

THE OLD BEDAN

1977

THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS

1978 - 1979 - Jubilee Year

President	Mrs. A. A. Y. Carrick.
Vice-Presidents	Miss E. J. Bradbury, Miss W. J. E. Wood.
Chairman	Moira Caddelford (Dixon), 10, Vinesforth Drive, Sunderland.
Vice-Chairman	Marjorie Brown (Drewson), 4, Nursery Close, Sunderland.
Sec./Treasurer	Margaret Chapman (Hunter), 5, Stockton Road, Ryhope. Tel. 218884.
Assistant Secretary	Irene Wilkinson, 62, Charter Drive, East Harrington, Sunderland. Tel. 280546.
Committee	Jean Hayton, Doris Henderson (Wilson), Elsie White (Bailey), Joan Liddle, Dorothy Cockburn (Dagdale), Jean Bell, Margaret Laidlaw (non-opted member) and on office Win Scott (Thomas), 11, Grange View, Sunderland. Tel. 37565.
Staff Representatives	Miss Margaret Jackson and Miss Judith Kirkley.

Almac - at last we must say positively 'No mah - No Magarine'.

Printing costs, postage etc. make this necessary.

Please let your secretary have your subscriptions (50p) for 1977/78 if you have not already paid. The Life Subscription is now £1.50.

Please make clear in your letters to the secretary or editor your maiden name and married name. In this magazine wherever possible the 'schooldays' name is used, with the married name in brackets.

To any Life Members of long standing, a subscription towards postage and costs will be gratefully received.

GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS 1977

Winter Reunion: On the last Friday of January we assembled once more in the "new" Needlework Room.

Again the games had been prepared with a great deal of thought by the 3 M's (Moira, Marjorie and Margaret) of the Committee. To begin, we were presented with a list of clues, the answers being names of Sunderland shops. Great ingenuity was evidenced by such examples as:- You won't be floored here - Woolworths; Hold that man - Crabtree; Know all the Angles - Sainsbury.

After this came a train journey, where our individual destinations could be reached by consulting lists posted up with routes from town to town. We all set off at a trot, which soon developed into a frantic dash as we passed each other glassy-eyed with complete disregard for the welfare of our fellow, or rather rival, travellers. The winner must have indeed maintained a systematic calm attitude, and one beighted passenger apparently became involved in a branch-line where she kept going round in circles.

The next game was a stationary one. In groups of four we were given copies of a *Sunderland Echo* from which we feverishly sought answers to such burning questions as "What was the price given for George IV's jewelled sword?", or "Where can one obtain reduced two-toned humber jackets?".

At a tasty supper, served by the Committee, Joan Hayton, our Chair-woman, with difficulty interrupted the chatter and welcomed the large gathering. She expressed pleasure at the presence of Audrey Hayton (Carrick) our President, and sorrow at the recent death of May Gibson, one of the most loyal attenders at all Old Bedes meetings. Our thanks were sent to Miss Shearer, who had as usual provided money for sweets and prizes.

Our last game was an old favourite. Once more in groups we were asked to make drawings representing titles of T.V. programmes. Here artistic skill and T.V. addiction were regarded as of secondary importance to the bursts of laughter with which we brought an end to another happy evening.

M. R.

ANNUAL DINNER RE-UNION, 22nd APRIL, 1977

The venue for the 1977 re-union was virtually settled last year, when the Secretary was urged, amid general approval, to "look now for next time!" - so once again we made our way - rather more confidently - to the White Lion at Houghton-le-Spring. The President Audrey Hayton (Mrs. Carrick), Miss Wilkie, Miss Harding and Miss Bernard and several present members of staff were among the 50 diners-regrettably Miss Shearer and Miss Bradbury were absent, but sent good wishes and were surely with us in spirit. The list of 'provincial' members was unusually short:- Mary Mackintosh (Alderson) from Thornton, Joan Tweedie (Sunderland) and Erid Bagley (Elgie) from Leyburn, and Nora Johnson (Wilson) from Hartlepool: we hope that more of our regular visitors will be able to come next year.

Indeed, the Chair-person? (Joan Hayton), in welcoming us, expressed the hope that 1978 would see a record attendance to celebrate the Guild's 50th birthday, adding that the committee would welcome suggestions for making this a very special occasion. A good time to air our views would be at the A. G. M. We were provided with formal notice of this and of the summer outing to the home of Barty Wigham (Hall) at St. John's Chapel, for which Joan hoped that two buses would be needed.

Next on the agenda was the toast to the school, followed as always by the School song. This year no stand-in was required - Mary Mackintosh and Winnie Scott (Thomas) were both on duty again. Mary came forward and made what was undoubtedly a pretty speech; since it must remain unrecorded, for the writer had temporarily mislaid her ear-trumpet and the only words to percolate sounded like "jazz it up a bit!" The mind boggled for a moment, but all was well: the song proceeded at its usual decorous pace, and at its conclusion Mary bowed at us and said we'd never sing it better.

Having done our bit it was time to sit back and be entertained by "The Three M's and Friends" - in other words, Marjorie Brown (Breeze) had reassembled her two teams of astute declivers for a return match of "Call My Bluff". In team A were Maize Culliford (Dixon), Nellie Steel (Widdington) and Irene Wilkinson; in team B, Margherit Laidlaw, Doris Henderson (Wilson) and Joan Little, and the bluffing went as follows (correct answers at the end:-

1. HURST a) A sandbank
 b) A nice, solid sounding word for honest man.
 c) A kidney-hole.

Verdict: b - "actually, we thought it was something you went to a funeral for".

