

MERCANTILE ROWING
CLUB



MELBOURNE

72nd
Annual Report
and
Balance Sheet

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SEASON 1951-52

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

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Vice-Presidents:

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Vice-Captain:

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Hon. Secretary:

Mr. E. C. WHITE.

Hon. Asst. Secretary:

Mr. D. J. CRICHTON.

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. R. H. RICHARDSON.

Committee:

Mr. W. T. MORRISON

Mr. N. W. CAIRNES.

Mr. L. L. B. MOLL,

(Resigned 13/8/51)

Mr. D. J. MORGAN.

Mr. J. P. CARR,

(Appointed 12/9/51)

Mr. J. D. SHEARS

Mr. R. W. THURSFIELD

Mr. W. L. WALLACE

Hon. Auditor:

Mr. F. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A. (Dec.)

Hon. Solicitor:

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

Victorian Rowing Association:

Executive Members: Representative Members: Elected Members:

Mr. E. KENNY. Mr. R. R. AITKEN. Mr. N. W. CAIRNES.

Mr. D. J. MORGAN. Mr. H. P. SHEARS. Mr. M. S. WILLIAMS.

Delegates to Upper Yarra Amateur Regatta Association:

Mr. L. L. B. MOLL, Mr. W. T. MORRISON.

Delegates to Metropolitan Rowing Association:

Mr. R. R. AITKEN, Mr. J. D. SHEARS.

Representative to Melbourne Amateur Regatta Association (Henley):

Mr. D. J. MORGAN.

Delegate to Victorian Amateur Sculling Association:

Mr. K. BILNEY.

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB



Princes Bridge,
Melbourne.

11th June, 1952

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Seventy-second ANNUAL MEETING** of the **MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB** will be held at the **CLUB HOUSE** on **SATURDAY, 28th JUNE, 1952**, at 8 p.m. (The Annual Smoke Night will be held at the conclusion of the Meeting.)

BUSINESS:

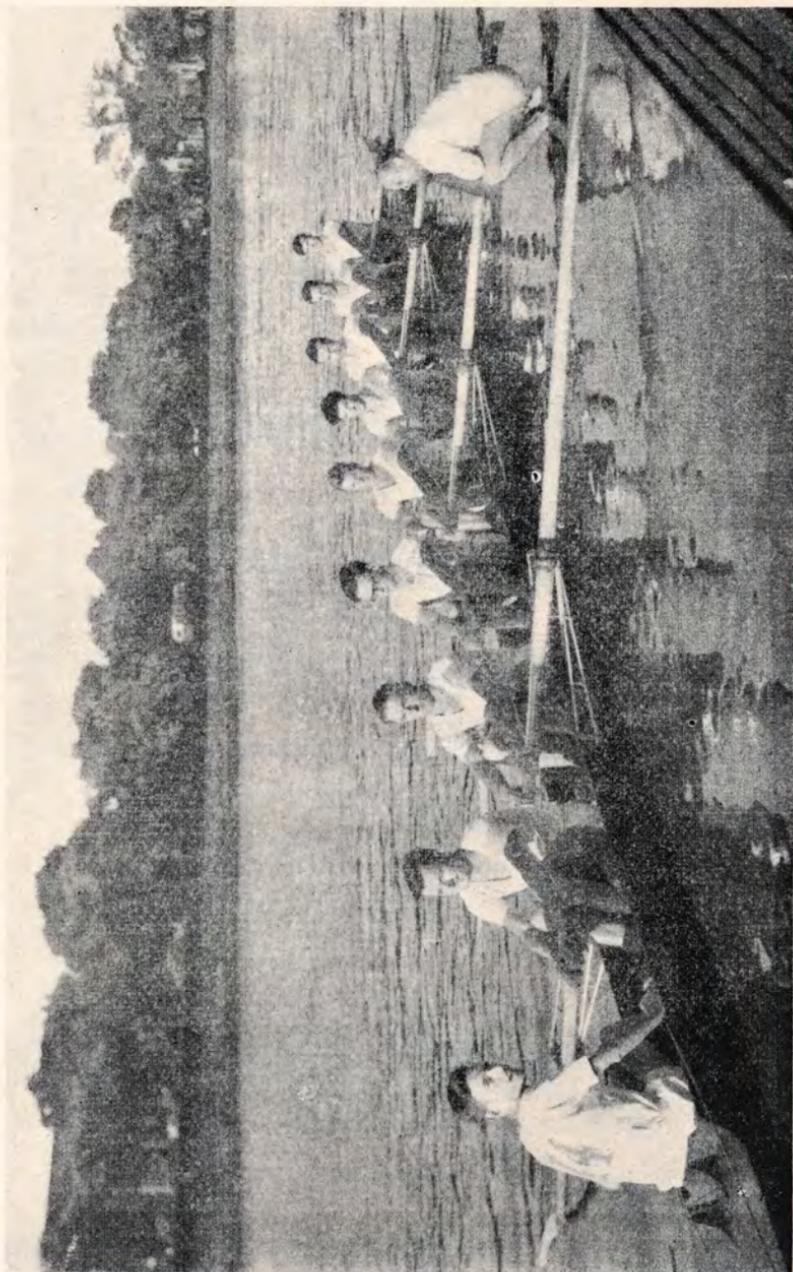
1. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the Previous General Meeting.
3. To elect Office-Bearers for the ensuing year.
4. To consider the recommendation of the Committee that Mr. N. W. Cairnes be made a Life Member of the Club.
5. Presentation of Trophies.
6. General.

Nominations for Office-Bearers for the ensuing year will close at the Club House at 4 p.m., Saturday, 21st June, 1952.

By order of the Committee,

E. C. WHITE.

Hon. Secretary.



The Champion Eight of Victoria, 1952

THE SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Mercantile Rowing Club

To the Members of the Mercantile Rowing Club:

Gentlemen,

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting for your consideration the 72nd Annual Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st May, 1952.

The major rowing event of the year, The King's Cup race, was held at Penrith this season, when the Victorian crew, consisting largely of members of your Club, was successful in regaining this most coveted trophy. In record time, Victoria defeated, by four lengths, the New South Wales eight, which will represent Australia at Helsinki.

