

OLD BEDE'S

CONNECTED



SUMMER 2017

WELCOME

Welcome to a new issue of the Bede's Alumni newsletter – one packed, as ever, with the news of accomplishments from across the Bede's community.

With my first year as Headmaster having come to a close, the summer break has provided me with an excellent opportunity to reflect on the warm welcome that my family and I have received from Bedians past and present. Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to get in touch and, in particular, those who attended our Family Fun Day in June and our Arts Week before Christmas.

As you will see in this edition we have said goodbye to a number of longstanding staff this year and during our annual prize giving we marked their departure and took this opportunity that thank them for time at Bede's. It has also been my great pleasure recently to celebrate the long service of a number of staff who are still working within the trust who are photographed below. It is important to me that as an organisation we recognise the huge amount our staff give to Bede's particularly when this is over the course of their lives.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting those alumni who came along to those events, whether it be those merciless few who dominated the cricket match against the Headmaster's XI or the extraordinarily talented sculptors,



photographers and painters who came back to reflect on their time in the Art department and share their wisdom and experience with the School's current pupils.

Similarly, several recent leavers returned to help assist with our Galactic Challenge event, in association with the UK Space Design Competition; thank you to you all.

Meeting these alumni, and those others who have made the time to come back to Upper Dicker in recent months, has given me a sense of the School's heritage, as well as its

future direction, and I am very appreciative of that fact. More importantly however, I am very aware that for today's Bede's pupils, meeting alumni is inspirational. Seeing your accomplishments gives them a tangible sense of the possible directions their lives might go in, and a sense of pride that their School might contribute to the success of a renowned photographer such as Ali Stead, a local footballing hero like Solly March, or the success of the many other entrepreneurs, performers and professionals who have left Bede's and gone on to become whoever they wanted to be.

I am very keen to welcome more alumni back to the school in the coming months and years, and, between events being organised by our new Head of Careers and Employability Deborah Franks and our burgeoning Guest Speakers programme, there are opportunities for Bedians from all walks of life to come back and share their experiences.

With that in mind, I do hope that you will get in touch and consider paying us a visit. If you do, you may well end up inspiring a young person and changing lives for the better.

Peter Goodyer
Headmaster



LtR: Paul Wilkinson, Mark Rimmington, Simon Richards, Peter Goodyer, Lou Belhriti, John Glover, John Berryman, Kevin Read, Iain Barr, Michael Perkins'

BEDE'S ISI REPORT

ABOUT OUR ISI INSPECTION

Bede's Senior School was inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). The inspection process covers both regulatory compliance and educational quality and this summary is focused on the Educational Quality Inspection.

Inspectors spent three days at the school interviewing staff, governors and pupils, observing lessons, activities and boarding life as well as reviewing pupils' work.

The responses of parents and pupils to pre-inspection questionnaires were analysed and the inspectors examined regulatory documentation made available by the school.

This is an abridged version of the full report, which can be found on our website bedes.org and on the ISI website.

How are schools graded?

For educational quality inspections, ISI uses four grades as part of their report:

Excellent
Good
Sound
Unsatisfactory

The report is split into two key areas; the first covers the quality of academic and other achievements and the second focusses on the quality of pupils' personal development.



QUALITY OF PUPILS' ACADEMIC AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Excellent

“Pupils demonstrate *excellent knowledge and understanding* in all areas of learning.”

“Pupils are determined to get the *best out of themselves* and are always willing to encourage each other and support each other superbly.”

“Pupils apply themselves to their work superbly and demonstrate *outstanding attitudes towards learning and achievement.*”

“Pupils typically exhibit *high levels of enthusiasm* in lessons.”



QUALITY OF PUPILS' PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Excellent

“Senior pupils provide *exemplary role models* for younger pupils.”

“Many pupils have *high academic or vocational aspirations*. They understand the importance of the life choices they face and the decisions they take whilst still at school.”

“Pupils have *excellent levels of self-esteem and self-confidence*, successfully promoted by the *depth of pastoral care* shown by the staff for individual pupils.”

“Pupils readily *take on responsibilities.*”



FAMILY DAY AND ALUMNI CRICKET MATCH

Alumni Return for Bede's Family Fun Day & T20 Match

Sunday 25 June saw the return to Bede's of some of its most esteemed cricketers to play a T20 match against the Headmaster's XI. It was a fantastic opportunity for the alumni to get together again and reminisce about the times they had together playing cricket for Bede's.

A significant crowd watched on, bolstered by many former Bede's students, with Callum Jackson and Daniel Wells getting the Alumni XI off to a flying start. Jackson was particularly merciless on the bowling, striking 4's and 6's all over the Old Way ground – several of them landing in the Headmaster garden!

Other batsmen, including Callum Guest and Raynaldo Estwick chipped in with some runs to assist the Alumni posting a daunting 202.

The highlight of the bowling display was when Mr Peter Goodyer, Bede's Headmaster, dispatched Theo Dowse for 0 with a superb caught and bowled.

The Headmasters XI, made up of teaching staff and three current pupils including the outgoing captain of Bede's XI, were never really in the game, but scored a respectable 170 in reply, not bad considering the Alumni featured a great many professional cricket players.

A fantastic hog roast and several cold beers were enjoyed by all to finish off a wonderful Bede's family day. I am sure the fixture will be repeated next year, when the Headmasters XI return to seek revenge!



