# ST. ELPHIN'S MAGAZINE



ST. ELPHIN'S SCHOOL

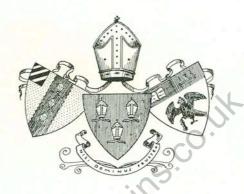
DARLEY DALE

MATLOCK

No. 76

JULY, 1958

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Mr. John Betjeman with the Duchess of Devonshire and the Platform Party, Speech Day, 1957

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# SCHOOL OFFICE HOLDERS—1957-58

Head Girl-JUDITH TUCKWELL

Deputies—MARY ROSE SOCKETT (Autumn and Spring)
GILLIAN STREET (Summer)

Prefects—Joy Shorland-Ball, Mary Reeman, Cecilia Lunn, Judith Molyneaux, Elizabeth Morley, Joyce Elgar.

Sub-Prefects—Monica Egerton, Helen Wright, Anne Mosscrop, Jacqueline Watson, Judith Hick, Jill Randle, Rosalind Young, Judith Barker, Anne Howard.

# SCHOOL NOTES, 1957-58

IN the background of School activities this term looms the imminent departure of Miss Stopford into retirement in Westmorland after many years as Headmistress of St. Elphin's: years during which her personality and her high standards in work and in Chapel have meant 'school' to so many girls. In this issue we print one or two comments from those who have had personal contact with her in different capacities during those years. We wish her many years of health and happiness.

With her goes the well-loved personality of Miss Gregson whose work as former Director of Music has meant so much to the music of the School and whose help since that time has been so readily given whenever occasion arose. With her, too, goes the sprightly figure of Charles, her dachshund, who has grown to maturity here, under the academic eye, and who can be relied upon to see that his lady keeps fit enough to take him rabbit-chasing over the hills of Westmorland or Wales. Long may she be able to do so!

That heartening day of warm sunshine on which the school set off for half-term, the complacent recollection of rainless Ascension Day picnics, and the glorious sunshine of Confirmation Day for twenty-nine candidates and their parents seem literally antediluvian in the light of the

subsequent downpour in this region.

In such weather, the school has enjoyed the customary selection of talks and Common Room Concerts reported elsewhere. The House Drama Competition was of uniformly high standard, alike in choice of play, in acting, and in costume and setting. The winning House this year was Fletcher with an impressive and lively production of "Christmas in the Market Place". The Music Competition transformed the school for a time into 'a nest of singing birds' whose songs the staff were privileged to hear at the adjudication by Mr. Mosely of Lady Manners School. This year's Gymnastics Contest was made unusually lively by the free choice of agility exercises and was judged by Mrs. Westbrook of Matlock Training College as a highly creditable achievement all round.

Guides and Brownies have been active in cooking savoury suppers under camping conditions, in amassing new proficiency badges and in raising the general level of Company efficiency by training for Patrol Leaders. A new 'flight' of Brownies has recently grown up into fully

fledged Guides.

In a very delightful social evening, the Staff met Miss Robinson, the Headmistress elect, and fully appreciated the variety of her interests outside the academic field. But we must regretfully say farewell to some familiar colleagues: to Miss Hurst, the Biology mistress who leaves to be married, and whose skill and interest in Swimming and Dancing have proved invaluable to the School; to Miss Grey, whose artistic gifts have been used in dramatic productions as well as in class and whose finished performance in Country Dancing has been at the service of the school; to Mile. Chevrier whom most regretfully we must allow to return to her native land; to Miss Watson, one of those rare beings in schools these days, a Physics mistress. The affection of the Juniors will go with the cheerful Miss Felton. Our good wishes go with them all.

Last term saw the departure for Australia of Mrs. Sparkes for so long a Head Matron whose kindly interest in the welfare of the school ensures grateful remembrance from Staff and girls alike. We say 'farewell' to these colleagues, not 'goodbye' as to all girls who leave us this year, hoping to welcome them when they return to visit, as their predecessors

have done.

### THANKS

We should like to thank all the Schools which have been good enough to send us copies of School Magazines.

# LETTER OF THE HEADMISTRESS

May 31st, 1958.

My dear Old Girls,

The week-end Reunion at School was a very happy time as always, with thirty Old Girls in residence and others coming in during the week-end. It was made memorable by the dedication of the Book of Remembrance which is now on the side Altar in Chapel. We were so glad to have Fr. Dibben to take our services and to dedicate the Book. It is a really magnificent book with the school coat of arms on the cover and the names beautifully inscribed within. We owe a lot to Mrs. Carmichael for finding us an artist like Mr. Foster to undertake the work. He took such an interest in it and made a special visit to see the Chapel so that he could get an idea of the setting. The school appreciates it very much and the Sacristans turn over a page every week.

This was, of course, my last Reunion as Headmistress of St. Elphin's so I was especially glad that Miss Flood was able to be present. Her friendship has meant a great deal to me and it was so very nice that it was she who presented me with that cheque from you all. It is most kind and generous of you. Thank you very much indeed. It will be a great help towards making a garden at 2, The Helm, Windermere, out of what is now a wilderness of rocks and ground-elder. I hope that many of you will come to see me there and

enjoy the garden you are helping me to make. You will be warmly welcomed.

My time at St. Elphin's has been so happy and full of absorbing interest. It is a great School with splendid traditions and I realise how privileged I have been to direct it for the last seventeen years. I have now got quite a large body of my own Old Girls which is very delightful, but I do want to send a word of thanks to those who were Old Girls when I came and who have always welcomed me with such kindness and friendliness.

I am very happy to hand over to Miss Robinson, who seems to me to be completely in the tradition of our school. She has already met some of you at a party arranged by Alex Berwick at Mrs. Bird's house and wrote to tell me what a delightful time it was.

Don't forget the Sale on September 27th, the last Saturday in September, and make it a wonderful start-off for Miss Robinson by contributing to it and turning up for it if you can possibly manage to do so.

I hope I shall see many of you on Speech Day, July 19th, when our Guest of Honour will be the Duke of Devonshire, who is both a Governor and a Parent.

God bless you all.

Ever yours affectionately,

E. E. STOPFORD.

### THE HEADMISTRESS

I COUNT it a great privilege to write an appreciation for the School Magazine of Miss Stopford's work for St. Elphin's. Miss Stopford came to the School in 1941 after a wide experience in England and overseas. We were then facing the most critical period of the Second World War. Many new problems had to be solved in addition to all the normal responsibilities of running a Boarding School. It was no easy task but Miss Stopford faced them with calm determination, sure

judgement and good sense.

At the end of the War a new crop of problems arose and the School with a long established tradition had to be fitted into the greatly changed post-war world. Here again the Headmistress showed the same sterling qualities. The number of pupils increased, new buildings were erected but most important of all there was a steady improvement in the academic standards of the School. The work of the Head of any School must of necessity be assessed by a three-fold standard—the relations with Staff, Parents and Pupils. Miss Stopford showed great gifts of judgement in the selection of her Staff and she inspired in them loyalty, devotion and a determination to give of their best. In her relationship with the Parents she combined sympathy, tact and a readiness to try and understand the parents' point of view but always kept before her what she deemed to be the best interests of the child.

What Miss Stopford has meant to the pupils who have come under her care, interest and influence is not easy to put into words but the epithet that I have heard applied to the School on so many occasions by so many people has been "happy". This I think is the greatest tribute to Miss Stopford's wonderful work for the girls. Discipline there must be but the yoke was made as easy as possible. There was great sympathy and a real understanding and there are many Old Girls who will always be grateful for the all-giving help they received during their school-days. But the real secret of Miss Stopford's work and influence is to be found in the Chapel and its Services, in the religious instruction she gave and in the example of a sincere and faithful Christian. She will carry into well-earned retirement the memory of a work well-done and the assurance that she hands to her successor a tradition greatly enhanced by her devoted service to a grateful School.

A. SELWYN BEAN (Chairman, Board of Governors.)

## RECOLLECTIONS OF MISS STOPFORD

ONE September afternoon in 1944, I was sitting amidst my trunks in the room assigned to me in Bottom Orchards, having just arrived to begin my first term at St. Elphin's. As I had recently returned to England from eleven years' work in India, I felt chilly and bewildered. There was a knock on the door: it was Miss Stopford, bringing me a box of matches. She thought that I might find Derbyshire cold after Madras, and that I might have no matches to light the gas fire. Her kindness at once made me feel at home, and during my seven years as a member of her staff, I came to realise how characteristic that action had been, how alert she has always been to our individual needs, how ready to do her best to meet them.

We have always been able to count on her help and support in both professional and personal matters. My first year or so at the school, I was often troubled at my lack of experience in teaching English schoolgirls; and I felt that I could go to Miss Stopford with complete confidence that she would give me the guidance I needed, and would regard my failures and errors with sympathy and forbearance, showing me how they could be either undone or over-ruled for good.

Miss Stopford's detachment and humility have been of great value to the school. She has given her staff wise leadership; not forcing her ideas upon us, but giving us the freedom to express our own, to bring them up for discussion in staff-meetings and to devise means of carrying them out.

Perhaps one of her greatest services to the school has been her relating of the worship in the School Chapel to the life of the parish and, indeed, of the Church in all the world. In a boarding-school, religion can become too exclusively associated with the Chapel, but this has not happened at St. Elphin's under Miss Stopford's leadership. By her choice of books for the Chapel Library, by those of her own she has lent us, by the wide range and well-ordered sequence of subjects for intercession, by inviting people from many places and spheres of work to speak to the school, and by associating the school with the activities of the parish church, she has done much to give both girls and staff a better understanding of the nature and purpose of the Church.

