

**THE  
BALLARAT ROWING CLUB  
( FOUNDED 1861 )  
HISTORY  
AND  
STATISTICAL RECORDS**

THE BALLARAT ROWING CLUB.

By

Thos. W. L. Cotton.

With such a fine sheet of water - Lake Wendouree - within a mile of the centre of the City, rowing has taken a foremost place amongst athletic sports in Ballarat.

Very few of the oarsmen of to-day are aware of the difficulties that had to be surmounted by those who first formed the Ballarat Club.

At the latter end of 1861, Robert McLaren, who had sculled in England, journeyed from Ballarat to Melbourne to scull a match on the Yarra against Mr. Prescott of Richmond. The Ballarat man won and on his return called a number of his friends together to see if it was possible to have some rowing in the Ballarat district.

Lake Burrumbeet was decided as a possible stretch of suitable water and it was suggested a Regatta be held there. It was decided to borrow "four equal boats" from Mr. J. Edwards of Princes Bridge, Melbourne for this Regatta - and so we had the birth of rowing in Ballarat.

The Regatta was the chief topic of conversation in all circles of the community and as a sporting event was one of the greatest successes held in the district.

Races were two miles distance, rowed twice over a mile - crews rowed up the course, round a buoy and back again to the starting post.

I do not think any Club started under greater difficulties than the Ballarat Club. After this first Regatta the Club purchased two boats and a boathouse was erected thirteen miles from Ballarat at Lake Burrumbeet.

Two Regattas were held on Lake Burrumbeet and one at Learmonth before action was taken by the members to use Lake Wendouree or as it was then known as the "Wendouree Swamp".

Mr. McLaren, in 1864, attempted to cross the "Swamp" in a punt, but failed because of the reeds. The "Swamp" idea was then given up and McLaren's thoughts turned to Mr. A. Fiskens property at Lal Lal. A Regatta would have undoubtedly been held there had not two persons, who held the right to the use of the water, demanded some considerable sum for allowing the Club the privilege of rowing there.

This caused Mr. McLaren to once again try "The Swamp". At the second attempt he got right across in a duck punt by holding the long rushes aside whilst he pushed the boat through.

The Club then met and decided to seek permission from the Water Commission to cut a three chain channel through the reeds.

As this swamp at that time, still supplied the water needs of part of Ballarat, some opposition was raised by the public on account of polluting the water. The opposition, however, was overcome, tenders were called and at the cost of £33 a channel was cut through.

At the end of 1864 there was sufficient space to row on the "swamp" the boats were brought in from Burrumbeet. Soon after this the first boathouse was built.

Through the courtesy of the Historical Society of Ballarat and the management of The Ballarat Courier, I have been able to peruse the files of The Ballarat Star from 1860 to 1870 and from then on The Ballarat Courier. To them I convey my appreciation and thanks for their help and consideration.

I have endeavoured to verify my information wherever possible, and the information compiled herein is as near authentic as possible.

Thos. W. L. Cotton,  
Ballarat,  
1952.

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THE BALLARAT ROWING CLUB.

Founded 20th November, 1861.

1861/62.

The Ballarat Rowing Club, or Regatta Club, as it was first known, was inaugurated on Wednesday, 20th November, 1861 when a large number of persons met at Mr. McLaren's Hotel, Bridge Street, to make arrangements for a Regatta on Lake Burrumbeet.

After some discussion it was decided to first conduct a Regatta and then form the Club if desirable.

A sub-committee, comprising, Dr. Whitcombe, Messrs. McLaren, Kerr, Chalmers and Craig, were appointed to collect subscriptions and appoint a Secretary.

Boats for the Regatta were borrowed from Melbourne. A subscription list was opened and liberally responded to.

Further meetings were held, and on 3rd January, 1862, the Committee met and decided that the Regatta be held on Friday, 31st January, 1862 at Lake Burrumbeet.

The Committee engaged the Band of the Volunteer Corps for the occasion and procured two silver cups as prizes for the Amateurs Race.

The following programme and entries comprised the first Regatta.

Watermans Race.	6 Entries.
Amateur Pair Oared Race.	4 Entries.

Prizes were; for the Watermans Race, 1st Prize £15, 2nd Prize £7, 3rd Prize £5, 4th £3, 5th £1. 1. 0, 6th £1. 1. 0, and it was stipulated that the Watermen row in white trousers and guernseys.

Friday, 31st January, was a fine day and the Regatta was a huge success. The day was declared a holiday and every available vehicle and horse in Ballarat was engaged to transport the spectators to Lake Burrumbeet.

Mr. Robert McLaren acted as Starter and Commodore. The races were rowed in heats and the finals resulted in Mr. Bob McLaren winning the Watermans Race (Sculls) and Messrs. Williams and Golightly the Amateur Race.

At a meeting of the Committee, held on 1st February, 1862, it was arranged to purchase two of the boats loaned for the Regatta by Mr. Edwards of Melbourne. The expenses were £106. 8. 0 and the subscriptions received, £117.11. 6. The profit was put towards the purchase of a Challenge Cup for the next Regatta. A Shed was erected at Lake Burrumbeet to house the boats.

On 14th February, 1862, the first general meeting of the newly

formed Regatta Club was held and S. T. Clissold, Esq. was elected President a Committee formed.

The Committee was directed to draw up a set of rules. Approximate 22 members were elected and the subscription fee of £2. 2. 0 was decided on.

Later in February two more boats were purchased, and in April, a rowing match for pairs was held on Lake Burrumbeet.

The first Annual General Meeting of the Club was held at Mr. McLaren's Hotel on 15th October, 1862. Although the Club mustered 51 members there were not sufficient members at the meeting for the election of Office Bearers, so these were held over till 23rd October, 1862.

During the first year of its existence, the Club became the possessor of four boats, purchased at a cost of £84.

### 1862/63.

During the early part of this season tragedy entered the Club when one of its Vice Presidents, Mr. J. R. Pringle, was drowned. On 17th November, 1862, Mr. Pringle and Mr. A. McLaren were training on Lake Burrumbeet for the 2nd Annual Regatta. They successfully crossed the Lake but on their return a sudden squall upset the boat.

Mr. Dobson, of the Picnic Hotel, Burrumbeet, who had charge of the boats, grew alarmed at the length of time the two oarsmen were absent, some seven hours, so he set out to find them. He found Mr. McLaren sitting on the bottom of the overturned boat and divested of his clothes, but Mr. Pringle, it is said, got benumbed, slipped off and after struggling for a short time, sank and drowned.

As a result of this accident, the Club decided in respect of the memory of its late Vice President that the Regatta, scheduled for 28th November, 1862, be postponed. At a later meeting it was decided to hold the Regatta on Friday, 16th January, 1863.

For this second Regatta further boats were procured on loan from Melbourne. The day was fine and clear with a stiff breeze that caused Lake Burrumbeet to be fairly rough. As for the first Regatta, a public holiday was declared and all who could arrange transport headed out West.

Three events were held over the two mile course, the races being, Amateur Pair Oared Race, for two silver mugs, valued at twenty guineas and the Watermans Race for, 1st Prize £20. 0. 0, 2nd Prize £10. 0. 0, 3rd Prize £5. 0. 0 and 4th Prize £3. 0. 0 also the Club Members Race in Sculls for a pair of silver oars.

Financially, the 2nd Regatta was not as successful as the first and in order to make up the deficiency an extra day of sport was to be held on the Lake.

It was decided to hold these races on 26th February, but unfortunately a local resident was drowned in Lake Burrumbeet. This circumstance, together with rough weather caused the day's events to be abandoned.

1863/64.

After the winter, the thoughts of the oarsmen began to turn again to rowing and there was a diversity of opinion among the members as to whether the third Regatta should be held on Lake Burrumbeet or Lake Learmonth.

