



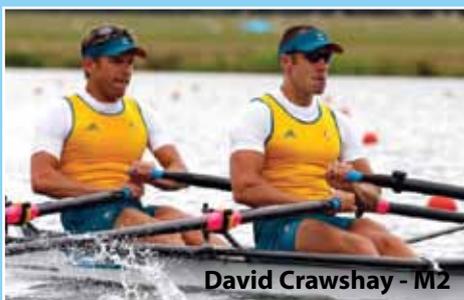
THE XXX OLYMPIAD @ ETON DORNEY, UK A PICTORIAL REVIEW



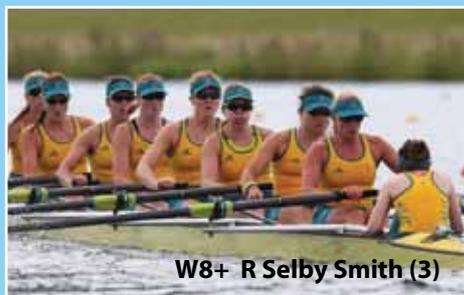
Silver victory W2
Kate Hornsey, Sarah Tait



Silver victory M4 - Josh Dunkley-Smith (S), Drew Ginn (3)



David Crawshay - M2



W8+ R Selby Smith (3)



Tom Swann (5) in the greatest
M8+ race in history

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome to our Q3 newsletter 2012.

We have now barracked and celebrated for our Olympic team's success. The club is so proud of

all our representative members. The big screen nights were a great success, and failing being at the course the next best venue to watch the racing. Congratulation to our 2012 Olympians, David Crawshay, Noel Donaldson, Josh Dunkley-Smith, Pauline Frasca, Drew Ginn, Kate Hornsey, Robyn Selby-Smith, Tom Swann, Sarah Tait, Bill Tait.

Specific congratulations to Sarah and Bill Tait, Kate Hornsey, Josh Dunkley-Smith and Drew Ginn for their Olympic silver medal performances.

Congratulations also to Bek Hooper for her win at Henley and Gold medal at the U23 regatta, and to Katrina Bateman for her U23 silver medal.

Well done to our other international representatives including junior crews that competed in NZ. Clearly these people are living by Jim Spriggs motto, "every stroke we take, we take a stroke to win"

We completed a very successful AGM meeting on September 15th at the club. The night was memorable for several reasons. Firstly guest of Honour Arthur Atkins provide an interesting reflection on 78 years of membership, Arthur had joked he had better keep it summarized to each decade of his 78 years of membership or he would be on his feet all night. It was an honour to hear from Arthur the details of his deployment to combat duty as a Lancaster Pilot in WW2. We will forever be indebted to this generation.

Also, David Boykett provided a rousing nomination for James Harvey's Life Membership which was seconded by Roger Wilson and Andy Guerin. The motion was unanimously carried and very well deserved for Jim's years of administration and constant assistance to keep senior members active in the club.

Congratulations to the following members who received awards at the AGM.

CAPTAIN'S TROPHY - to the member who has won the most Regatta and Club races during the season.
Rebekah Hooper

MAX BAILEY TROPHY - to the coxswain who has won the most Regatta and Club races during the season.
Sarah Banting

DR R. A. COOPER MEMORIAL TROPHY - to the member who, during the year, has rendered the most outstanding service to the Club.
Andy Phillips

N. W. CAIRNES TROPHY - to the most improved coxswain of the season.
Sarah Banting

JEFF WYLIE MEMORIAL TROPHY - to most improved lightweight rower.
Red Matthews

LATE F. R. BROWNE TROPHY - to most improved oarsman.
Dave de Lang

LATE H. R. FREDERICO TROPHY - to the most improved oarswoman at the Club.
Rebekah Hooper

K. BILNEY COACHES TROPHY - to the coach who does the most to teach oarsmen & oarswomen how to row, train, win and in general contribute to the club.
Sandy Mitchell

Work continues on our plans to renovate the club, with the preliminary design complete in conjunction with our future Sub Tenant, St Catherine's and our prospective future sub tenants, Brighton and Firbank Grammar. We have met with MCC to discuss the needs for alterations to the title and plans for the necessary planning permits. The concept of this renovation was discussed and received an unanimous vote of confidence from the floor of the AGM. The next important phase of the project is to complete heads of agreements with all interest sub tenants, to allow the design and planning permit phase to continue.

Spring has seen an increase in activity at the boat house with our Masters Crews in full training for the Heads races. We all look forward with heightened expectations to the coming racing season.

CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS



Red and White!