In reviewing the activities of your Club for the past year, we are proud to record a most successful rowing season, during which the Club won most convincingly both the Senior and Lightweight Premier-ships.

Probably the most outstanding of the Club's achievements this season, and that most gratifying to our supporters, was the unbroken line of victories at the V.R.A. and Henley Regattas, which are generally regarded as the leading regattas of the year. In all, five doubles were won, two of them being completed at Henley against Interstate opposition. The Gilbey Cup (V.R.A.) and the Grand Challenge Cup were both retained by the Senior Eight, and in the Senior Fours your crew completed a fine double by winning the Stewards' Challenge Cup. Other crews completing winning doubles were the Junior Four, Maiden Eight and Lightweight Four.

Following upon last season's success in Senior rowing, your Club was untroubled to win the Senior Premiership. The Senior Eight won all eight-oared events in grand style, culminating with the Victorian Eight-Oared Championship when the Norwich Shield was taken for the second successive year.

The Champion Pairs were secured after a thrilling race from the crew which subsequently won the Olympic Test Race in Perth.

In winning the Lightweight Premiership, your lightweight oarsmen must be congratulated on a remarkable achievement. Only ten men rowed in this division during the season, and each winning crew was faced with a fifty per cent. change in personnel. The Lightweight Champion Fours, together with nine other fours, and two pairs, secured the premiership.

In December your Club was again represented at the Metropolitan Regatta in Sydney, in both Senior Eights and Fours, and the crews, though unsuccessful, had a very enjoyable trip.

In the Junior Division your Club finished third to Yarra Yarra and Banks. After a most successful start, when 32 points were added after the first three regattas, your Club had no success of note until a strong eight was successful in winning the Champion Junior Eights. Probably the most gratifying features are that the Junior events won by the Club this season have all been good ones, and the standard of oarsmen in this division indicates that we may confidently look forward to continued success in Senior rowing next year.

Thirty-four races were won during the season, and this success is in no small way attributable to the usual high standard of coaching. Maiden ranks have been exhausted, and to ensure that your selectors have enough men available for the coming season, your Committee urges you to recruit suitable young men to the sport.

Country Regattas did not enjoy the support they have had in past seasons, and as a result very few premierships points were scored away from the main Regattas. At Christmas and the New Year members attended Nagambie, Yarrowonga and Rutherglen, while at Easter your Club supported the Mildura and Wentworth Regattas. All members who attended these trips will recommend them as a memorable holiday.

In September last year, The Melbourne Grammar School Boatshed was completely demolished by fire. Your sympathy was at once conveyed to the school, together with an offer of all possible assistance. We have, during the past few months, housed the boat and oars for the First Eight, and provided a practice boat and oars for the use of a junior crew in the early part of its training. Our own Club House was fortunate to escape with only superficial damage to the eastern wall. The wall and the windows were renewed by our Insurance Company.

In view of this disastrous fire, your Committee decided that sheps should be taken to provide adequate fire protection, and, as a result, an Extraordinary General Meeting was called. The decisions of this meeting have been communicated to all members, and are recorded elsewhere in this report.

Social Fixtures were well attended during the season, and to the Social Committee credit is due for excellent organisation. A more detailed report is submitted for your review.

Financial

Your Committee is rather concerned at the unsatisfactory position disclosed in the Club's Accounts. When the subscription was raised a year or so ago it was hoped that the Club's normal revenue would be adequate to meet current expenses and provide a reserve for the purchase of new boats. It is apparent that during the past year expenses have absorbed the whole of our revenue despite the fact the receipts from subscriptions increased by £120.

The installation of the fire alarm system was financed almost wholly by donations, and the purchase money for new boats was provided from accumulations of past years and by bank overdraft.

Members may be interested to know that new racing eights will with the increased sales tax now cost well over £500, a new racing

Donations

In addition to the support of Members to the Fire Alarm Fund, the Club desires to place on record its appreciation of the further assistance provided by the following, and your thanks are due for their generosity: the family of the late Sir Stephen Morell, the Harlequin Club, Messrs. M. Bailey, J. W. Beattie, the late F. R. Browne, A. L. Dobbie, S. Guinn, A. G. Lindblade, J. O'Reilly, J. H. Picken, G. R. B. Patterson, J. G. Sprigg, M. S. Williams and E. K. L. Varcoe.

Boats and Oars

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

RACING BOATS	PRACTICE BOATS	TUB BOATS
Deane Morgan . . . 8	S. C. Macrae . . . 8	N. W. Cairnes . . . 4
R. W. Thursfield 4	C. F. Raven . . . 8	M. S. Williams . . . 4
A. L. Dobbie . . . 4	J. L. Mounsey . . . 8	E. K. Varcoe . . . 4
H. P. Shears . . . 2	C. J. Nicholls . . . 8	F. R. Browne . . . 2
G. T. Hastie . . . 2	G. J. Horder . . . 8	W. T. Morrison . . . 2
Lawrie Moll . . . Scull	V. F. Mason . . . 4	S. G. Richardson 2
		A. G. Lindblade 2
		Scull

CLINKER RACING

J. H. Bailey . . . 8	J. G. Sprigg . . . 8	L. B. Weire . . . 4
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It will be noticed that during the year the strength of the fleet has been increased by one Racing Pair, one Tub Four, and three Tub Pairs. It will also be noted that the Tub Pairs "J. H. Picken" and "J. Watson" are deleted from the list; both being sold to Camperdown Rowing Club in order to provide more funds towards the purchase of the new craft. During the season one tub scull was damaged and it was decided that it would not be worth while to repair this boat.

The tub boats completed the order placed with H. Louder, of Adelaide, and Members who have used the boats will endorse the action of the Committee in replacing completely this section of the fleet. The Racing Pair was built by A. Sykes, of Geelong, and has proved very satisfactory.

Of the five new boats, two were christened on Ladies' Day, the "F. R. Browne" and the "W. T. Morrison". It is proposed that the Racing Pair "H. P. Shears", the Tub Four "M. S. Williams", and the Tub Pair "S. G. Richardson" will be christened on Ladies' Day next season.