The drownings that had occurred at Lake Burrumbeet had caused a dislike for the Lake in the minds of some of the members and the sudden squalls caused the Lake to be dangerous.

Learmonth residents were also anxious to stage a Regatta and promised a boathouse for the Club and to help financially. Accordingly, representatives attended a meeting of the Learmonth Regatta Club and agreed to run a combined Rowing and Sailing Regatta on Monday, 30th November.

The first members of the Club to attend a Regatta outside Ballarat did so on Monday, 9th November, when Mr. C. McLaren competed in the Watermans Scullers Race and Mr. E. Williams with Mr. G. Wilson competed in a Pair Oared race at the Melbourne Regatta. The Club's representatives were unsuccessful.

The entries for the Learmonth Regatta were good, and for the first time entries were received from Melbourne Clubs.

The races were, Pair Oared race, for which 7 crews entered including Leander and Ariel Clubs (Melbourne). In the Amateur Double Scull Race, 16 persons entered but only the best 8 were allowed to compete. In the Champion Scull race, 10 entries and 3 entries for the Watermans Sculls including Mr. B. Oxlade, Champion of the Yarra.

Once again the Regatta was a huge success and the road to Learmonth was a continuous stream of drays, traps, buggies and horsemen etc.

Lake Wendouree, then known as the Wendouree Swamp, was at this time under the control of The Ballarat Water Commission. The Club early in December of 1863, wrote to the Commission requesting leave to erect an ornamental boathouse within the enclosure and to place boats upon the Swamp.

At the Water Commission meeting, the majority of the Eastern Council representatives and some of the Western Councillors were opposed to the application and a decision was postponed.

Anticipating approval by the Commission, it was decided to bring the boats to Ballarat for repair, prior to being placed on the Swamp. It was also decided that a special meeting of members be held to re-organise the Club and make necessary arrangements for building a boathouse in the Swamp Reserve in such a place as might be considered most advisable to the Commission. Towards the end of December, approval was given by the Commission and site selected was the site now occupied by the Club.

The Annual Meeting for this season was held in January, 1864. At this meeting it was resolved "That the name of the Club be altered to

The Ballarat Rowing Club and that the colors be Red and White." It was further resolved that steps be taken to erect a boathouse.

At a further meeting held in February, it was resolved to seek permission from the Water Commission to clear three chains in width of reeds in the Swamp from the proposed site of the boathouse to the Botanical Gardens. Subsequently, this was granted, tenders were called and John Barnes & Coy's tender was accepted at 30/- per acre.

In March 1864, tenders were called for the erection of the boathouse and the tender of £50 for a 45' by 20' boathouse was accepted. By the end of March, the channel, which cost nearly £40, was cut and although the cost was borne by the members of the Club it was for general public use.

The rate of subscription for members was fixed at £2. 2. 0 and the Water Commission charged 1/-d. per foot frontage for the boathouse and 12/6d. for each boat "placed upon the Lake".

So successful was the clearing of the cutting that other boathouses, for the hiring out of boats, were erected and public opinion began to press for the clearing of the rest of the "Swamp" and to convert it into a "Lake".

In April 1864, the Club's first rules were drawn up, and in May, the Club held the first races on what was by then beginning to be called "Lake Wendouree". These races were held over a 1½ mile course for silver trophies. Because of the height of the rushes, only the start and finish of the races could be seen.

The Water Commission finally decided to clear the rest of the reeds from the Lake. Tenders were called and only two were received. The lower, for £2,610, being considered too high was not accepted.

#### 1864/65.

In August, 1864 the "Tay" (later known as Lubentia) Rowing Club was formed - it lived a very short life. In September the Wendouree Junior Regatta Club and the Alabama Club were formed, these Clubs also had a short existence.

Several Committees were formed and waited on the Commission with requests to clear the remainder of the Lake but did not meet with success.

All efforts to get the Commission or Council to improve the Lake area had failed. Early in October, 1864, the various Clubs and boathouse owners undertook to clear more of the three chain course already cleared.

After further pressure, the Water Commission appointed the "Lake Wendouree Improvement Committee" which agreed to call tenders for the clearing away of reeds in front of the boathouses so as to make the whole of the present small channels leading into the three

chain channel into one.

Almost every day challenge rowing races were being held on the Lake. One of the most important of these races took place between The Ballarat Club and the Prince of Wales Club of Melbourne, over a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile course, starting at the upper end of the channel and finishing at the boathouse.

The Ballarat four were; E. Williams (str.) H. Golightly (2) Jas. Cazaly (3) John Cazaly (bow) H. Booth (cox). Every rowboat available was anchored along the edges of the cutting and as the crews raced past the occupants pulled into the cutting and raced along after the crews in order to see the finish.

The Ballarat crew won the first race by a length and were again successful in the second race. To quote the papers of the day, "The Ballarat crew had such a lead that at the arrival at the winning flag they tossed their oars. This was the signal for cheers and cries of "Go it Ballarat" which was responded to by the crew again tossing their oars in recognition of the salute given by the public."

In October, 1864, a tender was accepted by the Lake Wendouree Improvement Committee to carry out further improvements to the channel. The fresh clearing of reeds gave a three mile channel through the reeds three chains wide, commencing at the Boathouses, straight across to the south side of the Botanical Gardens, thence north along the western shore and thence east along the northern shore back to the commencing point.

By January, 1865, there were four Clubs, namely, "Ballarat", "Ariel", "Lubentia" and "Alabama" Rowing Clubs. On 23rd January, the three latter clubs met and made arrangements for a Regatta embracing the whole of the Ballarat Amateur Aquatic world and to be styled the Ballarat District Regatta. At the meeting, the three Clubs deprecated the action of the Ballarat Club in arranging the forthcoming Ballarat Regatta and ignoring these clubs by organising races in which they had not the class of boats to compete.

This liaison of the three clubs did not last for long as on the 1st February following, the Lubentia Club met to wind up its affairs and later the Ariel Club was absorbed by Ballarat.

On Friday, 10th February, 1865 was held the actual "First Ballarat Regatta" on Lake Wendouree over a course on the channel cut through the reeds.

After the Regatta, although the Alabama Club did not compete, it issued a challenge in the local press which read as follows:-

"On behalf of the Alabama Club, I beg leave to state that we, the "Alabama", are open to pull all the winning crews of this day's Regatta, for any trophies they may choose to name, on the 24th day of March; as likewise the senior crew of the Ballarat Club, who did not pull their race for the want of competition. Jas. Walker, Hon. Secretary, A.A.R. Club."

So far as can be ascertained, this challenge was not accepted.



1865/66.

Due to the very dry summer, Lake Wendouree was too low for a Regatta to be held in this season. By April 1866, the Lake had so dried up that the reeds and grass were fired to get rid of their seeds and as much undergrowth as possible.

There was a good deal of agitation by the citizens for the authorities to take appropriate action to improve the Lake. As a result, the Water Commission called for "Competitive Designs for Improving Wendouree Swamp" by making portion navigable for boats and other portions ready for planting with trees. £30 was given for the best design and £20 for the second best.

1866/67.

During the winter the Lake re-filled with water and on 8th September, 1866 the Club officially opened the 1866/67 season. This was the first time that an official opening of any sort had been held by this or any other Club in Ballarat.

Pair and four oared races were held in the afternoon, and, as the local press reported: "In the evening, twenty five members of the Club, together with representatives of the Corio Club, sat down to dinner at the George Hotel. The dinner was splendidly served and after the fatigues of the day the company did full justice to it."

The second Ballarat Regatta was held on the Lake on Friday, 9th November and was very successful.

The closing date for the competitive designs to improve the Lake was to have been in September, but, due to one thing and another, the designs were not considered until 10th December. Several plans were submitted but were considered not satisfactory. It was decided to extend the time until the end of February, 1867. In the meantime, the Lake was again rapidly drying up.