It's been a whole year! I'm proud to thank everyone for making this last year as Mercantile Captain a tops experience and especially thank

you all for not getting so sick of me you give me the boot. This coming year is going to be a very exciting time in the life of the club and I am extremely fortunate to be a part of the club at this point in its history.

Whilst I have written extensively about the grand exploits of Mercantile's Olympic team in the club's annual report, which I expect everyone has already read (lol), I would like to take this opportunity to again congratulate all of our Olympians on their performance on the world stage over in Eton. It was great to have all of you back with us at the AGM.

In lieu of a proper coaches report this quarter (our editor wanted more room for photos of Olympic biceps), I have been worded-up by our Chef de Rowing, Mark Fangen-Hall to mention a few goings on with the Athletes.

Last month our crews competed in the Cayzer Cup, a friendly regatta between Sydney Rowing Club and Mercantile's non-national team members. This year it was held in sunny Sydney, where our crews had every reason to hit those Kings Cross clubs (no idea if they actually did) given they won 9 out of 10 events.

In more news of the club's physical prowess, the national power-profile ergo testing was done earlier this month, with a stellar effort from our guys and girls. 13 athletes pulled PBs on their 2km tests and another 9 were within a second per split, stocking the top of the national list like a trout pond. All round a monster effort from everyone given the early stage in the season.

Not to sit around high-5-ing each other, the crews went to Nagambie for a weekend in September for what I believe was their second ride of 'Mark's Pain Train Weekend' camp. Other than generating more data on every athlete than Facebook's user database, this weekend will set everyone up for the national NTC time trial that is raced the following weekend.

Good luck to everyone with training and the time trial. I hope to see you all around the sheds.

Go the Red and White.

Nick "Skipper" Baker and Mark "Clint Eastwood" Fangen-Hall



W4X - P. Frasca (3) in the A Finals

CLUB DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

First Thursday Of the Month - Big boat row and BBQ
Thursdays 4th October, 1st November and 6th December

Friends and family welcome for BBQ

Evening of Excellence – Gala Dinner

Saturday 17th November @ 7.30pm

See inside for further information.

President's Christmas Lunch & Pudding Eights

Sunday 16th December



COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2012-13

President – Mal Batten AO

Captain – Nick Baker

Secretary – Cam O'Neill

Asst. Secretary – Dee Bosler

Treasurer – Duncan MacKinnon

Head Coach – Mark Fangen-Hall

Vice Captain – James Wilson

Executive and General Committee - Jenny Fraumano; Philippe Batters, Henry Edgar, Danny Brichtope, Mathew French, Mark Groves, Hannah Lewis, Andrew Phillips, Andrew Sinclair, Susie Phillips.

DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 80 years ago during the 1934-35 season, the Committee called for designs for a new club badge and from a large number of designs submitted by students of the Workingmen's College (now the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology), selected the present distinctive emblem of Mercantile. It consists of a conventional chevron pattern, indicative of water, on a pointed shield suggestive of the prow of a boat. Two heraldic dolphins with eight fins to represent an eight-oared boat are entwined about a trident giving the suggestion of unity and strength. Two crossed oars in the background complete the design.



MASTERS' REPORT

Masters prepare their Spring Offensive

With the Olympics and the winter-sculling season behind us, masters now have their eyes set on November's "Melbourne Head" and "Head of the Yarra" events. In an encouraging sign of the times, the masters group (which has grown substantially this year with an influx of female members) has pursued its training agenda throughout winter and into spring with committed enthusiasm.

An important contribution to masters training has been the arrival of a dedicated coach, Jordan Champness. Jordan, who is studying health management at Deakin University and coaches at Carey Grammar as well, has been engaged to help build and refine the skills of the masters group. All crew combinations have been grateful for his input, and improvements augur well for our end-of-year races.

In addition, Head Coach, Mark Fangen-Hall, has offered to assist the masters with ergos, flexibility and cross-training, the theory of technique and other matters, wherever possible. This commitment from our coaching staff has provided a measurable boost to individual performance. As we prepare for November, Mercantile will be boating a men's VIII, a mixed VIII and a women's IV. This level of participation greatly expands what has taken place in recent years.

KAYAK UPDATE

Unfortunately Foo is in hospital nursing a seriously infected finger that can't work to submit a report. Bad Yarra water! Get well soon Foo!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Mercantile extends a warm welcome to all new Members who have joined this financial year, and look forward to a long and happy association with the Club.