MARGARET HUNT (St. Elphin's, 1944-51).

### MISS GREGSON

MISS GREGSON is so much a part of St. Elphin's that it is very difficult to imagine the school without her. To many Old Girls she will best be remembered as the Organist and Head of the Music staff when nearly all girls were taught by her, either in class singing or Chapel practice. Many, too, will remember her productions of Gilbert and Sullivan Operas—at one time almost an annual event.

When she ceased to be a full-time member of staff Miss Gregson gave up her class teaching but retained a large number of piano pupils and still taught the VIth Form for G.C.E. Advanced Level Music. By a happy coincidence, one of her most recent Advanced Level pupils

takes her Final Degree examination in Music this year.

Though her contacts with the girls as pupils have been more limited latterly, Miss Gregson has remained a very well-known figure for other reasons. First, there has been her dog. This has changed in breed and sex throughout the years, but has continued to be a great source of interest. With these faithful creatures she must have walked innumer-

able miles, and is an expert guide to the locality.

Then there have been her cars. Anything which will move seems to hold no fears for Miss Gregson and though we have never heard of her driving a bus, she seems to have tackled most forms of transport. At one time, we understand, she used either four legs or two wheels—but more recently it has generally been rather an ancient car which she has driven as though it was the latest model. Polly' was for some time the only vehicle on the school premises except the school lorry. Other members of staff have quailed at the thought of the journeys attempted—and achieved—often in ghastly weather conditions, but Greg has continued unperturbed and cheerful, wondering what all the fuss was about!

Any who have been pupils of Miss Gregson's will realise how much of their own success has been due to her love of music and high standard of work, to her encouragement and her infinite patience. They will know, too, her keen interest in them as individuals and in everything connected with the school. Many who have not been her pupils will miss her humour and friendliness and much personal kindness; but all will join in wishing Miss Gregson happiness in her retirement and will remember her time at St. Elphin's with gratitude and affection.

CATHERINE JASPER

### GRAMOPHONE CLUB

DURING the past year our attendance numbers have decreased, but we have had some very enjoyable meetings under the leadership of Miss Harrison to whom we are very grateful for giving up so much of her spare time.

This year we have been able to add to our collection of records, two of Tchaikovsky's Symphonies, a selection of music by Gilbert and

Sullivan and Die Walküre by Wagner.

Committee: C. Lunn, E. Busby (1957), R. Young, M. Wilde, A. Buxton.

### SUCCESSES IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

### Entrance to University and College

### FORM VIa

Entrance to Southampton University. Suzanne Silk

SCIENCE.

Susanne Blackwall . . Entrance to Portsmouth Training College.

TEACHING.

Ann Lomas Entrance to Manchester College of Music and

Drama.

### Northern Universities Joint Matriculation Board General Certificate of Education, 1957 Passes at Advanced Level

### FORM VI

English, History (Ord.). Susanne Blackwall . .

Ann Lomas .. English, Geography, History (Ord.). Suzanne Silk .. Chemistry, Botany and Zoology.

# Passes at Ordinary Level

FORM VI (additional subjects)

Chemistry, Botany and Zoology. Elizabeth Bourne ...

Arlene Bailey Scripture and Art. Margaret Cartledge Geography. Geography. Judith Coulter ...

Joyce Elgar .. .. English Language and Physiology.

Ann Fisk ... .. Scripture.

Norma Goodwin . . Physiology.
Diana Hughes . . Geography and Mathematics.

.. Scripture. Mary Keal ...

Geography and Chemistry. Physiology. Christine Line

Elizabeth Morley

English Language and Scripture. Kate Mosscrop ...

Mary Reeman .. French.

Anne Roberts .. Biology and Domestic Science.

Joy Shorland-Ball . . Chemistry.

Margaret Smart .. Latin and Chemistry. Gillian Street .. Physics and Chemistry.

Judith Tuckwell .. French. Helen Wright Physiology. . .

### FORM UPPER V

The following have passed in four or more subjects:

**Judith Barker** Monica Prior-Egerton

Elizabeth Busby Iill Randle Charlotte Ratcliffe Diane Clarke

Mary Else Jillian Ratcliffe Frances Flint Susan Talent Rosemary Goward Jacqueline Watson Josephine Harris **Judith Watson** 

Judith Hick Anne Howard Judy Ireland Anthea Johnson Mary Wilde Judith Woolliscroft Rosalind Young

### FORM MIDDLE Va

Emma Cavendish .. Mathematics. Jean Geikie .. Mathematics. Elisabeth Ward .. Mathematics.

# Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

**Grade I.** Susan Darlington, Pass; Jennifer de Gruyther, Pass; Elizabeth Mullet, Pass; Julia Coke-Steel, Pass with Merit; Diana Llewellyn, Pass with Merit; Rosalind Seville, Pass with Merit.

Grade II. Jane Bailey, Pass; Monica Brammer, Pass; Imogen Earle, Pass; Moira Gillespie, Pass; Susan Pidcock, Pass; Barbara Riley, Pass; Penelope Street, Pass; Rachel Taggart, Pass; Joyce Tanner, Pass; Kathleen Williams, Pass.

**Grade III.** Faith Beard, Pass with Merit; Ann Coburn, Pass; Catherine Fielding, Pass with Distinction; Ursula Hunter, Pass; Susan Mackenzie, Pass with Merit; Erica Speakman, Pass.

Grade IV. Joy Mathison, Pass with Merit; Susan Granger, Pass; Rosemary Green, Pass; Anne Hodson, Pass; Elizabeth Wass, Pass.

Higher: Grade V. Rosemary Thornton, Pass.

Intermediate: Grade VI. Marguerita Knowles, Pass; Helen Wright, Pass.

Advanced: Grade VII. Cecilia Lunn, Pass.

### Organ

Higher: Grade V. Helen Wright, Pass with Merit.

# Theory of Music

Higher: Grade V. Maria McBarnet, Pass; Rosemary Thornton, Pass.

### Guildhall School of Music and Drama Elocution

Preliminary. Penelope Garside, Pass; Pauline Whittington, Pass.

Grade I. Ruth Dean, Pass; Joanna Granger, Pass; Celia Jephson, Pass; Anne Lavin, Pass; Charlotte Macqueen, Pass; Felicity Pemberton, Pass; Patience Tuckwell, Pass.

Grade III. Helen Brown, Pass; Rosemary Green, Pass; Marguerita Knowles, Pass; Catherine Spencer-Richford, Pass; Joyce Tanner, Pass.

**Grade IV.** Judith Hick, Pass with Merit; Anthea Johnson, Pass with Merit; Elizabeth Morley, Pass.

Grade IVA. Judith Watson, Pass with Merit; Judith Allan, Pass; Judith Molyneaux, Pass.

Grade V. Margaret Smart, Pass with Honours.

Grade VI. Ann Lomas, Pass with Merit.



Miss Stopford on Confirmation Day

## THE SCHOOL CHAPEL, 1957-58

THE School Chapel has, as usual, played an important part in the life of the school, and during the year a number of special services

have taken place.

The Harvest Festival was held on October 22nd and was conducted by the school Chaplain, the Rev. T. P. Symonds. The Chapel was decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables which were later sent to the local hospitals. At the end of the Christmas Term we had the Service of the Nine Lessons and this year it was attended by several Old Girls.

The Lent Talks were given by the Rev. Canon Cross; these were

both interesting and instructive.

The Confirmation took place on Wednesday 28th May when twentynine girls were confirmed by the Bishop of Derby. This year the Quiet Day will be held on July 12th: it will be conducted by the Rev. Paul Ashwin, now working for S.P.G.; some Old Girls may remember him when he was Vicar of St. Anne's, Derby.

We were very sorry to hear during the Christmas Term that Father Ball, who had been coming regularly to the school for six years from Kelham, had to discontinue his visits as he had been appointed Rector of Averham, near Newark. Father Ball has been a very good friend to

the school. His place has been taken by Father Horner.

For the efficient way in which Chapel activities are organised, we must thank the Staff Sacristans, Miss Jasper, Miss Lamb and Miss L. Thompson.

MARY REEMAN VIa.

Sacristans.—J. Shorland-Ball, M. R. Sockett, J. Tuckwell, J. Molyneaux, E.Morley, M. Reeman, M. Egerton, J. Hick, J. Watson, J. Randle, J. Woolliscroft, C. Lunn,.

Servers.—J. Elgar, E. Morley, A. Mosscrop, M. Reeman, M. Egerton, J. Randle, J. Watson, E. Busby, J. Woolliscroft, C. Lunn, J. Hick, J. Geikie, D. Owen, J. Tomlinson, J. Dixon.

### THE KENNEDY LIBRARY

ON reviewing the problem of accommodation in the Kennedy Library, we were faced with the urgent need for new shelving if books are not to be injured from overcrowding. Mr. Palfreyman, who has already erected three new sections to the left of the door, has undertaken to erect new shelving where space permits under the windows on the wall opposite the door. This extension should be ready for our return in September when some recent gifts of books can be made available for use.

The Senior Librarian during the Christmas and Spring Terms has begun the heavy task of writing up a new Accessions Register which we hope to complete for next term.

