

# BEDAN



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No. 101.

July, 1955.

# THE BEDAN

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Magazine of the Sunderland Bede Boys' Grammar School

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No. 101.

JULY, 1955.

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## EDITORIAL.

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It may be that an Editorial serves as nothing more than an "impartial glass" through which the essential "Bedan" is seen; and that the Editorial is therefore at its best when it impedes the vision least, and detains the reader the shortest possible time. If so, then it should say nothing, briefly. We do not confess to be capable of such, though we shall probably effect it.

This year you are once again in the hands of two Editors. Last year was the first in which convention was broken, primarily because we had a School Captain and Vice-Captain who had nothing to do after Christmas; but this year we rather hope it is because our selectors believe there is some truth in the old saying that "Two Eds. are better than one."

Since the division of the Editorship the Editorial is, in fact, more difficult to write. We tried writing every other word; and holding half the pen each was equally unsatisfactory. But eventually necessity enabled us to evolve a more fluent compromise.

Whereas last year the expected downpour of entries was but a trickle, this year we were more or less back to normal, with the trickle becoming almost a complete drought. And although, of these, there were several which were deemed unfit for human consumption, we should like to thank those who have helped us to fill our pages — Just!

A.S. and M.B.S., Editors.

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## School Notes.

We offer our sincere congratulations and our best wishes for success and happiness in their new appointments to Mr. A. F. Kilner who is now Headmaster of Eton Grammar School and to Mr. J. B. S. Twigg who becomes Senior English Master at Carlton Grammar School, Bradford.

We wish to welcome the following masters who have joined us since last year: to the Mathematics Department, Mr. A. W. Lupton and Mr. W. Easton, an Old Bedan; to headship of the Classics Department, Mr. P. B. R. Forbes, an Old Bedan and former Senior Lecturer in Greek at Edinburgh University.

We congratulate the following boys who have distinguished themselves academically: W. B. Young, State Scholar and Open Exhibitioner in History at Trinity College, Cambridge; C. W. Newrick, State Scholar and Open Exhibitioner in Natural Sciences at Downing College, Cambridge; J. M. Phalp, State Scholar in Classics at Wadham College, Oxford; A. G. Armstrong, State Scholar in Economics at Queen's College, Cambridge; R. S. MacFarlane, State Scholar in Modern Languages at Trinity College, Cambridge; K. Budd, State Scholar in Natural Sciences at Wadham College, Oxford; A. M. Richwood, State Scholar in Modern Languages at St. Catherine's Society, Oxford.

The following, not reported in our last issue, proceeded to Universities with the aid of Local Awards:—A. Cairns, G. I. Collins, I. N. McBain to various faculties of London University; C. D. Moeris to St. John's College, Cambridge; M. E. English, F. A. Pearson, G. D. Shapero, R. K. Uttley to various faculties of Durham University; J. D. Potts to Manchester University; P. West to Sheffield University; G. E. Walker to Liverpool University.

We congratulate the brothers Richardson, D. R. and C. W., on their entry into the Executive Class Civil Service, the latter being placed second in the whole country, and G. D. Chapman on winning a place at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

The Senior Speech Day was held on 26th January. The prizes were distributed by Sir James Duff, M.A., M.Ed., D.C.L., LL.D., Vice-Chancellor of Durham University. He made an invigorating speech in which he pointed out that in modern society the paths are still most open to those who devote themselves with enjoyment to their work and that every grammar-school boy should be moved by honourable ambition to achieve the highest. The evening was further enlivened by excellent performances by the Orchestra and by the Male-Voice Choir.

The Junior speech Day took place on the 3rd February, when J. P. Wilson, Esq., Clerk to the Justices of Sunderland County Borough. He was a gentleman with a fine appreciation of what would interest youth and of how to provide it. This speech was a model of clarity. The orchestra again gave a fine performance, ably backed by some delightful singing by the Junior Choir.

Mr. Giles wishes to thank the following boys who have read the lessons in morning assembly: D. Foster, W. Forster, D. M. Aldridge, R. S. Clark, C. Nelson, W. D. Bryce, J. O. Kirk, A. J. Fowcitt and C. W. Newrick.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Borough on 29th October. The School lined the route at Roker. Everyone walked in good humour despite the cold and the driving rain. The Royal party passed our site just as darkness became complete.



The School Orchestra and Choirs put in their usual months of hard preparation for the Annual Concert. As anyone who cared to stop and listen to a rehearsal could assert, they were to provide a first-rate evening's entertainment. Their labours and those of Mr. Kirk and of Mr. Twigg, however, never received the public recognition that was due both to them and to the School through them, owing to the fact that the body of the School failed to sell tickets for the performance, which had to be cancelled. We should like to record our appreciation of the hard work done and to ask members of the School to do some hard thinking lest a valuable cultural activity be irretrievably lost.

Founder's Day was celebrated on 21st April with a service at Bishopwearmouth Parish Church at which Canon Stranks of Durham Cathedral, preached the sermon. A number of boys took Holy Communion before the service.

At the end of the Easter Term, Mr. Evans, the Manager of the Sunderland Branch of the National Provincial Bank, talked to senior boys about banking as a career. Representatives of Reyrolles and of Messrs. Richardson, Westgarth & Co. also addressed the Upper School.

The following boys have gained University Entrance: K. C. Forster to New College, Oxford; D. Foster to St. Catherine's Society, Oxford; T. Hall to University College, London; D. C. Arney, W. R. Barber, A. J. Fewcitt, J. Plumpton, A. Snaith to the London School of Economics; C. Duckworth to Sheffield University; M. B. Seery and J. N. Wood to Manchester University; J. O. Kirk to Glasgow University.

We congratulate G. Scott on winning the Cochrane Cup for Viola Playing at the North of England Musical Tournament and on becoming Junior Chess Champion of Durham County.

W. Forster this year played in the National Youth Orchestra.

G. Oliver played throughout the season for Sunderland Boys XI.

Again we have only limited news of Old Bodans.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Sir D. A. S. Cairns, Q.C., Chairman of the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices Commission, on his knighthood.

T. G. Grendale obtained a First in the first part of the Economics Tripos at Cambridge.

S. G. Mitchell has been accepted at the Royal College of Art, London.

G. Scott has been accepted at the Slade School of Fine Art, London.

Alan Tate has been awarded the Thomas Adams Prize of the Town Planning Institute.

A. Pyburn has been ordained deacon.

The Editors acknowledge the receipt of the following magazines from their schools: "The Heatonian," Heaton G. S., Newcastle; "The Elizabethan," Darlington G. S.; "The Noe' Easter," Tynemouth G. S.; "Nova," Newcastle Royal G.S.; Bede Girls' G. S.; "The Rutherfordian," Rutherford College, Newcastle; "Rayn," Chatham House G. S., Ramage. They apologise for any inadvertent omissions.

This year's "Bedeas" Committee consists of Messrs. W. K. Lewis and R. T. Ayre and the Editors, A. Smith and M. B. Secry.

### On being a German.

Nowadays many people spend their holidays in Germany but it is surprising the number who do not make any attempt to disguise the fact that they are tourists. To enjoy one's stay in Germany, one must live as a German.

"Well, that's easy enough," you say. "I can speak German quite well." This is where many people deceive themselves. The language is only a minor point in the intricate make-up of the Germans. Anyone planning a trip to Germany is well advised to follow these rules in order to become a fully-fledged German:

(1) Learn the language by all means but you will probably find that this has not been of much use. To be a good conversationalist in Germany you have to be a good listener, interjecting frequently with words such as "ja" (very often), "freilich," "natürlich" and many words of the like which have no specific meaning but which add greatly to your grasp of the language and to the colouring of your speech. If you happen to be on the other end of a conversation you see at full liberty to make frequent use of "Nicht wahr?" and 'gell."

(2) However, the most important part of the day for a German is meal-time (which is practically all day for many). To be one of them you will have to eat as much as possible in as little time as possible at any time of the day or night, swilling it all down with innumerable glasses of beer. Everyone drinks beer and I have a sneaking feeling that the babies are weaned on it, though I have not as yet proved it. Whilst on this subject, I should like to point out that another favourite drink is Schnapps which, although condemned by everyone as a sin to drink, is nevertheless drunk by everyone. If you are over forty and have a normal waist-line (which nowadays is abnormal) you will be looked down upon by your German fellows who believe themselves supermen because of their ample girth.

(3) When you arrive in Germany, if you are male, get your hair cut and wear shorts. All the male population wear shorts, schoolboys right up to hotel managers or business tycoons. Do not bother about what to wear; any kind of attire will suffice. I once saw a crowd of Bavarian peasants at a dance and was told they were the village band. Another time I saw a village band on a country ramble and was told they were Bavarian peasants.

In short, to pass as a German, enjoy yourself, gorge yourself, almost drown yourself in Pilsner or display your shapely legs by wearing shorts no matter where you are.

E. J. COULSON, V.I.A. Arts.

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#### German Reverts.

The other day I noticed a German travel poster which evoked the following memories :

The sleepless journey to London—telling the guide how to travel on Underground—stormy Channel crossing—odious trans-continental journey—swearing under breath at passport officials—arrive Stuttgart early morning—disperse to different homes—first German breakfast complete with beer ready—glorious sleep!—visit to Champagne factory—tennis—Mercedes-Benz Works—beer cellars—old historical castles—Schiller's birth-place—wonderful weather—outdoor swimming baths—beer cellars—the climb to the top of Ulm Cathedral—that wonderful Belgian priest there—beer cellars—newspaper office—never-to-be-forgotten Heidelberg at sunset—the flower display in the castle grounds—early-morning start in mist for bus trip to Lake Constance—sunbathing with Alps in view—return at midnight, up at five for trip in Black Forest—souvenir hunting—that hotel in Wildbad with the jovial landlord—meeting of German Boy Scouts—hunting deer—joking with American soldiers—sorrowful goodbyes—race across London—miss train—trail into bed in early morning, tired but content.

E. J. COULSON, V.I.A. Arts.

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#### A Broad Holiday.

It was a dark squally night. Forward of the 'midship house was made uninhabitable by breaking seas and by huge greybeards which crashed upon our deck. Relentlessly, under the fore-topmast staysail, the wind carried us down to that iron-bound coast.

