

# THE OLD BEDAN

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1966

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## The Guild of Old Bedans

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

### Office Bearers and Committee for 1966-67.

Chairman ... ..	Mrs Widdrington (Ellen Stiel) 28, Summerhill, Middle Herrington
Vice-Chairman ... ..	Mrs. Robinson (Mary Arkless) 4, Westfield Grove,
Joint Secretary and Treasurer ... ..	Mrs Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson) "Michaelford", Dipe Lane, South Boldon, Co. Durham, Tel: Boldon 7334.
Assistant Secretary ... ..	Olga Wright, 7, Etrick Grove, Tel 66126

### Committee:

Mrs. Bell, Bede Grammar School for Girls; Joan Berry, 116, The Broadway; Mrs. Fleuret (Doris Forster), 9, Brixham Gardens; Mrs. Haptingall (Violet Smith), 13, Meadowfield Drive, Cleodon; Mrs. Hirst (Dorothy Metcalf), 4, Belle Vue Villas, East Boldon; Mrs. Hunter (Margaret Chapman), 9, Stockton Road, Ryhope; Mrs. Sidney (Gladys Stewart), 17, Richard Avenue, Mrs. Wilson (Norma Johnson), 188, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.

Ex-Officio Member: Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), Editor of the "Old Bedan", 11, Grange View, Tel: 57985.

### INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS.

Annual Subscription: 5/- for 1966-67, due on September 1st, 1966.

Life Membership: £3. 3. 0.

Membership: On 31st August, 1966, the membership was 625, including 328 Life Members. Please, note that 57 members owe their subscriptions for 1965-66. The Secretary/Treasurer would be most grateful to have these together with the 1966-67 subscription as soon as possible.

### 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 note, for easier identification, maiden names are used. The married name is usually given in brackets.
4. To ask, if she is not sure if her subscription is paid. Any member of Committee will pass on her request.
5. To note, to save postage, receipts for a subscription will be enclosed with the first notice after payment.
6. To note, that the "Old Bedan" will not be sent to those members who are two years in arrears with their subscriptions.

## GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS,

Winter Reunion - Friday, January 28th. Fifty four Guild Members attended this winter meeting, including Miss Bradbury, Miss Shearer, the school vice-captain and a friend deputising for the captain. We guessed the titles of Old Films, played a highly competitive game of "Corners" - (picking up beans with darts, peas with straws, buttons with bent pins, match sticks with straight pins etc. ), then followed "Musical Halves" - a kind of split-word snap, and supper, deliciously prepared by Committee members. Then we put "Teddy to Bed" - a team game and "created" hats, judged with humorous comments by Miss Bradbury, and finished in hilarious style with "Proverbial Chorus" - far from heavenly, and Auld Lang Syne.

Miss Shearer kindly provided the prizes and sweets for this Winter Reunion. With a view to easing the task of future entertainment sub-committees, she has very generously presented the Guild with 100 song books suitable for sing-songs on such occasions. In a message to the Guild she says "Though I did have the idea that the Guild could do with some song books I did none of the work concerned in finding them. This was done partly by our pianist and editor and partly by Eaid Crose in London, who visited Novello on our behalf and got the firm to send us specimen copies."

A very generous and thoughtful gift - thank you, Miss Shearer.

Annual Dinner, 29th April, 1966. It was flattering to read, at the entrance to the "Locarno", that "through these doors pass the loveliest girls in the North-East," but modestly recognizing that this message was not addressed primarily to the G. O. B., we ascended to the Harlequin Room. There, the 157 faces and figures were perhaps not quite of "Miss World" calibre, but pleasingly familiar. Over dinner we exchanged news of families and friends, then from a candle-lit top table the Chairman welcomed Miss Bradbury, Miss Shearer, Miss Harris and Audrey Bayton (Deputy Headmistress) and members from as far afield as the U.S.A. Apologies were received from Miss Arkle, Miss Lloyd and Alderman Mrs. Besley, who for diverse compelling reasons were unable to be with us. Once again, Elsie had spent much time and thought in preparing the seating plan, and Nellie hoped that everyone was happily placed. After toasts to the Queen and the School, Miss Bradbury rose to speak to us "for the last time as President," but promised that her address would not be a gloomy one. She thanked the Guild for inviting her, and for the spray of freesias - her favourite flowers. She said she had intended to continue last year's history of Bode, but had decided on reflection that the last seven years had been either excessively dull or a series of major crises! She would always associate Bode with building: her first view of the school had been dominated by piles of bricks and sand, and from that moment workmen had seldom been absent from the scene. Miss Bradbury said that her association with the G. O. B. had always been a happy one and would play a great part in her memories of the school; she looked forward to continuing her membership "in the ranks". As to the future - the "old lady's" days might be numbered, but one hoped that the new infant would inherit many of her characteristics.

The School Song was followed by a short interval during which floor-space was cleared for the entertainment. This was presented by Peggy Victory (Simson) supported by Doris Forster (Fleuret), Mary Arkless (Robinson) Joan Boswell (Rough) Audrey Kinch, Sheila Thomas, Joan Jobling (Kirtou) and Margaret Nicholson (Gracey). Accompaniment was provided by the indispensable Winnie, and the narrator was Joan Liddle, who introduced "with some trepidation" a Pageant of P. T., as many ages of Bedans remember it.

Comparatively few would recall the regulations regarding correct P. T. dress in the "Higher Grade" days, as demonstrated by Audrey and Mary. A basic was worn, knickers, though "perhaps the most important part of a girl's dress, should not be too ample and should finish above the knee" (Mary made suitable adjustments to her bloomers). Petticoats, stiff corsets and garters were taboo (offending garments were duly removed), instead "an unboned bodice with suspenders attached" should be worn. Modelled by Doris, the humble liberty bodice looked remarkably chic! The three then demonstrated some suitably lady-like exercises under the guidance of a formidable Peggy, also wearing regulation garb of white blouse, the, long navy skirt and authentic boots (inspired by Ellen Carlin).

