



MERCANTILE
ROWING CLUB

MELBOURNE



93rd

Annual Report

and

Balance Sheet



Season 1972-73



MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

President: J. G. H. SPRIGG, Esq.

Vice-President:

R. R. AITKEN, Esq.	W. T. MORRISON, Esq.
J. W. BRADSHAW, Esq.	J. H. PICKEN, Esq.
N. W. CAIRNES, Esq.	R. T. RUSH, Esq., O.B.E.
A. P. MILLER, Esq.	R. W. THURSFIELD, Esq.
D. J. R. MORGAN, Esq.	M. S. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Captain:

Mr. M. F. OWEN

Vice-Captain:

Mr. L. F. AYRES

Honorary Secretaries:

Mr. J. GUMLEY, Mr. A. W. BLAXLAND (appointed September, '72)

Honorary Assistant Secretary:

Mr. A. W. BLAXLAND (until September, '72)

Honorary Treasurer:

Mr. M. F. McKENNA, A.A.S.A.

Honorary Assistant Treasurer:

Mr. B. MORRISON

Committee:

Mr. G. BOYKETT, Mr. J. BURFORD,
Mr. I. DUTHIE (appointed January, '73), Mr. S. GILLON,
Mr. P. McNAMARA (resigned Nov., '72), Mr. D. PALFREYMAN,
Mr. J. SHANASY, Mr. P. K. WATKIN (resigned Feb., '73),
Mr. R. STEWART (appointed April, '73),

Honorary Auditor:

Mr. P. R. DEVENISH, A.C.A.
(of A. H. G. Clarke & Co.)

Honorary Solicitor:

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

Selectors:

Mr. J. BURFORD and Mr. G. A. McCALL

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION

Patron: Mr. R. W. THURSFIELD

President: Mr. M. S. WILLIAMS

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. R. R. AITKEN and Mr. T. RODDA

Executive Members:

Mr. J. W. BRADSHAW and Mr. W. T. MORRISON

Elected Member:

Mr. K. H. McCONVILLE

Permit Committee: Mr. M. F. McKENNA

Officials' Panel:

Mr. R. R. AITKEN and Mr. W. T. MORRISON

Youth Committee:

Mr. P. J. DOWNEY, Mr. D. H. BOYKETT and Mr. D. PALFREYMAN

Assistant Secretary:

Mr. P. K. WATKIN

Representative Members:

Mr. M. F. OWEN and Mr. A. W. BLAXLAND

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

Princes Bridge,
MELBOURNE, 3004.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 93rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB will be held at the BANKS ROWING CLUB on SATURDAY, 30th JUNE, 1973, at 8 p.m.

The Annual Smoke Night will be held at the conclusion of the meeting.

BUSINESS :

1. To confirm the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
2. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To elect Office-Bearers for the ensuing year.
4. Presentation of Trophies.
5. Any General Business that may be legally brought forward.

Nominations for Office-Bearers for the ensuing year will close on the Notice Board at the CLUBHOUSE on SATURDAY, 23rd JUNE, 1973, at 4 p.m.

By order of the Committee,

A. W. BLAXLAND,
Honorary Secretary.

The Ninety-Third Annual Report

of the

Mercantile Rowing Club

To the Members,

Gentlemen,

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting to you the 93rd Annual Report and Financial Statement for the year ending 30th April, 1973.

The Club has had a successful season despite a decrease in the number of events won during the year. Consistently good performances by our Senior Eight have been in the main responsible for the Club retaining the Senior Premiership. The Club again won the Victorian Junior Four-oared Championship. After a thrilling race in the final of the Victorian Senior Eight-oared Championship, the Club's crew narrowly lost to Monash University, to whom we extend our congratulations.

Special mention must be made of our Junior Eight, who, faced with rowing in a different boat in the final of the State Junior Eight Championship, rose to the occasion and acquitted themselves splendidly in a magnificent display of fighting spirit. The personal qualities and standard of watermanship displayed by this crew is an example of what we can expect in future years from men of this calibre.

Seven members of the Club were selected in the squads for the King's Cup and Penrith Cup. They were: Hubert Frederico, Ian Duthie, Mike Faulkner, John Harry, Adrian Maginn, Bruno Romanin and John Shanasy. The King's Cup was won by Western Australia, with Victoria a very creditable second. The Penrith Cup and President's Cup were both won by Victoria, and we congratulate them on their performance.

It is appropriate at this point to make special mention of the excellent job done by our Captain, Martin Owen, and it would be no exaggeration to say that the results obtained in the many and varied areas of the Club's activities have been largely due to his inexhaustible supply of energy and enthusiasm.

It would be only fair to say that, whilst our Maiden and Lightweight oarsmen have done as well as could have been expected this year, both squads have been lacking in depth, and this has been reflected in the premiership points the Club has achieved in these classes this season. A concerted effort will have to be made to recruit new members if we are to show an improvement in these areas next season. The Club must continue a progressive recruiting policy, for now is the time to lay foundations for our representation at the 1976 Olympic Games and the 1978 World Championships.

Looking back in retrospect, we have had our moments of high success and our disappointments, but, win or lose, there has been this in common with all the Club's crews — they trained hard, they raced hard, and they enjoyed their rowing . . . after ninety-three years this is still what it is all about.

On the evening of Sunday, 6th May, 1973, a fire broke out in the Clubhouse, with the result that the changing room, gymnasium and showers areas were destroyed and partial damage sustained by the clubroom and committee room. Prompt arrival and action by the Fire Brigade enabled the fleet of boats and oars to be saved. Unfortunately, much of the Club's history, which was displayed in the destroyed areas in the form of irreplaceable photographs and presentation oars, was lost. The Rebuilding Sub-Committee has the situation well in hand, and plans are being formulated for the Club to rise again, Phoenix-like, from the ashes. It is to be hoped that financial considerations will allow the Clubhouse to be rebuilt in such a way as to cater for the needs of members for many years to come.

Membership

The membership as at 30th April, 1973, was as follows:—

	1973	1972	1971	1966	1956	1936
LIFE MEMBERS	8	8	9	9	7	9
SENIOR ACTIVE MEMBERS	146	134	145	} 174	164	147
SENIOR MEMBERS	29	27	29			
JUNIOR MEMBERS	33	22	24	} 86	42	48
JNR. SCHOOLBOY MEMBERS ..	9	47	35			
COUNTRY MEMBERS	29	31	28	} 66	69	20
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	36	38	33			
LEAVE OF ABSENCE	8	16	13			
	<u>298</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>224</u>

Executive and Committee

At the time of going to press, eleven ordinary and one extraordinary Committee Meetings had been held. Attendances at these meetings has been:—

R. R. Aitken 9	I. R. Duthie (a) .. 2	D. Palfreyman .. . 4
L. F. Ayres 11	S. M. Gillon 7	J. Shanasy 8
A. W. Blaxland .. 11	J. H. Gumley (b) . 3	J. G. H. Sprigg .. 8
G. H. Boykett .. . 10	M. F. McKenna .. 10	R. D. Stewart (d) .. 3
J. W. Bradshaw .. 8	P. J. McNamara (c) 4	P. K. Watkin (e) .. 7
J. Burford 7	B. Morrison 10	
N. W. Cairnes .. . 7	M. F. Owen 11	

(a) Appointed Jan., '73. (b) Resigned Sept., '72. (c) Resigned Nov., '72.
 (d) Appointed April, '73. (e) Resigned Feb., '73.

Finance

The Income and Expenditure Statement at the end of this report shows a surplus for the year of \$1,267. This satisfactory result is due mainly to the very generous donations of members and the Ladies' Auxiliary.

Income from subscriptions is slightly less than last year. It is hoped that the current recruiting drive will help reverse this situation in the coming season. All members can assist in this important aspect of Club life by introducing new members as well as maintaining contact with members of their own vintage.

Total expenditure for the year is in line with the previous year. The reduction in boat freight costs to country regattas is the result of the purchase of a boat trailer by the Club. This was made possible by the generosity of the Ladies' Auxiliary, who donated more than \$1,000 for this purpose. There was a significant increase in unrecovered regatta entry fees. The two main contributing factors for this are, firstly, the increase in entry fees and, secondly, the number of crews which have to be entered well in advance of race day and are unable to start.

Your Committee is pleased to report that the family of the late Dr. Cooper have established the "R. A. Cooper Memorial Trust Fund". The income from this fund (capital \$2,500) is to be used to provide the annual trophy to be known as the "R. A. Cooper Memorial Trophy" for the best clubman. The balance of the income is to be applied to the purchase of equipment, preferably for older oarsmen and/or to assist in sending competing oarsmen interstate or overseas. The trust is reported on separately with the Club Accounts.

During the year the Club received a most welcome bequest from the estate of the late J. N. Robertson. We were also advised of a most generous bequest by the late W. G. Ross.

Donations to the Building Fund have continued and, together with the Club's reduction of \$1,000, have enabled us to keep a little ahead of the schedule required by the bank. This is just as well in view of the recent fire, which will require us to seek further funds to finance the necessary rebuilding. Our insurance will adequately cover rebuilding the old part of the first floor but will not cover the cost of rebuilding the ground floor which was not damaged. The operation of the "Tributors Scheme" is covered elsewhere in this report. The proceeds of this year's operations will be included in next year's accounts. The Scheme is an excellent way for older members to maintain their interest in the Club and at the same time encourage the younger members to win races.

