

# The Old Bedan.

1950

# The Guild of Old Bedans.

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President . . . . . Mrs W. J. E. MOUL  
Vice-President . . . . . Miss M. E. BOON

## Office Bearers and Committee for 1950-1951

Chairman . . . . Mrs. DOWNS (Rose Halliday),  
4, Mount Road East.  
Vice-Chairman . . Mrs. THOMAS (Winifred Scott),  
11, Grange View, Newcastle Road.  
Joint Secretary and Treasurer . Mrs. KIRKWOOD (Klaid Davidsen),  
12, Eaton Grove. Tel. 16347.  
Assistant Secretary . . . . . BESSIE TAYLOR,  
29, Rowlandson Terrace. Tel. 3346.

## Committee:

Mrs. Crowe (Nancy Mitchell), 31, Victoria Avenue; Vera Duffel, 54, Broadbeath Terrace; Jean Hamilton, 23, Bond Street; Mrs. Hutton (Lily English), 98, Colchester Terrace; Catherine McCree, 7, Evelyn Street; Lena Thompson, 9, Wooler Square; D. Williams, Bede Grammar School for Girls; Olga Wright, 4, Jackson Street. Co-opted Member: E. R. Shearer, 40, Ashwood Terrace.

## Editorial Committee:

E. R. Shearer (Convener), Mrs. Downs, Mrs. Kirkwood, J. S. Briggs, Mrs. Crowe, Winifred Graham, Sylvia Hood, Mrs. Thomas, Ethel Thompson, Olga Wright.

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## INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Annual Subscription: 2/6, for 1950-51, due on **September 1st, 1950.**  
Life Subscription: £2/2/6 if paid within two years; otherwise £3/12/6.

Annual Subscriptions count towards Life Membership. Anyone who has paid one half-crown subscription becomes a Life Member by a further payment of £1/12/6 before the end of her second year's membership. After that time, the total of the payments made must be £2/12/6, e.g. a member who has paid ten annual subscriptions becomes a Life Member by a further payment of £1/7/6. If, however, membership is allowed to lapse, payments must be begun anew.

Membership. On August 31st, 1950, the Membership was 394, including 128 Life Members, but 56 have not yet paid 1949-50 subscriptions.

The Winter Re-union will be held in School on Thursday, January 11th, 1951, and a Supper on March 16th.

With the help mentioned on page . . . . . the cost of production of *Portrait of a School* has been met. The Secretary has a few copies for sale at 2/6 each.

We thank Mr. Milner Taylor who has kindly consented to act as Honorary Auditor for us and Mrs. Hyth who has given to the Guild copies of the *Bedan* (1925-1941).

## Requests from the Secretary.

1. Will all members, please, notify the Secretary of any change of address.

1. Do, please, get your ticket for any Reunion by the date stated on a Notice. Attention to this does help in the catering.

2. Please ask if you are not sure if your subscription is paid. Any member of Committee will pass on your message.

4. Will married members always, please, give their maiden names as well as married names.

For easier identification we use maiden names. The married name is usually either given in brackets or omitted, if mentioned earlier.

#### GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS IN 1949-50

**Old Bedans' Loan and Scholarship Fund.** In July, Scholarships of £5 each were granted in recognition of service to the school to Joan Hardy, Mavis Hartford, Margaret Garrick, Sheila Wilson and Norma Burridge, and later one loan of £15 was made. This relatively small outlay compensates for the £80 spent last year when there were numerous requests for loans. During the year, three previous borrowers repaid a total of £28 and one of them sent £1 extra in grateful recognition of the help she had received. We thank her and we thank the Guild Hockey Club for their gift of 10/-.

K. M. CARRICK (Hon. Sec.), Bede Grammar School for Girls.

**The Guild of Old Bedans' Hockey Club** enjoyed a season with few cancelled matches and a good proportion of victories. We reached the Final in the County Club Tournament and were beaten by one goal. The one member who went up for County Trials was chosen to play for the 1st XI. Our 17 regular members appreciate very much Miss Moul's generosity in all matters relating to the club. We thank also players who helped us out at times at very short notice, and especially we thank Aline Raine for the time she gave to managing the team affairs so competently.

This year's captain is Doreen Sharp and both she and the Secretary would be pleased to welcome you if you would like a game. Don't worry if you lack experience or think it too late to take up hockey again. We undertake to convert you into a first-class player in no time at all!

JEAN BREWIS (Hon. Sec.), 26, Park Parade, Roker.

**Guild of Old Bedans' London Branch.** To the Re-union at the Y.M.C.A., Great Russell Street, on 3rd December, 1949, came: Miss Birchall, Miss Ewart, Enid Haskinsop (Collins), Edith Broderick (Barge), Bessie Dixon, Marjorie Goodhall, Isabel Lundy (Manro), Alice Manro, Betty Seiler (Confort), Doreen Ward (Macrae), Kathleen Watson, Eleanor Wilson and myself. As usual, tea and reminiscing were much enjoyed.

On May 6th, 1950, Doreen Ward kindly invited us to tea at her home in Ealing, where again a very "gossipy" session took place. Guests were Misses Birchall, Ewart and Franklin, Edith Broderick, Joyce Hebron (Ayles), May Hood, Isabel Lundy, Rita Thompson (Wellesley), Dorothy Waggott, Eleanor Wilson and myself. We were all pleased to meet another Old Bedan, not on my list, Doreen's mother, whose name in her Bede days was Goodwill.

