

# MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.



(Established 1880)

## 123rd ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET 2002 - 2003

Mercantile Rowing Club  
thanks

**C.U.B.**

**Carlton & United**  
**AUSTRALIA'S OWN**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE 123RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC. WILL BE HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2003 AT 8.00PM.**

**BUSINESS**

1. To confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 29th June 2002.
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.

Nominations for Office-Bearers for the ensuing year close on the notice board at the Clubhouse on Saturday 21st June 2003 at 4.00pm.

By Order of the Committee

W. Webster  
Honorary Secretary  
2nd June 2003

**2002 - 03 OFFICE BEARERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Mr. A. N. Guerin

**VICE PRESIDENTS**

Hon. Justice H.R.Frederico  
Mr. M.F.McKenna (dec Mar 03)  
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  
Mr. P.Batters

**CAPTAIN**

Mr. D. Colvin

**VICE CAPTAINS**

Mr. D. Ginn & Ms. E. Wilmoth

**HONORARY SECRETARY**

Mr. W. Webster

**HONORARY TREASURER**

Mr. P. Somerville

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

Mr. A. Law

**SOCIAL MANAGER**

Mr. J. Ball

**CHAIRMAN OF SELECTORS**

Mr. Ian Dryden

**COMMITTEE**

Mr. H. Edgar  
Mr. J. Walmsley  
Mr. M. Squires

Mr. T Chambers  
Ms L Blunden  
Mr. D. Crawshay

**HONORARY AUDITOR**

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

**HONORARY SOLICITOR**

Mr. A.N.Guerin

**VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEMBER**

Mr. D. A. Pincus

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The past season has had many great moments and also many good pointers to the future. First, let us recap some of the high points.

**Rowing** - Congratulations to *James Tomkins, Drew Ginn, David Crawshay, Noel Donaldson, Sara Richards, Fleur Chew, Katie Foulkes, Alison Withers and Tom Courtney* on their selection into the National team. We had many other members who narrowly missed out and will no doubt be in contention next year. Also congratulations to those who competed so well in the 2002 Australian teams. Our Captain and Head Coach will detail these matters later in this report.

The Club performed very well at both the National and State Championships, which were key objectives of the Club. At the National Championships the Club was clearly one of the best performed Clubs, particularly in the womens events. We won 10 medals including five championships in the open and under 23 womens events. I will leave the Captain and coaches to go through the details but there were also other magnificent races outside these National Championships. For example, there was the superb race of the Mercantile girls against the UTS/Mosman/Sydney/Sydney University composite crew (the nominated Australian eight), where we came 1.75 lengths behind in second place. Another such race was where the boys medalled in a strong field in the open quad. These races were great not only for the manner in which they were raced, but included non-elite Club rowers. Also our congratulations also to Travis Johnston, Ben Hegarty and Rob Douglas on their AIS scholarships last season.

**Coaches** - The success of our athletes is largely dependant on our coaches. This season we were fortunate to have the following team under our Head Coach *Ian Dryden – Tom Courtney, David Colvin, Bill Tait, Marty Francis, Pete Woollard, John Leeming, Matt Lovell, Anthony Bergelin, Guy Begley and David Palfreyman*. They did a great job and we are fortunate to have many returning for next season.

**Ian Dryden** —It was with great regret that the Club announced in early June that after two years at Mercantile, Ian Dryden has decided to return to the UK. We are disappointed that we were unable to keep Ian beyond the initial two year term of his contract with us. Ian will continue his normal duties with us until the end of July. Ian's work over the past year has been hampered by lack of financial resources to operate the programme to the level that both the Club and Ian would have liked. Whilst the Club's financial resources will be greatly improved next year, they will not immediately filter down fully to the rowing programme.

Ian joined us in September 2001 from Cambridge University Boat Club. He brought a disciplined and refreshing approach to coaching which was needed and much appreciated by all. He was appointed the Victorian Institute of Sport sculling squad coach. He brought out the best in his athletes which in turn created many pleasant surprises.

I am sure that Ian will always remember the sculling squad he took to Henley last year and the resulting performances following that tour. David Crawshay has since been selected in the Australian double scull. Al Taylor almost made the national squad following a strong season. Henry Edgar became one of the Club's most prolific race winners and Kris Coventry went on to compete for Cambridge University in the 2003 Boat Race.

Our best wishes and thanks go to Ian, Jane and young Oscar. We hope that they retain fond memories of Australia and Mercantile.

### **Committee**

– Your committee for the past season has been very busy. It has been led by our Captain *David Colvin* who took a year off work to undertake both this role and coaching. Our sincere thanks to David for making such a huge sacrifice for the Club's benefit. Also our thanks to all members of the Committee for their fine work.

Your Honorary Secretary *Bill Webster* continued to break new records by again undertaking this role. He is by far the longest serving secretary of the Club. Your finances were managed again by *Paul Somerville* who tried to keep the Committee in order and provide strong guidance. Both Paul and Bill are teaching other members to take over their roles in future years. *Warwick Hutchins* again excelled himself with assisting the Club with fabrication work and providing work for out of work rowers. The Committee again appreciated the benefit of the experience of *David Yunghanns*. Finally, I must mention the outstanding work of *Phil Batters* with his editorship of the "Mercantilian", his work with Barrel's Bash and other important activities he conducted.

**Milestones** – This season saw the passing of two great members, namely *Michael McKenna* and *Bill Unwin*. Details follow later in this report. Our thoughts are with their families.

**Trends** – There are several other interesting trends and changes in the sport which impact the Club. Firstly the sport is now highly professional and provides employment to a large number of people, including our members. This has been important in lifting the standard of the sport but it does make it financially difficult for Clubs such as Mercantile. Even State Institutes find it difficult to maintain coverage over all categories of the sport in the manner in which Mercantile operates. Unfortunately some of the better funded Clubs are becoming more successful than others less well endowed. Despite these trends, Mercantile is very well placed to compete with these Clubs at the highest levels but will have to jump higher hurdles each year in meeting this challenge.

Womens rowing continues to grow and Mercantile has been a great beneficiary of this growth. The girls look like they will provide the high points of the Club's success over the next Olympiad. Masters rowing also continues to grow and it will increasingly become a key part of the Club. Such diversity of age and gender creates a great Club.

Among the other positive trends are that many of the local clubs are creating much more activity through servicing schools, managing income-earning learn to row courses, creating new rowing events and servicing the rapidly growing masters rowing area. The sport is very healthy as a result.

The interest in rowing is creating a far more diverse group of active members at the Club. The atmosphere at the Club as a result is very lively and enjoyable. The activity of the younger members creates the excitement but there are so many other facets which make the Club. The involvement of our older members in rowing, in Club activities and in witnessing our success at regattas is appreciated by all members. The speeches of Garth Manton at Club functions are also a highlight for all ages. The participation of rowers from other Nations who wander down to our Club is great. The involvement of parents in Club events is now very important. We look forward to having one of the parents on our Committee this coming season. In summary, the social fabric of the Club strengthens with such diversity and we are becoming more like a family of members than ever before.

**Finances** - One down side of the past year has been the state of the Club's finances. Your Committee set out a very ambitious programme for the year which could not withstand too many matters going wrong. As it turned out, too many matters turned against us. Further details are provided later in the finance report. We can assure members that the problems from last season have been resolved and we do not anticipate any reoccurrence.

**Vice-Presidents** - Your Committee has nominated two new Vice-Presidents for this year's meeting, David Pincus and Bill White. David is heavily involved with the sport as a board member of both Rowing Victoria and Rowing Australia and is been a strong and active member of the Club. Over a number of years, your Committee has sought to add Vice-Presidents of this next generation including your current President, Phil Batters and Jeff Lawrence. The nomination of Bill White comes from a very different position. Bill is a very active member of the Club who takes a deep and genuine interest in the Club's affairs, its members and their progress. As a regular attendee at regattas, he has at times caught me out on the names and the performances of some of the younger members. His continuing interest, his challenging of ideas and decisions and his advice will be welcomed by the Committee.

**Boathouse** - We are pleased that during the year the Club's entire collection of rowing memorabilia has been placed on display in the Clubhouse. It is a most impressive collection. The memorabilia has been catalogued and we are in the process of copying all the photographs for security purposes. We received a donation of one trophy which we restored and we were able to purchase other items from collectors during the year to add to the collection. We continued to purchase framed pictures of our National Championship crews and will shortly complete the Club's Olympic collection. On the maintenance angle, we carpeted the upstairs area, installed new flooring and re-varnished older flooring, installed a public address system and installed a new fire alarm system. The next project is the updating of the changing rooms to create more area for the girls.

