

# THE BEDAN

1962

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# BEDE GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS 1961-62

Head Mistress	...	Miss Bradbury.
Senior Mistress	...	Miss Hayton (History).
Form Scholarship VII		Miss Wilman (Mathematics).
Form VII	...	Miss Harding (Biology).
" VI Arts	...	Miss Taylor (French).
" VI Science	...	Miss Carlin (Biology).
" V S	...	Mrs. Youngs (English).
" V L	...	Miss Duns (German).
" V G	...	Miss Heslop (Geography).
" IV S	...	Mrs. Wilkinson (Chemistry).
" IV L	...	Miss Wheeler (French).
" IV (i)	...	Miss Smith (History).
" IV (ii)	...	Mr. Rogers (History).
" III S	...	Mr. Taylor (Physics).
" III L	...	Miss Burt (General Subjects).
" III (i)	...	Miss Fall (English).
" III (ii)	...	Miss Milbanke (Needlework).
" II W	...	Miss Crone (Art).
" II X	...	Mr. Snell (General Subjects).
" II Y	...	Miss Wilde (Classics).
" II F	...	Mrs. Smith (Scripture).
" I W	...	Miss Walsh (French).
" I X	...	Miss Kinch (Mathematics).
" I Y	...	Miss Thompson (General Subjects).
" I Z	...	Mrs. Bryce (Mathematics).

Miss Azagra (Spanish).

Mrs. Bell (Domestic Science).

Miss Bernard (Music).

Mrs. Chen (Biology).

Mr. Cox (Classics).

Miss Dunn (Art)

Mr. Hartley (Music).

Miss Macnab (Physical Education).

Mr. Nottingham (Scripture).

Mrs. Plumpton (Physical Education).

Mrs. Proud (English).

Mrs. Renney (General Science).

Miss Richardson (English).

Miss Scott (Domestic Science).

Mrs. Sheriff (Mathematics).

Mrs. J. Smith (General Science).

Mrs. Watson (French).

Visiting Staff: Miss Elliott, Miss Boldy (Violin).

School Secretary: Miss Stewart.

Captain of School: Carole Stacey.

Vice-Captain: Rosamond Shaw.

## EDITORIAL

"The Bedan" has entered a new epoch. This year it has been edited by a committee drawn from the seventh forms. Our aim is to produce a magazine which reflects fairly the mood and creative activity in the school.

There is evidence in certain poems of active interest in topical problems and controversies; and in the rapid decrease of season-inspired verse, the trend is favourable.

It is understood that poetic instinct does not automatically spring to life at the first hints of the forthcoming "Bedan". We therefore advise invocation of the Muse whenever inspiration arises in the course of the year.

At short notice it has been impossible to include black and white sketches from the Art Department. Entries for the photograph competition were not of a sufficiently high standard for publication. However, with the forming of a Photographic Club, experience will be gained and entries will no doubt appear in next year's "Bedan".

A new feature of the magazine is the Limerick Competition. Winning entries appear at different points in the prose and verse section. The quality of those left unselected suggests that few are acquainted with Edward Lear.

The committee wishes to express thanks to the Guild of Old Bedans for their generosity in awarding prizes for "The Bedan" Essay Competition. This year the Science Department judged the essays. The senior prize was awarded to Sheila Batty of V S, and the junior prize to Jacqueline Beston of III L. In addition, an anonymous donor wishes to present a prize to Dorothy Nelson of IV S for her praiseworthy effort in this competition.

The inclusion of school photographs is due to the generous offer of the P.T.A. to pay the extra cost incurred.

Thanks are due to all who have helped in contributing, selecting, arranging and correcting material in the magazine. In particular, we should like to thank Mrs. Youngs and Miss Fall for their invaluable aid and advice.

We hope that the new tradition will be carried on, and that future editors will benefit from criticisms of this issue: **Post tenebras lux.**

EDITH POWELL, Form Scholarship VII.

## PERSONALIA

When Bede Grammar School for Girls (then known as Sunderland Higher Grade Girls' School) opened on 28th April, 1890, there were more than two hundred girls on the roll and a teaching staff of three mistresses. Since those early days the number of pupils has increased to almost seven hundred and twenty, while, thanks to more generous and enlightened views and to an ever-widening curriculum, the number of staff has increased even more remarkably. A school log book entry of November 1890 by the first Head Mistress, Miss Todd, makes strange reading today: "Miss Soulsby has at present eighty-five girls on roll; Miss Reid has a class of ninety girls"!

September 1961 found Bede Grammar School for Girls with a teaching staff of forty-one, including three newly appointed additional members. We were pleased to welcome Miss Scott (Domestic Science), Miss Smith (History), Miss Walsh (French and German) and Miss Wilde (Classics), as well as Mrs. Renney and Mrs. J. Smith who are giving us part-time help with Science subjects.

The end of the Christmas Term brought three staff changes. Mrs. Patterson (née Simpson) deserted the North-East to join her husband who had taken up an appointment near Bournemouth; Mrs. Cornwell left us to devote herself to new domestic responsibilities (we congratulate her on the recent arrival of a baby daughter) and Miss Jackson was married and moved to Lincolnshire with her husband. New Members of staff in January were Mrs. Chen (Biology and General Science), Miss Dunn (Art) and Mr. Snell (Geography and History).

In July 1961, the school suffered a profound double loss in the retirement of Miss Hall and Miss Carrick.

Miss Hall came to Bede in January 1946. Under her wise and skilled guidance, the standard of Domestic Science in the school maintained an enviable reputation and its place in the curriculum was steadily enhanced until the department came to have three subject rooms and three specialist teachers. There must be many school Cookery Rooms where Miss Hall's influence will long continue to be spread by those of her pupils who have followed her profession, and there are certainly countless well-organised kitchens presided over by Bedans whose families owe much of their domestic comfort to Miss Hall's perfectionist training.

Miss Carrick's career at Bede started in May 1936, when she joined the staff as Science Mistress. Her twenty-five years here

spanned tremendous changes and developments—increasing numbers of pupils and staff, the ever-widening scope of subjects taught to meet the growing opportunities open to educated women, the great “adventure” of the war-time evacuation to Richmond and, more recently, the extension of the school buildings.

As a distinguished teacher of Science, as Careers Mistress, and as Deputy Head Mistress, Miss Carrick devoted herself unsparingly to Bede, and the school's debt to her is correspondingly great. She will always be remembered as a fine and successful teacher whose splendid influence and leadership played a significant part in maintaining the school's high standards of personal conduct and integrity that were well and truly established by earlier generations of Bedans and the staff who taught them.

We thank Miss Carrick and Miss Hall for all that they have done for Bede and we wish them long and happy years of retirement.

E. J. B.

### IN MEMORIAM

On January 13th we were deeply shocked to hear that Diane Coulson of Form Scholarship VII had been fatally injured in a road accident.

Diane's warm personality, sense of humour and enthusiasm made her very popular at school. She had shown outstanding promise in her school career and was hoping to go to University to study languages. She was eager to learn all she could of life abroad and had spent several weeks both in France and Germany.

Her death is a grievous loss to the school, particularly to those who knew and loved her well.

As a tribute to her memory a fund has been established to award prizes each year for Modern Languages.



## FOUNDERS DAY, 1962

Founders Day 1962, began as usual with the celebration of Holy Communion in Bishopwearmouth Church for members of the Church of England and in Durham Road Methodist Church for members of the Free Churches.

As it was Holy Week the annual service in Bishopwearmouth Church was held in the afternoon. The service was conducted by the Rector of Bishopwearmouth, Canon C. L. P. Bishop, and the lessons were read by the Vice-Captain of the Boys' School, David Carter, and the Captain of the Girls' School, Carole Stacey. The combined Choirs sang the anthem "Achieved is the Glorious Deed" from Haydn's "Creation".

The address was given by the Rev. Paul Ashwin, of King's College, Taunton, who took as his theme the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. He told us the Crucifixion was an indication of God's love for man, and that sin and death are powerless because of the death of Christ. Prayers were led by the Rev. F. Matthewman, of Durham Road Methodist Church.

Once again the two schools welcomed the opportunity to join together in this service of worship and dedication.

JOAN SEWELL.

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## SENIOR SPEECH DAY

Senior Speech Day for 1961 was held on Thursday evening, 9th November, under the Chairmanship of Alderman Eden Johnston. Our chief guests on this occasion were Dr. D. G. Christopherson, O.B.E., F.R.S., Warden of the Durham Colleges and Mrs. Christopherson.

The presentation of buttonholes and bouquets was followed by the singing of the School Song, after which Miss Bradbury gave an interesting and illuminating report on the activities of the School and the progress of its pupils during the previous year.

Two part-songs sung by the School Choir were followed by Dr. Christopherson's memorable address, which was based on the theme, "Knowledge is Value", and in which he pointed out the importance of a right sense of values.