A very severe summer had again dried up the water in the Lake. The papers continued to urge for improvements but the Water Commissioners continued to postpone this question.

1867/68.

The opening of the 1867/68 season took place on Saturday 21st September, 1867 and again the papers reported: "The great attraction was the turn out of the Ballarat Rowing Club. Shortly after 3 p.m., the Club's crews were marshalled outside the buoy in processional form, each oarsman wearing the red and white of the Club. The little fleet consisted of seven four oared boats and three sculling boats and they made a gallant show as they slowly pulled up the Lake in good order. At the turning post, "inwards about wheel" was performed. We need not speak of the rowing of the seniors, but the juniors must be congratulated on their neat turnout and careful style of pulling."

The Water Commission still would not do anything towards improving the Lake. Then one of the steamboat owners hit on the idea of affixing sythes on the stern of his paddle boat. The Town Council thereupon engaged him to cut a further channel in the reeds.

1868/69 to 1869/70.

Due to the drying up of the Lake during these years the Lake became a training ground for race horses and the boats of the Club remained housed for the period.

With the hope that the Council may be persuaded to spend some money on the Lake, the Club raised a petition, signed by some 1,100 citizens. This petition was successful, as the Council, by employing convict labour, raised a zig zag embankment across the Lake from Macarthur Street to the Gardens, hoping that eventually it would help conserve the water.

The anticipated improvement by this embankment did not eventuate for in September, 1870 appeared the following press paragraph: "If the present boisterous weather should continue, the serpentine embankment which crosses Wendouree will soon be a thing of the past; already many of the willows on both the north and south sides are rapidly disappearing as the earth in which they were planted crumbles away from the action of the wavelets. The footpath is becoming narrower every day and in places the water dashes across from one sheet of water to the other. We certainly cannot compliment Mr. Baird upon the engineering skill displayed in the construction of such a miserable apology for an embankment."

1870/71.

On Thursday, 24th November, 1870, a meeting was held at Brophy's Hotel when "The Ballarat City Rowing Club" was formed. The colors adopted by the Club were blue cap with red stripe. The Alabama Club being defunct, it was decided to take over its Clubhouse. About this time another Club was formed called "The Press Club". This club was eventually absorbed by the Ballarat City Club.

In 1871 the Lake refilled again and became the sheet of water much as we now know it. With the filling of the Lake came a strong revival of rowing and several scratch races were held between Ballarat and City Clubs.

1871/72.

Until 1872, Regattas in Ballarat had been organised by the Ballarat Club alone or in conjunction with the Ballarat Yacht Club.

The Regatta of March 1872, and many of the future Regattas, were conducted by the Ballarat Yacht Club and the Ballarat and Ballarat City Rowing Clubs.

Although not successful, the Club, for the first time competed out of the State when a "scratch crew" competed at Hobart Town, Tasmania.

#### 1872/73.

From 1863 to 1872 there had been held a series of Intercolonial Four Oared Races. These races were of a character in which crews were more or less competitions between Clubs or combination crews from the various colonies.

In 1873 the race was the first of a character where the crews were representing their respective colonies. There was no limit to the Clubs that could compete in these races. The Ballarat and Ballarat City Clubs were both represented in the race this year. The race was rowed on the Lower Yarra on 28th March and resulted in a win by a combination crew from Melbourne Clubs, with Ballarat City second.

Both the Ballarat crews spent a week training on the Lower Yarra. The Ballarat crew were; H. Pascoe, 10 st. 7 lbs. (bow), J. Eddington 10 st. 3 lbs. (2), L. Kickham 11 st. 10 lbs. (3), E. Williams 11 st. 12 lbs. (str.), R. Edwards (cox).

#### 1873/74.

The State Government gave the City Council a grant of £1,000 for the Lake improvement. One of these improvements being the filling of the quarry holes at what we now know as View Point.

Some idea of the "uniforms" used by oarsmen of these days can be gleaned from the following paragraph appearing on 11th August, 1874.

"The members of the City Rowing Club are having a new uniform made which consists of the best Ballarat flannel and designed like a double breasted coat, bound round the edges with scarlet braid, while on the left breast is affixed the Club's star, forming, with the usual pants and cap, a very unique dress."

In 1874 for the first time, two members of the Club, J. Eddington and L. Kickham, were chosen as members of the crew to represent Victoria in the Inter-Colonial Fours.

#### 1874/75.

Ballarat and Ballarat City Clubs combined for a grand opening of the season. On the day fixed, a procession of boats moved up the Lake in two lines, Ballarat on the South line and City on the north. Each line was headed by an eight - then the fours - pairs and sculls. In the centre was a steamer on which a Band played.

In 1875, both Clubs imported from England a four oared boat each. These boats embraced all the latest improvements viz:- sliding or fixed seats, right or left hand spoke rowlocks and for steering with or without a coxswain.

1875/76.

The Barwon Regatta was held for the first time, all previous regattas in Geelong had been held on Corio Bay.

There was no Ballarat Regatta this year.

1876/77.

The Victorian Rowing Association was formed on 7th October, 1876 to conduct the Melbourne Regatta and to manage Victorian rowing affairs.

The Ballarat Club was invited to appoint a representative.

1877/78.

In August of 1877, the Committee was authorised to obtain a bank overdraft and extend the Clubhouse on the south-side in order to provide dressing accommodation and lockers. A tender submitted by Mr. L. W. Graham for £52. 8. 6 was accepted for the additions.

1878/79.

In December, 1878, a Special General Meeting of the Club was called to take into consideration the future management of the Club.

A general discussion took place regarding the Captain, Mr. E. Williams, who had given the Club sterling service as Captain for thirteen years and who, during this year, gave up active rowing and had not been able to give so much of his time to the Club as formerly. It was decided to amend the rules and provision was made for the first time for the election of a Vice Captain.

Severe strictures were also placed on the Committee for the management of the Club. The Committee and Secretary resigned in a body and a new Committee and Secretary were appointed.

After a lapse of four years, City and Ballarat combined to organise another Regatta on Lake Wendouree. With the exception of certain years during the First and Second World Wars, the Ballarat Regatta has since been held yearly.

For this Regatta, application, for the first time, was made to the City Council to enclose View Point and make a charge for admission. This was refused.

During this season the City Club adopted a new uniform and colors. These were striped jersey and cap; the stripes were amber and black, 3" wide.

1879/80 - 1880/81 - 1881/82 - 1882/83.

These years were lean years for the Club and other than scratch races nothing of importance occurred.

In August, 1882, the City Club again, and for the fourth time, adopted new colors. These were dark navy blue jersey with white trimmings and star; dark blue cap with white cross bar and the letters B.C.R.C. in white in front.

1883/84.

Just after the Annual Meeting of the Club in this season some of the members called a Special General Meeting. These members stated that several members were prohibited from attending the Annual Meeting and therefore had no chance to vote in the election of the Office-bearers. They stated that the Captain of the Club, Mr. E. (Ned) Williams, was too old to coach and that he refused to allow the racing boats to be used for training for regattas. After much discussion, a vote of confidence was moved and carried in favour of the Captain.

As a result of this meeting, several members called a meeting of gentlemen at the Nag's Head Hotel, in order to form a third Rowing Club. This meeting was held on 25th September, 1883. It was decided to call the new Club - The Wendouree Rowing Club, the colors to be red guernsey with white star; white cap with red star.

Many of the Club's best oarsmen left to join the new Club and this reflected in the lack of regatta wins during the next few seasons.

1884/85.

Following the upset among members during the previous year over the Captain and subsequent transfer of several members to the new Club, the Captain, Mr. E. Williams, decided at the Annual Meeting not to re-nominate as Captain for the ensuing year, but to retain his interest in the Club by being a member of the Committee.