Finally, thank you to all those members who have assisted the Club over this season. The achievements of the Club have been many. The Club looks forward to your continued support next season.

**Andrew Guerin**  
**President**



## TO THE MEMBERS

Your committee has pleasure in submitting the 123rd Annual report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2003.

This has been my third year as Captain of Mercantile and has seen Mercantile take further strides since last year.

At international level, James Tomkins and Drew Ginn had their first showdowns against Matthew Pinsent and James Cracknell of Great Britain and after winning first up at the World Cup in Luzern, went to the World Championships at Seville. In a monumental race, they broke the old world record and came fourth, behind Great Britain, Croatia and South Africa. These four combinations will be back again intact for this year's World Championships to be held in Milan in August so we wait again for more incredible racing.

Rob Douglas and Travis Johnstone were members of the Men's Eight which repeated the previous year's result of 7<sup>th</sup> overall, winning the B Final in Seville.

Possibly the most exciting development of the whole season were the performances of Sara Richards and Danni Ackland. After dominating domestic competition, Sara and Danni made their international debut as part of the Australian Women's Under 23 Four with 4<sup>th</sup> place at the Luzern regatta and topped off by winning Gold at the World Under 23 Regatta at Genoa.

This year, Mercantile has seven Australian representatives, three in the World Championship team. As mentioned above, James and Drew will resume their battle with Pinsent/Cracknell & others in the Pair. In addition David Crawshay has been selected in the Double Scull with Peter Hardcastle (NSW). After making his senior debut in the 2001 Quad and missing selection last year, David has put together his best ever season and his form at the end of this year's domestic season has been irresistible. We wish the boys all the very best this winter as they work to gain automatic qualification for their boats at the World Championships for the 2004 Athens Olympic Games.

Mercantile also has a number of members achieving selection in the Australian Under 23 Team which will compete at the Luzern Regatta and the World Under 23 Regatta in Belgrade. Our Women's Coach Tom Courtney has charge of his first Australian crew with the Women's Four currently training out of Mercantile. Sara Richards is back to defend her title from last year and has been joined by Fleur Chew making her international debut.

Alison Withers has also made her first Australian Team, being selected in the Under 23 Lightweight Double Scull, and is currently training with the Senior lightweight women in Adelaide. This season has been a meteoric rise for Alison progressing from Intermediate level to being clearly the best Under 23 lightweight in Australia in just one season.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to all of our Australian Representatives.

Our Head Coach Ian Dryden had his first complete season taking control of our elite men (mostly scullers) as well as the Under 23 and Youth Men. Over the winter he took a development men's quad scull to Henley Royal Regatta which won through the semi finals of the Quad Sculls Challenge. David Crawshay also competed in the Diamond Sculls and Silver Goblets and the Double Sculls. This international racing stood David in very good stead in his successful quest to regain his seat on the Australian Team this year.

Another outstanding product of Ian's work with the Henley quad was the subsequent success of Mercantile's Kris Coventry being selected to row the 4 seat in the Cambridge University crew which raced Oxford in the Boat Race in April. After Cambridge had nearly destroyed their boat in a horrific collision with a Thames barge a day or two before the race, Oxford defeated Cambridge by one foot in one of the closest (if not the closest) results in Boat Race history. Those who saw the film of the race at Mercantile in the weeks afterwards wont easily forget a fantastic performance from both crews.

In what proved to be a very challenging season, Ian has also guided David Crawshay onto the Australian Team, as well as the Victorian Team in the Presidents Cup. In a very lean year for Victoria in the recruitment of schoolboys into club rowing, Ian also coached three Mercantilians into the Youth Eight which was a significant step forward on previous years. Most importantly, Mercantile now appears to have a stronger relationship with the schools which we need to translate into better recruiting into our Men's program this year.

As with last season, Mercantile's women outnumbered the men and resulted in an improved level of performance across the group. As mentioned above, we have three members on the Australian Under 23 Team together with Tom Courtney as coach. Tom also coached the Victorian Women's Eight to second place in the Governor Generals Trophy, with a crew containing six Mercantilians. We also had Alison Withers stroking the Victoria Cup crew to second place on her interstate debut, and two girls in the Youth Eight.

Mercantile dominated the Under 23 Championship races for women at the Nationals winning five and placing in two of the eight available races. The next challenge is to translate that success into the Elite level which will be very difficult in an Olympic year but something worth aiming for.

There are always a number of people who contribute to the running of a club such as ours and who volunteer their time and expertise. To the following I offer the Club's thanks:

- To vice-captains Drew Ginn and Emily Wilmoth. Their support is vital for both coaches and athletes in the Club, and all the more appreciated as they pursue their own personal goals on the water.

- The coaching panel of Ian Dryden, Tom Courtney, David Palfreyman, Matt Lovell, Bill Tait, Marty Francis, Pete Woollard, John Leeming, Guy Begley & Anthony Bergelin. Without the input of this group, we don't have a Club. We are always looking for other coaches, so if you wish to contribute to what is a growing group of athletes, please contact Ian or Tom at the Club.
- To Noel Donaldson and the Victorian Institute of Sport for their support of our Elite Athletes.
- Yet again, Phil Batters for his fundraising efforts and other work around the clubhouse. Also to John Lausberg for his maintenance work on the clubhouse.
- Bill Webster and Paul Somerville for their administration work. In his first year in the role, Paul Somerville has done sterling work as Treasurer in what has been an extremely difficult environment for the club to operate.
- And finally to the President, Andrew Guerin. For someone who says he tries to stay out of everyone's hair, he does an enormous amount of work. Our club would be far poorer in every sense of the word without his contribution.

It takes an enormous effort from many people for a club such as ours to achieve what it has done with the resources at our disposal. Compared to our opposition we don't enjoy the level of funding or standard of fleet that our competitors are used to. Credit therefore goes to the athletes who simply get on with the job.

Even though there is a definite feeling of Meres being a club moving forward, in the long term we have to improve our financial position in order to improve our fleet. We may not like it but Mercantile now has to be run like a business, and not like the normal model of a club. That is a huge cultural challenge we are currently being forced to face but one that we must if we are to continue to be the high performance club that our members and athletes expect.

**David Colvin**  
**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.

The Captain's Trophy has been won by Henry Edgar. After competing at the Henley Royal Regatta Henry had a brilliant season winning thirteen races in sculling and sweep boats. His season was capped off with bronze medal in the Mens Quad at the National Championships in a world class field.

### 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.

The Max Bailey Trophy has been won by David Fraumano. Although still at youth age David stepped up to be the Club's main coxswain this season and did a tremendous job. He recorded eleven wins and coxed both the Youth Eight and the Senior Eight at the State Championships. David was also selected to cox the Victorian Youth Eight in the Wilkinson Cup in the Interstate Regatta.

### 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 David Colvin. It is unusual that this trophy has been awarded to the Captain of the Club but in the past year David has truly given outstanding service to the Club above and beyond his duty as Captain. David resigned his job just over a year ago and has primarily devoted his time and energy full time since May 2002 as a coach of our Women's squad and as Captain. His sacrifice in what has been a difficult year for the Club has been fantastic.

### N. W. CAIRNES TROPHY

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

This trophy has been awarded to David Fraumano. As mentioned above David stepped up to be our Senior coxswain will still at Youth age.

### JEFF 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 Alison Withers. Alison progressed from a Youth / Intermediate last year to be the premier Under 23 Female Lightweight Sculler in the country this season. Alison's fine season was capped off with National Championships in the Under 23

Female Lightweight Single and Double Sculls and selection in the Lightweight Double Scull for the Under 23 World Championships in July.

#### **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. David missed selection on the national team last year and set himself the task of improving his strength, fitness and sculling technique to regain a position on the national team in this pre-Olympic year. He sculled in both the single and the double at the Henley Royal Regatta and despite a tough draw performed well against class opposition. David performed exceptionally well at the national trials and has been selected in the Mens Double Scull to compete in the World Championships in August.

