

THE OLD BEDAN

1997

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 1998

- FRIDAY Jan. 23rd 1998** WINTER RE-UNION in the Bode Centre in the first building on the right of Girls' School at 7.00 p.m. (Tickets £4.50).
- FRIDAY May 1st 1998** ANNUAL DINNER in the Swallow Hotel, at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. (Tickets £16.50 approximately).
- TUESDAY June 23rd 1998** SUMMER RE-UNION at the Riverside Hotel, Durham, at 7.00 p.m.
- FRIDAY Sept. 25th 1998** ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING in the Bode Centre at 7.30 p.m.

As always, please note these dates in your diaries and if you intend to be present at any of these Re-unions - please pay for your ticket in advance to whoever supplies it, and then everyone can enjoy their evening and not have to worry about collecting money.

Thank you

GUILD OF OLD BEDANS Office Bearers and Committee 1997-98

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This magazine is at the end of an era and hopefully at the beginning of a happy era under younger management - Tom and I have respectfully decided to retire from producing the magazine and wish every success to those who will continue the work. I would like to thank all who have sent in news and accounts of meetings amongst members and those who have reported on Club activities.

Health Committee will be pleased to have your subscriptions - £2 for an Annual and put your names down in brackets, if applicable. Very important - if you change your address, please let us know so that you will still receive your magazine.

JEAN BREWIS (PILLANS)

We were all distressed to learn of the death of Jean, who was always a very active member of the Guild. A great number of us attended her funeral and Ashbrooke women's Hockey Club held a minute's silence before their next match - reported in the Sunderland Echo.

Quote from Dorothy Waggett:-

Jean Brewis (Pillans) 1928-1987

Jean and I were late-comers to the Bede - she from Gateshead and me from South Shields, so, as well as that in common, we shared a love of P.E., meeting as friends on school teams and as fans on house teams. Our friendship simmered down after school as we went to different colleges and, over the years, we met only occasionally. However, after retiring from teaching, to my joy we met up again at the Sunderland Rambling Club Wednesday walks. We shared many a chat and laugh. I discovered that Jean had not changed at all - still full of life, good for a giggle and a great companion.

So, most of my more vivid memories of Jean are recent - Jean and her heavy rucksack, an Aladdin's cave of a rucksack - (forgoten something?) - ask Jean; her love of teashops and home made cake - her intense pride in and love for her family - Old Bede talk.

Above all, Jean Brewis was a kind and caring friend with a lovely sense of humour. I will miss her.

Dorothy Waggett (Alderson)

WINTER RE-UNION

Our Winter Re-Union was held on Friday, 11st January and took place in the "Boys Hall" of Bede Centre, a new venue for our gathering.

The weather was kind to us this year - no rain or snow for the first time in recent memory!

It was good to see so many familiar faces again - no one ever seems to change as the years go by.

There was lots of chatter and catching up on news and gossip.

After being welcomed by Irene Wilkinson, we got down to the serious business

The evening seemed to fly over as Old Bedans functions always seem to do. Coming out to a calm June evening it was very pleasant to be able to have daylight for some of the long drive home to Upper Teesdale after taking Joyce home to Darlington.

I appeal to Old Bedans if you missed coming this year, do try and make it for next June. I am sure you will enjoy the evening.

Eileen Young (Oliver)

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting was held on Friday 26th September, 1997. The Chairman welcomed members and received apologies for absence from Anne Mitchell (Crowe), Maira Cuddeford (Dixon), Joan Boswell (Rough), Audrey Wadhams and Brenda Johnson (Tuler).

The minutes of the last A.B.M. were read and approved and signed by the Chairman, Irene Wilkinson. The Secretary gave her report, followed by the Treasurer.

The retiring Chairman handed over to the new Chairman, Jean Rosenstein (Turpin). Irene was thanked for her sterling service as Secretary and Treasurer over the years.

The cost of sending out the magazine was discussed as postage rises every year. Donations for postage would be appreciated. News for the magazine must reach the Magazine Secretary by early October.

The dates for the coming year were decided upon and will appear on the inside of the magazine cover as usual.

