



## Media Alert – (Head of the Yarra Results)

**56th Annual Head of the Yarra - Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup> 2014**

### **Melbourne University Boat Club Victorious**

Close to 2000 competitors in 220 rowing eights created a marvelous spectacle today on the Yarra as they raced from Birrarung Marr to Hawthorn Rowing Club in the annual Head of the Yarra.

Club 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 University of Melbourne Men's Eight stroked by George and superbly coxed by David Webster created a new race record (24:56:82 min) smashing the old race record by 24 seconds. They were pushed all the way along the course by the Mercantile Men's' eight stroked by John Linke and coxed by Annabelle Orr who finished just 3 seconds behind (24:59:45) after 8.6 km of very close racing.

In the elite Women's Eights, Mercantile Women's Eight stroked by Charlotte Sutherland took line honors in a time of (27:57:96) ahead of the Melbourne University composite crew stroked by Lucy Stephen (28:45:79).

In the schools' section, Scotch College continued its dominance of the boy's eights. Their first crew stroked by Alexander Wolf, did the course in a time of (27:02:85 min) ahead of Melbourne Grammar (Blomley) in (27:55:20 min).

The Schoolgirls first eights saw a very strong field of Victorian and interstate crews however it was the Sydney based Pymble Ladies College stroked by Hanley (32:59:02 min) who edged out the Loreto (Melb.) Girls Grammar crew stroked by Hart (33:17:85 min).

The oldest competitors - the "Ancient Mariners" (Drummoyne composite) with an average crew age of 81 completed the course in (40:43:47 min).

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](http://www.headoftheyarra.com)

Ends.....

#### **Media Enquiries:**

Pat Freeland-Small Hawthorn Rowing Club - Mobile 0418 631862



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