Coaching

The Club is deeply mindful of the valuable services rendered by the Coaches, Messrs. K. Boney, D. A. Calder, N. W. Cairnes, D. J. Crichton, R. G. Day, A. B. Kohn, W. T. Morrison, S. G. Richardson, H. P. Shears, J. D. Shears, D. S. Stirling, P. A. Trouchet. To these gentlemen we offer our congratulations, and trust they will be able to continue with their valuable assistance in the coming year.

To Members who, during the year have given time to the teaching of Novices, we extend our thanks. The importance of this activity cannot be too greatly stressed, and every member who has benefited from regular coaching should regard it as an obligation to take part in this work.

Rowing

Australian Championships

10th May, 1952

The Australian Eight-Oared Championship for the King's Cup was contested at Penrith, New South Wales, all States competing. The race was won by Victoria, who out-rowed the New South Wales Olympic Eight in the record time of 15 min. 30 4/5 sec. to win in magnificent style by four lengths, with Tasmania third.

Victoria was represented by: W. L. Wallace (Mercantile), bow; B. J. Doyle (Mercantile), 2; H. D. Duncan (Mercantile), 3; W. O. Granowski (Mercantile), 4; P. N. Everest (University), 5; N. Howell (Banks), 6; A. G. Barrett (Mercantile), 7; R. R. Aitken (Mercantile), stroke; W. M. Bailey (Mercantile), cox; N. W. Cairnes (Mercantile), coach; J. S. Rowe (Mercantile), emergency; and D. J. Morgan (Mercantile), manager.

On the same day the Sculling Championship for the President's Cup was held, and M. T. Wood, of New South Wales, recorded his seventh successive win in breaking the record established by H. R. Pearce in 1928.

To the Victorian crew, and to Mervyn Wood, on outstanding performances, your congratulations are conveyed.

It will be noted your Club was particularly well represented in Interstate rowing in having no less than six members of the crew, coxswain, coach, emergency and manager. To these gentlemen we extend our heartiest congratulations on a wonderful victory.

State Championship Events

Champion Eights.—This event was rowed on the Lower Yarra course on the 16th February, 1952, when four crews competed. Your club was again successful, winning comfortably from University, with Banks and Albert Park finishing in that order. The crew consisted: W. L. Wallace (bow), J. D. Shears (2), J. S. Rowe (3), B. J. Doyle (4), H. D. Duncan (5), W. O. Granowski (6), A. G. Barrett (7), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. M. Bailey (cox), N. W. Cairnes (coach).

Champion Fours.—This event was held on the 15th December, 1951. As the umpire decided that the Lower course was unsuitable for racing, the crews raced in heats over the New Henley mile. Four crews took part and Banks defeated the Preston-Melbourne Composite crew by one length. Your crew consisted: F. Noble (bow), J. W. Peterson (2), J. S. Rowe (3), R. G. Day (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), D. A. Calder (coach).

Champion Pairs.—Rowed at Nagambie on the 26th December, 1951, when your representatives won a thrilling race by defeating

Melbourne in a field of six entries. Your crew was as follows: W. L. Wallace (bow), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. Bailey (cox).

Champion Sculls.—This race was rowed downstream on the 16th February, 1952, and resulted in a win for the titleholder R. Rawlins (Melbourne), from R. Willis (Essendon). Your representative was R. G. Day, who finished fourth.

2,000 Metre Sculling Championship.—Held on the Lower Yarra course, resulting in a row-over for R. Willis of Essendon.

Champion Junior Eights.—Rowed on the 2,000 metre course on the 29th March, 1952, six crews competing, resulting in a convincing win for your representatives.

Your club was represented by: S. M. Smith (bow), R. J. Oliver (2), J. H. Beecham (3), G. Manton (4), K. A. Levi (5), I. McEacharn (6), M. D. Murray (7), A. B. Kohn (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), H. P. Shears (coach).

Champion Lightweight Eight.—This race was rowed on the Lower course on the 29th March, 1952, resulting in a win for Ballarat from Corio Bay. Your club did not enter in this event.

Champion Junior Fours.—Six crews took part in this event, which was rowed on the New Henley mile on the 15th December, 1952, in three heats. Yarra Yarra won this event from Corio Bay. Your crew, which consisted, N. Ashkanasy (bow), A. B. Kohn (2), S. M. Smith (3), B. J. Doyle (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), were eliminated in their heat.

Champion Lightweight Fours.—Rowed on the New Henley mile on 15th December in heats attracting an entry of six crews. Your crew which consisted of: C. D. Lewis (bow), R. H. Richardson (2), W. T. Morrison (3), D. J. Crichton (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), K. Bilney (coach), won their heat and final convincingly in this event.

Champion Lightweight Pairs.—This event was rowed at Nagambie on 26th December, 1951, resulting in a win for Banks. Your representatives were A. B. Kohn (bow), D. J. Crichton (stroke), P. Wilson (cox).

Regattas

Melbourne Regatta

17th November, 1951

Senior Eight.—W. L. Wallace (bow), J. D. Shears (2), H. D. Duncan (3), D. Olliff (4), J. M. Ferguson (5), W. O. Granowski (6), A. G. Barrett (7), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. M. Bailey (cox), N. W. Cairnes (coach), retained the Gilbey Cup by defeating Banks comfortably.

Senior Four.—F. Noble (bow), J. W. Peterson (2), J. S. Rowe (3), R. G. Day (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), D. A. Calder (coach), won their heat and final in fine style.

Junior Four.—S. M. Smith (bow), A. H. Purves (2), W. Wheatland (3), R. J. Oliver (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), P. A. Trouchet (coach), won their heat and final of this event.

Maiden Eight.—E. C. White (bow), D. G. Ball (2), J. Morganti (3), P. F. Moloughney (4), N. Ashkanasy (5), G. Manton (6), W. G. Wischer (7), B. J. Doyle (stroke), P. Hoppe (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), were untroubled to win their heat and final.

Lightweight Four.—C. D. Lewis (bow), R. H. Richardson (2), W. T. Morrison (3), D. J. Crichton (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), K. Bilney (coach), were successful in their heat and final of this race.