#### **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 Sara Richards. Prior to this season Sara had done very little sculling, however she was forced to learn to scull in order to retain her place on the National Team. After a tentative beginning Sara improved rapidly and by season's end she was National Under 23 Champion in both the single and double scull, and retained her position on the National Team. We wish Sara well at the Under 23 World Championships in July.

#### **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 Bill Tait. Bill coached our very successful Female Youth Squad this season. The key factors to the squads success this season were the excellent recruiting, organisation, coaching and planning of Bill Tait.

## HEAD COACH REPORT

The winter program was given added focus as the Mens Quad and David Crawshay prepared for the Henley Royal Regatta in July. This was a great learning experience and a fantastic way to break up the winter training, the men would come back with valuable experience. Some of our younger rowers competed in the Youth Cup in Sydney in July. Both the Youth Cup and the Henley experience provided added interest and focus to winter training and helped to raise the intensity of training for those who did not travel to these regattas.

The Cayzer Cup now marks the end of Mercantile's winter program and brings together the mens and womens programs in the challenge against Sydney Rowing Club. The racing is conducted in big boats' – eights and quads – over 5k, 3k, and 1k distances. In 2002 Mercantile won the Cayzer Cup for the first time, a much improved performance from our men finally brought the Cup to Mecca.

The National Selection program commenced in September and continued through until April. A large number of our men and women participated in this arduous process which proceeds through a number of rounds of ergometers, time trialing and race trialing at a number of different venues. David Crawshay, Alistair Taylor, Drew Ginn, James Tomkins, Mike McKay, Ben Hegerty, Travis Johnson, Robert Douglas, Sara Richards Robin Selby-Smith, Alison Withers, Sarah Chibnall, Fleur Chew, Emily Wilmoth, Katie Folkes. All made it through to the final round of trialing. Congratulations to David, Sarah, Drew, Fleur, James, Alison, Katie, and also Tom Courtney, Coach for the U23 W4- on being selected to race in the Green and Gold for their country.

Great results were recorded in The Head of the Yarra wining the Men's & Women's open, the Men's inter and lets not forget "bringing up the rear THE MASTERS!! Well done everyone.

The Club's January training camp was held at Nagambie. This proved to be an excellent venue and provided a quality training experience for all those who attended. As the racing intensity increased in February and March the Club competed in regattas at home, New South Wales, and South Australia. There were good hauls of medals, at NSWRA Champs, Vic Uni's, Australian Henley, National trial in Adelaide and Victorian State Championships. Both club men and women performed exceptionally well at the National Championships on the magnificent Lake Barrington.

**Coaching Team**, this is another area in which improvement has been made, and to the "Team" I say thank you.

Coaches who selflessly give up their time are valuable assets and without their help the best laid plans would not transpire. Please show your appreciation now and again.

The season from my perspective finished exceedingly well, and with the available talent Mercantile Rowing Club has the momentum to go on to greater heights in all aspects.

Last year I had said:

**“I know that I am motivated by working with motivated people”.**

This year was Fantastic!

Thankyou!

*‘That which does not kill us makes us stronger,’ Nietzsche.*

Ian Dryden  
Head Coach

### **2003 State Team Representatives**

#### ***Men’s coxed eight (King’s Cup)***

James Tomkins, Drew Ginn, Travis Johnston

#### ***Women’s coxed eight (Governor General’s Trophy)***

Sara Richards, Robyn Selby-Smith, Pauline Frasca, Fleur Chew, Tom Courtney (Coach)

#### ***Men’s Single Scull (President’s Cup)***

David Crawshay, Ian Dryden (Coach)

#### ***Men’s youth coxed eight (Noel Wilkinson Trophy)***

Tyson Chambers, Corey Hester, David Fraumano

#### ***Women’s youth coxed eight (Bicentennial Trophy)***

Rachel Skevington, Sarah Forbes

### **2003 Australian Representatives**

#### **Head Coach – Men’s Rowing**

Noel Donaldson

### **World Championships 2003**

#### ***Men’s Coxless Pair***

Drew Ginn, James Tomkins

#### ***Men’s Double Scull***

David Crawshay

#### **Nation’s Cup**

#### ***Women’s Coxless Four***

Sara Richards, Fleur Chew, Tom Courtney (Coach)

#### ***Women’s Lightweight Double Scull***

Alison Withers

**Mercantile Regatta Wins Season 2002-03****Dimboola Regatta***Female Open Coxed Four*

Alice Mentiplay, Briana Eastaugh, Annemarie Howard, Lisa Farrelly, Cox Alex Law.

**Colac Regatta***Female Intermediate Single Scull*

Annemarie Howard, Coach David Colvin

*Female Intermediate Double Scull*

Joanne Barnden, Alex Scott, Coach David Colvin.

*Female Lightweight Intermediate Single Scull*

Alison Withers, Coach David Colvin

Nalini Blacker, Coach David Colvin

*Female Lightweight Intermediate Double Scull*

Alison Wither, Nalini Blacker, Coach David Colvin

*Female Senior Double Scull*

Sarah Chibnall, Fleur Chew, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Senior Coxless Four*

Laura Blunden, Anna Gibson, Anna Hobson, Bridie O'Donnell, Coach Tom Courtney.

*Female Youth Coxed Four*

Alice Mentiplay, Anna Gibson, Sara-Jane Blunt, Georgia Fowler, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Bill Tait.

*Male Intermediate Single Scull*

Henry Edgar, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Double Scull*

Henry Edgar, Thomas Skidmore, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Senior Single Scull*

David Crawshay, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Senior Double Scull*

David Crawshay, Alistair Taylor, Coach Ian Dryden

**Carrum Regatta***Female Intermediate Eight*

Sarah Forbes, Bridie O'Donnell, Briana Eastaugh, Shannon Breen, Bronwyn McLay, Kate Kearney, Jayne Guy, Jacquie Deeble, Cox Megan Rendell, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Lightweight Intermediate Single Scull*

Joanne Barnden, Coach David Colvin

*Female Senior Single Scull*

Bridie O'Donnell, Coach Tom Courtney

*Male Intermediate Single Scull*

Henry Edgar, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Double Scull*

Henry Edgar, Thomas Skidmore, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Eight*



Tyson Chambers, Steven Jacobs, Henry Edgar, Morgan Squires, Shayne Barnett, Cameron Martin, Richard Parker, Corey Hester Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Lightweight Intermediate Single Scull*

Peter Kupcis, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Novice Coxed Quad Scull*

Peter Kupcis, Joseph Braden, Morgan Squires, Steve Rowley, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

### **Murray Rowing Association Regatta**

*Female Intermediate Coxless Pair*

Alice Mentiplay, Shannon Breen

*Female Intermediate Double Scull*

Kate Forbes, Sara-Jane Blunt, Coach Martin Francis

*Female Open Coxed Four*

Alice Mentiplay, Sarah Forbes, Shannon Breen, Kate Kearney, Cox Monique Small, Coaches Bill Tait & Martin Francis

*Male Intermediate Single Scull*

Henry Edgar, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Coxless Pair*

Morgan Squires, Shayne Barnett, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Coxed Four*

Corey Hester, Henry Edgar, Morgan Squires, Shayne Barnett, Cox David Fraumano, Coaches Ian Dryden & John Leeming.

### **Barwon Regatta**

*Female Intermediate Single Scull*

Bronwyn McLay, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Senior Single Scull*

Sara Richards, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Senior Coxless Pair*

Robyn Selby-Smith, Sarah Chibnall, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Senior Double Scull*

Pauline Frasca, Sara Richards, Coach Tom Courtney

*Male intermediate Single Scull*

Henry Edgar, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Double Scull*

Tyson Chambers, Thomas Skidmore, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Coxed Four*

Tyson Chambers, Morgan Squires, Shayne Barnett, Corey Hester, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden.