The membership, something over 50, suggests a flourishing branch, but, alas, the number of replies to invitations, including both acceptances and refusals remains low, about 33 per cent.

PHYLLIS TENNANT (Mrs. Beck), Hon. Sec., 16, Brixton Road, Abbey Wood, London, S.E.2. Tel. Woolwich 3311.

**Social Service.** By the expressed wish of the Guild, Social Service is undertaken, not, as formerly, by a self-supporting Branch Club, but by a Committee working on behalf of the 324 members of the Guild. We therefore ask each of these members to give a little help annually in money, in kind, or in work, and we thank those who already do so. Owing to their generosity and the Committee's efforts, we have money in hand and the year's results are as follows:—

(a) At the General Hospital, 36 Old Bedans do Red Cross Library work, while many good friends send books and magazines. Other helpers would be welcomed, as we have been asked to try to serve more wards on our evenings, Mondays and Tuesdays.

(b) A small sale in School in March raised £11/9/10. It was poorly supported but the few buyers bought generously. £16 was handed to the Guild Treasurer towards the cost of producing the Jubilee Souvenir booklet. At this year's Guild of Help Autumn Market, the Guild of Old Bedans was responsible both for a stall and for Morning Coffee. These raised £39 and £7/8/7 respectively.

(c) We hope to send Christmas parcels to old people in need; from reliable sources we already have eight names. We have promised also to do what we can for lonely aged people in hospital, and some of us now visit one such blind lady. Recently the Guild of Old Bedans was invited to nominate two members to serve on the Town's Old People's Welfare Committee. Elsie Wilson (Hooker) and Dorothy Gibson (Richardson) have been chosen, and the Social Service Committee has made a gift of two guineas to the cause.

Our committee is: Elsie Davidson, Lily English, Dorothy Gibson, Rose Halliday, Vera Harrald, Kathleen Mair, Catherine McCree, Nancy Mitchell, Joan Newby (White), Betty Peters (Spencer), Betsy Fowler (Soulsby), Joan Fowler, Ethel Thompson, Gladys Thornby (Miller), Elsie Wilson and D. S. ARKLE (Convener), 40, Ashwood Terrace.

**Winter Re-union, January 11th.** 55 were present including Miss Moul and Miss Carrick. First, we wandered round the Art Room alternately guessing names of flowers omitted from quotations pinned on members and delightedly greeting the swearers. Then came a clever musical story, games and competitions. The prizes and the sweets, including the necessary coupons, were provided by the three organisers. After an appetising supper, impromptu speeches demanded from a few members on such subjects as Marriage, Cats, High Society, caused much merriment and after the final musical game when teams insisted on giving their last item in French, we were told: "Unless anyone would like to sing in any other language, we'll have *Auld Lang Syne*." A well-arranged happy party!

**Summer Meeting, July 1954.** Out of consideration for members' purses in an expensive year, an informal meeting in the School grounds took the place of the proposed outing. The energetic played rounders, others were hot and chatted; all enjoyed tea, sandwiches and biscuits, the gift of the Committee. The 25 present included Miss Moul, several re-joined members and Edith Broderick, home on a visit from Reading.

**Summary of the Annual Business Meeting, September 12th, 1950.**  
26 members present. Greeted by Chairman in absence of Miss Moul.

Minutes of the last Business Meeting.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Report. Gist appears in various places in this *Old Bedas* and the Balance Sheet on page 15 .

Officers and Committee for 1950-51 declared elected.

Reports on Loan and Scholarship Fund, Branch Clubs, Old Bedon, Jubilee Souvenir Booklet, and Social Service Activities.

Election of Editorial and Social Service Committees.

Allocation from Funds: One guinea for School Prize.

Future Meetings: Winter Re-union on January 11th, 1951. Re-union Supper in March, 1951, and an outing in the summer.

## SCHOOL NOTES

### The Third Generation

Ann McAllister is the daughter of Katharine Mirza and the granddaughter of Jennie Stephenson, a contemporary of Miss Birchall.

### Staff

Goodbye to: Miss Powell, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Forester, and at Christmas to Miss Lockley and Mrs. Macdonald.

Welcome to: Miss Ferguson, Mrs. Twigg, Mr. Cox, and at Christmas to Miss Hayton.

News: Miss Frankland is accompanist to Sunderland Choral Society and Miss Metcalf again plays on Durham County Hockey Team.

### Honours Won

*School Captain and Vice-Captain*: May Metcalf and Irene Kirton.

*Rayfield Prize for Mathematics*: Joyce Walker.

*Guild of Old Bedons' Prize, 1949-50, for Art*: Audrey Amis and Jean Harwell.

*Played for Sunderland Piano-forte Society*: Sylvia Tait.

*Sports Champions*: Sheila Bagley, Jean Walls, Valerie Naisby.

*Junior County Hockey*: Dulcie Armstrong, Vera Jenkins, Joyce Keeve and Marion Osborne play on the First Team and Audrey Knight and Elna Wright on the Second.

Sunderland Schools Gala, November 24th. Bedons won 6 first places, 6 second places and 6 third. Pat Perry was their outstanding swimmer.

*Children's Cycling Proficiency Test*: First place (girls)—Jean Forster.

### Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

(a) jointly with the Boys' School, a Commemoration Service and the production of an illustrated Handbook, and (b) open to the public, a puppet show, *Hansel and Gretel*, the opera *Dido and Aeneas*, to which three representative members of the Guild of Old Bedons received invitations, and a Garden Party.

The Commemoration Service held in Bishopwearmouth Church on Friday, April 26th, was attended by the pupils and Staff of both schools, Old Bedons, officials of the Local Education Authority and the Mayor. The first and the second lesson were read by the Head Boy and the Head Girl respectively, the sermon was preached by the Bishop of Jarrow and the choir, drawn from both schools, led the singing which was exceedingly good. This service must surely have been one of the high lights of the Jubilee events.

## FROM NOVEMBER 1929 TO NOVEMBER 1959

These have become Life Members: D. L. J. Orms, Mildred Fingill, Pauline Fitzpatrick (Harrier), Ruth Marley (Green), Edna Martin, Nancy Mitchell (Crows), Christine Morgan, Ivy Naidy, Elizabeth Petch, Lena Richenberg (Goldblatt), Dora Septon (Crighan), Ethel Summerbell, Harriet Summers, Nancy Welch, Ellen Whiting (Darlson), Annie Ottoline Wilson.

Among those married are: Sheila Adarnson, Marianne Allison, Peggy Anderson, Sheila Anderson, Isabel Archibald, Joyce Atkinson, Kathleen Barlow, Stella Butterley, Lilian Campbell, Dorothy Carlyon, Marjorie Cottam, Vera Crowcroft, Joyce Curtis, Hilka Dawson, Beadie Dixon, Joan Durnett, Marian Durrant, Rhonette Ellison, Betty Gleanfield, Joyce Halkin, Marie Hart, Doris Henderson, Louie Heptinstall, Hilka Hope, Brenda Hopps, Pauline Humphreys, Elsie Johnson, Jean Johnston, Doreen Rowell, Sylvia Kilminster, Joan Kirlew, Jean Koch, Marie Lowrey, Janet McCrick, Eleanor Marston, Doreen Martin, Margaret Mitchell, Edith Nicholson, Betty Patterson, Elizabeth Price, Alina Rain, Edna Richardson, Miriam Robinson, Joan Robson, Joyce Robson, Esty Rough, Marjorie Smith, Margaret Topel, Freda Waters, Dorothy Williams, Dorothy Wilson, Eleanor Wilson, Marie Winter, Joan Young.

Among Bedas Babies are those of: Marianne Allison, Margaret Anderson, Betty Angus, Olive Arratage, Joan Aynaley, Olive Bambergh (twins), Eileen Barlow, Freda Blakey, Kathleen Blankinship, Joan Bewell, Betty Chrystal, Lilla Crouch, Margaret Crow, Joan Davison, Irene Denton, Alice Drury, Doris Forster, Dorothy Fox, Joyce Gallon, Pauline Gardner, Lorna Gilrow, Doreen Graham, Lorna Gunn, Mary Hayton, Jennie Hey, Hazel Horn, Margery Humphrey, Beatrice Hunsam, Lillian Hunsam, Hazel James, Joan Jobling, May Kiach, Maude Kirby, Joan Kirkaldy, Barbara Lucas, Pat Morgan, Brenda Nelson, Pauline Orr, Maureen Pallas, Ena Parry, Pat Potts, Marjorie Prout, Olive Ranson, Lilian Richardson, Nancy Ridley, Kathleen Robinson, Kathleen Scott, Mary South, Mrs. Barber (Miss B. L. Smith), Marjorie Stephenson, Nora Turner, Joyce Veitch, Kathleen Vincent, Marjorie Walker (the second), Marjorie Wallace, Audrey Winter.

As Memento: Margaret Miller.

## SIXTY YEARS OLD

Old Bedas would like have honoured School's sixtieth birthday, as they did its entry into the new buildings in 1929, with a kind of family party. This was impossible, and their celebrations were limited to—

- sending a birthday greeting to the School;
- being represented by a privileged few at the Commemoration Service on April 29th;
- holding a Jubilee Dinner on April 30th; and
- producing a souvenir booklet of memories of Bedas Girls' School.

The birthday message, beautifully lettered by Miss Cross was as follows: *The Guild of Old Bedas send greetings to the school on its 60th birthday. May the future be as glorious as the past!*

These Old Bedas who were fortunate enough to attend the impressive Service in Bishopscourt Church on April 29th were moved at the sight of the great assembly of the united Girls' and Boys' Schools and their Staffs and were indeed glad to commemorate the Birthday side by side with their successors and to represent for them the School of former years.

The Jubilee Dinner held in Meng's Restaurant on April 29th and open to all Old Bedau girls was a great success, with but one flaw, too little time for greeting old friends.

Who would have thought that we should have to disappoint applicants for tickets? By crowding a little, 132 Old Bedans were accommodated. The oldest of these went to School in 1880, the youngest left in 1948, and they had foregathered from many different spots in Northumberland and County Durham, and from Ashton, Leyburn and Hall, from Hale, Birmingham and Edinburgh. The dinner was excellent, the tables well arranged, and the dainty hand-lettered menu cards were much admired, especially the beautiful blue and gold ones of the top table, the work of Mr. H. Thomas.