The School Choir sang "Sound the Trumpet", after which came the distribution of prizes and certificates by Dr. Christopherson.

Councillor E. Armstrong moved a vote of thanks, which was seconded by Carole Stacey, the School Captain.

The singing of the National Anthem brought yet another successful Speech Day to a close.

CAROLE STACEY.

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### JUNIOR SPEECH DAY

Junior Speech Day this year was held on Wednesday, 8th November.

The proceedings began with the presentation of buttonholes, followed by the singing of the School Song, after which Miss Milbanke, chairman of the P.T.A. welcomed all present.

The Junior Choir sang "The Piper of Dundee" and "Sweet Nightingale".

Miss Bradbury then gave her report on the school year, saying that it had been very successful.

The entire Junior School entertained our visitors with the song "Let all the World in Every Corner Sing".

In his address, Mr. J. A. Hutton, our principal speaker, reminded us that, as time passes, we all change. Especially do our characters change, and these we should always try to improve. He also said that no-one can live alone on a desert island, no matter how many discs one has!

At the conclusion of his interesting talk, Mr. Hutton presented the prizes and certificates.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. A. G. Stevenson and seconded by Diane Shapero.

The National Anthem was then sung by all, bringing about a fitting end to yet another Speech Day in the history of Bede Girls' School.

DIANE SHAPERO, Form III S.



## PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

This has been the twenty-seventh year of the Association's existence and one in which we lost the services of both staff and parents due to retirement.

At midsummer we were sorry to say farewell to Miss Carrick and Miss Hall on their retirement after twenty-five years' and fourteen years' service respectively. In acknowledgement of their splendid service to both the School and the Association a presentation ceremony was arranged in the new Dining Hall on 17th July when a large number of parents and staff attended a most enjoyable social occasion.

A further loss to the Association was the retirement of Mr. Fairbridge after nine years' service as Honorary Treasurer, and Mrs. Rosenstein as Honorary Secretary of the Social Sub-Committee—an active member of the Association for many years. We will always be grateful to them for their excellent service.

A very enjoyable social evening for parents was held early in November and just before Christmas more than 450 parents, teachers, and pupils attended the Christmas Party and Whist Drive.

An innovation this year was the introduction into the programme for the year of a Physical Education Display by the pupils. This was a very successful and entertaining evening thoroughly enjoyed by a large attendance which was particularly satisfying to the staff who must have put much time and thought into this display.

The Association has continued to donate to Speech Day, Athletics Day, Lecture and General Funds and, in addition, provided sports outfits for the Netball and Hockey teams.

The Executive Committee welcomes parents' membership and support of their projects and activities.

J. W. BIRBECK (Hon. Joint Secretary).

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## THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Many years ago a fund was created by Bedans so that the interest from it could be lent to any girl to assist her to train for a career after leaving school. Many Bedans of succeeding generations

have been helped in this way, and, when repaying the loan, have expressed appreciation of the help they received.

In order that others may continue to be helped, it must be understood that a loan made from this fund must be repaid once the recipient has begun to earn her living. It can be repaid either as a lump sum or in monthly instalments.

Any girl who feels that she is in need of such help should apply in writing to the Secretary, not later than May 31, 1962.

D. M. WILMAN, Hon. Secretary.

### REPORT ON SCHOOL CHARITIES

We were sorry to lose Miss Hayton from the Charities Committee last July on her appointment as Deputy Headmistress, but we were pleased to welcome Miss Kinch as her successor.

The most sensational (and spectacular !) money-making effort during the past year was the Pantomime produced by the staff at the end of the Christmas Term in order to raise money for charity. Spectators thoroughly enjoyed the occasion, and the Staff had the pleasure of knowing that, as a result of this effort, £50 was sent to the fund for Relief of Famine in East Africa.

Most of us will also treasure the memory of a delightful appeal made jointly by the Beaver twins of Form I X on behalf of the R.S.P.C.A. It was so charming and novel that a ripple of amused appreciation spread round the Hall as they left the platform; and the R.S.P.C.A. benefited by £8 in consequence.

It would be invidious to single out others of the many girls who have appealed variously for the National Children's Home; the British Pestalozzi Village Association; Sunderland's "Meals on Wheels" and Guild of Help; the British Red Cross Society; the N.S.P.C.C.; Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies; "Save the Children" Fund; B.E.L.R.A.; the Northumberland and Durham Mission to the Deaf and Dumb; the Royal National Lifeboat Institute; Cancer Relief, and Research into the Cause and Cure of Leukaemia. There has been a generous response to every appeal, and good sums were raised also by the sale of Remembrance Day Poppies and of Christmas Seals issued by the T.B. Care Committee, Spastics and Diabetics Associations.

Our joint efforts during the last three terms have raised about £250 for charity.

D. M. W.

A. K.

### STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

The S.C.M. has continued successfully with its weekly meetings and it is encouraging to be able to report a marked increase in numbers. During the autumn term we followed the Study Guide entitled, "Science and Religion". This proved to be an illuminating project.

On November 24, Mr. Nottingham entertained us with his slides of Palestine. The next three meetings provided us with the doctrine of Christmas as seen by three members of the Christian Church.

The Spring Term has been used profitably in learning about different denominations from various speakers. Much discussion has arisen from these talks.

In March, four of our members attended an S.C.M. Conference at Winston, where the topic for the week-end was "Communism and Christianity", and several of us are looking forward to the Conference in Holy Week, when we shall discuss the topic, "The Innocent Sufferer".

On March 9, over 300 boys and girls, members of S.C.M. groups from Sunderland, South Shields and Seaham, met at Bede for the annual Conference. The speakers were P. McAndle, B.Sc., and Rev. E. W. Todd, M.A., and their topics were Physical Power and Spiritual Power.

We began this year's meetings with a formal service conducted by the Rev. H. Ford, and intend to end with a similar meeting conducted by Rev. George S. Gibson.

KATHLEEN GATENBY, Secretary.

## THE JUNIOR STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

The Junior Student Christian Movement has continued to hold weekly meetings throughout the year. Attendances have decreased slightly since last year and we hope that next year will bring a revival of interest.

We have continued with our regular activities, discussions, quizzes and Biblical talks. The J.S.C.M. gave assistance to the S.C.M. in the collection of Harvest Festival contributions.

A Nativity play, called "To All People", was performed before the school at the end of the Christmas term. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking members of staff who helped with this production. Our thanks also go to Mrs. Smith who has given up so much of her free time for the movement.

FLORENCE HAMILTON, Form IV (i)

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## SCHOOL SAVINGS GROUP

The School Savings Group continues to make good progress. Under the Sunderland Trustees Savings Bank's Envelope Scheme the school has saved during the past year a total amount of £928 13s. 5d., an increase of £58 15s. 11d. on the previous year's total.

We must also thank the Savings Movement for a supply of colourful and contemporary posters to decorate the classrooms.

B. N.

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## MUSIC REPORT 1961-62

Music has played a great part in this year's school activities.

In November 1961, the 'cellist, Florence Hooton, made a very welcome return visit to the school. A party of girls visited the Civic Theatre in February to hear the Northern Sinfonia Orchestra, and we thoroughly enjoyed the programme which included the slow

movement from the 'New World Symphony' by Dvorák, and Rossini's 'William Tell Overture.' Twice during the past year we have been entertained by the ballet. The Ballet, Rambert came to Sunderland in October; in February it was the turn of the Royal Festival Ballet.

The school choirs have, as usual, been very active this year. At Founders' Day, 1961, the combined choirs sang Brahms' "How lovely are thy dwellings". The choirs sang at the school's Speech Days and at the Carol Service, the latter receiving extra strength from the school orchestra.

On Friday, 13th April, the choir's annual concert will take place when the work to be performed will be Haydn's Creation. Fortunately, we are none of us superstitious and remain confident that this will be a success.

ROSAMOND SHAW, Form VII.

### THE DEBATING SOCIETY

At the beginning of the Spring Term, the seventh forms formed a Debating Society. The Society meets fortnightly on Fridays in Room 22.

In this short time we have debated several topics including Capital Punishment, Equality of the Sexes, and the Advantages and Limitations of Science and Arts courses. We joined with the Bede Boys' Society for an exciting debate with Monkwearmouth Comprehensive School. The motion was "This House believes that there are too many Grammar School Places." After a heated but enjoyable discussion, the motion was defeated.

As yet, membership is small but we hope members of the VIth forms will join us.

Our thanks are due to Miss Fall, Miss Thompson, and Mrs. Youngs for their help and support.

VALERIE STEWART, Schol. VII.  
President.

## THE CURRENT EVENTS SOCIETY

The Current Events Society, under the direction of Miss Hayton, has met each Tuesday after school and, over a cup of what the more imaginative call "tea", we have discussed a wide variety of subjects such as "Communism", "The Situation in Algeria" and "The Twist".

Recently, Mrs. Chen, our new Biology mistress, gave us a very interesting talk on her homeland, Malaya, with the help of Beryl Struthers, who has just returned from Singapore.

