

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.



(Established 1880)

120th ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET 1999 - 2000

Mercantile Rowing Club
thanks

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Australia's Leading Brewer

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE 119TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC. WILL BE HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON SATURDAY 24TH JUNE 2000 AT 8.00PM.

BUSINESS

1. To confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 26th June 1999.
2. To receive and adopt the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To elect office bearers for the ensuing year.
4. Presentation of Trophies and Awards.
5. General Business

Any other General Business that may legally be brought forward.

1. SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. Adoption of a new set of Rules for the Club.

Motion – That the Club adopt as it's Rules, in place of the existing Rules, the Rules signed by the President on 1st June 2000 and made available for inspection by members at the Clubhouse.

Nominations for Office-Bearers for the ensuing year close on the notice board at the Clubhouse on Saturday 17th June 2000 at 4.00pm.

By Order of the Committee

W. Webster
Honorary Secretary
2nd June 2000

The Notice of Meeting for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 24th June 2000 includes a motion submitted by the Committee to approve a new set of Rules for the Club. The present Rules were adopted by the Club when it applied for Incorporation under the Associations Incorporations Act in 1985. They have from time to time been altered and added to at subsequent Annual Meetings and further alterations are now required to comply with the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act 1981 and the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998.

Your Committee has decided that it is now appropriate to incorporate all these changes in a new document which is submitted for adoption. This is a large document. It is not intended to print and send copies to all members but copies are available for perusal at the Clubhouse by members on request to the Secretary.

The principle changes incorporated into the Rules are:

- (a) the inclusion of a procedure for settling grievances between members or between the Club and members as required by the Associations Incorporations Act;
- (b) certain changes relating to admission of visitors as required by the Liquor Control Reform Act;
- (c) the simplification of the procedure for admissions of members by eliminating the delays involved in displaying all nominations for membership on the Club notice board for a given period.

Apart from the above and from minor changes to wording the new Rules are in accordance with the Rules originally adopted by the Club and subsequent alterations.

Honorary Secretary
1 June 2000

1999 - 00 OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT

Mr. A. N. Guerin

VICE PRESIDENTS

Mr. N.W.Cairnes
Hon. Justice H.R.Frederico
Mr. M.F.McKenna
Mr. R.B.Wilson
Mr. D.J.Yunghanns

Mr. A.M.Evans
Mr. W.T.Morrison
Mr. J.J.Lawrence
Mr. W.B.Hutchins
Mr. D.H.Boykett

CAPTAIN

Mr. G. Barden

VICE CAPTAIN

Mr. Paul Somerville

HONORARY SECRETARY

Mr. W. Webster

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr. J. Faranda

SOCIAL MANAGER

Mr. H. Edgar

BOATS & EQUIPMENT

Mr. B. Hasforth

CHAIRMAN OF SELECTORS

Mr. Peter Somerville

COMMITTEE

Mr. P. Batters
Mr. S. Morrison
Ms. J. Tait (resigned Jan 00)

Ms. L. Farrelly
Mr. J. Leeming
Mr. D. Colvin (App May 00)

SELECTORS

Mr. S. Morrison

Mr. Paul Somerville

HONORARY AUDITOR

Mr. P.R.Devenish (FCA)
(of Clarke & Co)

HONORARY SOLICITOR

Mr. R.R.Aitken

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

Mr. D. A. Pincus

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Olympic Games, the aim of every rower, will again prove to be another event with a large Mercantile representation. In Atlanta, many Club members were key participants in making the Australian team the best-performed nation at that regatta. The Sydney regatta should be no different. We await with great anticipation on the recovery of Drew Ginn so that he and James Tomkins can repeat last years World Championship pair win. Mike McKay is proving to be a key member of the eight, which is being steered by Brett Hayman and coached by our former senior coach Brian Richardson. Other former Mercantile rowers and coaches involved as coaches are Lyall McCarthy, Brian Dalton and Paul Thompson. Ben Dodwell is in the four which is looking to better the silver placing won at the World Championships last year. Gina Douglas will represent the nation in the single. Noel Donaldson is coaching both Gina and the pair. Katie Foulkes is steering the women's eight.

As mentioned in an edition of the Mercantilian this year, James Tomkins has become the only person ever in the world to win a gold medal in every sweep event on the World Championship programme. We are privileged to have one of the greatest athletes in the world in our midst. The Club proposes to recognise this great achievement later this year. James is training to reach his fourth Olympic Games.

A Club relies on many volunteers to function well. The work of our coaches and administrators is voluminous and ever increasing. It is becoming less able to be conducted by volunteers but the Club does not have the financial capacity to use professional services. Most Clubs in Australia have already given up hope of competing at the elite level and continue only at the masters, novice and intermediate levels. Mercantile will not join them. The key to our success against the professional institutes is to successfully spread the workload over more people.

To achieve this next season, we are undertaking two strategies. The first strategy is allow the incoming Captain David Colvin and his two Vice Captains, Rob Douglas and Drew Ginn to focus solely on the rowing aspects of the Club. They are going to make sure that the active rowers receive adequate coaching and direction. They have already recruited many good coaches to spread the coaching workload.

The second strategy is allowing the rest of the membership to maintain the administration and social fabric of the Club. Bill Webster, Jason Faranda and Philippe Batters will coordinate the administrative aspects of the Club. The improvement of the social aspects of the Club is, to a large degree, simply a matter of increasing the Club activities. To do this we will need to call on many more members to assist than before. There are many practical means of assisting our Club such as attending Club functions, making a donation, coming down to the Club on Thursday nights, rowing, hiring the Clubhouse for a work or private function, using the gym, and introducing new

members to the Club. Expect the call for assistance and please respond. We will not follow the example of many other Clubs who do not aspire to greatness.

