

Mercantile Rowing Club



MELBOURNE

Sixty-Eighth

ANNUAL REPORT

and

BALANCE SHEET



SEASON, 1947-8

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB



Princes Bridge,
Melbourne.
2nd July, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Sixty-eighth ANNUAL MEETING** of the **MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB** will be held at the **CLUB HOUSE** on **SATURDAY, 31st JULY, 1948, at 7.45 p.m.** (The Annual Smoke Night will be held at the conclusion of the meeting).

BUSINESS:

1. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Previous General Meeting.
3. To elect Office-bearers for the ensuing year.
4. Presentation of Trophies.
5. General.

Nominations for Office-bearers for the ensuing year will close at the Club House at 4 p.m. Saturday, 24th July, 1948.

By order of the Committee.

J. S. NEILL,
Hon. Secretary.

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

President:

A. L. DOBBIE, Esq.

Vice-Presidents:

T. F. BRENNAN, Esq.

Dr. R. A. COOPER.

R. V. GREGG, Esq.

E. KENNY, Esq.

A. G. LINDBLADE, Esq.

J. M. McFARLANE, Esq.

J. L. MOUNSEY, Esq.

C. N. McKAY, Esq.

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

O.B.E.

J. H. PICKEN, Esq.

G. W. SMITH, Esq.

J. G. SPRIGG, Esq.

M. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Captain:

Mr. D. MORGAN.

Vice-Captain:

Mr. H. P. SHEARS.

Hon. Secretary:

Mr. J. S. NEILL.

Hon. Asst. Secretary:

Mr. W. MORRISON.

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. J. N. ROBERTSON.

Committee:

Mr. K. BILNEY.

Mr. N. W. CAIRNES.

Mr. J. H. CLARK.

Mr. L. L. B. MOLL.

Mr. J. SHEARS.

Mr. R. W. THURSFIELD.

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 Members:*

Mr. A. L. DOBBIE. Mr. K. BILNEY. Mr. N. W. CAIRNES.

Mr. E. KENNY. Mr. D. MORGAN. Mr. M. S. WILLIAMS.

Delegates to Upper Yarra Amateur Regatta Association:

Mr. L. L. B. MOLL, Mr. H. P. SHEARS.

Delegates to the Metropolitan Rowing Association:

Mr. H. D. DUNCAN, Mr. W. MORRISON.

Representative to Melbourne Amateur Regatta Association (Henley):

Mr. R. W. THURSFIELD.

Delegate to Victorian Amateur Sculling Association:

Mr. K. BILNEY.

THE SIXTY-EIGHTH 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-eighth Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

While your Club did not win either the Senior or Junior Premierships this year, it made a strong bid during the latter part of the season for success in the Junior division, and gained second place to Banks in this section. It is to be hoped that the racing experience gained by the crews this season will enable us to have a more successful season next year. In this regard all Members can assist by endeavouring to attract likely young men to the sport. The Club is fortunate in having a number of young and enthusiastic junior Members, to commence the 1948-49 season.

It will be noted, on reference to the "Boats and Oars" section of the Report, that a number of alterations have been made in the composition of the Fleet. The recent ruling of the V.R.A. regarding the use of Best and Best type racing boats, prompted your Committee to review the boat position. While the subject was under consideration, requests were received from Country Clubs for assistance in starting or augmenting existing fleets. Your Committee decided to dispose of several Clinker Fours with the view to purchasing further Best and Best boats. This policy has been carried out, and, in addition to the new boats already received, further orders have been placed for an additional Racing Eight and Four.

The King's Cup, rowed this year in Hobart, resulted in a win for the Haberfield Eight, which represented New South Wales. This crew is to be congratulated on a splendid victory.

Probably the most important rowing event of the past year was the selection of the Four to represent Australia at the forthcoming Olympic Games in England this year. Once again the thanks of Victorian oarsmen are due to Mr. R. W. Todd, who was successful in gaining this honour for Victoria. The Victorian crew consisted of J. Webster (bow), C. Smith (2), H. Lambie (3), W. Lambert (stroke), T. Darcy (cox), and was coached by Mr. Todd. This combination was chosen for the Olympic with B. Gosswell of N.S.W. as emergency. Every good wish is extended to this crew, which we are sure will prove worthy representatives of Australian Rowing. A point of interest to all Mercantile Members is the fact that the crew trained and raced in the "R. W. Thursfield," the new Best and Best Racing Four belonging to the Club.

Once again many of the Premiership points gained by the Club were earned at country Regattas. At Easter this year, the Club

attended the Mildura and Wentworth Regattas. All Members who were able to attend this fixture were unanimous in their praise of the hospitality extended to them. The Club again attended the Christmas double at Nagambie and Rutherglen. These fixtures were, as always, an outstanding success.

The thanks of all Members are due to the Social Committee for the active way in which they have conducted this side of the Club's activities. In addition to the Annual Dinner, a number of successful and most enjoyable dances have been held and now arrangements are being made to conduct a number of Picture Nights.

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

Financial.

The amount of subscriptions this financial year is slightly below the previous season. However, there is a most gratifying increase in the number of Junior Members.

Again, a number of Members have come to the assistance of the Club with generous donations.

Owing to the high cost of equipment and the purchase of new boats, a great strain has been placed on the Club's resources. This can best be illustrated by comparing the pre-war cost of a Racing Eight, approximately £130, with the present cost of approximately £300.

