

MELBOURNE

97th

Annual Report

and

Balance Sheeet

Season 1976 - 77.

PRESIDENT: J.G.H. Sprigg, Esq.

#### VICE - PRESIDENTS

R.R. Aitken, Esq. D.H. Boykett, Esq. J.W. Bradshaw, Esq. John Burford, Esq. N.W. Cairnes, Esq. M.F. McKenna, Esq. D.J.R. Morgan, Esq. W.T. Morrison, Esq.

R.W. Thursfield, Esq.

#### **EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN**

M.G. Tomanovits

#### CHAIRMAN OF SELECTORS

P.M. Macartney (resigned October 1976 and replaced by I.R. Duthie).

HONORARY SECRETARY

A.N. Guerin

HONORARY TREASURER

N.W. Cairnes

HONORARY ASSISTANT SECRETARY

A.T. Sloan

HONORARY ASSISTANT

M.W. Manley.

CLUB AND EQUIPMENT MANAGER

W.L. Ruttledge

SOCIAL MANAGER

P.J. Ainsworth

#### COMMITTEE

C.G.B. Cooper (resigned February and replaced by R.J. Guy), D.A. McLean, M.F. Owen, V. Ronai-Horvath, A. Sorani.

HONORARY AUDITOR

HONORARY SOLICITOR

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

Mr. R.R. Aitken

#### **SELECTORS**

Mr. J. Burford (resigned January and replaced by M.F. Owen)
Mr. D. Palfreyman (resigned October and replaced by F.J. Stone)

Princes Bridge,

Melbourne, 3004.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 97TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB will be held at the CLUBHOUSE on SATURDAY 25TH JUNE, 1977, at 8 p.m.

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

#### BUSINESS

- To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 26th June, 1976.
- 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 the Office-Bearers for the ensuing year will close on the Notice Board at the CLUBHOUSE on SATURDAY, 18TH JUNE, 1977, at 4 p.m.

By order of the Committee,

A.N. GUERIN,

Honorary Secretary.

## THE NINETY SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT of the MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB

To the Members,

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting the 97th Annual Report and Financial Statement for the year ending 30th April, 1977.

Despite certain difficulties encountered during the season, the Club emerged successful in senior rowing.

Without doubt, the highlight of the past season has been our lightweight eight's (the following: victory at the National Regatta and subsequent selection as the basis of the Australian lightweight eight. We congratulate the members of our Championship crew: M. Owen (bow) M. Robertson (2), T. Thurtell (3), R. Stewart (4), I. Porter (5), P. Ainsworth (6), R. Garrard (7), J. Hawkins (stroke), V. Ronai-Horvath (cox) and coaches P.M. Guest and H.R. Frederico.

We further congratulate those Club members who gained selection in the national crew: M. Robertson, P. Ainsworth, R. Stewart, I. Porter, R. Garrard, J. Hawkins and coach H.R. Frederico.

This excellent result in the culmination of over four years determined effort and planning by our Club's lightweight oarsmen. Their persistent success and resolution has overcome many barriers to this achievement, and it is a fine example to all who wish to reach the same goal. A large amount of the foresight and direction involved can be attributed to one member, Martin Owen, and the Club is most grateful for his considerable work over this period.

The Club wishes the crew every success in restoring international honours to Australia, and in particular Mercantile, and asks all members and their friends to support the fund-raising functions being conducted.

We also wish success to the Australian eight and lightweight four in the world titles at Amsterdam.

Mercantile re-emerged this season as a top senior heavyweight club in both Victoria and Australia. The senior squad, under Phil Cayzer and assisted by John Nickson, achieved success throughout the season, and enabled the stern four of our senior eight to gain Victorian selection.

However, the most spectacular result of our senior's season was the victory of a composite crew in the National Coxless Four title at Perth. Three Club members, Alec Sloan, Peter Benjamin and Steven Shirrefs combined with Bill Magennis of Monash University Rowing Club to win this event, and the Club congratulates these oarsmen on their result.

The following Club members were successful in gaining selection in Victorian squads: Rod Guy, Adrian Maginn, Steven Shirrefs and Alec Sloan (heavyweight), John Hawkins (lightweight), Peter Benjamin (state sculler) and lightweight four coach Peter Philp. We congratulate these Club members and look forward to increasing this number next season.

1976 Winter training was organized in our gymnasium under the instruction of Club member, Frank Stone. This work was a good foundation for success for those oarsmen attending.

This year marked the Centenary of the Victorian Rowing Association, and regattas, functions, and other activities commemorated the event. A formal Centenary Dinner was held in the presence of His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Winneke, and Lady Winneke at the Leonda Restaurant on 7th October, 1976. A Centenary Regatta and a

Centenary Combination Eights race were conducted on the Yarra River on the weekend of 4th and 5th December. Also held in conjunction with the Centenary, were the Salt-Water Centenary Regatta and its preceding Dinner, with guest speaker Mr. Michael Morgan, coach of the 1976 Australian Olympic crew.

The "South West Corner" Committee was altered this year following the departure of John "Thumbscrew" Carr and Norman Cairnes following many years of great service. The new Committee of Andrew McLean, Ken Bailey, Mark Connolly, Phil Franet and Peter Humphries, will continue to satisfy the thirsts of members every Thursday and Sunday evening.

Even though the re-building has been virtually completed, the Club still suffers from some of its effects. Financially, we are left with an overdraft of some \$24,500 which we have been unable to reduce noticeably this year. Also we have been unable to find enough people with the same determination found when re-building to coach crews or help with the administration and maintenance of our Club.

Mercantile can attain considerably more success next season with the greater support and involvement of members.

**FINANCIAL:** The financial position showed a satisfactory improvement during the year but the effort must be continued to maintain advancement against the background of rising costs.

The increase in the rate of subscriptions authorised just prior to the commencement of the financial year was a considerable help and timely as the increasing cost of all items relating to the conduct, maintenance and servicing of the boat house, equipment and fleet became apparent in the course of the year.

Our finances benefited handsomely from the letting of the Club Rooms but for this benefit to continue it is necessary for members to put greater effort into cleaning and supervising the premises.