2. BRAXY a) The lining of a well.
 b) Brushwood or undergrowth. East Anglian variety.
 c) A form of apoplexy in sheep - a word probably well known to some of the earthy characters in "Poldark".

Verdict: c (Complaints from the other side that the audience was helping - "Will you please shut up?")

3. GRAMP a) A three or four pronged fork for spreading manure (Red Ram's?), in these parts called a gripe.
 b) The intestines of a dead deer - the bits that get thrown to the dogs (not to be confused with tripe)
 c) Putting clay found in the Scottish lowlands.

Verdict: b although it sounded rather revolting!

4. HARAS a) A double fence round a stockyard, for isolating cattle (very technical).
 b) A mountain of ice and snow as Icelandic word, actually, pronounced 'horns', (with one of those things over the 'o')
 c) A medieval stud farm.

Verdict: b (They had probably heard Magnus Magnusson mention it).
 Pronunciation was riot here.

5. CILICE a) 'Kiliber' - a cloth made from Cilician goat hair probably worn by such worthies as Alexander the Great. (From the Greek).
 b) 'Chilich' - a starfish found in the Mediterranean, only small but having a memorable sting.
 c) 'Siliceny' - descriptive of elegant ladies; a word seldom heard now. (Not many elegant ladies about?).

Verdict: a "Any suggestions? - we wouldn't be offended! Oh, well -we'll settle for the hair shirt".

6. FERMAN a) "An Oriental - e.g. Turkish - decree, licence or passport.
 b) A pike-holder for a Lord Mayor or similar ability.
 c) An old-fashioned metal basket for holding logs in a fireplace.

Verdict: c "Easy, meeny - - Joan (b) is always so convincing, so we'll discount her".

7. NEOPHROB a) An early Christian term for a new convert or novice.
 b) Back to the chemistry lab - a drug inducing forgetfulness.
 c) A white Egyptian vulture - believe it or not, a rather beautiful bird.

Verdict: b This was too convincing to be ignored.

8. MULLIGRUBS a) Livestock again - this time, small insects thriving in flour dust and therefore found in grain mills.

b) A form of depression caused by a bilious upset - e.g.

"She's got a real dose of the mulligrubs today.

c) A word used once in David Copperfield of Urish Boop - i.e. a Dickensian croup.

Verdict: The live stock were too obvious and they were sceptical about the Dickens bit.

Time was up, and team B had won by five points to three. The Chairman called for applause for the winners, for the gallant losers and especially for Marjorie who must have given a great deal of time and thought to preparing the game. She left with us the thought that we could try a dose of neaptron next time we had a fit of the mulligrubs - but please don't let that happen on April 21st next year. You are expected at the Golden Jubilee Dinner!

N.W.

Answers:- 1, a, 2, c, 3, a, 4, c, 5, a, 6, a, 7, c, 8, b.

SUMMER RE-UNION - 17th June 1977

On a chilly evening at Gorse Road Car Park, 48 Old Bodens boarded the bus and set off for Elgh Frya, home of Banty Wighams, in St. John's Chapel. She was extending her ample hospitality to us for the third time. We were all assured of an enjoyable evening ahead; for many it was to be a renewal of Banty's kindness, for the remainder, an introduction to it.

Once on our way, those indistigible members Margaret Hunter and Win Thomas continued their work - the one collecting overseas subscriptions, the other garnering the latest news.

After leaving Durham, the weather, true to form this summer, became damp, and upon arriving at Banty's home, situated so impressively at the top of the hilly meadowland, we were sorry that it would preclude a picnic on plain air. (Shades of the Sixth Form and Miss Shearer's impeccable teaching). However, the warmth of Banty's welcome was equalled only by the cheerful glow of the fires as we finally settled indoors in comfort.

For a brief spell, all was quiet while coffee was imbibed and the excellent fare provided by our Committee was speedily demolished. Two raffles were held in aid of the Old Bodens Hockey Club, the lucky winners being Lia Walker and Audrey Henderson. As usual our thoughts and chatter revolved round those friends who were not with us, and we sent cards to Miss Shearer and to Elaine Kirkwood with our earnest good wishes. From our room we heard the nostalgic strains of our former school song, rendered with all the nuances of light and shade ever demanded of us by Miss Hutchinson. It was surely no coincidence that Win happened to be in that room!

It was reassuring to look around and realise that our companions represented Staff and Old Bodens of all ages, symbolising a continuity of pride in our school.

All too soon it was time to leave. After many grateful thanks to Basty for inviting us, we slumbered down the flower-decked hill. Emerging from the cosy warmth into the dank, misty rain, I half expected to hear the words 'Cathy, Cathy', echoing across the moors.

Back in the bus however, reality was restored, and accompanied by a medley of songs, we returned to Sunderland after a very enjoyable evening.

J.R.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING:- The 23 members of the Guild who attended the Annual Business Meeting held in the Needlework Room on Friday 20th September, were welcomed by the Chairman, Joan Hayton. Following the apologies for absence, the minutes of the previous A. G. M. were read, adopted and signed. The Sec./Treasurer gave her report on the year's work and functions and Officers and Committee for 1978 were elected. The retiring Chairman thanked the Committee, Sec./Treasurer and Assistant Secretary for their help during her term of office, which she had greatly enjoyed, she then invested the new Chairman, Moira Caddelord (Stax) with the badge of office.

Reports followed from the Social Services Committee, the Loan and Scholarship Fund, and the Ladies Branch. The Editor of the "Old Bedes" appealed for more and more news, and was able to tell us that a new printer had been found for the magazine following Mr. Williamson's retirement.

