

BEDAN



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No. 102.

July, 1956.

THE BEDAN

Magazine of the Sunderland Bede Boys' Grammar School

No. 102.

JULY, 1956.

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EDITORIAL.

Being an editor is a thankless task. Once again the stunted growth of the School's literary desert affords little opportunity for constructive criticism. A most disturbing feature was the doggedly maintained, though, we must hastily add, feigned, illiteracy of the Sixth-Form. However, in an almost despairing attempt to escape complete disillusionment, we gratefully acknowledge the saving efforts of a gallant few who have enabled us to produce this year's magazine. In this respect, particular praise is due to the Junior School where it was impossible, owing to the abundance of articles, to include everything.

The difficulty experienced by boys in writing articles was as naught to the hardships experienced in composing this editorial. The editors could neither force an editorial from each other nor arrive at the "fluent compromise" of last year. However, we hope the results of our combined labours will be judged charitably.

R.W.H. and S.T.

School Notes.

The death of Mr. Peter F. Fulton occurred on 5th January, 1956 at his daughter's home in Glasgow, where he had been living with Mrs. Fulton for some years. Many Old Bedans and friends learned this news with regret and sorrow.

Mr. Fulton retired from the Staff of Bede School in 1949 after 33 years as Games and Physical Education Master. He had served in World War I with the Northumberland Fusiliers and had been severely wounded at Gallipoli.

Many Bedans and particularly Bedan Scouts remember Mr. Fulton with affection. As founder of the School Scout Troop in 1930 and Scoutmaster until he retired, he was indefatigable in his efforts to promote scouting ideals. His supervision of the games of the School was noteworthy for the organisation of the Annual Athletics meeting shortly after the end of the 1914-18 War. Gymnastic displays he organised used to be a feature of the Speech Days in the Victoria Hall.

His interest in the Old Boys of the School was always very keen and his support of the Old Bedans' Association staunch. He was one of the Association's Vice-Presidents.

Our sympathy is extended to Mrs. Fulton and her daughter in their sad bereavement.

We must record with deep regret the death of George Wilson. He was an excellent fellow, unassuming, responsible and of fine spirit. He was an outstandingly good Rigger player; a County "cap," he seemed certain to win further honours. We send our sincere sympathy to his family.

There has been a number of changes in the Common Room this year. During the Christmas Term Miss P. Swann joined us temporarily, to be succeeded, in a permanent capacity, by Mr. K. A. Markham who we hope will be very happy with us. Mr. N. Bowhill joined the Mathematics Department and this term, with our very best wishes, leaves us. Mr. P. R. B. Forbes regrettably left us at the end of the Christmas Term to be succeeded as Senior Classics Master by Mr. C. A. Smith, to whom we bid a sincere welcome. Mr. Lupton this term went to teach Mathematics at Carlisle Grammar School; we wish him every success. At the end of this term, too, Mr. C. J. Bell will be leaving us to take up a missionary-teaching appointment in Southern India. Mr. Bell has worked extremely hard in the cultural and religious life of the School and was the demon outside-left of the Staff Soccer Team; he takes with him our very kindest wishes for new successes. We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. S. A. S. Robinson on his appointment as Head of the Chemistry Department. Mr. W. Carruthers, an old Bodan, who has been with us throughout the year, is leaving for twelve months' training as a missionary, preparatory to going out to the Far Eastern field; we give him our best wishes.

We congratulate the following boys who have distinguished themselves academically: A. Gisby, State Scholarship in History, Geography and Economics tenable at the London School of Economics; J. Plumpton, State Scholarship in Geography and Economics tenable at Downing College, Cambridge; M. B. Soery, State Scholarship in Mathematics, tenable at Manchester University; N. F. Wood, State Scholarship in Natural Sciences, tenable at Manchester University.

The following boys have proceeded to Universities with Local Awards: D. M. Aldridge, Faculty of Science at Sheffield; T. E. Brown, Faculty of Engineering at King's College, Newcastle; W. D. Bryce, Faculty of Engineering at Glasgow; W. Forster, Faculty of Medicine at Durham; J. H. Freer, Faculty of Science at Durham; C. Nelson, Faculty of Medicine at Durham; K. Pickersgill, Faculty of Science at Sheffield; P. E. Robinson, School of Modern Languages at Birmingham; J. F. Smith, School of Pharmacy at Sunderland Technical College; A. Snaith to the London School of Economics; J. K. Ward, Faculty of Medicine at Durham.

We congratulate B. Boxter on his being elected to a Brasenordle Open Exhibition in Modern Languages at St. Catherine's Society, Oxford.

The following boys have obtained University Entrance: J. Carrick to the Medical School, King's College, Newcastle; T. K. Habstead, Commonership at New College, Oxford, for Chemistry; G. B. Hope, Faculty of Science at Durham; J. O. Kirk, School of Veterinary Surgery at Edinburgh; J. Knox, School of Civil Engineer-

ing, at Manchester; W. A. D. Thorp, School of Aeronautics at Southampton; P. Lavery, School of Agriculture at Nottingham; P. Collinson, School of Economics at King's College, Newcastle; D. Hall, at Sheffield, for Chemistry; E. Coulson, School of Modern Languages, University College, London; J. Le Roy, School of Architecture, King's College, Newcastle; D. Pearlman, School of Economics, St. John's College, Cambridge; A. Rood, D. Wriehson and I. Carr at the London School of Economics, for Economics; R. W. Hopper and S. Thompson, School of English at Manchester; M. Bullen, St. Michael's, and St. John's Training College, London.

The Senior Speech Day was held on 9th February. The prizes were distributed by S. A. Sadler Foster, Esq., Chairman of the North Eastern Trading Estates Ltd. In a speech full of humour he pointed out to us to what extent modern industry depended on high standards of technological knowledge and scientific inventiveness. At the same time, industry urgently required men of insight to administer it. The insight itself, he believed, could best be developed by active study of the Humanities. The boy who devoted himself fully to his work at school insuring not only the future of the nation but himself against the possibility of changing economic fortune. There was, too, during the evening some excellent music-making. The orchestra and Male Voice Choir were in most lively form and D. M. Stiff and K. G. Powell respectively gave organ and cello solos of fine quality.

The Junior Speech Day was held a week later. A. H. J. Bown, Esq., O.B.E., F.C.I.S., M.Inst.T., General Manager and Clerk to the River Wear Commissioners, was the guest of honour. He made an eloquent appeal to the boys to consider well the so-called "old-fashioned" virtues embodied in the principles and practice of true religion; honour, truth and devotion were constants in conditions otherwise of change. The orchestra again played excellently, the Junior Choir sang admirably and there were first-rate solos by A. A. B. Metcalfe (piano) and by C. H. Hornby.

We have this year seen three Olivier Shakespeare-films. "Hamlet" and "King Henry V" received, for the benefit of the Upper School, a private showing. "Richard III" the entire School saw at a local cinema; the Junior School to a man approved the blood-stained art.

A party of Sixth Form boys in October 1956, in Newcastle, the People's Theatre production of "Antony and Cleopatra." A further party in February saw the same Company's panorama-of-world-theatre production and again in May a particularly fine performance of "The Duchess of Malfi."

For the Concert we this year joined forces with the Girls' School. Performances were given on 25th and 27th April and were well attended. The audiences were most appreciative of a skillfully varied programme. The Mixed Choir was particularly impressive.

On the 24th April the School, at the invitation of the Governors, attended a Founder's Day Service at Bishopwearmouth Church. The Right Rev. C. A. Chase, D.D., Lord Bishop of Ripon, preached the sermon. The Mixed Choir sang an anthem. Holy Communion was celebrated by a large number of pupils from both Schools.

A party of Sixth Formers early this term spent a week at the Research Station at Mallam Tarn. The boys carried out a strenuous and painstaking survey of the tree distribution at various levels in the locality.

Mr. G. T. Moore has very kindly presented a cup to be awarded to the winner of the Officers' Prize Debate.

The Old Bedans' Association has generously decided to give one further annual prize, details of which may be seen in the Report at the end of the Magazine. Senior boys especially should read the various Old Bedan reports so that they may learn of the multifarious activities of the Association.

In November we had a remarkably interesting and entertaining lecture from Mr. James Blades on "Instruments of Percussion."

A party of boys in May went to see the Sadler's Wells production of "Coppelia."

A little news of Old Bedans has filtered through. G. M. Stadden (1938-44), an Honour, Mathematics graduate of King's College, Newcastle, and now with the Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society, has qualified as a Fellow of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland; we offer him our congratulations. D. Maccoy (1937-42) has won a resounding success with his paintings. In April and May he held his first one-man show at the Galerie Bernheim-Jeune in Paris. Notices were most favourable; a long article by a prominent critic, Renee Carvalho, in "Revue Moderne des Arts et de la Vie," represents real fame. David has been asked to put on a one-man show in New York. We heartily congratulate him.

The Editors gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following Magazines from other schools: "The Elizabethan" (Darlington G.S.); "Novo" (Royal G.S., Newcastle); "The Alsopian" (Alsop High School, Liverpool); "The Avon" (South Shields Grammar and Technical School); "The Heatonian" (Heaton G.S.); "The North Easter" (Tynemouth School); The Bede Girls' School Magazine; "The Stocktonian" (Stockton G.S.); "The Allanian" (Dame Allan's School, Newcastle); "Rayn" (Chatham House G.S., Ramsgate), and regret any inadvertent omissions.

The Editors of "The Bedan" this year are R. W. Hopper and S. Thompson.

Dreadful Doings in Sherwood Forest.—A Play.

SCENE 1.

*A Glade in a Forest. Men in Lincoln Green
Robin Hood Arrives.*

LITTLE JOHN : What ho Robin ! What news?

ROBIN : The sheriff is coming with 50 men. To arms men and let's get ready for them.

Men Pick up Weapons and Stand Round Robin

ROBIN : Come, men, after the sheriff. We'll show him something to-day.

OMNES : Ay, Robin, that we will.

Exeunt Omnes except Friar Tuck who goes over to stew pot and begins to taste contents, singing.

Way down upon the Swannee River,

Far, far away.

