

THE OLD BEDAN

1962

The Guild of Old Bedans

President	...	...	...	...	...	...	Miss E. J. Bradbury.
Vice-Presidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	Miss W. J. E. Moul, Miss E. R. Shearer.

Office Bearers and Committee for 1962-63

Chairman	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Ritch, (Kathleen Carr), 3 Beresford Park, North.
Vice-Chairman	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Wilson (Nora Johnson), 188 Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
Joint Secretary and Treasurer	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson), "Michaelford", South Boldon, Co. Durham. Tel: Boldon 7224
Assistant Secretary	...	...	...	...	...	Olga Wright, 7 Estrick Grove, Tel. 56126.

Committee:

Mrs. Bainbridge (Ruth Dunkin), 4 Audley Gardens; Mrs. Dixon (Moira Cuddaford), 7 Barnhope Drive; Miss Audrey Kinch, Bede Grammar School for Girls; Mrs. Sidney (Gladys Stewart) 17 Richard Avenue; Mrs. Snowden (Joyce Orr), 5 Albyn Gardens; Mrs. Soulsby (Betsy Fosley), 11 Ridgeway Crescent; Mrs. Stafford (Betty Rich), 47 Woodville Crescent; Mrs. Widdrington (Ellen Shiel), 38 Summerhill, Middle Herrington.

Ex-Officio Members:

Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), Editor of the 'Old Bedan', 11 Grange View,
Tel. 57985.

Mrs. Alderson (Mary Mackintosh), Convenor of the Entertainment Committee,
26 Barnes View.

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Annual Subscription: 3/6d. for 1962-63, due on September 1st, 1962. Life Membership £3 3s. 0d.

MEMBERSHIP: On August 31st, 1962, the membership was 600, including 277 Life Members. Please, note that 33 members still owe their subscription for 1961-62.

The Secretary asks every member:—

1. To notify her of any change of address.
2. To give always, (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 if her subscription is paid. Any member of Committee will pass on her request.
4. To note, to save postage, receipts for subscription will be enclosed with the first notice after payment.
5. To note, for easier identification, maiden names are used. The married name is usually given in brackets.
6. To note, that the "Old Bedan" will not be sent to those members who are one year in arrears with their subscription.

GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

Winter Reception. An earlier date, by request of some members, for our Winter Party finally resulted in a smaller number than for some years—58—Old Bedans meeting in the Art Room on January 10th. Miss Shearer, who had kindly provided the prizes, and Miss Arkle, were unable to be present. We missed them. We were pleased to have Miss Bradbury with us, also Miss Hayton, Miss Kinch and Miss Orr from present staff and Miss Harris and Mrs. Bealey from former School staff. Our first game was guessing Inn Signs—these were delightful little pictures drawn by Elaine Alderson. The eventual winner (after a tie) was Jean Wilson (Dobson). Next, in groups we had a mending box to tidy—individual jobs were:—nausey rolling a tape measure, sewing on a button, unpicking a piece of machine-stitching etc. Then we had a pencil and paper game, "What Katy did". Katy was sent to school (educate) sometimes wrote home (communicate) didn't answer her parent's questions (prevaricate)—(Interruption here:—"Katy must have been a teenager!") was taught to run the home (domesticate)...Here the winner was Mavis Curry (Metcalfe).

A noisier game followed—"Identity". Milling Bedans asked each other "Are you a battleship? Are you a doll?" one clue leading to the next. The final question was first reached by Margaret Hogg (Berry). "Are you a lollipop?" You can guess what the prize was! A musical "Diet" followed—what to avoid if you are slimming—"Sugar" in the morning, Cakes and Ale, You're the cream in my coffee etc. The winner was Connie Wray (Reed).

A delicious supper followed—Betty's pie, sandwiches made by committee members, and mouth watering shortbread made by Moira Cuddeford and Nora Johnson. After supper, in the next group game we attempted to cram as many things as possible into a matchbox. The result was incredible! Stamps, hair-grips, coins, jewellery, bills, golf tees—the lot! Some tableaux followed depicting (e.g.) the Hunt meets, January sales, etc. and finally we chanted an exhausting Musical Bus. The worthy, if worn out winner was Aline Raine. Auld Lang Syne ended a pleasant evening.

Annual Dinner, 1962. It was Friday the 13th (of April) and there was a bus strike—but little things like that don't worry Old Bedans and 185 of them arrived at Biers Restaurant for the annual dinner, confident that all would go smoothly—and as usual it did!

After an enjoyable meal of fruit cocktail, asparagus soup, fresh salmon and salad, fruit meringue and coffee, our Chairman Kathleen Ritch proposed a toast to the School and the School Song was sung under the able baton of Mary Mackintosh with Winnie Scott at the piano. Kathleen then welcomed the "V.I.P.'s" at the top table: Misses Arkle, Harris and Shearer, Alderman Mrs. Hedley, and Audrey Hayton (in dual capacity of Old Bedan and Deputy Headmistress), and members from near and far—"far" including Durham, Newcastle, Cullercoats, Stockton, Middlesbrough, West Hartlepool, Leyburn, Bradford, Manchester, Glasgow, London, Severnside, Southampton and India—this was Alice Proctor (Easthaugh).