The Art section has had, as a much appreciated leaving gift from Adrienne Wilson, a volume of Great Paintings in British Art Galleries;

and we have in addition, purchased an attractive series of small books, each illustrating the work of one modern artist; these contain very

good French prints of the pictures chosen.

As the whole of Upper V have chosen to do evening preparation in the Library, it is now much in use and thanks and credit are due to the members of the Committee for their care in keeping the Library in silence for study, and in seeing to the condition of books in their respective sections.

We should like to take this opportunity to thank all donors of books to the Kennedy Library and to assure them that they are much

appreciated.

Kennedy Library Committee: Head Librarians—Norma Goodwin, (Autumn and Spring Terms). Joy Shorland-Ball (Summer Term). Committee—Mary Rose Sockett, Judith Molyneaux, Judith Hick, Jacqueline Watson, Mary Else, Mary Hilsden, Anne Howard.

## **MUSICAL ACTIVITIES, 1958**

THIS year we have had three recitals, fewer perhaps than in previous years, but all given by very distinguished musicians, whom we felt very privileged to hear. In the Christmas Term, Evelyn Rothwell, the wife of Sir John Barbirolli, and herself a celebrated oboist, gave us a very enjoyable recital. Later that term Florence Hooten, the 'cellist, paid her second visit to the school, and in the spring term a most interesting piano recital was given by Professor Reginald Paul.

The choir have been to two Choir festivals organised by the Royal School of Church Music, one in Derby Cathedral and the other in St. John's Church, Ilkeston. These festivals consist of a rehearsal in the afternoon for all the choir and Evensong in the evening. They are usually very much enjoyed by the choir, who otherwise rarely have a

chance to sing with other choirs.

The annual visit to Morley Parish Church will take place this year on June 11th, when the choir will sing the Communion Service for the annual meeting of the additional Curates Society.

A concert was included again in the programme for the Fête at the beginning of the Autumn Term. Two performances were given, each

of which was very well attended.

"Miss Harrison's Concert" at the end of the Spring term was the scene of the first performance of the school orchestra, which under Miss Worthy's guidance had reached a much higher standard during the year. However, well received as it was by the school, its success was rather dimmed by the staff's outstandingly popular rendering of Haydn's Toy Symphony, which explained to the school the reason for the extraordinary noises which used to emerge from the 'Rec' on Tuesday evenings.

Although we were unable to get any tickets for the 'Messiah' this year, a small party of G.C.E. music candidates were able to go to a performance given by the London Mozart Players conducted by Harry Blech, and also to a performance of Faurés 'Requiem' given by the

choir of Lady Manners School, in Bakewell Parish Church.

JUDITH TUCKWELL, VIa.

### HEAD GIRL'S REPORT

WE began the year with a zest for reform, and the first change made was in the detention system. Although the present plan works quite well, we feel there is still room for improvement.

Each House now has a separate room for Preparation with a member of the House Committee in charge. At the moment it is working well

and I hope it will continue to do so.

The Autumn Term seemed considerably shorter than usual as the school was practically bowled over by an epidemic of 'flu' which allowed very few to escape, and the situation was not back to normal for at least a fortnight.

In the Spring Term, Lent fell earlier than usual, thus giving ample scope for enterprising ideas to raise money, which included anything

from a 'Rugger' match to a Panel Game.

We were very sorry to lose Mrs. Sparkes at the end of the Spring Term; she has been invaluable as Head Matron for many years. She

goes to Australia with all the school's good wishes.

The news that Miss Stopford intended to resign came as a great shock to all of us. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her and we hope that the school will continue to do as well as it has done under her leadership. Miss Gregson also leaves this term. She has been in school for very many years and the number of St. Elphin's Old Girls who have known her must number well into the hundreds.

Finally, I should like to thank the prefects and VIa for all the help they have given this year, and to wish my successor and her prefects

the very best of luck.

JUDITH TUCKWELL.

# CRICKET, 1958

THIS year we have an older, and I hope more experienced team. The batting style has improved greatly through practice but the bowling

needs to be more accurate.

We have several fixtures this term, which include Derby Ladies, St. Ronan's and Wilmslow Ladies. Unfortunately the match against the Convent was cancelled because they were unable to play. On Sports Day we hope to hold the annual match against the 'Fathers'.

I hope that this season the weather will not interfere with so many

matches.

MARY REEMAN (Captain).

### Team:

J. Tuckwell A. Savage
H. Wright J. Geikie
P. Goodman, J. Randle,
M. Reeman R. Hill
C. Lunn H. Lunn
J. Watson

### **TENNIS**

THIS year, we began the season with rather more confidence, as we had played a few games at the end of the Spring Term.

We have so far won one match and lost one, but in both, the team played its best and seemed much more at home on the courts than they were last year. We have two away matches next half and we hope to win them, as we should do, if the general standard of play continues to rise.

Captain .. JOY SHORLAND-BALL.
Vice-Captain .. JEAN GEIKIE

#### Team:

M. Knowles C. Tatlock F. Dagger M. Stewardson

## THE MOSCOW FESTIVAL OF YOUTH-1957

LAST summer I had the opportunity to go as a member of the Christian group to the Sixth World Festival of Youth in Moscow. Even when we reached the stage where our visas had come through it still seemed difficult to believe that we were really going to a city which is the focal point of all that is communist.

Before describing Moscow I would insert a word of warning: we were only there for just over a fortnight and therefore what I say is based on impressions gathered in that short time and these impressions are only of Moscow not the whole of that vast and varied territory known as the U.S.S.R. I would also add that the city of Moscow is obviously the showpiece for western visitors and for those coming from other communist countries and to see a city with a sudden increase in its population of 30,000 young people is to see it in unnatural conditions.

In the very centre of Moscow stands the Kremlin. Previously I had thought of it as a large building but I was soon to discover that it was a walled city inside which stands the Czars' Palace, now the seat of the Supreme Soviet, three impressive Cathedrals, now no longer churches but museums, and other buildings housing the priceless treasures from pre-revolution times. Here in the old part is startling colouring, red and yellow walls and the high gilded domes of the cathedrals once carrying crosses. Now the highest point on the Kremlin skyline is taken by the seven red stars mounted high on the buildings and visible far around. The Kremlin wall flanks one side of Red Square and at its foot stands the mausoleum where Lenin and Stalin permanently lie in state. At one end of this huge square stands St. Basil's Cathedral, an exotic asymmetrical creation, at first jarring to the western eye but the sort of building which in time impresses because of its variety of colour and intricacy of design. On the side opposite the Kremlin wall stands 'Gym', the state department store, a vast place which sells everything imaginable. In design it is somewhat like an English covered market with its flagged pavements and corridors.

But the Moscovites are eager despite its ugliness to point out to you their post-revolution building. Usually these buildings lack the vivid colour and attention to detail found in the older ones. At times the massiveness of design becomes oppressive. Huge blocks of flats are being erected at great speed to deal with Moscow's acute housing shortage and, be it noted, this sort of building and construction work is more often done by the women than the men. Another of their newer building schemes has been the development of the underground system. While not as extensive as that in London the journeys made in this way are very different, for at times it is like going on a tour of the stately homes of England as there are chandeliers, mosaics, murals and statues at all the stations. Other impressive new buildings are the university, built in five years since the war on the site of a village on the Lenin Hills and the Dynamo and Lenin Stadiums with all their facilities for sports of many kinds.

As members of the Christian group at the festival naturally one of our aims was to see something of the church life in the city. The main church is the Russian Orthodox Church, still almost mediaeval in its outlook and splendour and treating warily any overtures made to it by such bodies as the World Council of Churches. Attending the Liturgy in one of their cathedrals in which Moscow abounds, was a memorable experience as we found it utterly different from anything we know in this country. Briefly, the idea behind this service is to re-enact the whole life of Christ. This is done by symbolism and a great deal of pageantry. While members of the congregation do not have much part to play in the service itself, they are occupied with their own devotions; yet at the same time their attention is rivetted on the doors in the centre of the icon-covered wall which divides the nave from chancel, waiting for the time when the celebrating priest will appear with the bread and the wine in his hands. Few non-Russians there could fail to be moved by the singing at this service or by the congregation standing over two hours packed as tightly as any football crowd; a crowd which was there not for our benefit for we found the same thing when we visited village churches at odd times during the day. The impression carried away from all the Russian Orthodox Cathedrals and churches is of the way in which not a square inch of wall, ceiling or pillar is left without its icon or crucifix. At first we found it distracting but soon learnt to accept it as the background for a service unsurpassable in colour and ceremonial.

The other church in Moscow of any size is the Baptist Church which has been established there for about 90 years. We found the church meeting in a building very similar to a non-conformist church in this country and their services, too, were of the non-conformist pattern. Like the Russian Orthodox services they lasted at least two hours and contained two or three sermons and several anthems. One evening we were fortunate enough to be present when thirty young people were being baptised and then we learnt that the church adds about 250 new members each year and that only a small handful of these come from Christian homes. We found this building even more packed than the

Russian Orthodox ones as it seats about 2000 and the church membership is over 6000. One privilege which came our way was to be invited out to tea by a family from the Baptist Church and in this way we were able to find out many details of family living and the particular difficulties which confront Christians living in a communist society. From this and other conversations which we had it would be difficult to say that the church at the moment is persecuted although it is more restrained in its out-going activities than it is in our own country. The average church member's attitude to communist society was one of passive acceptance and he thought it little affected the core of his Christian faith.

