

THE OLD BEDAN

1976

THE GUILD OF OLD REDANS

President	Mrs. A. A. Carrick.
Vice-Presidents	Miss E. J. Bradbury, Miss W. J. R. Wood, Miss E. R. Shearer.
<u>Office Bearers and Committees for 1976/77</u>	
Chairman	Miss Joan Hayton, 11, Beauside, Sunderland.
Vice-Chairman	Mrs. Dixon (Moira Cuddiford), 10, Viewforth Drive, Sunderland.
Sec/Treasurer	Mrs. Baster (Margaret Chapman), 3, Stockton Rd., Ryhope, Sunderland. Tel. Sunderland 210354.
Assistant Secretary	Miss Irene Wilkinson, 62, Charter Drive, East Herrington, Sunderland. Tel. Sunderland 260593.
Committee	Mrs. Breese (Marjorie Brown), 4, Nursery Close, Sunderland. Mrs. Wilton (Doris Henderson), 21, Devedale Road, Sunderland. Mrs. Francis (Jeanne Koch), 3, Cliffborough Ave., Sunderland. Mrs. Longster (Elizabeth Rowlandson), 23, Kanton Ave., Sunderland. Miss Margaret Laidlaw, 1, Elstob Place, Sunderland. Mrs. St. Julian, 6, Oakfield Close, East Herrington, Sunderland. Mrs. Sugden (Dorothy Middlemass), 18, Shields Road, Sunderland. Mrs. Bell, Staff Representative.
Ex-Officio	Mrs. Thomas (Winnetta Scott), 11, Grange View, Sunderland. Tel. 57995.
Information for Members:	Annual Subscription 40p for 1976/77 due on 1st September 1976. Life Membership £3.15. Membership on August 31st 1976 - 447. Some members have not yet paid their subscription for 1975/76. The Sec/Treasurer would be very grateful to have those subs., together with those for 1976/77 as soon as possible.

The Secretary asks every member:

- 1) To give always a) her full christian name, not just initials, and b) if married both maiden and married names, showing clearly which is which.
- 2) To notify any change of address.
- 3) To note, for easier identification maiden names are used. The married name is given in brackets.

- 4) To ask if not sure whether her subscrip-
tion has been paid.
- 5) To note, to save postage, receipts will be
enclosed with the first notice after payment.
- 6) To note, that the "Old Bedas" will not be
sent to any members in arrears with their
subscriptions.

GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

The Winter Reunion It was a dark winter evening with driving sleet. Those Old Bedas who ventured forth were received into the warm bright precincts of the new Domestic Science block which stands on the one time side hockey pitch.

Arranged round the walls were the preliminary guessing games involving the names of towns and song titles (Parrot Warrot Scritchle?), such ingenious clues did not daunt our bright Bedas and there were several all-correct attempts.

Later the treasure hunt favoured those whose handiwork gave evidence either of their providence or their untidiness. In the interest of her team one Old Bedas revealed that her apparel depended upon a crucial safety pin, and when two others claimed to be wearing pink "long Johns", "Prose it", said Dorothy Grierson (Kennedy), and they did.

More quiet thought was given to finding words formed from the letters in VIOLETS, and our dexterity was tested when we tried to tie together pieces of wool with one hand behind our backs. The committee had prepared these games with great care, and Mavis Cuddeford gave clear directions.

Prizes as usual were donated by Miss Shearer who was unfortunately unable to be present. Apologies for absence were received from Miss Bradbury and Mrs. Carrick (Audrey Hayton). Joan Hayton as chairman welcomed those present at supper time - an excellent buffet meal accompanied by much wispy chatter.

It was pleasant to return to school prospects once more and we intend therefore to hold our next winter reunion there.

H. B.

ANNUAL DINNER RE-UNION, 24th APRIL, 1974

For members who hadn't visited Houghton in Spring since the planners and the road makers had a go at it, the evening began with a bit of a (White) Lion hunt. However, we all have tongues in our heads (as my G. a. B. reunion makes delightfully clear) and eventually everyone found the prey: none of the 60 roast beef and apple pie dinners went unclaimed.

The attendance was rather small, said the Chairman (Joan Hayton) in her address of welcome, but there were many reasons for this, including a "second wave" of flu. We were all travellers to some extent this year,

but among those who had made longer journeys were Doris McCree (Pygott) from Boroughbridge and Betsy Wigham (Hall) from St. John's Chapel. Apologies had been sent by Miss Bradbury, Mrs. Carrick, Miss Shearer, Miss Harding, Miss Bernard, Francis Wills (Gillies), Elsie Watson, Elizabeth Fraser, Elsie Wilson (Booker), Nan Stirling (Jeffries) and Mary Mackintosh (Alderson), who asked if we would please sing the School Song loud enough to be heard in Thropton. Fortified by the toast to the School, we did our best to oblige (with Winnie Scott (Thomas) as deputy conductor and Valerie Northcote as deputy pianist). Did you hear us, Mary?

The Chairman then gave details of the summer outing to Minsterwreke Monastery and of the A. G. M. She announced the Social Service Committee's decision to "phase out" its work in two years time (when it and the Guild will be 50 years old) for the time being, however, donations will still be welcome!

Then it was time for the entertainment, and we were delighted to learn that Marjorie Brown (Brennan) had Master wined a game of "Call my Bluff", played by two teams of (relatively) New Faces. They were, on one hand, Nellie Skiel (Widdington), Irene Wilkinson and Nora Coddford (Dixon), on the other, Margaret Laidlaw, Doris Henderson (Wilson) and Joan Liddle. That you too, dear reader, can Pit your Wits against the Brains of Bode, the words and definitions are set out below - correct answers at the end.

1. TUFF. a) A small message tube attached to a horse's harness in older times.
b) Small pieces of volcanic rock - you've probably noticed them when visiting Vesuvius.
c) A kind of leathery seaweed, very difficult to remove from rocks.

Verdict: a) "We'll settle for seaweed although we think you're telling lies as well!"

2. ACINUS.

- a) One of a group of seeds forming a berry e.g., a blackberry is a collection of acinuses (or rather, acin!) and it all had something to do with a Czech biologist who got one under his denture.
b) A kind of wart.
c) A brightly coloured tropical fish.

Verdict: b) They weren't fishy people and they couldn't swallow the seeds or the biologist.