Perhaps because of the tea, attendance has diminished, and we would welcome any new members who would be willing to contribute towards the discussions.

DOROTHY NELSON.

CHRISTINE PHILLIPS.

## GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

At the beginning of Autumn Term, 1961, a meeting was arranged for those members of the school interested in Geography. At this meeting a name for the Society was decided upon and the Geographic Society was formed. Also at this meeting we had a talk on tropical cyclones.

The second meeting took the form of a quiz. This was greatly enjoyed by all members and it was won by Marilyn Carter, of VI S.

At following meetings we had some coloured slides taken by Christine Johnston while on holiday in Bavaria; a film called "Trawler Boy" about fishing and fishing grounds; some extremely interesting slides on the Holy Land and, in particular, about Petra, the Rock City, which were shown by Mr. Nottingham; and a coloured film on the River Rhine which gave us a great deal of information about the countryside through which the Rhine flows.

The Geographic Society is now firmly established and will continue with the enthusiastic support of its members.

ELIZABETH GOODSON, V S.



## THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Science Society was held on September 28. Miss Bradbury consented to be President. The Chairman this year is Miss Harding; the Vice-Chairman, Christine Cowey; and the Treasurer, Margaret Sharp.

In October, Christine Cowey and Jacqueline Hobson gave short talks on "Nuclear Fission" and "The Formation of a Star". Christine explained how atomic power is produced and illustrated its uses both as a weapon of war and a source of energy. Jacqueline gave some account of the nature and arrangement of the stars.

The November meeting took the form of a lecture, presented by Mr. Cornwell, on "Rubies, Diamonds and Sapphires" in which he told us about the formation of these minerals, and their uses, both practical and decorative.

The next meeting of the Society was held in March, when Mr. Burnham spoke on "Radio-activity". We learned of the different forms of radio-activity, of the work of Madame Curie and her husband, and of the dangers of excess radiation.

This year, the Annual Outing will take the form of a visit to the Edinburgh Zoo.

The Society has a large membership this year and the meetings have been well attended. We hope it will continue to flourish.

ANDREA CLAYBURN, Secretary.

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## HOLIDAY IN RUHPOLDING

Following the disappointment of not being able to visit Hamburg on the exchange scheme, we were extremely grateful to Miss Duns and Miss Taylor for taking us to Ruhpolding. We were a party of twenty-one girls and set off from Sunderland Station at eleven o'clock on the night of Friday, 21st July, 1961. We arrived in London and then travelled by train to Harwich, where we boarded a ship and crossed to the Hook of Holland. From there we went by train to Traunstein, where we met our courier. On arriving in Ruhpolding, we left our luggage in our rooms, and then had lunch in the Kurhaus.

On Monday morning we went by cable-car up the Rauschberg, a mountain in Ruhpolding. Later, we had lunch in the Kurhaus and our afternoon was free. Dinner at night was made enjoyable by Bavarian dances and singing. The next day, we visited Berchtesgarden, but this place has been greatly commercialised and we were disappointed. From there, we went to the Königsee and spent an inspiring time on a boat travelling up and down the lake.

Munich was our destination on Wednesday and we had an enjoyable time in the Bavarian capital. We went on to the Chiemsee and crossed over by boat to the island, Herrenwörth, where the Herrenchiemsee Castle is situated. We were shown round this wonderful castle, which had been built for Ludwig II.

We crossed into Austria on Thursday and visited the Wolfgangsee, a great tourist centre. We returned then, to Salzburg, which is a wonderful old city, and much quieter than Munich. We had dinner in the Kurhaus when we returned to Ruhpolding, and later we entertained the visitors to the Kurhaus. A group of us sang the German song "Die Lorelei", and some popular English songs were rendered by the singers in the party.

We had a free day on Friday and we enjoyed ourselves in the Ruhpolding shops. On Saturday morning, we visited Reit-im-Winkl and on Saturday afternoon we had more free time. On Sunday morning we felt extremely downhearted, as we were returning home the same evening. We had a last look round Ruhpolding, and at seven o'clock, with tears in our eyes, waving to our many friends, we left our wonderful holiday resort.

On Monday morning, we reached the Hook of Holland and enjoyed a smooth crossing to Harwich. On arriving in London, we had a meal, and then boarded the night express for home. We left London at midnight and were soon asleep, dreaming of our excellent holiday.

Vom Anfang bis zum Ende waren diese Ferien sehr schön, und wir freuen uns auf das nächste Mal, wenn wir nach Deutschland fahren dürfen. Danke schön Miss Duns und Miss Taylor.

MARGARET MUNDAY, Form V L.

### SUNDERLAND-SAINT NAZAIRE, 1961

Once more in July, 1961, a party of girls and boys from Bede Grammar School, accompanied by Mr. Sams, of the Boys' School and Mrs. Smith, of the Girls' School, set off to spend three weeks in Saint Nazaire with their correspondents from the Lycée Aristide Briand. The exchange system, which has flourished for several years, continues to strengthen the link between Sunderland and Saint Nazaire.

Our visit was blessed with good weather and the excursion to Ile aux Moines was almost unbearably hot. At the official reception, held in the Town Hall, the Mayor made us most welcome.

In 1962, it is our turn to extend an invitation to the French visitors and in the short period of time they will stay with us, we shall try to give them an idea of the English way of life and a glimpse of our countryside in return for the hospitality which we received.

PATRICIA HUTTON, Form VI Arts.

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### HOLIDAY IN SPAIN

During the Easter holidays a group of twenty-five girls and three staff paid a visit to Madrid.

The long, arduous journey was broken by a night's stay in London and an interesting tour of Paris. We arrived at Madrid on Maundy Thursday.

The first day of our holiday, Good Friday, was spent watching the religious processions of the "Señoras Penitentes" in the afternoon and the "Procession of Silence" in which the "Hombres Penitentes" took part. The appearance of these men in their pointed hoods which covered their faces, carrying candles or crosses and dragging heavy chains behind them, recalled the superstitious dread of the Middle Ages and filled the more sensitive members of the audience with awe.

The rest of the holiday was spent touring and shopping in Madrid and visiting local buildings of interest.

We visited the "Ciudad Universitaria" where all the university buildings are found; the Prado Museum where some of the most

The following day we went to the matinee of "Othello" which was of particular interest to those who had studied the play for revealing the more obscure characteristics and the subtlety of Iago's intriguing. It was most interesting to contrast the Zeffirelli production with its magnificent setting and grandeur of atmosphere with the simplicity of the 'greenwood tree' of 'As You Like It'.

Our next visit to the theatre was to see Geraldine McEwan and Christopher Plummer as Beatrice and Benedick in "Much Ado About Nothing". Our doubts as to the appropriateness of the Regency setting were soon dispelled for it quickly became apparent that the dialogue and setting were perfectly suited.

After enjoying Christopher Plummer's lively and amusing portrayal of Benedick's character, we were most interested to see his interpretation of the character of Richard III the following evening. The absolute simplicity of the setting heightened the intensity of the drama and allowed us to appreciate the brilliant characterisation.

While away from the theatre we saw many of the places with which Shakespeare was connected during his lifetime. Thus we were able to leave Stratford on the Sunday feeling that we had not only a greater insight into Shakespeare's plays but some knowledge of the background against which he wrote.

EILEEN CARLTON.

PATRICIA TELFORD.

## THE JUNIOR BRITISH ASSOCIATION MEETING

On Friday, 6th April, a party of sixth and seventh year girls went to Newcastle where the British Association had arranged a number of lectures and exhibitions for the advancement of science. This meeting was the first of its kind to be held.

We were divided into groups and taken round to see various exhibitions in the Physics, Chemistry and Biology laboratories of King's College. At 10.30 the lectures began and each group of students attended one of three lectures. These included "The Language of Mathematics", "Finding out what People Think" and "Chemical Clocks".

During the lunch hour, two film shows were given, where films about detergents and insects were shown. These were most interesting and enjoyed by all. We were then taken to lunch and later to further exhibitions.

The final item was another lecture after which we left, boarded the bus and returned home after an interesting and informative visit.

KAY STAFFORD, Form VII.

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### POETRY READING

Three members of the seventh form and two members of the sixth form English group attended a poetry reading at Sunderland Training College given by John Laurie, the well-known Scottish actor. The most interesting part of his programme was his reading of Scottish ballads; these included better-known ballads such as "Sir Patrick Spens" and less famous ones, including one very amusing ballad about a young man turned into a worm by a repulsive old witch whom he refused to love. Mr. Laurie also read excerpts from Burns, Coleridge, Hopkins and Shakespeare.

His recital was extremely well received by his audience who greatly enjoyed this opportunity of hearing him.

ELIZABETH SANDERSON.