As a future social worker I was interested to find out what social services were provided for the people and tried to fit in as many visits as possible to hospitals, schools, nurseries and the university. We found at first that our discussion of social problems did not progress very far. We soon learnt that to say 'How do you deal with juvenile delinquents?' only evoked the reply 'Oh, but we don't have them—they are a product of capitalist society!' The way round this was to say, 'Now if a boy aged about twelve years old steals something from a neighbour what happens to him?' After much effort we found that they had committees whose work was comparable with that done by our juvenile courts. One of the most exhausting parts of the festival was just to be in the streets of Moscow, for, the minute you stopped, you were immediately surrounded by a crowd of Russians firing questions about the West, its foreign policy and its standard of living. On the matter of the standard of living we did much to open the eyes of the Russians to the fact of the welfare state in this country. Judging by the questions they asked and the literature which we saw in their book shops they have not yet passed the Dickens stage nor the principles behind the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act in their concept of present day British Social Services.

And finally there are those odd memories which every one has from a journey abroad; one's newly acquired ability to sleep on anything after a three day train journey; the Bolshoi Ballet dancing in flood light in the Dynamo Stadium; the first time we were lost on the underground; the bitterness of much of the Russian art, and dancing the Dashing White Serjeant on the station platform of a Polish Village in the middle of the night, to the delight of the assembled folk who had first shown us some of their national dances.

I hope that many more people have the chance to visit Moscow and other parts of the U.S.S.R. too. For me, the 'Communist' has now become a real person, and communism instead of being a half-feared ideology, a system which is bringing undisputed benefits to large numbers of people, but at a price which we in the West are not prepared to pay; and perhaps the most thrilling part of all was that we were able to make contact with our fellow Christians and come to understand just a little of their difficulties and of their different ways of thinking and worshipping.

EILEEN F. ECKERSALL (St. Elphin's).

# LETTER FROM ST. ANNE'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

AT first Oxford is almost terrifying, for one is catapulted into an entirely new environment, where one knows nobody and must go out and make one's own way. No one cares what you do. Whether you sit in the library all day working, or spend all your time at parties is your own affair. It is marvellous, but at first a little intimidating. But it is amazing how quickly one gets to know people and begins to see the colleges not as historic monuments but living places. The women's colleges, of course, are so new that it is almost humiliating to live there!

It is difficult now to remember what shattered me most when I first came up. Probably the umbrellas. All the men carry huge black, neatly-furled umbrellas, not because Oxford is wetter than anywhere else—it is simply the custom here. They are, of course, very useful, but still rather comic. The other fact which was so surprising, though it shouldn't have been, was the immense number of undergraduates. It was very exciting to find oneself in a society composed almost entirely of people of one's own age, all, apparently, ready to talk and argue for hours on end. This was particularly good for me because by the time one reaches VIa one knows all the standard arguments the other members of the form will bring up on almost any given subject, so my well-worn theories were soon fiercely attacked.

In the Hilary Term we had all the Bomb excitement; one of my friends is a terrific enthusiast, and indeed on the arranging committee, so by the end of term the very last thing I wanted to do was fill in any questionnaire. I also had Prelims, which are the exams one must pass or one is sent down that term, so it was essential to do some work, despite any distractions, though certainly in Oxford, of all places, one is overwhelmingly conscious of the attraction of an academic career and of the value of books and learning. It is the ambition of a large proportion of women undergraduates to marry a Don and remain here! It is true too that one is perhaps apt to be overawed by the glamour of tradition, to sniff the rusty smell of parchment and old books in Duke Humphrey's library and remember the illustrious ghosts who lived here before us.

The Trinity Term is wonderful. I have no exams until finals; the weather on the whole has been good, so I have had a marvellous time. I had no idea that punting was so delighful, but I seem to have spent more time on the river than on land so far! Yesterday four of us went out after tea and went miles up river; we moored the boat just as the sun set, and roasted sausages over a fire. They were a bit smoky, but it was very romantic as we sat in the twilight singing and feeling full-fed and slightly hazy with cider and contentment.

May morning was lovely too. We joined hundreds of other undergraduates on Magdalen Bridge at 5-20 a.m. to hear the canon. Ideally one should have a punt. The river is absolutely solid with people, but unfortunately none of us were lucky in our respective ballots. After

the canon there is Morris dancing, so we rushed up St. Mary's Tower, where one of our party had been stationed to keep us places, and watched from there. When the dancing finished we went and consumed a large breakfast at the Union—and so home to begin the morning's work!

It is very easy to be cynical or lyrical about Oxford, its faults are nearly as obvious as its beauty and virtues, but personally I love it and should hate to be anywhere else. It horrifies me to realise that one year has gone, the next two will seem like five minutes I'm afraid.

Please remember me to the staff, with love to school,

GILL SHORLAND-BALL.

### AN INTERESTING OUTDOOR HOBBY

I HAVE a hobby which I believe is rather unusual now, at least among young people. However, many collect and press wild flowers and that was how I began my present hobby of painting wild flowers. I do not paint them free-hand (that would be far beyond me!) but in a book usually known as 'B and H', which was written about the turn of the century by the botanist, Bentham, and a few years later revised by Hooker, who was knighted for his services to botany.

'B and H' contains small line drawings of about one thousand three hundred plants, including trees, ferns and grasses. It has a handbook giving description of all the plants illustrated; but now, both volumes are sadly out-of-date. Plants such as the beautiful Blue Cornflower and the magenta Corn Cockle are described as rivalling the Poppy in cornfields, whereas they are now very rare; and the tall Indian Balsam, now found almost throughout England, although it was introduced only a few years ago, does not figure at all. However, Collins have recently produced a 'Guide to Wild Flowers' which is an excellent book and very helpful in identifying difficult plants; and a more scientific survey, in several volumes, has just been published by the Oxford University Press.

The Derbyshire Peak District is a veritable treasure-ground of rare, or at least uncommon plants. Perhaps the best known is the beautiful Convallaria or Lily of the Valley, a perfectly named plant which clothes the steep-sided dales in a thick green coat. But the flower which gave me my greatest thrill was undoubtedly the Aquilegia. I knew it grew in Demon's Dale, for my Grandfather, who was a very keen botanizer, had found it there. Thus it was that, with two friends, I set off to explore the Dale last June. We found scores of typical mountain limestone plants as we climbed the bare grassy hill. On top, we found the plateau almost vellow with Mountain Pansy, the largest wild pansy with inch-wide yellow flowers with black and white 'face'. Descending through rocks and small cliffs of the grey limestone, we saw no trace of the nodding purplish-blue flowers I was longing to see. We came across several minor excitements, including a freak white Early Purple Orchid, and then found ourselves with a choice of two paths to take.

After some discussion we took the lower paths, winding round the foot of the cliffs. One of my companions cried out excitedly, and as I saw the nodding flowers high above their blue-green three cleft leaves, I almost shook with excitement. I carefully picked one flower and one leaflet, and placed them in the cumbersome metal vasculum. It was with enormous pleasure that I sat down to paint the flower as carefully and as accurately as I could, and then entered the date and place where it was found.

The Jacob's Ladder is another very beautiful plant which is quite often found as a garden escape but which is very rare in the true wild state. It has foot high flower stems with recesses of deep clear blue flowers, and strange compound primate leaves. I discovered a large colony in Monsol Dale about four years ago, which I visit annually.

Some time ago, a little boy ran into Youlgreave village school holding a bunch of pinks. He cried out to the teacher, "Look, teacher! I've found wild carnations!" He had found the rare Maiden Pink growing in a dale nearby. A girl living in Youlgreave who is a keen botanizer, although she does not paint flowers, heard of this and was shown where the plants grew. I met her through Guides, and this year she is going to take me to see the beautiful little 'carnations', when they are in flower.

The rarest plant I have seen is the Lady's Slipper Orchid. It grows outside a wood, on land farmed by a tenant farmer in Yorkshire. Luckily it is in no danger of being ploughed up as it is on a steep rocky bank. There is one plant, which was discovered when some botanists were holding a Field Day near there, and by a piece of great good luck the plant was flowering, which it very rarely does—we have just heard that it is flowering this year, the first time for many years. Very few people know its exact location, and when my grandfather died, my father was initiated into the secret as soon as he went to Yorkshire. We scrambled for some long way over fields and hills, until the agent announced that we had reached the right bank. He knew that the plant was between a thorn bush and a certain stone, so that we soon found it. It was very obscure, hidden by tall scabious and rank grass, but on close examination, one could see how different it was. I believe there are only about four plants left in the country so that I am very lucky to have an almost unique opportunity of seeing the plant, although less rare ones have given me many greater thrills.

The rarest flower I have ever found for myself is the Kidney Saxifrage which grows only in the extreme south-west of Ireland. I found it by a stream in County Kerry; a beautiful plant, similar to London Pride but with long-stalked, round leaves.

Last year I found several mountain and sea-shore plants in Scotland. None were really rare, but the completely different environment which one finds there obviously encourages plants which I had never seen before, as they grow only in mountainous or sea-side districts. That is one of the joys of botanizing—in a new district, whether on holiday or not, one finds new plants. I once found a new plant while waiting for a train at six in the morning outside Glasgow!

## HOUSE REPORTS, 1957-58

GRESFORD

CAPTAIN: Mary Reeman, VIa.

VICE-CAPTAIN: Jacqueline Watson, VIb

COMMITTEE: Anne Mosscrop; Judith Barker; Adrienne Wilson; Jean

Geikie; Anne Hodson.