A number of people including those from the Portsea Surf Life Saving Club joined as Associate members to take advantage of the gymnasium and other facilities of the Club. These members together with a number of young oarsmen recruited during the year are proving a benefit to the Club particularly the oarsmen who can further the interests of the Club in the competitive field, however, unless we provide coaches and organise rowing for these new young members a drift away from the Club could develop to the detriment of our rowing and finances.

In the purchase of the new 'eight' at the end of last financial year we were materially assisted in avoiding a further strain on the resources of the Club by the aid received from a small number of members who made available interest free loans totalling \$1,500.

The substantial increase in donations which included the contributions of the 'Tributors' was a welcome gesture of support by many members. In respect of the donations special mention must be made to the donation of a set of four Croker oars by Mr. Ted Fraser of the Cricketers Arms Hotel, Port Melbourne, the contribution of \$3,600 by the Social Committee and the continued support of the Ladies' Auxiliary who have donated a new coaching launch and outboard motor and a set of curtains for the Club Room which Mrs. Phillip Jones was good enough to make up.

All of these efforts have enabled us to progress financially and make a small reduction of our overdraft, but the effort must be continued in order to provide the fleet, equipment and services necessary for the benefit of our members and to keep the Club in a strong position to finance our activities.

**DONATIONS:** The following members and friends have generously made donations which are acknowledged with appreciation:

R.R. Aitken, W.M. Bailey, G.H. Boykett, P.H. Boykett, J.W. Bradshaw, J. Burford, N.W. Cairnes, J.P. Carr, A.W. Dobbie, N. Edmonds, J.E. Foley, L.V. Fosdick, H.R. Frederico, D. Hume, K. Hume, R. Lachal, T.B. McKay, M.F. McKenna, H.J. Mahoney, D.J. Morgan, S. Newcomb, P.E.M. Philp, R.H. Richardson, S.G. Richardson, A. Sorani, J.G. Sprigg, Mrs. T. Sprigg, R.W. Thursfield, M.G. Tomanovits, The Family of the late Sir Stephen Morell and the Family of the late Mick Williams.

TRIBUTORS: The Tributors' who make a donation to the Club in respect of every winning crew at Regatta Races donated \$1,155 in respect of season 1975-76 which provides an additional incentive to oarsmen as the funds are expended on equipment.

The sincere thanks of the Club is extended to the following 'Tributors': R.R. Aitken, J.P. Appleby, A.W. Blaxland, J.B. Bostock, D.H. Boykett, J.W. Bradshaw, J. Burford, N.W. Cairnes, P.A. Cayzer, D.J.M. Crichton, J.R. Draffin, A.M. Evans, B. Gross, J.R. Harry, J.R. Harvey, J. McD. Jones, M. Keely, E.P. Leggett, K. McConville, M.F. McKenna, J.W. McKeown, C.W. Mahony, G.O.V. Manton, D.J.R. Morgan, W.T. Morrison, D. Palfreyman, K. Pope, R.H. Richardson, S.G. Richardson, T. Rodda, J.S. Rowe, Adrian Schrader, J.W. Seammen, J. Shears, A. Sorani, J.G. Sprigg, C.T. Thompson, R.W. Thursfield, M.G. Tomanovits, H.J.R. Walker, E.C. White, D.J. Yunghanns.

#### MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Club as at the 30th April, 1977, was as follows:

	1977	1976	1975	1974
Life Members	7	7	7	8
Senior Active Members	146	141	143	135
Senior Members	24	27	30	29
Junior Members	55	44	40	37
Junior Schoolboy Members	51	27	14	11
Country Members	39	34	35	36
Associate Members	64	48	37	38
	386	328	306	294

#### COMMITTEE

At the time of going to press, 11 committee meetings had been held and the attendance has been:-

				1.1	11
P.J. Ainsworth	10	I.R. Duthie	3	M.F. Owen	11
R.R. Aitken	5	A.N. Guerin	11	V. Ronai-Horvath	9
	1	R.J. Guy	1	W.L. Ruttledge	8
D.H. Boykett		P.M. Macartney	4	A.T. Sloan	3
J.W. Bradshaw			9	A. Sorani	5
John Burford	-	D.A. McLean			11
N.W. Cairnes	10	M.W. Manley	6	J.G.H. Sprigg	
CGR Cooper	2	W.T. Morrison	1	M.G. Tomanovits	9

#### **FOLIPMENT AND CLUBHOUSE**

Having settled into the Clubhouse, we were able to attempt the mammoth task of bringing the fleet up to scratch. During the winter months there were six major working bees on the boats and oars, with the emphasis on renovation of the racing oars. About fifty of our oars were stripped and varnished, many riggers overhauled, and some hulls revarnished.

Unfortunately during the season, substantial damage occured through accidents. The Karlish eight, the "R.R. Aitken" was broken in two in a head on collision with an M.U.B.C. crew. Repair costs have been largely covered by insurance, and the boat will be repaired soon. The pair oared boat, the Keith Bilney, also suffered damage in an accident, and was subsequently repaired and overhauled.

The Ladies Auxiliary has kindly donated to the Club a motor boat hull and outboard motor. This major acquisition is most appreciated and has been constantly used. Mr. Ted Fraser of the Cricketers Arms Hotel, kindly donated four blades for our lightweight four. As an eight was purchased ahead of time last year, no new boats were bought this year.

Some further improvements were made to our Clubhouse during the year; curtains were installed, oar racks for historical blades were made, a rack for the sterns of convertable racing boats was installed, and the bow at the eight the "Cock Robin", has been hung in the shed.