*Male Novice Coxed Quad Scull*

John Collins, Corey Hester, Joseph Braden, Geoff Greaves, Cox Nalini Blacker, Coach Ian Dryden

**Wendouree-Ballararat Regatta***Female Intermediate Double Scull*

Annemarie Howard, Briana Eastaugh

*Male Lightweight Intermediate Single Scull*

Peter Kupcis, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Novice Coxed Quad Scull*

Shayne Barnett, Jonathan Broughton, Joseph Braden, Geoff Greaves, Cox Nalini Blacker, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Senior Double Scull*

Alistair Taylor, Sean Richardson, Coach Ian Dryden

**Victorian Universities Regatta***Female Intermediate Single Scull*

Anna Hobson, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Lightweight Intermediate Double Scull*

Joanne Barnden, Nalini Blacker, Coach David Colvin

*Male Intermediate Single Scull*

Thomas Skidmore, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Coxed Quad Scull*

Peter Kupcis, Nick Hubbard, Patrick Dougan, Matthew Phillips, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Eight*

Tyson Chambers, Morgan Squires, Shayne Barnett, Corey Hester, Nick Hubbard, Steve Rowley, Hamish Law, Ian Nowachenko, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Senior Coxless Pair*

James Tomkins, Drew Ginn

*Male Senior Quad Scull*

Tyson Chambers, Tom Edwards, Alistair, Sean Richardson, Coach Ian Dryden

**Australian Henley Regatta***Female Open Eight*

Sarah Forbes, Sara Richards, Fleur Chew, Sarah Chibnall, Robyn Selby-Smith, Danni Ackland, Pauline Frasca, Bridie O'Donnell, Cox Megan Rendell, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Youth Coxed Four*

Sarah Forbes, Kate Kearney, Rachel Skevington, Alice Mentiplay, Cox Monique Small, Coaches Bill Tait &amp; Martin Francis

*Male Intermediate Coxed Quad Scull*

Henry Edgar, Peter Kupcis, Patrick Dougan, John Collins, Cox Alex Law, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Open Single Scull*

David Crawshay, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Open Eight*

Tyson Chambers, Corey Hester, Shayne Barnett, Morgan Squires, Alistair Taylor, Henry Edgar, Patrick Dougan, John Collins, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

**Scotch Mercantile Regatta***Female Youth Coxed Four*

Sarah Forbes, Kate Kearney, Rachel Skevington, Alice Mentiplay, Cox Monique Small, Coaches Bill Tait & Martin Francis

*Male Youth Coxed Four*

Tyson Chambers, Morgan Squires, Leigh Chivers (Power House), Corey Hester, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

**Victorian State Championships***Female Intermediate Double Scull*

Anna Hobson, Bronwyn McLay, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Junior Single Scull*

Claire Szatsznajder, Coach Martin Francis

*Female Lightweight Intermediate Double Scull*

Dehann McDonald, Nalini Blacker, Coach David Colvin

*Female Youth Eight*

Sarah Forbes, Kate Kearney, Alice Mentiplay, Rachel Skevington, Jayne Guy, Anna Gibson, Kate Forbes, Shannon Breen, Cox Monique Small, Coaches Bill Tait & Martin Francis

*Male Intermediate Single Scull*

Henry Edgar, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Double Scull*

Henry Edgar, Morgan Squires, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Intermediate Coxed Quad Scull*

Peter Kupcis, Thomas Skidmore, Nick Hubbard, Henry Edgar, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Lightweight Intermediate Double Scull*

John Collins, Patrick Dougan, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Senior Single Scull*

Tom Edwards, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Senior Coxless Pair*

James Tomkins, Drew Ginn

**Footscray Regatta***Female Intermediate Single Scull*

Rachel Skevington, Coach Bill Tait

Sarah Forbes, Coach Bill Tait

*Female Intermediate Coxless Pair*

Alice Mentiplay, Kate Kearney, Coach Martin Francis

*Female Intermediate Double Scull*

Sarah Forbes, Rachel Skevington, Coach Bill Tait

*Female Intermediate Coxed Four*

Alice Mentiplay, Kate Kearney, Sarah Forbes, Rachel Skevington, Cox David Fraumano, Coach Martin Francis

*Female Open Single Scull*

Anna Hobson, Coach Tom Courtney

*Male Intermediate Single Scull*

Peter Kupcis, Coach Ian Dryden

*Male Under 16 Single Scull*

Joseph Braden, Coach Ian Dryden

**National Championships – Nagambie**

*Female Under 23 Single Scull*

Sara Richards, Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Under 23 Coxless Four*

Sara Richards, Fleur Chew, Emily Wilmoth. Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Under 23 Quad Scull*

Sara Richards, Fleur Chew, Emily Wilmoth. Coach Tom Courtney

*Female Under 23 Lightweight Single Scull*

Alison Withers, Coach David Colvin

*Female Under 23 Lightweight Double Scull*

Alison Withers, Coach David Colvin

## GENERAL REPORT

The year 2002 / 03 was a very difficult one for the Club. The financial challenges on the Club were significant although we anticipate that these will ease reasonably quickly and a settled year is forecast for 2003-04. Unfortunately, we do not anticipate a full return to our boat replacement programme and two professional coaches until 2004-05. As a response to this pressure and also to make the membership structure more reflective of member usage and encourage a 'once a member, always a member' attitude your committee recommended the changes that were endorsed at the Special General Meeting on 1 May 2003.

The employment of two professional coaches is considered important if we wish to aspire to any sort of success above the intermediate level. The fairly rapid move to the employment of two full time coaches has challenged our cost structure, but our aspiring rowers are enjoying the benefits. The changes in fee structure mean that members who use the equipment and facilities pay a more and those that now access our professionally run training programs pay a premium for this service. Whilst the increase in fees for our competitive members was quite dramatic, it must be recognised that our fees were significantly lower than those of comparable clubs. The new Senior Competitive fee represents only about one fifth of the annual per head cost of boating an aspiring rower for a season. We anticipate a return to two professional coaches in 2004-05.

The problems in the insurance industry have been well publicised in the media. Despite an early estimate of only a moderate premium increase the cost of insurance more than doubled. This turned an already significant cost item into a massive burden on our cashflow. The Committee is currently examining ways to reduce our insurance premium in the coming year.

The failure of our fire alarm system was another blow to our finances this year. In addition to the cost of replacing the system was the cost of a number of fire brigade false alarm call outs. Thanks to Mark Groves the system was replaced on favourable terms.

A down turn in the corporate hospitality market decreased our revenue from hall hire and further restricted our cash flow. A revised and more flexible arrangement has been devised and it is hoped that this will rebuild this important revenue stream. Your committee has continued to invest in the boathouse by installing new carpet, new flooring and a new sound system in the past year. Members are urged to make use of their boathouse for any functions and should note that hire of the boathouse for a small gathering is now much more cost effective.

An ongoing challenge to Mercantile and indeed Victorian rowing is the extremely poor continuation rate of boys from rowing schools. Gone are the days when boys fresh out of school would queue at Mercantile's door for a seat in our Youth Eight. Despite extensive recruiting effort over the last few years the success rate among boys has declined to a pitiful level. This problem is not unique to Mercantile, our major competitor MUBC is similarly affected. Thankfully recruiting of schoolgirls has been very strong. The efforts of Bill Tait to build and lead our Women's Youth Squad have been tremendous. The Youth program has

deepened our overall strength in Women's rowing. The Committee is now investigating the establishment of a form of Talent Identification Program that will concentrate on potential rowers from non rowing schools.

Members who have visited the boathouse over the last year will have noticed the landscaping improvements to the area in front of the Princes Bridge Boathouses. The works undertaken by the City of Melbourne have improved the visual outlook and drainage. The Committee is supportive of the removal of cars from the front of the boathouses as it improves the use of this area for rowers. The overall loss of car parking spaces needs to be addressed, your President has been leading a group of representatives from other clubs to lobby the City of Melbourne to address this issue. The City of Melbourne has not yet found a permanent location for the temporary skatepark, pressure needs to be maintained to ensure that the Council is motivated to find another venue.

Rowing Victoria recently proposed (adopted 25 May 2003) changes to their affiliation structure and delegate voting rights. The RV Board is to be applauded for these changes in which affiliation and voting are reflective of competitive membership and clubs now have incentive to increase their social membership. These changes match our desire to greatly increase the number of social or inactive members at Mercantile. One way we would like to do this is to encourage a 'once a member, always a member' attitude. A great many people who have rowed for the Club over the years, some with great distinction, have drifted away and lost contact with the Club. This is a great pity. Members are invited to assist the Club to regain contact with former crew mates and develop the bond between member and club.

Congestion on the Yarra, particularly in morning sessions during term 1 has become a major issue. This congestion is now a serious safety concern and an impediment to effective training. All active members must be aware of Yarra traffic rules and safety measures' – especially boat lighting when training in darkness. The situation was so bad that the our senior rowers were forced to train at Carrum one morning a week. A self regulation system using volunteer 'traffic marshals' is being trialed. If this is not successful Parks Victoria as the responsible authority have warned that they will intervene.