3. PROPOLE.

- a) The soft inner bark of a tree.
b) A very small forecourt in front of a Greek temple.
c) A resinous substance used by bees for sealing joints in the hive, a sort of patty.

Verdict: b) (Just thought it should really be someone in favour of the police, but in view of the classical education would "phoop" for the Greek bit.)

4. GROSSWELL

- a) A plant with stony seeds ("What, again?" which used to be pounded for medicinal purposes.
- b) A sort of "eye" on top of a bell, to which the rope is attached.
- c) Casting one's mind back ten or twelve years to when one was a little girl on a country holiday, one would remember that a grosswell was a pin for mending the axle of a farm cart.

Verdict: b. (The team gave no weight to all that corroborative detail, nor could they swallow those seeds.)

5. FIDDLEY

- a) On the same tack, another type of large pin used in sailing, you wind your rope ends round your fiddley.
- b) A familiar word in a ship building area; a sort of protective frame fixed round a ship's stoke hole.
- c) What the Southern Irish call fargol hankatas.

Verdict: a) ("We may be wrong, but you must admit we're pretty. Heds as it sounds, we think it's the pin").

6. CORF

- a) A long basket in which fish, having been caught, can be kept alive under water.
- b) A chain or strap on the harness to check a horse. ("Every girl should have one")
- c) A reservoir of oil in a primitive lamp used in Biblical times. ("You probably remember them from the fuel crisis")

Verdict: b.

7. HUDCOCK

- a) A long handled bill hook.
- b) Descriptive of a certain type of male i.e. a thick set man would be called (in some quarters) "a right ruddock".
- c) A country name for a robin.

Verdict: c.

8. ACTON

- a) A Greek jar.
- b) A quilted jacket worn under a coat of mail - a kind of medieval liberty bodice.
- c) An early form of water closet.

Verdict: b. ("That wasn't an Acton - it was a cotty!")

At this point we realised that as usual the clock had beaten us, and the contest had to end, with honours justly ours at one - all. Can you do better? The Chairman thanked our entertainers for being "good and beautiful" - especially Marjorie, who had prepared and staged the show so expertly. We all heartily agreed - although it was rather disconcerting to find that people we'd known and trusted all these years were such accomplished liars!

N.W.

The answers? 1, b. 2, a. 3, c. 4, a. 5, b. 6, a. 7, c. 8, b.

The Summer Cating. It was a glorious June week, warm and sunny. On the evening of Friday 13th, as Old Indiana were visiting their "bas in Gorae Road or in small groups along Darben Road, the heavens opened and we suffered the usual summer cating downpour.

With no dampness of spirit, however, we drove through the countryside to a place three miles from Riding Hill. Here, between stone gateways flanked by "Tygers" heads crossed" a "bushell of chattering women entered the grounds of the Passionist Monastery of Minsaracree. After driving along an avenue of huge Wellingtonia trees, we were welcomed by brother Gerard who was to be our guide. The estate of Minsaracree once belonged to a Catholic landowner whose mansion, with 60 acres of land was acquired in 1849 by a community of Passionist monks. They originated over 200 years ago and have settlements in many parts of the world. Apart from his training and missionary work, Minsaracree provides a Retreat house which can accommodate fifty guests. This was reconstructed by monks from the original stables. Here we were conducted into rooms with walls adorned by biblical scenes. Our guide urged us to guess the subject of one of these and when Wyneth Rough (Moffary) correctly identified it as the conversion of St. Paul, she was rewarded by a lollipop.

Seated in the chapel of the main building we listened to an account of the history of the place including illuminating details of the minor problems which beset the lives of the brethren and visiting nuns. In the drawing room with its elaborate gilt mirrors and open vases we smoked our stinks of tea and coffee and ate the delicious food provided by the committee.

Brother Gerard, restrained by no vow of silence, would have continued his discourse but it was now growing late and so we expressed our gratitude for the hospitality and departed, arriving home at dusk.

M. R.



Many Old Bedians will be sorry to learn that "Wayside" is closing in the very near future. Most of the residents have already been moved to New Park near Stoks or to Elstree Manor at Elstree.

We understand that this has become necessary owing to the lack of support for the Teachers' Benevolent Fund. It is particularly regrettable that the local interest and personal concern for the welfare of the residents, which made Wayside a real home, will now be largely dissipated.

Wayside was the first of the Teachers' Homes. It is sad to see it go. Lily Border and Barbara Craggs were staying recently with Rita Craggs (Young) at Hatch End. From there they visited Elstree and spent some time with Miss Mary Fotts who used to teach in Sunderland. At the moment there are only two from Wayside at Elstree, but eventually the four who are still at Wayside (including Miss Keebles, another Sunderland teacher) will be transferred there.

L. B.

Old Bedians' Hockey Report 1955-56 Season. We enjoyed another very full season, fielding two teams whenever possible. The results were encouraging especially when our first choice teams were available. The 1st XI played 17, won 11, drew 2, lost 4. We won the beginning of the season club's tournament beating Sunderland Gimco Club 1-0, and reached the final of the end of season tournament against Norton but were unable to contain the two interesting Mrs. Whitworth and Mrs. Grange and lost 2-3 after a fine game.

The 2nd XI played several matches and had more cancellations than usual, several local teams calling off games at very short notice. It is still a very worthwhile effort to organise a 2nd XI as this provides valuable training for our many younger members playing alongside very experienced club players who enjoy their hockey.

The continuing high standard of play within the club is reflected by the many county representatives: Jean Taylor (Cole) 1st XI (senior) Durham County, and North B team and vice-captain of the County team next year; Kathleen Cassap 1st XI (senior) Durham County. She was unfortunately prevented from joining North trials by a leg injury. Norma Batty (now staff) 1st Sheffield League, Sheila Banney (Robinson) (ex-staff), Judy Haddock and Val Lewton all 2nd XI (senior) Durham County.

On the Junior County 1st XI (under 19 age group) are Anne Marie Topol, Jean Major, Carol Nalaby and Violette Hodgson. On Junior County 1st XI (under 16) are Rosemary Peacock, Sharon Bell, Gillian Keaton, Patricia Swinburne, Lynn Hodgson, Gillian Longford and Fiana Mitchell.

