

THE OLD BEDAN

1985

IMPORTANT NEWS

BEFORE you read your magazine, please get out your diaries and enter these dates in RED.

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| Friday, January 31st, 1986 | Winter Re-union in Needlework Room in School.
7 p.m. |
| Friday, April 25th, 1986 | Annual Dinner at Hilton Suite, Seaborn Hotel -
price about £7.50. Please book no later than
18th April. |
| Thursday, May 22nd, 1986 | Probably a "Musical" at the Pier Pavilion in
South Shields. Tickets at £2 each (including
postage to you) will be bookable from Audrey
Benderson at the winter re-union. |
| Tuesday, June 10th, 1986 | Informal re-union at the Riverside, Durham in the
Pemberton Suite at 7 p.m. |
| Friday, September 27th, 1986 | A.G.M. In School 7.30 p.m. in Needlework
Room. |

THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS
Office Bearers and Committee 1985-86

President: Mrs. L. Young

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. A. A. T. Carrick; Miss J. E. Beadbury; Mrs. E. I. Kirkwood.

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Kenn Halliday (Downs) Tel: 289036; Betsy Wilson (Robson) Tel: 226787;

Marjorie Snowball (Cuddeford) Tel: 488124; Pat Craker (Swell) Tel: Whinburn 263171.

Co-opted, Entertainment: Robina Foster (Lawson).

Please let the Secretary, Irene Wilkinson, have your 1985/86 subscription (50p) as soon as you can and we are sorry that it is not possible to send a magazine to anyone who is not a "paid-up" member. Please make it clear to Irene which is your maiden name and which your married name. In the magazine we always try to use "school" name first and married name in brackets. Life membership is still only £1.50. You will see by the Balance Sheet at the back of the magazine that there is still a "loss on the year's working", slightly less than in 1983/84, so there are murmurs of raised subs. so pay up before the price goes up!

A THEATRE OUTING

On the very wet evening of March 22nd 1985, nineteen Old Bedans made their separate ways to the Pier Pavilion in South Shields to see a production of Ronald Harwood's play "The Dresser" performed by the Westonsians Theatre Society players. Those of us who did not know the play and wanted to were not confused by comparisons of how the parts had been played by well-known actors, e.g. Tom Courtenay etc. so enjoyed it all the more. It was very different from last year's production seen by Old Bedans, but was nevertheless very interesting, especially as the play was directed by Jennifer Allen, our last year's heroine in "A Nightingale Sang".

This is a very cosy, friendly little theatre and the interval cup-of-coffee gave us an excuse to mingle and chat before returning to our seats and becoming involved in the second part of the drama.

These are pleasant little outings, not too far from Sunderland and easy parking. Thank you Audrey Henderson for arranging it once again. W.T.

Please check front cover if you want to join us this year. A.C.

DINNER RE-UNION April 26th 1984

As Katherine Mansfield said once, "Better to write twaddle, anything, than nothing at all."

Thus my thoughts on being asked in the middle of the meal to write this report. It was after all a lovely evening. Not that the weather was much of an improvement on last year. The wind was blowing from the West, buffeting and howling as briskly along between the shore-cs into the shelter of the Hilton suite of the Seaburn Hotel.

There the gathering of friends already comfortably cocooned, and in some cases, inhibiting, were as usual raising the level of ladylike greetings to animated chatter. 67 members of the Guild has gathered; including 2 ladies from Tunbridge Wells, and one who "had never been before, but loved being there."

Margaret greeted us all in her usual charming manner, mentioning several friends who could not be present, (including Anne Cross who was in Italy) and hoped that everyone would enjoy the evening.

The meal was punctuated by the dimming of lights, revealing the unexpected sight of trays of lobster(s) Alaskan(s) maddled with spluttering silver sparklers, entering the dining room in procession. This 'surprise dessert' brought cries of delight and spontaneous applause for the pretty effect and our reaction certainly pleased the smiling waitress who carried in the trays so carefully.

After coffee, as usual, our School Song! - it will have to be transposed soon Wyn!

To add to our pleasure Mr. Peter Morgan and his group of young musicians from Southmoor School entertained us with a varied selection of choral and instrumental items, most charmingly introduced, and confidently sung and played. The obvious support of talented pupils and inspiring teacher was as delightful as the music.