The Scotch-Mercantile Regatta was again held Nagambie Lakes and encompassed the Victorian School Championships. The format was successful and the organisation of car parking and catering made it a successful day for the Club. The involvement of most of our active members helped to ensure this success.

The Club website [www.mercantile.org.au](http://www.mercantile.org.au) was revamped during the year and is now regularly maintained and updated.

The need to focus on more active fundraising led the Committee to invite Jenny Fraumano, the mother of one of our young active members, to assist with the development of fund raising

initiatives. Jenny has a great deal of fund raising experience and is already working on a number of ideas to boost our revenue.

Your Committee is aiming to encourage members to take on one task each year so that we do not overburden our volunteers. An example of this is Richard Wraith's stewardship of the Scotch-Mercantile Regatta. We do not call on him for other duties during the year. This approach will be encouraged during the next season.

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

- Philippe Batters for continuing the publication of "The Mercantilian" organisation of "Barrels Bash" and efforts in revising the website.
- Roger Wilson for his entertaining commentary at regattas and his efforts to ensure that rowing receives media coverage.
- Ian Lee-Conway and Jim Spithill at the RV office for all their assistance and understanding.
- Phil Cayzer as Patron and Namesake of the Cayzer Cup.
- Scotch-Mercantile Regatta Committee and in particular Richard Wraith.
- Jim Harvey, the stalwart of the Sunday Barrel.
- Jenny Nunn at Phil Batters' office for her administrative assistance.
- 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 for his advice during the year.
- David Pincus for his continued good work as a board member at the State and National level.
- Bentleys MRI for taking on the role of Honorary Auditor.

**William Webster**  
**Secretary**

**Attendance at Committee Meetings**

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

A. Guerin	8	D. Colvin	9
W. Webster	9	P. Somerville	4
I. Dryden	4	D. Ginn	1
E. Wilmoth	8	T. Courtney	5
H. Edgar	6	P. Batters	7
L. Blunden	5	M. Groves	2
J. Ball	6	D. Crawshay	6
M. Squires	5	J. Walmsley	6
T. Chambers	7	A. Law	4
D. Yunghanns	4		

**OBITUARIES**

**Bill Unwin** b: 23-07-1919 d: 11-03-2003

Bill lived a very interesting life in which rowing held a key part. Born in Belgium of a Belgium mother and British father, he undertook a good deal of his schooling in England. His first rowing Club was

“Unique nautique beige” in Brussels and he competed in the Ostend International Regatta in 1938-39. Unfortunately both his rowing and university education was interrupted by the second world war where he served in Europe during the evacuation of Dunkirk due to his excellent French language skills, but mostly in India where he reached the rank of major. After the war he married and joined the company now known as Coates Paton where he worked all his life. He spent 5 years in Shanghai after the war where he first child was born and he recommenced active rowing. The boats had sliding seats but still used poppets. Whilst in Shanghai he witnessed the Chinese revolution.

He was then transferred to South Africa where he joined the Alfred Rowing Club in Cape Town. He became Club Captain and selector.

He then moved to New Zealand but finally settled in Australia. Bill joined Mercantile and led an active rowing career as well as being an active participant in buoy laying committee. He was presented with the VRA service medal.

We will miss Bill's cheerful company and his deep love of the sport. Our thoughts are with his son Peter and daughter Valerie. A memorial service was held at the Club on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2003.

**Michael McKenna** b: 19-04-41 d:19-03-2003

Michael was a most distinguished member of the Club being a Vice-President and former Captain. He provided valuable counsel to the President and Committee on the business aspects of the Club and we dwelt on his advice carefully. He was deeply involved in the most recent renovations to the Club and any business endeavours considered by the Club.



Michael commenced his rowing at Xavier College finishing in a good quality first eight. He continued his rowing at Mercantile and came into focus in crews such as the 1961-62 successful junior eight with other notable members such as Bob Lachal, Dick Garrard and Mal McKenzie. As you might expect with such rowers, the junior premierships was won that year. Michael went onto racing in the senior ranks in the 1962-63 season. In fact that season he was not only in both the winning Victorian Championship Junior and Senior Eights, but the Kings Cup crew - a remarkable effort. However this was a period of great growth of quality of rowers at Mercantile and the recent dominance of Banks Rowing Club was overcome.

Michael's administrative ability was sought in 1964-65 as Vice-Captain. Unfortunately the Captain Jeff Wylie tragically died in a car accident during that year and Michael became Captain. Michael continued as Captain during the next season as well. Not being quite enough, he continued as Secretary in the year following. His counsel and friendship led to the obvious appointment as Vice-President which he held for the rest of his life. He was also one of the founders of the Monash Rowing Club which became a significant force in Australian rowing during the 1970's.

Michael led a very active and successful business life including executive level appointments at ACI, CEO of the Association of Certified Practising Accountants CEO of the Financial Planning Association and finally as a principal of Pro:NED, a consultancy that finds non-executive directors for companies.

However Michael was more than anything else a family man who was married to Robyn and proud father of Tony, Sally, Jim and Annie. Our thoughts are with them all. Michael would have appreciated the fine rendition of the Mercantile song by fellow members at drinks following the funeral at St Patrick's Cathedral. A President's Luncheon was held at the Club to celebrate his life on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2003.

## **BARREL'S BASH REPORT**

Almost 140 members and friends poured into Mercantile to see the christening of the "Paul McGann" and the "Simon Morrison" and to enjoy a wonderful sunny day at the Clubhouse to raise money to pay for recarpeting the upstairs area.

Around \$12,000 was raised from the day and we would like to especially thank the following people:

Kathy Powers and her team at Degrees Catering for looking after us so magnificently Tom Courtney for his wonderful efforts in getting a tribe of people along Drew Ginn, Mike McKay, James Tomkins, Andrew Cooper and Nick Green for endlessly signing items that I put under their nose. I must be a total pain in the backside with these constant requests, but they produce dollars so we pursue it!

Jonathan Cantwell from Richmond Rowing Club for his great skill and enthusiasm in sign writing our trophy oars and other bits and pieces John Lausberg for putting together so many of our memorabilia pieces Pat Freeland-Small and all his team at Fosters who so generously supplied the fridge and wine for the auction Hugh Batters and his team at The Red Pill for making up the wine labels Kathy and Glenn Coad for all the Jaguar Racing product they provide Roger Wilson and Vic Mulder for their continual stream of product for the raffles Ian "Scud" Dryden for his Cambridge kit.

Bob Lachal for supplying interesting items from old craft.

Walter Rotter for his handiwork David and Susie Palfreyman of DesignerPaintworks for their endless generosity Jenny Nunn at Philippe Batters for her magnificent and tireless enthusiastic work putting it all together All the gang at Sun Micro Systems for the annual box of goodies that they provide.

Ian Jickell for his motor racing signed photographs each year.

Next year will be even bigger and better so make sure you attend and we can guarantee a great day.

Philippe Batters.

### **BOAT NAMINGS 2002-03**

Paul McGann - The first boat named was the single scull the "Paul McGann". Paul commenced his career as a coxswain and steered the likes of Andrew Withers, Stephen Shirrefs and Alex Sloan with great success. However it was as a coach that he is best known, at a National, State, Club and school level. He coached at a time when we were fortunate to have Brian Richardson, Noel Donaldson, Martin Aitken and Paul all coaching for the Club. As you may expect, we won all major events. In one year Paul coached the Club's senior B men that won the pair, four and eight at the National Championships. He is unsurpassed as a school boy coach with Head of the River wins for Brighton, Geelong Grammar (4 times) and Scotch. In recent times Paul has been a key player in our youth recruiting and we are fortunate to have him in our midst.

Simon Morrison - The second boat named was the four the "Simon Morrison". Simon has been a successful rower, administrator and is now a coach. Simon rowed in four Australian teams from junior to senior. He rowed in three Victorian teams and is a Commonwealth Games silver medalist. He has held just about every position on the Committee over many years and has been a key person in the administration of the Club. He has also shown his hand as a Victorian selector. More recently he has turned to coaching. He has been the Club's successful youth coach for a number of years and more recently again a school coach at Scotch College. He has even been the groomsman for three of his fellow members. He is a great Mercantilian.

