

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB.

1953 - 54

95th. ANNUAL REPORT.

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.



PATRON : Brigadier H. C. Disher C. B. E.

PRESIDENT : G. H. Nicholson, Esq.

VICE - PRESIDENTS:  
S. R. Bell, Esq.  
A. Burns, Esq.  
W. B. Griffiths, Esq.  
R. J. Jelbart, Esq.  
D. R. Salmon, Esq.

CAPTAIN : P. N. Everist.

VICE - CAPTAIN : M. F. A. Robertson.

HON. SECRETARY : A. C. Monger.

ASSIST. HON. SECRETARY : J. R. Colville.

HON. TREASURER : S. R. Bell.

- COMMITTEE -

RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE : W. K. Tickner, Esq.

EXTRA - COLLEGIATES :  
J. R. Colville.  
I. E. Douglas.

ORMOND COLLEGE :  
J. N. Button.  
J. G. Gibb.

NEWMAN COLLEGE :  
G. Santospirito.  
W. M. Somerville.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE :  
J. P. Hall.  
B. L. Cole.

TRINITY COLLEGE :  
J. T. C. Hewison.  
W. B. Capp.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB.

NINETY - FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

To be presented at the Annual General Meeting to be held in the Boat House on Saturday, 2nd October at 7.45 p.m.

- BUSINESS :
1. Confirmation of minutes of the 94th. Annual General Meeting.
  2. Receipt of 95th Annual Report and Financial Statement.
  3. Election of the following Office Bearers :-  
Patron, President, Vice-Presidents, Captain and Vice - Captain.
  4. General Business.
- 

Gentlemen,

Your Committee has much pleasure in submitting the 95th Annual Report and Financial Statement of your Club.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT ON THE INTER-VARSITY BOAT RACE 1954.



Once again the University coach, David Salmon, had considerable difficulty in selecting the Inter - Varsity crew due more to the generally ever standard of the material available rather to the lack of material. The fact that only two of last year's eight were available, meant that the crew would be young and relatively inexperienced. However, the coach's initial task was completed soon after the College races and the crew was started on solid training.

The crew as selected was seated :-

Bow:	M. D. G. Murray	( Scotch College and Extras. )	12.2
2	I. E. Douglas.	( Geelong Grammar " " )	12.5
3	J. R. Colville.	( " " " " )	12.3
4	W. M. Somerville.	( Xavier and Newman )	13.7
5	J. A. Hunt.	( Hale W. A. and Trinity )	13.3
6	S. N. Johns	( Geelong Grammar and Extras.)	12.4
7	A. C. Monger.	( " " " " )	12.7
Stroke:	C. J. Smith.	( Melbourne Grammar and Trinity )	12.2
Cox:	R. G. Hyett.	( Scotch College and Ormond. )	9.7
Emergency:	H. F. Smith	( Geelong Grammar and Extras )	12.4
Coach ;	D. R. Salmon, Esq.	( Geelong College. )	

Average Weight : 12.7 $\frac{1}{2}$

We had three weeks on the Yarra in which the coach concentrated on ironing out individual faults and improving combination. He was aided during one weekend by Mr. Albert Bell of Geelong. The general fitness of the crew was such that the coach was able to send us over several three mile courses before departing for Perth.

We travelled by air with T.A.A. on the 25th May, and enjoyed a very smooth trip. On arrival in Perth, the crew settled into the " Captain Sterling " Hotel, and quickly accustomed itself to the training routine.

The first day was spent in getting our boat " Westralia ", which had been kindly lent by the W.A.R.A., rigged, and in rowing it from the W.A.R.C. to the W.A.U.B.C. The crew found conditions on the Swan in their first outing most unpleasant but were determined not to let this worry them.

Until the coach arrived, the crew concentrated on getting settled on their new boat and becoming accustomed to the open reaches of the Swan. On arrival, the coach expressed satisfaction at the way the crew was progressing, and set out to sharpen us up for the two mile journey.

Full pressure trials were rowed on the Tuesday and Thursday mornings prior to the race, and consistently good times were recorded in each case. The last couple of days were spent in doing light work and short sprints in order to freshen the crew after the days of solid training.