Judy Pringle, at I. M. Marsh P.E. College, was invited to the under 23 England trials and Jackie Fenwick was invited to the English University final trials.

Brenda Peart, as well as having a very busy season as Club captain, was County Coaching secretary and was on the list of coaches as was Jean Brewis (Pillans) who umpired regularly for the 1st XI whenever her duties as Junior county selector allowed. Audrey Knight, still one of our leading goalkeepers on the 1st XI, was very busy organising a seven-a-side tournament for the Northern Area Civil Service. For the tournament at Pennywell she selected a team from the Sunderland office, coached them in the Y. M. C. A., played very well on the day and led them to collect winning plaques.

Jean Cole, Kathleen Cassey, Brenda Peart and Sheila Robinson were all much involved in the organising and selecting of a Sunderland Schools Hockey team.

Apart from playing, we all enjoyed the annual dinner held this year in the Golden Lion, South Hylton. 28 members attended including several home from college. Another social event was the coffee evening held in Sheila Robinson's new home at Clendon. She and Judy Griffiths (Kirkstall) organised supper for which we all paid - after getting into the house (which cost money) our purses never closed as raffles, auctions, and sale of cakes followed each other in quick succession. The Noise grew louder and the money rolled in to the tune of £9.48. Judy, we felt, would do well with a stall in Durham Market!

Our club is fortunate in having many enthusiastic, willing helpers who carry on committee work throughout the season despite busy lives and we are grateful to all of them. We are also delighted that the Guild members are still interested in our activities and would welcome anyone who cares to watch the matches.

Our teas are voted throughout the North and there is always a cup of tea.

Jean Pillars.

(“Corner Flag”, Sunderland Echo, adds a loud “Hear Hear” to that last paragraph).

London Branch. Only five of us were able to accept Nancy (Leather) Bateja's invitation in October 1975. Miss Moul, Joyce Hebron (Ayles), Marjorie Bates (Kewstob), Helen Reed (Perry) and myself, but we had our usual jolly afternoon with our exchange of family news and an enjoyable tea. Many thanks to Nancy for her hospitality.

Miss Moul unfortunately could not come to the May meeting due to a previous engagement but eleven of us met at my house, Joyce, Marjorie, Helen, Edith Broderick (Berge), Vera Wood (Duffell), Rita Craggs (Young) and Kathleen Young (Craggs). Thanks to a chance meeting with Kathleen, three contemporaries of Vera joined us - Christine Holt (Atkinson), Dorothy Dodd (Givens) and Barbara Garrard (married name not known). We enjoyed hearing about their careers and families and hope they will come again and meet Miss Moul, whose absence was a disappointment for them.

Doreen Ward (Biscra),

33, Birch Grove,

London W3. Tel. 01 892 3967

From November 1975 to November 1976.

During the year the following became Life Members: Kitty Clayburn (Cooper), Elizabeth Henderson (Henderson), Joyce Balton (Harrison), Audrey Watson (Shaw), and Sylvia Kilminster (Rowlands). Two new members joined the Guild, Betsy Wilson (Robson), Life Member - and Dorothy Tate (Denton).

Married are: Jessie Anderson (Thompson); Sandra Cook to Peter Snowden, son of Joyce Orr (Snowdon); Sheila Johnson (Harrison); Avril Kemp (Potts); Patricia Luzzesky (Legge); Harriet Summers (Mashobane).

Notes to: Marjorie Miller (Durand) a second daughter.

In Memoriam: In 1954, Florence Wilson (Hudson) aged 71. On 17th December 1976 Miss K. I. P. Lloyd, aged 96 years. 1978: Marie Craggs (Mrs. Lodge); Alice Carter (Grant); Joan Green; Winifred Critchton (Rumphroy); Maureen Liddle.

Home of Old Bednas. Happily recovering from her recent illness and indifferent health, Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) is settling happily into her new bungalow at Broadstone, Dorset. By means of the Sunderland G.O.B. grape-vine Grace Caldwell (Allinson), whose home is also in Broadstone, called upon Elsie soon after her arrival there, and conveyed on the spot good wishes to Elsie and her husband. To quote Elsie 'I heard the sweet sound of the words "The Guild of Old Bednas" spoken with a Scottish accent, and was delighted to welcome Grace'. A "welcome-to-your-new-home" gift on behalf of the Guild, in the form of two rose bushes for their garden, has been delivered by Grace. Anne Harrison (Day) now lives at Acton Trussell (Stafford) having been married seven years and having moved home five times since leaving Sunderland. Anne has taught music in Bedford, Hertford and Bedford, and in March was about to start teaching for one afternoon a week in a primary school; she has two small sons of her own. Kathleen Clayburn lives in Cambridge; Amy Stephenson (Ferguson) is Colchester, Cheshire; Doris Wilson (Wright) is now living in Reading, Berks. Harriet Summers (Mashford) is London, London.

Brenda Scott (Lambert) lives in Leeds; her sister Betsy (Stakley) lives in Alnwick, where her husband, Union Hindley, is chaplain to the Duke of Northumberland; they visit regularly Jean Sparling (Howe) who lives in the late of Miss. Eliza Suster (Fiddle) lives at Great Carlston, Haslewood (correction from 1976 magazine); Doris McCree (Pygott) is at Kirby Hill, Boroughbridge, Yorks. Marjorie Watson (Leonard) in Leeds has been busy polishing up her French in preparation for the first visit to her home of a French correspondent of fifty years' standing from Bede school days - Miss Sharrer please note!

Ethel Davison (Aird) lives at Alton; Isabel Alexander is at Chipping Camden; she has recently visited Edith Alexander at her Wearside home.

Muriel Anderson (Kenworthy), whose home is in Saffron Walden, has been a cub scout leader for eight years, and A. D. C. leader trainer since 1975. She took over as secretary of a swimming club for the handicapped and has now introduced riding and archery, so it is now a sports club. Muriel represents the handicapped on the Uttlesford Sports Council Executive Committee.

Audrey Watson (Shaw) who lives in Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire, would like to know if there are any other Old Bednas in the area? Audrey's address is "Dyffshale", Lockerbie.

