

THE OLD BEDAN

1992

IMPORTANT NEWS

Need I remind you to please make a note of these dates before you begin to read the magazine.

- FRIDAY Jan. 29th 1993** **WINTER RE-UNION** in Bede Tertiary College in the Students' Common Room at 7.00 p.m. (Boys School) (Tickets £3.50)
- FRIDAY April 13rd 1993** **ANNUAL DINNER** - will be held at the Swallow Hotel at 7.00 p.m. Tickets will be approximately £13.
- TUESDAY June 15th 1993** **SUMMER RE-UNION** at 7.00 p.m. at the Riverside, Durham.
- FRIDAY Sept. 24th 1993** **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING** in Bede Tertiary College (Boys School) at 7.30 p.m.

A SPECIAL REQUEST - If you intend to be present at the Winter Re-union or the Dinner, please pay for your ticket in advance to the Committee Member who supplied it. This will make life simpler for Irene Wilkinson and give her and the Committee a chance to enjoy the Social Events too. Do try to help us !!

CONSTITUTION October 1992

As Bede School closed, and the buildings were renovated for use as part of the Tertiary College scheme, references to pupils and staff needed to be removed from our Constitution, written in 1918. A small sub-committee produced the first version, which was amended by the full committee.

This final version was approved at the Annual Business Meeting on 25th September 1992.

This is the insert providing a copy for every member.

I would like to thank in particular Irene Wilkinson, Margaret Hunter and Anne Cross for their contributions to the final revised version.

Jean Pileam (Brewin)

GUILD OF OLD BEDANS

Office Bearers and Committee 1992-93.

Vice-Presidents.

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Thank you to all who have written to me with news, I do love to have your letters. I hope you don't mind too much that I don't reply - but I keep them all safe till "magazine" time comes round again.

Items is always ready to accept subscriptions, £1 for Annual Subscriptions and £5 for Life Membership and your receipts will be included in the next issue of the magazine.

Please - always use your maiden name and put married name - if applicable - in brackets. Also - do try to let us have any change of address during the year is good time for the issue of the magazine. This will make Joan Hayton's job much easier.

You will notice in the centre pages we have included a copy of the new Constitution of the Guild to make it appropriate to all the changed circumstances.

Also, we have a photograph of the Honorary Boards which have been removed from the School Hall, during the conversion to a Tertiary College, and we will try to include them in the magazine, when space permits.

Thanks specially to those who agree - sometimes grudgingly - but always successfully - to report on our three social gatherings. I do appreciate their co-operation.

Anne Mitchell (Crowe).

WINTER RE-UNION, - January 24th 1992.

We seemed to go underground on this severely cold evening for our Winter Re-Union - fascinating. Past the caretaker's house (Bless him - he is a FRIEND of the G.O.B.), left hand turn through swing doors and down steps into an underground corridor. In front of us now behold - a Students' Common-Room, low ceilinged with many pipes, but white and spacious; room for coats round a corner, a tea urn hissing merrily on a bench, other benches ready for food; proceeding to tables, we were ready to start the evening. There is always one "Banker" to a G.O.B. meeting - noise - Irene Wilkinson silenced our chattering tongues to tell us what was about to happen. First Joan Brewis - resplendent in Chairman's chain, greeted us, then on to the games, (after buying our raffle tickets for Social Service funds). The first game was a cracker - "The Cryptic North" - 20 cryptic clues to place names in the North, e.g. 'Have the Facts got a division here?' Scotgap; and another 'Holy men continue to feast' Monkseaton etc.. We non-winners just did not believe the group that said they had nineteen out of twenty - - !

Our group fared better with 'Poetic Justice' probably all readers of the Sunday Express - The answers had to rhyme, e.g. " a queer fish" was "Oxid oad" "Scotman's hosiery" was "ock's socks", "I Pregnant perhaps" was "Baby maybe". When the answers were called out there was a vociferous protest - almost a walk-out - when we heard that "Express-drink" was "Prothy coffee". Shades of Miss Lloyd, Miss Harris, Miss Shaurer Aikle and Hutchinson - "rothy coffee" never in the world, Order was restored until we disagreed with another answer "Complimentary drink" couldn't be "bee beer" - honestly ! We all insisted that "line wine" was a more acceptable answer. Protests over we prepared for supper.

Whose? what a treat - Committee members brought us idiosyncratic food to the tables - double decker sandwich, single sandwich, ham & egg pie, quiche and a cream cake. Delicious. Catering by "Something Special" and it was, on nice china and no washing up.

