

THE OLD BEDAN

1983

THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS
Office Bearers and Committee 1983.

President: Mrs. L. Youngs

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. A.A.Y. Carrick, Miss J.E. Bradbury, Mrs. E.I. Kirkwood.

Chairman: Margaret Chapman (Hunter), 9 Stockton Road, Ryhope, Sunderland.
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Secretary/Treasurer: D. Irene Wilkinson, 62 Charter Drive, East Herrington,
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Assistant Secretary: Joan Hayton, 12 Braeside, Sunderland. Telephone: 43583.

Committee

Elsie White (Bailey), Tel: 484943; Jean Keogh (Francis), Tel: 488809;

Lily Richardson (Lawson), Tel: 482147; Jean Brewis (Pillans);

Dorothy Middlemiss (Sugden), Tel: 486211; Eileen Ord (Kirkaldy), Tel: 285711;

Audrey Robson (Dennis); Ann Harland (Fox), Tel: Boldon 363210.

Staff Representative: Audrey Hudson (Henderson), Telephone: 227597.

Co-opted

Magazine Editor: Anne Mitchell (Crowe) Telephone: 659301.

Robina Forster (Lawson) and Brenda Johnston (Juler).

As always "no sub. - no magazine." Thanks to your wonderful response to our appeal in last year's magazine - printing costs are not such a nightmare as in previous years.

Please let the Secretary - Miss Irene Wilkinson - have your subscription (50p) for 1982-83 if you have not already paid. The Life Subscription is still only £3.50. Please make it clear in your letters to the Secretary or Editor which is your maiden and which your married name. We always hope to use your maiden name, with your married name in brackets.

1983 GATHERING OF BLATHERSKITES (WINTER RE-UNION).

A reassuringly familiar pattern to the evening. Much gossip, some giggles, welcoming words from Elsie, our Chairman, ever-more cunning games devised by Robina and Brenda, played with great gusto by the whole company, knowing that sweets were offered as prizes. A most welcome breather at 8.15 for supper, with Mrs. Ayleen Mills again providing attractive refreshments and our cheerful committee members distributing tea in unlimited quantities.

Mrs. Youngs, after drawing the raffle and presenting the prizes, gave us an encouraging picture of present day pupils and their achievements.

So to more games, requiring much energy and consultation, before singing, gathering of belongings and departing home. An unimaginably naive occasion to some people, nevertheless 63 women enjoyed meeting together for a few hours in a schoolroom, in a simple, rather old-fashioned way. Thank you to all those who made it possible.

Jean Brewis (Pillans).

ANNUAL DINNER RE-UNION, 15th April 1983.

The Annual Dinner Re-Union took place on April 15th. It was a lovely spring evening, just the kind we always hope for in June for the Summer Outing, when we made

our way to the "Continental." A busy half hour was spent greeting friends and catching up on news, then promptly at 7.30 p.m. dinner was announced and we sat down to an excellent meal of asparagus soup, roast beef etc., fruit salad with cream, and coffee.

Following the meal we sang the School Song and were delighted to have Win Thomas, now looking fit and well again after her illness, to accompany us at the piano.

Elsie White (Bailey) our Chairman welcomed the 72 members of the Guild who were present and was pleased to note that the number included two of our Vice-Presidents, Miss Bradbury and Mrs. Carrick; several members of Bede Staff both past and present; and some Old Bedans who had travelled from out of town. An apology had been received from the President.

Elsie announced that the Summer Outing would take place on the evening of June 10th. We had hoped to arrange a trip to Gateshead Little Theatre this time as we seemed to have had so many cold, wet evenings over the last few years, but it had not been possible and instead, a coach would take us to Hamsterley where supper would be provided by the local W.I.

Anne Mitchell (Crowe) asked for more and more news for the magazine. She was delighted to report that donations amounting to more than £200 had been received in answer to the appeal in last year's Old Bedan. This would be a great help in coping with the ever increasing cost of printing and postage. Wearing her other hat, Anne told us that a "begging bowl" passed round during the meal had raised £43 for our Social Services.

