

**THE  
OLD  
BEDAN**



**1958**

# The Guild of Old Bedans

President	...	Miss W. J. E. Moul.
Vice-President	...	Miss E. R. Shearer.

## Office Bearers and Committee for 1958-59.

Chairman	...	Mrs. Hodgson (Joyce Gallon), 12 Birchfield Road.
Vice-Chairman	...	Mrs. Soulsby (Betty Powley), 11 Ridgeway Crescent.
Joint Secretary and Treasurer	...	Mrs. Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson), "Michaelford", South Boldon, Co. Durham. Tel: Boldon 7224.
Assistant Secretary	...	Olga Wright, 7 Ettrick Grove. Tel: 56126.

## COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Bolton (Kathleen Scott), 1 Askrigg Avenue; Miss D. Harding, Bede Grammar School for Girls; Mrs. Hunter (Gena Wright), 34 Ashwood Terrace; Joan Liddle, 3 Linden Terrace; Mrs. Ritch (Kathleen Carr), 10 Seaford Road; Mildred Ross, 90 Ormound Street; Margaret Turner, 101 Alexandra Road; Mrs. Whitehouse (Vera McBain), 11 Hawthorne Terrace, Whitburn.

## CO-OPED MANAGER AND EDITOR OF THE "OLD BEDAN":

Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), 11 Grange View. Tel: 57985.

## INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS.

Annual Subscription: 3/6d. for 1958-59 due on September 1st, 1958.  
Life Subscription, £3 3s. 6d.

MEMBERSHIP: On August 31st, 1958, the membership was 577, including 268 Life Members.

The Winter Re-union will be held in School on Friday, February 6th, 1959, and a Dinner at the Seaburn Hotel on Friday, April 17th.

The Secretary asks every member:—

1. To notify her of any change of address.
2. To give (a) her full Christian name, not just initials, and (b) if married, both maiden and married names.
3. To ask, if she is not sure her subscription is paid. Any member of Committee will pass on her request.
4. To note, that, to save postage, receipts for subscriptions will be enclosed with the first notice after payment.
5. To note, that for easier identification, maiden names are used. The married name is usually given in brackets.

## GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

**Winter Round-up, January 29th, 1958.** A nicely representative gathering of Old Bedans met in the Art Room this mild January evening, supposedly at 6-45. However, by everyone arrived it was almost 7-30 p.m. and the programme planners were then well behind schedule with their games. The first of these, "Public Notices" kept everyone guessing—N.R.T. was No Right Turn, B.S. was Bus Stop, etc. We were pleased that Margaret Turner, still incapacitated with her injured leg, having prepared the game at home, was able to be with us to tell us the answers. With paper and pencils at the ready we next did "Name this Child"—a quick-fire succession of famous people's Christian names being required. Needless to say Old Bedans wits offered Minnie, instead of Harold, MacMillan, Margery for Pat, Sraythe, Winnie, for Dylan, Thomas and Florence, for Archie Andrews. These answers were not counted correct! "Spring Sales" was the next item. Our youngest committee member, Joan Liddell, took time off from worrying about the lack of air in the room to explain how each member of a team, while constantly pulling a balloon, had to run and choose a hat (what glorious creations) from their own "team" pile of hats, then pass the balloon to the next member. The results were most fetching! Next came a delicious supper—full and juicy sandwiches, Betty Powley's scrumptious meat pie, a cream cake and a chocolate biscuit—and seconds if you wished! All for three shillings—and an ice-cream too. Committee members had made the sandwiches—this was an appreciable economy for our budget. After supper, we sat back and enjoyed a performance by Old Bedan Audrey Jordan as a magician and ventriloquist. Poor Dorothy Fox, encased in a box, at one time seemed to have her head severed, but eventually came out quite whole, if very hot. We all appreciated Audrey and her ventriloquist dollsies—thank you Audrey.

Audience participation was again the order of the evening in a competitive naming game. Each for her own group had to name committing suicide from a high tower, rescuing a damsel in distress, etc. They guessed them too—what talent! The evening finished with musical "What's My Line" and Auld Lang Syne. How nice it was to see Miss Moul, who was able to stay the whole evening, Miss Steiner, Miss Arkle, Miss Harris, Miss Wilman, Miss Lloyd, and Miss Harding, along with the School Captain, Norma Walsh, and Vice-Captain Gillian Collins, among the Guild members. Come again!

**Dinner, April 15th.** 172 Old Bedans enjoyed an appetising meal, time for talk and the amazing entertainment provided by Mary Mackintosh, Kathleen Carr, Margaret Turner, Winnie Scott, Joyce Gallon, Jennie Hey, Joan Jobling and Lena Thompson. The poem was so arranged that from our seats we could distinguish at other tables old acquaintances to be sought out and greeted later. These included Enid Crowe and Evelyn Johnson (Ellis). A valuable committee member and Assistant Secretary before the left Sunderland, Enid had never managed to come to a Guild gathering since, while Enid had till now been unable to attend any meeting although she was one of the tea optimists who showed enough faith in the new Guild to join it as a Life Member as soon as it was formed. Joyce Gallon (Hodgson) welcomed us and "wearing with pride the Chairman's Badge of Office" thanked our Secretary who does the work but has no badge. After the entertainment, details of which appear on later pages, a small gift from the Guild was handed to the artists by the President, Miss Moul, whom we were pleased to have with us.

**Summer Outing, June 20th.** The temperature of the evening of the Old Bedan summer outing made us feel more like travellers with Fuchs to the Antarctic than with Greenwell's to Muggleswick. However, once settled in the two buses, spirits (and bus temperatures) rose high. The countryside was very fresh and a very rain-washed green as we wended our way through the leafy lanes beyond Lanchester, under the arches of trees on the Hollinside road and came to a halt near crossroads on the Castleside road for supper. This is the first evening since the bus outings began that almost everyone preferred to have supper in the buses, a few hardy souls had sandwiches in very fresh air before retiring

into the buses for a hot drink. Committee members had made three kinds of sandwiches, Betsy Powley had excelled with her always-tasty meat pie; chocolate biscuits and cheese and biscuits rounded off the meal....The flasks of hot tea and coffee were most acceptable. We were pleased to have with us Miss Bernard, Miss Harding, Miss Fall, Miss Kinch, Miss Bell and Mrs. Wilkinson, all members of school staff.