Ned Williams, as he was known throughout Ballarat, was a foundation member of the Club and held the position of Captain since its inception - a period of 23 years. To Ned Williams, the Club will forever hold a debt of gratitude. A keen oarsman and a stalwart of the Club, he was mainly responsible for the present high traditions of the Club.

The Regatta of 1884 was, to quote the Courier, "the best since its inception. The fields were unusually large and the competitions very exciting. The maiden eight furnished the finest regatta spectacle ever seen south of the Line. For the first time on record of Australian rowing, eight eight oared boats - sixty oars in all - left the post at the signal of the starter and as there was not a sick one in the eight crews, the contest was exciting."

1885/86 to 1891/92.

These years were steady years of rowing in which the Club had its ups and downs.

In 1887 it was proposed that a Provincial Rowing Association be formed and that it meet in various towns in turn. This Association appeared to fade out.

In 1888 the three Clubs combined to organise a Fair which netted them £88 each.

1892/93.

On the 3rd October, 1892 it was moved and carried by the Committee of the Club "That a joint meeting of representatives of the three Clubs be held to discuss the advisability of taking combined action with regard to matters of general interest of the Clubs."

Prior to this, representatives of the three Clubs met each year to organise and conduct the Regatta.

In 1893 a new dressing room was erected adjacent to the Clubhouse at a cost of £99.14. 0.

1893/94.

In 1893 the Ballarat Rowing Club Harriers Club was formed and allowed the use of the Clubhouse. This Club did not function for very long.

In 1894 the first success in Championship rowing came to the Club when W. D. Dawson won the Champion Sculls of Victoria. Wally Dawson commenced rowing with the Wendouree Club and just prior to this year he and his brother Arch transferred to Ballarat. Wally's success in the Champion Sculls was the forerunner of many victories for the Ballarat Club by the Dawson brothers.

1894/95:

Although the Club in 1874 had two representatives in the Victorian Intercolonial Four, this was the first year that any real recognition was given to the Club when W. D. Dawson was selected for a seat in the Victorian Interstate Crew.

1895/96.

Late in 1895, a "Fancy Fair" was held in order to raise funds for re-building the Clubhouse.

In January, 1896, plans and specifications were adopted for a new Clubhouse. The old Clubhouse was disposed of for removal and the tender of £548.15. 0 submitted by Messrs. Baird & Martin was accepted for the new building.

1896/97.

In April 1897, each Club had under discussion the formation of an Association for the betterment of rowing and the Ballarat Regatta. Each Club appointed three delegates to attend a meeting to draft rules.

These delegates met at Judd's Hotel on Thursday, 17th June, 1897 for the purpose of drawing up these rules for the newly formed Ballarat Rowing Association. These rules were eventually adopted by each Club at its next Annual Meeting.

The Ballarat Delegates were Messrs. T. F. Moran and G. Tonner and at the Annual Meeting next held, Mr. T. T. Hollway was elected President and Mr. Geo. Tonner Secretary of the Association.

1897/98.

The Club had now been in existence for 36 years and during that time, Mr. Ned Williams, the father of rowing in Ballarat, had held Office in the Club - truly a wonderful record. For the first time this season he did not seek re-election.

In this season the newly formed Association introduced a race, "The Champion Sculling Race of Ballarat". This race received two entries, Mr. W. Dawson of Ballarat and Mr. C. Donald of Wendouree; the latter being the winner.

1898/99.

Mr. J. Blackburn was selected for a seat in the Interstate Eight.

The Clubhouse, which had been lit by kerosene lamps, this season had the gas installed.

The Club this year won its first Champion Eight of Victoria.

This season the Victorian Rowing Association introduced the Premiership of the State and The Ballarat Club had the distinction of winning this Premiership.

A. Dawson was selected for a seat in the Interstate Eight.

1899/1900.

Second on the Premiership List this year.

In September, 1900 Mr. Ned Williams died and the Club erected a Drinking Fountain on View Point in honour of his memory.

In this season, the Ballarat Rowing Association instituted the Novice Regatta. The Ballarat Club won the Novice Premiership this year.

The Club had four members selected this year for the Interstate Eight. They were, Messrs. A. Dawson, A. Hall, J. B. Suffren and W. D. Dawson. The last named did not accept the seat due to business reasons.

#### 1900/01.

In this season, Messrs. J. B. Suffren and A. Dawson were again selected for the Interstate Eight, but could not accept for business reasons.

The Champion Pairs of Victoria was instituted this year and the race was held on Lake Wendouree.

#### 1901/02.

Messrs. J. B. Suffren and C. E. Suffren were selected as Interstate Eight representatives. J. B. Suffren could not train with the crew so accepted the position of emergency.

#### 1902/03 - 1903/04.

The 1903/04 season was one of the most successful in the history of the Club. The Club won the V.R.A. Premiership, the Senior Eight at Henley, Ballarat and Barwon, also the Champion Eight of Victoria.

Seven members of the Senior Eight and the Coxswain were chosen for the Interstate Eight, they were, Messrs. H. Thomas, C. E. Tullock, E. Cooper, J. B. Suffren, B. Arnold (cox) C. E. Suffren, A. Hall and W. D. Dawson - the last three did not accept for business reasons.

Henley started in March, 1904. The Club won the first Grand Challenge Senior Eight. Henley was again held in October 1904, when the Club again won the Grand Challenge Senior Eight.

#### 1904/05.

The Club again won the Champion Eight of Victoria. Four seats were offered in the Interstate Eight to Messrs. H. Rowe, C. E. Tullock, E. Cooper and C. E. Suffren but only the first two accepted.

#### 1905/06.

The Club in this season suggested to the V.R.A. that the



allocation of points to Premierships were not equitable and suggested consideration be given to the ratio of allotment of points in Maiden, Junior and Senior Races.

Messrs. J. B. Suffren and C. E. Suffren accepted seats in the Interstate Eight. E. Cooper and C. E. Tullock did not accept.

#### 1906/07.

The Club again was represented in the Interstate Eight - Mr. T. Bourke accepting a seat.

The suggestion put forward the previous year in regard to the Premiership was followed up and in this season the V.R.A. allocated two Premierships - Senior and Junior.

Until 1907, the Ballarat Rowing Association comprised three delegates from each Club and each year additional representatives were appointed to assist in conducting the Annual Regatta. The Club suggested that in future the Regatta delegates be elected at the Annual General Meeting of each Club and that they form themselves into a Committee to take charge of all local rowing functions. This body took the place of the present Rowing Association and was called The Ballarat Regatta Association.

#### 1907/08.

In 1908, The Ballarat Rowing Association was reformed as suggested above and called The Ballarat Regatta Association, consisting of six delegates from each Club.

#### 1908/09 - 1909/10.

In 1910 commenced a series of football challenge matches between the Ballarat and Wendouree Clubs. These matches were held on King's Birthday Weekend and were conducted for many years as an Annual fixture.

#### 1910/11 to 1914/15.

In the 1910/11-1911/12 seasons, apart from Regatta and scratch races, nothing of importance occurred.

In the 1912/13 season, the Club finished second in both the Senior and Junior Premierships.

In 1913/14, the Club registered its first win in the Champion Pairs of Victoria. This success was again repeated in 1914/15.

1915/16 - 1916/17 - 1917/18 - 1918/19.

War Years.

Club and Interclub Races held.

1919/20.

Fifty three members of the Club volunteered during the War. At the conclusion of hostilities, the Club, which during the War had carried on, entered once again into the serious side of rowing.

Many new members nominated and this year saw the beginning of a big revival in rowing, the Club having the record membership of 112 financial members.

1920/21.

The revival of rowing continued to boom and this season the record membership of 123 members was attained.

The Diamond Jubilee of the Club was celebrated during this season.

1921/22.

The boom in rowing continued during this season and although only four races were won for the season, the membership of the Club continued to be maintained around the 100 mark.

1922/23.