Team Lists for the Day:

Headmasters XI:

Peter Goodyer, Headmaster
Ajani Batson
Joe Billings
David Byrne
Tom Gordon
James Kirtley
Michael Krause
Neil Lenham
Darren Pierce
Andrew Waterhouse
Alan Wells

Bede's Alumni:

Matt Armstrong-Ford
Theo Dowse
Raynaldo Estwick
Toby Glover
Callum Guest
Callum Jackson
Tom Ogden
Jonny Phelps
Delray Rawlins
Arthur Rossi
Daniel Wells





FAREWELLS

This year, sadly we will be saying farewell to some of our longest serving members of staff including Governor Lady Newton who has been with the trust for over 30 years, and Steve Jordan who worked at Bede's for 28 years.



Lady Newton, Governor – 1986-2017

The Governors said a warm farewell after 31 years of outstanding service to Lady Newton. Head of School Talisker Cornforth presented Lady Newton with a bunch of flowers at the Senior Prize Giving service in June.

Louise Ellis, Parent/Governor – 2002-2017

Sadly Louise Ellis is leaving Bede's after 3 years as Governor and as a parent for twelve years between 2002 and 2014 putting her three children through the school. Louise will be focusing on managing her established greeting card company, Paperlink and spending time in her home in Italy.

Steve Jordan, Head of Sixth Form Art – 1989-2017

With Steve Jordan leaving Bede's after 28 years it really is an end of era. Over that time, Steve, along with David Graham and the rest of the staff, transformed Art at Bede's into one of the most highly regarded departments of its kind in the country.

Today the Art Department regularly sends about 20 students a year to the top art Colleges and the pupils produce professional quality work and gain exceptional grades and this is in a large



part thanks to Steve's teaching and guidance as Head of Sixth Form Art.

During nearly three decades at Bede's he has passed on his wide knowledge to generations of students – many of whom have gone on to be successful themselves in the creative industries.

His legacy and influence will be evident in the work ongoing work of the Art Department and their approach and ethos. It will be evident in the standard and variety of work that Bede's pupils produce and it will be evident in the work of the generation of artists that Steve trained.

By Jonathan Turner, Head of Art



Richard Jones, Housemaster of Camberlot – 2004-2017

Richard Jones leaves Bede's after thirteen years. Arriving at the School as a media technician, he is leaving this Summer as a teacher of History and Housemaster of Camberlot. What is striking about him is that his style is

unusual and he uses humour to great effect. The funniest thing he ever did was trying to persuade a Year 9 pupil that Hitler's first name was Steve. There has been a running joke between us as to who is the 'gravy', me or Richard, and there is even a mug from a former pupil who joined in the fun.

Behind this larger than life character is a sensitive human being who feels strongly about social justice, loathing prejudice and championing the underdog. The fact that the charity 'War Child' was taken on by Camberlot is no accident. He feels deeply about these things and makes it his business to know as much as he can about social issues that cut to the heart of our humanity. The fact that he chooses to use his free time to visit Palestine, despite the personal danger, is testimony to the fact that he puts his money where his mouth is.

There is a season for everything and it is time for Richard to take up a new challenge. He is ready to be a deputy head and make a wider school impact. I am sure he will move into the new role without much of a glance back, although forever appreciating that it was Bede's that lay the foundation for his teaching career. Equally though, there are many who will have learned from him and fully appreciate all that he has offered – those with whom he has worked and those whom he has taught these past thirteen extremely good years.

By Richard Frame, Deputy Head, Personnel and Professional Development

David Leggett, Housemaster of Dorter – 2004-2017

We say a fond farewell to David after thirteen phenomenally successful years at Bede's at the Dicker. Since his arrival in January 2004, David, Dave, or 'Lego' as he is affectionately known, has been an influential and pioneering figure in his roles as Head of PE, Head of Football and Housemaster of Dorter House.

The profile of the PE Department soared under his tenure, as he gathered a team of staff who gelled and thrived under his leadership. To broaden opportunities for all of his pupils, he was the first Head of Department to introduce the BTEC award and he guided Bede's through the lengthy accreditation process, paving the



way for other departments to follow. It is hard to overstate the impact that this qualification has had at Bede's, enabling many pupils for whom A levels were not an option, to continue their studies at Sixth Form.

Football became the flagship sport at Bede's with David overseeing a huge increase in participation by both boys and girls. As a coach, the first XI Football team won every trophy possible, including the prestigious All Schools English National Cup in 2009, a competition involving over 3000 schools. Players he coached have gone on to play for the ISFA England team, the England Schoolboy team and the England U21 team, with one playing Premiership football this season. Bede's is now well established on the football circuit.

In a move that caught many by surprise, David became the first male Housemaster of Dorte House. In September 2010 he took charge of the pastoral welfare of over 70 girls, and from the start he created a happy, and pristine, home for Dorte's girls and has, true to form, relentlessly supported them in every way.

However, David's best decision in his time at Bede's was to propose to Miss Mary Aicken. All in Dorte House will miss them, their two lovely daughters, Evie and Lucie, and their dog, Paddy. A Deputy Headship at Skippers Hill now beckons, and we can be in no doubt that David will embrace that role with the passion and ambition he has consistently shown here. He leaves behind many friends and a fabulous legacy. We wish him well.