Your Committee is confident that with the continued support of members the Club will be able to finance the rebuilding of the rear section of the Clubhouse and maintain a first-class fleet for competing oarsmen.

Donations

The generous support of the following donors is gratefully acknowledged:—R. Aitken, G. Ansel, N. Cairnes, H. Mahoney, S. Newport, the late J. Robertson and the late W. G. Ross.

Building Fund — Donations

The following members have generously made donations to the Building Fund:—R. Aitken, W. Arnold, J. Barber, J. Bradshaw, N. Cairnes, The Cock Robins, R. Dawson, L. Fosdick, M. Kellam, A. Miller, Dr. M. Milliken, S. Morell, R. Morell, D. Morgan, W. Morrison, T. McKay, J. Picken, R. Richardson, S. Richardson, J. Sprigg, R. Thursfield and M. Williams.

Tributors

A new innovation this year, The Tributors' Scheme, set out to raise funds in a novel way — by members pledging to contribute a set amount for every win Club crews achieved during the season. The scheme has been well supported, and a total of some \$700 has been raised. The Committee decided that 60% shall be credited to the Building Fund and 40% towards replacement costs to the boats and equipment used by "Sunday morning" oarsmen. Bill Morrison and Jim Harvey have run the scheme with the greatest efficiency, and members who wish to take part in the scheme next year are asked to get in touch with them. They may be assured that Club crews will do their best to send them broke!

This season's Tributors were: R. Aitken, J. Bostock, D. Boykett, J. Bradshaw, J. Burford, N. Cairnes, P. Cayser, D. Crighton, J. Draffin, A. Evans, B. Gross, P. Guest, J. Harvey, P. Humphris, J. Jones, M. Keeley, E. Leggett, G. McCall, K. McConville, M. McKenna, J. McKeown, G. McMahon, C. Mahoney, G. Manton, A. Monger, D. Morgan, W. Morrison, V. Mulder, R. Richardson, S. Richardson, T. Rodda, J. Rowe, A. Schrader, J. Seammes, J. Shears, W. Shears, E. Sorani, J. Sprigg, G. Taylor, C. Thompson, M. Tomanovits, H. Walker, E. White, W. Wilson and D. Yunghanns.

Boats and Oars

The complete fleet is detailed below, together with a summary of its condition:—

Eights

Racing:

- R. R. Aitken (1971)—very good.
- J. G. Sprigg (1968)—fair.
- S. H. Newcombe (1966)—fair.
- D. H. Boykett (1964)—good.

Practice:

- R. W. Thursfield (1961)—good.

Fours

Racing:

- M. F. McKenna (1972)—v. good.
- Ricky Loveless (1970)—good.
- The First Lady (1968)—good.
- Sir Bernard Evans (1966)—fair.
- J. J. Wylie (1964)—fair.
- Caltex & Dealers (1964)—fair.

Tub:

- Deane Morgan (1961)—fair.
- E. K. Varcoe (1951)—poor.

Pairs

Racing:

- W. T. Morrison (1971)—good.
- Bill Bradshaw (1967)—fair.
- Keith Bilney (1964)—fair.

Tub:

- Paul Harding (1962)—fair.
- Dr. R. A. Cooper (1961)—fair.

Scull

Tub:

- Wal. Turnbull (1964)—poor.

Motor Boat

- Hull—fair. Motor—good.

Oars

- Sykes, 12ft. 4in. (1972)—good.
- Sykes, 12ft. 2in. (1971)—good.
- Karlisch (1970)—good.
- Aylings (1967-68)—fair.
- S. & B. (1968)—fair.
- Donoratico (1964-66)—fair.

The only new boat purchased this season was a racing coxed four from Sargent & Burton. This boat was named the M. F. McKenna, and has some success in regattas this season.

A racing eight has been ordered from Jeff Sykes for delivery in September, 1973.

The tub four M. S. Williams was sold during the season.

All members will note that we were extremely lucky not to lose any of our boats in the fire. However, because the rebuilding will further strain our finances, it is imperative that all members, both active and social, endeavour to look after all the equipment as if it were their own. This way we will reduce our repair bill and also keep our boats in better condition, longer, and thus enjoy our rowing more. It is to be hoped that members participate in maintenance work during the winter months in order that the fleet be brought on the line for the 1973-74 season.

The Committee wishes to thank the "Dobbie" crew who renovated the R. W. Thursfield, and also Russell Sherwood for his assistance with painting.

Coaching

The Committee extends its thanks to those members who offered their services and coached crews this season:—Messrs. J. Burford, N. Cairnes, P. Cayser, H. Frederico, P. Guest, J. Gumley, P. Jones, K. McConville, B. Morrison, M. Tomanovits, P. Watkin and R. Wilson.

The Club urgently needs coaches for the 1973-74 season if it is to retain its position as the major club in Victoria, and members who feel that they could assist in this field should contact the Captain as soon as possible.

Recruiting

John Burford has been in charge here again this year, and the large entries at most regattas this season bear witness to his efforts. With a view to next season, he has organised a recruiting night, to be held at the end of May, 1973. All members of the First and Second Eights of Schools which competed at the Head of the River Regatta on the Barwon have been invited to meet members of our Senior and Junior Squads and other members.

A continuing supply of good, keen young oarsmen is of paramount importance to our continuing success, and younger members are especially able to assist in this regard. Bring your friends down to the Club, and introduce them to the Captain and to the activities of the Club.

Boathouse

John Shanasy has chaired this Sub-Committee over the past year, and numerous jobs have been satisfactorily completed.

Next season will be an extremely busy one for the boathouse members due to the rebuilding of a major portion of the structure, and all members are asked to assist them wherever possible.

Olympic Games — Munich, 1972

Eights.—Holders: West Germany.

Gold Medal: NEW ZEALAND, 6.08.94.
Silver Medal: UNITED STATES, 6.11.61.
Bronze Medal: EAST GERMANY, 6.11.67.

Australia 8th overall (second in Petite Final), 6.22.45.

Crew: M. Shaw (bow), G. Pearce (2), K. Jelbart (3), R. Paver (4), R. Curtin (5), B. Curtin (6), M. Morgan (7), J. Clark (stroke), A. Grover (cox).

Coxed Fours.—Holders: New Zealand.

Gold Medal: WEST GERMANY, 6.31.85.
Silver Medal: EAST GERMANY, 6.33.30.
Bronze Medal: CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 6.35.64.

Australia 13th overall (fourth in repechage), 7.07.08.

Crew: J. Lee (bow), P. Wilkinson (2), W. Baillieu (3), P. Shakespeare (stroke), V. Bowrey (cox).

Coxless Fours.—Holders: East Germany.

Gold Medal: EAST GERMANY, 6.24.27.
Silver Medal: NEW ZEALAND, 6.25.64.
Bronze Medal: WEST GERMANY, 6.28.41.

Australia was not represented.

Coxed Pairs.—Holders: Italy.

Gold Medal: EAST GERMANY, 7.17.25.
Silver Medal: CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 7.19.57.
Bronze Medal: RUMANIA, 7.21.36.

Australia was not represented.

Coxless Pairs.—Holders: East Germany.

Gold Medal: EAST GERMANY, 6.53.16.
Silver Medal: SWITZERLAND, 6.57.06.
Bronze Medal: NETHERLANDS, 6.58.70.

Australia was eliminated in repechages (13th-19th overall), 7.45.03.

Crew: C. Stevens (bow), K. Makney (stroke).

Double Sculls.—Holders: U.S.S.R.

Gold Medal: U.S.S.R. (Malischev), 7.10.12.
Silver Medal: NORWAY, 7.02.58.
Bronze Medal: EAST GERMANY, 7.05.55.

Australia was not represented.

Single Sculls.—Holder: Wiense (Netherlands).

Gold Medal: U.S.S.R. (Malischev), 7.10.12.
Silver Medal: ARGENTINA (Demiddi), 7.11.53.
Bronze Medal: EAST GERMANY (Guldenpfennig), 7.14.45.

Australia was not represented.

Coaches of the Australian squad were A. Callaway and L. Robinson.

Australian Championships

Murray Bridge, S.A., 4th-5th May, 1973

KING'S CUP.—Australian Eight-Oared Championship:

1st, West Australia; 2nd, Victoria; 3rd, South Australia. Time: 6.40.
Margin: 1.6 sec.

Victoria represented by: D. Bishop (bow), W. Liley (2), T. Stokes (3),
J. Harry (4), W. Magennis (5), K. Jelbart (6), J. Shanasy (7),
M. Faulkner (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), H. Frederico (coach).

PENRITH CUP.—Australian Lightweight Four-Oared Championship:

1st, Victoria; 2nd, South Australia; 3rd, Queensland. Time: 7.38.5.
Margin: 1.4 sec.

Victoria represented by: G. Low (bow), G. Rees (2), C. Johnson (3),
A. McKinley (stroke), R. England (cox), P. Philp (coach).