Scene Two brought us the more familiar blue blouses and somewhat breezier pants of the 1930's when Bedans strove under "P. M. P." for prowess in bunny jumps and soft landings - and also for deportment grilles. The award of one of these said Joan, "was an honour to be borne with fortitude. Nil relaxation, or else!" --- Miss Moud hoped to improve the shape of her pupils' ankles by decreeing that they should walk on their toes, and to keep them free from epidemics by gargling to numbers.

At this time, Joan reminded us, Norah Reed was pioneering the Keep Fit Movement, and the next scene was a tribute to the many Old Bedans who, as her "disciples", helped to make the Movement the nation-wide institution it is today. Careful research brought us original costumes, movements, music - it was all very nostalgic!

After the inevitable restrictions of war and evacuation - "reports speak only of cross-country running" - P. T. burst forth anew with a great enthusiasm for apparatus. One must have a bean-bag, a hoop, a balloon, as Scene Four demonstrated.

To bring the Pageant up to date, Peggy, Margaret and Sheila presented some aspects of Modern Dance, now included in the ever-widening curriculum of Physical Education. In "Advice to Beginners" they emphasized "how, what and where the body can move," and accompanied some very entertaining reeling and writhing with thought-provoking comments such as "Never go without your centre." "Any body who is anybody has palms!" "It's the hips that take you down - levity takes ME up."

Finally, we saw a Movement Study "telling in dance a story close to all our hearts." There entered five Bedans, busily studying classes, science, cookery, P. E. and literature (rather X - certificate!), followed by some rather unwelcome "outsiders." Then came a pinstriped, brief-cased M. P., ordering a merger and so nonsense. Initial gloom

was followed by reluctant acceptance - and perhaps, who knows? - by a happy co-existence.

Miss Bradbury presented poses to the team, and congratulated them on their admirable fitness and agility. A familiar voice (all the way from Thropton) echoed these sentiments, and so indeed did all of us. We hope that our appreciation may encourage Peggy and Co. to try again!

Summer Reunion. The weather outlook was not very promising when a full coach-load of Old Bedans left Park Lane on the evening of June 24th for a "summer" outing. Our route lay by the new Derwent Reservoir which was not seen at its best in the cold grey evening light. We had our picnic supper by a stream at Edmansbyers - in the bus because of the cold - and here we were joined by Burtie Wigham (Hall) from St. John's Chapel, who kindly invited us to her home for next year's summer outing. After supper we had a short brisk walk through the village before setting off for home in the bus. A pleasant evening spoilt by indifferent weather.

#### SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

28th September, 1966.

68 Members present. Miss E. J. Bradbury and members welcomed by the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. M. Robinson who presided.

Reply by Miss Bradbury.

Minutes of the last Business Meeting.

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

Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 1966-1967.

Chairman's Remarks.

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

Allegation from Funds - One guinea for School Prize and two guineas for "Bedan" Essay Competition.

Future Meetings: The Winter Re-union in School on Friday, January 27th, 1967; a Dinner Re-union in Bians' Restaurant in April and a Summer Re-union.

A. O. B. It was unanimously agreed that the G. O. B. should carry on as at present.

A suggestion was made that there should be a Business Meeting of the Guild before September 1967 when Bede School becomes Comprehensive. Permission was given for the Committee to co-opt for one year up to, but no more than, three members.

Loan and Scholarship Fund. All loans made to past pupils have now been repaid, and no applications for loans were received from girls eligible to apply to the Fund. Leaving Grants totalling £110 were awarded to 24 girls whose 'A' level results were of high standard, and who were proceeding to University or to a College of Further Education.

Bedans will be relieved to know that the future of the Loan and Scholarship Fund is assured, for the Town Clerk's "Guidance" on the matter makes it clear that even when Bede becomes a Mixed Comprehensive School, the benefits of the Fund will still be for the girls of the school.

Minor alterations in the Administration of the Fund under the new Head Master may be required, but this is a matter which can be dealt with without contravening the intentions of the Trust Deed.

D. M. Wilman, Honorary Secretary.

#### Social Service Report - 1945-46

Our balance on hand for the year amounts to £69, 8, 6, due to the continued support of Guild members and friends. The old Bedans had a well filled stall at the Autumn Market and £32 was raised for the Guild of Help. Later in October, harvest gifts of £1 were given to 18 needy people for the purchase of fuel. In December, a well attended Cookery Demonstration and Bring and Buy stall raised £12 for our funds. Shortly before Christmas, 24 old people received gifts of £1 in cash, and a large parcel of groceries (209 tins and packets of foodstuffs) were kindly donated by Bede Girls' School and handed over to us for distribution, by Miss Brafbury whose practical interest in our work is greatly appreciated.

So popular are the Cookery Demonstrations that a second one was arranged by Elsie Kirkwood shortly before Easter, when old Bedans had a get-together in the Northern Gas Board Super-Kitchen and enjoyed another excellent demonstration from which the proceeds were £12-11-2d, 21 needy people received Easter gifts of £1 in cash or kind.

We know that these gifts are greatly appreciated, but these old people also anticipate with joy their visitors who show a kindly interest in their lonely lives. One old lady writes, "It is not only your gifts it is so nice to be thought of." Yet another adds, "When I open the door to see Miss.....'s pleasant face, I feel happy to know I have such good friends." Our grateful thanks to all of you who in any way help us in our work, and a very big thank you to Mr. Kirkwood of the Northern Gas Board for allowing two such delightful and profitable evenings. My personal thanks to the loyal committee, who co-operate so willingly in all we do.

We feel it impossible to close this report without saying with what sorrow we learned in July of Betsy Soulsby's death in Corfu while on holiday. A past chairman of the Guild, Betsy was a member of the Social Service Committee from the time she left school in 1928, and during all those years was an interested and tireless worker on behalf of the Guild - Because of her keen interest in the welfare of old people, Betsy's husband suggested that friends might like to send a memorial donation to the Social Service Fund. To date, £38. 13. 0d. has been received. Details as to the expenditure of this money will be given at a later date.