On the Norfolk Broads it is exactly the opposite to this. The rivers and Broads are calm and peaceful, while the only greybeards you see will belong to elderly watermen fishing on the bank. The yachts are rigged simply, so you could not set the fore-topmast staysail, even if you knew what it was.

Before you set out on your cruise, the boat-owner explains how to hoist the sails, and how to manage your yacht, so there should be no reason either why, when tacking up a narrow river, you run aground on every tack, or why you seem to poke your bowsprit through the side of every motor-cruiser you meet. The conversation that follows this sort of thing is as follows:

"Why don't you keep out of our way, you . . . . you . . . . Yes, I know our bowsprit is in your bathroom, but kindly stop using it as a towel-rail, and push it out!"

The cooking arrangements are excellent, consisting of a double-burner gas stove, and it is usually easy to prepare quite complicated meals on them. Take, for example, Welsh Rabbit. First wave some slices of bread over the burners, until they are nicely charred. Then place some sliced cheese on the blackened bread, and invert the whole delicacy over the flames. The cheese promptly falls off and mixes itself up with the bars of the stove. Gather it up, and place it in a pan with a little milk. The milk will boil away into a dark mass, upon which lies the cheese, unchanged. Scoop it out and place it on the bread. Serve immediately. Everyone will pronounce it delicious!

J. DAVISON, U.I.V.A.

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#### Paradise Island.

This small island is three hundred miles off the coast of Anywhere and a hundred and fifty miles from Nowhere. The people of this isle are split into two parts because of their political views; in fact, the islanders live in different halves of the island according to their party. The two parties are the Democratic People's Party and the People's Democratic Party.

In the zone of the Democratic Party the controlling council is called the Senate; the main men of this council are members of the Control Committee whose present leader, is Senator "M," an Anti-Red preserver of the public freedom. The government, of course, is truly representative—all members are friends of the President. In this state rival parties are tolerated, but only in moderation, and anyone heard uttering a word against the President is led out and shot. In the zone the wearing of red is strictly forbidden and anyone suspected of wearing anything red is immediately gaoled for at least three years. A blush is interpreted as guilty defiance.

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Anyone suspected of even the slightest leanings towards Communism is hauled up in front of the Investigating Committee whose only member is a judge, the aforesaid Senator "M," who tells the suspect that he is deprived of his citizenship, that he must forfeit his belongings to the State and that lastly he will be exiled to the People's Democratic Zone.

The national costume of the Democratic People's Zone is a pair of jeans usually blue, a two-coloured shirt, yellow socks, a pair of purple-coloured shoes with six-inch crepe soles, a knee-length jacket, usually vivid green, with black velvet collar. No curled hair is allowed since this might signify deviation from the straight and narrow.

In this zone cinemas, theatres, public houses and milk bars are open all night for most people work at night and sleep during the day.

Now let us move across the triple-barbed wire fences, over No-Man's Land, and on over the dozen highly-electrified fences into the People's Democratic Zone.

Here we see people who consider themselves equal to each other and the most equal men lead the country. All people must think, speak, and do everything the Party dictates.

The Presidium is the ruling body of the country, the present head being Marshal "B" and the real ruler, Mr. K.

In this zone people work for no wages for they all consider themselves owners of their particular firm so that if they are paid they decrease their own profits. All food is given out by state employees and is strictly rationed.

One person in every three, it is rumoured, is a member of the People's Security Force; half of these, with highest motives, spy on the ordinary people. Anyone found uttering a word against anything to do with Party is tortured and shot.

A second person in every three is a voluntary member of the armed forces—every year the People's Security Force go round "persuading" young men to join the forces.

The national costume of this zone is a pair of khaki breeches, jack-boots, khaki tunic with gold buttons and red epaulettes and collar, a peaked cap also khaki with red band and a gold badge which, in case of the less equal people, hides even the individual bristles of a shaven head.

So here we have an ideally happy island where everyone is free and content. This is truly an island Paradise.

## On Her Majesty's Service.

Boxing Day 1954 saw a group of prospective Ordinary Seamen lined up outside the kit-issuing store, commonly known as "slope," inside the prison-like walls of Royal Naval Barracks, Portsmouth.

There were ninety-seven of us from divisions all over the country, commencing our first annual three weeks period of sea-training with the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. After the usual checking and counter-checking of such mysterious objects as white frocks, silk-scarves, jumpers, blue-jean collars, boots, and the like, we were given a packeted lunch, and bundled into R.N. transport "en route" to the Home Fleet Training Squadron, based at Portland, which we reached five hours later.

I and forty-six others had been drafted to H.M.S. "Ocean," a light fleet carrier of some 13,800 tons, and we were introduced to Naval life by our Petty Officer, who informed us in broad Devonshire accent that we had been responsible for dragging him away from his wife and two children, while he had been enjoying his Xmas leave—not of course that he bore us any malice!! As an afterthought he casually mentioned that we would find forty-six hammocks on the mess-deck, and ninety-one hooks in the deckhead, if we were lucky. After we had slung our own hammocks, we were to sling the other twenty-three. The mess-deck measured ten yards by twelve, but after about half-an-hour, during which, as can be imagined, chaos reigned supreme, we all managed to find a space.

The next day, as for the next twenty, life commenced at 05.45. Our course consisted of a grounding in seamanship, and for this purpose, the working day was divided into seven periods, in which subjects like rigging, navigation, Morse, boat-work, foot-and rifle-drill, naval customs and chain of command, ship-recognition, gunnery, damage control, anchors and cables, and a very ambitious one known as "atomic, biological and chemical defence" were taught.

At the end of sixteen days, we were examined on what we had been taught, and if successful, it meant that we were exempt from four of the ten weeks preliminary National Service training. The last few days were spent in consolidating the knowledge we had learnt, and in three outside visits. The first was to the submarine depot ship, H.M.S. "Maidstone," and to H.M. Submarine "Steuth." The second was to the Royal Naval Air Station at Lee-on-Solent, where we were shown in flight the latest Fleet Air Arm aircraft and given an air-sea-rescue demonstration.

The climax of the course was the action sea-training aboard H.M.S. "Leeds Castle," a frigate, in the Channel around Portland and Weymouth. This consisted of practical firefighting and damage-control, gunnery, using the four-inch gun, boat-drill, firing squids, the successors to the old death-charge, which fire over the bows of the ship, and wheelhouse drill. This proved to be one of the most interesting and enjoyable days of the course.

So much for the course itself, but what of the company and conditions? Of the ninety-two members of the R.N.V.R. on the course, only two of us had never benefited from a Public School or University education; prejudices were, however, quickly overcome and we soon found common interests. One prejudice did die hard, that due to the fact that two of us came from "Geordiland," which apparently stretches from Whitby to Berwick. Most of them had never heard of Sunderland, and the few who had were under the impression that the inhabitants were either professional footballers, or miners who bought the former in vast numbers for vast amounts of money. However, I was able to prove that we did build ships, when in the engine-room of H.M.S. "Leeds Castle," I found a large, well-polished brass plate, indicating that the engines were fitted in 1943 in the Southwick yard of George Clark (1938) Ltd.!

The food was good, if tepid, and shoreleave was available almost every night, if one was prepared to endure the half-hour trip to a deserted Weymouth in a heavy swell on an M.F.V. In any case, we had plenty to do on board and there was the nightly film show in the hangar at the cost of threepence, and a dose of flu, unless one wore an oilskin and two sweaters.

It is a course which I could recommend to anyone, anyone, that is, who is prepared to do plenty of work, and to sacrifice his holidays. Apart from the financial advantage, for the R.N.V.R. are paid the regular rates of pay, seven shillings per day, there is the experience which proves invaluable in National Service, besides the factor which is responsible for most people joining the R.N.V.R.—the duty-free cigarettes!

A. FAWCETT (Ord. Seam. T.D./3186).

#### "The Barber of Seville."

From the resonant deeps of Shakespeare's "King John" to the 'franche et vraie gaite du comique' of Beaumarchais' "Barbier de Seville" is a far step that Bede Drama took this year with the same flair for the dramatically presentable that has marked each previous adventure. It was a production edged with a certain piquancy in that a new producer had chosen to take upon himself a dramatic challenge additional to that usually facing the director—that of translation from the French original. It was, moreover, a highly successful presentation at which the reactions of the audience clearly showed that the double challenge had been squarely met and sensitively resolved.

Thus interpreted, the play could not fail to captivate. It could not fail, for one brief illusionary evening, to catch up the audience into a world where a vivid pattern of life is airily woven of the sparkling threads from a jester's cloak, where the sombre strands of tremulous reality are glossed over with the sheen of hilarious make-believe. It is a world of universal irreverence, where youth and love and laughter triumph preposterously over the 'precautions inutile' of age and authority in a fantastic whirl of guile and devil-may-care. And yet the roots of its fantasy are firmly though tensely fixed in everyday life. There are suspense, repeated checks, and the faint flickerings of uncertainty before the romantic victory is complete.



The main characters, too, are no stiff paste-board figures of blatant unreality. Each has an individuality that calls for notice and that must be mirrored in the acting if the comedy is to be intelligently played. They may not have the subtlety and the significance of Molière's finest creations, the glint of pathos and the shadow of impending tragedy that lifts the comic to the sublime in art; they may each be jerked by the leading strings that Figaro tugs with such diabolical gusto; but each is woven distinctly into the general pattern. It is no easy matter to retain the clarity of the delicate undertones in the flamboyance of the whole. That the actors in this play did see the detail, and that they did in large measure fuse individuality in unity is a tribute to their direction and to themselves.

Once momentum was gained, after a rather meandering opening that owed most to Beaumarchais, the pace quickened evenly and confidently. The vivacious mood of the evening was sketched and set. Wit abounded, nonchalantly and pointedly expressed; plans went awry and were succeeded by others even more wildly ingenious, till reality was groping in a maze of fantasy that dramatic timing and the infectious enthusiasm of the cast defused us into accepting as a semblance of credibility. There was slapstick, unashamedly played—a contest of coughing and sneezing that almost shook the stage, an unstable inebriate whose glossy stare and dental protrusion made us curiously fearful, tricks with a shaving brush, and the smashing of plates. There was one unforgettable moment when the purity of Rosina's singing chilled and held us tense till it was drowned in a swirl of comedy. There was colour in the costumes flaring against the cream and blue and gold in the sets. There was the sheer fragile beauty of a white Spanish lace *marilla*, splashed with the red of a cloak and the black of a skirt, framing a deep plunging neck-line and a face so bewitchingly made up that in other times it might well have launched a million ships. There was the splendour of a glittering chandelier. There was a balcony so realistically built that the living creeper clung to it nostalgically. There was a wondrous spinet with remote control. Candles gleamed, then glowed, then shone. The lightning flashed, the thunder rolled, and the dried peas spattered so convincingly as to evoke a disappointed cry "It's raining!" from a gullible member of the Thursday audience.