PRESIDENT'S CUP.—Australian Sculling Championship:

1st, Victoria; 2nd, Tasmania; 3rd, Queensland (after re-row due to
dead-heat between Victoria and Tasmania). Time: 8.14. Margin:
5.36 sec.

Victoria represented by J. Sykes of Corio Bay.

Interstate Coxless Pair Championship:

1st, New South Wales "A"; 2nd, New South Wales "B"; 3rd, West
Australia. Time: 8.12. Margin: 4.5 sec.

Victoria represented by No. 1 Crew: W. Baillieu (bow), D. Slessar
(stroke), H. Frederico (coach). No. 2 Crew: G. Hardie (bow),
R. Cusworth (stroke), K. Cusworth (coach).

Australian Schoolboy Eights Championship (1500 metres):

1st, Scotch College (Victoria); 2nd, Aquinas (W.A.); 3rd, Hale (W.A.).
Time: 5.11. Margin: 4.9 sec.

Scotch College Crew: A. Guerin (bow), S. Webster (2), D. Parton (3),
B. Drumbell (4), D. Buchanan (5), G. Low (6), I. Porter (7),
G. Robertson-Smith (stroke), M. Aitken (cox), D. Macmillan
(coach). This crew is to represent Australia at the F.I.S.A. Junior
Championships at Nottingham, England, in August, 1973.

State Championships

Eight-Oared

SENIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat, 12th March, 1973. Won by Monash
University by 1 foot from Mercantile. The Club was represented by
R. Drummond (bow), R. Stewart (2), D. Booth (3), J. Harry (4),
J. Shanasy (5), G. Boykett (6), S. Gillon (7), M. Faulkner (stroke),
A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches). Time: 6.37.1.

JUNIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat, 12th March, 1973. Won by Banks R.C. The Club was represented by F. Brien (bow), E. Schraeder (2), T. Lockwood (3), I. Shaw (4), A. Sloan (5), B. Romanin (6), S. Butler (7), T. Horkings (stroke), T. Ling (cox), M. Tomanovits (coach). Time: 6.56.5.

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR. — Rowed at Ballarat, 9th-10th December, 1972. Won by M.U.B.C. The Club was represented by M. Owen (bow), A. Williams (2), P. Ainsworth (3), P. Testart (4), P. Maginn (5), D. Johns (6), I. Duthie (7), R. Rees (stroke), I. Featherstonehaugh (cox), P. Watkin (coach).

Four-Oared

SENIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat, 9th-10th December, 1972. Won by Sydney Rowing Club. The Club was represented by S. Gillon (bow), D. Douglas (2), J. Harry (3), G. Boykett (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), H. Frederico (coach).

JUNIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat, 9th-10th December, 1972. Won by Mercantile. The crew was J. Keeran (bow), C. Williams (2), R. Stewart (3), M. Faulkner (stroke), T. Ling (cox), P. Guest (coach).

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat, 12th March, 1973. Won by Melbourne University B.C. The Club was represented by M. Owen (bow), I. Duthie (2), P. Ainsworth (3), D. Johns (stroke), I. Featherstonehaugh (cox), K. McConville (coach). Time: 7.38.9.

Pair-Oared

SENIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat, 9th-10th December, 1972. Won by M.U.B.C. The Club was represented by No. 1 Crew: D. Palfreyman (bow), J. Shanasy (stroke), T. McCoy (cox), P. Cayzer (coach). No. 2 Crew: L. Ayres (bow), P. Philp (stroke), T. Ling (cox).

JUNIOR.—Rowed at Albert Park, 29th January, 1973. Won by Melbourne Rowing Club. The Club was not represented.

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR.—Rowed at Albert Park, 29th January, 1973. Won by South Melbourne R.C. The Club was not represented.

PAIR WITHOUT COX.—Rowed at Ballarat, 12th March, 1973. Won by Banks Rowing Club. The Club was represented by L. Ayres (bow) and P. Philp (stroke). Time: 8.26.0.

Single Sculls

SENIOR.—Rowed at Ballarat on 12th March, 1973. Won by E. Hale (Lindisfarne). The Club was represented by K. Leach and R. Garrard. Time: 8.29.4.

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR.—Held at Albert Park on 29th January, 1973. Won by N. Smith (P.H.R.C.). The Club was not represented.



CHAMPION JUNIOR FOUR

Jim Keeran (bow), Craig Williams (2), Rod Stewart (3), Mike Faulkner (str.), Tim Ling (cox).

Regattas

Metropolitan Novice Regatta — 17th June, 1972.

NOVICE PAIR.—R. Carlton (bow), W. Athorne (stroke), A. Stauder (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the Lightweight Maiden Pair event.

Metropolitan Novice Regatta — 5th August, 1972.

The Club was represented in the following events:—Maiden Four, Maiden Pair and Lightweight Maiden Pair.

Preston Regatta — 7th October, 1972.

OPEN PAIR.—L. Ayres (bow), P. Philp (stroke), T. Ling (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the Junior Four event.

Metropolitan Regatta — 14th October, 1972.

OPEN PAIR.—L. Ayres (bow), P. Philp (stroke), T. Ling (cox) won this event.

JUNIOR FOUR.—J. Keeran (bow), J. Briggs (2), R. Stewart (3), M. Faulkner (stroke), T. Ling (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the Open Eight and Senior Four events.

Banks Regatta — 21st October, 1972.

SENIOR FOUR.—J. Shanasy (bow), R. Dawson (2), J. Harry (3), G. Boykett (stroke), D. Patterson (cox), H. Frederico (coach) won this event.

SENIOR PAIR.—L. Ayres (bow), P. Philip (stroke), T. McCoy (cox) won this event.

JUNIOR FOUR.—J. Keeran (bow), J. Briggs (2), R. Stewart (3), M. Faulkner (stroke), T. Ling (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the Open Eight and Veteran Eight.

La Trobe Valley Regatta — 11th November, 1972.

The Club was represented by the following crews at this regatta:—Senior Four, Junior Four and Novice Eight.

Dimboola Regatta — 18th November, 1972.

SENIOR SCULLS.—K. Leach won this event.

The Club was also represented in the Novice Eight event.

Horsham Regatta — 19th November, 1972.

The Club was represented in the following events at this regatta:—Senior Sculls and Novice Eight.

V.R.A. Melbourne Regatta — 25th November, 1972.

SENIOR SCULLS.—K. Leach won this event.

VETERAN EIGHT.—A. Cordell (bow), P. Harding (2), A. Evans (3), E. Sorani (4), D. Yunghanns (5), J. Gumley (6), M. Tomanovits (7), G. Taylor (stroke), A. Maginn (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Open Eight, Senior Four, Junior Four, Junior Pair, Maiden Four and Novice Four.

Upper Yarra Regatta — 2nd December, 1972.

OPEN EIGHT.—M. Faulkner (bow), L. Ayres (2), D. Palfreyman (3), J. Shanasy (4), J. Harry (5), D. Douglas (6), S. Gillon (7), G. Boykett (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches) won this event.

SENIOR SCULLS.—J. Shanasy won this event.

SENIOR FOUR.—S. Gillon (bow), D. Douglas (2), J. Harry (3), G. Boykett (stroke), D. Patterson (cox), H. Frederico (coach) won this event.

JUNIOR FOUR.—J. Keeran (bow), C. Williams (2), R. Stewart (3), M. Faulkner (stroke), T. Ling (cox) won this event.

JUNIOR PAIR.—B. Parmenter (bow), R. Hochstrasser (stroke), T. McCoy (cox), K. McConville (coach) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Lightweight Eight, Maiden Four, Novice Four and Veteran Eight.

Championship Regatta, Ballarat — 9th-10th December, 1972.

SENIOR SCULLS.—J. Shanasy won this event.

MAIDEN FOUR.—I. Shaw (bow), J. Williams (2), S. Butler (3), D. Booth (Stroke), A. Williams (cox), J. Burford (coach) won this event.

NOVICE FOUR.—S. Moriarty (bow), R. Graydon (2), R. Michell (3), C. Jones (stroke), C. Cherry (cox), R. Wilson (coach) won this event.
The Club was also represented in the Junior Pair event.

Nagambie Regatta — 26th December, 1972.

SENIOR SCULLS.—R. Garrard won this event.

MAIDEN FOUR.—I. Shaw (bow), D. Booth (2), S. Butler (3), F. Brien (stroke), T. Ling (cox) won this event.

The Club was represented in the following events:—Open Eight, Senior Four, Senior Pair, Junior Eight, Junior Four, Maiden Eight, Lightweight Maiden Four, Novice Eight, Novice Four and Novice Pair.

Yarrowonga Regatta — 30th December, 1972

The Club was represented in the following events:—Open Eight, Junior Eight, Maiden Eight, Maiden Four, Lightweight Maiden Four, Novice Eight, Novice Four and Novice Pair.

Rutherglen Regatta — 1st January, 1973.

The Club was represented in the following events:—Open Eight, Junior Eight, Maiden Eight, Maiden Four, Lightweight Maiden Four, Novice Eight, Novice Four and Novice Pair.