Henley Regatta

24th November, 1951

Senior Eight.—Your representatives from the Melbourne Regatta defeated Sandy Bay (Tas.) in their heat, and after a thrilling race won by a length from Haberfield (N.S.W.), to retain the Grand Challenge Cup.

Senior Four.—The crew of the previous regatta won their heat and final convincingly to take the Stewards' Challenge Cup.

Junior Four.—Your representatives from the previous regatta were again successful.

Maiden Eight.—This crew was again successful, scoring a comfortable win in their heat and final.

Lightweight Four.—The crew of the previous regatta won their heat and defeated Ballarat City after an exciting finish.

In winning five doubles your Club has set new records for the opening regattas.

Geelong Regatta

1st December, 1951

Senior Eight.—W. L. Wallace (bow), J. D. Shears (2), H. D. Duncan (3), D. Oliff (4), J. M. Ferguson (5), W. O. Granowski (6), A. G. Barrett (7), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. M. Bailey (cox), N. W. Cairnes (coach), won this event convincingly.

Senior Four.—F. Noble (bow), J. W. Peterson (2), J. S. Rowe (3), R. R. Aitken (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), D. A. Calder (coach), scored a fine win.

Junior Eight.—S. M. Smith (bow), A. H. Purves (2), J. Morganti (3), R. J. Oliver (4), N. Ashkanasy (5), G. Manton (6), W. G. Wischer (7), B. J. Doyle (stroke), P. Hoppe (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), won this event.

Junior Four.—C. D. Lewis (bow), R. H. Richardson (2), W. T. Morrison (3), D. J. Crichton (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), K. Bilney (coach), won their heat, but were narrowly defeated in their final after a gruelling race.

Nagambie Regatta

26th December, 1951

Senior Four.—W. L. Wallace (bow), W. O. Granowski (2), A. G. Barrett (3), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. M. Bailey (cox), N. W. Cairnes (coach), were defeated.

Junior Four.—C. D. Lewis (bow), R. H. Richardson (2), A. B. Kohn (3), D. J. Crichton (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), K. Bilney (coach), were unsuccessful.

Maiden Four.—D. Marley (bow), J. B. Sprigg (2), C. D. Lewis (3), D. Twilley (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), D. Stirling (coach), were defeated.

Lightweight Four.—E. C. White (bow), R. H. Richardson (2), W. T. Morrison (3), A. B. Kohn (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), K. Bilney (coach), won this event in fine style.

Yarrowonga Regatta

29th December, 1951

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

Maiden Four.—The crew from the previous regatta was defeated.

Lightweight Pair.—A. B. Kohn (bow), D. J. Crichton (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), scored a good win in this event.

Lightweight Four.—Your Nagambie representatives scored another win in this event.

Rutherglen Regatta

1st January, 1952

Maiden Four.—This crew was again defeated.

Lightweight Four.—Your representatives were again successful, thereby completing the treble.

Lightweight Pair.—Your Yarrowonga representatives scored another win, thus completing a double.

Albert Park Regatta

28th January, 1952

Senior Eight.—W. L. Wallace (bow), J. D. Shears (2), J. S. Rowe (3), D. Olliff (4), H. D. Duncan (5), W. O. Granowski (6), A. G. Barrett (7), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), N. W. Cairnes (coach), won this event in fine style.

Maiden Four.—G. Geroe (bow), C. Murrell (2), G. McMahon (3), R. Williams (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), A. B. Kohn (coach), were defeated in their heat.

Lightweight Four.—A. Batiste (bow), D. Butters (2), W. T. Morrison (3), R. H. Richardson (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), D. A. Calder (coach), won their heat and final comfortably.

Upper Yarra Regatta

2nd February, 1952

Senior Eight.—The crew which represented the club at the Albert Park Regatta was again successful, completing another fine double.

Junior Pair.—S. M. Smith (bow), B. J. Doyle (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), won this event comfortably.

Maiden Four.—Your representatives at Albert Park were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Four.—A. Batiste (bow), D. Butters (2), J. N. Robertson (3), R. H. Richardson (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), D. A. Calder (coach), won this event in fine style.

Handicap Sculls.—R. G. Day scored a good win in this event.

Ballarat Regatta

23rd February, 1952

Senior Eight.—W. L. Wallace (bow), J. D. Shears (2), J. S. Rowe (3), B. J. Doyle (4), H. D. Duncan (5), W. O. Granowski (6), A. G. Barrett (7), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), N. W. Cairnes (coach), won this event comfortably from University.

Junior Eight.—W. Wheatland (bow), R. Williams (2), N. Ashkanasy (3), R. J. Oliver (4), M. D. Murray (5), W. Hidgecock (6), S. M. Smith (7), A. B. Kohn (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), were defeated in their heat.

Maiden Pair.—J. H. Beecham (bow), K. H. A. Levi (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), R. G. Day (coach), were unsuccessful.

Lightweight Eight.—J. N. Robertson (bow), J. B. Sprigg (2), C. D. Lewis (3), K. Bilney (4), E. C. White (5), D. Butters (6), W. T. Morrison (7), R. H. Richardson (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), D. J. Crichton (coach), were defeated in this event.

Lightweight four.—C. D. Lewis (bow), D. Butters (2), E. C. White (3), R. H. Richardson (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), D. J. Crichton (coach), won their heat, but were narrowly defeated by South Melbourne in the final.

Lightweight Pair.—W. T. Morrison (bow), D. J. Crichton (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), were untroubled to win the heat and final in this race.

Barwon Regatta

1st March, 1952

Senior Eight.—Your Ballarat representatives won their heat from Banks, and after a thrilling race finished one third of a length ahead of University to complete a record of being unbeaten in Senior eight-oared races for the season.

Junior Eight.—The crew from the previous regatta were defeated in their heat.

Maiden Pair.—J. H. Beecham (bow), K. A. H. Levi (stroke), P. Wilson (cox), R. G. Day (coach), won their heat, but were unsuccessful in the final.

Lightweight Eight.—Your Ballarat representatives were again unsuccessful.

Lightweight Four.—The crew which represented your club at Ballarat won the heat, and defeated South Melbourne to win the final after a gruelling race.

