

THE OLD BEDAN

1971

THE ASSOCIATION OF OLD BEDANS

(Incorporating the Guild of Old Bedans and the Old Bedans' Association).

THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS

President:	Mrs. A.A.Y. Carrick.
Vice-Presidents:	Miss E.J. Bradbury, Miss W.J.E. Moul, Miss E. R. Shearer.
Office Bearers & Committee 1971 - 72.	
Chairman	Mrs. McHenry (Wynith Rough), 68, Solar House, Sunderland.
Vice-Chairman	Mrs. St. Julien (Joan Marshall), 6, Oakfield Close, Green Acres, East Herrington.
Joint Sec./Treasurer	Mrs. Hunter (Margaret Chapman), 2, Stockton Rd., Ryhope, Sunderland. Tel. Sunderland 210354.
Ass. Secretary	Miss Irene Wilkinson, 82, Charter Drive, East Herrington. Tel. E. Herrington 3376.
Committee	Miss Joyce Errington, 12, Holmelands Pk. N., Sunderland, Miss Joan Hayton, 12, Braeside, Sunderland. Miss Eileen Robinson, 81, Sorley St., Sunderland. Mrs. Francis (Jean Koch), 25, Clifton Rd., Roker, Sunderland. Mrs. Heron (Marial Woodruff), "Barumoor", Farley Hey Rd., Neville's Cross, Durham. Mrs. Petrie (Brenda Hodgson), 59, Vicarage Close, Silksworth, Sunderland. Mrs. Hutchinson (Ann Nichols), 6, Fairburn Ave., Houghton-le-Spring. Mrs. Longster (Elizabeth Rowlandson), 43, Newton Ave. Sunderland. Co-opted Members: Mrs. Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson) "Michaelford", Dipe Lane, St Boldon. Mrs. Robinson (Mary Arkless), 4, Westfield Grove, Sunderland. Ex Officio: Mrs. Thomas (Winnie Scott), 11, Grange View, Sunderland. Tel. 57985.

Information for Members:

Annual Subscriptions, 40p for 1971/72 due on the 1st September 1971. Life Membership, £3. 15.
Membership on August 31st 1971 - 532.
Please note that some members have not yet paid their subscription for 1970/71 - the Sec./Treasurer would be most grateful to have these subscriptions together with those for 1971/72 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 name, showing clearly which is which.
- 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 whether her subscription has been paid.
- 5) To note, to save postage, receipts for subscriptions will be enclosed with the first notice after the payment.
- 6) To note, that the "Old Bedan" will not be sent to those members who are one year in arrears with their subscriptions.

GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

Water Reunion 1971.

This year we returned to the Art Room. Here at first we had to contend for possession with rival claimants. These included a flower-arranging class and some disarming badminton players who, however, helped to flush out a pair of sparrows which were preparing to nest in the black-out curtains.

It was pleasing to see some new faces this year - among them the deputy Head Girl, Joan Bewick, with Deborah Ayre also from the Sixth form. Among gossiping groups appeared Miss Harris, Miss Harding, Miss Wilman and Miss Shearer (despite her domestic troubles with gas conversion).

Our preliminary game involved clues arranged round the room to which the answers were all concerned with Bede; here was much deliberation and consultation. Dorothy Morton emerged as the winner.

Next came a round of frenzied activities as we gained points for tiddly-winking, sucking up peas through a straw, capturing peanuts with knitting needles and chasing ping-pong balls as they escaped all over the Art Room. Irene Wilkinson and Doris Henderson (Wilton) had obviously spared no effort in preparing this game, as had Elsie in collecting ingenious contents for bags for Bag Beetle Drive.

Despite much sucking of sweets, provided as usual by Miss Shearer, we attacked with relish our tasty supper. Time passed so quickly that Winnie was unable to present the game she had prepared, based on our Community Song books. However she nobly withheld this until next year (thrust?). Meantime the back-room girls of the Committee finished the washing up and crammed the tea-leaves down the Physios' laboratory sink.

Was the sudden ringing of the bells at 10 p. m. a gentle hint that we were overstaying our time? M. R.

ANNUAL DINNER RE-UNION, 30th APRIL, 1971.

It is several years since the Seaburn Hotel experienced a G. O. B. reunion, but we had quite a "welcome back" feeling when we found, on arrival, that we were to occupy the "Bede" Suite. The way to the cloakroom lay through a sort of pink-swathed tunnel, then past rails of shrouded garments whose mysteries were to be revealed to us later in the evening. At the bar, and throughout an enjoyable meal, 120 voices exchanged news of holidays and homes and children (and, increasingly, of grand-children!) until reminded by the Chairman that time was passing all too quickly - and we had a "deadline" of 10.30 p. m. (120 Cinderellas?)

Elsie hoped that we were happy to be back at the Seaburn, and was pleased to have the support of so many old, and some young, Old Bedans. She hoped particularly that the latter would enjoy the evening and come again. She was pleased too, to welcome our President, Audrey Hayton (Mrs. Carrick), Vice-Presidents Miss Bradbury and Miss Shearer, without whom no reunion would be complete, Miss Harris, another faithful attendee despite indifferent health, and several other past and present staff. "Out-of-town" members included Frances Wills (Gillies), Clydebank, Elsie Watson, Carlisle, Elizabeth Fraser and Anne McKenny (Melton), Newcastle, Marjorie Anderson (Curtis), Dishforth Joyce Bathgate (Hutchinson), Leeds, Mollie Garbutt (Johnson), Scarborough,

Winnie Hughes (Telfer) and Nora Johnson (Wilson), Hartlepool, Mary Mackintosh (Alderson), Thropton, and Maureen Liddle, York. (Maureen had, that very afternoon, been interviewed in B. B. C. "Woman's Hour" in her capacity of a voluntary guide to the City of York during its 1900th birthday celebrations). Apologies had been received from Lena Thompson, Phyllis Peters, Amza and Stella Laws, Doris McCree, (Pygott) and Nora Mason (Charnley).

Proposing the toast to the School, now 81 years old, the Chairman looked forward to seeing us all 19 years hence, to celebrate its centenary. Perhaps with this awesome prospect in mind, Mary Mackintosh conducted the School Song most soulfully!

The President, responding to the toast, said she felt like a bad penny, having turned up now for seven years to do this job. Before that, she had always admired Miss Bradbury's ability to find something new to say each year. It was very difficult - but this year, the Secretary had considerably - or tactfully - said that just a few words would suffice; she needn't feel obliged to delve into history. The historical aspect was perhaps a bit over-worked anyhow, but we do all owe a debt to Bede, which means something different to each succeeding generation. Long-serving members of staff like Miss Shearer and Miss Harris must have several different mental pictures of the school - as she did herself, having been a pupil for seven years and on the staff for almost three times seven! She hoped that future Bedana would hold the school in as much affection as we did. When Bede became comprehensive she was a little afraid that the girls might sit back and let the boys rule the roost (this didn't necessarily mean that she was an advocate of Women's Lib!). However, it seemed that the boys were not having things all their own way; indeed, recent guidance suggested a potential Men's Lib in the school. Only yesterday, a boy had requested a word in her ear, and had complained of sex discrimination by the "dinner lady". She wouldn't let him and his friend serve at table. Why not? They could do it as well as any girl! Evidently, Audrey concluded, there was still plenty of spirit in Bede!

From Elsie, briefly, some details of future events (recorded elsewhere); an apology for the non-arrival of some copies of the "Old Bedana"; a well-deserved word of thanks to the Secretary - and lo! it was already 9.30, so just a very short interval, please, before re-assembling round the east-walk.

G. O. B. shows in the past have included items on haute couture and millinery of a somewhat unorthodox nature, but tonight a full length professional show was staged by one of the old firm who has now gone straight. Joan Jobling (Mrs. Kirton), known to the general public as 'Maxfield' now runs three shops in Sunderland and one in Whickham, and has, as Winnie Scott (Mrs. Thomas) said by way of introduction, made great strides in the fashion world. Winnie herself had been involved in one of the early shows, providing music and also - when asked - some small criticisms. No need for that now, and she was pleased to be able just to sit back and watch.