Time was flying and our entertainers had arrived so we gathered round to enjoy a wonderful hour of music provided for us by Miss Sue Jordan of Bede Staff and Mr. David Fidderman. They sang songs to please all tastes, solos and duets, grave and gay, and we were loath to let them go when the programme was finished. Elsie thanked them warmly for giving us so much pleasure and also thanked Joyce Bagley who had accompanied them so well on a piano that had, alas, seen better days.

All too soon it was time to go home. The 1983 Re-Union had been a great success. Our grateful thanks to all those who worked so hard to arrange it.

THE SUMMER OUTING – Friday, 10th June 1983.

Recalling the hospitality we received at last year's summer outing, Peggy Victory (Simson), in her account, declared that we would regret it if we did not partake in this year's expedition. Our destination was Hamsterley, with supper supplied by the local Women's Institute.

On June 10th, therefore, we eagerly foregathered. Some turned up who hadn't been for years. Peggy had a previous engagement.

The evening was sunny and mild, which should have aroused some foreboding; we usually have to suffer driving rain and cold winds. At Gorse Road, the starting venue, a gaggle of us impatiently awaited the 'bus. Some twenty minutes late, it arrived, bearing the Herrington contingent. This was not because they had contrived to "bag" the best seats, but because they had unexpectedly encountered the driver at the Board Inn, where he was seeking directions for his starting point. The rest of us piled in.

We had not travelled far, when those with keen ears said they heard odd noises from the engine, discernable even above the chatter. At the 'bus stop near the Barnes Hotel, we picked up the last group, or perhaps the last straw, as the 'bus refused to budge. After a somewhat cursory inspection, the driver made reference to "bleeding the clutch" (or maybe "the bleeding clutch").

It now emerged that the company from which the 'bus was hired had no reserve buses left. Just then, as it chanced, one of its fleet hove into view. Its destination was marked as – was it "Southport" or "Singapore?" Nevertheless it was flagged down and its

driver induced to peer into our vehicle's innards. He departed, shaking his head. Word was passed round that a fitter was to be sent from South Shields (or Southport?). Anyhow he was never to appear.

Our driver, it transpired was replacing a friend and therefore had limited knowledge of bus, company, or localities. No wonder he seemed cheerful and unruffled! We, however, were becoming anxious, because we were already late for our appointment with the Hamsterley W.I.

Elsie (our Chairman) and Irene (our Secretary) went off to try to communicate with them by 'phone. This they did at intervals in the Barnes Hotel, whence they returned, each time more soberly. Eventually they were no longer able to make contact because, by then, all the W.I. members were down at their hall, preparing the meal we would not be eating. Amazingly, Irene was able to recall the name of a Hamsterley 'pub' and managed to persuade the landlord to send a message of cancellation and profuse apologies to the W.I.

By now we had spent two hours in gossip, speculation and increasing hunger.

It was 8 p.m. when we abandoned 'bus. Some hours later it was still to be seen there, quite deserted, like a modern Mary Celeste.

Post Script. The 'bus company accepted responsibility and donated sufficient money to recompense the Hamsterley W.I. who were very understanding and generous. This happy outcome must have been largely due to the diplomacy of Elsie and Irene, and at the A.G.M. Audrey Hudson (Henderson) spoke for us all when she thanked them for their patient efforts.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 30th September 1983

The Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, September 30th. There were 17 present in the Needlework Room at Bede School.

Apologies for absence were received from: – President, Mrs. L. Youngs; Win Scott (Thomas); Dorothy Common (Craven); Eileen Ord (Kirkaldy); Ann Harland (Fox); Brenda Johnson (Juler); Nora Johnson (Wilson) and Bunty Wilson (Robson).