Executive and Committee.

Up to the time of this Report being put in the hands of the printer, eleven regular meetings and two special meetings of the Committee have been held. The attendance were as follows:—

K. Bilney	11	L. L. B. Moll ..	12	J. D. Shears ..	13
N. W. Cairnes .	12	D. Morgan ..	13	J. G. Sprigg ..	8
J. H. Clark ..	12	W. Morrison ..	12	R. W. Thursfield	12
A. L. Dobbie ..	11	J. S. Neill ..	13	E. K. Varcoe ..	12
E. Kenny	7	J. N. Robertson	13		
A. G. Lindblade	1	H. P. Shears ..	13		

Membership.

It will be noted that the Membership figures show an increase of thirty on last year. The most gratifying increase is that of seventeen in the Junior Membership. However, it must be realised that the amendment regarding Junior Members, confirmed at the last General Meeting, has transferred some of these from the Senior Membership List.

The Membership List now stands as follows:—

Life Members	7
Senior Members	170
Junior Members	40
Honorary Members	15
Country Members	17
Associate Members	18

Donations.

The Club wishes to take this opportunity to record its appreciation of the donations received from the following gentlemen:—

Messrs. J. Blair-Holt, O. Broughton, C. Burmeister, A. H. Clarke, Dr. R. A. Cooper, Messrs. A. L. Dobbie, R. V. Gregg, S. Guinn, E. Kenny, J. L. Mounsey, J. H. Picken, J. G. Sprigg, R. W. Thursfield, M. S. Williams, and there were two anonymous donations.

Boats and Oars.

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

RACING BOATS.		PRACTICE BOATS.		TUB BOATS.	
Best & 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	
R. W. Thursfield 4		C. J. Nicholls .. 8		A. G. Lindblade 2	
A. L. Dobbie ... 4		G. J. Horder .. 8		J. Watson 2	
G. T. Hastie .. 2		V. F. Mason .. 4		Scull No. 1.	
Lawrie Moll, Scull.		A. P. Miller .. 4		Scull No. 2.	
		H. G. Taylor .. 4			
Clinker.					
J. H. Bailey .. 8					
J. G. Sprigg .. 8					
E. Kenny 8					
A. R. Shannon .. 8					
L. B. Weire ... 4					
R. A. Cooper .. 2					

It will be noticed that there have been several changes made in the composition of the fleet since last year. As the recent ruling of the Victorian Rowing Association, regarding the use of Best & Best Racing Boats in all grades of rowing, is being implemented, our Committee has disposed of two of the Clinker Fours with the view to replacing them with Best & Best Boats. The Clinker four, "W. Potter," was damaged beyond repair while on loan to the Haberfield Rowing Club's Senior Four before the Henley Regatta. The Club was compensated by Haberfield Rowing Club to cover the loss.

Three additions have been made to the fleet during the past year, the "R. W. Thursfield"—Racing Four, the "G. T. Hastie"—Racing Pair, and the "Lawrie Moll"—Racing Scull. The purchase of the first two of these boats was made possible by the generous donation of Mr. R. W. Thursfield and the bequest by the late Mr. G. T. Hastie.

In addition to the boats already purchased, orders have been placed with Messrs. Geo. Towns & Sons of New South Wales, for a further Best & Best Eight and Four. Delivery of these boats is expected by the end of 1948 or early in 1949.

The work of converting the fleet to swivels has been continued, and it is hoped to have the job completed by the end of the winter season.

Several sets of Racing Oars have been purchased during the past year. In addition, the set of 10 Ayling oars, donated by Mr. R. W. Thursfield, arrived from England.

Owing to the difficulty of replacing material, and the high prices ruling at present, it cannot be over-emphasized that every care must be exercised in the handling of equipment. All Members can assist by effecting repairs, or reporting promptly any damage. This will, in many cases, enable repairs to be effected before the damage becomes too serious.

Coaching.

The gratitude of the Club is due to the following Members for the service they have rendered, by acting as Coaches in the past season: Messrs. K. Bilney, F. R. Browne, N. W. Cairnes, J. H. Clark, K. Connolly, W. Craddock, D. Crichton, Alec Dobbie, J. M. Ferguson, J. M. Fletcher, M. E. Green, G. R. Hiller, A. G. Lindblade, A. P. Miller, D. Morgan, K. Pope, S. G. Richardson, J. N. Robertson, C. Saleh, H. P. Shears, J. G. Sprigg, D. Stirling, R. W. Thursfield, P. Trouchet, W. Turnbull, P. M. Wade and W. Wallace. It is appreciated that many of these Members have assisted even though it called on them to sacrifice time that they could ill afford. Whether coaching racing crews, or in the less publicised job of teaching beginners the rudiments of the sport, these Members have done a splendid job for the Club.

Rowing.

Australian Championships.

24th April, 1948.

The Australian Eight-oared Championship for the King's Cup was rowed on the Derwent River at Hobart, Tasmania, and was won by the New South Wales crew. New South Wales was represented by a crew from the Haberfield Rowing Club and our congratulations are extended to them for a splendid victory.