That's where my heart will stay for ever,

There with—

Enter Jet Morgan complete with Space Suit.

JET : Have you seen any martians?

FRIAR TUCK : No.

JET : Thank you. (EXIT)

Alarums

FRIAR TUCK : Ha, the battle has started. I'll away.

SCENE 2.

Scene of Battle.

MAN IN U.S. CAVALRY UNIFORM : Indians aah !

*Falls with arrow in heart. Robin and Little John enter from left,
Indian from right*

INDIAN : How !

ROBIN : How :

LITTLE JOHN : Robin, I didn't know you could speak Indian.

ROBIN : Oh ! it's easy when you know "how !"

LITTLE JOHN AND INDIAN : Ugg !

INDIAN : Have you seen Geronimo ?

ROBIN : No.

INDIAN : Ugg. (EXIT)

*Enter Sheriff and six of his men and engage
Robin and Little John*

1st MAN: Aarrh ! *falls dead*

LITTLE JOHN: Aarrh ! *has sword through arm*

Enter British Tommy with Sten Gun.

STEN GUN: Ah - Ah - Ah - Ah - Ah.

2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th MAN: Oooh.

(to relieve monotony) fall down dead.

6th MAN: (A Shakespeare Lover) Adieu, adieu I am dead.

exit left as stage is getting cluttered up with bodies

exit "Tommy" right, singing with cockney accent

The Campbells are coming, there's going to be war,
The Campbells (fades away).

SHERIFF: So, Robin, you think you triumph. Well take this,
(*produces walter*) and this (*produces stratoshaster
and fires*)

*Robin, after moving body off stage, falls down
dead. Sheriff turns to go.*

MAN FROM AUDIENCE: Hey! It shouldn't end that way.
It's not cricket. The Sheriff should be killed.

*Robin gets up. Enter Tyson. Bowls Sheriff for
a duck. Exit Sheriff muttering, is brought back
by Len Hutton.*

ROBIN: Please Mr. Hutton, may I have your autograph?

HUTTON: Not now. I must deal with the sheriff first.

hits Sheriff for six (in 3 0). Sheriff falls down dead

MAN IN AUDIENCE: All right. You can end it now.

*Exeunt Omines as curtain falls, Len Hutton
signing Robin's Autograph Book.*

HENRY NICHOLSON, U.I.V.A.

The Silent Invaders.

Smith was a Government espionage official who had recently been watching the Persian Oil Company, especially its private secretary, Wilson, whose recent movements had been rather suspicious.

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He entered the office one morning on the pretext of buying some oil shares, and noticed the secretary grovelling about on the floor, apparently looting for something. As he walked past the desk, Smith brushed off with his sleeve a heavy lead paper-weight, which fell on Wilson's fingers he was full of apologies, thinking that Wilson's fingers must have been at least very badly bruised. Wilson ignored the incident, retrieved the paper weight, and, having asked Smith his business, left the room to consult a prospectus.

Smith was puzzled about the paper-weight incident, and concluded that Wilson was in some way abnormal. This appeared to be so when, on his return, Wilson sat down to write an agreement form.

Instead of his fingers' bending at the joints they curled outwards, as though made of a flexible material such as rubber. The business settled, Wilson showed Smith to the door, and as they shook hands, Smith had to suppress a feeling of horror and revulsion for the hand that took his felt cold and lifeless.

Having walked round the corner and waited a few minutes Smith returned to watch through the office window, and was just in time to see Wilson gradually dissolve into a thin ellipse of pale flickering green and yellow luminous light, which slid under the door and floated up into the sky, soon to be lost from sight.

Smith immediately reported to the Head of the Interplanetary department and told his fabulous story. A committee meeting was arranged for the next day, and there Smith told his story. He expounded his theory that this "thing" came from some other highly advanced planet which desired to control the Earth. He added that if these things came to Earth in great numbers disguised as earthenmen and—women, and gained important posts in the Government, the invasion would be virtually finished before it was discovered, and they would be too late to prevent it. "But," he said, "the World will now be warned of the danger and every person can be tested to check on whether or not he is human."

In reply, the chairman smiled, "The World will not be warned, my friend, for you are about to die and, of course, it will not be informed of our plans by us!"

The room filled with a flickering, glowing green and yellow light. Smith and it became one.

The Girl with the Enamel Eyes.

That followers of ballet cannot be recognized by their looks was suggested by one glance at the assortment of boys who gathered outside the Empire on Wednesday, the 9th of May, to see the Sadler's Wells Theatre Ballet Company perform "Coppelia" or "The Girl with the Enamel Eyes."

The Ballet opened very quietly, with the stage set as the Square of a small Town and the main characters in the story introducing themselves in small solo parts. The peace of the opening was dispelled when most of the company danced a rousing Mazurka followed by a Czardas, which were more akin to folk dances than ballet. The love-birds, Swanilda and Frantz, had a quarrel over Coppelia, the doll, whom they believed to be the daughter of Dr. Coppelius, the toymaker. The act closed when Swanilda found the key dropped by the toymaker.

The scene for Act 2. was set in the gloomy toymaker's shop, containing a number of dolls. This perhaps was the best act of the three, good miming and dancing being combined with well received humour provided mainly by the toymaker. Swanilda and her friends found Coppelia in their explorations and were surprised to find that she was a doll. Soon Dr. Coppelius returned and Swanilda hid herself as he chased out her friends.

While he was recovering, Frantz entered by a window and after a punishing welcome he was drugged by the toymaker with a drink under the pretence of friendship. Dr. Coppelius next tried to transfer the unconscious boy's spirit into the doll. Unknown to the toymaker, Swanilda had changed places with the doll and responded to his magic by pretending to come to life. The scene reached a climax when the transfigured "doll" ran amok in the toymaker's shop and made her escape with the still dazed Frantz, leaving behind a broken hearted Dr. Coppelius sobbing over his still lifeless Coppelia.

Although the dancing was again exceptionally good in Act 3, there seemed to be too little of the story left to tell and too much time spent in drawing it to a close. This scene was built up round the marriage of Swanilda to Frantz followed by the "Dance of the Hours."

Throughout the whole performance the costumes and stage settings were first class and the story was portrayed so well that it could easily be followed without previous knowledge of the plot. Judging by the audience's reception of the performance they enjoyed every minute.

D. C. U.V.I.Sc.

"Cock-a-Do-dle Dandy."

The Bede Drama Group performed Sean O'Casey's play "Cock a Doodle Dandy" in the Great Hall last term for the annual production.

It was well cast and acted and special praise must be extended to Mr. Jolly and his assistants for the attractiveness of the production, the setting and mechanical effects. The lighting, suitably unpredictable at times, harmonised well with the set, but tended to flatten the actors, who were not always careful to place themselves where they could be seen. Make-up was adequately done, except in the case of Loreleen whose complexion suggested cheapness, incompatible with the sympathetic response her character required from the audience. Costume in the case of the girls could have been a little more frilly, and skirts shorter. As it was, Michael's command that they should change their party frocks, seemed incomprehensible. Individual acting ranged from competent to excellent. Michael Marthraun and his dramatic foil, Sailer Mahan, had ample comic opportunities, many of which they handled well. Their Irish speech was not always clear; Michael screeched too often, and Sailer Mahan had a stilted manner of delivery, yet they both pointed their lines effectively. Michael's delivery of, "Man, the whole place is seething with 'em!" is unforgettable. There was a brilliant performance from the Sergeant, whose gestures were reminiscent of Jacques Tati. Father Dominicee, a sudden whirlwind Word of God's man, was given original support from One-Eyed Larry, whose performance was, perhaps the best from the point of view of comic invention. The Messenger was a fine example of controlled acting, in a somewhat statuesque part; he was content to let his lines, repeated simply, make their own work with the audience. His advice, in the end of the play-world words,—Die. There is little else left useful, for the likes of you to do," dropped across Michael like the everlasting headache itself. Other odd and comic contributions were made by Shanarr, Bellman and Porter. The girls' parts were played very well with some amusing feline touches by Marion and adequately by Lorna and Loreleen. Finally, with reference to the Cock, a dandy if ever there was one, a few paragraphs about the play and its author.

O'Casey must have given up struggling for a religion when he left bricklaying and found, in the success of his plays, that it paid not to have one. He turned his rough hand to drama and in the hardness of his heart plumbed the state of things and hauled up the bitterness of the Irish reality. Boyle at the end of "Juno and the Peacock" observes, "The whole world is in a terrible state of chaos." But O'Casey, an Elizabethan in spirit, is not unaware of the essence of drama, which he found in real social experience, involving, as well as romance and idealism, squalor and ineptitude for Characters, with the Black-and-Tans for Avenging Fate. Courageous surely, a dramatist, his countrymen rising against the picture of themselves, who declares, "If the characters live and the play holds the audience, that's enough."

In this play it seems unkind that there is so much bitterness seething like the evil forces afflicting Michael Marthraun himself, into the places of romance and pathos and realism. Determined that we should not laugh too long in the same strain O'Casey makes cunning use of the Cock, first as a theatrical ineptitude and then as the symbol of hidden forces, so that he is mentioned only to be the herald of something strange, and funny and then, pathetic. He is not

as in "Juno" a human peacock, but symbolically he is heard at the entrance of Loreleen, a seeker after happiness, failing to find it, and he ransacks the household, again symbolically as well as literally, to be led away peacefully enough doing the goosestep!

If you will accept the Cock you will, so O'Casey calculates, accept anything, and it is no surprise to see horns growing out of Marion's Head, and quite in keeping that the two old life-frighteners do not want a kiss from the pretty maid. As long as it is not thought out too closely this play will affect you; it will use you, and juggle with your responses out of all compass. A miracle alone ought to prevent the audience from rising in protest at such scurvy methods, and a miracle is promised, but again, not fulfilled. Expecting a miracle, amid the miracle of creation itself, Michael and Mahon distrust the miracle they have. Julia returns from Lourdes to die, having been absent a few hours! Here perhaps there is an allegory of the amount of life to be expected from the Roman Catholic Church. Life walks out with the women and the Messenger to a place where life resembles life, and Michael, pitiful fool, who so believed in the miraculous, is advised to die. Pathos and bitterness together; buffoonery and bitterness; romance and bitterness.