*By Dr Andrew Carroll,
Dorte Tutor and Teacher of Maths*

ALUMNI VISIT – THE JENEWAYS

Alex and Charlotte (nee Butchart) Jenaway revisit Bede's by Mark Rimmington

Alex and Charlotte (nee Butchart) Jenaway, and their wonderful three boys joined us mid July, along with Alumni friends for a tour of Bede's Senior School. The Jenaway's flew over to the U.K. from Canada for a holiday, and via the web and the marvellous organisational skills of Sophie Majer, were met by a group of friends and past pupils, including Paul Raven, Paul Salvidge, Nicole Pearce (nee Munier), Charlotte Godfrey and her fiancé Glen and Daniel Ledger and his wife.

Nigel Hatton, former Head of Modern Languages and Camberlot Housemaster joined the group, and we spent a most enjoyable time looking around the School, visiting old haunts, and taking photographs. Very quickly all of us were transported back to the early nineties and we even found time to contact Lilliane and Lyndon Hadley Coates, former House parents in Crossways, who live in Malta, on Skype.

It was a tremendous day and my thanks to all those who came and to Caroline Harms for all her hard work both prior to and on the day. It is lovely to see past pupils and I hope we can do more of this in the future. Thanks everyone!



OBITUARY: CHRISTOPHER PATRICK PYEMONT

Christopher Patrick Pyemont

Christopher Patrick Pyemont, affectionately known amongst friends, colleagues and alumni as 'CP', sadly passed away, after a long battle with cancer, on Thursday 4 May.

He had a long, much respected, and influential career at Bede's Prep School (formerly St Bede's School). Joining the School in 1981, he immediately became admired as an inspirational mathematics and games teacher, renowned for his fun and enthusiasm. He was, himself, a 'Cambridge Blue' in cricket, hockey, skiing and rackets; he enjoyed all sports, was a keen member of the staff squash team, and represented Eastbourne Cricket Club for many successful seasons at Saffrons.

For several years, he ran the senior boys' boarding house at Holywell Mount, with his wife Pinkie, and it was one big happy family. Later on, they took over the girls' boarding

house in Meads End. In 1998, after many successful years in the classroom, he took over the reins of headship from his brother, Mr Peter Pyemont. During his tenure, he oversaw the building of new science and IT blocks, as well as the initial plans for the new dining hall and the transformation of the Holywell building. He was always a welcoming and supportive figure to people of all walks of life, including the many individuals who were affected by the sudden closure of Newlands in 2006.

Having stood down as Headmaster in 2007, he continued to teach mathematics and games with compassion, humour and integrity. He retired from full time teaching in 2012, but continued to have strong links with the School, and once again joined forces with his brother, in delivering informative and entertaining talks around the country; to schools, clubs and societies,



under the banner of 'Heads Talking'. This ensured that many more were enriched by his knowledge and passion for educating.

The number of heartfelt and sincere comments found on social media since his passing are testament to the profound influence he has had on many lives. Sadly he was caught out too early, yet, to quote an old boy, 'may we all play our innings as well as he did'.

Christopher Pyemont's Memorial Service

The memorial service on 8th July was always going to be a central part of the commemoration and a lot of planning was necessary to ensure that as many memories of CP's life could be drawn together into one joyous celebration. The service was held at St Saviour's and St Peter's Church in Eastbourne and, as expected, it was full to capacity. The opening, hymn, Guide me O, thou great redeemer set the tone for a truly wonderful service with terrific singing which

at times surely endangered the building's very structure.

At the heart of the service was a very touching eulogy delivered by PP who did a fabulous job of providing all those 'unseen' moments which define a person. At the end, those who knew CP well had a broad grin on their faces and for others it left them in no doubt as to the true character of the man. Perhaps the most touching thing was to

witness how obviously proud PP was of his 'little brother'.

There was lots of music with contributions from staff and pupils, past and present. Perhaps the most poignant moment was when the whole congregation rose to join with the choir in the last verse of 'Bridge Over Troubled Water', one of CP's favourites. There was barely a dry eye in the house.



This was a truly splendid occasion worthy of that famous Pyemont word, 'sensational.' under the banner of 'Heads Talking'. This ensured that many more were enriched by his knowledge and passion for educating.

The number of heartfelt and sincere comments found on social media since his passing are testament to the profound influence he has had on many lives. Sadly he was caught out too early, yet, to quote an old boy, 'may we all play our innings as well as he did'.

Sally Collins

OBITUARY: FIONA OLOO

Fiona Oloo, Head Girl, Crossways 1986-1991

I only met Fiona once. That was in the student bar at Darwin College Cambridge in 1997. You only need to meet Fiona once, that changes your life. It certainly changed mine as she became my wife some ten years later, and the mother to our daughter, Orla in 2010.

Her life despite its brevity was lived to the full, and I remain happy and proud to say that I had the pleasure of sharing a part of her extraordinary time on this planet. She is, and will remain much missed.

Fiona was born in Nairobi to her Parents Raymond and Rachael, and from an early age given all accounts they realised they had been blessed with no ordinary child.

Her innate brightness was evident during her early school years at 'The Banda Preparatory School' in Nairobi and this was to be rewarded by a full scholarship to attend school for secondary education in England.

She spent her school years in England at St Bede's which is located deep in the Sussex countryside, and here she made many friends with whom she remained in contact with through her adult life. Her academic successes continued as she left St Bede's to continue an academic life at Westminster University where she gained a degree in Biochemistry.

Her love of Chemistry encouraged her to continue in this vain and Fiona was awarded a place at Cambridge University to Study for a PhD in Chemical Engineering. Fiona was one of the only students at the University that I knew who managed to study full time, hold down a full time job, enjoy an active social life and still have time to play hockey, swim regularly, and contribute to the college Summer Ball Committee. Her energy and passion for life seemed to be without boundary, and it had a habit of infecting others around her with the same positive effect.