Then Joan took the stage and confessed that although she had done a few shows now, this was the test: it was like sitting an exam. (Please don't say anything, Miss Shearer!) At the same time, being asked to provide to-

nights entertainment was a feather in her cap, and she thanked Mary Mackintosh, who had given her her first 'break' in the G. O. B. ('Fame at last' she had thought'). Her team of models included two potential young Bedans who displayed practical and attractive children's clothes with great assurance, and ladies representing hip sizes from 34 to 44 and age-types from swinging young miss to elegant granny - or possibly great-granny, since 'Margaret', unbelievably, was nearing her 73th birthday. We saw coats, suits, dresses for all occasions; formal and informal, from weddings to holidays, and in many cases the ensemble was completed and enhanced by the choice of just the right hat. Minis, maxis - had we found lengths difficult lately? The newest, for next season, was the Demi, a sort of compromise. (And of course, one could always shorten).

There was a brief digression as Joan recalled the old regulations about gym tunic length (was it four inches from the ground when kneeling?) and added her memory of the days when there was sex segregation in the dining hall, by means of a curtain down the middle. This could be 'got round' by going and asking Miss Dunn for a glass of water; school dinners could create a terrible thirst, sometimes! Meanwhile, back at the cat-walk, an up-to-the-minute 'hot pants' ensemble in a 'granny' print, and a knickerbocker suit, worn of course with boots, and reminding someone of a Volga boatman. These were perhaps a little outre for the majority of us, but now here was a very fetching trouser suit; Joan could just picture Mary Mack in that. Mary agreed - just the thing for cleaning out the byre! Another, more tailored, trouser suit. Did we know that 40 was the most fashionable 'hip size' in the North? - and did we notice the slimming effect of the long jacket? One could grow old gracefully in a trouser suit!

We enjoyed Joan's commentary, with its easy flowing mixture of humour, expert knowledge and enthusiasm; she had passed her 'exam' with flying colours. No wonder that Mary Mackintosh, in her vote of thanks, felt proud of 'such a go-ahead, glamorous granny Old Bedan', who had come a long way since the days of Diamond Lil! Mary thanked the models too, and congratulated them on their relaxed presentation. Now - she was off to see about that knickerbocker suit.

The show ended at 10.30 on the dot; we were safe! It was only in our mind's eye, after seeing the Maxfield Collection, that we emerged from the Seaburn in rage - - N. W.

Summer Reunion. On June 18th, 28 G. O. B's left Gorse Road car park for our annual evening picnic. This year we were the guests of Nora Johnson (Wilson) at Hartlepool. The evening was wet, dreary and cold, but our spirits were high as we gradually recognised friends as they emerged from beneath rain hats, scarves, umbrellas etc.

We had a good drive to Hartlepool via motorways and byeways where we met with Hartlepool G. O. B's, also Joan Tweedie (Sanderson) and Enid Bagley (Elgey) from Leyburn and Muriel Woodruff (Heron) from Durham. Nora had made arrangements for us to visit Hartlepool Corporation Parks' greenhouses situated near her home. These were delightful, and provided a blaze of colour which brightened the evening. We then descended on Nora, who kindly accommodated us in her house, as opposed to the garden, for our most enjoyable supper prepared by the Committee. In no time, tongues still wag-

ging, it was time to return to the bus and home. Thank you Nora, for your hospitality and arrangements for visiting the greenhouses. M.B.

(Editor's note: Hartlepool won the Regional "Britain in Bloom" Trophy and just missed winning the National Trophy, but got a special award for outstanding effort, thanks, of course, to the Parks Department down Nora's road!)

Summary of the Annual Business Meeting. September 29th 1971.

Mrs. Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson) presided and in the absence of the President welcomed the 34 members present. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read, also a report from the Association of Old Bedans. The election of Office Bearers and Committee for 1971/72 followed and the retiring Chairman expressed her thanks to the Committee for their help during her years of office, which she had greatly enjoyed. Reports were read from the Social Service Committee, the London Branch of the Guild and the Loan and Scholarship Fund.

A motion that the Annual Subscription be raised to 40p was carried unanimously. A suggestion that the Life Subscription also be raised was referred to the Annual Business Meeting of the Joint Association. A decision about School Prizes was also left over until this meeting. Future meetings were planned:- A Winter Reunion in the Art Room in January, a Dinner Reunion in April and a Summer Outing in June. At the close of the meeting tea and biscuits were served by the Committee.

Loan & Scholarship Fund. Last year, since there were no applications for loans, twenty eight scholarships were awarded to girls who went into some form of higher education. The scholarships ranged in value from £10.0.0. to £3.0.0. and a total of £199.0.0. was disbursed in this way. A scholarship of £25 offered to one girl who was intending to train as a nurse was not taken up as she decided to go into an office and so no longer qualified, under the terms of the Trust, for a scholarship. The amount of money available this year from the Old Bedans' Fund, the M. A. Richardson Fund and moneys carried over from last year amount to £145.00.

R. Clarke, Secretary of the Fund Committee.

Social Service Report. As in previous years the Social Service Committee has been well supported and the cash balance at the end of the year amounted to £20.63.

Activities:-

October 1970. A well filled stall at the Autumn Market raised £40 for the Guild of Help. Sixteen needy people received a Harvest Gift of £1.50. and a parcel of fruit and tinned goods donated by Bede School. Mr. Lewis of the School Staff arranged the packing and distribution of these gifts which were delivered by present day Bedans. A surplus of non-perishable goods was retained to augment the usual Christmas parcels.

November 1970. An interesting and instructive Cookery Demonstration in the Northern Gas Board Kitchen was well attended and raised the sum of £11.4.0.

December 1970. Seventeen elderly people received a Christmas gift of £1.50 and a parcel of groceries. £2.50 was sent to our "Wayside" representative to provide occasional luxuries for the patients, some of whom are Old Bedans.

May 1971. Easter gifts of £1 were taken to twenty needy people. During the year flowers have been sent to Old Bedans in ill health or trouble and have been much appreciated.

The Committee are encouraged to continue this service by the interest of Guild Members and friends and were specially gratified by the co-operation of Bede School Staff and pupils - for it is they who will, we hope, continue this work which has been functioning in different ways since 1928. I personally would like to thank the Committee for their loyal support throughout another year, also to acknowledge the help of my deputy, Ann Crowe who convened the Committee Meetings when I was unavoidably "house-bound".

Elsie Hooker (Convener), 36, Eastfield Street.

(Editorial note; Reference is made later to a yearly gift from an Old Bedan in Vancouver. If only every member of the Guild could remember to send a tiny fraction of such a gift, what a lot more fuel and comfort we could give our (our) old people.)

your)

The Hockey Club. During the season 1970-71 the 1st XI played 21 games, won 18, drew 1 and lost 2. The 2nd XI played 4, won 2, drew 1, and lost 1. We had mixed fortunes in the Tournaments, reaching only the quarter final stages of the 11-a-side games but emerging winners of a 6-a-side tournament in March. During the season Brenda Peart played for the North of England B Team and for Durham 1st XI. Jennie Scorer (ex-staff) played for Durham 2nd XI, Denise Chalk for Durham Junior 1st XI and Judith Rud-dick for Durham Junior 2nd XI. Jean Brewis (Pillans) was Junior Team Manager.

With such a nucleus of good players we found we were able to field a 2nd XI. Next season we hope to have a full fixture list for 1st and 2nd teams. We were sorry to see Valerie Northorpe retire from active play during the season. She had at one time or another held most of the Hockey Club offices. The final fixture of the season was a well-attended dinner at the Rosedens Hotel.

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank the Guild for their interest and encouragement during the season. We would welcome any new members - our 'home' ground is now at Pennywell School.

Eleanor Donkin, 37, Seaforth Rd. Tel. 68886

London Branch of the Guild of Old Bedans. Our hostess in October 1970 was Marjorie Bailes (Kewish) at her attractive home in Walton-on-Thames. Only a few of us made the journey - Miss Nicol, Joyce Hebron (Ayles), Nancy Lawther (Hubicka), Helen Reed (Perry), Kathleen Young (Craggs), and I. We had a sumptuous home-made spread and the usual gossip. Eleanor Wilson (Titheradge) and her husband joined the "regulars" at my house in June. Would any Old Bedans interested in meeting us please contact me? - our numbers have dwindled sadly!

Next year's reunion will be held in the Spring to avoid clashing with School and Church functions.

Doreen Ward (Macrae), 39, Birch Grove,
London. W3 8SP. Tel. 992/3907.

Married are:- Elaine Alderson (Cookney), Lynn Anderson (Edmonds), Margaret Burlington (Curtis), Vivienne Duffield (Spithray), Pamela Fawell (Waterman), Ann Gartland (Mathams), Susan Gray (Hodgson), Eileen Guy (Lydiatt), Pamela Holmes (Vell), Susan Laidler (Pike), Carol Laworthy (Collins), Noreen Potts (Robinson), Norma Tindall (Hudspeth), Elizabeth Young (Warren), Florence Jackson.

