

THE OLD BEDAN

1963

The Guild of Old Bedans

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

Office Bearers and Committee for 1963-64

Chairman	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Wilson (Nora Johnson) 188 Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
Vice-Chairman	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Widdrington (Ellen Shiel), 36 Summerhill, Middle Herrington.
Joint Secretary and Treasurer	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson), "Michaelford", Dipe Lane, South Boldon, Co. Durham. Tel: Boldon 7224.
Assistant Secretary	...	...	...	...	...	Olga Wright, 7 Etrick Grove. Tel.: 56126.

Committee:

Mrs. Bollerby (Esther Best), 10 Warrham Avenue; Mrs. Berry (Margaret Hogg), 116 The Broadway; Valerie Northrop, 44 Princess Crescent; Mrs. Poynt (Joyce Alder), 37 Beechwood Terrace; Mrs. Ritch (Kathleen Carr), 3 Bemsford Park; Mrs. Robinson (Mary Arkless), 4 Westfield Grove; Mrs. Stafford (Betty Ritch), 47 Woodville Crescent; Mrs. Wilkinson (Betty Coates), Bede Grammar School for Girls.

Ex-officio Members: Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), Editor of the 'Old Bedan', 11 Grange View. Tel: 57983. Mrs. Alderson (Mary Mackintosh), Convener of the Entertainment Committee, 26 Barnes View.

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Annual Subscription: 5/- for 1963-64, due on September 1st, 1963. Life Membership, £5 & 0d.

Membership: On 31st August, 1963, the membership was 623, including 287 Life Members. Please note, that 45 members still owe their subscription for 1962-63.

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 a 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 Respite, 25th January, 1963. In the middle of weeks of Arctic weather, 72 Old Bedlams braved the elements to attend the winter party in the Art Room. School was well represented by Miss Bradbury, Miss Hayton, Miss Wilman, Miss Kinch and Mrs. Smith. The School Captain was unable to be present because of a leg injury—3 broken bones!—and the Vice-Captain had stumps. We were sorry not to have them with us. Miss Shearer, who kindly provided sweets and prizes came without Miss Arkle who "didn't feel quite up to it". Our introductory game—this Year "Holiday Haunts" to be guessed—is very optional as many people are glad to just mingle and talk. The hard working winner for this "ice-breaker" was Frances Sharp (Driver). Next we had a tortoise race. Our "Tortoises" were lemons covered with their wrapping papers which were coated with a barbecue sauce to a winning post. Sweets were the reward for the winning team. By request, we did a musical quiz. The Holiday Haunts had been suggested; now to guess how to get there (in song)—Locomotion? Coronation Scot? Caravan? Slow Boat? etc. The winners were Peggy Victory and Mary Arkless in a joint effort!! Too bad—only one prize! Supper was served at 8-00 p.m., the committee doing noble work in the Physic-lab-Kitchen, and appearing with plates bearing two sandwiches, Betty's meat pie (of course!) a cream cake and a piece of shortbread (delicious, thank you Moira Cuddeford, Nellie Steel and Nora Johnson). While the Committee washed up we played a ping-pong-ball-on-string team game, then, all the company assembled, we had our first-ever session of Bedlam Bingo. Mary (Mac) shouted "Eyes Down" and we were off. The first prize was "for a full line", won by Audrey Kinch who unwrapped—a packet of clothes pegs. Next "full house" was for a pound prize—a pound of sugar, won by our Chairman. Next we did the "middle" line and the winner, Margaret Robinson (Simpson) was presented with a tape measure. "Full House" again, was worth a guinea (Boscham's Pills) won by Margaret Robinson, then "Domino" which obtained for Margaret Chapman a toilet roll. The final prize was five pounds and Peggy Todd carried home the pounds of potatoes.

As we had a little time in hand Mary pushed in her Sing-Song which wandered from "Bachelor Boy" through "Over the Sea to Skye", "I Feel Pretty", "A Brown Bird Singing" and so on. After a hectic few moments of demonstration TWIST we finished with Auld Lang Syne.

Dinner 1963. 188 Members were present at the Guild's Annual Dinner held in Binn's Restaurant on 26th April. After a most enjoyable meal, Kathleen proposed the toast to the School and the School Song was sung. Then Kathleen welcomed Old Bedlams from many parts of the country—Newcastle, Glasgow, Durham, West Hartlepool, Bradford, Caldercross, Silegh, Chester-le-Street, Leadgate and Manchester—and Miss Bradbury, Miss Shearer, Miss Arkle, and Miss Harris, Audrey Hayton (representing Bede Staff) and Alderman Mrs. Hodley (Nellie Blacklock) to whom she extended the Guild's good wishes for her forthcoming year of office as Mayor of Sunderland. Miss Moul sent her apologies and suggested that she could not be with us. Finally, Kathleen thanked Elsie for her hard work in organising the dinner. Miss Bradbury, replying to the toast, brought greetings from School which, she said, had had a mainly uneventful, but rather noisy year—due to rather lengthy alterations to the hall.