Old Bedans were sorry, and so was Miss Boon, that she was prevented by illness from accepting the invitation to be present. You may be sure you will be in my thoughts . . . In my dreams I am often back again with you all, and they are happy dreamers, she wrote. Her letter was read to the company by the Vice-Chairman, Winnie Scott, as were also telegrams of greeting from Miss Boon, from the School, Headmistress and Staff, and from Miss Birchall, Miss Ewart, Miss Frankenburg, Mary Robertson and Vera Harrold. Then those present heard the names of numerous absent Old Bedans whose friendly messages had come not only from Scarborough and district but from London, York, Scotland, Northern Ireland, South Africa and Canada. They appreciated all these remembrances, and to Miss Boon they sent flowers and good wishes.

The whole evening was given to reminiscences. The Chairman, Rene Halfiday, introduced the four Guests who spoke of Bede School as I knew it, covering mainly the years from 1900 to the last days in the Old Building and touching on present day Bede School. These speakers were Muriel Bruce (Mrs. Anderson) the first winner of the Janet Todd Memorial Prize; Nellie Blacklock (Councillor Mrs. Hedley); Kathie Malen (Mrs. Elmes); and Ellen Carlin. They had much to tell that must have seemed strange to the newest Old Bedans, much also that made many memories vibrate among those who belonged to the Old School. Each speaker ended by asking Miss Moul to accept, on behalf of the School, birthday good wishes from the Bedans of her day. Time had sped only too quickly and Miss Moul, in thanking the speakers, limited herself to appreciating the loyalty of Old Bedans and expressing the hope that School would carry on its old tradition and show itself worthy of its past.

At the end of the dinner, the School Song was sung, and in response to the call for her, Miss Hutchinson obediently stood up on her chair and conducted, to the open delight of the company. After that, copies of *Portrait of a School*, the Guild's Jubilee booklet, were distributed and many Old Bedans finished this evening of memories by sitting up till the wee sma' hours to read it.

*Portrait of a School*, a record of the School's life from its beginnings as seen by those who took part in it, is offered as a birthday tribute by Old Bedans, in the hope that the spirit of the school they knew may remain with them and may become a living heritage to those who will take their place.

The response to the request for memories of school days was generous and made intriguing reading. The Editors found it hard to refrain from quoting more from the wealth of matter offered to them, especially by Bedans of the middle years. What was not difficult was to discover the feeling representative of Bedans throughout the years; the apt comments on mistresses and schoolmates and the attitude to the life and atmosphere of the School were almost startling in their unanimity.

## EPILOGUE

Only those of us who saw the hundreds of pages of reminiscences sent to Miss Shearer and Miss Wood from Bedans of all ages can fully appreciate the colossal task which faced them in compiling the *Portrait of a School*. The selection of the memories grave and gay extended over a period of many months and culminated in happy completion in time for distribution at the Jubilee Dinner.

On behalf of all Bedans who have enjoyed, and will treasure, the *Portrait*, we say a very sincere thank you.

W.T.

## LETTER FROM MRS. J. S. NICHOLSON

Dear Guild of Old Bedans,

On my return from a holiday I found your most interesting book awaiting me and I wish to thank you most heartily for it. It was so enthralling I couldn't put it down till I had read it from the beginning to the end. So many interesting events are recorded and grand people mentioned.

In the different "Portraits" depicted one can see the formative influence of the teachers on the mind and spirit of the School. That this will continue one feels certain and with the help given by the Guild of Old Bedans and the Parent-Teacher Association it augurs well for an even more brilliant future for the Bede Grammar School for Girls.

Again many thanks from

An old friend of the School,

L. D. NICHOLSON.

## NEAR AND FAR

**Mistresses.**—Bede Schools' Jubilee year brought us into touch with two old pupils who were mistresses in the early days. Mrs. Joseph (Miss Alabams) we met with pleasure at the Commemoration Service, and Miss Graydon, who retired from the Senior Mistress-ship of West Ham Secondary School in 1938, wrote from Willingdon. A letter sent to Miss M. L. V. Hughes "into the blue" asking for permission to quote the School Song in *Portrait of a School* found her near beachwaite, retired since 1946. "My cottage and garden" she says, "take up a good deal of my time for I am alone, but I try to keep some hours daily for reading and a little writing. Also I can still walk and climb and am getting to know Lakeland well." Miss Dwyer and Miss Williamson live together in Edinburgh. Miss Larch has been home from South Africa and visited at least two Old Bedans, Amy Huxey (Dwyer) and Flora Cook. We have had many visitors this year including Miss Logie who retired from her post at Dunfermline High School in May. She still lives in Rowth and hopes to have more time to see her friends. Miss Ewart, in the district for the first time since her retirement and for two days only, started us with a flying visit one Saturday afternoon. We were proud to be of the privileged on whom she called. Two others pleased to see Sunderland again were Miss Bechall and Mrs. Horton (Miss Purkin). All three had seen Miss Franklin. In August, Miss H. M. Martin, in the North on holiday, called on Mrs. Ernest Douglas, an old friend of Bede School, Harriet Bruce (Mrs. Anderson) stayed with us when she came to speak at the Dinner. "Shall I recognise them?" she asked seriously when we mentioned some old pupils she might meet. She did! At the Dinner, too, were our President Miss Moor, and Misses Hutchinson, Lloyd, Arkle, J. O. M. Harris, Stick and Shearer, and Gladys Littlehail (Beasey), and from the present staff, Ellen Carlin, who was one of our speakers, Misses Wilman, Carrick, Harding, Doris Taylor and Ess Bell.