Fiona completed her PhD at Imperial College, and immediately moved into a Career working within the Civil Service. Not content with her academic achievements and embarking on an already arduous career path, she decided that a law degree was what was required to help her move swiftly along. This was pursued with admirable success through a Part Time course which took up evenings and weekends for two years. I suppose it could be said that Fiona took a short career break to have her daughter Orla, but this was all carried out in her own unique style with little apparent effort, and the rest of her life beckoned.

It was however not all Degrees and academic plaudits. Fiona loved to travel and many happy times were spent, skiing down the mountains of Switzerland (despite her initial reluctance), trekking across the Savannah on Safari in her homeland Africa, Clubbing until the sun came up in an Ibiza nightclub, or just discovering hidden holiday gems in the Caribbean.

Fiona's civil service career led her eventually to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 2012. A Diplomatic posting to Brasil was on the cards and we decamped to Brasilia. Despite a heavy workload and the trials of having to learn a new language, the Brazilian lifestyle was embraced and we spent many happy days in that beautiful and engaging country.

In many ways Fiona was born to be Brazilian, she was loud, gregarious, colourful and infectious energetic. With her effortless command of languages and her almost chameleon like ability to engage with local culture and personalities, she quickly became at home there.

Tragically it was whilst living in the county that she had grown to love, that she was diagnosed with Leukaemia. It was very very sudden and the last time I saw her she was still smiling, and entirely unaware of the gravity of the condition that was to cruelly take her life later that same day.

If you would like to support the Fiona Conroy Memorial fund, for more information and details of how to donate please click on the following link: www.jaliacharity.co.uk

A HISTORY OF DRAMA AT BEDE'S

Nicky Miles – Head of Drama: 1982-2000



How did your St Bede's journey begin?

When I arrived at St Bede's in 1982 there were only 90 pupils in the school. Back then, the flagship of the school was the Activities Programme, there were 40 activities for the 90 students. Pupils could do almost anything, however there was no drama or theatre. At the time my husband was teaching maths at St Bede's and I was persuaded to start drama as an activity. I ended up staying for 18 years!

What did you enjoy most about your time at St Bede's?

A particular highlight of my time at St Bede's were our Shakespeare tours. At the time the school had no money and we were desperate for pupils, so we used to tour a Shakespeare play around prep schools in Kent and Sussex. With a London bus packed with our set, costumes and artists, we would tour around sometimes doing up to three shows a day and performing to 20 schools. One year, when we were touring Macbeth, the theatrical superstition struck and we were cursed with three days of bad luck. On the first day we had a crash, on the second we were shot at and on the third a pupil slipped and knocked herself out. The following day I asked Mr Berryman to bless the bus and we were fine thereafter!

Apart from the summer tour we also took short shows to Drusillas which we performed in the grounds to the passing public, a great challenge and lots of fun.

What are your favourite memories of your time at St Bede's?

One of my favourite memories was '24 hours to Show Time'; we worked solidly for 24 hours,

working through the night to create a play from beginning to end. The following evening at 7pm the curtains went up and we put on our show. It was such a fantastic event that saw the whole school get involved, from set building to lighting and costume design. It was all in aid of The Make-A-Wish Foundation, the first year we performed 'The Sound of Music' and raised £12,000 and a few years later 'The Wizard of Oz' raised an amazing £20,000.

Another highlight were the House Drama Competitions that took place in October. Each House would be given part of a play, 'Adrian Mole', 'Larkrise to Candleford' for example. We would invite a celebrity adjudicator and the winner would win the Miles Drama Cup for the year. It was great opportunity for the pupils who didn't do drama to have a go.

What was drama like at the School when you arrived and how did it change during your time?

There was no drama or theatre at the School. I was previously an actress and director in the Midlands and when my husband was working at Bede's, I was persuaded to come and do a drama activity, so two times a week I volunteered to teach pupils drama. The following year, the pupils enjoyed it so much they asked if I would teach drama 'O Level' as an activity. Everyone achieved As and Bs and by 1984 I had managed to introduce drama as a subject for the First Years and drama 'O Level'. In 1985 drama was available across all years and our performing space was gradually expanding!

What of the physical expansion? The drama department now occupies a vast space along with the Miles Theatre. It can't always have been like that?

It certainly wasn't! As there was no drama at the school when I arrived, we had nowhere to rehearse. I used to teach it around my kitchen table! The end of term Cabaret was performed in a tent and we performed the Christmas play in the village hall. As drama began to be introduced at the School, the Sixth Form common room became the drama studio and we would perform in the old gymnasium.

What drew children to the drama department?

The atmosphere. We didn't have fancy facilities but we didn't need them, drama gave the children something exciting to do outside a classroom environment. I always used to say, 'it's your show, not mine', it was all about the children.

When it came to finding teachers to join your department, was there anything special you looked for?

I was the only drama teacher at St Bede's from 1982 until 1994 when I persuaded the School to employ my daughter part time. Until then I was doing everything on my own from play writing to costume making.

How do you think the drama department at St Bede's differs from drama departments at other schools?

I wanted the department to be all about the shows the children put on, we didn't have a posh theatre but it didn't matter. Drama at St Bede's offered the children an adventure and a challenge, it was exciting for both them and me and I was always trying to broaden their horizons. It wasn't a teacher-pupil relationship, we were a drama group.