Then to the eagerly awaited entertainment—but first Miss Bradbury presented the "G.O.B.'s" with posies as thanks "for what we are about to receive". In reply Mary paid tribute to her hard-working cast—that is to say, Winnie Scott, Kathleen Carr, Joan Jobling, Margaret Turner, Joan Liddle (a very promising answer to last year's S.O.S.) Jenny Hey and Lena Thompson, the back-room girl.

This year we "received" the G.O.B.T.V.—a clear picture with no interference, and a varied programme to suit all tastes:—

Satirical Review — "That was the Winter that was" reminded us of our recent tribulations, and those of the G.O.B.'s too—however:—

"We've survived it to entertain.

The programme that we've thawed out

Should warm the cockles of your heart in case you have to go
back into the freeze again."

Jack Box Jury—Acker Bilk, Barbara Windsor, Tommy Steele and Diana Dors considered the merits of several "discs" including an unusual rendering of "I'll Sing Three Songs of Araby" by the "Two Micks, Mary and Jack". This was voted a miss—unfortunately, as one of the Micks just happened to be present.

Instrumental Music—an interlude by the "Creeps": a sinister quartet with black "Beatle cuts", white shirts, red cummerbunds and black tights, whose guitar-playing gave the front row of the audience some anxious moments when it seemed perilously like bayonet practice.

For "Western" Fans—the well known drama of "The Shooting of Dan Magrew", with of course some original ideas as to what went on in the Malarrie Saloon when Dangerous Dan came to settle his score with Kid Cascara. Tension ran high as Dan ignored the Marshal's warning to be gone by sundown, and there were alas, some casualties among the Saloon's customers, but eventually the Law triumphed. The Marshall got Dan, dear Prissy Louella got the Marshal (for life presumably), and the glamorous Diamond Lou rather smartly got the wallets of the expired customers.

Dancing Club—brought us Kathleen, immaculate in tulle, and Mary wearing 'n' yards of tulle and 'n' thousand sequins, performing their own version of the quick-step and the tango, accompanied by the Blackball Rockers.

Commercials were also included in the programme. They paid neat tributes to Three Old Bedans renowned in their different spheres, and ran as follows:—

- (1) (To the tune of Scotts Postage Card)
At an Old Bedan Meeting
After the chat and greeting
What takes a lot of beating?
Betty's meat pie!
Quality that doesn't waver,
Masty and full of flavour
It's such a joy to savour
Betty's meat pie (Buy some for Elspeth).
- (2) (To the 'Shell' Tune).
She's our Nell, She's doing swell
She will be Mayor and do it well,
She'll rule the roost
Give the town a boost
You can be sure of Nell!
- (3) (Try it to the Mr. Clean Tune).
Elsie Thern collects the subs and keeps the books and reads the
minutes
Elsie Thern cares for the whole Guild and everyone that's in it
Elsie Thern, Elsie Thern, Elsie Thern.....

Finally, The Musical. In "North East Side Story" we saw Mary, a very ordinary housewife on her hunched round of shopping, aroused by the placards asking "Why be Dowdy?" "Are you Spring Clean?" and finally taking the plunge into a Beauty Salon. We were promised "Tonight, there'll be a new Bedan Star,

Tonight, tonight, what's been so long a fright,
Will for us be a new Bridget Be"—

and before our very eyes a miraculous transformation took place. In the hands of a smart and skilful staff of beauticians, the homely "bun" became a fashionable top-knot, the face with the well-scrubbed look became a riot of cosmetics, the dowdy coat and dress were discarded to reveal a "little black" number, and the comfortable flatties were exchanged for high heeled gold sandals. Then the

new improved Maria sallied forth, gaily singing "I feel pretty"—encountering on her way a (nameless) schoolmistress who rather bewildered, declared—
And "Suddenly that dame will never be the same to me....."

She looks soft, with her hips gently swaying,

The blue of her eyelashes fringing

Maria—the most peculiar girl I ever saw,"

So the G.O.B.'s bade us farewell singing,

"Tonight you've seen our presentation

A happy permutation of school friends gay and bright

And now we've done, and like the sinking sun,

We have sunk Tonight."

We all look forward to their rising again next year.

Summer Reunion, 28th June. This was our first-ever really wet night. A cheerful bus-load of Old Bedans and 2 cars left Park Lane in dull weather which turned to rain as we made our way via Witton-le-Wear to Hamsterley Forest. Supper, prepared by committee members, had to be eaten in the bus and drinks of hot tea and coffee were very welcome. It was even too wet for a walk and chat with friends in what would have been a perfect picnic spot on a fine evening. The bus seats, fortunately, were low enough to allow for conversation from back to front of bus, so we were not confined to talking only to our immediate neighbours! We hope a change of date next year will bring us a fine night again.

Summary of Annual Business Meeting — 30th September, 1963

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

Reply by Miss Bradbury.

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 1963-64.

Retiring 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:—The Winter Re-union in School on Friday, 31st January, 1964, the Dinner Re-union in Birns' Restaurant on Friday, 24th April, and a Summer Outing in June.

Any Other Business:—A Netball Club formed.

£100 transferred to the Special Investment Department.

The Secretary apologised that the motion—"the annual subscription be raised to 5/- as from September 1st, 1963"—passed at the 1962 Business Meeting was not printed in last year's magazine.