The fleet and equipment is listed below:

EIGHTS		PAIRS	
Martin Owen	1976 (very good)	Racing	
John Burford	1973 (good)	W.T. Morrison	1971 (fair)
R.R. Aitken	1971 (under repair)	Bill Bradshaw	1967 (fair)
J.G.H. Sprigg	1968 (fair)	Keith Bilney Tub	1964 (fair)
FOURS		Paul Harding	1962 (poor)
Racing		Dr. R.A. Cooper	1961 (poor)
N.W. Cairnes	1976 (very good)	201010101010101010101010101010101010101	CO. C. MORECO
M.F. McKenna	1972 (very good)	OARS	
Ricky Loveless	1970 (good)	Croker 12'3"	1977 (very good)
The First Lady	1968 (fair)	Croker 12'3"	1976 (very good)
J.J. Wylie	1964 (poor)	Croker 12'6"	1974 (good)
Caltex &		Sykes 12'4"	1972 (good)
Dealers	1964 (fair)	Sykes 12'2"	1971 (fair)
Tub	THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH	Karlish 12'6"	1970 (good)
Deane Morgan	1961 (poor)	S & B 12'2"	1969 (poor)
	CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF	S & B 12'4"	1968 (poor)
MISCELLANEO	US		
Aluminium Hull	(very good)	Ayling 12'4"	1967 (fair)
Johnson		Donorartico 12'4"	1966 (poor)
Outboard Motor	(very good)	Assorted 1950	-1964 (poor)
Wooden Hull	(poor)		- Andrews Address -
Mercury Outboa			
Boat Trailer	(fair)		

#### COACHING

The Club extends its thanks to the following members who have given considerable time and effort to the coaching of our crews: Phil Cayzer, Hubert Frederico, Andrew Guerin, Paul Guest, Ian McDonald-Wood, John Nickson, Bill Ruttledge, Frank Stone, Martin Tomanovits, and Roger Wilson.

As we were not able to provide all our crews with coaches, we urge members to make themselves available for coaching in the forthcoming season.

#### RECRUITING

Again our Club was successful in recruiting a number of Junior and Schoolboy Members this season. The recruiting sub-committee headed by Martin Owen, organised a successful recruiting night on 5th September. Mr. Jack Parr showed his films of the 1976 Kings Cup and National Regattas, and the Mick Williams Fours were raced in conjunction with this evening.

Members are again reminded that recruitment of these oarsmen is wasted if we cannot provide members to organise and coach them.

#### **OLYMPIC GAMES - MONTREAL 1976.**

#### Mens Events

**Eights** – 1. DDR. 5.58.29; 2. GBR 6.00.82; 3. NZL 6.03.61; 4. W.GER 6.06.15 5. AUS. 6.09.75; 6. CZE 6.14.29.

Australian Crew: B. Richardson (bow), M. Shaw (replaced by P. Shakespear in final due to injury) (2), G. Uebergang (3), A. McDonald (4), R. Paver (5), J. Conrad (6), I. Clubb (7), I. Lee (stroke), S. Carter (cox), M. Morgan (coach) and J. Coates (manager).

**Coxed Fours** — 1. USSR 6.40.22; 2. DDR 6.42.70; 3. W.GER 6.46.96; 4. CZE 6.50.15; 5. BUL 6.52.88; 6. NZL 7.00.17.

Australia was not represented.

Coxless Fours — 1. DDR 6.37.42; 2. NOR 6.41.22; 3. USSR 6.42.52; 4. NZL 6.43.23; 5. CAN. 6.46.11; 6. GER. 6.47.44.

Australia was not represented.

Coxed Pairs — 1. DDR 7.58.99; 2. USSR 8.01.82; 3. CZE 8.03.28; 4. BUL 8.11.27; 5. ITA 8.15.97; 6. POL 8.23.02.

Australia was not represented.

**Coxless Pairs** — 1. DDR 7.23.31; 2. USA 7.26.73; 3. W.GER 7.30.03; 4. YUG 7.34.17; 5. BUL 7.37.42; 6. CZE 7.51.06.

Australia 13th (fourth in repercharge).

Crew: I.A. Luxford (bow), C.D. Shinners (stroke).

Quadruple Sculls (new event) — 1. DDR 6.18.65; 2. USSR 6.19.89; 3. CZE 6.21.77; 4. W.GER 6.24.81; 5. BUL 6.32.04; 6. USA 6.34.33.

Australia was not represented.

**Double Sculls** — 1. NOR 7.13.20; 2. GBR 7.15.26; 3. DDR 7.17.45; 4. USSR 7.18.87; 5. GER 7.22.15; 6. FRA 7.50.18.

Australia was not represented.

Single Sculls — 1. FIN 7.29.03; 2. W.GER 7.31.67; 3. DDR 7.38.03; 4. IRE 7.42.53; 5. USSR 7.57.39; 6. ARG 8.03.05.

Australia 8th (second in Petite Final).

Sculler: E.O. Hale.

Womens events were contested for the first time in Olympic history. These events were; eights, coxed fours, coxless pairs, quadruple sculls, double sculls and single sculls, Australia was not represented.

#### AUSTRALIAN AMATEUR ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS - PERTH W.A.

#### INTERSTATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eight-Oared Championship for the King's Cup

1st. New South Wales; 2nd. South Australia; 3rd Victoria; 4th Tasmania Margins — 7.2, 0.9, 3.5 seconds Time — 6:19.0 Victorian Crew: E. Schrader (bow), A. Sloan (2), W. Magennis (3), M. Ross (4), B. Richardson (5), S. Shirrefs (6), T. Young (7), K. Jelbart (stroke), A, Maginn (cox), D. Bishop (coach).

Sculling Championship for the President's Cup.

1st E.O. Hale (N.S.W.); 2nd R. Reddell (N.S.W.); 3rd R. Alexander (Q'ld); 4th A.R. Marshall (Tas.); 5th P.L. Benjamin (Vic). Time -8:09.4 Margins -1.7, 12.4, 6.7, 5.1 seconds.

Lightweight four-oared Championship for the Penrith Cup.

1st Victoria; 2nd New South Wales; 3rd Western Australia; 4th South Australia.

Margins - 7.0, 7.8, 4.8 seconds. Time - 7:26.5 Victorian Crew: C. Smith (bow), P. Anthonie (2), S. Gillet (3), G. Rees (stroke), D. England (cox), P.E. M.L. Philp (coach).

Youth eight-oared Championship for the N.F. Wilkinson Trophy.

1st Tasmania; 2nd South Australia; 3rd New South Wales No. 1; 4th Western Australia No. 1; 5th Victoria. Time — 4:55.5 Margins — 1.4, 4.3, 1.7, 4.3 seconds.

#### NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Champion Four with Cox.

1st Sydney; 2nd Monash/M.U.B.C.; 3rd Buckingham/Franklin.

Time - 6:30.9

Champion Four without Cox

1st Monash/Mercantile; 2nd M.U.B.C.; 3rd Haberfield.

Time - 6:43.5

Monash/Mercantile - P. Benjamin, A. Sloan, S. Shirrefs, W. Magennis.

Champion Pair with Cox.

1st Adelaide; 2nd Sydney/Mosman; 3rd Franklin. Time - 7:22.7

Champion Pair without Cox.

1st Haberfield; 2nd Haberfield/Sydney; 3rd Franklin. Time - 7:13.6

Champion Double Scull

1st Haberfield/Drummoyne; 2nd Sydney; 3rd North Esk.

Time - 6:55.1

Champion Quadruple Scull

1st Haberfield; 2nd Sydney. Time - 6:26.6

Champion Lightweight Eight

1st Mercantile; 2nd M.U.B.C.; 3rd Haberfield/Drummoyne

Time - 6:13.4

Mercantile: M. Owen (bow), M. Robertson (2), T. Thurtell (3), R. Stewart (4), I. Porter (5), P. Ainsworth (6), R. Garrard (7), J. Hawkins (stroke), V. Ronai-Horvath (cox); P.M. Guest and H.R. Frederico (joint coaches).

Champion Lightweight Four without Cox.

1st M.U.B.C.; 2nd Haberfield; 3rd Adelaide University. Time - 6:25.1

Champion Lightweight Pair without Cox.

1st A.N.A. (Western Australia); 2nd Balmain; 3rd Drummoyne.

Time - 7:10.3

Champion Lightweight Scull.

1st A.G. McKinley (Wendouree/Ballarat); 2nd P.H. Nevett (A.N.U.); 3rd A. Feldt (Banks). Mercantile: N. Smith. Time - 7:50.9

Champion Junior Eight.

1st Sydney; 2nd Nepean; 3rd Lindisfarne Comp. Time - 6:10.6

Champion Junior Four.

1st Nepean; 2nd University of W.A.; 3rd North Esk. Time - 7:01.0

Champion Junior Pair.

1st Mosman; 2nd Adelaide; 3rd North Esk. Time - 7:51.4

Champion Junior Scull.

1st R. Mackney (Sydney); 2nd M.G. Hebblewhite (Adelaide); 3rd L. Schooner (Napean) Time - 8:11.6

Champion Youth Scull.

2st C. Rowe (Haberfield); 1st D. MacFarlane (North Esk) Time - 6:05.1

Champion School Eight.

1st Newington College; 2nd Aquinas; 3rd Wesley (W.A.). Time - 4:44.6

Champion School Four.

1st Taree High School; 2nd Christ Church; 3rd Newington College.

Time - 5:17.4

#### CHAMPIONSHIP AND REGATTA RACING

We congratulate the members of the following successful crews:

#### SENIOR EIGHT

Upper Yarra Regatta - 27th November.

S. Butler, P. Ritcher, C. Cooper, R. Guy, S. Shirrefs, M. Manley, A. Sloan, E. Schrader (stroke), V. Ronai-Horvath (cox), P. Cayzer (coach).

S.A. Championship Regatta - 18th December.

A. Guerin, M. Connolly, M. Lory, P. Ainsworth, M. Robertson, R. Garrard, R. Stewart, M. Owen (stroke), P. Wiseman (cox), P.M. Guest (coach).

Henley Regatta - 5th March.

Barwon Regatta - 12th March.

Ballarat Regatta - 13th March.

(Mercantile/M.U.B.C.) P. Richter, S. Butler, J. Cumper, J. Lowe, B. Longden, T. Ross-Edwards, R. Guy, G. Longden, P. Sorani (cox), J. Nickson & P. Cayzer (joint coaches).

#### SENIOR PAIR WITHOUT COX

Colac Centenary Regatta - 19th February.

Warrnambool Regatta - 20th February.

M. Connolly, M. Lory.

#### SENIOR SCULL

Upper Yarra Regatta - 27th November.

V.R.A. Centenary Regatta - 4th December.

V.R.A. Melbourne Regatta - 11th December.

Barwon Regatta - 12th March. Ballarat Regatta - 13th March.

Scotch-Mercantile Regatta - 19th March.

P. Benjamin.

Salt-Water Centenary Regatta - 26th March.

N. Smith.

#### LIGHTWEIGHT EIGHT

S.A. Championship - 18th December.

A. Guerin, M. Connolly, M. Lory, P. Ainsworth, M. Robertson, R. Garrard, R. Stewart, M. Owen, P. Wiseman (cox), P.M. Guest (coach).

Barwon Regatta — 12th March.

Victorian Championship — 14th March. National Championship — 11th April.

M. Owen, T. Thurtell, M. Robertson, R. Stewart, I. Porter, P. Ainsworth, R. Garrard, J. Hawkins (stroke), V. Ronai-Horvath (cox), P.M. Guest and H.R. Frederico (coaches).

11

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR PAIR WITH COX

Metropolitan Annual Regatta - 9th October.

A. Guerin, M. Connolly, P. Wiseman (cox).

LIGHTWEIGHT SENIOR PAIR WITHOUT COX

Championship Regatta — 5th February.

Colac Centenary Regatta — 19th February.

M. Lory, M. Connolly.

#### **OPEN EIGHT**

Metropolitan Annual Regatta - 9th October.

Banks Regatta - 16th October.

S. Butler, P. Richter, C. Cooper, M. Manley, A. Sloan, R. Guy, S. Shirrefs, E. Schrader (stroke) V. Ronai-Horvath (cox), P.A.Cayzer & J. Nickson (coaches). Nagambie Regatta – 27th December.

A. Mylius, S. Josephides, P. Wilson, B. Keast, R. Zacharin, G. Molloy,

A. Stacey, A. Briggs (stroke), D. Strong (cox), R. Wilson (coach).

Yarrawonga Regatta — 28th December. P. Gaynor, D. Ley, L. Brown, Q. Wilton, F. Romanin, D. Fogarty, D. Gerrity, P. Cody (stroke), T. Frederico (cox), C. Bailey (coach).