Victoria was represented by the Corio Bay Senior Eight made up as follows: D. Bridges (bow), S. Rau (2), R. Wilson (3), S. Thomas (4), G. Craven (5), R. Barrow (6), T. Hoffman (7), I. Everist (stroke), D. Salmon (cox), A. B. Bell (coach). R. Boynton and M. Christie of the Melbourne Rowing Club were emergencies to the crew.

The Sculling Championship for the President's Cup was held on the same day and was won by M. T. Wood of New South Wales, with the Victorian representative, R. V. Rawlins, in second place.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

Champion Eights.—This race was conducted on the Lower Yarra on 21st February, 1948, and attracted an entry of five crews. The event was won by Corio Bay from Melbourne, with Mercantile in third place. Your Club was represented by—B. Johnson (bow), H. Shears (2), W. Wallace (3), J. Ferguson (4), H. Duncan (5), R. Aitken (6), L. Moll (7), J. Williams (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), C. Saleh (coach).

Champion Fours.—This event, raced on the Lower Yarra on 13th December, 1947, was won by Corio Bay from Melbourne and Footscray. There were five entries in this race. The Club's crew was: W. Wallace (bow), R. Aitken (2), L. Moll (3), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. P. Miller (coach).

Champion Pairs.—This event was conducted on Lake Wendouree, Ballarat, on the 3rd January, 1948. The race was won by Haberfield (N.S.W.) from Mercantile and Preston. Your representatives were: W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. P. Miller (coach). As the State Championship can be held only by a Victorian crew, this honour went to Mercantile.

Champion Sculls.—This 2½ mile event was rowed on the Lower Yarra on 13th March, 1948, and resulted in a win for R. Rawlins (Melb.), with J. Williams (Merchs.), in second place.

Champion Junior Eights.—Rowed over a 2 mile course on the Lower Yarra on 17th April, 1948, this event attracted an entry of four crews, the Banks crew was successful, winning from Corio Bay and Richmond. Your Club was not represented.

Champion Junior Lightweight Eights.—The race was rowed over the 1½ mile course on the Lower Yarra on 17th April, 1948. It was a splendid race and resulted in a win for the Club, with Banks in second place. The Club's crew was as follows:—W. Shears (bow), W. Craddock (2), K. Leggett (3), D. Brown (4), W. Morrison (5), J. Shears (6), G. Robertson (7), D. Crichton (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), N. Cairnes (coach).

Olympic Test Race Regatta.

3rd January, 1948.

Olympic Test Race.—This event was conducted on Lake Wendouree, at Ballarat, to decide the Australian Olympic crew at the forthcoming Olympic Games in England. After a splendid race the event was won by the Victorian crew by 1 length from the New South Wales crew with Queensland in third place. The Victorian crew was: J. Webster, South Melbourne (bow); C. Smith, Melbourne University (2); H. Lambie, Banks (3); W. Lambert, Richmond (stroke); T. Darcy, Derwent, Tas. (cox); R. W. Todd (coach).

Interstate Lightweight Fours.—This event resulted in a win for New South Wales with the Victorian crew in second place. J. Shears, from your club, was stroke of the Victorian crew.

Provincial Fours.—Corio Bay defeated a Provincial Club's crew.

1850 Metres Sculling Championship.—This event was won by the Victorian sculler, R. Rawlins (Melbourne), from K. Webb (Haberfield).

Regattas—V.R.A. Regatta.

15th November, 1947.

Senior Eight.—B. Johnson (bow), H. Shears (2), H. Duncan (3), J. Ferguson (4), F. Fogarty (5), L. Moll (6), J. Neill (7), J. Williams (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), C. Saleh (coach), were unsuccessful.

Senior Pair.—J. Blair-Holt (bow), K. Bilney (stroke), P. Trouchet, Jr. (cox), P. Trouchet (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Eight No. 1.—W. Morrison (bow), J. Shears (2), D. Williams (3), J. Peterson (4), F. Kain (5), M. Jeffries (6), H. Mahoney (7), J. Lemaire (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), R. Thursfield (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Eight No. 2.—T. Harrison (bow), D. Roach (2), N. Morrison (3), R. Mounsey (4), J. Saunders (5), N. Mackey (6), R. Milner (7), C. Murrell (stroke), T. Kendall (cox), K. Connolly (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Four.—G. Hyett (bow), V. Lillistone (2), T. McNiff (3), L. Clare (stroke), J. South, Jr. (cox), W. Turnbull (coach), were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Eight.—K. Leggett (bow), W. Bradshaw (2), G. Bade (3), D. Crichton (4), J. Malcom (5), D. Brown (6), G. Robertson (7), W. Craddock (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), N. Cairnes (coach), were successful in the heat but narrowly defeated in the final.

Henley Regatta.

22nd November, 1947.

The crews that represented your Club at the V.R.A. Regatta competed without success. As there was no Senior Pairs event, the Senior Pair was used as the nucleus of a Senior Four comprising W. Wallace (bow), R. Burston (2), J. Blair-Holt (3), K. Bilney (stroke), P. Trouchet, Jun. (cox), P. Trouchet (coach). This crew was unsuccessful.

Nagambie Regatta.

26th December, 1947.

Senior Four.—W. Wallace (bow), R. Aitken (2), L. Moll (3), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. P. Miller (coach), won this event in fine style.