Senior - Callie MacIntosh (welcome back Callie!) / Cameron O'Neill (welcome to the Committee too, Cam!) / Peter Tomanovitis/Alice Morgan / Lawrence Makoln

Junior - Liam Donald

Kayakers - Timothy Arnold / Angus Campbell / James Campbell

LIGHT AND BRIGHT

Mr Tomkins, you're still Number One

As all of Australia got behind its athletes for the London Olympics, the pedigree and precedence of champions past featured highly in the national psyche. And when it came to scarecrows, there was no greater hero than James Tomkins. As part of the Surf Coast Arts Trail, Samson Wylie won first place in the Aireys Inlet 2012 Scarecrow Festival with his: "Hi, I'm James Tomkins the scarecrow". It sure was a car stopper on the road to Lorne! Well done, Samson. Like old soldiers, sporting heroes never die, they just lend themselves to public art in curious places!



OLYMPIC ANTICS

The 1956'ers had a party of 20 go to The Olympic regatta—



56er's with Kate, Sarah and Bill at Eton Dorney

including the Richardsons, Boyketts, Guerins, and the Wilsons. A real bonus was the disabled stickers on the bus carrying the 56ers, enabling parking within a few hundred meters of the Eton Dorney Course—instead of a 2km slog from the

main bus park! A highlight of the group's visit was the invitation to a Cocktail party on Game's Eve hosted by Frank Lowy. MC was Eddie "Everywhere" McGuire and Basketballer Lauren Jackson was announced as The Aussie Flag Bearer.

Heard loudly at Eton Dorney was a frustrated Rowing Commentator, who didn't have a job at these Olympics. He was often heard commentating to the people in the grandstands around him, most of whom had not been to a Rowing Regatta before. Well done Roger for keeping the locals entertained!

Also heard loudly were the 30,000 – mainly pommy Crowd – incessant with their barracking for GB. The Crowd Noise was so deafening that a number of competing rowers complained they couldn't hear each other's calls during racing!

Club benefactor Sean Coglan (aka Trader Al) took the role as high performance director of the El Salvadorian rowing team at the Olympic Games – should we play a game of "Spot the Gringo"?



VENUE NEWS

FTOM

As the sun starts to shine longer and the evenings get warmer, FTOM is growing. Remember that there must be former rowers that you know, who don't necessarily want to commit to racing and heavy training, but wouldn't mind a paddle and a catch up. This is what FTOM is about – come down once a month on the First Thursday of EVERY Month, have a paddle and stay for a BBQ. Former members that have forgotten to renew, please contact Treasurer Duncan MacKinnon on treasurer@mercantile.org.au and find out the special offer we have for participating in these events.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MERCANTILE GALA EVENT

Saturday 17th November.

To honour our athletes who have represented Australia on the world's stage in the XXX Olympiad in London, an Evening of Excellence will be held at the Westpac Centre. Don't miss this Gala Black Tie event which only happens every four years. Put the date in your diary NOW and go on-line to purchase your tickets!

HOUSE MATTERS

A Note from the Treasurer

Has your swipe card stopped working? Have you overlooked your membership renewal for this season? Never fear, your problems can be easily rectified by getting in touch with Duncan the Treasurer (treasurer@mercantile.org.au)!

Club Security

It is really important that attention is paid to club security. Twice in the last month police have phoned in the middle of the night to inform that the back door was open and lights left on. If you think you will be last out, check all areas of the club and ensure everything is closed SECURELY!!

Club Kit

Please note that JL Rowing now has the official squad training and racing kits available and the web address is: <http://www.theregattashop.com.au> The link for members is: http://www.theregattashop.com.au/club_mercantile.html However, for non elite and squad members a choice is available and Rowbust offers this choice.

Venue Hire

We have LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!! As the festive season fast approaches, Events Manager, Susie Phillips, has been getting a lot of inquiries from companies wanting to rent the club for staff or client functions. Remember this is a good income stream for the club, so if you know anyone looking for a venue, they need to book soon. Fridays have all but gone in December, but she's willing to discuss rentals for mid-week functions at any time. Contact her on events@mercantile.com.au



SOCIAL ROUNDUP

Olympic Nights

WOW! What can we say? 4 nights of Rowing live streaming on a big screen; masses of food in constant circulation and a well stocked bar!! Absolute heaven! It was great to see so many people across all generations popping in over the 4 nights to support not only the 10 Mercantilians exerting their blood, sweat and tears each day, but all Aussie rowers. A warm welcome was extended to all our rowing friends up and down the river and on the lake. The evenings were considered so successful, that it was suggested we do something similar for all future global, annual rowing events.



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