Miss Seddon, after an enforced stay in Sunderland at the beginning of the year owing to illness, has had two terms as Deputy Principal of Shearness Training College and Mrs. Nicholson (Miss Thompson) now lives in Glasgow and does part-time teaching of music in a school in Kilmacolm.

#### Honours Won

*M.B.E.*: Clara Rackley.

*B.A. Hon.*: Greta Gibson and Pat Swan in French, and Shirley Sinclair in History.

*Sir William Morris Travelling Scholarship in Classics*: Jane Charlton, King's College, Newcastle.

*Music Scholarships*: At Sheffield University, Dorothy Dodd; and from Southlands Training College to the Royal Academy of Music, Kathleen Robson.

*S.R.N. and Matron's Prize at Leicester Royal Infirmary at the best nurse of the year*: Gladys Shawan.

*Fellow of Library Association*: Audrey Syrett. *Paired Group A of the Registration Examination*: Kathleen Bryce and Joyce Richardson.

*Scholarship of R.T.S., one of six to be won by apprentices of Timothy White and Taylor*: Kathleen Currier.

#### Careers

*Education*—Good wishes to Edith Gasslett, Dora Metcalf and Janet Summerbell, three retired Head Mistresses.

New Headmistresses are Hilda Weatherall at Ingleby and Ivy Lockey and Jean Powley in Sunderland, while Mary Bilby and Una Broadley have just been put on the Panel for Headships. Clara Rackley and Hannah Graham have been transferred to be Heads of the Schools just built on the town's new estates, Springwell and Mill View. Alice Lee has long been in charge of Craft Nursery School and Laura Thatcher has been met with a mass of "tough" young boys, re-discovering Newcastle; this is typical of her enterprising and valuable work for her village children at Carron. Teaching are: Bessie Lamplugh at Stockton, Joan Gilbertson at Newton Grange (Middleham), Joan Sutherland, Science at Wigton, Joyce Crute, English at Davenport High School, Dorothy Waggott, P.T. at South Shields, and among new teachers in Sunderland are: Kathleen Allen, Mildred Beaulover, Dorcas Chapman, Beanie Hetherington, Sylvia Hood, Aileen Martin, Betty Shepherd, Joan Smith and Joyce Wilson. Emily Taylor teaches at Sadbury, Dora works for the Blind in Hensford, Olive Simpson is Senior Mistress at the County Secondary School, Cokerworth, Audrey Hayton comes soon to be History Mistress at "Rede," while Mary Arkless (Robinson) has just left there after two terms of part-time teaching during an emergency.

*Health*.—Beryl Shaw has gone from her medical post at Nottingham to Chelsea Women's Hospital to take a course qualifying for Membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecology; Phyllis Armstrong and her husband have bought a practice at Barnsfield; Ruth Richardson is matron of a hospital; Marjorie Palmer is a nurse in Leeds; Anne Ransome a radiographer at Ryhope General Hospital and Muriel Anderson school nurse at Milton Hall where Nellie Thompson (Wood) is matron.

*Librarianship*: New recruits are Enid Baker, Vera Fairbairn, Jean Lomas, Sheila Pickard and Irene Joyce who works at the West End Branch where Kathleen Hair has been in charge for some time. We have been interested to receive the 25th annual report of the branches and services of Lancashire County Library. We think these are unusually enterprising and are proud to claim as ours the County Librarian, Flora Cook.

**Other Interests:** Alice Munro is head of the Youth Employment Bureau responsible for Steepley and Bethnal Green; Joyce Leithen works in Martins Bank, Monkwearmouth; Innes Sharp (Wilkinson), chief hill-dresser at Binn's Beach in Carlisle was last year's President of the Scropitists there; Mary Bilby is President of Sunderland branch of the N.U.W.T., Evelyn Blacklock, an Alderman is a member of the new Sunderland Area Food Committee, and from East Kilbride, Emily Durrant (Lawson) writes: "I occupy one of the first new houses in Scotland's first satellite town—they are delightful. I was the first scientist to be sent from the South to pioneer the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research's new project here; now we form a little 'English' community in a 'foreign' land. The villagers have received us with a welcome that is overwhelming; the social life here makes that of the West End seem funeral, while a party given in our honour, and at which we had to be taught the reels showed up what physical workings we all were!"

**The Arts.**—Winifred Ketch, Lucy Moran (McConnell), Joyce White and its Assistant Secretary, Kathleen Stothard (Collinson) have played for Sunderland Pianoforte Society; for the Town's Choral Society, Dorcas and Owen Reay serve as librarians and Winifred Whiting on the Committee.

Mainly responsible for founding and running a Children's Theatre which has given delight to children of the Town are Eleanor Brown, Margaret and Nell Turner, Ursula Magrill and Winnie Wakebush. Eleanor trained those who acted and Midge Hardy painted some of the back-cloth.

**Sport.**—In tennis, Dorothy Grierson is our most successful player. Betty Ross (Brown) plays badminton on a County Team, and she, Connie Falgrieve (Munden) and Louie Halliday are prominent in exhibition matches. Wearside Golf Club's two new captains are Mollie Sharman (Wilcox) of the Silver Division, and Mary Mackintosh (Alderson) of the Bronze Division. Jean Bagley and Hilda Johnson play on the County Netball First Team, and Gella Pipe is Captain of Nonington First Hockey Team.

