on behalf of the Committee,

N. W. CAIRNES,

Hon. Secretary.



## Addendum.

The thanks of every member are due to the Committee and chief Executive Officers for the excellent manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Club during the past season. It is because of this that it is possible for them to present such a satisfactory Report and Balance Sheet.

Unfortunately, both our Captain, Mr. Hugh Clarke, and our Hon. Secretary, Mr. N. Cairnes, find it necessary to relinquish these important offices. They have worthily upheld the traditions of the many fine officers who have preceded them, and our sincere thanks for their most valuable work is extended to them.

The Club will start the 1947-8 season under auspicious conditions. At no time during its long history has it been in a stronger position, nor had amongst its members a better type of young men from which to produce crews which will keep Mercantile in the vanguard of competitive rowing.

Consequently it only remains for the sound management which marked the past year to be maintained and the enthusiastic support of every member to ensure a very successful season.

A. L. DOBBIE,

President.

## Obituary.

All members were shocked to learn of the death, after a short illness, of our Treasurer, Mr. C. A. R. Clarke, at the age of 65 years. His record of service as an executive of the Club is one which will be hard to equal. He was elected to the Executive Committee in 1912, and became Treasurer in 1916, which office he held to the time of his death.

During his 34 years of office, the Club has grown and prospered, and his capable administration of the Club's finances is reflected in the prosperity of the Club to-day. He was known, liked and respected throughout the rowing world of Victoria. Always a keen and enthusiastic Club member, he was known in his youth for the large number of Club races in which he was successful.

Until a fortnight prior to his death, he was a regular member of week-end scratch crews, and enjoyed his rowing with a pleasure given to few men of his age. The success of his son, Hugh, in the Victorian Crew which won the King's Cup at Penrith, N.S.W., last year was of great pride to him.

He was a Life Member of the Club.

## List of Members, 1946-47.

### LIFE MEMBERS.

Clarke, C. A. R. (dec'd)	Kenny, E.	Sprigg, J. G.
Dobbie, A. L.	Mounsey, J. L.	Stooke, V.
Guinn, S.	Picken, J. H.	
Ivens, P. C.	Potter, W.	

### SENIOR MEMBERS.

Abromwich, W.	Edwards, H. B.	Moll, L. L. B.
Aitken, R. R.	Elliott, V. G.	Mollard, K. F.
Appleby, J. P.	Epstein, G. L.	Morell, D. R.
Aspinall, J. O.	Fairbairn, J. L.	Morell, R. T.
Atkins, A. H.	Farmer, J. G.	Morgan, D.
Bailey, J. H.	Ferguson, R.	Morrison, N.
Bailey, M.	Fletcher, J. M.	Morrison, W.
Baker, J. H.	Fogarty, F.	Morton, J. C.
Benton, B.	Fosdick, L. V.	Murrell, C.
Berry, J.	French, L. P.	McCowan, I.
Bilney, K.	Galvin, V. C.	McCombe, C.
Birch, W. C.	Gluyas, W. R.	McKay, T.
Black, I. O.	Gray, W. L.	McLean, D.
Blair-Holt, J.	Green, I. M.	McLennan, W.
Bland, G. J.	Green, M. E.	Naylor, M. C. L.
Bligh, A. R.	Grimes, G. H.	Neill, James
Bolton, R. S.	Hansen, M. E.	Neill, John
Bourke, B. F.	Harry, C. M.	Newport, F.
Broughton, O. S.	Hemming, P.	Nixon, N. V.
Brown, A. D.	Hidgcock, W.	Oberhansli, W.
Browne, F. R.	Hill, J.	Palfreyman, D. B.
Cairnes, N. W.	Hillard, L.	Payton, T.
Calder, D. A.	Hiller, G. R.	Pitt, W. G.
Castieau, G.	Holyman, G. I.	Ponsford, H. M.
Chitty, J. W.	Horder, G. J.	Pope, K.
Clark, J. H.	Hyett, G. S.	Radcliffe, J.
Clarke, A. H.	Johnson, G. B.	Raven, C. F.
Clemens, J. B.	Johnston, S. C.	Rees, J.
Clemens, W. H.	Jones, J. McD.	Richardson, S. G.
Cliff, R. A.	Kain, B. F.	Robertson, J. N.
Cole, G. H.	Kerr, P.	Robertson, G.
Connolly, K.	Kerr, R. J.	Robinson, O. F.
Cooper, K. N.	Kerrigan, N.	Rogers, L. W.
Cooper, R. A.	Koch, A.	Rorke, A. T.
Corteen, L. K.	Leddin, L. G.	Rush, R. T.
Craig, J.	Lemaire, J. E.	Saleh, C.
Davey, G. H.	Lillistone, V. R.	Sanderson, S. O.
Davies, M. H.	Lindblade, A. G.	Sheppard, G.
Day, R. G.	Long, D.	Shears, E.
Dennis, D. C.	Macartney, J.	Shears, H. P.
Dixon, C. E.	Macfarlane, J. M.	Shears, J. D.
Dobbie, A. W.	Macpherson, P.	Shears, T. W.
Donaldson, J. C.	Macrae, D. M.	Sloss, A.
Dowd, M. C.	Mahoney, H.	Smith, G., junr.
Duncan, A. R.	Marsh, T. W.	Smith, G. M.
Duncan, G. R.	Meates, R. W.	Smith, K.
Duncan, H. D.	Miller, A. P.	Smith, R.
Dunstan, J. T.	Milner, R.	Soward, R. S.
Eadie, J. H.	Mitchell, J. T.	Spencer, H. T.



