

THE OLD BEDAN

2000

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2001

Friday 26th January 2001

Winter Reunion in Bode Centre.
In the first building on the right of the
Girls' School at 7.00pm.until 9.30pm
Dinner Tickets will be available on this
evening.
Tickets £5.00.

Friday 27th April 2001

Annual Dinner in the Marriott Hotel
(Formerly the Swallow Hotel Seaburn)
7. pm. for 7.30pm.until 10.30pm.
Tickets £18.00 (Approx)

Tuesday 19th June 2001

Summer reunion at the Ramside Hotel,
Darham at 7.00pm.

Friday 28th September 2001

Annual Business meeting in Bode
Centre at 7.30pm.

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE NOW OF THE DATES ABOVE, AND WILL
YOU ENSURE THAT YOU PAY FOR YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE
IF YOU INTEND TO BE PRESENT.

THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND TREASURER ARE THEN ABLE
TO ENJOY THESE OCCASIONS AS MUCH AS YOU DO, WITHOUT
CONCERNING THEMSELVES WITH COLLECTING MONEY.

THANK YOU.

GUILD OF OLD REDANS
Office Bearer and Committee 2000-2001

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EDITORS COMMENTS

Another year has passed, and I still receive many letters and news, from members far and near. All of which is gratefully received for use in the magazine.

This year we have articles on different subjects, from members who have not been in contact before, which is extremely pleasing.

I would only ask that when you write, you clearly state all names, as sometimes Pat Marley (Binding) and I have difficulty in deciphering what is written.

Thanks to all members who help in any way, in the magazine production, as without this invaluable help there would be no magazine.

MORA CUDDLEFORD (DIXON)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

We have come to the end of my first term as Chairman. We started the year without a secretary, but in no time at all Dorothy Stephenson (Thompson) volunteered her services and very successful she has proved to be.

Our Treasurer's report shows the Guild's finances to be much healthier now as we are saving money on the printing of our magazine.

My thanks go to all members of the committee for their full support during the year and all their hard work.

Remember, we have a Winter Reunion, an Annual Dinner and a Summer Reunion each year, and the dates are printed on the inside cover of this magazine. We appreciate that you all enjoy your smaller year reunions, but would ask that you try to come to at least one of these main reunions as well, to keep these occasions viable. Please come and support us and I look forward to meeting you.

We always need your news for our magazine and of course, new members will be made welcome.

May you all be blessed with health, happiness and the comfort of friends and family in the New Year.

DORIS HENDERSON (WILTON)

WINTER REUNION FRIDAY 28TH JANUARY 2000

Their noise reached out to us on the January evening as we approached one of the pre-fab classrooms – Yes the Old Bedlams were here again!

We started with a large number of "Dingbats" – some easy – many quite difficult. Then we had a "comic like" page with pictures and clues and anagrams of the answer and this kept our heads down. Thanks to Moira Shearer (Simpson) for organising the games. Our table, filled of course with the "crème de la crème" of Old Bedlams, did not manage to triumph this year.

The supper was as always, delicious, supplied by our friends "Something Special"

They always come up with a delectable, tempting supper and the committee, as usual, served us with the food – how hard they work.

The seats in the room are better than the many high stools we used to have. I always went home with a bad back, bending down to write my answers to the games!

One fault is the low ceiling, which makes the noise from chatter even exceed Dinns or Mongo call on a Saturday morning. (Younger members will have heard of these establishments!)

Our President, Doris Henderson (Wilton) welcomed us with her usual charm and gave us the necessary news and apologies for absence. We had a super raffle and then wandered our way home, replete and up to date with the latest gossip.

DOROTHY COCKBURN (DUGDALE)

ANNUAL DINNER FRIDAY 7TH APRIL 2009

It was a cold winter evening as we went to the upstairs Swanlow Hotel once again for our dinner reunion. Inside the hotel it was blissfully warm and inviting. A disappointing drop in numbers attending the function fortunately was not matched in a reduction of the volume of social boozing from the 37 assembled, enthusiastic Old Bedans eagerly indulging in the exchange of news with rediscovered old school friends. We found our seats from the table plan, the candles were lit and we were greeted by our Chairman, Doris Henderson (Wilson). Grace was said and we had a delicious meal of Northumbrian vegetable broth, Supreme of chicken, Vanilla and Mascarpone cheesecake with fresh raspberries, coffee and mints, which was a vast improvement on the meal served last year. After this sumptuous repast we stood to sing the School Song, and although we had no accompanist (Dyco Robson (Hagley) was unable to be present, we all gave our usual spirited rendering. Chairman Doris then thanked everyone for attending the dinner. She said she appreciated all the hard work and co-operation from her committee particularly Moira Caddell (Dixon) and Pat Marley (Binding) with regard to their magnificent efforts regarding our magazine. There was no formal entertainment but we were able to indulge in about an hour of nostalgic reminiscing with our friends. It can never be said that any gathering of Old Bedans would be unable to entertain themselves. However, whilst brilliant conversation is extremely stimulating, there were some members who voiced the opinion that the evening would have been nicely rounded if it had included a musical or comedic interlude. The Guild of Old Bedans being urgently in need of funds was the subject of discussion once again, among many members, particularly at our table. Suggestions, which we thought the committee would like to consider, included approaching all members for a further Life Membership fee of £3 or even £5, in view of the original fee having considerably eroded over the years. Another suggestion was that a nominal charge be imposed on the magazine. Shortly after 10pm we took leave of our friends. This sealed another year, another reunion and another vote of thanks to our committee members for an evening full of pleasure and nostalgia. Our good wishes to all Ladies who were present at the Old Bedans Reunion dinner and to those who were unable to be present - you were certainly not forgotten.

