

THE OLD BEDAN

1972

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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.J. Shearer.

Office Bearers and Committee for 1972-73

Chairman Mrs. McHenry (Wyneth Rough), 71, Solar House, Sunderland.
Vice-Chairman Mrs. St. Julien (Joan Marshall) 6, Oakfield Close, Green Acres, East Herrington, Sunderland.
Sec./Treasurer Mrs. Bester (Margaret Chapman), 3, Stockton Road, Ryhope, Sunderland. Tel. Sunderland 210354.
Ass. Secretary Miss Irene Wilkinson, 63, Charter Drive, East Herrington, Sunderland. Tel. Sunderland 286600.
Committee Mrs. Heron (Muriel Woodruff) "Burmoor" Farley Hay Road, Neville's Cross, Durham, Mrs. Fraeche (Jean Koch), 25, Clifton Road, Roker, Sunderland, Mrs. Longster (Elizabeth Rowlandson), 43, Newton Ave., Sunderland, Mrs. Henderson (Eliz. Henderson), 70, Ormoads Street, Sunderland, Mrs. Sidney (Gladys Stewart), 17, Richard Ave., Sunderland, Miss Joan Hayton, 12, Braswade, Sunderland, Miss Valerie Northorpe, 50, Newlands Ave., Sunderland, Mrs. Temple (Eileen Robinson)
Co-opted Member:- Mrs. Kirkwood (Elsie Davidson), "Michaelford", Dipe Lane, Sth. Boldon.
Ex. Officer:- Mrs. Thomas (Winnie Scott), 11, Grange View, Sunderland. Tel. 57965.

Information for Members:

Annual Subscriptions, 40p for 1972/3 due on the 1st. September, 1972. Life Membership, £3. 15.
Membership on August 31st 1972 - 512.
Please note that some members have not yet paid their subscription for 1971/2. The Sec./Treasurer would be most grateful to have these subscriptions together with those for 1972/3 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.
- 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

Winter Reunion 1972 The Winter Reunion was held once again in the Art Room, newly painted and artistically decorated. Due to an unfortunate clash of dates the attendance was somewhat reduced, but the volume of noisy chatter was no less. Though some familiar faces were absent, we were pleased to have with us, Miss Shearer and Miss Harris who always make a valiant effort to attend.

This must surely be the first time that Winnie Thomas has missed the re-union. Nevertheless from her bed of sickness (flu) she had commissioned Jennie Hey (Smith) to bring along the details of the musical competition she had devised. The songs that resulted are a proof that the lively inventiveness of Old Sedans still lingers on - for example-

"Clem-in-Mine"

In a carton by the seaside,
Eating sausages and chips,
Sat a miner, forty niner,
With a fag between his lips.

Chorus

No one's digging, No one's digging
No one's digging down the mine
They are lost and gone forever
Gone to join the picket line.

Black he was, and rather hairy
"Bovver" boots were number nine,
Clinging jeans's without topses
Swinging gear for Clem-in-mine.

Drove his mind to the pithead
Every day though wet or fine
Kicked his way through all the ladies
Going to start their job on time.

or-

Oh I went down the mine for to get
some coal
Feeling chilly chilly all the day,

All the miners they were on the dole,
Being silly silly all the way,
Save your coal. Save your coal.
Save your coal it's mild today.
For we're bound to get such weather
That we'll shiver all together
If the strike is here to stay.

or-

Down the street the 'skins' are
Big Boots and all, marching
Smashing windows in the precinct
Writing on the wall,
Slashing, bashing with abandon
Till the law creeps up behind them
In the good house you will find them
How the mighty fall.

It is not surprising that Elsie Kirkwood was unable to judge between the contestants and everyone was therefore awarded a sweet - provided as usual by Miss Shearer.

Our opening game was the customary guessing one, in which we identified districts of Sunderland (Broody blue-stockings-Bendon) and articles eddily advertised. The winner was - not for the first time - Nora Johnson (Wilson). Wyneth McHenry who had so carefully written out the clues, was adrift in the wilds of Northumberland because of a series of accidents and was therefore unable to preside as Chairman.

Another game which was much enjoyed was a version of "Beetles", well thought out by Irene Wilkinson. Instead of beetles we drew pictures of Sedans - complete with tunic (very dating this) blazer and hockey-stick. Our speedy efforts might well have represented us in our youth as we hastily prepared for school. Dorothy Grierson (Kennedy) was

heard to declare as she surveyed her latest masterpiece that she "hadn't a leg to stand on". Winners were Aline Raine and Dorothy Morton (Stoddard).

A tasty supper was supplied by members of the committee, and at our departure we agreed that we had spent a very happy evening.

M. R.

ANNUAL DINNER RE-UNION, 28th APRIL, 1972.

Did last year's fashion show encourage us to be more adventurous? There were certainly more trouser suits to be seen this year, while a touch of elegance was added by a sprinkling of trendy hostess gowns. Well done, "Madame Masfield". The dining room of the Seaburn looked very inviting, with colourful table napkins and bright fresh flowers, and although on these occasions the food tends to take second place to the conversation, it was, on reflection, very good!

As the coffee came round, the Chairman, Wynith Rough (Mrs. McHenry) took advantage of a slight lull to welcome us all, old faithfuls and new recruits, to another dinner re-union - "they seem to come round more quickly each year". She was pleased to see once again our President, Audrey Rayton (Mrs. Carrick), two of our Vice-Presidents, Miss Bradford and Miss Shearer, and a number of staff, both past and present. Miss Shearer had asked a favour of us - that we would go and talk to her, rather than vice versa; we in turn asked her to give our love to Miss Arkle and Miss Harris, who were not well enough to be present. There was quite a long list of 'visitors'; Eusty Wigham (Hall), St. John's Chapel; Muriel Woodfall (Heron), Durham; Nora Johnson (Wilson), Hartlepool; Madge Colwell, Middlesbrough; Elizabeth Fraser, Newcastle; Elsie Watson, Carlisle; Francis Wills (Gilles), Clydebank; Mary Mackintosh (Alderson) Thropton; Doris McCree (Fygot) Boroughbridge; Elsie Garrick (Smith), Flaxton, Yorks; Hilda Andrews (Moore), Farnfield, Notts; Maureen Liddle, York; and Marjorie Crompton, Birmingham (who was with her mother, Florence Mowbray). It seems a pity that the 'locals' always have to remain anonymous, but long may they be too numerous to mention! Altogether we were 108; Wynith hoped to see 208 next year. She proposed, and we drank, a toast "to the School that means so much to us", and on being given the choice by our considerable conductor, we elected to stand to sing the School Song. (We're not all that decrepit yet!) There was a slight difficulty about lighting for the piano, but as Mary remarked, Winnie shouldn't need a light for that music, anyway! Mary urged us to give of our best, since our musical entertainers had arrived and were seven-dropping. We tried very hard, and on the whole successfully, to hit and hold those top notes (they seem to get higher each year--).

The President said she had been asked to address a few - a very few - words to us in reply to the toast. A re-union was a time to enjoy meeting old friends; a sentimental occasion. "Sentimental" seemed to be an unpopular word among present day youth, yet she felt that young people had their own brand of sentiment, and that underneath all their shaggy hair and beads and gear lay the same idealism, sensibility and vulnerability.

Audrey instanced a medical student she knew, who was also studying Marxism: there was the same desire for, and belief in, the goodness of human nature and the same search for Utopia. The 82nd birthday of Bede School had been celebrated recently with an impressive Founder's Day service, in which the preacher had found something to say to all ages present, and the anthem had been composed by one of the boys. Unfortunately, the whole school could not be accommodated - not only the First and Second forms, but now part of the Third, had to be excluded, due partly to the greater physique of the present generation! However increased elbow room did lead to greater enjoyment of the occasion! Audrey was pleased to say that the school continues to distinguish itself in both academic and sporting worlds. Several pupils have gained scholarships to Oxford or Cambridge; two boys had been 'capped' for England, one for soccer and one for basketball. (She would like to see the girls shining in this sphere too). Bede was maintaining its old traditions, but at the same time was catering for the less academic; she had found her visits to 'opportunity classes' a very happy experience. She concluded by expressing the hope that Bede would continue to go from strength to strength.

Wynnith thanked Audrey, and since time was short, referred us for news of farther activities to the notices already distributed to our tables. (This saved postage too!)

After a brief interval, our entertainers were introduced by Joan Hayton. They were members of Sunderland Operatic Society. Joan and Doreen Carr, Dorothy Showell and their pianist, who had chosen for us a programme of familiar 'songs from the shows' and presented them in a friendly, relaxed manner. There were solos, duets and trios. ('Young and Foolish' was really a quartet, but although we were invited to supply the missing voice, no one seemed willing to admit to being a bass!) Doreen combined some of her songs with lively dancing - and she wasn't miming either! We enjoyed hearing old favourites from 'Show Boat' and 'Oklahoma' and some new ones too, like 'Thoroughly Modern Millie'; but in no time at all, the show was over, and Wynnith was thanking our singers. (We, she said had received a good choral grounding with the help of the Scottish Students' Song Book - no doubt still to be found in G. O. B. homes!) Dorothy reminded us that the Society's next production would be 'Song of Norway'; perhaps the G. O. B. would care to make a block booking?

Re-unions themselves, as well as the intervals between, seem to be shorter every year. There is always the conversation left unfinished; the contact not made for lack of time. Perhaps that is not altogether a bad thing - it provides an incentive to come again next time and try to repair the omission!

N. W.

Summer Reunion: On the evening of Friday 23rd June, a bus-load of Old Bedans went merrily on its way to Leyburn on the Summer Outing. In a surprisingly short time we reached Scotch Corner, but thereafter were slowed down in the winding country lanes by a flock of sheep. As we passed through Richmond there were recollections of how, for a time, Bede Girls' School had been transferred here in the days of war-time evacuation.