Old Bedans attending the A.G.M. were interested to see for the first time the portraits of Miss Todd, Miss Boon, and Miss Moad in the school entrance hall. The G.O.B. made a present to the school of the portrait of Miss Boon as a link between present and former Bedans.

Loan and Scholarship Fund. There were no appeals for loans this year so the Committee decided to grant fifteen Leavers' Awards of books or equipment to the value of £5 to girls who did well at "A" level and who are going on to further training. Miss Bradbury gave an interesting report on the history of the Loan and Scholarship Fund at the Annual General Meeting and why the Committee had decided to make these awards in view of the changing circumstances of girls leaving School, since the introduction of the grant system.

Social Service Report. The Social Service Committee has continued to work enthusiastically all year and thanks Betsy Powley (Soutby) who has been so helpful a temporary convenor.

At the Guild of Help Market in October 1962, the Guild of Old Bedans' Stall, under the capable management of Anne Mitchell (Crowe), raised £31; this year too it has been most successful. Later that month, 23 needy people received 15/- each for coal. Help was given too to one old lady towards the cost of installing and licensing a T.V. set donated by a Guild member, who also provided a radio for another.

At Christmas, a gift of £2 was sent to Wayside, and 24 parcels plus money for fuel were distributed, while at Easter 23 boxes were helped in the same way. What thanks and blessings the recipients shower on the Guild. Sometimes, we find ourselves helping former Bedans who have fallen on bad times. One writes: "I was a pupil at Bede School 64 years ago and still have happy memories of that time."

In March, at another popular Cookery Demonstration, the collection, the sale of food cooked, and a stall brought £15 17s. 8d., and that, along with generous members' donations, concert parties and coffee mornings, enabled us to spend £38 and yet to have £29 left in September, ready for the next gifts towards fuel in October. The Committee appreciates the help, the work and the time given by Guild Members, and appeals again to each Old Bedan who has not already done so, to contribute now a mite for our old folk.

It was with great regret that our Librarians learnt that Durham County Council would in future provide and staff the library at Ryhope General Hospital instead of the Red Cross and that therefore their services would not be required after 1st October. All thanks to Margaret Chapman (Hunter) and her band of helpers for carrying on this branch of social work on our behalf so well and for so many years. It was a wonderful 'Silent Service'.

Lastly, the Committee welcomes back to duty its Conventor, ELLEN WILSON (Mrs. Hooker), 102 Ewesley Road.

The Hockey Club. It was disappointing to have 50% of the season's matches cancelled owing to the snow. 28 Games were arranged but only 13 played, of which we won 9. We were pleased with the result and are looking forward to the new season. With the help of 4 "guest" members we always had a full team. During the spring when the pitches were unplayable we tried playing on the beach, and enjoyed it. We finished the season with a good game against Caledonians on the Seaton Carew beach. The April Hockey Tournament proved more successful for us than the September one. We won our sections by beating 4 teams without conceding a goal, and scoring 16. In the semi-final we beat Games Club "A" 1-0. We then beat Hillingham Synthonian A team, 1-0, to win the tournament. We celebrated with a most enjoyable end-of-season dinner at Darham. Our membership has risen slightly but we warmly invite any young Old Bedans to join us. On behalf of the Old Bedan Hockey Club I should like to thank Miss Bradbury and the Guild for their interest and encouragement during the season.

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

The London Branch of the Guild of Old Bedans. There was a larger attendance than usual at our winter reunion in November at Miss Seddon's house in Kensington. Those present were:—Miss Moul, Joyce Hebron (Aylton), Edith Broderick (Burge), Nancy Lawther (Hrubicka), Marjorie Bailey (Kewish), Isabel Lundy (Marrot), Mary Thurlbeck (Post), Eleanor Wilson (Tithersidge), Doreen Margatroid (Boyes), Winnie Talbot, Phyllis Tennant (Beck) and a newcomer, Ena Smith (Robinson). All did justice to the lavish spread provided by our hostess and exchanged news with the vivacity usually found when a group of women get together. Miss Seddon has since moved to Eastbourne and we all hope that she has settled down happily and is enjoying provincial

life. In May, we visited Eleanor Wilson at Barnes. Fewer put in an appearance as it was a long and complicated journey for several of our "regulars". Edith Broderick spent several hours travelling from Reading and Phyllis Tennant as usual, did about a two hour journey! Celia Pipe (Sheppard) was unable to come as she had a new baby—her third daughter. Belated congratulations from London Old Bedams! Miss Moor joined us at Eleanor's, also Alice Munro but those members were presented at the last minute from coming so we were rather a small party. Many thanks to both hostesses for their hospitality.

A large number of Old Bedams are no longer on our mailing list as they have failed to reply to several notices and it has been assumed that they are no longer interested. If anyone within reasonable distance of London would like to be notified of the next reunion would she please contact me? We would all be delighted to see a new face!

An S.O.S. to Doreen Murgatroyd who we failed to notify in the summer as she had moved. Would she please let me have her new address?

DORREEN WARD (McCrae),
39 Birch Grove, London W.3.

SCHOOL NOTES

Staff Changes:

Goodbye to—Miss D. Burt, Miss A. Wilde, Miss A. Thompson.