During the last week there was some illness amongst members of the crew, but they had quite recovered by race day. The crew rounded off its training feeling confident that they would do well under any conditions, and a hard race was expected by all.

Conditions on Saturday morning, June 5th, were not good. An easterly breeze created difficult side water for the first mile in particular.

We were represented in the Inter - Varsity Sculls by our emergency who, although having only three weeks in which to learn the art, went about his task with typical determination. He showed rapid improvement and we were keenly looking forward to his winning his race. However, conditions were at their worst when the Sculls were rowed and being inexperienced at racing in rough water, he could only manage third. Nevertheless, due to the amount of work he put in, he was at all times fit to take his place in the crew. Emergencies in general get none of the recognition rightly due to them, but Hugh Smith's determination to do his job properly was something of an inspiration to the eight, and they owe him their thanks.

Some difficulty was experienced in lining the eights up on their stakes, and after a delay of some thirty minutes, the starter got the crews away well. W. A. were the first to show out and after a quarter of a mile led by half a length from Melbourne, with a canvas to Sydney and a similar distance to Adelaide. The Melbourne crew were rating low so as to handle the side water over the first mile and this was done without losing too much ground to W. A., so that with a mile to go they led by three quarters of a length with Sydney a length behind Melbourne and Adelaide having difficulty with the conditions another length behind Sydney.

Here conditions improved, and taking advantage of the smoother water, the Melbourne stroke lifted his rating from 31 to 34 and quickly caught the passed W. A. Over the last mile, the Melbourne crew settled down to steady rhythmical rowing and were not troubled for the rest of the journey, final margins being Melbourne, winners by one and a half lengths from W. A. with Sydney a length further back, and Adelaide another four lengths back. The time was 11.38

The win marked a hat trick of successes for our coach, David Salmon. Although this record speaks for itself, his enthusiasm, experience and coaching ability cannot be over-estimated, and the sincere thanks of all members of the crew are due to him not only for his coaching, but also for the debt they owe him as individuals.

The Inter - Varsity dinner which was held that night at the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club, was a most successful function, and was followed by a dance where the crew performed far more brilliantly than on the river that morning.

The following four days were enjoyed to the utmost and included an interesting trip to the "big timber" of the South West.

The crew greatly appreciated the hospitality extended to them in every form and in particular that of Mrs. Foulkes-Taylor who very generously provided the crew with a car for the duration of their stay in Perth; of Mr. R. Chadwick for lending us his car after the race; of those people who gave parties for the crew and of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Hunt and Mr. & Mrs. Rupert Monger at whose homes the crew were accommodated after the race.

The thanks of the crew are also due to Dr. Harold Nash for organising the social side of the trip, to Dr. Gordon Barratt-Hill, who as President of the W.A.U.B.C. helped us in many directions, to Christopher Cuthbert, Secretary of the W.A.U.B.C. and to our liaison officer, Mr. Ron Shaw.

I think I would be right in saying that this year's trip, from our angle at any rate, could hardly have been bettered. The general tone of friendliness and sportsmanship which existed between the crews augers well for future Inter-Varsity Boat Races whilst the enjoyment had by us all more than repaid our efforts to make the trip and will not be readily forgotten.

A. C. Monger,  
Hon. Secretary, M.U.B.C.,  
Acting Captain for Inter-Varsity Trip 1954.



It must be many years since the M. U. B. C. has been so poorly represented in V. R. A. Regattas, as it was last season when the only crews to represent the Club were a senior eight at two country regattas, and a senior four at the V.R.A. and Henley regattas.

While this situation is to be deplored, it must be admitted that the fortunes of the Club in this sort of rowing are subject to circumstances largely beyond our control. In the first place, it is a hopeless proposition for a coach to organise and train a crew for the V.R.A. and Henley regattas in November because of exams - people with exams coming up are naturally unwilling to row and if they do so, they can only be half trained. Secondly, National Service Training has seriously depleted the numbers from which we can draw during the summer and thirdly, many of our members live away from Melbourne or their vacation employment takes them elsewhere.

The foregoing reasons made it impossible to boat an eight until into February, although there were sufficient members willing to row in November to enable us to boat a senior four at the V.R.A. and Henley regattas.

There does not appear to be any remedy for the current position, but at the moment it appears likely that the Club will be well represented from the end of January in the coming season.