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### A VISIT TO A COALMINE

On January 29 of this year, the first year Advanced Level Geography Group set off at 9.30 a.m. for Lambton 'D' Pit. We were shown into the offices where we learned a little about the coalmine and the various coal seams. Then we were given boiler-suits and helmets for protective clothing, and we proceeded to the pithead looking, we hoped, extremely attractive! After being searched for contraband, we descended into the depths of the earth, down what seemed to be an eternity of steps.

Once down the mine, we walked through a maze of passages. It was hot and stifling because of the stone-dust which we were kicking up. This is spread on the floors, as a safety measure, as it damps down fire in the event of an explosion. We eventually arrived at the coalface where we all tried to use the pneumatic or "windy" drill.

We had also taken sugar-lumps and sweets for the pit ponies. We saw only a few actually pulling trucks, but the peculiar thing is that they are always kept in complete darkness, and even their stables, which we later visited, are below the ground.

We must have walked miles, just as the miners do every day. It seems no wonder to me, now, that coal is so expensive when you consider that really only the man at the coalface is actually working at the coal, while dozens of others see to roadways, ventilation; shot-firing, and haulage.

After we had seen everything we came up in a cage, checked out, and handed in our identity discs. We were most disappointed to discover that, although we had time sheets, we received no wage packet.

After having an extremely good wash (we were literally as black as coal) we were taken to the canteen where dinner was provided for us.

The thing which impressed me most about the pit was its tidiness; shortly afterwards I read in the daily paper that this pit had won an award as the tidiest in its area.

We came home very tired, but well-informed; and I certainly was determined that no son of mine should ever take up coalmining as his career.

MARILYN CARTER, VI Sc.

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### NAMED BUT NOT LAUNCHED

The Advanced Geography groups met on time and made their way down the bank towards the shipyard. There, we were met and shown briefly around the various workshops. On our way to the ship we passed the measuring pole which indicated the depth of the water at the river bank and it was pointed out to us that there were



only eighteen inches of water whereas three feet were needed before the ship could be launched.

When we reached the ship, to the surprise of many of us, we found that the bottom was flat and, as there was plenty of room underneath, we went to have a look. The bilge keel, which reduces the rolling of the ship, was pointed out to us.

We came out from underneath and took our positions at the stern of the ship and watched the workmen knocking away the keel and bilge blocks, leaving the vessel sitting on the launching ways, which are composed of fixed and sliding ways, the sliding ways going into the river with the ship.

We waited. Along came the launching party. The lady who was to launch the ship was presented with a bouquet by one of the apprentices and the party took up their positions on the platform. The lady took the champagne bottle, which was hanging by coloured ribbons from the stern of the ship and, flinging it at the ship's side, named the ship 'World Explorer'. To our surprise, the ship remained stationary and then we were told that it could not be launched as there was not a great enough depth of water, and strong westerly winds were hindering the rise of the tide.

Disappointed, we left the yard without seeing the ship enter the water, and it was not until three high tides later, at four o'clock in the morning, that there was enough water to enable the launch to take place.

JUDITH GRIBBLE, Form VI Sc.

## THE FOURTH FORM GEOGRAPHY OUTING

1st June 1961

Early on a dull morning in June, a group of excited Bedans met in Park Lane and joined the coaches which were to take us to Hawick in Scotland. We all kept our fingers crossed for luck, and the dull morning developed into a fine, sunny day.

Our first stop was at Otterburn, where some of the party saw the mill but the majority made sure that the small sweet-shops had a wonderful trade. Our next break was at Carter Bar where it was very cold. However, the weather improved as we were driven down into the picturesque Teviot Valley.

We arrived at our goal, Hawick, by dinner-time and we ate our picnic lunches in a beautiful park on the banks of the river. After looking around Hawick itself we were split up into groups and at half-past two we were taken to various mills. The small mill that our party visited was The Hawick Knitwear Company.

As soon as we had met our guide, we were taken into the storage room where we saw the bales of yarn and we were then shown how it was knitted on heavy machines. We saw the rough cashmere garments washed, dried and then brushed until they were beautifully soft. Upstairs, in an airy room, we watched a group of women intricately finishing off the garments on small machines until they were ready to be packed and sent off to shops all over the British Isles.

After our interesting visit to the mills we boarded the coaches once more and our first break on the return journey was at Jedburgh. Here, we walked round the ruins of an old abbey and we had tea by the riverside. It was very sunny and cameras were constantly clicking.

We came back home over Carter Bar and through Otterburn, and we were back once more in Park Lane by a quarter to ten. We were all tired but happy, with photographs and souvenirs to remind us of a most enjoyable and instructive outing to Hawick.

BARBARA BIRBECK, V S.

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## EXAMINATION RESULTS

In July 1961, the following girls were successful in the University of Durham examinations of the General Certificate of Education:—

### Advanced Level:

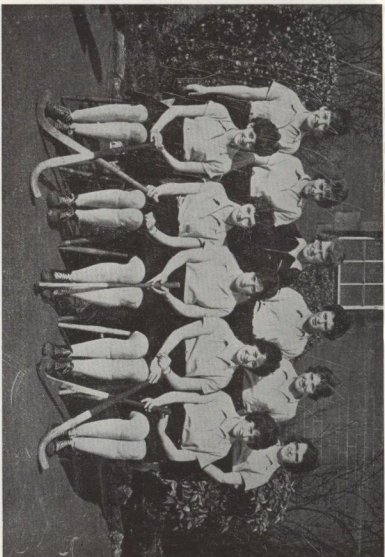
Ann Adair, Ethel Bedingfield, Anne Berriman, Judith Birbeck, Carole Bolt, Marion Bond, Anne Bulmer, Mary Coates, Adrienne Coggins, Anne Conley, Gillian Ditchburn, Pauline Fawcitt, Norma Hammal, Marjorie Herdman, Paula Hodgson, Anne Hughes, June Jepson, Elizabeth Judson, Margaret Newrick, Valerie Nottingham, Hazel Oliver, Valerie Oliver, Kathleen Patrick, Elaine Pell, Edith Powell, Heather Purvis, Eve Richardson, Kathleen Robson, Carol Rodenby, Mary Scott, Moira Smith, Patricia Sturt, Eileen Swan, Anne Telford, Anne Thompson, Brenda Thompson, Jean Thornton, Brenda Watson, Joan Watson, Muriel Watson, Sonia Wrangham, Anne Wrightson.

**Ordinary Level:**

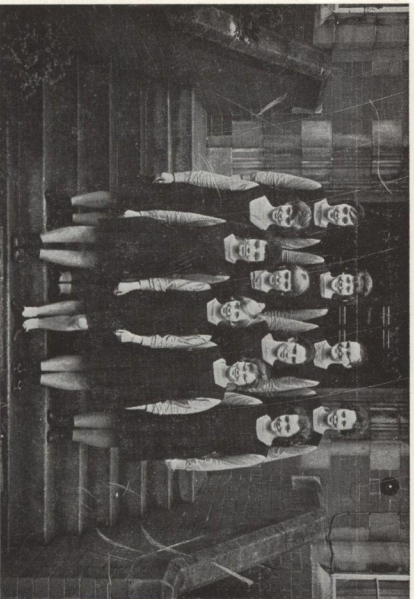
Elaine Alderson, Ann Appleby, Barbara Auchterlonie, Jennifer Bailie, Carole Barclay, Joan Barker, Christine Barnett, Freda Barron, Annette Bassett, Gwenda Batey, Linda Behrman, Ann Bell, Joan Berry, Rita Bolton, Vera Bones, Penelope Boys, Diana Bradwell, Anne Bryceson, Margery Bulmer, Elke Burnham, Christine Burton, Jennifer Buthlay, Eileen Carlton, Kathleen Carr, Marilyn Carter, Ann Chisholm, Gloria Collins, Margaret Collins, Pamela Conlin, Eleanor Cooney, Kathleen Cooper, Jean Coulthard, Noreen Cowell, Christine Cowey, Christine Cox, Joyce Craig, Marie Crozier, Jill Dark, Sheila Davison, Susan Dawson, Patricia Dennison, Valerie Dent, Margaret Ditchburn, Patricia Dodsworth, Sandra Duckworth, Doreen Dunbar, Isobel Dunn, Vera Elliott, Catherine Eynon, Gillian Farnsworth, Jean Farrar, Pauline Featonby, Pauline Forbister, Maureen Forman, Anne Forrest, Sheila Foster, Eileen Frost, Brenda Gibbons, Jean Gibson, Carolyn Gillis, Ruth Gillis, Anne Gooch, Janet Goodwin, Patricia Gorringer, Dorothy Gray, Brenda Green, Judith Gribble, Gayle Harrison, Pamela Hedley, Maureen Herron, Olive Hetherington, Joyce Hindmarch, Jacqueline Hobson, Brenda Hodgson, Margaret Hogg, Jennifer Hoskins, Dorothy Hughes, Marie Hunter, Jean Hutchinson, Jennifer Hutton, Patricia Hutton, Carole Jones, June Laybourne, Pauline Lewis, Dorothy Lithgoe, Elsie Llewellyn, Dorothy Longley, Anne Maitrejean, Ann Major, Glenys Makel, Marjorie Makel, Anne Marshall, Vera Marshall, Linda Meddis, Joan Mellars, Audrey Miller, Catherine Mitchell, Margaret Moore, Beryl Moss, Gwen Munday, Dorothy McCain, Maureen McDougall, Judith McDowall, Vivienne McKay, Judith Painter, Jacqueline Patterson, Margaret Pritchard, Judith Raine, Elaine Reece, Yvonne Rennie, Barbara Richardson, Gillian Richmond, Janet Ritchie, Kathleen Robertson, Daphne Robson, Anne Robson, Muriel Rodgers, Carol Rosenstein, Valerie Ross, Jean Rowell, Mavis Rutherford, Joan Scott, Patricia Scott, Joan Sewell, Carol Seymour, Rosamond Shaw, Alison Smith, Anita Smith, Kathleen Smith, Margaret Smith, Rita Smith, Carole Stacey, Valerie Stewart, Sonia Storey, Ann Stubbs, Carol Swan, Gillian Tagg, Pauline Taylor, Esther Teacher, Patricia Telford, Maureen Tennant, Sheila Thomas, Audrey Thompson, Catherine Thompson, June Tinkler, Marie Verschoor, Vivien Washington, Joan Webb, Ann Wilkinson, Patricia Wilkinson, Christine Willis, Ann Wilson, Desna Wilson, Kathleen Wilson, Susan Wilson, Jennifer Wood, Valerie Wood, Sandra Woodcock, Mavis Woodmass.



