

Dunella Hotel, Broughry Ferry

Saturday 24 February 1979

The 22nd Annual Dinner of the S.A.S.A. Past Presidents Association was held in the Dunella Hotel, Broughry Ferry on Saturday 24 February 1979 at 7.30 pm. following the meeting of the Association held in Dundee earlier the same day

The company consisted of the regular number of past presidents who, loyally, continue to take pride in the affairs of the association and the honour which it had conferred on them.

Those present were:-

Tom Myres (1953)	J. Y. Courts (1971)
Wm. Sharpe (1961)	John Neil (1973)
John Donne (1965)	Les Turberville (1974)
Alex Spence (1967)	Peter Hearty (1975)
Bill Cowan (1968)	Mary Black (1976/7)
Jack. Wainwright (1969)	Pete Smith (1978)

Messrs Sharpe, Spence, Cowan, Neil, Turberville and Smith were accompanied by their wives and the company was completed by General Secretary Bill Black along with his wife, Mary. Bill always demonstrates his agility in clambering on items of furniture in order to ~~reach~~ photograph these gatherings for posterity.

The guests of honour for the evening were the newly installed President of the Association, Mr. R.A. (Alan) Robertson (Penguin A.S.C) and his wife Sheena. They had previously met most of the company in formally over drinks at the Woodlands Hotel, Broughton Ferry where most of the party were staying.

The chairman for the evening was Mr. Peter Smith who earlier in the day had steered the Association's A.G.M. through many tricky proposals with amendments and counter amendments.

The standard of the meal was well

up to that of former years while our Gallic host ensured that everyone was fortified with a regular supply of choice wines designed to test the palates of many professed wine-tasters present.

At the conclusion of the meal, the chairman proposed the loyal toast which was readily responded to, particularly by those reaching for their cigar cases, cigarette packets or tobacco pouches.

Though the air may have been blue with smoke the atmosphere remained one of friendly reminiscence with humorous anecdotes from the experience of those present.

Pete Smith welcomed those present particularly the new president and his lady, the intimate apologies from George Prescott (in hospital), R. Paterson, Ken Brown and Willy Foulds. He also referred to those who had been present at earlier gatherings and had now passed on. Finally with a few well-down words, he proposed a

Grant to "The Scottish Amateur Swimming Association"

Alan Robertson, in his reply, expressed himself as "being overawed at the distinguished company" but proceeded to demolish this argument with some witty remarks particularly when recalling his own background in swimming.

Photographs of previous dinners and other functions were passed round by Tom Myers and Bill Black. There was much banter and jokes mainly centred, if I recall aright, around the Irish.

At the end of ~~the~~ an enjoyable evening the company heartily responded to a vote of thanks proposed by John Neil to Alex Spence and Peter Smith for their excellent arrangements and hospitality.

The Annual General Meeting for 1980 was to be held in the North District

and arrangements for the ensuing dinner
would be in the hands of the new
President and Les Turbott.