WORK: Second.

DRAMA: (Captain, Jacqueline Watson) 2nd. MUSIC: (Captain, Adrienne Wilson) 4th. SPORTS: (Captain, Jacqueline Watson) 3rd. GYMNASTICS: (Captain, Mary Reeman). 1st. HOCKEY: (Captain, Mary Reeman). 1st.

NETBALL SENIOR: (Captain, Mary Reeman). 1st.

NETBALL JUNIOR: (Captain, P. Watson, Coach, R. Leeper). 2nd.

CRICKET: (Captain, Mary Reeman). 1st.

BADMINTON: (Captain, Jacqueline Watson). Not placed.

ROUNDERS: (Captain, Ruth Leeper, Coach, Jean Geikie). 2nd.

TENNIS: Not placed.

### **FLETCHER**

CAPTAIN: Gillian Street, VIa. VICE-CAPTAIN: Mary Else, VIb.

COMMITTEE: Anne Howard, Vivienne Seldon, Margaret MacDonald, Meuros Dobson.

WORK: 1st.

DRAMA: (Captain, A. Howard). 1st. Music: (Captain, Mary Else). 5th.

SPORTS: (Captain, Suzanne Blackwall). 4th.

GYMNASTICS: (Captain, Gillian Street). Not placed.

HOCKEY: (Captain, Vivienne Seldon). 2nd.

NETBALL SENIOR: (Captain, Meuros Dobson). 2nd.
NETBALL JUNIOR: (Captain, Annette Hall). Not placed.

CRICKET: (Captain, Vivienne Seldon). Not placed. TENNIS: (Captain, Gillian Street). Not placed. BADMINTON: (Captain, Jacq. Gascoyne). 1st. ROUNDERS: (Captain, Gillian Street). 3rd.

#### KENNEDY

CAPTAIN: Mary Rose Sockett (Autumn and Spring).

VICE CAPTAINS: Joyce Elgar (Spring and Summer); Rosalind Young. COMMITTEE: Judith Woolliscroft, Rosemary Hill, Francis Robertson, Lyn Kime.

DRAMA: (Captain, Mary Rose Sockett). Not placed. MUSIC: (Captain, M. R. Sockett, J. Elgar). 2nd.

SPORTS: (Captain, Diana Hughes). 1st.

HOCKEY: (Captain, M. R. Sockett, J. Woolliscroft). Not placed.

NETBALL SENIOR: (Captain, R. Hill). Not placed. NETBALL JUNIOR: (Captain, S. Howard). 1st.

CRICKET: (Captain, Margaret Cartledge). Not placed. TENNIS: (Captain, M. R. Sockett). Not placed.

BADMINTON: (Captain, R. Young). Not placed. ROUNDERS: (Captain, Sandra Allen). Not placed.

GYMNASTICS: (Captain, P. Goodwin, J. Elgar). Not judged.

### **POWYS**

CAPTAIN: Judith Tuckwell, VIa.

VICE-CAPTAINS: E. Morley, VIa; J. Molyneaux, VIa.

COMMITTEE: Judith Hick, Judy Ireland, Anne Savage, Susan Tock.

WORK: 4th.

DRAMA: (Captain, J. Tuckwell). 3rd. MUSIC: (Captain, J. Tuckwell). 1st. SPORTS: (Captain, J. Hick). 4th.

GYMNASTICS: (Captain, E. Morley). 6th.

HOCKEY: (Captain, J. Tuckwell). 3rd.

NETBALL SENIOR: (Captain, E. Morley). Not placed. NETBALL JUNIOR: (Captain, E. Speakman). Not placed.

CRICKET: (Captain, J. Tuckwell). 2nd. TENNIS: (Captain, E. Bourne). 2nd.

BADMINTON: (Captains, J. Tuckwell, J. Morley). 2nd.

ROUNDERS: (Captain, A. Thomas). Not placed.

### SELWYN

CAPTAIN: Joy Shorland-Ball, VIa. VICE-CAPTAIN: Jill Randle, VIb.

COMMITTEE: H. Wright, M. Egerton, S. Talent, M. Wilde, E. Wass, J. Dixon.

WORK: 3rd.

DRAMA: (Captain, J. Shorland-Ball). 3rd

MUSIC: (Captain, H. Wright). 3rd. SPORTS: (Captain, M. Wilde). 2nd.

GYMNASTICS: (Captain, H. Wright, M. Knowles). 4th.

HOCKEY: (Captain, H. Wright). Not placed.

NETBALL SENIOR: (Captain, H. Wright, M. Knowles).

NETBALL JUNIOR: (Captain, P. Storer). 4th.

CRICKET: (Captains, H. Wright, J. Coulter). Not placed.

TENNIS: (Captain, Joy Shorland-Ball). 1st.

BADMINTON: (Captains, J. Shorland-Ball, S. Talent). 1st.

ROUNDERS: (Captain, M. Heelis). Not placed.

### WILSON

CAPTAIN: Cecilia Lunn, VIb.

VICE-CAPTAINS: Jillian Ratcliffe (1957); Hillary Toy (1958).

COMMITTEE: Audrey Buxton, Christine Tatlock, Maria McBarnet, UV.

WORK: Autumn Term, 6th; Spring Term, 6th.

Music: (Captain, C. Lunn, Vice-Captain, S. A. Shannon). 6th.

DRAMA: (Captain, J. Ratcliffe). Not placed. GYMNASTICS: (Captain, C. Tatlock).

HOCKEY: (Captain, C. Tatlock, Vice-Captain, C. Lunn). Not placed. NETBALL SENIOR: (Captains, S. A. Shannon, M. Lund). Not placed. NETBALL JUNIOR: (Captain, M. Brammer, Vice-Captain, A. Eliott).

TENNIS: (Captain, J. Ratcliffe, Vice-Captain, C. Tatlock). Not placed.

CRICKET: (Captains, C. Ratcliffe, C. Lunn). 2nd. BADMINTON: (Captains, J. Ratcliffe, C. Lunn). 3rd.

ROUNDERS: (Captain, J. Howe). 3rd.

# **REUNION AT DARLEY DALE, APRIL 1958**

BY the kind invitation of Miss Stopford, a very delightful reunion was held at the School during the week-end of 26th to 28th April. Personally I enjoyed every minute of it, thanks to the very great care that was taken of me both for the journey and at the School where Miss Stopford and her staff did everything for my comfort. My transport was generously arranged for me by Miss Thouless, Alix Berwick and Stella Allen by means of their cars and other hospitality.

On Saturday evening Miss Stopford invited me to take Evensong in the Chapel, which was a great privilege, and May Richardson read the lesson most beautifully. Some of us enjoyed a glass of sherry with Miss Stopford and were most interested to hear from Dorothea Trott of the interview she had had with the Empress of Japan, and to see the decoration she had received from the Emperor (through the Mayor of Tokyo) for her long services to education in a Japanese School. There was a short business meeting after supper at which various suggestions were put forward which will be officially considered at the October Annual General Meeting. As representative of the Old Girls I had the pleasure of presenting to Miss Stopford a cheque for £55 as a small token of our affection and our gratitude for all she has done for us, not only for those who were her own special 'children', but for all generations of Old Girls. I have every reason myself to appreciate a ready welcome from her at all times. At the same time it was a sorrowful task to be saying good-bye to her as Headmistress of St. Elphin's and as our Headmistress-Hostess. Still we know we shall meet her from time to time at our reunions, and we wish her every happiness in her retirement. Miss Stopford in thanking us, pleased us very much by saying at once that our gift would be used to turn the waste land round her new home in Windermere into a garden. It is a lovely thought that she should have a St. Elphin's Old Girls' garden.

On Sunday we were fortunate in having Canon Dibben with us as our Chaplain for the early Communion at 8.15 a.m. and the Sung Eucharist at 10.00, with Miss Gregson as organist supported by a strong choir at the latter service. Canon Dibben gave us an inspiring address on 'Vision', the Vision of Love: he referred to the vision of those who had served the School from its foundation to the present day. The vision was handed on from generation to generation, and was to be the inspiration of all members of the school when they passed from their school days to follow out their vocations. At the beginning of the Sung Eucharist the Book of Remembrance was blessed and placed on the small side Altar. Together with it was blessed the lovely little hand-made lectern to hold it, the gift of Miss Stopford.

The Book itself has been beautifully made. The cover is of blue leather with the school crest in gold, and the lettering of the names on very 'superb' paper, is exquisite. In fact the whole craftsmanship is of a fine order, for which we thank the craftsman Mr. Foster, whom Margaret Carmichael (née Houghton) found for us. The names recorded

are those of the Founder, Benefactors and Friends, Headmistresses, Members of Staff and Old Girls, and are as accurately entered as far

as my information went to the end of 1957.

As you may remember the idea of the Book arose in connection with the deaths of Christine Ogle (torpedoed) and Mary Wright (killed in air-raid) during the war. A carpet was given for the Sanctuary in the School Chapel in their memory, and there was a balance of £25 to be expended later. This is the money which has been used for the Book of Remembrance and with a special gift of £1 a few weeks ago, has exactly covered the cost. For the future it is hoped that the Book can be kept accurately, and as far as members of staff and old girls are concerned, it is requested that in the event of a death occurring amongst their number, the friends who know of it, should notify the Old Girls' secretaries who will pass on the information to the Headmistress.