JEAN WILSON (DORSON)

SUMMER REUNION TUESDAY 28TH JUNE 2009

Our summer reunion was once again held at the Riverside Hall Hotel in Durham in the Pemberton Suite.

It was a warm summer evening for which we were all thankful since it had been threatening rain for most of the day. 35 Old Bodens managed to meet up in our usual room, which was a pleasant surprise as we had been told that this was previously booked and we would have had to move elsewhere!

We had several new faces and Moira Cuddihoe (Dixon) was able to recruit 6 new members.

Ann Wilkinson (Brown) was an unexpected visitor as she has recently returned to Sunderland from Yarn where she has been living. Audrey Applegarth (Hancock) was here from Tunbridge Wells due to her visiting her mother in hospital.

Many apologies were received, among those being:-

Anne Maynard (Rawson) who has been away looking after some of her grandchildren and only returned the day before the reunion so was unable to come.

Audrey Briggs (Rennison) is currently on holiday in Austria.

Margaret Laddlaw has a visitor from Barley-in-Wharfedale and Moira Shearer (Simpson) also sent apologies. We all had a very good evening and many enjoyed the wonderful new ROTISSERIE and CARVERY, which as usual served hot and cold food with a good selection of hot vegetables and an excellent new salad bar. The events were very tempting and many of us succumbed – determined to start the “diet” the next day.

BARBARA SWIFT (BRÖDERICK)

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

This was held on 29th September 2000 at Budo Centre. The chairman, Doris Henderson (Wilson) welcomed nine members and gave apologies from Pat Cradden (Snell), Iris Harvey (Bennett), Edna White (Robb), Margaret Laidlaw and Moira Simpson (Shaner).

Minutes of the last Annual Business Meeting were read and approved. The Secretary gave her report, appealing for more news for the magazine, to be received by the Editor by October of the year concerned. The inclusion of photographs for the magazine is to be investigated for next year.

The Treasurer reported a healthy balance and the enrolment of many new members. The Chairman reported a good year, which included an excellent dinner and well attended Summer Reunion.

The move to have a statue of the Venerable Bodo sited on a vacant plinth in Trafalgar Square had received enormous support but sadly was not adopted by the powers that be. Iris Harvey (Bennett) put a suggestion, with sample, for a commemorative Millennium bookmark, to be sent to all Guild members, with the magazine. The Committee unanimously approved this idea and the idea was adopted. The attractive design was the work of Iris's husband Tom, to whom most grateful thanks.

Dates were agreed for the coming year, and will be published in the magazine.

DORIS STEPHINSON (THOMPSON)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

In response to the minute from the A.B.M.1999, I was co-opted onto the committee on November 8th 1999 to take the minutes. At the meeting I ascertained that the secretary's task was not totally beyond the ability and time I had to offer and was proposed and appointed thus. The committee have been worthy guardians of your interests in keeping me advised and special thanks must go to Doris Henderson (Wilson) for her help in this first year.

The Winter Reunion was arranged at this November meeting for 28th January 2000.

There was very obvious pleasure in the renewing of long-standing friendships and exchanging news and views. The catering was excellent due to Joan Harvey's first-rate organisation. Thanks are also due for games arranged by Moira Shaner (Simpson) who also kindly provided prizes, and to Lily Richardson (Lawson) who provided tickets. An excellent raffle was held with prizes from the committee and special thanks are due to Judith and Jean Rosenstain (Turpin) for the delightful floral arrangements, which first enhanced the festive atmosphere and then doubled as beauty spot raffle prizes.

The Dinner Reunion was held on 7th April 2000 at the Swallow Hotel (Sea harr). There were difficulties in arranging this. The usual late April date coincided with Easter, the following week with Bank Holiday – both of which would have ensured a bad turn out. The alternative earlier 14th April was fully booked. The very early 7th April was avail

able but could not be held on a verbal assurance. An immediate deposit of £100 was the required security and with some misgivings, the chairman Doris Henderson (Wilkes) paid up and hoped that people would support that date. A good percentage were able to attend and it was difficult to decide which took precedence between the meal and non-stop conversation!

The annual magazine was an experimental venture, which, whilst not perfect, was a worthy effort on behalf of many volunteers. The principal exponent was Pat Marley (Birding) who typed and printed the covers and loose pages single-handed. Moira Cuddeford (Dixon) had already spent many hours eliciting contributions and editing and assembling these. In addition she volunteered her home as the assembly station, where the committee came in relays to staple, fold and envelope the magazines. (Those fortunate enough to be in the mid-day group were treated to salad and a homemade quiche to die for!) Anna Mitchell (Crowe)'s daughter Margaret very kindly donated printed labels to put on envelopes, donated by Joan Hayton. Iris Bennett posted the finished product in December and the final outcome was a very happy treasurer!

The readers as beneficiaries of all this "prudent fiscal policy" may be pleased to know that we have saved enough to ensure that we can survive to print again, hopefully improving and enhancing the end result. This later does not depend only on our skills improving – it is quite essential that those of you who have any interesting news, views, humorous anecdotes, uplifting advice or even (constructive) criticisms, communicate the same to Moira Cuddeford (Dixon) with all speed.

The Summer Reception at Riverside Hall in June 2000, like Dunkirk, turned from disaster to triumph. Having printed the date in November 1999, the hotel was initially not able to accommodate us on that date. Faced with the prospect of battalions of determined Old Bedens arriving regardless – since they could not be contacted – a miracle was wrought – we had the usual room and a splendid time was had by all – and the management looked extremely pleased with themselves and so they should!