Drama has little to put beside the second scene of the play for studies in comedy. Music Hall and slapstick, it is, but acceptable in a play which is all Cock-a-Deedle Dandy. Yet this pantomime is brought to a close as Father Dominick commits manslaughter. At this point the ordinary dramatist, interested in drawing character in depth would have hesitated, but O'Casey is not so much interested in character as in the surface and symbols of reality in this play, a reality moreover that often declares itself to be appearance. The action of Father Dominick is succeeded in the next scene with a huz and cry—for the Cock. This huz and cry converts, again, and becomes a witch hunt—for Loreleen. Going in all directions at once, like the Sergeant's shot, and unpredictable as in a dream, like the

glossy top hat, yet there is a 'charmed stagnation' in the action, to use E. M. Forster's phrase, that the more the characters do, the less gets done, the less they have to say, the more they talk, and the harder they think the softer they get. Such aspects account for the great moments in the play. The Sergeant, Sailor Mahon and Michael call upon each other to fetch the priest yet none daring to go alone; the Sergeant's description of how he shot the Cock, and above all the whiskey scene with 'the bewitched bottle.

All escape in the end as they say to "a place where life resembles life," and we do not care to follow them off stage. They are types, or rather symbols, leading a surface existence, and after all, is the reality they show us of significance to any but themselves in their brief life on the stage? The dramatist shuffles them off like dolls, leaving someone to die,—it may as well be Michael. Why ask whether his fate is deserved? It isn't, but that's reason good enough, apparently, in a land where nothing anywhere was ever managed so ill, as the search for human happiness.

Some Books in the School Library.

The Life of the Robin.

by David Lack—Penguin Books.

Here is a book for every boy in the Lower and Middle School. The Senior School should have read it. This complete life of the most well known of English birds is written for the general reader who wishes for easily acquired information. The author describes how he set about colour-ringing birds in order to overcome difficulty of recognition of different robins. There are chapters on fighting, and it is surprising to learn that bird-song, for instance, has not quite the harmless joyful meaning that it was once thought to have. In the robin it indicates aggressiveness against a stranger. The line-drawings and the photographs help to make an enjoyable book. Other chapters on formation of pairs, nesting and food, provide more detailed information to boys who are keen on doing some amateur bird-watching. This book is to be found on the Penguin shelf.

K.A.M.

Illustrated History of Science.

F. Sherwood Taylor.

Heinemann.

Here is a fine book for all members of the school. A famous scientific historian and a distinguished artist have described and illustrated the growth of science from Ancient Egypt to the present day.

The text is pleasant to read, and moves from the first tentative questionings of the ancients about the world in which they lived, up to the present, when a sure answer to the original question, "What is matter?" seems to have been given.

By describing the structure of matter, physics has made possible great advances in the research and technique of all other scientific disciplines. The fascinating, amusing, frustrating and often dangerous adventure of science over nearly 5,000 years forms the subject of the book.

The illustrations are a brilliant contribution, in their imagination and humour. That even scientists are human beings is shown in the picture of Aristotle studying the octopus while his newly wed bride watches admiringly. There is a scene in which Roger Bacon, the monastic scientific theologian, is surprised in his meditations by a fire cracker, while concentration and bloodthirsty glee appear in the faces of Hooke, preparing a flea for inspection with the microscope, and of William Harvey, preparing for a dissection. The impression

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is unmistakably conveyed that much real work in science was achieved in the frame of mind of the amateur. The final illustrations contrast the old way of science, a laboratory brought in on a tray, and the new way, two spectacled men in white overalls dwarfed by their cyclotron. The text has the last word, and reminds us that wonderful as nature may seem to be, how much more wonderful is the little human animal that made the discoveries.

Again, this is a book for all boys, and may be found on the Reference Shelves.

K. A. M.

"The World of Small Animals." by T. H. Savory.

Mr. Savory has written an important and necessary book in that he successfully bridges the wide gap between the highly technical textbooks of zoology, which are worthless to the young naturalist, and the 'Nature Rambles in the Park' type of book, which tends to be incomplete and oversimplified. The reader need not be acquainted with the method of professional zoologists and, indeed, little knowledge of biology is required to understand and enjoy this book.

The book is in two sections: the first deals mainly with the simple technique applied to the collection, presentation and identification of small animals; in the second, the author introduces a selection of animals for study, arranged into groups. The reader is presented with the attractive possibility of becoming a specialist or even an authority, through the earnest study of one of these groups, since the animals which Mr. Savory has selected are among the lesser-known and lesser-studied types found in the British Isles.

The book is well illustrated with good photographs and clear, though rather small, drawings. It is excellently written in a non-technical manner and this is one of the many features, which make this book the ideal starting-point for the young naturalist who aspires to more intelligent and useful things than rows of transfixed insects and cases of multi-coloured eggs.

K. HALCROW. U. 6 Sc.

Hylton House Report.

Once more Hylton enjoyed a reasonably successful year, although the Juniors easily outshone the Seniors, in sporting achievement. They were particularly successful in Cricket, Rugby, Soccer and Cross Country—winning each of these events.

The Seniors, however, only succeeded in gaining third place in Cross Country, Soccer and Basketball, second place in Cricket, and in tying for second place with Durham and Lunley in the Tennis Championship. In Rugby all three matches were lost.

In the Boxing Tournament the house put up a good fight and managed to occupy second place. It was a different story in the Swimming Gala, however, when owing largely to lack of support especially from the senior members, the house finished last.

On Sports Day last year the house fully merited its comfortable win and supplied the Senior Champion, Nelson.

This year's Christmas Party reached the usual high standard and everybody had an extremely good time.

This seems an excellent opportunity to exhort all members to better their academic results, not only for their own benefit, but also so that the House may win the study Cup which was our treasured possession for so long.

The Officials this year are:—CAPTAIN: Rouse.; VICE-CAPTAIN: Reed; SECRETARY: Coulson; SOCCER CAPT.: Reed (Senior), Clayton (Junior); RUGBY: Thorp; CRICKET: Reed, Clayton; BASKETBALL: Oliver; ATHLETICS: Rouse; TENNIS: Coulson; SWIMMING: Coulson.

As the Juniors have shown their sporting ability during the past year we hope that these future senior members will infuse the House with an even better spirit.

Once more our sincere thanks must be extended to Mr. Lister and all members of staff who have assisted in running the House.

E. J. COULSON (Hon. Sec.)

Ruby House.

B. Baxter, Captain. R. W. Hopper, Vice-Captain.

This year we can claim to have enjoyed an excellent run of success. We have done well in all the major sports, gaining first place in the term's cricket, rugby, soccer (joint) and swimming (joint) championships, and third place in the athletic, basketball and boxing competition. We also have high hopes of our tennis and cricket teams' winning (for the third successive year) their championships this summer.

Renewed enthusiasm among the seniors has contributed greatly to our success, and we hope that this will encourage the lower forms to greater effort next year.

Our thanks are once more due to all masters, especially Mr. Jennens, for their help and interest during the year.

T. K. HALSTEAD (Hon. Sec.)

Lumley House.

Towards the end of the School year 1954-5 much hard work was put into athletics, cricket and tennis. Although the results were disappointing in athletics and cricket we succeeded in obtaining 2nd place in the tennis shield.

This year we have not been too successful in the winter competitions but there has been a most pleasing improvement in House spirit. In soccer both senior and junior teams were placed 4th.

In basketball, the senior team (5 points) and the junior team (3 points) are to be congratulated on having the winning aggregate in the competition.

We tied for 1st place in the swimming Gala, mainly owing to the efforts of the middle and junior sections.

These glories were crowned by the winning of the Study Cup at the end of the first term.

We did not fare too well in the boxing tournament (4th place) or in the rugby 7-side matches (4th place). Obviously we have more brain than brawn in the House.

Much to the joy of members of staff and sixth forms, the House Xmas Parties were held again this year. Lumley House party was very well attended and all had a most enjoyable evening.

I would like to thank all officials and members of staff for the interest and support given to the House during the year; their help has been invaluable.

D. CROMPTON (House Captain).

 Durham House Report.

House Captain: S. Thompson. Secretary: P. Lavery.

There has been an encouraging resurgence of esprit de corps resulting in gratifying success both on and off the playing fields this year. It is, perhaps, symbolic that we gained satisfactory standard in both the resurrected activities, namely the House Party and the Cross Country Championships. That we won intellectual laurels by winning the Study Cup for the first time is again indicative of recovery. We more than held our own in the boxing ring and in both codes of football, but this must be modified by rather disastrous efforts on the basketball court and in the swimming bath. We were only third in the school sports, traditionally our forte, but congratulations must be offered to Reah for carrying off the Senior Trophy. A measure of our progress this year may be gathered from the fact that we hold an overall lead, however slender, in the competition for the games shield with only the cricket and tennis to be decided.

Team-work is rewarded by success and it is to be hoped that the House responds to this challenge and supports those whose ability makes them outstanding. This resurgence in the House may be due either to threats or bribes of team-captains, stimulating the torpor so highly prized by many. However, our thanks are due to the inspiration afforded by the interest and encouragement devoted by Mr. Ayre.

P. LAVERY, (Hon. Sec.)

Boys' Scouts

The year 1955-56 has again brought changes to the troop. Mr. Twigg who has helped in the running of the troop for so many years, has left to take a new post at Bradford. We wish him well. Troop leadership has been taken over from Hunter by Ward Jar.

The Scout Hut is again presenting a problem. The outside walls have deteriorated greatly through woodrot, and in places parts are missing. The inside walls are in a sorry state too, but these are soon to be renewed. The P.L.'s Den has been improved by the addition of a new door, chairs and carpets. Heating presented something of a problem, for while the stove in the P.L.'s Den has proved satisfactory, the fire in the main part of the hut gave very little heat. This has been remedied somewhat by the installation of a new grate.

Our main problem is the lack of members. Many boys have left and there has been no great influx of recruits to replace them. At the moment the membership of the troop is not more than twenty.

We have had a poor competition year, being unplaced in both the Stansfield Richardson and the Kayll Cup competitions.