In view of our ever increasing costs of printing, postage etc., a motion was passed that the annual subscription be increased from 40p to 50p and the Life subscription from £1.15 to £1.50. It was decided to give the usual annual price to the school and that efforts would be made to help younger (school girl) members of the Hockey Club with their transport expenses.

Arrangements were put in hand for the Winter and Dinner Re-unions and it was decided to plan a special function to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Guild which was founded in the Spring of 1923.

At the close of the meeting tea and biscuits were served by members of the Committee.

LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND. A meeting of the Old Bedes' Loan and Scholarship Fund Committee was held on Tuesday, 16th November 1976.

It was reported that the Borough Treasurer's Department had redeemed the money invested in 6½% Treasury Stock and re-invested it in Sunderland Corporation Stock at 11½%.

No requests had been received for loans from the Fund and, therefore, it was agreed that the whole of the accrued interest of £149.46 (this included £17.62 from the M. A. Richardson Memorial Fund) should be available for awards based on 'A' level results to girls who had gone on to some form of full-time training.

Three girls received £15 each, one £8, six others £6, two £5 each, ten £4, and one girl £3. The total award was £162.

It was suggested that corresponding awards might be made next year to three girls who had not yet gone on to Higher Education, but were likely to do so in 1977.

SOCIAL SERVICE REPORT 1976-77 : Our income was £205.47, expenditure £127.09. Balance on 31. 8. 77 was £80.40. Our money has been spent as follows:

Oct. 1976. Harvest gifts of £2 taken to 14 people. Dec. 1976 Christmas gifts of £4 taken to 10 people, £2 to 2 people, £1 to one person, and £5 spent on a hamper and flowers for two household members. April 1977 Easter gifts of £4 to 10 people and £3 to three people.

As there were no residents in Wayside Home, East Boldon at Christmas we were unable to send our usual donation for "fruit and cream tour". We felt rather sad about this as there have always been a few "older Old Bednars" in the home who greatly appreciated the interest from members of their old school. The Social Service Group are most grateful for the continued support and generosity of Guild members and friends, and we would like to say a special "Thank you" to the many "girls" for the really wonderful support they have given us for very many years - they have certainly "boosted up" our funds and so enabled us to give more gifts throughout the years.

E. M. Hooker. 30. 8. 77.

OLD BEDNAR'S HOCKEY CLUB REPORT 1976-77

The Hockey Club had a very successful season last year. The 1st XI were only beaten by Norton three times and by the odd goal on such occasions. A lot of the games were cancelled due to the inclement weather, but out of twelve games played we won six, drew three and lost three. The 2nd XI had a very good season and were never beaten.

We had mixed success in the tournaments during the season. In the beginning and end of season tournaments we were eliminated by penalty strokes in the semi-finals.

We played Norton in the final of the Durham Club Championship for a place in the North Clubs Championships but were again beaten 2 - 1.

However, we did gain our revenge by beating five-a-side county indoor champions beating Norton in the final 10 - 3.

At the end of the season we were invited to play in the Ben. Rhydding seven-a-side tournament which is played on a full sized pitch. This was the first time we had played in such a tournament and finished a very creditable third.

Regarding county trials etc, Old Bednars were highly successful. At senior level Jean Cole and Kath Cassop were selected to play for the 1st XI, Judy Redditch and Sue Stanton for the 2nd XI and Norma Batty was selected to play for Sheffield League 1st XI. As a result of county championship matches and the tournament at Lytham St. Anne's over Xmas, Kath Cassop and Norma Batty were selected as reserves for the North of England.

At junior county level, our girls had overwhelming success. Bodo schoolgirls (many who play for Old Bednars) took most of the positions on the junior county team. As a result of this, Carolyn Nalaby was given a North of England junior trial and was selected to play for the team in a junior territorial tournament at the end of the season.

Finally, all members of Old Bedans' Hockey Club would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the fund organised for the schoolgirls who play in our teams. The money we received has gone a long way to helping with the cost of travelling expenses and all kind donations have been greatly appreciated.

E. J. Cole, Secretary.

THE LONDON BRANCH

We have had our usual tea parties during the last year. In October, Kathleen Craggs (Young) was our hostess and in May 1977 I was 'at home' to nine Old Bedans, some of whom had made very long journeys.

The usual faithful few (see previous editions of the magazine) turn up if at all possible - Miss Mowl has only missed one reunion in many years and often entertains us with hilarious accounts of episodes in her life.

We take it in turns to give a brief account of what has happened to us since the last meeting as well as news of our families. It doesn't seem

long since some of us were meeting for picnics in St. James's Park with our toddlers - now grown up with children of their own.

We have seen a few new faces recently - Doreen Stockford (Bayfield) made a difficult journey to join us and was pleased to meet Miss Mowl again. Coila Sheppard (Pipe) was very welcome when she turned up after a long absence and we hope to see her again soon.

Four young non-members who had kept in touch with each other joined us last year for tea and were asked to join the Guild - I hope they do.

Best wishes for an exciting and successful Golden Jubilee Year - sorry we can't participate.

Doreen Ward (Macraek)
28, Birch Grove,
London W.3.

Tel. 01 982 3907.

From November 1976 to November 1977.

New members of the Guild:- Dorothy Bell, Margaret Dockray, (Stewart) Robina Forster (Lawson), Eileen Old (Kirkaldy), Marjorie Sparling and Kathleen Smith (Casson). New Life members are:- Marie Gilmore (Williams), Doreen Stockford (Bayfield) and Olive MacDonald (Adams); Marjorie Brown (Browne) and Joan Rowell (Rough) have also become Life Members.