The rowing boom of the early 'Twenties continued and the Club began to rise to the crest of the wave.

After a period of 19 years, the Club was again successful in winning the Victorian Junior Premiership with a 58 point margin over its nearest rival.

The most outstanding feature of this season was the number of "Doubles" won. Two Double Maiden Fours, Double Maiden Eight, Double Junior Four and Double Junior Eight. Of these "Doubles", four oarsmen, J. McDermott, H. Finlayson, A. Dawson and H. Inglis, rowed in the Double Maiden Four, Double Maiden Eight, Double Junior Four and Double Junior Eight.

After forty years of service, Mr. George Tomner, one of the Club's staunchest members passed away during this season. To perpetuate his memory, the Club raised funds and built a memorial in the form of the Rose Pergoda, which leads to View Point.

1923/24.

This year was not as successful as the previous one. The outstanding feature being the selection of Mr. H. Reynolds as emergency to the Interstate Eight. Due to his being unable to accept, the position was filled by Mr. H. Inglis.

1924/25 - 1925/26 - 1926/27.

These seasons saw the commencement of the slide down of rowing in Ballarat which had boomed over the years since the War. In order to encourage young men to join, the Club held a "Learn to Row Month".

1927/28.

The Club in this season again began to boom and finished second in the Junior Premiership and after a lapse of five years, won the Novice Premiership.

Club member, Mr. S. McGorm, was requested to compete for selection in the Olympic Sculling Test, but was unsuccessful.

1928/29.

For the first time since 1905, the Club won the Champion Eights of Victoria and thus making the fourth occasion the Club has won the event. The crew comprised, J. Inglis (bow) E. Panther (2) J. Russell (3) E. Elsworth (4) S. McGorm (5) H. Grace (6) K. A. Taylor (7) H. Inglis (str.) A. J. King (cox). Coach W. D. Dawson.

The V.R.A. this season instituted the One Mile Sculling Championship of Victoria. This race was won by the Club member, Mr. S. B. McGorm.

For many years the Ballarat Rowing Association had advocated the right of challenge to the selected interstate eight. As a result of pressure, the V.R.A. this year allowed the selected eight to be challenged. Accordingly, a crew was selected from the three Ballarat Clubs. This crew decisively defeated the selected crew and represented Victoria in the King's Cup. The Club was represented in this crew by E. Panther, S. McGorm, H. Grace and J. Andre. The crew was coached by Mr. J. B. Suffren of this Club, but unfortunately, he could not make the journey to West Australia and his place was filled by Mr. A. Dawson Snr. of this Club.

1929/30.

The season 1929/30 was not successful in Regatta Racing. In the One Mile Sculling Championship of Victoria, Mr. S. McGorm was again successful, this oarsman was also chosen as Victorian Interstate Eight Emergency.

Club membership this season dropped considerably.

1930/31.

Club membership continued to drop, but despite this, the Club met with better success than the previous season, winning the Maiden Eight at the Novice and Colac Regattas.

1931/32.

In 1931/32, the Club again won the Maiden Eight at Colac, the second year in succession, and thus won the Colac Traders Cup, which had been competed for over a period of 20 years. The Club registered its first leg in for the Cup in 1913. Apart from this win, the Club was unsuccessful in other regattas.

1932/33.

With the opening of this season a revival in Club interests and rowing resulted in several successes, most outstanding of which were the wins by Mr. S. McGorm in the 2000 Metres Victorian Sculling Championship and that of the same oarsman with R. Jelbart in winning the Pair Oared Championship of Victoria.

1933/34.

Only two regatta successes were gained this year. Very few novices nominated this year, which resulted in a lack of maiden oarsmen.

1934/35 - 1935/36.

Commencing these years with only a small number of Maiden and Junior Oarsmen, the Club won only one Regatta race for the two seasons, although the Novices, who jointed the Club during this time, won the Novice Premiership for both years.

1936/37 - 1937/38 - 1938/39.

Continuing a building up programme during the 1936/37 season, the Club entered the 1937/38 season full of enthusiasm and Club spirit, which resulted in several regatta wins.

One of the outstanding events of the 1937/38 season was the selection of Mr. R. Mills as a member of the Victorian Interstate Eight. This oarsman rose from the ranks of a novice oarsman to interstate oarsman in two years.

1939/40 - 1940/41 - 1941/42 - 1942/43 - 1943/44 - 1944/45.

During these years of the Second World War, rowing in Ballarat closed down.

Two Ballarat Regattas were held in the early years for Patriotic Funds.

In 1941/42 the three Ballarat Clubs combined and conducted a joint Annual Meeting.

1945/46.

With the conclusion of the 2nd World War in 1945, the Club set about rehabilitating rowing. Little was done in this year as many previous members, returning from war service, were not taking an interest in the sport.

The Ballarat Rowing Association tendered a welcome home to all ex-oarsmen returning from the Services.

1946/47.

Definite steps were taken this year to place the Club on a proper footing again.

Unfortunately, the war period had left the Clubhouse in a poor state of repair and it was decided to establish a building fund and to raise finance for the re-building or repairing of the Clubhouse.

Some former members, returned from the War, threw in their weight to assist in re-establishing the Club.

The influx of old and new members was not very encouraging and amalgamation with the Wendouree Club was advocated. It was decided, however, to persevere and drive for an increased membership.

During this year, The Ballarat Rowing Club Social Club was formed.

Although the Club entered in Regattas, there was no successes.

1947/48.

During this year one of the most important events in Ballarat Rowing occurred.

The Australian Rowing Council decided to use the Lake as the Test Course for the selection of a four-oared crew to represent Australia in the Olympic Games, held in London in 1948.

The Test Race, over 1850 metres, was successfully carried out by the Ballarat Rowing Association and won by Victoria.

The Club, in this its second year after the war, won the Novice Premiership of Ballarat.

The Club was represented in eight regattas, winning two events, and concluded the season with approximately 40 members.

#### 1948/49.

During this year the Club suffered a severe blow by the death of Mr. F. W. Marxsen who had for many years been a prominent and popular officer and member of the Club.

This year the Club made considerable progress in its recovery to prewar strength in membership and success in Regatta racing, and the predominately young men of the present members formed an excellent nucleus for coming seasons.

The Social Club this year won the "C" Grade Badminton Pennant.

During this year the Ballarat Rowing Association inaugurated a Premiership contest between the three Ballarat Clubs. Points were allotted to the crews of each Club finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the finals of interclub scratch events held each Saturday afternoon. Points were also allotted to each member of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd crews in the finals of interclub events.

In the first year, the Premiership Pennant was won by Wendouree and the Most Successful Oarsman was won by Mr. J. Hughes of the Ballarat Club.

#### 1949/50.

This season was one of the most successful in the history of the Club and created a record. Successes were, Victorian Light Weight Premiership, Ballarat Interclub Pennant, Ballarat Novice Premiership, Light Weight Champion Eights and Pairs of Victoria and 20 wins in open Regattas.

In this year, the Club's Social Club won the Ballarat Badminton "A" Grade Doubles Championship, also the "C" Grade Doubles Championship.

The Pair-Oared Sprint Championship was also won in this year.

In the Light Weight Champion Eights, the Club broke the existing record of the race by 1 min. 23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>5</sub> secs., the time taken being 7 min. 16<sup>2</sup>/<sub>5</sub> secs.

In this year, the Australian Rowing Council again selected

Lake Wendouree to row the Test Race for the four oared crew to represent Australia at the Empire Games held in New Zealand. This race was rowed over a new 2,000 metres course - for the first time in Ballarat Rowing.

### 1950/51.

For the second year in succession, the Club won the Light Champion Eight of Victoria and the Light Weight Premiership of Victoria.

The Club also broke the previous years record in Regatta successes by registering in Open Regattas, twenty two winning crews. The Club won also the Ballarat Rowing Association Novice Premiership and Interclub Pennant and ran second in the Victorian Junior Premiership.