The Committee for the year 1997-98 was decided upon and will be printed in the magazine.

The meeting ended with tea and biscuits.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

At present we have 577 members of which I think 19 are new Life Members.

- Grace Kemmer (Treas)
- Edna Brown
- Shirley Cawson (Treasurer)
- Tom Robinson (Clerk)
- Margaret Mayler (Treasurer)
- Mabel Turner (Treasurer)
- Cynthia Wicks (Meeting)
- Mildred Tucker (Project)
- Walter Davis (Treas)
- Paul Bell (Lect)
- Tom Marley (Meeting)
- Margaret Waldron (Treas)
- Tom Shorton (Treasurer)
- Gene Shorton (Weld)

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

There were four people present at the first meeting on Monday. 11 attended. Unfortunately one member had her car vandalized and the radio stolen. Some new Life Members were recruited.

As soon thought is made to be our next Chairman due to ill health. Dr. Jean Taylor who was Vice-Chairman elect, will now take over as Chairman at this meeting. Marjorie Carter, who was to retire as Secretary, has consented to continue and a replacement can be found. Jackie Kemmer is taking over the post of Treasurer from Peter Williams, who is also the acting Chairman. In future Assistant Secretary Jean Hanson and Margaret Secretary, Anne Cross, have both to retire due to ill health. When (Catherine) (Treas) is to take over Jean's post with the Bureau taking over Jean's post.

Harrogate Re-Launch

This was held at the Swallow Hotel with 55 people present. There was no entertainment that year which gave members a chance to chat. It was decided by the committee to have entertainment on alternate years.

Annual Dinner

74 people were present and some complained of the cold. It was held in the hall of the Leeds Trinity College which was a much larger room than usual, with some open windows. Cakes were donated by Lily Lawson and were greatly enjoyed, also the coffee prices.

Harrogate Re-Launch

The Club met on three occasions during the year and there were three committee meetings.

Judith Willis (Wilson)
Audrey Bell (Bowl)
Margaret Bencherby (Scott)
Dorothy Stephenson (Thompson)
Judy Alder

TREASURER'S REPORT.

I am sorry to report once again a loss on the year's workings but it is much less than last year - £28.28, this year. I wish to thank all those who have given generous donations throughout the year. They do help our expenses very much.

THE LONDON BRANCH

The two 1997 Re-unions were as enjoyable as usual despite the small number of members who were free to attend (no only number eight altogether!)

In May, Edith Broderick (Barge) and Isabel Lundy came from Reading and Cambridge respectively and Muriel Woodruffe (Heron) timed her visit to her daughter in London so that she could join us.

Nancy and I played two darts and Muriel played a difficult piece by Chopin, demonstrating what practice can do, even after a gap of over 50 years!

Isabel spent Saturday night with me and read a lot of Sister Wendy's Story of Painting before she left on Sunday afternoon. We were "best friends" at Barnes School until the difference in age parted us in the Scholarship year, but met again in the VHS as Isabel had to wait a year to go to University.

In October, Nancy and my husband were my only guests but a large card with a beautiful picture of Durham Cathedral arrived from Muriel with best wishes. We raised our glasses to absent friends and after lunch Nancy and I practised for our recital this month at Shalfbury House, where there are flats for retired people. Quite a number of them desert their T.V.s to listen to us!

Nancy had played to them every month for many years before I joined her for darts.

We would love to see some "new" Old Rodans - you need only come once if you are bored!

Dorcas Ward (Macrae),
39 Birch Grove, W3 9SF
Tel. 0181 992 9907

- John Powell
- Karlson Theodore
- Karlson Robert
- Lillian Campbell
- Samuel Morris
- Henry Johnson
- Edna Johnson
- Karlson Tom
- Edna Young
- James Johnson
- Elva White
- Miss Manning
- Shirley Snowball

from Lillian

Our next reunion will be on Friday August 25th at the Gamble Hotel, at 12 noon.