Marie Gilmore (Williams) has recently moved North to Middlesbrough from Cardiff where she has lived since her marriage four years ago. Through her husband, who was curate of the city church in Clax Hill, she came into contact with Doris Clayburn (James) who was at school 1914-1918 (see "Older Old Bednas"). Marie was Head girl the year the school

was merged with the girls' school. She read Latin at Durham University, moved to Oxford to teach to Cordill, she taught for three years at the Bishop of Lincoln School, and later's sister, Pauline, is now married with a daughter and son, and lives in Northampton.

News of Former Members of Staff. Miss Franklin is living in Harrogate in a large house for elderly retired women, and Dorcas Ward (Macraethel) tea with her in her bed sitting room there at Easter. Miss Franklin seemed happily settled and has lots of friends and interests. Miss Anne Abbott, who taught P.E. at Bede some thirty years ago, stayed for a week in July with Miss Dora Bunting; and Miss Bernard, both now retired. A niece of Miss Harding in Trinidad met by chance Mrs. Joan Kenny, formerly Miss Joan Wetherburn, another former P.E. teacher at Bede. The latter's husband is Professor of Marine Biology at the University of the West Indies. Their son has just come to England this autumn to study at Reading University; they also have a younger daughter, Miss Grace Rutter in a P.E. organiser in North Yorkshire. Mrs. Diane Whyte has had a son, David; Mrs. Muriel Colburn has a daughter, Lindsey Ann; Mrs. Kay Farley also has had a daughter.

Meetings. On a joint Flower Club outing to George Smith's beautiful house and garden at Bevington, North Yorkshire, were Doris Forster (Robinson) with a spare sandwich in case Winnie Scott (Thomas) didn't know it was a picnic lunch; Peggy Whitting (Carr) and Nancy Whitehouse (Alexander). At a recent Wynyard Training College Reunion in Darlington, Irene Wilkinson met Elsie Knack (Marston) and Vera Ferrell (ex Wynyard staff). Since going down to Dorset, Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) has met Audrey Almond (Boat) whom Elsie's daughter had met two years earlier; when asked if she knew Elsie Kirkwood, Audrey replied "Yes, she is always chasing me for my subscription!" This year Audrey invited Elsie and her husband to Bevington Camp, and "put on a super meal". Audrey has been teaching in Wood near Bevington, but moved to Camberley in September, where she has invited Elsie to visit her. Beatrice Swanson (Schaffold) and her husband visited Mary Arkless (Robinson) at the beginning of September. Beatrice teaches at a Sixth Form College at Exeter, where her husband is Professor of Chemistry at Exeter University. She was staying for a few days with her sister Lillian (Cowie), who has recently moved to Durham. Doris Forster also popped in for a chat with them. Margaret and Neil Turner, on holiday in Loughsmeade, N. Yorks, were killed by an overnight visitor from Canada, who turned out to be Jennie Vincent Kirk. Her husband was another Old Bede, and after their marriage over forty years ago, they went to Montreal, and have lived there ever since. At school Margaret recalls, Jennie was friendly with Jennie Dixon, and good at music and games. The Kirks come to England every year and stay with Jennie's brother in Susestedal. Later, Jennie payed a surprise visit to the Turners one evening at home, before flying home next day to Canada. In October Jennie's brother, back from a Canadian visit, called to see Margaret and

Nell, and asked them to deliver a huge bag of sweets to Miss Shearer from Jennie who says "I know other Old Bedans like me will love a sweetie from Canada when they pop in to see her!" On a further holiday in Ambleside, the Turners met Miss Peters who invited them back for coffee. Lena Thompson was interested to hear of Jennie Vincent, whom she remembered from school. Lena and "Pete" were setting off for a holiday in Chester next day. While in Ambleside, the Turners just missed seeing Edith Scripps (Warriner) on a visit from New Zealand in September. The Turners are both enjoying their retirement. They had had a surprise visit from Rosemary Shaw (Carter), who lives in Rylandshead. On one occasion, Rosemary was taking leave of her mother at Liverpool Lime Street Station when Sheila Thomas (Walker) who was at school with Rosemary, jumped into her on the platform, while doing the same. I.e. taking leave of "Mum" & in Thomas; Sheila's home is in Crosby. Mary Mackintosh (Alderson) has been visited by Kathleen Carr (Ritchie). Of meetings in Sunderland - about once a month a group of Old Bedans meet, among them are Jess Cowell (Wharton), Brenda Johnson (Puler), Maira Simpson (Shearer), Maira Caddisford (Dixon), Dorothy Cannon (Crown), Beryl Pritchard (Middleton), Audrey Dobson (Burnand), Irene Dodd (Beahell) and Avril Trevelth (Ridley). Any other Old Bedans of this age group interested in meeting, please contact Maira Shearer, telephone Sunderland 7227s.

The retirements of Miss Bernard and Mary Arkless (Robinson) were made the excuse for two delightful parties for "the old gang", staff from the former Girls' School, held on January 17th and September 18th respectively. All were indebted to Mrs. Bell for her kind hospitality on both occasions.

Joyce Gallon (Hodgson), on a visit to England this summer visited her sister Sheila (Wey) who now lives in Bristol, called on Una Laidler in Bradford, and while staying with Joyce Errington in Sunderland, managed to see Doris Forster (Robinson), Margaret Nicholson (Gracey), Jean Barwell (Rough), Gladis Solley (Davitt), Louie Solley (Proctor), and at a hastily whipped up Canada evening at the home of Winnie Scott, met Anne Mitchell (Crowe), Margaret Chapman (Hester), Nell Shiel (Widdrington), Irene Wilkinson, Rose Halford (Downs), Jean Hall (Turpin), Jean Koch (Francis).