Elaine Wilson (Mrs. Hooker), 34 Erstfield Street, (Convener)

The presence of so many old Bedans at the memorial service held in August in St. Nicholas' Church was an indication of the esteem and affection in which Betsy was held.

E1.

THE HOCKEY CLUB, Of eleven matches played between September 1945 and April 1946 we won 7, drew 2 and lost 2. Seventeen matches and the end of season clubs' tournament were cancelled. We were second in our section in the autumn tournament. Linda Prior was

reserves for the County 1st XI and Audrey Knight and Linda played for the 2nd XI. Joan Brewis (Pillans) was Chairman of the Junior County selectors and was secretary for the Junior County team. An enjoyable indoor training session was started under her guidance. We had two dinners during the season, both at Durham, one at Christmas at the "Duke of Wellington" and the end-of-season function at "Redhills". We were sorry to lose Valerie Northcote (vice-captain), Janet McCarroll (hon. secretary) and Maureen Herron, all of whom have moved south. On behalf of the club I would like to thank Miss Bradbury and the Guild for their interest and encouragement during the season, and we would welcome any new members.

Joan Berry (Hon. Secretary)

116 The Broadway, Sunderland.

The London Branch of the Guild of Old Bedans. In November 1965 we met at my home - Miss Moul, Joyce Aylon (Hebron), Phyllis Beck (Tomant), Edith Barge (Broderick), Nancy Hubicka (Lawther), Marjorie Kewish (Bailes), Collis Sheppard (Pipe), Eleanor Titheradge (Wilson), and two newcomers Doris Wright (Wilson), and Maisie Spencer (Rich) whom we were delighted to welcome. Collis's husband, with two of their little girls and Nancy's teen-age daughter joined us, so with my family and an attendant boy-friend we were quite a party!

Doris invited us to visit her at Chadwell Heath, Essex, for the next reunion in June. Unfortunately several members were prevented, at the last minute, from attending and only Marjorie, Joyce and I turned up to enjoy a lovely home-made tea, with Doris and her husband in their garden. Many thanks for her hospitality - we tried not to leave her with too much food on her hands!

All of us who knew Betsy Powley were distressed to hear of her premature death. We remember her with affection as friendly, cheerful and hard-working in many good causes, not least the Guild of Old Bedans.

Doreen Ward (Macrae)

39, Birch Grove, London, W.3.

#### SCHOOL NOTES.

Staff Changes: School took its leave of Mrs. Ambrose, Miss Healep, Miss Lee, Mr. Nottingham, Miss Shooter, Miss Simpson, Mr. Taylor, Mrs. Temple, Mrs. Vincent; and welcomed Mrs. Blair, Miss Boyd, Mrs. Barrell, Mr. Carruthers, Miss Brenda Hodgson, Mrs. Paul, Mrs. Phipps, Mrs. Robson, Mrs. J. Smith, Mr. Street, Mr. Teasdale and Miss Wright.

Chairman of the P. T. A. ... Mr. E. Ross.

Vice-Chairman ... Miss L. Milbanko.

Guild of Old Bedans' Representative Mrs Widdrington.

School Captain ... Jane Griffin.

Vice-Captain ... Linda Bell.

G. O. B. Prizes ... Bedan Kessy; Eva Morris (Senior)  
Elizabeth Brown (Junior)

For High attainment at "O" level:

Lynne Colling.

Lily A. Hutchinson Memorial Prize: English; Margaret Botherington.  
French; Diane Shapiro.

FROM NOVEMBER 1945 to NOVEMBER 1966.

These have become Life Members:- Mary Bilby (Richardson), Joyce Errington, Sheila Gillon (Way), Margaret Leck, Dorothy Metcalf (Hirst), Dorothy Pullan (Hunter), Audrey Robson (Donald), Wynnoth Rough (McHenry), Vera Sheraton, Audrey Smithson (Forster), Winifred Talbot.

These have become members:- Christine Cox, Elsie Garrick (Smith), Anne Myers, Margaret Nicholson (Gracey), Minnie Phillips (Dinsdale), Grace Turner (Hayton), Elsie Winter (Coates).

Married are:- Linda Carr, Patricia Doward, Brenda Emerson, Pauline Fawcett, Edna Glancey, Maureen Herron, Valerie Anne Hopkirk, Elsie Kidd, Anne Lawson, Glensy Makel, Marjorie Makel, Kathleen Patrick, Carol Rosenztein, Joan Sewell, Sonia Storey, Anne Stubbs, Patricia Telford, Valerie Wood.

Babies too:- Isabel Barnett (Harper), Anne Blackwell (McBain), Marjorie Cotton (Kay), Valerie Cuthbertson (Bishop), Dorothy Dodd (Groves), Avril Douglas (Briggs), Dorcas Dreyer (Watson), Lorna Groom (Ballock), Dorothy Howden (Dinsing), Dorothy Hawkins (Morrison), Pauline Humphreys (Hunter), Irene Joyce (Shays), Lucinda Mills (Davison), Joyce Pattison (King), Joan Roberts (Crompton), Sheila Pounder (Stewart), Rita Sheriff (Kleay), Brenda Snowball (Treshitt), Marjorie Snowball (Cuddiford), Sylvia Thatcher (Bancroft), Dorcas Warring (Potts).

In Memoriam:- Ruby Christie (Mrs. Horswell), Mary Graham, Nellie Jarman (Mrs. Watson), Dora Metcalf, Betsy Powley (Mrs. Soulsby), Winifred Thirlwall.

#### Staff News.

In October Doris Taylor and Ellen Carlin visited Miss E. V. V. Clark at City of Sheffield College of Education. Miss Clark is retiring at the end of this term and was asked by the Association of former students to conduct the service and preach at their annual reunion. A tape recording of the service had been made so Doris and Ellen were able to listen to it. The text was "Learn of Me" and the sermon began with the sentence "There was a teacher once who had no black-board and no classroom, but His words were so arresting that people came for miles to hear Him, and gathered round Him by the Thousand."