I hope that our enjoyment of their performance gave them pleasure and satisfaction. It certainly enhanced the reputation for excellent music teaching in Sunderland schools, and was the highlight of our 'sparkling' evening.

P.S. Joyce 'the one who hadn't been before' found conversation with the ladies from Tunbridge Wells absolutely fascinating, and did not want to leave.

WINTER RE-UNION 1985

Memories were re-kindled for 58 Old Beians who met in the old school Cookery Room for their Winter Re-union on Friday, 25th January, 1985.

Our Chairman, Margaret Chapman (Hunter) gave us a warm welcome, which compensated for the cold evening.

We were soon giving our full attention to the silver screen for our first game, trying to put names to familiar and not-so familiar landmarks in the region. Barbara Forster (Lawson) certainly put our geography to the test.

After supper we played another game which involved adding and subtracting, so silence reigned for a while.

The evening was rounded off with everyone singing "Auld Lang Syne" and we went home, looking forward to our next re-union.

E.C.

V.R. and O.H.

SUMMER RE-UNION

On Tuesday, June 11th, a cold wet evening, 35 Old Bedians met in the warmth and comfort of the Pemberton Suite at Ramside Hall.

We were pleased to see some new faces and welcomed Gwen Marley (Chairwoman) and Isabella Dodd (Smith) as new members to the Guild.

After much reminiscing, we indulged in the very attractive food in the Carvery and continued to chat over coffee - nobody seemed in any hurry to bring an end a very enjoyable evening.

K.B.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Once again our expenditure has exceeded our income for the year and we have a loss of £28.28 on the year's workings.

Income from Annual subs. and donations was greatly decreased but income from meetings, due to having two raffles, was very good.

The printing of the magazine was the same £348.50 but postages were up over £12.

The school prize was increased from £10 to £25 but I am pleased to say that the Corporation Tax was less.

Balance on 31st August, 1985, was £1,230.39. How this is made up can be seen on the Balance Sheet.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There are 452 members in the Guild of which 7 have become life members. There are 13 new members, 7 of whom are life members.

We had four meetings during the year and a theatre outing.

The A.G.M. took place on 28th September, 1984 in the Needlework Room at Beede School. 19 were present and the programme for the year was discussed. It was agreed to increase the School Prize to £25.

The Winter Re-union was held in Beede School on 25th January, 1985 but owing to heating difficulties the room was changed at the last minute. The refreshments were again supplied by Miss A. Mills and we thank her very much for a tasty supper. The games were provided by Robina Forster (Lawson) - how does she manage to find something new and so entertaining every year? Thank you Robina for all your efforts. The proceeds from the raffle helped towards the postage of the magazine. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously.

The Annual dinner was in the Hilton Suite at the Seaburn Hotel on Friday, April 26th, 1985 where, after the meal a group from Southdown School Music Society entertained us. I'd like to thank Valerie Northcote for her assistance in arranging this.

A beautiful hand crocheted lace cloth, given by Audrey Hudson (Henderson) was raffled and realised £27 for the funds. Thank you Audrey for this generous gesture.

The Summer re-union was again at the Ramside Hotel in the Pemberton Room on Tuesday, June 11th. There were 35 present at a very enjoyable informal get together. This is proving to be a popular venue for this re-union. It was good to see members who had not attended a G.O.B. re-union before or at least not for a very long time. Perhaps more of you will come along next time, I hope so.

The Guild was represented at the Annual Prize-giving in the Bede School in December at the invitation of Mr. Tate, the headmaster.

The theatre outing to South Shields Playhouse to see The Westvian Drama Group perform "The Dresser" was on 22nd March, 1985. We are indebted to Audrey Hudson (Henderson) for all the arrangements.

Our thanks are also due to Anne Mitchell (Crowe) for editing the magazine so well and to Joan Hayton, the Assistant Secretary, who addresses all the envelopes for the magazine and sees to their dispatch.

LOAN & SCHOLARSHIP FUND REPORT - 1985

A total of £299.01 was available. £196.50 was distributed to 21 girls going into Higher Education, the scholarships being awarded on a scale according to 'A' Level performance from £20 - £5.

No girl achieved 3 x A this year though Susan Brown did exceptionally well last September (1984) at Jesus College, Cambridge and as a result of interview and an essay was given unconditional (matriculation) entry: 2 passes at 'A' level. She is currently reading Economics at Jesus, the third of our young women in 3 years to do so.

