



Scottish Divers Back Wreck Mapping Project

MEMBERS OF two Scottish Sub-Aqua Clubs got together in June to carry out a Wreck Map Britain 2006 dive on the wreck of the SS *President* which sank off the Berwickshire coast.

Wreck Map Britain is an initiative by the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS), with the support of Seasearch, to encourage sports divers to spend one dive during the summer recording some very basic information on a local wreck.

The data collected is both about the wreck itself and about the marine life which inhabits the wreck site. A special feedback form is available from the NAS website to guide divers on the type of information wanted.

Once the information is collected, the completed form is sent back to the NAS, who will enter it on the NAS Wreck Map Britain database. This will make the information available to anyone with an interest in the wreck site, including other divers.

The NAS will also send on any relevant data to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland and to Seasearch to update their records.

The President was on route to Methil (Fife) from Hamburg when she ran aground in thick fog on June 29, 1928 in a shallow bay south of Eyemouth.

The wreck is well broken up with only a few of the deck structures and her two boilers still visible on the sea bed.

11 divers from the Kelso and Berwickshire clubs took part in the dive and the information collected included what structures were still visible and their relevant position within

the bay, and any marine life observed. As well as the two boilers, the divers located ribs, parts of the deck structure, a pile of chain and a deck winch.

No special training or skills are required, and anyone who dives can take part.

For more information on Wreck Map Britain 2006, visit www.nasportsmouth.org.uk/projects/.



A diver recording information on SS President



Glasgow Divers Plan 24 Hour Charity Event

ATLANTIC DIVERS, an independent group of divers based in Glasgow, are calling on divers throughout Scotland to participate in their forthcoming event to raise money for the Cash For Kids charity.

Your help is required as the event in question is a 24 hour dive! The aim is to have at least two divers continuously underwater throughout a 24 hour period.

This will be achieved by operating a relay system where each buddy team will spend a period of 30 minutes underwater, each buddy pair will carry

out two 30 minute dives during the 24 hour period.

The event will take place at the Quarry Tearoom (which will remain open for the duration of the event) on Loch Fyne and will be held towards the end of September.

For the 24 hour dive to be able to go ahead and succeed it will require considerable logistical support, donations of equipment and the offer of surface cover. This in addition to the actual divers who will be involved in the event underwater. Any offers of assistance would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to take part in this worthwhile cause please contact either Ian or James at:

lan@atlantic-divers.co.uk
James@atlantic-divers.co.uk

Atlantic Divers are a non profit making, non affiliated diving club and are open to divers from all organisations and welcome divers of any qualification. All proceeds raised from this event will go directly to the Cash For Kids Charity.

See our website www.atlantic-divers.co.uk for further details.

St Abbs Team On The Road

ST ABBS & EYEMOUTH Voluntary Marine Reserve (VMR) launched its new Information Trailer on Sunday July 9 as part of the Eyemouth Herring Queen Festival celebrations. It proved to be very popular with literally hundreds of people enjoying the marine displays and activities.

St Abb's Head is renowned for a breathtaking coastline, beautiful flowers and a nationally important seabird



colony. However, few people realise that the rugged scenery and rich wildlife extends below the surface of the waves, which is why the area's coastal waters are the only Marine Reserve in Scotland.

The idea behind the trailer, which is really a small visitor centre on wheels, is to help people discover more about this wonderful world hidden beneath the waves. High quality colour photographs have been used inside and out to illustrate the stunning scenery and wildlife that so few get to see first hand. There is also information about where to go and what to see as well as activities for kids.

Marine Ranger, Liza Cole says: "There are two big plus points about the trailer. One



The St Abbs (VMR) information trailer in action

being the fact that it is portable so I can take the information to where the people are, rather than hoping they will come to me. Especially important when your reserve is linear and 8km long!

"The second is that I can change the content of the trailer to match the audience. This is incredibly important as one day I may be based at Coldingham Sands, very popular with families out for a

day on the beach. Whilst the next day I might be at St Abbs Harbour where divers want a completely different type of information."

The trailer has been joint-funded by The National Trust for Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Liza will be taking the trailer to St Abbs, Coldingham Sands and Eyemouth throughout the summer as well taking it to various festivals further afield.

Archaeology Society Conference

THE DATE for the 2006 Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) Annual Conference, which will be held in Portsmouth, has been set for the weekend of November 11/12. Celebrating 20 years of NAS training, this year's conference promises to be just as exciting as last years, with the

Saturday night dinner being held aboard HMS Warrior.

As normal there will be a full programme of speakers, the presentation of the Adopt-a-Wreck Award and for the second year, the NAS Photographic Competition. Entry forms for the photographic competition are

available from the NAS office (tel. 023 9281 8419) and entries close September 1. Visit www.nasportsmouth.org.uk for more information.

The event will include

presentations from a range of professional and amateur archaeologists including Martijn Manders, Marc-Andre Bernier, Innes McCartney, Ole Gron and Colin Martin.



Alan James Photography

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