Too late for inclusion last year; Jean Eileen Gibson was married in November, 1970 to Bruce H. R. Monroe.

Babies to:- Jean Barr (Jones), Freda Barrow (Cronon), Kathleen Carr, the second (Shiel), Ingrid Davis (Cohen), Ann Duffield (Brydon), Sheila Elliott (Butterfield), Jean Farrar (Wood), Barbara Gilchrist (Slade), RUBY Gooderick (Stacey), Ann Hughes (Ward), Patricia Hutton (Akehurst) Susan Nell (Martin), Wendy Parr - Burman (Amies), Dr. Eve Richardson (Jones). Too late for inclusion in last year's magazine; November 1970 - a son to Marjorie Fairbridge (Ford).

In Memoriam:- Dulcie Adamson (Mrs. Pearson), Rosemary Berriman (Mrs. Pearson), June Charlton (Mrs. Drewery), Daisy Dwyer (Mrs. Butler), Lorna Dunnett (Mrs. Taylor), Gladys Hogg (Mrs. Whitfield), Ena Hunley (Mrs. Dixon), Ethel Tate, Dorothy Thompson (Mrs. Hastewell), Phyllis Whitfield (Mrs. Barella), Stasia Dunn (Mrs. McCree) died July 1970, aged 88.

Homes of Old Bedans. Joyce Prince (Bell) has moved from Hassocks (Sussex) to "what must be one of the most beautiful villages in England - Arundel, Sussex". Sheila Wilson (at Bede 1943-50) and married in 1967 to Robert Waizer (also an Old Bedan) lives in Cobham, Surrey. In September she was about to take up a full time medical post in the Department of Health. Alice Munro has retired from her post as Senior Youth Employment Officer to the L. C. C. and is living in Cherry Hinton, Cambridge. Elsie Cairns (Tingle) lives at Stockton-on-Tees and wonders if there are any more Old Bedans in the area. Ruth McBain is back in England from Denmark and is living in Chigwell, Essex. Marjorie Fairbridge (Ford) is now living in Accrington, and Elizabeth Taylor (Barrett) in Kingsbury, London. Jean Farrar's home is in Sheffield and Margaret Estell's (Belton) in Clendon. Pauline Orr (Graham) is now living in Castle Eden having moved from Newton Aycliffe. Jean Henderson (Telfer) is back in Birmingham; Anne McKenny (Melton) has left Nottingham and is living in Newcastle; Marjorie Anderson (Curtis) has left Ditchforth and is now in Stratford-on-Avon.

School Notes.

Mr. C. A. Smith, affectionately known as "CASS" to many boys of the former Grammar School and latterly of the new school, retired in July of this year, to the great regret of staff and pupils alike. He was an unmistakable figure around the school with his endless collection of coins, stamps and anecdotes of old Sunderland. He was Head of the Classics Department, during which time he instilled his love of the Classics, his demand for high standards of performance and something of his general humanity into all those with whom he came into contact. He had a most distinguished academic career at Durham University and was Head of Classics at Queen Elizabeth

Grammar School, Blackburn from 1927 until his return to his native Sunderland in 1966. His charm, dignity and unfailing courtesy will be missed in the Common-room. We wish him well in his retirement which, knowing his diversity of interests, will be far from inactive.

Since the last issue of the Old Bedan the school has also said goodbye to Mr. J. Baxter, Mr. A. Bailie and Mr. N. S. Williams who left to take up new appointments; to Mrs. A. S. Bower and Mrs. C. A. Fitton whose husbands were moving to posts elsewhere; to Mr. R. Laidler who secured a departmental headship and therefore to his wife Mrs. P. Laidler, to Miss F. E. Prior who has embarked upon a degree course at Durham University, and to Mrs. E. G. Dearn and Mrs. M. Edwards, as well as to Mrs. S. Gates who so kindly joined her husband's department for two terms to help us when we were short of a biologist, and Mrs. P. Allan who helped out in the chemistry department.

We have welcomed Mr. D. Snow as Head of the French Department. Miss V. Northorpe (Course Tutor), Mr. J. Fagan and Mr. A. J. Pattison (Mathematics), Mr. J. F. Ellbeck and Mr. B. Stephenson (Chemistry), Mr. T. D. Lewis and Mr. D. Clouston (Physics), Mrs. E. A. Walker (Biology), Mr. N. Mathams (Science), Miss J. L. Forster, Mrs. K. E. Lees and Miss V. Sharp (English), Miss D. Rising (Geography), Mrs. M. Donkin (R. E.), as well as Miss J. Barr and Mrs. E. Wilkin-son (Art).

Of the new members of staff, six (Misses Northorpe, Barr and Sharp, Mrs. Donkin and Messrs. Stephenson and Mathams) are 'Old Bedans'.

School leavers from the Sixth Form 1971.

This year we have sent sixty people up to Universities, including two to Oxford and five to Cambridge, twenty seven have gone to Polytechnics to follow degree courses and forty two have gone to Colleges of Education to train as teachers. We have also sent one boy to the Royal Manchester College of Music and two have gone to the College of Art at the Sunderland Polytechnic.

Twenty six other people found employment in Banking, Accountancy, Quantity Surveying, Town Planning, the Civil Service, the N. C. B., Welfare, the W. R. A. F., Radiography, Libraries, the Police Force, and a Trainee Salesman. Two boys are trainee cadets with the Merchant Navy.

It is worth noting that one girl won a place at Girton College, Cambridge, to read Classics, another has joined the W. R. A. F., where she will be commissioned and two others have gone to university to train as engineers; one as a civil engineer and the other as a chemical engineer.

All the girls were placed, but seven boys were still seeking some form of employment in September.

News of Former Members of Staff.

We are glad to report, through Winnie Wardman, that Miss Logic is pretty well, quite content, still in her own home and interested in all those pupils and others that she knew when in Sunderland but "she never writes now". Miss Lumb still works at times, and travels at times as the spirit moves her.

Mrs. Nicholson (Miss D. Thompson), settled in Eastbourne, thinks she has now definitely retired from teaching, but misses children and staff. She and her husband have joined Eastbourne Choral Union "and get great joy from singing".

Muriel Bruce (Mrs. Anderson, pupil and mistress) and her husband, broke their journey North to a Lakeland Holiday to call on Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer - a call much appreciated though very short, alas. She wrote in January "It is just 71 years since I started at the Bede - January 1900 - warmly welcomed by Greta Raine, who till then had been labelled "The Youngest Girl in the School" and as such had to stand up when visitors came round".

In October Miss Arkle was in a Convalescent Home for two weeks and Miss Shearer had a short break. During this time she learned that Miss Galloway (later Mrs. Milligan) whom certain Old Bedans knew as a French Mistress for a short time, and who was well liked, died a few years ago.

Miss Lloyd is still at "Wearside", Thornhill Gardens and interested in any Old Bedan news. Another Old Bedan, Hilda Young (Hindle) is also a resident there. Mary Parker, another pupil and mistress of Bede, is often to be seen shopping near her home.

Mrs. Jan Murray, who taught P. E. for a time at Bede, is living in Halifax.

Younger Old Bedans.

Olwyn Ross who has finished her course at Leeds Training College, was presented by the Mayor, last December with a gold brooch, having achieved the gold level award of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, although unattached to any youth group at the time. Olwyn Peacock, a student at Manchester University has also completed the gold level award, through Sunderland Sea Rangers. Kristen Lowe spent three months this year working in a hotel in Strata, north of Oslo. She was visited there by Moira McGourley. Marjorie Crompton took an appointment at Birmingham General Hospital in July after graduating in Pharmacy at Nottingham University. Christine Murray has an executive post in Newcastle, her sister Sue is a physiotherapist.

A present Bedan, Sheila Cohen, was one of a party of 46 Jewish teen-agers who went on a three week sight-seeing tour of Israel, and was one of 17 who decided to spend another week at a Kibbutz near Haifa. Work started at 5 a.m. when working parties left for apple orchards, afternoon was a resting time, too hot for work, then in the evenings the Israelis showed their visitors how to dance their native horah, and taught them folk songs. One Kibbutz they visited, on the Lebanese border, had never had any English visitors. One lasting memory was of seeing the sunrise over the Judaea hills; another, less exhilarating, trying to swim in the Dead Sea!