Yea Regatta

10th March, 1952

Junior Eight.—W. Wheatland (bow), R. J. Oliver (2), N. Ashkanasy (3), W. Hidgecock (4), M. D. Murray (5), I. McEacharn (6), S. M. Smith (7), A. B. Kohn (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), were unsuccessful.

Junior Four.—W. Wheatland (bow), R. J. Oliver (2), M. D. Murray (3), A. B. Kohn (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), won their heat, but were defeated in the final of this event.

Lightweight Four.—E. C. White (bow), W. T. Morrison (2), J. N. Robertson (3), R. H. Richardson (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), J. D. Shears (coach), won their heat, and defeated Footscray by two feet after a thrilling race.

Lightweight Pair.—W. T. Morrison (bow), R. H. Richardson (stroke), A. Plunkett (cox), were defeated in this event.

Yarra Yarra Regatta

5th April, 1952

Senior Pairs.—G. I. Holyman (bow), P. M. Macpherson (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), were unsuccessful in this event.

Junior Eight.—S. M. Smith (bow), R. J. Oliver (2), J. H. Beecham (3), G. Manton (4), K. A. Levi (5), I. McEacharn (6), M. D. Murray (7), A. B. Kohn (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), H. P. Shears (coach), won this event in fine style.

Junior Four.—J. H. Beecham (bow), R. H. Richardson (2), N. Ashkanasy (3), D. J. Crichton (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), W. T. Morrison (coach), won their heat, but were defeated by Banks in the final.

Junior Pair.—S. M. Smith (bow), A. B. Kohn (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), were successful in their heat, but were defeated in their final.

Maiden Four.—W. Somers (bow), B. J. Somers (2), B. Hyland (3), D. Marley (stroke), P. Irwin (cox), S. G. Richardson (coach), were unsuccessful.

Mildura Regatta

12th April, 1952

Senior Four.—J. S. Rowe (bow), P. M. Macpherson (2), G. I. Holyman (3), H. P. Shears (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), were defeated.

Senior Pair.—G. I. Holyman (bow), P. M. Macpherson (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), were unsuccessful.

Junior Eight.—E. C. White (bow), D. Marley (2), J. N. Robertson (3), R. H. Richardson (4), K. A. Levi (5), G. Manton (6), A. B. Kohn (7), R. J. Oliver (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), were defeated.

Junior Four.—E. C. White (bow), G. Manton (2), K. A. Levi (3), A. B. Kohn (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), were unsuccessful in their heat.

Wentworth Regatta

14th April, 1952

Open Eight.—J. N. Robertson (bow), R. J. Oliver (2), K. A. Levi (3), P. Macpherson (4), G. I. Holyman (5), G. Manton (6), J. S. Rowe (7), H. P. Shears (stroke), W. Bailey (cox), were defeated by Albert Park by a canvas.

Senior Four.—Your Mildura representatives were again unsuccessful.

Senior Pair.—The crew of the previous regatta was defeated.

Junior Eight.—Your Mildura representatives were defeated by one foot after a stirring tussle with Mildura.

Junior Four.—This crew was again defeated.

Metropolitan Novice Regatta

17th May, 1952

Novice Four.—D. Hyland (bow), M. Oliver (2), N. Maxwell (3), D. Marley (stroke), P. Harrison (cox), J. D. Shears (coach), were unsuccessful in this event.

Premierships

PREMIERSHIP POINTS *

Senior

Mercantile	88	University	8
Albert Park	36	Yarra Yarra	5
Banks	24	Preston	4
Melbourne	21	Essendon	3

Junior

Yarra Yarra	76	Essendon	14
Banks	72	Hawthorn	14
Mercantile	58	Lake Colac	12
Richmond	48	Nagambie	12
University	32	Bairnsdale	8
Barwon	28	Ballarat City	8
Footscray City	24	Power House	8
South Melbourne	24	Rutherglen Lake	8
Wentworth	24	Wahgunyah	6
Yarrowonga	20	Ballarat	4
Albert Park	16	Eaglehawk	2
Corio Bay	16	Melbourne	2
Mildura	16		

To Yarra Yarra Rowing Club your congratulations are extended on winning the Junior Premiership.

Lightweight

Mercantile	50	Banks	8
South Melbourne	30	Barwon	8
Ballarat	26	Bairnsdale	4
Ballarat City	20	Footscray City	4
Corio Bay	18	Richmond	4
Yarra Yarra	10	Melbourne	2

Head of the River

Your congratulations are extended to Scotch College on their second successive win in this event. The successful coach of the crew, Mr. Charles Saleh, a member of your Club, is to be congratulated on a further win.

The relationship between Scotch College and the Club continued during the season on the same happy level as in previous years.

Combination Races

MORELL EIGHTS — 8th DECEMBER, 1951

Despite inclement weather, eighty oarsmen from various clubs competed for trophies donated by the family of the late Sir Stephen Morell. The winning crew was as follows:—C. Lewis (Mercantile), bow; R. Richardson (Mercantile), 2; G. Wilson (Richmond), 3; G. Clegg (Richmond), 4; G. McMahon (Mercantile), 5; E. Tilley (Hawthorn), 6; J. Dillon (Richmond), 7; H. Grinblatt (Richmond), stroke; G. Fawcner (Richmond), cox.

Club Races

PRESIDENT'S FOURS — 25th AUGUST, 1951

Your President, Mr. Dobbie, donated handsome trophies for this race, which was held in conjunction with Ladies' Day. Ten crews competed, the successful crew being:—A. Batiste (bow), N. G. Browning (2), R. G. Day (3), R. R. Aitken (stroke), T. Liddle (cox).

GUINN PAIRS — 5th MAY, 1952

Mr. Stan Guinn once again donated trophies for this event when nine crews competed. The winning crew consisted:—J. P. Carr (bow), H. P. Shears (stroke), A. Bowles (cox).

SPRIGG TIME TRIAL

This popular winter season event has been again conducted for trophies donated by Mr. J. G. Sprigg. This event will terminate on the night of the Annual Meeting, and is being rowed to the Dock Head and return. Last year a most exciting final day was witnessed, when only four seconds separated the first three crews. The winning crew, which won by one second, consisted of J. N. Robertson (bow), A. B. Kohn (2), J. P. Carr (3), F. W. Shepherd (4), L. L. B. Moll (5), H. P. Shears (6), S. M. Smith (7), J. D. Shears (stroke), W. Bailey (cox); time 28 minutes 14 seconds.