It is Figaro—the feverish, audacious, adventurous, smoothly cynical essence of Beaumarchais—who sets the pace and compels the mood. Our Figaro held us from the start, unflaggingly and with complete self-assurance. He skillfully frayed the strands of bleak actuality that surrounds a school hall on a cold February night with his fancifully fertile mind and his glib impertinent tongue, and relentlessly forged a pleasanter world of real unreality. He was restlessly alive, whether he was composing a comic opera, engineering a machiavellian plot to twist an old man's tail, snatching victory out of defeat, playing the impresario to a romantic interlude, pouring an antiseptic trickle of mild cynicism on a feverish attack of 'precious' love, balding Bazile, or clownishly mocking the creaking zest of Bartholo. And he was alive as Beaumarchais meant him to be, for through all his merry humour ran a persistent strain of sardonic malice that superciliously mocked the foibles of man. Rosina was very much the ravishing beauty of eighteenth century France, swayed

by her heart but ruled by her head. This actor had sloughed his masculine trappings and showed himself in a femininity that was skin-tight. Gestures, movements, the self-confidence of a young woman conscious of her own magnetic charms, even a tenderness unspoiled by mawkishness, were sincerely and naturally played and were merged with a pertness, a calculating and amoral wit to snatch happiness and a title, and a sharpness of tongue that we are led to believe is the bitter of the sweet that is woman. Rosina was delectably convincing, and her singing was a rare delight. Bartholo's lumbago set the seal on his desires. How could such a permanently bent back hope to match the supple grace of a Rosina? But Bartholo was more than a doddering caricature, a toothless butt for the quicksilver of Figaro. This actor clung tenaciously to the life that was in the part. He gave a semblance of an acutely suspicious old man whose brain was alert enough to contend against the machinations of a Figaro and to credit the perfidy in the mind of woman. The Count of Almaviva flourished the haughty self-assurance, bred of a vapid aristocratic background and backed by a resplendent wardrobe, that would of necessity prove irresistible to an impressionable maid. He was, very much as Beaumarchais intended, a racy frothy remnant of the ancient regime, arrogant but hollow, and sufficiently romantic to delude a sentimental audience. He entered nobly into the stratagems as a Courty lover should, protested his passion in windy sequences, manfully sketched the philanderer and drunkard, and was a perfect foil to the free-boasting Figaro. Bazile was a delightfully lugubrious figure of farce, with—as it seemed—one foot in the grave and one grasping hand outstretched to clutch a money bag. L'Evelille and La Jeunesse contributed a finely-timed scene of utter burlesque that uproariously shook the hall; and the Notary gave the requisite personification of legal authority in confusion that masked the scorn of a recalcitrant Beaumarchais.

R.T.C.

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#### Drums Club.

We need actors. As our last play had a small cast we were able to manage, but we are not replacing recent losses. We need more boys willing to act, especially from the Upper School. The next production we hope is to be O'Casey's Comedy, "Cock a doodle Dandy," which has a large cast.

The stage management side is not very happy. Receipts have been diminishing for some years now, and were disappointing this year. We feel that we must now buy new flats. We have continued to use those which were made when the Club began in the early thirties (are you there, Mr. Hogg?) and now they are completely finished. When Fred Pearson was helping us recently, he painted a flat blue. When he lifted it up, there was a blue rectangle on the floor, and a virtually transparent flat ready for the stage. Some of the blue then got into the air.

We are going to try steel tubes for the new ones, in the hope that they will be more durable than the former wooden ones, but the cost promises to reduce our assets to nil. However, the personnel remains hard-working and hopeful.

J.L.J.

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### Bedan Troop Report.

1954-55 has once again brought changes to the Troop. S.M. Priest, who had taken over the leadership of the Troop when he first arrived, left to take up the appointment of Senior Mathematics Master of Hexham Grammar School. The position of Troop Leader was taken over by Hunter from Wood Sr.

The Scout Hut is presenting something of a problem. Despite keen work by members, the main structure is gradually deteriorating through continual use and wood rot. Nevertheless, the dens are mainly finished after the tremendously hard work put in by the members of each individual Patrol. The Hut now has a new door, which was painted and hung by the members of the Hawk Patrol. The old main door is now to be repannelled and used as the P.L.'s den door.

The Group Committee have certainly not been inactive. Owing to their labours, they have raised sufficient money to enable us to purchase hardboard to reline the walls of the hut. Troop funds have enabled us to buy a new Tilley pressure lamp.

This has not been a very successful "competition" year. We were unplaced in the Stansfield Richardson Cup Competition and for the second year running we were unable to compete in the Kayll Cup owing to our being at camp.

Summer Camp this year was held at Rowaley, a village about five miles from Matlock in Derbyshire. The weather was the worst we had experienced for many years. This did not prevent our having an excellent camp. We had the usual obstacle course and also a most amusing afternoon during which each Patrol built a tree top house big enough to hold six people. In addition each Patrol had an "Information Hike." We also surveyed a few acres of the land round our camp site. On our free days most went to Matlock, but some went to Chesterfield, Buxton and even to Nottingham to watch a County Cricket Championship match.

On returning from Summer Camp we were pleased to welcome as our new Scout Master, an old Bedan, Mr. R. Howard.

A membership of 25 to 35 has been maintained throughout the year. There has been a great influx of recruits in the 1954-55 school year. No doubt many are looking forward to their first camp.

During both the October and Easter Holidays we held successful camps at Sharpley.

Our thanks go out to both Mr. Twigg and Mr. Howard who have looked after us during the year and the Group Committee who by their tireless labours provided us with money to buy new equipment.

D. R. WOOD, Hon. Sec.

### Dedham Senior Scouts.

The year 1954-5 has been one of progressive consolidation.

Four of our Senior members, having reached the age limit of eighteen, departed from us, two of them to complete their National Service obligations, two to put their deferment to good use by continuing their Scouting activities in St. Gabriel's Rover Crew. Our depleted numbers were restored by three new members coming up from the Juniors, the Senior Troop now once more being at full strength, and we face the coming year with the prospect of our numbers being still further increased when four of the present Junior P.L.'s join us in the autumn.

Our financial problems have been solved by four of us sacrificing our Saturday mornings to sell tea and biscuits to the School Soccer and Rugby teams. Contrary to common belief, we have not been making exorbitant profits, but our income from this, and other sources, such as the sale of ices and minerals on Sports Days, has been steady enough during the past winter to provide us with enough fuel, light, paint and disemper to spend our spare time redecorating the Senior Hut.

This was completed in time for our annual Christmas Reunion, which was held this year on December 23rd, and as usual was a great success, it being attended by eighteen former members of the Senior Troop, including many home on leave from H.M. Forces.

So much for the season's indoor activities, but they have proved to be in no way prejudicial to our usual mid-winter expeditions. We were under canvas for a week in late October at Slaty Ford in Upper Weardale, where we combined fell-climbing and caving, with helping the farmer on whose land we were camping to gather in a late harvest.

Our Xmas expedition found some of us in Upper Weardale again, this time purely for pleasure, and the time was spent rock-and fell-climbing, caving, and rescuing sheep from cliff-face ledges!

The North York Moors provided us with some excellent fell-and rock-climbing country for our "Chindit" expedition at Easter, and we concentrated on the area within a fifteen mile radius of Hollin Hill, near Swainby, which is to be the site of the Juniors' 1955 Summer Camp. The second half of the Easter holiday provided us with the opportunity of holding a successful Patrol-Leaders' training course at Sharpley, where apart from such feats as beating a certain neighbouring troop at "Stonchenge" by a colossal margin, we completed an accurate cartographical survey of the whole of Sharpley on the "Chain and Plane Table" principle.

We therefore face the coming year, not only with increased numbers, but also with increased experience, ranging from that of interior decoration, and of the art of making money, to finding our way with no light through twenty yards of winding limestone caves and wading through an underground lake.

A. FAWCETT.

### Senior Debating Society.

The past two sessions of the Senior Debating Society have met with only moderate success, and we regret to say that few of the younger members have participated in the debates. However, we hope to rectify this next year.

During the Autumn and Spring Terms the meetings were presided over by Mr. E. M. Seery and Miss A. Blacknell respectively. Other members who served on the committee were Misses V. Williamson, M. New, A. Masterman, N. Duxbury and P. Leckonby, and Messrs. J. F. Smith, W. Forster, R. Clark, and K. Pickersgill.

Among the motions discussed during the two sessions were:—

"That this house approves of Edwardianism." (defeated).

"That the age of chivalry ended with the emancipation of women." (defeated).

"That Germans are inherently barbaric." (defeated).

"That this house believes in the conscription of women." (defeated).

"That scientists lack imagination." (defeated).

The Autumn and Spring Bi-Annual Cup Debates were adjudicated by Mr. A. J. B. Budge and Miss W. J. E. Moul respectively, the successful competitors being Miss B. Watson and Mr. D. Foster. Miss M. Short won the India Cup Debate, which was adjudicated by Mr. Cuthbert Morton. She also won the Officers' Debate, which was adjudicated by Mr. G. T. Moore.

On Ascension Day last year, the society organised an outing to Harrogate and Knaresborough. We visited the delightful grounds of Fountains Abbey, and exhausted ourselves rowing at Knaresborough. In all, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all, the weather being unusually kind.

This year we visited Lake Ullswater. The increasing popularity of the outing was indicated by the fact that over three hundred pupils of both schools attended. A rather energetic party climbed Hellvellyn during the day, thoroughly enjoying themselves despite the wind and snow.