L. Young

Senior Mistress/Head of Upper School.

A.G.M. MEETING, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1985

The A.G.M. was held on the 27th September, 1985 in the Needlework Room at Bede School and 22 were present.

Apologies for absence were received from Nell Sheel (Widdrington), Joan Harris (Pillars), Ethel Forman (Towers), Rita Manning (Dix) and Eileen Robinson (Temple).

The minutes of the previous A.G.M. were read, adopted and signed. The Secretary gave a report on membership and meetings held during the year.

The retiring Chairman, Margaret Chapman (Hunter) expressed her thanks to the committee for their help during her 3 years of office. She handed over the chain of office to Kathleen Scott (Bolton), the new Chairman, saying she had enjoyed being Chairman very much and hoped Kathleen would enjoy equal satisfaction.

The new committee was then announced and thanks were expressed to those retiring.

The Social Services report was given by Anne Mitchell (Crowe) and the London Branch report from Doreen Ward (Macrae) was read by the Secretary.

It was agreed the School Prize for 1985 be £25 as last year.

The programme for 1985-86 was then discussed and decisions were agreed, January 31st 1986 the Winter Re-union and various suggestions were made for provision of refreshments, Annual Dinner 25th April, 1986 at the Seaburn Hotel. The Summer Re-union 16th June, 1986 at the Bannside Hotel.

A Theatre outing was arranged for 22nd May, 1986 to South Shields.

These dates to be put inside front cover of magazine as last year because members had found this very helpful.

The meeting closed with tea and biscuits.

MEMBERSHIP

New Annual Members:

Rene Ellison (Loffhouse)
Kathleen White (Palmer)
Hilda Milburn (Taylor)
Isabella Dodd (Smith)
Owen Marley (Christmas).

New Life Members:

Doris Robson (O'Connor)
M.L. (Bowmaker)
Please let us know who you are!
Irene M. Charvot (Cook)
Elna Graham (Smith)
Connie Robson (Udale)
Marjorie Rowntree (Jasep)

Valerie Rowntree (Merrill)
Winifred Coates (Grady) since A.G.M.
Margaret Henderson (Clark) since A.G.M.

Have become Life Members:

Lilian Dawson (Dodd)
Barbara Swift (Benderick)
Bertie Birmingham (Hunter)
Ann Harland (Fox)
Ethel Forman (Towers)
Iris Harney (Bennett)
Dorcas Worsing (Potts)

SOCIAL SERVICE REPORT - SEPTEMBER, 1955

Our Committee have had our usual three meetings since the last A.G.M. We were delighted to be able to give £20 to needy folk last Christmas and this was most gratefully received.

At Easter we gave £10 to our people and got a letter from Claire Holmes on behalf of Kitty Hoptonall - thanking us for our Christmas gift which had been used to purchase blank tapes. A friend recorded Kitty's favourite records on to tapes which she can cope with herself with her Possum machine so she now has an alternative to T.V.

We had the pleasure this May of acknowledging Kathleen Main's mother's 100th birthday. Florence Bruce - now Eldridge was delighted to be visited by my husband and I on the morning of her birthday (Phil and I both worked with her in the Telephone Exchange before and during the war), when we took her chocolates from the G.O.B. Social Services and a birthday card. It was an honour to read her congratulatory telegram from the Queen and also from the Telephone Manager.

Our young "Mam" was warm in her thanks to you all for the help we are able to give. She is, at present, in hospital having reached a very low ebb once again. Let's hope the cash we have agreed to give tonight will help her to remember that people do care and that she will be able to cope once more.

Thanks to all of you who support our raffles or begging bowls and the faithful Cassia fans who so happily give us the use of their homes - and cooking talents - and then give the proceeds to our funds. I'd like to give a special mention to Gladys Stewart (Sidney's) sister, Ethel, who often joins us and who made us a beautiful Mother's Day cake to raffle.

One of our ladies had died during the year and another gone into the Oaks at Ryhope so we are down to five recipients.

Income		Expenditure	
Donations	£22.00	Harvest gifts	168.00
Canasta parties	104.30	Christmas gifts	104.00
Collection at Dinner	5.00	Easter gifts	50.00
Collection at Migs.	1.70	Balance in hand	113.64
Interest	9.82		
Balance 84/5	228.82		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£363.64		£363.64
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Anne Mitchell (Crews).