The Most Successful Oarsman for the Season in Interclub races was Mr. G. Wallis of the Ballarat Club.

During this year it was announced that Lake Wendouree had been selected as the Venue for the Rowing Section of the 1956 Olympic Games.

Ballarat City Rowing Club suffered a severe loss this year when fire completely destroyed its Clubhouse and fleet.

The Light Weight Champion Eight, in registering the Club's second successive win, broke the Race record established by the Ballarat Crew the previous year. The time taken was 6 mins. 48<sup>2</sup>/<sub>5</sub> secs., being 28<sup>1</sup>/<sub>5</sub> secs. faster than the previous year.

### 1951/52.

By winning the Light Weight Champion Eight of Victoria this season, the Club again established a record for the race as being the first Club to win the race three time in succession.

To celebrate the victories in this race for the past three years, the Club entertained the members of the three crews at a dinner at the George Hotel.

### 1952/53.

During this year the Club had a slightly better year in Regatta racing than the previous season.

For the first time in the history of the Club a "Treble" was won. This "Treble" being wins by a Novice Four at the Warrnambool, Camperdown and Colac Regattas.

The Club this year very nearly won the Champion Light Weight Eight-Oared Championship of Victoria for the fourth successive year. When holding a commanding lead within a  $\frac{1}{2}$  Mile of the finish one of the Crew lost his seat which caused the boat to lose several lengths, a handicap which was too difficult to make up.

1952/53 Contd.

For the first time in the Clubs' history the Committee introduced competitions for the Clubs' " Most Successful Oarsman ", " Most Improved Oarsman ", " Most Successful 1st Year Oarsman " and " Most Attentive Coxswain ".

The winners in these being :-

Most Successful Oarsman ;-	Mr Vic DUBBERLEY.
Most Improved Oarsman :-	Mr Ron DOUGLAS.
Most Successful 1st Year Oarsman :-	Mr Dan FLETCHER.
Most Attentive Coxswain:-	Master Ian GODFREY.

1953/54.

This Season added a further success to the Club's wins in championship races when W. Tainsh and R. Kersopp with I. Godfrey as Coxswain won the Lightweight Championship of Victoria.

In addition to this race a "Double" Maiden Four was won at V.R.A. and Henley and a "Double" Maiden Eight at Colac and Camperdown. The Club also again won the Ballarat Rowing Association Novice Premiership.

For the second successive year the Club lost the Lightweight Champion Eight Oared Race due to a seat coming off during the race. This accident was traced to a fault in the boat and as a result the Club ordered a new racing eight.

The Club Committee Room this season was extended and completed, whilst the Dressing Room was remodelled and painted throughout.

The Club lost, during this season, by the death of Mr. A.M. King - a member of over fifty years, one of its staunchest and most ardent supporters. The late Mr. King had filled every office in the Club and had been a Life Member since 1948.

The following individual awards were made :-

Most Successful Oarsman	.. ..	Mr. W. Elliott
Most Improved Oarsman	.. ..	Mr. M. Haymes.
Most Successful First Year Oarsman	.. ..	Mr. E. Wilson.
Most Attentive Coxswain	.. ..	Master John Brayshaw.

Lake Wendouree this season was the venue for the Empire Test Race for Coxswainless Pairs.



1954/55

The Season showed a marked decline as far as successes in the rowing was concerned as compared with the past few years.

The Club was again successful in the Ballarat Rowing Association's Novice Premiership.

Early in the Season it was announced that the decision to hold the Rowing Events of the 1956 Olympic Games was revised and taken away from Ballarat Lake Wendouree and transferred to Lake Learmonth. Rowing enthusiasts throughout Victoria deplored this decision and working quietly behind the scenes achieved success by having the decision again reversed and the Events re-allotted to Lake Wendouree.

The following individual Awards were made:-

Most Successful Oarsman:- Tie. Messrs R. & K. Whykes.  
Most Improved Oarsman :- Mr. R. M. Douglas.  
Most Successful 1st Year Oarsman :- Tie Messrs. R. & K. Whukes.  
Most Attentive Coxswain:- Tie. Masters. Vic Whykes & J. Brayshaw.

1955/56

Due to a number of members retiring from active rowing the Club early in the Season found it difficult to boat crews, however, with a good influx of new members, regattas in the latter end of the season were better patronised and four races were won.

For the first time in the history of Victorian rowing, the Victorian Championship Eights and Sculls were rowed on Lake Wendouree. These races were rowed on the Olympic Course of 2000 metres.

History was again made when the Australian King's Cup Eight Oared Championship and President's Cup. Australian Champion Sculls were rowed over the 2000 metres Olympic Course on Lake Wendouree. The Eights were won by Victoria and the Sculls by New South Wales.

Both the above events provided magnificent rowing and were greatly enjoyed by the thousands that attended.

The Committee realising that the Clubhouse must look at its best for the Olympic Rowing to be held in November of the next Season, carried out improvements by painting the inside, outside and roof of the Clubhouse at a cost of £450. The Olympic Organising Committee also paid the cost of the installation of Hot Showers, additional Sewerage and steel boatracks.

Mr. I.A. Moran, Life Member passed away during this Season. Mr. Moran fulfilled the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Committee

Messrs. F. Roberts and L. Valpid for services rendered to the Club were made Life Members.

The following individual awards were made:-

Most Successful Oarsman	Mr. G. Gibb
Most Improved Oarsman	Mr. W. Williams
Most Successful Oarsman for 1st Year	Mr. B. Scherger
Most Attentive Coxswain	Mr. B. Gallagher

Two Club Members, Messrs G. Gibb and G. Wallis tied for the Most Successful Oarsman Trophy in races sponsored by The Ballarat Rowing Association.

## 1956/57

The 1956/57 Rowing Season will go down as one of the most outstanding in the history of Rowing in Australia and more particularly, Ballarat. Lake Wendouree, the home waters of Rowing in Ballarat was the venue of the XVth Olympic Games Rowing Events. Prior to the Olympic Rowing Events the Australian Rowing Council conducted on Lake Wendouree, the Olympic Rowing Trials for selection of Crews and Oarsmen to represent Australia in the World's Classic. Both Trials and Olympic Rowing Events produced rowing of the highest standard, which was not only of interest but very instructive to Australian Oarsmen.

During the period of the Games the Ballarat Club was host to crews representing Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Rumania, Russia and Germany. The oarsmen of these Nations were loud in their praise of the Lake, the Clubhouse and its facilities.

Owing to the Olympic Games the Boathouse was closed to members for a period of two months. This early season lack of rowing reflected on the Season's activities. As a result only one Regatta win was recorded for the year. It was also found necessary to abandon the year's Novice Regatta.

During the Season Life Member and Vice President Mr. J.B. Suffren passed away. Mr. Suffren was a member of the Club for over 60 years. He was one of the most successful oarsmen produced by the Club, having won many races including three Interstate Eights and represented the State on four occasions. He had, during his long membership, carried out the duties of President, Vice President, Captain and Vice Captain on various occasions.

Mr. T.W.L. Cotton was this year elected a Life Member of the Club for services rendered.

## 1957/58

This year The Club was fortunate in gaining sixteen novices. It was discovered that the present practice boats were inadequate and a new practice four was ordered.

A series of successful social evenings conducted throughout the year greatly assisted finance ; resulting in a credit balance of £208.0.0.

## 1958/59

During the season the Club boated two novice fours in the Ballarat Rowing Association Novice Regatta. The number one crew being successful. The maiden eight was also successful at this regatta. At the Barwon Regatta the Club won both the maiden four and pair, against strong opposition.

The practice four, ordered from Mr. A. Sykes , duly arrived and was named "The Frank S. Roberts."