The minutes of the previous A.G.M. were read by the secretary, approved and signed. The financial statement was read and showed a credit of £99.26 on the year's workings.

The secretary then read the names of the officers and committee. The retiring chairman, Elsie Bailey, on handing over the chain of office to Margaret Chapman (Hunter) said "I have thoroughly enjoyed my two years as Chairman and feel very honoured to have worn this chain of office."

Reports were given of the Social Services and the London Branch.

It was agreed to give £10 for the school prize.

The meetings for the coming year were discussed and dates suggested.

The meeting ended with tea and biscuits.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The total funds of the Guild on August 31st 1983 are £1,304.40½. They are made up as follows: – 3½% War Stock £98.36; Sunderland Trustee Savings Bank Special A/C £843.10; Sunderland Trustee Savings Bank Ordinary A/C £55.90; Barclays Bank £241.66; People's Trust £60.70; Cash in Hand £4.68½.

Our income for the year came from Subscriptions £55.00; profit from the meetings £27.07; Interest on investments £98.53; and donations from Special Appeal £238.00.

During the year we spent £136.98 on printing; £15.93 on stationery; £56.83 on postages; £4.86 on flowers and cards; £88.60 on Corporation Tax for 2 years and £10 for School prize.

There is a credit on the year's workings of £99.26.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There are 449 members in the Guild at present. Of these, 3 are new life members and 8 have become life members.

The Winter Re-Union was held on January 28th 1983 and 60 attended.

The Dinner Re-Union was held at the Continental Hotel on Friday, 15th April 1983 and 72 attended.

The Summer Outing was arranged for Friday, 10th June 1983 and was to go to Hamsterley.

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary represented the Guild at the School prize-giving in December.

The appeal for funds to help with the expenses of the magazine was very successful and it was very encouraging to hear from members from so many places, home and abroad.

We had 3 committee meetings during the year at the home of the Chairman, Elsie Bailey. I should like to thank Elsie and all the members of the committee for their help and support.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Hilary M. Richardson (Joiner)

Rina Hands

Ann Vosper (Lalas)

BECAME LIFE MEMBERS:-

Dorothy Wilkinson (Urquhart)

Lily Border

Jean Brewis (Pillans)

Mollie Kirby (Carter)

Amy Stephenson (Ferguson)

Gladys Burrell

Jean Henderson (Telfer)

Clare Clark (Holmes)

LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS REPORT - 1983.

A total of £232.70 was available. £216 was distributed to 19 girls going into Higher Education, the scholarships being awarded on a scale according to A-level performance, reducing from £25 to £6.

Two girls achieved a total of 15+ points: 3 x A and merits on Special Papers.

Vivianne Lamb one of the recipients of an award is currently studying Economics at Jesus College, Cambridge and is a neighbour of Prince Edward.

**L. Youngs,
Senior Mistress/Head of Upper School.**

SOCIAL SERVICE REPORT for 1983.

We have had our usual three meetings this year - two at the homes of committee members, and the third in school prior to the A.G.M. of the Guild. I would like to thank those members who made us welcome in their homes and provided us with excellent coffee and biscuits. The donations given by the members for the latter help to fill our "coffers."

Our thanks go to all who sent donations in memory of Miss Wilman and to the "girls" who still play Canasta - and enjoy a super supper - and send the proceeds to our funds - and finally to all who help us.

We started the year with £78.07 and received £80 in donations; £129.50 from Canasta parties; £57 from Raffle at Winter Re-Union and collection at the Dinner; £1 from Committee meetings and Bank Interest was £4.39. We gave to our folk £50 at Harvest; £60 at Christmas and Easter Gifts £47.50 and we now have a balance of £196.46p.

We were very sorry to hear of Elsie Hooker's illness earlier in the year but so pleased to find her now "feeling fine" and although not able to come to evening meetings - still willing to visit her 'old folk.'