LONDON BRANCH

Our Re-union lunch was in October, 1984 at my house and attended by Joyce Ayles (Hilseon), Edith Barge (Brodensick), Irene Cook (Chevers), Nancy Hubicka (Lawther), and Alice Kilburn (Waldron).

At Nancy's in May 1985 two more of our regulars were able to attend - Dorren Bayfield (Stoddart) and Marjorie Bales (Kewish).

In addition four Old Bedans (all young enough to be our daughters) who had contacted me earlier were able to join us for lunch. They were Lia Burton (Keeler), Andrea Stacey, Marjorie Jessop (Kowansa) and Marie Williams (Gilmore). (Andrea and Marjorie are in the same Badminton Club). It was interesting to hear at first hand what Bede was like when it became "Comprehensive".

We all enjoyed the delicious food and the generation gap was not obvious in the conversation. Two of the newcomers are not members of the Guild so it is hoped that they will join in the near future! (They have - welcome!).

Anyone who was at Bede during the years 1827-31 and old enough to go to the Dances run by the Boys' School must remember the boy with wavy Auburn hair who played the "Musical Saw" in the band. (We thought he was marvellous!)

In the course of a conversation with a woman who lives nearby I discovered that she was his wife! Although he did not make music his career, her husband has always been involved with music - choirs, conducting and composing (no "musical sawing" though, much to her relief!)

D. M. Mearns. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

NEWS

Evelyn Scott (Leonard) will have had a year now as Head of Languages at the Tertiary College in Peterlee, after many years at Seaham Comprehensive School.

Pat Carty (Turnbull) following in her mother's footsteps is present Chairman of Stockton Branch of the Electrical Association for women.

Doris Coates (Keane), who has spent many years working with Guides & Brownies, has retired after 20 years as a District Commissioner.

Susan Burgess (Bouldy) is teaching in Sunderland and Eileen Robinson (Temple) is working at Thornhill School, Margaret Robinson (Dixon) helps with Guides at Whitburn Parish Church.

Winnie Coates (Grady) of Halesowen has been brought back into the Bedan fold after 40

years by her cousins Grace White, Kathleen White (Palmer) of Tunbridge Wells, Wiscin, after receiving a copy of the school song - "so that she can sing it heartily with the rest of you next year (hopefully), attended a warm invitation to any Bedans who happen to be visiting her home area in the Midlands.

Brenda Jones (Nord) was surprised and delighted at the time of her mother's death to receive a phone call from Joan Leck (Poster) from Strevings offering condolences. This - after not seeing each other for 28 years - was indeed a great comfort.

Dorothy Middlemass (Sagden) was a guest at the Golden Wedding celebrations of Winnie Knapper (Lonsdale) in Worcester.

Beryl Shaw (Wagner) who visited England this year after an absence of 28 years of living in Australia, met at a family party in Shincliffe, Kathleen Carr (Ritch) a relative - and Anne Pace - a school-days friend. Before returning home Beryl and her husband were spending a day with Brenda Cartledge (Edwards) in London. Now, Beryl who is semi-retired from medical practice is an enthusiastic "potter".

Laura Milbanks (on-staff) is now Secretary of the local branch of U.N. Association and has Audrey Hayton (Carnick) as a committee member, giving valuable help at the last flag day. They were grateful to Denise Gledhill for her assistance in her capacity as Chief Traffic Warden in the Borough.

While visiting St. Mary's Church, Old Soham in the summer, Laura met Mary Booth (Scott).

Laura also tells us that Pat Ironside (Turner), who lives in Middleton Comfordley, Suffolk, saw Laura's name in "Guiding" asking for camp helpers and promptly wrote to her with news of her daughters and her own work with Guides. Pat has a Guide Company, is also a Camp / driver and is in fact "almost a permanent inhabitant of a tent". Pat's contemporaries are Dorothy Davison; Phyllis Smith; Ann Hall - all leaving West park to go to "Bede Grammar School" together. Pat and Dorothy were past patrol leaders in Bishopswearmouth Guides - says Laura.

Mollie Adamson (Taylor) who lives in Kershal, does a lot of voluntary work there. She runs a small canteen at the local hospital and last year she helped to do a Churchyard survey of a little church high up on Forest Scar above the village. Last winter, she attended a silver smithing class and produced a silver tray. (It was Mollie's husband - Mr. Milner Taylor - who audited our G.O.B. Accounts for many years.