Bedans at Work. Doris Hornsby M.Sc., has won a scholarship awarded by the Scientific and Research Council which she will use to continue her studies for Ph.D. in the suitability of modern control systems relating to rocket and aircraft design. Susan Gray (Ho'gson) is lecturing at Southampton University. Valerie Northorpe has left Pennywell School, and is teaching middle school music at Bede.

In Public Life. Maureen Liddle is Chairman of the Association of Voluntary Guides to the City of York. On Woman's Hour on April 30th (the afternoon of the G. O. B. dinner!) she was heard on a special edition of the programme from York celebrating its 1900th year of continuous history.

Muriel Woodruff (Heron) has just completed her year of office as President of Durham City Inner Wheel, and presided over an International Rally in Durham Town Hall in the summer. Two other Old Bedans at the function were Nellie Shiel (Widdrington) and Winnie Knapper (Lonsdale). Muriel and her husband attended one of the Royal Garden Parties in July.

Jessie Ross (Scott-Batey), who is Chairman of the Northern Economic Planning Council's Education Working Party, and a Labour member of the Newcastle City Council spoke strongly at a Education Committee Meeting against the price increase of school meals. Brenda Bryer (Reed) is editor of the Association of Inner Wheel Clubs. Dorothy Goodair was one of the members of Sunderland Business and Professional Women's Club who met Mr. F. T. Willey, M. P. for Sunderland North, in discussion about the concern over the increase of gambling in the town. At another meeting of the B. & F. Club, she urged that the Victorian attitude to women in top jobs, should be dispelled.

Eileen Brown retired from her position as Girl Guide Commissioner for the Humbledon District in December 1970. Her period of ten years' service in this capacity was extended to take in the festivities and activities of the Diamond Jubilee of Guiding. At a retirement presentation, she was given a delicately-worked statue of Alice in Wonderland to be added to her collection of carvings and ornaments from the many countries she has visited. She is continuing to be in charge of the Guide Company, Brownie pack and Ranger unit of St. John's Methodist Church as, she says, she would feel lost if she retired from everything at once. Christine Morgan, as retired Seaham Divisional Commissioner presented the camping cup at a Guide ceremony at Seaham. Sybil Brown opened a 'summer fayre' held by Fulwell Methodist Church to provide money for the upkeep of five manses in Sunderland North Circuit. Another busy 'sale-of-work opener' is Margaret MacLauchlan (Lacey Steel), numbering among her many commitments a Y. W. C. A. Sale last December.

Meetings.

At a November Gas Board Cookery Demonstration, Wyneth Rough (McHenry) won a delicious cake, so after the demonstration, Nellie Shiel (Widdrington) Rene Halliday (Downs) Joan Ball (Turpin) Irene Wilkinson, Jean Henderson (Telfer) and Winnie Scott (Thomas) went up to Wyneth's new Solar House flat to sample the cake. Enjoyed both!

Madge Brown (Chapman) travelling north, played Boldon Golf Course, saw Jen Hay (Smith) on it, and asked after Ethel Lethe (Lockenby) whom she had met in London.

Amor Hudson (Humphrey), who lives in Cookham, Surrey, and is deputy head of an Infant and Junior School, met Anne Pace and Louie Solley (Proctor) over coffee, while on a short visit to Sunderland this year. Helen Reed (Perry) on her way to Norway called to see Dorothy Metcalf (Hirst).

Besides a few Old Bedans who call frequently - Gladys Littlehailes (Besney) always as helpful as ever, Kathleen Mair, our kind librarian, Winnie Graham often with new 'hinds' in reading matter, others who have appeared to see Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer are Cecily Dennis (Turner) with Marjorie Waters (Barrow) who was back from Sydney after 45 years! A non-Bedan sister brought Lylie Gregson (Brown); she lives at Pinner. Within ten days, the three visitors from Africa came - Ellen Whiting (Davison); whom Miss Shearer had met by chance one morning in town, called along with Kathleen Simpson; Lucy Poogate (Nichol) and Ma Walker (Earl) had travelled to England together, but Ma's leave was short this time; Lucy stayed longer and saw among others her sister Marjorie (Somerville) Elsie and Marion Proom, and Elsie Wilson (Hooker). Do Lucy and Elsie remember pursuing Miss Logie and then Miss Shearer (fore-warned by Miss Logie) about the use of the word "surely"? Amy Hassay (Denyer) from Chichester was able to spend a night or two at Ashwood Terrace last November when D. S. A. and she celebrated their birthdays together. and they hoped to have Enid Crowe from London in October.

E. R. S. short holiday produced some interesting contacts. Her kind hostess was Marjorie Fairclough (Unwin) whom she had met as a very little girl for a few months before she left Bede for the High School. She delivered a message of remembrance from her sister Mary (Harrison) who is still in London, and a cardiographer now at the Royal Northern Hospital. About ten minutes after the arrival of E. R. S., she was greeted by Brenda Cowings (Morris) convalescent after a serious illness, then Lilian Campbell (Harding) came to visit her mother, and one new guest turned out to be the father of Margaret Estell (Belton), and another had been a friend of Lollie Brantingham, mother of Gladys Littlehailes (Besney), asked all about Gladys now, and remembered meeting her daughter Catherine, when she was very young. Christine Morgan looked in to see E. R. S. and told her of meetings with Agnes Weare (Clarke) whose home is in Podstow. Blanche Collinson brought Hilda Saxby (Skjellerup) one evening. Winnie Hughes (Telfer) met D'arcy Hogg one day at a sale at Sowerby, Thirsk, and asked out for tea another day recognised another guest as Olive Wood (Snowdon) who lives at Darlington and whom she had not seen since schooldays.

Foreign News. Eileen McCree has left Whyalla, South Australia, and is now working in the General Hospital at Boroko, Territory Papua, New Guinea. Jean Gibson (Monroe) is a senior radiographer at a Johannesburg clinic. Grace Entwisle (Zimmerman) lives in Concord, Massachusetts, and teaches at Concord Mental Health Centre. She paid a flying visit to Sunderland this summer with her husband and two children.

Blanche Collinson spent the summer at a friend's chalet at Les Avants, 3,000 feet up the mountainside from Montreux. She saw a lot of Madge Gray, when the latter was staying in Montreux, and also met Florence Andrews and Esther Betts (Bellamy) who stayed with Madge for three weeks.

Elsie White (the first) wrote at Christmas time from Vancouver of a wonderful vacation, when she crossed the equator for the first time, and visited London and the Isle of Wight, then on to Capetown, Johannesburg, Pretoria (where visitors to the Voortrecker Monument at the same time were Mr. and Mrs. Ian Smith), Victoria Falls, Salisbury, Nairobi (here she visited Treetops, where the Queen learned of the death of her father), Uganda, and had a boat

trip on the Victoria Nile, where they saw literally hundreds of hippos and dozens of crocodiles, then back to London en route for Vancouver. Elsie wrote, "I enclose my usual contribution for our old people, or senior citizens as we call them here". (N.B. Elsie has sent our Social Service Committee a generous gift for years, and some Old Bedans remember the thrill in the days of war rationing when they received from her a large tin of "cookies" which were enjoyed at monthly informal meetings. Home from abroad this year have been Elton Whiting (Davison), Nancy Poogate (Nichol) and Ida Walker (Earl) of whom more in "Meetings". Back home in Cornwall after her visit to Australia is Agnes McIndoe (King). She writes "I found a letter awaiting me from Edith Gibson who had seen a reference to me and my address in 'The Old Bedan'. She gave me news of herself and her sisters, all of whom I knew so well - how many years ago?" Doreen Turnbull has been on a visit from Australia.

The Arts. Irene Cantle has published a new anthology of contemporary poems. Until a recent illness, she had been treasurer for nearly twenty years, of Sunderland and District Organists' Association, and was its first woman president. Dorothy Fox (Otterburn) has made a hobby of painting pictures and pottery over the last few years. She paints scenes of the North York moors and Teesdale. Her friends are delighted with her pottery gifts for silver wedding anniversaries or other special occasions. An exhibition and Sunderland Drama Club's Royalty Theatre for one week this year was the work of M. Fitzgerald (Hesditt). After leaving Beds, she went to Sunderland College of Art where she gained a national diploma in design and illustration, then an art teaching diploma at Birmingham. After teaching there for two years, after her marriage she went to Eire and began making exclusive batik fabrics for the fashion trade. This exhibition showed 16 batik hangings with six tie and dye scarves and six graphic works. Winnie Graham writes "In the new edition of "Portrait of Northumberland" Nancy Ridley has got the Sybil Gray's well right at last! It's wrong in nearly all the travel books, and I started my own campaign away back in the dim and distant ages when Eileen Gauntlett (Wilsen) wrote about it in the Bedan Magazine and got it wrong. The well is behind my grandfather's old farm and we used to play round it as children. This edition of "Portrait of Northumberland" has much better photographs." Among other floral art visits this year, Rene Halliday (Downs) and Joyce Orr (Snowdon) visited Chelsea Flower Show.