HARLEQUIN TIME TRIAL

Once again members of the Harlequin Rugby Club donated trophies for a time trial event for four-oared crews over the Spencer Street Bridge course. The conditions are similar to those of last year, and the winning crew will be announced on the night of the Annual Meeting. Last year's winners consisted: A. B. Kohn (bow), B. J. Doyle (2), M. D. Murray (3), R. R. Aitken (stroke), W. Bailey (cox); time 11 minutes 36-3/5 seconds.

TROPHIES

Captain's Trophy.—The Captain, Mr. R. R. Aitken, has donated a handsome trophy to the member who has competed in and won the most regatta and club races, on the basis of one point per entry and one point per win. This year the trophy was won by Mr. R. Richardson from Mr. A. Kohn.

J. W. Beattie Trophy.—Once again, Mr. Beattie has provided a trophy for the member gaining most points in regatta racing during the season. This trophy also was won by Mr. R. Richardson from Mr. A. Kohn.

Coxswains' Trophies—The shield donated by Mr. M. Bailey for the Champion Coxswain of the Club was again won by W. M. Bailey. The trophy for the most improved coxswain, presented by Mr. E. K. Varcoe, was won by Alan Plunkett, who, coming to the Club at the beginning of the season, without any previous experience whatsoever, took part in nearly every regatta. His enthusiasm was rewarded by no fewer than nine wins during the season, and the well deserved award of this trophy.

Boat Christenings

On Ladies' Day, 25th August, two new tub pairs recently purchased from H. Lounder, of Adelaide, were named. The "F. R. Browne" was christened by Mrs. Browne, and the "W. T. Morrison" by Mrs. Morrison. Both ladies were introduced to the large number of Members and ladies present by the Club's President, Mr. A. L. Dobbie, and the ceremonies were carried out in the usual Mercantile manner.

Social Activities

Ladies' Day—Once again this popular function, held in conjunction with the President's Fours, drew a large gathering. Afternoon tea was provided in the Gymnasium.

Annual Dinner—The Annual Dinner was held at the Wentworth Cafe on the 7th December. For his work in organising the function, Mr. Norm. Cairnes deserves high praise, and to Mr. Don Calder, who acted as Toastmaster, your thanks are due.

Football Match—A football match played against the Royal South Yarra Tennis Club was held at Warrandyte on the 29th July, when, after a thrilling match, your team was narrowly defeated. To Mr. Deane Morgan, who arranged the afternoon, your thanks are conveyed.

Dances—The Social Committee, comprising Deane Morgan, Dave Crichton and John Robertson, did an excellent job in organising the popular Cabaret Dances held at the Dorchester.

General

At the last Annual Meeting, Messrs. R. T. Rush and S. Guinn were elected as Vice-Presidents of the Club. Members will agree that this was an honour well deserved, as these gentlemen have supported the Club for a great number of years.

Messrs. Norm. Cairnes and Roy Thursfield, in their capacities as Joint Honorary Secretaries of the Melbourne Amateur Regatta Association (Henley), displayed excellent organising ability. All those who witnessed the last Henley will agree with this and will join us in wishing them every success in their efforts this year when the Swan Street Bridge should be completed, and the old Henley course available.

The thanks of all members are due to Messrs. Lawrie Moll, Herb. Shears, Jack Shears, Harry Duncan, Bill Wallace, Jack Carr, Jack Peterson and others, who, during the winter months carried out the

very necessary task of repairs to the fleet. The Club has further been fortunate in having the services of Mr. Ron. Roberts, of Scotch College, for any major repairs to the fleet.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Deane Morgan who, during the season, did an excellent job in the painting of the Boathouse, Committee Room and Shower Room.

Congratulations to Mr. Ted. Kenny, probably the outstanding personality in Australian rowing circles, on having completed 50 years in the sport. In that time he has established a remarkable record in administrative offices in both Australian and Victorian rowing. Briefly, these are 27 years as Hon. Secretary of the Australian Rowing Council, of which he was President, Secretary and Treasurer in 1949-50, 16 years Hon. Secretary of the V.R.A., 23 years Hon. Secretary of Henley on the Yarra. His rowing career started with the Leichhardt Club, Sydney, and on his transfer to Melbourne he joined the Mercantile Club, to which he has rendered splendid service. He was Vice-Captain for five years and Captain for four years, after which he was elected to the Committee, and he has served in that capacity ever since. Truly an outstanding record, and one which will probably never be equalled!

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Messrs. J. P. Appleby, K. Bilney, N. W. Cairnes, L. V. Fosdick, J. McD. Jones, J. South and E. K. Varcoe who suffered bereavements during the season.

Your good wishes for future happiness and prosperity are conveyed to Messrs. G. Bade, P. M. Wade, Jnr., W. Wheatland, C. G. Murrell and D. J. Morgan who were married during the year.

Our congratulations have been extended to Messrs. N. G. Browning, J. A. Blair-Holt, H. B. Burke and F. Noble and their wives on the occasion of additions to their families.

To Masters Wm. Bailey, P. Harrison, A. Plunkett, P. Wilson, P. Hoppe and P. Irwin, we record your thanks for faithful services rendered as coxswains.

Once again, Xavier College, through the agency of Father Morris, loaned your Club the racing eight "Nicholas O'Donohue", in which was scored its fourth win for this Club, with another double at the opening of the season. For this favour we are very much indebted, and we were pleased to be able to reciprocate by making a practice eight available to one of the school's junior crews.

To the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the various commercial stations, and to the rowing correspondents of the daily newspapers, your thanks are recorded.

Lawrie Moll, who, for many years served your Club in various capacities, has taken leave of us to go on to the land. Members will miss his pleasant personality and wish him good luck in his new venture.

On Anzac Day, Mr. A. L. Dobbie introduced Mr. S. Guinn, who gave a short impressive Service and placed a wreath on the Honour Board while Members paid their respects to fellow Members who paid the supreme sacrifice. Messrs. D. A. Calder, C. H. Ward and P. M. Wade, Jnr., who attended to the catering during the day, must be congratulated on a good job done, as all who attended voted this function as the most successful post-war reunion.