At the reception for new members of staff Doris and Ellen met Elizabeth Fyfe who joined the Geography Department of the College in September. Miss Clark, Doris and Ellen were invited to supper by Jess Baker who was at Bede from 1912-15. She has retired now but is continuing to live in Sheffield where she worked in the City Hall for many years. Jess produced an old photograph, but the only Old Bedan Doris and Ellen could recognise was Eva Grey. They chatted gaily, remembering former members of staff and class-mates of Jess, recalling Miss Boon, Miss Parquhar, Miss Hutchinson and Miss Lodge and, giving names, if any, of Amy Hussey, Minnie McMillan and Anne Hadlock.

Sometimes when Ellen visits her aunt at Cherry Knowle she sees Joan Storrs who is enjoying her work there. She also meets Dorothy



Smith on her way to Monkwearmouth Hospital where she is happily settled as a student nurse.

Miss Logie sent good wishes and greetings in May to all those who remember her. She is still living in Reedyth. Miss Lamb seems to be as busy as ever! She does various jobs of work and then goes off for a while on one of her original holidays, to return again to her interests in her home at Ellkey. The contingent in Sunderland carry on with their work-their interests-or their retirement, as usual. We see them from time to time. Miss Lloyd, Miss Harris, Miss Peters, Miss Carrick, Ellen Carlin and the others. Gladys Littlehales (Bonsey) retired from her part-time Domestic Science post at the new Thornhill School in July and is, characteristically still busy. Mrs. Nicholas (Miss D. Thompson), among her interesting musical events, took part in the singing in Westminster Abbey on the occasion of the 900th anniversary of the Consecration. "This was a thrilling experience" she wrote later. Miss Harris, on holiday in Opetija, Yugoslavia, at the end of May, saw Madeline Blake (Sumerville) and spent two pleasant evenings with her family. Miss Carrick has been visited by the Mr. Hymas and Miss Tweed (now Mrs. Hymas); he is lecturing at Westworth Castle College of Education.

#### BEDANS AT WORK.

After another year of excellent 'A' level results, the youngest Old Bedans are at Universities at Aberystwyth, East Anglia, Lampeter, Leeds, Leicester, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Reading, St. Andrews, Sheffield, Southampton and York, and at many Colleges of Education. Of particular interest to Old Bedans: Margaret Botherington (Peggy Crow's daughter) is at York University and Morris Sidney, whose mother was Gladys Stewart, is at Sheffield College of Education.

Shelagh Buchanan (Joan Squires' daughter) went to France in September to teach oral English at an École Normale in Poitiers as part of her Degree Course at Durham University; Vivien Washington is working for Sunderland Education Authority as a Speech Therapist; Elaine Alderson, after gaining diplomas in art and design at Sunderland College of Art was offered a two-year post-graduate course in Theatre Design at the Slade School of Art, where she is now working for the London University Post Graduate diploma in fine art. An exhibition of her paintings and drawings was held this year at The Anglers' Arms on the banks of the Coquet at Weldon Bridge; Minnie McMillan (the second) is at present completing her thesis for her Doctorate and has been appointed to the staff of York University; Pat Telford (Gerald) gained a History degree in July and is teaching on the staff of Commercial Road Girls' School, where Marie Hunter has a Domestic Science post; Carol Turner is training at Sunderland General Hospital; Valerie Northrop is now head of the Music Department at a Church of England Grammar School in Shepherd's Bush, London; Janet McKerrill is teaching in Ipswich; Marie Anderson has been teaching mathematics at Ealing Grammar School for twelve years. Her out-of-school activities include folk-song concerts, accompanying herself on the

guitar, archery and writing text books on mathematics; Jane Newton (Grierson) now a widow, of Blackburn, has a post in a private school teaching "little ones to read and older ones to paint pots". Nearer home, Audrey Jordan is teaching at Newcastle near Houghton. She with her "magic" was invited for an audition with Tyne Tees television this year; June Allison (Groom) is teaching Physical Education at Whitburn Secondary Modern School. In September, Ann Pace became head teacher of Havelock Infants' and Nursery School; Peggy Stothard is acting Head Teacher at Heaton Mixed School.

### RETIREMENTS.

In August Winnie Wardman retired as Headmistress of Havelock Girls' School, and Margery Wade (Smith) has taken over as acting head until the amalgamation of boys and girls schools when the new Pennywell School opens. Also retired from teaching are Marion Proom and Jessie Heddon. Blanche Collinson has retired from her interesting secretarial post.

### In Public Life.

Miss Broxbury attended a Royal Garden Party in July. Among several Sunderland people there she met Dorothy Goodair. Josephine Baxter was among the guests at a reception in the Goldsmiths' Hall London, given by the Præm Warden and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, and attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. Josephine, a social worker with Battersea County Council, was invited because of her nursing and welfare work at a refugee camp in Tanzania last year. Audrey Midwood (Thomas) is honorary secretary of one Hospital Nurses' League in Buckinghamshire and on the executive of another. Marcella Goodall (Gibb) has joined the Red Cross in Berkshire and also gives her time to the Christian Stewardship Campaign. Nearer home, Eva Bell (Allison) as President of Whitburn Woman's Institute received the awards for Whitburn's success in the Durham County Tidy Village Competition. Journalist for a week was the experience of Elizabeth Fox at the N. A. L. G. O. Annual Conference this year when she helped with other amateur journalists to produce a daily newspaper reporting on the debates and meetings held. Locally, Alison Henderson is President of the local branch of the Head Teachers' Association; Edith Wood (Kerr) is Chairman of the Sunderland Branch of the National Society for Deaf Children; Eileen Brown is honorary secretary of Sunderland National Children's Homes' Orphanage; Florence Mowbray (Crompton) is honorary secretary of Sunderland Inner Wheel; and in her capacity of Matron of the Children's Hospital Vera Sheraton helped to judge bonny babies in the June Dairy Festival Happy Babies' Competition. Greta Beadle (Pyburn) is an active member of Thompson Park Community Association; she is chairman of the badminton group and plays in the first team, acts as publicity officer for the Association and has started a flourishing Tiny Tots Club.