DOROTHY STEPHINSON (THOMPSON) Secretary

TREASURERS REPORT

Our finances are reasonably secure. We have £155.52 in the current account and £1897.09 into the TSB Savings Account.

I have paid £100 deposit to The Swallow Hotel for our Annual Dinner 2001. Production and assembling the magazine by computer and committee has certainly saved us money. There were eleven new life members this year.

JUDITH ROSENSTEIN

20ERS REUNION

On Friday August 26th 2000, we once again gathered at Rainside Hall to enjoy lunch and a gossip. There were nineteen of us present. All looking younger than last year. Well, We enjoyed a lively and happy three hours and generated so much noise with our laughter and gossip that any one could have been forgiven for thinking that there were three times the number present.

As usual we had our long distance travellers, Joyce Spors, Dorcen Dobson, Sheila Snowball and Kathleen Humphreys. Plus our not so long distance travellers, Eileen Young, Joyce Robson, Maureen Richardson and Lucy Mills, who's had her first grandchild. Lovely to see them again.

Everyone seems to be keeping busy, one even still working full time. One or two admitted to being busy doing nothing, or busy slowing down. Lots of holidays were discussed. We have some very intrepid travellers within our group. One of our party suggested that we make a list of ailments and the medication used for treating some - but we resisted the temptation. I thought that Joyce Spors neatly summed us all up - she called us the "Golden Girls".

We were all saddened by the news of Derric Robson's death. She fought a long brave battle. We'll all miss her. Those present were-

Eileen Young, Edna Clements, Joyce Towns, Joyce Robson
Dorcen Dudd, Marjorie Hales, Dorcen Dobson, Joyce Spors,
Muriel Stadden, Rennie Ellison, Sheila Snowball, Dorothy Cashew,
Marjorie Harris, Maureen Richardson, Dorcen Dreyer
Joan Little, Stella Bateley, Kathleen Humphreys, Lucy Mills.
Our next reunion - August 31st 2001, Rainside, 12 noon.

JOAN LITTLE

1940 REUNION

On a rather dreary (but not cold day) eighteen Old Bedams of the 1940-year attended a reunion at the recently revamped Barnes. Always a popular venue this was very kindly arranged by Iris Harvey (Bennett) on 10th August 2000. I believe largely for my benefit. A week before my return flight to Darhan it was my great pleasure to have this rare opportunity to renew long-time special friendships. Those present were: -

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| JOAN BROOKES | JOAN CARR | IRENE ELSTON |
| JOYCE HALDON | IRIS HARVEY | DORIS HENDERSON |
| PAULINE HUMPHREYS | JEANNE KOCH | MORLA OWSTON |
| JOYCE PLEMPER | JEAN ROSENSTEIN | |
| MARION SMITH | PAT SWAN | SHEILA TRICKS |
| MARY TULLOCH | FAY TWITCHETT | |
| HAZEL WATSON | HILDA WHARTON | |

Hazel was visiting Marion Smith from West Yorkshire; Pauline came from York and Sheila from Billingham.

There was much lively chattering, clicking of cameras and catching up on news and views. It was heartening to note that in this milestone Millennium year everyone present looked younger and more vivacious than ever. How do they manage to defy the years?

The meal was substantial and mouth watering, enjoyed by all without exception. Sadly, like all good things, at 2.40pm, lunch ended. However, talking our way to the door, it took another 20 minutes to say our goodbyes.

We all look forward to the next occasion.

Hamba Kablé!

JOAN BROOKES

45ER'S REUNION

How the time has flown since our first reunion three years ago. This one in May 2000 was even more of a success. There were more new faces. We all had a good matter. The atmosphere was great.

Fifty-three of us congregated at the Swallow Hotel in the afternoon, thirty three of whom stayed on for the evening meal, plus an extra four or five.

It was lovely to see Jenale Garrett (Chesters), Owen Grace (Andres), Doron Measer (Hall), to name but a few, and everyone else who made the effort to make the day such a huge success. They came from far and wide. Jane Allison (Green) hoped to come from her home in Woodale, but unfortunately took ill

at the last minute. As did Grace Entwistle (Zimmerman). She made it in the afternoon, and everyone was concerned when she didn't turn up in the evening. Thankfully, she was back to her normal self next morning. Hope you can make it next time Grace. We would still like to get in touch with even more, so as to swell our numbers. So anyone who knows the whereabouts of old friends, please tell them we are hoping to have another reunion in 2 or 3 years time, watch out for news of it in the Old Bedou. But don't worry Margaret Shipley (Easdown) or myself will get in touch with all of whom we have the address or phone number, when we decide on a date. Anyone who has any comments or suggestions for the next, "do" please get in touch. Here's to the next time.

AUDREY SKINNER (SANDERSON) Telephone 01915366123
 MARGARET SHIPLEY (EASDOWN) Telephone 01642555329

REUNION OCTOBER 2008

Anne Concoran (Harper) 1953-59 organised this reunion and invited people from the years on either side – namely 1952-1958, 1954-61. Twenty-nine people managed to attend, enjoyed the buffet meal and the exchange of news. There was plenty of "What happened to ---" Do you remember?

