



# Pollockshields to *Pollockshields*

IN 1946 I FIRST learned to swim in the pool at my Bellahouston school located in the district of Pollockshields. From the beginning it was mostly an underwater affair for me, not having a natural tendency towards buoyancy. Graduation came in helping to found the Scottish Sub-Aqua Club and all that flowed from this wonderful experience.

Now this summer visiting my son and grandson again in Bermuda the question of how to celebrate became obvious. A favourite haunt is Elbow Beach (Seahorse Grill on the beach) where 500 yards directly offshore in the shallower water of the inner reef lies the 90 year old wreck of the *SS Pollockshields*.

A recent survey by the Royal



Navy has declared that the ship may be unsuitable for divers due to First World War ammunition still being present, but is nevertheless easily accessible from the beach to snorkellers - and more importantly - 70 year olds!

Here is a toast to the 'continued success of ScotSAC and all its members'. Best wishes to all *Graham W. Holburn* (Founder Life Member)

## Branch Instructor Training Course Dates 2006-7

PLACES ARE still available on Branch Instructor courses which will take place during 2006-2007.

| Date                   | Location          | Course Organiser |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Sat July 15, 2006      | SSAC HQ           | Andy Murray      |
| Sat September 02, 2006 | Napier University | Andy Murray      |
| Sat September 30, 2006 | Aberdeen          | Andy Murray      |
| Sat December 02, 2006  | Dumfries (tbc)    | tbc              |
| Sat January 27, 2007   | SSAC HQ           | Andy Murray      |

The course cost is £35. All members must hold the required pre-requisites shown below prior to securing their place on the course. To book your place on the date of your choice, email ScotSAC HQ or telephone 0141 425 1021 to request a booking form and BDO Recommendation form.

Pre-requisites for the course:

- Hold current membership of the Scottish Sub-Aqua Club.
- Have been a SSAC Sports Diver for at least eighteen months
- Hold current medical certificate.
- Be aged 18 or over (unless recommended by RC).
- Have at least 75 correctly logged dives.
- Have completed the Master Diver 'dive leader' endorsement.
- Have attended the Master Diver lectures on Safety and Emergency Procedures and Advanced Decompression Theory.
- Have the recommendation of the Branch Diving Officer (BDO)
- Have the recommendation of the Regional Coach. This prerequisite is desirable for most candidates, but essential for those recommended by 'Acting' BDO's.

*Andy Murray, Course Director*

## CONGRATS

CONGRATULATIONS TO Neil Martin and Stuart Hawthorn (Auchenharvie Sub Aqua Club) on completion of their Branch Instructor Award - well done!

KILMARNOCK SAC would like to congratulate Alasdair Reid and Brian McKenna on becoming Sport Divers. Brian has been busy as he also

completed his RYA 2 course along with Phil Maguire and father and son combo Craig and Mark McVicar. Well done to all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO David Sharp of Peeblesshire branch who recently successfully completed his Branch Instructor award. David completed his final assessment for Branch Instructor during Peeblesshire's recent training weekend at Oban. Well done David Hugh Fraser Regional Coach.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to each of the following on achieving their awards; Felix Maurin of Napier University Branch on gaining his Sport Diver Award; Julie Young and Steve Taylor of Pentland Branch; and Steve Younger of Napier University Branch for successfully completing the Master Diver examination.

Finally congratulations to Assistant NDO, Kevin Watson, on completing his 1500th dive - it just goes to show how long he's been around!



*David Sharp being congratulated by Tony Bennett BDO of Peeblesshire SAC*

# Regional Appointments 2006/2007

GRAEME FORSYTH has been appointed as ScotSAC National Coach for 2006-2007. Graeme has been diving for 12 years and is also an elected member of the National Diving Council. He has been a Regional Coach in the past and holds his Master Diver, Regional Instructor and Deep Diving Instructor awards. Graeme has particular interest in wreck diving and observing marine life.