Welcome to—Miss Marwood, Miss Lee, Mrs. M. Smith, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Neale, Mrs. Readman.

Chairman of P.T.A.—Mrs. Youngs.

Vice-Chairman—Mr. J. F. Berriman.

Guild of Old Bedams' Representative—Mrs. Wilson.

School Captain—Vivienne Greener.

Vice-Captain—Christine Sanderson.

G.O.B. Prizes—Bedam Essay. Because of the high standard of the entries, two Junior Prizes were awarded this year, to Sandra Dandy and Joan Taylor. G.O.B. Prize for High attainment at O level :—Glennis Gordon.

Lily A. Hutchinson Memorial Prize:—English: Sandra Woodcock. French: Ann Gooch.

FROM NOVEMBER 1962 TO NOVEMBER 1963

These have become Life Members:—Joyce Alder (Parritt), Essie Bell (Allison), Mrs. Bell (Staff), Mary Booth (Scott), Doris Cooks (Smith), Audrey Kinch, Nancy Lawther (Habicka), Joan Liddle, Winifred Simpson (Nelson), Georgina Smith (Robinson), Valerie Williamson (Trigg).

These have become members:—Constance Bailey, Anna Blackwell (McBain), Eleanor Brown, Elsie Colling (Swannack), Merle Colling (Mordin), Ann Duffield, Eileen Edmondson, Jean Farmer, Catherine Heptinstall (Whitton), Maureen Hazen, Jennifer Hutton, Elsie Martin (Roberts), Ruth McBain (Harrison), Sheila McBain (Sidebottom), Gwen Oliver (Copden), Joyce Oliver, Margaret Robinson (Simpson), Dorothea Robson (Turner), Carol Suozy, Nellie Stephenson (Scott), Valerie Stewart, Shirley Stone (Horn), Alice Turner, Mavis Veitch (Bell), Edna Wright (McKenzie).

Married are:—Yvonne Anderson, Sheila Bagley, Jill Bartlett, Essie Bell (the first), Pat Berpton, Maureen Chalk, Sylvia Clough, Sheila Gallon, Kathleen Hall, Carol Henderson, Elizabeth Laws, Gladys Lee, Freda Mole, Madeline Sharpe, Mavis Telfer, Joan Williamson.

Babies to:—Patty Bagley (Pearson), Rosemary Berriman (Pearson), Mildred Boufflower (Waters), Dorothy Caslow (Hansley), Marion Corhill, (Swan), Jane Cowell (Wharton), Vera Dent (Jenkins), Anne Harrison (Witherington), Betty Hewison (Rankin), Dorothy Hopper (Kelford), Lilian Hulso (Coggin),

Pauline Humphrey (Duffell), Evelyn Leonard (Thorn), Marjorie Jackson (McCree), Nancy Mattingley (Mitchinson), Celia Pipe (Sheppard), Denise Redick (Collinson), Lilian Robertson (Elliott), Margaret Short (Ungley), Jean Sigworth (Cusworth), Jane Simmons (Johnson), Marjorie Snowball, Audrey Syrett (Ramanamthy), Betty Taylor (Holmes), Dorcas Waring (Potts).

In Memoriam:—Alderman Evelyn Blacklock, Ethel Bruce (Mrs. Dodd), Winnie Fulton (Mrs. Scott-Ingles); Miriam Richardson (Mrs. Halliday), Dorothy Smith (Mrs. Hawson); Winnie Simpson (Mrs. Nelson).

Former Members of Staff. Miss Mead has visited Sunderland two or three times this year and must have met a goodly number of Old Bedans at the Mayor's Reception. Miss Lloyd has been staying with nephews in Southern Rhodesia since March and will probably be there over the winter. She enjoys the facilities, the sunshine, everything, "feels a different being" and sends good wishes to kind friends who have asked about her. Mrs. Horton (Miss Parker), we are sorry to say, damaged a knee in an accident on the black ice of February, has been in hospital in Sheffield ever since and only in late October was she set on her feet to try to take a step or two supported by two physiotherapists, so she is still, as we write this, a long way from getting about. As beds in the Infirmary were urgently needed, she was moved after seven weeks to a hospital where nearly all the patients were very old so she has been, and is much thrown on her own resources. Miss Seddon was hostess to Old Bedans in London before she left her home there to live in Eastbourne; Miss Lamb has settled in Ilkley, and Miss Franklin in Otley. Miss Hilda Martin from Loughson spent a few days in June at 40 Ashwood Terrace. In a letter, accompanied by a photograph of her "seated rather appropriately on an ancient Roman Cross", and taken by Freda Morefield (Dovey), Miss Orme says that "in spite of being much too busy", she is very happy in Bury. Mrs. Nicholson (Miss D. Thompson) writes, after reading the Old Bedans through "avidly at one go" cheerfully of her life and musical interests from Thornton Heath. Miss Carrick certainly did not become inactive after her retirement. Along with two others, she was responsible for the long preparation and complicated arrangements for a pilgrimage of 500 people from the North East to Iowa to take part in the 14th centenary celebrations of the landing of St. Columba. Everything, we learn, was a great success—even to finding a Highland hotel which would provide dinner for 500 people at midnight!