#### V.R.A. and HENLEY.

A senior four represented the Club in these two regattas and was seated as follows :-

Bow.	H. R. Frederico.
2	R. H. Carnegie.
3	J. A. Hunt.
Stroke	J. R. Colville.
Cox.	S. Seward.

The crew were able to train on four nights each week in a boat kindly lent by the Melbourne Rowing Club.

The crew were eliminated in their heat at V.R.A. by Albert Park.

At Henley, Hawthorn were beaten in their heat, but Footscray proved too strong in their final. The final was rowed in a boat lent by Mercantile which proved very satisfactory.

#### BARWON.

The crew which represented the Club in the Senior Eights event at the Barwon regatta was :-

Bow	H. R. Frederico.
2	J. T. C. Hewison.
3.	M. D. C. Murray.
4	M. F. A. Robertson.
5	J. P. Hall.
6	J. R. Colville.
7	A. C. Monger.
Stroke	C. J. Smith.
Cox.	J. L. Mitchell.

The only other crew in the event was Mercantile, who were much too good for us and scored a brilliant win by three lengths.



## BALLARAT.

In the week after the Barwon regatta, Robertson became ill and had to be replaced for the Ballarat regatta. We had no reserves but Neil Everist made himself available three days before the race - a most unselfish action which was very much appreciated not only by the rest of the crew, but also by the Mercantile crew.

However Mercantile again proved far superior and won by four lengths over 2000 metres.

The thanks of the Club are due in particular to David Salmon who once again put a great deal of time and enthusiasm into coaching these crews, and also to the members of the crews who, although unsuccessful, gained valuable experience.

## INTER - COLLEGIATE ROWING.

Our annual College regatta is undoubtedly the brightest and most interesting regatta now held on the Yarra, with excitement and enthusiasm always running high amongst College supporters.

The standard of rowing has improved greatly in recent years, with the best crews being very good indeed. Trinity this year produced another outstanding crew and won their third successive Collegiate title.

## MERVYN BOURNES HIGGINS SHIELD.

HEAT 1. Trinity rowing well defeated Ormond by two lengths.

### TRINITY.

Bow	J. N. Black.
2	F. H. Bathurst.
3	R. L. Simpson.
4	W. E. Capp.
5	J. A. Hunt
6	M. S. Inglis.
7	J. T. C. Hewison.
Stroke	C. J. Smith.
Cox	D. C. Goss.
Coaches	( R. J. Jelbart, Esq.
	( R. G. Day, Esq.

### ORMOND.

Bow	E. R. Jacobs.
2	J. Lawson.
3	B. Bell.
4	B. Stott.
5	R. N. Fleming.
6	A. M. Aikman.
7	J. G. Gibb
Stroke	A. Hope.
Cox	R. G. Hyett.
Coach	Dr. M. G. Whiteside.

HEAT 2. Queen's proved superior to a fast starting Newman crew and won by two lengths.

### QUEEN'S.

Bow	T. E. Hubble
2	W. B. Stephens.
3	G. MacKinnon.
4	J. E. Gault.
5	P. J. Hoadley
6	B. L. Cole
7	J. P. Hall
Stroke	A. R. Bartram
Cox	R. D. Saunders.
Coach	R. R. Aitken, Esq.

### NEWMAN.

Bow	B. O'Halloran
2	J. Mulcahy.
3	B. O'Dwyer.
4	J. D. Chisholm
5	G. Verge
6	W. M. Somerville.
7	B. Borghesi.
Stroke	G. A. Santospirito.
Cox	J. Dougherty.
Coach	C. G. Saleh, Esq.



#### LOSER'S FINAL.

This was one of the two most interesting races. The two crews were neck and neck throughout, but Newman were pipped by a third of a canvas by Ormond.

#### WINNER'S FINAL.

Trinity, the better equipped crew, scored a convincing win by two lengths.

#### SECOND CREWS.

Trinity defeated Ormond and Queen's defeated Newman in the heats.

The losers' final resulted in a very easy win to Ormond.

The winner's final was another of the highlights of the regatta. The crews were locked together over the whole distance with Queen's just having their bow in front when the gun went.