Winnie Knapper was one of a team of five who decorated the Choir stalls and Chancel in Malvern Priory which was celebrating its foundation 900 years ago. The local Gazette mentioned "the enchanting arrangements in the choir stalls". She was also involved with the Flower Festival at St. Andrew's Church, Malvern, which was celebrating its centenary.

Rita Cragg (Young) lives very near to Elsie Kirkwood so you can imagine the chat and news exchanged whilst having a coffee together at Elsie's! This after a gap of almost 40 years. They last met at a G.O.B. re-union in 1948. (I am so pleased you are alive and well Rita, I was obviously misinformed about you last year. My humble apologies).

My request for letters met with an immediate response from Mary Henderson (Lewis) who wrote from near Bishop Auckland on January 1st. Thank you Mary. In her letter she wonders about Marion Brown; Dorothy Raine; Jean Garland; Vera Radbourne; Mollie Anderson; Flora Blair; Lilian Alexander; Joyce Young; Brenda Heddie; Mary is now enjoying retirement after being Lord Barnard's private secretary for 21 years.

My thanks to Laura Milbanks for the cutting from the 'Newham Letter' telling of the death of Catherine Mallin (Elmes) who left Bede in 1915 to read Natural Sciences at Newham - specialising in Chemistry. She lectured at Armstrong College - later to become New-

castle University and became a governor of Bede. She and her husband retired to Aygarth becoming very involved with life in the rural community, particularly the Wensleydale Society in which she retained a great interest to the end.

There were great celebrations at the Seaburn Hotel on the occasion of Lilian Thompson's (Marley) Golden Wedding. Three of the four Marley sisters - Ruth; Gwen and Kathleen were bridesmaids and Old Bede's Doors Homeman (Chappell) was also present at the party.

Elsie Darison (Kirwood) has also celebrated her Golden Wedding this year, but has not mentioned it (typically) in her long and newsy letter. She does tell us though that her G.O.B. rose bushes still give Oliver and herself "a great deal of pleasure". "One rose at a time is displayed in its own silver apartment vase."

Margaret Henderson (Clark) who lives in Basingstoke is Lady-Captain-of the Basingstoke Golf Club and is in touch with Elke Barham (Jackson) also living in Basingstoke.

Marjorie Rosentre (Jensop) now living in Middlesbrough tell us how much she enjoyed the London Branch meeting (and we have already read in the London report how welcome the new younger members were). She has two daughters and at 5 & 4 years old perhaps just being entered under "BIRTHS", and works as an Occupational Therapist at Mount Vernon Hospital. Her sister Valerie (Morrell) lives in Felkstone with her husband, son & two daughters.

Peggy Victory (Simson) is to be Vice-Chairman-of the National Keep Fit Association and has just returned from examining in this sphere in Malta.

Gladys Littlehalls (Beatty) on an outing to Bewes, Barnard-Castle, met Kathleen Scott and told of her recent trip with her daughter to America to visit relatives.

Phyllis Peters and Lena Thompson have recently returned from a most enjoyable Hellenic Cruise.

While on holiday in Montserrat, Joan Marshall (St. Julian) rang Freda Smith (Phillips) and Dorothy Morrison (Patterson), who was staying with her on a visit from her home in Denmark. They were unable to meet due to lack of time, but enjoyed a fairly lengthy conversation, Dorothy is still hoping to visit Sunderland in the not too distant future and wishes to be remembered to all her school friends.

Joan also rang Mariel Slawther when in Vancouver, but she was not at home. She too hopes to visit Sunderland in 1986 and would be very interested in meeting any ex-Bedans whom she knew at school.

AUDREY HENDERSON WRITES:-

On Tuesday, 11st May their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales, came to Sunderland to see for themselves some of the community schemes in operation both in the town and the outlying districts. At lunch time they came to the Civic Centre to meet representatives of the voluntary organisations. A buffet meal had been prepared by the staff at the Centre and was most attractively displayed in the staff dining room. Each guest had been sent a special invitation and an identity tag: forget to bring that and you couldn't get in. I represented Sunderland Marriage Guidance Council and was shown to the space I had to occupy, and there nearby I saw Laura Milbank in her Guide Uniform. It was difficult to see if there were any other Old Bedans at the reception because of the restrictions on our moving around, so I apologise for not mentioning anyone else.