The raffle brought its usual excitement and giggles and raised £67.00 Irene informed us about the Dinner in the Swallow Hotel (formerly The Seaburn) in April and then one more very quick game after Joan Hayton's queries re returned magazines. A very brief vote of thanks by Winnie Scott and home. The time had gone quickly (? - 9 p.m.), burglar alarms are set for 9.30 p.m. It was freezing outside but we emerged from our underground vermin wars, laughing "friends forever" - wondering, after those games whoever thought Paul Coia's Catchword was difficult ?

Thank you, organisers - well done !

Winnie Thomas.

ANNUAL DINNER, April 24th 1992

The venue this year was the very up-market Swallow hotel, almost unrecognisable from the old Seaburn, where on the anniversary of 'D' Day I had my wedding reception! Over 100 members, many retired but far from 'retiring', crowded the foyer, chatting away and queuing for cloakroom and drinks and finding which table they were on.

The doors to the dining room opened on to a bright attractive arrangement of round tables seating 10, and soon, after the welcome by Jean Brewis, each had a small plate before her of tropical fruits most artistically and colourfully arranged. Then came the questions: " what d'you think this is?" I never did find out what the hard bits, like turnip, were, but the rest was delicious. When, table by table, (and we were No. 1!) we visited the buffet where the choice was of a hot chicken dish or cold meats and a good choice of salads. The 'puddin' was bakewell tart with almond custard, followed by coffee and pretty chocolate shapes.

I really enjoyed the Irish dancing performed by the group from Silksworth. How good it is to see traditional dancing performed so professionally and authentically, and with care and regard to costume and musical accompaniment, and one has to admire the stamina required to execute the intricate foot movements while making it all look so easy. I remembered my pathetic efforts at Irish dancing, though my 'rise & grind' step was G.K. my 7-step always seemed to take me the wrong way, causing chaos in the air.

Speeches and votes of thanks were kept to a minimum but none the less graciously performed, and then it was time for circulating and catching up on news. The time never seems long enough - but after all there is the Summer Re-union. And thank you to Officers and Committee for making these 'get togethers' possible.

Peggy Victory (Simpson)

The young flautist at the Dinner was the grandson of Mary Bleworn (Eskine).

SUMMER REUNION - JUNE 1992

For the 9th successive year our summer reunion was held at The Riverside Hall Hotel, Durham.

49 Old Bedlams attended the gathering and as usual there was plenty of chatter, exchange of news and photographs. Some regular attenders were missing but it was good to see some new faces. We hope many more will make the effort to join us next year - you don't know what you're missing. The food at the Carvery is superb with plenty of choice of either Hot or Cold as well as sandwiches. Diet is just - flew out of the window especially when it came to the choice of the sweets.

Our congratulations to Marjorie Snowball (Caddieford) who's youngest daughter Lisa has just qualified as a Doctor. Lisa is now an M.B.B.S. and B.Sc. - Well done Lisa the family are very proud of you. This was a good excuse for our small group to celebrate.

Our thanks must go to Irene for the organisation of the evening. We were in our usual room with reserved tables and I must say a very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Pat Small (Crackles)

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Chairman Joan Brewis (Pillans) welcomed 17 members to the Annual Business Meeting in a staff room in Wearside College Bode Centre on Friday 25th September 1992.

Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Chapman (Hunter); Elsie White (Bailey); Dorothy Middleman (Sugden); Audrey Hudson (Henderson); Dorothy Cockburn (Dugdale); Marjorie Calvert and many others.

The minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting were read, approved and signed.

The Secretary reported on last year's re-unions and said the staff at the Tertiary College agreed to us having our Annual Business Meeting and our winter Re-union there. It was voted to have our Dinner at the Swallow Hotel again if possible. Dates for future re-unions were discussed and these dates are on the inside front cover of this magazine. Please make a note of them and come along. Obtain your tickets from members of the committee, also please, if possible, pay for your ticket in advance. The Treasurer's report followed and the Social Services report. Then Joan Brewis (Pillans) spoke on the work which has been done on rewriting the Constitution which was written when the Guild of Old Bedans was formed and was out of date. There is a copy for all of you with this magazine.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m. with tea & biscuits.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The membership on 30.8.92 is 522 members, 14 are new Life members; 1 has become a Life member.

There have been 3 committee meetings in November, February and July, and 4 Re-unions.