Head of the Yarra - 26th February.

J. Hawkins, T. Thurtell, M. Robertson, M. Connolly, R. Stewart, G. Garrard I. Porter, M. Owen (stroke), V. Ronai-Horvath (cox) H.R. Frederico & P.M. Guest (coaches).

Scotch-Mercantile Regatta - 19th March.

M. Owen, T. Thurtell, M. Robertson, M. Connolly, R. Stewart, I. Porter, R. Garrard, J. Hawkins (stroke), V. Ronai-Horvath (cox), H.R. Frederico & P.M. Guest (coaches).

Salt Water Centenary Regatta - 26th March.

S. Butler, P. Richter, J. Cumper, J. Lowe, B. Longden, T. Ross-Edwards, R. Guy, G. Longden (stroke), P. Sorani (cox), J. Nickson & P. Cayzer (coaches).

#### OPEN FOUR

La Trobe Winter Regatta - 10th July.

A. Guerin, M. Connolly, M. Robertson, M. Owen (stroke), P. Sorani (cox).

#### MAIDEN EIGHT

Horsham Regatta - 21st November.

C. Jones, I. McDonald-Wood, T. Jowett, S. Milikan, B. Morrison, R. Loveless, C. Holland, J. Hamilton, S. Williams (cox), W.L. Ruttledge (coach).

V.R.A. Centenary Regatta — 4th December.
C. Holland, T. Jowett, C. Jones, J. Hamilton, I. McDonald-Wood, S. Kennedy, B. Morrison, P. Ley (stroke), S. Williams (cox), W.L. Ruttledge (coach).

Nagambie Regatta - 27th December.

P. Gaynor, D. Ley, P. Fogarty, L. Brown, F. Romanin, D. Gerrity, Q. Wilton, P. Cody (stroke), T. Frederico (cox), C. Bailey (coach).

Yarrawonga Regatta - 28th December.

Rutherglen Regatta - 1st January.

A. Mylius, S. Josephides, P. Wilson, A. Stacey, R. Keast, R. Zacharin, G. Molloy, A. Briggs (stroke), D. Strong (cox), R.B. Wilson (coach).

#### **NOVICE EIGHT**

Nagambie Regatta - 26th December.

P. Gaynor, D. Ley, L. Brown, Q. Wilton, F. Romanin, D. Gerrity, D. Fogarty, P. Cody (stroke), T. Frederico (cox), C. Bailey (coach).

Yarrawonga Regatta - 28th December.

A. Hickman, N. Edmonds, B. Luxford, P. Bolinowski, F. Romanin, D. Fogarty, D. Gerrity, P. Cody (stroke), T. Frederico (cox).

#### PREMERSHIP POINTS:

SENIOR - M.U.B.C. 77; Monash University 54; Mercantile 49; Banks 11; Bendigo 10; Power House 3; Essendon 2; Corio Bay 1.

JUNIOR — 1st Division — Banks 181; Corio Bay 106; Mercantile 74; Power House 42; Hawthorn 36; Barwon 34; Essendon 30; Wendouree/Ballarat 26; Albert Park 12; Richmond 6.

Lightweight — Mercantile 46; M.U.B.C. 30; Barwon 22; Melbourne 20; Essendon 20; Banks 18; Richmond 16; Corio Bay 15; Ballarat City 10;

Warrnambool 4; Wendouree/Ballarat 2.

Junior — 2nd Division — M.U.B.C. 40; Rutherglen Lake 20; Warrnambool 18; Yarra Yarra 16; Melbourne 16; Ballarat City 15; Dimboola 12; Horsham 12; Wentworth District 8; Footscray City 6; Bendigo 5; Wahgunyah 5; Monash Univ. 4; Lake Colac 4; La Trobe University 4; Robinvale 4; Mildura 2.

#### SCOTCH-MERCANTILE REGATTA

The 19th Scotch—Mercantile Regatta held on 19th March 1977 was again efficiently organized by Mr. J.W. Bradshaw and assisted by a committee consisting of Messrs. R.R. Aitken, D.H. Boykett, A.N. Guerin, D.J.R. Morgan, W.V. Nash, P.H. O'Brien and M.F. Owen. The programme consisted of 151 events, with an entry of 1354 oarsmen and scullers.

We are most grateful for the assistance of the Ladies' Auxiliary in catering arrangements, and the Victorian Rowing Association Officials for the efficient conduct of the regatta.

#### COXSWAINS

The club is grateful for the enthusiasm and support given throughout the year by our coxswains, and thank G. Barnes, J. Burke, D. Farrar, T. Frederico, R. Jones, T. Ling, V. Ronai-Horvath, P. Sorani, D. Strong, S. Williams and P. Wiseman.

#### **TROPHIES**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S TROPHY — is awarded to the member who has entered and won the most Regatta and Club races during the season.

We congratulate Mark Connolly on winning this trophy and on his success during the season.

MAX BAILEY TROPHY — The Perpetual Shield and Trophy for the Champion Coxswain has been won for the second successive year by Vic Ronai-Horvath.

DR. R.A. COOPER MEMORIAL TROPHY — is made available by the generosity of the family of the Late Dr. R.A. Cooper and is awarded annually to the member, who during the year has rendered the most outstanding service to the Club. The Trophy this year has been awarded to Norm Cairnes for his outstanding work as Treasurer and S.W. Corner Manager. The great deal of work done by Norm for Mercantile extends over more than 40 years in many capacities. In recent years and in particular the last three years, Norm has undertaken the bulk of the administration work in the Club in his capacities as Secretary and Treasurer. It is, therefore, very fitting that the award's fifth recipeint is Norm Cairnes.

JEFF WYLIE MEMORIAL TROPHY — The Perpetual Shield and Trophy for the most improved lightweight oarsman is donated by the Management and Staff of Edward Lumley and Sons Pty. Ltd., and is awarded annually in memory of the late Jeff Wylie a former Captain of the Club.

The award goes to Malcolm Robertson to whom we extend our congratulations.

LATE F.R. BROWNE TROPHY — The Perpetual Trophy and Shield are donated by the family of the late F.R. Browne for presentation to the most improved novice oarsman and has been awarded to Neil Edmonds, to whom we extend our congratulations.