Senior Pairs.—W. Wallace (bow), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. P. Miller (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Eights.—D. Naylor (bow), M. Naylor (2), S. Downes (3), J. Lemaire (4), H. Byrne (5), M. Jeffries (6), W. Morrison (7), C. Murrell (stroke), T. Kendall (cox), K. Connolly (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Fours.—V. Moll (bow), D. Fullagar (2), T. McNiff (3), R. Smith (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), K. Pope (coach), were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Four.—K. Leggett (bow), D. Crichton (2), G. Robertson (3), W. Craddock (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), M. Green (coach), were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Pairs.—O. Broughton (bow), A. Kohn (stroke), D. Christie (cox), J. Ferguson (coach), were unsuccessful.

Rutherglen Regatta.

1st January, 1948.

The Club was represented by the same crews as at the Nagambie Regatta, with the following results:—

Senior Four.—This crew completed a winning double.

Senior Pairs.—The crew won by 1 length.

Maiden Eights.—The crew was successful.

Maiden Fours.—The crew was unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Fours.—The crew was successful by 2 lengths.

Lightweight Maiden Pairs.—The crew was unsuccessful.

In addition to these crews your Club was represented by a Junior Four.

Junior Fours.—V. Moll (bow), D. Fullagar, (2), D. Morgan (3), R. Smith (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), K. Pope (coach), were unsuccessful.

Upper Yarra Regatta.

24th January, 1948.

Senior Eights.—W. Wallace (bow), B. Johnson (2), H. Duncan (3), J. Ferguson (4), F. Fogarty (5), R. Aitken (6), L. Moll (7), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), C. Saleh (coach), were unsuccessful.

Junior Eights.—W. Morrison (bow), G. Epstein (2), J. Farmer (3), M. Jeffries (4), I. Holyman (5), P. Macpherson (6), J. Neill

(7), R. Smith (stroke), M. Mounsey (cox), P. Wade (coach), were successful in the heat but defeated in the final.

Maiden Eights.—W. Shears (bow), R. Walker (2), J. Carr (3), R. Mounsey (4), D. Williams (5), T. Carlyon (6), H. Mahoney (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), D. Morgan (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Fours.—G. Bade (bow), V. Moll (2), L. Clare (3), G. Hyett (stroke), D. Christie (cox), K. Bilney (coach), were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Maiden Eights.—O. Broughton (bow), F. Brettell (2), A. Kohn (3), W. Bradshaw (4), K. Leggett (5), D. Brown (6), G. Robertson (7), D. Crichton (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), N. Cairnes (coach), were unsuccessful.

Albert Park Regatta.

26th January, 1948.

The crews representing your Club at the Upper Yarra Regatta competed again without success.

Ballarat Regatta.

28th February, 1948.

Senior Eights.—B. Johnson (bow), H. Shears (2), W. Wallace (3), J. Ferguson (4), H. Duncan (5), R. Aitken (6), L. Moll (7), J. Williams (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), C. Saleh (coach), were unsuccessful.

Senior Pairs.—J. Neill (bow), J. Blair-Holt (stroke), P. Trouchet, Jr. (cox), P. Trouchet (coach), were unsuccessful.

Junior Fours.—J. Farmer (bow), A. Atkins (2), I. Holyman (3), M. Jeffries (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. P. Miller (coach), were unsuccessful.

Junior Pairs.—W. Morrison (bow), G. Epstein (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), K. Bilney (coach). This crew also entered in the Maiden Pairs event but were unsuccessful in both races.

Junior Sculls.—K. Bilney won this event easily.

Maiden Eights No. 1.—W. Shears (bow), D. Williams (2), L. Clare (3), H. Mahoney (4), J. Kidd (5), T. Carlyon (6), N. Daniels (7), J. Shears (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), J. Fletcher (coach) finished second in a field of 19 crews after a splendid race.

Maiden Eights No. 2.—A. Kohn (bow), R. Richardson (2), G. Bade (3), F. Brettell (4), K. Leggett (5), D. Brown (6), G. Robertson (7), D. Crichton (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), N. Cairnes (coach), rowed splendidly to finish fourth, when it is realised that this was a crew of Lightweights.

Maiden Fours.—S. Smith (bow), R. Mounsey (2), S. Downes (3), J. Lemaire (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), Alec. Dobbie (coach), were unsuccessful.

Barwon Regatta.

6th March, 1948.

Your Club was represented by the same crews as at the Ballarat Regatta with the following results:—

Senior Eights.—Were unsuccessful.

Senior Pairs.—Were defeated.

- Junior Fours*.—Won the heat but were defeated in the final.
Maiden Eights No. 1.—Won heat and semi-final but were unsuccessful in the final.
Maiden Fours.—Were unsuccessful.
Maiden Pairs.—Won the final by 2 lengths.
Lightweight Maiden Eights.—Which competed as Maiden Eight No. 2 at Ballarat, won this event in fine style.

Mildura Regatta.

27th March, 1948.

Open Fours.—W. Wallace (bow), R. Aitken (2), L. Moll (3), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), J. Ferguson (coach), scored a fine win.

Junior Fours.—J. Farmer (bow), M. Jeffries (2), I. Holyman (3), P. Macpherson (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), K. Connolly (coach), won in fine style.

Junior Pairs.—B. Johnson (bow), A. Atkins (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), K. Bilney (coach), won this event.

Maiden Eights.—G. Bade (bow), R. Richardson (2), J. Carr (3), W. Craddock (4), D. Williams (5), R. Mounsey (6), K. Leggett (7), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox), H. Shears (coach), won this event by two feet.