One of the few successes in the year was Summer Camp which was held in glorious weather at Hollin Hill, near Swainby in the north Yorkshire Moors. The heat did not make us inactive, however, and we spent the fortnight on obstacle courses, information hikes, snap tests, 'volley ball' tournaments, 'Test' Marches with the seniors, and swimming in a natural pool near the camp-site. On top of this, three boys were sent to York and back, a distance of some fifty miles each way, with the sum of 6d. each! To their credit they carried out their task without difficulty. The Camp Cup was won by the Seagull Patrol for the fourth year in succession.

Camps were held at Sharpley during the Whit, October and Easter holidays.

Our thanks are again due to Mr. Howard who has looked after us during the year, the Group Committee, who have kept our funds at a healthy level, and to Mr. Prestwich for letting us use the games room for storing our equipment.

Lastly I should like to emphasise our need for recruits. If any boy is interested, he should come to the troop meetings on Friday night at 7 o'clock.

L. McLAREN.

Bedan Senior Scouts.

We emerge from 1955-56 well moulded by experience. The year gave us much fun, good companionship and some hazards, physical and financial.

Towards the end of the Summer Term, for instance, we practiced a little marine architecture. With labour and to our own design, we produced a canoe. It floated; the Jeremiahs were confounded. Several trips were made in it, most of them on the surface. The nervous strain was considerable and we were ready for the summer holidays. With eagerness, we embraced the land. Our tents could be found in all parts of this country and in the remote fastnesses of the more hostile one to the north.

Returning to school for the Christmas term we continued our catering services for Saturday-morning games. In spite of repeated, gulfed efforts, by one team, who were resolved to bankrupt us, we managed to scrape a little towards the new equipment we need. During the term two of our members spent a week-end exploring the caves at Stanhope while others put in a few nights at camp. We held the annual re-union dinner on December 22nd and past and present members of the Troop had a splendid evening. During the Easter holidays seven of us had some excellent tramping over the Border hills; the going was, some of it, rough, but the inhabitants were most friendly.

We returned to school to hear the depressing news that our Scoutmaster, Mr. J. B. Lillie, had been transferred to Grimsby. We do wish him well and thank him for all the training and enjoyment he has given us. We hope he will soon be with us again and, in the meantime, continue to look forward with confidence.

D. G. HUNTER.

Sixth Form Society.

This year saw the rebirth of the Sixth Form Society, due largely to the efforts of Mr. Lewis. It was a disappointment to certain members that meetings were held in the School; however, it is hoped that with revenue obtained from refreshments, it may be possible to remedy this.

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Although the Society was formed with a view to encouraging prospective Open Scholars in interests likely to be questioned in their General Paper, it has presented very many lively, if not heated, discussions on the various topics. Among topics discussed were "Newspapers," "Science and Religion," "Jazz and Classical Music," and "Russia and Communism."

Owing to the efforts of members of staff we were lucky in being able to hear talks on the "Colonial Service," and "Local Architecture."

It is to be hoped that the Society may, after an encouraging initiation, pass on from strength to strength.

T. K. HALSTEAD.

Senior Debating Society.

Although the attendance at the Senior Debating Society during the past two seasons has been disappointing, a fair number of younger members have taken an active interest.

Mr. T. K. Halstead and Miss D. New each presided for a term. Misses B. Smith, A. Foster, J. Johnson, B. Truman, D. Kenny, C. Robinson and Messrs. E. Coulson, J. K. Ward, B. Baxter, B. Hope, S. Thompson, J. W. Le Roy and D. Pearlman have served on the Committee. The Poet Laureates, Mr. E. Coulson in the Autumn Term and Mr. J. W. Le Roy in the Spring Term, continually entertained us with their subtle and humorous poems.

In the Autumn Term Mr. G. T. Moore presented the Society with a new cup, which is to be held by winners of the Bi-Annual Cup Debates. Miss B. Smith, under Mr. A. J. B. Budge's adjudication, became the first holder of this cup.

At the time of writing the Spring Term Bi-Annual Cup Debate and the India Cup Debate have still to be held, but Mr. D. Pearlman won the Officers' Prize Debate.

The following are a selection of the motions debated during the year :—

"Knowledge is Power." (defeated).

"Self-entertainment is a dying art." (carried).

"We are living in an age of speculation and rightly so." (carried).

"This house believes in the abolition of the death penalty." (defeated).

The Society's annual outing was to Lake Ullswater and was a 'huge' success, over three hundred pupils from both schools attending. Accompanied by Mr. Bell and Mr. Lupton a small party ascended Helvellyn, but wintry conditions marred the views from the summit.

This year we intend to visit the Scottish Border.

Finally we should like to extend our thanks to Mr. G. T. Moore, who has given the needed help and advice to the Society this year.

D. SETTLE (Hon. Sec.)

Junior Debating Society.

The Junior Debating Society did not have a very successful season this year. There have only been six meetings, and the attendance was never too good. Question Times and Private Business Motions have been almost non-existent. There has been no Prize Debate this year. Due to the very few meetings, the officials remained the same for two terms.

The Officials were :—

President—Maskell: Secretary—Hunter;
Committee—Foster, Latham, Lee.

A. HUNTER (Hon. Sec.)

An Old Bedan, H. P. Southwell, who was admitted to the School fifty years ago and who was a founder member of the Debating Society, after receipt of the last year's copy of "The Bedan," wrote: "I regret to learn from the current report that only moderate success has attended the meetings held during the past two sessions.

In those early days we were cajoled and brow-beaten to our feet and made to speak by the caustic tongue of the founder of the Society, Mr. Airey. I lived to bless him for his insistence—for I doubt if anything I acquired at school proved of greater value to me than the courage to stand up and speak to a roomful of people.

It has never completely deserted me and even today I face such important occasions with the confidence which I originally developed in a class-room at School.

There will be many who may regret the opportunity they neglected of acquiring, at an early age, the facility and the confidence to stand up and speak in public."

Mr. Southwell now holds a position of responsibility with Lloyd's Shipping Register and speaks with pity of men, otherwise well qualified, who just cannot talk intelligibly in interview).

S.C.M.

The Student Christian Movement in this school gives an opportunity for the study of Christian problems, prayer, and fellowship with God. This is done freely and, stripped of denominational differences, we are able to be one of the most cohesive and happy societies in the school, although few in number.

This year the variety and high standard of speakers, set up in former years, has, I believe, been kept. This year we had a most interesting meeting when Rabbi Tudenky gave a talk on the Jewish Faith. It was most enlightening and no doubt removed some of our prejudices about the Jewish Religion. This year's conference was held in the Girls' High School. Rev. A. Hunter and Dr. S. F. Collins spoke on "Race Relations." Rev. Hunter gave a novel but challenging talk entitled: "Living in a test-tube." Dr. Collins gave a talk, which, illustrated by his own experiences, gave much "food for thought."

The support of the staff has been inspiring and we hope that this good example will attract more members to our fellowship next year.

We shall be very sorry indeed to lose Rev. A. J. Bell who has always done his utmost for the success and smooth running of the S.C.M. and we pray that God will strengthen and sustain him in his work for the Church in South India. Thanks must be given to Miss Swan and Mr. Lupton, who have left, and to Mr. Carruthers who is leaving. Owing to this great loss in staff-members, next year we, the students, will find ourselves with more work to do but I am sure we can do it if we place our trust in God, and have the support of all Christians in the school.

P. A. LUMLEY, Sec.

The Philatelic Society.

If we have not had a very interesting or informative season, the fault lies not in our stamps, but in ourselves. The Society has suffered this year more than is usual from lack of interest among the seniors. At the stage when collecting for the sake of having more and prettier stamps than the next fellow ought to be giving way to a more intelligent and discriminating form of collecting, interest appears to die away completely and the album is relegated to the bottom of the boot cupboard or sold to some innocent and unsuspecting junior. The reason, apart from the normal distractions afforded by multifarious school activities and the G.C.E., is often given as £ s. d. That a collection can be interesting and attractive without being expensive to accumulate, was amply shown by two of our visitors this year, Mr. F. C. Thorne who showed an excellent collection,

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beautifully arranged, of U.S.A. commemoratives, and Mr. B. Ball, an Old Bedan, who gave a general talk and display. We had also the usual generous support of Mr. Laidler, but members seem shy of displaying their own collections. If the society is to be more than a bourse or exchange, it would seem that next year's committee must try to harness the undoubted fund of interest that exists in the junior and middle school, and for their part, the general body of members must be prepared to take an active rather than a passive part in the affairs of the society.

We welcome to the school Mr. C. A. Smith, and hope that next season we will be able to persuade him to discourse on and display some of what must be a remarkable collection of "Penny Blacks."

We thank Mr. Lee for his continued interest, guidance and forbearance about the use of his room, and extend thanks too, to this year's officers and to all who have helped to please, interest or amuse us by their displays, talks or competitions.

J.P.L.

Library Report.

Committee:—Chairman, The Headmaster; Librarian, Mr. C. J. Bell; Staff Members, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Markham; Senior Assistant Librarian, Hopper; Senior Assistants, Dent, Carr, Graham, and Hutchinson; Junior Assistants, Galloway, Hawkins, Scarth and Stiff; Apprentices, Hazard and Mearns.

The Library has had another successful year. The enthusiasm reported last year was not so marked, although sufficient was shown to complete a strenuous stock-taking. It is to be hoped that this enthusiasm will increase next year.

We have added one hundred and thirty books to the shelves. Arthur Mee's books about English Counties and the Collin's New Naturalist Series were included in this year's grant. These fine, useful volumes should be well used and, more important, used respectfully. The increase this year was rather more obvious, since fewer books were lost. However, the Sixth need yet another reminder concerning the illegal borrowing of books; four only may be borrowed and these should be listed in the appropriate section books. The junior boys, to whom over seven hundred books were issued, were much less remiss in borrowing and returning volumes.

There has been no change in our periodicals this year. Of those taken "The Boys' Own" and "Punch" were the most popular. "The Spectator" seems to have very little attraction.

The Library is losing the services of Mr. Bell, the Librarian, who is leaving to take up a post in South India. He has been in charge of the library for seven years, during which time he has devotedly conducted the modernizing of the system. Mr. Bell's loss will be keenly felt. Mr. Markham has very kindly offered to become Librarian.