THE SECOND CREWS WERE SEATED AS FOLLOWS :-

	<u>TRINITY.</u>	<u>ORMOND.</u>	<u>QUEEN'S.</u>	<u>NEWMAN.</u>
Bow	F. B. Lewis	G. M. Henderson	J. Grove.	L. J. Erwin.
2	G. J. Heap.	J. P. Madson.	R. Adam	C. J. Bolger.
3	T. J. Johnson.	R. A. MacDougall	G. D. Schmidt.	L. W. Broben.
4	P. D. Curwen-Walker.	G. J. Bishop.	I. McDonald.	G. A. Walsh.
5	M. J. Cuming.	J. D. McLaren	R. Shepherd.	D. M. Bourke.
6	A. J. Day.	M. Hanson	J. Cartledge.	B. R. Smyth.
7	P. B. Rooney	P. W. Brochie.	J. Vertigan.	F. G. Dyett.
Stroke.	I. F. Edwards.	J. G. Roberts.	G. R. Pennington.	J. G. Joyce.
Cox	I. W. Jasper.	J. F. H. New.	G. Hatfield	F. R. Bond.
Coach.	A. Irving, Esq.	( J. N. Button, Esq. G. A. Freeman, Esq.	J. E. Varley, Esq.	J. F. P. Morganti, Esq.

#### JOHN LANG CUP.

This was an excellent spectator's race. The Extra-Collegiate crew had three-quarters of a length on Trinity by the Anderson Street Bridge, but at the Big Bend the crews rowed into the full force of an excessively strong wind which slowed them to a walking pace.

The heavier Trinity crew gradually made up the difference, and in an exciting finish, won by a canvas.

#### EXTRA - COLLEGIATE CREW.

Bow	S. Mc Connel.
2	M. Holt.
3	S. N. Johns.
4	J. R. Colville.
5	H. P. Smith.
6	M. Hilditch.
7	M. D. G. Murray.
Stroke.	I. E. Douglas.
Cox.	I. Leonie.
Coach.	G. H. Nicholson, Esq.

#### THE FLEET.

A coxed four and coxwainless pair are on order from Green's Racing Boats Pty. Ltd., and these two boats should arrive towards the middle of next year.



### THE SHED.

During the year, the Club acquired a new caretaker - Mr. Joe Heath - who has kept the shed clean and tidy, and has done valuable work in painting parts of the shed.

### CONGRATULATIONS.

The heartiest congratulations of the Club are extended to Jim Gobbo who rowed three in this year's Oxford crew which won the Boat Race by four lengths, and also to the three other Australians in the crew. Jim was Victorian Rhodes Scholar for 1951 and received his full blue for rowing in 1952. He has recently been elected President of the O.U.B.C. - an honour which has fallen to very few Australians.

To the Victorian King's Cup crew for another fine win in Hobart.

To Albert Park Club for winning the Senior premiership with only seven senior oarsmen.

To Mercantile's senior eight who were never extended during the season.

To Geelong Grammar for being Head of the River for the second successive year.

### THANKS.

To Rod. Carnegie and Tim Hewison who have carried out the job of Secretary during the last eighteen months in a most efficient manner. We wish Rod the best of luck on the Isis.

We would also like to thank very sincerely Ron Jelbart for making his attractive property at Eltham available for our Inter - Varsity Barbecue in May. The function was a far greater success than we had hoped for and resulted in a profit of some £150. Ron has been a very active member of the Committee over the last year, and we have a lot to thank him for.

The following members or former members, gave donations towards the 1954 Inter - Varsity Fund :-

J. M. Baillieu.  
A. G. Barrett.  
S. R. Bell.  
J. R. Cochrane.  
R. Cameron.  
H. C. Disher.  
C. C. Dyte.  
A. Hordern.  
H. K. Hunt.  
C. Littlejohn.  
H. M. L. Murray.  
T. W. Vorrath.  
C. S. Wood.  
R. P. Yoncken.

### AWARD of BLUES for 1953.

#### FULL BLUES.

Re - Awards.	P. N. Everist
	M. F. A. Robertson.
	J. P. Hall.
New Awards	R. H. Carnegie
	J. T. C. Hewison.
	J. N. Button.
	A. C. Monger.

#### HALF - BLUES.

New Awards.	J. G. Howden.
	S. N. Johns.
	J. A. Hunt.