Maiden Fours.—G. Richardson (bow), V. Moll (2), J. Morton (3), J. Lemaire (stroke), P. Trouchet, Jnr. (cox), J. Wilmot (coach), were unsuccessful.

Novice Pairs.—O. Broughton (bow), W. Bradshaw (stroke), P. Trouchet, Jnr. (cox), were unsuccessful.

Wentworth Regatta.

29th March, 1948.

Your Club was represented at this Regatta by the same crews as at Mildura with the addition of an Open Eight. The results were as follows:—

Open Eights.—W. Wallace (bow), M. Jeffries (2), J. Farmer (3), P. Macpherson (4), J. Ferguson (5), R. Aitken (6), L. Moll (7), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), won this by a canvas after a very exciting race.

Open Fours.—Completed a winning double.

Junior Fours.—Won again by one length.

Junior Pairs.—Completed the double.

Maiden Eights.—Completed a winning double.

Maiden Fours.—Were unsuccessful.

Novice Pairs.—Were unsuccessful.

Metropolitan Spring Novice Regatta.

13th September, 1947.

Lightweight Novice Fours.—O. Broughton (bow), K. Peterson (2), J. Mortimer (3), W. Bradshaw (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), A. Lindblade (coach) were unsuccessful.

Your Club's happy association with Scotch College was continued. Your thanks are due to the Captain of Boats, and Mr. Mitchell, for the wholehearted manner in which they assisted the Club Executive while the School was using the boathouse. In addition our cordial relationship with Wesley College was maintained.

Club Races.

PRESIDENT'S FOURS—6th SEPTEMBER, 1947.

This event was conducted in conjunction with Ladies' Day. Twelve crews competed for the trophies donated by the President, Mr. A. L. Dobbie; the successful crew was: A. Kohn (bow), R. Burston (2), J. Neill (3), J. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox).

MORELL COMBINATION EIGHTS—29th NOVEMBER, 1947.

This event, which was a feature of the Rowing Year before the war, was revived this year. The trophies were generously donated by the Morell family in remembrance of Sir Stephen Morell, and we were honoured by the presence of the late Lady Morell, who presented the trophies to the successful crew. Eighteen crews entered and all proceeds from this event were donated by the Club to the appeal for food parcels for Olympic oarsmen in England. The sum of £35 was raised for this worthy cause. The winning crew was: O. Broughton, Mercs. (bow); K. Day, Melb. (2); G. Robertson, Mercs. (3), T. Carlyon, Mercs. (4), J. Harrington, Rich. (5); R. Burston, Mercs. (6); D. Christie, A.P. (7); H. Shears, Mercs. (stroke); W. Bailey, Mercs. (cox).

S. GUINN CLUB PAIRS—22nd MAY, 1948.

An entry of eighteen crews was received for this event. The trophies were presented by Mr. Stan Guinn, and the successful crew was: W. McKechnie (bow), J. Shears (stroke), J. Murphy (cox).

ALEC CLARKE CLUB FOURS—29th MAY, 1948.

Nine crews competed in this event for trophies donated by Mr. Hugh Clarke as a memorial to his father, the late Mr. Alex Clarke. The winning crew was: S. Smith (bow), F. Brettell (2), W. Shears (3), J. Shears (stroke), I. Brown, Melbourne R.C. (cox).

PICKEN-WILLIAMS EIGHTS—26th JUNE, 1948.

Despite inclement weather, there was an entry of six crews for this popular fixture. We were fortunate in having Mrs. Picken and Mrs. Williams present to present the trophies to the winning crew. The trophies were, once again, generously donated by Mr. Picken and Mr. Williams, and our thanks are extended to these gentlemen. The successful crew was: S. G. Richardson (bow), A. Kohn (2), G. Butt (3), D. Roach (4), S. Smith (5), J. Blair-Holt (6), G. Robertson (7), J. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox).

SPRIGG TIME TRIAL.

This popular winter season event has again been conducted for trophies donated by Mr. J. G. Sprigg. Once again the time trial has been raced over the seven-mile course on the Lower Yarra, and many crews have already gone over the course. As this event does not terminate until the day of the Annual Meeting, the names of the winning crew cannot be included in this Report. The successful crew last year was: K. Leggett (bow), J. Shears (2), W. Hidgcock (3), M. Jeffries (4), H. Duncan (5), L. Moll (6), J. Neill (7), H. Shears (stroke), B. Jeffery (cox), with the time of 45 min. 12 sec.

POINTS COMPETITION.

The Captain's Trophy.—The Captain, Mr. Deane Morgan, has presented a trophy to be decided on points. Points are awarded for starts in all races with an additional point for a win. As the result of this competition is affected by the Sprigg Time Trial, the winner will not be known until the night of the Annual Meeting. Last year the trophy, donated by Mr. A. H. Clarke, was won by Mr. H. P. Shears.

Coxswain's Trophies.—The shield, presented by Mr. M. Bailey, for the Champion Coxswain of the Club, was once again won by Master B. Jeffrey.

The trophy for the most improved coxswain, donated by Mr. E. K. Varcoe, was won by Master W. Bailey, who, in addition to the races he steered for the Club, was selected to steer the Scotch College crew in the Head of the River.