*Senior Netball Team, 1961-2*



Senior Hockey Team, 1961-2



*Junior Prizewinners, 1961*





*Senior Prizewinners, 1961*

## HOCKEY

The First XI have had a very successful season, having played thirteen matches of which ten were won, two drawn and one lost.

In the Inter-Schools County Tournament held at Bede in October, the school team won its section, but was beaten in the semi-final. C. Cox and P. Hodgson were selected for County trials.

The following girls played for the 1st XI:—

P. Telford, P. Hodgson, S. Melton, J. Gribble, C. Kemp, C. Cox, A. Chisholm (capt.), V. Stewart, J. Farrar (vice-capt.), S. Thomas, D. Gray.

School colours were awarded to J. Farrar, D. Gray, S. Thomas and P. Telford.

Highlights of the season were matches against the boys.

The Junior Eleven have had an excellent season, and will provide a sound basis for future senior teams. Of their thirteen matches played, ten were won and three drawn.

The senior house hockey tournament was won by Avon, and the junior tournament was won by Ness.

A. CHISHOLM (Capt.).

## NETBALL

The senior netball team had an enjoyable season, although several of the matches were cancelled owing to bad weather. The team won six of the thirteen matches played. The match against the boys was lost and the team was unsuccessful in the County Tournament.

The following girls represented the First Senior VII this season:—Jennifer Hoskins, Elke Burnham, Eileen Carlton, Brenda Hodgson, Andrea Clayburn (captain), Marjorie Miller, Lesley Sharpen and Christine Burton.

The junior team has been very successful this season, winning ten of the eleven matches played. The team reached the semi-final of one Sunderland tournament, but failed to win its section in the other. It should provide a sound basis for future senior teams.

The following people played for the junior team this season—Heather Wardle, Carole Smith (captain), Joyce Newton, Sheila Peterson, Maureen Bulmer, Maureen Ferry, Avril Foster and Gloria Anderson.

The Senior Inter-House tournament was won by Ben and the Junior tournament by Ben.

School colours were awarded to Andrea Clayburn and Jennifer Hoskins.

A. CLAYBURN (Capt.).

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### TENNIS

The First VI won six matches out of seven matches played.

The team was defeated in the first round of the three tournaments they entered.

The following girls played for the First VI:—A. Thompson, (captain), S. Thomas, H. Purvis, C. Jones, M. Carter, C. Cowey, J. Farrar and R. Shaw played twice for the First VI.

Colours were awarded to A. Thompson and S. Thomas. C. Rosenstein won the School Singles Tournament.

The House Championship was won by Ben. The junior tennis team won the Sunderland Dairy Festival Tennis Cup.

M. CARTER, Secretary.

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### ROUNDERS

The first senior rounders IX did not have a very successful season, winning only two of the six matches played.

The following girls represented the first team during the season—Joan Berry, Ann Bryceson, Marjorie Miller, Andrea Clayburn, Ann Chisholm (captain), Elke Burnham, Lesley Sharpen, Pat. Wilkinson, Judith Painter.

School colours were not awarded. The senior house rounders tournament was won by Ben House and the junior house tournament was also won by Ben house.

ANN CHISHOLM (Captain).

## ATHLETICS

Sports Day was held in May. Mrs. E. Kirkwood, Secretary of the Guild of Old Bedans, presented the awards.

## House Championship Results:—

- Senior School — Ben.
- Middle School — Ben.
- Junior School — Ness.

## Individual Championship Results:—

- Senior School Champion — Christine Burton.
- Middle School Champion — Carole Kemp.
- Junior School Champion — Catherine Mutch and Lynne Hepplewhite.

Carole Kemp was selected to attend a one-day course at Houghton-le-Spring in March 1962, Mr. G. Dyson was the coach.

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SWIMMING

In June, Bede girls won the Sunderland Life-Saving Competition for the fourth successive year. The team, S. Melton and M. Sutherland came second in the county finals of the "A. C. Cox Memorial Trophy" Competition held at Newcastle, in July. Bede won the Sunderland heat of the E.S.S.A. Life-Saving Competition and gained second place in the county heat.

In the county finals of the E.S.S.A. Freestyle Team Race at Billingham the school team was placed second.

S. Melton, J. Alden, L. Hulsmeier and E. Burnham represented Sunderland at the Northumberland and Durham Annual Schools' Gala. Following this, J. Alden and L. Hulsmeier were selected to represent the county at the E.S.S.A. championships at Manchester.

At the Sunderland Schools Annual Gala in November, Bede swimmers broke ten records.

The girls' and boys' combined Bede team was placed second in the Festival of Britain Medley Team Race.

Bede girls retained the S.C. Parkinson Life-Saving Trophy at the Bede Boys' School Gala.

Life-saving examinations were taken in December and showed good results.

On 28th March 1962, the first ever Girls' School Gala was held at High Street Baths. The Senior House Championship was won by Ben House and the Junior House Championship was won by Esk House.

Individual Championship results:—

Senior Champion — J. Alden.

Junior Champion — D. Shapero.

Alderman Mrs. J. E. Hedley presented the awards at the Gala.

E. BURNHAM.

## SCIENCE IN THE WORLD TODAY

Many people associate science merely with white coats and bubbling test tubes, hieroglyphic formulae or intricate mechanical constructions. This idea is, of course, entirely misguided. Nowadays, science affects everyone in his or her daily life more than might at first seem obvious.

Imagine a woman in a fabulous Chanel-style suit, beautifully tinted hair and with an aura of French perfume. Nothing scientific there you may think. However, beginning at the top, her hair tint is the result of possibly years of research in a laboratory. Make-up, too; this also probably began on a laboratory bench, but who would think so to look at the result? Her lipstick alone contains as many different ingredients as the most complicated "purely chemical" substance. Her suit may be of nylon, terylene, courtelle or one of the countless man-made fabrics now on the market, but if, for instance it is courtelle, compare it to the most expensive woollen double jersey and who can tell the difference? Even the perfume; surely, you may think, this must be a mixture of ingredients from Nature herself, but no—many of the ingredients of perfume are now synthetic. In fact, the scent of roses, present in many perfumes, is nowadays almost always synthetic.

As far as shoes are concerned, the poor cow is taking a back seat where the supply of materials is concerned. Almost certainly the soles and possibly the uppers are some form of plastic. This

is usually cheaper and sometimes even wears better than leather but there is very little difference between plastic and leather as far as appearance is concerned.

New discoveries are made almost every day which may soon affect our whole way of life. One of the most revolutionary of these, as far as the housewife is concerned, is deep-freeze. Not so much in Britain as yet, but certainly in America, it is possible to shop days in advance for deep frozen food which cannot possibly go bad and, as freezing methods are improving, there is becoming less and less difference between fresh and frozen food, and now a new advance has been made, in which food is dehydrated to such an extent that it takes only a fraction of its normal size and yet it can regain not only its former size, but its former shape on the addition of water. This process can even be applied to things like steak. Quite an advance on tinned food and dried milk!

These foods, of course, need containers and the product which is an ideal container for almost anything is polythene. This type of plastic, which is now in all thicknesses, textures, and colours, is in daily use in almost all households. Its advantages are numerous. Semi-rigid polythene will not crack, chip or break itself or other things. Polythene bags are as numerous now as paper bags, and, being stronger, they have more uses. Polythene is, of course, ideal for children's toys because, unlike metal or rigid plastic, it cannot cut or scratch.