BEDANS AT WORK

The Youngest Old Bedans. Last year's seventh forms are at Universities at Cambridge, Edinburgh, Sheffield, Hull, York, London, Leeds, Bangor, Reading, Manchester and Durham, and at many Training Colleges. Of Old Bedan 'daughters'—Marilyn Carter (mother: Molly Kirby) is at Nottingham Training College; Jennifer Wood (Dianice Bruce's daughter) is at Ball's Park Training College; Vivien Washington (daughter of Jean Bamborough) is at Manchester studying Speech Therapy, and Kathleen Carr (Peggy Whiting's daughter) is doing Physiotherapy at Newcastle R.V.L. where Janet Langley is a second year student.

Other Bedans at Work. Kathleen Conley is in the Civil Service at Leeds. Anne Powell is now a fully qualified air-hostess with Trans-World Air Lines, based in New York. Jennifer Hutton has a secretarial post in London, Elizabeth Mallentin is chief needlework instructress for London County Council, Marie Anderson is teaching mathematics in Ealing, Patricia Curry gained a diploma in anaesthetics in the November 1962 examinations of the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Marjorie Balmer is a novice at the Convent of the Little Sisters of the Assumption at Blackheath, London. Avril Douglas is now training at the newly-opened Queen Elizabeth II Hospital at Welwyn Garden City. Ruth Gosalvine was one of several law students recently called to the Bar at Gray's Inn. Before going

into chambers in England, she planned a visit to Israel where she wished to study modern Hebrew and Israeli law. Norma Burnside (Rivcades) is teaching infants in Kent. Emily Durrant (Lawson) works at the D.S.I.R. Building Research Station near Glasgow. Evelyn Johnson (Ellis) still teaching boys in Wakefield, asks by name about many of her class-mates and hoped to get in touch with Marjorie Watson (Leonard) in Leeds. (It would be good if between them they managed to found the long-since-hoped-for Yorkshire Branch of the Guild of Old Bedans).

Newer home, teaching Domestic Science are Sheila McBain (Sidebottom) at a new I.S.N. school at Hare Lane, near Annfield Plain, Ann Blacknell (McHain) at Gateshead, and Anne Wiggins in Sunderland, Margaret Beresford is teaching in Newcastle, and Valerie Wilkinson (Betty Custer's daughter) is teaching at St. Anthony's Grammar School. Evelyn Leonard (Thorpe) is on the staff at Southwick Juniors' where Corrie Warburton (Wilson) also teaches. Muriel Malone is headmistress of Hylton Infants' School, and Edna Glascoy became 'head' of Springswell Infants' this year. Dorothy Goodbir who was a delegate at the Easter Conference of the N.U.T. becomes 'head' of Grange Park Junior School after Christmas. Jennie Galowski (Shockett) is 'head' of the Menorah School for Jewish Children in Sunderland. Beatrice Thirlwell who is headmistress of Castle View Junior School, wrote and produced a Nativity play in December 1962, the proceeds of the performance going to the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies.

Retired from teaching are Alice Bates, Elizabeth Mee, and in December, Elsie Weatherall (Petch).

Dr. Sybil Ward is senior assistant schools' Medical Officer for Sunderland and was responsible, in October, for the visit to schools of a health unit concerned with showing the dangers of smoking in connection with lung cancer.

In Public Life. Old Bedans are proud that Nellie Blacklock (Ald. Mrs. Hedley) is Mayor of Sunderland this year. She and her sister Mary (Smith) as Deputy Mayoress are having a year of notable occasions, saddened in October by the death of their sister Evelyn, who herself a former Mayor, has given a life-time of public service to the town.

Victoria Barnborough is district commissioner of Girl Guides for Southwick area. Winnie Whiting is vice-president of the Sunderland Association of the N.U.T., Ena Bell (Allison) is President of Whitburn Village Women's Institute. Vera Beech has been helping hard-pressed wardens at Y.W.C.A. Hostels in Newcastle, Leeds and Bradford. Ann Jeffrey (Robinson) visits a northern prison to give art lessons to women prisoners. Hilda Andrews (Moore) is National President of the National Association of Ladies' Circles of Great Britain and Ireland, this year, which involves visits to all parts of the British Isles.

The Fulwell girls' gymnastic club, run by Jane Allison, has raised almost £400 for charities in a year.

Notable Occasions

In the past year three Old Bedans have received long-service presentations in Sunderland. In December 1962, Elizabeth Fox, assistant welfare officer was presented with a silver tea service in recognition of thirty years work, which, she says, "involves meeting people, answering their questions, and helping with their problems". In her leisure, she is a branch officer of the Red Cross Society, an instructor with the Civil Defence Corps, public relations officer for the local branch of N.A.L.G.O. and secretary and past-president of Sunderland Business and Professional Women's Club. In February Mary Waggott who is Superintendent Health Visitor, speaks at a meeting of the Sunderland Society for the Mentally Handicapped Children. The same month she received an award for thirty years' service with the Sunderland Health Authority. The third Old Bedan to be thus recognised was Kathleen Muir, who is senior assistant librarian at Sunderland Central Library.