A final word of thanks to the Captain Geoff Barden, our great secretary Bill Webster who has kept our administration together again for another season, Jason Faranda our Treasurer, Phil Batters who supports us in ways too many to mention, our coaches led by our head coach Peter Somerville, our Committee and to our loyal and committed members. We appreciate all your endeavors.

We look forward to the continued support of members in the next season.

Andrew Guerin
President

TO THE MEMBERS

Your Committee has pleasure in submitting the 120th Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 30 April 2000.

I have been very fortunate to be the Captain of Mercantile, I have had great support from so many people.

The Scotch Mercantile Regatta was a great success thanks to the great promotional work by Lisa Farrelly and David Crawshay. Thank you to Mr. Richard Wraith for all the preparations as regatta secretary and congratulations to Richard and Tammy Wraith on the birth of their son Bailey. I enjoyed a beer with Richard at the Barrel recently and would like to acknowledge the fine support provided to Thursday night drinking by Sam Hayton.

The Mercantile Committee has worked hard during the last financial year purchasing equipment and maintaining the resources of the club. I would particularly like to thank committee member Mr. Simon Morrison for his support of the committee and its function. The club eagerly awaits the news of the arrival of Simon and Andrea's first child.

Mercantile is fortunate to have so many great athletes training at the club. Georgina Douglas provides a wonderful role model for all our members training at this time of the year. Georgina will represent Australia in the Women's single scull, at the time of the AGM she will be racing in Europe. I wish Georgina a great Olympic regatta.

Congratulations to winning Kings Cup members, David Colvin, James Tomkins, Mike McKay, Ben Dodwell, Bill Tait, Robert Douglas and coach Noel Donaldson. The final 500m of the race was a spectators dream. To witness the Victorian Eight in full flight reminded me of the Vic crew in 1988 on the Nepean. Truly a race to remember.

Thank you to Mr. Paul Somerville for his term as Vice Captain and the great contribution he has made to Women's rowing at Mercantile. I would wish Paul all the very best and look forward to his wedding to Anne Marie in September. Paul with the assistance of Jason Faranda and Matt Lovell made possible the selection of Mercantile athletes into the Winning Victorian Women's Youth Eight two years running.

No Captains report would be complete without acknowledging the work of Mr. Philippe Batters. The auction items that always appear the night of a club function have raised many thousands of dollars for the benefit of the Club. The new Rowing Machines in the gym are important to both social and elite rowers alike. All club members benefit from the fundraising efforts of Philippe.

Those who attended the Annual Dinner recently were treated to a wonderful guest speaker in Drew Ginn, Drew performed for the crowd and relived club regattas and Olympic regattas with an honest enthusiasm that was both motivating and enlightening. We are a very fortunate Club to have an athlete of such caliber amongst us.

The Annual Dinner was made possible thanks to the organizational skills of two great committee men, Henry Edgar and Blair Hasforth. Thanks to both for providing a fun and memorable evening.

Mercantile is the greatest club in Australian because of people like William Webster our secretary and Mr. Andrew Guerin our President. Both men continue to make outstanding contributions to Mercantile and we are a stronger club as a result.

Mercantile is fortunate to have as our Head Coach, Mr. Peter Somerville. Peter I wish you and your crew the Men's Quad Scull great success at the Lucerne regatta and at the Nations Cup in Copenhagen. Congratulations Peter on once again being apart of the Australian Rowing Team.

A few months ago I announced that I would not seek another term as your Captain. I intend to withdraw from both School coaching and Club administration to concentrate on my business as a Landscape Architect. I am pleased to receive the nomination of Mr. David Colvin for the position of captain and believe the Club will benefit greatly from the contribution he will make.

The Club administration will need your support, in recruiting and attendance at Club activities. Finally we will be calling on all our athletes for spectacular on-water performances. We are going to see results that come about through the very best of training provided by our great club, Mercantile. ROWHARD.

Geoff Barden

Captain

TROPHIES

CAPTAIN'S TROPHY

This trophy is awarded annually to the member who has won the most Regatta and Club races during the season on the basis of one point for a win with one additional point for any championship.

This award will be announced at the AGM due to the delay in regatta results processing at the VRA office.

MAX BAILEY TROPHY

The Perpetual Shield and Trophy is awarded to the coxswain who has won the most Regatta and Club races during the season on the basis of one point for a win with one additional point for any championship.

This award will be announced at the AGM due to the delay in regatta results processing at the VRA office.

DR R. A. COOPER MEMORIAL TROPHY

This 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.

This year the Dr. R.A.Cooper trophy has been awarded to James Tomkins. In making the award to James this year we wish to recognise his unique achievement in becoming the first person in the world to win a gold medal in each boat category on the World Championship program. James achieved this distinction by winning the Coxless Pairs at last year's regatta in St Catherines. This added to his collection of wins in the Eight, Coxed and Coxless Fours and Coxed Pair. This is a remarkable achievement, James has brought great credit to Mercantile over many years. We wish both he and Drew Ginn the very best of luck in their campaign this year.

N. W. CAIRNES TROPHY

This trophy is awarded to the most improved coxswain of the season.

This trophy has been awarded to Julia Cuthbert. Last season was Julia's first season of coxing. She coxed our Women's Youth four to a number of victories including the State Intermediate Four Championship.

JEEF WYLIE MEMORIAL TROPHY

The Perpetual Shield and Trophy for the most improved lightweight rower 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.

This trophy has been awarded this season to Lisa Farrelly. This was Lisa's first season as a lightweight and also her first season of sculling. Lisa performed very well at the State Championships and was included as reserve for the Victorian Womens Lightweight Quad Scull. Lisa finished third in Under 23 Lightweight Scull at the National Championships and narrowly missed out on selection in the Nations Cup Team.

LATE F. R. BROWNE TROPHY

The Perpetual Shield and Trophy is donated by the family of the late F. R. Browne for presentation to the most improved oarsman.