An unexpected phone call one evening received by your Editor was from Anne McNamy (Milton) who now lives in Hull, requesting the address of Joyce Gallon, as Anne was off to visit her daughter Susan (Moore) who is lecturing at Melbourne Technical College. Subsequently, in February Anne visited Joyce, who took her settings into the Duchesne Mountains and to an animal sanctuary at Hasleville; they sent a postcard to Miss Shearer, and in all Anne managed to see quite a lot of the State of Victoria "It has been a marvellous experience". Marjorie Spurling on holiday in the South, visited Eleanor Wilson (Tiboraga) whose husband is custodian of the beautiful old Dover House, Charles Darwin's home, near Fremantle. Marjorie spent an enjoyable and interesting day there, and exchanged much

news with Eleanor. Miss Shearer has had visits from Jennie Vincent (Owl) she was sorry she couldn't offer Jennie a sweetie (see earlier story), Amy Stephenson (Ferguson), Nan String (Jeffrey), who also visit briefly Lena Underwood (Dutchart) while in Sunderland. Regular visitors Vera Harwood and Kathleen Mair called at 46, Ashwood Terrace with Kathleen Watson, who was quite excitedly visiting Sunderland for the first time since she left it while still a pup at Bede, for Keswick, and shortly afterwards for the South. Her home is now at West End, Southampton. Kathleen offered Miss Shearer a lovely bunch of black grapes, the hundredth she had produced this year. She was truly thrilled to be visiting scenes of her early days again, and has several very faithful friends from days at Bede, which she had a look at while in Sunderland. Marjorie Allison (Moffatt) and Joan Hayton called to see Lena and Pete in August, at Ambleside. They found both very well and still enjoying the Lake District; other visitors to Bradbury Fell Cottage this year include, Gladys Paterson, Joan Rose (Sybil Road (Briggs), Lucy Davison (Mills), Doris Forster (Robinson), Sybil Baker (Donaldson), Dorothy Crow (Robinson), Marjorie Collins (Piper), Doris Septina (Crichton), Mariel Liddle, Eileen Atkinson (Brace), Laura Crombie (Ward), Bessie Johnson (Austin) Bessie Halliday (Dewar) and Kathleen Scott (Bolton). Lena and Pete have also met Connie Warburton (Wilson) and Valerie Northcote and have visited Elizabeth Keeleyside (Arnall) in Bedale, and laughed with Miss Bradbury in Keswick.

Introduced in a round of new faces at a Dinner Dance, Winnie Scott (Thomas) and Sheila McEain (Sidebottom) wondered - School? No - age gap too obvious! Hockey? ditto - daughter Sheila Thomas? tennis? No - McEain? - Winnie writing about address of Anne McEain (see Tuffnell) in earlier Old Bede? Yes - Sheila's-sister-in-law, ah! mother - Elma Nielson (McEain) - solved! Joan Mitchell (Pantole) from Southern Rhodesia paid a fleeting visit to Anne Mitchell (Crowe). Bessie Taylor met several Old Bedes at the wedding of Jennie Garratt to Rev. Canon Alan Chesters at Bracegirth. Both are governors of Bede and St. Aid's Colleges, Durham. Bessie has also had a chat with Edith Lockey (Smith). Gladys Sim (Roper) had found Bessie Foster (Green) 'the same as ever'. Guss Wright (Hunter) visited Edson. Bessie (Oliver) and Ethel Lebbe (Lockoby) recently widowed, while on holiday in the North from her home in Cheltenham. Ada Dandrad (Grove), sister-in-law of Lillian Dove called upon Miss Shearer one morning, who hadn't seen Ada since she left Bede.

Pleased on too late for inclusion in last year's magazine, we heard of a meeting of Lillian Dove with Amy Hasey (Dwyer). Amy had been able to visit Lillian in Rugby and the two had a wonderful talk, as they had not met since they were together in a very happy Upper VII in 1918 - 19. Then some months later, Lillian was able to go to spend a day with Amy while she was staying with her niece in Coventry. Lillian had then benefited greatly from her operation for her arthritis. Amy has been far from well for the past two years, in and out of hospitals and is present at her own home at Scarborough.

Younger Old Bedes.

Kathleen Conlan, studying French at Neville's Cross College, was one of twenty-six students selected by the Educational Interchange Council from Colleges throughout the U. K. to spend ten weeks in and around the French

apted. She attended lectures in French literature, language, and civilisations, visited schools, museums, a French court, and rode on the Paris Metro! Gillian Leete is Washington Development Corporation's new information assistant in the Galleries, Washington New Town. Judith Pringle has completed her course at I.M. Marsh College of Physical Education, is living in Darlington and teaching in Richmond, Yorks. After gaining a B.Sc. (Hons) degree at Sheffield University, Doreen Charlton is now a trainee chartered accountant. Janet Brown is reading Freud at Birmingham. Shirley Airey, who has a Sheffield degree in Sociology, is now a trainee social worker in Leeds. Lindsey Cunningham is in her final year at Birmingham University, reading Russian. After reading Mathematics at Bristol, Anne Guthrie is doing a teacher training course at Newcastle. Christine Charlton is now teaching Biology at Riversmead School, Chesham - Cliff Richards' old school. He often returns to help out at concerts and other social events. Edson Hainsbridge has worked for the last two years at the local V. A. T. office.

Oldest Old Bedlam?

Nan Stirling (Jeffrey's mother is 93, and lives at Lytham. She was at school with Kathleen Blair's mother (Florence Bruce, now Mrs. Eldridge), who is 91. They were contemporary with Margaret Hunter's mother, Elizabeth Louisa (Chapman) who is 91 in December.

Other Old Bedlams.

In a letter Nan Stirling recalls some of her school mates - the late Marjorie Nicholson, the late Winnie Gibson; Mariel Young (Greenhalghs), Winnie Whittaker, Mariel's cousin, Dorcas Toall who lives in Redbury, Mary Mackintosh (Adams) in Thrapton, Mariel Finlay (Fullock) who has a shop in Chester Road, Zena Holt, widowed now and has left Sunderland, Hodge Caldwell now retired. Stans Verity () the late Miss Birchall's niece, Lucy Fongate (Nichol), in South Africa, Agnes Molndoe (King) in Fulmouth, Mabel Alexander (Beattie), Doris Evans "very musical", left Sunderland for London, Mildred Rosenberg and the late Belle Blair. Joan Stirling, Nan's sister, after seven and a half years at St. Jude's Ranch, Nevada, U.S.A., now lives in a little convent, works at a small desert church and visits a five storey hospital and a nursing home for senior citizens at Las Vegas. Agnes Molndoe recalls Miss Mencer as her form mistress in Form I, when Miss Arkle was in charge of Form II, and Miss Williams had Upper III, and Miss Lloyd Upper IIa. Agnes this year had had a postcard from a somewhat younger Old Bedlam, Norma Treshitt (Watt) whom she met when in Australia at an earlier date. In a letter Doris Clayburn (James) tells of six of the happiest years of her life spent at Bede 1910 - 16". She has read of the deaths of many of her friends in "The Old Bedlam", but if anyone does remember her, she would be glad to hear from them. Her address is 5, Marlborough House, Westgate Street, Cardiff, South Wales. She writes, "I was lucky, and managed to pass all my exams. . . . and enjoyed all the games, netball and cricket especially". She recalls other two team bowlers who matriculated that year, Nellie Pains and Dorothy Cowan. "A poem of mine was included in "The Bedlam" of 1915 or 1916

"I've got a duck, I've been caught out.