Their Highnesses were more than half an hour late, and our feet were beginning to make their presence felt! However, suddenly they appeared and all thoughts of our discomfort disappeared. All the women's eyes gazed to see what SHE was wearing. Ah! Red and white - quite appropriate. They passed quickly through to the Special Enclosure at the end of the room where the Civic dignitaries were awaiting them. Then we were asked to begin our meal. It was a sumptuous spread and obviously enjoyed by everyone.

We thought that we had seen the last of the Prince and Princess - but no! They were to speak to everyone individually! We were quickly coached by Mr. Keys, the Chief Executive, as to the protocol for this occasion. Address them as "Your Highness" to begin your conversation, and subsequently as "Sir" or "Ma'am" (to rhyme with Pam).

They proved to be most interested in the organisations represented and in the actual work done by each guest. Everyone was impressed by their friendly approach and their knowledge of the work done by the voluntary sector. Obviously there was some special interest shown for some organisations where the couple have a personal involvement.

Everyone there was proud to have represented their own organisation and their town and we took away a memory of a thrilling occasion that will always be a special part of our lives.

MEETINGS

While on holiday in Lincolnshire, Dorothy Middlemass (Sagden) spent a day with Elsie Garrick (Smith) whose home is at Woodhall Spa.

Audrey Winter (Colling) forwarded her 'Old Bedon' to Polly Carter (Brooks) in Appleby, who took it with her to Norfolk to spend a week's holiday with Alice Billingsome (Gilson). The 'mag' was devoured and greatly enjoyed by both Polly and Alice.

After a gap of 53 years - Marie Colling (Morden) visited Kathleen Scott (Robins). What a gap to bridge. They reminded each other of how they use to meet at the bottom of Bede Bank at 8.30 a.m. most mornings during the summer term and cycle round Bedon, Warden Law, Whitburn or somewhere before school. Marie went into nursing and is now retired and living in Trowbridge.

Kathleen Scott and Rene Halliday (Downs) spent a pleasant - if wet - week in the Lakes and had a most enjoyable evening with "Pete & Lena" - Miss Peters and Lena Thompson at their home Heathay Fell. The tongues never ceased and much gossip and news was exchanged of Bedlam everywhere.

Marjorie Phalp (.....) and Marianne Allison (Moffat) met Audrey Smith (Plumpton) and exchanged news in London (?). If it is not London where they met - my apologies - our handwriting does not improve with age.

Dorcas Stainsforth (Sims) had the pleasure of meeting two friends Lynda Batey (Foster) and Shirley Coates (Lowe) for the first time since school days - at the Winter Re-union in January. Dorcas was proud to be able to pass on the exciting news of her children's successes in their various chosen careers.

HOMES OF OLD BEANS

Ethel Beaman (Davidson) is now living in Sevenage with her husband and two children, while her sister Mary Beaman (Childs) has three children and lives in Coanleigh.

Hilda Saxby (Skjellerup) still lives in Denmark and though now widowed and not very mobile, regrets her inability to return to England.

Olga Phalp (Sinclair) now lives in Milford, Northumberland.

Irene Chevers (Cook) writes from her home in South Harrow, as does Dorcas Warring (Potts) from Newark and Vera Duffell (Wood) from Colchester.

BEDAN ACHIEVEMENTS & SUCCESSSES

Edna Akal (Dent), having gained a B.Ed. honours degree as a mature student, is now - as a more mature student - studying for a diploma in "The Education of the young Child". Her special interest being the education for a multi-ethnic society.

Moira Shearer (Simpson) is to take part in Scrabble finals in Birmingham for Townswomen's Guild.

Sheila (Robson) Eileen who is working as a Nursing Tutor on Jersey has received an Open University degree, B.A. in Psychology & Education. Sheila was nursing at Sunderland Royal Infirmary and later at Ryhope General before marrying and going to live and work in Jersey.