Miss Bradbury was unable to be with us at dinner owing to an engagement at school, but we were delighted to have Miss Shearer in the role of guest speaker and to hear what must have been but a tiny fraction of her fund of reminiscences. Miss Bradbury did, however, arrive opportunely just before the entertainment began and so was able to present the "COBs" with flowers in advance—confident that they would be well deserved.

The show began with a bang—Kathleen stepping on a banana skin thrown by a careless litterer. A placard appeared to remind us that it was Friday the 13th—there entered five hideous witches, who to the tune of "My Favourite Things" reminded us of some unfavourite ones which bring bad luck. Then let one witch was miraculously transformed into a charming fairy with some intriguing thoughts on what the Common Market might do to our British pantomime—for example:

"Mother Goose, the gay old geyser
Propping up the Tower of Pisa;
Cinderella done in Russian,
Kraschew carrying silken cushion;
If he'd only be darning
We would let him be Prince Charming."

Next, actions spoke louder than words over the coffee cups at a fashion parade—and then we were introduced to Miss McPucket, a trim Scots body (guess who?) whose discourse on the finer points of haute couture had us in stitches. Then, a welcome second showing of "The Highwayman"—1962 version. He sported a one-John-power sports model (GOBB2); she was a first raven-haired charmer (again, guess who?) whose vital statistics would have made J--s M-----d green with envy. King George's men were heralded by Z-Car music which suggested that they had pursued their quarry from Merseyside.

Joyce Gallon's journey to Australia and her first experiences of life down under inspired the saga of "Waltzing Old Bedans" and following naturally upon this "Home Thoughts from Abroad"—

"Oh to be in Sunderland now that April's there
And whoever walks down Fossett Street
Near Birn's is aware
That the lowest floors are without their lights
But the restaurant is a blaze of sights
And Old Bedans eat in an awful row
In Birn's now.
And after dinner the entertainment follows
To the waiting chairs Bedans dart like swallows
Hark! when their blossoms can no longer hedge
They lean to the Guild and scatter them half hove
With blarney and old corn at the platform's edge.
That's the wise GOBs, they sing each song twice over
Lest you should think they never could recapture
Their first fine careless rapture.
And though the GOBs look rough and heavy too
All would be gay if they found someone new—
Some dukes to perpetuate this hour
Far brighter than this dull decrepit shower."

We are well content with our GOBs; we are sure there is lots of life in them yet, but to keep the poor souls happy will any lady—?

Summer Reunion: At 6 p.m. on Friday, June 22nd, a 41-seater coach and one car (with 4 people) left Park Lane for the summer outing. Our route on this fine evening was by Newcastle, Morpeth and Millard Steads to River Green. Here we settled down in a sheltered corner for a picnic supper—"The Pie" (good old Betsy!), sandwiches, chocolate and plain biscuits. Peggy Todd's "cardid camera" was busy as usual. Then we strolled towards the River Wansbeck through a farmyard where an obliging and patient farmer showed us some baby guinea-fowl actually in the hatching-out process. After a pleasant walk along the river bank we set off on the return journey via Bolam Lake and arrived in Sunderland about 10-30 p.m. Thank you, Irene Wilkinson, for planning such a pretty route for our summer reunion.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

27th September, 1962

45 members present. Miss E. J. Bradbury and members welcomed by the Chairman.

Reply by Miss Bradbury.

Motion re-Constitution—the following addition be made to Clause 3:—

“the Entertainment Convener be an *ex-officio* member of the Committee.”

Minutes of the last Business Meeting.

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

Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 1962-63.

Chairman's remarks.

Reports on the Hockey Club, the London Branch, the 'Old Bedan', Social Service Activities and the Loan and Scholarship Fund.

Allocation from Funds:—One guinea for School Prize and one guinea for 'Bedan' Competition.

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

Any other Business:—Owing to the shortage of money in the Current Account, it was agreed that £70 should be transferred from the Deposit Account to the Current Account and £400 be transferred to the Special Investment Department.

It was suggested that those who, many years ago, had become Life members on paying £2 2s. 6d. or £2 12s. 6d. might wish, voluntarily, to make up their subscription to £3 3s. 6d. or give a donation to the Funds.

Loan and Scholarship Fund—Miss Wilman, the Treasurer of the Committee, reports that no applications have been received this year and two repayments have been made, one of £8. The Guild of Old Bedans' Representative is Catherine Mallon (Mrs. Elmes).

Social Service Report—Thanks to the generosity of Old Bedans and friends, a much-increased income this year enabled your Committee to widen its work. It hopes you will feel it has spent your £100 12s. 10d. wisely and well. Certainly the recipients of the gifts made in your name have showered many blessings upon you.

The money came from: the Ethel Thompson Memorial Fund, donations, raffles, Canasta Parties and an enjoyable Cookery Demonstration with a silver collection, a bring-and-buy sale and a raffle of the cooked dishes. We still have £43 in hand. The rest we spent on 22 Christmas and 25 Easter parcels, each including money for fuel, £2 2s. for small luxuries for the residents in "Wayside" and on giving the special help mentioned below.

In addition, it was our privilege to distribute two extra gifts sent to us for our old folk. For the first—a splendid selection of groceries from their Harvest Festival—we thank the generous children, parents and staffs of Barnes Junior and Infants Schools. Next, we were able to add extra luxuries to our Christmas parcels owing to a totally unexpected windfall from Bede Girls' School per Miss Bradbury who herself delivered to the Convener three bulging cartons. The Committee did appreciate the personal interest and thoughtfulness that inspired this collection. "To us it is a wonderful linking of past and present Bedans".