T. HUTCHINSON, Secretary.

SENIOR
DEBATING SOCIETY.



Back Row : G. B. Hope, T. K. Halmoad, D. Settle, E. J. Coulson, D. Prichard
Front Row : J. W. LeRoy, R. Truman, J. Johnson, Mr. A. J. B. Badger, Miss W. Moulis,
Mr. G. T. Moore, D. New, D. Kenny, C. Robinson.

UNDER 15.
SOCCER.



Back Row : Mr. A. Smith, J. Hughes, F. Gothard, E. Johnson, J. Knapp, J. C. Grey,
A. Hindmarsh, J. Robertson.
Front Row : J. MacLaren, A. Spedding, S. Sampson, N. Wright G. Clayton,
A. Simons, H. Graham.

CHESS CLUB



Back Row: G. Kirk, T. Hutchinson, H. Jenkins, D. Eerg, D. J. Graham, I. Whan,
L. Mezzo, D. Pearلمان.

Front Row: D. Austin, D. Pearلمان, Mr. J. P. Linton, Mr. A. J. B. Budge,
Mr. E. M. Macoby, D. Settle, J. Kirk

SENIOR SOCCER



Back Row: W. Perry, D. Reah, K. Bee, A. Miller, P. Hapworth, D. Rodgers.

Front Row: D. Settle, G. Oliver, G. Cranmer, A. Reed, L. Mezzo, E. Baxter, G. A. Brown.

ATHLETICS CLUB.



Back Row: D. Ward, E. Johnson, J. Hoskins, M. Sayers, J. Knox, J. Kirk
G. Clayton P. Bart.

Middle Row: G. A. Brown, E. W. Hopper, R. Foster, J. Alderson L. Bland, J. Edwards
K. Hoggott, D. Griggs, G. Cranmer, R. Petrie, R. Short, M. Cleminson.

Sitting: D. Reish, D. Crompton, P. Lavery, Mr. D. Prestwich, Mr. P. Layton, Mr. J. L. Jolly,
W. Rouse, M. Roberts, J. Carrick.

Front Row: G. Kirk, M. Turner, G. Peacock, P. Miller, J. Davidson

SENIOR CRICKET XI.



Back Row: G. Bell, P. Olwang, G. Oliver, P. Sanderson, A. Miller, D. Hall, T. Watson,
G. Cranmer.

Front Row: Mr. W. McClement, D. W. Wrightson, A. Reed, R. Baxter, D. Rodgers,
T. K. Halstead, M. Stacey.

JUNIOR BASKETBALL



Back Row: D. Larcombe, P. Burt, R. Foster.

Front Row: Mr. D. Frostwich, N. Wright, M. Stacey, B. Browning, C. B. Galloway.

SENIOR RUGBY XV



Back Row: R. Pritchard, L. Bland, T. K. Halstead, D. Griggs, D. Austin,
D. J. Graham, W. A. Thorp, Mr. M. Berry.

Front Row: J. Knox, T. Hutchinson, R. W. Hopper, D. Crompton, P. Lacey,
S. Thompson, D. W. Wrightson, K. Halcrow, M. Sapers.

The Chess Club.

The Chess Club has had an extremely successful year. The Club has been well attended and there have been enthusiasm and keen competition, especially among the younger members. The standard, as a whole, has risen considerably.

The school team, captained by D. Settle, lost only one match. By beating us 5½ boards to 3½, Royal Grammar School, Newcastle, again spoils our record. The season's figures were:—

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
5	4	0	1	29	11

The following boys represented the school this season (appearances in brackets)—Austin, Hutchinson and Settle (5), Jenkins and Pearlman (4), Kirk, Vlith and Pearlman, Vlith (3), Berg, Brandon, Kirk and Mezzo (2), Graham, Meddes, Scott, Whan (1).

G. Scott, winner of last year's County Junior Championship, left school after a few weeks of the Autumn Term. His play was greatly mixed.

D. Settle and Pearlman jointly won the Handicap Tournament.

Settle has reached the semi-final of the County Junior Championship and we hope he can follow in the footsteps of Phalp and Scott, previous winners. This tournament is open to boys under eighteen years of age throughout Durham County.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Linton and Mr. Maccoy for their supervision of matches and helpful interest in the club.

T. HUTCHINSON (Hon. Sec.)

Senior Soccer Report, Season 1955-6.

Once again there are no outstanding Senior XI achievements to report for it enjoyed merely an average measure of success this last season; the record nevertheless shows an improvement on the previous season's, when only six matches were won. The full record for season 1955-6 was:

P	W	D	L	GOALS	
				FOR	AGAINST
22	9	4	9	52	51

The side got into its stride only in mid-season when it won five out of six matches but towards the end of the season there was a decline of fortunes, due to several players' not being available. An

encouraging feature of the matches played was the attempt to play football at all times and this resulted in several exciting encounters. For this we are indebted to the invaluable coaching of Mr. Layton who spent much of his time with us. Our thanks are also extended to Mr. Aye for once more running the team and to all members of staff who refereed our matches or travelled with the team.

As a close to the season, a match was played against a masters' team and resulted in a narrow win for the school XI by 4 goals to 3.

The following boys appeared for the school this season (goals scored in brackets):—Read, Baxter (6), Brown (6), Miller (1), Perry, Settle (7), Menzo (6), Oliver (12), Hepworth (1), Cranmer (6), Rodgers, Reah (3), Roe (1), Dodson, Hepper (2), Stead, Wright (1), Roberts, Hair and Lase. At the time of writing no decision had been made about the award of colours.

RESULTS.

	F. A.		F. A.
17/ 9/55 Washington	A 2—1	3/12/55 Washington	A 0—2
22/ 9/55 Monkwearmouth	A 2—3	(T.G.S. Cup 1st Round replay)	
24/ 9/55 Houghton	H 4—1	17/12/55 Jarrow	A 7—1
1/10/55 Ryhope	A 0—3	21/ 1/56 Washington	H 3—1
8/10/55 Spennymoor	A 1—2	28/ 1/56 Tynemouth	A 2—1
12/10/55 Durham Colleges	H 1—1	11/ 2/56 South Shields	A 3—2
22/10/55 Consett	A 1—2	29/ 2/56 Ryhope	H 6—5
29/10/55 Tynemouth	H 7—1	3/ 3/56 Spennymoor	H 2—1
5/11/55 St. Aidan's	A 2—6	10/ 3/56 Bishop Auckland	A 0—1
12/11/55 Rutherford	H 5—4	17/ 3/56 West Stanley	H 2—4
26/11/55 Washington	H 2—2	19/ 3/56 St. Aidan's	H 0—2
(T.G.S. Cup 1st Round)		24/ 3/56 South Shields	H 0—0

B. BAXTER (Hon. Sec.)

 Under 15 Soccer.

The under 15 Soccer XI had its best season since the Championship was won in Season 1951-52, finishing second in Division A, two points behind Ryhope Grammar.

The complete results of all games are:—

P.	W.	D.	L.	FOR	AGST.
23	15	3	5	74	27

In League games the results were:—

P.	W.	D.	L.	FOR	AGST.	PTS.
18	13	3	2	61	19	29

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The chief causes of lost points have been the inability of the forwards to convert superior skill into goals in vital games, and a tendency of the defence to be wild under pressure. In goal Knapp was reasonably sound, though he must learn to keep his eyes on the ball; Hindmarch was quite good but lacked strength in his tackling and kicking; Spedding did not always play up to his ability. Gray played a quiet but generally effective game at centre-half; Wright proved to be a strong attacking force, despite a tendency to wander; Sampson, after moving from centre-forward to right-half, became a great strength in defence, and his careful use of the ball helped his forwards. The combined skill and speed of Clayton and Simmons proved the power of the attack, with able support from Gothard, Graham and Robertson. Others who played several games with promise were Johnson, McLaren and Hughes.

Calls to the town team deprived us of the services of Knapp and Clayton for half our matches, and again we were prevented from fielding a settled team.

The following boys represented the school, the numbers in brackets indicating games played:—

N. W. Wright (Capt. 22), G. Bell (3), J. T. Beresford (1), G. Clayton (10), R. N. Cox (4), P. E. Gill (1), P. A. Gothard (19), J. H. Graham (22), J. C. Gray (23), A. M. Hindmarch (20), J. Hughes (6), E. Johnson (12), J. Kirkley (1), W. J. Knapp (13), I. McLaren (13), W. S. Morgan (4), W. L. Ragg (5), J. S. Robertson (21), S. Sampson (23), A. Simmons (12), A. Spedding (18).

Goal-scorers were: Wright (18), Graham (14), Clayton (9), Gothard (9), Simmons (8), Sampson (3), Robertson (4), Kirkley (2), McLaren (2), Spedding (1).

The under 14 XI did well to share the Duncan White Cup with Ford Modern, drawing 1—1 in the final. Four games were played, with a goal ratio of 14—3. Players were as follows (goals scored in parentheses):—Sampson (Capt.), Beresford, Clayton (6), J. H. Davison (2), N. K. Fowler (1), R. W. Harrison, F. Hodgson, Hughes, Johnson, Simmons (2), D. W. Snowball (3), Spedding.

A.S.

Under 13 Soccer.

The Under 13 Soccer Team has had a most successful season. That it should score 68 goals in 16 games and lose only its first match is remarkable, yet these figures give no real impression of the quality of football the team consistently produced, nor of the splendid spirit that grew among regulars and reserves alike.

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Their eager attendance at practice, their desire to learn and improve, brought excellent results. Fourteen or fifteen boys, training together throughout the season, soon grasped the first and most important principles of the game and gave great pleasure not only to spectators wherever they played, but to themselves. Their teamwork was admirable. They discovered that the quality of unselfishness and restraint of individual play required quicker reaction and generally better control of the ball.

Records demand mention of particular players, though this seems unfair, as each depended on his team-mates and many goals were the result of sustained inter-passing which often left the scorers in a favourable shooting position.