Two cameras appeared, despite the leaden skies, but at least we managed to stretch our legs before the buses set off on the homeward journey. The driver took the pretty Castleside-Muggleswick-Edmondshyers route back to Lanchester and the Chester-le-Street by-pass to Ewensley Road where we sorted out buses again. There the Barnes Park and Graingerstown folks parted from the town centre and North side of the river people.

In short—good company, good food, pretty route, but poor weather.

**Loan and Scholarship Fund.** There was only one application for a loan, and as it was for a considerable sum—£80—the meeting which is usually held in the summer term was not held until the autumn term, as the Committee wanted to know about other grants. It was decided to lend the £80 to enable a pupil to go to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. No prizes were awarded in case there were any unexpected loans to be made during the year.

K. M. CARRICK,

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer,  
Bede Grammar School for Girls.

**Social Service.** Gradually more and more Old Bedans are helping with money if in no other way. This is as it should be and soon perhaps every member will be contributing something. A hard-working enterprising committee puts the gifts to good use.

Up to August 31st, 1958, we had £86 11s. 6d., gathered thus:—£10 voted from Guild Funds in September, 1957, £21 14s. 6d. from donations, £18 12s. 6d. from parties and other individual efforts, 56 7s. 6d. from raffles and £21 from two coffee mornings run by the committee. It was a thrill when funds were low to receive unexpectedly on the morning of the Christmas parcels committee meeting two extra large donations, one from London, one from Vancouver.

We spent £24 10s. 6d. on 24 parcels for needy old people at Christmas and £15 15s. 6d. for 21 at Easter. We also distributed 21 parcels, kindly given to us for the purpose from their Harvest Festivals by Barnes Junior and Infants Schools smaller gifts, delivered in each case by visiting Old Bedans, were—flowers at Christmas to some old patients at Ryhope General Hospital who had no visitors, Easter "eggs" to some friendless old folk in Easington Hospital whom we had previously known for a long time at Ryhope, and £2 for sweets, etc., for Wapside. We were able also to help two old ladies financially, one of them towards the expense of a removal.

The letters of thanks are touching and appreciative. One tells us of "sickness and bereavement this year", one recipient is so pleased with the parcel which arrived on her 79th birthday and another's daughter is very apologetic for her "letter arriving late because of injured hands". A visitor says her old lady is "thinking of trying the pools to win something to let her make a little present to those who are so kind to her".

The work of our members who run the Red Cross Library at Ryhope General Hospital is much appreciated there. They could do with more helpers. Details may be had from Mrs. Hunter (Margaret Chapman) 9 Stockton Road, Ryhope.

At the 1957 Guild of Help Market our stall made £21 10s. 6d. Since then, this year's stall has been even more successful; donations for it and also for our old people have been many and the outlook for Christmas parcels is good.

**Committee** (maiden names only):—Margaret Chapman, Elsie Davidson, Joyce Errington, Rene Halliday, Vera Harrold, Kathleen Muir, Cathie McCree, Minnie McMillan, Anne Mitchell, Joan Newby, Betty Peters, Betsy Porsley, Edith Thompson, Gladys Thornley, Elsie Wilson (the first), Joyce Gullan as Chairman of the Guild and D. S. Arkle (Convener), 49 Ashwood Terrace.

**The Hockey Club.** 24 games were arranged for last season but in what proved to be one of the worst winters on record as far as games were concerned, 13 of these were cancelled. Of the 11 games played we won 7 and lost 4.

Heavy rain washed out both tournaments but in the Easter holidays 4 team members took part in an International Hockey Festival at Harrogate, and two of our members, Vera Jenkins (Dent) and Jean Brewis (Pillans) played for the first County team.

Several improvements and changes in uniform have been made recently. Light blue three-quarter stockings and sweaters, also hodgees, are our latest acquisitions and early in the season we bought some new crockery.

On behalf of the Hockey Club I would like to thank the Guild of Old Bedans for their co-operation and continued support.

VALERIE NORTHORPE, (Hon. Sec.),  
44 Primrose Cres., Fubell, Sanderland.

**London Guild of Old Bedans.** The October 1957 re-union was held at the home of Doris Clayburn (James) at 193 Rivermeade Court, S.W.6., on Saturday, 26th October. Judging by the number of apologies, the attendance was considerably affected by the current 'flu epidemic. However, the usual chatter and reminiscence were much enjoyed by Joyce Hebron (Aylen), Marjorie Bailes (Kawish), Gladys Wilson (Stephenson), Doreen Ward (Macrae), her mother Mrs. Ward (nee Goodie), Doris Clayburn and myself. On 11st May, 1958, we met at the home of Doreen Ward at 39 Birch Grove, S.W.3. and all enjoyed inspecting and admiring her recent home-decorating efforts. These present were Joyce Hebron, Edith Broderick (Burge), Nancy Lawther (Hubicka), Jessie Ridley (Pickard), Mary Thurlbeck (Poet), Doreen, her mother and myself.

PHYLLIS TENNANT (Mrs. Beck),  
Hon. Secretary,  
172 Plumstead Common Road, S.E.18.

## SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

11th September, 1958.

34 Members present.

Members welcomed by the President, Miss Moul.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports. Gist appears in various places in this "Old Bedan".

Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 1958-59.

Chairman's Remarks.

Reports on the Hockey Club, the London Branch, the "Old Bedan", and the Social Service Activities.

Allocation from Funds:—One guinea for School Prize, one guinea for 'Bedan' competition, two guineas for the Hockey Club and Five Pounds for the Social Service Activities.