To those gentlemen who attended to the cleanliness of the Club House we extend our thanks. To Messrs. Albert Lindblade and Graham Richardson, for whose untiring work in the cleaning of the south-west corner, your appreciation is conveyed.

As in previous seasons, your Club House was made available to the organisers of Carols by Candlelight on Christmas Eve.

Your thanks are conveyed to all the kindred clubs for their co-operation during the season.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the retiring Committee wish to thank Members for the assistance given during the season, and hope that the same co-operation and support may be relied on by the incoming Committee.

For and on behalf of the Committee,

E. C. WHITE, Hon. Secretary.

Obituary

It is with very great regret that we have to record the deaths of Mr. F. R. Browne, Mr. George Horder, and Mr. E. K. Varcoe, Snr., and our sincere sympathy is extended to their relations.

Frank Browne's association with the Club extended over a period of 45 years, and he rendered sterling service to it over that long period. He was appointed Hon. Auditor in the 1930/1 season, and ably carried out the duties of that office until the time of his death. But perhaps the most valuable work which he did was in connection with the coaching of novice oarsmen. This brought him into close association with our younger members, who greatly appreciated the practical interest which he took in their welfare.

Mr. Browne's family has approached the Committee with a view to presenting to the Club a perpetual trophy in his memory. This will take the form of a handsome shield for competition amongst novice oarsmen because of his keen interest in them. Their generous gift is deeply appreciated, as is the sentiment which prompted it.

We have also to thank his son, Mr. Owen Browne, for having volunteered to complete the Audit of the Club's books for this season, which was gladly accepted.

George Horder was a member for many years, and as well as being a committeeman for an extended period, he was Captain of the Club in the 1932/3 season. He competed with success in a number of regatta crews, and was at all times a splendid Clubman. He took an active part in our Social activities, for which his cheerful personality made him particularly well fitted.

As a soldier, Captain Horder had a fine career. After serving throughout the 1914/18 war he continued to take an active interest in the Volunteer forces, and despite the fact that he was actually beyond the age for enlistment for the 1939/1945 war, his special qualifications enabled him to join the A.I.F. After service in the Middle East, he returned to Australia, but shortly afterwards went to Malaya. On the fall of Singapore he became a prisoner of the Japanese, and was in Changi Camp for 3½ years. The severe privations which he suffered there, took a severe toll of his health, and only his splendid physique enabled him to survive. He was in bad shape for some time after his return to Australia, but made a remarkable recovery and appeared to have regained his normal health. Consequently it came as a surprise when he fell victim to the illness which resulted in his death.

Members will recall the dignity with which he conducted the annual Anzac ceremony at the Clubhouse wearing full military uniform.

Mr. E. K. Varcoe, senr., was the father of our esteemed member Ted Varcoe, and was an Associate member for a number of years. He was a frequent visitor to the Boathouse and took a keen interest in the Club's welfare.

Addendum

The highly successful season recorded in the Committee's report was made possible only by good organisation and sound administration. Therefore the thanks of all members are due to the Executive Officers and Committee, ably led by your Captain, Mr. R. Aitken, and Vice-Captain, Mr. H. Shears, now in his fifth year in that office, and to all who worked so well with them in the interests of the Club.

To have won both the Senior and Light Weight Premierships, with third place in the Junior Premiership, was highly satisfactory, but the success of the Victorian crew, of which all but two were members of this Club, in the King's Cup race brought the season to a brilliant close, and will cause it to be remembered as a year of outstanding achievement.

The Club is very fortunate that those who are managing it to-day are mostly young men. Therefore it can be expected that with the experience they have gained, plus the same enthusiasm as has been responsible for the outstanding successes of recent years, the Club can confidently look forward to continued prosperity.

The success of our crews has been made possible only by the fine work of the coaches and by the keenness of the crews and their close attention to training, and to them our sincere thanks are due.

While all our coaches have done a fine job, special reference must be made to Mr. Norman Cairnes, who not only coached our Senior Eight to victory in every State event in which they competed, but has the distinction of having been responsible for the victory of the Victorian crew in the King's Cup race, the result of which caused a sensation because of the fact that the crew selected to represent Australia at the forthcoming Olympic Games at Helsinki was decisively defeated by Victoria.

It is interesting to note that our members are carrying on the tradition of taking an active part in the administration of Rowing in Australia and in Victoria. Mr. E. Kenny is Secretary of the Australian Rowing Council, an office which he has filled with distinction for many years, Mr. Norman Cairnes is assistant Hon. Secretary of the V.R.A., of which Mr. Deane Morgan is a member of the Executive, while Mr. Cairnes and Mr. Roy Thursfield are joint Hon. Secretaries of the Melbourne Amateur Regatta Association (Henley).

Despite the success of the past season, there is one feature which must be brought prominently under the notice of members, viz., the comparatively small number of Maiden oarsmen available for the 1952/3 season. Therefore every member is urged to make a special effort to introduce new men to the Club, and having introduced them, to make it a personal matter to see that they are given coaching in the initial stages of their rowing careers.

