

Media Alert – (Head of the Yarra Results)

55th Annual Head of the Yarra - Saturday November 30th 2013

Mercantile Rowing Club Victorious

Around 1700 competitors in 186 rowing eights created a marvelous spectacle today on the Yarra as they raced their craft from Birrarung Marr to Hawthorn Rowing Club in the annual Head of the Yarra.

Crews representing every state and New Zealand made the pilgrimage to Melbourne. The annual classic saw crews of all ability test their skill against the country's best for fastest time over the grueling 8.6km Yarra course.

The Mercantile Men's' eight stroked by Josh Dunkley-Smith, stacked with world champion oarsmen like David Crawshay and Fegus Pragnell and superbly coxed by Morgan posted the fastest time of (26:13:23 min) narrowly ahead of local rivals The University of Melbourne Boat club stroked by Poulter (26:26:11 min).

In the elite Women's Eights, Mercantile Women's Eight stroked by Charlotte Sutherland took line honors in a time of (28:58:74) ahead of the interstate Mosman composite crew stroked by Gotch (29:47:18).

In the schools' section, Scotch College continued its dominance of the boy's eights. Their first crew stroked by Dickinson, did the course in a time of (27:30:02 min), ahead of Melbourne Grammar (Risbey) in (29:41:63 min).

The Schoolgirls first eights saw a very strong field of Victorian and interstate crews however it was the Methodist Ladies College stroked by Joyce (32:41:19 min) who edged out the Melbourne Girls Grammar crew stroked by Fowler (33:24:37min).

The race attracted thousands of spectators along the full length of the Yarra course.

A crowd of about 8000 congregated amongst the crews and boats for the trophy presentations and the post race carnival at the finish in the Yarra Bank Reserve in Hawthorn.

Attached are Race section results. Full results are available on the Website www.headoftheyarra.com

Ends.....

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