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>1952-1959</u> | Judith Rosenstein | Barbara Holworth (Moore) |
| | Fredrica Graham (Smith) | Elizabeth Sewell (Dennison) |
| | Marianne Sayer (Cair) | Judith Willis (Wilson) |
| | Margaret Knox (Gallagher) | Jean Rodman (Robertson) |
| | Ellen Wallace (Trotter) | |
| <u>1953-60</u> | Anne Concoran (Harper) | Judith Hird (Whitfield) |
| | Dorothy Stewart (Miller) | Wendy Parr-Burman (Amica) |
| | Clare Masterson (Mosley) | Jill Bartlett (Chapman) |
| | Margaret Beresford (Nest) | Dorothy Makel (Young) |
| | Olive Parsons (Watson) | Pat Deans (Webb) |
| | Anne Fambly | Jean Royal (Cox) |
| | Jennifer Rogers (Holman) | Patricia Turnock (Lee) |
| | Dorothy D Cooper (Thompson) | Shirley Hodgson |
| | Hazel Oliver (Richards) | Ann Achle (Cullingham) |
| | Brenda Smith (Watson) | Valerie Nottingham (Harrison) |

Several Members of Staff were invited. Miss Kinch attended the evening but Miss Heston (aged 94) who intended to attend was unable to do so having suffered an accident, two days earlier. She did send her kind regards to the "girls"

JUDITH ROSENSTEIN

DEATHS

EDITH GIBSON
HARRIOTT ELIZABETH SUMMERS (MASHEDER)
MURIEL WILSON (INGRAM)
ELIZABETH HARRISON (STACEY)
ELSA GARBUTT (POULTER)
DOROTHY METCALF (HIRST)
ANN MITCHELL (CROWE)
PEGGY CAWS
PATRICIA KENDAL (GILBERTSON)
MARJORIE ANDERSON (CURTIS)
BUNTY WILSON (ROBSON)
MADELEINE BINKS (SOMERVILLE)
DOROTHEA (DORRIS) ROBSON (TURNER)
NANCIE OLDFIELD (BARNES)
EILEEN GRAHAM (HUBBARD)
AUDREY MILNER (KENNARD)
ELSE BLAKEMAN (TAYLOR)
DORIS LAWSON

NEW MEMBERS

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| NORMA WYNESS (LAKIN) | JEAN ENGLISH (BALDAUF) |
| INGRID DAVIS (COHEN) | MURIEL HEPTINSTALL |
| DORREEN MEASOR (HALL) | MARY WEBB (JACKSON) |
| OLWYN MARSHALL (ACKLAM) | AUDREY WHITE (NICHOL) |
| GWIN GRACE (ANDREWS) | |
| DORREEN APFLEGARTH (OLIPHANT) | |

OBITUARIES

ANNE MITCHELL (CROWE), died in the Little Sisters. When she first went there, she was most useful in doing little sewing jobs for the other residents. She had been very active in the Catholic Women's League, and always supplied a speaker for the annual Vigil for Human Rights, arranged by U.N.A.. It was a very fitting tribute to her that the church was packed for her funeral.

Laura Melbanke

EDITH GIBSON

Edith, who has recently died aged 95, was one of the oldest Old Bedans. She joined the school in 1914 with her three sisters Dorothy, May and Winifred. She was a prefect in the school and afterwards trained as a nurse, first in the children's hospital and then in the General. She did her Midwifery training at West Hartlepool, then went to Lincoln and later to Rampton Mental Hospital. After five years in the army in the Middle East, she came back to a hospital at Aycliffe. She returned to Rampton as Matron. After she retired she came back to Sunderland to live with her sister Winifred. Dorothy married (Richardson) and spent many years in Singapore! She had two sons, both educated at Bede. Michael became a PhD and Peter a Surgeon. May became secretary to Sir Roland Jennings. Winifred became a teacher. Edith had recently moved to Jubilee Nursing Home in Sunderland, prior to her death.

JULIAN ROSENSTEIN (TURPIN)

ANNE MITCHELL (CROWE)

It was with great sadness and sense of loss that members heard of the death of Anne on the 26th December 1999.

Anne was a very loyal and active Old Bedan, serving many times on the committee. She became the editor of the magazine when Winnie Scott (Thompson) retired through ill health. Anne enjoyed keeping in touch with all Old Bedans, and was a great source of knowledge and information about former Bedans. When I took over distribution of the magazine, we had many afternoon sessions, checking names and addresses, trying to keep up to date with the many changes each year – no easy task with over five hundred members. Anne enjoyed a very loyal and supportive family, who helped her over increasing ill health and the death of her husband Philip. We also owe a great debt for the support and help of her daughter Margaret, who helped my task by offering to print new lists of members and their addresses each year, also printing the labels, all free of charge. Also her who transported Anne and her keyboard to the dinners. Anne never gave in, or complained about anything, she really enjoyed being out and about, riding around on her mobile buggy! We all miss her very much.

JOAN HAYTON

ANNE MITCHELL (CROWE)

I was sorry to hear of the death of Anne Crowe (Mitchell) who died at Christmas 1999.

Irene Elsie (Gurnah) and I visited Anne in the Little Sisters of the Poor, a few months before she died. We spent a happy couple of hours with her reminiscing about our time in the telephone exchange, where we all worked together. I was very pleased that I went to see her and that Anne was so happy.

DOREEN DREYER (WATSON)

Pat and I started Bode in 1940 and from second year we were in the same class where there was always a friendly rivalry between us. We became the Science Sixth with Edna Brown and Marcelle Goodall. We were both accepted for Newcastle Medical School and for the next five years travelled and worked together. Though we had individual friends we were often mistaken for each other because we were so often together. Pat married just before graduation (I was her bridesmaid). Her husband was in practice in Sunderland. Pat worked for the Sunderland Health Department, mostly in clinics and schools on the North side and also produced four sons.