One sporting event was completely over, the hockey match played on Bede School ground on October 14th, when Old Bedans of the Guild Hockey Club beat "Older Old Bedans" by 3 goals to 3. The Older Old Bedans were one short, so the match was played for a side.

Blue skies and warm sunshine combined to make members of the Veteran Eleven wonder if "hockey at their age" were a good thing! From the opening whistle, however, they attacked the Old Bedans' goal, but it was the latter who scored first, only to see the Veterans promptly reply. Half-time found these cheerfully and determinedly enjoying oranges and in the second half when Old Bedans got another goal, the Older Old Bedans again evened up the score. After some fast end-to-end play, Old Bedans found their way for the third time into the opposing goal, but there was a general feeling that only the final whistle prevented their Older opponents from obligingly scoring once again. Old Bedans found their team work balanced by the very good stick-work of the Veterans, some of whom had not played for twelve years. It was a very enjoyable game all round, watched by Old Bedans, friends, husbands and children, the two latter sections being partisan but critical.

The Veterans were: Winnie Graham, Mary Beantfoot, Jessie Hey, Dorothy Grierson, Lillian Galloway, Winnie Rogers, Louie Halliday, Rene Halliday, Winnie Scott and Dorcas Smith. The return match is fixed for March 2nd. Please note the date.

**Home of Married Bedans not recently mentioned.**—Marguerite Barclay and Margaret Taylor, Newcastle; Bertha Byfield (teaching), Reading; Ethel Davison (the first), Wimbledon; Daisy, Dot and Minnie Devere, Eaglescliffe, Sunderland and Inverness respectively; Frances Parryce, still Durale; Rene Galbreath, Gloucester; Ann Gilbertson, Edinburgh; Doreen Graham, Berwick; Joyce Hebron and Anne Wilson, near Sevenoaks; Hazel Horn, London; Pat Morgan, Winchester; Lily Pearson (mother of Lily English), Harrgate; Marjorie Peart, Greatham; Olive Ranson, Wakefield; Marion Richardson, Glasgow; Kathleen Smith, back in Sunderland; Doreen Stoddart, now Darlington; Diana Verity, Northallerton and Sheila (teaching), Sevenoaks; Kathleen Vincent, Birmingham; Jean Wilson, Middlesex.

**Abroad—Married Bedans:** Dorothy Adamson, Singapore; Hilda Hope, Johannesburg; Eileen Morris, South Dakota; Dorothy Morrison, Denmark; Maureen Pallas, New Zealand; Erita Richardson, Newfoundland; Olive Taylor, South Africa; Joyce Veitch, Jamaica. Marion Barnes in Melbourne is working at a nursery school again. Mollie Garbutt in her newly-built home in Chittagong finds time to enjoy tennis, Elsa in Kenya is "involved in dramatic activities."

In Kowloon, through the *Old Bedan*, Elizabeth Carr (Horsman) and Marjorie Rochester have found each other and are mutually pleased. "We like Marjorie very much," writes Elizabeth, "and we hope to see much more of her," and Marjorie says, "It is just lovely to be in a home after hospital life."

Joan Sparling (Howe) is home from Tanganyika. Ellen Whiting (Davison) has returned to Northern Rhodesia after a short spell in England. Lucy Postgate (Nichol) has been home from South Africa and Elsie White from Vancouver for the first time since they left Sunderland many years ago. Both were thrilled with their visits but regretted that no *Old Bedan* meeting took place during the short time they spent in Sunderland. Both saw many old friends and travelled about a good deal in England and Scotland; Elsie included a trip to France and Belgium. Both were vivacious and full of interest, wanting to know all about life here, and commenting on "differences." Elsie found that we kept amazingly early hours here, while Lucy noted the clear complexion of even elderly women, but found the younger generation's manners bad and "teen-agers" spoilt. She returned home in time for her eldest son's twenty-first birthday and her own twenty-third wedding anniversary, and Elsie sailed from Liverpool at the end of October.

In May, Grace Caldwell (Allison) was "at present in South America." Kathie Milles (Hines) did research work at Montpellier for a term, found the French people and their attitude towards life, but found the language much more difficult to speak than to read. May Collins, writing from Basingstoke, had just returned from Austria and Germany, and seen the Passion Play. Phyllis Rapley, whose war experiences included leaving Singapore fourteen days before the Japanese entry, and being attached to the American Navy, was home for some time, but has now gone to Los Angeles to be secretary to a Doctor. Rosalie Walker has passed her degree examinations with honours at Logan University, Utah; Betty Sayers has gone to New Zealand to be Senior English mistress of the Wellington Diocesan School, and Winifred Wakinsshaw has just gone to teach in Malaya—adventurous soul!

**Bedans Meet.** Mrs. Canney, mother of Emily and Jessie, was a guest at the Commemoration Service; she entered School on April 28th, 1890. It was pleasant to meet her—pleasant too, to have visits from Elsie White from Vancouver, Alice Mann on holiday from her new Vocational Guidance post, Eveline Blakett, whom we have also visited in her own home, and

from Amy Hasey for the first time since her marriage. We were very sorry indeed to miss Amy (Fogate); kacker friends collected by Elsie Wilson to meet her and hear news of Ida Walker (Earl) were, Elsie Weatherall (Petch), Hilda Weatherall, Gladys Thornley, Brenda Bryson (Road), Cathie McCree, Dorothy and Winnie Gibson, Winnie Hutchinson, Dora Metcalf and Ethel and Lena Thompson.