In Leyburn market place we were met by Enid Bagley (Mrs. Elgoy) and Joan Tweedie (Mrs. Sanderson) who conducted us to Enid's beautiful house. Here we were joined by Cathie Mallen (Mrs. Elmes) who also lives in Leyburn and Berty Wigham (Mrs. Hall) from St. John's Chapel. Rain prevented us from strolling on Leyburn Show but we gazed instead on Enid's fine gardens. As we ate our tasty supper, supplied by the committee, our chatter silenced even the budgerigar in its corner cage. The time for departure came all too soon and we regretted that an enjoyable evening had been missed by such 'regulars' as Miss Harris and Miss Shearer (and Winnie Thomas, Nora Wilson and Betty Stafford, . . .) M.R.

Summary of Annual Business Meeting, September 28th 1972.

Mrs. W. McHenry presided and welcomed the 21 Members present in the absence of the President.

Secretary and Treasurers' reports.

Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 1972/73.

Reports from the Association of Old Bedens, the London Branch, and the "Old Beden", the Hockey Club, Social Service Activities and the Loan and Scholarship Fund.

Allocation of Funds:- Prizes to be awarded to School by the Joint Association.

Future Meetings:- Winter Re-union, Dinner Re-union in April, or early May, and a Summer Re-union. The Committee to explore the possibilities for a change of form and venue for the Winter Re-union.

Loan and Scholarship Fund

The Committee met on the 24th November, 1971, to discuss how the Fund should be used. Mrs. Carrick made a statement concerned with an investigation into whether it might not be possible to make the Fund available to both boys and girls since the school was now co-educational. The Committee felt that the Fund should still fulfil the original purpose for which it was created and so should remain available only to the girls in the school.

The Committee also decided that the Fund should be made available as early as possible in the Autumn term and so the next meeting should be held during the first fortnight of the Autumn term. This proves to be difficult as not all leavers who might be eligible for a scholarship are finally placed for a full-time Higher Education Course by this time. A complete and accurate list of the destinations of all school leavers is necessary so that the Committee can do its work.

It was decided that, where possible, book tokens should be bought to give to the award winners, and that the awards should be made on a points scheme based on success in the Advanced Level G. C. E. examinations. In this way scholarships whose values varied between £10 and £1 were made to 17 girls to a total value of £105. The amount available for distribution was £105.64, the balance being carried over to the next year.

L. Clarke.

Social Service Report

The Committee have nothing very spectacular to report, we just carry on from year to year, thanks to the continued interest and support of you and your friends. Consequently we have finished the year with a balance in hand of £66.32. But please don't let this balance mislead you into assuming we need no more 'help', for we have already earmarked £29 of this money for our Harvest gifts.

Activities:

October 1971: The G.O.B. stall at the Autumn Market raised £33 for the Guild of Help. Later in the month the Committee members delivered Harvest gifts of £1, to needy people, who also received Harvest parcels or baskets from Bede School pupils. The collection, distribution and delivery of these goods being organized by one of the staff (Mr. Lewis).

November 1971: 18 needy people received a parcel of groceries left from the Harvest collection at Bede School. In October £3 was sent to 'Wayside' (Retired Teachers Home) for Christmas extras, and on our behalf Miss Shearer took a Christmas gift to Miss Arkle in Milford Nursing Home, Durham.

February 1972: A successful morning with Bring and Buy stall and raffles raised £32.32. We were very grateful to the N. G. B., who gave us 2 Swedish Ware casseroles to be raffled. Our thanks and appreciation for a donation of £10 per Mrs. Montgomery of Bede School. This money was raised by a group of school girls by the sale of handwork - instigated by Mrs. Montgomery; we realize "Bedans of today" are the Old Bedans of tomorrow.

March 1972: Easter gifts of £1.25 were taken to our needy ones, and a donation of £3 was sent to S. J. A. B. in acknowledgement and appreciation of the committee's kindness in lending us the rooms in St. John's House for a coffee morning and meeting.

We feel that our work should still continue as it fills a certain need in the Welfare State in providing the personal touch by the visiting of lonely, house-bound people. We know that the gifts we take on your behalf are appreciated. Here is an extract from one of our "thank you" notes - "I thank you for the money I received last Thursday, it was a real godsend to me that day". So we in turn thank you and your friends whose help and support make our efforts so successful. Like the little old lady we find your gifts a godsend - at any time.

Elsie Hooker (Convener) 36, Eastfield Street.

The Hockey Club: For the first time we ran two teams for a full season.

The results were:-	Played	Won	Draw	Lost
1st XI	17	12	3	2
2nd XI	11	11	-	-

In the March tournament held at Billingham both our teams reached the final, the first XI besting the 2nd XI 3-0, a fitting end to a successful season. We were able to give hospitality to County teams on two occasions as well as holding our own club Christmas and end of season dinner celebrations.

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 Pennywell School.

E. M. Donkin, 37, Seaforth Road, Sunderland.

The London Branch. We were able to have only one get-together during the last year - at my home in May.

Miss Mead always manages to attend, no matter how difficult the journey - this time Eleanor Wilson (Tiberadge) and her husband were able to give her a lift. Joyce Hebron (Ayles), Edith Broderick (Burge), and Kathleen Young (Craggs) joined us and two newcomers Valerie Williamson (Trigg) who made the long journey from Winchester and Sheila Wilson (Walter) from Cobham, Surrey. They had both contacted me after my appeal in last year's magazine and we were all delighted to meet them and to compare school experiences and hear about their careers and families.

Doreen Ward (McCrae) 39, Birch Grove, London. W3 8EP.
Tel. 292/3507.

From November 1971 - November 1972

These have become Life Members:- Sheila Bagley (Costes), Rosemary Bolton, Eileen Esoby (Wood), Mary Henderson (Lewis), Audrey Hudson (Henderson), Celia Pipe (Shepherd), Angela Porter (Cassels), Dora Taylor, Emily Taylor, Maureen Thompson (Young).

These have become Members:- Dorothy Common (Craven), June Cowell (Wharton), Irene Dodds (Beadnell), Iris Harvey (Bennett), Lynda Jenkinson, May Morrison (Walker), Moira Simpson (Shearer), Peggy Thirkell (Johnson).

Married are: Lesley Ann Armstrong (Adams), Joan Barker (Wilson), Joan Baty (Bailey), Olivia Louise Campbell (Hammal), Marjorie Crompton (Mitchell), Catherine Mary Ferguson (Malican), Noreen Flanagan (Capeling), Lynda Elizabeth Harris (Stinchinson), Audrey Hugill (Hall), Jennifer Ponder (Jenkins), Eileen Robinson (Temple), Alison Russell (Hinton), Janet Smith (Parry), Cissie Solley (Devitt), Lena Underwood (Batohart), Vivienne Greener (Lindsay), Marie Gilmore (Williams), Jacqueline Pearce (Woodley), Olwyn Young (Wilding), Florence Hamilton (Pettitt), Joyce Cross (Holbrook), Ann Lockey (Boyers), Lynn Dowson (Foster), Denise Hart (Willis), Susan Hensford (Urwin), Lesley Welch (King), Andrea Hatcher (Smith), Sheila Porter (Stuart).

Babies to: Elke Barnham (Jackson) a second daughter; Pat Fielding, Barbara Gilchrist (Slade) a son; Ann Gooch, twins; Carol Henderson (Bain) a son; Rosamund Shaw (Carter); Sheila Thomas (Walker) a second daughter; Valerie Wood (Waggott) (in California); Pam Atkinson (Wright) a second daughter; Sylvia Snowball (Churchman); Elsie Scott (Harper) ex staff; Jennifer Crawford (Davis); Paulette Gilmore (Deane-Hall); Judith Raine (Platt); Pauline Bridges (Page); Carol Kemp (Andrews); Olwyn Spenceley (Coadboy); Christine Buckley (Johnstone).

In Memoriam: Brenda Cowings (Mrs. Morris), Jennie Elberington (Mrs. Charlton), Mary Perry (Mrs. Robinson), Winifred Gibson (Mrs. Milburn), Betty Knott, Anns Laws, Gean Lloyd, Unita Magrill, Margaret Walmisley (Mrs. Stirling), Elsie Weatherill (Mrs. Petch), Hannah Wright (Mrs. Tunn).

Homes of Old Bedans. Doris Septon (Crighton) is living in Newbiggin in Teesdale. "Her cottage is delightful and she has a lovely little kitchen garden". She has been visited there by Lena Thompson, 'Pete', Mary Mac among others. May Wilson (Ferry) is retiring from teaching and is living in London (Notte). Doris McCree (Piggott) hopes to attend more reunions now she is living further North in Boroughbridge, Yorks. Mary Rebecca's home is now in Barton, Cambridgeshire; she lived formerly near Lincoln. Isabella Caldwell still remembers to send a yearly contribution to social service funds from her home in Newton Mearns, Glasgow. Marjorie Anderson (Curtis) is living in Wilmslow, Warwickshire. Kathleen Watson lives in Southampton, Jean Nichol at Stafford. Ethel Rossell (Carr) writes an appreciation of the magazine in Alston, Cumberland. Grace Gillespie (Elders) whose home is in East Molesey, Surrey recently celebrated her ruby wedding. Edmund Shaw (Carter) has moved from Gosforth to Crumlington New Town. Ruth Marley (Green) is still living in Cheshire - Alderley Edge. Her sister Owen (Cheeman) now also a widow, lives in Newcastle, and has an 'almost full time job' with the Family Planning Association. Two of Kathleen (Forbes) daughters are in the Antipodes - one is having cello lessons from a Russian Professor whose wife is an Old Bedan! (Further details unknown). Ruth had a five week visit to U.S.A. in September and stayed with sister-in-law Lillian Thompson (the 3rd - Marley)'s elder daughter on Staten Island for part of her visit. In January, from her new address in Cambridge (107, Barton Road) Kitty Clayburn (Cooper) sent good wishes to the Guild and all its members. Rose Johnson (Austin) moved in March to Appleby, Westmorland, and has had among her visitors already, Lena Thompson, 'Pete' and Muriel Liddle. Elizabeth Kerr (Pearce) at Bede 1858-61, is now living at Worthing, Sussex. Angela Porter (Cassels) now lives at Mount Florida, Glasgow. Pat Curty (Turnbull) has moved to Acklam. Jean Henderson (Telfer) is living in Sutton Coldfield and Ann Blackwell (McBain) has moved from Southwell to Thorne, Leeds, and likes it very much. Marie Gilmore (Williams) is living in Cardiff where she is teaching classics. Ann Lookey is married and teaching in Grimsby; Joyce Cross is married and living in Leeds.