We were sorry to accept Edith Kerr's resignation from the committee - also due to ill health - but would like to record our thanks for the many years of faithful service she has given and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Doris Robinson, too, is in hospital but by the time you are reading this report, we hope she will be well on the way to recovery.

Anne Mitchell.

THE LONDON BRANCH, May 1983.

For our May Re-Union, Nancy Lawther (Hubicka) was hostess and we had our usual exchange of news and a delicious tea.

Only five of us were present and it was suggested that a buffet lunch might be more attractive for those who had to travel a long distance.

As everyone agreed, I invited members to lunch with me in October. After a week of rain we were lucky to have a sunny day and nine 'old girls' turned up, including a new one - Irene Chevers (Cook). She had met Alice Waldron (Kilburn) on a local tour and in the course of the conversation they had discovered that they were both Old Bedans!

We were all pleased to see Irene and hope she will be a regular.

Nancy told us that her daughter (Olga Hubicka) was to be an announcer on Channel 4, so we are all going to switch on to see her on November 2nd!

Eleanor Wilson (Titheradge) was on her way to her daughter's to see her first grandchild and be "Nanny" for a week.

That's all until May 1984!

**Doreen Ward (Macrae),
39 Birch Grove,
LONDON, W.39SP.
Tel: 01-992-3907.**

HOMES OF OLD BEDANS

Kathleen Marley (Forbes) now in Abercorn in South Wales - Ruth Marley (Green) still at Alderley Edge and Gwen Marley (Cheesman) is in Rushington, West Sussex.

Sheila Gallon (Way) has moved to Castleton near Whitby.

To our knowledge the following Old Bedans are living in North Yorkshire - Elizabeth Keenlyside (Arnall) at Aiskew, Bedale, Hilda Andrews (Moore) at Scruton, Margaret Garbutt (Carr) in Bedale. There may be more unknown to us.

Rita Craggs (Young) a former secretary of the Guild is now living in Broadstone, Dorset, near Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) and they hoped to have a meeting.

Elizabeth Thurlbeck (Airey) is now living in Cumbria; Patty Bagley (Pearson) in Cheltenham; Elizabeth Wright (Makepeace), a doctor, is now specialising in anaesthetics at Newcastle's R.V.I. and lives in Jesmond. Kathleen Wilson (Ford) and her husband are delighted to be resident in a Masonic Home in Cramlington.

Susan Broderick is now Personal Assistant to the Organiser at the Brighton Conference Centre.

Sally Auld (Pattinson) is to live in Horsham.

Eleanor L. Carfill (Macleod) has moved to Kelso.

Rita Manning (Dix) is retiring from teaching deaf children and is to live in Bernera in the Hebrides where her husband's family belong and where some of his family still live.

Audrey Henderson is on the Executive Committee of the Sunderland Marriage Council. Eileen Robinson (Temple) and her sister Margaret (Dixon) are in the second round of the Townswomen Guild Scrabble Competition. Dorothy Cockburn (Dugdale) has been appointed a Team Leader for the W.R.V.S. running Herrington Child Welfare Clinic.

Ethel Foreman (Towers) hit the headlines in the Sunderland Echo. On reading of a woman who had cycled from John O'Groats to Land's End, Ethel wondered if her own effort to do likewise in 1948 had indeed set a record. On that occasion Ethel had cycled 1903 miles in 23 days.

Phyllis Lodge (1914 - 19) sends her greetings and good wishes to all who remember:-

Ma Boon (the greatest of these is charity)
Farquharette (no talking in the corridor, please)
Dainty Dinah (the smell of burning feathers)
Granny Mesuard (les yeux)
Miss Ewart (fill up the spaces)

The Great Art Room Fire

Fergy on Armistice Day; Margaret Weddell (English); Crutch; Miss Shearer and Miss Arkle.