Led efficiently by Margaret Chapman (Harter), our librarians, quietly faithful, still work fortrightly at Ryhope General Hospital, and at the Guild of Help Autumn Market, the Guild of Old Bedans' stall, with Gladys Thornley (Miller) as another modest organiser-in-chief, raised £35 2s. 4d. This year's stall did very well too. The Committee thanks all who help our year's work. Many of you can and do have the pleasure of sharing in it in some way, and how thrilling it is to open a letter from some far-away Bedan—in London, say, or Vancouver—and find a donation 'for the old people'.

We owe all this Social Service news to our enthusiastic leader Elsie Wilson (Hooker), but unfortunately home difficulties prevent her from acting as Convener of the Committee just now, and this office has kindly been taken over temporarily by Betsey Powley (Sculsby), 11 Ridgway Crescent.

The Ethel Thompson Memorial Fund: Just after Christmas the Committee suffered a big loss through the death of Ethel Thompson, for thirty years a loyal member and a devoted worker for Social Service. Her family suggested that money in lieu of flowers might be sent to our Social Service fund. Donations received amounted to over £73—a wonderful tribute, we feel, to Ethel's memory and work.

In February after careful consideration (1) the Committee decided to use some of this money to augment our usual help to our aged and infirm friends. Knowing how comforting they find extra fuel in winter, we immediately gave each of them, 31 in all, £1 for coal. (2) Members were urged to investigate, and bring forward for consideration, instances of special hardship.

As a result we helped in three cases, two of them Old Bedans, (a) a young family dogged by the ill-health of both parents who were unable to follow any employment, (b) a young married Old Bedan, suffering from an incurable disease and struggling to care for two small children, and (c) an elderly retired teacher, badly crippled with arthritis and existing on a very small pension. To her we gave a grant towards the cost of a holiday in a home which caters for such cases. A little money still remains. We hope to use it too as Ethel would have wished.

"It seems", one Bedan wrote in January, "that many Old Bedans have felt a strong link during these past weeks while Ethel was uppermost in their thoughts. She was a wonderful friend to us all, a most devoted teacher and an example to every Bedan".

The Hockey Club thanks Miss Bradbury and the Guild of Old Bedans for help and encouragement during a successful and enjoyable season.

Nineteen matches have been played and fifteen won. A regular goalkeeper Barbara Turn (daughter of Hannah Wright) and the return of Hazel McCree have made a wonderful difference, while the youngest player, Maureen Horron, who left Bede last year is keen and reliable and the Club would welcome more young Old Bedans now. After Christmas the members hailed the return of Jean Brewis (Pillans) and Violet Smith (Heptinstall) and also welcomed their daughters to the "junior" eleven, and now they send congratulations to Eleanor Lenson (Dorick) on the birth of a daughter and good wishes to their former treasurer, Doreen Waring (Potts).

Audrey Knight and Valerie Northcote have played, and Hazel McCree been a reserve for, Durham County Second Eleven. At the tournaments both in September and in March Old Bedans were second in their section. Their members attended the North v. East match played at Ashbrooke in February, some of them acting as stewards, and the club finally ended its season enjoyably with a dinner at the Marine Grotto Hotel.

JOYCE RAMSHAW (Bathgate) Hon. Sec.
67 Colchester Terrace.

The London Branch of the Guild of Old Bedans. We have had two Reunions since the last report, both at Miss Moul's house in Palmer's Green. Seven of the "regulars" turned up last November:—Joyce Hebron (Aylen), Marjorie Bailey (Kewish), Jessie Ridley (Pickard), Celia Pipe (Sheppard), Eleanor Wilson (Titherage), Phyllis Tennant (Beck) and myself. We enjoyed a sumptuous tea and a good "natter"—there never seems to be a lull in the conversation when Old Bedans get together!

Unfortunately the June date seemed to coincide with various Church Fetes, etc. and only Eleanor Titherage, Phyllis Beck and myself arrived at Miss Moul's to do justice to the lavish spread. Eleanor and Phyllis brought their daughters—both about nine years old (I think)—they were very good and talked less than we did! We do thank Miss Moul and her sister for their hospitality—they made us most welcome. Miss Seddon has invited us to her flat in Kensington for our meeting in November and I am hoping for some of her former pupils to turn up to meet her again after twenty years or more.

Three of us, Mary Tharbeck (Post), Joyce Hebron and I were surprised to meet at the Annual Dinner in Sunderland; we all enjoyed the evening. I found myself in the same carriage as Edith Broderick (Barge) on the journey home. She had unfortunately been unable to attend the Dinner.

Our Secretary, Phyllis Beck, has retired after nine years' service and on behalf of the London branch of the Guild I would like to express our appreciation of her efforts to get us all together—often with discouraging results as so many members fail to reply. We expect her to attend all our future reunions of course!

DOREEN McCRAE (Ward),
39 Birch Grove, London W.3.

SCHOOL NOTES

GOODBYE TO—

Miss Richardson, Mrs. Cornewall, Miss McNab, Mrs. Plumptre, Miss Jackson.