- and Some Notable Occasions: Moira Cuddeford was awarded the bronze medal (national award) for the best results in the City and Guilds ordinary level cookery course. Not long afterwards she won a refrigerator in a Kraft margarine competition. Nellie Mee, who

is lecturer in Education at the Margaret McMillan Training College, Bradford, addressed infant teachers at a Sunderland E. D. A. refresher course on "Planning the Infant School Day". There was also time at the end of the lecture to renew old friendships with Old Bodan teachers. Elmer Brown, now head teacher of the new Thornhill Comprehensive School, presented prizes and certificates at Castle View School speech day last December. Further afield Joyce Ward (Adams) won a prize for pharmacology at King George's Hospital, Ilford, where she is working, and Andrea Clayburn, on completing four years training at the Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew, London, received the surgical prize at the recent prize-giving there.

Madge Alder took three first prizes at Crufts with her two English springer spaniels this year. Rose Halliday (Downs) was a prominent prizewinner at Herrington Flower and Vegetable Show this year.

Meetings. Nancy Mitchell (Crosse) and Stella Bailey (Anderson) met Jean Mitchell (Pentcliffe) this summer and chatted of schooldays. Nancy was visited for a day by Edith Broderick (Barge) while on holiday in Middleton-in-Teesdale, then Edith came on to Sunderland and visited Enid Petts (Wilson) and Vera Kemp (Dovlin). Amy Robinson (Scott) spent a holiday with Ella Siddle (Sunter) now living in Great Carlisle, near Blackpool, and later visited Dorothy Bell in the Chesterfield district where she is a Health Visitor. Sheila Gallon (Way) at Weymouth keeps in touch with Kathleen Smith (Pickworth) in Aylesbury, but would be glad to hear of any Old Bodans in Weymouth area. Gillian Garnsworthy (Grahams) by chance met Edith Lisfoot in Kenilworth and discovered they live quite near to each other. Dorothy Metcalf (Hirst) has called on Audrey Watson (Shaw) in Lockertie, Scotland. Dorothy has recently been to Brazil with her husband. Bessie Poole (Dixon) and Margery Smyth (Sanderson) have been in touch with Nora Pallister (Evans).

E. R. S. discovered Dorothy Lucas (Long) acting as receptionist in a doctor's surgery, and on Whitburn beach was hailed by Edna Bayers (Hunter) who was on holiday from Glasgow. Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer in town shops were greeted by Beatrice Harder (Robson) after many years, and Audrey Tonks, who lives at Peterlee and was then working at Thorpe Maternity Hospital. One day in September, they met Betty Gillis (Yaffey), home for a day or two, and another morning when they were calling on Miss Lloyd, Jennie Vincent (Orch) appeared, on one of her flying visits home from Canada; she promptly made tea for the three old ladies and herself and gave and got news. It was pleasant, another day to open the door and find Evelyn Johnson (Ellis). She was paying a short visit to her sister Rose (Austin) and spent 45 minutes before returning for lunch on a call at 40 Ashwood. - Less expected, though equally welcome have been the usual faithfuls from Sunderland and district, while Amy Bussey (Denyer) came for a night before removing from Yorkshire to the South, and Enid Crowe, on her annual visit North from London spent some days there and at Florence Jackson's meeting several old friends again. She and Miss Shearer spent the sunniest week of the summer at Rothbury and were delighted to visit Mary Mackintosh (Alderston) in her lovely home, and following her detailed

instructions on places they "mustn't miss", enjoyed an extra number of hill walks. Muriel Bruce (Anderson) and her husband spent a night at each end of a short holiday with Miss Arkle at Whithy. On one of those evenings Muriel came with E.R.S. to return some books to Kathleen Mair, whose aunt Ethel Bruce (no relation to the other Bruces) announced that she had been in the same form as Muriel at school and Kathleen's mother, Flossie Bruce (Eldridge) had been a form-mate of Muriel's elder sister, Ethel (the late Mrs. Dodds).. This was an interesting meeting of the Class Bruces!

#### News of our Older Old Bedans.

From Manor Park Hospital, Bristol, Laura Nelson (Hutchinson), now 88 years old, writes "It seems a long time since I started school over fifty years ago, but I now have time for looking back and meditating, and so many recollections are linked up with school and my life there - quite a happy time - and I can realise how many things I am indebted to Bede for. How the school has flourished and grown! I have a photo of the present premises and I am inclined to smile when I recollect my mental photo of further back. Those who have enjoyed the advantages of the past may sincerely look ahead to the future of their old school knowing that it will never stand still, but always be moving onwards, and upwards too, we hope".

In March, Miss Bradbury heard of an Old Bedan, now aged 77, who was on her way to England on a visit from Australia. This was Annie Fawcett (Beck). She was invited to the Dinner Reunion but was unable to attend because the christening of a great-granddaughter had been delayed until her arrival in England. She wrote "I would like to have been at the Dinner.... I am in close touch with three old Bedans, my school friend Mary Wilson and I have corresponded ever since I left Sunderland and the friendship has lasted some 58 years". (Mary (Mrs. Ross) lives in Middleton-in-Teesdale). My cousin remembers Miss Birchall's name being put on the honours list as the youngest to get her degree; she also remembers Miss Wells sending her back to the cloakroom to put her gloves on, "as no lady puts on her gloves outside!". Mrs Beck now lives in Newcastle, New South Wales, and says "A great many of the townships have 'Geordie' names - Swansea is not far from Wallsend, and Stockton is over the River Hunter, whilst Gateshead is a small and pretty little township. I love the life in Australia; the climate is grand and being on the coast we get cooling breezes, so it is not often too hot". She hopes to be in England for a year. Mary Gibbons (Taylor), probably the Guild's oldest member, had many memories of Bede brought back when she heard of the death of Miss Woolcott, one of her first teachers, then very young.