I eventually followed her into the Health Department, mostly working on the South side. Fortunately our husbands were compatible so we shared many social occasions. We did our D.P.H. together at Newcastle again travelling and working together. Pat eventually became Senior Medical Officer. When her husband died, her eldest son was only sixteen. She left the Health Department and took over her husband's practice. She was loved and respected by patients and all who worked with and for her.

Pat was stunningly good-looking (a young Aye Gardner) and matured gracefully. She was extremely witty and a gracious hostess and could hold her own in any company. She retired early from medical practice and went to live in Spain where she enjoyed many happy years with her partner Peter. I visited her in Spain on several occasions and picked up as if I had seen her the previous day. Pat was not a "joiner" of any organisation but she loved to hear news from home and the people she knew. She died in Spain after a mercifully short illness. I have lost a true friend and a great colleague, but I still have a host of happy memories.

JEAN ROSENSTEIN

OBITUARIES

LILY CRONE

The last issue of the Guild of Old Bedans mentioned the death of Lily Crone, who taught Art for many years. She was also a very talented gardener, and according to her neighbours, could be seen busy in her garden from dawn until dusk.

LAURA MILBANKE

HILDA (DOROTHEA "DORRIL" ROBINSON) TURNER

The Guild of Old Bedans and the 39'er's in particular, have lost a great friend and supporter, with the death of Dorrie. She is deeply missed and will be sadly missed. She was a wonderful person and a true friend.

Our long friendship started in 1939 and I came to appreciate her many qualities and talents. She was not only gifted academically and artistically, but was also very good in the sports field, yet retained a modest and unassuming manner.

Dorrie kept in touch with all her friends through phone calls, visits, gifts from the farm, invitations to coffee mornings, tea parties and numerous reunions. It is in a large measure, through her that the 39ers group is so strong.

Our sincere sympathy goes to George and all her family, with our admiration for the wonderful care they gave her during her terrible illness.

I feel proud to have known her, and very lucky indeed to have had such a good friend.

Rest in Peace

"Comrade of my Heart"

REBECCATE ELLISON (LOFTHOUSE)

MADELINE BINKS (SOMERVILLE)

Madeline attended Bede School from 1954-1959, and sadly died in August 2000. Madeline worked as a district nurse in Sunderland before her marriage. Her husband Jim, also an Old Bedan, was a Lloyd's Surveyor and they lived for many years in Yugoslavia before returning to England. They retired to Paignton in 1987, where they were living when Madeline died.

KATHLEEN ALLIN

LETTERS

I enjoyed reading the latest Old Bede magazine, and seeing some familiar names. It is often surprising to come across an Old Bede in unexpected circumstances. I volunteered to run a French class for my local U.I.A. At the initial meeting at my house, the first member to appear had only to say a few words for me to know she was from Sunderland. Next question, of course, was whether she went to Bede. She did! She was Muriel Wilson (Ingram) 1943 entry, who had a younger sister, Ann, who started Bede in 1945. Muriel trained as a teacher in Durham, taught in Sunderland for a while, then in other parts of the country before she and her husband settled in Southampton. She had many interests, French language and holidays, painting, walking, theatre and line dancing. She lived life to the full, although battling with cancer. Sadly she died last August. I'm sure there are many Old Bedes who remember her. Perhaps you could mention some of these details in the next magazine. I am Margaret Waldron (Holden). And would love to hear from any of my time (1944 entry) who remember me. I am in contact with Mavis Walton (Graham), who now lives in Portsmouth. My sister Alice, at Bede four years before me, is now living in Beshill. I hope that one day I might get back to Sunderland for one of the reunions. My best wishes to all Old Bedes.

MARGARET WALDRON (HOLDEN)

5,Glencowan Way, Bassett, Southampton,SO16 7EF. Telephone 01703790191

PAT RICH (LORD) has been in touch with Marcella Goodall (Williams) Marcella's cat was a finalist in the Annual Arthur's Awards for Topcat. He was also named Daily Telegraph Cleverest Cat 1999, T. Monty. The cat had alerted an elderly deaf neighbour when burglars were in his home. Marcella wrote an account of the presentation for her church magazine (copy below).

She has been elected to the National Committee of the "Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals" Marcella has three children and four grandchildren. She lives at 25,Gipsy Lane,Wokingham, Berks, RG40 2BN

PAT RICH (LORD) lives at Dinnington, just outside York and meets Pauline Humphreys (Hunter) regularly for coffee. Pauline who retired from her position as Visitors Officer for York Minster, is now a school governor and acts as a guide for the National Trust at Treasures House

A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AT BAFTA

I had an unusual day on 17th August. My 10 year old rescue cat, Timothy, was one of the twelve national winners of the "1999 Arthur's Awards" out of 2000 nominations. The "Arthurs" are the cat world equivalent of the Hollywood Oscars and I was invited to the glittering awards ceremony and luncheon at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. (BAFTA) in Piccadilly.

My All Saints Blind, Maureen Amner came with me and our travelling expenses were paid. On the train to Waterloo, a lady in our compartment heard us mention Timothy and said that she had been hearing about him on 210 FM radio. I had been interviewed by 210FM and also BHS Thames Valley FM, and Meridian Television had featured him following a photo shoot. At Piccadilly there was a 15 minute delay due to someone firing an organ into one of the compartments and a plain-clothes policeman came into ours to explain the delay.

We arrived at BAFTA soon after 10 by taxi from Waterloo and were welcomed by the events co-ordinator. Cat pens were provided at each end of the small theatre, 4 each side, and having settled Timothy in his pen, we joined the other winners for coffee.