It's just my luck, I've got a duck

The game I'll chuck I fear Miss Trout

I've got a duck, I've been caught out".

"I have moved about the country as much, but I would be glad if you could tell me of any other Old Bedes in Cardiff. I met one of my own age, Phyllis George, but she left Bede when she was twelve, and only remembers one or two names. . . . For one year at school, I sat next to Edith Cairns, whose young brother became a judge. (Ed. Now Lord Chief Justice Cairns). I was given a prize in 1955 by Miss Trust, our cricket coach for getting a hat trick against Chester-In-Street. . . . Doris is still able to maintain her avid interest in the school in reading her copies of the "Old Bedes".

Bedes at Work. Eileen McCree is nearing the end of a six year spell of duty as training officer at the General Hospital, Port Moresby, Papua, New Guinea. Eileen's busy social life includes playing squash, hiking, boating and skin diving. She hopes to move on to Queensland; during the course of a three month holiday, she was home for six weeks this year. Mary Henderson (Lewis) in her job as Lord Bernard's private secretary, has some interesting experiences - moreover she has written to us of them! She was presented to the Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester when the latter visited Solihull for lunch on her way back to London. Mary enjoys reading of the activities of Old Bedes all over the world. "It is forty years since I saw Miss Mood, Miss Shearer, . . . Jennie Hay or Winnie Scott; however I do see one of my form-mates Alice Dinkin (Jones) as she and her husband have a shop and Post Office in the village of Ingletton, through which I drive nearly every day. Mary's little grand-daughter was a tiny member of the cast of "Fit Fuzzer", mentioned last year in the magazine, in which Audrey Sidney (Spensley) was an "extra". Mary also recalls Mary Mackintosh as a member of the St. Gabriel's Church Men Boys' Concert Party, and her comedy songs and Gracie Field's impersonations. Marial Orr (Sherriff) was a member of a team sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Development who went to Roma University, Le Sotho, Africa for four weeks. She taught maths at an intensive training course for teachers. Carole Scott is the headmistress of the new Washington's Albany Infants' School. Jean Taylor (Cole) has been appointed Head of the P. E. Department at Bede. Joyce Halden (Sherriff) is head of a nursery school in Wingate, Co. Durham. Doreen Thompson (Howay) has retired from a head teacher's post, Molly Duncan from her post with Suffolk Education Authority.

Sport

Golf. Kathleen Carr (Smith) became President of the Durham County Ladies' Golf Association in November. Jennie Hay (Smith) is County Secretary. Molly Garbett (Johnson) is lady captain of Scarborough Golf Club this year.

Tennis. Pat Clarke (present Bede staff) is captain of the Durham County women's team, of which Carol Rosenstolz (Newton) is a member.

Keep Fit. Peggy Victory (Stinson), very active still in the "Keep Fit" Movement Moreover, was acting principle of the Summer School at Eastbourne.

Audrey Knight is on the Civil Service Sports Council as north-east representative. Anne Whitworth (on staff) in November 1955, won the Vaux Sports women of the Year award.

Foreign News: Joan Caven, who died in February, was for ten or more years a missionary in Brazil, but was invalided home with multiple sclerosis. Towards the end she realized she would go blind, so began to record on tape whole passages from the Bible. She appeared on a Sunday evening religious programme a few weeks before she died. A documentary "Faith in Action", was repeated on television after her death. Doreen Turnbull, who has been home from Australia, preparing to take her mother back to Australia with her, is working as secretary to the Registrar of Wollongong University, a job which she enjoys very much. Lily Jameson (Darwin) enjoyed a visit from her sister-in-law Renee this summer at her home in Elizabeth Vale, Australia. Edith Mackman (Mickassau) went to Zanbia to visit her son this year and was able to take wedding presents to the son of Dorothy Middleman (Bagdon) who was being married in Zanbia.

(Of Interest): Hazel McCross (Kinsdale) in her second year at St. Mary's College, Durham has been awarded a scholarship for excellent work in psychology. She has been visiting friends in Nigeria this summer. At home (Pateley Bridge) she plays cricket for a local ladies' team. She was hailed by a voice from a stopping car recently - It was that of Grace Rafter (ex staff), Mariel Woodruff (Heron), who is District Chairman of Inner Wheel Clubs, chose Durham for the District Rally in March. There was reception and morning coffee, then the meeting, with guest speaker, followed by luncheon at Van Hilbert College, then service and Evensong in Durham Cathedral. Winnie Knapper (Lonsdale) was happy to be there. Audrey Southam (Forster) is President of Sunderland Inner Wheel, and at the October meeting introduced the speaker, Joy Wigham (Houses) as a friend from schooldays at Bede. Joy gave an interesting talk on "Antiques"; she has an antique business at East Boldon. Doreen Ward (Macrae), in London, is involved in teaching reading to illiterates.

Joan Hayton is presenting a slide show at a Sunderland and District Photographic Association meeting called "Hayton at large"

Old Beckam at Roker Flower Club spent a most enjoyable afternoon in September watching a demonstration of Bobana and western flower arranging by May Evbleton (Hynn), prior to a trip to Japan to watch the masters of Bobana at work. Elizabeth Rowlandson (Longston) helped in the decorating of Chester-in-Street Methodist Church at their Flower Festival of Saints in September. Winner Knapper (Lonsdale) also a flower arranger, and winner of a Clonon Flower Club cup for members, was an appreciative member of the congregation in Hereford Cathedral on Maundy Thursday at the presentation of the Maundy money. "The Queen looked lovely, the sun shone all day, and the music was superb".

School News:

Mr. S. Temple, 1967 was a momentous year in the history of Bede School. The amalgamation of the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools gave birth to a hefty new infant, a mixed school taking the first step on the road to comprehensive status. At that moment Mr. Sidney Temple assumed the daunting role of headmaster of the new school and his careful planning and organisation did much to ensure that the transformation was smooth and happy.