From Bede Staff we welcome the following:- Olyen Anderson, Janice Barr, Norma Batty, Kathleen Casson, (Laythorpe), Isabella Dodd (Smith) Ann Hodgson, Margaret Jackson, Judith Kirtley, Susan Pattison, Joyce Robertson (Witoh), Joyce Taylor, Patricia Thomas, Jean Taylor (Cole), Aileen Todd, Elizabeth Wilkison and Liz Walker.

MARRIED are Christine Ayre (Mallows); Judith Barbeck (Thatcher); Kathleen Casson (Laythorpe); Jane Harris (Moffett); Maureen Henderson (); Kay Washington (Wright); Pamela Carr (Russell); Gillian Longbottom (Cummings); Helen Brand (Rebrieten); Christine Elizabeth Evans (Witoh).

BABIES to Eileen Bagley (Clarke); Rosemary Bolton (Collins) a son; Kilee Burbanck (Jackson) a third daughter; Ann Gartland (Mathews) Rhona Henderson (Wall) a daughter; Brenda Hodgson (Patric) a daughter; Elizabeth Lawrence (Waugh); Norron Potts (Robinson); Olive Macdonald (Adams); Virtuous Rendell (ex-staff) a daughter; Valeria Whitfield (Hardy) a second daughter; Vera Wright (Coombes) a third child; Jessie Garrett (Chesters) a son.

IN MEMORIAM: In 1974, Marjorie Sooby (Mrs Landberg); Elaine Karnshaw (Mrs Thackeray) 1977; Doris Taylor, M. B. E.; Rachel Don Dwyer (Mrs MacMurray); May Gibson; May Sharma; (Mrs Stirling); Jane Ellen Blacklock (Mrs Sedley); Miss G. Parker (ex-staff); Miss E. R. Shearer aged 89 years; Valeria Stafford, Margery Smith (Mrs Anderson)

OBITUARY.

In hospital, on November 1st 1977, aged 89 years, Elizabeth Ross Shearer. As an older Old Bedas I have known Miss Shearer during the whole span of her life in Sunderland. While still a schoolgirl, I admired her teaching ability, and her earnest desire to make us learn and love the French language.

All through my post-school days I have watched with equal admiration and interest her amazing and sustained activity in the Guild of Old Bedas. Her memory of Old Bedas was truly wonderful, and her interest in everyone of them and in all their doings never failed.

During her later years, when she nursed and cared for Miss Arkie, and later still when she coped with increasing deafness and blindness with such courage and cheerfulness, my admiration and affection grew. Communication for Miss Shearer was the breath of life and when at long length the means of communication failed her, still she gallantly struggled on, so much so that even as a very old lady in a hospital ward, unable to talk, a patient in an adjacent bed said of her "She's lovely" - a testimony indeed. A gallant little lady, we shall not see her like again.

A tribute: "I was never taught by Miss Shearer so I associate her mainly with the G. O. B.; the two are inseparable in my mind. I remember her at meetings - "the memory blink" - bobbing up, hands clasped in front of her, to recall in rather breathless, staccato voice, just what happened, when and why. The Guild was very largely her baby, and she seemed to remember every little detail of its history - together with its members and their histories. She must have been well rewarded by the healthy development of her protégé, and by the affection by which she was held by as many members right to the end.

Like an old soldier, E. R. S faded away but in the Guild of Old Bedas she will never die.

Another tribute: "I was taught by Miss Shearer - one of those Bede pupils whose form-mistress she was for three years, the last being in the Upper Sixth - "Miss Shearer's Form" as we were wryly called. She thought a great deal about us all - it was mutual. As a form mistress she noticed all kinds of things -- self-seeking; consideration for others - or lack of it; hidden kindnesses. She was positive, shrewd, sarcastic - her caustic

comments, usually warranted, were often the cause of a red schoolgirl face in the classrooms; she hated affectation, fuss, or pretence of any kind; she had a strong sense of fair play. No schoolgirl in her class could fail to be impressed by her definite personality, her independence and her strong sense of right and wrong. Many of us kept in touch with E. B. S. after leaving school through the G. O. B. She knew our children, and heard about our grandchildren. She was a wonderful teacher, and be it French, a love of all books, good manners, or loyalty, we all learned something unforgettable from her."

At the funeral service of Miss E. B. Shearer at Sunderland Crematorium on Friday, November 4th, many "school years" of Old Bedana were represented. The service was taken by the Minister of St. George's Church Sunderland, who knew Miss Shearer well. He spoke of a sturdy independence, a mind well-stocked, and a conversation that was bracing, and although her sight and hearing were impaired, she was well enough aware of the world about her to miss nothing that would add grief to her fall."

Although it was requested that donations in lieu of flowers should be sent to charities, a large spray of pink and white carnations and chrysanthemums was sent from the Guild of Old Bedana.

NEWS OF FORMER MEMBERS OF STAFF,

Miss K. Boskop was kind enough to send the following news of former members of staff:

Miss Amy Waggott who retired in 1968, lives in Cheltenham. She has had operations for cataracts, sends me a birthday card and a Christmas Card, but has given up letter writing. Her address is Faithful House, Suffolk Square, Cheltenham.

Miss Catherine Murray (Geography) who taught for a few years after the end of the war now lives at Port of Ness, Isle of Lewis. She rang me up one Sunday afternoon last February and talked for nearly half an hour, because she hadn't been able to get out of the house for nearly three weeks, due to ferocity of gales from the Atlantic. I remember scrambling up, down and around Skiddaw, Blencathra, Helvellyn and all sorts of places between, under her leadership, and in company of Audrey Kidd, Avril Trumbath, Jessie Reed and others. This was called "Field Work".