Another outstanding event of the year was the holding of a Mock Election organised by the Society, at the time of the General Election. Five candidates stood; Mr. A. J. Fawcett (Conservative), Mr. D. Mitcheson (Socialist), Mr. W. Millward (Liberal), Mr. H. Turnbull (Communist), and Mr. W. D. Bryce (Scottish and Northern Counties' Nationalist). Mr. A. J. Fawcett was returned with a majority of 195 over his nearest rival, Mr. D. Mitcheson (Socialist).

In conclusion, we should like to thank Mr. Moore for the unsparing assistance he has given us again this year.

F. K. HALSTEAD (Hon. Sec.).

### Junior Debating Society.

The Junior Debating Society enjoyed a very successful season during this year. The attendances were usually good and, sometimes, exceptionally so. The number of boys willing to speak in the closed debates was rather disappointingly small, but speeches from the floor were fair. An encouraging thing was the fact that a number of First Year boys took a really lively and practical interest. One or two made notably excellent speeches. The Prize Debate was held again, after the lapse of several years. Mr. Mason adjudicated and awarded the prize to Carter.

The officials were :—

Christmas Term: President: Hoskins; Secretary: Rowan;  
Committee: Cleminson, Forster, Howatt.

Spring Term: President: Rowan; Secretary: Maskell;  
Committee: Cleminson, Carter, Allison.

D. MASKELL. (Hon. Sec.)

### Hylton House.

This year the house has improved on last year's good positions and has had a really excellent year. This is particularly pleasing to record when one recalls the poor positions which were almost unfailingly obtained by Hylton a few years ago. In no championship was the House last and in all but one (Senior Basket Ball) we were either first or second. At the time of writing we are leading in points of the Games Shield with very bright prospects for Athletics and Cricket.

The Soccer trophy was won by Hylton, with both Seniors and Juniors winning their respective championships. The Juniors were unbeaten and the Seniors won all their matches except one.

On Sports day last year Hylton did not do quite so well as in the previous year, when we won, but nevertheless we came second to Durham and Cranmer was Middle School Champion. As a result of this year's heats Hylton's prospects for Sports Day are very bright.

The Cricket Trophy, which we held in 1953, slipped from our grasp last year when we were beaten in the deciding match by Raby.

This year the little boys in the House were less pugnacious than in the previous year and we dropped from first to second place in the Boxing Tournament.

The Basket Ball teams now seem to have acquired more ability (a factor which was sadly lacking last year), and the Juniors were 1st and the Seniors 3rd—either this or the other houses have deteriorated.

Owing to the shortage of Rugby players in the Seniors we were quite pleased when the Headmaster cancelled the House rugby matches since they would probably have spoilt our average.

This year has been about the best the House has ever had and prospects for the coming year are very good.

The following are the officials:—CAPTAIN: Nelson; VICE-CAPTAIN: Reed; SECRETARY: Armstrong; SOCCER CAPT.: Reed (Senior); Gothard (Junior); RUGBY: Nelson; Foster; CRICKET: Brown; Ross; BASKETBALL: Nelson; Oliver; CHESS: Brown; Chesterfield; ATHLETICS: Rouse; TENNIS: Armstrong; SWIMMING: Nelson; CROSS COUNTRY: Topping (Junior).

Our thanks are due to these officials and to all members of staff, particularly to Mr. Lister, for their continued interest, support and encouragement.

A. G. ARMSTRONG (Sec.)

### Raby House Report.

D. Forster, Captain; W. Forster, Vice-Captain.

Although far from being triumphant, Raby House has experienced a somewhat brighter year. This may have been due to our winning both the cricket and tennis championships towards the end of last year. On the other hand, it may well have been due to the inspiring influence of the school captain and vice-captain, both of whom are in our house.

It appears that if the junior boys had not been so lacking in either ability or enthusiasm, the house might have done a very great deal better.

The senior soccer and basketball teams were both second in their championships but in both cases the junior teams were last. Our boxing team came third and our junior cross-country team last. The swimming team enabled us to keep our heads above water, however, being placed first in the gala.

We feel that Raby House will do better than in previous years in the school sports, while we have high hopes of our cricket and tennis teams' again winning their championships.

We wish to express our appreciation of the support given but we exhort our members to even greater enthusiasm and effort in the cause of lifting the House from its customary position at the foot of the mighty.

D. FOSTER (Captain).



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### Lumley House.

Lumley House has had, as in past years, a series of mediocre results. The average position in the sports competitions was third, with exceptions in a second placing for the Junior Soccer team, and in the winning of the Basketball by the Seniors.

While it is true to say that the standard of athletic ability in the House is not outstandingly high, this does not account for lack of enthusiasm evident in certain sections of the House. This lack of support is disappointing to the team officials and it is hoped by the House masters, that this shortcoming will soon be replaced by greater support for all House activities.

J. PLUMPTON, House Captain.

### Durham House.

House Captain: A. J. Fawcitt; Secretary: R. S. Clark.

It is our regrettable duty to record that, despite last year's heartening revival, Durham has declined to a state bordering the insignificant, largely as a result of lethargic indifference. This apathy is distressingly evident in the House sporting activities.

The senior soccer team, led by Millar, lost its six matches, and the junior team under McLarn, did little to improve the situation. We hope that this state of affairs will not persist!

After last year's imposing performance in the Basketball Tournament, this year's showing was, to say the least, disappointing. Despite Duckworth's enthusiastic leadership, the House was placed 4th in the senior, and 3rd in the junior matches.

The one outstanding feature has been the success in the Boxing-ring, where, mainly by weight of numbers, Durham won the House Championship.

This year's cross country championships, run only by the juniors, was easily won by Durham, led by the invincible Allison. It is notable in this respect, that A. J. Fawcitt, and D. Reah had their school colours awarded and renewed respectively.

In the Swimming Gala, Durham had moderate success, due, perhaps, to lack of experience; we have great hopes for the future.

During the summer term, the House Tennis team achieved reasonable status, being placed third. The senior cricket team lost all its matches, and the Juniors were placed second to Hylton. Our sincere wishes go to both teams, and the tennis team for the future.

We are confident that last year's success in the school sports will be repeated this year.

For the first time in the history of the present House system, the Xmas party had to be cancelled for want of support, and we sincerely hope that this traditional function will be recontinued in the future.

Finally, our thanks are due to Mr. Ayre for his devoted support during the year, and we would remind all members that to them falls the task of recreating the noble standards of the House in future years.

R. S. CLARK (Hon. Sec.)

#### Senior Soccer XI, 1954-1955.

For the second successive year the Senior XI have had a relatively poor season, the record being:—

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
19	6	3	10	36	44

With only four of last season's XI available, namely, Reed (A.), Plumpton, Hall and Snaith, the new XI took some time to settle down, but when they did so, they served up some good football which resulted in a winning run in mid-season. However, the team fell away again towards the end of the season. The season's performance is not so bad when one considers that the XI was both light and young, the average age being 16 at the start of the season. At the end of the season two outstanding members of the U 15 XI, Oliver and Brown, were given the opportunity of showing their ability. This augurs well for next season when, together with Reed (A.), Baxter, Rodgers and Cranmer of this year's XI they should provide a sound nucleus for a (we hope) much more successful XI.

In the T.G.S. Cup, the XI unfortunately were drawn in the 1st round against West Stanley, the subsequent winners, and suffered a 4-0 defeat.

The XI are much indebted to Mr. Layton for the invaluable coaching given to them and to Mr. Ayre who was once again in charge of the team.

The following boys represented the school this season (number of appearances in brackets)—Reed (A.) and Cranmer (19 each), Rodgers, Baxter and Hall (all 18), Reed (H.) and Greenwell (17 each), Brown, T. E. (16), Snaith (14), Plumpton (13), Wilby (12), Pounder (9), Lieberich (7), Miller and Oliver (4 each), Brown (G. A.) (2), Harding (1).

Goals were scored by Hall (16), Greenwell and Plampton (5 each), Brown (T. E.) (4), Reed (A.) and Cramer (2 each), Baxter and Oliver (1 each).

Colours were renewed to Reed (A.) and awarded to Reed (H.), Snaith, Greenwell and Baxter.

List of Matches:—

	F. A.		F. A.
22/ 9/54 Monkwearmouth	H 3—2	4/12/54 Houghton	A 1—2
25/ 9/54 Houghton	H 5—6	11/12/54 Tynemouth	A 6—0
29/ 9/54 St. Aidan's	A 0—0	18/12/54 Monkwearmouth	A 2—0
2/10/54 Bishop Auckland	H 1—4	29/ 1/55 Spennymoor	H 4—3
9/10/54 Spennymoor	A 2—1	3/ 2/55 Welfield	H 2—1
16/10/54 Ryhope	H 0—2	12/ 2/55 Ryhope	A 2—2
23/10/54 Jarrow	H 1—1	19/ 3/55 West Stanley	H 2—3
20/11/54 West Stanley	H 0—4	26/ 3/55 South Shields	H 1—2
(1st Round T.G.S. Cup).		1/ 4/55 South Shields	A 0—1
27/11/54 Consett	H 4—6	4/ 4/55 St. Aidan's	H 0—4

B. BAXTER (Hon. Sec.)

## SOCCER PERSONALITIES.

D. RODGERS. (Goalkeeper).

Although inexperienced and lacking in stature, showed natural ability in skilful handling of the ball.

H. REED. (Right Back).

Reliable at all times—most capable in his covering, kicking and positional sense.

C. POUNDER. (Left Back).

Often lacked kicking power but offset this by constructive ability.

M. LIEBRECHT. (Left Back).

Inclined to be rather slow but filled position satisfactorily.

A. SNAITH. (Centre Half).

Played consistently well all season; strong in tackle, used intelligence in distribution.

B. BAXTER. (Left Half).

A steady and constructive player. Had hard luck at times as a sixth forward.

J. GREENWELL. (Outside Right).

Clever ball player. Used ability to offset lack of inches to overcome much stronger opponents.

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**J. PLUMPTON.** (Inside Right).

Has had a moderate season. Began well but enjoyed little success in moving into inside position from wing.

**T. HALL.** (Centre Forward).

Leading goalscorer. Tended to hold ball too long and often wined in face of strong opposition.

**G. CRANMER.** (Inside Left).

Strong and covered a lot of ground—but with little success—weakness lay in constructive ability.