Universities' Regatta — 20th January, 1973.

SENIOR EIGHT.—R. Drummond (bow), R. Stewart (2), D. Booth (3), J. Harry (4), J. Shanasy (5), G. Boykett (6), S. Gillon (7), M. Faulkner (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches) won this event.

SENIOR SCULLS.—K. Leach won this event.

The Club was also represented in the Maiden Eight and Maiden Four events.

Footscray Regatta — 27th January, 1973.

SENIOR EIGHT.—R. Drummond (bow), R. Stewart (2), D. Booth (3), J. Harry (4), J. Shanasy (5), G. Boykett (6), S. Gillon (7), M. Faulkner (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches) won this event.

SENIOR SCULLS.—K. Leach won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Senior Pair, Maiden Eight and Maiden Four.

Albert Park Regatta — 29th January, 1973.

SENIOR EIGHT.—R. Drummond (bow), R. Stewart (2), D. Booth (3), J. Harry (4), J. Shanasy (5), G. Boykett (6), S. Gillon (7), M. Faulkner (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches) won this event.

SENIOR PAIR.—L. Ayres (bow), P. Philp (stroke), T. McCoy (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Senior Sculls, Maiden Eight, Novice Four.

Bendigo Regatta — 3rd February, 1973.

The Club was not represented at this regatta.

V.R.A. Ballarat Regatta — 10th February, 1973.

The Club was represented in the following events at this regatta:—Senior Eight, Senior Sculls, Junior Eight, Junior Four and Lightweight Senior Four.

N.S.W. Championship Regatta — 17th February, 1973.

The Club was represented in the Championship Senior Eight, Championship Lightweight Four and Championship Scull.

Colac Regatta — 17th February, 1973.

The Club was not represented at this regatta.

Barwon Regatta — 24th February, 1973.

SENIOR EIGHT.—R. Drummond (bow), R. Stewart (2), D. Booth (3), J. Harry (4), J. Shanasy (5), G. Boykett (6), S. Gillon (7), M. Faulkner (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches) won this event.

The Club was represented in the following events:—Junior Eight, Junior Four, Maiden Pair and Senior Scull.

Henley Regatta — 3rd March, 1973.

SENIOR EIGHT.—R. Drummond (bow), R. Stewart (2), D. Booth (3), J. Harry (4), J. Shanasy (5), G. Boykett (6), S. Gillon (7), M. Faulkner (stroke), A. Maginn (cox), P. Cayzer and H. Frederico (coaches) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Senior Pair, Senior Scull, Lightweight Senior Four, Junior Eight, Junior Four, Junior Pair, Maiden Eight and Maiden Pair.

Ballarat Regatta — 10th March, 1973.

The Club was represented in the following events:—Lightweight Senior Four, Senior Pair, Senior Scull, Junior Eight and Junior Four.

Ballarat Championship Regatta — 11th-12th March, 1973.

The Club was not represented at this regatta other than in Championship events.

Head of the Yarra — 17th March, 1973.

OPEN SECTION.—R. Drummond (bow), R. Hochstrasser (2), D. Booth (3), R. Stewart (4), L. Ayres (5), D. Douglas (6), S. Gillon (7), D. Palfreyman (stroke), I. Featherstonehaugh (cox) won this section.

The Club was also represented in the Intermediate Section (3 crews) and in the Veteran Section (2 crews).

The School Section was won by Melbourne Grammar School 3rd Eight, coached by the Captain, M. Owen.

Yea Regatta — 24th March, 1973.

The Club was represented in the Senior Sculls event.

Scotch-Mercantile Regatta — 31st March, 1973.

SENIOR SCULL.—R. Garrard won this event.

JUNIOR EIGHT.—F. Brien (bow), A. Spriggins (2), T. Lockwood (3), A. Sloan (4), S. Butler (5), B. Romanin (6), M. Fudge (7), T. Horkings (stroke), T. Ling (cox), P. Cayzer (coach) won this event.

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR PAIR.—I. Duthie (bow), M. Owen (stroke), I. Featherstonehaugh (cox) won this event.

VETERAN EIGHT.—A. Cordell (bow), E. Sorani (2), A. Evans (3), D. Yunghanns (4), P. Guest (5), J. Gumley (6), M. Tomanovits (7), G. Taylor (stroke), P. Sorani (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Senior Four, Junior Pair, Maiden Eight, Maiden Pair, Lightweight Maiden Four and Veteran Eight.

Mildura Regatta — 21st April, 1973.

NOVICE FOUR.—M. Connolly (bow), C. Crighton (2), R. Shaw (3), N. Newton (stroke), P. Sorani (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Open Eight, Junior Eight, Lightweight Senior Pair, Open Four, Senior Pair, Maiden Four, Maiden Pair and Novice Eight.

Wentworth Regatta — 23rd April, 1973.

NOVICE FOUR.—M. Connolly (bow), C. Crighton (2), R. Shaw (3), N. Newton (stroke), P. Sorani (cox) won this event.

The Club was also represented in the following events:—Open Eight, Junior Eight, Lightweight Senior Pair, Open Four, Junior Pair, Maiden Four, Maiden Pair and Novice Eight.

Premiership Points

SENIOR.—Mercantile, 70; Monash, 52; M.U.B.C., 48; Banks, 24; Corio Bay, 8; Nagambie, 2; Rutherglen, 2.

JUNIOR FIRST DIVISION.—Banks, 222; Barwon, 148; Power House, 94; Corio Bay, 76; Mercantile, 52; M.U.B.C., 32; Hawthorn, 16; Wendouree, 10; Bendigo, 8; Footscray, 2.

JUNIOR SECOND DIVISION. — Melbourne, 66; Warrnambool, 44; Richmond, 28; Albert Park, 21; Essendon, 18; Ballarat City, 14; Colac, 12; Nagambie, 10; Horsham, 8; Yarra Yarra, 6; Mildura, 4; Dimboola, 4; La Trobe University, 4; South Melbourne, 4.

LIGHTWEIGHT.—M.U.B.C., 56; Melbourne, 42; Corio Bay, 19; Barwon, 16; South Melbourne, 16; Mercantile, 10; Footscray, 10; Power House, 6; Colac, 4; Hawthorn, 2; Wentworth, 2.

Scotch-Mercantile Regatta

The Fifteenth Annual Scotch-Mercantile Regatta was conducted in excellent conditions over the Henley course on Saturday, 31st March, 1973. Another large entry of 1,270 oarsmen and scullers ensured an interesting day's racing for competitors and spectators alike.

Mr. J. W. Bradshaw ran the regatta in his usual highly efficient manner, and the Club is indebted to him for once again ensuring the regatta's success.

The Regatta Committee would like to thank those members who acted as officials and marshals.

This year's Regatta Committee was Mr. R. R. Aitken (Chairman), Mr. J. W. Bradshaw (Secretary), Mr. V. Mulder (Treasurer), Messrs. L. Ayres, D. Boykett, J. Burford, A. Blaxland, N. Cairnes, E. Davidson, D. Morgan, W. Nash and P. Watkin.

Australian Inter-Varsity Regatta

Mildura, 18th-19th May, 1973.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE EIGHTS.—1st, Monash University; 2nd, Melbourne University; 3rd, Sydney University. Time: 5.31.2.

LIGHTWEIGHT FOUR.—1st, Melbourne University; 2nd Adelaide University; 3rd, University of N.S.W. Time: 6.9.6.

COXLESS PAIR.—1st, Melbourne University; 2nd, Monash University; 3rd Queensland University. Time: 6.36.4.

SCULLS.—1st, Sydney University (I. Lee); 2nd University of W.A. (G. Larkins); 3rd, Monash University (D. Worthley). Time: 6.37.4.

Club members who competed were Bruno Romanin (Monash Eight), Martin Owen (Monash Lightweight Four), Nicholas Newton (La Trobe Sculls) and Andrew Williams (Monash Lightweight Four).

Schools' Head of the River Race

Our congratulations go to Scotch College and their coach, Mr. D. Macmillan, for their win on the Barwon course on 14th April, 1973. David Parton was a member of this crew.

Congratulations also go to Lindsay Fraser, a member of the winning Scotch College 2nd Crew, and to Peter Philp, coach of the winning Scotch College 3rd Crew.

The following Club members assisted in coaching the Head of the River crews:—P. Ainsworth, D. Baxter, J. Burford, P. Davies, A. Evans, H. Frederico, H. Green, P. Guest, G. Johnson, A. Monger, M. Owen, P. Watkin and R. Wilson.

Combined High Schools' Regatta

We congratulate Bell Park High School for winning this event.

Sculling

During the winter of 1972 the Victorian Amateur Sculling Association held their usual series of races on the Yarra, and the following results were obtained:—

HERALD SHIELD (series of 6 races over 2,000 metres).—A total of 26 scullers competed, and the event was won by M. Connolly, to whom we offer our congratulations. J. Shanasy finished 3rd.

DENNIS CUP (series of 6 races over a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, for open boats).—A total of 12 competed. Won by R. Dennis, of Richmond.

STOKES TROPHY (series of 6 races over 1,000 metres, for fitreglass boats).—This was a new event, with a total of five competitors. Won by N. Newton of Mercantile, sculling under Melbourne Grammar School colours.