Once again your thanks are extended to the lads who, while they were not successful in either of the above competitions, rendered great service to the Club by their regular attendance at the Boat-house.

Honour Board.

On Anzac Day, the Honour Board, recording the Club's appreciation of the service rendered to their country by Club members in the Second Great War, 1939-45, was unveiled in the Locker-room. The ceremony was performed in a solemn and dignified manner by Capt. G. Horder, who served in both the 1914-18 and the 1939-45 Wars.

The Honour Board lists the names of those Club Members who made the supreme sacrifice. The names of all other Members who enlisted in the Services, have been inscribed in the Book of Remembrance which will be placed in the new Honour Board at an early date.

Tribute must be paid to the splendid work done by Mrs. N. W. Cairnes in undertaking the big task of preparing this Book. The craftsmanship is of a very high standard. Also, your thanks are due to Mr. W. A. Trickett, who secured the paper and arranged for the binding. When the Book is placed on view, all Members will realise, and fully appreciate, their efforts for the Club in this matter.

Social Activities.

In expressing your appreciation of the work done in the past season by the Social Committee, particular emphasis must be laid on the magnificent job done by Mr. Bill Morrison. He has been tireless in his efforts and a considerable amount of the credit must be paid to him. The Social activities of the past year are briefly listed hereunder.

Ladies' Day.—This popular function was again well attended. The weather was kind, and good racing was provided in the President's Fours. Mrs. Norman Cairnes did much to ensure the success of this fixture.

Annual Dinner.—The Annual Dinner was held in the Lower Town Hall on 10th December, 1947. The Dinner was attended by over 100 past and present Members.

Dances.—The cabaret dances at the Dorchester have been conducted during the year and continue to prove popular with all Members.

Golf Tournament.—Mr. A. Sloss again conducted this popular Banks-Mercantile event. This year it was an even more marked success. The tournament resulted in a draw.

Christening of New Boats.—There have been three new boats christened during the past season. The boats were the racing scull, christened the "Lawrie Moll" on 6th September by Miss Moll; the racing pair, "G. T. Hastie," on 8th November, by Mr. and Mrs. Hastie, the parents of the late Geoff Hastie; the racing four "R. W. Thursfield," on 20th December, by Mrs. Thursfield. Your thanks are expressed to these good people for assisting us in this matter.

General.

Once again our thanks are due to Mr. Harvie Picken for his assistance in the matter of printing this Annual Report and Balance Sheet. With all printing materials still in short supply, and despite extreme pressure of business, Mr. Picken readily agreed to handle the job for the Club.

The Club's appreciation is expressed to Mr. Frank Morris, of the Banks Bowing Club, for his assistance in the organisation of the Morell Combination Eights.

Once again the Club has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Ron Roberts to maintain the fleet. Aided by his chief assistants Lawrie Moll and Herb. Shears, and other Members, he has done a fine job of keeping the fleet in service.

Your thanks are tendered to the Members who assisted in the repainting of the Boathouse. In this regard, particular mention must be made of the work done by Graham Richardson, Barry Johnson, and Ron Syme. These three devoted a large part of their leisure time to this work.

A "welcome home" is expressed to Alan Gordon and Jeff Macartney who have returned home after trips overseas.

A notable absentee from this Annual Meeting will be Mr. J. Sprigg who is overseas on business. Mr. Sprigg advised the President that he would be unable to be present, but expressed his confidence that during the winter months the Club Members would cultivate "the Will to Win," and during the next season would "Get out in front and stay in front" thus gaining "Points for Premierships." To him, your best wishes for a successful trip and a safe return.

Masters W. Bailey, D. Christie, B. Jeffery, T. Kendall, B. Lynch, M. Mounsey, J. Murphy, J. South and P. Trouchet have rendered the Club great service as coxswains during the year.

Your good wishes for future happiness and prosperity are extended to Messrs. R. Cliff, J. Donaldson, J. Fletcher, R. Morell, G. Sheppard, G. Tatnall, N. Watson, who joined the ranks of the benedicts during the year.

Our congratulations are extended to Messrs. A. Abromwich, H. Clarke, A. Gordon, G. Hiller, J. McD. Jones, J. Mitchell, F. Newport, D. Palfreyman, C. Raven, C. Saleh, K. Smith, R. Thursfield, P. Vanderkelen, C. Ward, L. Weire, and C. Wilkinson on additions to their families.

Our sincere sympathy is offered to Messrs. J. Dunstan, L. Fosdick, J. Macartney, R. Morell, W. and N. Morrison, H. Picken, J. Thomas, W. Turnbull, who suffered bereavements during the past year.

We are glad to hear that John Neill is almost recovered from the accident in which he broke his legs.

Our congratulations to Jack Farmer, Mal Jeffries, I. Holyman and Peter Macpherson who rowed such a good race when representing the Club in the Junior Fours at the Royal Hobart Regatta.

In connection with the money received for the Food for Olympic oarsmen, a donation of £10 was made by the Club to the appeal conducted by the V.R.A. In addition, the Club has forwarded 25 parcels to Members of the Thames Rowing Club, England, who assisted us by acting as recipients for the parcels, and then passing them on to the English Olympic Crews. By the time of the General Meeting, a further 25 parcels will have been forwarded, on a similar arrangement, to the London Rowing 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,

J. S. NEILL, Hon. Secretary.

Addendum.