Future Meetings:—Winter Re-union, a Dinner Re-union and a Summer Outing.

## SCHOOL NOTES

### STAFF CHANGES FROM JANUARY, 1958:—

Goodbye to:— Miss Jackson, Miss Norman (Mrs. Raven), Mrs. Watson.

Welcome to:— Miss Anagra, Miss Richardson, Mr. Nottingham.

Welcome back from France Miss Tweed.

Chairman of P.T.A.:—Mr. M. Berry.

Vice-Chairman:—Miss Rutter (Staff).

School Captain:—Ursula Field.

Vice-Captain:—June Liddle.

G.O.B. PRIZES:—BIBAN Essay: Irene Turnbull.  
Chemistry: Kathleen Marshall.

### LILY A. HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL PRIZES:—

English: Anne Powell. French: Norma Walsh.

### SPORTS CHAMPIONS:—Junior: Christine Barton.

Middle: Sheila Wilson.

Senior: Hilary Wheale.

## FROM NOVEMBER, 1957 to NOVEMBER, 1958.

These have become Life Members:—Pat Carty (Turnbull), Elsie Earnshaw (Thackeray), Mary Earnshaw, Stella Lawson, Dorothy Morrison (Peterson), Gladys Patinson, Greta Rieborough (Middlemiss), Rhoda Sinclair (Pickering), Jessie Smith (Priest), Edith Wood (Kerr), Lillie Wood (McLachlan).

These have become members:—Olive Armitage (Fryer), Jean Bell, Edna Best (Froo), Margaret Bouchberry (Scott), Edna Brown (Jackson), Dorothy Campbell, Eva Chappel (Warriner), Bessie Clark (Dotson), Geraldine Cook (Tasker), Marjorie Coddleford (Snowball), Avril Douglas, Gwendoline Fenwick (Egerton), Elizabeth Fraser, Doreen Goodwill (Ward), Dorothy Jobling (Tatters), Marjorie Lux, Eleanor Lennon, Lydia Newby (Chappell), Carrie Peat, Jean Peitch, Pat Ranken, Ruth Robinson (Brown), Violet Tindle, Margaret Todd.

Married are:—Mary Aikin, Rosemary Barriman, Morag Brown, Mildred Bourflower, Joan Charlton (the second), Pamela Charlton, Rita Cohen, Shirley Mennear, May Metcalf, Doreen Mergatroyd, Edith Osborne, Judith Parker, Jean Peitch, Pat Rich, Gillian Rhymer, Margaret Rudlin, Anne Shauer, Violet Smith, Audrey Skinner, Sheila Thompson, Joyce Underwood, Doris Wilson, Kathleen Wilson (the first), Patricia Young, Kathleen Cairns.

Babies to:—Sheila Adamson, Mollie Anderson, Mary Arkless, Kathleen Barlow, Joyce Broderick, Joan Boudge, Eileen Chambers, Margaret Chestney, Marjorie Cockarill, Brenda Colling, Violet Cooper, Lorna Cutler, Margaret Fitzgerald, Brenda Gibson, Monty Graham, Jean Hamilton, Doris Henderson, Kathleen Humphrey, Pauline Humphreys, Marjorie Jackson (the third), Pat Kendall, Sylvia Kilminster, Joan Kirlow, Winifred Lathen, Alison Martin, Marjorie Newham, Muriel Orr, Pat Palmer, Dorothy Perkins, Joyce Plampton, Erid Prichard, Edith Richardson, Jean Rosenstein, Pat Scott, Rita Sheriff, Gladys Sidney, Joan Sigworth, Shirley Sinclair, Shona Spencer, Marjorie Sanky, Joyce Towson, Freda Tudberry, Audrey Walker, Doreen Walker, Marie Walker, Denise Wood, Sylvia Allen, Joan Haswell, Ada McDonald.

In Memoriam:—Laura Bart (Mrs. Markez), Miss M. E. Haggart (Staff), Miss M. Weddell (Staff), Margery Holland (Mrs. Slater), Madge Welch, Miss A. M. Rhind (Staff), Jane Tomperley (Mrs. Ward), Miss H. Pickup (Mrs. Topfisk), Ida Storey (Mrs. Pickering), Nellie Smyth (Mrs. Eades).

## WHO TAUGHT US ONCE.

It is with regret that we report the deaths of four former members of Bede School Staff.

We learn with grief of the death on October 3rd of Miss M. E. Haggart. It was a loss indeed to Bede School when she decided to not return there after our evacuation period at Richmond. We kept, however, her friendship, for we were all fond of her, and now we remember with appreciation the thoroughness and the exhilarating vivacity of her French lessons and the help she gave so willingly and so unparingly to pupils and to colleagues. Old Bedans who were not taught by her, but remember her only as a Housemistress, will recall her vivid personality, her humorous and dramatic turn of phrase, which could enliven any House meeting or House party. Miss Haggart will be remembered with affection by all Bedans who were at school in her time.

As we go to Press, we hear of the sudden death, following an accident, of Miss Margaret Weddell. A former pupil writes: Miss Weddell was a teacher who inspired her pupils by her enthusiasm and her deep love for the best of English literature. That vital spark that can be recognised was hers in full measure. An idealist and perfectionist—only the best would pass muster for Miss Weddell. She gave us a standard for our future judgement.

Her eyes had given her much trouble in recent years and she was compelled to read in Braille. Her friends among Old Bedans will not need to be told of the courage and resource with which she met her disability. One recalls with affection her small straight figure, her fine upwept hair, and her warm kind eyes. To her old pupils and friends, the news of her death brings a great sadness.

A link with School's early days was broken when Miss A. M. Rhind died in August. She is remembered by the oldest Old Bedans as a capable and well-liked teacher of German and other subjects.

Some Old Bedans will remember too Miss Helen Pickup (Mrs. Toplis) who died in November, as a popular, lively and efficient P.E. mistress in her years at Bede.