A. L. DOBBIE, President.

List of Members, 1951-52

LIFE MEMBERS

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

SENIOR MEMBERS

Abromwich, W.	Fogarty, F.	Pitt, W. G.
Ainslie, J. B.	Ford, H. L.	Pope, K.
Aitken, R. R.	Forsyth, J. R.	Powell, D. B.
Anderson, H. R.	Fosdick, L. V.	Purves, A. H.
Appleby, J. P.	Fullagar, R.	Rand, K.
Asling, D.	Galvin, V. C.	Richardson, R. H.
Atkins, A. H.	Gray, W. L.	Richardson, S. G.
Bade, G. F.	Hansen, M. E.	Roach, D. F.
Bailey, M.	Hiller, G. L.	Robertson, G. A.
Barnett, C. G.	Holyman, G. I.	Robertson, J. N.
Barrett, A. G.	Hoppe, J. P.	Robinson, T. J.
Batiste, A.	Hyett, G. S.	Rogers, E. A.
Beattie, J. W.	Hyland, B. M.	Rogers, L. W.
Bell, D. F.	Johnson, G. B.	Rogers, W.
Bilney, K. A.	Jones, J. McD.	Rorke, A. T.
Blair-Holt, J. A.	Kain, B. F.	Rush, R. T.
Bolton, R. S.	Kerrigan, N.	Sajo, Z.
Bourke, B. F.	Kidd, J. D. S.	Scales, D. J.
Bradshaw, J. W.	Koch, A. A.	Shears, H. P.
Brooke, D. C.	Kohn, A. B.	Shears, J. D.
Broughton, O. S.	Kubler, K. S.	Shears, T. W.
Browning, N. G.	Lemaire, J. E.	Smith, G., jnr.
Burke, H. B.	Lennon, R. J.	Smith, R. T.
Calder, D. A.	Liddle, R. T.	Smith, R. W.
Cairnes, N. W.	McMahon, G. F.	Smith, S. M.
Carr, J. P.	McNiff, T. F.	Soward, R. S.
Clarke, A. H.	Macartney, J.	Spencer, H. T.
Clark, J. H. P.	MacFarlane, J. M.	Stirling, D. S.
Clemens, J. B.	Macpherson, P. M.	Tatnall, G. F.
Connolly, K.	Mahoney, H.	Taylor, B. A.
Cooper, K. N.	Marley, D. C.	Thomas, J. C.
Cooper, R. A.	Martin, R. H.	Thursfield, R. W.
Corteen, L. K.	Miller, A. P.	Trehearne, A. G.
Craig, W. J.	Moll, L. L. B.	Trouchet, P. A.
Crichton, D. J.	Morell, D. R.	Turnbull, W. R.
Daniel, N. F.	Morell, R. T.	Twilley, D. A. R.
Davies, M. H.	Morgan, D. J. R.	Vanderkelen, P.
Dobbie, A. W.	Morrison, W. T.	Varcoe, E. K. L.
Doherty, J. B.	Mounsey, R. J.	Wallace, W. L.
Dowd, M. C.	Murrell, C. G.	Wade, P. M., jnr.
Duncan, H. D.	Naylor, D. H. L.	Wheatland, W.
Dunstan, J. T.	Naylor, M. C. L.	White, E. C.
Epstein, G. L.	Nixon, N. V.	Wilkinson, C. V. H.
Farmer, J. G.	Noble, F.	Williams, D. F.
Ferguson, J. M.	Oberhansli, W.	Williams, J.
Ferguson, R.	O'Connor, F.	Williams, M. S.
Fletcher, J. M.	Peterson, J. W.	Yunghanns, M. W.

JUNIOR MEMBERS

Ackland, L. R.	Lewis, C. D.	Rowe, J. S.
Ashkanasy, N.	McEacharn, I. M.	Shepherd, F. W.
Ball, D. G.	McKaige, R. W.	Somers, B. J.
Beecham, J. D.	Martin, J. R.	Somers, W. A.
Butters, D. E.	Manton, G.	South, J., jnr.
Crane, R.	Moloughney, P. F.	Stephens, W. B.
Day, R. G.	Morganti, J.	Sprigg, J. B.
Doyle, B. J.	Murray, M. D. G.	Thyer, R. S.
Geroe, G. A.	Oliver, R.	Turner, B.
Granowski, W. O.	Olliff, D.	Warner, I. H.
Jeffrey, B. L.	Oliver, M. G.	Wischer, K. G.
Kelly, J. D.	Purves, A. H.	Williams, R.
Levi, K. A. H.	Reed, I. E.	

COUNTRY MEMBERS

Bailey, J. H.	McKay, T.	Ross, W. G.
Duncan, A. R.	Neill, J. S.	Seal, D.
Gregg, R. V.	Newport, F.	Stubley, J. L.
Hidgcock, C. W.	Pearce, J. W.	Syme, R. York
Langtry, J.	Rees, J.	

HONORARY MEMBERS

Burmeister, C.	Nicholls, C. J.	Shears, E.
Burton, A. J.	O'Reilly, J.	Sloss, A.
Butler, L.	Palfreyman, D. B.	Smith, U. R.
Davey, G. H.	Raven, C. F.	South, J.
Evens, E. A.	Rush, H. R.	Stephenson, C. E.
Fairbairn, J. L.	Saleh, C. G.	Trickett, W. A.
Gordon, A.	Sanderson, S. O.	Wade, P. M., snr.
Hill, L.	Seamen, J. W.	Weire, L. B.
Kerr, R. J.	Stooke, G. F.	Ward, C. H. M.
Mitchell, J. T.		

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Black, I. O.	Kerr, B.	Palfreyman, F. G.
Dennis, C. F.	Koch, A.	Stewart, S. C.
Dennis, D. C.	Murphy, H.	Strong, D. J.
Kendall, W. J.	Nelson, H. E.	Tibbits, I. D.
Kennedy, J.	Nicholls, D. R.	

REVENUE ACCOUNT for 12 months ending 30th April, 1952

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions	£790 12 0	Repairs Boats, Oars and Shed	£126 6 0
Less V.R.A. Capitation Fee	82 2 0	Depreciation	56 0 8
	£708 10 0	General Expenses	260 11 10
Donations	503 2 10	Lighting, General and Water Rates	78 14 11
Entrance Fees, Club Races	8 5 0	Insurance	114 2 3
Entrance Fees, Combination Races	7 6 0	Telephone	22 14 6
Interest	18 3 11	Trophies, Club Races	43 13 7
		Freight to Country Regattas	88 15 3
		Entrance Fees, Regattas	23 14 6
		Hiring and Letting	7 12 6
		Coxswains' Expenses	22 14 0
		Boat Staging	2 2 0
		V.R.A. Levy, King's Cup	25 0 0
		Amateur Sculling Association	0 10 6
		Metropolitan Rowing Association	1 1 0
		Balance Transferred to Capital Account	371 14 9
	£1,245 7 9		£1,245 7 9

Audited and found correct,

O. R. BROWNE, A.I.C.A., Dip.Com., L.C.A.
Acting Hon. Auditor.

R. RICHARDSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

J. T. PICKEN & SONS PTY. LTD.
265-275 Franklin Street
Melbourne