with her family. I cannot close this account of our re-unions without saying how deeply we all feel the sad death of John Powell. She will be such a wife. Our thoughts are

wishes Karlson. Karlson Theodore who has recently had a successful hip replacement. Best wishes Karlson. Karlson Lillian had family commitments. There was also an apology from We had apologies and good wishes from Lillian Campbell and Karlson

an Old Order, class of 1951, and would like to hear from anyone in her year. Henry Johnson's daughter, Susan Morris from Boston, U.S.A., joined us. She is

shortly to have a second hip replacement. Good Luck Elva. Royal Canadian Navy and also ordered her Gordon Wooding. Edna Johnson is being with her. (Comments) The year of death? Karlson Tom has attended a Doctor Johnson is still looking for a boytoy. Edna Young says she's still Elva. Elva White has been in hospital, but is home again. All our best wishes Elva.

and Miss Manning (also long distance members) who missed last year's re-union. I had a day over 201 Wally 20 that. We were pleased to see Shirley Snowball see every one, some of whom had traveled a considerable distance. No one was very full of chatter, news and not a little laughter. It was lovely to did. On the 25th August, 22 of us gathered at Gamble Hotel for our 22th Re-union. To from the north they come. From east and west and south, and indeed we

-MEMBERS REPORT

The United Reformed Church in Sunderland had a combined service at St. George's in Stockton Road on October 5th, 1997. There were a number of Old Bodans present - Mildred Raine (Ellison), Eileen Robinson (Temple), Margaret Robinson (Dixon), Moira Simpson (Shawyer) and Olga Stone (Hawkins). To celebrate 25 years of the United Reformed Church.

Eileen Robinson (Temple) is teaching at Heaton Park School, Newcastle, (1963-68).

Margaret Robinson (Dixon) is President of Sunderland Sisterhood 1996/97 (1957-62) and Kathleen Robson (Clarke) is President from 1997/98, (1955-61).

Margaret Masley (Barrow) who bought the inkwell at the auction in 1994 has been visited by her mother Marian Powley (Masley) in September 1997 in Canada.

Mildred Raine (Ellison), Mary Reed (Lawson) and Margaret Robinson (Dixon) are on the Sunderland Committee which organises the Women's World Day of Prayer in March each year.

RE-UNION FOR CLASS OF '45

The years just fall away when a re-union was held in the Swallow Hotel, Seaburn, in May 1997, for those who started at Belle in 1945 or thereabouts.

Margaret Skipsay (Easdown) and Audrey Skinner (Sanderson) had thought about the idea for a few years and eventually brought it to fruition.

A small core of friends were contacted and a date set. Then it was how to get in touch with other old school mates. A letter was put in the Sunderland Echo and then the letters and phone calls started coming in. It was great to hear from those who had become just names from the past.

Jean English (Baldon-English) wrote from Germany where she is a lecturer in a University. Her brother had forwarded the information as did others who had friends and family living away. Dorothy Oaks (Clarke) came from Euron and Dulcie Armstrong (Halsey) from Burgess Hill, Shirley Crosswell (Buchanan) and Margaret Berry (Lai) came from the London area. Some of them were accompanied by their husbands and had made a short holiday of it, looking around Sunderland, a place very much altered since they left the area.

Eileen Brass (Atkinson) travelled from Lancashire and Marjorie Wainless (Lodger) and Vera Fairbairn (Lewis) now live in the Midlands. Altogether there

Barbara Gerrard (Beckwith)
Maira Hornby (Tate)
Verna Jenkins (Dent)
Hilda Lawson (Treadwell)
Marie Scoble
Jean Collier (Winter)
Audrey Robson (Dennis)

NEWS

Glauding through my husband's White Rose Magazine this summer, I saw a photograph of someone I thought I recognised from my Bedon days - could it be Jean Sangster?

I was eventually given the address of the said Jean by the Magazine Secretary, and on writing to her received a chatty and interesting reply - it was the same Jean - now Unpubart, living near Heathfield in Sussex.

She apparently used to play hockey for the Old Bedons, and from a list of names I gave her of contemporaries at school, she could remember Avril Trembath (Kidley) as they used to get into trouble for talking in class. She also remembered getting fish and chips at the back door of Avril's father's shop.