This trophy has been awarded to David Crawshay. This season David made the transition to sculling at the Under 23 level and after excellent performances at the State Championships went on to win the National Championships. David continued

unbeaten through the National Selection trials and has been selected in the Men's Quad Scull for the Nations Cup in Copenhagen at the end of July.

H. R. FREDERICO TROPHY

This trophy made available by the Honorable Justice H. R. Frederico is awarded annually to the most improved oarswoman at the Club.

This trophy has been awarded to Eleanor Garnys and Emily Wilmoth. Eleanor and Emily rowed in our Youth Women's squad and were selected in the Victorian Women's Youth Eight which won the Bicentennial Cup at the Interstate Regatta.

KEITH BILNEY COACHES TROPHY

This trophy was established in the memory Keith Bilney who gave nearly 70 years of service to rowing as a coxswain, sculler, oarsman, administrator but, most of all as a coach. He gave of his time freely instilling in his charges a love of the sport, a burning desire to win but with a balanced approach to life. This trophy is awarded to the coach that is not necessarily the most successful in terms of race wins, but the one who does the most to teach oarsmen & oarswomen how to row, win races and achieve their potential and in so doing develop the foundations of the Club and build and maintain the attitudes of sportsmanship, dedication and loyalty.

This year the trophy has been awarded to Anthony Bergelin. Anthony coached our Under 23 Men's squad this year. His input into this group from winter training all the way through to the National Championships was excellent and fully embraced all the criteria for this award, especially those of dedication, loyalty and building the foundations of the Club.

GENERAL REPORT

Over the last 3 years the main focus of the Committee has been directed at building for the future. Apart from obvious high profile highlights club level results during the nineties were disappointing. General Club involvement and participation had also declined. To address this situation the Club has employed a professional coach and now takes a more active and disciplined approach to recruiting. Coaches are viewed as critical to our success. Coaches are the organisers, educators and motivators. Activity generates more activity, success breeds more success, coaches are the key to both these goals. In the coming year the Club hopes to have both the need and the ability to employ another professional coach.

Recruiting has become more difficult over the last ten years. This is not just a matter of competition from other clubs but a decline in the number of school rowers who continue in the sport after leaving school. To improve our recruiting strike rate we are not only targeting this year's school leavers but also those who left school at the end of last and have now had a season off. As the age limit for the Youth category has been increased these older recruits will still have ample opportunity at that level. An example of this was our Women's Youth Squad where 5 members were recruited after having a season off after leaving school. Another key aspect to improving our recruiting is the early appointment of our Youth and Junior coaches for the coming season. The major driver of success at this level is recruiting, so an early appointment ensures that a coach has the maximum opportunity to recruit and therefore control their destiny.

During the last year two new initiatives have been developed. Last September a group of Youth / Under 23 members competed in the Pacific Rim Regatta. The opportunity of this regatta gave a real focus to winter training. As the regatta was a one off event we felt the need for an annual event to be created to give our active members an end of winter target to aim for. Following discussion with Sydney Rowing Club it is hoped that we will have an annual Mercantile – Sydney Challenge event – “The Cayzer Cup” in honor of Phil Cayzer and the contribution he has made to both clubs. The format and timing of this event are still evolving. The other initiative is the introduction of formal strength and conditioning training. This is the idea of 2 members, Bill Tait and Rob Douglas, who are professionally qualified in this area. This initiative has already been enthusiastically embraced by the active members and is also drawing the interest of members from other clubs.

One of the most disappointing issues that the Committee has had to face over the last eighteen months is that of security. Since the beginning of 1999 our Clubhouse (and all the other Princes Bridge clubhouses) has been broken in to a number of times. Equipment has been stolen and damage done to the interior doors. To address this we will replace the external doors and a number of internal doors with steel doors and install an alarm system. We do not wish to create “Fortress Mercantile” as we firmly

believe that the Clubhouse belongs to the members and should be open and accessible for us all. These measures will not diminish the access that members have to the Clubhouse and facilities but will give much greater protection to the Clubhouse and our assets. The Club will be liaising with other Princes Bridge clubs and the City of Melbourne to address the security problem in the Jeffries Parade area and the Committee asks all members to ensure the security of the Clubhouse by locking up and reporting all suspicious activity.

The return from hall hirings on our investment in the boatshed continues to be strong. At present we are considering a number of initiatives to increase the utilisation of the hall, the gym and the certain boats in the fleet to increase this revenue stream even further. These initiatives would be aimed at increasing the usage during "off peak" times such as weekdays during the middle of the day. The hall is an increasingly popular venue for corporate training seminars and the availability of rowing as an activity appears to be quite attractive to our clients. This could be an excellent opportunity for the Club and our members who are directly involved.

We can announce in this report that our sponsor Carlton and United Breweries have committed to another 3 year deal. Thank you to Andrew Evans for successfully negotiating this in a timely, efficient and professional manner. This year we also welcomed the return of our Scotch – Mercantile Regatta to the Yarra River. Thanks to the enthusiastic efforts of Lisa Farrelly and David Crawshay the regatta attracted a number of new corporate supporters. We aim to build upon this in the coming year and where possible develop sponsors into direct ongoing sponsors of the Club.

Mercantile's appreciation must again be forwarded to the following:

- Philippe Batters for continuing the publication of "The Mercantilian"
- Roger Wilson for his entertaining commentary at regattas and his efforts to ensure that rowing receives media coverage.
- Wal Oakley for his media coverage in The Age and The Sunday Age.
- De Fraser and Maxine Brice at the VRA office for all their assistance and understanding.
- Scotch-Mercantile Regatta Committee and in particular Richard Wraith.
- Jenny Nunn at Phil Batters' office for her administrative assistance.
- The organisers of "Barrels Bash" – "The Inebri Eight" - who turned on a great show and in the process paid for 4 new ergometers.
- Sean "Trader Al" Colgan for his continued support.
- Our caterer Degrees Catering and in particular Kathy Powers for her cooperation during the year.
- R.R. Aitken our Honorary Solicitor for his advice during the year.