N.W. CAIRNES TROPHY — The Trophy for the most improved coxswain of the season has been awarded to Peter Wiseman.

#### **CLUB EVENTS**

MICK WILLIAMS FOURS, 5th September, were successfully conducted in conjunction with the Club's Recruiting Night. The winning crew was A. Guerin (Mercantile) G. Vinner (B.G.S.), I. Belot (Scotch), J. Caryle (Scotch) and M. Archer (Trinity).

A.L. DOBBIE MEMORIAL FOURS, 12th September, were conducted in conjunction with Ladies Day. The victorious crew was M. Thompson, T. Jowett, A. Briggs, A. Guerin, and L. McMahon. Sixteen crews competed for the trophies donated by the family of the late Mr. A.L. Dobbie, and the presentation was made by Mr. Alex Dobbie.

LADIES DAY, was conducted on 12th September and was thought to be the best ever held. The new eight oared shell the 'Martin Owen' was named, the Special Effort drawn, and the A.L. Dobbie Memorial Fours raced in conjunction with this function.

ANNUAL DINNER, was held at the Clubhouse on 13th November. The guest speaker Mr. Julius Patching provided an interesting talk at this highly successful function.

MORELL COMBINATION EIGHTS, 12th December, for trophies donated by the family of the late Sir Stephen Morell were supported by members of a number of kindred Clubs. The winning crew was: S. Kearney Richmond), A. Wallace (Mercantile), K. Tolman (M.U.B.C.), L. Cumper (Mercantile), S. Shirrefs (Mercantile), S. Weir (Mercantile), S. Butler (Mercantile), P. Richter (Mercantile), and cox J. Frederico (Mercantile).

HENLEY NIGHT BARBECUE, 5th March was held at the home of Craig Cooper in a beautiful position under an elm tree. It proved to be a magnificent function and we are indebted to Craig's parents for making their home available.

J.G.H. SPRIGG TIME TRIAL, an eight oared race from Mercantile around Como Island and return, in which crews must be composed of at least two novices and no more than two seniors, was won by: R. Loveless, N. Newton, C. Cooper, M. Owen, A. Sloan, P. Ainsworth, R. Garrard, P. Macartney, and cox T. Ling. The trophies were presented by Mr. Sprigg at the Annual Meeting.

STONK-MOOSE TIME TRIAL, rowed in a tub four, the crews being handicapped by the selectors, is rowed through Chapel Street Bridge and return to the Club. The successful crew was: J. Baillie, R. Baxter, S. Gillon, P. Philp, and cox R. Serpell. We thank Mr. Laurie Moll (the Moose) for the trophies which recall a past captain, the late Gordon (Stonk) Ross.

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY.

The Ladies' Auxiliary had another very happy and successful year. They were able to donate a training bicycle, curtains, motorboat hull and outboard engine to the club; also an urn and two teapots for the kitchen—at a total cost of over \$1,340. Money was raised in various ways, the main contribution being the catering at the Scotch—Mercantile Regatta.

Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary are: Mesdames M. Owen (President), J. Bradshaw (Secretary), E. McKeown (Treasurer), C. Boykett, A. Porter, N. Redfern, S. Douglas, S. Garrard, P. Hall, E. Gaffney, J. Loveless, E. Ronai-Horvath, A. Gumley, M. Sherwood, D. Robertson-Smith, J. Guerin, N. Bryan, D. Bailey.

The Auxiliary is always seeking new members. Any wives or mothers of club members who would care to join would be most welcome.

ANZAC DAY SERVICE — was conducted by the President with the assistance of David Stirling and John Seammen on Sunday morning April 24th, a ceremony at which we remembered the large number of our members who served in three wars and did not return.

**E.M.M.A.** — We are again fortunate to have the support of Mrs. Sprigg in raising money for the Club through the disposal of used containers. The Club thanks Mrs. Sprigg, and urges members to bring their empty containers down to the Club so that the work can be continued.

CHRISTMAS CAMP, was held again at Yarrawonga, where a number of members spent a most relaxing time rowing, swimming and winning some races. We are very appreciative of the help of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Wilson, who always organise a successful camp.

BIRTHS — We congratulate the following members and their wives who have increased the size of their families: Dick Garrard, a son; Steve Gillon, a daughter; David Yunganns, a son; Mal McKensie, a son; John Gumley, a son; Bob Lee, a son; Geoff Parks, a son; and Dave Douglas, a son.

For and on behalf of the Committee,

A.N. GUERIN.

Honorary Secretary,

Mercantile Rowing Club.

#### LIST OF MEMBERS, 1976-77

#### LIFE MEMBERS

Airken, R.R. Bradshaw, J.W. Cairnes, N.W. Morgan, D.J.R. Sorani, A. Sprigg, J.G.H. Thursfield, R.W.

#### SENIOR ACTIVE MEMBERS

Harvey, J.R.

Hawkins, J.F.

Ainsworth, P.J. Ashton, Dr. P.W. Athorne, W.J. Bailey, K.B. Baird, A.T. Baker, K. Ball, D.G. Benjamin, P.L. Berold, B.I. Blaxland, A.W. Boland, M.D. Boykett, D.H. Bradley, A.J. Brien, F.D. Briggs, J.D. Burford, J. Burke, H.B. Butler, S.J. Carr, J.P. Cayzer, P.A. Cordell, A.M. Cowling, D.S. Cunningham, P.M. Dawson, R. StL. Dobbie, A.W. Dobie, P.D. Donoghue, J.D. Douglas, D.G.A. Draffin, J.R. Duthie, I.R. Eddie, A. Eggleston, R. Emsell, B. Evans, A.M. Everist, I.C. Farnhill, D. Fox, J.A. Franet, P.J. Frederico, Mr. Justice Garrard, R.J. Gibson, A.D. Gillon, S.M. Glynn, D.J. Green, H.P. Griffiths, R.I. Gross, B.B. Guest, P.M. Gumley, J.H. Harry, J.R.