Lidia Newby (Chappell) "can go back many years to 1892 when Bede and Ethel Birchall and myself met one morning standing at Miss Todd's private room door. We became friends, and that friendship lasted many years... My schooldays at the higher Grade were very happy - Miss Todd, Harbottle, Coupland, Graydon, Coburn, Wells etc., The day after a prize-distribution in the Victoria Hall we were told to write a composition on 'what a little mouse saw in the Victoria Hall last

is lecturer in Education at the Margaret McMillan Training College, Bradford, addressed infant teachers at a Sunderland E. D. A. refresher course on "Planning the Infant School Day". There was also time at the end of the lecture to renew old friendships with Old Bedon teachers. Eleanor Brown, now headteacher of the new Thornhill Comprehensive School, presented prizes and certificates at Castle View School speech day last December. Further afield Joyce Ward (Adamsen) won a prize for pharmacology at King George's Hospital, Ilford, where she is working, and Andrea Clayburn, on completing four years training at the Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew, London, received the surgical prize at the recent prize-giving there.

Madge Alder took three first prizes at Crafts with her two English springer spaniels this year. Rene Halliday (Downs) was a prominent prizewinner at Herrington Flower and Vegetable Show this year.

Meetings. Nancy Mitchell (Crows) and Stella Bailey (Anderson) met Jess Mitchell (Pestoloff) this summer and chatted of schooldays. Nancy was visited for a day by Edith Broderick (Borge) while on holiday in Middleton-in-Teesdale, then Edith came on to Sunderland and visited Enid Potts (Wilson) and Vera Kemp (Devlin). Amy Robinson (Scott) spent a holiday with Ella Siddie (Hunter) now living in Great Carlston, near Blackpool, and later visited Dorothy Bell in the Chesterfield district where she is a Health Visitor. Sheila Galton (Way) at Weymouth keeps in touch with Kathleen Smith (Pickworth) in Aylesbury, but would be glad to hear of any Old Bedons in Weymouth area. Gillian Garraworthy (Graham) by chance met Edith Linfoot in Kenilworth and discovered they live quite near to each other. Dorothy Metcalf (Hirst) has called on Audrey Watson (Shaw) in Lockerbie, Scotland. Dorothy has recently been to Brazil with her husband. Bessie Peake (Gross) and Margery Smyth (Sanderson) have been in touch with Nora Pallister (Evans).

E. R. S. discovered Dorothy Lucas (Long) acting as receptionist in a doctor's surgery, and on Whitburn beach was hailed by Edna Soyars (Hunter) who was on holiday from Glasgow. Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer in town shops were greeted by Beatrice Harder (Robson) after many years, and Audrey Tosks, who lives at Peterlee and was then working at Thorpe Maternity Hospital. One day in September, they met Betty Gillis (Yaffey), home for a day or two, and another morning when they were calling on Miss Lloyd, Jennie Vincent (Orch) appeared, on one of her flying visits home from Canada; she promptly made tea for the three old ladies and herself and gave and got news. It was pleasant, another day to open the door and find Evelyn Johnson (Kilis). She was paying a short visit to her sister Rene (Austin) and spent 45 minutes before returning for lunch on a call at 40 Ashwood. - Less expected, though equally welcome have been the usual faithfuls from Sunderland and district, while Amy Hussey (Denyer) came for a night before removing from Yorkshire to the South, and Enid Crowe, on her annual visit North from London spent some days there and at Florence Jackson's meeting several old friends again. She and Miss Shearer spent the sunniest week of the summer at Rothbury and were delighted to visit Mary Mackintosh (Alderson) in her lovely home, and following her detailed

instructions on places they "mustn't miss", enjoyed an extra number of hill walks. Muriel Bruce (Anderson) and her husband spent a night at each end of a short holiday with Miss Arkle at Whitby. On one of these evenings Muriel came with E.R.S. to return some books to Kathleen Mair, whose aunt Ethel Bruce (no relation to the other Bruces) announced that she had been in the same form as Muriel at school and Kathleen's mother, Florence Bruce (Eldridge) had been a form-mate of Muriel's elder sister, Ethel (the late Mrs. Dodds). This was an interesting meeting of the Class Bruce!

#### News of our Older Old Bedans.

From Manor Park Hospital, Bristol, Laura Nelson (Hutchinson), now 88 years old, writes "It seems a long time since I started school over fifty years ago, but I now have time for looking back and meditating, and so many recollections are linked up with school and my life there - quite a happy time - and I can realise how many things I am indebted to Bede for. How the school has flourished and grown! I have a photo of the present premises and I am inclined to smile when I recollect my mental photo of further back. Those who have enjoyed the advantages of the past may sincerely look ahead to the future of their old school knowing that it will never stand still, but always be moving onwards, and upwards too, we hope".

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night'. Another Higher Grade memory was of the League of Good Citizenship, which meant taking care not to make the streets untidy, and to keep ourselves in good stead and of good behaviour... I could write many things about those good old days...."

How pleasing it is to hear from our older Old Bedans at all.

#### THE ARTS,

Edith Wearmouth (Pearce) has had published "The Candy and Leafy Fairy Book" (Stockwell 7/8) a hard-back enlarged edition of her previous book. Rosa Cutter organised a Sunderland Schools Festival of Drama in July, in which about 300 children took part; she also produced in November, a Sunderland Empire Theatre Society stage group production of "Where the Rainbow Ends" a play with music by Roger Quilter. Marjorie Jackson (Nichell) is a member of the choral ensemble The Whitehill Consort whose repertoire includes madrigals, folk songs, oratorio and contemporary music both religious and secular. They gave a concert in Sunderland last December.

#### SPORT,

Hockey: 1966 Durham County 2nd XI: Audrey Knight, Linda Prior.