William Webster
Secretary

Attendance at Committee Meetings

9 meetings have been held since the AGM, attendance is as follows

A. Guerin	6	G. Barden	6
W. Webster	9	J. Faranda	5
Peter Somerville	7	J. Leeming	1
Paul Somerville	6	L. Farrelly	5
H. Edgar	6	P. Batters	7
J. Tait	1	S. Morrison	7
B. Hasforth	7	D. Colvin	2
D. Yunghanns	5	D. Boykett	1
J. Lawrence	1		

MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB
BOATS AND EQUIPMENT REPORT 1999/00

In the last couple of years the Committee has developed a complete boat replacement program for our fleet. This program takes into account our current fleet, our expected needs over the next five years and our financial capacity. The policy considers the different types of boats and the needs of members in terms of both elite level competition including national selection and also recreational use. Our aim is to ensure that we have the best possible fleet of boats to satisfy our members needs. Given the priority of pair oared rowing in terms of national selection, our pairs will be maintained as the youngest group of boats in the fleet. Fours will be renewed less regularly and eights will generally be kept until the end of their life.

During the last year we purchased 4 boats. An eight "Geoff Barden" and 3 new coxless pairs the "D.C.Ginn", "Georgina Douglas" and one other that is as yet unnamed. The "Geoff Barden" is the new flagship of our fleet and was used by our Senior Eight to win the State Championship this year. The "Georgina Douglas" is a medium weight boat that can be rigged as either a pair or a double scull and is suitable for use by our female squad or lightweight men. We also received a set of 10 cleaver oars courtesy of Trader Al and thanks to the support of all those who attended Barrel's Bash a 4 new ergometers.

Thanks must also go to Walter Rotter for the repairs he has done on various boats in the shed.

A full list of the Clubs equipment and the condition thereof is detailed below:

<u>BOAT</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
EIGHTS			
GEOFF BARDEN	AUSROWTEC	1998	EXCELLENT
J.J. LAWRENCE II	SYKES	1997	EXCELLENT
JEFF LAWRENCE	SYKES	1991	EXCELLENT
ARTHUR ATKINS	SYKES	1988	GOOD
J.G.H.SPRIGG	SYKES	1983	GOOD
JIM HOWDEN	S&B	1984	FAIR
COXED FOURS			
W. H. WEBSTER	AUSROWTEC	1998	EXCELLENT
TRADER AL	SYKES	1994	EXCELLENT
N.W CAIRNS	SYKES	1991	EXCELLENT
TED SORANI	SYKES	1996	EXCELLENT
COXLESS FOURS			
DAVID BOYKETT	SYKES	1997	EXCELLENT
PHILLIPE BATTERS	AUSROWTEC	1996	EXCELLENT
SUSAN LEE	SYKES	1993	EXCELLENT
N.L.NEWTON	SYKES	1992	EXCELLENT
GRAEME McCALL	SYKES	1991	EXCELLENT

COXLESS PAIRS

UNNAMED	AUSROWTEC	2000	EXCELLENT
D.C GINN	AUSROWTEC	1999	EXCELLENT
GEORGINA DOUGLAS	AUSROWTEC	1999	EXCELLENT
J. R. HARVEY	SYKES	1998	EXCELLENT
PETER (CHINA) O'BRIEN	SYKES	1998	EXCELLENT
BARRY GROSS	SYKES	1993	EXCELLENT
DAVID YUNGHANNS	SYKES	1993	EXCELLENT
WARWICK HUTCHINS	SYKES	1993	EXCELLENT
DAVID PINCUS	SYKES	1993	EXCELLENT
ANDREW COOPER	SYKES	1992	EXCELLENT
MICHAEL McKAY	SYKES	1991	EXCELLENT
SAM PATTEN	SYKES	1991	VERY GOOD
ANDREW EVANS	SYKES	1990	VERY GOOD
JOHN CARR	SYKES	1990	VERY GOOD

SINGLE SCULLS

SYKES NOMEX	SYKES	1995	EXCELLENT
SYKES WOODEN (YELLOW)	SYKES	1990	VERY GOOD
SYKES WOODEN (BLACK)	SYKES	1980	GOOD

SQUAD IDENTIFICATION QUANTITY YEAR CONDITION

ULTRALIGHT CLEAVER OARS				
YOUTH WOMEN		ADJUSTABLE	1998	EXCELLENT
SENIOR MEN	U.S.A. BLADES	10 x 3760mm	1995	EXCELLENT
UNDER 23 MEN	GREEN & GOLD	10 x 3760mm	1994	EXCELLENT
SENIOR MEN	GREEN & RED	10 x 3775mm	1993	EXCELLENT
YOUTH	RED,BLUE & WHITE	8 x 3755mm	1992	EXCELLENT
SENIOR WOMEN	BLACK & RED	6 x 3720mm	1992	EXCELLENT
LW MEN	BLACK & YELLOW	4 x 3750mm	1992	EXCELLENT
JUNIOR MEN	YELLOW	4 x 3760mm	1992	EXCELLENT
INTERMEDIATE / VETERAN	BLUE & WHITE	8 x 3755mm	1991	EXCELLENT

STANDARD CARBON OARS

VETERAN / SOCIAL	RED	10	1990	VERY GOOD
SCULLING BLADES				
CROKER		6	1997	EXCELLENT

WOODEN STANDARD OARS

ASSORTED WOODEN 17			1887	FAIR
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MISCELLANEOUS

CONCEPT II C ERGOMETER	4	1999	EXCELLENT
CONCEPT II C ERGOMETER	2	1997	EXCELLENT
SYKES TANDEM AXEL BOAT TRAILER	1	1998	EXCELLENT
S & B SINGLE AXLE BOAT TRAILER	1	1985	FAIR
BOAT TRANSPORT FRAME	1	1991	EXCELLENT
NW-263 (ALUMINIUM HULL) SPEEDBOAT	1	1998	EXCELLENT

Rowing - Head Coach Report

The 1998/99 rowing season ended for Mercantile in fantastic style with the usual performances of our elite athletes at the World Rowing Championships in St.Catherines. Gina Douglas qualified her boat for the Olympics as did Ben Dodwell in the coxless four; Katie Foulkes in the women's eight, Mike McKay in the men's eight, and not forgetting the sterling job of James Tomkins and Drew Ginn in winning the men's pair in staggering form.