The Annual Business Meeting was held on September 25th 1991 in the Wearside College Bode Centre and 21 attended.

The Winter Re-union was held on January 24th 1992 in the Students Common Room in the Bode Centre and proved a very adequate venue. The games were very ably organised by Lily Richardson (Lawson). The supper was supplied by Something Special and reached its usual high standard. There was also a very good raffle, the proceeds of which were divided between Guild funds and the Social Services £33.50 each. Thank you to all those who provided prizes.

The Annual Dinner was at the Swallow Hotel on Friday 24th April. It was partly waitress service and partly buffet. There was a Tombola arranged by Margaret Laidlaw which realised £120. Thanks to everyone who contributed prizes. It was a very successful venture although it entailed a lot of hard work by quite a number of people.

The entertainment at the Dinner was Irish Dancing by a group of young people from Silksworth who were extremely good. We learned one of the accompanists grandmother was an old Bodan.

The Rainside re-union on June 16th 1992 was attended by 49 members. There was plenty of chatter and food and drink for those who wished to partake.

Thanks to Margaret Laidlaw for the use of her home for our Committee meetings and also thanks to Jean Brewis (Pillars), our Chairman, for our refreshments on these occasions.

Thanks are also due to Jean Brewis for her work on the Constitution. The committee deserve thanks for their willing help too.

TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to report a credit on the year's working of £99.25. Thanks to some very generous donations, the raffle at the Winter Re-union and also the Tombola. Without these we would definitely have run at a loss again. The cost of the magazine and the postages are our largest expense. The balance sheet will explain our financial position.

NEW MEMBERS

LIFE:	Doris Lawson	Doris Straughan (Seymour)
	Joyce Townes (Morrison)	Jean Currie (Darwin)
	Jean Russell (Rees)	Florence Oul (Goodinson)
	Mary Harrison (Gowdy)	Brenda Snowball (Trowhill)
	Dorothy Young (Wheldon)	Iris Carney (Innes)
	Brenda Carlodge (Edwards)	Margaret Seyer (Carr)
	Jean Straughan (Robson)	Jean Royal (Cox)
HAS BECOME A LIFE MEMBER:		GLADYS BOWMAN (Stacey)

SOCIAL SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT - September 1992

We have had our usual three Meetings of the year before Christmas, before Easter and before this Annual Business Meeting when our 4 or 5 Committee members attend. We regretted the deaths of two of our people - an elderly husband and wife who died within a week of each other last Easter. This means we only have two people to assist. Our future as a Committee was discussed and it was decided that as the Canasta players are the main contributors to our funds - they should be given the chance to suggest future plans - so long as our two recipients are catered for, and as long as we exist as a Committee. At the time of "going to press" no decisions have been reached.

We are most grateful to all those who help us financially and to the Canasta players who, in spite of moving into "retirement" flats and bungalows in some cases, still manage to offer us very welcome hospitality and a pleasant evening's company. It is not too late to let us know of anyone who would appreciate our help.

Nancy Mitchell (Crowe).

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS September 1992.

Income.		Expenditure.	
Cassata parties	£118.00	Harvest Gifts	£80.00
Donations	£20.00	Christmas Gifts	£80.00
Coffee Collections		Easter Gifts	£80.00
(Committee members)	£5.40		-----
Winter Reunion raffle	£35.50		£180.00
Building Society Int.	£2.50		
Balance from 1991-92	£111.58	Balance in hand	£109.58
	-----		-----
	£289.58		£289.58

Mary Arkless (Robinson)

THE LONDON BRANCH

The last three reunions have been unlucky in the choice of dates! Most of the regulars were unable to come in October '91; floods at railway and Underground stations caused cancellation of the meeting in May '92 and disruption of railway and Underground services due to bombs and "engineering works" made journeys difficult in October '92!

However, undeterred, five Old Bodans and a friend set off from Cambridge, Reading, Yeovilbridge (Kent) and Wimbury Wilt) and two to three hours later arrived at Ealing Common! Isabel Lundy (Marro), Edith Broderick (Bagger), Joyce Hebert (Ayles) and Dorcas Stockart (Bayfield) were together for the first time for two years and said the journey was worth it.

We were pleased to meet Old Bodan Irene Andrews (Godshill) who was staying with Joyce and hope to see her again.