We thought the following letter would be of interest to many Old Bedans. It was published in an edition of "Scottish Field" magazine this year:-
'To the Editor of Scottish Field' Aug. 1971.

The Soup Kitchen. It was an exciting experience for me to read the article "The Soup Kitchen", (S. F. June) and add a little more detail to the memory of my happy encounter with Mrs. Pennell. About thirty years ago, I was one of a group of young teachers, voluntary leaders in a Keep Fit Adventure (a movement inspired by the late Miss Nora Reed and now a national association under the leadership of Miss Eileen Fowler) which visited several rural institutes in Kirkcudbrightshire and demonstrated physical exercises

and dancing. We were given generous hospitality by the locals, and I was one of the two who were introduced to the Masse at Borgue. Our welcome was genial and crisp and at first I felt rather afraid of Mrs. Pennell, but we lived to tell the tale of being tucked in bed by 9 o'clock of a glorious evening, of the cockoo clock on the landing in grand form, of our visit to the kirk the next morning and meeting all the villagers on the way, and our drive in a Rolls Royce in the afternoon with Mrs. Cross. However we made a conquest and "Auntie Amy and Uncle Will" became part of my life, with remembrances at Christmas from Borgue and Edinburg, where they retired. Then came one year without a letter to the "dear nieces".

Her memory remains vivid to this day. My thanks to I. A. N. Henderson.

(Mrs.) Mary Alderson, Farncliffe, Thropton.

Sport.

Swimming. Pat Lazenby, an economics student at Newcastle University, is swimming for English Universities.

Hockey. Kathleen Cassap, who played while at College for the Sheffield League, has been chosen for the Durham County Hockey team. Jean Taylor who is still at College, is reserve goalkeeper for the U-23 England team.

Bowls. Nellie Blacklock (Hedley) bowled the first wood of the year as President of the Two Cousins Bowls Club, Thorny Close.

Golf. In her second year of office as captain Kathleen Carr (Ritch) was able to hand over a cheque for £854 collected by the Durham County Ladies Golf Association to help research into arthritis and rheumatism. Playing in a Boldon Invitation Day Competition, Kathleen had her first ever hole-in-one. She has often done well at Boldon - in golf and raffles. She was interviewed on Tyne Tees Television during E. L. G. A. Inter-Counties Week at Bishop Auckland in June. Her ease and charm during the interview should have done much to dispel the less flattering image, so often depicted in cartoons, of lady golfers!

Released from captain's duties Olga Wright (Stewart) had had a wonderful golfing year at Boldon. She has won the Captain's Putter, the Bernal Sykes Trophy, the McClement Trophy (gross score) and the Ex-Captain's cup. With Jen Hey (Smith) she won the Holer Trophy, and Jen won the Gladys Donaldson Trophy, Ethel Letbe (Lockenby) won the Grannie's Cup, Dorothy Grierson the Capstick Trophy, and Winnie Scott (Thomas) the Jackson Rose Bowl. The latter takes office as captain this year.

Retirements. Nellie Mee has retired from her post at Rachel McMillan College at Bradford. Dorothy Gibson (Richardson) has retired from eight years of teaching at the Menorah School, Sunderland, and was presented with a compact by the children, and a travelling clock by the staff. Jennie Gallewski (Shocket) is headmistress there. Madeline Robson (Pretty) severed a long association with Fulwell Infants' School when she retired from the post of deputy headmistress in July. She had attended the school as a pupil, then taught there as a student teacher. Her retirement gifts included a foodmixer, a dinner service and camera, and an album filled with photographs of past events at the school. Nell Turner has retired from teaching, as have Winnie Gibson (Milburn) and Hilda Udale (Rutter) from part-time teaching posts.

A message from D. S. A. and E. R. S. who ask Old Bedans to excuse them this year from sending any tangible Christmas greetings. Their good wishes will be non the less sincere and they send them now. (At the time of going to press, Miss Arkle was still in a Durham nursing home).

Editorial. Our repeated yearly thanks to Olga Wright, Winnie Graham and Margaret H. Chapman for typing are most sincere, and to Mr. Taylor, our auditor; also to those (alas!) few Old Bedans who have written with news items, and to those who have written accounts of our meetings. Dear readers, if you have had any measure of enjoyment from the reading of this magazine, would you, before next September, please send at least one item of news as a contribution to next year's edition? Don't wait to do it - do it now! Write it down! Post it! Any news of former members of staff is most precious, and alas, this type of news still comes from one (ageing!) source. Miss Waggott, who was delighted to have her get-well card, wrote in June from Treadford, Lansdown Road, Cheltenham, and sent good wishes to the G. O. B. "I should like to tell you how much I enjoy the Old Bedan. When I was on the staff, I used to help to edit the school magazine, so I know how much work it entailed. I am sure I am only one of many who appreciate all that you do in making the Old Bedan so very interesting". Thank you Miss Waggott for your kind words, and for your letter.

To those Old Bedans who are ill, in any way or in any degree, our best wishes and kind thoughts in 1972.

W. T.

Combined Activities of A. O. B. Functions were planned to cover the whole year, and so arranged that there was approximately one a month on a different day of each month. In February Mr. C. A. Smith gave a talk illustrated by some of his very fine slides on Durham. This was in the Rosedene and was followed by a buffet supper - a very enjoyable evening. In March a visit to the Empire had been intended, with a meal at the Keels Kro afterwards. However, there was insufficient support for this. In April were the two separate Annual Dinners. In May a trip to Richmond was organised. The weather was fine enough for us to picnic by the river near Easby Abbey. Later we attended a performance of Twelfth Night at the Georgian Theatre - an unforgettable experience. In June a sea trip to the Farn Islands was planned. Quite a number showed interest in this, but the weather was unkind. Those that braved the blustery rain declared that they had a happy time. Suggestions are welcome from any who have ideas for future functions.

M. R.

OLD REDANS' ASSOCIATION

President:	G. T. Moore.
Vice-Presidents:	R. T. Ayre, M. Berry, G.A. Bradshaw, The Right Hon. Lord Justice Cairns, R. R. Crute, W. Crute, R.N. Dumble, J. Dugbury, G.T. Halstead, I. Joiner, T. Mitchell, S.S. Wilson.
Chairman:	R.N. Dumble, 35, Killingworth Drive, Sunderland. Tel. 68795.
Hon. Secretary:	D.J. Edward, 3, Haslemere Drive, Sunderland. Tel. 69919.
Hon. Treasurer:	R. T. Ayre, 7, Broad Meadows, Sunderland. Tel. 68162.
School Representative:	M. Berry, 116, The Broadway, Grindon, Sunderland. Tel. 68434.
Committee:	K. Bates, D. Collis, G. Donnan, W. K. Lewis, S. H. Pattinson, R. Wood and representatives from the individual clubs.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in the Rosedene Hotel on Thursday 7th October 1971. Reports were presented by club secretaries and the officers elected are shown in the above list. The motion to alter the rules affecting the date of the Annual General Meeting was considered and rejected by the meeting. A motion to raise the annual subscription to 40p was accepted.

After the general business members and their wives enjoyed an excellent buffet supper after which Ian Whan showed some films of his travels in the Eastern Mediterranean area. This was a most successful evening.

Secretary's Report.

A diary of events was sent to all members with the magazine last year. Although this was in answer to the request for more functions the response was poor. Nonetheless those members who did support the activities enjoyed some splendid evenings.

The talk by Mr. C. A. Smith on the Outer and Inner Cities of Durham was particularly interesting and illustrated by some extremely fine slides. The Annual Reunion Dinner was held in Durham Castle on Monday 5th April. A fine meal, followed by entertainment by Mr. Eric Nicholson, who dealt with local humour, was enjoyed by all.

In May a party visited the Georgian Theatre, Richmond to see "Twelfth Night". The Farne Islands trip was marred by poor weather but those who braved the elements were delighted by the variety of sea birds and the seals.

Please Note: the Annual Reunion Dinner will be held in Durham Castle on Monday April 10th 1972.

In Memoriam.

We offer our deep sympathy to Mr. G.A. Bradshaw on the death of Mrs. Bradshaw recently at Poole in Dorset.