Miss H. Martin has left Here, where Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer visited her in spring, and has gone to Loughison to live there. Miss Ewart spent a few days in Gosforth in October and is returning for a longer stay later when we hope to see her.

Mrs. Anderson (Miss Bruce) is mentioned elsewhere in Old Bedan news, as is also Mrs. Beaney (Miss Littlehales). Miss Harris visited Miss Birchall in Sevenoaks. Miss Franklin returned from Swanzland early in the year and is teaching at the Girls' Grammar School, Boleby. As many of you have seen her long interesting open letter, we do not quote from it. Miss Arkle had a long telephone conversation with Mrs. Nicholson (Miss D. Thompson) who was spending a few days in Newcastle. Miss A. Thompson who took for some time Miss Durr's place at School, is now supervisor of the domestic side of the student's courses at Lambton Castle.

Former members of staff attending the Dinner were Misses Lloyd, Arkle, Shearer, Peters, and Mrs. Beaney and present members Misses Moul, Harding and Barnard as well as Betty Coates (Wilkinson), Audrey Hayton and Eva Bell (the first) who are all Old Bedans.

## BEDANS AT WORK.

Audrey Syrett is chief librarian at Westminster College Library in London. Jennifer Rogers is a new recruit to the West Branch of Sunderland Libraries. Dorothy Stephenson, after working in Bournemouth for some years, has come north to Newcastle and has a post at Underwood's Commercial School. Doreen Murgatroyd (Boyes) is Superintendent of the Prescription Pricing Bureau at Crawley. Muriel Reaney has a post in the Health Office, Sunderland. Maureen Savage has almost finished her training as a physiotherapist at Newcastle R.V.I. Brenda Johnson (Juler) is a physiotherapist at Sunderland Accident Hospital. Jean Stirling is at Kingham, Oxford as a novice in the Anglican Convent of the Community of Jesus of Nazareth. She will train for four years before taking her vows, and will then work in necessitous parishes as a Church Sister. Rita Harnd has certainly had a varied career since, in the Sixth Form, she edited along with Kathleen Simpson, and Ellen Whiting "The Brighter Bedan". According to an illustrated article found in a woman's magazine she is now a 'one-woman catering firm' in London. Not satisfied with organising and planning in the kitchen for big catering firms, Rita started helping friends to do the actual cooking when they were entertaining and discovered her services were required by more than her friends. She called her business "Round the World in a Kitchen", but finds that English food is often preferred by most people.

Dorothy Campbell is training to be a bank clerk in Leeds. Joyce Logan (Blades) has an interesting two-hours-a-day job teaching speech and drama, and flower arrangement to senior girls in a Lincolnshire school. Hilma Weatherall, Phyllis Lodge, and Stella Lawson are 'heads' of country schools in the North-alton area.

Thelma Richardson (Pallas) who teaches German at Houghton Grammar School, discovered their new P.E. teacher to be a very young Old Bedan—Eleanor Lenson. Phyllis Torman (Beck) is teaching French and English at Waverley Secondary Technical School, London. Margaret Chappell (Hall) is now teaching in Basingstoke High School where Nancy Welch is deputy headmistress. Pat Stoeley has gained her degree in Physics and Maths, and is teaching mathematics at Seaham Grammar School. Marie Scott and Jean Hoggett have teaching posts in Sunderland, and Connie Parkinson is teaching at Whitburn. Dorothy Bell (the second) and Eleanor Brown have been appointed head teachers in Sunderland. Retired from teaching are Madha Potts, Elsie Rogers, and Lilian Taylor. Doris Wilson (White) retired from teaching on her marriage and subsequent removal to Brough.

### In Public Life.

Mary Robertson is Vice-President of the Association of Teachers of Domestic Science. Jessie Ross (Councillor Mrs. Scott-Batey) is Chairman of the Secondary Education Sub-Committee in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. She has been a prime mover in the campaign for a change in the 11+ examination in Newcastle. Joyce Miller (Crooks) is Headquarters Training Officer for the Durham and Northumberland Girls' Training Corps. She visits units from Middlesbrough to Blyth and in April opened a new G.T.C. unit at Peterlee.

Marjorie Walker (Cuthbertson) and Doris Beattie took a party of schoolchildren to Tonsberg (Norway) last summer. West Southwick Girls' School, where Lena Thompson is "head", recently sent parcels of shirts to inmates of Lambourn, Dr. Albert Schweitzer's leper village in French Equatorial Africa. They were helped in their collecting and parcelling by several members of staff, including Sylvia Hood. Vera Sheraton is a Vice-President of the Sunderland Branch of the Royal College of Nursing.



Lydia Hill was presented with a nest of tables, travelling clock and cheque on her retirement from the post of Secretary of Durham County Labour Women's Advisory Council. She is now Labour Women's Organiser for the Northern Area. Nellie Blacklock (Hadley) is a member of the Sunderland and District Local Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, and she and her sister Evelyn Blacklock are members of the East Durham Advisory Committee of the National Assistance Board.

Mary Mackintosh (Alderson) has completed her year of office as President of Sunderland Inner Wheel. Her wonderful talent at entertaining is much appreciated by the Women's Institute members at Thropton when she is "in residence" there. Deborah Crombie is President of Sunderland Head Teachers' Association, and Winifred Whiting is Honorary Secretary of the Sunderland Branch of the National Union of Teachers. Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) is Chairman of the Sunderland and District Union of Congregational Women.

At the beginning of the year, the new flags which were presented to the Offerton Scout Group had been bought with the money donated in memory of the late Hilda Bird, who was connected with this Scout Group for many years.

### Qualifications.

Pauline Craggs (Hittner) qualified as a doctor at Leeds—she received her degree in July on her sixth wedding anniversary. Patricia McGahan has passed her final examination in chartered accountancy. Joyce Gullen (Hodgson) has passed the City and Guilds' examination in Embroidery and Design.