Another Old Bodan get-together occurred in August for the second time, when Barty Wilson (Robson), Bell Dodd (Smith), Margaret Taylor (Finkle) and I met for lunch at "The Cock of the North". A friend and three husbands were also in the party but as two of them were "Old Boys" the conversation was still mostly school reminiscences! We were sorry that Gwen Marley (Checman) was unable to join us but expect to see her next year.

We would welcome some new faces at our next London meeting - give me a ring if you are within reasonable distance of Ealing (081 - 992 3607)

Dorcas (Ward) Macrae).

NEWS of London Old Bodans who keep in touch but have not been to a London reunion for several years : (1) Liz Kotler (Baron) is headmistress of a school in Hildesford. She and her husband are great travellers - Peru, Venezuela, China, Cyprus (for a rest she says) and this year Guatemala!

(2) Elke Barnham (Jackson) lives in Basingstoke and is teaching at the local 6th Form College. She still plays netball and is involved in running a Junior League and organising Tournaments.

Meetings Isabel Lundy (Munn) visited Eleanor Wilson (Tibbaldge) and her husband in Pickering, Yorks, at Easter. Isabel and Eleanor were friends in the LI Vth from 1928/31.

NEWS.

You will all be pleased to know that the grandfather clock which was on the "stage" is now in the "Boys School" and in working order - thanks to a lot of "tender loving care" by Jean Brewin's husband John.

Also there is a display cupboard available for items of memorabilia of your school days - in the main entrance of the Boys School. If you have any such items Iona would be pleased to hear from you.

One of our new Life Members is 82 years old so, we hope she gets value for her money!

Mollie Adamthwaite (Taylor) who lives in Brigsteer, Kendal, has designed and made a rug which went on show at Beaminster Museum. She helps too at the Tea Bar at the New Kendal hospital and still has time to continue her French lessons.

Annie Shield (Hill) has moved to Onich, Nr. Fort William to be near her daughter and loves it "in spite of the rain".

Nora Johnson (Wilson) writes from Harlepool of a pleasant tea party with Denis Foster and a mutual friend and also a lunch at Northallerton with Joan Tweedie (Sanderson) and May Wilson (Ferry) and respective husbands. May and Nina had not met since leaving school. May now lives in Ripon. We were sorry to hear that Nora's husband died very suddenly - in France - just after that reunion and send our sympathy.

In last year's magazine I mentioned the long standing correspondence of Mary Adkins and her Danish friend whom she met in 1916 and I invited a challenger and we have one - Mervyn Stockdale (Stennie) who has been in constant touch with her American correspondent since 1935 - was this the result of Miss Frankenburg's "year in America" about that time? Poffie the American friend has paid many visits to Mervyn during the years - Well done.

I make no apology for including this article in its entirety because I feel it may just be the information that someone will find most useful!

"He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell..."

Doreen Stainforth (Sims) recently had the privilege of inviting the region's band of hearing to find support and help from a network of branches of the British

Association of the Hard of Hearing. Lily Richardson (Lawson) was one of the Old Bedans who suddenly discovered the familiar face and voice on her living-room screen and waved "Goodnight, Dorcas" as the Tyme-Tone P.S.A. ended.

A founder-member of Sunderland's club which meets on Mondays in term-time in Monkwearmouth School, Dorcas has found invaluable help and understanding from the excellent lip-reading teacher, Mr. Fred Barnes, who has also been a teacher of the blind. The two hour lip-reading class is free and follows the social hour. Members care about each other's ups and downs, each term closing with a meal out or a day-trip, this year to Castle Howard. They meet and compete with about eight other North-East Clubs for a craft exhibition, a games and quiz session, the lip-reading and clear speech competitions to find our representatives in the October National London Finals, and for fund-raising. The highlight, National Day, is when, nationwide the British Association meets in the regions for a church service, lunch, presentation of trophies and entertainment.

Physical needs and situations vary, and the social discouragements of deafness make it hard sometimes for people to come to a group, afraid of failure or rejection again. But it usually is only a move from the area or the frailty of old age which prizes our members away from the group. There is so much to learn, to share, to laugh at, to understand...

Rene Ellison (Loffthouse) is the current President of the Sunderland Branch of the Sceptomists.

Received in my book for "NEWS" at the January Reunion — Gladys Stewart (Sydney), Kathleen Scott (Bolton) and Buntz Wilson (Robson) are pleased to say they are still alive." As all three are ardent Canasta players - we are very pleased this is still true in October!!

Edna Wilson (Dorkell) met Joyce Spoons and Betty Scott in Windsor when much coffee and conversation flowed.