The 1999/2000 season started with Mercantile representing Victoria at the Pacific Rim International Regatta. This was a regatta organized by SOCOG as a combination of the Trans Tasman regatta and the Olympic Test Regatta. Mercantile saw this regatta as a good way to motivate our athletes to put in a solid winter's training and as means of gaining invaluable racing experience. Accordingly we sent a large team to the competition. We were represented by a men's eight, a women's four, men's fours and a flotilla of scullers. The team performed very well the highlight of which was the great job the men's eight did in the final race. The eight were rank outsiders behind two powerful NSW combinations. After a terrific start the crew went to a lengths lead. Unfortunately after some messy strokes the NSW number 1 crew drew up alongside and eventually won the race with Mercantile in second position, but splitting the two northern crews.

The team was well supported by the following coaches: Anthony Bergelin, Tim Frederico, Peter Somerville and David Ochert. Bill Webster came up as team manager.

The season proper started with usual time trials and pre Christmas regattas. Our youth crews were selected and training commenced in earnest for everyone at the club. For the first time in a while the club had a large fleet of scullers competing for the club. We had junior females, female senior A and B lightweights, senior B males and of course Gina Douglas. Warwick Hutchins was generous enough to manufacture some more racks for the club which went a long way to enabling us to house all the boats that we needed.

The State Rowing Championships were held in February this year over two days. After a forgettable first day the club's crews really fought back on the Sunday to record brilliant win after win. Special highlights of this regatta were numerous. David Crawshay, in his single scull, amazed everyone when he raced five 2,000m races in three hours. In this stint he managed to win the intermediate scull, the senior four, and finish a very creditable place in the elite scull behind the likes of Peter Antonie. Other great performances came from the women's side of the club with big wins to Gina Douglas and our women's youth eight. The club successfully defended in the state eight title in devastating form, bettering MUBC by nearly ten seconds.

The great job done by our women's youth coaches, Sarah Chibnal, Jason Faranda and Paul Somerville saw our best ever result when the state youth eights were selected. Emily Wilmoth and Eleanor Garnys both made the state team.

The Australian Rowing Championships were held on the Olympic Course in Sydney during March. Despite the constant rain over the week, the club performed well when considering that our two best athletes did not row do to the injury to Drew Ginn. David Crawshay was fantastic in winning the senior B single scull in a come from behind effort. David also finished third in the double scull. Lisa Farrelly finished a gutsy fourth, just one tenth of a second from bronze in her lightweight under 23 scull final. Lisa also won a bronze in the double scull. In a surprise Roye of Sydney beat result Gina Douglas in her single scull. She got her revenge on the Sunday, winning the interstate scull. In a humdinger of a race our under 23 men's coxed four came from behind five crews halfway through the race to lead a very tight contest with 250m to go. The effort to fight their way to the front took its toll in the closing moments of the race where they faded slightly to finish an extremely close fourth spot.

There were great results on the Sunday in the Kings Cup Regatta when not only did Gina win her single scull, but also the women's youth eight with our members in it won in convincing fashion. The King's Cup was also a come from behind win. In typical grandstanding fashion, the Mercantile dominated crew saved their best for the last five hundred meters where they pushed past a tiring Canberra crew to exact revenge on their defeat last year.

Finally I would like to thank the following coaches who gave up their time to help coach the club's crews with such distinction this year.

Paul Somerville

Jason Faranda

Sarah Chibnal

Simon Morrison

Paul McGann

David Ochert

Graeme Boykett

Anthony Bergelin

Peter Somerville

Tim Frederico

David Colvin

Noel Donaldson

Matthew Lovell

Peter Somerville

Head Coach

2000 State Team Representatives

Men's coxed eight (King's Cup)

David Colvin, James Tomkins, Drew Ginn, Mike McKay, Ben Dodwell, Bill Tait, Robert Douglas, Noel Donaldson.

Women's coxed eight (Governor General's Trophy)

Georgina Douglas, Katie Foulkes

Women's single scull (Nell Slatter Trophy)

Georgina Douglas, Noel Donaldson

Women's youth coxed eight (Bicentennial Trophy)

Emily Wilmoth, Eleanor Garnys

2000 Australian Representatives

Olympic Games – Sydney 2000

Men's coxless pair

James Tomkins, Drew Ginn (Noel Donaldson)

Men's coxed eight

Mike McKay, Matt Long

Men's coxless four

Ben Dodwell

Woman's single scull

Georgina Douglas (Noel Donaldson)

Women's coxed eight

Katie Foulkes

Nation's Cup (Copenhagen Denmark)

Men's coxed eight

Travis Johnston

Men's quad scull

David Crawshay (Peter Somerville)

TREASURERS REPORT

The Club's finances continued to improved over the last year with closer attention being paid to managing the Club's cashflow. Subscription receipts again improved during the year although outstanding subscriptions remain a significant item. Members are asked to please assist the Club and make good their arrears. The return from social functions and hall hirings was again strong and provides great stability to our overall financial position. The expansion of the fleet by the purchase of 3 pairs and an eight was comfortably accommodated within the annual budget. This level of net expenditure on the fleet is viewed vital to ensuring our success as a rowing club. In the coming year we shall be mainly turning over and upgrading the fleet rather increasing it's overall size.