WELCOME TO:—

Miss Carter, Mrs. Chen, Miss Donkin, Miss Graham, Miss James, Mr. Marshall.

Chairman of P.T.A.— Mr. D. J. Dorward.

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Young.

Guild of Old Bedans' representative: Mrs. K. Ritch.

School Captain: Elke Barnham.

Vice-Captain: Carol Stewart.

G.O.B. PRIZES—Bedan Essay:

Senior: Sheila Batty. Junior: Jacqueline Boston.

Consolation Prize: Dorothy Nelson.

G.O.B. Prize for Gossip: Shelagh Buchanan.

Lily A. HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL PRIZES:

English: Edith Powell. French: Mary Coates.

RESERVE STATE SCHOLARSHIP: Mary Coates.

FROM NOVEMBER 1961 TO NOVEMBER, 1962

These have become Life Members: Anne Berriman, Kathleen Burnide (Scott), Marjorie Fairbridge, Christina Harmons (Carr), Lucy Horan (McCormell), Betty Peters (Spencer), Betty Ritch (Stafford).

These have become Members: Barbara Auchterlorie, Rosemary Barriman (Pearson), Lillian Bovee, Eileen Bram, Eileen Carlton, Mary Chapman (Grainger), Ann Conley, Jennie Curry (Jones), Jane Ellerington (Charlton), Ann Elliott (Panshott), Pauline Fawcett, Miss B. Graham, Elizabeth Groig (Douglas), Norma Gray, Irene Hall (Bennett), Patricia Henderson, Jean Hendrey (Hodgson), Jean Koch (Francis), Margaret Leck, Elsie Lynn (Turner), Doris McMullan, Jean Mellentin (Gillies), Dorothy Micklemass (Sagden), Elaine Pell, Elaine Reeves, Eva Richardson, Janet Ritchie, Jean Rutherford (Davison), Jean Sewell, Rosamund Shaw, Sonia Storey, Kathleen Teasdale (Allan), Ann Telford, Patricia Telford, Sheila Thomas, Elizabeth Tharbeck (Airey), Irene Towers (Stephenson), Barbara Turn, Jane Wizen (Henderson), Valerie Wood.

Married are—Audrey Almond, Flora Broderick, Greta Close, Adrienne Crossley, Norma Duxbury, Margaret Gallant, Jean English, Dorothy Hawkins, Judith Henderson, Margaret Hodgson, Sylvia Hood, Pearl Ilay, Marjorie Jackson, Sheila McElin, Anne McClements, Charlotte Robinson, Audrey Sidney, Jane Simmons, Georgina Smith, Irene Turnbull.

Babies to:—Mary Albion (Allan), Joan Ballett (Allan), Mavis Barriman (Jackman), Margaret Boucherby (Scott), Mervyn Brown (Hutton), Joan Burdon (Anderson), Irene Burrell (Lord), Clarissa Clark (Holmes), Marjorie Cotton (Kay), Hilda Cousins (Barclay), Betty Daull (Maw), Daphne Edwards (Badger), Beryl Fitzgerald (Bellamy), Brenda Gibson (Rovers), Iris Harvey (Bennett), Dorothy Hawdon (Dinning), Christine Holt (Atkinson), Lillian Humm (Cowie), Rita Knowles (Bakerman), Marjorie Jackson (Nicholl), Ann Jeffrey (Robinson), Marjorie Johnston (Ransom), Bessy Lurrough (Sheraton), Eleanor Linton (Dunkin), Jean Mashment (Bell), May Metcalf (Knight), Kitty Moseley (Cooper), Erid Potts (Wilson), Kathleen Ralph (McCann), Doreen Ross (Walker), Pat (Walker), Joyce Richardson (Anderson), Jean Rosenstein (Turpin), Pat Scaer (Burdsworth), Marjorie Snowball (Cuddeford), Audrey Spinks (Milburn), Sharna Spencer (Pickering), Doris Watson (Brown), Valerie Williamson (Trigg).

In Memoriam: Mary Bess, Dorothy Elliott (staff), Alberta Furrow, Edwina Graham (Mrs. Dawson), Rose Marie Humphrey, Ethel Marion Thompson.

Former Members of Staff: We are sorry to have to record the death, in May, of Miss Dorothy Elliott. She succeeded Miss Stokes and later left us to work first in Sunderland Training College and then in Newcastle. Bedans of the last years in the Old School and the first years in the New remember her gratefully as a capable and helpful teacher of Art.

Miss Moor has sent messages and good wishes to our meetings here and has been very hospitable to our London Branch. Last year we told of Miss Logic's full day in Sunderland immediately after her accident which, she was quite sure then, would have no further bad effects. When we heard from her, however, in May, she confessed that she had been "in pretty bad shape and housebound for some months". We hope she is herself again. Miss Hilda Martin and later Mrs. Anderson ("Miss Bruce") and her husband have visited Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer who still plod on as most of you know. They often see Mrs. Beancy (Gladys Littlehales) and Miss Peters occasionally. It is a very long time since they saw Miss Briggs; Miss Lloyd has had, and is having, a very hard year owing to her sister's illness, but manages bravely to deal with her difficulties. Mrs. Nicholson (Miss D. Thompson) wrote in February that she is in much better health and enjoys her half-time teaching at the Rosa Basset School in Streatham, and all her outside musical interests. "We have rehearsed, performed and recorded a new 'Gloria' by Walton, in addition to 'Beshazzar's Feast'".