### The Arts.

Elizabeth Graham had two of her paintings accepted for a 1958 Royal Academy Exhibition. She started a three-year course at the R.A. in 1957 and specialises in portrait and still-life painting. She recently won a portrait prize competed for by all the students at the Academy. Stella Gibson (Ramsay) sang as solo soprano on a programme arranged by a religious group to broadcast on Radio Luxembourg.

Esther McLachlan (Wallace) had a story "The Magic Blackboard" accepted by the B.B.C. for broadcasting on Children's Hour.

At the Easing Musical Festival, Dorcen Ward (Macrae) and her family featured on two pianos—"Jean and I on one, and Sheila and Ian on the other".

### Sport.

HOCKEY:—Yerna Dent (Jenkins) was listed among the "farther reserves" for the North of England hockey team. Jean Brewis (Pillans) is the only Old Bedon still playing on the County team. Yerna is leaving Sunderland to live in Northamptonshire.

BOWLS:—Evelyn Blacklock because of a recent illness was unable to play in the President's Day match at Roker Park, but was a spectator in her capacity as President of the English Women's Bowling Association.

SWIMMING:—Connie Parkinson, now teaching at Whitburn, is passing on some of her swimming experience and knowledge to the cubs of her pack, whom she is coaching at swimming. At the recent Sunderland and District Boy Scouts' Association Gala, Connie swam a lonely length "race" in backcrawl stroke as the only entry from a lay Cubmistress for that event over a period of three years! Muzreen Savage has been awarded the Amateur Swimming Association teaching certificate.

**Gymnastics:**—Jane Allison was included in one of the teams of the North East Keap Fit Association which took part in a Festival of Movement and Dance at the Empire Pool, Wembley. Eight schoolgirls, trained by Jane, were chosen by the Central Council of Physical Recreation to take part in a display of gymnastic agility at the Festival.

**Tennis:**—At the Durham County Championships at Ashbrooke in July the quiet parring of a cine-camera at the side of the centre court attracted the attention of some of the tennis celebrities visiting Sunderland. The camera belonged to Audrey Jordan who offered to show the complete film to her Guide Company and also to the tennis 'stars' at a later date.

At the Junior County Tennis Tournament in August, competitors and visitors seeking tea could be served on one afternoon by Elizabeth Thurlock (Airey) Marjorie Collins (Piper) or Winnie Scott (Thomas). Winnie Pullan (Laws) had been 'on duty' another day.

#### Notable.

Mary Gibbons and her husband, parents of Bessie Taylor and of our Honorary Auditor, entered the Old Higher Grade School on its first day; they have now celebrated their golden wedding.

Edith Gibson, who is Matron of Rampton Hospital, Nottinghamshire, was one of the 600 guests at the "Women of the Year" luncheon at the Savoy Hotel, London. The theme of the discussion at this function was "What makes a woman happy?".

Miss Moul was invited to a garden party at Buckingham Palace in July; Sara Keeler, who since February 1938, has been chief nursing officer for the Worcestershire County Health Department, was also invited to a Royal Garden Party with sixteen other sisters of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

#### —and Interesting.

Connie Peal, who is now a member of the Guild still has the copy of the first "Bede" published in December, 1898. Ursula Field, head girl this year at Bede, is carrying on a family tradition, for her mother, Annie New, who died when Ursula was born, was head girl thirty years ago.

#### Meetings.

At Bessie Taylor's, to meet a friend from Australia who is a P.E. organiser there, were Miss Peters, Ethel and Lena Thompson, Mary Mackintosh, Edith Lockey (Smith), Molly Hirkley (Maddison), Dorothy Goodair, Marjorie Spurling, Mollie Atkinson (Taylor), and Phyllis Carr (Ferry). Margaret Chapman (Hunter) visited Evelyn Thompson (Pym) and her sister Marjorie at Bristol and saw also Rose Johnston (Neal) and Sheila from London. Grace and Jean Ross came north from Haslemere this summer. Grace stayed with Dora Metcalf and Jean with Mabel Woodruff. Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) met Peggy Rae (Wakeford) on holiday in Rome this year. They recalled their Latin days with Miss Lodge. Peggy made many enquiries about Old Bede and members of staff and sent kind regards to all those she knew at Bede. She now lives in Birmingham. Jennie Alexander, now teaching in London, came to Sunderland on holiday and met Caroline Smith (Egglestone) whom she had not seen for fifteen years. Gladys Sim (Hopper) visiting her sister Doris (Thompson) in London met Freda Mole who is now a Matron at a London Training College. Phoebe King (Phillips) now living in West Monkaton visited Elsie Davidson. The latter also met Elsie Scott (Rook) in Biam—a first meeting for about twenty

years. Ella Selley (Edwards) who lives at Banstead, and Helen Reed (Perry) exchanged visits during the year; Helen sees Dorothy Mascalls (Hirst) at intervals. Norma Glasbein (O'Connor) spent a week-end with Nancy Voss-Bark (Suggs) during the summer and they enjoyed a visit to *My Fair Lady*.

Nora Johnson (Wilson) and family spent Easter week-end with Emily Durrant (Lawson) at Lechliffehead. Joyce Gallon (Hodgson) on holiday in Aylesbury met Kathleen Smith (Pickworth) who gave Joyce her address for Sheila (Gallon) (working in Aylesbury) to contact her after the holidays. Also in that area is Sheila Black who is a sister at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. Earlier in the year, Joyce spent a week-end at the Bradford home of Ursula Laidler (Cox). Marjorie Anderson (Curtis) spent several days on the beach during the summer holidays with Freda Smith (Thompson) who lives at Carlisle. Maureen Liddle, still living in York, visited Winnie Scott (Thomas) on holiday in Yorkshire and caught up with some news from Sunderland. Winnie spent a week-end at the home of Hilda Andrews (Moore) in Newton Mearns, Scotland and discovered soon after her return to Sunderland that Isabel Caldwell lives about three streets away from Hilda! At the Dinner, Bedara remembered not only from Sunderland and all over County Durham and Northumberland, but from Alston, Shipley, Leyburn, Wakefield, Chilwell, Glasgow, Newton Mearns, London and Southampton.