Once again it is my privilege, on behalf of every member, to express sincere thanks to the Committee and chief Executive Officers for the fine work they have done during the past season. It can readily be appreciated that the management of a Club with a membership of 267 entails a great deal of work and careful attention to detail, a point which is sometimes lost sight of by Members, who take it for granted that everything should go along smoothly.

While not wishing to individualise, it is but fitting that special reference should be made to Mr. L. Moll, who has been the prime mover in keeping the fleet in order during the past few seasons. He has devoted a great deal of time to this work, and has saved the Club much expense.

Others who have been particularly prominent are Mr. N. W. Cairnes, whose long experience and sound judgment have been readily available, and Mr. W. Morrison, who has done excellent work as Assistant Secretary and Social Secretary. Special thanks are due to our Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. S. Neill, who, unfortunately, finds that he will not be able to continue in this important office. The manner in which he has prepared this report is an indication of his thoroughness.

A. L. DOBBIE,
President.

Obituary.

It is with the deepest regret that we record the passing of one of our Life Members, Mr. P. C. Ivens, at the age of 78 years. In the list of great oarsmen produced in this State, Mr. Ivens will for all time possess an honoured place.

His list of successes in this sport is truly remarkable. It includes the Australian Sculling Championship in 1906-1907; the Victorian Sculling Championship 1901-8 and 1909-10, a record unapproached by any other sculler; the Australian eight-oared Championship in 1901-2; the Victorian eight-oared Championship 1900-8; Victorian Championship Fours 1900-2 and 1906-7; Victorian Championship Pairs 1900-1. In addition to these successes he won many races for the Club.

As well as his rowing ability, Mr. Ivens rendered sterling service to the Club in his capacity as Honorary Treasurer.

The shock of his death was all the more severe to us, when it is remembered that he made a special trip to Melbourne to be present at our last General Meeting.

Victorian rowing is the poorer for his passing.

It was with great regret that Members learned of the death of Lady Morell, which occurred a short time after she had presented the trophies for the Morell Combination Eights. Lady Morell was the wife of Sir Stephen Morell, who was President of the Club from 1905 to 1933, and she took a keen interest in its welfare. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the members of her family.

List of Members, 1947-8.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Dobbie, A. L.	Mounsey, J. L.	Sprigg, J. G.
Guinn, S.	Picken, J. H.	
Kenny, E.	Potter, W.	

SENIOR MEMBERS.

Abromwich, W.	Ferguson, R.	Morrison, W.
Aitken, R. R.	Fletcher, J. M.	Morton, J. C.
Appleby, J. P.	Fogarty, F.	Mounsey, R. J.
Aspinall, J. O.	Folk, J. W.	Naylor, D. H. L.
Atkins, A. H.	Ford, H. L.	Naylor, M. C. L.
Bailey, J. H.	Fosdick, L. V.	Neill, James
Bailey, M.	Francis, R.	Newport, F.
Baker, J. H.	French, L. P.	Nicholls, D. R.
Benton, B.	Galvin, V. C.	Nixon, N. V.
Benton, G.	Gluyas, W. R.	Oberhansli, W.
Bilney, K.	Grabham, B. L.	Palfreyman, D. B.
Birch, W. C.	Gray, W. L.	Payton, T.
Black, I. O.	Green, I. M.	Pitt, W. G.
Blair-Holt, J.	Green, M. E.	Ponsford, H. M.
Bolton, R. S.	Grimes, G. H.	Poore, L. H.
Bourke, B. F.	Hansen, M. E.	Pope, K.
Bradshaw, J. W.	Harry, C. M.	Radcliffe, J.
Brettell, F. V.	Hidcock, W.	Raven, C. F.
Broughton, O. S.	Hill, J.	Richardson, R.
Brown, A. D.	Hiller, G. L.	Richardson, S. G.
Browne, F. R.	Hollidge, D. J.	Roach, D. F.
Byrne, H. S.	Holyman, G. I.	Robertson, J. N.
Cairnes, N. W.	Holder, G. J.	Rogers, L. W.
Calder, D. A.	Hyett, G. S.	Rorke, A. T.
Carr, J. P.	Johnson, G. B.	Rush, R. T.
Castieau, G.	Johnston, S. C.	St. Clair, W. D.
Chitty, J. W.	Jones, J. McD.	Saleh, C.
Clare, L. E. A.	Kain, B. F.	Sanderson, S. O.
Clark, J. H.	Kerr, R. J.	Shears, E.
Clarke, A. H.	Kerrigan, N.	Shears, H. P.
Clemens, J. B.	Koch, A.	Shears, J. D.
Clemens, W. H.	Lemaire, J. E.	Sheppard, G.
Connolly, K.	Lindblade, A. G.	Sheppard, Geoff.
Cooper, K. N.	Long, D.	Sloss, A.
Cooper, R. A.	McKay, T.	Smith, G., Jnr.
Corteen, L. K.	McLean, D. V.	Smith, K.
Craig, J.	McNiff, T. F.	Smith, R.
Crichton, J. P.	Macartney, J.	Smith, V. W.
Davies, M. H.	Macfarlane, J. M.	Soward, R. S.
Day, R. G.	Mackey, N.	Spencer, H. T.
Dennis, D. C.	Macrae, D. M.	Stirling, D. S.
Dobbie, A. W.	Mahoney, H.	Stooke, G. F.
Donaldson, J. C.	Marsh, T. W.	Syme, R. York.
Dowd, M. C.	Meates, R. W.	Thomas, J. C.
Duncan, A. R.	Miller, A. P.	Thursfield, R. W.
Duncan, H. D.	Milner, R.	Tippett, G.
Duncan, R. G.	Moll, L. L. B.	Treharne, A. G.
Dunstan, J. T.	Moll, V. R.	Trickett, W. A.
Epstein, G. L.	Morell, D. R.	Trouchet, P. A.
Fairbairn, J. L.	Morell, R. T.	Tulloch, W.
Ferguson, J. M.	Morgan, D.	Turnbull, W. R.