We regret to record the death of Miss A. Russell on Feb. 17th 1971 at Gosforth. Miss Russell was secretary to the Headmaster from 1932 until her retirement in 1960.

It is also with regret that we have to report the deaths of the following Old Bedans during the past year; W.E. WALKER (1908-12), retired Headmaster and a staunch supporter of the O. B. A. for many years; A. TATE (1930-6), Headmaster of Hastings Hill Junior School. On his return home after being a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, he taught at Havelock, Castle View and Commercial Road Schools until his appointment at Hastings Hill; Rev. C. F. DAVEY (1923-30) who died while on holiday in Northumberland; R. E. FITZGERALD (1929-34), an inspector with the Dept. of Health and Social Security; D. F. RITSON (1952-9), Head of Classics and P. E. Depts. at the Duke's School, Alnwick; R. WALKER (1919-26), Chairman of the O. B. Badminton Club and a long-standing member of the Association; J.J. MOORE (1913-7) who attended the London Reunion recently.

Other News Items:

E. J. PRETTY (1920-8) retired from the Headship of Havelock Junior School at Easter and G. DEAN (1921-9), Head of the Science Dept. at Commercial Road School retired at the same time.

A. PERRY (1947-54) and G. W. PARK (1935-9) have been appointed to Headships at Dame Dorothy Junior School, Monkwearmouth and Bexhill Junior School respectively.

W. GLENDENNING (1931-6) is Deputy Head at Redworth School, near Darlington.

J. PICKERING (1918-23) at present Deputy Head at Southmoor, has been appointed acting Head of Commercial Road from Sept. 1972.

News of former masters at BEDE has come to hand. Mr. E.J. Johnston, Senior Classics master, has now retired from the Headship of Pershore School and has been doing some travelling, even as far as Japan.

C. G. LISTER (1927-34) took up his appointment at Ashington Grammar School at Easter 1971. He was formerly Headmaster of Chiswick Grammar School and Lampton School, Middlesex.

Mr. J. CORR is now Deputy Head of St. Mary's Boys' School at Darlington. We hope that he is now recovered from his recent illness.

Mr. J. HOGG, who was a member of the Classics Staff, is now teaching at Hartlepool Grammar School.

We have news of O. Bs. in the Services. Instr-Commander I. F. CHRISHOP, R. N. (1943-50) is School Commander of the new R.N. Radio School, H.M.S. Collingwood, Fareham, Hants. He read Electrical Engineering at Manchester University and did research at Manchester and English Electric. He joined the Navy in 1955 and has had a distinguished career in the Service.

Lieut.-Col. J. DOWSON (1941-9), serving with the R.A.M.C. in Germany, was invested with the insignia of Officer of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in May, 1971. He worked with St. John Ambulance movement at the Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem, and performed about 1000 operations on Arab patients. At present he is surgeon in a British Military Hospital in Rinteln, Germany.

Major N. ROME (1942-6), who joined the Army in 1946 and trained as an electrician, has seen service in many parts of the world. He was commissioned in 1964 and is at present electronic trials officer at the R, E, M, E, wing of the Royal School of Artillery at Larkhall.

Squadron Leader G. ORD (1943-8) is stationed with his squadron at Bahrain. He reports that Bede School is well represented in the R, A, F. Last year there were four former pupils commanding fighter squadrons in the R, A, F.

Lieut.-Col. N. RYLANCE (1936-41) has been appointed the Senior Staff Officer for Supply with the Canadian Air Force Defence Command.

From the medical world we learn that Dr. I. MILLER (1944-51) has taken up an appointment at Sunderland Royal Infirmary. He has had a long association with the R. V. I. at Newcastle where he did his training and became Senior Registrar. In 1969 he went to Harvard University where he researched in surgery.

Dr. A. McCLELLAND (1958-65), who graduated M. B. and Ch. B. at Leeds University in June, has taken up a post in the geriatric department at St. James's Hospital in Leeds. Before going to Leeds he studied at St. Andrews University. Interested in drama at school, he appeared in many university productions at Leeds.

Dr. A. H. HORNSBY (1959-66) qualified at St. Andrews University this year gaining the degrees of M. B. and Bachelor of Surgery. He has been appointed to Stratcroy Hospital, Angus.

R. D. ERRINGTON (1959-67) is at present assisting at the Grace General Hospital, St. John's, Newfoundland until Feb. 1972.

F. C. UDALE (1933-8) has been appointed maintenance services engineer in the Generation Dept. of the N. E. region of the C.E.G.B. He was station superintendent at High Marham Power Station.

J. D. TODD (1905-8) is this year's President of the Sunderland Rotary Club. He is the only surviving founder member living in Sunderland. It is therefore most fitting that he should be President, in this, the Club's Golden Jubilee Year. He was also President in 1945.

A. APPLETON (1940-5) is writing a book about the notorious local poisoner, Mary Ann Cotton. He gave a talk recently on Radio 4 about Dr. William Robinson, who was born at Stanhope and came to the Sunderland Royal Infirmary as physician and surgeon before the first world war. It seems that Cotton was at one time employed as a nurse by Dr. Maling, a partner of Dr. Robinson, and had been employed at the Royal Infirmary.

F. GRAHAM (1925-23) has published the "Geordie Bouks" which have been selling well, after the success of "Lara Yersel Geordie".

K. RIDDELL (1943-9) living in Amherst, Ohio, writes that the use of pictorial cheques is quite common in U. S. A. The cheques show scenes on the U.S. and can carry individual designs and even coats-of-arms.

D. OLIVER (1960-7) has taken up a post at Gosforth Grammar School to teach English. Interested in folk-singing and dancing he recently led a 24-strong dance party on a three week festival and concert tour of Southern and Central France.

R. WOOD (1923-9) was the guest of honour at a retirement celebration recently. He joined A. Rayrolle and Co., Bebburn in 1928 in the drawing office and became works manager from which post he retired earlier this year because of ill-health. A keen footballer, School Captain, and amateur with Middlesborough and an English trialist, he became a well-known referee on the Football League list from 1948-69.

Congratulations to J.E. RICHARDSON (1964-71) on being awarded an Exhibition in Chemistry at New College, Oxford. He took his 'A' levels in the summer and began his studies at Oxford this term.

The School A. F. C. is to be congratulated on winning the Kaxx Trophy, the Durham County (under 19) Championship (1970-71) and on its good performances in the English Schools' Championship.

As noted elsewhere in this issue the Old Bedans' A. F. C. has completed 49 years as members of the First Division of the North-Eastern Amateur League. During this period Old Bedans have won the Championship six times, more than any other Club. Their record shows great consistency over the years as all other clubs which have won the Championship more than once, have done so in successive years, L.N.E.R. Accountants 3 times in 3 years, Armstrong College 4 times, Sunderland Harlequins 4 times and Sunderland Technical College 3 times. It would seem that these clubs, having got together a good set of players and kept them for a few seasons met with success in consecutive years for that reason. Old Bedans on the other hand had their successes well spaced out, in 1933-4, 1936-7, 1952-3, 1957-8, 1963-4 and 1964-5. So as it approaches the Golden Jubilee of the League, we wish the Club continuing success.

H. MARTIN writes from Australia thanking us for the "Old Bedan"'s most interesting publication" he says. One of the oldest Old Bedans at over 80, he has just moved with his wife into a charming newly-built flat in Queensland, leaving his former home at Mentone in Victoria. "We are both benefitting from living in this milder climate on the Queensland coast and enjoying the surroundings of seaside and countryside".

G. F. JOHNSON (1913-23) writes to tell us he has retired as Principal of Grantham College for Further Education and to give us his new address. "My introduction to Bede, in 1918, was in one of the rooms of the Tin Tab under Mr. C. K. Witter, so I was most interested to hear of its demolition. The Headmaster, Mr. Ferguson, used to make pointed remarks about it every Speech Day and certainly no one expected that it would last such a long time".

On Jan. 22nd 1971 reference was made in the columns of the Sunderland Echo to the adoption of the white phoenix as the badge for Bede School and the abandonment of the original badge, first used in 1898 and until lately still used by the Girls' School. The article stated that the badge was the inspiration of the Headmaster, Mr. G. T. Ferguson. It was not mentioned that its design in colour was the work of the late Mr. J. W. Hawkins, Art Master at the School at the time. A replica of the badge may still be seen in the centre of the balcony in the School Hall.