Science is obvious wherever you look; in the wardrobe, the nursery, the kitchen, and outside, in shops, factories, and in the streets. In fact it has become part of modern living. Some of its guises are quite recognisable, others not quite so obvious.

Who would imagine that "Ye Olde Alchemist" of the middle ages was the forerunner of something which is almost synonymous with civilization?

SHEILA BATTY, Form V S.

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## THE SEA SHORE

The sea shore is a place of many surprises. Naturally, there is the wide expanse of restless blue-green sea which stretches out to meet the sky on the far horizon, and there is also a limitless stretch of gold-brown sand, but, for those who seek, there are many treasures not so visible.



The sand itself is mysterious with its many variations in colour and texture. Often the sand near to the sea cliffs, towering or gently sloping, is fine, loose and light, and it grows coarser and darker only as it nears the sea. The sand beyond the sea line usually is firm and brown, often littered with seaweed and seacoal. On the fringe of many shores lie rocks, smooth or rough and often slimy. Under these rocks, especially those left partly uncovered when the tide recedes, can be found strange treasures of the sea.

Between the rather treacherous rocks are numerous rock pools which provide soakings for unwary humans and homes for sea creatures. Clinging always to the surfaces of rocks are limpets, with pointed shells, which are extremely difficult to detach. These queer creatures are uni-valve shell-fish. On the rocks beneath the waters live red or green anemones. These flowers of the sea are short cylinders of soft flesh fringed with hollow feelers, rather like the petals of flowers, which draw small creatures and tiny fish into the cylinders. Then the tentacles close into themselves and the prey is digested before the "flower-animals" open again. Very often, jellyfish float lazily on the water, their tentacles hanging down from the under-surface very ready to sting unwary creatures. In some pools lie shadowy, sandy-coloured shrimps. They are very like prawns except that they do not have saw-edged spikes and eyes on stalks. Sideways-scuttling crabs also live in rock pools. It is delightful to watch them hurry for safety or sink into the sand when their chosen rock is moved suddenly and they are in open water. Five-fingered starfish can also be seen in rock pools. These queer creatures can be found also on the sand for they are able to move using sucker-like "legs". Sea urchins, with numerous spines, a mouth and five teeth, are also quite common inhabitants of the rock pools.

On the rocks and in the pools are many varieties of seaweed. Bladder wrack, a seaweed which has little bladders set in it, is found on the rocks whilst misty-pink coralline seaweed floats on the surface of the water. Broad-leaved green sea lettuce, or laver, and dark red dulse can also be found on the pools. Flowers, surprisingly, grow on some stretches of beach. On shingly-sand grows the sea-holly with sharp spined bluish leaves and close-set flowers of the same colour, whilst horned poppies, sea pinks and mauve sea lavender grow in rather muddy sand.

Beautiful shells often lie strewn on the sand. Razor shells, empty limpet shells, bi-valve, ridged, pinky-yellow scallop shells, blue mussels, cockles, top-shells, whelks, periwinkles and yellow, dark green and orange sea-snail shells are often found and it is always interesting to wonder just where they come from.

Festooning pebbles or sand, can be seen sometimes oar-weed, a deep water seaweed, which is uprooted by strong waves and brought ashore with the tide. During most of the year gulls swerve over the sea shore. The most common gulls we see are the black-headed gull, which has a brown head, a red bill and red legs; the herring gull, which has pearly grey feathers, flesh coloured legs and a yellow beak; and the black-backed gull.

In summer, if the sun shines, the beaches are crowded with children and adults and the bright, blue-green sea is usually dotted with happy splashing paddlers and swimmers. In winter the scene is very different. The beaches are almost deserted and often an angry grey sea thunders on the shore. Nevertheless, whatever the weather or the season, sea creatures of all kinds and shapes continue to live in their watery home and to provide pleasure for the keen seekers.

JACQUELINE BESTON, Form III L

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## SCIENCE AND THE WORLD TODAY

In the past three hundred years there has been an increase in scientific research and development which has changed man's whole experience of science from an obscure half-knowledge mingled with superstition to a vision of a vast new universe, whose horizons are ever extending yet ever becoming more clearly perceived.

The principal developments have been not in the invention of new machines, but in the realization and understanding of scientific principles. For example, two laws which, fifty years ago, were believed to be unconnected namely, the Law of Conservation of Matter and the Law of Conservation of Energy are now united, as it has been realised that matter can be conserved only if energy is conserved also, and that on the release of the matter, the energy also is released. This fact forms the basis of what is probably the most important and certainly the most publicised of recent scientific discoveries, that of Atomic Power. In an 'atomic' bomb, a very small quantity of matter is converted, by nuclear fission, into a very large quantity of energy. In fact, less than one gramme of matter would be necessary to produce the energy of the Hiroshima explosion.

A great deal of research is now going on to find ways of using atomic power for peaceful purposes, as the danger of fall-out, and the alarming efficiency of nuclear energy as a weapon of war has struck such fear into the hearts of many that they regret its

discovery. With the threat of war constantly present, however, scientists are so busily occupied in the preparation of nuclear deterrents, and anti-missile missiles, that further peaceful research cannot be conducted to any significant degree until there is complete international co-operation and trust.

The immediate future of nuclear energy is as a source of power to replace oil and coal. At the beginning of this century, men feared the day when natural resources would fail. Since the discovery of nuclear energy, this fear can be dismissed, and although uranium and thorium are at present the only elements capable of nuclear fission the possibilities are endless and, year by year, fresh discoveries are made which solve old problems, and open the doors to new ones.

Scientific research, however, has not been limited to the field of technology. The study of chemistry, begun by the medieval alchemists, and developed by the pioneers of the Renaissance, has become a branching and expanding science. Biology, although forced to wait until the rediscovery of Mendel's work in 1900 before it underwent a remarkable change, is now of great technical importance.

The branch of science which is at once the most fascinating, and which has undergone the greatest transformation in the last five hundred years, is that of medicine. The first surgeon was probably Ambrose Paré, who, in the sixteenth century, made a rudimentary study of anatomy, and wrote a book on the subject. In the centuries following, the development of surgery has been marked by the discovery of anaesthetics by William Green Morton and others and the practice of antisepsis by Joseph Lister. Now medicine is more closely linked to chemistry and technology by the discovery of new drugs, and by the use of medicine which take over many functions of the body.

The recent new developments in science and technology must lead to changes in the life of the citizen. Research is being carried out not only in the obscure realms of nuclear power and pure science, but also in connection with such things as transport and communication, household equipment, agriculture, food production, and synthetic materials.

Where will these developments lead? When the problems of man can be solved by a digital computer, and his menial tasks performed by a machine, what then will be his destiny? Will the acceleration of research and discovery plunge recklessly on towards catastrophe, or will it slow down to a more reasonable rate, and lead to a world of peace and plenty? This is the question which faces not only the scientist, but the common man.

DOROTHY NELSON, Form IV S.

## STORM HORSE

He stood, outlined,  
A silver silhouette,  
Against the stormy sky.  
He lifted his noble head, tossed his milk-white mane,  
And sniffed the air,  
Smelling faint wafts of the coming rain,  
And hearing the far-off roll of thunder in the hills.

The laden clouds were grey,  
Dark and sullen, waiting for the fury of the storm to come.  
It came!  
Rain raged down in angry torrents,  
Lightning forked across the sky,  
And thunder rolled!

The horse on the hill neighed joyously,  
Tossed his head vigorously,  
Pranced and reared.  
And with a mighty impulse,  
He galloped down the hill,  
Across the plains  
To the mountains beyond,  
Swiftly and silently.  
He left no tracks, but merely passed,  
A phantom streak of silver in the storm.  
A living horse would shun wild wind and rain,  
But he comes not from the world of living beasts.  
He is a phantom,  
A silver phantom,  
The ghost horse of the storm.

GLENNIS GORDON, Form IV L.

## A POTTER'S PARADISE

A strange aroma savouring of disinfectant, cleaner's sand, wet floorcloths and dry, dusty clay hangs in the air. A deafening din of clay being wedged is accompanied by a discordant chant of "The Red Flag". The room is well furnished with dustbins full of damp, dank, musty clay, cupboards full of mysterious packets of glaze, and shelves laden with vases, pots and vast, white, semi-luminous sculptures. A kiln and a wheel complete the picture so making the pottery room a "paradise".

JENNIFER WOOD, Form VI Sc.

## THE LIZARD AND THE MOUSE

A little green lizard  
 Got caught in a blizzard  
 And didn't know which way to go;  
 "Come into my house"  
 Said a little grey mouse,  
 "But please take your tail off my toe".

VIVIEN MILLER, Form IX.