**G. WILBY.** (Outside Left).

Courageous, but fought many losing battles with larger opponents.

**T. E. BROWN.** (Outside Left).

Rather slow. His play deteriorated after a promising start.

A.R.

**A. REED.**

A strong and capable performer whose play deteriorated later in the season possibly because of the cares of captaincy in an inconsistent side.

P.N.L.

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**House Soccer (Senior).**

			Xmas.	Easter.	
Raby v. Hylton	...	...	0—5	0—1	
Lumley v. Durham	...	...	2—1	6—1	
Raby v. Lumley	...	...	4—3	3—1	
Durham v. Raby	...	...	1—3	1—3	
Hylton v. Lumley	...	...	1—3	6—0	
Hylton v. Durham	...	...	7—2	8—3	
		Won	Draw	Lost	Points
Hylton	...	5	—	1	10
Raby	...	4	—	2	8
Lumley	...	3	—	3	6
Durham	...	—	—	6	0

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**Under 15 Soccer.**

The Under 15 XI had another moderate season, perhaps chiefly owing to the fact that we were unable to field a settled team. This is demonstrated by the facts that no-one played in every match, and that no fewer than 25 boys were tried. Oliver missed most of our games owing to town team calls, as also did Brown and Armstrong after Christmas. We should like to congratulate Gordon Oliver on leading the Sunderland Boys' team in a very successful season, and on being chosen to represent Durham County Boys.

1st XV RUGGER.



Back Row: Mr. M. Berry, D. Foster, D. W. Wrightson, T. K. Hainwood, Smith, J. Plumptre, J. Ward, C. Duckworth, C. Nelson, J. D. Barn, R. Hopper.  
Seated: W. B. Barker, A. G. Armstrong, J. Knes, D. Crompton, P. Lavery (Capt.), S. Thompson, R. Harding, D. Preston, T. Hutchinson.

U. 13 SOCCER.



Back Row: J. Bensford, J. Trisman, P. Gill, H. Johnson, D. Ridge, G. Clayton, A. Simmons.  
Seated: Mr. G. W. Lee, S. Sarson, J. Hughes, J. Davison, A. Spedding (Capt.), P. Cook, J. Lee, G. Parkroy, Mr. W. Easton.

### 1st XI SOCCER



Back Row: Mr. P. Layton, A. Search, T. Hall, D. Rodgers, J. Green, R.  
Mr. R. T. Ayre.

Seated: Wilby, H. Reed, J. Flampton, V. Reed (Capt.), G. Coomer,  
G. Oliver, E. Baxter.

### TENNIS CLUB



Mr. A. Taylor, D. Crompton, A. G. Armstrong, J. Flampton, S. C. Kerr,  
N. Wright, F. B. Smith.



### 1st XI CRICKET.



Back Row: R. Harding, H. Reed, B. Baxter, M. A. Whillis, G. Oliver,  
D. Wrightson, R. Alynbeer.

Seated: Mr. W. McClement, V. Reed, T. Hall, E. Crown (Capt.),  
A. Smith, D. Rodgers, J. Gowenell.

### CROSS COUNTRY CLUB.



Back Row: D. Settle, W. Hazell, D. Mitcheson, T. Hutchinson.

Seated: Mr. D. A. Thompson, W. Millward, D. Beak, A. Fawcitt,  
P. Cranmer.

### SENIOR BASKETBALL.



Mr. D. R. Prestwich, Smith, D. Crompton, J. Hampton (Capt.), C. Nelson,  
C. Dickworth, S. Thompson, W. Harrier.

### GYMNASTICS CLUB.



Back Row: Mr. D. R. Prestwich, P. Newton, J. D. Barr, R. Maxwell.  
Seated: J. Thompson, E. Crawford, C. Nelson, I. Armstrong, J. Greenwell.

In 16 league games we won 5, drew 1, and lost 10, with a goal ratio of 26—51, and finished 6th out of 12 in Division A. We were well served by Brown, Perry and Knapp in defence, while Stead proved to be the best of a rather weak attack.

The following boys played (number of games in parenthesis): G. A. Brown (Capt. 14), W. P. Perry (Vice-capt. 16), I. Bridges (2), B. Armstrong (3), G. Clayton (1), D. Cruddas (14), B. W. Garrett (3), P. A. Gothard (12), J. H. Graham (15), J. C. Gray (2), P. W. Hepworth (14), A. M. Hindmarch (8), K. Johnson (16), J. Kirkley (1), W. J. Knapp (9), D. Laws (2), I. McLaren (7), G. E. Oliver (8), W. N. Pearson (1), E. Pollard (7), A. Spedding (1), B. Stead (13), T. B. Watson (14), D. Wilson (4), N. W. Wright (11).

Goal-scorers were: Oliver, Stead (8 each), Cruddas (6), Hepworth (5), Graham, Watson (2 each), Brown, Garrett, Gothard, McLaren (1 each).

### Junior Cricket, 1954.

We had a fair season, playing 6 games, of which 3 were won, 2 lost, and 1 tied. Our two games with St. Aidan's the eventual winners of the Swan Cup, were very close affairs, one being tied, and the other narrowly lost. In batting Oliver was the best, no-one else being at all reliable, though Roberts Johnson and Reed all had one good innings. In bowling Greenwell and Reed proved most successful.

Oliver, Reed, and Greenwell represented Sunderland Boys, though unfortunately none really excelled.

The following boys played: J. Greenwell (Capt.), E. Boddy, J. Edwards, P. Featherstone, D. J. Graham, K. Johnson, J. Maddison, W. Millward, G. E. Oliver, P. N. Olwang, H. Reed, M. S. Roberts, D. Rodgers, K. Roe, D. Seale, T. B. Watson, G. Wilby.

### Under 13 Soccer XI.

The Under 13 Soccer XI is to be congratulated upon its most successful season in post-war football. The team, runners-up last season, soon developed an excellent team spirit which overcame all obstacles and resulted in 17 games being played without conceding a single point and as a result the boys became champions of Division "G" of the Sunderland and District Schools' Football Association. Good, clean, constructive football has been the keynote this season with every boy giving his best and playing for his team rather than for his own glory.

## Results of Matches.—

	F.	A.		F.	A.
18/ 9/54 St. Benet's	H	7—0	29/ 1/55 Deptford Mod.	H	7—0
25/ 9/54 Commercial Road	A	4—0	5/ 2/55 West Southwick	H	1—0
2/10/54 Reddy	H	4—1	12/ 3/55 Monk'm'th Gran	H	1—0
9/10/54 Deptford Mod.	A	4—0	16/ 3/55 Commercial Road	H	4—0
16/10/54 West Southwick	A	7—2	30/ 3/55 Grange Park	A	6—0
6/11/54 Grange Park	H	3—0	31/ 3/55 James Williams St.	A	3—0
20/11/54 Monk'm'th Gran	A	5—0	2/ 4/55 St. Hilda's	H	5—1
4/12/54 James Williams St.	H	5—0	2/ 4/55 St. Hilda's	A	10—1
18/12/54 St. Benet's	A	6—0			

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
17	17	0	0	82	4	34

The goal-scorers were:—Clayton 20, Simmons 19, Sampson 18, Davison 10, Pinkney 5, Spedding 3, Johnson E. 2, Beresford 2, Gill 2, and 1 own goal.

Considerable enthusiasm was a constant feature exhibited by the boys this season and this, tempered with respect for the opposition, good and poor alike, resulted in an outstanding performance. This was in no small measure due to the able captaincy of Spedding who led the team very well indeed and gave much encouragement to his colleagues. He was very sound in defence being gifted with a keen sense of anticipation. It was he who was mainly responsible for the small score "against" and he was also quick to set the attack in motion. Ridge, in goal, was very "safe," positioned himself very well, although he was never fully tested. E. Johnson, at right back, improved considerably as the season progressed, his only present weakness being a tendency, on heavy grounds, to slice the ball through kicking off balance or failing to follow the old maxim of "keeping his eye on the ball." Cook, his partner on the left, was keen and enthusiastic throughout the season though at times he was inclined to "lean" on an opponent. He promises well for next season. Gill, a hard "grafter" with a powerful shot, Trueman, at times very industrious though lacking in speed, and Spedding made up a formidable half-back line which broke the hearts of many forward lines, Hughes rendered good service towards the end of the season and so did Beresford, a first year boy, who displayed evidence of considerable ability in the few games in which he played. He should develop into a capable all-rounder. Davison, a promising player at outside-right, was a progressive and forceful attacker, quick to make the most of an opportunity and a source of trouble to most defences. He centres and shoots well and worked very well with Clayton, the leading goal-scorer, who has good ball control and crossed, as well as converted, many scoring chances. He foraged well and helped his defence when necessary. Centre-forward Sampson was a hard worker whose play improved during the course of the season. His hustle and keenness was always apparent and he worked unselfishly for the benefit of the team. Simmons was mainly responsible for the success of the attack. As an industrious forager, carrier and distributor of the ball he

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provided others with goals, while his shooting was strong, as his goals scored testified. Pinkney showed himself to be a good ball-player, whose skillful work frequently produced results. He was very clever in evading tackles and beating an opponent though his centring and shooting was inclined to be rather weak at times, but these features of his play will undoubtedly improve in time.

The team is greatly indebted to Mr. P. Layton for his time given to coaching and to the untiring efforts of Mr. W. Easton and Mr. S. A. S. Robinson who braved the elements throughout the season not only to referee when necessary but also to guide and encourage the team to victory.

G. W. LEE.

### Senior Rugby XV.

Captain: Lavery.

Vice-Captain: Crompton.

Hon. Sec.: Thompson.

Only four players with previous experience in the School team were available this season and efficient successors were hard to find. Indeed, this problem remained unsolved throughout the season for no-one made undisputed claim to berths at right-centre and full-back. A general apathy towards training and practices was not conducive to a fighting team spirit, while shortage of adequate reserves eliminated the spur of competition.

The pack was seriously handicapped in the line-out by lack of inches, but Armstrong did fill this void as the season progressed. Tardiness in releasing the ball nullified good work by the front row and materially added to the discomfort of Halstead at scrum-half. In the loose they were individuals rather than a unit and systematic covering seldom existed. Lavery played hard to infuse life and Harding and Barker were also consistently prominent.