As mentioned earlier in this report the Club is continuing to investigate new and innovative ways to expand and develop our revenue base through greater utilisation of facilities and direct financial sponsorship. The assistance of members in these endeavors is always encouraged.

The coming year will see the added challenge of the GST, members will already have notice that this years subscription notices incorporated this change. We expect that significant purchase items such as boats and oars will decrease in price but most other inputs will rise in price. As we are able to claim input credits for the GST we are not expecting to be worse off, however the overall position is not certain. The tax will however, impose an additional administrative burden upon the Club.

I wish to thank the Committee for their support during my first year as your Treasurer

Jason Faranda
Treasurer

Mercantile Rowing Club Inc.
Profit & Loss Statement
For the year ending 30 April 2000

1998/1999	INCOME	1999/2000	
9.00	Interest Received	541.00	
26,384.00	Rent Received	27,059.00	
56,837.00	Subscriptions Received	60,722.00	
6,093.00	Donations - General	6,012.00	
86,881.00	- Social	78,939.00	
	Entry Fees & Regatta	8,156.00	
2,150.00	Hire of Boats	1,680.00	
8,026.00	Sale of Stock	750.00	
14,308.00	Other	15,000.00	198,859.00
<u>200,688.00</u>			
	EXPENSES		
5,932.00	Administration	1,000.00	
1,310.00	Bank Charges	864.00	
	Cleaning	3,911.00	
	Clothing	594.00	
54,779.00	Depreciation	46,442.00	
	Fee Reimbursement	230.00	
2,674.00	Fire Protection	3,124.00	
2,319.00	General Expenses	7,394.00	
	Interest	247.00	
12,093.00	Insurance	14,240.00	
	Accommodation	979.00	
9,749.00	Entry fees & boat transport	18,332.00	
	Camp	660.00	
13,255.00	Interest Paid Building	2,536.00	
8,011.00	Light & Power	6,236.00	
	Merchant Fees	1,384.00	
7,040.00	Memorabilia	168.00	
2,860.00	Printing, Stationary & Postage	2,817.00	
9,106.00	Rates	2,652.00	
	Rent	280.00	
32,034.00	Wages & Salaries	31,759.00	
	Superannuation	2,054.00	
	Water	1,434.00	
	Employment Expenses	1,052.00	
6,017.00	Repairs & Main - Boats & Oars	16,951.00	
	- Equipment	734.00	
5,471.00	- Boathouse	4,928.00	
1,922.00	Telephone	2,634.00	
5,800.00	Trophies	3,101.00	
6,626.00	V.R.A.	4,508.00	183,245.00
<u>186,998.00</u>			
<u>13,690.00</u>	Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		<u><u>15,614.00</u></u>

Mercantile Rowing Club Inc.**Balance Sheet****as at 30 April 2000**

1998/1999	CURRENT ASSETS	1999/2000	
	Cash at Bank		
1,602.00	Social Account	995.00	
1,015.00	Bilney Fund Account	2,415.00	
19,286.00	Subscriptions Outstanding	15,870.00	
	GST Account	66.00	
	Stock on Hand		
915.00	General Stock	915.00	
51.00	Social Stock	51.00	20,312.00
<u>22,869.00</u>			
	NON CURRENT ASSETS		
368,122.00	War Memorial Club House	368,122.00	
357,154.00	Boats at Cost	414,429.00	
-286,512.00	Accumalated Depreciation	-325,036.00	
70,642.00		<u>89,393.00</u>	
	Oars at Cost	35,049.00	
35,049.00	Accumalated Depreciation	-31,059.00	
-27,194.00		<u>3,990.00</u>	
7,855.00			
	Trailers at Cost	9,650.00	
9,650.00	Accumalated Depreciation	-3,838.00	
-3,114.00		<u>5,812.00</u>	
6,536.00			
	Sundry Assets	58,043.00	
56,938.00	Accumalated Depreciation	-25,229.00	
-21,900.00		<u>32,814.00</u>	
35,038.00			
		<u>500,131.00</u>	
<u>488,193.00</u>			
511,062.00	Total Assets		520,443.00
	Current Liabilities		
3,347.00	Cash at Bank General account	766.00	
6,950.00	Sundry Creditors	12,350.00	
5,500.00	Loans Other	5,500.00	
18,000.00	Loan - Scotch Merc. Regatta	18,000.00	
34,614.00	Loan - Westpac Building	25,564.00	
14,364.00	Loan - MRC Endowment Fund	14,364.00	76,544.00
<u>82,775.00</u>			
<u>428,287.00</u>	Net Assets		<u>443,899.00</u>
	Equity		
48,864.00	War Memorial Fund	48,864.00	
365,733.00	Acculated Funds (1/5)	379,421.00	
13,690.00	Accumulated Funds (30/4)	15,614.00	443,899.00
<u>428,287.00</u>			

Mercantile Rowing Club Inc.
Cash flow Statement
For the year ending 30 April 2000

	1999/2000
Balance at Bank	(3,347)
Income	
Interest	541
Rent	27,059
Subscriptions	48,138
Donations - General	6,012
Donations - Social	7,057
Entry Fees & Regattas	8,156
Hire of Boats	1,680
Member functions	27,960
Sundry Income	36,530
Degrees	45,050
Sale of Stock	750
Total Income	208,932
Expenses	
Administration	1,000
Bank Charges	864
Cleaning	3,911
Clothing	594
Equipment	52,980
Fee Reimbursement	230
Fire Protection	3,124
General Expenses	7,417
GST	66
Interest	247
Insurance	14,240
Accommodation	979
Entry fees & boat transport	18,332
Camp	660
Interest Paid Building	1,024
Loan Payments	11,940
Light & Power	6,236
Merchant Fees	1,384
Memorabilia	168
Printing, Stationary & Postage	2,817
Rates	2,652
Rent	280
Wages & Salaries	31,759
Superannuation	2,054
Water	1,434
Employment Expenses	1,052
Repairs & Main - Boats & Oars	16,951
Repairs & Main - Equipment	734
Repairs & Main - Boathouse	4,928
Telephone	2,634
Trophies	3,101
V.R.A.	4,508
Catering Expenses	6,050
Total Expenses	206,351
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	2,581
Balance at Bank	(766)