In goal, Shirnfield made saves of extra-ordinary quality; it is hoped that he has learnt from his occasional lapses which were probably due to the long periods of inactivity he experienced. Cummings and Cook may be paid the compliment that it was difficult to distinguish, apart from their actual positions on the field, that they were full-backs, so well did their style fit into the team pattern. Often neither kicked the ball more than ten yards during the whole of a match. Their slowness in turning will be remedied with practice. Sandall, Harrison, Beresford and Addison performed constructively, relying on powers of anticipation and an eagerness to turn the intercepted ball into a immediate pass. One detected weakness in headwork in this department, but again, practice will bring improvement. At outside-right, Hornby's lack of height was more than compensated by his precise control of the ball. Davison and Lewins were permitted perhaps more license than the others, to enable the former to unleash a formidable cross-field pass at the appropriate moment, and the latter to indulge in thrustful runs towards goal when opponents expected more orthodox manoeuvres. Lewis, at outside-left leaves an impression of casual efficiency and of great promise for the future. He belies an apparent frailness, can produce unsuspected bursts of speed and approaches the game with intelligence. His understanding with Lewins, and his judgment of when, or when not to hold the ball are the most pleasing features of his play. Snowball, in the centre, was efficient and quite unselfish; his sound positional sense, courageous head-work, thoughtful passing and adequate finishing power earned him a place, with Beresford, Harrison and Davison, in Mr. Smith's Under 14 team.

Further discourse might reveal secrets. Suffice to say that all deserve our congratulations for their attractive play and team-spirit.

Goal-scorers :—Snowball 20, Davison 12, Hornby 5, Lewins 17, Cook 4, Beresford 2, Sandall 2, Lewis 3, Addison 2, Harrison 1.

Sunderland and District Schools Football Association.

DIVISION G.

BEDE GRAMMAR "A" 11—13).

Season 1955-56.

	F. A.		F. A.
17/ 9/55 West Southwick	H 1—2	17/12/55 West Southwick	A 4—2
24/ 9/55 St. Bees's	A 7—1	21/ 1/56 Monk'm'n'gh Gram	A 4—0
1/10/55 Monk'm'n'gh Gram	H 2—0	3/ 3/56 Redby	H 4—1
8/10/55 St. Hilda's	A 4—0	10/ 3/56 James Williams St.	H 2—2
15/10/55 Commercial Road	A 2—1	14/ 3/56 Commercial Road	H 3—0
29/10/55 Grange Park	H 3—1	19/ 3/56 St. Hilda's	H 2—0
12/11/55 Redby	A 1—1	21/ 3/56 St. Bees's	H 6—2
28/11/55 James Williams St.	A 4—0	24/ 3/56 Grange Park	A 4—2

Final Position :—

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
16	14	1	1	68	15	29

Senior Rugby XV.

Captain: Lavery.

Vice-Captain: Crompton.

Hon. Secretary: S. Thompson.

This year we inherited the legacy of the previous season in that the greater part of the playing strength remained tempered by mistakes and experience together. Sayers, playing for his first season, contributed determined running to the problem berth at right-centre. A more enthusiastic approach to training sessions encouraged a fighting team spirit, but once again lack of proficient reserve strength tended to make for 1st XV complacency.

In the pack the line-out was improved immeasurably by a young second-row Wilson, while as the season progressed, Halcrow improved tremendously to give him adequate support. In the tight concerted push was lacking and when possession was gained, sluggish heeling enabled opposing wing-forwards to punish our half-backs. Led in the loose by Lavery they were more completely mastered, but only Harding and later Griggs attempted consistent, scientific covering.

Speed in the three-quarters allowed little opportunity to opposing lines and enabled them to recover and re-organise quickly. However, lack of possession, slow and erratic service wasted this speed and potential in attack. Once again no-one made undisputed claim at full-back.

Despite losing to South Shields in the opening fixture the record affords greater satisfaction than last year. Our success in our first game against W. Hartlepool was extremely gratifying in the light of our humiliation last season. In the "sevens" we were knocked out by the eventual winners, Durham, in the second round.

Lavery, Hopper, Wilson, Crompton and Thompson played in the County Trials and Wilson and Crompton were selected. Crompton also played for the County Under 18 XV. Colours were awarded to: P. Lavery; P. Crompton; R. Harding; R. W. Hopper; S. Thompson.

Record	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
	12	6	1	5	83	127

S. THOMPSON (Hon. Sec.)

The U. 15 rugby team under the captaincy of Galloway had a most disappointing season. The forwards lacked fire and there was weakness in the line-up of halves and threequarters. The U. 14 team suffered from the same faults and hard work will be needed to correct them for future play. Davies was team captain.

Pozer (three-quarter), Stacy and Burt played forwards in North v South County Trial. Burt played for the County with Stacey reserve. Burt was then chosen for the North of England v Midlands Trial and again in the Final Trial, being the third Boden to go so far at the U. 15 level.

Results:	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.
U. 15	16	5	11	0	126	216
U. 14	8	1	4	3	29	100

Basketball.

Seniors.

We started this season determined to base our play on team-work and team-spirit. To achieve the former we tried a new game based on 'post-play,' a scheme which worked fairly well throughout the season. The most obvious drawback to its complete success was the lack of sustained good shooting and a partial inability to combat a man-to-man defence. Team-spirit grew as the season progressed and the games were enjoyed despite only moderate success.

We once more took part in two tournaments. In the first one at Darlington we played well to reach the final, only to be beaten by the home team. Darlington Grammar also won the Bede tournament by beating Monkwearmouth in the final. In both tournaments team-spirit and determination were pleasantly obvious.

Of our 8 matches, we won 4, lost 4, scoring 301 points, against 280. Top scorers were S. Thompson and D. Hall, both of them were rather unjustly relied on to score.

We are again indebted to the Masters and Juniors for affording us opportunities for team practice, to Mr. Prestwich for his unflinching interest and to the Sunderland Men's Physical Activities Association who sponsored our tournament.

Junior.

The Junior Basketball Team, captained by Wright, has had a good season. They were beaten once only in ten fixtures. They contrived to function as a team, the basis of their victories in matches and in the tournament held at Bede, in which they beat Commercial Road to take the trophy. The new 'post-play,' introduced by Mr. Prestwich, was mastered and used to good effect and with a reasonable amount of skill.

R. W. HOPPER, Hon. Sec.

Cross-Country.

This season's picture is once again a rather gloomy one in the field of cross-country. Two matches were run against Ryhope, and we lost both; in addition "slaughter" was averted against Durham School and R.F.S. only by the timely intervention of some atrocious weather, which was judged too bad, even for cross-country running. We also had the doubtful 'privilege' of being last in the N.E.G.S. championship, held this year over a rather arduous 4 miles at Durham, during which three members of our team got 'lost.'

The gloom is not entirely unbroken, for Brown, in his first run, recorded the fifth fastest lap in the Larnley Castle relay, and in the North Eastern, Beah was third, just behind two Durham men, but unfortunately the rest of the team were unable to back up these creditable performances.

Another bright spot was the number of entrants in the House Championships, (in the senior 45 runners were collected by devious means and in the junior 31), which were won by Ruby and Hylton respectively. This is very encouraging considering that it was impossible to run them last year because of lack of support, and it also showed a potentiality of untapped resources among the younger runners, which holds out great promise for next year. Individual

victors over the new 'round the playing fields' course were Brown and Johnson E.

Finally we wish to thank Messrs. Jennens, Layton, Prestwich and D. A. Thompson who assisted in the organisation of the team.

D. MITCHESON, Hon. Sec.

The Boxing Club.

Another season has drawn to a close, a most enjoyable and successful one for the Boxing Club. Many Junior and Middle School boys trained regularly and certainly enjoyed the benefits of the hard work which they undoubtedly put into their efforts each week. A good standard of boxing was achieved by everyone and it was most encouraging to see the enthusiasm and keenness which was present at every meeting. An excellent spirit has been fostered to which every member of the Club has contributed.

There was a record entry of 43 for the Boxing Tournament, which was held in the School Hall, on 27th March, 1936. As a result Durham House won the House Championship with 42 points, Hylton House was second with 39 points followed by Raby House, 16 points and Lumley House 11 points. The Senior Trophy was won by G. Oliver, Hylton House, who beat P. Short, Raby House, in the first round.

This year we owe a debt of gratitude to the Chief Constable of Sunderland, for allowing us the use of the boxing ring, to Mr. R. Frith who acted as referee, to Messrs W. Glendenning, T. Owen and A. Christie-Match, who acted as judges, and to Dr. G. C. Slade who was in attendance to look after the physical needs of the contestants.

The individual results of the contests were as follows:—

1. Junior A. (11½-12½ years), 5st.—5st. 7lbs.:—

C. Wright (Hylton) beat W. Thompson (Hylton).

2. Junior A. (11½-12½), 5st. 8lbs.—6st. :—

N. Pearson (Durham) beat L. Pipe (Raby).

3. Junior A. (12½-13½ years), 6st. 8lbs.—7st.:—

T. Shinkfield (Durham) beat J. Clark (Hylton).

4. Junior A. (12½-13½ years), 9st. 8lbs.—10st.:—

D. Salmon (Durham) beat A. Armstrong (Lumley).

5. Junior B. (13½-14½ years), 6st. 8lbs.—7st. —

C. Fowler (Hylton) beat J. Casey (Raby).

6. Junior B. (13½-14½ years), 7st. 8lbs.—8st. :—
J. Beresford (Durham) beat J. Hughes (Hylton).
7. Intermediate (14½-15½ years), 7st. 8lbs.—8st. :—
J. Robertson (Durham) beat J. Eggleston (Hylton).
8. Intermediate. (14½-15½ years), 10st 8lbs.—10st 10 lbs. :—
M. Stacey (Durham) beat D. Larcombe (Lumley).
9. Senior. (16 years), 9st 8lbs.—10st. :—
G. Oliver (Hylton) beat P. Short (Raby).
10. C. Gooch (Durham) beat Addison in an exhibition heat.