Miss Mary Burrows (History) who taught for a short time at the end of the war, then went into Civil Service, is now nearing retirement, but still has a very active and interesting post in the Ministry for Employment. Her mother, now nearly 90 years old, is still as lively and charming as ever. Their home is in Watford. I remember Mary dealing with a HEB former who wanted to write to the Editor about the cold in room 3. Her assertion that such things were "just not done" didn't seem to be cutting much ice with the frozen fifth. The whole school was bitterly cold in those days. Miss Midge Radd who taught Divinity, ran the S. C. M., and shared charities with Miss Wilman, is now retired and lives in Saltburn. She is involved in Church work, Townswomen's Guild, Meals on Wheels, Photographic Society, and still finds time to dance attendance on a large tom cat called "Skipper" who thinks he owns the house".

(Canada) Elsie Harper has moved from Peace River, Canada to St. Paul, which is 110 miles from Alberta. Miss Orme toured Italy this year and hopes to attend the G. O. B. Jubilee dinner, Carole Angrie (Mrs. Martin) who taught maths, has two daughters. 'Young' Margaret Hunter (Edwards) was visited by Judith Griffiths (Mrs. Griffiths) during the summer and they went to visit another former member of staff, Ann Hindeon (Mrs. Dennis), who lives near Harlow. We were sorry to hear that Miss Hall was in poor health after an attack of shingles.

HOME OF OLD BEANS

Violet Blackman (Wojniak) lives in Rochdale, and wrote in a letter to Nora Johnson (Wilson): "Always at Christmas time I feel nostalgic when there is extra singing going on, and I can still remember a lot of the Latin words of 'Olem Davidica in urbe' and 'Adante Fidelis', and can see in my mind's eye Miss Orme's beautifully rounded handwriting. Looking back, it seems to me that we were well taught in Singing, and no doubt in other things as well".

Dorcas Suffield (Bewin) lives in Bardon, Derbyshire; her sister Marjorie, retired from teaching, is living in Dalton-in-Dale. Sylvia Thatcher (Bancroft) is now living in Tilehurst, Reading; Olga Palmer (Harley) is in Nab Wood, Shipley. Joyce Rathgate (Stachinson) is in Leeds, Marjorie Crampton (MRS. Hall) is in Crowthorne, Berkshire, Vera Duffell (Wood) is Colchester. Dorcas Stoddard (Bayfield) now lives in Heywood, Wiltshire with a London address in Woodford Green, Essex. Midge Colwell has moved from Middleborough and is now living in Harrogate, Minnie Collinson is now at Wiltshire House, Wetherwick, Sunderland, a home for the aged, Elizabeth Kerr (Pearce) has moved from Worthington-Halesowen, W. Midlands, and wonders if any Old Beans of her year at Bede (1858-66) live in the Midlands? Her address is 16, Honeybourne Road, Halesowen. John Sutherland (Foulston) lives in Stocham, Oxon; Marjorie Edwards (Haley) in Leonard Stanley, near Stonehouse; she visits her sister-in-law Margaret Capon in Rhidsa. Dorothy Wilson lives in Solihull, and is deputy head of a comprehensive school in Birmingham. Sheila Johnston's home is in Ashford, Middlesex. Marjorie Watson (Leonard) whose home is in Leeds, had the expected visit of her French pen-friend from Bede schooldays mentioned last year. It was a great success; they found much in common, and were able to give their French guests a glimpse of the Yorkshire dales. A longer visit is planned for the future, and Marjorie hopes to visit them in Vichy. At home, Marjorie enjoys her T. G. activities - arts and crafts and folk dancing. She sends best wishes to her Old Beans friends.

MEETINGS Gladys Thornley (Miller) had a friendly chat with Miss Bradbury and friends when they met at the Sharrow Bay Hotel in Canaria. Betty Ritch (Stafford) met Kathleen Smith (Pickworth) in a service station car park on the M 1, after a lapse of 20 years. Kathleen's home is in Aylesbury. Peggy Victory (Stinson) and Doris Forster (Robinson) spent a day at Aschamside this summer visiting Lena Thompson and Phyllis Peters. The latter were planning to sail down the Nile in October. Doris Forster accompanied Mary Arkless (Robinson) and her husband on a holiday in

Egypt in October. Amy Robinson stayed with Ella Suter (Siddle) at her home in Great Carlton this summer. While holidaying in Yorkshire, Evelyn Thompson (Paine) visited Margaret Chipman (Hester) at Ryhope General, Margaret, very handy for hospital visiting at Ryhope General, saw Kitty Hepburn (Whitton) and talked with her in one of the wards. Edith Broderick (Barge), when on holiday in Sunderland phoned Nancy Mitchell (Crowe), but finding the latter out of town visited instead Vera Kemp (Devlin) for coffee and a chat. Edith is head of a Domestic Science Department in a Reading (Berks) school. Jennie Vincent (Ord) paid the Turners, Margaret and Nell a flying visit again this year while over here from Quebec. She had tried to locate Edith Alexander at Middleton without success. At a meeting of Bede staff to meet parents of the 11th year pupils, Audrey Kinch interviewed Denise Wagner (Barn), Margaret Sherrock (Gill) and Ann Chevalier (?) Doris Septon (Crichton) has been visited by the following Old Bede friends in her cottage at Newbiggin-in-Tweedale (see letter) - Lena Thompson, Phyllis Peters, Mary Mackintosh (Alderson), Ma Walker (Earl), Kathleen Bellamy (McRobert), Vera Brown (Gale), Midge Hardy, Beattie Peake (Green) Edith, Jessy and May Alexander, Peggy Victory (Stinson), Margery Smythe (Sanderson), Nora Pallister, Beatrice Bright (Harrison), Peggy Allen (Greene), Nancy Dippy (Speight), Elaine Wilson (Hosker), Marion Bleet (Cartledge), Elaine Smith (Spence), Hilda Johnson, Christie Hartness (Carr), Vera Sheridan, Elizabeth Sanderson (Maj), Laura Cronbie and Gladys Seymour. Winnie Scott (Thomas) returning home from a visit to Washington in June visited Hilda Andrews (Moore) at her home in the lovely Essex countryside at Balstead and caught up with a few years' news.