In 2000 you made the decision to retire. Were you not tempted to carry on even after 18 years of service to the School?

When I retired the School had a policy that no one should work past the age of 60! I did work two more years after this date, but when Roger Perrin retired I had to go too. A sad occasion, especially as plans had just been drawn to build a theatre. Gone were the days of placing a chair on a desk so we could climb up and rig the lights or promenading shows because we had no space in which to perform!

The studio is a lovely space and it has been my privilege and pleasure to bring a group of Seaford children twice a year, to experience the joy of performing in a 'real' theatre. Long may it continue. Drama offers us the opportunity to experience the lives of others. "Never judge a man 'til you have walked in his moccasins."

DRAMA ALUMNI PROFILES

Gavin Stenhouse, Dicker 1999-2004 – Actor

I left Bede's after A levels in the Summer of 2004 and moved to London to study acting at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. After graduating Guildhall in 2007, I worked in theatre and TV in London, most notably on the Bridge Project's 'Richard III' with Kevin Spacey, directed by Sam Mendes at The Old Vic. That production toured the World, visiting 12 venues in 11 countries, including the ancient theatre of Epidaurus; a Greek amphitheatre designed in the 4th century BC, with a seating capacity of 14,000 and acoustics so advanced that you could hear a whisper on stage, even from the very back row – all of which was captured in the documentary, 'NOW: In the Wings on a World Stage'. Since then I have moved to Los Angeles and have been working in film and TV for the last four years, including developing my own projects, but that experience at Epidaurus will forever stay with me as a particularly rare and special opportunity. None of any of this would have been possible without the encouragement and tutelage of Neil Brown, who was Head of Drama at Bede's during my Sixth Form.

I joined Bede's in Autumn 1999. I was a transplant from another junior school. First Year Dicker House was an attic space next to the Manor House, with metal lockers at the end. The Drama department was set up in a small studio space opposite what is now called Ostlers. It was during my Theatre Studies A Level that I was introduced to Brecht, Stanislavsky and Meyerhold, the godfathers of modern theatre. Each student got to participate in acting, design, lighting and stage management. Mr Brown was the first person to encourage me to break through the limits of my own expectations as an actor, when he cast me as the Emcee in Bede's production of Cabaret in 2002. It was by far the most challenging and rewarding role I'd ever had and Mr Brown instilled in me a belief and drive to further my ambitions as a professional actor. Perhaps my most vivid memory from that production was jumping into the late, great Ronnie Corbett's lap and serenading him with a verse of "Willkommen". I caught up with Ronnie at a fundraiser years later and we shared a laugh about it.



I have fond memories of Bede's and I sincerely hope the School continues to support the vibrant spectrum of raw talent and potential that its arts department develops. I believe a school that views the 'arts' as a narrow avenue of pursuit for a select few 'gifted' or artistically driven students gravely misses the point. Art is an international language that unites, educates, informs and challenges our perceptions as individuals. That appetite for creativity and imagination should be cultivated in all young, burgeoning minds, as it was for me at Bede's.



DRAMA ALUMNI PROFILES

Samantha Spurgin, Crossways 2001-2006 – Actress

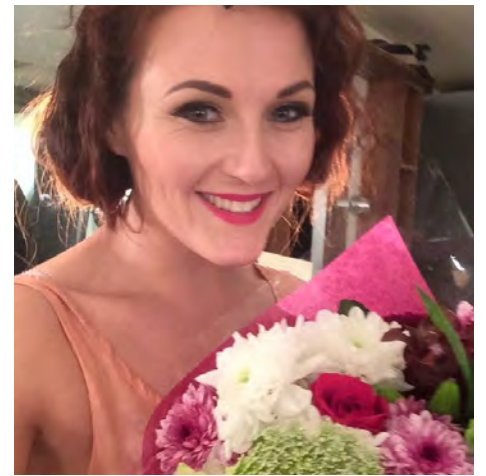


I went to St Bede's what feels like 100 years ago, when the Drama department was constantly being moved from place to place. We occupied not one but two bus garages amongst other temporary homes while I was a student, finally moving into the amazing facilities enjoyed today in my last term! I will always remember Mr Waring taking us to the first old bus garage saying – 'Don't touch any of the broken glass' and 'Maybe its best you don't roll on the floor in this piece Samantha'.

It certainly added some great character and fun to my memories of Drama at St Bede's. I was lucky enough to be on a Drama Scholarship from 2001-2006 and without this support I would never have been able to attend St Bedes at all, so for that I will always be very grateful. After leaving Bede's I went onto Drama School, two in fact, a year at LSDA and later a year at Drama Studio London. I have been lucky to have enjoyed working in TV, Theatre and Film, and have recently taken a short break to become a mum.

Productions at St Bede's were always incredible fun – notably Confusions, Damn Yankees, Cabaret and Macbeth. I will always be very grateful for the lessons I learned in Drama which I still hold onto today. We were treated as a company of adults. We re-painted the stage after our productions, we worked very hard, the staff then demanded a very high standard and impeccable work ethic and we loved to be challenged. I remember struggling to learn Samuel Beckett's 'Play' in Lower Sixth, which to this day is still the hardest piece I've ever had to memorise!

To those of you studying Drama at St Bedes now, enjoy it, you may not realise it yet but you are truly spoiled. Look after your fellow drama geeks, they will hopefully be your true friends for years to come (my fellow drama geek Jessica Hargreaves was Maid of Honour at my wedding). For those of you hoping to go on to have a career in this industry listen to your directors and push yourself, the training you receive here is as good as you will get at a professional Drama School and I wish you all the best of luck!