In the ensuing years Mr. Temple has proved himself an educationist in the true sense of the word. His real concern for the varying needs of all pupils at Bede, his sympathetic understanding, his ready availability to staff, pupils and parents and his unflinching industry have contributed greatly to the success of the school by whatsoever yardstick one chooses to measure, whether it be academic success of the able, the encouraging progress of the slow, the community life within the school or the vigour of the P. T. A.

All, though very sorry to say goodbye, wish Mr. Temple and his wife a long, active and happy retirement in their new home at Statton.

Mr. T. Hunter. Over the years Bede School has numbered among its staff men and women of remarkable personality who have indelibly printed their characters on succeeding generations of Bedans. Not least among these is Mr. Thomas Hunter who, for a third of a century, quietly went about his task of imparting a craftsman's skill of hand and eye to countless boys, and latterly some girls as well. He will long be remembered for his humanity and kindness as well as his straight talking. He will be greatly missed and we all wish him well in his retirement. May his gardening and his music with his many other interests fill his days with joy.

Mr. S. A. S. Robinson served the school with devotion for twenty three years. He conducted his affairs with exemplary precision and exactitude. His pupils and colleagues found in him not only a great teacher but a wise adviser and warm friend.

Responsible for the detailed planning of the Chemistry Department in the 'new' science building, he produced, with his usual meticulous care, a far sighted plan suited to the exacting nature of the education in Chemistry for which he was famed. The fact that he occupied the top floor of the Science Block may have been useful for a Department specialising in 'stinks' but it was also symbolic of that same Department's high aspirations.

Mrs. W. M. Robinson (Mary Arkless) who retired at the same time as her husband, has a long association with the school. Herwell a distinguished former pupil, daughter of an 'old girl' and mother of two 'old boys' she helped both the Boys' and Girls' Schools over difficult times in the fifties when they had need of a temporary member of staff to teach Latin, and finally in 1964 she became a permanent member of staff. A devoted teacher, she loved children and the classics. Her valuable contribution to school life will long be missed. Both Mr and Mrs. Robinson left with our kindest wishes for a full and happy retirement.

The school lost in Mr. J. W. Rowman one of its characters. He taught Maths from 1964 and it, during the years, there was any diminution in the energy with which he pursued his craft it was imperceptible. He invariably insisted on the liveliest and most positive of responses from his classes and met enthusiasm with enthusiasm. If anything is certain in an uncertain world it is the fact that Mr. Rowman will tackle his retirement with confidence and enjoyment. We wish him many happy years.

Mr. E. Ross gave eighteen years' loyal service to Bede. He was a school master of high principles, determined to inculcate in his pupils an early respect for the principles of scientific and mathematical knowledge.

Valuable too were his contributions to those areas of school life which, while often the least well advertised, do most to bolster the tone of the School. Mr. Ross's work with the junior and middle ranges of pupils was performed with tenacity, insight and kindly understanding. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

In December 1978 School said farewell to Miss M. S. M. Bernard who had served the School loyally and well since her advent in September 1951.

She commanded not only the respect but also the affection of many in whom she encouraged an infectious and earnest enthusiasm for music.

The joint concerts of boys and girls run by Miss Bernard and Mr. Kirk alternately, in the days before amalgamation, will long be remembered, especially her ambitious and magnificent production of 'The Messiah'.

No less enjoyable were the more miscellaneous concerts with their pleasing variety of instruments and music production, after amalgamation, by the Music Department under her direction.

All were very sorry that ill health led Miss Bernard to an early retirement. We wish her a speedy recovery and many happy years on enjoyable leisure.

School was very sad when, after a long absence, Mrs. Carmen Watson finally retired because of ill health. She came to Bede in September 1967 and apart from a few months spent at Southmoor, remained with us until January of this year. Gentle and equable in disposition she charmed a succession of students of French and afforded them the added delight of being taught by a 'real' French lady. We wish her a lasting return to good health so that she may enjoy the years of her retirement.

School also said goodbye to Mrs. S. Whyte, Mrs. M. Coburn (both of whom left for the happiest of reasons), Miss M. Smart and Mr. M. J. O'Callaghan. Earlier farewells had been said to Miss S. M. Wright who left at Christmas and to Mr. D. Claxton who took up a new appointment at the beginning of May. Mrs. A. Whitworth leaves at the end of October in anticipation of a happy event.

New Staff : Bede has this year extended a warm welcome to a new Headmaster. Mr. J. Tait has had a wide and varied educational experience. He has served in several schools in various capacities, as Assistant, as Head of History, as Sixth Form Tutor and as Headmaster.

As Headmaster of Unworth he had the daunting task, when all the School's classrooms were burned down, of finding equipment and organising schooling for 1550 pupils, initially on fifteen different sites. An additional charge came his way in 1978, the oversight of Caxobone School, an interesting experiment in a purpose built community school.

The task of coming to know the staff, pupils and ways of a large comprehensive school is vast but Mr. Tait has made immense strides in his first weeks. He, of course, is now known to all and his energy, perspicacity, understanding and firmness are already appreciated. We hope that he will be happy in his new post at 'the Bede'.

School also welcomed Miss S. M. Buckley (French), Mrs. P. M. Ferguson (Maths), Mrs. J. Moor (Maths), Mrs. L. Smith (Home Economics), Mrs. J. Taylor (Home

Economical), Mr. J. Abbott (Physics), Mr. A. Burton (Chemistry), Mr. D.C. Francon (Technical Studies) and Mr. P. McCloskey (French). Mr. D.R. Moss is spending some time at Bole helping the P. E. Department.

We are also fortunate in having the services, until February, of *Fraulein Sylvia King* who spends two days a week in school.

The Association of Old Boleins' Prize was presented at last December's Session of Lessons to Robert Hughes.

Mr. J. W. Reed, Constance Wray's husband, early this year gave to the School a beautiful cup to be presented each year to the Best Girl. The inscription on the base reads "In gratitude for the happiness given by the Bole School to my dear wife Constance".

School Musical Events in 1975 - 76.

Christmas Concert and Concert of "Music for a Summer Evening", involving more than 300 singers and instrumentalists.

Gilbert and Sullivan Society gave a performance of "Iolanthe" in April.

The Junior Choir performed "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat" in February.