Kath Walton (Wood) has written to us and I quote her letter - almost entirely - because so many school friends are included:-

'About five years ago three Old Bedans sat for a happy afternoon pouring over old school photographs. These Old Bedans were Ruth Marley (Green), Betty Greig (Douglas) and I. Ruth and I felt quite proud to see ourselves on the professional photographer's picture of the 1927-28 Hockey Team with Miss Ward. (Miss MacPherson had left the year before). The other members of the team were Peggy Orr, Winifred Graham, Margaret Parish, Winnie Rogers, Elaine Field, Connie Fairgrieve, Joan Sparling, Betty Fairgrieve and Kathleen Crosby.

Ruth over the years remained keenly interested in school affairs - her mother did too. She presented the school with "a beautiful silver competition cup for Needlework." I quote there from "Portrait of a School." Ruth was very friendly with Miss Arkle and corresponded with her for many years.

Among the photographs was a picture of the Netball Team with Miss Lodge. The seven girls were my sister Mary, Hilda Nicholson, Elizabeth Thurlbeck, Jessie Kell, Annie Collin, Jenny Curry and Ena Beattie. There were many snapshots in my battered old album and we had fun trying to identify all the girls. I started to make a list for this contribution but decided that there were far too many names, and besides, there were dozens of other girls worth mentioning who had not been "snapped." However, I will give the names of the mistresses whom I persuaded to pose:- Miss Hutchinson, Miss Seddon, Miss MacPherson, Miss Arkle, Miss Shearer, Miss Charlton, Miss Elliot, Miss Farquhar and Miss Boon. There are also pictures of our gym displays and Scandinavian dancing.

My sister Mary (Kemp) emigrated to Vancouver eighteen months ago to live with her daughter and to be near her son.

Ours was a grand school and like many Old Bedans I just loved it. Hence a little parody of a poem of Wordsworth's, published in the 1926 Bedan,

"Beneath these ceilings crack'd that shed
Their snow-white pieces on my head
With bright and dull books round me spread
All backed in cloth or leather,

And, seasoned clock, that art bereft of face,
Thy throbbing heart is silent in thy case –
Thou art too sad to groan; thou knowest well
We can no longer in this chamber dwell.
It comforts not to say, with brighter view
'Tomorrow to fresh woods and pastures new.'
O gentle inkwell, let not quite in vain
Be all our efforts – all our aching pain.
But cease, sad mourners, all this woe to make
Lest our quiet haven doth become a lake.
Farewell, O sunset from the window west,
Farewell, O floor in coloured carpet dress'd.
List while we linger – leave, O gentle bell
Our voice alone to murmur now – Farewell."

Kath Walton (Wood).

Do you remember Miss Dunn who provided such lovely dinners – for 8d before and during the war. She is now in Anchor Housing in Sunderland says Marjorie Anderson (Curtis).

Dorothy Middlemas (Sugden) and her husband were privileged to have two seats for the unveiling of the memorial to Lord Mountbatten by Her Majesty the Queen on Wednesday, November 3rd. It was a very colourful and moving occasion, attended by most of the members of the Royal Family and also by several foreign Royals. Also present were various Ambassadors and members of Parliament including four former Prime Ministers.

Altogether a very memorable day.

SNIPPETS AND COMMENTS from some Old Bedans who want this magazine to continue:—

"I always enjoy reading the magazine which keeps me in touch with what is going on in the area – many thanks for the hard work etc. etc." from Dorothy Armstrong (Halsey) in Burgess Hill, West Sussex.

"I am sure none of the old girls would like to see it fade away" writes Harriet Summers (Mashedor) from London and she also expresses envy of the gathering of her classmates at Bunty Wigham's. Audrey Thomas from Slough also was filled with nostalgia on reading of the re-union at Bunty's, having spent holidays at St. John's Chapel as a 4-5 year old.

"Thank you for all the hard work you put into keeping us all supplied with news of the old school" writes Elizabeth Carr (Horsman) from Acklam, who'd like to hear from any 'girls' in her area especially her own generation 1917-25. (Address available from Irene).