Mr. Eric O'Toole made available a trophy for the most improved oarsmen, and this was won by Mr. T. Zabinski. The Wattles Baseball Club, which is made up of members of our Club had a successful season in winning the Minor One Premiership.

1959/60.

On 19th December, 1959 the Ballarat Rowing Association, on behalf of the V. R. A. conducted the State Eight Oared and Sculling Championships and Light Weight Fours Test Race. Four other events were included to make up a Regatta programme. The events were decided under excellent conditions and were witnessed by a large crowd of local and Melbourne enthusiasts.

Lake Wendouree was chosen as the venue for the Pair Oared with Coxswain and the Four Oared Coxswain Test Races for the XVII th. Olympiad. This event was conducted on 16th April, 1960.

During this year, the club aquired, for coaching purposes, a new motor boat, powered by an eighteen horse Johnson Motor, costing complete nearly £500. 0. 0. It was decided to name the craft "The A.M. King" after our late esteemed Life Member and President.

The most improved oarsmen was won by Mr. F. Dawkins. The trophy was donated by Mr. E. Laughton was won by Mr. J. Grubits.

Mr. H. Mudie, an active member prior to the First World War, passed away during the season.

## Office Bearers: Ballarat Rowing Club

Season	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Captain	Vice-Captain	Life Members
861/62	S. T. Clissold.	W. Clarke.	R. McLaren.	E. Williams.	---	---
862/63	W. H. Foster.	W. Clarke.	W. Clarke.	do.	---	---
863/64	W. H. Foster.	(W. Clarke (Resigned) W. P. Whitcombe.	W. Clarke.	do.	---	---
864/65	W. H. Foster.	W. P. Whitcombe.	R. McLaren.	do.	---	---
865/66	W. H. Foster.	Wm. Davidson.	R. McLaren.	do.	---	---
866/67	S. T. Clissold.	Wm. Davidson.	Lewis.	do.	---	R. McLaren - W. Clarke.
867/68	S. T. Clissold.	W. R. Reid.	J. Lipscombe.	do.	---	---
868/69	S. T. Clissold.	W. R. Reid.	J. Lipscombe.	do.	---	---
869/70	W. C. Smith.	W. R. Reid.	J. Lipscombe.	do.	---	---
870/71	W. C. Smith.	W. A. Orr.	J. Lipscombe.	do.	---	---
871/72	H. Cuthbert.	W. A. Orr.	J. Lipscombe.	do.	---	---
872/73	H. Cuthbert.	W. Davidson.	D. Madden.	do.	---	---
873/74	H. Cuthbert.	(T. W. Gaggin (Resigned) R. D. Williams.	D. Madden.	do.	---	---
1874/75	Holmes.	J. L. Irvine.	D. Madden.	do.	---	E. Williams.
1875/76	J. Hardy.	(J. L. Irvine (Resigned) J. W. Roxburgh.	D. Madden.	do.	---	---
1876/77	G. F. Bartrop.	D. Thompson.	(D. Madden (Resigned) T. Mann.	do.	---	---
1877/78	G. F. Bartrop.	(J. Roxburgh (Resigned) T. Roxburgh.	T. Mann.	do.	---	---
1878/79	F. M. Claxton.	(T. Roxburgh (Resigned) J. McWhae.	T. Mann.	do.	First Appointment made 21/12/78.	G. F. Bartrop.
1879/80	F. M. Claxton.	J. McWhae.	T. Mann.	do.	C. P. Bennett.	---
1880/81	F. M. Claxton.	J. McWhae.	T. Mann.	do.	R. Sharp.	---

## Office Bearers: Ballarat Rowing Club

Season	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Captain	Vice-Captain	Life Members
1881/82	J. N. Wilson.	{ O. E. Wilson (Resigned) R. Foley.	T. Holding.	E. Williams.	J. McWhae.	---
1882/83	F. M. Claxton.	A. H. King.	T. Holding.	do.	J. Grant.	---
1883/84	F. M. Claxton.	W. S. Whitelaw.	H. Taylor.	do.	J. Grant.	---
1884/85	F. M. Claxton.	{ W. S. Whitelaw (Resigned) Tatchell (Resigned) J. Lonie.	C. G. Akins.	J. Grant.	H. Nevin.	---
1885/86	F. M. Claxton.	C. G. Akins.	{ H. Niven (Resigned) J. P. Moran.	J. McWhae.	F. W. Commons.	---
1886/87	F. M. Claxton.	C. G. Akins.	J. P. Moran.	F. W. Commons.	Geo. Reid.	---
1887/88	F. M. Claxton.	{ C. G. Akins (Resigned) Geo. Tonner.	J. P. Moran.	F. W. Commons.	R. W. Ditchburn.	---
1888/89	Thos. Bath.	Tatchell.	J. P. Moran.	R. Tunbridge.	Geo. Tonner.	J. McWhae - C. G. Akins.
1889/90	Thos. Bath.	W. M. Caldwell.	{ R. M. Duthie (Resigned) T. Davies.	C. G. Akins.	Geo. Tonner.	---
1890/91	R. W. Holmes.	Geo. Tonner.	T. Davies.	F. W. Commons.	H. C. Tonner.	---
1891/92	R. W. Holmes.	Geo. Tonner.	T. Davies.	F. W. Commons.	H. C. Tonner.	---
1892/93	R. W. Holmes.	Geo. Tonner.	T. Davies.	F. W. Commons.	H. C. Tonner.	---
1893/94	J. Heinz.	Geo. Tonner.	{ C. Hager (Resigned) T. P. Foley.	H. C. Tonner.	R. M. Bourke.	F. W. Commons - R. W. Holmes.
1894/95	J. Heinz.	Geo. Tonner.	C. H. Hager.	H. Tonner.	R. M. Bourke.	---
1895/96	J. Heinz.	Geo. Tonner.	C. H. Hager.	H. Tonner.	R. M. Bourke.	---
1896/97	J. Heinz.	{ J. P. Bourke (Resigned) W. Elsworth.	C. H. Hager.	H. Tonner.	J. Twaits.	---
1897/98	J. Heinz.	W. Elsworth.	C. H. Hager.	H. Tonner.	J. Twaits.	---
1898/99	J. Heinz.	W. Elsworth.	I. A. Moran.	H. Tonner.	J. Anderson.	R. T. Hager.
1899/ 1900	J. Heinz.	W. Elsworth.	I. A. Moran.	H. Tonner.	J. Anderson.	---
1900/ 1901.	J. Heinz.	G. R. Anderson.	I. A. Moran.	J. Anderson.	J. B. Suffren.	H. C. Tonner.