P. Lavery, Durham House, at 11st 7lbs. was unopposed in the heavyweight class and very sportingly withdrew his entry so that the winner of the Oliver—Short contest could hold the Senior Trophy. The following boys were declared champions in their respective groups there being no opponents to contest them:—D. Austin (D), D. Frost (L), W. A. D. Thorp (H), T. Turn (D), I. Hoskins (H), C. Gooch (D), and K. Addison (L).

Finally I would like to express my personal thanks to all members of the staff who so ably helped in the smooth presentation of the Tournament. Furthermore, I welcome this opportunity to place on record my appreciation of the guidance, coaching and invaluable help given by Mr. D. R. Preswich, who has been a "pillar of strength" to the Club during his stay in the school. All members of the club join me in wishing him all success in his new post.

G. W. LEE.

Swimming Report.

This year the enthusiasm for swimming has progressed with leaps and bounds among members of the Middle and Junior Schools. There has also been a slight increase in the ranks of those who attend the weekly classes of the Sunderland Schools' Swimming Association which are held at Green Terrace School and at the Baths, for boys taking the Royal Life Saving Society examinations. It should be stressed that the classes for these examinations are invaluable, as they increase ability in the water and strengthen the swimming, and it is hoped that many more swimmers will take advantage of these classes in the future.

The school again held a very successful Gala, now an annual event. In addition to the boys' events three Medley Relays were held between the Girls' and Boys' schools, one each for the Senior, Middle and Junior sections. An event introduced for the first time was a life-saving race between representative groups of the Boys' and Girls' schools. After the race it was announced that Miss Connie Parkinson

had presented a Cup to be competed for in this event in subsequent years. The Gala ended with Raby and Lunley House tying for first place, Durham House third and Hylton House fourth. A triangular Gala was arranged between Monkwearmouth, Ryhope and Bede Grammar Schools, Bede tying with Ryhope for second place after a close struggle between the three schools.

SCHOOL GALA, 23rd NOVEMBER, 1955.

SENIOR.

Championship	...	...	Johnson, K., Giles.
Breaststroke	...	...	Bland, Kirk.
Backstroke	...	...	Johnson, K., Kirk.
Dive	...	...	Johnson, K., Herbert.
Squadron	...	...	Raby, Lunley, Durham, Hylton
Life-saving Race	...	...	Bede Boys won
Medley Relay	...	...	Bede Boys won

MIDDLE.

Championship	...	...	D. Knaggs, Dumble.
Breaststroke	...	...	D. Knaggs, Sampson.
Backstroke	...	...	D. Knaggs, Childs.
Dive	...	...	Sampson, Dumble and Sayers.
Squadron	...	...	Durham, Lunley, Hylton, Raby.
Medley Relay	...	...	Bede Boys won

JUNIOR.

Championship	...	...	Sandall, Piper.
Breaststroke	...	...	Salmon, Sandall.
Backstroke	...	...	Sandall, Harrison.
Dive	...	...	Hornby, Thompson.
Squadron	...	...	Raby, Durham, Lunley.
Medley Relay	...	...	Bede Boys won

NON-QUALIFIERS' RACES.

1st Year	...	...	Thompson, Suttie.
2nd Year	...	...	Graham, Landau.
Candle Race	...	...	Sampson and Munday.

NOTABLE SUCCESSES.

A number of Certificates awarded by the Education Committee were gained this year.

R.I.S.S. Awards.

Intermediate : Sampson, Harle.

Bronze Medallion : Clarrison, Barrham, Dixon, Knaggs.

Bronze Cross : Bar, Bland, Munday, Johnson, Clarrison, Wardle.

Award of Merit : Kirk, Munday, Bland.

Notable swimmers this year were K. Johnson who won the Senior Championship and who came first in the under 21 free-style event at the Y.O.C. Gala. He also won his heat in the Open event in the Sunderland Schools Gala and came 4th in the final. D. Knaggs,

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the Middle School Champion, gained the English Schools Advanced and Medallist Awards and came first in the Back Crawl and the Senior Handicap at the Sunderland Schools Gala. He also won the Back Crawl event in the Sunderland A.S.A. Gala.

The Swimming Club intend to enter a team next year in the Swimming Gala of the Tyneside Grammar and Technical Schools A.A. Finally an expression of our gratitude to Mr. A. Taylor must be extended, for the way in which he has developed swimming within the school.

J.O.K.

Senior Cricket XI.

Last year the Senior Cricket XI again had a highly successful season, although the margin of victory was often narrower than that of previous years. The side, skippered by T. E. Brown, played 9 matches, winning 7, losing 1, with the other match—against Bede College—being abandoned when the school were facing probable defeat.

T. E. Brown batted very well throughout the season, scoring 209 runs for an average of 21.1. Unfortunately no other member of the team could match his consistency, although J. Greenwell improved greatly as the season progressed. B. Baxter and H. Reed bore the brunt of the bowling, taking 15 and 12 wickets respectively.

This season only four of last year's team are available and it appears that the side will have to struggle to hold its own. The team, captained by our versatile head prefect, B. Baxter, is, however, a young one, a fact which augurs well for coming seasons.

At the time of writing 3 games have been played, one of which was won, one lost, with the third, against Washington G.S. ending in a very exciting tie.

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

Unfortunately, net practice, which is available during the lunch interval has not been attended as well as it should be. A new slip-catching machine has been acquired and it is to be hoped that it will infuse renewed popularity into the practices, as well as affording valuable fielding practice. Mr. E. McClement is again to be thanked for the hard work he puts into organising the team.

Record to date:—

Played	Won	Lost	Tied
9	6	2	1

D. WRIGHTSON (Hon. Sec.)

Athletics Club.

Competitors in the School Sports which were held this year on May 16, battled hard with a high wind. Vaulters had trouble in placing their poles, high-jumpers difficulty in clearing a shaking bar and runners, while gaining some assistance on the back straight, lost their rhythm of movement. In the circumstances, W. Rouse ran extremely well to break Mr. Lister's quarter mile record and many other performances were worthy of faster times or greater distances in kinder weather.

The value of the work of Mr. Prestwich's winter training group was demonstrated by the team's success in the Durham County Grammar Schools' Meeting. To be placed second among twenty-four schools was an achievement due as much to team-work as to the individual ability of G. Brown, I. Hoskins and J. Carrick. For the second year in succession, Hoskins set up a new county record for the Junior 440 yards, but Brown won his half-mile race so comfortably in his usual confident style, that a very fast time was out of the question; Carrick is experiencing strong competition in the pole vault from Short and Bart, but won the event competently. During the finals towards the end of the meeting, black vests thronged the track and one hopes that in spite of comparative failure at the Tyneside competition, the team has learnt much this year and will continue to train diligently.

The Athletics Club is grateful to Mr. Prestwich who has given so much of his time in coaching and advising; his wise and kindly guidance will be missed.

1956 Athletic Sports Results.

Event 1. Pole Vault (Open).

1. Short (R) (9ft.) 2 Carrick (L); 3 Bart (D).

Event 2. Long Jump (Middle).

- 1 Hubbard (R); 2 Hoskins (H); 3 Topping (H).

Event 3. High Jump (Junior) (6ft. 6in.).

- 1 Miller (H); 2 Turner (H); 3 Edwards (R).

Event 4. 100 Yards (Senior).

- 1 Sayers (R) (10.7); 2 Cranmer (H); 3 Ward (H).

Event 5. Discus (Open).

- 1 Kirk (R) (100 ft.); 2 Sayers (R); 3 Hoggett (H).

Event 6. 880 Yards (Senior).

- 1 Brown (H) (2 min. 15.1 sec.); 2 Reah (D); 3 Knox (R).

Event 7. Long Jump (Senior).

- 1 Roberts (R); 2 Baxter (R); 3 Crompton (L).

Event 8. High Jump (Middle).

1 Smith (L) (6ft. 10in.); 2 Hubbard (R); 3 Clemensen (R).

Event 9. 220 Yards (Junior).

1 Davison (D) (32.3); 2 Salmon (D); 3 Burns (D).

Event 10. Shot (Open).

1 Alderson (D) (53ft. 1in.); 2 Pettie (D); 3 Lawry (D).

Event 11. 440 Yards (Senior).

1 House (H) (54.4 record); 2 Brown (H); 3 Hoggett (H).

Event 12. Long Jump (Junior).

1 Kirk (R) (13ft. 6ins.); 2 Harrison (H); 3 Coombs (R) and Lathan (H).

Event 13. Reed Cap (High Jump).

1 Olsun-Road, So. Shields, 5ft. 3in.; 2 Edwards, Bede, 5ft. 2in.
3 Ingram, Spennymoor, 5ft. 1in.

Event 14. 440 Yards (Middle).

1 Hoskins (H) (59.5 secs.); 2 Foster (H); 3 Johnson, E.(H).

Event 15. 100 Yards (Middle).

1 Hoskins (H); 2 Bates (L); 3 Clayton (H).

Event 16. 100 Yards (Junior).

1 Frost (L) (11.9 secs.); 2 Salmon (D); 3 Davidson (D).

Event 17. Javelin (Open).

1 Alderson (D) (110ft.); 2 Mellars (L); 3 Carrick (L).

Event 18. 880 Yards (Junior).

1 Burns (D) (2 mins. 42.6 secs.); 2 Turner (H); 3 Lewis (L).

Event 19. 880 Yards (Middle).

1 Foster (H) (2mins. 25.1); 2 Johnson E. (H); 3 McLaren (D).

Event 20. 220 Yards (Senior).

1 House (H) (25.2); 2 Sayers (R); 3 Cramer (H).

Event 21. 220 Yards (Middle).

1 Hoskins (H) (27.2); 2 Clayton (H); 3 Foster (H).

Event 22. 440 Yards (Junior).

1 Lewis (L) (72.0); 2 Davidson (D); 3 Turner (H).

Event 23. One Mile (Open).

1 Brown (H) (5mins. 22.0secs.); 2 Bland (R); 3 Reah (D).

Event 24. Senior Relay (4 x 110).

1 Raby (48.5); 2 Hylton; 3 Durham; 4 Lumsley.

Event 25. Junior Relay.

1 Durham (60.0); 2 Lumsley; 3 Raby; 4 Hylton.

Event 26. Middle Relay.

1 Hylton (52.5); 2 Durham; 3 Lumsley; 4 Raby.

Event 27. Senior High Jump.