Sir Malcolm is delightful to work with—practical, polite, non-temperamental and appreciative. A new mass by Hindemith to be conducted by the composer is on our programme for April. We hear little from Miss Seddon in London beyond greetings, but we may know more about her after November. Miss Wilman has seen Miss White at mathematical meetings and keeps in touch with Miss Bernard, still a Physical Education Organiser, and living at Andoversford. Doris Taylor and Ellen Carlin (both on Bede present staff) went in October to visit Miss Clark at Sheffield. Mrs. Horton (Miss Parkin) and Mrs. White (Miss French) both live in Sheffield and meet sometimes, though Mrs. Horton is much limited by having an invalid at home. Mrs. White is doing part-time lecturing for the Missionary Society. Miss Harris, just back from the south, tells us that both Miss Birchall and her sister Mrs. Varsity are well. They had time to dinner on Christmas Day—a family reunion including four Old Bedans—themselves, Diana Varsity (Dickenson) and Sheila Varsity (Morgan). They hope to repeat this this year. Mrs. Kenry (Miss J. Waddelburn) is now living in Cambridge with her three and a half year old son while her husband takes his Ph.D. degree, after which they expect to return to Port of Spain. Miss Tweed, who taught French at Bede until two years ago, was married in October to Mr. Hymas who since leaving Bede has been teaching in Yorkshire. Miss Sybil Barnes (Mrs. Weisenberg) now has a son. Miss Richardson who left Bede in 1962 is teaching in Rome.

BEDANS AT WORK

The Youngest Old Bedans—in training—Elizabeth Sanderson (daughter of Margery Smyth) had an au pair post in France this summer and is now at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London. Jean Farrar (mother—Joyce Elliott) is at Ormskirk Training College, while Christine Cox, daughter of Mary Smith, is at Barnsley. Sheila Thomas, Winnie Scott's daughter, is at the L. M. Marsh College of Physical Education, Liverpool. Carole Stacey, whose mother was Gladys Bowman, has entered the Civil Service. Paula Hodgson is at Nottingham University, Valerie Stewart at Sheffield, Edith Powell at Leeds, and Christine Cowey at London. Pat Dennison and Susan Dawson are doing Domestic Science at Leeds, Jennifer Hutton is at the Langham Secretarial College, London, while Joan Swall is studying speech therapy at Leicester. Ann Chisholm is at Chelsea P.E. College; Anne Thompson is in her second year at Fuzessdown College, London, studying chemistry. Several others from two large VIIIth forms in 1962, are at various training colleges.

Other Bedans at Work. Doreen Marjorie Anderson (B. Pharm. London) is studying for the degree of Ph.D. She is the only woman medical research student in the Pharmacy Department of Sunderland Technical College. Miriam Sisson is now living at Robin Hood's Bay and teaching at Whitby. Joyce Brown (Planton) who left Bede Staff in July, is teaching nearer her home in Newcastle. Irene Turnbull (Bart) who recently received her Science degree, was taking up a teaching appointment at the beginning of the autumn term at Manchester Grammar School. In London, Phyllis Tennant (Beck) is teaching French and learning Russian, and Kitty Clayburn (Cooper) teaches Chemistry for three mornings a week. In Sunderland Evelyn Phillips is now headmistress of Town End Infants' School, while at the fine new Monkwearmouth Grammar School at Seaburn Dore, Marjorie Saffell, Marjorie Spurling, Edith Brown and Jean Bagley are on the teaching staff and Audrey Veitch is secretary. Jennie Hey, teaching part-time at Bede, was interested to find the daughter of a former class-mate, Bonnie Maccooby (Pneubron), in one of her groups. Cecile Wardman retired from Barnes Infants' School in July. She received farewell gifts of a tray, coffee table and a set of Royal Worcester china from pupils, parents and colleagues. Also retired—from her post as sister at the General Hospital—is Molly Topel. Nursing further afield are Joan Teasdale (the second) in Birmingham, and Avril Douglas who has qualified as a State Registered Nurse and is now

doing midwifery at Leicester Royal Infirmary. Blanche Collinson has a secretarial post in the Mental Welfare Dept. at Thornholme. Grace White's job at the Wear Glassworks of James Jobling Co. Ltd. makes her responsible for the recruitment, selection and appointment of women and girls to fill vacancies at all levels in the company, which employs 850 female workers. The provision of employee services, the works surgery and canteen are also her responsibility. Anne Powell, after teaching in Sunderland for two years, is now training as an air-hostess.