Audrey Hagley (Jarvis) has been appointed Deputy Head in a small school in Wicker, East Sussex.

Pat Donkin (Henderson) is enjoying early retirement on a farm near Wooler - "in beautiful surroundings overlooking the Cheviots".

Edna Dent (Aka) and Mariel Searle have been busy all year raising funds for the Eye Infirmary. Mariel knitting yellow chicks, while Edna found buyers - they also planned a cheese & wine party and a garden party and we hope all their ventures were a huge success.

Did the 1937 starters have their reunion in the Roiker Hotel? I have not had a report. Somewhere someone is probably longing to hear about you.

Delighted to mention you, Brenda Cartledge (Edwards). Brenda has lived in the "South" for many years and she and her husband are both retired and live in

Watford - spending a lot of time working for Oxfam - or in walking or sporting activities. She has recently had her cousin, Vera Cardidge (Brown) of the same school year - 1933 onwards - to stay and both girls would be delighted to hear from anyone who remembers them (I have both addresses and phone numbers). Vera lives in Felpham, Bognor Regis.

In the summer Marianne Allison (Mossart) spent some time with her sister-in-law Grace Caldwell (Allinson) and they had coffee with Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) and caught up with Bedouin gossip. Marianne's home is in Oldburgh St. John, Yorks. A little later Isabel Caldwell - also visited Grace - more coffee and more news for Elsie. At a family wedding Grace met Joan Hayton & Marjorie

Phelps (---- ?)

Mollie Adamthwaite (Taylor) still keeps in touch with Elsie Kirkwood, from her home in Kewstall. Elsie, now in her 88th year is still counting her blessings and sends regards to all Old Bedouin friends.

Winnie Scott was greeted one morning in Marks & Spencers by shoppers - Grace Turner (Hayton), Mary Priestman (Fenton) and Florence Watson (Charloworth). School day reminiscences were soon forthcoming. Grace, Mary and Winnie were all in Esk House so house-mistresses and members were recalled. Mary lives in Rainon, Florence at Belmont and Grace in Sunderland. They have several mini-reunions. Elsie Garrick (Smith) on a brief visit from Woodhall Spa met Dorothy Middleton (Sagden), Marjorie Anderson (Curtis) and Winnie Scott (Thomas) in Dorothy's flat for coffee in July.

Margaret Lewis has been invited to accompany the Berkshire Youth Choir in the Festival Hall, London in December. She'll be in the company of Vera Lynn, Petula Clark and Anthony Hopkins at this Christmas Charity Concert.

MEETINGS & REUNIONS.

1957 - 62 Bedouins held a Reunion in April at the home of Irene Maizee (Earl). Those present were:

Jane Thompson (Kerranley)

Carol Price (Meddles)

Judith Parker (Pratt)

Inge Røfjell (Andersen)

Jennifer Crawford (Utwia)

from Oslo, Norway.

Patricia Winter

One group who started Bede in 1953 held a second reunion, this one at Websters in September. "It was planned by Anne Currovan (Harper) to coincide with a trip "home" by Barbara Hopper (Goldhammer) who is now a resident of New York. It was good to see Patricia Dorward (Peggs) whose home is in Switzerland and who managed to fit in a visit to the reunion at the same time as a visit to her parents. Othman came from Buckinghamshire, Yorkshire and the North East. Some had not met since leaving school so we had a good evening, catching up on news of families and jobs. Clare Masterman (Mosley) and Anne Fambely have taken early retirement from teaching.

Present were:-

Anne Corcoran (Harper)	Maureen Elliott (Kennedy)
Jean Royal (Cox)	Patricia Deans (Webb)
Olive Parsons (Watson)	Judith Bird (Whitfield)
Wendy Parr-Burnham (Amin)	Clare Mastman (Moxley)
Valerie Owen (Whitaker)	Fanella Turlock (Loo)
Rosalind Cooper (Thompson)	Elizabeth Walker (Ross)
Barbara Hopper (Goldhammer)	Patricia Dorsward (Peggy)
Kathleen Conley (Middleton)	Anne Faraholy
Anne Conley (McNab) who was 1954 year group.	

We were pleased to share happy memories of 'Bede' with four of our former teachers:- Miss Hayton (Mrs. Carrick), Miss Duns, Miss Kinch and Miss Heslop.

Your apology for "clashing" with the Guild Annual Business Meeting is accepted but please join us another year - we want new blood and new ideas.