I had to leave the school after lunch on Sunday with Miss Thouless and Alix Berwick, both of whom had to return to their work, but the actual reunion continued until Monday morning, and I am sure the

time would pass pleasantly and all too quickly.

I cannot really express in words the joy it was to me to be once more at St. Elphin's among friends of so many generations and with Miss Stopford once more as my hostess. I am only just beginning to 'come to earth' after the lapse of a week!

3rd May 1958.

MARGARET L. FLOOD.

# SECRETARIES' NOTES

AFTER 17 years at St. Elphin's, we have the sad task of saying goodbye to Miss Stopford as Headmistress. All who have the welfare of the School at heart will be grateful to her for the way in which she not only maintained the best traditions of the School, but has built upon them. Those who had the good fortune to be at St. Elphin's during her time will always remember with thankfulness her influence for good, her determination for righteousness and her many kindnesses to them both as girls under her care and also as Old Girls. At the Old Girls' reunion in April a cheque for £55 was presented to Miss Stopford as a token of the Old Girls recongnition of her good work and of their affection and esteem for her. We wish her many happy years of retirement, and look forward to seeing her at all our Old Girls' functions.

Now a few points of business. At the London reunion last October it was decided that, in order to save time and expense, the responsibilities of sub-secretaries should be dispensed with, and that all correspondence in future would be dealt with by us. Many thanks to all sub-secretaries who have so willingly undertaken their duties in the past.

It was also decided at the meeting that Whit Sunday should be a day of intercession when Old Girls are asked to remember the School.

Please make a special note of this.

We are all most grateful to Miss Flood for compiling the Book of Remembrance which, when you see it, you will realise the time and energy it has entailed on her part. It was blessed in the School Chapel on Sunday, 27th April. We are also very grateful to Miss Stopford for the beautiful lectern she has given for the Book to rest on.

Our A.G.M. will be held in London on Saturday, 11th October 1958, at the Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, at 2.30, and we look forward to welcoming as many Old Girls as possible to meet Miss Robinson.

MARY SAPWELL.
BARBARA WARD.
Joint Hon. Secretaries, S.E.O.G.G.

### **47 YEARS AGO**

ON offering to S.P.G. for missionary work in 1910, I wrote "China, Japan, or other Eastern country"; and when I was called to S.P.G. House for the interview, I was introduced to Miss Weston from Tokyo. She was looking for a teacher who would undertake the teaching of the English language in a school founded by the Emperor Meiji "for the pursuit of the English Language and Culture". Miss Weston herself was the English mistress at the Peeresses' School (attended only by the princesses and highest-born in the land) and she had founded Sei Mariya Kwan—St. Mary's House—as a Christian hostel for schoolgirls, exactly opposite her school. At that time there were 16 girls, attending different high schools, and a staff of two Japanese ladies and six "foreigners", among whom I was to take the place of one just transferred to the S.P.G. School in Kobe.

I had to finish out the school year at Low Wood where I was teaching, but arranged to start for Tokyo, by the Liberian Ry., with a small party, leaving near the end of August. And what a rush it was to collect my outfit! The journey of 11 days was a great thrill—on the 7th September I began to take my first classes in English at the school, as well as starting lessons in the Japanese language—a study which never ends, for I hardly ever can read a Japanese letter, even a carefully

written one, without recourse to a dictionary.

In those days there were less than 300 pupils. Now there are 2,200 in High School alone, with Primary School and University (4 year

course) attached.

From the beginning, my contract promised me free permission to teach Christianity in my own home, on condition I did not teach it in class. One new headmaster questioned the possibility of teaching English Literature without Christianity. I told him it was quite true that our Literature was Christian in tone—and I invited him to attend a Fifth Form lesson on King Arthur, or the Sixth Form lesson on Wordsworth. He came several times to both, and said how interesting it all was—and it was "good for the girls".

After the War, when I went back and had to live far from school, the same headmaster offered me any class-room I liked for my Bible lessons out of school hours, i.e., at 7.30 a.m. (before school), or in the dinner-hour. By the time I left, there were about 70 to 80 girls attending these lessons regularly. There is no one to carry on, though I have been begging C.M.S. and S.P.G., to send a successor—for years—but no

answer has come to the Call.

DOROTHEA E. TROTT.

### LETTER OF THANKS

AS I could only thank personally the comparatively few Old Girls who were at the last London Reunion for the perfectly lovely—and completely unexpected!—present you gave me on my resignation as Treasurer of the O.G.G., this is the only way I can say 'thank you' to everyone, somewhat belatedly, I'm afraid, but no less sincerely.

Both the present—a Parker 51 pen and pencil set, and a fitted leather writing case—are in constant use, and never fail to remind me of your kindness and generosity, and of the fifteen years I can honestly

say I enjoyed as your Treasurer.

I cannot think of anyone I would rather have to succeed me than Elizabeth Lavender, and I wish her as happy a term of office as I had.

MARY D. GOODMAN.

### In Memoriam

Hilda Mary Giles, 1872-1957 Emily Frances Giles, 1877-1957.

ON May Day 1958 homage was paid in Chester Cathedral to two sisters who for over thirty years were known and loved for their devotion and services to God and their fellow-beings in that ancient city.

It was with deep pride that Dorothea Trott and I attended the service as two Old Girls of St. Elphin's paying tribute to two older Old Girls who must have been pupils at the School in Warrington some time between 1885 and 1895. They had certainly left before Miss Kennedy became Headmistress in September 1896.

Hilda and Emily were the two youngest of twelve children of the Rev. William Theophilus Giles and his wife Rebecca Frances. The pilgrim to Chester will find a stained glass memorial window in the cloisters with all their names recorded on a panel below the figure of

St. Giles.

Our two sisters founded a school in the Abbey Square in Chester, Emily teaching music and Hilda general subjects. This school lives today as the Abbey Gate School. Unfortunately all their good works cannot be recorded here—suffice it to say that they are chiefly remembered for their labours of love in connection with the Children's Corner. Also the Christmas Crib and Easter Garden portrayed with exquisite care and great natural beauty on the steps leading up to the West door of the Cathedral. It is interesting to note that the Corner was the first in England, Dean Bennett having developed the idea from a miniature one he had in his former Church at Hawarden in Flintshire.

Emily and Hilda died within six weeks of each other in the February and April respectively of 1957, and on the 1st May 1958 the Dean of Chester blessed a stone set into one of the steps near the entrance to the Children's Corner. An inscription reads: "In Memory of Hilda Mary Giles who for over thirty years made the Christmas Crib and Easter Garden on these steps and tended the Children's Corner, and of her sisters Charlotte Christine and Emily Frances Giles. 1957".

Requiescant in Pace.

MARGARET CARMICHAEL.

### GAMES REPORT

ON Speech Day the usual tennis match against the School 1st VI was played. We were very short of time so had to play the best of nine games against each couple instead of the normal long set. After a close and enjoyable match the result was a win for the O.G.'s by 5 sets to 4.

In the autumn term I had great difficulty in raising a hockey team, and should like to say again that it would be a great help if O.G.'s would reply promptly when invited to play. Our team had to be completed by three present pupils. I gather that the match was enjoyed by the players, though the final result was an 8—3 victory for the 1st XI.

I should like to arrange a hockey match for the autumn term and a tennis match on Speech Day, and hope that we shall be able to raise

full teams for both these matches.

SALLY C. HITCHEN.

### SOUTH-WEST GROUP OF THE O.G.G.

THIS Group consisting of former members of staff and old girls who cannot manage to attend reunions in London or at Darley Dale has proved a very successful and happy 'get-together' for those who live 'down West'. We started with only a few members. Letty Marris (née Farmer) was untiring in her efforts to 'ferret' out any possible S.W. old girls, and gradually we have grown to number 40. We have met every year since 1950 at Exeter or Taunton, and now have a Committee with myself as President, Dorothy Fitch (née Shaw) Vice-President, Stella Allen Secretary, Marjorie Gardener (née Longden),

Marjorie Nicol and Letty Marris as Committee Members.

By special invitation of one of our members we had a most marvellous lunch at the Great Western Hotel in Exeter in honour of my 'Diamond Jubilee' in 1956: and we have twice been given most generously the hospitality of her house by Dorothy Fitch at Taunton. The old girls had only to bear the cost of the actual food for lunch and tea, while Dorothy helped by her daughter Robin and other old girls. We have business meetings and discuss matters of interest to all Old Girls, exchange news with each other, and receive news of the School. One special point was raised at our 1957 meeting at Taunton (apart from the question of sub-secretaries, Whit Sunday as a special day of intercession for the present School and the Book of Remembrance), for which we ask the special attention of the Old Girls at the October A.G.M. in London. The question was asked 'What do we do, as an Old Girls' Association, beyond enjoying the pleasure of a social gathering or legislating for our own concerns?' The suggestions made were (i) That we might perhaps have a fund to give a Bursary to help the daughter of an Old Girl: (ii) That we might contribute to some fund for the benefit of the School, e.g., help forward collectively the objects of the Friends of St. Elphin's. As a Group we cannot ourselves pass resolutions officially, yet we do most certainly feel that our suggestions should be considered at the A.G.M.

We hope that it will be possible to arrange for our 1958 meeting to

be held in Exmouth, possibly 6th September.

MARGARET L. FLOOD.

President.

10th May 1958.