"When the postman brought my Old Bedan, I popped back into bed and read it with great enjoyment from cover to cover" writes Florence Mowbray (Crompton) in Sunderland.

"I look forward each January to reading of your activities... aren't many of us left" writes Audrey Watson (Shaw) from Lockerbie.

Joyce Farrar (Elliott) writes from her new house near her daughter in Harrogate "It is always good to read the magazine."

From Colchester on December 24th "Thank you, Old Bedan received this morning and already enjoyed" writes Vera Duffell (Wood).

Blanche Collinson, who "lived her school days all over again" when reading the Bedan had never regretted being a Life Member. Sadly Blanche has since died.

"Most certainly the "Old Bedan" must survive" writes Kitty Clayburn (Cooper) from Oxford (1908-14), "I have neglected all the household tasks to read the magazine through and through" writes Brenda Byers (Reed) from Cleadon.

NEWS - OVERSEAS

Joyce Gallon (Hodgson) had a difficult journey when she and her husband were moving from Sellicks Beach, South Australia, to their new home in Mooroolbark, Victoria, as it was the time of the fierce bush fires.

Anne McKenny (Melton) had a two months holiday in Melbourne, Australia, early in 1983 - visiting her daughter Susan (Wood) and her comparatively new grand-daughter, Susan is now studying law.

Joan Jobling (Kirtton) left Whitburn in February and is now living in Ibiza, Spain, "and I'm taking my magazine with me" said Joan on leaving.

Carole Henderson (Bain) who lives in Alberta, Canada, accompanied her husband on a business trip to China last year.

Beryl Shaw (Wagner) now practising as a doctor in East Brisbane, Australia.

Dorothy Fox (Otterburn) has emigrated to Perth, Australia, and her sister Nan (Wilson) has been out on holiday to visit her.

Gillian Davidson () living in Bahrain.

Olga Phaup (Sinclair) writes of a visit to her family in Australia: - "Water in the U.K. is taken for granted" - not so in the outback where weeks without rain cause dreadful hardship through grain not germinating and sheep dying for want of food. Olga wrote too of the dreadful bush fires around Melbourne and the havoc caused to people, livestock and property and the striking contrast on her return to the "vivid green of the grass, the rushing rivers - the chill winds and the reluctant sunshine."

Kathleen Robson was visited at her home in America by Sheila Bagley.

Jean Mitchell (Pentolfe) paid her usual unexpected visit to her cousin Nancy Mitchell this summer and after "settling" in Middlesex during 1981 - has returned to Zimbabwe. She expressed her regret that her magazine did not reach her for the past two years and no wonder - but once again she will enjoy reading about who met who - when and where. All very exciting when you're miles away.

Connie Robson (Udale) at present home from Saudi Arabia has written of the dramatic progress made in that country in a short time. "It has advanced a century in five years." She describes a visit to a Festival Palace "a fairy tale palace - Moorish in appearance, with fountains indoors drenching superb arrangements of indoor flower beds. On passing through into a shimmering pale blue dining room one is sprayed with rose water." (How about some for G.O.B. dinner next year). She comments on the sight of 40 cranes working 24 hours a day - an engineer's paradise and an architect's dream. She relates the thrill of purchasing 3 dozen Christmas Puddings, 3 dozen Bisto and 12 tins of golden syrup to be shared among other ex-patriots. A different life indeed.

RETIREMENTS

Doreen Dent (Stoddart) was given "a lovely party" when she retired from Hills Book Department in February.

Nellie Shiel (Widdrington) retired in July from her post at Durham Technical College.

Marjorie Walker (Garbutt) retired in July from her post as Headmistress of Diamond Hall Infants School.

Miss Joyce Harris has retired from Birmingham High School and is very fully occupied with sewing, crocheting and pewter work as well as being involved with the Samaritans, Sue Ryder Shop and Church work.