BEDANS AT WORK. After a year of general medicine at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, Marjorie Bailis has moved to Southampton General Hospital to a Paediatric Unit. She is a Senior House Officer, and will spend thirty weeks on the Paediatric Wards and twenty weeks in the Special Care Baby Unit. Southampton General is a teaching hospital, and there are many students in training there. Marjorie passed on to Miss Wilman news of Bedeans who were friends of the same year at school. Anabelle Carr has started work at Newcastle N. V. L. as an anaesthetist S. H. O. She qualified as a doctor a year later than Marjorie. Christine Charlton and Marjorie spent a week in Chester in August with Elspeth McLoughry (?) Elspeth, who qualified as a Pharmacist works in 'Boots' in Chester. Sylvia Bofson (Berg) teaches maths in a big North London Comprehensive School where the children are pretty tough but she copes by being even tougher. She has two children of her own. Helen Allinson (Bogott) daughter of Grace Caldwell, is personal assistant to the chief executive of Dorset County Council. Isabel Caldwell, sister of Grace, is senior lecturer in Commerce at Longside College, Glasgow. In addition she arranges social evenings for "down and out" women living in Glasgow Hostels. Ann Rumbly (Harrington) is the head of P. E. at a Manchester School. Ann Chisholm teaches some P. E. at Southmeor School, but is also teaching Maths up 4th year work. Jane Harris (Moffett) was married this year in Girton College Chapel, Cambridge. She is working at an Oxford Street Branch of Lloyds. Retired from teaching; Dorothy Crow (Robinson) Dorothy Grierson (Kennedy) Belle Dodd (Smith).

SPORT,

Gymnastics.

Jane Allison (Groves) has been made an honorary life member of the British Amateur Gymnastics Association for her services to the Association, which includes serving on the Women's Technical Committee and as an International Judge. Her work with the Whitburn Gymnastics Club has resulted in many fine competitors scoring successes in various gymnastic competitions. She is also known as an author and coach.

Keep Fit.

Peggy Victory (Simons), after ten years as Chairman of Sunderland Branch of the Keep Fit Association has resigned, but has agreed to become Vice-President. The President is Miss Phyllis Peters. For a second year, Peggy was Principal of the Keep Fit Summer School, this year held at Lady Mabel College of Physical Education, Rotherham.

Golf.

Among Old Bedou winners this year on the golfing scene are Pauline Vetch (Creecher) at an invitation Day at Whitburn, where Pam Metcalfe (Wilson), Ethel Lethe (Lockenby), Marjorie Wilson (Lindoo) Rose Bell and Winnie Scott (Thames) were also taking part. At South Shields' invitation Day, Dorothy Grierson (Kennedy), Jessie Hoy (Smith) and Winnie Scott met Beattie Newby (Hill) for the first time since school days. Here Olga Wright (Stewart) was a winner. At various clubs Marilyn Miller (Haster), Eunice Bruce (Ward), Olga Wright and Winnie Scott have won trophies.

Badminton.

Joan Taylor (Cole), Kathleen Cassop (Laythorpe), Judith Fringle and Gillian Longford have been chosen for the Durham County Team. Gill is still at Bedou. Valerie Loveton is again goalkeeper on the County second eleven.

In the North East Inter-District sports competition, at the Sporting Club of Washington, the victorious women's five-a-side hockey team included Joan Taylor, Kathleen Cassop and Norma Batty.

Norma Batty and Carol Nalaby are both chosen this season for the Sheffield League team. They are now at the Remedial Gymnast College at Wakefield.

Of Interest.

Bessie Halliday (Downs) is Chairman of Herrington Gardening Association and Hilda Udell (Batter) Chairman of Baker Flower Club. Jean Crompton (Roberts) is sub leader in Cookley near Kildersminster. Brenda Bryers (Bood) is President of South Shields Inver Wheel, and is also International Inver Wheel Honorary Editor. In November Dorothy Morton had three pictures hang at Sunderland Art Gallery Annual Exhibition. One was accepted for the North East Artists' Exhibition at the D. L. L. Museum.

Seen on an I. T. V. broadcast about Castle Howard, Yorkshire, were two interested visitors - Dorothy Bell and Doris Johnson.

FOREIGN NEWS

Margaret Mundy (Barrow) has moved from Leeds to Montreal where her husband is Technical Manager of Fibre Optics, Canada Wire. Before her departure, Margaret had won the title of 'Secretary of the Year' in Leeds which earned her a silver cup, a luxury holiday for two in Southern Ireland and an award for the firm for which she was then working.

Olive Macdonald (Adams) lives in Edmonds, Wa., U.S.A., and has visited Margaret Percy whose home is in Weybridge, Surrey.