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## "PROTEST"

Passively  
 They sit,  
 Impressive in their sincerity.  
 Firmly  
 They remain,  
 Ardent in their tranquillity.  
 Like limpets they cling to the unyielding earth,  
 Heedless of the crowd that mocks and jeers.  
 And yet —  
 Is there not kindled  
 In the hearts of that crowd  
 Admiration:  
 Admiration for those  
 Who risk all —  
 In their protest?

BARBARA BIRBECK, Form V S.

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## THE CROCUS

Another name for the crocus is the saffron. It was given this name because of the ancient Greeks and Romans making scent from the saffron found in the yellow flower. It was also used for seasoning dishes.

During the Crusades, a British pilgrim travelling in the Middle East saw the crocus fields and longed to take some bulbs back to England with him. But the law of the countries forbade him to take any bulbs; anyone found taking any bulbs was to be put to death. Secretly, the pilgrim took some bulbs and hid them in the top of his

wooden staff. In this way he smuggled them out of the country. He brought them back to Britain and started growing them in Walden in Essex. They grew to such an extent that the town changed its name to Saffron Walden.

In memory of the pilgrim, the town of Saffron Walden now has three crocuses on its coat of arms.

JANET THOMPSON, Form I W

### REFLECTIONS ON A MIRROR

Conspicuous yet unobtrusive  
Hanging, waiting, still  
Shining and smooth — till  
Before this magnetising, icy sheen  
One feels the desire to peer and to preen.

Mesmerised, attracted and even fixed  
By the luring Light  
Some may try with might  
To resist its power but all the same  
The yielding victims alone must take blame.

Throughout the ages to this modern day,  
Both timid and bold  
Face the challenge old  
And pay homage to this silvery pool  
The mirror — best loved object in **this** school.

VIVIANNE GREENER, Form V S

### THE BALL

Straining muscle of supple arm to circle,  
Resounding smack of stick to ball,  
Powerful push over blades of grass,  
Feet,  
Beating upon the ground  
Rush in, triumphant to —  
THE BALL.

KATHLEEN MATTHEWMAN, Form III S.



### TEN PENCE, ONE SHILLING!

For years and years, children have struggled to learn and repeat arithmetical tables which go up to twelve times something. Now, after we have been almost worn out with awkward "money sums" in division, multiplication and plain addition and subtraction, the Government is contemplating introducing decimal coinage. Perhaps some teachers will have to return to school to learn the simple decimal arithmetic, whilst children not yet at school may never have to decide what fraction of £1,109 0s. 1½d. is £123 4s. 5½d. There may even be less homework. It is quite probable that we shall lose our one pound note, halfcrown and halfpenny. The ten shilling unit will be the basis of our currency with five shilling, two shilling and one shilling silver pieces and with ten bronze pennies to the shilling. Costs will be calculated much more easily and figures will only have to be divided or multiplied by ten. Shopping will also be easier and maybe no more goods will be priced at 19/11½d.

The cost of adapting calculating machines, changing Bank Accounts and Post Office prices will range in the millions of pounds. We may miss the familiar coins but the farthing has gone and we still survive. May be the next step will be to make ten pounds one stone and ten inches one foot. Perhaps in less than ten years' time everything will be in tens and arithmetic will be so much easier.

JACQUELINE BESTON, Form III L.

### CABBAGE

From the slug-infested tough green leaves sprouting insolently in the middle of the vegetable patch to the soggy, pathetic-looking shreds of greenery floating on my plate at school dinners, I hate cabbage.

This tasteless object which dares to boast the name of vegetable is no more than a bunch of tough, green leaves. It does not even have the good manners to grow slowly and genteely. Instead, it sprouts up in the most alarming manner, giving no warning signals when it is ready to be cooked and one has to inspect it closely daily to be sure, when the leaves reach just the right degree of toughness, to uproot it and push it into a bowl of salty water before it has time to go to seed. A day too soon, or a day too late, and it is spoilt for there are no half measures with the cabbage. If pulled up at the right time and cooked correctly it is bad enough, but if left in the ground too long or not long enough or if under-or over-cooked, it is abominable.

PATRICIA STIRLING, Form IV L.

## THE KNIGHT

This knight is a courageous man ready to fight for his rights and able to withstand extreme hardships. His face is stern. He has deep-set, penetrating eyes, a rather large Grecian nose and his thin lips are set in a firm line. From underneath his nose, a bushy moustache protrudes; however, his chin is clean-shaven. He is dressed in a suit of chain-mail and he has a plain broad band over his right shoulder and around his waist. On his head he wears a protecting helmet and a long cloak is draped around his shoulders. In his right hand he holds his trusty sword, with which he has won many a battle, and in his left hand he carries a strong metal shield, which is decorated with four small crosses. He is not standing at attention but is leaning on his sword and he has his left knee bent; however, he gives an impression of being ever watchful and alert.

But who is this knight? Who is this conquering hero? He is not human but is made of bronze vitreous enamel, for he is the holder of a companion set and his duty is to stand on the hearth, guarding the fire. There he stands, bravely enduring the heat and looking proud of the many battles which he has fought and won.

The knowledge of his courage removes all fear when one is sitting alone. When one returns from a long journey and finds an empty fireplace the sight of this faithful knight, reflecting numerous different colours from the light in his metal body, brings a sense of warmth to the onlooker.

MAVIS SIDNEY, Form III L.

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There was an old man of Peru,  
Who found he had nothing to do,  
So he sat on the stairs  
And counted his hairs,  
And found he had seventy-two.

PAULINE GRAHAM, Form I W.

## CROWNING GLORY

Highly swept with colours gay,  
Is the teenage hair today.  
Pink and grey or even blue,  
Do these shades appeal to you?  
No more pigtails in this age,  
Beehive is the latest rage.  
Backcombing is a furious trade,  
Friends are called upon to aid.  
A final glimpse, a touch of spray;  
Make sure there are no gales today.

JUDITH BYERS, Form II X

## TEN, NINE, EIGHT.....ZERO

A devastating blast !  
A frozen hush reigns everywhere.  
Achievement at long last ;  
A mushroom cloud forms in the air.

A child destroys his toy,  
His parents smile benignly on his "games"  
For they must teach the boy  
To love a world so full of evil aims,  
That men built up a cruel wall of stones  
Through Berlin's entire length  
And wrenched apart the east and western zones  
In vain display of strength.

How can a cog within the wheel of life  
Prevent destruction and allay this strife ?

PATRICIA HUTTON, Form VI Arts.

## SMOKELESS ZONES

At present, during winter in an inhabited area, the chimneys all tell a story. Smoke coming from the front room of a house probably means visitors. Smoke from a bedroom chimney means either someone is ill or someone does not like a cold room in which to sleep. If one is up early enough one can see, by the fact that a fire has been lit, when each household arises.

These smoke signals are fast disappearing with the advent of smokeless zones, as is the streamer of smoke which once announced the arrival of a train but which is now becoming rare because of a wide use of diesel engines. Perhaps in a decade's time, smoke will be a thing of the past but I am sure that smokeless chimneys will detract from the close neighbourliness of a community.

SHEILA BATTY, Form V S.

## THE LITTLE FISHING VILLAGE

Here are the waves that break on the shore,  
Here are the fishermen, and evermore,  
The sound of the seagulls circling the sky,  
And the clip-clop of horses as they go by.

Upturned boats, nets dry in the sun,  
A silvery beach for everyone,  
Lobster-pots empty and fishing creels,  
And the salty air, how good it feels.

Yet how I love the old cobbled street,  
With whitewashed cottages, trim and neat,  
And cheery fisher-folk, simple and kind,  
The salt of the earth I always find.

BRENDA RUDLIN, Form II X.

## FROM SPELTER WORKS BRIDGE

(With apologies to W.W. and the English Staff)

Hendon hath not anything to show more fair!  
 Glad would we be of soul could we pass by  
 This sight so aw(e)ful in its majesty.  
 This monster now doth like a grey shroud wear  
 The smog of the morning, polluting the air.  
 Shops, pre-fabs, bingo-halls and lorries lie  
 Burdened with odour, at times somewhat high,  
 All dull and brooding in its smoky lair.  
 Ne'er did bright sun pass over this heap,  
 But of the teeming rain it has its fill;  
 And oft on to the earth the drainpipes weep.  
 The smell pervadeth to the unclean hill,  
 O'ercome, the workmen move in nightmare sleep,  
 And all those mighty gasworks have their will.

LESLIE SHARPEN, Form V L.

## THE SECOND COMING

He was born to suffer  
 In a filthy, tenement hovel,  
 Where—to keep body and soul together—  
 A man had to grovel.  
 Because he was good,  
 They mocked and jeered  
 At what they could not understand:  
 For the incomprehensible is always feared.  
 With love and compassion,  
 He prayed for those whose hearts bore hate  
 But, with the blindness of the damned,  
 In darkness they gathered to wait.  
 They laid hands on the man,  
 With raging eyes and burning breath,  
 And in some dark, squalid alley  
 They kicked him to death.  
 Because he was black  
 They decried him;  
 Christ walked again,  
 And they denied him.