News of former members of staff: As we write this, Miss Bradbury is busy settling in to her new post as Head of Thornhill School. All Old Bedans wish her happiness and success.

Miss Lloyd at Wearside, Thornhill Gardens had a spell of serious illness two months ago, but was looking very well and back to her normal self when we saw her last.

Miss Logie, still at her home in Darfermline, is wonderfully well apart from poor eyesight, she told Winnie Wardman on the telephone, and was hoping she might manage to visit friends in London soon!

Miss Harris's health varies. She, like all the "old ones" mentioned here greets all Old Bedans who remember her, and appreciated the visits of Old Bedans while she was in hospital, as does Miss Arkle who is at a Nursing Home in Durham, where quite a few old girls have visited her.

The remaining member of the oldest ones, Miss Shearer is battling on!

Miss A. Abbott was looking forward to retirement this summer. To those of the above mentioned who were her colleagues this seems unbelievable! Mrs. Nicholson (Miss D. Thompson) was having a bad time through an accident and its consequences when we heard last. We hope she is better.

Miss Carlin's interest in flower-arranging continues. She 'does' the flowers at Fulwell Methodist Church, and among her many activities was giving a talk to a Guild on "Christmas decorations with a religious bias" in November.

Miss K. Heslop sees Miss Hudd who is retired and living in Saltburn, very busy with her rose garden; the former has also visited Miss Murray at her old family home in Port of Ness, Isle of Lewis, learning much of the life and ways of the crofters. Miss Murray is spending much of her time bringing her old home to more modern standards. Miss Wilman and Miss Heslop had a most enjoyable holiday this year in Rome and Sorrento, and managed to see the Tutankhamun Exhibition while in London on their way home. Miss Wilman visited Miss Orme in July at her home in Bury. She was well, as keen as ever on her hobby of photography, and they spent some enjoyable evenings looking at photographs, and viewing transparencies of various holidays. Miss Orme keeps in touch with Mrs. Dorcas White (Miss French) who now lives in Pickering. Miss Briggs had not been too well last winter, but when Miss Wilman saw her in summer she looked much better and had just had a fabulous holiday in Turkey. Miss Peters saw Mrs. Judson (Miss Kathleen Herbert) last year - they hadn't met for 31 years. Of the latter's four children, three are married, two of them overseas, and the youngest was at University.

Miss Franklin, in Otley, still enjoys the magazine. Mrs. Davis (Miss Monah) has been home from U.S.A. - Mrs. Penfold (Miss Warren) has a second son. Mrs. Hart (Miss Lee) also has a son. Betty Graham (Mrs. Dawson) has a seven year old daughter, and does some night-class teaching in painting.

Younger Old Ladies

Shelagh Buchanan (daughter of Joan Squires) is working for a branch of the Foreign Office in Cheltenham. In the spring she spent three months in Cyprus just outside Famagusta on temporary detachment to an army unit. Her work left her plenty of time to become well acquainted with the island. She also visited Israel and Greece. She lived in the officer's mess, and once used to the "funny little ways of mess life" became a discerning convert to the system. Beyond the town it was hard to think of problems in Cyprus "For Cyprus is a paradise for all senses - Cyprus is the scent of orange blossom drifting on the evening air". Joyce Mills has gained a degree in information science at Newcastle polytechnic. She is now working as an administrative assistant with International Paint at Felling. Sylvia Glass obtained a first class honours degree in biochemistry this year at Birmingham University. She is doing research into the influenza virus for her Ph.D. at Cambridge. After her marriage this

year, Alison Russell (Hinton) was returning to Kuala Lumpur whence she flew to be married in Sunderland. Margaret Poonder (Jenkins) and her husband emigrated to Auckland, New Zealand after their wedding in March. In September, Wendy Baker started a job after her own heart, looking after 18 horses and ponies - hunters, show horses and promising jumpers, at the Hall Farm, Silksworth. Her work involves breaking in and training young horses, schooling promising young hunters and instructing children. She has run successful gymkhanas and riding events in the area and has recently started a riding club where riders using their own mounts can take part in lectures, instruction sessions, discussions and equestrian events. Sandra Dobson (Brown) works in the British Museum in the manuscript department for the Ministry of Works and Education. Maureen Henderson, L.L.B. is now an assistant company secretary with Legal and General Assurance Co., London. Jacqueline Southern works in the local National Westminster Bank and conducted a party of Bede fifth formers round the premises. Eve Morris is an orthoptist at the Eye Infirmary and very enthusiastic about her job. Lynda Harris (Hutchinson) works for the Ministry of Defence and lives in London. Eileen Guy (Lydiatt) and Lyn Downen (Foster) both attained their S. R. N. at Sunderland General Hospital. Dorothy Nelson is working at Dryburn Hospital, Durham. Eileen Downen (Grant) is teaching at Ryhope School, Susan Gardiner at Red House School, and Pauline Vick at Thornhill School, Sunderland.

Bedans at Work Mary Henderson (Lewis) is still working as a private secretary to Lord Barnard. This has involved her in a Buckingham Palace garden party which she attended in July, and in the County Landowner's Game Fair at Raby Castle. She also acted as agent for a candidate in local elections and attended a cocktail party on board H. M. S. Norfolk just before Prince Charles joined her. Recently Prince Richard of Gloucester and his bride stayed with Lord Barnard. (The Duchess of Gloucester is Lady Barnard's aunt). Mary enjoys the work tremendously, says it is never boring, for so many interesting people visit and there is always something happening.

Freda Herefield (Dovey) who keeps in touch with Miss Orme is headmistress of a primary school in . Rhonette Ellison (Loffhouse) interviewed for the Sunderland Echo "Teach In", is headmistress of Stansfield Street Infants' School and like many other Old Bedans finds that infants today often cannot communicate, are unable to make conversation and know few nursery rhymes. Olga Stone (Hawkins) has been headmistress of Grindon Infants' School since it opened in 1960. One of the features of her school as reported in "Teach In" in June, is that all 307 pupils have been issued with a school library ticket for the school's well stocked library. Jean Coleman joined Age Concern after a business career as an executive secretary. Now organising secretary of the Sunderland Old People's Council, she is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of eight welfare committees and around 400 voluntary workers who provide social services for Sunderland's 26,000 elderly people.

In Public Life Miss Bradbury gave an illustrated talk about Bermuda at a meeting of Sunderland Scroptmist Club this year. Eileen Brown is local honorary general secretary of the National Children's Home. Kathleen Carr (Ritch) was invited to open the sale held by Sunderland Branch of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council at the Rosedene Hotel in February. During Kathleen's two-year captaincy of Durham Ladies' Golf Association, £1628. 9/6p was handed over to the Council.

Joan Jobling (Kirtou) helped to launch a gala opening of the Sunderland Echo "Women's Circle" at the Top Rank Suite, Sunderland in March with a fashion show "Leisure and Pleasure". Previously she had opened the Christmas Bazaar of the South Berne's Townswomen's Guild at Whitburn in December. Later this year she was one of the judges in the Queen of Durham Beauty Contest.

A proposal to hold a North East Coast Exhibition was put forward recently at a Newcastle City Council meeting by Jessie Ross (Scott-Dalry) who called for a regional conference to discuss the idea. Its aim was to help the region gain confidence and to attract publicity for the North East.

Marjorie Anderson (Curtis) acted as camp nurse at a South Warwickshire Youth Service Camp this summer helping to look after 23 deprived children holidaying in the New Forest. She is also in the St. John's Ambulance division which does duty at Stratford Races.

Notable Occasions The day Princess Anne visited Carlisle to lay the foundation stone of a new hospital was a memorable one for Ethel Russell (Carr). As wife of the chairman of the East Cumberland Management Committee, Ethel was presented to the Princess and sat near her at the Civic Luncheon, and found her most charming. Brenda Bryers (Reed) was invited to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. She has been editor of the magazine for the National Association of Inner Wheel Clubs for three years; three magazines are produced each year, and sixty district bulletins. She has been a member of the South Shields Inner Wheel for over 20 years and is a former President of the club.

Catherine Mary Ferguson (Malican) and her husband were the first European couple to be married in the Serenje Registry Office, Central Province, Zambia. Both are teachers at Serenje Secondary School.

Meetings Callers at 40, Ashwood have included, besides the more regular visitors, Sheila Gallon (Way), North for the first time in twelve years and who had also visited Miss Lloyd; Anne Bates (Fay) North from her home for a short time; Polly Carter (Beedie) collecting for a charity, and Olwyn Marshall (Acklam) by chance on the buying of a trunk for a student son. We had a glimpse of Nancy Walsh on her short visit to Sunderland. She had been staying with Thelma Henderson (Williams) in Dufton; and we saw something of Amy Bussey (Dunyar) and Enid Crowe. Amy was then visiting old haunts in Yorkshire, and had just bought a flat in Scarborough, and is now living there, having exchanged Chichester for the more robust air of the North. She happened to arrive when Winnie Wardman was calling and they renewed acquaintance with each other. Enid spent a longer time helping

in a variety of ways and met some of her schooldays' friends including Molly Topal (Khrestchati) and Florence Jackson (Houtledge) who called and saw both her and E.R.S. here.

The Guild of Help Autumn Market produced as usual several Bedan "meetings". Besides the usual many helpers at our own stall, we saw busy at other stalls Miriam Earnshaw (King), Winnie James (Chalk), Phyllis Carr, the second, (Ferry) and met Grace Wood, Elsie Bell (Nelson) and Ethel Tonkinson; and the Cookery Demonstration brings together Old Bedans of all ages - members of the Guild and non-members.