#### Fun at the Seaburn Hotel.

"Our Programme", warned Mary, "is shorter than last years and not so good". We of the audience smiled, unshocked, and proceeded to enjoy *Assess the Ties*, a *Cultural Lecture* and *Clubs Lines*. It is not easy to make it all live again; to appreciate it to the full, absent Bedara should be versed in the local topics of last April, know School as it is now, see sketches of the models we saw and hear the comments of the Dress Expert.

In closer sense, sang to the Pick of the Pops, the first item showed us the "gods we own" in our town of "gulls and gales and a North Sea squall". First we listened to the tale of the Abbot—"*Will some kind alderman leave me alone*" sighed a resident of Seaburn Dene, but the dark top-hatted Alderman merely replied with picturesque details, "I must have my abbotoir **BY THE SEA**". Then we came to "Catch a falling starling. Dropping from the girders. Crossing over *Worswath Bridge*", to the old High Street *Bamboe* and *Who-Flang-What's* bird-nest soup, on to the *North End of the Station*—"stuffy in the morning, fishy in the evening, beery at supper-time", and lastly to *Fawcett Street* which "has been handed down to us"—"that deep canyon where all winds meet, They call it *Fawcett Street*".

"To find better towns and football teams you'd not have far to roam, But to marry, many Bedara, it will always be *Home Sweet Home*."

In this "very geo-physical year" the cultural item was scientific—a lecture on *The Life History of the Mole*, with witty illustrations. In carefully enunciated English the celebrated Expert on Wild Life, Fray von Gorse-in-Bloom, enlightened us on the appearance, habits and habitat of "an most interesting creature not cannot be confused with any other of her kind". We quote from the last section "The mole is sensitive to sound and spends much of her life in corridors; her resting-place it is known as a fortress which is a kind of private room, and the best place for the mole's establishment is under the waterworks. In distribution the mole is peculiar to the North-East; she is known to sit in her place for 25 years. Ye huff ye mole", ended the lecturer, "and should indeed be sorry if she were no longer vis us".

In *Charles Liza Peggy Tupp* from New York, aided by three models and a dressmaker wearing an outside pin cushion on her wrist, showed us how merely, by using what lay to hand, we could become the "Woman of 1958". She herself wore an enormous black cootie hat and a royal blue confection, surely Chinese in inspiration, with a huge yellow bow on the left knee. "Knees" she said, "are de rigueur this year". A stole of circular jersey, a ring of used elastic! "Maggi" stepped into these. The stole was pinned on the shoulders, pouched at the knees over the elastic and the *Fald* was created. A deep hat was pulled down over Maggi's eyes for "you gotta be cloched". "Lisa's" *Knee-Hugger* followed—a short stiff quilted house-coat back to front 'hugged' at the knees by a strip of pink foam rubber from the ironing board. A black nylon stocking made a chic hat. "For the *Tapsen-Liza*, worn with a bread-basket hat, look to the garden!" Spring and a long cane formed a knee-length triangular frame over which was draped a yellow and white striped sheet. "Lisa" sought wildly to "place" the finishing touch—a large flame-coloured bow, and ended by posing with it gripped coyly between her teeth.

"You want me to bolster up your wardrobe? Bolster! That's the idea," exclaimed Peggy Tupp and Maggi was soon being inserted into a bolster-slip. A pyjama cord was dotted through curtain rings from hem to shoulder, ending there in a red chiffon rose. Maggi pulled the rose and the back of her *Camp-up* folded up like a Venetian blind. This toilette was worn with black stockings.

Last, for the fuller figure, came the *Fall-blous* or *Bark hat*—a long golf jacket, pouched voluminously and belted tightly round the hips. "If it's not exactly *avant-garde* at least it is *Kallos-derriere*" said Peggy Tupp pointing a Lamp Shade on the model's head. "And so useful" she added as she thrust several packets of groceries inside and neatly zipped it up.

Finally all the artists sang a Bedan version of *Magic Moments* which we print in full. The audience joined in the chorus. Then with the last nostalgic line echoing in our ears, the evening ended and we rose together to sing the School Song.

#### MAGIC MOMENTS

We'll never forget the day that we met  
Right there in the Tin Tub,  
We'll never forget the fun that we had  
Right there in the Chem Lab.

Chorus: Magic moments—memories we've been sharing,  
Magic moments—Bedan hearts are caring;  
Memories remain, as school-days recede,  
Of magic moments spent at Bed.

And do you recall the Victoria Hall  
Where we had our Speech Days?  
The mistresses' gowns, the Governors' frowns,  
Our singing and School plays?

Chorus:

And then what a thrill! The School on the hill  
That golden September,  
Excitement so rare that those who were there  
Will always remember;

Chorus:

The way that we cheered whenever our team  
Was scoring a winner,  
The kerosen meringues Miss Dunn used to make  
For everyone's dinner!

Chorus:

The lessons in French, the hours of "detenche"  
We spent with Miss Shearer!  
But now we can laugh, for all of the Staff  
Are very much dearer.

Chorus:

These memories so dear to all of us here,  
Old Bedans together,  
Will last all our years through laughter and tears,  
Through fine or rough weather.

Magic moments—memories we've been sharing,  
Magic moments—Bedan hearts are caring;  
Memories remain, as school-days recede,  
Of magic moments spent at Bed.