BEDANS ABROAD

Joyce Gullon (Hodgson) put out a Union Jack (literally) when she had a phone call in March from Olga Phaup (Sinclair) saying she was visiting her daughter in Melbourne - could she call and see Joyce for coffee. As Joyce said, you can't cover 49 years since schooldays in an hour, so Olga and her husband stayed for lunch and talked non-stop. Joyce's next door neighbour had heard of this intended visit and thought that Joyce's hanging baskets on the front patio looked past their best, so brought three of his own to replace them - musing all the while "49 years". Joyce says she'd do the same for ANY Old Bedan anytime - flowers and Union Jack - the latter was formerly a tea towel and a present from Una Laidler (Cox).

Old Bedans will have read of Joyce's embroidery pursuits in previous magazines but few will realise what a wide field her embroidery activity embraces. In a travelling exhibition run by the Craft Council of Victoria, Joyce's exhibit - a covered box - was the only piece of embroidery chosen to show with sculpture, paintings, silverwork etc. The box was on its travels for a year being exhibited in most of the major cities and towns in Australia. Then Joyce was asked to put on three separate one-woman exhibitions of embroidery in the Council Chambers. She mostly does wall hangings using hand spun and dyed wools, building up seed pods, herbs, mushrooms, birds, trees etc. all in three dimensional embroidery. This involved a lot of painting, drawing and designing and writes Joyce "I never seem to have enough time". She has attended many 'workshops' held by visiting England embroiderers like Constance Howard (a fabulous person) and Barbara Sewell who has also since died. For years Joyce has been a member of the Embroiders Guild Creative Group both in South Australia and now in Victoria. When Una Laidler visited Joyce some three years ago, she was very impressed because, she too, had done her City and Guild course in embroidery and knew only too well that it is far from "fancy work on a tray cloth".

Photographs of the mini re-union between Olga and Joyce were enjoyed at the Guild of Old Bedans Dinner in April.

Linda Hall (Trepels) and Helen Allinson (Juppert) met in Kalamari, Greece at the christening of Linda's son. Helen and her family were holidaying in Greece at the time. Helen is Grace Caldwell's daughter.

DEATHS

D'Arcy V. Hogg, Gladys Forster (1984)

Catherine Mallon (Elman), Marjorie Hindmarsh (Lowe)

Joyce Hawkins (Farrin)

It was very sad to read of the untimely death of Helen Carr, whilst swimming, on holiday in San Diego, Southern California.

MARRIAGES - Dorothy Craig (Carpenter)

BIRTHS: No News

RETIREMENTS: No News

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Many thanks to all of you who have sent in news to me at meetings or through letters, because without you there would be no magazine. I'd particularly like to acknowledge Ethie Kirkwood's words of encouragement just when I knew I'd have to start on the "Mag" - they gave me the impetus and confidence to take the plunge.

We do get lots of news of children and grandchildren achievements and although we love to hear your news, we can only publish it if they want to share themselves - so please, don't be disappointed.

We are indebted to Mr. Scott for once again auditing our accounts, and to Dorothy Cookburn (Daphne) for typing the copy for me and to the Committee who have tried (after much haggling) to pass on news.

Does anyone ever thank Irene, for your meticulous care of our affairs and to Joan Hayton - your assistant - without whose help the magazine would never be posted.

To those who have been bereaved - our sympathy - to those who are sick - get well soon - and to everyone a Happy New Year and please keep the letters rolling.

A.C.

We were pleased to see Dorothy Middleton appear with her husband in "Songs of Praise" on T.V. in November.

In December we plan to visit Margaret Chapman's (Hester) mother - formerly Elizabeth Leslie on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Two centenarians in one year!

BALANCE SHEET FOR 1ST SEPTEMBER 1984 - AUGUST 31ST 1985

RECEIPTS			EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions:	Annual £10.00		Printing	£148.50
	Life 48.00	£59.00	Stationery	9.66
Donations		19.00	Telephones	61.30
Meetings		93.95	Corporation Tax	20.10
Interest		64.35	School Prior	25.00
Loss on year's workings		28.26		
		<u>£264.56</u>		<u>£264.56</u>

Total Funds on 31st August, 1985 made up as follows:-

Balance August 31st 1984	£1258.65	3½ War Stock	£98.56
Loss on year's workings	28.26	T.S.B. Special a/c.	843.00
		Ordinary a/c.	106.84
		Barclays Bank	112.42
		Peoples Trust & Savings Ltd.	68.87
		Cash in Hand	80
	<u>£1230.39</u>		<u>£1230.59</u>

T. Scott 19.9.85