Winnie Waddle (Ball) has retired from her clerical post with Social Services in Hanley.

Pat Kendall (Gilbertson) for many years a school doctor in Sunderland, has retired to Spain.

Kathleen Young retired as a cashier with National Westminster Bank in Sunderland after 40 years in banking and was presented with a gold watch to mark the occasion.

BIRTHS

Joan Tulloch (Janson) a daughter
Alison Breeze (Smith) twin daughters
Helen Fleuret (Haslam) a daughter
Barbara Swift (Broderick) a daughter
Sally Auld (Pattison) a boy

DEATHS

Nancy Whitehouse (Alexander)
Doris Clayburn (James)
Stella Laws
Jane Newton (Grierson)
Daisy Gettings (Robson)
Elsie Scott (Rook)
Mary A. Robson
Elsie Draper (Davidson)
Minnie McMillan
Blanche Collinson
Elsie Aldridge (Mason)
Hilda Miller (Common)

MARRIAGES

Mary Melanie Ford (Bell)
Gillian Davidson ()
Gillian Farnsworth ()

Magazines posted last year to the following were returned:- marked 'Deceased' - Can anyone confirm, please - Mary Parker; Minnie; Elsie Watson; Flora Cook.

Any Old Bedan (older and otherwise) who remembers the Alexander family will be interested to know that Annie Whitehouse (Alexander) who died in November was, on the morning prior to her death, at Roker Flower Club coffee morning, having taken two rag dolls which she had made, and a box-full of garden plants, to sell. Many members of the Flower Club have benefitted from her gifts of plants and cuttings over the years; She was in her 70's when she took her City and Guilds examination in Flower Arrangement, and passed. A regular attendee at Flower Club meetings with a lively interest in its affairs and in G.O.B. news, her love of gardens and all things associated with it were evident to the end.

The death of Elsie Draper brought back to many parishioners of St. Gabriel's Church memories of her great involvement with the social life of the parish - particularly as a leading member of the "Blue Boys" Concert Party.

SPORT

Ann Hardy (Whitworth) was a special guest at the 21st Annual Vaux School of Sport Open Day in Durham because she was a participant in the first Vaux School in 1963.

Norma Batey (Dix) is playing for the North of England Hockey First XI.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Nine pupils at Bede - eight of them girls, have been awarded bursaries totalling £800 from the Borough Council. Diane Newby for Trampoline; Vivienne Lamb - Economics; Sheila Watson - English; Mandy Lloyd - Music; Anne Griffiths - Modern Languages; Susan Hammerton - Swimming; Yvonne Knight - English and Julie Bell - Modern Languages.

Carol..... (Chleboun) formerly of Wilbur Court, Sunderland, has been awarded a Masters Degree in Mathematics from Oxford University and now lives in Bristol.

Jane Pearce has obtained an Honours Degree in History.

Linda Poulton has graduated from King's College, Cambridge, with an Honours Degree in Natural Sciences – after a three months holiday in California she returns to King's College to study for her Doctor of Philosophy in Organic Chemistry.

Jacqueline Rose has gained an Honours Degree in Psychology at Newcastle University and intends training to be a teacher.

Gillian Ann Coffey has gained an Honours Degree in English Language and Literature from Liverpool University.

Stephanie Robinson has received a PH.D. at Portsmouth Polytechnic and is now working in Hampshire.

STAFF NEWS

This year there have been no retirements, but some changes in staff have occurred. Most of these moves have been because of Maternity Leave. Mrs. G. Ellison (Chemistry) now has a baby boy, Bryan Aneurin, and has returned to work part-time. Mrs. R. Wilson (Geography and Fawcett Deputy House Mistress) is the proud mother of a baby, Jamie. Mrs. B. Ware and Mrs. K. Stafford, both of the P.E. Department, became mums in the latter half of last school year and are now back to work. Talking of parenthood, we must not leave out the male staff; Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. M. Richards and Mr. D. France are now the proud fathers of Hannah, Christopher and Jacqueline respectively.