Max Stirling (Jeffrey) flew to Australia this year for her son's wedding. Audrey Kitch and her sister Elsie (Marston) went to America this year to visit Elsie's daughter in Cincinnati, and on the plane met Pat Stirling's mother, also visiting. Audrey still keeps in touch with American pupils in Rockford, Illinois, arranged for Bedans by Miss Pattison, an American Methu. teacher who did a year's exchange with Miss Franklin.

Margaret Dockray (Stewart) is living at Starjak, in the Middle East. She has been visited there by her mother, Betsy Wilson, and Old Bedan step-father Jimmy Robson, who had a marvellous holiday there. Margaret has two sons at school in Durham.

Hilda Stuby (Skjellerup) was considering moving from Denmark to Costa del Sol, since the death of her husband.

Eileen Whitting (Davison) is returning, with her husband, to live in Sunderland after many years in Rhodesia. Ivy Hiddick (Snowdon) was coming 'home' on a visit this year from America. Vera Mary Kitchon (Lysons), 1907-42, from Kinross, Alberta, briefly visited Bede School in October but was unable to get in touch with anyone she remembered in the short time available.

SCHOOL NEWS.

Staff Changes. Mrs J. H. Bell retired in July after 17 years of loyal and devoted service to the School. As Domestic Science teacher in the Girls' School she trained many to be remarkably proficient in the art of cooking and other housewifely skills. Then on the amalgamation of the Girls' and Boys' Schools in 1907 she became Head of Pemberton House and made a notable contribution to the progress of the new mixed school. She will long be remembered for her patient and sympathetic understanding of all who 'came under her wing'. School will miss her and sincerely hopes that she will enjoy a long, happy and active retirement.

School has also said 'goodbye' to Mrs P. Thomas, Miss S. Buckley, Mrs J. Y. Davies, Mrs E. A. Walker, Mrs L. Smith, Mr. A. J. and Mrs S. L. Pattison, Mr. A. Grant and Mr. D.R. Moss, while Mr. R. J. Stewart has embarked upon a year's leave to complete a B. Ed. Course.

This term new members welcomed to the staff were Mrs M. O. Knights, Mrs M. Speed, Miss P. Maddison*, Miss A. Hills, Mrs S. E. Watson, Mrs J. Allan, Mrs V. E. Watson, Mrs C. F. Colclough, Miss S. A. Guthrie*, Miss R. L. Mather, Mrs Y. M. Gibson, and Mr. W. H. Toher. Mrs P. Atkinson* who helped us during Mrs. Youngs' absence last term has remained with us as a substitute for Mr. Stewart. (*Old Bedans)

Youngest Old Bedans. Five Pupils have gained entry to Oxford or Cambridge this year: Cambridge: Christine Ramsey; Exhibition in Modern Languages, Girton, and Catherine Topcliffe - Natural Sciences, Girton. Oxford: Eddie Fisher - Natural Sciences, Hertford. Paul Juler - Mathematics, Hertford. Chris Parker - Jurisprudence - Keele.

From your letters. From her new home at 18, Corin Lodge Road, Broadstone, Dorset, Elsie Davison (Kirkwood) writes: "We are very happy here in spite of our limitations. Dorset is a lovely county, within a few minutes ride we are in beautiful villages with thatched roof cottages. We are near the New Forest and the coast line. We have seen some of the loveliest spots, but there are lots more for us to visit; it is something for us to look forward to. Everyone around is very friendly; we often go for coffee or tea to friends near us. Conversation is always very interesting - folk have come from all parts of England. One gentleman had been stationed at East Boldon during the First World War, and remembered Whitburn Hall and Southside Lane, as Southburn was then called. The three rose bushes - Wendy Cousins, Peace and Superstar have blossomed well - they are really healthy specimens. I have picked dozens of roses from the bushes and at the moment there is a bowl of tea roses in front of me gathered from the G. O. B. bushes (they have been a delight to us both, and are a constant reminder of happy days spent with the G. O. B., now almost fifty years old. I do hope that Miss Shearer will be able to participate in the Guild's 50th Birthday, because she was its inspiration. Grace Caldwell (Wilson) has been and still is, very very kind. There is no doubt that her kindness and interest in us has helped us in no small way to settle here. At Grace's invitation I have joined the R. N. L. L. and Broadstone Luncheon Club for cancer charities, and these organisations hold money raising functions - fashion shows, coffee mornings, musical evenings etc. We attend Broadstone United Reform Church, and receive a very warm welcome. It is a very lively church and one has to get there early to get a seat! Broadstone itself is a very nice modern village, just a mile away. Around the corner from us there is a bus stop so shopping is easy for me. Wherever you look, there are trees and the woods, three minutes walk away, abound in squirrels, jays, woodpeckers etc. The squirrels come and sit on our fence and on top of the garage. The garden is small - just big enough to potter in. We are both very thankful for our many blessings.

Mabel Pross (Potts) having celebrated her Golden Wedding in 1974, writes, "It was good to have the 'Old Bester' - this always brings back many memories of school-the patience of Miss Weddell, Miss Lodge, and Miss Trear". Lilian Rowe, writing from Hagby recalls "the small but happy UNI already mentioned in previous magazines - Edith Ainsworth, Amy Haxsey (Dwyer) the late Enid Crowe and herself. She claims the very happy atmosphere was largely due to the magnificent staff:- Miss Shearer for French, Miss Weddell for English, Miss Lodge for Latin, Miss Caldwell revelling in dealing with the Social and Industrial History of the 19th C - 'a galaxy of scholars who were also inspiring teachers."