**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.
R A COOPER MEMORIAL TRUST FUND
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH APRIL 2000**

		1999/2000
ASSETS		
Shares		
	Australian Foundation Investment Co Ltd	
7156	13,711 50c Ordinary Shares	10,155.74
	(Market Value \$ 34,277)	
	Westpac Savings Bank	
2342	Balance of Credit Account	1,973.90
Accounts Receivable		
	Australian Foundation Investment Co Ltd	617.00
	Dividend 13,711 shares	
<u>9498</u>		<u>12,746.64</u>
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
5940	Balance at 30 April 1999	6,140.02
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
2215	Balance at 30th April 1999	4,987.40
	Westpac Savings Bank	
8	Interest	8.78
	Dividends	
1343	Australian Foundation Investment Co	<u>1,611.05</u>
3566		6,607.23
18	Less Government Duties	0.61
<u>9488</u>		<u>6,606.62</u> <u>12,746.64</u>

MEMBERS 1996 - 2000

The membership of the Club as at 30th April 2000 was as follows

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
Life	13	12	12	11	11
Senior	169	166	152	163	148
Senior *	21	21	22	22	30
Junior	75	65	54	54	32
Country	43	42	40	37	26
Associate	54	50	50	44	38
Honorary	1	5	5	5	1
	376	361	335	336	286

Life Members

Ainsworth	Phil J.	Aitken	Robert R. MBE	Boykett	David H.
Cairnes	Norm W.	Cooper	Andrew D. OAM	Donaldson	Noel W.
Ginn	Drew C. OAM	Guerin	Andrew N.	Lawrence	Jeffrey J.
McKay	Michael S. OAM	Owen	Martin F.	Sorani	Ted
Tomkins	James B. OAM				

Senior Members

Anderson	Warwick	Atchison	John W.	Atkins	Arthur H.
Baillieu	Timothy J.	Barden	Geoff I.	Batten	Malcolm W. OAM
Batters	Philippe R.	Begley	Guy K.	Black	Robert H.
Blackburn	Justin D.	Blunden	Phillip	Bolton	John G.
Bostock	John B.	Boykett	Graeme H.	Briggs	Andrew P.
Brooks	Robyn A	Bruce	Jamie	Burns	Donald J.
Cannon	Andrew M.	Caradimos-Monk	Carol	Carew	William F.
Carr	John P.	Castricum	Anthony	Cheales	Kelli M.G.
Christensen	Soeren	Colvin	David E.	Cordell	Anthony M.
Crichton	David J.	Dawson	Ray	De Guingand	Chris J.
Deasey	Denis	Deutscher	Robert J.	Dobbie	Alex W.
Donaldson	John Hedley	Donovan	Michael J.	Doody	Leith McD.
Douglas	David G.	Douglas	Georgina C.	Douglas	Libby
Douglas	Robert G.	Dowling	Christopher	Downey	Peter J.
Dunstan	Noel	Duthie	Ian R.	Edgar	Henry C.
Evans	Andrew M.	Everist	Ian C.	Faranda	Jason M.
Fogarty	Michael J.	Foley	John E.	Foulkes	Katie
Franel	Phil J.	Frederico	H. Tim	Frederico	Hubert R.
Gadsden	Simon P.	Gakovic	Zeljko	Gillon	Christopher J.
Gillon	Stephen M.	Giulieri	Peter	Granowski	Warwick O.
Grant	Georgia E.	Grant	John G.	Graver	David R.
Griffiths	Peter	Griffiths	Ron	Groves	Mark S.
Guinn	Henry G.	Hall	Gavin S.	Hansen	Greg
Harding	Paul	Harris	Fiona	Harrison	Simon R.
Harry	John R.	Harvey	Jim R.	Harvey	Penelope J.
Hearn	Leigh G.	Henshaw	David	Hewitt	H. Neil OAM
Hill	John	Hogan	Timothy J.	Holyman	G. Ian
Hutchins	Tom	Hutchins	Warwick B.	Inglis	Anthony C.

Jefferson	Debbie W	Jenkins	Andrew	Johnson	Anthony L.
Johnston	Gregory M.	Jones	Cam A.	Joyce	Joseph W.
Kellam	Murray B.	Kerr	Cordelia	Kerr	Jason D.
Kimpton	Colin M.	Koekoek	Lucas A T	Lewis	Mark
Lindsay	Alister W.	Long	Matthew	Mahoney	Harry J.
Majgaaro	Daniel N.	Marley	Derek C.	Marshall	Ken A.
McCall	Graeme A.	McGorlick	Michael W.	McKenna	Michael F.
McKenzie-McHarg	Hugh W.	Mollard	Stephen D.	Monger	Bronwyn
Moreton	Richard	Moreton	Stewart C.	Morrison	Andrea J.
Morrison	Bruce W.	Morrison	Ian J.	Morrison	Simon A.
Morrison	W T.	Mulder	Victor G.	Nash	Scott
Nation	Michael J.	Negri	Justin	Negri	Ron A.
Neill	Erica	Newton	Nicholas L.	Noonan	Paul K.
O'Brien	Peter H.	O'Doherty	David	Oliver	Richard J.
O'Reilly	Bernard	O'Sullivan	Luke	Palfreyman	David
Parmenter	Brian R.	Partridge	Lea	Patten	Sam G.
Patterson	Celia L.	Peckham	Alan J.	Pezimenti	Lucio
Phillips	Terry D.	Philp	Peter E.	Pincus	David A.
Price	Michael	Prowse	Paul G.	Quirk	Simon
Reed	Stephen K.	Reid	Scott J.	Richardson	Geoff W.
Richardson	Ron H.	Richardson	S. Graham	Roberts	Georgia
Robertson	W. Malcolm	Robertson-Smith	R. Glen	Ronai-Horvath	Victor
Ross	Nicola	Ryan	Sean P.	Schoner	Simon
Seamman	John W.	Shanasy	John E.	Shears	John D.
Skidmore	Thomas J.	Sloan	Alex T.	Smyth	Edward A.
Somerville	Paul G	Somerville	Peter D.	Strang	Robert A.
Strang	Robert W.	Sullivan	Lynne	Sutherland	Tanya
Tait	Bill	Taylor	Robyn	Tomanovits	Martin G.
Tyrrell	Marcus C.	Unwin	Bill A.	Van Schajik	Karen J.
Voller	Jon J.	Walker	Robert	Walker	Tony
Wallace	Alan M.	Wallace	Bill L.	Way	Simon A.
Wayne	William J.	Wearne	Richard	Webster	Neil G.
Webster	William H.	Wertheimer	John	White	Bill C.
Wilkinson	David R.	Williams	Felicity	Willows	Paul
Wilson	Ian W.	Wilson	Roger B.	Wraith	Richard G.
Yunghanns	David J.				