The Orchestra and Boys' Choir provided a Musical Evening at Roker Methodist Church last December. In June the Boys' Choir were invited to take part in the "Festival of Flowers Concert" in St. John's Church. A group of boys from the same choir took part in a performance of "La Bohème" at the Empire Theatre.

The Brass Band received regular invitations to play at various functions in the town and they have recently played in the Market Square in aid of National Charities. Four members play regularly with the Sunderland International Concert Band.

The "Arthur Dickson Memorial Prize" for the candidate gaining the highest marks in the Grade V practical examination in the Sunderland area was won last year by two pupils from the School.

Drama. In December of last year the Juniors, under direction of Mrs. J. Mills gave pleasing performances of *Dickens's 'Christmas Carol'*, and in March, a most interesting production of "Alice" (in Wonderland) under the guidance of Mr. L. Robinson.

School Meals. A cafeteria service with choice of three main dishes was inaugurated last December.

School Sport. The boys' first soccer XI are once more County Champions. The girls' Under 16 Hockey and Netball teams are both town champions, while in the Durham County Senior Schools' Athletics Tenby Shield Competition, Bole Girls won the Woodward Intermediate Cup outright as a result of their third successive victory. More recently, eight Boleans were chosen to play for the Junior County's Hockey Team.

146 pupils returned to school for our Sixth Form Courses.

32 young folk found jobs. Bookbinding, sales assistants and apprenticeships rank high. Hairdressing and the Civil Service also had entrants from the school. More unusually one boy and one girl embarked upon careers to do with equestrianism and its teacher.

18 former pupils entered Colleges of Further Education.

Sadly 22 are still unemployed, this figure reflecting one of the great problems of our time and town. The remaining 21 have proved to difficult to trace and we can only hope that they have been successful in their early quests for employment.

A Message from Miss Shearer to her correspondents, whose letters she now finds it difficult to answer - "I cannot cope with writing them in return, though I always want to." She also wishes to thank especially those like Jessie Witten (Sunderland) who send frequent notes from farther away, and the many kind Old Bedoua friends in Sunderland who have called, written, or sent holiday postcards. All are much appreciated. Some spend an extra lot of time and energy upon her: Molly Topel (Khrushchatsky), Winnie Graham, Vera Harrold, Kathleen Blair, Gladys Littlehales (Benny) and Gladys Sim (Hopper). Lena Thompson and Phyllis Peters at Ambleside kindly send messages and gifts with their Sunderland visitors, with the message "No letter needed". It is much appreciated. In a New Year letter to our secretary Miss Moss wished all Old Bedoua a happy and prosperous New Year. "I read every word of the Old Bedoua and rejoice when I recognise names, and still recognise a great number. I enjoyed reading about the Guild's celebrations of Mary Shackleton's 10th birthday. She was lucky to have the estimate of her 'Life' made by perceptive and generous friends. I hope that the next thirty years will be as full of interest and zest and the friendly companionship of such agreeable people as have marked the past seventy for her. . . ." "How much changed in Sunderland from what it was sixteen years ago. Every year I receive from a friend The Wearside Calendar, and gloat over the pictures."

We reprint in full a letter from one of our disabled Old Bedoua.

29, Rydenham Tce.,
Sunderland SR4 1JQ,
26th Oct. 1976

Tel. No. 394327.

Dear Winnie,

Thank you very much for your letter. I am sorry not to have replied sooner, but I have had some trouble with my typewriter, the number nine is kept still, and I have not been too well lately. However I am O. K. now and raring to go! As you can imagine it is most difficult to cram into few words a large subject like disability (shades of Miss Hutchinson and guests!), but I'll try.

SHADES OF DISABILITY.

Not so many years ago disabled people were regarded as second class citizens, a liability both to their families and the community. Now through the wonders of electronics, life is once more worth living. I am the lucky possessor of a Patient Operated Selector Mechanism machine, known to its users as POSSUM which is Latin for "I shall be able to". I have a pipe which is near my mouth. Sucking through this, I am able to switch on the radio, the

stovetop and a light, speak to callers at the front door and open the front door, make and receive phone calls. This means that my family can feel free to leave me alone without worry, and my independence is precious to me. Few through the generosity of many people, most of whom I don't even know, own a POSSUM typewriter, which I operate by mouth. My cup of happiness is full.

I hope those few words are what you require. Please feel free to shop it about as you like. Will you please be kind enough to thank the Guild of Old Bedas for the recent gift of \$2. I use the money to buy plants. At the moment I have a gorgeous red cyclamen. Your useless photo must be a great trial to you. Since being able to write letters, my phone bill has gone down! Nothing else has!

Yours sincerely,
KITTY HEPTINSTALL (WHITTON)

Editorial

We labour on, year after year, digging for news, encouraged by remarks in letters "I should hate to be without the magazine", "It is always interesting", "I look forward very much to the Old Bedas", "I thoroughly enjoyed reading the Old Bedas", "I immediately sit down and read it cover to cover". The fact remains, monotonous as the repetition may be, that news is no longer forthcoming from various sources, for various reasons, mostly concerned with OLD AGE. Please send your news, however small in item, a change of address, a chance meeting, a retirement, change of job, and what has happened to our list of Bedas Babies? We must all hate of younger Old Bedas qualifying for the Bedas marriages or babies?

Younger or older, Bedas all, it is good to hear of each other. Helped by all those who have sent news, voluntarily (gold award!), or under pressure; by the promptly returned typing of Margaret Waster, Olga Stewart, Elizabeth Longster, and Winnie Graham; by the verifying of news items from many sources by the pearly smiling of Mr. Milner Taylor; this magazine once more goes to press, and your Editor surfaces thankfully.

In 1977, before the end of September, be a FRIEND OF THE MAGAZINE and send your news!

To all Old Bedas in poor health or in sadness, our kindest thoughts, and to all Old Bedas, greetings and good wishes for 1977.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 28th 1977 WINTER REUNION in the Needlework Room, Bede School at 7.30 p.m. Please give your name to the Secretary or any member of the Committee by the 18th January if you wish to be present.

April 12th 1977 DINNER REUNION in the White Lion Hotel, Houghton-le-Spring at 7.30 p.m. Please give in your name before April 12th.

There will be no further notices about these functions.

Subscriptions for 1976/77 are now due.