She has travelled widely since leaving school, living in Qatar in the Persian Gulf, then Indonesia, Holland, Venezuela, Oman, Nicaragua, then Scotland, before finally retiring to Sussex, with her husband Ron.

She has three daughters, but no longer has any family left in Sunderland. She drove around the town about 5 years ago when she was visiting Newcastle, and found it all much changed, apart from parts of Roker, which she recognised.

Perhaps I can persuade her to come up again to join our small firm re-union, and meet some of her original school friends.

Maira Dixon

Gladys Stewart (Sidney) has been successful in having one of her recipes printed in the National Townswomen's Guilds 1998 calendar. Gladys's recipe is the only one to be included from the North East and her recipe for Salmon Quiche accompanied the picture for the month of July.

1948-49-46-47

Shortly after the Dinner in April, Edna Brown paid her first visit to Sunderland for 30 years.

She was staying at Great Ayton and contacted Jean Rosemain (Turpin) and

LONDON BRANCH

Please note Doreen's final remarks - there must be lots of Old Bedians in the London area and it would be nice to keep in touch -

Mrs Doreen McRae
39 Barch Grove
London W3 9SP

NEWS ETC.

Lynne Symonds, who was reported in last year's magazine when she became Chief of an African tribe and who is currently teaching in Norwich - has been awarded a world peace award. She is only the sixth person to have her work recognised by Week of Prayer for World Peace. Congratulations Lynne.

Alas we will get no more Hockey reports unless an Old Bedian still playing is prepared to volunteer!!!

A tribute to Dorothy Goodie which appeared in the Echo is worth reproducing - also two cuttings from the Northern Echo will bring back memories for some of you -

Sund Echo:

"I am so glad a retired school teacher at Fulwell with the signature "Mr. Chips, Goodbye," wrote nice things about Frank Entwisle to your paper. My pleasant recollection of that school was being taught by Miss Dorothy Goodie. I would describe her as a large lady who always looked colourful, feminine and smart. She was gentle and precise. She took our class to Northfleeton, when we were evacuated, probably wearing a favourite dress that resembled a field of nodding lily daisies. There, she captivated the North Yorkshire children with her majestic style of piano-playing for them to march into the hall.

Such a lady, I could not forget.

FULWELL NOSTALGIA

Northern Echo:

Under Heading - Memories - Tales of BIG knickers of old - Remember domestic science lessons at school? or would you rather forget them? We told you about ours and invited letters about your experiences. Sharon Griffiths.

MARY LEWIS of Langleydale, Barnard Castle had a wonderful teacher too - Miss Littlehales at Bede Collegiate Girls' School in Sunderland before the war.

A dear father, she encouraged her pupils to achieve a thorough grounding in French where good speakers were introduced, as well as social activities such as the Dramatics at Christmas. Her mastery of Latin was evident in her translation (and that language of many cards). Mr. Harding was full of admiration for her rendering of a whole opera.

Miss Daisy (Dora) joined Beale School as Senior Classics Mistress in 1932. At the beginning of the war she was recruited with the school to Richmond. In 1950, now Daisy (Dora), she left Bealeford for a similar position in Bury so that she could more easily look after her father.

Elizabeth

Sheila Alice (over Trips)

One that has been seen by the workers, in the school, the girls weren't allowed to roll up their long-sleeved blouses in the school, but my daughter Barbara went to St Joseph's Convent in Harpenden. She often relates how one particular hot summer when blouses and dresses were being

as to dance. sometimes allowed to play records and if we were lucky, the other girls might wear open cardigans. Buggy days we stayed in the hall where we were teachers during the week. Regardless of temperature, if it was dry, teachers' cardigans were practically unheard of. We had super sing-alongs in the 11-year-old to be told just a record. From a teacher's college in Palsen, I was there in the war years. It was a marvelous school and such a thrill as an English teacher of Beale (Catholic) School, even though

Dear Sharon

LETTERS

"All in all", she says, we learned a lot and I have been many times grateful for such a sound and sensible foundation.