LONDON OLD BEDANS' DINNER,

The London Old Bedans held a Dinner at Bedford College on December 4th 1970. Many old friendships were renewed as members met for sherry in the Post Graduates' Common Room before proceeding to the Oliver Dining Room for Dinner. The meal was enjoyed by all and the facilities offered by Bedford College proved ideal for the number present - a total of 28 including members' wives.

Professor A. W. Woodruff, the Chairman of L. O. B. introduced the principal guests, Col. Marcus Lipton M. P. and Mr. G. T. Moore. Col. Lipton proposed a toast to the Old Bedans' Association and the reply was made by Mr. Moore. Following this, members resumed the conversations commenced before dinner and the remainder of the evening soon slipped away. Many members appeared to be reluctant about leaving after a most enjoyable evening.

O. Bs. who were present were:- M. Barlow, A. Elenkinsopp, W. G. Boyd, T. E. Dyer, R. D. Errington, P. H. Hammond, D. L. Hawkins, K. A. Job, M. Lipton, G. T. Moore, W. S. Munro, B. Rees, A. Simmons, B. Suggitt and A. W. Woodruff.

R. D. Errington,

Hon. Sec. London O. B.

Wilson House, 38-76, Sussex Gardens,
London W2.

Old Bedans' Archery Club

Following our usual tradition we ceased shooting for the winter and commenced our fortnightly social gatherings at members' homes. As in previous years, the meetings proved to be very popular and were a valuable ally in keeping members in touch with each other. We held our usual Annual Dinner and Prizegiving during our 'close' season and this was fully attended and most enjoyable.

When the sun eventually broke through in 1971, our members determined to show that they could shoot as never before, ventured out into the great outdoors. In time fair hopes became hard facts and throughout the season some have made great strides. The Annual Shoot was held in September and the men's championship was neck and neck all the way, the outcome being decided by the margin of only a few points.

To end on a sad note, following the trend in recent years, we have had no enquiries for membership. If you are interested please contact the Hon. Sec. whose address is 8, Ludlow Road, off Queen Alexandra Road, Sunderland.

D. Collis (Hon. Sec.)

Old Bedans' Badminton Club

The 1970-1 season was one of the most successful for many years. Average attendance was 17 and finances were well clear of the red.

The present season however started slowly with only half last year's members turning up. There is therefore every opportunity for new members to join before the faithful supporters collapse. We meet in the Senior Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7.30. The fee is £3.50 per season or 25p per visit, to a maximum of £4. Those aged 18 or under may join us for half of these fees.

Retired members will no doubt join in our deep sorrow at the death of our Chairman, Bob Walker. Although he had given up playing, his financial and moral support kept the Club going during hard times. J. I. Whan (Hon. Sec.)

Old Bedans' A. F. C.

Ever since 1934, Old Bedans have held their position in the First Division of the North-Eastern Amateur Association Football League. This season is the 49th season. The 1970-1 season nearly brought to an end this record, but with a fighting spirit the Club just managed to evade the trouble area, finishing fourth from the bottom of the League with the following record-

P 28, W 6, D 7, L 13, Goals F 57, A 72, Pts. 18. Once again members of the staff, pupils and old boys have combined to form a team, the morale of which was much higher than its position depicted. Throughout the season the 1st Division was dominated by Hebburn Technical College, who, having just achieved first division status, headed the league table from the first publication in September 1970. They were chased by Sunderland N.A.L.G.O., another promoted team, who were their greatest challengers throughout.

In the 2nd Division the position was rather similar, with Bishopwearmouth undisputed leaders hotly pursued by Belford House "A".

The close of the season saw the withdrawal of D.H.S.S. Reserves and Durham Colleges from the League; the relegation of Athenians and promotion of Bishopwearmouth and Newcastle Medicals.

The 1971-2 season has commenced in grand style as the team to date has played 9 games, won 7, drawn 1 and lost 1 and leads the League Table. Unfortunately our success has been marred by injuries to C. Forster (pulled muscle), R. Browning (damaged teeth) and M. Johnson (broken leg and dislocated ankle).

Once again may I appeal to all those interested to contact me at the address below.

O. Topel (Hon. Sec.)

7, Harewood Gardens,

Sunderland.

Tel. 69418.

Address Changes

Berg, D. R., 86, Queen Alexandra Road, Sunderland.

Boyd, W. G., 'Haybarn' 43, Woodberry Way, Chingford, London E4 7DY.

Brown, T. E., 11, Broomsheld Av., Sunderland.

Chrisop, I. F., 75, Kilm Road, Fareham, Hants.

Clark, T., British Home & Hospital for Incurables, Crown Lane, Streatham, London S. W. 16.

Coils, D., 8, Ladlow Rd., Sunderland.

Cowey, A., Institute of Experimental Psychology, South Parks Rd., Oxford.

Davis, A. H., 32, Frederick St., Sunderland.

Davis, R., 54, Highbury, Newcastle-on-Tyne, N. E. 2 3 L. N.

Donkin, B. R., 55, Natley Av., East Boldon, Co. Durham.

Eaton, R. D. Dept. of Biological Sciences, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Portsmouth.

Fawcitt, A. J., 'The Limes', Long Lane, Willingham, Cambs.

Ford, G. M., 26, Cromwell St., Sunderland.

Foreman, H., 33, Main Rd., Ketley Bank, Telford, Salop.

Fraser, J. L., 129, Chiltern Av., Bushey, Watford. WF2 3QE.

Heavisides, J., 10, Windsor Drive, Cleadon, Co. Durham.

Henderson, D. J., 62, Mirren Drive, Hardgate, Clydebank.

Henley, B. R., 114, Hammersknot Av., Darlington.

Herdman, G. W., 6, Baresford Pk., Sunderland.

Hogg, I., 5, Marlborough Rd., Sunderland.
 Jolley, J.D., 25, Poffrea Rd., Romford, Essex. RM5 3EP.
 Johnson, G.F., 1, Church Lane, Great Gonerby, Grantham.
 Kerr, D.I.R., 44, Chandlers Rd., St. Albans, Herts.
 Kerr, S.C., 35, Rowlet Drive, St. Albans, Herts.
 Kerr, F., 45, Prestwich Drive, Bishops Cleeve, Herts.
 Kirton F.E., 15, Thomson Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow.
 Linfoot, A.D., 1, Mount Rd., Canterbury.
 Lister, C.G., 21, High Park, Morpeth, Northumberland.
 McBain, I.N., 5, Woodland View, Halam Rd., Southwell, Notts.
 Maddison, P., 276a, Ringinglow Rd., Sheffield. S11 7PX
 Martin, H., Unit 1, 'Sun Villa' 53, Connor St., Bursleigh Beads, Queensland,
 4220, Australia.
 Mennear, B., 43, Newmans Rd., Kirkliston, West Lothian, Scotland.
 Phalp, J.M., 67, Crabtree Lane, Harpenden, Herts.
 Pigg, T.W., Casilla 1460, Lima, Peru.
 Scott, L.H.P., 12, Pilmoor Drive, Richmond, Yorks.
 Shotton, A.A., 30, Bowker Vale Gardens, Blackley New Rd., Manchester.
 NT 3EY.
 Swincoe, R.J., 24, Clovely Drive, Newburgh, Wigan.
 Walker, B.B., 4, Stockton Rd., Sunderland.
 Wrightson, D.W., 1, Lynford Gardens, Sunderland.

Abenathy, T., 18, The Glen, Enfield, Middlesex.
 Addison, K., 73, Riding Dene, Mickley, Stocksfield, Northumberland.
 Ball, R.B., 92, Sandhill Oval, Alwoodley, Leeds. LS17 8EE.
 Dobinson, B., 109, Sevenoaks Drive, Sunderland.
 Duckworth, K., 12, Ludlow Rd., Sunderland.
 Duxbury, J.S., 7, Beckhill Rd., Westley Estate, Bury St. Edmunds, W. Suffolk.
 English, A., 45, Gleneagles Rd., Sunderland.
 Gardiner, J., 7, Hawthorn Villas, Ystradgynlais, Swansea. SA9 1HG.
 Griffiths, C., 123, Devonshire Rd., Moor Park, Belmont, Durham.
 Masterman, D., Redwood, The Close, West Rainton, Co. Durham.
 Ranson, W.C., Hallgarth, 10A Hall Grounds, Loftus, Saltburn.
 Rush, T., 3, Park Place East, Sunderland. SR3 8EE.
 Smith, A., 17, Planet House, Sunderland.
 Street, M., 18, Mill View Av., Sunderland.
 Taylor, D., 32, Springbank Rd., Sunderland.
 Teasdale, D.M., 76, Polmair Rd., Sunderland.