### THE ANNUAL DINNER

IT is very sad to have to report to you that, after two successful dinners this year the one arranged for Friday, 9th May, had to be cancelled owing to lack of support. This was a great disappointment to several of us who were looking forward to meeting again over what had been thought of as an annual event in the lives of the Old Girls. I should like to offer here on behalf of all Old Girls our most hearty thanks to Mrs. Hughenden Baines who so nobly puts so much time and effort into organising these dinners at her own Club in London.

It has now been suggested that these dinners are held every other year, i.e., the year we don't have a reunion at Darley Dale; and that it might be more convenient to have them on a Saturday evening instead of a Friday. With this in mind, Mrs. Baines has very kindly made tentative arrangements for the next dinner to be held at the English Speaking Union on Saturday, 9th May 1959, and it is hoped that all who possibly can will be there. When the notices are sent to you in March 1959, please reply at once to Mrs. Baines as she naturally has to advise her Club in good time of numbers.

MARY SAPWELL.

### TREASURER'S NOTES

MY appointment as Honorary Treasurer of the Old Girls' Guild, if a doubtful privilege, is—to me at least—a very great pleasure, and an expression of your confidence which I much appreciate, and which, as Miss Jasper knows only too well, is scarcely deserved. To be Mary Goodman's successor is an alarming responsibility, but, if you will respond to the inevitable 'reminders' as readily for me as you did for her, I will endeavour to perform my essential, though unpopular, task with something approaching her efficiency.

My thanks go to all the annual members who have paid their 'subs' up to date, and 'those who haven't got round to it', I do urge you to remedy the matter now. In doing this you will relieve me of the most unpleasant of my new duties, that of crossing out members' names on my lists, and perhaps also avert the ominous prospect of an increased subscription rate.

subscription rate.

Thorndean, Imperial Road, Matlock. ELIZABETH LAVENDER, Hon. Treasurer, S.E.O.G.G.

# EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM SOUTH-EAST NIGERIA

THE main item of news to tell you is that our prayers and those of our friends, concerning a successor for Arthur at Oji River, have been answered, and Dr. Felton Ross is already there learning the job.

One of the biggest changes at Oji River is that there are now 2 Africans in Senior posts—a male Nursing 'Sister', trained at Newcastle Royal Infirmary, and a Travelling Clinic Inspector. Another change is at the Settlement School where are now 2 or 3 non-patient teachers, indicating that (a) as fewer and fewer people contract leprosy and enter the Settlement, it becomes impossible to staff the school with patients alone, and (b) that the fear of leprosy is breaking down and young men are willing to *teach* leprous children.

MARY GARRETT (née Roseveare).

### NEWS OF OLD GIRLS

- Alison Bainbridge is now a fully qualified chiropodist, and has a job in Bolton.
- Mary Bean is secretary to the headmaster of a large Grammar School near her home in Manchester. She finds it very interesting to be in a boys' school after so many years in girls' schools.
- Ethel Boteler (née Boothe) at 86 still enjoys going for walks and gardening, and looks forward to visits by her daughter, son and three grandchildren.
- Monica Boult (née Cooke) was married in May, and is now living in Bolton. Wendy Lambert (née Bainbridge) was at the wedding, and Mary Pickering was a bridesmaid.
- Jennifer Boyland (née Pooler) was married in January, and is living in Auckland, New Zealand, where her husband plans to sheep farm.
- **Barbara Clegg** has given up children's nursing, and is now working for the National Farmers' Union as a renewal clerk in the car insurance department. She has got quite used to the American way of life, and finds the climate in Denver very pleasant.
- Margaret Eliott (née Moor) has two daughters at St. Elphin's, and is herself teaching Domestic subjects in a Secondary Modern School in Middleton. Her husband has recently been appointed Rural Dean of Bury, Lancashire.
- **Ann Entwistle** (née Lyon) was recently married, and is living in Widnes, where her husband who is a doctor is in partnership in general practice.
- Catherine Fiennes-Clinton (née Thomason) is still living in Toronto, where she has been since 1922.
- Charlotte Garnett has retired from Clifton High School (Bristol) after 46 years, first as mathematics mistress and later as librarian.
- **Helen Gilbert** has been appointed Administrative Tutor at St. Godric's Secretarial College, Hampstead, She is Godmother to Ailsa Stevenson's (née Moore) daughter.
- Janet Grimes started training at Manchester Royal Infirmary on 21st April 1958.
- Alison Hall is still at the Worcester Grammar School for Girls, and is taking English, History and Music at Advanced Level in June.
- June Hannant (née Burr) has recently spent a few days with Betty Martin at Bideford—"a wonderful change from housekeeping"!
- Freda Hawkes (nee Plant) was married in September 1956. One of her bridesmaids was Patricia Mayne.
- Susan Hetherington has recently completed her hospital work, and is now in General Practice as a doctor. She also has her own flat.
- **Susan Heyes** is on night-duty at the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital. She sends news of Ann Entwistle (*née* Lyon) who was Sister of the heart clinic at the same hospital until she recently married.
- Sallie Hitchin is leading a very busy life in the frozen North! She is taking part in the celebrations marking the octo-centenary of the granting of a charter to Carlisle, and is busy preparing for the Queen's visit.
- Vera Hoole (née Murdoch) has a daughter who has been at St. Elphin's. Joan Hughes spent a week-end with her just before Easter.
- Ruth Humphreys (née Tudor Jones) moved into their new bungalow, which they had built, last October. She had a daughter in April.
- Anne James' (née Wilson) husband is an accountant on an asbestos mine in Southern Rhodesia. They have two children, Johnny aged 2½ and William 1 year. She is enjoying living in Rhodesia, and especially likes the climate. After being there for three years, she hopes to stay, and would advise anyone to 'give it a try'.

- Mary Jenkins (née Tudor Jones) was married last June, and spent her honeymoon in Guernsey. She is now living at Llanidloes, a small Welsh market town. She sends news of Betty Hood (née Turner) who is well and enjoying married life in Burton-on-Trent; and of Rachel Grimes who has recently become engaged.
- Pauline Jones (née Thompson) has been studying for her I.M.A., and after completing two years domestic science at Birmingham, she has been doing her practical year at the Boys' Preparatory School at Abermad, nr. Aberystwyth. She hopes to get a senior appointment there when she gets her diploma.
- Margaret Joslin's (née Russon) small son has started school. She sends news of Dorothy Wallace (née Laybourne) and Pauline Tilsby (née Jackson), whom she meets from time to time.
- Wendy Lambert (née Bainbridge) is not moving to Worthing after all, and her husband has returned to his job at Chelmsford.
- Elizabeth Lavender went to Bridget Balfour's wedding last July. Bridget's sister, Elizabeth, was a bridesmaid.
- **Eleanor Lawson** has recently started a new job as assistant camp warden of one of the Staffordshire Education Committee school camps.
- **Jill Lloyd-Turner** is working for a doctor, which she enjoys very much. As a sideline she breeds budgerigars.
- Joan Manicom (née Swindle) returned from the Belgian Congo last July for a year, staying in New Milton. Her husband has been doing deputation work in the South and West of England, and also studying for his B.D. They return to Congo in July to take up educational work in a new and more primitive area. The station is only half a degree from the equator.
- Betty Martin saw Mary Aitchison (née Davidson) and husband when they spent a holiday near them last autumn.
- Patricia Mayne still lives in London. She changed her job two years ago, but is still with a firm who import furniture from Scandinavia, and she hopes to go to Denmark in July.
- Phyllis Molyneux lost her mother in November 1956, and she now plans to return to the mainland if she can sell her house. She spent her holiday in Denmark last year.
- Ann Manstephen (née Watson) is living in a cottage in Hampshire, which she and her husband converted themselves.
- Lucinda Negus takes her midwifery finals in June, and is starting her children's training at Great Ormond Street in September. She sends news of Gwyn Laughlan (née Rees) who had a son on 15th February on her district at Queen Charlotte's Hospital; of Margaret Cousens who is a Part I Pupil Midwife at Queen Charlotte's; and of Annabel MacIntyre who also did her Part I Midwifery at Queen Charlotte's.
- Jean Ollerenshaw (née Watson) is enjoying life in the West Indies. She organised the St. John Ambulance Brigade for the inspection by Lady Louis Mountbatten when she visited the island earlier this year.
- Mary Oppenheimer is teaching at Portsmouth High School.
- Sybil Osmond (née Wells) is still working part-time for the International Federation of Agricultural Producers and edits The World Dairy Statistics Digest. During the past year she has read papers on dairy products at Conferences in Luxembourg and the United States, and has acted as secretary of a meeting of experts on European agricultural prices in Rome. Her elder son has won an Exhibition for mathematics to Haileybury.
- **Ruth Patterson** is in the third year of her training at Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Birmingham.
- **Dorothy Reynolds** (*née* Srawley) went to her son's wedding in Sao Paulo, Brazil, last August. Paddy Flinn (son of Dorothea Flinn 'Dobbs') was best man at the wedding, and she then spent a very pleasant week with him and his wife in Rio before returning home.