## Office Bearers: Ballarat Rowing Club

Season	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Captain	Vice-Captain	Life Members
1901/02	J. Heinz.	G. R. Anderson.	I. A. Moran.	J. B. Suffren.	W. D. Dawson.	W. Orrock.
1902/03	J. Heinz.	D. Cameron.	G. H. Balhausen.	J. B. Suffren.	J. P. Bourke.	T. Bailey.
1903/04	J. Heinz.	D. Cameron.	G. H. Balhausen.	W. D. Dawson.	J. P. Bourke.	---
1904/05	J. Heinz.	D. Cameron.	G. H. Balhausen.	W. D. Dawson.	J. P. Bourke.	---
1905/06	S. Seward.	(D. Cameron (Resigned) (C. N. Tullock.	(C. Tullock (Resigned) (A. M. King.	W. D. Dawson.	(J. B. Suffren (Resigned) (J. P. Bourke.	---
1906/07	S. Seward.	C.N Tullock.	A. M. King.	W. D. Dawson.	J. P. Bourke.	---
1907/08	S. Seward.	C.N Tullock.	A. M. King.	W. D. Dawson.	J. P. Bourke.	---
1908/09	S. Seward.	W. Philp.	A. M. King.	W. D. Dawson.	(C. N. Tullock (Resigned) (G. H. Balhausen.	---
1909/10	S. Seward.	A. M. King.	(F. Finlayson (Resigned) (J. Vipond.	W. D. Dawson.	H. F. Sellick.	---
1910/11	S. Seward.	A. M. King.	J. Vipond.	W. D. Dawson.	J. P. Bourke.	---
1911/12	S. Seward.	A. M. King.	J. Vipond.	W. D. Dawson.	J. P. Bourke.	---
1912/13	S. Seward.	A. M. King.	F. Fleming.	J. P. Bourke.	E. Cochran.	W. D. Dawson.
1913/14	S. Seward.	A. M. King.	F. Fleming.	J. P. Bourke.	E. Cochran.	---
1914/15	S. Seward.	F. W. Finlayson.	F. Fleming.	(J. P. Bourke, (Rsgnd. 6/2/15.) (W. D. Dawson.	(E. Cochran, (Rsgnd. 6/2/15.) (A. M. King.	---
1915/16	S. Seward.	F. W. Finlayson.	H. B. Roberts.	W. D. Dawson.	A. M. King.	J. P. Bourke.
1916/17	S. Seward.	H. B. Roberts.	R. Humphreys.	W. D. Dawson.	A. M. King.	---
1917/18	Geo. Tonner.	H. B. Roberts.	F. W. Marxsen.	A. M. King.	R. Humphreys.	S. Seward.
1918/19	Geo. Tonner.	H. B. Roberts.	F. W. Marxsen.	A. M. King.	R. Humphreys.	---
1919/20	Geo. Tonner.	H. B. Roberts.	F. W. Marxsen.	J. Vipond.	F. Fleming.	---
1920/21	W. D. Dawson.	G. Simpson.	E. L. Morey.	F. W. Finlayson.	R. Gallagher.	Geo. Tonner.
1921/22	H. C. Tonner.	(G. Simpson, (Rsgnd. 27/6/22) (T. W. L. Cotton.	E. L. Morey.	F. W. Finlayson.	J. Perry.	---

# Office Bearers: Ballarat Rowing Club

Season	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Captain	Vice-Captain	Life Members
1922/23	J. B. Suffren.	F. W. Marxsen.	{ E. L. Morey, (Rsgnd. 2/10/22) B. Headlam.	F. W. Finlayson.	J. Perry.	---
1923/24	Dr. W. E. Davies.	T. W. L. Cotton.	{ B. Headlam, (Rsgnd. 11/1/23) S. G. Thompson.	F. W. Finlayson.	J. Perry.	---
1924/25	Dr. W. E. Davies.	T. W. L. Cotton.	S. G. Thompson.	R. Gallagher.	{ H. Williamson, (Rsgnd. 27/1/25) A. Sergeant.	---
925/26	I. A. Moran.	T. W. L. Cotton.	A. J. King.	W. Wilcock.	T. Gunn.	W. R. Elsworth.
926/27	J. B. Suffren.	T. W. L. Cotton.	J. Russell.	C. E. Suffren.	T. Gunn.	---
927/28	T. H. Moran.	T. W. L. Cotton.	O. Wood.	C. E. Suffren.	E. Elsworth.	---
928/29	A. M. King.	T. W. L. Cotton.	J. Russell.	E. Elsworth.	C. Benjamin.	---
929/30	A. M. King.	A. J. King.	M. Dunn.	{ C. Benjamin, (Rsgnd. 13/1/30) K. Bradby.	{ K. Bradby, (Rsgnd. 13/1/30) E. Laughton.	---
930/31	F. Fleming.	A. J. King.	F. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	P. Elsdon.	---
931/32	F. W. Finlayson.	{ J. E. Suffren, (Rsgnd. 5/5/32) V. Wendt.	F. W. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	P. Elsdon.	---
932/33	F. W. Marxsen.	V. Wendt.	M. Dunn.	E. Laughton.	P. Elsdon.	---
933/34	I. A. Moran.	F. Suffren.	M. Dunn.	J. Inglis.	{ C. Edmond, (Rsgnd. 22/10/33) V. Wendt.	---
934/35	I. A. Moran.	F. Suffren.	M. Dunn.	C. E. Suffren.	J. Inglis.	Dick Mitchell.
935/36	I. A. Moran.	J. Hancock.	F. Suffren.	C. E. Suffren.	W. McGregor.	---
936/37	A. M. King.	J. Hancock.	F. Suffren.	F. Suffren.	W. McGregor.	---
937/38	F. W. Marxsen.	{ J. Hancock, (Rsgnd. 11/1/38) W. Bath.	W. Bath.	W. McGregor.	E. Laughton.	---

# Office Bearers: Ballarat Rowing Club

Season	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Captain	Vice-Captain	Life Members
1938/39	F. W. Marxsen.	W. Bath.	F. Suffren.	W. McGregor.	E. Laughton.	---
1939/40	F. W. Finlayson.	W. McGregor.	F. Suffren.	A. Rowe.	E. Laughton.	---
1940/41	I. A. Moran.	W. McGregor.	G. Taylor.	A. Rowe.	E. Laughton.	2nd World ---
1941/42	I. A. Moran.	H. Bell.	F. W. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	W. McGregor.	War ---
1942/43	I. A. Moran.	H. Bell.	F. W. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	W. McGregor.	---
1943/44	I. A. Moran.	H. Bell.	F. W. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	W. McGregor.	Years. ---
1944/45	I. A. Moran.	H. Bell.	F. W. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	W. McGregor.	---
1945/46	I. A. Moran.	H. Bell.	F. W. Marxsen.	E. Laughton.	W. McGregor.	---
1946/47	E. Laughton.	G. Farrer.	G. Taylor.	(A. Beaton, (Rsgnd. 22/4/47) (B. Orr.	B. Orr.	---
1947/48	T. W. L. Cotton.	G. Farrer.	G. Taylor.	A. Dawson.	B. Orr.	A. M. King - J. B Suffren, I. A. Moran & F. W. Marxsen.
1948/49	T. W. L. Cotton.	G. Taylor.	K. Baird.	F. Roberts.	K. Quinert.	---
1949/50	T. W. L. Cotton.	G. Taylor.	K. Quinert.	F. Roberts.	G. Vawdrey.	---
1950/51	T. W. L. Cotton.	R. J. Morris.	M. Balharrie.	F. Roberts.	G. Wallis.	---
1951/52	T. W. L. Cotton.	R. J. Morris.	J. Jenkins.	W. Tainsh.	G. Wallis.	A. Sargeant, E. Laughton.
952/53.	T. W. L. Cotton.	R. J. Morris.	J. Jenkins.	W. Tainsh.	G. Wallis.	---
953/54	T.W.L. Cotton.	R. J. Morris.	P. Stacey.	F. Roberts.	W. Tainsh.	---
954/55	T.W.L. Cotton.	R. J. Morris	J. Jenkins.	W. J. Sutherland	R.L. Montgomery	----
1955/56	T.W.L. Cotton	E.K.McLenehan	E.K.McLenehan	R. M. Douglas	W. Tainsh (resigned) G. Wallis (appointed)	----
1956/57	T.W.L. Cotton	E.K.McLenehan	E.K.McLenehan	G. Wallis	E. Whykes	F.Roberts and L. Valpied.
1957/58	L. Valpied	M. Gallagher	R. Montgomery	D. Gibb RES DEC 57 R. KIERCE ELC. " " R.WHYKES DEC DEC 57	R. Kierce	T.W.L.Cotton



# Office Bearers: Ballarat Rowing Club

Season	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Captain	Vice-Captain	Life Members
1958/59	L. Valpied	M. Gallagher.	B. Ridley	R. Whykes.	J. Grubits.	
1959/60	L. Valpied	A. G. Taylor	K. A. Whykes.	G. Wallis	P. Dalton	
					res.	
					K. Canny.	
					Elected Feb. 60.	