In Public Life. As Mariella Cohen retired from her year of publicity as Mayoress of Sunderland other Old Bedlams began theirs. Nellie Blacklock (Hadley) is Deputy Mayor this year and her sister Mary (Smith) is Deputy Mayoress. Among many others Nellie Blacklock serves on the committee of the Sunderland Branch of Durham County Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped. Bessie Peake (Green) is followed as President of Sunderland Scepticists by Sybil Brown, while Vera Shearson, a former President, is a representative of the Northern Divisional Union of Scepticists, and Miss Bradbury and Elsie Proom members of the committee. Dora Metcally is President of Sunderland Esperanto Group. Eileen Brown is local organising secretary for fund-raising for National Children's Homes, Pauline Humphreys (Harter) is Assistant Secretary of Sunderland Empire Theatre Society. Marion Powley (Munday) like innumerable other Old Bedlams working in various ways for their Churches, planned and took part in, a "Musical evening with coffee" to help Church Funds. Peggy Todd's second hobby of photography (she is still secretary of Weasdale Golf Club) enables her to see her many beautiful colour slides to illustrate travel talks at Church Guilds and societies. Joyce Miller (Crooks) who is G.T.C.'s senior training officer for the whole of England, took twelve future leaders from the northeast on a weekend expedition into Weardale last spring. In October, Joyce took a leading part in the 21st Birthday celebrations of the G.T.C. Olive Wood (Snowdon) of Darlington, opened the annual 'Bring and Buy' sale of the Sunderland Royal Infirmary League of Friends in October. Mary Robertson was to address a meeting in Newcastle of the North East Federation of Head Teachers, in November of this year.

Noteworthy Occasions:

Gladys Stewart (Sidney) was one of the winners in the first round of a national home-baking competition organised by the Northern Gas Board. Bessie Peake's daughter was one of the judges. Mervyna Stockdale (Kessie) accompanied her father when he was honoured at an investiture at Buckingham Palace in March. Margaret MacLachlan (Stool) opened the Guild of Help Autumn Market, in October. Guest speaker this year at Bede Speech Day (in the Civic Theatre for the first time) is Mary Robson, formerly Principal of Kanton Lodge Training College.

Meetings:

Arny Hassey (Derryer) spent a night or two with Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer last November. She has now settled into her new home at Market Wrighton. The beginning of 1962 brought news that Corrie Robson (then living in Dorchester) was visited by Pauline Humphreys (Duffell) and Corrie visited Isabella Archbold at Harwell. In February, Marjorie Anderson (Curtis) had a fleeting conversation with Rita Knowles (Blakeman) at Charing Cross station. Kathleen Mair holidaying in Gloucestershire in March, was able to pay a short call on Kathleen Watson in Southampton and to see her school and canteen.

The dinner, itself a wonderful reunion of Old Bedans, brought in its train several satellite gatherings. The next evening Betty Powley invited to her home a few who were specially interested in her guest Kathleen Walton (Wood). Able to accept her invitation were Miss Bradbury, Miss Arkle, Miss Shearer, Nell Turner, and Maissie Carry (Metcalfe). They all enjoyed reminiscences and photographs; Miss Bradbury had brought the latest photograph of all the school, and daughters of Old Bedans, and Old Bedans on the staff were eagerly sought for and found. To "40 Ashwood" came Gladys Sim (Hopper) overnight, Christine Morgan for a few minutes before acting as a kindly chauffeur and later Margery Wade (Smith) with her guest Doreen Ward (McCree) from London. Ruth Marley (Green) and Betty Greig (Douglas) spent a day or two together after the Dinner.

Miss Arkle and Cathie McCree each on an outing with a friend discovered each other having lunch at Pinnerbridge, and Miss Lloyd had a message from Mary Fairclough (Harrison) of whom we had not heard for some time. In the town Miss Shearer has met Pauline Orr (Graham) from Newton Aycliffe, Mollie Hinkley (Maddison) from Weoburn, Betty Behman (Naffalno) from Glasgow, and Hilda Lisle (Eggleston), and she recognised and spoils to Quennie Rae (Bennett) whom she met for the first and only time 25 years ago. Bessie Taylor and her sister-in-law (Mollie Adamshwaite) visiting Dame Allen's School, where Mollie's daughter is a pupil, met Margaret Taylor (Finkle) and, at another function, Elaine Caves (Armsden). Last year Bessie visited her aunt Gladys Gibbons (Phillips) in her country home in Gloucestershire. In July, Enid Crowe from London and Lillian Bove from Rugby arranged to visit Sunderland and "the North". Lillian stayed with relatives and Enid with Florence Jackson and at "40 Ashwood," and they met a number of Old Bedans; they called on Elizabeth Moe, and also saw Nellie who arrived unexpectedly from Bradford. Enid saw Mollie Topel and with Florence Jackson visited Laura Thatcher (Bickerton) at Caxton, while at Elaine Clayburn's (Oliver) Florence and Enid met Dorothy Proom (Burdas) from Bristol and Eleanor Garraway (Brookies). Passing through Northumberland, Enid and Lillian called on Mary Robson in her new home at Nedderton—when Mary was head-mistress of Fulham County School, Enid was French mistress. Eleanor Carill living in Manchester recently stayed with Betty Hall (Gilchrist). Doris McCree who lives in Upton-by-Chester visited Margaret Turner (McCleary) at Bebbington. Sheila Gallon now at Haddenham near Aylesbury, keeps in touch with Kathleen Smith (Pickworth) and Sheila Black, who is a ward sister at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. Sheila (Gallon) hears from her sister Joyce (Hodgson) every fortnight but misses not being able to see them. Audrey Hayton has seen Mollie Duncan and hopes to see her soon in Bury St. Edmunds.

The Arts:

In November, 1961, Pat Jackson gave a song recital at a Sunderland Art Gallery concert. Pat works as an examiner for the Foreign Compensation Commission in London but maintains her interest in singing and acting, having had some outstanding success in both. Marjorie Jackson (Nicholl) won five cups at the Stockton Musical Festival this year—for mezzo soprano and contralto finals and oratorio finals, and she shared the cup presented by the composer Arthur Benjamin for the highest aggregate marks in three classes.