Emma Garrett, Bloomsbury 1999-2004 – Actress & Freelance Casting Director

When I got to drama school there was a palpable difference between my knowledge of cutting edge plays and playwrights, compared to others whom had a possibly slightly more conservative or pedestrian school drama class – I have the Drama department at St Bede's to thank for that! Headed up at the time by Neil Brown.

My time at drama school was hard, I learned a lot about myself but I felt I entered knowing enough about myself and acting to come out alive...just! I also entered with a very strong feeling of what I thought acting was and why I wanted to be an actress. This was helped greatly by being introduced to processes and techniques that we used in my final year of

study at St Bede's. I had a glimpse of what it was like to want to immerse myself in another world. Little did I realise just how far drama school takes that and what a life changing and life forming experience it would be. Although it doesn't matter where you go and what you lead on to do, you still end up playing a racing pigeon in a pantomime.

DRAMA ALUMNI PROFILES

I worked professionally as an actress and a musician for a few years after graduating when I got a part in *Call the Midwife*. I enjoyed filming so much, it was my first professional TV job, it was a bit glamorous, not loads but a bit. A room with my name printed incorrectly in Times New Roman on an A4 sheet, stuck crookedly on the trailer door with old Blu Tack and a pre prepared baguette with my name on it and of course, a huge maternity suit. I expected nothing less and it delivered!

But I soon realised that perhaps my love for the theatre and for acting could be found in a slightly different guise. It was the mix between the practical and the academic approach to Theatre Studies at St Bede's, that I think helped me to come to this conclusion, I decided that I may actually be more suited to the other side of the camera. I now own a



casting suite in London and I am a freelance casting director. I get a lot of pleasure from getting someone else the job, who has the resilience and patience to be in what is such a hard, brutal, yet joyously satisfying industry.

Whether that be a part in a chocolate commercial that secures them a mortgage or a small part in their first feature film.

I don't know what else I'd do, I sometimes wish I'd gone to university first (resist saying 'I told you so' Mum!) but in the end I think I would have ended up here anyway. The process itself and what it's done for me in my life is worth far more than whether I survive in this crazy industry or not. Who knows, but it's certainly never short of opportunity or change.

If anybody thinks drama is an easy subject, I'd just like to remind you that I was in drama school from 7:30am to 7:30pm, six days a week. Often starting with a 5k run before breakfast and a sword fight before lunch. I think that's enough said there. It's certainly not for the faint-hearted!

DRAMA AT BEDE'S TODAY

By Karen Lewis, Head of Drama



Our pioneering spirit in the Drama Department is thriving at Bede's. Over the past four years, since my arrival, we have cemented our ethos to continually evolve as a department, raise standards in all areas of production and avoid a 'House Style'. We never put on a 'school play', we simply ask more from our students and they deliver every time.

Currently, what sets us apart from other schools is the number of and diversity of the

productions we stage and the opportunities we offer to broaden theatrical experience: such as our acting masterclasses, trips to the National Student Drama Festival and the development of 'The Company' our in house youth theatre that has produced a range of devised studio work, led by our Senior Drama Scholars.

In recent years we have staged a number of musicals, classical plays and new writing as well as directing the first full length play penned by one of our sixth form dramatists and taking home some profits from our 'Into the Woods' musical at the Devonshire Park Theatre, that was a fantastic experience for those students experiencing a professional stage for the first time. We have just returned from the 70th Edinburgh Fringe Festival where our week long performance of 'Tartuffe' brought the A level performances much critical praise, as well as an unforgettable experience.

It is wonderful to read about past students who have realised their dreams in the

industry and many of our students continue to pursue a career in Theatre, most recently to Guildhall School of Acting, The New York Academy of Dramatic Art and Bristol Old Vic and having Old Bedians like Jamie Lloyd being so successful really inspires our students to know they can go for it. We are so very proud that our students are finding success in audition as well as on Technical Theatre courses.

I have taught drama in a number of top flight schools, but I can honestly say that Bede's is by far the most inclusive, supportive and creatively diverse place I have worked. All of our staff in Performing Arts, and I include music and dance here, go above and beyond what would ever be expected of them to get the very best out of students and the rewards are enormous.

'Oliver' will be our next Whole School Musical, March 1st-3rd 2018 at the Devonshire Park Theatre, where we hope to build on the 2,000 strong audience who enjoyed 'Into the Woods.'

ALUMNI PROFILE: MIKE REYNOLDS

Mike and Nicki Reynolds sail from Australia to the UK

Alumni Mike Reynolds Bede's Prep, 1969-1973 and his wife Nicki recently took on the challenge of sailing from Australia to the UK. Here is their story...



My name is Mike and I am an electronics engineer, my wife Nicki is a public-servant and ex-pharmacist. I started sailing as a boy with my family in the UK. Nicki started sailing with me shortly after I bought Critical Path. We raced offshore together for several seasons, and Nicki gradually nudged our focus towards cruising. It has long been our ambition to go blue water cruising. After years of local sailing – sailing around Australia one and a half times and our South East Asia cruise – we finally felt we and our boat were ready.

In June 2015 we finally set sail after a long period of boat preparation, which started when we bought Zen Again in 2010. Our goal for 2015 was 'Cape Town for Christmas'. We planned to sail coastwise north to Carnarvon and then to Cocos-Keeling, Rodrigues, Mauritius and La Réunion on our way towards South Africa.