MARIE VERSCHOOR, Form VI Arts.

## CACTI

Cacti are fascinating plants. Grown in pots, they are a hazard to all. Whenever they are moved, many of them take a delight in shooting inch-long spines into one's finger. This is the direct attack. Some, however, are more subtle. They have short, hooked spines, which are injected into one's finger. When these spines are pulled out the hook is painfully left behind. Of course, some cacti have no spines. Instead, these study the art of jumping off window sills, leaving a mess of broken pot, soil, and cactus plant to be cleared away. Yes, cacti are fascinating plants—rather dangerous, but still fascinating.

MARGARET HETHERINGTON, Form III L.

## QUEUES

I am a queue hater. There are queues for 'buses, queues for sales, queues for cinemas, queues for almost everything, and in every queue I am in, I am inevitably 'the one behind'.

If I am in a hurry 'the man in front' invariably has all the time in the world. I hurry to the ticket window at the railway station to buy a ticket for a train due to leave in three minutes, only to find that he has arrived before me. I breathe my impatience down his neck and the three minutes dwindle away to two, and the two to one. At last he leaves, without even buying a ticket; he 'only came to inquire about a train for the next week and hopes he didn't keep me waiting'. By now it is not even worth buying a ticket: I can hear the train heaving out of the station.

The other day I managed to arrive at the 'bus-stop before him. I was just congratulating myself and smiling triumphantly at him when the 'bus arrived. It went past me and he jumped on first. I was about to step onto the platform, when the conductor barred my way with his arm: "Sorry, room for one only!"

After that incident I realized that it is futile to try to be 'the one in front'. Some people are destined to be always first in queues, others, to be last. I am one of the latter and have now resigned myself to the fact that I shall always be 'the one behind'.

JUDITH HUNTER, Form V L.



## THE BEDEIAD

In Sunderland did B. of E.  
 A stately grammar-school decree,  
 Where Wear the sacred river ran,  
 Through caverns measureless to man,  
 Down to a sunless sea;  
 And gathering rosebuds on their way,  
 Creep schoolgirls to the school each day,  
 And gaily chat in mystic terms  
 Of pops and fashion, boys and girls . . .

Now dies the girlish chattering down to naught,  
 And is all Bede with solemn silence fraught,  
 Save where the schoolgirls scratch reluctant pens  
 And droning readers lull their nearest friends.  
 No cachinnation stays their useful toil,  
 Nor hope nor any joy of mind,  
 Save when the happy thought occurs:—  
 "If lessons come, can Break be far behind?"

Break! break! break! :— on the cold, cold stones so grey,  
 Unconscious of their doom, the little victims play.  
 (Whilst others incessantly labour to see  
 Their efforts crowned by the G.C.E.)  
 Ah! happy, happy girls! they feed by stealth  
 On toffee-cakes, and milk out' National Health . . .  
 Behold them, romping in the grounds,  
 Each frolicking Bedan lass,  
 Throwing or hitting or ordered around;  
 Stop there, and quickly pass.

When the bell is rung at four o'clock,  
 And all the neat cloakrooms are left with care,  
 Where lingerers are, a member of staff  
 Is suddenly standing there.  
 'Oh, haste thee, haste!' the lady cries,  
 'And do not dilly-dally . . .  
 When ye school-teach', continues she,  
 'Ye may for ever tarry'.

[With profuse and partial apologies to Coleridge, Herrick, Brooke, Gray, Shelley, Tennyson, Marvel, Keats, Wordsworth, Munro and Campell.]

DONNA BROWN, Form V L.

## THE DREAM PIPER-BOY

There was a piper-boy in my dream,  
 And he came stealing through the town,  
 Across the shiny cobble-stones  
 When the stars peeped down.  
 He wore a gaudy, velvet suit  
 Of blue, with feathers gay.  
 I lay in bed and shut my eyes,  
 And saw him, clear as day.

He was a merry piper-boy  
 As he tiptoed down the street.  
 Under the moonlight he played his tune  
 So clear and pure and sweet.  
 Tiny feet came dancing to him  
 And I saw, as I lay and dreamed,  
 That golden lamps were shining on him,  
 But, oh ! how far he seemed.

STEPHANIE HUNTER, Form II X.

## THE CAT AND THE BIRD

He crouched  
 On the ground,  
 Tail twitching,  
 Eyes gleaming,  
 Muscles taut.  
 Watching and waiting,  
 Silently.  
 And then,  
 He pounced.  
 Tail twitching,  
 Eyes gleaming,  
 Paws outstretched to grab.  
 Then,  
 With a flurry of fur and feathers,  
 It was over.  
 He stood,  
 Defeated.  
 Above, the bird twittered  
 Triumphantly !

ELIZABETH KERR, Form IV L

## NO BRIGHT LIGHTS, NO GAY MUSIC

Seaside resorts always hold a strange fascination for me, not as with most people in summer, but in winter. How forlorn they look, just as if they were bewildered at the sudden change from the gay colourful season of July to the bleak, desolate November.

In summer, the resort thrived on crowds, hundreds of people streaming down the roads and promenades and scattered all over the sunny sand. The sea was a calm blue. Little ripples of white broke the smooth surface, caressing the sand with gentle motion. How different from the raging fury of this mighty sea of winter, no longer blue, but grey-black; no longer condescending to caress the sands but pounding them furiously, as if releasing the pent-up anger of summer days. The sky reflects the dark sea and they mingle into one, the horizon indistinguishable. Rain hisses furiously and lashes the white rollers into frenzy. The ocean now dominates the scene.

The resort, empty now, silent except for the cries of grounded seagulls, not courageous enough to brave the fierce sea, stands pitifully. Rows of boarding-houses, grey and miserable, are empty now except for an occasional 'permanent boarder' who probably hates it anyway. Rain drips off the roof and gurgles into drains, whips down the empty roads in a sheet and soaks into everything unmercifully. Icy winds join the rain and send grey clouds ominously nearer. Here is nature at her fiercest.

The fairground, a world of its own in summer, becomes part of the dingy background. No bright lights, no gay music. Just stillness, and greyness and cold, wet weather. The railway station, usually so busy in summer, is empty. A lone guard walks along the deserted platform, his footsteps, echoing in the rain, are slowly drowned by the oncoming train. It comes quietly at first, increasing in noise until it reaches a tearing crescendo and then diminishes as quickly as it came—the non-stop express, practically the only train that the winter-ravished resort sees. Winter indeed takes her toll.

KATHLEEN JOHNSON, Form IV i.

## AUNTIE'S ELEPHANT

Auntie had an elephant,  
He'd eyes of baby blue,  
She bought him for a shilling  
From a keeper at the zoo;  
She bought him for a shilling,  
Though his weight was half a ton;  
She called him 'Little Lollipop'  
And loved him like a son.

Auntie had an elephant,  
She'd sing him lullabies,  
And she made for him a cradle  
Of the most enormous size,  
She fed him on bananas  
And she gave him bread and pop,  
But nothing would content him  
Till he'd sat on Auntie's lap.

PAMELA MUNCASTER, Form III i.

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There was a young man of Bantu,  
Who went for a day to the zoo,  
He flew into a rage,  
When locked in a cage,  
In mistake for a hairy gnu.

ANITA HAWDON, Form I Y.

## SINGING MAGIC

She unbound the jet-glossed locks  
That flowed like midnight stream;  
A comb she swept from root to tip  
And Singing Magic made.  
It called the knight from his lady,  
The mother from the babe;  
The saint he quit his beads,  
And the dead came from the grave.  
Relentlessly the magic called,  
Unresisting, they followed;  
All shod with eager speed  
They come.  
In the spiteful, spitting sparks,  
The enchantress views with glee;  
Smiling, she sweeps the comb;  
Magic flows: Singing magic.  
They travelled near half the world  
When, tiring of her idle play,  
She lays the comb away.  
And they weep, under a smiling moon.

MARY WEBB, Form V G.

## SHADOWS

Night is falling,  
And soon I shall see  
Shadows.  
On the wall, on the floor,  
Against the window, near the door,  
Anywhere — and everywhere,  
Sinister and dark —  
Yet fascinating too,  
To one with a mind  
Agile and free,  
Which can conjure up pictures  
So frightening to me.  
Oh ! I wish that my mind,  
Didn't wander with ease,  
Then I would not imagine  
Such spectres as these.  
A figure in the corner,  
Crouching — ready to pounce,  
As I lie in my bed  
Never moving my eyes  
From that shape in the corner  
Eyeing me in suspense !  
For that shape in the corner  
Turns out, not to be  
An unknown assailant  
Boding ill to poor me,  
But Peggy my cat  
Who had entered the room,  
And sought my company  
By the light of the moon.

CAROL WILLIS, Form V G.