BEGELHOLE CUP ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile sprint — best boats).—Won by K. Leach, with P. McNamara 2nd and R. Garrard 3rd. Fourteen competitors.

DUDGEON CUP ($\frac{1}{4}$ mile sprint — open boats).—Won by A. McCowan, of Albert Park Rowing Club. Seven competitors.

KERBY CUP (2,000 metres — best boats).—This event attracted 15 starters, and we congratulate J. Shanasy for his win.

YOFFA SHIELD (5-mile marathon — 22 competitors).—The best boats section was won by R. Willis, of Melbourne Rowing Club; and the open boat section was won by A. McCowan, of Albert Park Rowing Club, with N. Newton (Mercantile) 2nd.

It is to be hoped that Club members will support the coming winter series of events to be run by the Sculling Association.

Club Races

Guinn Memorial Pairs

The successful crew was W. Hutchins (bow), D. Cowling (stroke), E. Noel (cox).

Our thanks go to the anonymous member for donating these trophies for this tub pair event on the Princes Bridge course.

A. L. Dobbie Memorial Fours

This race, held annually on Ladies' Day in memory of a former President, was won by T. Shanasy (bow), G. Ainsworth (2), J. Shanasy (3), M. Owen (stroke), C. Cherry (cox).

We thank the family of the late A. L. Dobbie for making the trophies available.

J. G. Sprigg Time Trial

The competition to win one of these highly prized trophies was once again fast and furious, the successful crew being A. Williams (bow), W. Athorne (2), P. Benjamin (3), P. McNamara (4), B. Parmenter (5), R. Dawson (6), J. Shanasy (7), R. Garrard (stroke), T. Ling (cox).

The winning time was 28 mins. 18.7 sec.

Bradshaw-Richardson Time Trial

This new event, in a racing four, from the Clubhouse, around Morell Bridge and back, was won by S. Shanasy (bow), P. Ainsworth (2), R. Garrard (3), M. Owen (stroke), M. Connolly (cox).

The winning time was 13 mins 19.4 sec.

Stonk-Moose Time Trial

The winning crew was M. Connolly (bow), G. Taylor (2), C. Jones (3), A. Maginn (stroke), C. Cherry (cox).

The winning time was 22 mins. 46.1 sec.

We thank Mr. L. L. B. Moll for donating the trophies.

Combination Races

Morell Eights — 17th December, 1972

We would like to thank the family of the late Sir Stephen Morell for the donation of these trophies.

The final was won by M. Connolly (Merc.), bow; A. Maginn (Mercs.), 2; M. Vanonselen (Melb.), 3; R. Tanner (Sth. Melb.), 4; D. Millikan (Yarra Yarra), 5; J. Varendorff (Mercs.), 6; R. Schouten (Mercs.), 7; G. Boykett (Mercs.), stroke; D. England (M.U.B.C.), cox

Twelve crews competed

Picken-Williams Eights — 15th April, 1973

Nine crews competed in this event for trophies generously donated by Mr. J. H. Picken and Mr. M. S. Williams.

The final was won by J. McKeown (Mercs.), bow; I. Hill (Haberfield), 2; M. Vanonselen (Melb.), 3; S. Ryan (Mercs.), 4; I. Duthie (Mercs.), 5; W. Ruttledge (Mercs.), 6; J. Williams (Mercs.), 7; R. Drummond (Mercs.), stroke; L. McMahon (Mercs.), cox.

Both these events were organised by P. Watkin, whose efforts ensured their success.

Trophies

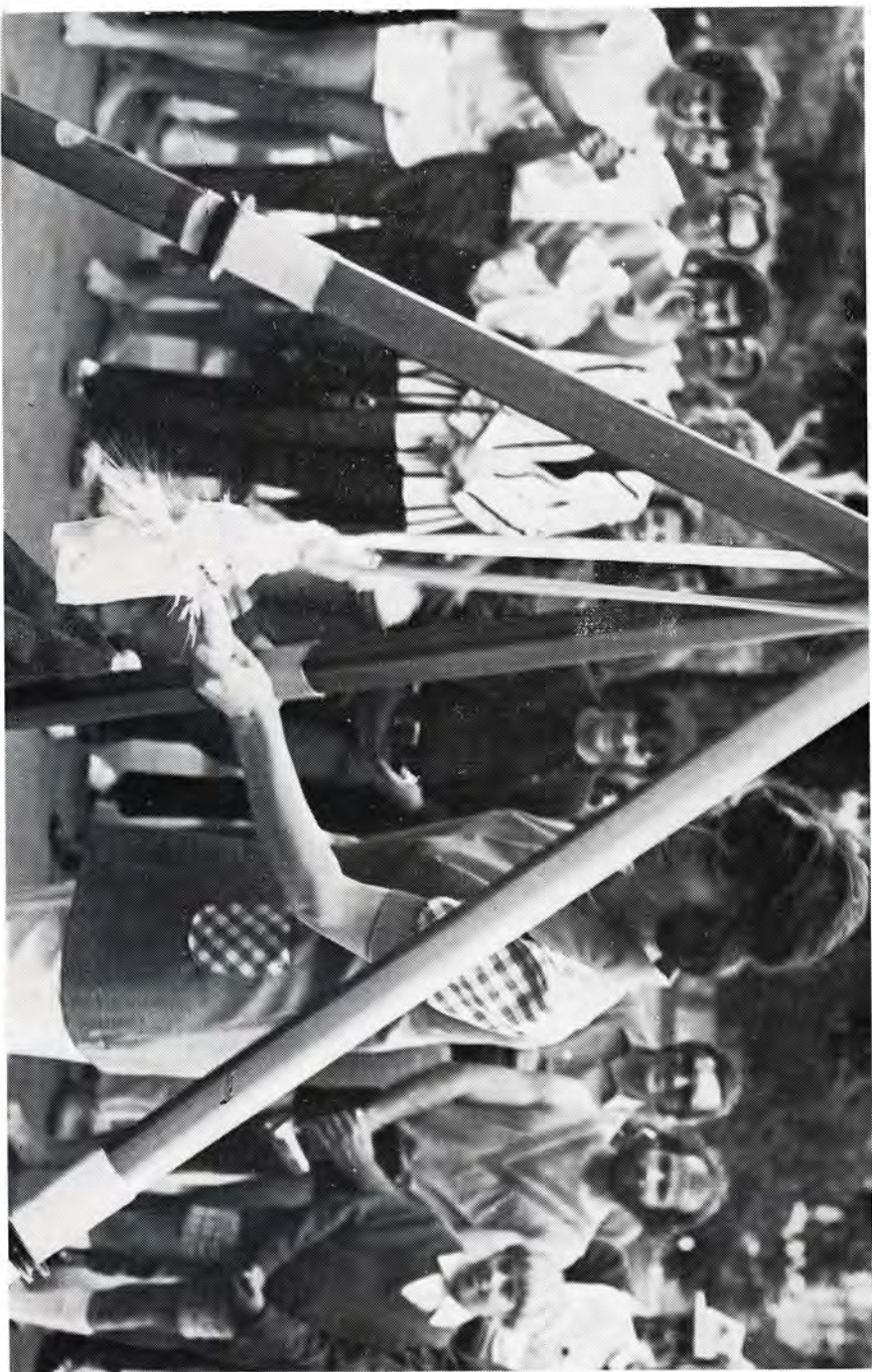
Captain's Trophy.—This trophy is presented to the member who has entered and won the most Regatta and Club races during the season, and we congratulate Rod Stewart who has won the trophy for this season.

Late F. R. Browne Trophy.—The Perpetual Shield and Trophy donated by the family of the late F. R. Browne for presentation to the most improved novice oarsman has been awarded to Ross Shaw, to whom we extend our congratulations.

Max Bailey Trophy.—The Perpetual Shield and Trophy for champion cox has been won by Tim Ling, and we congratulate him on his many wins.

N. W. Cairnes Trophy.—This Trophy, for the most improved coxswain for the season, has been awarded to Tim McCoy, and we look forward to his continued improvement.

The Jeff Wylie Memorial Trophy.—The Perpetual Shield and Trophy, for the most improved lightweight oarsman, is donated by the Management



MRS. ROBYN MCKENNA NAMING THE COXED FOUR "M. F. MCKENNA".

and Staff of Edward Lumley & Sons Pty. Ltd., and is awarded annually in memory of the late Jeff Wylie, a former Captain of the Club. The selectors have unanimously decided that the trophy be awarded to Martin Owen, to whom we extend our congratulations.

Dr. R. A. Cooper Memorial Trophy.—This Trophy, which has been made available by the generosity of Mrs. R. A. Cooper and family in memory of the late Dr. R. A. Cooper, will be awarded annually to the member who, during the year, has rendered the most outstanding service to the Club. The first recipient of this Trophy is Graeme Boykett, and we take this opportunity to congratulate him and thank him for his efforts in many areas of the Club's activities during the season.

Social Activities

Ladies' Day.—An enjoyable day was had by all. Keen racing in the Dobtie Memorial Fours was apparent, and the day concluded with a barbecue.