Doreen Yoall wrote the words for the new school song of West Park Technical School, which was first sung on the occasion of her retirement last December. Margaret Fitzgerald (Hewitt) shared an exhibition of paintings with her husband at Birmingham at the end of 1961. Margaret has had work exhibited in the north-east, London and abroad.

Sport:

Golf. The Old Bedan Golf Reunion was held at Wearside Golf Club on July 19th. 11 Old Bedans played and Elsie (Davidson) watched and joined the players for tea. We hope to arrange another meeting in 1963.

At Wearside this year, the Morton Cup was won by Kathleen Carr, and the Jobling Cup (foursomes) by Kathleen, and Hilda Edwards (Shaw). At Boldon Golf Club, the Captick Trophy (mixed foursomes) was won by Ann Pace and partner, the Captain's Cup and prize by Dorothy Grierson (Kennedy) and the Chairman's Prize by Winnie Scott.

Netball. Sheila Bagley's successful netball teams at West Park School are encouraged by her own activities in the game. She has represented Durham County as Goal Defence for 10 years, and has played for England. Sheila is now taking Physical Education at Sunderland Training College.

Gymnastics. Jane Allison, now an Olympic coach, took a team of girls from Fulwell School to Bergen, Norway, in August to perform during the "Gateway to Britain" week.

Hockey. Vera Jenkins (Deer) whose home is in Corby, formerly Durham County and North Reserve comes forward has been chosen to play for North-amptonshire. Valerie Northcote and Hazel McCree are playing on the Durham County 2nd XI.

Homes of Bedans:

Marjorie Jackson (McCree) now lives near Scarborough; Audrey Myers (Meady) at Didcot, Berks.; Diana Verity is at Carlisle; Myra Herriman (Jackson) at Lincoln; Louie Hepinstall (Church) and Joan Charlton (Simpson) at Gillingham, Kent; Eleanor Wilson (Titheradge) and Anne McClement (Robson) at Barnes, Herts.; Peggy Anderson (Roberts) at Cardiff; Joan Williamson at Leeds; Audrey Midwood (Thomas) at Rose Cottage, Datchet, Bucks.; Ivy Whorlton (Ball) at Harrogate; Jean Henderson (Telfer) at Birmingham.

News of Bedans Abroad:

Connie Parkinson (Henderson) is teaching physical education at a high school in Auckland, New Zealand. In addition to keeping up an active interest in swimming—as a gala referee at Auckland—Connie also enjoys surfing, skiing and badminton during the winter. Anne Ramsden left England in July for Southern Rhodesia where she is teaching art and pottery in a boys' school near Salisbury. Before leaving Sunderland she painted a mural at Grindon Congregational Church. Elsie White, sending her usual gift to Miss Arkle for the old peoples' Christmas parcels, wrote that 1961 had been kinder to her and her sister Winnie (Cooper) and that both had enjoyed holidays amidst beautiful country in British Columbia. Lucy Froggatt (Nicholl) writing from Cullinan, South Africa asks anxiously about Cathy McCree and speaks of Ida Walker (Earl) who continues to teach in South Africa—(Ida's daughter visited England this year)—and says that she corresponds with Wyn Hutchinson and Mabel Potts (Proom). Lily Grant is a lay missionary with the Methodist Missionary Society at the Wesley Guild Hospital, Ilesha, Nigeria. In April, Marjorie Young left her job in North-east England as demonstrator for Hotpoint washing machines, to start a new life in Aden. Beryl Shaw (Wagner) is practising as a gynaecologist in Brisbane, Australia. Norma Trowhill (Watt) is living at Goulburn, near Canberra. Margery Robson (Hobson) is living in Vancouver, and Connie Askew in Toronto, Canada. Grace Caldwell (Allinson) has moved from Moribasa, Kenya, to Mtwara, Tanganyika, but hopes to come home on leave before Easter, 1963. Home from Barotseland Protectorate of Northern Rhodesia this year for three months were Ellen Whiting and her husband. After five years in a one-European-type-stone-town, and travel by river barge or Land Rover over rough earth roads, they found the noise of traffic here irritating. They were looking forward to their return to a new district—Umtali, Southern Rhodesia. Cecilia Lakin is home from Nairobi to settle in England. Doreen Turnbull (Carruthers) has been home from Formosa. Kathleen Cross (Senior)

is coming home in June from Kenya. Ann Mawson and Marjorie Smith are back home from their teaching trip to New Zealand. Brenda Metcalfe (Taylorson) after five years in East Africa, is now living in Poole, Dorset. Fredericka Graham was one of a party of undergraduates who spent three weeks in Greece visiting ancient Greek monuments, and experienced an earthquake while there. Hilda Andrews (Moore) visited Sweden in October to attend The Ladies' Circle International Conference. Winnie Wardman took a party of schoolchildren to Russia on the school ship Dunera in September.