Unloading golf clubs at Pilschry, Molly Garbutt (Johnston) and Margaret Taylor (Finkle) met Freda Charlton (Turnbull) whom Molly had not seen for 15 years. At a Durham University congregation in June, Molly recognised Mabel Harrison (White) whose son had graduated, as had also the son of Kathleen Robson (Townser) while Ella Selley (Williams)' son is in his second year at Gray College.

A meeting of Old Bedans at the home of Joan Bambrough (Washington) included Jessie Scott (Forster) from Surrey, Nellie Shiel (Widdrington) and Margaret Chapman (Hunter). Lena Thompson and Miss Peters at Ambleside are "busy as usual and the days never seem long enough". Mary Mackintosh helped them out in late 1971 with a Lakes Group W.I. meeting, doing her famous Hat Show. They took Mary back to Doris Crighton's Teesdale home where Mary was "collected" and had a happy luncheon party together. In early summer Doris, Mary, Lena, Pete and Trixie Darke were surprise performers on a T.V. Nationwide broadcast dancing to the strains of a once-a-year fairground organ on the falls of Lakeland. Mary says they were "bombarded on all sides after the episode". Last December Mary had come upon Shirley Bonnell having lunch in Fenwick's, Newcastle. Shirley is teaching sub-normal teenagers in Newcastle and lives in Gosforth. She sees Audrey Jordan in connection with her work and was in touch with Margaret Garrick in Hartlepool. Last summer Margaret and Nell Turner were on their way to Ambleside for a short holiday and were hailed in Barnard Castle car park by Elsie Wilson (Hooker) and her sister Edith who was in Margaret's form at school and whom she had not seen for about 50 years!

Miss Carlin visited Colla Pipe (Shepherd) at her home at Little Bookham late last year, and enjoyed some beautiful golden autumn days, and a lot of chatter about Bede. She even saw the Train Robbers' Hide-out, at a distance! While visiting Side Cliffe Road Presbyterian Church Flower Festival this September, she met Lilian Chalk (Gardiner) who runs an Old People's Lunch Club and was at Bede when Miss Carlin too was a pupil. Tea was served by Shirley Stone (Barn) who was once a pupil of hers. Olga Stone (Hawkins) was there too. The latter just escaped from being a pupil.

Foreign News

On August 19th a party of three from Fulwell Infant's School, (including two Old Bedans, Peggy Brown (Cooper) and Dorothy Middlemass (Sagden)) left Gatwick with the E. D. A. party going to Rhode Island for the 8th American Summer School, on the background to American Education.

Dorothy writes:- "After landing at Kennedy Airport we had four days to spend sightseeing in New York. This included a visit to the United Nations Building and to the top of the Empire State Building, the N. B. C. studios, a ballet at the Lincoln Centre, a play on Broadway and a bus tour through the Bowery and Chinatown. We were in residence at Rhode Island University for the fortnight's course. This is something we shall never forget for the Dean and members of his staff went out of their way to make our visit a happy and memorable one with the warmth of their friendship and hospitality. We attended lectures, went on visits to schools, had bus trips to places of interest all over the area and were invited out to dinner, individually to the homes of the faculty members. The highlight was a whole day's outing to Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. We ate from our boxed lunch on the lawns and then had a two hour concert in the open sided music shed which held 6,000 people. Those who did not have seats sat on their rugs on the lawn to listen.

By a strange coincidence one member of the party also happened to be an Old Bedan, now living in the Isle of Wight, Irene Wilson (Lokuciewska). For our last three days we stayed in Boston. We went to a lecture at Harvard University given by Dr. Robert Anderson, the Professor of Education. We also visited the University Museum and the library of the Graduate School of Education. Our last tour was a whole day trip up the coast of Maine, followed by more hospitality for dinner in private homes. A life-time's experience in three crowded weeks.

While visiting her daughter in Hongkong, Annie Shield (Hill) met Elaine Field who is a Professor of Paediatrics at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital there. Annie lives in Heighington, Lincoln. After Lucy Poggate (Nichol's) return home to Cullinan (South Africa) from her English holiday, she spent Christmas with her daughter and family and thought that "four teenage daughters are really something these days and quite an eye opener". Marjory Cowey (Snowball) has been in Sunderland on a visit from Canada. Some Old Bedans met her at the Retired Teacher's whist drive one Tuesday afternoon. Home from Australia in January for the first time in 19 years was Norma Trowitt (Shearer-Wall). Norma who has two daughters and a son, teaches English in a high school in Avalon near Sydney.

Sylvia Snowball (Churchman) is living in New Zealand, Raye Pearlman is married and living in Israel. Jean Mitchell (Pentolfe) has been home from Rhodesia. She had lunch with Nancy Mitchell (Crowe), and visited Jean Carter in London. Marjorie Smith (at Bede 1947-54) has recently returned to Sunderland after teaching in a Maori school in Turangi.

The Arts

"Fanned Fires". Old Bedans would be interested to read in the "Echo" a notice by Sunderland's former Director of Education, W. Thompson, of Emily Taylor's third book "Fanned Fires". As he notes the book is a charming account of the everyday life of the sister, herself, neighbours, guests and family pets. For many of us the details of a childhood in the parish of Bishopwearmouth some fifty years ago is a nostalgic delight. Miss Taylor, a Bedan of some note, at one time on the staff of Lancham Tower Training College, lives now in retirement in Herefordshire, with her sister Dora. We wish them success in their undertakings and happiness in their retirement.

Grace A. Wood (Bede 1988-11).

(Fanned Fires, published 1971 by Stockwell at £1.75 is to be found in the local libraries. Earlier books are "Hither and Thither" and "Moor my ship and back to school".

Mary Henderson (Lewis) has done two broadcasts on music of the thirties, with Radio Newcastle, and had two articles read on the same station.

Molly Hinkley (Madkison) was interviewed on T.V., talking about antiques. The too-short interview was informative and interesting.

On seeing a television programme - "Epilogue" - read by Catherine Beaney, your editor investigated further and uncovered the following interesting facts: The Epilogue consisted of a poem of her own choice, she was invited to write her own script, and talk for about two minutes on poet and poem, then to read the poem. The programmes are recorded six months to a year ahead and used as required. Due at the Tyne Tees Television studio one hour before the recording, Catherine was received and taken to be made up and hair combed, the make-up used being no heavier than ordinary evening make-up, then coffee in the canteen until the studio was ready for recording. The studio was an enormous bare room with every inch of ceiling covered with theatre lights, and cables all over the floor except in front of cameras - the same studio as that from which they broadcast the news. At the other side of the studio, was a 'set' the build up for the Epilogue consisting of a louvered door, curtain, easy chair, coffee table and flowers (with glass of water hidden behind flowers!) The back drop is lit according to the colour worn by the broadcaster. Once on the 'set' the sound technician tested the voice level. The first paragraph of the first programme was then rehearsed, and, producer (in glass fronted balcony overlooking the studio) satisfied, the first programme was recorded on video tape. After that the procedure was as follows: Floor manager announced Epilogue number and "Miss Catherine Beaney reading", giving name of poem and poet. Camera one - on the board; introductory music; Camera two rooms in on vase; Camera three in position on Catherine, who must wait for the floor manager's signal to begin, speaking to this camera. (Difficulty in smiling at an inanimate camera!) The broadcaster sits until concluding music ends, then everyone relaxes for five minutes, while the tape is checked for mistakes, in the control room. Usually six programmes are recorded in one session. If there are any mistakes, the programme has to be re-recorded from scratch. And that revolving chair in 'interview' programmes! - it has a special little man to revolve it at the beginning of each programme. He wriggles under the dais on which the chair is supported, he is on his back on a mattress and spins the chair!

Catherine was on a "Drama in Education" course at Durham University, when a tutor recommended her for this series on Tyne Tees Television.

Sport

Golf At Boldon Golf Club Winnie Scott (Thomas) has had the usual busy year as Captain. Jennie Hoy (Smith) is Secretary and also serves on the Durham County Lady Captains' Society Committee and is starting two years' service on the County Committee. Ethel Leibe (Lockonby) won the Ex-Captain's Cup; Olga Wright (Stewart) the Bernal Sykes Cup, and Dorothy Grierson (Kennedy) the John McClament Picture. At the Durham County Lady Veterans' meeting Jennie Smith and Ethel Powley were among the prizewinners; earlier in the year Winnie Thomas had won a prize at the Veterans' Spring Meeting at West Hartlepool.

Swimming Pat Lazenby, swimming for Newcastle University, won the 100 metres butterfly in a universities' record time of 73.3 seconds at the British Universities' Swimming Championships at Crystal Palace in March. Moira Simpson (Shearer) was one of 23 women who competed in the "Woman Driver of the Year" Contest at South Shields this year.

Hockey Kathleen Cassap played for Durham County; Brenda Peart played for the North "B" team and also the County team. Jean Brewis (Pillans) was a Junior County Selector. Jean Taylor was again reserve goalkeeper for the England u23 team. Verna Jenkins (Dent) was centre forward for Bedfordshire.

Retirements Edith Scriven (Warriner) wrote to Nell Turner from New Zealand on being sent a cutting about Nell's retirement by her sister-in-law Eva Chappell (Warriner). Edith too, retired from teaching in December 1971 which is the end of their school year, and is living in Eastbourne, New Zealand. "I have not found the climate very different from home. There is much more sunshine, no fog, but the winds in Wellington are very strong, much too frequent, and cold in the winter. Life here is much more relaxed than at home, but I miss quite a lot of English things - theatres, good shops and holiday places with interest. The standard of living is high, poverty quite rare and prices very high. The population is so small that unemployment is practically non-existent . . . I have a small house here and quite a nice garden. Most of the houses are one-storey, built of wood and abominably expensive. I do a lot of gardening. I am hoping to come home for a visit some day".