Hill, J. Hogan, T.J. Holland, C.S. Hughan, J.R. Hunter, D.S. Hutchins, W.B. Jeffery, S.R. Jones, J. McD. Jones, P.L. Jones, P.L.V. Jowett, J.A. Kellam, M.B. Klein, D.P. Knowles, P.R. Kohn, A.B. Leach, K. Lockwood, T. Loveless, R.T. McCall, G.A. McCorkell, S.R. McDonald-Wood, I.L. McKenna, M.F. McKenzie, D.M. McKeown, J.W. McLean, D.A. McMahon, G. Macartney, P.M. Maginn, A.E. Mahoney, H. Mahony, C.W. Manley, M.W.R. Manton, G.O.V. Millikan, S. Mollard, K.F. Moore, C.C.M. Morell, D.R. Morell, R.T. Morgan, E.M. Morrison, B.W. Morrison, W.T. Mulder, V. Negri, R.A. Negri, Dr. R.B. Newton, N.L. Nickson, J.H. O'Brien, P.H. Owen, M.F.

Palfreyman, D. Park, G.A. Parton, D.B. Paton, H. Paterson, I.H. Patterson, B.J. Philp, P.E.M. Pinniger, H.R. Pirani, R.L. Redman, R. Reiner, M. Renouf, L.P. Richardson, G.W. Richardson, R.H. Richardson, S.G. Richter, P.G. Ruttledge, W.L. Ryan, S.P. Saleh, B.C. Schrader, E.D. Shanasy, J. Shears, H.P. Sherwood, R. Sloan, A.T. Smith, N. Spartalis, B.R. Spensley, Dr. J.S. Spriggins, A.J. Stephenson, C.E. Stewart, R.D. Stone, F.J. Taylor, G.M. Thom, J.J. Thurtell, T.J. Tomanovits, M.G. Tynan, J. Vautin, W. Wallace, Dr. A.M. Wallace, W.L.N. Werteimer, E.J. Williams, A.P. Williams, G.P. Williams, J.G. Williams, L.S. Williams, M.M. Wilson, W.I. Wirtz, E. Yunghanns, D.J.

#### SENIOR MEMBERS

Adams, A.W. Atkins, A.H.C. Bostock, J.B. Brooke, D.C. Broughton, O.S. Clarke, J.H.P. De Guingand, C. Doyle, B.J. Fletcher, J.M. Harding, P. Hewitt, H.N. Hyett, G.S. Merton, B. Newcomb, S.H. Newport, F.P. Shears, J.D. Spalding, N.
Spencer, H.T.
Stirling, D.S. (dec'd)
Thomas, J.C.
Walker, H.J.R.
White, E.C.
Wilson, R.B.
Wood, M.R.

#### JUNIOR MEMBERS

Baer, A.R. Bartlett, S.A. Bolinowsky, P. Brooke, G.E. Cannon, A.M. Castell, G. Chirnside, A.M. Connolly, M.C. Cooper, C.G.B. Cremean, T.A. Croagh, P. Dovle, P.J. Dunn, J.E. Dwver, E. Edmonds, N.E. Edwards, R.K. Elford, D. Godfrey, C.L.

Guerin, A.N.

Guy, R.J. Hamilton, G.K. Hickman, A.D. Jones, C.P. Jorgenson, M.E. Kennedy, S.M. Koster, C Lagler, M.C. Ley, P.J. Lipszker, M. Lory, M. Luxford, B. McCoy, T.J. Margetts, C.C. May, C.M. Moorhead, J.R. Pincus, D.A. Porter, I.J.

Powell, M.J. Prince, R.J. Richardson, R, McK. Ritchie, S.A. Robertson, W.M. Robertson-Smith, R.G. Ronai-Horvath, V. Rowe, P.S. Shirrefs, S.A. Simpson, J.P. Stackpole, B.G. Stafferton, C.G.J. Stout, M.J. Taylor, G. Webster, J.S. Wilton, J. Withers, A. Young, T.J.

#### JUNIOR SCHOOLBOY MEMBERS

Baillie, J.S. Baxter, R.A. Beech, P. Bell, G. Briggs, A.P. Brown, G.J. Campbell, M. Clemens, W.R.M. Cody, P.P. Cook, S.P. Crichton, C.D. Curtis, C.M. Fitch, P.C. Fogarty, D. Gaffney, M.T. Gaynor, P.J. Gimesy, D.P.

Guy, J.G. Hall, B.J. Jilly, G. Jones, R.L. Keast, R.B. Kelly, A.J. Lachal, L.F. Le Lievre, A.C. Ley, D.A. McDonald, A.W. McMahon, J.P. Maddick, P.J. Molloy, G.J. Mylius, A.G. Negri, J.M. O'Shea, B. Pannam, J.D.

Parton, C.J. Reiner, M.A. Rigby, E.J. Rowe, M.J. Schloeffel, D.F. Scott, P.W. Stacey, A.W. Sullivan, A.W. Theakstone, S. Thompson, M.H. Viner, G.R. Waring, S.J. Weir, S.R. Williams, S. Wilson, P. Wilton, I.Q. Zacharin, R.M.

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Alekna, V. Appleby, J.P. Barnes, D.J. Baxter, D. Black, I.M. Blair-Holt, J.A. Bolton, R.S. Border, A. Bowen, J.R. Bryant, A.J. Burke, M. Byrne, A.T. Byrne, J.F. Carlton, R. Cordell, A.J. Crichton, D.J.M. Culka, J.V. Dumbleton, W. Fogarty, F. Foley, J.E.

Fosdick, L.V. Granowski, W.O. Hidgcock, C.W. Higgins, K.L.E. Hill, L.C. Holyman, G.I. Hume, D. Hume, K.M. Hume, M.C. Humphris, P.W. Jones, R.A. Leggett, E.P. Longmuir, I. Luke, W.H. McDavitt, J.P. Mathews, N.E. Milligan, A.S. Negri, P. Nicholls, C.J.

O'Brien, R.A. Oliver, R.J.D. Palfreyman, D.B. Permezel, D.G. Reddie, P. Rodda, T. Ruffin, J.F. Seammen, J.W. Searle, N.M. Shears, E. Spark, J.M. Stanley, R.J. Tesoriero, J.J. Wallace, G.B. Watkin, P.K. White, R.A. Wilkinson, C.V.H. Will, G.D. Willis, J.D.