Matt Long - Matt began his rowing at Newington College in Sydney before joining Sydney Rowing Club where he competed in the Trans Tasman junior series for Australia. He then went onto compete for Australia and win a silver medal at the Match des Seniors in 1997 in the

coxless fours. He was rewarded following a good domestic season by becoming a member of the senior team in 1998. However the best was yet to come when he came down to Mercantile. In 2000 he became a member of the eight squad for the Games. He raced the first World Cup event on bow side very well. He then won the Grand Challenge eight at Henley on stroke side. Then due to Drew Ginn withdrawing at the last moment at the Lucerne World Cup regatta, he joined James Tomkins in the pair, on bow side. They went on to win the event in great style and become the pair at the Games. There they won a bronze medal in the pair.

Matt again rowed in 2001 in the eight to assist bring on the next group of rowers. Finally in 2002, he raced for Victoria in the Kings Cup and won. After many years of racing for New South Wales and losing, this was a fitting end to great career and so he retired.

### **MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB** **BOATS AND EQUIPMENT REPORT 2002/03**

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 2002/2003, the club's financial position did not allow us to replace any boats. Our thanks go to Ted Hale for providing 2 double sculls and 2 single sculls for the use of our elite women during the season.

The main focus of boat purchases for the last year has been single sculls and further sculling blades. This has reflected the changing emphasis from sweep rowing to sculling for national selection purposes. The Club purchased 3 new single sculls. The planned purchase of an eight to replace the JJ Lawrence 1 which was deferred last year was deferred yet again as a suitable replacement was not available.

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>
<b>EIGHTS</b>			
GEOFF BARDEN	AUSROWTEC	1998	EXCELLENT
J.J. LAWRENCE II	SYKES	1997	EXCELLENT
NOEL DONALDSON	EMPACHER	1990	EXCELLENT
ARTHUR ATKINS	SYKES	1988	GOOD
J.G.H.SPRIGG	SYKES	1983	GOOD

<b>COXED FOURS</b>			
W. H. WEBSTER	AUSROWTEC	1998	EXCELLENT
TRADER AL	SYKES	1994	EXCELLENT
N.W.CAIRNES	SYKES	1991	EXCELLENT
TED SORANI	SYKES	1996	EXCELLENT

<b>COXLESS FOURS</b>			
SIMON MORRISON	SYKES	2002	EXCELLENT
McKAY – MANU-FORTI	SYKES	1999	EXCELLENT
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

<b>COXLESS PAIRS</b>			
MATTHEW LONG	SYKES	2000	EXCELLENT
JAMES TOMKINS	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
DAVID PINCUS	SYKES	1993	EXCELLENT
ANDREW COOPER	SYKES	1992	EXCELLENT
SAM PATTEN	SYKES	1991	VERY GOOD
ANDREW EVANS	SYKES	1990	VERY GOOD
JOHN CARR	SYKES	1990	VERY GOOD

<b>SINGLE SCULLS</b>			
ALEC DOBBIE	HALE	2002	EXCELLENT
PAUL MCGANN	HALE	2002	EXCELLENT
MATT LOVELL	HALE	2002	EXCELLENT
ANDREW "MACDADDY" MCNEIL	AUSROWTEC	2001	EXCELLENT
TOM COURTNEY	AUSROWTEC	2001	EXCELLENT
JOHN "LARRY" LEEMING	JOHNSON	2001	EXCELLENT
PAUL SOMERVILLE	JOHNSON	2001	EXCELLENT
ANTHONY BERGELIN	SYKES	1995	EXCELLENT
SYKES WOODEN (YELLOW)	SYKES	1990	VERY GOOD

<u>SQUAD</u>	<u>IDENTIFICATION</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CONDITION</u>
<b>SWEEP OARS</b>				
SENIOR WOMEN	Croker	10 Adjustable	2002	EXCELLENT
SENIOR MEN	Croker	8 Adjustable	2001	EXCELLENT
YOUTH WOMEN	Concept II Standard	9 Adjustable	1998	EXCELLENT
U23 MEN	Concept II Vortex	10 x 3760mm	1995	EXCELLENT
YOUTH MEN	Concept II Smoothie	10 x 3760mm	1994	EXCELLENT
SOCIAL	Concept II Standard	6 x 3720mm	1992	EXCELLENT
MASTERS	Concept II Standard	8 x 3760mm	1991	EXCELLENT
NOVICE	Concept II Macon	8 x 3840mm		VERY GOOD
ASSORTED WOODEN	STANDARD OARS	17	1987	FAIR

**SCULLING BLADES**

CROKER	M1 - M8	9	2002	EXCELLENT
CROKER	W1 - W6	6	2001	EXCELLENT
CROKER	M9, M10, W7, W8	4	1997	EXCELLENT
CONCEPT	W9, W10	2	1997	EXCELLENT

**MISCELLANEOUS**

FALCON UTILITY		1	2002	EXCELLENT
NISSAN PATROL TURBO DIESEL		1	1998	EXCELLENT
CONCEPT II C ERGOMETER		4	1999	EXCELLENT
CONCEPT II C ERGOMETER		2	1997	EXCELLENT
CONCEPT II ERGO SLIDERS		8	2000	EXCELLENT
ROWPERFECT ERGOMETER		2	2001	EXCELLENT
SYKES TANDEM AXEL BOAT TRAILER		1	1998	EXCELLENT
S & B SINGLE AXLE BOAT TRAILER		1	1985	POOR
BOAT TRANSPORT FRAME		1	1991	EXCELLENT
NW-263 (ALUMINIUM HULL) SPEEDBOAT		1	1998	EXCELLENT

## TREASURERS REPORT

As mentioned by the President, the ambitious programme of the Committee stretched the Club too far last season. The Club faced many unexpected reductions of income and too many unexpected expenses. These included significantly reduced hall hire income as a result of the blocking off of the Clubhouse for 4 months whilst works were undertaken around the Clubhouse. Hall hire income was at the lowest level since the renovations over 10 years ago and we spent more on renovations to the boathouse than we received in rentals. Subscription collections were also too low with too many older members foregoing membership. Added to these items were unusually high insurance expenses and expenses relating to far greater activity associated with two employees, such as boat repairs, transport and accommodation. The net result was that we ended up the year owing creditors far too much. These matters will be resolved early in the next season.

The resolution to this matter is quite simple and relates to getting hall hire income back to normal or higher levels, managing memberships better, managing subscription collections better, managing risks within the Club so that insurance costs reduce and finally better managing the activity levels associated with professional coaches. These matters are now all in hand and we will not have similar issues next season.

The changes in the classes in membership were also partly to rebalance our finances. It costs Mercantile between \$2,000 to \$3,000 to boat every athlete who is going for National selection. The changes in membership classification are an endeavour to more closely balance the subscriptions paid by members with their use of the facilities.

Members will be pleased to know that the Club repaid the bank loan taken out in 1994 for the purpose of renovating the Clubhouse. We thank the ten members who acted as guarantors for the loan. The Committee is now putting in place arrangements to repay the loan from the Endowment Fund for these renovations.

**Auditors** – We are pleased to advise that the well known and respected accounting firm Bentleys MRI have agreed to be the Club's honorary auditors. We thank them for their generous assistance.

**Donations** – Our members and friends were again very generous with donations this season. These members included Sean Colgan, Andrew Evans, Andrew Guerin, David Yunghanns, Michael McKenna, Sykes Racing, Jeff Lawrence, Tim Frederico, Phil Batters, Rob Strang, Ken Marshall, Bob Aitken, Peter & Joan Selby-Smith, Simon Morrison, John & Wendy Nickson, Andrew Murchie, Phil Blunden, John Hill, Arthur Atkins, Richard Oliver, Michael Donovan, Warwick Granowski, Alec Dobbie, Roger Wilson, Bill Webster, Graeme McCall, Phil Ainsworth, Arthur Adams, Kim Chambers, Graeme Richardson and John Seammen.