Vanderkelen, P.	Watson, N. P.	Williams, J.
Varcoe, E. K. L.	Webster, G. H.	Williams, M. S.
Wade, P. M., Jnr.	White, E. C.	Wilson, K.
Volk, H.	White, W.	Wright, P.
Wallace, W.	White, H. R. H.	Young, W. E.
Ward, C. H. M.	Wilkinson, C.	

JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Bade, G.	Honan, F. J.	Peterson, J. W.
Balfour-Smith, R.	Jeffries, M. F.	Robertson, G. A.
Benton, G.	Kidd, J. D. S.	Saunders, J. F.
Carlyon, T. S.	Kohn, A.	Shears, T. W.
Cranswick, D. W.	Leggett, J. K.	Smith, S. M.
Craddock, W.	McDonough, D.	Sprigg, J. B.
Crichton, D.	McKechnie, W. S.	Summerfield, J. K.
Daniels, N.	Malcom, J. B.	Telford, J. E.
Downes, S. T.	Morrison, N. V.	Trickett, R. W.
Francis, R.	Mortimer, J. C.	Walker, R. A.
Fullagar, R.	Murray, M. D. G.	Ward, L. R.
Gluyas, V.	Murrell, C. G.	Williams, D. F.
Griffin, K. R.	Moir, J.	
Harrison, T. M.	Peach, N. J.	

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Brooke, D. C.	Gibbs, A. A.	Rush, H. R.
Burmeister, C.	Hill, L.	South, J.
Burton, A. J.	Mitchell, J. T.	Stephenson, C. E.
Butler, L.	Nicholls, C. J.	Wade P. M., Snr.
Davey, G. H.	O'Rielly, J.	Weire, L. B.

COUNTRY MEMBERS.

Bannerman, N. G.	Gregg, R. V.	Rees, J.
Bligh, A. R.	Harper, W. R.	Reidy, J. J.
Brooke, D. C.	McKenzie, J.	Ross, W. G.
Burston, R. A.	Macpherson, P.	Spalding, N. J.
Cooper, W. A.	Mollard, K. F.	Stubley, J. L.
Dakin, A. E.	Peppard, J.	

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Ahlston, P.	Kendall, W. J.	Stewart, S. C.
Baldwin, C. L.	Peterson, C. W.	Stooke, T. B.
Baldwin, H.	Seamen, J. W.	Strang, D. J.
Dennis, C. F.	Smith, R. W.	Tibbitts, I. D.
Evans, E. A.	Spalding, D. J.	Varcoe, E. K.
Grant, W. G.	Smith, U. R.	Wicks, J.

REVENUE ACCOUNT for 12 months ending 30th June, 1948.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions	£684 6 0	Repairs to Boats, Oars and Shed	£209 0 6
Less V.R.A. Capitation Fee	40 0 0	Depreciation	184 13 1
	—	General Expenses	124 15 11
Donations	£644 6 0	Lighting, General and Water Rates	37 7 11
Interest	205 19 3	Insurance	26 6 5
Entrance Fees, Club Races	20 2 11	Telephone	6 15 1
	17 1 9	Trophies, Club Races	20 9 4
		Freight to Country Regattas	94 6 6
		Entrance Fees, Regatta Races	16 14 6
		Upper Yarra Rowing Association	2 2 0
		Amateur Sculling Association	0 10 6
		Metropolitan Rowing Association	0 10 6
		Coxswains' Expenses, Country Regattas	1 2 0
		Olympic Food Parcels	35 0 0
		Balance Transferred to Capital Account	127 15 8
			£887 9 11
	£887 9 11		

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

J. N. ROBERTSON,
 Hon. Treasurer.

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June, 1948.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Sundry Creditors	Boat House
Subscriptions Paid in Advance	Boat and Sculls
Boat Building Reserve	Purchases
Capital as at 30th June, 1947	Disposals
Add Balance from Revenue this Period	Less Depreciation
3,866 12 1	£2,082 1 1
£55 0 0	£612 0 0
8 9 6	300 4 8
7 14 8	£912 4 8
£3,738 16 5	121 0 0
127 15 8	£791 4 8
3,866 12 1	184 4 8
£3,937 16 3	607 0 0
£3,937 16 3	363 15 0
£3,937 16 3	72 10 0
£3,937 16 3	500 0 0
£3,937 16 3	33 0 0
£3,937 16 3	92 6 6
£3,937 16 3	£72 12 11
£3,937 16 3	114 10 9
£3,937 16 3	187 3 8
£3,937 16 3	£3,937 16 3

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

J. N. ROBERTSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

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