From Your Letters:

Edith Broderick (Barge) wrote last November from Reading:—"I went to the coronation service held for Miss Ewart. It was a very beautiful and moving service, extremely simple, with her favourite music and hymns. I chose natural sprays of flowers to send from the Guild, as the Garden of Remembrance is very small, and where possible, flowers are sent on to the local hospital. I thought Miss Ewart would have preferred that to a wired wreath that could not be used afterwards, as she was always grateful for the care and attention she received in hospital. The tiny garden was completely covered with flowers, it was a truly wonderful sight. It would have pleased her to know that so many people had paid tribute to her."

From Gwen Lloyd in March, Cambridgeshire, who hopes to retire next summer to the Lake District:—"Although I spent only two years at Bede I don't think I ever open an 'Old Bedan' without finding some familiar names. I have always intended to visit Sutherland when I come to live in the North, and also to put in an appearance at an Old Bedans' reunion."

Irene Towers (Stephenson) writes:—"I was delighted when Miss Shearer recognised me one day in Woodworth's as I don't think I have seen her since I left school in 1928. She must have a wonderful memory." (Ed. note—She has!).

From Ruth Marley, written after the dinner:—"The evening passed all too quickly for Lillian (Thompson, now Marley), Betty Gosig and me, and we so much enjoyed seeing so many old friends. In some cases it was rather wild guess work recognising people but we were able to help each other out."

Peggy Anderson (Roberts) writes from Cardiff:—"I've never been to a reunion or written to the magazine before, and can't quite explain why I'm doing it now! It just shows how the old School still draws one back. I always read the magazine avidly, and memories flood back—the old Tin Tab, dear Miss Birchall, Miss Farquhar and "Daddy" Bailey. I never got to the new school and didn't mind a bit as the old building held all my memories. I vividly remember how we used to play with the mercury in the physics lab, whilst waiting for "Daddy" Bailey to arrive, and the dreadful scurry there was to shovel into the bottle all the treasure blobs that had rolled over the bench. I also remember Marjorie Collins practising the Charleston and trying to teach us how to do it. I often think of Miss Arkle when I'm doing my mending—I owe her a lot—I still do hedge-ear darts and remember all she taught me. I have had many opportunities to air the French which Miss Shearer must have gone nearly crazy trying to hammer into me! Give my love to Jennie Shadforth, Mary Mack and Molly Atkinson (Bowman now) and please excuse the ramblings of a middle-aged old Bedan!"

Marjorie Watson (Leonard) writes from 205 Tinshill Lane, Leeds 16:—"If there are any Old Bedans near here, I should be very glad to hear from them, and anyone visiting Leeds could phone me. Telephone Leeds 671464."

A PAGE OF PLEAS AND AN EDITORIAL NOTE

Have you enjoyed reading this magazine? We hope so—and please read on!

Annual Members: Have you paid your subscription for 1962-63, which was due on 1st September, 1962?

Because so many people delay in paying their subscriptions—

- (i) the Treasurer had to lend the Guild's Funds £7 as there was no money in the current account at the end of August, 1962;
- (ii) £70 had to be removed from the capital to the current account;
- (iii) The Guild could allot no money to any charity, even to its own social service.

So please note again:—There are still 21 people who owe subs for 1960-61 and 1961-62, and 55 still owe subs for 1961-62. Had these members paid up, there would have been no financial crisis in Guild affairs. We have had to decide that in future magazines cannot be sent to those whose subscription is one year in arrears. So please, if you are an offender, do something about it Now!

Life Members: Since the A.G.M. several Life Members have contributed the difference between what they paid and the present £3-3-0. This is purely voluntary but a nice gesture.

Calling London Old Bedans. Will you be so good as to reply to invitations? If you don't want the Secretary to send you these (but we hope you do) please let her know.

Old Bedan Hockey Players. Would you care to join the G.O.B. Hockey Club?

To any Old Bedans with literary talents: Any offers of scripts or material for the 1963 Dinner for your ornaments who are getting old and stale?

All Members of the Guild: Please—news! To all those who have written or phoned, please take as a very personal "thank you" these general editorial thanks. Your letters and phone calls are invaluable in the constant search for news items. Our grateful thanks to Mr. Milner Taylor our auditor, and to Winnie Graham, Kathleen Bellamy, Gena Wright, Betty Rich and Betty Powley who have helped with the typing for this 1962 Old Bedan magazine.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON 31st AUGUST, 1962

Summary of Balance Sheet for the Year — 1st September, 1961, to 31st August, 1962

	RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURE		
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
Subscriptions	Stationery, Printing and Old Books	...	48 10 6
Interest	Postage and Telephone ...	...	15 16 3
Balance from Meetings	Gifts ...	...	10 12 11
	Engineering and Cheque Book	...	£ 0
	Balance on Year's Working ...	...	5 7 6
					<u>£80 15 2</u>

TOTAL FUNDS

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance on 31st August, 1961	Made up as follows:—	...	...
Balance on Year's working	34 1/2 War Stock ...	...	98 7 2
Due to Treasurer	34 1/2 Defence Bonds ...	...	75 0 0
	Balance in Bank:—	...	...
	On Deposit Account	...	948 14 11
	On Current Account ...	...	5 4
					<u>£722 7 5</u>

I have examined the Receipts, Books, Stock Receipts, Defence Bond Receipts, Current and Deposit Accounts and I certify that everything is in order.

ELSIE L. KIRKWOOD,
Hon. Treasurer.

J. M. TAYLOR,
September, 1962.