#### Homes of Married Old Bedans (not recently mentioned).

Mimi Behrman (Rayson), Coventry; Norma Burnside (Rhodes), Dungeness; Rita Cohen (Rosenberg), Manchester; Jennie Hughes (Donaldson), Great Ayton; Kathleen Johnson (Barbour), Peterborough; Evelyn Madison (Fox), Winkaton; Nancy Middleton (Johnson), Northampton; Mildred Mincovitch (Oler), Newcastle; Jennie Witten (Henderson), now Besley; Phyllis Johnson (Mitchell), Wallington, Surrey; Annie Beckwith (New), Bournemouth; Amy Stephenson (Ferguson), Wellerby near Hull; Kathleen Watson, Southampton; Doris Crosby (Matshodan), Prudhoe-on-Tyne; Doris Wilson (White), Brough; Winnie Halliday (Wilson), Bramhall, Manchester; Joyce Bailey (Fennell), London; Edith Osborne (Linford), Birmingham; Edith Richardson (Trenbath), Hoyleake, Cheshire.

#### Change of Address.

Jean Wise (Crosby) to Manchester. Jean Wilson (Dobson) is back in Sunderland from Cheshire and Molly Garbutt is in England again for a year and living at Bristol.

A house in Thompson Road, Sunderland, recently passed from one Old Bedan owner, Helen Jeff (Hodson) to another Enid Potts (Wilson).

**Bedans Abroad.** Brenda Metcalf (Taylorson) is living in Jinja, Uganda. Evelyn Leonard, who earlier this year was teaching English at the Albert Schweitzer Grammar School in Offenbach, Germany, paid a flying visit to England in March to act as interpreter to the Mayor and Mayoress of Offenbach during their short visit to London. She was asked to accompany them because of her fluent German, French and Swedish. June Charlton left in September for Bermuda to take up an appointment as classics mistress at Bermuda High School for Girls. Doris McLeod left Sunderland in February to take a post as laboratory technician at Awak, Bahrain. The hospital where she works is slightly smaller than Sunderland Children's Hospital and is for the employees of the oil company there. Mavis Hingworth, who teaches in Durban, made headlines in the South African newspapers when she went boldly on long rides on her scooter, the greatest being from Durban to Capetown. Audrey Sidney had an interesting and enjoyable post for six months near Le Havre looking after French children and teaching her French. Since her return she has been working at Donford's. Grace Entwistle is a child care worker in Pittsburg, U.S.A.

Joan Caven is going to take a teaching post in Brazil. Her first months in South America were to be spent studying Portuguese before beginning her work for the Unevangelised Fields Mission in Belém, the main port in Northern Brazil.

Marjorie Bruce (Anderson) spent several months in Canada visiting her sister Ethel (Dodd). Audrey Reynolds (Fielding) has gone to New Zealand. Margaret Topel (Arncliffe) is returning "for good" from India next spring. Betty Gillis (Yoffey) had a short time in New York last summer, and Betty Peters (Spence) has had an extra long spell of travel on her husband's ship. Marion Freeman went to British Columbia this summer and stayed with Marjorie Cowey (Snowball). Maureen Lax (Spencer) has started a Brownie pack at her church at Dunedin, New Zealand. Lilian Robertson is in Dusseldorf. Beryl Shaw (Wagner) is now settled in Brisbane and is kept very busy with two children and a practice. Mary Howitt, who has settled in Australia, undertook to provide a contestant in an unusual competition—an international contest between jumping frogs—which takes place annually in Calaveras County, California. The frogs (one reserve!) are packed in a tin of moss, and flown to the United States. The challenge came from the Scepterist Club at Angel's Camp, Calaveras County to the Scepterist Club of Bowral, New South Wales of which Mary Howitt is a founder member. Rita Knowles (Blakeman) who has been in India for three years, is hoping to have three months' leave in April.

**Home from Abroad.** On holiday from Montreal for almost three months, Margaret Brown (Adams) visited Sunderland after an absence of twenty years and hoped to see some old school friends. Dorothy Dodd, a former Head Girl at Bede, brought two Swedish friends with her when she came home for a short holiday in the summer. She describes Jaskoping where she teaches as one of the most beautiful towns she has ever seen. It is on the southern tip of Lake Vattern which in the winter months freezes over to provide a first-class skating rink. Lucy Fosgate (Nichol) came home from Calmar, Transvaal for a few months and she and her old friends throughout this country met with mutual pleasure. Maureen Crawford (Smith) is back from Tanganyika and lives in the South of England. On her tour from Kasubi in the Serda Hills is Dr. Pat Campbell who is living at Chesham, Surrey, while in England. Marjorie Blair was home from Africa in the summer, also on leave from Africa was Pat Swan.

#### From Your Letters.

Jessie Smith (Priest) writes from Adelaide, South Australia, "I have enjoyed reading the 'Old Bede' immensely—so much so that I have decided to become a life member, then I can look forward to it arriving annually. Some of the items carried me back over fifty years, but the memories are still crystal clear; Kate Coburn (Mrs. Johnson) taught us chemistry away back in 1905 and 1906. Miss Lily Hutchinson was our form mistress, and Miss Ewart was School Secretary..... Since my return to Australia I have done a little teaching here and there as a 'reliever-teacher'. I belong to the Women's Graduates' Union; meetings are held about six times a year at the Adelaide University. We had a lovely Freshers' Party last month. We give a Buffet Tea to the new young things who have just obtained their degrees, give each one a pretty flower spray and introduce them to the old graduates and it's usually a delightful evening. This year was no exception and I returned home quite rejuvenated."

From Dorothy Morrison (Petersen) living in Langes, Denmark: "My last Bab link with Sunderland was broken when Freda Smith (Phillips) went to Montreal in September, 1957.....but all my family were in Sunderland at Freda's in 1956 and how nice it was to be back in the old team. I was truly astonished at the changes.....all those houses at Hambleton! In my time the school was almost in the country. Should my Bede post or present be in this part of the world she'll be more than welcome. Our telephone number is 33834 Nordberg Exchange, Denmark."

Elsie White (the first) wrote from Vancouver, just too late for the last 'Old Bedan. "I think you will be interested to know that at a two-day Super Secretarial Conference held in September, the City Council sent two delegates of whom I was one. I enjoyed it. The other girl and I are now conducting a series of discussion lectures for the senior stenographers of the City—46 in all. This has been arranged through the Personnel Department and takes place during office hours. We are each taking eight sessions of one hour each." (Note: Later we received a copy of the Vancouver City Hall Employees' Association Gazette which contained a description of the Conference and photographs of the two-enterprising delegates. Elsie represented the Law Department).