#### COUNTRY MEMBERS

Ansell, G.L.
Bailey, J.H.
Bailey, W.M.
Barber, J.E.L. (dec'd)
Bowman, J.W.
Boykett, G.H.
Boykett, P.H.
Connolly, R.W.
Corben, M.H.
Darker, A.
Delfos, N.
Ferguson, J.M.
Fogarty, M.J.

Gamble, P.
Hart, A.L.
Keeley, M.R.
Lee, R.E.
Lachal, R.
McArthur, F.S.
McConville, K.H.
McKay, T.B.
McLean, A.R.
McNamara, P.J.
Mansfield, P.S.
Miller, P.M.
Moll, L.L.B.

Mollard, S.F. Morell, S.D.H. Monger, A. C. Noble, F. Olliff, D. Pennefather, A. Pope, K. Rowe, J.S. Thompson, C.T. Williams, C.L. Williams, J.M. Wraith, G.J.

#### PROVISIONAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Buffon, Angela Elmer, Toni Gray, Allison Loveless, Rosemary

Murray, Pamela Rice, Fay

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Gibbs, P.M.

Holberton, A.S.

Kerin, M.J.

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### DAVID S. STIRLING

A member of the Club for fifty years, competing successfully as a lightweight oarsman and being a member of the first Victorian Club Crew in 1936 to compete at the New South Wales Lightweight Eight-oared Championship, the Mercantile Crew being guests of the Balmain Rowing Club.

David enlisted in the A.I.F. joining Corps Signallers and went to the Middle East towards the end of 1940. He was in the Battles of Greece and Crete, being taken a Prisoner of War on Crete in mid 1941 from where he was transferred to P.O.W. Camp in Germany where he was held until Peace in Europe in May 1945. He was repatriated to Britain for a short leave prior to return to Australia.

On his return to Australia he resumed his activities at Mercantile — coaching crews and young members and assisting generally in the many activities of the Club particularly at working bees on boat and club house repairs. During the re-building programme following the fire he was regular in his attendance at the volunteer labour contribution.

In addition to his contribution to the advancement of Mercantile he was active on behalf of the Victorian Rowing Association being on the Committee for thirty years as delegate of the Yarrawonga Rowing Club. On the formation of the Racing Officials Panel he was appointed Chief Clerk of Scales organising and attending to the weighing of lightweight oarsmen and coxswains at regattas throughout Victoria. At the 1956 Olympic Games Rowing at Ballarat he carried out the duties of Clerk of Scales with an efficiency which could not be faulted.

David was a gentleman who was loved and respected by all who knew him.

#### JOHN E.L. BARBER

As a Country Member, John was a regular, friendly visitor to the Club. For some time several years ago, he coached Geelong Grammar, and in recent times has been responsible for publicising rowing in the Geelong media.

His association with the sport of rowing over very many years has been appreciated and his sudden death will be mourned by all members.

#### BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH APRIL, 1977.

of New South Wales	600 23,968 6,374 56 380 285 100 31,763
of New South Wales Memorial Building Fund)	23,968 6,374 56 380 285 100 31,763
y Orders Account	6,374 56 380 285 100 31,763
y Orders Account	31,763
priptions Paid in Advance	380 285 100 31,763
oic Fund	285 100 31,763
DPER MEMORIAL TRUST FUND to 1st May, 1976	285 100 31,763
OPER MEMORIAL TRUST FUND to 1st May, 1976	31,763
OPER MEMORIAL TRUST FUND to 1st May, 1976	31,763
ce 1st May, 1976	2,959
ce 1st May, 1976	
let Income	200
iet mcome	208
	3,167
rophies	33
	3,134
JLATED FUNDS	
ce 30th April	57,361
lemorial Building Fund	39,166
	99,661
	\$131,424
(	JLATED FUNDS ce 30th April lemorial Building Fund

#### BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH APRIL, 1977.

1976		1977
	CURRENT ASSETS Bank of New South Wales	
482	(R.A. Cooper Memorial Trust Fund)	489
577	Subscriptions Outstanding	407
28	Stock on Hand	30
1,228	Sundry Debtors & Prepayments	2,976
2,315		3,902
	INVESTMENTS (at cost)	
	Commonwealth Treasury Bonds :-	
391	V.R.A. Trophy Order Account	391
50	F.R. Browne Trophy Account	50
100	J.J. Wylie Trophy Account	100
541		541
	R.A. COOPER MEMORIAL TRUST FUND: Finance Corporation of Australia Ltd.	
1,000	8% Debentures – 1981	1,000
1,464	1641 50c ordinary shares fully paid	1,569
3,005		3,110
	NON-CURRENT ASSETS	
102,298	War Memorial Club House	102,298
5,201	Boat House (at cost)	5,201
13,673	Boats (at cost less depreciation)	11,655
837	Boat Trailer (at cost less depreciation)	694
1,586	Sundry Assets (at cost less depreciation).	2,284
2,414	Oars (at valuation less depreciation)	2,280
126,009		124,412
\$131,329		\$131,424

### INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH APRIL, 1977

1976	INCOME	1977
7,040 1,441	Subscriptions Less Amounts Written Off	8,585 463
5,599 5,195 260 163 1,050 425 373 1,070 15	Donations Gymnasium Fees Hire Lockers & Scull Racks Hire Club Room Interest Received Profit on Sale of Boat etc. Rent Sundry Income Trophies — Club Races	8,122 7,058 75 213 2,046 29 - 1,963 79 27
\$14,151		\$19,612
	EXPENDITURE	
2,287 259 159 54 234 1,394 1,303 1,192 1,459 155 80 822 2,619 \$12,017	Depreciation Entry Fees — Regattas Fire Protection Expenses Freight General Expenses Insurances Lighting, Gas, Rent & Rates Printing & Stationery Repairs & Maintenance Telephone Trophies — Club Races V.R.A. Dues, Fees etc Interest on Overdraft	3,023 282 1,337 35 603 1,612 1,790 1,050 1,809 226 - 921 2,469
\$ 2,134	SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	\$ 4,455