Stirling, D. S.	Trickett, W. A.	White, E. C.
Stooke, G. F.	Trouchett, P. A.	White, H. R. H.
Stubley, J.	Turnbull, W. R.	Wilkinson, C.
Syme, R. York	Vanderkelen, P.	Williams, J.
Tatnall, G. F.	Varcoe, E. K. L.	Williams, M. S.
Thomas, J. C.	Wallace, W.	Wilson, K.
Thursfield, R. W.	Ward, C. H. M.	Wright, P.
Tippett, G.	Watson, N. P.	Young, W. E.
Treharne, A. G.	Webster, G. H.	

## JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Bade, G.	Fullagar, R.	Peterson, J. W.
Benton, G.	Humphreys, W.	Peterson, K. F.
Blakeley, W.	Jeffries, M. F.	Poore, L.
Bradshaw, J. W.	Kohn, A.	Roach, D.
Craddock, W.	Leggett, J. K.	Saunders, J. F.
Crichton, D.	Moll, V. R.	Summerfield, J. K.
Douglas, G. F.	McDonough, D.	Schilling, J.
Francis, R.	Naylor, D. H. L.	

## HONORARY MEMBERS.

Brooke, D. C.	Hill, L.	Stephenson, E. C.
Burmeister, C.	Nicholls, C. J.	Wade, P. M., senr.
Burton, A. J.	O'Reilly, J.	Weire, L. B.
Butler, L.	Rush, H. R.	
Gibbs, A. A.	South, J.	

## COUNTRY MEMBERS.

Dakin, A. E.	Peppard, J.	Roxburgh, T. W.
Gregg, R. V.	Ross, W. G.	Spalding, N. J.

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Ahlston, P.	Peterson, C. W.	Varcoe, E. K. L., senr.
Bourne, G.	Seamen, J. W.	Wade, P. M., junr.
Evans, E. A.	Smith, U. R.	Wicks, J.
Grant, W. J.	Stewart, S. C.	
Kendall, W. J.	Tibbitts, I. D.	

## REVENUE ACCOUNT for 12 months ending 30th June, 1947.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
Subscriptions . . . . .	Repairs to Boats, Oars and Shed . . . . .
Less V.R.A. Capitation Fee ..	Depreciation . . . . .
£744 17 6	General Expenses . . . . .
45 12 0	Lighting, General and Water Rates . . . . .
£699 5 6	Insurance . . . . .
Donations . . . . .	Telephone . . . . .
Special Social Functions . . . . .	Freight, Country Regattas . . . . .
Entrance Fees, Club Races . . . . .	Entrance Fees, Regatta Races . . . . .
Interest . . . . .	Upper Yarra, R.A. . . . .
£160 4 0	V.R.A. Dues and Fees . . . . .
37 11 6	Boat Staging . . . . .
33 11 0	Deficit, King's Cup Levy . . . . .
16 5 0	Balance Transferred to Capital . . . . .
£946 17 0	£214 18 8
	198 5 0
	106 5 8
	43 5 11
	44 1 4
	15 12 4
	62 4 6
	21 18 6
	2 2 0
	2 6 6
	2 2 0
	36 5 0
	197 9 7
	£946 17 0

Audited and found correct.  
 F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A.,  
 Hon. Auditor.

J. NORMAN ROBERTSON,  
 Hon. Treasurer.



BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June, 1947.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Subscriptions Paid in Advance . . . . .	Boat House . . . . .
Sundry Creditors . . . . .	Less Depreciation . . . . .
Boat Building Reserve . . . . .	Boats and Sculls . . . . .
Capital as at 30th June, 1946 . . £3,541	Add Cost of Reconditioning . . . . .
Add Balance from Revenue . . . . .	Less Depreciation . . . . .
this Period . . . . . 197 9 7	Oars at Valuation . . . . .
	Club Fittings . . . . .
	War Bonds . . . . .
	Subscriptions Outstanding . . . . .
	Account Paid in Advance (English Oars) . . . . .
	Bank of New South Wales . . . . .
	Savings Bank . . . . .
£9 12 0	£2,132 1 1
70 6 11	50 0 0
7 14 8	£2,082 1 1
£3,541 6 10	£460 17 6
197 9 7	250 12 6
3,738 16 5	£711 10 0
	99 10 0
	612 0 0
	235 5 0
	72 10 0
	500 0 0
	70 14 6
	82 2 9
	171 16 8
£3,826 10 0	£3,826 10 0

Audited and found correct,  
 F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A.,  
 Hon. Auditor.

J. NORMAN ROBERTSON,  
 Hon. Treasurer.

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