The pre-lunch champagne reception commenced at 11.00am and was attended by the press. Two Russian lady reporters from BBC World Service Russian Section, who said that there was now a great interest in cats in Russia, interviewed me. We met Arthur, the celebrity judges, Arthur's owner, Ann Head, Eastenders Pam St. Clement (Pat Butcher) and Shaun Williamson (Barrie Evans), Kara Noble from Heart FM, and Friskies and "Cats Protection" representatives. The awards ceremony followed at 11.45am and each of us went on stage with his or her cat to speak about the cat and receive the award, a "silver Arthur" trophy, presented by Wendy Turner of "Pat Rescue". Later we each received a cheque for £200 and vouchers for a year's supply of cat food.

Timothy is very special as he is a compassionate little cat. He stayed by his mother during four months of terminal illness, keeping her warm. He protected my little blind and deaf dog, guarded two tiny kittens from an aggressive tom, and alerted an elderly neighbour to the presence of burglars in his cottage.

Luncheon was served at 1pm with a menu of delicious dishes and accompanying wines. We sat at square tables, three each side, with a beautiful flower arrangement in the centre of each. I was placed next to Evelyn Tinsdale of "Friskies" who sponsored the awards. When I admired the flowers, she said "take them at the end, they will only be thrown out". Afterwards we talked to various people, and then prepared for our return home. The PR staff started taking litter trays and food dishes out of the pens and putting them into bin bags to throw out, so Maureen asked if we could take them for "Cats Protection". They agreed, so after putting the flower arrangement into a supermarket bag, we found we were laden with more than could be carried by two people, including two bags of litter.

Evelyn Trundle came to our rescue and offered us a lift to Winteriso in her chauffeur driven Bentley. Her chauffeur loaded our bags into the boot, while Maureen and I and Timothy sat in style on cream leather upholstery!

A train was waiting and we managed to get on with Timothy and all our bags for our journey home.

At a time when it has been announced that cruelty to animals is the second highest crime in Britain today (after drugs), it was a pleasure to be with people who had great relationships with their very special cats.

MARCELLE GOODALL (WILLIAMS)

LETTERS

Each year I read the "Old Bedes" and think how few people of my era are mentioned. Undoubtedly it is because people like me never write with any notes. Here is what I know of the few Old Bedes with whom I am still in contact. Norma Giny (Glen) retired from teaching in 1999 and was runner up in the "Teacher of the Year". She still lives in Stockport with husband Ron, recently retired from the Police Force. Enjoys golf and travelling.

Betty Hewat (Ferrier), retired from teaching in 1999 and still lives in Perthshire.

Pat Kintley continues to enjoy retirement especially visiting National Trust Properties and beautiful gardens.

My older sister, Eileen McCree (Horn) retired on 7th January 2000. She emigrated to Australia in 1968, and after spells in Adelaide, Papua New Guinea and Brisbane, settled in Merungle NSW. She and her husband David are great travellers and huss, in recent years, had three holidays in Antarctica and several holidays trekking in the Himalayas.

Younger sister Sheila McCree still lives in Chesterfield and is an IT advisor, working for the Business Link. She is in regular contact with Marjorie Miller. My sister-in-law, Angela Charlton (McCree) still lives in Crook. Her daughter Gillian is married and living in the Wilds of Canada. Angela's son, Benjamin, with Nicky and son, Connor lives in Bishop Auckland. Angela's younger son, Colleen, is still at secondary school.

I returned to the Cognition and Brain Science Unit in Cambridge, after two years working in a Cognitive Rehabilitation Unit in Ely. I continue my research in neuropsychology.

I hope these jottings are of some interest.

Yours sincerely,

HAZEL MCCREE (EMSLIE)

2, Rowan Close, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB5 9BN

Telephone 0223812604

YET MORE LETTERS!

I should have written this letter years ago (literally), to notify you of my change of address, but in the general upheaval of moving, from a house in which I had lived for over 40 years, it was, I'm afraid forgotten. I did not have a copy of the Old Bedon last year, but this Christmas the owner of my old house brought round a magazine and a Christmas card from an old friend, who obviously has not altered the entry in his address book.

There are not many names familiar to me in the magazine these days and I don't meet many Old Bedons, except for the few remaining in the London branch, when I manage to get to Danson's, but I did have a very pleasant day in Pickering with Eleanor Wilson (Tilberidge) when on holiday in Scarborough in the summer and whenever I visit Sunderland I look up Janet Black. She was one of my particular friends in the 3rd form, way back in 1924, but I don't think she has kept up with the Guild of Old Bedons.

I gather I missed an appeal for donations in last year's magazine, but I don't suppose you will mind a small belated contribution.

All good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

ISABEL LUNDY(MUNRO) 1924-1951

114a Mowbray road, Cambridge, CH1

NEWS FROM ABOARD

I taught English in schools and colleges in various parts of England, and after taking early retirement, moved in 1991 to Sarasota, Florida. I re-married in 1993, but unfortunately Don died two years ago.

I usually spend the summer months in the UK and we have a small reunion of our year-1944-1951. So far Hilka Bath, Sheila Bagley, Joan Erens, Joyce Karle, Majorie McCuskey, Eleanor Potts and Rhoda Viner have attended. Please contact Sheila Bagley (Coates) for details, 0491528938

KIAN BELLETT

5233 Old Ashwood Drive, Sarasota, Florida,34235

NEWS FROM ABROAD

Thank you once again for sending the Old Bodan to me. Not so many familiar names now, but always of interest. Just the day before it arrived I had been reminiscing as I re-read the Diamond Jubilee issue of 1950.