Nora Johnson (Wilson), too, we have seen. She has met Doreen Aird (Aird); but neither has yet spoken to Nancy Chicken (Brown), another Bedan living in West Hartlepool. In town we have met Margaret Coow (Hetherington) and Andrey Brown (White) out together, each with two small children, and also Jessie Thatcher (Lambert) and Florence Mowbray (Crompton), both mothers of present Bedans. Doreen Ward writes: "My mother ('Beds,' 1894-1896) met Miss Ewart and Miss Birchall for the first time since she left school. I'm sorry my daughters can't be Bedans too."

Encouraged to do so by Dorothy Botcherby (Arie), Miss Arkle called on Annie Beckwith (New) while on holiday at Bournemouth, taking Miss Seldon with her. All enjoyed the visit and chat. Elsie Wilson has entertained Bouda Beyers at her country cottage at Egglestone and Mary Mackintosh has had Doris Saphon at hers on the Rothbury Moors. Mary and Doris often meet at the Wearside Golf Club, along with Mollie Sherman, May Gibson and Peggy Todd. At Tyneside Golf Club, Mary met Miss Elliot. Courteous Old Bedans gather at the Ashbrooke Tennis Tournament, and at a local private club, Ethel and Lena Thompson, Jean Powley, Ethel Proctor (Powley), Elsie (Thackeray), Miriam (King) and Mary Earnshaw are struggling with French conversation.

Bedans find each other in unexpected places. In one London train, Phyllis Tennant met Andrey Kirch; in another, Miss Shearer, about to alight at Peterborough, came face to face with Ellen Whiting. Gladys Littlehales, holidaying, and cooking, at a boys' camp at Lancaster, met Kathleen Burnside (Scott), there on holiday; Miss Hutchinson and Miss Shearer were stopped on Mallaig pier by Malale Rich (married). Miss Arkle met Margaret Taylor (Finkle) in a bus and Blanche Colling (Turner) at Cothelstone where she lives; Lily Colling (Smith) lives near there. At a London h.c.-union, Bessie Dixon, newly-married, met Enid Blenkinsop (Collin) and learnt that she lived "round the corner" from Bessie's new home. Winnie Graham, wrestling with her monthly collection of quarts and pints, was amused to find they were being checked by Kathleen Wilson at Sunderland and District Milk Office. Gladys Sherwin discovered that a colleague at Leicester Infirmary was Thora Meakin, and that a patient who hailed her as a fellow-Bedan, was Hilda Hunter. Ethel and Lena Thompson and Jean Powley, on tour in Norway, found that they were following closely behind Eleanor Brown, Hilda Johnson and Peggy Stothard, and Elsa Engvall writes from Wakefield, "Last year I found that Jessie Rae (Fryers), who was in the Sixth Form with me, was living in Leeds. I spent a day with her and discovered that one of her sons was a godfather to a child in our Junior School." Jessie Rae was one of the Re-Construction Committee and for long took an active part in the Guild; we should welcome her back as a member.

#### MORE MEMORIES

Some Old Bedans, like *Oliver Twist*, have asked for more. Here it is, mostly in *Lighter Veils*.

Off-remembered: The tattoo of rain on the roof of the Tin Tab; the interesting garments of certain mistresses; excited buying and selling of textbooks in the play-ground at the beginning of a new year; "my first day," with, among recent Bedans, a general feeling of being "an insignificant, but very new and shiny, mouse."

*Personal Pleasures:* Helping to edit and produce the *Redan*; the thrill of buying Form pictures; the music in the Hall before Prayers; my foreign correspondence; the three years I spent in the Tin Tub; a small Sixth Form and delightful parties, very real friendships had their origin there.

*Personal Pains:* Waiting to have rough note-books checked, waiting for the oral exam., waiting to cross the platform—I might drop my certificate or trip over the plants; agonies endured while stroking the gathers of a calico nightdress; standing, with my gas mask on, on the platform, and seeing a hall full of similar black-headed monsters; when the wings of the dead beetle I was examining in a School Certificate Test snapped back into position with a click; when two of us stood on the pipes to get a better view of parents arriving for Speech Day and a pipe burst.

*Stories and Legends* (We owe three of these to the *Redan*).

We remember—the holiday when School was occupied for a short time by soldiers, but the Sixth Form went to the homes of mistresses for mathematics.

—A.B. who always got the seams of her gym stockings straight.

—the excitement when the Honours Board first appeared. In imagination we saw our names emblazoned there.

—being a Satyr on Speech Day. The night before we had our long hair in 99 plaits so that it stood out all over our heads.

—a new *Redan* who chose a desk marked "Bagged." Not knowing what it meant, she put in her belongings. Then the "bagger" arrived!

—Sixth Form lessons interrupted by mistresses, an early one which "put an end for that term to private studies in the uncomfortable, but delightful, balneario room" and a very recent one held by the winners of the Christian Gymnastic Shield, who "treated Missie Clarissa in lemonade."

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The first request for a copy of the "forth-coming booklet" came from a pupil of very early days. Her "memories are of the refinement and cleverness of most of my companions."

An end-of-century thrill: A snake was found at the school gate and killed, so he thought, by a passing workman. A girl carried it up, as a museum treasure, to Miss Todd's room where it suddenly came to life! Great excitement! At last it was drowned, preserved in spirit and became part of the Old School.