The threequarters did not attack or defend as a line and few attacking movements emerged. This was a result of a failure to run with the ball, aggravated by inaccurate passing; marking and tackling were indecisive and once beaten little attempt was made to reorganise the defence.

However, the first game, although lost narrowly against South Shields, did reveal an encouraging potentiality. This promise remained unfulfilled for our morale never recovered from the disastrous defeat at the hands of West Harlepool in the second game. It is to be hoped that the lessons taught by defeat will accomplish something constructive next season.

Barker, Lavery, Crompton and Thompson played in trials for the County Public Schools side and Lavery was selected to play in the counties "Under 18" XV.

In the "Sevens" we were unlucky to be beaten in the first round.

Record	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.	A.
	8	0	0	8	25	214

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 U. 15 Rugby.

Captained by Ward, this team had a poor season. Team spirit was not high and a lack of knowledge of the fundamentals contributed to this dismal record. One high light was the selection of Wilson for the County and we are pleased that he played well and brought credit to the school and an International Trial game to himself.

---

 U. 14 Ragger.

Captained by Galloway the U 14 had a most promising season, and their record would have been better had it not been for one disastrous game against Henry Smith's in which we were beaten 0—60.

Records	P.	W.	L.	F.	A.
U. 15	9	3	6	48	167
U. 14	9	6	3	128	94

---

## Cricket—Senior XI.

This season only four of last year's successful XI are available and, as yet, it is too early to say how the team, under the captaincy of E. T. Brown, will shape.

A complete fixture list has been compiled, including games with two of Durham University Colleges and a Durham Senior League Club 3rd XI. However, due to the inclemency of the weather, only two games have been played as yet and one of these (v. Bede College) had to be abandoned just as it was entering an interesting stage; the other game (v. Washington Grammar) was narrowly won.

Although our batting is rather inconsistent our fast bowlers should be the deciding factor in most of the games against school teams.

The best performances to date have been: 31 runs by Brown and 26 runs and 3 wkts. by Harding against Washington.

The House Competition is again, I assume, to be decided on a league basis but as yet no matches have been played.

Nets are again available during the lunch intervals but, perhaps owing to the very cold weather, they are not being used as much as in past seasons.

Our thanks are yet again tendered to Mr. McClement for the deep interest he shows in the running of the team and for some valuable coaching advice.

T. HALL (Hon. Sec.)



### The Chess Club.

This season has undoubtedly been one of the most successful ever. The school team, under the captaincy of G. Scott, lost only one match in ten, being narrowly beaten by the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle, in the last match by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  boards to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The figures at the end of the season were:—

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
10	9	0	1	55	23

This success has been made possible by Mr. Maccoby, whose expert coaching has greatly improved the general standard of play.

Of the nineteen boys who have played for the school team, only eight have appeared five or more times. They are: Brown and Bryce (10), Aldridge and Scott (8), Settle and Wood (7), Arney and Richardson (8).

Chess is evidently becoming more popular in the school, the average attendance at the club being 26, with a good proportion of younger players present.

The School Tournaments were well supported with over 50 boys entering for at least one of the three tournaments.

The winner of the Senior Open Tournament was W. Bryce, who in beating D. Settle in the final became the school chess champion.

D. R. Berg beat T. E. Brown in the final of the Handicap Tournament and also won the Junior Open Tournament.

The team captain, G. Scott, following in the footsteps of J. Falp, has reached the final of the Durham County Junior Championship.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Linson for his supervision at the matches and at the club throughout the season and also to Mr. Robinson, Mr. Boston, Mr. Kirk and Mr. Giles, who have taken charge in his absence.

W. BRYCE (Hon. Sec.)

### The Gym Club (1954-55 Season).

Throughout the year the club has made good sound progress, both in the intermediate and advanced sections. The standard of the club can be exemplified by the result of a friendly competition against South Shields Grammar School, who at the time were finalists in the Durham County Gymnastics Competition and who beat us only by a small margin.

Each section of the club has a good number of members. The number gaining intermediate awards was 15, and the following boys gained advanced awards:—

D. I. Armstrong, D. Burn, J. Greenwell, R. Maxwell, P. Newton, J. Thompson.

Five boys achieved the required standard to enable them to gain an instructor's award. They are: D. I. Armstrong, R. Crawford, J. Greenwell, D. Burn and P. Newton.

We are indebted to Messrs. Preswich and Layton, without whom such results would not have been possible.

D. I. ARMSTRONG, U.V. 2.

### Swimming Report, 1954-55.

Since school swimming was revived so short a time ago it has made commendable progress. The school held its annual swimming match with Monkwearmouth and Ryhope Grammar Schools. Although we were again beaten by both schools the margin on this occasion was much narrower. Swimming classes have been held regularly every Wednesday night and a number of boys attended the life saving class at Green Terrace. As a result the following boys were awarded the Bronze medallion: Munday, Bland, Stead, Wood Freer, Kirk, Richardson, Pickersgill and Forster. Some boys went further and Kirk, Freer, Munday and Bland gained the Bronze Cross while Nelson was awarded the Silver Medallion.

The first gala for many years was held at High Street Baths on December 1st, and was a great success. The results were as follows:

#### SENIOR.

3 lengths Breaststroke; Nelson, Reuse, Kirk, Conway 1 min. 33.2 sec.

2 lengths free-style (Championship) Nelson, Coulson, Crawford,  
Docherty 42.8 sec.

2 lengths backstroke; Burn, Pickersgill, Coulson, Kirk 52 sec.

3 lengths squadron; Hylton, Durham, Lumsley, Raby 58.7 sec.

Dive 3 stages; Burn Coulson, Conway Nelson 54 pts.

#### MIDDLE.

1 length backstroke; Johnson, Bland, Godard, Stead 22.2 sec.

1 length free-style (Championship) Johnson, Stead, Herbert 18.5 sec.

2 lengths breaststroke; Bland, Munday, Stead 61.4 sec.

Dive 3 stages; Johnson, Stead, Larcombe, Herbert 56 pts.

3 lengths squadron; Raby, Durham, Hylton 67.5 sec.

## JUNIOR.

- 1 length backstroke; Sandie, Ridge, Watson, Hoskins. 25.5 secs.  
 1 length free-style (Championship) Sandie, Tunn, Hoskins, Sampson. 21 secs.  
 1 length Breaststroke Sampson, Salmon, Ridge 50 secs.  
 Dive 2 stages; Sampson, Ridge, Sayers. 50 pts.  
 3 lengths squadron; Lunley, Baby, Hylton, Durham. 1 min. 20 secs.

Final House Placings:—Baby	59 pts.
Hylton	42 pts.
Durham	38½ pts.
Lunley	35½ pts.

The gala will now be held regularly every year and it is hoped that this will encourage more boys to attend the Wednesday evening classes and that an even higher standard of swimming will be reached in the future.

The Club owes a real debt of gratitude to Mr. Taylor and to Mr. Prestwich for the time and trouble they have devoted to it.

C. NELSON, VI A. Science.

## Tennis Report, 1955.

After a successful season last year, in which the team won 10 out of 13 matches, we found that we had four players left who had represented the school team.

The Singles Tournament last year was won by A. Noble who beat J. Plumpton 6-2, 6-3, while A. Armstrong and Miss Gordon defeated A. Laverick and Miss Clayburn 6-4, 1-6, 6-3 in the final of the mixed doubles.

So far this season, the team has played four matches. It has beaten Wellfield, Houghton and Ryhope Grammar Schools by 7-2, 6-3, and 7-2 respectively, and has drawn with Durham Colleges, 9 sets all.

At the time of writing, the singles tournament is in its third round, but the Mixed Tournament has not started yet owing to lack of support.

This year's officials are:—Captains: J. Plumpton.  
 Vice-Captain: A. G. Armstrong.

We are very grateful to Mr. A. Taylor and all the masters who were concerned in running the team.

S. C. KERR (Hon. Sec.)

### Badminton Club.

With the help of Miss Metcalf, Mr. Prestwich and Mr. D. A. Thompson a Mixed Badminton Club was formed and it had a successful first season.

Since it was the first season, however, the standard of play was not particularly high, for many had not played before. Play, however, was of a markedly higher standard towards the end of the season.

Since a schools' league was not formed, as we had hoped, there were only two matches—both against Monkwearmouth G.S. In the first with a weak team we were narrowly beaten 5-4, but in a return match with a full team we won comfortably 8-1. Although most of the team will have left school by next season there are others who should prove good replacements and new members will be welcomed.

A singles tournament was held in the last week of the spring term and in the final S. C. Kerr beat Jobling 17-14, 15-12.

We are grateful to Mr. D. A. Thompson and Miss Metcalf for giving up their time to supervise and coach us—and also to Mr. Thompson for allowing us the use of the Old Bedans' net and for helping us out with shuttles.

A. G. ARMSTRONG (Sec.)

### Philatelic Society Report, 1955.

The Society's programme during the Autumn and Spring terms included widely varied activities. Support, largely from the lower school, has been constant.

We have exploited the normal range of activities. Messrs. Linton, Laidler, Seery and members of the committee have given displays of British, British Empire and Foreign stamps. During Princess Margaret's tour of the West Indies we had two displays of stamps of that region. Quizzes have been popular, especially when prizes were offered. Auctions have been successful and more frequent in the Spring term. In these last two activities we owe much to Mr. Hirst, an Old Bedan. We wish him success in his new teacher's post in Uganda.

The Committee was little changed for the summer terms and was:—President, Hazel (former Sec.); Secretary: Crabbe (former Librarian); Librarian: Wilson; Senior Member: Wood D. W. (former pres.); Junior Member: P. Wood.

We are indebted to Messrs. Lee and Linton for their constant support throughout the year.

CRABBE,  
HAZELL, Secs.

## S.C.M. Report, 1955.

The S.C.M. has continued to hold joint meetings with the Girls' Branch, the meetings being held in each school alternately. Derek Foster and Dorothy Allen were respective chairmen.

Three themes were presented in the various terms:—"Christian Relationships," "The Gospel of St. Luke," and "The Book of Genesis." Difficulty was often experienced in booking speakers, but this gave members the opportunity to discuss Mrs. Knight's talks on "Morals and Religion," and their own problems. Meetings were also led and addressed by our chairman.