Meetings. Besides more formal Re-unions e.g. the Dinner and the London Old Bedans' are many little ones. Elaine Clayburn (Oliver) gathered at her home Eleanor Garraway (Brookies), Dorothy Proom (Burdess) from Bristol, Erid Crowe from London, Laura Thacher (Bickerton) from Cuxton, Stella Laws, Florence Jackson and Esther McLachlan (Wallace). One day Kathleen Carr (Ritchie) collected together Mary Mackintosh (Adderson), Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood), Betty Powley (Scaulby), Miss Bradbury, Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer.

Mary Mackintosh met Ann Wilson (Atkins) from Brussels Green at Rothbury, and Joan Hayton, on holiday, met Marianne Allison (Moffat) of Middlesbrough and Grace Caldwell (Allinson) home from abroad. Kathleen Mair has come upon Edith Wearmouth (Pearce) at a Natural History Class, and Bessie Taylor and Margaret Taylor (Pirkle) met at Dame Allan's School Speech Day. Miss Orme in Bury has had a visit from Freda Mansfield (Dovey) from Birmingham, and from Joan Bennett (Allen). Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer have been visited by Erid Crowe, after she and Miss Shearer had spent a holiday in Scotland; by Amy Huxsey (Dwyer) from Market Weighton one day in spring, and had recently a surprise visit from Elsie White from Vancouver. They hope to have Amy with them shortly for a couple of nights over D.S.A.'s and Ann's birthday. At Seaburn in October, they came on Lillian Mallowan (Moxley) from Manchester and Miss Shearer was surprised to find Mellic Garbutt (Johnson) in Birm here again from Chitagonig. Last year's Bede Girls Speech Day found lots of Old Bedans chatting together including of course the Speaker of the Day Mary Robson from Nodderton, and also Kathie Mallen (Elmes) from Leyburn, while Miss Shearer, attending West Park Speech Day as a guest of Gladys Littlehales (Bearey) had quite a thrill to find that she had taught four or five of the dozen V.I.P.'s on the platform including the retired and the present Headmistress of the School and a number of the staff. She found herself too surrounded by Old Bedans ex-members of staff of the School, many of them headmistresses elsewhere or retired, and most of them ex-pupils of hers. Such is glory! Ethel Greig (Lindsay) visited Jane Newton (Griereson) at Blackburn where Jane leads a busy life. Kathleen Simpson keeps in touch with Rina Hards in London. Rina is still occupied with her catering undertakings. Her sister Joyce is a sister at Sunderland Accident Hospital and Patsy has a job in Acklington. Minnie McMillan and Nancy Welch visited Thelma Henderson (Williams) at her house in Dufton, Wetherfordland in early August. Phyllis Lodge, now retired, and Hilda Weatherall have exchanged visits. Brenda Riddles (White) on holiday in Sunderland met Joan Sutherland and Moira Mahoney on the beach. Dorothy Coulsey (Herdman) on holiday from Halifax lunched with Connie Wray (Bond). Ethel Carr met Grace Vincent (Hewitson) in a Harrogate Church. Elsie Garrick (Smith) who now lives in Ashford, Kent, spent an evening with Dorothy Middlemass (Suggden) and Winnie Scott (Thomas) after an absence of fifteen years from the north east. Elsie Davidson met Jennie Vincent (Ord) recently in the dining-car of the London-bound train. They had not met for 40 years. Elsie was able to answer most of Jennie's 101 questions about Old Bedans. Jennie had flown to Sunderland from Montreal to visit her mother who was very ill, but had not time to visit O.B. friends. She sent greetings however, to all who knew her and looks forward to receiving her O.B. notices and magazine.

Some News of 'Older' Old Bedans. Mary D. Sherratt now Mrs. Stirling and Mr. Stirling celebrated their diamond wedding in October. They are the parents of Jean and Nan Stirling. Bessie Taylor's parents are also of these early days. Her mother (Mary Gibbons) "sat up in bed and read the magazine as if she had just left school". She wonders if she is the oldest living Old Bedan. She is 84 years old and entered Bede on the day it opened. Another Higher Grade pupil is Margaret Parton, Mudge Robertson's mother. Elizabeth Niel, our first Bedan doctor, and Sunderland's first lady doctor, lives next door to Elsie Wilson (Hooker), who enjoys the tales of the early days of the school, and of her contemporaries.

The Arts. Brenda Riddles (White) has had two interesting musical experiences this year. In July, she sang with the Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus in York

Minister at the last concert of the York Festival, when Michael Tippett's 'A Child of our Time' was performed with the London Symphony Orchestra in the presence of the composer. The concert was broadcast in the Third Programme. In September, as a member of a South Yorkshire choir she flew to Zurich to sing in 'Messiah' in the Grossmünster.

In April, Ann Hughes who has spent two years at the Manchester College of Music, was the soprano soloist in the combined Bede Boys' and Girls' School Choir's performance of Handel's 'Messiah'.

After studying drama at London's Guildhall School, and operatory experience in Canterbury and Whitby, Maureen Parry was back at Sunderland in December 1962, as assistant stage manager and fairy godmother in the pantomime at Sunderland Civic Theatre.