Marriages.

A. CAIRNS (1917-54) to Kathleen A. Watson at St. Paul's Church, Ryhope
 on August 14th 1971.
 J.S. DUXBURY (1956-63) to Sonia J. Orchard at St. John's Church, Wicken,
 Bucks. on July 24th 1971.

New Life Members

Ball, R. B. (1935-41) 92, Sandhill Oval, Alwoodley, Leeds.
Brown, G. E. (1935-62) 10, Wycliffe Rd., Sunderland.
Clark, G. (1958-66) 17, Leominster Rd., Sunderland.
Morrall, A. P. (1952-9) 5, Scotch Horn Close, Nailsea, Bristol.
Newton, E. S. (1960-3) 15, Eston Grove, Newcastle Rd., Sunderland.
Park, G. A. (1935-9) 19, Dunelm, Sunderland.
Ranson, W. C. (1931-4) Hallgarth, 16A Hall Grounds, Loftus, Saltburn.

New Subscribers

Boston, R. M. (1939-43) 29, Westlands, Sunderland.
Park, A. B. (1963-70) 19, Dunelm, Sunderland.

Subscriptions

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. R. T. Ayre, 7, Broad Meadows, Sunderland SR2 7NG) is concerned about the number of annual subscribers who have fallen behind in sending their subs. The postal Strike which occurred just after "The Old Bedan" was sent out in Jan. 1971 with reminders about unpaid subs, seems to have been an excellent excuse for many not to send their subs. Last year's subs of 25p together with the new increased sub. of 40p for the new financial year should be sent without further delay to the Hon. Treasurer. Life Membership sub. is £3-15.

The Hon. Sec. or Treasurer would be glad to have news items from members.

Civic Theatre in Sunderland

The development of civic theatre in Sunderland has, over the last twelve years, been a highly emotive subject, probably because many people do not wish to contribute towards something which they themselves do not use. What we must consider however is, why the debate in Sunderland has been so much more heated than in any other town or city which has embarked upon a civic theatre development.

Probably a basic reason for criticism was the fact that we bought an existing theatre which had been closed for commercial reasons and its sale to Sunderland Corporation made it look like a "rescue operation" rather than a planned policy to provide the town with a municipal theatre development. A new theatre would not have carried the stigma of low standards, dwindling audiences and financial loss.

The tradition in the country had been to develop the playhouse theatre e.g. Coventry "Belgrade" - Nottingham "Playhouse" - Sunderland broke with tradition by providing a theatre to "house" the many live arts including opera, ballet and orchestra.

The majority of criticism, however, was based upon finance - despite the fact that the purchase and subsequent renovations was paid from the war-damage compensation, granted by the government, due to the destruction of

the Victoria Hall in World War II. The argument was advanced that a public which accepted the spending of over £100,000 on libraries, should not be so critical of our outlay of £30,000 annually especially when the per capita cost per visit to the theatre compared favourably with the per capita cost per visit to the libraries. Critics answered by saying that libraries were "essential to the community" but theatre was "a luxury we could not afford".

In support of the decision taken in 1959 - we bought a first class, well-equipped theatre capable of staging any of the national companies - if we had not bought the Empire in 1968, I doubt very much whether a new theatre would have been built today. Only a large theatre like the Empire could have presented what has proved over the years to be the most successful "box office" - Royal Ballet, Sadlers Wells, D'Oyly Carte Festival Ballet, National Theatre, Royal Shakespeare - Companies.

The successful, spectacular pantomimes, have proved a financial success because the theatre had a high capacity and could afford to contract artists with a high "star" rating.

Where we have failed over the last twelve years, in many respects, is to use the theatre to stimulate and develop the artistic qualities within the community by encouraging the people to participate in production. The Sunderland Operatic Society presents one show of high standard each year and the North East Chorus works with professional companies. The National Youth Theatre presents one play annually. None of the local groups has been encouraged to add to their success by increasing the number of productions and to use the facilities of the theatre to provide a "home" base for their activities. No real attempt has been made to encourage adult and youth organisations to use the theatre as a "stage for the region" by presenting brass band and choir festivals, displays of music and movement or contests to discover and develop the wealth of talent which exists in the North East.

The future of the Empire Theatre depends upon its continued ability to bring to Sunderland the large national companies and its policy towards the encouragement of local societies and groups in using the facilities provided. We must also take into consideration the fact that in 1974 Sunderland will become a large Metropolitan District within the Tyne Wear Area, with an increased population and rate contribution well able to support both the Empire Theatre and a smaller playhouse.

The alternative would be to accept Newcastle as the cultural centre of the region - close the Empire Theatre - and use the Theatre Royal, the University Theatre and the City Hall as regional theatres. If this did happen - Sunderland would have to accept responsibility for a payment towards the running costs of these theatres which would certainly exceed the cost of the Empire Theatre today. Whichever happens we will have to pay towards the development of municipal theatre in one way or another in the future and I firmly believe that it would be a mistake to sacrifice our own theatre and contribute towards the smaller Theatre Royal with no control of its future policy or financial commitment.

If Sunderland is to preserve its identity as a town, then it is of great importance that we retain our own municipal theatre, which serves the people of Wearside and reflects the history and tradition of an area distinct from that of Tyneside. If we are to provide a wide choice of leisure activities for the Sunderland citizens of the future then we must create amenities like the civic theatre rather than consider destroying them.

L. Harper (1940-8)
Chairman of the Sunderland Civic Theatre
Committee (1961-7) and Chairman of the
National Civic Theatres Committee (1963-71).

OLD BEDFORD ASSOCIATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 1971

EXPENDITURE

Cost of Magazines	39.	29.
Postage on Magazines & Sub. Receipts	9.	29.
Postage on Notices of Annual Meeting, 1970	6.	09.
Donation to Multiple Sclerosis Society	2.	16.
Old Bedford Association School Prize	5.	27.
President's Visit to London Bedfords	7.	06.
Loss on Annual Meeting	5.	26.
Loss on Annual Dinner	0.	48.
Printing Circulars, Diary etc.	11.	75.
Gen. Secretary's Expenses	1.	87.
	<u>£59.</u>	<u>32.</u>

INCOME

£ Life Subs. @ £1.14.	26.	29.
£0 Annual Subs. @ £0.36.	16.	25.
£ Annual Subs. @ £0.28(Bd Bankers Orders)	1.	06.
£ Annual Subs. @ \$1	41.	10.
£ Donation	1.	09.
Bankford & Sturtevant Building Society Int.	19.	00.
" " " " " "	2.	98.
O. B. A. Organ Fund	1.	10.
Bank Int. on O. B. A. Organ Fund	7.	48.
Transfer from Association of Old Bedfords (Loss on Dinner 1969)	14.	93.
Expenses of Expenditure over Income	<u>£69.</u>	<u>32.</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st AUGUST 1971

<u>CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES</u>		<u>ASSETS</u>	
CAPITAL FUND		Cash at Barclays Bank Ltd.	69.
Balance at 31st August 1970	578.	Bankford & Sturtevant Building Society	400.
Less Excess of Expenditure	14	" " " " " " " " Q.O.B.A.	00.
over Income	21.	Organ Funds	100.
PROVISION FOR CORPORATION TAX	2.		00.
	<u>£699.</u>		<u>£699.</u>

Certified to be in accordance with the Books of Account.

G. N. Rande, F.C.A.,)
 L. Hodson,)

Gen. Auditors.

B. T. Ayre, Hon. Treasurer,
 September, 1st, 1971.

THE GUILD OF OLD BIRMINGHAM

The Winter Reunion will be held in the Art Room at School on Friday, 28th, January 1972, from 6-45 p.m. till 10 p.m. Tickets priced 27p may be obtained from Members of the Committee or from the Secretary. If you intend being present at this Reunion will you please get your ticket before January 23rd.

The Dinner Reunion will be held in the Seaburn Hotel, on Friday 28th, April 1972. Tickets £1.50 may be obtained from the Secretary or any Member of the Committee, not later than April 16th. Please make a note of this date in your diary as there will be no further notice.

To Annual Subscribers:- Please note subscriptions - 40p - for 1971/72 are now due.

To Life Members:- It was suggested at the Annual Business Meeting that some Life Members, who paid their subscriptions many years ago, might like to send a small donation to help to cover the ever increasing cost of publishing the Magazine and of postage.

Margaret L. Hunter,
Hon. Sec./Treasurer

9, Stockton Road,
Ryhope,
Sunderland,
Tel. Sunderland 210354.