**Paul Somerville**

**Honorary Treasurer**

**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB  
INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2003**

	2002	2003
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions	68,287	76,960
VRA Affiliations	3,886	2,196
Beer Sales	973	3,744
Donations	103,480	88,135
Distributions		56
Interest	370	36
Sports Foundation	24,887	32,281
Rent Received	35,325	32,696
Regatta entries	3,356	9,654
Entry Fees Levy		3,381
Hire of Boats	4,473	-
Surplus on Sale of Equipment	8,500	1,818
Rack Hire	2,131	2,141
Other Income	40,957	30,799
	<b>296,625</b>	<b>283,897</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bad Debts	22,663	18,927
Bank Charges	1,132	864
Boat Transport	2,843	1,613
Cleaning	3,640	2,688
Clothing	5,057	719
Depreciation Expense	50,323	52,018
Entry Fees	9,983	14,366
Fines & Penalties	1,108	1,406
Fire Protection	3,448	13,337
Function Catering	11,010	10,875
General Expenses	13,038	3,820
Insurance	16,693	18,783
Interest	3,434	1,087
Light & Power	6,719	4,850
Memorabilia	1,222	2,625
Merchant Fees	1,043	3,175
Motor Vehicle	4,311	5,888
Printing & Stationary	1,955	2,182
Postage	636	427
Rates	1,023	1,068
Rent	95	105
Repairs & Maintenance	24,780	42,342
Wages & Salaries	20,768	79,318
Super		5,175
Coaching Expenses	14,584	28,161
Workers Compensation	873	934
Rowing Victoria	6,499	5,131
Telephone	3,856	5,316
Travel & Accomadation	16,536	(181)
Trophies	2,402	1,580
Website		1,979
Water	1,427	1,776
Total Expenses	<b>253,101</b>	<b>332,354</b>
Net Deficit	<b>43,524</b>	<b>(48,457)</b>

**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30TH APRIL 2003**

	2002 \$		2003 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Subscriptions Outstanding	23,420		30,763
ASF Donations Accrued			14,500
Contra Account			422
Cash On Hand			
Cheque Account	9,245	(2,065)	
Social Account		965	
Bilney Fund Account	2,415	2,415	
Cash Management Account	6,195	230	
<b>Total Cash</b>		<u>          </u>	1,545
<b>Property &amp; Equipment</b>			
<b>Clubhouse</b>			
Clubhouse at Cost	<u>368,122</u>	<u>368,122</u>	
<b>Total Clubhouse</b>		368,122	368,122
<b>Boats</b>			
Boats at Cost	490,829	524,281	
Boats Accum Dep'n	<u>(396,376)</u>	<u>(431,512)</u>	
<b>Total Boats</b>		94,453	92,769
<b>Oars</b>			
Oars at Cost	49,074	48,368	
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(35,857)</u>	<u>(37,359)</u>	
<b>Total Oars</b>		13,217	11,009
<b>Trailers</b>			
Trailers at Cost	9,650	9,650	
Trailers Acc'd Dep'n	<u>(4,942)</u>	<u>(5,413)</u>	
<b>Total Trailers</b>		4,708	4,237
<b>Car</b>			
Car	29,414	53,751	
MV Acc'd Dep'n	<u>(3,354)</u>	<u>(13,313)</u>	
<b>Total Car</b>		26,060	40,438
<b>Sundry Assets</b>			
Sundry Assets at cost	61,061	67,404	
Sundry Assets Accum depn	<u>(35,073)</u>	<u>(40,023)</u>	
<b>Total Sundry Assets</b>		<u>25,988</u>	<u>27,381</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>573,823</u>	<u>591,186</u>



**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30TH APRIL 2003**

	2002 \$	2003 \$
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Bank Overdraft		259
Sundry Creditors	6,336	
Trade Creditors	29,908	71,468
Total BAS Liabilities	(3,194)	2,428
Income in Advance	230	230
<b>Long-Term Liabilities</b>		
Loan Accounts		15,500
Loans Other	5,500	24,680
Car Loan		(1,339)
Westpac Building Account	5,626	250
Bilney Fund	250	250
MRC Endowment Fund	16,861	16,861
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	28,237	55,952
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	61,517	130,337
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	512,306	460,849
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Members Funds		48,864
War Memorial Fund	48,864	48,864
Total Members Funds	48,864	48,864
Accumulated Surplus	419,918	460,442
Surplus (Deficit) Earned This Year	43,524	(48,457)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	512,306	460,849

**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.  
ENDOWMENT FUND  
BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH APRIL 2003**

**ASSETS**

Shares in Public Companies - at cost (Market Value \$ 165,935)		132,298.12
A.N.Z. Executors & Trustees Ltd. - Common Fund V2 Balance of credit of Account		2,726.18
Mercantile Rowing Club		
Balance Due 30.4.2002	16,860.53	
Donations Received by Club	2,100.00	
Interest	<u>674.42</u>	
	19,634.95	
Less payment	<u>-</u>	<u>19,634.95</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u><u>154,659.25</u></u>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital - Subject to accumulation to 30.4.2003		20,000.00
Balance @ 30.4.2002	42,640.35	
Donations	<u>2,910.00</u>	45,550.35
Capital Reserve Account		15,735.00
Income Account - Balance @ 30.4.2002	66,601.83	
Net Income for Year	<u>6,772.34</u>	<u>73,374.17</u>
		<u><u>154,659.52</u></u>

**INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2003**

Dividends Received		6,051.19
Interest Received		<u>725.65</u>
		6,776.84
Less: Fees and Duties		<u>4.50</u>
		<u><u>6,772.34</u></u>

**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.  
KEITH BILNEY MEMORIAL COACHES TRUST FUND  
INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
for the year ended 30th April 2003

<u>2001/02</u>	<b>INCOME</b>	<u>2002/03</u>
	Dividends Received:	
	Bankers Trust Funds Management Limited	
81.20	40.60 Dividends re-invested	48.02
81.20	40.60 Dividends paid to bank account	48.01
		<u>96.03</u>
	<b>LESS: EXPENSES</b>	
95.00	Donation to Mercantile RC for Trophy & Coaches Assistance	95.00
<u>(13.80)</u>	<b>SURPLUS FOR YEAR</b>	<u>1.03</u>

**MERCANTILE ROWING CLUB INC.  
KEITH BILNEY MEMORIAL COACHES TRUST FUND  
BALANCE SHEET**  
as at 30th April 2003

<u>2001/02</u>	<b>MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<u>2002/03</u>
8,717.83	Capital Account 1/5/02	8,954.03
250.00	Donations Received	250.00
	Income Account:	
(11.80)	Surplus for Year	1.03
<u>8,954.03</u>	<b>BALANCE OF MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<u>9,205.06</u>
	<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>	
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
681.32	Cash at Bank	884.33
	<b>INVESTMENTS</b>	
	<b>Trust Units:</b>	
	BT Split Growth Trust	
	Balance 1/5/02	8,232.11
	Investments during 02/03	
8,272.71	Dividends re-invested 02/03	48.02
		<u>8,280.13</u>
	(Market value at 30/4/2000                    \$7,034.27 )	
	(Market value at 30/4/2001                    \$7,384.28 )	
	(Market value at 30/4/2002                    \$6,153.48 )	
	(Market value at 30/4/2003                    \$4,588.47 )	
<u>8,954.03</u>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>9,164.46</u>

Performance of the investments of the Bilney Fund have not been good over the last 3 years with the current market value now around half of the book value. The Trustees are reviewing the the investments for this fund with a view to obtaining a better return.

## MEMBERS 2002 - 2003

The membership of the Club as at 30th April 2003 was as follows

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Life	12	12	12	13	12
Senior	180	190	193	190	187
Junior	48	38	51	75	65
Country	52	50	49	43	42
Associate	71	74	62	54	50
Honorary	1	1	1	1	5
	<b>364</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>361</b>

## Life Members

Ainsworth	Phil J.	Aitken	Robert R. MBE	Boykett	David H.
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