Enclosed is \$30, I closed my English bank account on my last visit. At the moment the exchange rate is good, but does fluctuate rapidly. I did become a life member, but £10 does not go far in sending the magazine to Australia.

I still correspond regularly with two friends of my vintage, Joan Bell (Turpin) and Marjorie Whiting (Smith), Joan still lives in Sunderland, so keeps me up to date with her contacts, but nobody seems to have any news of Elsie Cowell (Russell).

Joyce Gallon (Hodgson) lives about 40km from me – she is an ex-chairman. In July 1999 I was delighted to be the oldest friend at her 89th birthday luncheon celebrations. Joyce's "productions" with her needle are still most professional. She is a valued member of the Victorian Embroiderers Guild (State of Victoria). Members gave her an "anniversary" tablecloth, the appliqué edging bearing their embroidered names.

I have pleasant memories of the first overseas trip by Bede Girls, to Norway, escorted by Miss Sirk and Miss Littlehales – quite an adventure for us all as we were photographed by the Sunderland Echo on our departure from Sunderland railway station.

Once again many thanks for sending the Old Bodan down to the Southern Hemisphere and to the enthusiastic Old Bodans who keep it going.

Kind regards

Olga Phaup (Sinclair) 260 Wimborne Avenue Mount Eliza Victoria 3930

Reading an Old Bede magazine at Eve Morris's (now Friedman) home, brought back many Bede memories. I was interested to read of someone's idea of a possible "where are you now" section. There are a few Old Bedes living here in Sydney, I would be happy to write something from Down Under if you would be interested.

I attended Bede from 1958-63, when I left to go to teacher's training college. I taught in Sunderland until I moved to Sydney with my family in 1974. I continued teaching primary children up to the end of 1999, when I took early retirement. Now I am doing some casual teaching and enjoying a wonderful lifestyle. In September I will be working as a volunteer in the Olympic games, at the beach volleyball. Later at the Paralympics I will be helping at the yachting venue at Rushcutter's Bay.

During the year 2001 I will be returning to the North East, for a visit, it would be great to catch up with some of my friends from Bede. Let me know how I can join the Old Bedes.

Please let me know if you would like me to write something for a "where are you now" section. I have included my e-mail address, this is the quickest method of communication. Hope to hear from you soon.

Regards

INGRID DAVIS (COHEN)
48, Brighton Blvd, North Bondi, NSW 2026, Australia
inja@optusnet.com.au

Thank you so much for your reply to my letter. I hope that this one arrives as quickly, as my faith in Australia Post is not too reliable.

I wrote that I would write an article to be included in "Where are they now?" section. Thinking about it further I decided that this might be too difficult as I don't know if everyone I know about wants to be discovered! But these people who are Old Bedes too live in Sydney.

Eve Morris (Friedman)
Laelina Scott (Waller)
Rachelle Stuart (Cohen)
Dobyn Stuart (Cohen)

I am in contact with them all so if any of your readers wants their addresses or e-mail contact I will be happy to supply them. I have attached a small report on my volunteer work at the Olympics. I do not know if this will be of any use to you for the Old Bede. I have included \$20 and hope this amount will cover the membership subscription, our dollar is, at present, not very good. Thanks again for your letter and I hope you can use some of this content. I am looking forward to receiving my very own Old Bede, which I know will be read by the four named above.

Regards

Ingrid Davis (Cohen)

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPICS

Living in Sydney gave me the opportunity to volunteer my services for the Olympic games.

After filling in my application forms, being called for an interview, I was accepted as a protocol attendant in the Olympic family lounge, at the beach volleyball venue at Bondi Beach. The lounge was located in the heritage building, The Pavilion, and was not part of the temporary stadium that was erected in the middle of Bondi Beach. This stadium held 10,000 spectators.

I was part of a small team (15 in total) all but one were volunteers, who helped host the members of the Olympic Family who visited the beach volleyball hall, it was a very popular sport and venue. During the eleven days of competition it attracted many famous people including Mr. Samaranch, Chelsea Clinton, Bill Gates, Prince Albert (Monaco), Princess Martha (Norway), Spanish Royal Family, American Ambassador, Governor General, William Dean, Dawn Fraser as well as many of our high profile Australian Politicians. All these people came through the lounge and chatted with us, some even agreed to have their photos taken with the volunteers. I met friendly people from all over the world and I learnt so much from these conversations.

Other than chatting to the rich and famous, as volunteers we had to help set up the lounge each morning. In this area I developed muscles I did not know I had, by carrying large plants, tables and chairs outside onto the balcony, we swept floors, set tables, dried furniture after the rain showers (there were only two!), folded serviettes, organised seating, escorted guests to their accredited seats and answered many queries. I worked ten days of the competition and I hope that in some way I helped make the Olympic Family's experience of their Sydney games a little more enjoyable.

The very best moment was being able to watch the gold medal match, when the Australian women's team won and then singing Advance Australian Fair. Did I ever think that such a thing would happen when I was at Bede? I know I am now a true Aussie!

I am recovering and getting ready for my next volunteer role at the Paralympics where I am helping at the sailing venue. There are 80 competitors representing 22 countries. I am sure this will also be a great experience too.

INGRID DAVIS (COHEN)

EDITORS NOTES

I was delighted to receive these letters from Australia. And feel sure that all members would be as interested as I was in the report about the Olympic Games.

It is generally accepted that the Sydney Games have been the most successful and friendly to date and the enthusiasm shown by volunteers such as Ingrid must have made a tremendous contribution to this success.