Annual Dinner.—This year the dinner was held in the Clubhouse, and a good attendance of some 80 members and guests sat down to the meal. Our guest speaker was Father Brosnan, the Catholic Chaplain at Pentridge Gaol, who delivered a most enlightening address.

Several other functions have been held, including a barbecue after the Morell Eights and also entertainment on the evenings of Henley and Scotch-Mercantile Regattas.

The Social activities have made a total profit of some \$580 this year, and we thank those who have done all the hard work which has made this result possible.

Squash

The Squash Section of the Club has now finished two complete seasons and has proved most successful in both. As stated in the previous report, two teams competed in the Winter Pennant Series. The "E" Grade side, which stood in second place throughout the season, proved successful in defeating the South Yarra Club in the grand final to take the pennant.

The team comprised R. Griffith, D. Johns, K. Leach and M. McKenzie. (R. Aitken played throughout the season, but was absent overseas during the grand final.)

The Club proved even more successful in the Spring Season. Three teams were entered, and all three reached the finals. The "D" Grade Team was successful in winning the pennant from the Hawthorn Club; however, in "E" Reserve the same club had their revenge by defeating our team in the grand final. The third team also played "E" Reserve and finished fourth.

The teams were as follows:—

"D" Grade (premiers): R. Griffith, R. Aitken, K. Leach, D. Johns and J. Larter.

"E" Reserve (runners-up): M. McKenzie, J. Burford, G. Park and B. Gross.

"E" Reserve (fourth): G. McCall, P. Renouf, R. Pirani, V. Mulder and A. Darker.

At present three teams are competing in the 1973 Winter Pennant, and as all teams were elevated in the gradings they are finding the going a little tougher, although their standings at present are quite good.

The teams are as follows:—

"C" 1 Grade (third on ladder at present): R. Griffiths, R. Aitken, K. Leach, D. Johns and J. Larter.

"D" 2 Grade (fifth): B. Gross, P. Renouf, G. McCall and G. Park.

"E" 1 Grade (fifth): J. Burford, P. Philp, R. Pirani, V. Mulder, A. Darker and S. Gillon.

Under a new system adopted by the Association, only 8 teams compete in each grade, and only 3 play off for the pennant.

As from the commencement of Spring, 1972, the Club was offered, and accepted, the use of the courts and facilities of the Amateur Sports Club, and to the President and Committee of that Club go our sincere thanks.

Our congratulations are extended to all successful clubs, and our thanks extended to the clubs which hosted our teams in the finals, especially the Royal South Yarra Tennis Club for hosting the "E" Reserve grand final in the Spring Pennant.

The Squash Section is open to every member of the Club, and any member interested in playing competition squash should contact Ron Griffiths or Geoff Park. The squash is very enjoyable and the social side is certainly not ignored.

Mercantile Ladies' Auxiliary

The Club has again received tremendous support from the Ladies' Auxiliary, and the Committee expresses its sincere thanks to them for their continued efforts.

The Ladies' Auxiliary was formed in September, 1967, and since then has donated to the Club two coxed fours, "The First Lady" and the "Ricky Loveless", and also a boat trailer which was delivered in December, 1972, with a total value of over \$4,300. This is a truly remarkable effort, and in order to continue its activities the Ladies' Auxiliary welcomes members' wives or mothers to their ranks. Those interested are asked contact the Secretary, Mrs. Jean Bradshaw — phone number 96 4504.

Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary are: Mesdames J. Loveless (President), J. Bradshaw (Secretary), S. Wood (Treasurer), N. Boykett, C. Boykett, T. Boykett, N. Bryan, M. Burford, D. Bailey, P. Coleman, S. Douglas, S. Garrard, C. Horkings, P. Maginn, M. Owen, P. Philp, P. Shanasy and M. Sherwood.

General

The Committee would like to thank all those members who have assisted with all the jobs around the Clubhouse which have needed attention from time to time.

Roger Wilson again organised the camps at Christmas and Easter, which were much enjoyed by all those who attended. We thank him and his wife for their efforts.

The social gatherings between the Committee and the Committee of Banks Rowing Club have continued to the benefit of all concerned.

The Anzac Day Service was held on Sunday, 29th April, and was well attended. The President read the names of the fallen, and David Stirling conducted the recitation.

The Club history continues to be compiled by Norm Cairnes and Deane Morgan, and members who have anecdotes and information they feel should be on record should contact them.

We thank the clubs who have been host to our crews away on trips, namely Sydney Rowing Club, Mildura Rowing Club, Yarrowonga Rowing Club and Wendouree Rowing Club.

The Club has again had a good group of coxes this year, and the Committee would like to thank the following:—Chris Cherry, Ian Featherstonehaugh, Tim Ling, Adrian Maginn, Tim McCoy, Lindsay McMahon, David Paterson, Steven Sherwood, Paul Sorani and Alf Stauder.

To the parents of the younger coxes we extend our thanks for their understanding and co-operation during the season.

Peter Watkin is to be thanked for his series of newsletters which have kept members up to date with events during the season. He is also thanked for his assistance with the production of the Minutes of Committee Meetings and other bulk typing.

The Rothmans Sports Foundation has generously provided financial support to the V.R.A. Youth Committee to assist it in its activities. Members of the Club who are members of the V.R.A. Youth Committee are Messrs. D. Boykett, P. Downey and D. Palfreyman.

On the 8th and 9th February, 1973, the Youth Committee held a Seminar in the Clubhouse, which was well attended by members from many clubs. It is hoped that an Australian Youth Championship will be held in conjunction with the King's Cup /National Regatta at Ballarat in April, 1974.

The Victorian Rowing Association has conducted another excellent series of regattas this season, and our congratulations go to the Regatta Secretaries and other officials concerned.

The Licensed Officials Panel has again made a great contribution to the smooth running of regattas during the season. Any of the Club's retired oarsmen who feel that they could participate in this important part of rowing administration are asked to contact the Secretary of the Victorian Rowing Association, Mr. W. Waterfield.

The coolroom and temprite facilities were completed in time for the warm weather, mainly due to the efforts of Ruedi Hochstrasser, David Palfreyman, David Yunghanns and Andrew Evans. All members agree that the quenching of the raging Mercantile thirst is now a much more pleasurable task.

Michael La Roche and Ruedi Hochstrasser have left for their native Switzerland.

Alistair McArthur writes to say that he is now at the Colorado Outward Bound School.

Peter Benjamin has taken off for Europe for two years.

Mrs. Pauline Fairlie, daughter of the late Wal Turnbull, generously donated a trophy for the Senior Scull event at Scotch-Mercantile Regatta in memory of her father. The trophy was won this year by Dick Garrard.

Mrs. Sprigg is the driving force behind E.M.M.A., and her efforts have assisted the Club funds to a considerable degree. Members are reminded to help her so that she can help you.

The Club has been pleased to house boats and crews from St. Kevin's College this season, and we appreciate the co-operation we have received from their Masters and Coaches.

The A.B.C. and Commercial Stations have continued to give the sport good coverage.

Roger Wilson, Ray Todd and John Barber have all been seen in print regularly.

Roger Wilson has given many discreet and unsensational commentaries of races at several regattas this season, and his in-depth knowledge of the rowing scene is invaluable to his standard of commentary. It is to be hoped that he will be assisted in this regard next season by comments of an equally high standard from others who feel they have a flair to pride interesting and authentic broadcasts.

Pat McNamara was elected Captain of Nagambie Rowing Club in September, 1972, and the prominence of this club during the season has surely been largely due to his enthusiasm and dedication.

Mr. R. ("Rusty") Robertson, coach of the Gold Medal winning New Zealand Eight at the Munich Olympic Games in September, 1972, gave a talk on his philosophies and methods to a large gathering of oarsmen from all over Victoria on 13th November, 1972. His talk was most interesting, and the question and answer session which followed was most beneficial to all those present.

The Club was honoured by a visit from the President of F.I.S.A., Mr. Thomi Keller, on February 11th, 1973. Mr. Keller attended the Sunday barrel and presented the Club with a rowing timer. The Captain presented Mr. Keller with a Club Pennant.

Members were pleased to host two scullers from Switzerland and a party of German supporters who visited Victoria in February. Both men, F. Bachmann and M. Burgin, represented their country at the Munich

Olympic Games and competed at a special regatta held at Ballarat on 10th February, 1973. They subsequently competed in the New Zealand Championships in Dunedin, winning the double sculls.

We congratulate the following members who have increased the size of their families during the season:—Graeme Boykett — a daughter; David Douglas — a daughter; Jim Hughan — a son; Mike McKenna — a son; Brian Parmenter — a daughter; and Marty Tomanovits — a daughter.

Roger Redman is to be congratulated on his marriage, and we wish him and his wife every happiness and success.

It is with regret that we record the deaths of several members, and the Club is poorer for their passing — Dr. R. A. Cooper, Alby Lindblade, Gordon Ross and Peter Scanes. We extend our sincere sympathy to the members of their families.

The Veterans are to be congratulated on their activities during the season, and they confounded many riverside pundits by winning two of their five events. A winter series of races on the ebb tide on the Yarra has been organised, and anyone wishing to join the Veterans is asked to contact Bill Ruttledge.