- Pat Rowbotham (née Blake) has been living in Edinburgh since she was married last June, but expects to move to Manchester in the summer.
- Rosemary Runciman (née Hadfield) was married last September, and is now living in Bramhall, Cheshire. Pat Philcox (née James) and Mary Sapwell were at her wedding.
- Anne Rust is still working for the S.P.G. as a sister at Queen Alexandra's Hospital, Mandalay.
- Fay Smith (née Trickett) leads a very busy life with three sons, and is "pain-stakingly interesting herself in fishing, soccer, 'planes, etc.'!
- Mary Swift is in the third year of her training at the David Lewis Northern Hospital, Liverpool. She sends news of Miss Lane (ex P.T. mistress) who is now teaching P.T. at Liverpool, and was recently a patient in her hospital. Mary also sends news of Anne Scott, Marie Dawson and Sandre Thornton who are engaged; of Judith Sheard who is married; and Felicity Platten who is teaching in Birmingham after having finished her training.
- Margaret Syrett (née Bowers) has a busy life looking after her small son. 11 (sends news of Elaine Brown (née Owen) who lives at Bures in Suffolk, and has two young sons; and also of Pamela Ellis, who is at St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, as a staff-nurse doing a paedeatrics course.
- Rosemary Taylor spent her first ski-ing holiday in Austria in the Spring, and seems to have returned home intact! Last summer she passed her final examination of the City and Guilds Technicians, and is now a qualified Zoological Technician.
- Winifred Thompson flew to New Zealand, via the Middle East, last September to visit her sister, Dorothy, and family, for three weeks. She hadn't seen them for 25 years, and had a wonderful holiday getting to know them again. She also saw Joan Montford (known to her friends as 'Simon'), and she went away with an Old St. Elphin's magazine to get up to date! Winifred returned via Honolulu, Vancouver and Greenland, and completed the round trip in the first month's holiday she has had whilst 30 years in practice!
- Shirley Thurman (née Thornton) was married in March, and plans to move to Swansea in the summer.
- **Heather Woodcock** has been an air stewardess with B.O.A.C. for 7 years working on the Australian and Far Eastern routes. She is now being transferred to the North Atlantic routes.

#### BIRTHS

- DAKIN.—On 6th February, 1958, to Judith (née Clarke), a son, Timothy John.
- Manicom.—On 27th May, 1957, to Joan (née Swindle), a daughter, Hilary Margaret.
- Manstephen.—On 6th January, 1958, to Ann (née Watson), a son, Andrew Hugh.
- PHILCOX.—On 5th March, 1958, to Patricia (née James), a son, Christopher Jonathan, brother for Amanda.
- Rossi.—On 11th July, 1957, to Betty (née Youngs), a daughter, Elizabeth Mary.
- WAINWRIGHT.—On 17 March, 1958, to Beryl (née Pates), a son, Gerald Peter, brother for Antony and Sally Ann.

### ENGAGEMENTS

MURIEL DUCKWORTH and DEREK CRETCH. JILL LLOYD-TURNER and HELMAR DERRY. CLARE LOVELL and FREDERICK JOHN MORSE.

#### MARRIAGES

BOULT-COOK. On 3rd May, 1958, at St. John the Baptist Church, Wolverley, Kidderminster, Monica Cooke to Derek Boult.

BOYLAND-POOLER, On 25th January, 1958, in Auckland, N.Z., Jennifer Pooler to Denis Boylan.

ENTWISTLE-LYON. On 1st March, 1958, at Christ Church, Linnet Lane, Ann Lyon to Dr. Anthony Entwistle.

HAWKES-PLANT. On 20th September, 1956, at the Church of the Martyr's, Leicester, Freda Plant to Hubert Hawkes.

JENKINS-TUDOR-JONES. On 15th June, 1957, at Bickley Church, Malpas, Mary Tudor-Jones to Brian Jenkins, by the bride's father.

JONES—THOMPSON. On 7th April, 1958, at Llanilar Church, Nr. Aberystwyth, Pauline Thompson to John N. Jones, by the headmaster of Abermad School.

KAYE-RILEY. On 21st September, 1957, Norah Riley.

MANSTEPHEN—WATSON. On 14th July, 1956, at All Saints Church, Bakewell, Ann Watson to Dennis Mounstephen.

RUNCIMAN—HADFIELD. On 7th September, 1957, at Holy Trinity Church, Millhouses, Sheffield, Rosemary Hadfield to Peter Runciman.

THURMAN-THORNTON. On 29th March, 1958, at All Saints Church, Matlock, Shirley Thornton to David Thurman.

WARREN-PERRY. On 28th September, 1957, at the Church of All Saints, Northampton, Elizabeth Perry to Robert Warren.

### DEATHS

FLOYD, Mary (née Ballantyne), on 11th June, 1958. INCE, Phoebe Annetta, on 1st September, 1957. THATCHER, Helen Margaret, on 13th July 1958. WILSON, Emily Mary (née Hepplewhite), on 8th October, 1956, aged 51.

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES DURING THE YEAR 1957/1958

New Members New Members

Arlene Bailey Mary Nesbitt (née Hodgson) Suzanne Blackwell Suzanne Silk Diana Clarke Catherine Smart Judith Coulter

Margaret Smart Mary Keal Elizabeth Swan (née White)

Christine Line Helen Yool

Anne Lomas

Judith Shipman

Resigned

Joyce Dawson (née Cartmell) Monica Snook (née Fletcher) Joan Duke (née Toogood)

The following Old Girls have had to be crossed off the membership

as they have not paid their subscriptions for two years:-Gwen Grantham (née Bembridge) Jennifer Watson

Angela Willatt Helena Turnbull (née Lund) Bunty Wincer (née Ray)

Members who cannot be traced. Please notify the secretaries if you can help with the addresses of the following:-

Susan Kilpatrick (née Kendall) Patricia Wheeldon Hazel Winfield (née Foster)

### Keep your address-book up-to-date

by noting the following changes and additions:—

Monica Boult (née Cooke), 40 Danesbury Road, Tonge Moor, Bolton, Lancs. Jennifer Boylan (née Pooler), 385 New North Road, Kingsland, Auckland, N.Z.

Ruth Burgess (née Doxey), 52 Grangewood Road, Wollaton, Nottingham.

Barbara Clegg, 1430 Clarkson, Denver 18, Colorado, U.S.A. Audrey Cunningham (née Gardner), 73 Yew Tree Lane, The Wergs, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton, Staffs.

Judith Dakin (née Clarke), c/o Kilmersdon Vicarage, Bath, Somerset.

Shirley Duke, 36 West Hill Court, Millfield Lane, Highgate, London, N.6. Pamela Edwards (née Gamble), 49 South Drive, Chorltonville, near Manchester.

Ann Entwistle (née Lyon), 6 Fairfield Road, Widnes, Lancashire.

Charlotte Garnett, 28 Bickerton Road, Headington, Oxford.

Joan Gregory, c/o Director of Education, Dar es Salaam, Tanganykia.

Grace Harris, 50 Hartington Street, Derby.

Freda Hawkes (née Plant), 11 Link Road, Stoneygate, Leicester.

Alice Henthorne (née Greenwood), c/o Mrs. R. L. Roe, Meadfoot, Poultonle-Fylde, Lancashire.

Ruth Humphreys (née Tudor-Jones), Chiltern Lodge, Oldhill Wood, Whipsnade, Bedfordshire.

Barbara James, 63 Bushmead Avenue, Bedford.

Mary Jenkins (née Tudor-Jones), Vaenor Cottage, Vaenor Park, Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire.

Pauline Jones (née Thompson, The Lodge, Abermad, Aberystwyth, Cards.

Norah Kaye (née Riley), B.M./P.N.B.E., London, W.C.I. Clare Lovell, No. 2 Clergy Bungalows, Broad Street, Ely, Cambs. Shirley Mackenzie (née Lewis), 22 Cranbrook Drive, Esher, Surrey. Margaret Malmstrom (née Wallis), Sofiaparken 4D, Lund, Sweden. Joan Manicom (née Swindle), Ecole Grenfell, B.M.S., Yalemba, Basoko, Congo Belge.

Ann Mounstephen (née Watson), Lavernock, Crookham Village, near Aldershot, Hampshire.

Mary Nesbitt (née Hodgson), Lone Oak, Horcell Birch, Woking, Surrey.

Frances Ogle, Flexlands School, Chobham, Surrey.

Marie Oppenheimer, 5 Stanhope Gate, Ashburton Road, Southsea, Hants. Patricia Philcox (née James), 66 Hidecote Road, Oadby, Leicester. Pamela Prestwich (née Cartmell), 57 Newbury Road, St. Annes-on-Sea,

Lancs.

Elizabeth Rumboll (née Swain), Mercer House, Gisburn Road, Barnoldswick, Yorkshire.

Rosemary Runciman (née Hadfield), Tudor Lodge, Carrwood Avenue, Bramhall, Cheshire.

Mary Rutterford (née Lovell), Bluegate Cottage, Boltons Lane, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey.

Pamela Spouge (née Lawrence), The Laburnums, 67 Ifield Road, Crawley,

Elizabeth Swan (née White), Sutton Bonington, near Loughborough. Elizabeth Warren (née Perry), 54(a) Billing Road, Northampton.

Helen Yool, Dawney Hill Cottage, Pirbright, Surrey.

# STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1957

,, Annual Subscrip	bers @ 1/6	ccount:—	CURRE  £ s. 10 17 20 10  13 2 25 8 2 25 17 14  £96 12	3 By 33 33 33 33 39 33 39 33 39 33 39 39 39	Reunion expenses (net). London School Magazines (470 @ 2/3) Miss Kennedy's Grave Fund Duplicating membership forms and rules Secretary's expenses Treasurer's expenses Sub-secretaries' expenses			0 6 0 0 4 0 1 11
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