Marjorie Victory (Pattinson) retired from Barnes Infants' School in June, where she started as a four year old fifty eight years ago. To mark her retirement two children's concerts were held (so many willing performers for one!) and her retirement gifts included a wrist watch, nest of tables, handbag, stainless steel clock and binoculars. She and her husband plan to visit a son in Rhodesia on her retirement. Eleanor Brown has retired from her post as headmistress of Thorahill Comprehensive School; Dorothy Goodair from Grange Park Infants' School and Una Broadley from Hill View Infants; Winnie Halstead (Bolton) has retired to Ambleside. After 12 years as part-time secretary at Argyle House School, Olga Wright (Hunter) has now retired. At a Christmas luncheon at the 'Rosedens' she was presented with a leather handbag from the teaching staff. Midge Colwell has retired from her secretarial post in local government and is enjoying using her Goblet Teasmade, which she received as a retirement gift, at her home in Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.

The streets of Calgary each morning presented shows beautiful in colour, when Red Indians in full tribal dress danced their traditional measures, but grotesque when an Albertan millionaire displayed his lin.ousins decorated with golden dollars, guns and goodness only knows what else. I laughed when I saw a little white French poodle in the back of the car. It would have gone into its owner's seven gallon hat!

The Rockies are marvellous in the real sense of the word. A soft rock has allowed the mountains to weather into serrated ridges and pinnacles. The silt from the weathering washed into the lakes gives the water wonderful colouring - Emerald Lake is really emerald green, and others are turquoise or deep blue.

The most unusual experiences were encountered on Vancouver Island where we attended a loggers' sports day, went fishing for unknown specimens where Qualaino Sound joins the Pacific Ocean, and journeyed by jeep through the logging forests while staying in the guest house of the logging company. Sitting safely in the jeep, we met black bear, deer, moose and elk. We were surprised to see in the garden there, humming birds, and perched on the topmost peak of a conifer a bald-headed eagle. Along the forest trails the bushes were many-coloured with berries I did not know. By quiet pools, a sudden resounding smack, a sound broader than a rifle shot, indicated the presence of beaver. We did not see a cougar although they were there. When we left to return to Vancouver City, we carried with us a salmon, freshly caught in the lake above the loggers' camp.

This short flight from Vancouver Island was memorable. A tiny aeroplane, to carry four passengers, came down on the water. There were five people to board her. Two men from the camp occupied two seats and were buried under luggage and freight. Three had to make do with two remaining seats and as I had the broadest "beam", I occupied the space between.

So much happened on this holiday it is impossible to relate more than a very small part. I took many coloured slides and we never tire of looking at these - so many small incidents recalled, so many kindnesses encountered and even invitations remembered. As for example, when I exposed the same film twice and have the Queen Elizabeth sailing in the middle of Niagara Falls. An achievement, without doubt!

I am always sorry that I cannot attend Old Bedon functions. Once it was impossible because of work, now it is through leisure. We usually go away during April. This is true again this year. When Bedons sit down to their Annual Dinner on April 28th, I shall be in Madeira if all goes well. We are gardeners - I'm never sure whether it is "keen" or whether circumstances - a large garden - have forced it upon me. Madeira should offer some lovely flowers in April. I must, however, try to keep April free another year.

Thank you, and your Committee, for all the pleasure I have on reading the Old Bedon. My kind remembrances to any who may know me".

D.S.A. and E.R.S. want to send thanks to the many Old Bedans who come to see them and who write to them; and they send apologies to the great number who greet them at Christmas time and to whom they cannot now send cards in return. Will they all please accept instead their good wishes now? They do not forget them and are always glad to have news of them, even if it is unacknowledged.

Editorial It is pleasing to be able to report that we have had more news sent this year, either in letters to the secretary, or to the Editor. Some news items came from conscience-pricked Old Bedans, while reports on activities, and other contributions were most welcome. Please continue to send in your news, before October 1973; news of former members of staff is most valuable, and is often difficult to come by. Once again, Olga Wright, Winnie Graham, and Margaret Chapman have helped with typing, and this year Elizabeth Rowlandson has also typed to make the printer's job an easier one. Our thanks to them all, and to Mr. Taylor, our auditor.

Each year brings sadness or illness to some Old Bedan; to all those whose lot this year has not been a happy one, our kind thoughts; and greetings for 1973 to all our readers.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON AUGUST 31st 1972

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Annual Subscriptions	36.25	Printing	50.38
10 Life Subscriptions	31.50	Stationery	4.83½
Excess on Life Subs.	1.20	Postage & Telephone	13.57
Donations	26.40	Gifts & Cards	1.06½
Balance from Meetings	25.58	London Branch	1.00
Interest	62.81	Subs to Joint Assoc.	10.00
		Island Revenue	25.20
		Repayment Excess on	
		Life Subs.	- 1.20
		Balance on Years Working	55.49
	£192.74		£192.74
	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>		
Balance on August 31st,		Made up as follows:-	
1971	1036.02	3½% War Stock	94.36
		7% Nat. Sav. Bonds	75.09
Balance on Years working	55.49	In Banks:-	
		Ord. Acc. S.T.S.B.	74.26
		Spec. Dept. "	943.12
		Current Acc.	28.94
		Cash in Hand	63
	£1122.31		£1122.31

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

J. M. Taylor. 14th Sept., 1972.

Margaret L. Baxter, Hon. Treasurer.

School Notes

Staff Changes

Five members of staff retired during the School Year 1971/2:-

Miss Lily Crane joined the staff at Bede in 1946 and served the school loyally for over a quarter of a century. Art and school were her life. She set herself high standards of work and conduct and expected the same of her pupils. Her firmness, which sprang from the belief that creative activity and worthwhile achievement were only possible in an ordered society, was complemented by a kindly and sympathetic regard for the needs of the individual.

Her prime interests were in form and colour but her skill in lettering will undoubtedly provide, for many former pupils, the most lasting reminder of Miss Crane for, in the days before amalgamation, she spent hours inscribing, in flawless script, hundreds of merit and effort certificates.

Mr. Clifford Bartley first came to Bede in 1946. When seconded to Monkwearmouth in 1959, his regard for Bede withstood all pressure to forsake it permanently and he found a warm welcome on his return.

'Little' Mr. Bartley made a big contribution to the school. The fruits of his enthusiasm for choral work were evident not only in the classroom but also in the performances of the junior choir which was particularly strong in the former Girls' School numbering, usually, somewhere in the region of two hundred members. His organ music on Founders' Day and at the Carol Service was much appreciated as were his good nature, his sense of humour and his unflinching willingness to help.

He will be remembered by many former pupils of the Girls' School for his appearances in strange disguises on the old "happy afternoons" and even more for his performances in Mrs. Proud's concerts. His appearances in "Humpty Dumpty" were quite memorable.

Mrs. Mary Proud spent nineteen years at Bede School. Having served from 1944 to 1946, she liked it well enough to return in 1954 and stay for a further spell of seventeen years.

Mrs. Proud was a dedicated teacher whose love of literature was exceeded only by her affectionate regard for young people; she had a keen interest in and sympathetic understanding of those with whom she came into contact whatever their age, ability and inclination. Both Mrs. Proud and her pupils were the richer for the mutual respect, endeavour and enthusiasm which their relationship engendered.

There are still in school some who remember the Girls' School end-of-term entertainments. The staff contributions, written and produced by Mrs. Proud were a monument to her versatility and wit; they made a notable contribution to the development of a corporate spirit among the staff and thrilled the School.

Mr. Charles Rogers returned in 1951 to teach in the school where he himself had been a pupil.

He will long be remembered not only for his contribution to the teaching and study of History but also for his courtesy, charm, vitality, firmness of purpose and sense of humour as well as his immaculate grooming, copper plate writing, unflinching punctuality and remarkable record of attendance.

Members of the Girls' School will also recall his masterly marshalling of the whole Assembly at the rehearsals preceding the 'big' public occasions of the School Year.

Mr. Malcolm Berry had completed forty years service at Bede School when he retired in July of this year. His recollections cover the history of some of the most vital years of the school, for his memory of the characters of the masters and boys of former years is vivid. The generations of boys who knew him regard him as a memorable figure in their lives. Mr. Berry was, in his younger days, a notable cricketer and rugby player; he was the driving force behind school rugby for many years. Since the formation of the new school he has given invaluable service to the Junior School transmitting some of the best of the old traditions of the sports field.

Bede wished all five a happy retirement. May their days be full and active for many years to come.

Mr. Peter Noton joined the History and Politics Department some fourteen years ago. An academic force in a Department where standards were extremely demanding, he won the greatest respect of his pupils. On the amalgamation of the schools he became Head of Middle School, an office where his vigour, acumen and organisational precision were of the utmost value.

As he embarks upon his new post of Deputy Head of Southmoor School, we extend to him our best wishes for every happiness and success.

School also said goodbye at Christmas to Mrs. O. D. Smith and Mrs. M. Donkin (Marjorie Makel), at Easter to Miss A. Gray, Mr. R. A. Browning and Mr. S. Miller, and in the summer to Mrs. H. Cross, Mr. N. Matthams and Mr. S. King, whose two terms at Bede encouraged him to return to University for further training in teaching.

New members of staff are welcomed, four in the course of the last school year - Mr. N. N. Dawson (Art), Mrs. A. J. P. Dennis (Music), Mr. S. King (History) and Mr. W. Hepburn (I. E.) and eight in September, Mr. J. Fairlie (Head of Middle School), Mesdames Coburn (Maths.) and K. Moore (Domestic Science) and Messrs J. J. Lawton (Economics), G. H. Trudgill (Physics), B. D. Morris (Geography), M. J. C. O'Callaghan (French) and J. Emerson (P. E.).

M. Henri Brusa, last year's French Assistant, hailed from the warm clime of Nice, but he developed a warm affection for the raw North East which made him as sorry to leave as we were to see him go. We hope that his successor, Miss. Anne Dorcé will soon find herself equally at home.

Miss V. Townsend is now Mrs. Crockett, Miss R. Dennison is now Mrs. Blundred, and Miss E. Pemberton is now Mrs. B. Bruce.