Fremantle to Geraldton

On 12 June 2015 we departed Fremantle Sailing Club for Geraldton. Our 244nm passage was a good shakedown, putting Zen Again's performance to the test. It took 38 hours giving an average speed of over 6 knots, that's pretty good for us. It was great sailing, albeit somewhat rolly; luckily our stomachs were up to the task! We saw a whale only an hour north of Gage Roads, who blew 30 metres away abeam us. We ended up staying in Geraldton for 10 days awaiting a weather window.

Carnarvon to Cocos-Keeling

Our 1367nm passage from Carnarvon to Cocos-Keeling took 10 days. We departed on 21 July 2015 and the weather conditions varied enormously. It seems strange to be heading out into the Indian Ocean, this is the third boat we have prepared for this voyage, but at last we were on our way. We had the worst conditions of the year on a passage that is supposed to be idyllic, with several days of continual bad weather. At times we were running under bare poles in wind speeds of up to 55 knots. We made contact with a boat at Cocos-Keeling who gave reports of lovely anchorage, turquoise water, sandy beaches and sunshine. It sounded a million miles away given our weather! Day 8 saw the wind settle and the weather brightened. We were briefly joined by a pod of a dozen dolphins, it was great to have visitors. We finally arrived and anchored off Direction Island at Cocos-Keeling. We were greeted with bright sunshine and joined a group of cruisers from all over the world. We instantly knew this was a very special place and ended up staying for over two weeks. The islands, snorkelling and the comradeship of other cruisers made this a very memorable stopover.

Rodrigues to Mauritius

Our 372nm passage from Rodrigues to Mauritius was our fastest ever departing on 15 September, taking only 2 days 6 hours. We did 175nm in one noon-to-noon run, which is 7.3 knots, our hull speed! We needed to get

to Port Louis before dark to enter the port, otherwise we had to anchor off overnight. Since arriving in Port Louis we have been busily tending to boat jobs, exploring the island and socialising. Mauritius is quite a contrast from Rodrigues, much more developed with tourist resorts populating the coastline, but we discovered amazing national parks and walks.

Mauritius to La Réunion

We departed Mauritius on 2 October, a memorable part of the passage was seeing the red glow emanating from the volcano in the south of the island as we approached La Réunion. The mountainous, volcanic areas and coastlines were all magnificent, a truly spectacular French island. There is a definite African feel to the place with Creole women traditionally dressed and an abundance of African trees and colourful lizards and birds.





Richards Bay to Port Elizabeth

We really enjoyed our month in Richards Bay, it has a great base for exploring Kwazulu Natal province and it was the realisation of a long-held dream to see African wildlife and visit game parks. However it was time to leave and on 28 November we departed Richards Bay. We didn't find current until the depth reached 400m, the sea state deteriorated substantially and we both felt rather queezy. But it was worth it for the great progress we were making. The following day we were treated to a show by a pod of about 50 dolphins, they didn't join us but it was spectacular as they passed by. We have also been dodging ships and yachts. Three days later we arrived in Port Elizabeth.

Over the next three months our sailing took us to Simon's Town, Mossel Bay and Cape Town. We thoroughly enjoyed our time in South Africa; it is an amazing nation with so many challenges yet so much potential but it was time to move on. Our next goal was 'UK for Summer', with planned stopovers to include Saint Helena, Eastern Caribbean, Bermuda and Azores.

Cape Town to Saint Helena

We departed on 1st February and logged 2074nm on this passage, taking us 14 days. On day 1 we saw a whale, we think it was a blue whale but we'll never know for sure. We also saw a flock of penguins and several seals. We experienced the nicest sustained sailing conditions we've had for a very long while. The guitar has emerged from deep stowage for the first time since we departed Australia. Saint Helena, like Cocos-Keeling,

is a magical cruising destination. Its history is all about the resupply of sailing ships and the local people 'get' cruisers. It is a very scenic place but it is the friendliness of the people which is most striking. It has an old-world small country town feel and everyone smiles and says hello to everyone in the street. We wanted to stay longer than the six days we managed.

Saint Helena to the Caribbean

We departed Saint Helena of 22 February, after a brief hesitation when the immigration lady said we could stay for three months if we liked! We logged 4090nm on this passage which took 31 days. We made landfall in St Lucia, then spent several weeks cruising rapidly through the eastern Caribbean to the British Virgin Islands. This was a very quick month look at the eastern Caribbean since we expect to cruise here on our way home to Australia. All the islands were fascinating but we particularly enjoyed Antigua where the Classics Regatta was held during our stay.

Bermuda to the Azores

We logged 2046nm on this passage which took 16 days, departing on 23 May. We had pleasant sailing for the first week followed by a week of cold fronts passing by where it was chilly and damp. We had two exciting incidents. In one the rudder started working loose from the tiller but this was easily fixed; in another we took a greenie just as we were

going on deck, 'drowning' the cooker and gas detector. We anchored on the island of Faial in the Azores, officially arriving in the EU. The Azores are yet another lovely group of islands, very green and very volcanic.

Azores to the UK

We departed on 18 June, and logged 1430nm over 11 days. Passing place names familiar from both of our childhoods was exciting; places like the Scilly Isles, Land's End and the Lizard. Arriving in the UK was surreal but very satisfying to have completed our voyage. In Falmouth we enjoyed the beer, Cornish pasties, the ploughman's lunches and the unique ambience of English pubs!