Speakers whom we heartily thank were:—

- Rev. S. J. Voke—"The Christian and his daily work."
- Rev. Connop Price—"Living and working together."
- Mr. Roy Silver—"Christian Courtship and Marriage."
- Rev. Hymas—"A Devotional Talk on the Incarnation."
- Mr. Giles—"Background to the Gentile World"—St. Luke.
- Miss Law—"Function and Aims of the S.C.M."
- World Ventures—"Missionary Work in Cyrene, Balawayo. Talks and Film."
- Rev. Hawkins—"Introducing Genesis."

There have been two conferences this year. The first, held at Seaham G.S., dealt with "The Christian in Society." Speakers were Miss A. Eden, Mr. E. Armstrong and Rev. Bolby. Canon Greenslade addressed a second conference on "Evansston"—the World Council of Churches—and the Oecumenical Movement discussed there. Finally we would express our thanks to the Education Committee for their aid in sending two boys to a five-day conference at Lambton in July, with the theme: What it means to be a Christian.

R. W. HOPPER, Sec.

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 Library Report, 1955.

Committee: Chairman, The Headmaster; Librarian, Mr. Bell; Staff Members, Mr. Kilner, Mr. Lewis; Senior Assistant Librarian, Hopper; Senior Assistants, Austin, Dent, Graham, Carr, Hutchinson, Richardson, Sanderson, Stiff, Taylor; Apprentices: Galloway, Hawkins, Noble, Searth.

The Library, in general, has had a successful year. The staff, especially the younger boys, have shown an increased enthusiasm. Moreover, the administration of the library is improving. A Subject Index, now in preparation, should facilitate its smoother working.

There is now quite a good selection of books for special loan to be had on request. Some of these are shown in our new display case situated at the entrance to the library.

Our grant this year added 110 books to the shelves. This increase was not obvious, however. Many books are borrowed or taken from the library and never returned. This gives cause for grave concern and dissatisfaction and boys concerned should endeavour to remedy the position.

There has been but one change in our periodicals. The "Spectator" was re-instated when "John O' London's" ceased publication.

We record with regret the loss of Mr. Kilner from our staff, and thank him for his interest in the library.

Finally, our thanks are again due to all members of staff and boys who have so kindly donated books to the library.

R. W. HOPPER,

Senior Assistant Librarian.

#### Basketball Report.

This season proved a most successful one in the field of Basketball. The standard of play in the school has definitely improved during the past two years and as a result we were able to field three teams. Of these, the first team was the most successful, playing twenty-two games and suffering defeat only once. The second team did not have a great number of games but played well and succeeded in beating Ryhope and Harlequins. The Juniors were also in their first season and finished the season with three wins and three defeats.

The highlights of the season were two tournaments held at Darlington and Bede respectively. The former was won by Bede and the latter by Darlington, who narrowly defeated Bede in the final. Tournaments were also held at School for both the Junior and Senior School; Hylton emerged triumphant in the Junior contest, Lumley in the Senior.

We should like to thank Mr. Prestwich for his kindness, perseverance and coaching during this season. He is in a large measure responsible for the success of this activity in school. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the Harlequins for their sporting and generous provision of a trophy for the tournament at Bede, which we hope will become an annual event. Last but not least we thank D. Hall, VI. A. Sc., for acting as scorer during the season.

#### RECORD.

##### BEDE 1st TEAM.

P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts. for	Ag.
22	21	1	0	739	395

Scores: Duckworth, 226; Nelson, 207; Thompson, 125; Plampson, 65; Smith, 51; Barker, 46; Carrick, 12; Crompton, 4; Oliver, 1.

A. SMITH (Hon. Sec.)

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## House Basketball (Senior).

Hylton v. Raby	...	...	...	19—23
Durham v. Lumley	...	...	...	10—34
Hylton v. Lumley	...	...	...	20—20
Durham v. Raby	...	...	...	21—38
Raby v. Lumley	...	...	...	13—23
Hylton v. Durham	...	...	...	32—22

	Won	Draw	Lost	Points
Lumley	2	1	—	3
Raby	2	—	1	4
Hylton	1	1	1	3
Durham	—	—	3	0

## Cross Country Club.

With only three of last season's team remaining this year, we fulfilled the cynics' expectations in losing every match, for we felt the loss of Rendall, Cowey, Ferguson, Noble, Holland and Thwaites, in no small degree, especially as they were all runners of some years' experience.

The final team averages showed that Reah, with an average position of 1, Fawcitt with 2.75, and Milward with 3.5, have been the team's most consistent runners, and all three had Colours either renewed or awarded to them at the end of the season. Sente resumed running this season after a lapse of two years, and together with Cramer and Mitcheson, completed the regular team, and provided an invaluable second pack. Rouse, Newrick and Hutchinson also ran during the course of the season.

We were obliged to cancel our fixtures with the surrounding University Colleges, and only ran against neighbouring Grammar Schools, five fixtures in all; but we found ourselves in a position where, although our team was considerably weaker this season than last, other schools were going from strength to strength, or at least maintaining their previous season's standard. Running conditions were on the whole difficult, three of the matches being run in snow and ice.

Results of this season's fixtures were:—

St. Aidan's G.S. (Home)	Lost 44—35
Royal G.S. (Away)	Lost 31—50
3rd Inter-Club C.C. Relay (Away)	Sixth Place
Ryhope G.S. (Away)	Lost 31—50
N.E. Inter Grammar Schools C. C. Championships (Away)	Seventh Place



Owing to a considerable degree of apathy towards this so-called "crude" sport, especially in the senior school, it was decided that for the first time for a number of years, there would be no Senior House Championships. Indeed, the junior school, which usually produces a turnout of about sixty or seventy runners for its Championship could only muster forty, when it was run off on April 1st, although we strongly suspect that this was due more to the race's being run out of school hours than anything else!

Allison bettered his 1954 performance by 17 seconds, but still has another quarter of a minute to dispense with before he can beat Reah's course record. Due to a combination of superiority of numbers and excellent packing, Durham fully avenged last year's reversal by Hylton, by winning with 191 points, with Lamley and Raby well behind.

Once more, our thanks go to Messrs. Thompson Jennens, and Layton for assisting in the running of the club.

A. FAWCITT, Hon. Sec.

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#### Athletics Club.

Captain: Nelson. Vice-Captain: Roise. Secretary: Plumpton.

#### Sports Day.

The Athletic Sports, held this year on May 25th, produced only one new record, Gordon Brown winning the Middle School half mile in 2 minutes 18.8 seconds, but glorious weather provided a measure of compensation.

Hylton were Champion House, gaining 229 points, Durham second with 151, Raby third and Lamley fourth. Senior Individual Champion was C. Nelson of Hylton, Middle School Champion, R. Petrie of Durham and Junior Champion, G. Clayton of Hylton.

Performances were generally undistinguished but Junior and Middle School competitors showed there is no need to fear the future of Athletics in the school.

#### Pole Vault (Open)—

1 Carrick (L) (8ft. 11in.); 2 Barr (D); 3 Short (R).

#### Long Jump (Middle)—

1 Petrie, R. (D) (16ft. 1 1/2in.); 2 Ward (H); 3 Hoggett (H).

#### High Jump (Juniors)—

1 Clayton (H) (4ft. 3 1/2in.); 2 Stranges (H); 3 Errington (D).

#### 100 Yards (Seniors)—

1 Roise (H) (11.2 sec.); 2 Rogers (R); 3 Hopper (R).

**Discus (Open)—**

1 Nelson (H) (78ft. 7ins.); 2 Hopper (R); 3 Armstrong (H).

**880 Yards (Senior)—**

1 Reah (D) (2 mins. 15.2 secs.); 2 Millward (H); 3 Settle (D).

**Long Jump (Senior)—**

1 Crompton (L) (16ft. 4½ins.); 2 Duckworth (D); 3 Nelson (H).]

**High Jump (Middle)—**

1 Edwards (R) (5ft. 4½ins.); 2 Petrie (D); 3 Storey (D),  
Cradden (L), Clemmison (R).

**220 Yards (Junior)—**

1 Simmonds (H); 2 Clayton (H); 3 Burns (D).

**Shot (Open)—**

1 Nelson (H) (34ft. 16ins.); 2 Forster (R); 3 Crawford (D).

**440 Yards (Middle)—**

1 Edwards (R) (58.8 secs.); 2 Hoggatt (H); 3 Alderson (D).

**Long Jump (Junior)—**

1 Hodkins (H) (13ft. 10ins.); 2 Clayton (H); 3 Hubbard (R).

**Red Cap (High Jump)—**

1 Palmer R. A. (Spennymer) (5ft. 1in.); 2 Plumpton J. (Bede G.S.);  
3 Grewcock T. (South Shields).

**440 Yards (Senior)—**

1 Cramer (H) (60.2 secs.); 2 Hutchinson (D); 3 Mezzo (H).

**100 Yards (Middle)—**

Ward (H) (12.2 secs.); 2 Alderson (D); 3 Petrie (D).

**100 Yards (Junior)—**

1 Hodkins (H) (12.2 secs.); 2 Pracock (L); 3 Simmons (H).

**Javelin (Open)—**

1 Crawford (D) (127ft. 5ins.); 2 Forster (R); 3 Austin (D).

**880 Yards (Junior)—**

1 Johnson (H) (2 mins. 36.9 secs.); 2 Allison (D); 3 Fowler (H).

**880 Yards (Middle)—**

1 Brown (H) (2mins. 18.8 secs.) (New School record); 2 Petrie (D);  
3 Foster (H).

**220 Yards (Senior)—**

1 Rouze (H) (25.8 secs.); 2 Sayers (R); 3 Cramer (H).

**220 Yards (Middle)—**

1 Edwards (R) (26.0 secs.); 2 Ward (H); 3 Gale (R).

**440 Yards (Junior)—**

1 Hodkins (H) (67.7 secs.); 2 Johnson (H); 3 Allison (D).

**One Mile (Open)—**

1 Reah (D) (Time 9.4 sec.); 2 Millward (H); 3 Fawcett (D).

**Relay (4 x 110) (Middle)—**

1 Durham; 2 Hylton; 3 Raby; 4 Lumsley.

**Relay (4 x 110) (Junior)—**

1 Hylton; 2 Raby; 3 Durham; 4 Lumsley.

**Relay (4 x 110) (Senior)—**

1 Hylton; 2 Durham; 3 Raby; 4 Lumsley.

**High Jump (Senior)—**

Decided before the meeting). 1 Flampton (L) (5ft. 3ins.);  
2 Brown (H); 3 Nelson (H).