THE 'THIRTY-NINERS' ANNUAL RE-UNION September 4th 1992

On September 4th the 'Thirty-Niners' (39-44) had another re-union at the Grange Hotel.

This year we found that the rooms where we meet had all been re-decorated. Indeed the whole hotel had been renovated.

However the welcome was as warm as ever from the staff. We were pleased we could have our usual private room where we could chat and laugh to our hearts content.

Our members were still reasonable, bearing in mind how busy we all seem to be as we retire. Of course, the numbers of grand-children keep increasing and many of the Old Bodes of '39 are either looking after or visiting them. We all picked up our news from where we left off last year, and we were pleased to see Edna Wilson make it again from Buckinghamshire; Eileen Young from Rosalldkirk; Stella Butterley from Darlington; Maureen Richardson from Northallerton; Doreen Dobson from Merseyside; Kathleen Borelace from Sheffield; Sheila Snowball from the Lake District and Lucinda Mills from Harrogate.

Others present were:

Jean Russell	Dorothea Robson
Joyce Townes	Doreen Dodds
Rhennette Elison	Marjorie Baines
Jean Liddle	Rita Manning
Elsie White	Muriel Staddon
Margery Harris	Lilian Campbell

We were very disappointed that Joyce Spoons could not make it due to her husband's illness. We missed you Joyce and hope you will manage the dinner. We are thinking of you.

Also greatly missed was Kathleen Tait who was attending a wedding in Hyannis Port - Lucky Kathleen! - We'll hear all about it we hope next time we meet.

Florence Ord had been delighted to have received a couple of Old Becken magazines from Dorothea Robson and although she couldn't attend our reunion at the Grange, she'd been delighted to read all the news and has now joined the Old Becken Association. We look forward very much to seeing you one day Florence.

This time the Grange Manager Mr Phil Belfield was quick off the mark to arrange all our tables into one big one. We all wanted to hear everyone's news.

We were delighted to hear that Eileen Young and Joyce Robson had finally made it to pay a visit to Maureen Richardson in Northallerton where they had spent a beautiful day together.

It was suggested that perhaps we would all like to miss our reunion for a year since our numbers had dropped, but nobody wanted that. After all someone said - "We may not be around."

The yearly reunion for the 'Thirty-niners' remains then. Probably again on the first Friday in September. After a show of hands this seemed to suit most people so we hope we shall see a few more next year.

The buffet seemed to be exceptionally good this year and we all enjoyed it very much.

We all look forward to meeting again.

Elsie White

N.B. We had a note from Zoe Crosscraft saying how sorry she was that she couldn't come but that she would be in Sunderland earlier in the year, staying with Joyce Townes, and her husband, where she hoped we could have a mini-reunion.

Joyce arranged this for this on June 27th. The telephone wires were hot that week trying to contact anyone who was within travelling distance. Thirteen of us made it. The weather was perfect and we all sat in the garden with coffee, cakes and biscuits. I hope nobody was snoozing in the adjacent gardens. Thanks Joyce - it was lovely!

Another mini-reunion took place at Melsonby thanks to Margery Harris who was house sitting for her friends. We had a marvellous lunch and chat but at the last moment it was discovered that Eileen Young hadn't been told. After a hurried phone call Eileen duly arrived after doing about 70 mph down the road and we were delighted she had made it. It was another memorable day with lots of chat and laughter. Thank you Margery.

We all look forward very much to the quick 'get togethers' that Dorothea Robson always manages to arrange so quickly and with such skill. We often fill her sun-porch where we chat and enjoy some lovely home cooking. She has a good 'gossiping' to tell her when anyone from our year is in the area visiting family or friends. Thank you Dorrie.

E.W.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

Jean Brooks (Richards) sent greetings whilst on holiday on an island in Mauritius - "sitting under the coconut palms and gazing at the unbelievable turquoise blue sea". She and Joan Mitchell (Pentolife) had lunch together in Unblanga (North Coast of Natal) and caught up with family news.

Irene and Joan Marshall (St. Julien) and Dorothy Morrison (Petersen) - home from Denmark - and are hoping to meet up with Louie Solley (Proctor) and Anne Pace whilst in Sunderland.

Jouca Gallon (Hodgson) is - probably has been - on a visit to China with her Australian Embroidery Guild.

Eta Robertson (Byham) who now lives in New Zealand sends her kind regards to all who know her.

Susan Milton (Moore) was in England from Australia for Christmas '91, whilst here she visited Jennifer Stewart (niece of Gladys Stewart (Sidney) and Carol Smith (...)) Susan has qualified as a solicitor in Australia.