From Corner Cottage, Hilltop, Newbiggin-in-Teesdale, Doris Septon (Orlinton) writes in January: "Recoloured in my hilltop cottage, and after reading the "Old Bester", I began to count up all the friendships which took root in the Old School more than sixty years ago - and flourished

under conditions that would have been condemned to-day - crowded classrooms, no physical training facilities, a playing field with furrows and not even level, miles outside the town; but what fun we had in spite of the swilling crocodile trailing through the West Park to a dingy hall for P.T. with slipper-bags at the ready - and how we loved that hockey field. We bought whitening at a shop in Hyton Road and had to account for it. on a bill to Miss Swart - but we marked the field ourselves, cleaned the hat, and became thoroughly responsible Bedans. What we owe to "Crutch" can never be totted up. "Turn up no matter how bad the weather" - meet the visiting team, play the game, entertain them in the laboratory afterwards with a delicious meal and Birchall's cakes. We ordered the food, got the precious bill and laid out the spread, then we escorted our guests to the station. We had no dining room and never missed it. The "Tin Tab" was leaking and cold, but we accepted this as normal. Beyond the Tab was Room 27 which was locked at break, but many a Bedin managed to hide in the lockers round the room. Here waged the war between the Doves and Eagles and the old-fashioned jokes with anecdoting powder. Angela Brazil's School Days had no look in. Staff must have had a grim time patrolling such rambling premises - and cloakroom duties. We dare not leave unless our gloves were firmly on our hands (even today I feel adressed without my gloves).

The playground - no room for much, but the netball pitch was there and at dinner time "Crutch" coached the would-be hockey team. There was ritch friendly rivalry in my time between the hockey and netball contingents - and many a thrilling game there was. The staff had singularly different characters - all were unique in their own way - early French with Grassy Maynard, really interesting geography with Missie Charlton, art lessons with Miss Stokes, marvellous singing with Crutch, cricket with Miss Trout.

Since I came here six years ago I have been visited by 20 Old Bedans which only goes to show that fine buildings and everything that money can provide are not necessary to create loyal friendships and happy memories. I must say this - I asked for "The Donkey" by John Massfield for a prize after having it read to us in English, but was refused because it was not suitable, and had to take Tomryson instead - how times change! In needweek I had to make a canisole with a basque because the naggur blouse I wanted was too modern! My love to all older Old Bedans - happy memories!

Florence Mosbray (Crompton) wrote to Margaret Hunter "Here is my subscription - cheap at the price. I sat straight down to read my "OldBedans" when it arrived".

EDITORIAL COMMENTS It is sad that as we prepare for a Jubilee Year of the Guild of Old Bedans, we mourn the death of its founder, Miss E. H. Shearer. The Guild Secretary was one of her last visitors in hospital and she was given greetings and good wishes to pass on to fellow members of the Guild from E. H. S.

It is a fitting tribute to her memory that the G. O. S. continues to flourish, and that Old Bodans continues to meet in an atmosphere of happy memories and good fellowship.

Our thanks with help with this magazine go to all our letter-writers, our reporters and our typists, Winnie Graham, Elizabeth Longster, Margaret Hunter and Olga Stewart, and our auditor Mr. C. H. Hutchinson.

To all Old Bodans, our greetings for 1978; join us, if you can, in our Jubilee Year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Winter Banquet will be held in the Needlework Room at Bede on Friday, 27th January 1978 from 7.00 p. m. till 9.30 p. m. If you wish to attend please give your name to the Secretary or any member of the committee before January 20th. Cost of the evening 80p.

The Dinner Banquet will be held in the Saker Park Suite on Friday, 21st April at 7.30 p. m. Tickets will be approximately £3.50 and names should be given in by April 1978.

A special function to mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Guild will be held in the School in June.

Tombola: We are hoping to run a Tombola Stall at the Dinner Banquet and at the Jubilee celebration - proceeds to help with transport expenses for school girl members of the Hockey Club and with the cost of repairs to the clock given by the Guild to the School when it opened in 1958. Any one who would like to give a small gift for this stall should contact John Liddle, 3, Hawthorn Terr., Whitburn, Elaine White (Bailey), 1, Marina Grove, Busty Wilson (Robson), 8, Ashbrooke Mount, or Mrs. Jean Bell, 58, Newlands Avenue.

Statement of Accounts on August 31st 1977

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Subscriptions: Annual	30.00	Printing	86.00
Life	15.75	Stationery	5.15
Donations	2.85	Postage	23.55
Meetings	18.57½	Gifts and Cards	2.42
Interest	93.79	School prizes	2.50
London Branch	14	Editorial Expenses	2.50
Loss on years working	2.42½	Donation to School	
		(Clock repair)	10.00
		Corporation Tax	38.00
		London Branch	1.50
	<u>£184.30</u>		<u>£184.30</u>

Total Funds on August 31st 1977

Balance on Aug. 31st 1976	1212.55	Made up as follows:	
Loss on the years working	2.42½	1½% War Stock	88.00
		9½% Savings Bonds	75.00
		Sunderland Trustee	
		Savings Bank	
		Crd. Dept.	48.36
		Spec. Inv. Dept.	980.10
		Barclays Bank	22.00
		Cash in Hand	4.28½
	<u>£1209.11½</u>		<u>£1209.11½</u>

I have examined the receipt books, Stock receipts, Savings Bonds, Deposit and Special Investment Accounts and Current Accounts and certify the everything is in order.

G. H. Hutchinson
31. 8. 77

Margaret L. Haster
Hon. Treasurer.

