

Invercarse Hotel, Dundee  
28 February 1987.

The Past Presidents of the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association met for their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner at the Invercarse Hotel, Dundee on the evening of the day which had seen the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association held at the Dundee College of Education.

The Past Presidents in attendance were:-

John Gunning - 1957	Alan Robertson - 1979
George Prescott - 1964	Jim Thomson - 1980
Alex Speace - 1967	Mae Healey - 1981
John Neil - 1973	Don Hawthorn - 1983
Les Turberville - 1974	Jack Snowden - 1984
Peter Healey - 1975	Douglas Cape - 1985
Mary Black - 1976/77	Norris Beattie - 1986
Pete Smith - 1978	

Fifteen past-presidents present represented

a new peak for attendance;

Husbands and wives were all present except for confirmed bachelor John Gunning (though he made it known that he was open to offers), and Amy Cape, wife of the evening's chairman, who was not well enough to attend.

There were also apologies for absence from:-  
Tom Myers - 1953

Bill Cowan - 1968

William Sharp - 1961

Jim Wainwright - 1969

George Rae - 1963

Tom Nelson - 1982

With our guests newly installed president of the Association, Andrew Taylor and his wife, Nan, plus a visitor from south of the border, Austen Rawlinson

Past President of the F.S.A. and newly made Life Member of the S.A.S.A. the company

totalled 29 which was another P.B.

After the company were seated - in the form of a square - George Prescott said the Grace. This proved a little premature - ~~the~~ being on the hotel staff were not ready for the off.

After the Referee - the said Mr. Prescott - had reprimanded those responsible for delaying the start, things got under way and a first-class meal enjoyed.

After the Loyal Toast, the Chairman Doug Cape, welcomed all those present. He thanked his colleagues from the Midlands District for the assistance they had given him in the organisation of the event.

The Scribe was then called upon to read his recorded version of what had taken place on the occasion of the 1986 Dinner held at the Barton Hotel, Edinburgh. It was accepted as being, to the best of everybody's recollection, substantially correct.

Pete Smith then made the customary toast to the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association. In welcoming the newly installed President Andrew Taylor and his wife, Nan, Pete recalled his own introduction to the Past Presidents' Association at the Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh, in 1978. This was ~~the~~<sup>at</sup> the end of the Coules/Williamson era. Jack had been present at the dinner but Jimmy

was prevented by a last minute illness from preparing the  
course to the S.A.S.A. and it was read for him by  
Alex Spence.

In the paper and articles, the Secretary and Treasurer  
had virtually controlled the Association's activities but since those  
times there had been considerable development in the  
various disciplines - the budgeted expenditure being  
something of the order of £250,000. He congratulated  
Bill Black on the completion of the Annual  
Report for 1986. A lot of information had been  
recorded in a most readable report in an  
attractive presentation. He referred to the  
successful organisation of the Swimmers' events at  
the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games which had  
brought credit to the Association. Finally, Peter  
referred to the aims which Andrew Taylor had outlined  
in his inaugural speech at the A.G.M. that afternoon.  
He pledged the support of all Past Presidents and  
wished Andrew a very successful year in office and  
that Nan Coe, would find it possible to share  
and enjoy the wonderful experience of spearheading the  
Association's activities.



The president, Andrew Taylor, in his reply, indicated his pleasure and sense of privilege to be joining the company of such distinguished predecessors. He re-iterated his ambitions for the future of the Association as outlined by him at the A.G.M. and hoped that he might lead the Association to further development during the ensuing twelve months.

Congratulations were extended to Peter Hearty on the award of the L.E.N. Medal and F.I.N.A. Gold Pin for Services to these international swimming bodies. Also to Allan Robertson for being awarded the O.B.E. in the Queen's New Years Honours.

Austen Rawlinson said how much he had enjoyed his day and how he appreciated the thoughts of his friends in Scottish Swimming in accordng him Life Membership of the Association.

There was some discussion on the proposed event for 1988 - the Association's

Centenary Year. The A.G.M. would be in Aberdeen and since the local District Council were expected to be inviting members of the Association and their partners to a Dinner / Dance ~~at~~ on the Saturday evening - it was agreed that the Past President's Dinner would be held on the Friday evening prior to the A.G.M. Arrangements to be made by Don Hawthorn in conjunction with Allan Robertson and Les Torberville. The Association was to have a new Logo, badges, ties etc for the Centenary and it was thought appropriate that the Past President should present a new flag to the Association. The Scribe was asked to write to the Secretary to see if Council would accept this offer.

The formalities of the evening being concluded the members and their partners went up the evening with informal conversation until the strains and strains of the long day brought another pleasant evening to a halt with thanks to Doug Cape and his fellow Midland Past Presidents for their excellent arrangements.