From Muriel Bruce (Anderson) from Birmingham: "I wonder who thought of putting into the 'Old Bedan' a photo of the School? It was a grand idea". Later, from Canada, Muriel writes "The Canadian National Exhibition has now opened and we pay our first visit to it to-morrow. I shall find plenty to interest me in the Canadian way of life and the people we meet are most pleasant, friendly and kind to us. A grand country for the young folk....."

Moyra Prior still loves her work "in the British Museum of Natural History where I study fossil shells from all over the world. Recently I was concerned with material brought to us by Dr. Puchs from the South Pole. I assist Dr. Fox, the world authority on mesozoic mollusca (i.e. shells found mainly between 70 million and 170 million years ago). I accompany him to meetings of the Royal Society, Geologists' Society and Malacological Society where I meet and talk with people whose names were previously only familiar to me through text books."

Eleanor Carhill in West Didsbury writes:—"Doesn't the School look handsome and doesn't it make you think back to our premises on West Park? Do you remember the fire and how we had school in the Technical College?"

Peggie Dorrville (Reynolds) tells us:—"I made contact with Miss Alexander in Southampton, an assistant Director of Education, but she was before my time and very busy to boot and I have met no other Old Bedans as yet. When trying to sell our house there, I did meet an Old Bedan from the other school, now a Grammar School master who had been in the regime of Mr. Jarman. He didn't buy the house but we had a glorious seminar!" Later Peggie wrote "I have been County Secretary for W.V.S. in Worcestershire since July, 1958, and find it most interesting work indeed. I should be glad to hear of any of my comperees who do this sort of thing."

Dorcen Ward (Macrae) asks "Could special mention be made in the Old Bedan of Doris Clayburn (James) who has given the London Old Bedans a most enjoyable time two years running? We shall miss her when she moves out of London next year." From Cambridgeshire Gwen Lloyd writes:—"In August my closest friend brought round unexpectedly a friend of hers whom I knew very slightly and a friend of the friend's. I was talking casually to the latter about our common knowledge of Yorkshire, when within four steps of my garden gate she said she knew someone who used to teach at Barnsley—but it wouldn't be in your time' and named Miss Franklin. 'Oh', I said, she'll be here in half an hour; you must stay for coffee after all! But the crowning discovery was that they had met, not as I imagined in Yorkshire, but on Bede staff! It was Miss E. M. Parkin (Mrs. Horton) and of course she knew several of the people who taught me. We had an extraordinary gossip. Miss Franklin was spending the week-end with me and of course had a great deal to tell that was interesting of her three years in Swarland."

## Editorial.

We are glad to know that Gladys Littlehales, her husband and her parents are all recovering from their recent accident. Mr. and Mrs. Littlehales both attended our School in its early days and Gladys' daughter, Catherine, now in her second year at Beda, is the first Bedan we know of the third generation. Are there more?

Committee members have recently felt that their friends and acquaintances in the Guild are crediting them with psychic powers, which they do not, alas, possess! To speak more plainly, please do let our Secretary, or a committee member, know in good time whether or not you require a ticket for a reunion and whenever possible pay for it before "the night". As you all know, we do not try to make a profit out of any of our meetings. The last annual dinner and summer reunion, however, were run at a loss as several people cancelled tickets at the last moment. When dealing with the costs of the Dinner, in particular, at the Seaburn Hotel, these discrepancies in ticket numbers amount to quite a large sum. At the winter and summer reunions committee members make the sandwiches (and Bessie Powley makes her famous pie!) to try to keep costs down. Sad to say, this seems very much like wasted effort when people do not make clear their requirements about tickets. To say nothing of the telephone calls committee members make in this respect! So please do make quite clear whether or not you want a ticket for a reunion.

Indeed, one member of the "G.O.B.S." avows that collecting ticket money "on the night" with its corresponding arithmetical problems is a far greater ordeal than appearing on the entertainment! And further—if the committee member says "I'll get the money later" take no heed; insist that she takes it now. You will indeed be a praiseworthy member of the Guild.

Thank you for the news which so many of you send in letters throughout this year—they are of great interest and value in compiling the magazine. Would that more of you would do it! The day has not yet come when we have too much news for *The Old Bedan*. Many thanks to Olga Wright and Winnie Graham for typing, and to Mr. Milner Taylor for auditing the accounts.

We have not yet welcomed our six-hundredth member to the Guild. May we hope that this will happen in 1937?

W.T.



STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON 31st AUGUST, 1958.

Summary of Balance Sheet for Year — 1st September, 1957 to 31st August, 1958.

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURE	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Subscriptions ... ..	83 9 6	Stationery, Printing and Old Books ...	32 19 10
Interest ... ..	15 7 10	Postage and Telephone ... ..	14 9 10
Balance from Meetings ... ..	2 13 11	Gifts ... ..	11 16 0
		Cheque Book ... ..	4 0
		London Branch ... ..	14 0
		Balance on Year's Working ... ..	41 9 7
	<u>£101 13 3</u>		

TOTAL FUNDS

Balance on 1st August, 1957.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance on Year's Working —	966 17 3	Made up as follows:—	98 7 2
	41 9 7	3½% War Stock ... ..	75 0 0
		3½% Defence Bonds ... ..	
		Balance in Bank:—	
		On Deposit Account ... ..	427 16 9
		On Current Account ... ..	6 19 0
		Cash in hand ... ..	4 1
	<u>£608 7 6</u>		<u>£608 7 0</u>

I have examined the Receipt Books, Stock Receipts, Defence Bonds, Receipts and Current and Deposit Bank Accounts and I certify that every thing is in order.

J. M. TAYLOR.  
September, 1958.

ELSIE J. KIRKWOOD,  
Hon. Treasurer.