Marie Slawther (Edwards) home from Vancouver for a visit, spent a holiday in Sunderland in May, during which time Lilian Robertson (Elliot) now living in Darlington, was able to visit her.

Kathleen Robson (Mauds) who was at Bode 1941-7 who worked with Covent Garden Opera when she was in England, has, after many years in Napa Valley, California, been asked to train for a special performance of Benjamin Britten operas in San Francisco in November 1992. We hope its a great success.

REAGON, COMMUNA FALCHU, JUDVASLUI, ROMANIA.

Water runs down walls but not with warm obedience all day long from taps. Letters and parcels from home are opened, scrutinized and pilfered from - by officials, especially if valuables are enclosed. By valuables we mean loo-paper, washing powder, vasoline.... This is 1992 near the Russian border in a Romanian village with a high percentage of gypsies in the population and a large white-painted orphanage for 90 under-sevens, Ceausescu's legacy.

The director is French, volunteers are Scandinavian, N.N.E.Bs English, staff Romanian. Safe delivery of items for the Romanian appeal - everything any child needs and those "luxuries" - depends on the Hampshire truck firm with the properly packaged and paid-for goods (and copies of contents for customs) doing the rounds of orphanages.

Dorcas Stainforth's (Simms) daughter Carolé has been an N.N.E.B. there since February and experienced cravings for things English - crisps, chocolate, magazines, the language, (she now prattles in Romanian), supermarkets and showers. The children have missed out on the security of knowing they would be comforted, fed and played with so they grab food like animals, behave aggressively

and are hyper-active. Drying facilities are so limited that changing and training and making babies comfortable and cuddly is an uphill task.

On holiday in Malta Doreen met a couple wanting to off-load blankets as their old people's home used throws now and they had the money to send some ... Com in Egypt!

The mouse caught in Carole's boot which leapt on to her shoulder, the three bar hair briefly caught fire in a crowded candle-lit basilica - all produced laughter. English plumbers guilty of yobbery, bad diplomacy and gimcrack workmanship necessitated huge efforts by the orphanage English girls to retrieve our country's reputation.

For Carole the year will be hard, long, unforgettable and moving.

HOCKEY SHIELD.

As the contents of the School were cleared, ready for the refurbishment of the building, many items were discarded. The School Secretary offered several items to the Guild which she had rescued from the skips, one of these was a fine carved oak shield, used as a House Hockey Trophy. This was accepted with gratitude by Sunderland Bodens Ladies Hockey Club, to be cleaned and remounted and presented to the outstanding 1st XI player each season. The current holder is Christine Fisher 1st XI captain. She was delighted and honoured to display this lovely shield in her home. It has been much admired.

HOCKEY.

As President of the Hockey Club I have been honoured by having a specially commissioned plate, made by Alan Ball, the potter in residence at Washington Arts Centre, presented by members to commemorate 50 years with the club. Judy (Stewart) Radd whose mother-in-law, Edna Davidson (Stewart) was a founder member and secretary of the Hockey Club, has played for 25 years for Bodens, as has Norma Barty (Dix), a former member of the P.E. Department at Bode School. They both still play for the 1st XI and act respectively as Club Secretary and Club Captain.

Carolyn Naisby, who played as a schoolgirl with Bodens, is again a registered player and is giving invaluable help in fitness training while acting as manager for the 1st XI and Playing with the 2nd XI. She has been made an Honorary Member for her services to the Club.

Brenda Peart, ex Bode P.E. Department, is the Durham County Women's Hockey Association President. She was valued player and captain of Bodens.

Many of our players represent Durham County as players or officials at Senior and schoolgirl levels. All the 1st XI are 1st XI County or Territorial (North) players, and we have representatives at 2nd XI, Under 21 and schoolgirl levels in the current season, as for several years previously. We are unbeaten in any Durham 1st XI League, Cup, or Tournament matches, for several seasons, and have represented

Durham at North level, going on to National level. Now one of the top twenty teams in England, our 1st XI is in the 2nd Division of the new National League. This entails a good deal of training and travelling. (The first match was in Southampton, and our visitors so far are from Gloucestershire and Herefordshire). The 2nd XI are also doing very well locally, and have a keen, hardworking squad. They too play on the new artificial pitch, with floodlights, at Silksworth, and entertain visitors at the Parma Tennis Centre. This Leisure Complex is much admired by visiting teams, and they are intrigued by its history as a former colliery, complete with pit-head.