1 Edwards (R) (5ft. 2ins.); 2 Pezic (D); 3 Reah (D).

Event 28. Three Miles.

1 Reah (D) (18min. 6.0secs.); 2 Bland (R); 3 Laws

Event 29. Middle Discus.

1 Foster (H) (83ft. 8ins.); 2 Hindmarch (H); 3 Davies (R).

Event 30. Middle Javelin.

1 Foster (H) (117ft. 7ins.); 2 Christison (R); 3 Brookes (H).

Event 31. Middle Shot.

1 Burt (D) (36ft. 7ins.); 2 Young (D); 3 Hindmarch (H).

House Championship.

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

Individual Championships.

Senior: Reah (D);

Middle: Foster (H) and Hoskins (H) tied;

Junior: Turner (H).

 Tennis Report.

Last Season proved once more a successful one for the tennis team; it lost only three out of ten matches. This augurs well for the present year, as four of last season's team are still at school.

In a mixed match the boys joined forces with the Girls' Team to beat South Shields Grammar School and in a handicap match against the girls they just succeeded in winning 5-4. Another victory was obtained for the school in the annual match against the masters.

The Singles Tournament was won by P. Smith who beat A. Armstrong and in the mixed Tournament, Smith and Miss Parr, defeated Armstrong and Miss Gordon, while the House Trophy was easily retained by Raby.

Once more the sincere thanks of the whole team are due to Mr. A. Taylor and all members of staff who have assisted in running the team.

E. J. COULSON (Hon. Sec.)

Gym Club Report.

This year there are about 50 members of the Gym Club. About eight members have an Advanced Gymnastics Award and more will soon be awarded as we have some very promising younger members. Six boys have attended an Instructor's course regularly every week and it seems likely that most of them will pass.

At the beginning of March the Senior team took part in the Durham County Gym Contest at South Shields. Although we were placed last we were far from disgraced in what was our first real contest. The Juniors also took part in a contest at the end of April.

Thanks are extended to Mr. Prestwich and Mr. Layton for their help towards the club, especially for their encouragement of the younger boys.

JOHN CHESTERFIELD, Secretary.

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CHAIRMAN:—Mr. S. S. Wilson.

SCHOOL REP. AND HON. TREAS.:—Mr. R. T. Ayre.

HON. SECRETARY:—Mr. G. T. Halstead.

ASSIST. HON. SEC.:—Mr. S. H. Patkinson.

ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS:—Messrs. M. Berry, J. Duxbury, J. A. Hubbard, A. E. Ross, B. Treshitt.

AUDITORS:—Messrs. G. N. Randle and E. Tate.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held in Atkinson's Cafe, Seaburn, Sunderland, on Friday, 23rd September, 1955, at 7 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman, Mr. S. S. Wilson, Hon. Treas., Hon. Sec., and 32 other members.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary reported, in matters arising out of the minutes, that an approach had been made to the Guild of Old Bedans but that so far no club had been approached by members of the Guild to join its activity.

The Badminton Club had decided not to welcome associate members from the Guild.

The reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read and adopted.

Representatives of the Archery, Badminton, Rugby and Soccer Clubs read reports which were approved. All officers and Vice-Presidents were re-elected without opposition. The five members of the Council, now to be elected annually, at each Annual General Meeting, were Messrs. M. Berry, J. Duxbury, J. A. Hubbard, A. E. Ross, B. Treshitt.

It was decided to award two Old Bedan Association prizes annually, each of value £5 5s. 0d.; one to be awarded as formerly, at the discretion of the Headmaster, the second to be awarded to the boy voted by the Senior School as having contributed most to the school during the year.

The meeting decided to present to the School a showcase to enable the cups and trophies of the School to be displayed in the School entrance hall.

After a light Supper, Mr. George Turnbull, the well-known local singer, and Mr. Henderson entertained with songs and piano, ably assisted by Mr. Alan Smith as a "bold Gendarme."

Secretary's Report for 1955-56.

The Association continues to grow in membership and to flourish in its activities.

The Annual Dance held at the Bay Hotel, Whitburn, on 28th Dec. last, was even more popular than in previous years. This social function is more a firmly established date in the Christmas season.

The Summer Re-union was, for the second year, organised as two functions. The Dance held at the Bay Hotel, on July 1st was better attended than the previous year. The cricket match against the School XI was played one evening during the week following the dance. The school again took the honours although the Old Boys let slip an excellent opportunity of reversing the now expected result.

There has been a steady demand for Association ties, but high cost and delay in delivery of the badge have slowed down the requests for the Association Blazer. It is regretted that badge production is so slow; this is due solely to labour shortage and to the fact that each badge is hand made in wire. Members are thus advised once more to order well in advance of the date for which they require the blazer or badge.

The Football Clubs, Badminton Club, and Archery Club continue to flourish. The Rugby Club particularly is to be congratulated on again winning the Junior County Cup. The Secretary of each club will make his own report to members.

The Association lost a much beloved and loyal member last Christmas by the death of Mr. P. F. Fulton. If ever anyone had the school and its members, both past and present, at heart it was Mr. Fulton whose memory will long be respected by Old Bodans.

G. T. HALSTEAD, Hon. Sec.

Hon. Treasurer's Report.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. R. T. Ayre) reported another successful financial year during 1954-5. A record number of subscriptions (nearly 300) had been received, of which 51 were Youth subs. (from members under 20 years of age). The surplus for the year was £72 1s. 2d., and the Assets of the Association stood at £336 3s. 6d. This last figure included investment of Life subs. as well as the profits of previous years. Prompt payment of subscriptions (without reminders) would help the Association greatly. (Youth subs. (under 20) 2/6; Ordinary sub. 5/-; Life Membership £2 10s. 0d.)

Reminders and Dates to Book.

1. Annual subscriptions are now due and should be paid to the Treasurer (Mr. R. T. Ayre, 7 Broad Meadows, Sunderland)
2. The Annual General Meeting will be held in the BARNES HOTEL (Coffee Room), at 7 p.m., on FRIDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1956.
3. The Annual Dinner Dance will be held in the Bay Hotel, Whitburn, on Thursday, 27th December, 1956. Jas. Q. Atkinson in person will conduct his Band for this function.

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

Season 1955-56 was again a quiet one so far as the Soccer Section was concerned.

The 1st XI was rather inconsistent—some matches being won by large margins and others lost in similar fashion. After a rather promising start to the Season the decline came at about the half-way stage, and the fact that the possibility of honours was rather remote seemed to have some effect on the general play of the team—particularly the defence, which proved itself to be rather unreliable.

The 2nd XI had the "re-election bogey" with it for almost the whole Season and anxiety was not allayed until the final match. Whilst the defence was fairly sound the attack lacked power as can be seen from the records.

Quick exits were made by the 1st XI from both the Durham Minor Cup and the North Eastern Amateur League Shield—in the 1st round in each case after replays.

Records for the teams were as follows:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
1st XI	26	11	3	12	84	82	25
2nd XI	24	6	4	14	43	74	16

We will always be pleased to welcome new players—and I would point out to younger players that the Club provides strips and also pays travelling expenses for away games—and anyone who would like a trial should send his name, address and playing position to the new Secretary who is Mr. R. J. Swinhoe, 26 Hylton Street, Sunderland.

Next Season the 1st XI Captain will be S. Slawther with J. Smith as Vice-Captain and the 2nd XI will be led by W. Lawson with M. Holland Vice-Captain, and we look forward in the hope that we may re-capture some of the glory which has evaded us during the last three seasons.

FRANK LAWSON,

Honorary Secretary.

Old Bedans' R.F.C., 1955-56.

The club has again had a very successful season, even though we were hit with the "injury bug" for most of the season. The 1st XV won the Durham County Junior Cup and also the Durham County Junior Sevens Cup, the 2nd XV were unfortunate to meet the Finalists of the 3rd XV Cup, in the 2nd round and the Under 18 side were narrowly beaten in the final of the "Sunderland" Cup. The playing records for the three fifteens were as follows:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
1st XV	28	19	2	7	388	166
2nd XV	23	13	1	9	283	153
3rd XV	25	11	2	12	287	241

The 1st XV played against the recognised Senior Clubs and won 6, drew 1, and lost 4, which proves that they are ready for Senior Rugby. The club has not neglected the social side as two successful dances were arranged, and the 1st XV visited Ripon over Easter, and the 2nd XV Whitby, both teams having an enjoyable time. In closing I would appeal to all schoolboys interested in rugby and leaving school this year, whether they play for the school 1st XV or not, to contact me, or any of our members and join the Old Bedans' Rugby Football Club.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, May 25th, at the Barnes Hotel, when the officers for next year were elected.

W. MOWERAY, Hon. Sec.

Old Bedans' Archery Club.

Bedan Archers have had another successful year; membership has increased and shooting standards have improved. The club has been represented at many important National Shoots and Mr. G. T. Halstead (Best novice score at Durham) and Mr. R. T. Ayre (Best Gold at Cleadon) are to be congratulated.

Our venture into National Postal Leagues gave the club two League Championships for we won both the Winter and Summer Leagues.

Last Year Mrs. R. T. Ayre presented a silver cup for the Lady champion and Mr. Halstead presented a trophy for the Best Gold Winner. These two trophies are very much appreciated by the club members and it has enabled us to extend our Annual Shoot which is held during the week following the Old Bedans' Reunion.

The results last year were:—

Lady Champion—Mrs. M. Goodsir.

Champion—Mr. G. T. Halstead.

Best Gold—Mr. R. T. Ayre.

Handicap Winner—Mr. J. B. Goodsir.

The Annual Club dinner, again held at Marsden Grotto, was our main social function.

New members are still welcome. The club can now give first-class coaching; our club night is Friday but we also shoot on Saturday afternoons.

J. B. GOODSIR, Hon. Sec.

Obituary.

Mr. R. Grimes.

We regret to report the death of Mr. Richard Grimes, of Seaham Harbour, on 29th May, 1956. Mr. Grimes was an active member of the Old Bedans' Association, a Vice-President and Committee Member for many years. We offer our deep sympathy to Mrs. Grimes and David.



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