Our thanks go to all other Clubs, Public and High Schools for their co-operation during the year. Our members who have attended country regattas have enjoyed the hospitality extended to them by the country clubs. We extend our best wishes and good speed to them all for the coming season.

To our President, the Committee wishes to convey their thanks for his tireless enthusiasm, encouragement and advice, and also the way in which he promotes the Club to new and old members alike. His support, and that of the Vice-Presidents and senior members, is indeed the foundation of our Club.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Committee thanks all members for their assistance during the year, and anticipates the same co-operation being given to the in-coming Committee.

For and on behalf of the Committee.

A. W. BLAXLAND,
Honorary Secretary,
Mercantile Rowing Club.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1972-73

LIFE MEMBERS

Aitken, R. R.	Morgan, D. J. R.	Thursfield, R. W.
Bradshaw, J. W.	Picken, J. H.	Williams, M. S.
Cairnes, N. W.	Sprigg, J. G. H.	

SENIOR ACTIVE MEMBERS

Ainsworth, P. J.	Emsell, B.	McConville, K. H.
Athorne, W. J.	Evans, A. M.	McDavitt, J. P.
Ayres, L. F.	Everist, I. C.	McKenna, M. F.
Bailey, K.	Faulkner, M. R.	McKenzie, M. D.
Baird, A. T.	Fox, J. A.	McKeown, J. W.
Baker, K.	Frederico, H. R.	McMahon, G.
Ball, D. G.	Garrard, R. J.	Mahoney, C. W.
Baxter, D.	George, C. D.	Mahony, H.
Blackwell, G. L.	Gibbs, P. M.	Manton, G. O. V.
Blaxland, A. W.	Gibson, A. D. C.	Miller, A. P.
Boykett, D. H.	Gibson, D. H.	Millikan, P. L.
Boykett, G. H.	Gillon, S. M.	Mollard, K. F.
Bradd, G. F.	Graves, G. R.	Moore, C. C. M.
Bridgeford, P. N.	Green, H. P.	Morell, D. R.
Briggs, J. D.	Griffiths, R. I.	Morell, R. T.
Burford, J.	Gross, B. B.	Morgan, E.
Butler, M.	Guest, P. M.	Morrison, W. T.
Byrne, M. A.	Gumley, J. H.	Mulder, T. F.
Carlton, R.	Harry, J. R.	Mulder, V.
Cayzer, P. A.	Harvey, J. R.	O'Brien, P. H.
Charge, W. K.	H'll, J.	Owen, M. F.
Cordell, A. M.	Hince, M. A.	Palfreyman, D.
Cowling, D. S.	Hogan, T. J.	Park, G. A.
Cracknell, J.	Holian, J. K. M.	Parmenter, B. R.
Cummings, R. F.	Hughan, J. R.	Paterson, D. L.
Curtis, R. A.	Hume, M. C.	Patterson, I. H.
Darker, A.	Hutchins, W. B.	Philp, P. E. M. L.
Dawson, R. St. L.	Hyett, A. F.	Pirani, R. L.
Dobbie, A. W.	Jessup, R. M. B.	Porter, C. F.
Dobie, P. D.	Johns, D. L.	Redman, R.
Doerner, H.	Johnson, G. M.	Rees, R.
Douglas, D. G. A.	Jones, J. McD.	Renouf, L. P.
Downey, P. J.	Jones, P. L. V.	Richardson, G. W.
Draffin, J. R.	Jones, P. L.	Richardson, R. H.
Drummond, R. J.	Kellam, M. B.	Richardson, S. G.
Duthie, I. R.	Kerin, M. J.	Roberts, M. H. R.
Dwyer, G. L.	Kohn, A. B.	Roberts, R.
Easson, R. I.	Leach, K.	Rowe, J. A.
Eddie, A.	McCall, G. A.	Ruttledge, W. L.

Ryan, S. P.
*Scanes, P.
Shanasy, J.
Shanasy, S.
Shanasy, T.
Shears, H. P.
Sherwood, R. K.
Smith, K. A. D.
Smith, M. C.
Spensley, J. S.

Stewart, R. D.
Talbot, L. J.
Taylor, G. M.
Thom, J. J.
Tomanovits, M. G.
Tynan, J.
Varendorff, J. D.
Vautin, W.
Wallace, W. L. N.
Watkin, P. K.

Weatherhead, R. C.
Williams, C. L.
Williams, L. S.
Wilson, G. J.
Wilson, J. H.
Wilson, W. I.
Wood, P. V.
Yunghanns, D. J.

SENIOR MEMBERS

Adams, A. W.
Arnold, W. S.
Atkins, A. H. C.
Bostock, J. B.
Brooke, D. C.
Broughton, O. S.
Carr, J. P.
Clarke, J. H. P.
Doyle, B. J.
Fletcher, J. M.

Harding, P.
Hewitt, H. N.
Hyett, G. S.
McCubbery, R. J.
Newcomb, S. H.
Newport, F. N.
Nixon, N. V.
Pope, K.
Shears, J. D.
Sorani, E.

Spalding, N.
Spencer, H. T.
Stirling, D. S.
Thomas, J. C.
Thompson, C. T.
Walker, H. J. R.
White, E. C.
Wilson, R. B.
Wood, M. R.

JUNIOR MEMBERS

Booth, D. J.
Brien, F. D.
Burnell, M. C.
Butler, S. J.
Butt, G. B.
Collins, T. B.
Connolly, M. C.
Davies, P.
Durance, K. F.
Fitzpatrick, J. J.
Grace, G. H.
Holyman, I. D.

Horkings, T.
Ironmonger, R.
Keeran, J. A.
Lockwood, T.
Lusink, C.
McConville, G. J.
Maginn, P. T.
Midgley, J. R.
Mitchell, D. M.
Morrison, B. W.
Newton, N. L.
Pitts, J. M.

Romanin, B.
Schrader, E. D.
Shaw, I.
Sloan, A. T.
Stratford, A. C.
Swan, T. R.
Tucker, M. H.
Tulloh, D. J.
Van Veenendaal, J.
Williams, A. R.
Williams, J. M.

JUNIOR SCHOOLBOY MEMBERS

Coleman, S. J.
Crighton, C. D.
Fraser, L. A.

Hollywood, S. P.
Jones, C. P.
Negline, J. W.

Parton, D. B.
Shaw, R. D.
Taylor, G.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Appleby, J. P.
Blair-Holt, J. A.
Bolton, R. S.
Bram, A.
Corben, M. H.

Cordell, A. J.
Crighton, D. J. M.
Epstein, G. L.
Fogarty, F.
Fosdick, L. V.

Granowski, W. O.
Greenwood, G. C.
Hidcock, C. W.
Holyman, G. I.
Howgate, D. P.

Hume, K. M.
Larter, S. J.
Leggett, E. P.
Longmuir, I.
Loveless, A. T.
McKay, T.
Mollard, S. F.

Nicholls, C. J.
O'Brien, R. A.
Palfreyman, D. B.
Rodda, T.
Rush, R. T.
Seamman, J. W.
Searle, N. M.

Shears, E.
Spark, J. M.
Thomas, R.
Ward, C. H. M.
Watson, C. D.
Wilkinson, C. V. H.
Wylie, W. J.

COUNTRY MEMBERS

Ansell, G. L.
Bailey, J. H.
Bailey, W. M.
Boykett, P. H.
Calder, D. A.
Coleman, M. S.
Connolly, R. W.
De Guingand, C. J.
Ferguson, J. M.
Fogarty, M.

Humphris, P. W.
Keeley, M. R.
Kerrigan, N.
Lee, R. E.
McArthur, F. S.
McLean, A. R.
McNamara, P. J.
Miller, P. M.
Milner, A. C.
Moll, L. L. B.

Monger, A. C.
Morell, S. D. H.
Negri, R. A.
Noble, F.
Olliff, D.
O'Reilly, J. H.
Pennyfather, A.
*Ross, W. G.
Wertheimer, E. J.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Benjamin, P. L.
Knowles, R.
McArthur, A. H.

McDougal, A.
McWilliam, I. A.
Naughton, B.

Pearce, J. M.
Ryan, P. J.

*Deceased

OBITUARIES

RICHARD AUSTIN COOPER

Richard Austin Cooper, familiarly known to members as "Doc", had a fairly extensive knowledge of rowing prior to joining the Club, as he coxed Melbourne Grammar Head of the River First Eight Crews in 1902 and 1903.

Soon after joining Mercs. he was selected cox of our Senior Eight, which position he held for a number of years. Those were the days of stirring competition between Alec Sloan of Mercs. and the Donald Trothers of Albert Park. As a deep thinker of rowing in those days, young "Doc" saw much merit in the form and method of both crews, and years later when he commenced coaching he endeavoured to blend the leading points of both those crews into the crew he was coaching.

When increasing weight caused him to retire from coxing he turned to rowing and sculling. As a lightweight oarsman and sculler he competed at regattas for several years with varying success.

It was, however, as a coach that we discovered the real brilliance of the former coxswain. He had many successes over a long period, but unfortunately his professional duties considerably reduced the number of crews it was possible for him to coach.