Miss F. Prior (who recently taught Maths at Bede is now studying anthropology at Durham University).

Sixth Form Leavers 1972

Of last year's Upper Sixth, 23 girls and 28 boys have gone to University, 2 girls and 11 boys have gone to Polytechnics and 28 girls and 1 boy have gone to colleges of Education, making totals of 60 to University, 13 to Polytechnics and 29 to Colleges of Education. In total 143 have gone on to some form of Higher Education. Of these one boy went to Oxford and three to Cambridge.

Of the people who went into some form of occupation, three girls and two boys went into banking, two girls and one boy into management training with Department Stores, three girls joined the Civil Service, two boys have become laboratory assistants and one girl is training as a physiotherapist. Eight boys and girls have returned to school to improve their 'A' level performance, some having narrowly missed places at Universities. Eighteen leavers have either not obtained situations or have not been accounted for.

In the Lower Sixth, 46 boys and girls left during the year, all to go into some occupation or other; radiography, nursing, laboratory work, clerical work, the Civil Service, as articled clerks, librarian, banking, architectural assistant, the Armed Forces, the Merchant Navy and two boys went to Colleges of Education.

In all, this is a fair tally considering the amount of unemployment in the area, though we cannot be satisfied until all our leavers are placed to their own satisfaction.

OLD BEDANS' ASSOCIATION

President: G. T. Moore.

Vice-Presidents: R. T. Ayre, M. Berry, G. A. Bradshaw, The Right Hon. Lord Justice Cairns, W. Crute, R. N. Dumble, J. Duxbury, G. T. Halstead, I. Joiner, T. Mitchell, S. H. Pattinson, S. S. Wilson.

Chairman: R. N. Dumble, 36, Killingworth Drive, Sunderland.
Tel. 68795.

Hon. Secretary: D. J. Edward, 3, Haslemere Drive, Sunderland.
Tel. 69813.

Hon. Treasurer: R. T. Ayre, 7, Broad Meadows, Sunderland.
Tel. 68162.

School

Representative: A. Smith.

Committee: J. K. Bates, R. Boston, G. Danson, W. K. Lewis,
R. Wood and Club Representatives.

Secretary's Report.

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in the Rosedene Hotel on Wednesday, October 18th 1972. The officers elected are shown above.

The main item for discussion was the possibility of setting up a fund from which a prize could be given annually to the School. One suggestion was that as the School Organ is now the responsibility of the Local Education Authority, the remaining part of the Organ Fund should be used as a basis of such a fund. The matter was referred to Council who are to report at the next Annual General Meeting. Any views from members would be most welcome.

On Tuesday, 3rd April 1972, a Reunion Dinner is to be held in the Great Hall of Durham Castle. This is a splendid setting and it would be good to welcome new faces as well as old. The evening is informal and is a fine opportunity to enjoy good food and wine in a unique setting. Any members wishing to attend or to form a party can receive details of menu and wine list from the Secretary in late February if they send a request.

Old Bedans' Badminton Club.

Last season the Club continued to flourish. In 1972-3, however, we have already run into difficulties. Numbers have dropped due to two members expecting babies and another going to College. Please note that prospective members need not worry as the ladies concerned do not blame the club for their condition.

The cost of having to pay for the courts to be cleared of chairs plus their replacement has been doubled as the Youth Activities who shared the cost have changed their night. Thus new members are essential, not only to swell numbers but also funds. Perhaps the Bede P. T. A. could encourage older pupils to join us, or the Club could well fold up.

J. I. Whan (Hon. Sec.)

118, Gartland Road,

Grisdon,

Sunderland.

Old Bedans' A.F.C. 1971-2.
North Eastern Amateur League, Div. 1.

We commenced our 1971-2 season in grand style, occupying top league positions until the turn of the year. 1972 however, brought a change in our fortunes and we only managed to complete the season in eighth position out of fourteen with the following record:-

P 26, W 9, D 6, L 11, Gls. F 68, A 68, Pts. 34.
Astrians with 44 points won the League Championship with Sunderland N.A.L.G.O., runners up with 39 points.

In the N.E.A.L. Shield Competition we reached the third round, defeat by Roker Harlequins preventing us reaching the Semi-Finals. The Shield was eventually won by Sunderland N.A.L.G.O. who narrowly missed the double.

During the season we had to change our ground when the pitch at Farrington was required for school extensions. We were transferred to Southmoor and shared the ground with Sunderland N.A.L.G.O. Playing strength during the season continued as a blend between the school and the old boys but there were and are difficulties in attracting new players to the club. Every year I publicise our club and appeal for players but receive little or no response. May I once again say we need players and ask anyone interested to contact me personally.

G. Topel, Hon. Sec.
Old Bedans' A.F.C.
7, Harwood Gardens,
Sunderland.
Tel. 69418.

The Committee of the Association of Old Bedans decided that the article "Early Days of Bede School", inspired by the demolition of the buildings at West Park, was well-worth re-printing. It is felt that it would be of interest to the many Old Bedans living in other parts of the country and abroad.

IN MEMORIAM

We regret to report the deaths of several Old Bedans during the year. Mr. R. R. CRUTE (1906-14), a solicitor who practised in Sunderland and Newcastle for many years, died while on holiday at Yelden in Austria on June 21st. After the first World War he played an important part in the revival of the O. B. Association when he became Hon. Secretary and Treasurer and eventually its Chairman. Under his able guidance the Association began to increase its membership between the wars. He became the first Old Bedan to become Chairman of the Governors. In 1952 he was President of the Sunderland Law Society and later of the Newcastle Law Society.

Mr. T. GIBSON (1912-19) died in Toronto on December 12th 1971. He became a schoolmaster after leaving Jesus College, Oxford and his first appointment was to the staff of Upper Canada College, Toronto as a member of the Classics department. He remained at the same school throughout his teaching life and retired recently.

The death took place in June of Mr. G. BLAIR (1912-16). He was Chairman of Geo. Blair and Co. Ltd., the Newcastle based engineering and steel castings company. He founded his own steel company in 1946 and subsequently developed it into one of the leading steel foundries in the country with works at Tow Law, Stanhope and Newcastle.

Mr. J. H. ROBSON (1910-18) who before he retired was Secretary of Fenwick's of Newcastle, died in June.

Rev. Dr. DAVISON (1918-24) died on January 13th 1973. He was an outstanding figure in Methodist affairs and was President of the Methodist Conference in 1962. In 1965 he became General Secretary of the Home Missions Department in London. He was the first Methodist President to be granted a papal audience when he visited Pope John.

Professor C. M. DAWSON (1918-24) died in Connecticut, U.S.A. on April 28th 1972. A Scholar of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, he joined the staff of Acadia University, Nova Scotia in 1936. In 1938 he gained a fellowship in the Graduate School at Yale University and in 1940 he joined the staff to become Professor of Greek there.

Mr. M. ABRAHAMS died on February 15th 1972 aged 81. He had in recent years attended O. B. functions and shown keen interest in school matters.

Father F. HAWKINS (1918-24) died suddenly on April 8th 1972 while celebrating Mass at Oaklea Current. He was on a visit to Sunderland to see his sister at Easter. He had held many high offices in the Benedictine Order, including Rector of the Congregation's general house in Rome from 1963-62. He retired from this office owing to ill-health and returned to parish work at Bishop's Startford.

Mr. F. W. HUDSON (1913-15), a member of the well-known local watch-making firm, died on March 2nd 1972.

RETIREMENTS

DUXBURY, J. (1918-24), head of the education and general section of the Borough Architect's department, retired in April. He qualified from a private firm and was concerned in the building of the Masonic Temple and Swan Street schools. He worked on many schemes under Gateshead and Sunderland Corporations; nine storey flats, hospitals, an abattoir, Mill Hill, Seaburn Dene and East Herrington primary schools. He is a keen member of the Association, supporting all its functions and giving generously of his time on Committees. His leadership of the O. B. A.F. C. brought outstanding success to the Club.

OLIVER, R. (1923-27), Chief Rating Officer and Income Assistant, retired recently after 44 years in the Borough Treasurer's Department.

SMITH, C. Marfitt (1914-15), head of the art department of Newcastle Royal Grammar School recently retired after 29 years service at the School.

Two schoolmasters A. RUTTER (1921-28) Headmaster of Silksworth Secondary School and T. COMMON (1924-28), a member of the staff of Broadway Junior School, have retired during this year.

A member of the Physics Staff of Bede School for forty years, Mr. M.

Berry retired in July. Always a staunch supporter of the Association he acted as School Representative on the O. B. A. Council for many years. His enthusiasm for the game of Rugby led to the School taking up the game in the thirties. He gathered together some fine players who reached their peak in the O. B. R. F. C., which at times fielded two XV's and occasionally a third. Senior status was finally achieved in 1947 and Old Bedans played against the premier clubs in the North-East. Mr. Berry is a committee member of the Durham County Schools' Rugby Association.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

WILMOT, M. (1947-53) has been appointed managing director of Isaac Walton & Co. Ltd. of Newcastle, but will have his home in Sunderland again.

SMITH, E. (1933-44) has been appointed Chief Inspector of the Administrative department of the Sunderland Division of Durham Police.

COLWELL, R. W. (1945-47) becomes chief architect and planning officer for East Kilbride. His duties will include the planning of Stonehouse New Town. He has already had experience of this kind of work, having been deputy architect at Washington New Town and chief architect at Skeltondale New Town.

WILLIAMSON, D. C. (1953-61) has returned to the North-East to become a lecturer at Newcastle University Dental School.

THOMPSON, D. F. (1931-45) becomes Headmaster of Thornsey Close Junior School in January, 1973.

PYBURN, Rev. A. (1941-48) is now Vicar of St. Giles Church, Oxford, having been inducted on October 23rd 1972.

HENDERSON, D. J. (1953-59) is now on the staff of St. John's College, York.

MOON, R. (1950-58) was appointed manager of the Southwick branch of the Sunderland Savings Bank.