Ackland	Danielle	Adam	Douglas	Anderson	Warwick
Atkins	Arthur H.	Ball	James G.	Barden	Geoff I.
Barnden	Joanne	Batters	Phillippe R.	Bland	Stuart
Blunden	Laura V.	Blunden	Phillip	Bostock	John B.
Bowen	James	Boykett	Graeme H.	Brooks	Robyn A
Burns	Donald J.	Buxton	Josh	Campbell	Richard
Cannon	Andrew M.	Carew	William F.	Carr	John P.
Castricum	Anthony	Cheales	Kelli M.G.	Chibnall	Sarah E.
Clark	Andrew F.	Clark	Melissa	Colvin	David E.
Cordell	Anthony M.	Courtney	Tom	Cowling	David S.
Crawshay	David W.	Dawson	Ray	De Garis	Peter C.
De Guingand	Chris J.	Dermoddy	Catherine	Deutscher	Robert J.
Dobbie	Alex W.	Donovan	Michael J.	Douglas	David G.
Downey	Peter J.	Dryden	Ian	Duthie	Ian R.
Edgar	Henry C.	Evans	Andrew M.	Everist	Ian C.
Faranda	Jason M.	Farrelly	Lisa	Ferguson	John
Fogarty	Michael J.	Foley	John E.	Frasca	Pauline
Frederico	H. Tim	Frederico	Hubert R.	Gakovic	Zeljko
Gillon	Stephen M.	Giulieri	Peter	Graham	Matthew
Granowski	Warwick O.	Greaves	Geoffrey J.	Griffiths	Ron
Gross	Barry B.	Groves	Mark S.	Hall	Gavin S.
Hansen	Greg	Hardie	Stewart G.	Harding	Paul
Harrison	Simon R.	Harry	John R.	Harvey	Jim R.
Hasforth	Blair H.	Hawkins	Dale S.	Hearn	Narelle
Hegerty	Ben	Hewitt	H. Neil OAM	Hill	John
Hobson	Anna C.	Holyman	G. Ian	Hutchins	Tom
Hutchins	Warwick B.	Inglis	Anthony C.	Jefferson	Debbie W
Jenkins	Andrew	Johnson	Anthony L.	Johnston	Gregory M.
Jones	Judy A.	Kellam	Murray B.	Kelly	Michael J.
Kerr	Cordelia	Kerr	Jason D.	Killick	Caroline
Kimpton	Colin M.	Koekoek	Lucas A.T.	Law	George A.
Lawler	Rowena E.	Long	Matthew	Mahoney	Harry J.
Manton	Garth	Marley	Derek C.	McArdle	Matthew J.
McCall	Graeme A.	McDonald	Dehann	McGorlick	Michael W.
McKenzie-McHarg	Hugh W.	McLay	Bronwyn	Mollard	Stephen D.
Moreton	Richard	Moreton	Stewart C.	Morrison	Bruce W.
Morrison	Ian J.	Morrison	Simon A.	Morrison	W T.
Mulder	Victor G.	Nation	Michael J.	Naughton	Johnny
Negri	Justin C.	Newitt	Joseph	Newton	Nicholas L.
Nickson	John H.	O'Brien	Peter H.	O'Doherty	David
O'Donnell	Bridie	Oliver	Richard J.	O'Reilly	Bernard

Otto	Merodi	Palfreyman	David	Patten	Sam G.
Pearce	Callie	Perillo	Roberto E.	Pezimenti	Lucio
Phillips	Matthew	Phillips	Terry D.	Philp	Peter E.
Pincus	David A.	Price	Michael	Pring	Lucy
Prowse	Paul G.	Richards	Sara K.	Richardson	Geoff W.
Richardson	Ron H.	Richardson	S. Graham	Roberts	Georgia K.
Robertson	W. Malcolm	Robertson-Smith	R. Glen	Ronai-Horvath	Victor
Ryan	Sean P.	Sargent	Hugh	Schmidt	Trent
Scott	Alex	Seammen	John W.	Selby-Smith	Robyn
Shanasy	John E.	Shears	John D.	Shippen	Malcolm
Shirrefs	Stephen	Skidmore	Thomas J.	Sloan	Alex T.
Smyth	Edward A.	Somerville	Paul G.	Striggins	Anthony
Spriggs	Simon D.	Strang	Nicholas	Strang	Robert A.S.
Strang	Robert W.A.	Tait	Bill	Taylor	Alistar
Thompson	Jeffrey	Tomanovits	Martin G.	Van Schajik	Karen J.
Walker	Tony	Wallace	Alan M.	Webster	Neil G.
Webster	William H.	Wertheimer	John	White	Bill C.
Wiegard	Paul	Wilkinson	David R.	Williams	Felicity
Wilson	Roger B.	Wraith	Richard G.	Yunhanns	David J.

**Junior Members**

Batters	Lex	Bell	Rosie	Blacker	Nalini M.
Blunden	Penelope	Blunt	Sarah-Jane	Boland	Martin M
Breen	Shannon A	Browne	Nicholas P.	Chambers	Tyson E.
Chew	Fleur	Concannon	Siska	Deeble	Jacque
Drummond	Chris	Eastaugh	Briana	Forbes	Kate
Forbes	Sarah	Fowler	Georgia	Fraumano	David
Gibson	Anna	Guy	Jayne C.	Hester	Corey W
Howard	Annemarie	Hubbard	Nick	Jenner	Sebastian
Kearney	Kate	Kelly	Daniel	Kinnear	Emily E.
Kupcis	Peter D.	Mate	Daniel L.	Mentiplay	Alice
Moran	Siobhan	Parker	Kyle	Rendell	Megan
Small	Monique	Squires	Morgan C	Szatsznajder	Claire
Walmsley	James	Weston	Leslie	Wilmoth	Emily
Withers	Alison				

**Junior Student Members**

Braden	Joseph	Jackson	Simon	Law	Hamish W.
Nickson	Thomas J.	Ramage	Matthew J	Shirrefs	Alexander
Soderstrom	Matthew	Wade	Jessica		

**Country Members**

Adams	James S.	Ansell	Gael L.	Bailey	William M.
Baillieu	William J.	Batten	Malcolm W.	Boykett	Peter H.
Brosnan	Susan	Cayzer	Phil A.	Connolly	Mark C.
Connolly	Rob W.	Coventry	Kris	Daffy	Tom C.
Dodwell	Benjamin	Donoghue	J. Doug.	Douglas	Robert G.
Foulkes	Katie	Garrard	Richard J.	Hayes	John V.
Hayman	Brett	Hobbs	Sam J.	Home	Cameron R.
Jickell	Ian J.	Johnston	Travis	Kallir-Preece	David G.
Kovacic	Jason	Maginn	Paul T.	McArthur	Stewart F.
McLean	Russell A.	McNamara	Pat J.	McNeil	Andrew N.
McNeil	Andrew S.	Meyer	Iain R.	Munro	David I.
Murphy	Peter J.	Newcomb	Simon H.	O'Halloran	Martin K.
Parmenter	Brian R.	Patterson	Celia L.	Pechan	Greg A.
Robinson	Alex T.	Rowe	John S.	Schoner	Simon
Schreier	Paul J.	Sill	Anthony C.	Somerville	Alexandra
Somerville	Peter D.	Storrs	John A.	Taylor	Geoffrey M.
Tyrrell	Marcus C.	Wallace	Bill L.	Wilson	Ian W.
Young	Tim J.				

**Associate Members**

Adams	Arthur W.	Ashby	Duncan	Begley	Guy K.
Benjamin	Peter L.	Bergelin	Anthony P.	Blackburn	Justin D.
Bland	Peter J.	Briggs	Andrew P.	Browne	Jeffrey J.
Burt	Roger J.	Cahir	John P.	Congdon	Martin W.
Corben	Mal H.	Crothers	Grant T.	Dawson	Jessica L.
Deasey	Denis	Diamond	Ron	Douglas	Georgina C.
Ferdinand	Jeffrey R.	Francis	Martin	Franet	Phil J.
Garrett	Patrick	Hayton	Sam	Holland	Craig S.
Hume	David J.	Hume	Ken M.	Hume	Michael C.
Humphris	Peter W.	Johnson	E. Ted C.	Jordan	Noel R.
Lachal	Bob P.	Larkins	Tom	Lausberg	Johan
Leeming	John	Love	Alison	Loveless	Jay
Lovell	Matthew D.	Mackinder	Guy	Mackinder	Suzanne
Maguire	Nadine	Marshall	Ken A.	Matthews	Geoff
Mazouris	Brett	McCann	Nick	McDonald	Andrew W.
McDonald	Doug	McDonald	Wesley K.	McGann	Paul R.
McIver	Lindsay	McKinley	Tim	McLean	Andrew
Milligan	Angus S.	Moore	Denis P.	Moore	Rory C.D.
Morrissey	Ben	Parker	Caroline	Patterson	Jamie W.
Pearce	Victoria	Phillips	Andrew	Powers	Kathy
Ray	Campbell	Redman	Roger	Reed	Stephen K.
Rushford	Robert J.	Sloan	Robert R.	Smith	Murray D.
Toohy	Julian T.	Tutone	Mario	Wallis	Lindsay W.
Watson	Jay	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**