As National Coach, Graeme is responsible for allocating Regional Coaches to branches to ensure they all have a point of contact to provide training and support as required. This includes Branch Instructor assessments and assisting with Regional Instructor assessments.

The National Coach has established a Task Force headed by himself, and consisting of a number of Regional Coaches. This Task Force aims to provide dedicated support to branches with particular needs such as geographical location or a large influx of trainees at particular times of year.

This list may change throughout the year due to the appointment of further Regional Coaches. All branches have a definitive point of contact for any of their requirements.

In addition, a number of Regional Instructors are undergoing training to become Regional Coaches. A number of the Task Force branches will be allocated specific Regional Coaches in the near future.

Discover & Enjoy  
g o z o  
malta



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|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Alford (Aberdeen)      | George McBurns        | Kelvin                 | Kevin Miller          |
| Arran                  | Graeme Forsyth        | Kilmarnock             | Task Force            |
| Auchenharvie           | Graeme Forsyth        | Larkhall               | Joe Campbell          |
| Ayr                    | Task Force            | Limerick University    | Murray Macallum       |
| Bellshill              | Task Force            | LotSAC                 | Murray Macallum       |
| Berwickshire           | David Fuller-Shapcott | Mallaig                | Task Force            |
| Bo'ness                | Iona Anthony          | Midlothian             | Murray Macallum       |
| Borders                | Hugh Fraser           | Minch Active Divers    | George McBurns        |
| Campbeltown            | Graeme Forsyth        | Moray House            | Don Lees              |
| Carlisle               | Peter Courtier        | Musselburgh            | Don Lees              |
| Central Scotland       | Task Force            | Napier University      | Hugh Fraser           |
| Cleadow & District     | David Fuller-Shapcott | Neptune                | Task Force            |
| Clyde                  | Graeme Forsyth        | Ninewells              | Task Force            |
| Clydebank              | Kevin Miller          | North Durham           | David Fuller-Shapcott |
| Coatbridge             | Joe Campbell          |                        | Task Force            |
| Cumbernauld            | Task Force            | Oban                   | Task Force            |
| Cumnock & Doon Valley  | Task Force            | Orkney                 | Task Force            |
| Dumbarton              | Kevin Miller          | Paisley                | Graeme Forsyth        |
| Dumfries & Galloway    | Bert Smith            | Peebles                | Hugh Fraser           |
| Dunoon                 | Graeme Forsyth        | Penrith                | Peter Courtier        |
| East Coast Diving      | George McBurns        | Pentland               | Don Lees              |
| E. Kilbride Pro Divers | Joe Campbell          | Perth                  | Task Force            |
| East Lothian           | Task Force            | Red Fox                | Peter Courtier        |
| Eastwood               | Tony Carter           | Reivers                | Bert Smith            |
| Edinburgh              | Billy Symmington      | Shetland               | Task Force            |
| Edinburgh Tollcross    | Don Lees              | Skye                   | Task Force            |
| Forth                  | Billy Symmington      | Solway                 | Peter Courtier        |
| Forth Valley           | Andy Murray           | Stirling               | Iona Anthony          |
| General Branch         | NDO                   | Stirling University    | Andy Murray           |
| Glasgow Academy        | Tony Carter           | Stranraer              | Bert Smith            |
| Glasgow South          | Joe Campbell          | Strathclyde University | Task Force            |
| Grampian               | George McBurns        | Tayside                | Task Force            |
| Greenfaulds            | Joe Campbell          | Telford                | David Carruthers      |
| Hamilton               | Drew Stevenson        | Ullapool               | Kevin Watson          |
| Inverclyde             | Task Force            | West Coast Divers      | Drew Stevenson        |
| Irvine                 | Task Force            | West End Divers        | Kevin Miller          |
| Johnstone              | Andy Murray           | West Lakes             | Task Force            |
| Kelsac                 | Kev Watson            | West Lothian           | Andy Murray           |