I do hope that members of the Guild will feel that this account of our present position shows that we are following closely the ideals of the founders.

Changing circumstances there may be, but we are enjoying the present, looking hopefully to the future, whilst appreciating the traditions of the past.

Jean (Pillar) Brown.

I am still managing to umpire regularly for the 2nd XI, coach at courses for young players, and travel with 1st XI, this being without doubt the most hectic weekend activity of the three.

SPORT

Jennie Hry (Smith) became President of Durham County Ladies Golf Association in November.

Joyce Young (Allen) has been playing well this year at Biddon Golf Club and has won several prizes (Beware the golfer with the "bad bunk"!) So, too, have Joan Graham (Morrison), Olga Wright (Stewart) and Dorothy Gimson (Kennedy) been prizewinners.

STAFF NEWS.

We send our sympathy to Mrs. Connie Bryce and Margaret Hogg (Berry) whose husbands both taught at Bode and who have died during the year.

Miss Bernard has moved into Abbeyfield House as also has Clifford Hartley.

After many years of devoted service, bearing responsibility for flowers at Fulwell Methodist Church, Miss Ellen Carlin has handed over the job to a younger Church member.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS.

We are surrounded by these great occasions which I'm sure you would like to hear about. Winnie Scott (Thomas); Marjorie Anderson (Curtis); Dorcas Dent (Stoddart); Elsa Garbutt (Butler); Kathleen Carr (Ritch); Margaret Taylor (Finkle); Buntie Wilson (Robson) were among friends at Molly Garbutt's Golden Wedding Anniversary which was held at her daughter's home in York. Molly's home is in Scarborough.

Winnie Scott has celebrated her own 'Golden' Anniversary as has Dorcas Dent; Dorothy Middlemiss (Sagden and Dorothy Metcalf (Hirst) have also been celebrating.

DEATHS.

Dorothy Rose Metcalf (Mrs. Price)
Elsie Martin (Mrs. Roberts)
Edith Wood (Mrs. Kerr)
Florence Jackson (Mrs. Roulledge)
Ella Lister (Mrs. White)

Stella Lawson (Mrs. McNaught)
Hilda Hartley (Mrs. Sutton)
Nettie Shiel (Mrs. Widdrington)
Winifred Smith (Mrs. Bevan)
Joan Bramkill (Mrs. Richardson)

We received a cutting from Darlington & Stockton Times telling us of Stella Lawson's achievements during a lifetime devoted to teaching - including the fact that she was the first woman to teach at Northallerton Prison.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

My annual thanks to all those who make my job as Editor easier. Thanks to those who write newsy letters which are an invaluable contribution. Thanks to Dorothy Cockburn (Dagdale) who types all this for me - to Irene for all her hard work on our behalf all year round. Our meetings and social gatherings are only enjoyable because they run smoothly and well and this is entirely due to Irene's "arrangements" and the committee's willing assistance, -so we thank you most sincerely.

Special thanks to our auditor Mr. Scott who audits our accounts for us.

Our deepest sympathy goes to those of you who have been bereaved during the year and to the families of our Bedan friends who have died. Our prayers and thoughts are with you.

Keep writing and have a Happy Christmas and New Year and God Bless you

Anna Cross.

BALANCE SHEET FOR SEPTEMBER 1st 1991 - AUGUST 31st 1991

RECEIPTS

Subs. Annual	£7.00	
Life	£75.00	
	<hr/>	£82.00
Donations		£228.30
Meetings		£256.88
Interest		£34.95
		<hr/>
		£602.13
		<hr/>

EXPENDITURE

Printing	£340.00
Stationery	£13.72
Postages & Telephones	£96.88
Cards	.60
Gift to Auditor	£5.50
Bans for Chain & Engraving	£40.00
London Branch Expenses	£6.18
Credit on Year's Working	£99.25
	<hr/>
	£602.13
	<hr/>

Total Funds on August 31st 1991	
Balance August 31st 1990	
1991	£1,234.79
	<hr/>
Credit on year's working	£99.25
	<hr/>
	£1,334.04
	<hr/>

Made up as follows:-	
3 1/2% War Stock	£98.36
Savings A/c. (T.S.B.)	£1,078.88
Barclays Bank	£131.54
Cash in Hand	£25.19
	<hr/>
	£1,334.04
	<hr/>

T. Scott
29.9.92