WATTER, R. E. (1943-45) has become local director of Englehard Industries Ltd., the British subsidiary of the international precious metals company.

CROZIER, Dr. D. (1953-59) has been appointed to the physics division of the Sunderland Polytechnic's Department of Physical Sciences.

COATES, A. (1931-36) has succeeded LESTER, K. (1937-42) as Editor of the Sunderland Echo while the latter has been promoted to be Deputy General Manager (North) of the Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers Ltd.

B. REES (1941-6) Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School in Middlesex since 1965, has been appointed Headmaster of Charterhouse School in Surrey.

NEWS OF OLD BEDANS ABROAD

CURTIS, A. (1864-54) has been appointed Headmaster of Wellesley College, Days Bay, Wellington, New Zealand. After three years in the R.A.F. he taught for five years at Mentone Grammar School in Australia.

BOTHAM, P. (1951-55) died in April as a result of a car crash in California. He was for five years a computer engineer with an American Co., Varian Associates. For the past three years he lived in Cheshire, servicing computers throughout the country. He was in America on a five-week course when he was involved in the accident.

PIGG, T. W. (1948-51) writes to say that he now lives in Buenos Aires and travels widely in Argentine in connection with his work as controller treasurer with Singer Sewing Machine Co. He would be pleased to see any O. B. s resident in B. A. or O. B. s in the Merchant Navy at his home at Casilla 455.

HENLEY, B. (1949-54), for a long time living in Trinidad, has now returned to this country and is working in Darlington.

DUNN, R. (1953-57) is an Economist working for the International Monetary Fund in Washington, U.S.A. While on holiday over here he spent some time buying antiques which sell well in America.

ALLEN, F. (1937-43) is a Lieut. Commander in the Royal Australian Navy stationed on the Admiralty Islands near New Guinea. He has lived in Australia for 23 years.

IN THE SERVICES

KITCHIE, M. (1865-51), Warrant Officer R. A. O. C., received the Queen's Commendation for bravery, for his work as a bomb disposal expert in Hong-Kong. He has also served in Germany, Singapore and Londonderry. In the Hong-Kong incident he was injured when the bomb on which he was working exploded.

DODDS, K. M. (1944-53) was recently promoted Flying Officer in the Secretarial (Accounts) Branch of the R. A. F. He has served in Aden and Cyprus.

OTHER ITEMS OF NEWS

STEER, W. R. (1831-43) was sworn in as a Queen's Counsel at a ceremony in the House of Lords before the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, in April.

GIBSON, O. B. Dr. (1944-50) lectured and examined trainee first-aiders in Sunderland this summer in his capacity as divisional officer of the British Red Cross Society. He is an anaesthetist at a local hospital.

STIFF, D. (1951-57), for a time an officer of the London Bedans Association, after three years at Lichfield Theological College, is now curate at St. Andrew's Church, West Coventry. He has been organist and choir-master at several churches, including Woburn Parish Church and All Saints at Leamington. He was in the news earlier this year when he played 750 hymns non-stop in a piano-playing marathon in aid of a charity while at Lichfield.

We hear that HARDY, A. M. (1921-27) was seen in Freiburg this summer, when he was visiting his son who is at the University there.

FOSTER, D. (1948-54) was elected a Labour Councillor for St. Chad's Ward, Sunderland at the May election.

TYSON, A. (1944-48) a technical author in London, has just published his first non-technical book, a humorous adventure entitled 'Cubs with a Difference'. Once he was a cub himself until the hall where his pack met in Hendon was destroyed by bombing. His book is based on the experiences of his own two sons.

Professor A. W. WOODRUFF (1927-34) has been elected President Emeritus of Durham University Society in recognition of his services over the past ten years.

Bodo School Soccer Team travelled to Athens last December to play three games against Athens First Division Clubs. The tour was arranged by Mr. J. Mortimore, a former Sunderland A. F. C. Coach, now manager of Ethnikos F.C. The team was in charge of Mr. C. D. Griffiths, one of the School's Classics staff.

Sixth-former S. Crews was chosen to play for England in the under 18 Basketball team last January.

ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

BERRY, K. (1957-64) who has been doing research at the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington received his Ph. D. degree at Bristol University in June.

GRIBBLE, M. Y. (1958-65) has gained his Ph. D. degree at Durham University. He will spend another year as a research assistant and then enter industry.

ROBSON, B. (1961-66) has also been awarded his Ph. D. at Newcastle University. He is now studying protein structure by computer.

SEADON, A. (1960-67) has gained his M. Sc. degree in Mathematics at Bedford College, London University and is now teaching at a London High School.

BROWN, G. E. (1955-62) has obtained his M. A. degree at Newcastle University in Elizabethan and Shakespearean Drama.

DYKE, S. (1965-72) was awarded an Open Exhibition at St. Catherine's College, Cambridge last December. He has just taken up his place there and will read geography.

ENTERTAINERS

Two Old Bodens have appeared on T. V. lately, MARSHALL, R. (1937-39), a professional bass guitarist and PEARSON, B. (1951-55) a professional singer, the former on "Opportunity Knocks" and the latter on the Des. O'Connor Show.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Cairns, A., 54, Hunter Terrace, Sunderland.
Evans, D., 125, Cleveland Road, Sunderland.
Harrison, A., 194, Fulwell Road, Sunderland.
Hudson, D., 3, Hunter Terrace, Sunderland.
Taylor, J., 17, Ranson Street, Sunderland.
Walker, G. E., 24, Hawarden Crescent, Sunderland.
Willey, P. G., 43, Killingsworth Drive, Sunderland.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS

Boston, R., 24, The Westlands, Sunderland.
Carr, J., 11, Eriar Walk, Blackwell, Darlington.
Stoddart, W., 3, Fulwell Fire Station, Sunderland.

OLD BEDANS AT CAMBRIDGE

In April the revived Society of Old Bedans at Cambridge held its inaugural dinner. The affair was splendidly organized by Jonathan Fine and Leslie Wilkinson, both in their final year at St. John's College. The Dean of that College Mr. J. R. Bambrough, himself an Old Bedan, presided. Messrs. Jolly, Wylie and Rendall, represented the School staff, past and present. After an excellent dinner, which included venison, all retired to rooms in St. John's (currently occupied by Michael Gordon and John Pattinson) where good conversation and port flowed freely. Mr. Wylie thanked the organisers for their efforts and apologised for the unavoidable absences of several other members of staff who had also been invited. Messrs. Fine and Wilkinson wittily replied and Mr. Bambrough gracefully accepted his new office and gave amusing reminiscences of Bede in the '40s and Mr. Jolly's army. All agreed that the occasion had been exceptionally successful and it was proposed that a further dinner be held in 1973 and that perhaps invitations might be extended to members' wives and ladies.

C. R.

OLD BEDANS' ARCHERY CLUB

The Club commenced shooting in April and finished in October with the loss of only one day's shooting. As we only shoot on Saturdays, from 2.30 to 5, we were glad of a full season and used the time to good effect. For the first time we shot many different rounds and this proved to be very popular with our members. During the winter months we will be continuing with our fortnightly social gatherings, still a huge success, and the highlight will be our annual dinner.

Two important things about this club, now celebrating its 21st year, are our love of archery and our firm intention always to enjoy ourselves. If anyone would like to know more about the club please contact the Hon. Sec. D. Coila, 8, Ladlow Road, Sunderland.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. R. T. Ayre, 7, Broad Meadows, Sunderland, SR2 7NG) urges all members to forward outstanding subs. on receipt of their magazine and reminder enclosed.

Annual subs. are now 40p and life subs £3.15. Don't put off - pay up today.

OLD BEHASS' ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 1972

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>INCOME</u>	
Cost of Magazines	48. 07	7 Life Subs. @ £3. 15	22. 05
Postage of Magazines	10. 59	32 Annual Subs. @ £0. 25	8. 00
Envelopes for Magazines	1. 80	42 Annual Subs. @ £0.40	16. 80
Printing Annual Accounts etc.	1. 95	2 Annual Subs. @ £0. 25 (by Bankers orders)	0. 75
Association of Old Behass	10. 00	1 Annual Sub. @ £0. 40 (by Bankers orders)	0. 40
Loss on Annual General Meeting	4. 90	1 Donation	1. 05
Hon. Treasurer's Expenses (Postage etc.)	1. 37	Standard and Shields Building Society Int.	15. 07
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1. 83	" " " "	"
	<u>£75. 41</u>	" " " "	"
		(on O. B. A. Organ Fund)	4. 92
		Profit on Annual Dinner	1. 72
			<u>£75. 41</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st AUGUST 1972

<u>CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES</u>		<u>ASSETS</u>	
<u>CAPITAL FUND</u>		Cash at Barclays Bank Ltd.	71. 51
Balance at 31st August 1971	500. 25	Standard & Shields Building Society	400. 00
Add excess of Income over expenditure	1. 83	Standard & Shields Building Society (Organ Fund)	100. 00
Provision for Corporation Tax	<u>9. 40</u>		
	<u>£571. 51</u>		<u>£571. 51</u>

Certified to be in accordance with the Books of Account.

O. S. Baudie, F. C. A.) Hon. Auditors.
L. Hudson

R. T. Ayres, Bsc. Treasurer.
September, 6th, 1972.

Early Days of Bede School.

(With acknowledgment to the Editor and 'Sunderland Echo')

SCHOOL histories tend to be written "en amore," but there is more than nostalgic affection for the "dear, dead days beyond recall" behind a certain sadness in the older generation at the demolition of the original Bede School buildings near Sunderland Civic Centre, for they were without question the model in which was created today's flourishing institution, whose influence has extended far beyond this country.

The Higher Grade Schools opened by Mr R. A. Barran, chairman of Sunderland School Board, on April 28, 1890, had been built in response to the pressure of those who wanted to send their children to Board schools affording some form of higher education. All were astonished at the attendance of 225 boys and 261 girls, many with their parents, from town and district at the opening ceremony, and extra staff to supplement the two assistants nominated to each school had to be rapidly appointed.