Golf: With one exception Old Bedans have featured only in the winning of foursomes this year; at Wearside Ethel Proctor (Powley) in the Joking Foursomes and at Boldon Ethel Letbe (Locksby) - the Arthur Lowe Trophy, and Lucy Horan (McConnell) the Capstick Trophy; Jennie Hay (Smith) won the McClement Salver for the second time. Kathleen Carr (Ritch) is in her second year on the County Ladies' Committee, Ethel Letbe became Boldon Ladies' Captain in November.

Tennis: Carol Rosenstein has played on the Durham County Ladies team.

#### Homes of Old Bedans.

Among many Old Bedans now living in the South are Ella Solley (Edwards) at Stanstead, Surrey, Isabel Rolfe (Feastoby) at New Malden, Gladys Wilson (Stephenson) at Ewell and Anne Masterman (McLachlan) is also in Surrey. Edid Potts (Wilson) is now living at St. Albans, Ann McClement (Robson) at Harpenden, Herts, and Pauline Fawcett (Barman) at Tufnell Park, London. Muriel Anderson (Kenworthy) is at Saffron Walden, Essex, and Margaret Short (Ungley) at Thame, Oxfordshire. Amy Hansey (Denyer) has left Market Weighton for Chichester, and Elsie Colling (Mordin) has moved north to Grimsby Lines., "where" she says "the general pace of things is much more pleasant than around London, and the people are friendly." Further north Lilian Thompson (Moore) is now living at Bam-burgh, Northumberland, Marjorie Progate (Summerville) lives at Alnmouth. Jean Richardson - the second (Gurney) has left Silksworth for Gateshead where her husband is now Rector of St. Mary's. Also in County Durham Connie Wray (Seed) is now at Catchgate, and Edith Hedley (Butterfield) at Rainton Gate. Elizabeth Ripley (Hodgson) lives in Middleton - in - Teesdale and Evoline Blackett (Brown) at Thorpe Thewlee, Stockton - on - Tees. Elsie Garrick (Smith) has left Witton Gilbert for Thornton - le - Clay, Yorks., and Phyllis Lodge has returned to Helmsley from Thirsk. Joyce Bathgate (Hutchinson) Dorothy Amis (Weatherall) and Kathleen Cosley (Middleton) now live in Leeds.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

A number of Old Bedans have been home from abroad, Jean Mitchell (Metcalfe) has been home from Zambia for five weeks. She visited Jean Carter (Howey) in London en route. After five years in New Zealand, Connie Parkinson (Henderson) sees many changes in Sunderland. Connie now lives in Auckland with the Tasman sea on one side of the four-mile-wide isthmus and the Pacific on the other - small wonder that her two year old son is a "Water Baby" too! Maureen Wallace (Hilton) has returned with her husband and family to Wearside after seventeen years in Australia. Dorcen Turaball (Carruthers) is teaching music in Sunderland again after eight years in Formosa. Ethel Foreman is due home in December from Nigeria after twelve years as a missionary there. Morag Phillip works as a missionary and nursing superintendent in a most primitive part of India, where some tribes still have animal sacrifices. She visited Bede School in July while on a six month vacation and in October was to return to talk to the girls about her work in the Indian mission hospital. Nancy Robinson (Perlick) home in October from Alberta, Canada, for a few weeks "looks just the same". Her Old Bedan sisters Margaret (Simpson) and Elsie, still live in Sunderland.

Hazel McCree is staying on a further year, teaching in Nigeria. Paula Hodgson (Ferraro) is living in Bogota, Colombia, S. America. Avril Douglas (Briggs) emigrated to British Columbia last year. Betty Crows (Mearns) has been living in Canada since 1954, first in Edmonton then Calgary, and after a year in Hamilton, Ontario, is now in Toronto. Another Canadian 'settler' is Beryl Johnson (Forster) whose home is in Vancouver. Jeanne Hayton (Hotherington) went to Uganda last August for two years and is teaching there. Marie Croxler's new teaching post in Ghana is on a Secondary School staff composed largely of Africans and Indians. Kitty Clayburn (Cooper) travelled from her home in Eitham London, last year to U.S.A. in a V.C.10. She visited relations in Virginia, Washington, New Jersey, and in Falmouth, whose children were thrilled to hear a "real English voice". Kitty is continuing to teach Chemistry two mornings a week until her school can find a replacement. Pat Campbell (Price) continues her work in the Kasauli district of India and because of her weekly clinic at the Civil Hospital is frequently called to confinements among the more educated women of Kasauli. Pat writes that apart from sugar and grain, which are rationed, any food shortage is conditioned more by cost than by scarcity, for example, tea, e.g. she has doubled its price since 1961 and now costs the equivalent of 6/- per lb.

Too late for inclusion in last year's magazine come news of Jessie Smith (Priest) from Adelaide. She is an active member of an Association called "Country Women of South Australia", and writes their reports for a local newspaper. In one of these she tells of a 560 mile trip to their "home" i.e. Ceduna - the other link is at Ruislip, Middlesex. They were to attend Ceduna Branch 32nd birthday celebrations and on their journey visited a School of the Air, and a base of the Flying



Doctor Service, a member's house on the edge of a "station" bordering on hundreds of miles of saltbush and bluebush, passed through country with red rock formation, and farms with paddocks, green after recent rains, along ragged coastline and to glorious picnic spots near pink salt lakes and high sandhills, ending with a grand birthday celebration as the climax to a memorable five-day holiday.

From your letters,

At Christmas, Janie Witten (Henderson) wrote to Miss Shearer and Miss Arkle that she had been having a pretty hard time, "In between teaching, I seem to spend my time just now retrieving objects and infants from every hole and corner in the house.... This has been an eventful year for us, but we are thankful that it has been no worse". She sends "best wishes to any of the antique Old Bedans who belong to the same era that I do".

Amy Hussey (Darrer) is now "happily and comfortably settled at Chichester though I find the tiny kitchen a great trial after the spacious one at the Vicarage. Otherwise, everything is most convenient. I still feel, however that this freedom is a kind of holiday which will eventually come to an end, and we shall find ourselves back deep in parish work".