Junior Members

Antica	Jason F.	Barrie	Kim	Batters	Benjamin C.G.
Bell	Amy	Blunden	Laura V.	Bock	Lucy
Bolton	Mark P.	Boutsakis	Adrian	Breslin	Emma
Bull	Travis S.	Bunn	Georgia	Butler	Gemma
Cameron	Camilla	Clark	Melissa	Coates	Jeffrey
Coventry	Kris	Crawshay	David W.	Crittenden	Sally
Cuthbert	Julia	Dawson	Jessica L	Diab	Adam
Dietrich	Stephan	Doody	Elizabeth	Elliott	Cameron B.
Evans	Chelsea	Farrelly	Lisa	Fast	Stephanie
Fynmore	Troy P.	Gannon	Lucinda	Garnys	Eleanor
Gilbertson	Michael	Glauser	Franziska	Groves	Callum E.
Hardie	Stewart G.	Hasforth	Blair H.	Hayden	Melanie
Hayton	Sam	Hemingway	Joseph	Howard	Alison
Johnston	Tanya	Johnston	Travis	Jones	Anna

Keenan	Stephanie	Kelly	Michael J.	Kupcis	John P.
Latimer	Owen	Lawes	Tim	Logan	Sarah A.
Lovell	Petrice	McKenzie-McHarg	Daisey	McKinley	Tim
Miller	Sally-Anne	Milowka	Agnes	Moore	Rory C.D.
Pearce	Callie	Phillips	Matthew	Powell	Anna
Rees	Andrew	Rogers	Carolyn	Russian	Mitchell
Scheltus	Nicky	Schober	Antony	Sedman	Harley
Short	Sam	Simpson	Sophie	Sloan	Robert R.
Smith	Robyn S.	Steer	Richard A.	Stryker	Natalie J.
Tait	Jean	Tandy	Charles R.	Terracall	Millie
Van Burren	Laura	Wilmoth	Emily	Wiltshire	Jane L.

Country Members

Adams	James S.	Ansell	Gael L.	Bailey	William M
Baillieu	William J.	Bowen	David	Boykett	Peter H.
Cayzer	Phil A.	Connolly	Mark C.	Connolly	Rob W.
Coveney	Scott A.	Daffy	Tom C.	Dodwell	Benjamin
Donoghue	J. Doug.	Garrard	Richard J.	Glass	Andrew
Gross	Barry B.	Gullock	Gary	Hayes	John V.
Hobbs	Sam J.	Horne	Cameron R.	Kallir-Preece	David G.
Kovacic	Jason	Lee	Susan	Maginn	Paul T.
McArthur	Stewart F.	McLean	Russell A.	McNamara	Pat J.
McNeil	Andrew S.	Munro	David I.	Murphy	Peter J
Newcomb	Simon H.	O'Halloran	Martin K.	Pechan	Greg A.
Phillips	Andrew	Robinson	Alex T.	Rowe	John S.
Schreier	Paul J.	Shipton	James R.	Spriggins	Anthony
Spriggs	Simon D.	Storrs	John A.	Taylor	Geoffrey M.
Young	Tim J.				

Associate Members

Adams	Arthur W.	Angliss	Thomas R.	Ashby	Duncan
Austen	William A.	Batten	Philippa	Benjamin	Peter L.
Bills	Bruce	Bland	Peter J.	Boileau	Nic
Burt	Roger J.	Cahir	John P.	Corben	Mal H.
Cowling	David S.	Crothers	Grant T.	Ferdinand	Jeffrey R.
Hearn	Narelle	Hearne	Paul	Holland	Craig S.
Hume	David J.	Hume	Ken M.	Hume	Michael C
Humphris	Peter W.	Jickell	Ian J.	Johnson	E. Ted C.
Johnston	Peter A.L.	Johnston	Yvonne J.	Jones	Robin A
Jordan	Noel R.	Lachal	Bob P.	Lausberg	Johan
Leeming	John	Loveless	Jay	Lovell	Matthew D.
Mansfield	Patrick	McDonald	Andrew W.	McDonald	Doug
McDonald	Wesley K.	McGann	Paul R.	McLean	Andrew
Meachem	Rebecca	Milligan	Angus S.	Murchie	Andrew
Nickson	John H.	Nuske	Nicholas	Powers	Kathy
Redman	Roger	Renouf	L. Paul	Rushford	Robert J.
Sill	Anthony C.	Silverston	Paul A	Somerville	Alexandra
Wallis	Lindsay W.	White	Russell A.	Wolf	Felicity

Honorary Members

Colgan	Sean P.
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MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.

thanks

 **Carlton.**
One of the world's great brewers.

 for their continued support