- Diagrams showing correct ways to hold and use table linen
 - Points on Mending
 - Points on Sewing
 - Preparation of the Book
 - Recipe for Soap Jelly
 - Lessons for Washing Clothes
- She can remember making really useful things like Pinafore Soap, Soap Bars, Padlocks and other. And she will tell her two Lanyards with such headings as:

Miss Orme organised yearly visits to the Roman Wall which were greatly enjoyed. She was a keen photographer, especially of school activities and pupils.

Her love of music, admitted to Miss Mowl, led to her being put in sole charge of the whole school for a singing session in the Hall!

Though highly regarded in her school at Bury, Miss Orme retained a great affection for Bode and kept in constant contact with staff, especially Miss Wilman and with former pupils. She died in May after a stroke rendered her physically helpless for a prolonged period, though her mind remained clear.

Mrs. May Montgomery, who died at the age of 82 early this year, retired from Bode School in 1975 after serving in the R. E. Department on a number of occasions for 12 years.

Her teaching of the subject was broadly based and held the interest of her classes with discussions and emphasis on high standards of behaviour. May showed sympathetic concern for her pupils as individuals and they regarded her with affection.

Her lively mind devised competitions involving the whole school, as with the introduction of the "Miss Bode" contest and the supplying of tins for decoration as waste-paper bins: some of these still adorn family homes.

Always cheerful and hospitable, generous with her time and resources, May had many outside interests, such as Guides, the Church and the Burns Club.

One of those talented Scottish-born teachers, who have helped to enhance education in this area, she left Sunderland to live on the Isle of Arran with her doctor husband until his death. She is survived by her two sons and their families with whom she always had a close relationship.

Mary Arkless (Robinson)

The Canasta parties still continue to take place every few weeks in the homes of Old Bodes. We have been meeting like this for nearly fifty years. I enjoy our evenings very much - needless to say we are "experts" at the game. In recent years - since the Social Service committee disbanded we have given the proceeds - approx. £120 - each year to the two charities chosen by the Chairman.

God Bless - Anne

Our sympathy to those who have been bereaved during the year and our good wishes to every member for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.
(I'm sure you will all join me in thanking Anne for almost 25 years of devotion to the Guild as Assistant Secretary - then Secretary/Treasurer and finally as Chairman. We do sincerely thank her for the hard work she has put in and that her final "reward" was to wear our wonderful chain of office as Chairman. She knows all who have assisted her and wishes the Guild to "continue to prosper for many more years".)

I must thank Joan Hayton for her co-operation and also Beverly Cuckham (Peggy) for typing this ready for the printer and also D. Wild (Hazel) for adding our Accounts.
Give her plenty to write about.

Sady there will be her comments to Edith - a job I have thoroughly enjoyed and will take very much. Thanks to all who have written to me and my usual apologies for not replying to you in person. Please contact Mona in future and

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

- 1997
Lois Haldy
Ella Macdonough (Doris)
Joan Hayton (Phyllis)
Phyllis Langley
Vivian Chapman (Liddy)
Christine Smith (Eggsheaven)
Irene Dean (Kathy)
Joan Robinson (Mayby)
- 1998
Peggy Allan (Prisc)
Ella Macdonough (Abdelrassem)
I. Gibson
Amy Scott (Robinson)

DEATHS

BALANCE SHEET FOR SEPTEMBER 1996 - AUGUST 1997.

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURE	
Subs.		Printing Magazines	4407.00
Annual 7 @ £2	£14.00	Stationery	432.28
Life 19 @ £10	£190.00	Postages & Telephones	£130.07
	£204.00	Gift to Auditor	£10.00
		London Branch	£2.57
Donations	681.00		
Meetings	£150.53		
Interest	627.10		
	<u>£1542.63</u>		<u>£571.92</u>

Total Funds on August 31st 1997 made up as follows:-

Balance August 31st 1996		5 1/2% War Stock	£98.28
	£1,556.88	T.S.B. Savings Ac.	£1,152.13
		Barclays Bank Ac.	£263.85
Loss on Year's Workings	£28.29	Cash in Hand	£13.15
	<u>£1,528.59</u>		<u>£1,527.39</u>

Audited and found correct

D. Hunt

3.10.97