Book Review. In the early days of the First World War there flourished in the Bede Collegiate School a group of some six or seven girls destined each to make her name—as Principal of a College, as Senior Mistress of a Grammar School, as mother of seven children and so on. One of them, Emily Taylor, has just published her second book. "Moar my Ship and back to School" (pub. Stockwell, 15/-). The first, "Hither and Thither" was a book of essays, learned, skilful, almost ornate. The second with the above enigmatic title was published early this year (1963). It consists primarily of reminiscences of schools and school-life, with odd pawky bits of philosophy thrusting up between the tales, and a section of a journey to the Holy Land for good measure.

For Bedans the book's particular interest lies in its veiled comments on the old school. Veiled, since Miss Taylor takes no risks but re-names Schools, places and people to the joy of would-be detectives. For those of us to whom the memory of Miss L. Hutchinson is greatly treasured the character sketch of "Miss Debenham" will ring many bells. And Miss Hughes, so petite, Miss Farquhar, Miss Bradshaw? Each appears in strange guise together with "Miss Orient" and Miss "Fountain". You have guessed? Then you must buy or borrow the book and read more, not omitting the notes on those Speech Days in the Victoria Hall when for one day each year girls learned boys were also human.

We thank you "Jerrina Poppo", alias Emily Taylor for helping us to remember and to remember with joy.

Grace Wood (Bede 1905-1911).

Jane Allison has had published a book which has been reviewed as a "must" for every teacher of girls' physical education, and for every club coach. It is "Advanced Gymnastics for Women" (pub. Stanley Park, price 16/-) "It should be equally acceptable to the practising gymnast, coach, teacher and lecturer" says one review.

In use in many schools are violin instruction books written by Eva Cohen (Smith).

Sport:

Golf. The Old Bedan Golf Reunion was cancelled because of bad weather. This year in County Golf circles:—Ethel Lebbe (Lockesby) and partner won the Durham County Ladies' Fourstones played at South Moor in approximately a force eight gale; Ethel Proctor (Powley) won a prize in the County Singles played at Weasdale; Peggy Todd is on the County Committee and is also handicap manager for the North of England. At Boldon Golf Club, Dorothy Grierison and partner won the One-Holer Trophy, Winnie Scott won the Gladys Donaldson Trophy, while Olga Wright, Jennie Hey and Ethel Lockesby have won prizes and medals in medal rounds.

Hockey. October, 1963. County 1st XI: Kathleen Wheeler (Johnson, Staff). Jean Brewis (Pillars) is a Junior County Selector and Hon. Match Secretary.

Netball. Anyone interested in joining this club should get in touch with Heather Wardle, 9 Beatrice Street, Boker.

Homes of Old Bedans:

Winifred Talbot is now living at Chislehurst, Kent; Dorothy Campbell (Kemble) has moved from Finchley to Chatham, Kent; Elie Colling (Swanwick) lives at Berkhamsted, Herts., and Merle Colling (Mondin) at Croydon, Surrey; Elie Weatherall (Pouch) at Wall, Northumberland; Agnes McIndoe (King) near Truro, Cornwall; Joyce Logan (Blades) has left Lincoln for Belfast; Cecelia Lakin (White) is now settled at Cawbeck, Cumberland; Evelyn Thompson (Pitt) at Froese, Mary Robson has left Northumberland and is living at Barton-on-Sea, Hants.

News of Bedans Abroad:

Valerie Williamson (Trigg) has gone to live in Gijon, Northern Spain. Erid Bell (Hindmarch) lives in California and Audrey Syrett (Rannamantby) in Bombay Lucy Poggate (Nichol) in Cullinan, Transvaal, never fails to keep in touch with us. She is a much called upon grandmother, plays golf and bowls, and gardens, and has the "usual few committees and good causes". Edith Gibson had three interesting months this summer visiting and travelling in U.S.A. and Canada, and was able to get to know Elsie White in Vancouver. Later, Elsie spent a short holiday in this country and looked up several old friends. Beryl Hall (Gilchrist) and her Bedan daughter Barbara spent three months at the Persian Gulf this year. Pat Campbell (Price) writes in her yearly letter of the mingled trials and joys of her work as a medical missionary in the Sirdia Hills of India Joyce Prince (Ayken) in Jays, Northern India, has had to overcome great difficulties in repairing devastation brought about by the floods there.

Beryl Shaw (Wagner) has made appeals for funds for cancer research on both radio and television in Brisbane, Australia. Judith Birbeck gained one of seven posts at Spanish universities offered to British students. At Madrid, Judith will give English conversation lessons to students. After her year in Spain, which she has visited before, she returns for her final year at Leeds University. Carol Henderson (Bain) is taking up an appointment in Hamilton, Ontario as pharmacist at a hospital there. Molly Garbutt (Johnson) and Elsa (Poulter) now live within 200 miles of each other in Pakistan. Alice Proctor (Eastaugh) spends part of the year in Bombay and part in Sunderland. She enjoys life abroad and has acquired a taste for curries, and collecting Indian brasses. She is a member of the British Women's Association, a charitable organisation.