Pupils of seven years and upwards were accepted, with those under 13 years of age paying 4d a week, but only a minority of these paid 6d weekly to go on to the upper school, where there was considerable emphasis on science and mathematics, which were the only studies attracting Board of Education grants on the results of an examination every July.

Mr G. T. Ferguson, headmaster of the boys' school, was a leader of pronounced personality, character, and drive, who, more than any other individual, determined the road this new, untried school was to take, and the number of senior pupils steadily increased.

His father was gardener to the Earl of Durham at Lambton Castle, and he had become secretary to Chester-le-Street Co-operative Society before Canon Norman, Vicar of Burnmoor, helped to establish him in the educational world.

LIFE'S WORK

He graduated as a B.A. and later took a London University external B.Sc. degree. After a spell as tutor in Latin at Bede College, Durham, he settled down in Sunderland in 1895 as headmaster of Valley Road School, but his real life's work of making Bede his own successful started at the age of 26 in 1895, as he stayed there until his retirement in 1925.

In 1898 the name Bede Higher Grade School was adopted, and a badge was issued bearing a phoenix and the motto "Post incensum latet." When local councils superseded school boards under the 1902 Education Act, Mr Ferguson in 1903 became headmaster of Bede Collegiate Schools, with Miss Janet Todd of Newnham College, Cambridge, who had been appointed headmistress of the girls' school in 1896, as his deputy with the running of the girls' department as her province. In 1911 the girls' school regained its independent status with Miss M. E. Hoan as headmistress, as Miss Todd had died in 1909.

The headmaster could liberalise the curriculum now that grants were no longer solely dependent upon science results, and ancient and modern languages, history, geography, and art appeared more prominently in timetables.

That active octogenarian Mr G. T. Moore, who became a pupil in 1895 and was later senior chemistry master of the school, took the Classics course in the upper school, and won a prize for French awarded annually by Madame Lamy, headmistress of a school in Argentina.

Both these admitted on free scholarship at ten-plus and 11-plus, and the fee-payers were expected to work hard. Boys faced Oxford Local Examinations at preliminary, junior and senior levels at 14, 15, and 16 years, followed by London Matriculation and, until the Oxford Higher Certificate was introduced after the first world war,

Early Days of Bede School



*Miss J. TODD,
Headmistress (1890 - 1908)*



*Miss M. E. BOON,
Headmistress (1908 - 1934)*



*Mr. G. T. FERGUSON,
Headmaster (1890 - 1926)*

the London Intermediate B.A. or B.Sc. was taken in the first school year, but, in schooling parlance, only "School Cert., Matric. and Higher" were still in the programme by the mid-1920s.

GIRLS' EXAMS.

In their last five years at the school the girls, like some of the boys, sat South Kensington Science and Art Examination at elementary and advanced levels in chemistry, hygiene, magnetism, electricity, mathematics, drawing, and geometry before taking senior school certificate or London Matriculation, with intending teachers and graduates going for the Queen's Scholarship or London Intermediate respectively.

Both "heads" exerted a decisive influence, and Miss Todd and Mr Ferguson were natural disciplinarians, with the gift of quelling would-be rebels with a look, although this was not the only shot in the Headmaster's locker in dealing with boys with an inclination to kick over the traces!

Both insisted upon high academic standards and, when the original buildings were left in 1908, boys had won 15 open scholarships and exhibitions to Cambridge and 12 to Oxford, and no fewer than 38 other awards to assist their careers financially at various universities.

Two Fellows of the Royal Society were George Goldborough of Durham University, and Sydney Goldstein, who held chairs of mathematics at Manchester, Tel Aviv and Harvard Universities, and Chris Dawson became Professor of Greek at Yale.

Other Old Bedans to reach high positions are D. A. S. Cairns, now a Lord Justice of Appeal, M.P. & Marcus Lipton and Victor Finney, Robinson Ord, appointed by the Canadian Prime Minister as President of the Cape Boston Development Corporation, and Brigadier K. T. Williams, chief intelligence officer to Field Marshal Montgomery in the North African, Italian, and European campaigns.

Noah Marsh was secretary of the National Committee of Child Welfare, Rosal Kaye was placed first when she graduated in medicine from London, Esme

Louise Wilkinson was the first Controller - Commandant of QAIMNS, of which Sir Moore, who took charge of a big hospital for tropical diseases, was a member, and Kate Colburn, Gertrude Wilson, Ethel Graydon, and Margaret Charlton were the first of a long line of Old Bedan graduates before the turn of the century.

SINGING CONTEST

Social activities were an integral part of school life. The girls had a hobby-contested from competition for the Miss Marnock Richardson singing cup, and they visited the boys' school for talks on the great composers by Mr E. F. Jarman. The boys ran an orchestra, and Bob Jarman formed a small choir (which included Bob Pearson of "My brother and I" fame) from boys in the school to illustrate his lectures.

Chess, debating, dramatic work, rural studies from two cottages at Dunsley Wood rented by the boys, and a field week at Bardon Hill organized by Miss Hutchinson, the Carole Francis for 30s. 6d and staff, supplemented by some French clubs, & introduced by Miss Newmer, arts and craft clubs and the girls' charitable efforts for the son of a blinded soldier, and the Children's Hospital, all promoted a full life for Bedans.

Speech days, held in the Old Assembly Room in Fawcett Street until transferred to the Victoria Hall in Toward Road in 1908, were joint affairs until each school staged its own from 1912.

An eagerly awaited play followed the speeches and prize-giving, and Miss Hutchinson, better known to staff and pupils as Crutch, for all at times were wont to lean on this senior mistress, was a key figure in producing any stage shows for the girls with a musical content, such as "Will o' the Wisp" or "The Manx of the Shoe."

Mr J. H. Southworth, a popular senior English master nicknamed "Smidger" by his pupils, wrote and produced the boys' speech days in the early twenties a series of clever plays, whose topical allusions often brought the boys down. Art master Funge Hawkins was responsible for scenery and costumes, Miss Sample was in charge of any dancing, and Bob Jarman saw to the music.

Since the schools were without halls or gymnasiums, physical education of a restricted kind was carried on in St John's Church hall, the masonic hall in Toward Road, and finally in Bode Tower. Swimming always flourished as Annie Jalk was a prize-winner in the 1900 Sunderland Ladies' Gala, Tom Whittaker (in 1898), and Gordon Hanning Smith in (1912), won the men's open championship of Sunderland while Bode schoolboys.

PLAY SPACE PROBLEM

Playing fields were always something of a problem until the present site was taken over. The boys for years used soccer pitches near Richard Avenue and, for a time, had Hendon Cricket Ground for summer games, but they were installed on the Durham Road fields soon after the first world war, where sports day was also celebrated handsomely, as the staff gave the prizes.

There were no organized games for the girls until 1907 when, largely through the

The devotion of Miss Hutchinson raised standards until Bode won the Durham and Northumberland Schools Hockey Shield in 1911, and North and South teams included Bode girls two of whom played for England.

Under the coaching of Miss D. S. Arble, the girls won the North League Shield, and Miss Treat arranged cricket evenings on the hockey pitch, but the school team became a war casualty. Tennis was taken up on two grass courts in front of Fambrian Hall, where the present bowling greens are situated, but the game never became established until they had their own courts in the new school.

The boys' school debating society founded in 1896 was eventually the oldest in the town, and an enjoyable feature in its programme was an annual inter-debate with the girls in Room 37, of which there was no counterpart in the boys' school. All the girls at a pinch could be packed in, and it accommodated P.E. lessons, games, art classes, school and form parties, play rehearsals and chairs.

The more practical boys by no means had things all their own way in these inter-debates, and it was a memorable occasion when Bertie Castle, an articulate prefect and a president of the society, was rendered temporarily speechless when one of the fair sex referred to him as "a romantic, pedantic, young gentleman."

"THE TIN TAB"

Since there were eventually about 450 boys on the rolls, the pressure of numbers on the accommodation became excessive even though chemistry and physics laboratories, woodwork and music rooms and the famous "tin lab" for post-war pupils erected as a makeshift in 1906 but still in regular use until a year or two ago, had been added to the original buildings.

Land for new schools was bought by the Corporation in 1913, but the war and the subsequent industrial depression intervened, and it was not until 1927 that the foundation stone of more adequate premises was laid.



Mr J. W. Smithwhite, a senior English master, who was nicknamed *Smidger* by his pupils.

enthusiasm of Miss Todd and Miss Hutchinson, they secured a hockey field at Whitburn, but moved to Tunstall the next year and finally settled until 1929 in Hylton Road, where an annual sports day was also staged.

Mr G. A. Bradshaw had three years as headmaster in the old place before transferring to the new, where his pioneering work in making the best use of the wider opportunities as the school's disposal was not always fully appreciated.

Schools offering what was in those days such a wide educational and social experience to their pupils naturally attracted many outstanding teachers, and

there were sometimes 100 applications for a single vacancy.

The staff included men and women of every variety of character, personality, charm, and devotion to duty, but one of the eternal virtues of school life is always apparent. In the eyes of the children, the most important factor as far as the staff is concerned, is not so much what it taught, but who teaches it.

THE GUILD OF OLD SEAMEN.

The Winter Reunion will be held in St. John House, 12, George Crescent, Stockton Road, Sunderland, on Thursday 25th January 1973, from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Tickets, priced 50p, may be obtained from the Secretary or any Member of the Committee before the 21st January if possible. A cooked meal will be served.

The Dinner Reunion will be held in the Seaburn Hotel on Friday 4th May 1973, at 7. 30 p.m. Tickets - £1. 60 - should be obtained from the Secretary or any Member of the Committee before April 25th. Please make a note of these dates in your diary as there will be no further notice.

N.B. Annual Subscribers - Have you paid your subscription (40p) for 1972 /73 ?

9, Stockton Road,
Ryhope,
Sunderland.
S R 2 O E F.

Margaret L. Hunter,
Hon. Sec/ Treasurer.

Tel. Sunderland 210354