Mrs. Nicholson (Miss D. Thompson) wrote "I was delighted - as ever - to have the 'Old Bedan' with all its news. I'd love to get in touch with Doris Wilson now she has left Brough for Essex, for she was very kind to me when Head of Green Terrace School. Moira Shield was another I was interested to hear about".

Might D.S.A. and E.R.S. take this opportunity of asking those Old Bedan friends whose letters, (chiefly Christmas ones) are still lying waiting to be answered to forgive them? They do appreciate the letters and are ashamed that time and old age have made them so remiss about sitting down to write!

Just too late for inclusion in last year's Magazine came news from Valerie Williamson (Trigg). "We have been in Barcelona nearly a year now, after spending a year in the North of Spain and having found the Spanish very friendly and helpful. There is quite a large English Community in Barcelona, with an Anglican Church, and life is very much like that at home, except we get more sunshine. I wouldn't be at all surprised to find an Old Bedan living in the area!"

Mabel Brown wrote last December: "I read with interest that earlier this year Bede School celebrated its three-quarters of a century. I shall always remember with affection that the years I spent at Bede were the happiest years of my life." Mabel Davidson (Laws) writes that soon she hopes to get to a London Branch meeting from her home in Welwyn Garden City.

After reading the 1963 Old Bedas, in a letter to Miss Bradbury, Elizabeth Armstrong (Vidal) wrote: "I loved my schooldays, and well remember Miss Todd and Miss Emma, Miss Dudgeon and Miss Robson". She too was impressed by the Assemblies, and by Miss Todd's amusing stories and recalls, "in the gym, one rope ladder and Indian Clubs, when we donned a sort of gym tunic (when some of the boys was anywhere near): In my

late twenties I went to the School of Cookery in Northumberland Road, Newcastle, now much grander, I understand, in both name and buildings. I cannot think I'm a pioneer - there had been D.S. teachers in a few schools for some years, but conditions were very different from to-day. In my first appointment I travelled to six different villages or small towns between Carlisle and Killoth every week. I walked the three miles between schools 5 and 6, in the lunch hour, munching a sandwich. There was usually an open fire and one oven - sometimes only the one classroom. One day we met in the Quaker meeting room, complete with pews and harmonium. After about three months of that I went to Coekermouth for about six years. Even there we worked in the School Board Room. The only table, the massive mahogany Board table, ... I thoroughly enjoyed teaching for more than thirty years. ... now I thoroughly enjoy the luxury of retirement. I have many blessings to count, and perhaps not the least of these is to be an Old Bedan".

#### EDITORIAL.

Appreciative letters are sent to our Secretary throughout the year by Guild Members who have received flowers, kindly messages or small gifts during times of illness. She in turn, has appreciated the messages she has received from many Old Bedans regarding the future of the Guild. One Old Bedan wrote "I keep wondering like everyone else, I expect, what is going to happen to the G.O.B. when Bede becomes Comprehensive. I have read letters in the papers about it but not the full story. ... However, I suppose things must change with the times. ..."

We should like to take this opportunity, therefore, of assuring our members that the Guild of Old Bedans is to carry on in its present form. Reunions will continue, the magazine will be issued, and the clubs continue to function. When the school becomes comprehensive in September 1967 the wishes of the new head master will be consulted about the possibility of girl pupils joining our ranks if they so desire, on leaving school.

The Guild is in a healthy state; our funds are sound, and our membership, including many younger Old Bedans possibly willing to take office in the future, is firm; our not so young and our older members are loyal to the Guild and its cause.

Would you please continue, therefore, to send your yearly subscriptions - as usual, (or even more promptly!), and to send news of yourselves and your Old Bedan friends.

Another member is described by her family as "devouring the Old Bedan when it comes". Let us hope that this edition has been readily digestible.

Our thanks to Winnie Graham, Betty Ritch and Margaret Hunter for speedy and efficient typing, and to Mr. Milner Taylor for auditing our accounts for this magazine.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON 31st AUGUST, 1966.

Summary of Balance Sheet for the Year - 1st September, 1965 to 31st August, 1966

RECEIPTS	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
Annual Subscriptions	46	18	0	Printing	44	12	0
11 Life Subscriptions	34	13	0	Stationery	4	11	10
1 Donation	5	0	0	Postages and Telephone	30	14	7
Balance from Meetings	8	15	2	Gates	11	14	3
Interest	37	15	5	Engraving	4	0	0
				Balance on Year's Working	45	1	9
	<u>£126</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>5</u>		<u>£126</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>5</u>

TOTAL FUNDS.

Balance on 31st August, 1965	£	s.	d.	Made up as follows:-	£	s.	d.
Balance on Year's Working	968	13	6	2½% War Stock	95	7	2
	45	1	9	5% Nat. Develop. Bonds	75	0	0

In Bank:-

Deposit Account	91	19	4
S. L. D. A/c	675	2	4
Current A/c	12	14	6
Cash In Hand	9	11	0

£953 15 1

£953 15 3

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

ELISE L. KIRKWOOD,  
Hon. Treasurer.

2, St. TAYLOR,  
24th September, 1966.

THE GUILD OF OLD BRIDGES

The Winter Re-Union will be held in the Art Room at School on Friday, January, 27th 1967 from 6.45 p.m. till 10 p.m.

Tickets priced, 4/- each, may be obtained from members of the Committee or from the Secretary. If you intend to be present at this Re-union, will you, please, get your ticket before January 25th.

Preliminary Notice:- The Dinner Re-union will be held in Birma Restaurant, Fawcett Street, Friday, April 28th 1967. Details will be sent later.

To Annual Subscribers:- Please, note that your subscription (5/-d) for 1966-67 is NOW DUE.

"Michaelford",  
Dipe Lane,  
SOUTH BOLTON,  
Co.,Durham..

Tel: Bolton 7224.

Elsie I. Kirkwood

(Hon. Secretary).

December 1966.