After retiring from active coaching, he spent much time assisting a number of less experienced coaches.

"Doc's" father was a Mercs. member for many years, and now his passing terminates the association of approximately 80 years of the Cooper family with this Club.

"Doc" was a great Clubman and a generous supporter of Club affairs. He was a regular attendant at regattas on the Yarra, and also for many years at leading country regattas.

Rowing in general, and Mercantile in particular, can ill afford the loss of such a noted authority on rowing.

ALBY LINDBLADE

With the passing of Alby Lindblade our last remaining link with those who rowed and raced in the last century was severed.

Before moving to their own boathouse in Hawthorn, Scotch College rowed from Mercantile, and public school rowing was confined to fours. It is on record that during the 1898 Rowing Season, Alby was a member of the Scotch College crew which won the Public School Fours.

He won his Maiden Eight at Ballarat during the 1899 rowing year, and continued winning races with Mercs. until 1912, when he retired from active rowing. This versatile oarsman also won a number of sculling races.

Many crews were coached by him until pressure of business made it necessary to withdraw from this side of the sport.

A great Clubman, he was keenly interested in, and supported, all Club activities. Failing health during recent years prevented him from visiting the Clubhouse and he was not known to many of our younger members.

We regret the passing of this valuable member.

OBITUARIES (continued)

WILLIAM GORDON "STONK" ROSS

Mercantile lost a stirring member in "Stonk" Ross, who passed on during mid 1972 after a short illness.

"Stonk", possessed of a quiet and charming personality, gathered a great many friends at Merca. and along the river bank. In his heyday he was a powerfully built athlete and a most successful competitor, tough and fiercely determined in the boat, where he was usually seen in the 6 seat.

He was a member of the 1926 and 1927 Scotch Eight that won the Head of the River, and a Victorian representative in the 1939 King's Cup race in Brisbane.

As Club Captain, "Stonk" was an inspiration. His term of office at the helm won him praise for his leadership and for the manner in which he received most harmonious support of the members.

"Stonk" joined the R.A.A.F. at the outbreak of World War 2 and was a No. 1 course navigator. Whilst serving with 38 R.A.F. Squadron in "Wellington" bombers in the Middle East he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal.

After discharge from the R.A.A.F., he established a grazing property at Dunkeld, where he conducted several successful stud enterprises. He had an uncanny knowledge of stock and was a splendid horseman.

Further interests in which he held executive positions were the Dunkeld R.S.L., Swimming Centre, Polo-Cross, Fire Brigade and the Grampians Golf Club.

Some how he managed to find time to sail in the summer months.

His great love was rowing, and few would deny that he was a great Mercantilian.

PETER SCANES

Peter Scanes, who was tragically killed in a road accident last April, joined the Club in January, 1972, shortly after his arrival from London, where he had been a member of the Quintin Boat Club.

He found a seat in the Maiden Eight almost at once and won several events in this crew. He subsequently was selected for the Lightweight Senior Eight, and this crew represented the Club at the State Championship.

This season his interest turned to sculling, and he was often to be seen training in his racing shell.

The Club has lost a cheerful, humorous and likeable young man, and we extend our deepest sympathy to his family in their loss.

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT YEAR ENDING 30th APRIL, 1973

	1973	1972
INCOME:		
Subscriptions	\$7,521	\$7,780
Less Amounts written off	1,142	1,116
	\$6,379	\$6,664
Donations	2,063	1,177
Interest Received	38	38
Sundry Income	140	146
Rent Received on Boats	—	150
Hire Clubroom	170	—
	\$8,790	\$8,175
TOTAL INCOME		
	\$8,790	\$8,175
EXPENDITURE:		
Depreciation	\$2,592	\$2,280
Entrance Fees—Regattas	365	308
Fire Protection Expenses	155	90
Freight—Country Regattas	72	538
General Expenses	210	244
Insurance	407	968
Interest on Overdraft	1,078	1,091
Lighting, Gas, Rent and Water Rates	624	855
Postages	—	85
Printing and Stationery	713	457
Repairs and Maintenance	568	777
Telephone	126	131
Trophies—Club Races	20	129
V.R.A. Dues, Fees and Donations	593	517
	\$7,523	\$8,470
	\$7,523	\$8,470
SURPLUS (LOSS)		
TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS	\$1,267	(Loss) \$295
	\$1,267	(Loss) \$295

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th APRIL, 1973

	1973	1972
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Bank of New South Wales (War Memorial Building Fund)	\$14,261	\$17,472
Trophy Order Account (see Note 3)	5,701	5,206
Subscriptions paid in advance	196	104
Sundry Creditors	715	1,273
Olympic Fund	100	100
	\$20,973	\$24,155
R. A. COOPER MEMORIAL TRUST FUND	\$2,500	—
ACCUMULATED FUNDS:		
Balance 30th April (see Note 1)	27,828	26,561
War Memorial Building Fund Donations (see Note 2)	16,948	14,544
	\$44,776	\$41,105
	\$68,249	\$65,260

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th APRIL, 1973

	1973	1972
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Bank of New South Wales	\$817	\$295
Subscriptions Outstanding	693	1,112
Stock on Hand	258	363
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	1,280	1,426
	\$3,048	\$3,196
INVESTMENTS (at cost):		
Commonwealth Treasury Bonds—		
V.R.A. Trophy Order A/c.	\$597	\$597
F. R. Browne Trophy A/c.	50	50
J. J. Wylie Trophy A/c.	100	100
	\$747	
R. A. Cooper Memorial Trust Fund—		
Finance Corporation of Australia Ltd.		
— 8% Debentures (1981)	1,000	
Jason Investment Co. (Australia)		
Ltd. — 800 Ordinary Shares ..	1,397	2,397
	\$3,144	\$747
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:		
War Memorial Clubhouse (at cost) ..	\$44,917	\$44,740
Boathouse (at cost)	5,201	5,201
Club Fittings at valuation 1/7/69		
(Less Provision for Depreciation) ..	60	68
Boats (at cost, less depreciation) ..	8,579	9,013
Oars (at valuation)	1,910	1,781
Boat Trailer (at cost, less depreciation) ..	940	—
Sundry Assets (at cost, less depreciation) ..	450	514
	\$62,057	\$61,317
	\$68,249	\$65,260

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I report that, in my opinion, the accompanying Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Statement of the Mercantile Rowing Club are properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Club at 30th April, 1973, according to the information and explanations given to me and as shown by the books and records.

P. R. DEVENISH,

Chartered Accountant.

Dated at Melbourne, 6th June, 1973.

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

NOTES ACCOMPANYING BALANCE SHEET AT 30th APRIL, 1973

Note 1.—ACCUMMULATED FUNDS:

	1973	1972
Balance brought forward 1st May	\$26,561	\$15,081
Net Surplus (Loss) for year	1,267	(295)
	\$27,828	\$14,786
Add Transfers on inclusion of War Memorial Building Fund — own funds	1,000	3,598
Brighton Grammar School	—	9,177
	\$28,828	\$27,561
Less Transfer to War Memorial Building Fund	1,000	1,000
Balance forward 30th April	\$27,828	\$26,561

Note 2:

The figure of \$16,948 represents total donations to the War Memorial Building Fund received to 30th April, 1973. A separate Audited Receipts and Payments Statement is attached hereto.

Note 3.—TROPHY ORDERS ACCOUNT:

Balance brought forward 1st May	\$5,206	\$4,924
Add Amounts for Trophies Awarded	638	410
	\$5,844	\$5,334
Less Trophy Orders paid	143	128
	\$5,701	\$5,206

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING FUND

Statement of Receipts and Payments for year ended 30th April, 1973.

Payments

1972

April 30	Balance brought forward	\$17,471.66
April 30	V. Alekna — Architect	161.02
	Bank Fees	33.00

Receipts

April 30	Sundry Donations	\$2,404.30
	Transfer from Club Funds	1,000.00
	Balance	14,261.38
		<hr/>
		\$17,665.68
		<hr/>
April 30	The Bank of New South Wales Account overdraw	\$14,261.38

Cumulative Statement of Receipts and Payments to 30th April, 1973

Receipts

Sundry Donations	\$16,948.44
Club Contributions	4,500.00
Interest Received	172.64
Profit on disposal of Etchings	47.25
Brighton Grammar School—	
Account Builder	\$8,576.84
Account Architect	600.38
	<hr/>
	9,177.22

Payments

Lawson & Laughlin Pty. Ltd.	\$40,826.96
May-Otway Fire Alarms	1,183.50
M. Boyle—Architect	100.00
V. Alekna—Architect	2,791.02
Bank Fees	69.55
Bank Interest	85.90
Furnishings	50.00
Balance	14,261.38
	<hr/>
	\$45,106.93
	<hr/>
	\$45,106.93

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I report that in my opinion the accompanying Statement of Receipts and Payments of the Mercantile Rowing Club War Memorial Building Fund is properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the fund at 30th April, 1973, according to the information and explanations given to me and as shown by the books and records.

P. R. DEVENISH,

Dated at Melbourne, 6th June, 1973.

Chartered Accountant.