Jean Caven, home from Brazil, was the preacher in December 1962, at services in Wilmore Street Church. Mary Howitt, who has lived in Australia since her retirement 14 years ago, was back in England for a holiday from April until October, when she intended slowly making her way back to Australia via Cairo, Bangkok and Hong-Kong. While in Sunderland she was presented with a Soroptimists' past-president's badge. She is a founder-member of this work in the Berrima district of Australia. In December, Vera McBain (Whitehouse) is coming home from Persia to settle again in the north-east.

From Your Letters:

In September, Miss Moul sent to the Guild "affection and good wishes for a happy year". In November of this year, Mrs. Horton (Miss Parkin) wrote to our Secretary: "I was indeed both surprised and pleased to have your letter, for the days are long in hospital and letters more than welcome". From November 6th, her home address is 523 Herries Road, Sheffield 5.

Writing last December, Agnes McIndoe (King) says, "How often I wish I could attend one of the dinners, and after reading 'The Old Bedans' my longing becomes more acute. On reading the names of former pupils of my generation I wonder how many are grannies like myself. It is approximately 40 years since I left Bede which is a large slice of one's life, however, the black cashmere stockings worn with white dresses for Speech Day celebrations will never leave my memory.....surely such an ensemble was far from attractive. None the less I suppose we all thought of ourselves as minor V.I.P's."

Alice Lawther (Hubicka) writes: "We had a really delightful meeting at Miss Seddon's London home.....Miss Seddon, whom I hadn't seen since I left school twenty-seven years ago, was looking remarkably like what I remembered her and she staggered me by remembering my name when she came to the door to greet me." Alice sends greetings to all her contemporaries.

Phyllis Lodge (address: Ryehill, 196 World's End, Sowerby, Thirsk) seeks news of Joyce Tranter who was in the Sixth Form with her, and also the recipe for Betsy's pie! (Ed. Note: Gwen Lloyd remembers Joyce Tranter as someone who was extremely kind to her when she was in Lower Sixth. She thinks Joyce went to Westfield College, London, where it might be possible to trace her through the college).

Lilian Bowe, living at Rugby, remembers an Elsie Davidson among the juniors, slender, pale with long dark hair plaited, a serious expression, and a nice smile. Dora Cooke (Smith) from Epsom, Surrey, sends greetings to Miss Ackle and Miss Shearer, and to all Old Bedans who remember her.

Editorial:

Hoping that you are still receiving us "loud and clear" like the G.O.B. T.V. at the Annual Dinner, may we remind annual members that the subscription from September 1963, is 3/-. The Guild is grateful to those Old Bedans who have sent donations to cover the difference between the annual life membership which they paid, and the present 3 guineas.

The Editor and Secretary thank those who have sent news items, no matter how brief, and are especially appreciative of those who state clearly both married and maiden names.

To younger members of the Guild we quote from the letter of a young Old Bedan: "I was pleased to see in the magazine the names of a number of girls who were at school with me. Until now, there have been only a few names that I have recognised". So young old Bedans, whose names may not be known to an ageing Editor who is sometimes able to prise information from her contemporaries, please do send us your news.

Our thanks to Mr. Milner Taylor, our auditor, and to Kathleen Bellamy, Winnie Graham, Ruth McBain, Joyce Orr and Betty Ritch who have helped so willingly and promptly with typing for this 1963 magazine.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON 31st AUGUST, 1963

Summary of Balance Sheet for the Year — 1st September 1962 to 31st August, 1963

	RECEIPTS			EXPENDITURE			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Subscriptions	44	3	6	Printing	...	...
" (Libs) ...	...	...	...	Stationery	...	...
	20	10	0	Postage and Telephone	...	...
Donations	...	...	...	Gifts	...	...
Balance from Meetings	...	...	...	Owing to Treasurer (1961-62)	...	...
Interest	...	...	...	London Branch (1961-62-63)	...	...
	20	1	4	Balance on Year's Working	...	...
	<hr/>						
	£116	0	6		£116	0	6

TOTAL FUNDS

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Balance on 31st August, 1962	722	7	5	Made up as follows—			
Balance on Year's Working...	39	1	7	31% War Stock	...	...
				2½% Defence Bonds	...	...
				Balance in Bank—			
				Deposit Account	134	19	7
				S.I.D.	401	13	4
				Current Account	47	10	11
					384	3	10
	<hr/>						
	£797	11	6		£797	11	6

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

ELISE J. KIRKWOOD,
Hon. Treasurer.

J. M. TAYLOR,
August, 1963.

THE GUILD OF OLD MEDAMS

The Winter Re-union will be held in the Art Room at School on Friday, January 31st 1964 from 6.45 p.m. until 10 p.m. Tickets, priced 4/- each, may be obtained from Committee members or from the Secretary.

Advance Notices:- The Dinner Re-union will be held on Friday, April 24th 1964. Details will be sent later.

To Annual Subscribers:- The Subscription was raised to 5/- on September 1st 1963. Will members, please, pay their 1963-64 subscription at the Winter Re-union or send it as soon as possible.

'Hichselford',
Dipe Lane,
South Boldon,
Co. Durham.

Elsie I. Kirkwood
(Hon. Secretary).

Tel: Boldon 7224.