Congratulations to all you Aussies!

MORA

SNIPPETS FROM HOME

JOYCE PRINCE (BILL) now living in Gloucester, was invited to take part in the Pentecost 2000 Celebration organised by Churches in the Gloucester area. Joyce was asked to submit paintings with a religious theme and to run a demonstration in the exhibition marquee. The event was held on Cheltenham Racecourse and was officially opened by Princess Anne. Joyce, apparently, did well with her demonstrations in which the public were invited to join.

KIAN LIDDLE

ENID BELL (JISTER) 46-51 achieved, what lots of our members would love to achieve - she has lost six stones in weight and become slimmer of the year 1999 in the Slimming World!

MOIRA HODGSON (SPOORS) celebrated her 50th Wedding Anniversary on March 25th 2000. It was a glorious day, the sun shone and everyone had a wonderful time.

JOYCE SPOORS (sister-in-law)
Aylesbury 01296 485676

MAUREN FERRY (1928-63) stuck her nose into the Seaburn Hotel at the Annual Dinner, looking for familiar faces. She had met up with Anita Pescoe (Emmerson), Carl Kemp (Andrew), Carol Smith (Wallgate), Pat Stirling, Joyce Alder Newton (Anderson) and a special surprise Avril Foster (Steward) from Birmingham, at the Ramside Hotel. Had spent one night with Carol Smith's (Swatcuthart) horse in Kent.

JOYCE HALDON (HARRISON) is still in touch with pen friends in America and France. She has stayed with Rolanda in France quite a few times and although their letters are infrequent, they like to hear from each other.

JEAN LEITHES (REGISTER)

Thank you for the 1999 edition of the Old Bedouin. I especially enjoyed reading the article by Shelagh Buchanan (Jones) as I remembered her as being in the "year above". Lynne Laxcock (Symonds) was a contemporary and I sent Lynne's newspaper cutting from "The Times" to Avril Anderson (Taylor) in Oregon USA. Avril owns and runs a pre-school nursery there. Avril and I keep in touch by e-mail. I just wrote to let you have my new address and as everyone says -keep up the good work!

Queen Anne Cottage, The Drive, Wincroft Park, Wincroft, Gulliford GUS OQW

SNIPPETS FROM HOME

VALERIE OWEN (WHITTAKER) sadly was not able to attend the annual dinner this year and sent her apologies. Unfortunately she was detained longer at school, due to an arson attack on the premises earlier in the day!!!

BARBARA HOPPER (GOLDHAMMER) spent a chatty weekend with Anne Corcoran (Harper) and Judith Hind (Whitfield) in London during February. Barbara is chief controller of the Meridian (Americas) Hotels and based in New York. She asked to be remembered to everyone.

DOROTHY COCKBURN (DUGDALE) met an Old Bedan Wendy Wild at the Empire when the Opera was being performed by the Chivanan National Opera from USSR. She promised to send a magazine to Wendy and Wendy promised to come to the June reunion at the Bayside. Perhaps we will get some younger members from this contact. She is also in touch with Dorothy Samuelson and Missis Cook (Brennan)

DORIEEN LOMAS (WALKER)

I read in the Old Bedan that you are proposing a "Where are you now?" column. I should be interested to find out the whereabouts of Audrey Gittins, who was in my form when we left in 1945. Audrey took up teaching, but later went to study at the Sorbonne, where she met and later married, her tutor John Brown. They then went to the Windward Islands. I think, though I understand that they have since returned to this country.

Doreen Lomas, 17 The Rise, Darlington Co. Durham DL3 8HD
Telephone 01323465788

JUNE PAULINE HUMPHREYS (HUNTER) and Ron, who live at Woodthorpe near York, celebrated their Golden Wedding, with a lunch for the wedding party, friends and family at the home of their daughter Susan at Scotton. Several Old Bedans were present. The best man, Freddie Udale and his wife Connie (Robson) two of the bridesmaids, Joan Rasmussen (Turpin) and Marie Humphries (Hates) and also Pat Rich (Lord) were present and enjoyed a very happy occasion. Two of their three children Susan and Paul were also Old Bedans.

DORIS HENDERSON (WILTON) G.O.B chairman celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with Alan, by hosting a large family gathering at the Swallow Hotel in October.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS

NEWS FROM ABROAD

LYNNE SYMONDS

Lynne recently left the country, again to visit Nigeria, where she gave a public lecture. She is a tribal chief in Ghana, one of three in the North East and the only White Woman Chief in Britain.

GUILD OF OLD BEDANS BALANCE SHEET 1999-2000

| <u>INCOME</u> | | <u>EXPENDITURE</u> | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Subscriptions | 116.00 | Postage | 108.46 |
| Donations | 55.44 | Envelopes | 9.39 |
| Interest | 16.82 | Donations | 25.00 |
| Raffle | 82.50 | Flowers | 25.00 |
| Winter Reunion | 338.84 | Winter Reunion | 235.00 |
| Annual Dinner | 956.00 | Annual Dinner | 1057.50 £100 in 2001 |
| | <u>1605.60</u> | | 1500.35 |
| | | Credit on years working | <u>105.25</u> |
| | | | <u>1605.60</u> |
| | | | |
| Total Funds September 2000 | | 3 1/2% War Stock | 98.26 |
| Balance on 31/8/99 | 1801.84 | TSB Savings Account | 1653.21 |
| Credit on years working | <u>105.25</u> | Barclays Bank Account | <u>155.52</u> |
| | <u>1907.09</u> | | <u>1707.99</u> |

Joyce M. Law 25/09/00