The school welcomed Mr. C. Craig from Pennywell School as the new Deputy Headmaster. We wish him all success in his work at Bede.

However, we said 'Goodbye' to Miss Susan Jordan (Music) who moved to North Tyne to gain promotion. We also wish her well.

P.T.A. NEWS

For several years in the past the Association has held an Autumn Fayre in November at the school, the object being to raise funds for the benefit of all the pupils in the school. Many items of equipment, some of them costing a great deal, have been purchased for the school. However, this current year it has been decided to try something different which will probably raise more than the £1,000 which is usually the aim for each Autumn Fayre. A lottery – the 350 Club – is to be held each month, the prizes varying in the amounts, culminating in a marvellous £1,000 prize. Members of the 350 Club each pay £13 per annum, and hearts beat more quickly as the time for each draw comes nearer. The Chairman, staff member Mr. A. White, will welcome any enquiries, I am sure.

**A. Henderson,
Staff Representative.**

APOLOGIES FOR 1981-82

Valerie Northope moved on in September 1982 to Southmoor School. I am sure she has been sadly missed at Bede but we are pleased to hear that she settled in at her new post – "Our loss – their gain!"

DATES TO REMEMBER

WINTER RE-UNION

Friday, January 27th in school (Needlework Room) 7.00 p.m. Tickets, approx. £1.50 will be available from any Committee member and numbers will be required at least a week in advance.

DINNER RE-UNION

Friday, April 6th – Venue not yet settled and prices not yet available.

AN OPTIONAL EXTRA MEETING

March 23rd – a visit to the Pier Pavilion, South Shields, to see C.P. Taylor's "A Nightingale Sang" by the Westovians. Tickets for this to be booked and paid for at the Winter Re-Union.

SUMMER RE-UNION

June 19th – after last year's fiasco, the Committee have decided that all who are interested meet at the Pemberton Suite, Ramside Hall, Durham at 7.00 p.m. approx. (to ensure a seat) where refreshments and drinks will be available if required.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Earlier in the year Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) sent "her love and kind reminiscences to my Old Bedan friends." I am sure all of these friends and indeed all Old Bedans will join me in wishing Elsie and her family much better health than they have had this year. Our thoughts and concern are with you and yours Elsie.

The thought of no magazine seems to have roused us all, so thank you to everyone who has sent in news and reminiscences of school days and equally important – donations to help with the expense. Our thanks to our auditor for checking our accounts and to Irene and the committee who put in great efforts to make our meetings and the magazine a success. Thanks to Dorothy Dugdale for typing this copy also.

To those of you who are and have been ill, we send our good wishes and to those bereaved during the year – our condolences.

A Happy and Healthy 1984 and please keep writing.

A.C.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR 1st SEPT. - 31st AUG. 1983.

RECEIPTS			EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions			Printing	136.98
Annual	16.50		Stationery	15.93
Life	38.50	55.00	Postages & Telephones	56.83
Donations			Flowers & Cards	4.86
- Special Appeal	£238.00		Corporation Tax 1981 & 1982	88.60
Sale of Magazines	1.45	239.45	Editorial Expenses	3.50
Meetings		27.07	School Prize	10.00
Interest		98.53	London Branch Expenses	4.09
			Credit on Year's Workings	99.26
		£420.05		£420.05
Total Funds on August 31st 1983			Made up as follows:-	
Balance on Aug. 31st 1982		1205.14½	3½% War Stock	98.36
Credit on Year's Workings		99.26	T.S.B. Ordinary A/C	55.90
			T.S.B. Special A/C	843.10
			Barclays Bank	241.66
			Peoples Trust	60.70
			Cash in Hand	4.68½
		1304.40½		1304.40½

Accounts audited and found correct.

T.E. Scott,
D.M.A.