**House Championships—**

1 Hylton, 229 pts.; 2 Durham, 151 pts.; 3 Raby, 91 pts.;  
4 Lumsley, 57 pts.

**Individual Championships—**

Senior: C. Nelson (H) 20 pts.; Middle: R. Petrie (D) 20 pts.;  
Junior: G. Clayton (H) 29 pts.

**Inter Grammar School Sports.**

The achievements of the team at the Inter-Grammar Schools Meeting at Darlington on Saturday, June 4th, exceeded our wildest hopes, for performances at our own sports had been disappointing.

The value of strong opposition and a cinder track was revealed, for the team gained third place among twenty-two competing schools. Splendid individual victories by Hoskins in the Junior 440 yards, Brown in the Intermediate 180 yards and Alderson in the Intermediate Javelin were supported by sound all-round performances in other events by their team-mates. Several boys improved their personal records and mention must be made of the Junior 4 x 110 yards relay team who, in their heat, broke the record for the meeting, only to be beaten into second place in the final, both they and the winners again clocking times faster than the previous best.

Commendable team-spirit has emerged and we look forward with confidence to the Tyneside and District Grammar Schools Sports on June 10th.

### The Boxing Club.

The Boxing Club has enjoyed another pleasant season during which many promising newcomers from the first and second years trained regularly and these boys will undoubtedly form the 'backbone' of the Club in future years. We were, however, unfortunate to lose a number of senior boys at the beginning of the session but the keenness and enthusiasm showed by the Middle and Lower School boys more than outweighed this disadvantage.

A year of consistent training was concluded with a successful Boxing Tournament held in the School Hall, on 5th April, 1955. Once again we were indebted to Mr. L. Goodall, the Durham County Organiser of Boys Clubs, who loaned us the ring, and to Mr. W. Glenderming who acted as referee. Messrs. T. Owen and P. J. Gillespie, P. E. Organiser for the Sunderland Education Authority, acted as judges, while Dr. G. C. Slade was in attendance to look after the physical needs of the contestants. Mr. C. G. Lister, as M.C., and Mr. J. A. Mason, timekeeper, also deserve the gratitude of the Club for their contributions towards the smooth organisation of the event.

The results of the contests were as follows:—

1. Junior A. (12-13 years), 5st. 6lbs.—5st. 12lbs.:—  
B. Sayers (D) beat J. Clarke (H).
2. Junior A. (12-13 years), 6st. 2lbs.—6st. 9lbs.:—  
G. Blake (H) beat D. Herring (D).
3. Junior A. (12-13 years), 8st. 5lbs.—8st. 10lbs.:—  
D. Salmon (D) beat D. Frost (L).
4. Junior B. (13-14 years), 6st. 4lbs.:—  
N. Fowler (H) beat C. Mulvaney (H).
5. Junior B. (13-14 years), 7st. 2lbs.—7st. 9lbs.:—  
E. Johnson (H) beat J. Lee (R).
6. Junior B. (13-14 years), 9st. 7lbs.—9st.:—  
I. Hopkins (H) beat F. Hodgson (D).
7. Intermediate A. (14-15 years), 7st. 8lbs.:—  
J. Thompson (R) beat D. McLaren (D).
8. Intermediate A. (14-15 years), 7st. 12lbs.—8st. 5lbs.:—  
J. White (R) beat D. Bolton (D).
9. Intermediate A. (14-15 years), 8st. 10lbs.—9st. 5lbs.:—  
M. Stacey (D) beat D. Larcombe (L).
10. Senior (16 years), 8st. 7lbs.—9st.:—  
R. Stobart (D) beat I. Armstrong (H).

The following boys were declared champions in their respective groups there being no opponents to contest them:—J. T. Beresford (D), T. Turn (D), T. Hall (D), G. Oliver (H), J. Maddison (L) and P. Short (R).

Once again the Club is most grateful to Mr. D. R. Prestwich for his guidance, coaching and invaluable help in the many tasks necessary for the smooth presentation of the Tournament and to Mr. P. Layton who also gave of his time and energy in this direction.

G. W. LEE.

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### Old Bedans' Badminton Club.

It still meets in the School Hall on Wednesday nights from September to Easter. There is a good club spirit and new members will be very welcome. The subscription is £1 10s. 0d. and 15/- under 21.

D. A. THOMPSON,

4 Humbleton View,

Tel 68825.

### Old Bedans A.F.C.—North Eastern Amateur League.

At the conclusion of Season 1953-54, it seemed that prospects for the next season were extremely promising—however, our expectations were never realised, and Season 1954-55 was rather disappointing for the Club from a playing point of view, and final records were:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
1st XI	26	9	9	8	64	60	26
2nd XI	24	6	12	6	52	81	18

Despite the fact that results more often than not were poor, Club spirit was excellent, and it appeared that the players played for the enjoyment of the game rather than the result.

The 1st XI made quick exits from both the Durham Miner Cup and the N.E.A.L. Shield Competitions in the 1st and 2nd rounds respectively; this was a blessing in disguise, for it eased the end-of-season fixture-congestion which could have been expected following the rather harsh winter.

What can we expect in Season 1955-56? Much depends on the influx of new players, and once again I would appeal to anyone who would like to play for the Club to contact me at 6 Millfield Terrace, Whitburn, or through Mr. R. T. Aye, for there are vacancies in all positions, and I will advise anyone interested of the dates of practice matches.

Once again may I thank the School Authorities for the continued use of the School ground and facilities, and I hope that Season 1955-56 will prove to be a happy one for all players.

F. LAWSON,

Honorary Secretary.

Old Bedans' A.F.C.

## OLD BEDANS' ASSOCIATION.

### Secretary's Report.

Membership of the Association continues to increase steadily and the age spread to be more even. Most of the clubs are in the process of shedding playing personnel and the veterans of the post war years are gradually handing over to younger recruits. It is to the credit of all concerned that the Clubs continue to flourish. The Soccer club particularly is experiencing difficulty in finding a permanent secretary and praise and thanks are due to Frank Lawson for once more shouldering the duties of Secretary during mid-season. It is hoped that the club will not suffer from these changes and that it will soon regain its high place in the North Eastern Amateur League. The officers of the Rugby and Archery sections must be very satisfied with the progress of their clubs.

The Summer Re-union dance last year was so successful that it has been decided to hold the Re-union this year as two functions. The Dance will be held in the Bay Hotel, on Friday, 1st July, and the cricket match against the school will be played on Tuesday evening, 12th July.

The Annual Dinner Dance held on December 28th, in the Bay Hotel was again a great success.

A general invitation was given to members to attend Founders' Day Service in Bishopwearmouth Church on Thursday, 26th April. This is the first time an open invitation has been made to the Association but the response was very disappointing and quite unworthy of the traditions of our Association. It is hoped that, next year, with earlier notice, members will make an effort to attend. Surely we can muster a small representative party.

GEO. T. HALSTEAD,

Hon. Sec.

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### Old Bedans' R.F.C., 1954-55.

Once again it is my pleasure to report a most successful season, not only indicated by our collection of two trophies but by the consistent sound play of all three XV's, evidenced by the following record:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.
1st XV	24	21	2	1	464	110
2nd XV	19	14	4	1	351	124
3rd XV	17	14	4	0	282	87

This year we had our revenge of Bede College, completing the "double" over them by beating them in the finals of the Durham Junior Cup and the Junior "Sevens" Tournament.

This record is earning for us a high reputation in the county and an increasing number of senior clubs are offering improved fixtures in the future.

This success has not been confined to the playing field alone. A most enjoyable "Halloween" Dance was held at the Bay Hotel and was undoubtedly the most successful of our Social functions to date.

Towards the end of the season an Instructional Film Show was held in the the Barnes Hotel, followed by short talks on their particular Department by England forward B. A. Neale and threequarter D. Swanrick.

Our last venture of the season was an outing on Easter Monday to Bingley where we were most warmly welcomed and despite the defeat of both our XV's we had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

We closed the season with the "Sevens" Tournament at Bede and here I would take the opportunity of thanking all those members of School who helped make it another successful day.

We now look forward to next season with high hopes and should you care to join us please contact the new Secretary: Mr W. Mowbray, 18 Leamington Street, Sunderland, or just come along any Saturday afternoon.

J. L. GREEN, Hon. Sec.

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### Archery Club.

The Archery Club, officially known as Bede Archers, continues to prosper both in membership and shooting ability.

During the last twelve months the club has been represented at the well known national shoot of Scorton, York and Durham. The archers taking part in these shoots were Mr. R. T. Ayre, Mr. G. T. Halscad and Mr. J. Duxbury and they all made good scores. In the local league we maintained our position in the middle of the final league table some of the matches were very close and we hope to improve our position this year.

In the handicap competitions four members were awarded medals; they were Mr. H. E. Bruce, Mrs. M. R. Halscad, Mrs. M. Goodsir and Mr. R. T. Ayre. Our members attended the Open Meeting held by Cleadon Archers on Easter Monday. Mrs. M. Goodsir won the Medal for most golds in the Ladies' Competition.



Bedan Archers are now taking part in a summer postal league, in which we shoot against teams as far away as London, exchanging the score by post.

The Annual Dinner held last December at Marsden, was a great success. It was at this function that Mrs. N. Ayre presented a silver cup to the club to be awarded annually for the lady champion. It has been decided that our Annual Shoot will take place on the first convenient Friday evening or Saturday afternoon following the O.B.A. reunion.

We welcome spectators at any of our club shoots, especially potential new club members, for we would like to increase our membership even more.

J. B. GOODSIR, Hon. Sec.

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#### Treasurer's Report.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. R. T. Ayre) reported at the Annual Meeting, held on September 17th, 1954, that another successful year had been completed with a balance of £30 18s. 3d. made on the year's working. Well over 200 subscriptions had been received but many members delayed paying their Subs. too long. The assets of the Association had reached £264 2s. 4d.