Bumour had it that the Skeleton, "Brother Bones" had been presented to School by Miss X. Very small girl: "If you please, are they Miss X's brother's bones?"

I took our new baby to show her off to Miss Hutchinson, Miss Wells and others who had lunch in School. That baby is now grandmother to Jean Vincent's two boys.

Well-nigh unbearable was the excitement when the hired clothes arrived from London for the Pease Celebrations Pageant. I could not manage the complicated fastenings of the riding breeches and hobble of the rancher's wife I was representing. Spurred on by my smiling form-mistress's good-humoured irony, I sought help downstairs, where Mr. Blyth kindly put matters right.

Who was the owner of the black science coverall that was passed round to avoid a disorder mark, and why did it seem such an honour to be allowed to use the front staircase on fee-paying afternoons?

What a thriller was Blue-beard, acted by the staff for some school charity, with Miss Caldwell, a mistress not known to the youngest forms, in the title rôle! Miss Boon sent a message to Miss Legie, one of three dead wives hanging by their hair in the forbidden cupboard, not to look so realistic, as some little ones in the audience were frightened, and in the silence of the most critical moment there rose a fearful wail from a small first-former: "O-oh! don't let Blue-beard kill Miss Shearer!"

As Form Mistress I went up to the platform in the Mayor's Parlour to receive the Junior Singing Cup. I took it and went back to my seat vaguely conscious of loud laughter. I had left the wooden stand in Miss Boon's hands.

In 1941, three second-formers took over one of the school allotments. We dug and sowed with enthusiasm and at last our French breakfast radishes were ready. Some we pulled, the rest we left to "grow bigger and better." One we left till it was the size of a young turnip. This magnificent specimen we washed carefully and we did our form-mistress, Miss Wilman, the honour of presenting it to her. With such admiration and tact did she thank us that we proud gardeners went off, pleased and unsuspecting! This story was contributed by a horticultural student in her final year.

Nine-year-old, struggling with parts of speech: "Do you think a well-bred child need learn Grammar?"

Marjorie Cowey had the gift of caricature and her drawings were a never-ending source of joy to us. Into her "little black note-book" went life-like illustrations of all the funny things that happened, e.g. a sketch of the hockey field, with Elsie—,no games enthusiast, dressed in a long tubular skirt and feebly fingering a hockey-stick, and with "Crutch" on the side-line: "You can't play hockey in a drain pipe!"

To our horror, one day the little black note-book was missing. We all searched diligently for days, then it turned up. The universal belief was that it had been borrowed by the Common Room, and for some time Marjorie wondered what her end would be—execution? or merely expulsion? But nothing happened and she took to her art once more. A gem of a book—no wonder she took it to Canada with her.

While secretly envying schools we visited, their modern buildings, we were always confident that in work and in play we could beat them into fits!

#### EDITORIAL POSTSCRIPT

It is regrettable that this year there were no school leavers intimating their desire to become Guild members. Yet we gained 34 new and 18 rejoined members. We hope that eventually these leavers will join us. Of the lapsed and lapsing members, the majority are those who join us for a year and then just drift. Perhaps Guild members acquainted with each could do some useful work here by stimulating interest and reminding them of our Secretary's address?

The Secretary, while pushing us for our improved social sense in answering notices, still wishes payment of subscriptions could be more prompt. The *Old Ladies* cannot be sent unless membership subscription is paid by Christmas. The London Branch Secretary wishes her people would emulate Sunderland in attending to notices.

While reading these foregoing pages, you may have noted an absence of any detailed mention of husbands and children. We are sorry that space will not permit of such pleasurable reading.

If you have enjoyed reading our newsy pages, why not make a firm resolve to send in your contribution in the way of news of your friends, yourself and your doings? Send it along now and earn your Editor's gratitude.

E.T.



STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON AUGUST 31st, 1950

A. Summary of Balance Sheet for Year 1949-1950 from September 1st, 1949 to August 31st, 1950

	RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Subscriptions	...	50 10 6	Stationery, Printing, Old Books and Postcard of a School	...
Interest	...	6 3 4	...	75 5 2
Balance from Meetings	...	6 3 4	Postage and Telephone Calls	...
Provision of a School (sales and donations)	...	9 1	Gifts	...
Part proceeds from Bring and Buy Sale	...	42 12 6	Balance on Year's Working	...
	...	20 0 0		...
<b>Total</b>	<b>£109</b>	<b>15 5</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£109 15 5</b>

B.

Total Funds

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance on August 31st, 1949	...	159 0 10	Made up as follows—		
Balance on Year's Working (1949-50) including Interest on War Stock, Defence Bonds and Deposit Account	...	17 7 9	34% War Stock	...	98 7 2
	...	...	3% Defence Bonds	...	75 0 0
	...	...	Balance in Bank—		
	...	...	(a) On Deposit Account	...	171 12 4
	...	...	(b) On Current Account	...	20 16 1
	...	...			202 0 7
	...	...	Cash in Hand	...	1 0 10
<b>Total</b>	<b>£176</b>	<b>14 7</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£176 14 7</b>	

ELSIE I. KIRKWOOD, Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the Receipt Books, Stock Receipts, Defence Bonds Receipt, Current and Deposit Bank Accounts and I certify that everything is in order.  
J. M. TAYLOR, September 11th, 1950.