We thoroughly enjoyed our voyage. It was the culmination of many years preparation and it exceeded our expectations in so many respects. In particular we enjoyed the camaraderie amongst cruising sailors. Cruisers are all sorts of people from all walks of life, but they all share much in common. Now we have sailed together for 23 years, cruised three different boats and journeyed over approximately 45,000nm.

To read Mike and Nicki's blog in full, please visit:
www.yachtzenagain.blogspot.co.uk



ALUMNI PROFILE: FELICITY COLLINS

Felicity Collins, Charleston 2010-2016

I started Bede's in the September of 2011, with a keen interest in both academics and equestrianism. At that point, I had no idea which of those routes I wanted to go down as a career. One reason behind my choice to attend Bede's was the school's reputation of helping find and encourage pupil's talents and interests, and support them throughout their journeys as individuals. Another was the fact I had been offered a riding scholarship from Bede's already, and living practically next door was also a huge bonus!

Throughout my time at Bede's and alongside my studies, I climbed the levels as an event rider (three day eventing) where I compete in three phases – dressage, cross country and show jumping. It goes without saying that it is extremely difficult to train a horse to do all three of these phases to a very high standard, hence why we event riders have to dedicate an indescribable amount of long hours, dedication and hard work. Competing in a sport involving horses is very different to most, as you cannot pick them up or put them down as you would do a tennis racquet or football – you have to live and breathe them constantly.

This is where Bede's comes into it. I cannot even begin to imagine what I would have done, or where I would be now, if I hadn't had the support and understanding of the teachers and staff at Bede's during those 5 years. I have been competing almost every weekend (and often mid-week) from March



through to October, since 2011, and if I had been at any other school I simply wouldn't have been able to. The lengths everyone went to to help me catch up on work and get fantastic grades at both GCSE and A level was extraordinary, and even when my interests and long term career path began to transfer from academic studies to equestrianism full time, I still had the full support and backing of anyone I spoke to about it at Bede's. I had every opportunity to sit down and discuss any worries, doubts, or questions I had about juggling my parallel life, and the greatest thing was that although not everybody fully understood the sport I was out doing every weekend – that did not cause their support or time for me to waver.

Since leaving Bede's, I have represented Great Britain at both the Junior (18 & under) and Young Rider (19-21) European Championships, being a counting GB team score each time, to win two European bronze medals for my Country on a self-trained horse. I have produced a string of horses up to International 3* (Olympic) level successfully and I am current Under 21 National Champion after winning a 3-day 2* event at Houghton Hall International this spring. Next year, I plan to get my

4* qualifications so that I am eligible to compete at events such as Badminton & Burghley Horse Trials which will be the aim for 2019, and get good results to put myself on the Olympic selection radar with Tokyo 2020 and the 2024 Olympics in mind. Senior European Championships and the World Equestrian Games are also firmly set in my sights, so I will continue to train towards these as well.

My advice to students who are fortunate enough to be at Bede's would be this; your time at this school is invaluable, grasp every opportunity it gives you. Use the support, help and facilities around you, because they really are of the highest standard. It is easy to forget what you have or where you are, but everything Bede's advertises about treating every student as an individual I found to be completely true.

Although my time at Bede's ended little over a year ago, every time I think of my successes and how I have been able to achieve so much for my age, I remember the support I was given from this school, and I always will. So for that, I would like to say thank you, and I hope I can continue to make everyone at Bede's proud of the person, and athlete, they have helped me become.

ALUMNI NEWS: SHAI HOPE

Bede's Alumnus Shai Hope Guides West Indies To Historic Test Victory

It was one of the most dramatic turnarounds in Test history, and Bede's alumnus Shai Hope led the charge.

Following his monumental 147 in the first innings against England, Hope, aged just 22 and playing in his 12th Test, went on to back up his earlier performance with another 118 runs on a final day victory that left pundits stunned and which Mike Atherton described as, "the greatest Test upset I've seen."

Hope had already booked himself a place in Test history at the weekend by scoring his maiden Test century. In doing so, he became the highest-scoring visiting West Indies batsman since Brian Lara in 1995 and was also a key part of the first 200 partnership in Caribbean cricket since December 2013.

Few could have ever predicted Tuesday's outcome however, with one of the most exciting five-day contests in cricketing history following a humbling 209-run defeat for the West Indies at Edgbaston just ten days earlier.

For context, the West Indies had not won a Test in England for 17 years until yesterday, with Hope having previously fallen victim to James Anderson early on his debut for the Windies in 2015 – a fact that made the young batsman's accomplishments yesterday all the sweeter.

Indeed, when Hope was given his first cap for the West Indies by legendary cricketer Clive Lloyd at Kensington Oval on that occasion, he was already a record-breaker, having made headlines around the world by scoring a double-century for the Barbados Tridents against the Windward Islands.

While Hope had built on this reputation subsequently, and had helped to put the West Indies in a strong position going into the yesterday's final day of play, no one really believed they could go on and win the Test until Tuesday afternoon.

At that time, the partnership between Hope and Kraigg Brathwaite had seen 144 runs earned, following up the 246 they posted in



the first innings. Even when Braithwaite was caught at slip, 5 runs short of his second century, the Windies still needed 123 runs to win off 32 overs.

When Hope eventually hit Woakes for two to clinch the victory, following a further partnership with Jermaine Blackwood, the young Bajan batted his way into both the West Indies' and Headingley history books.

With no other cricketer having scored a century in both innings in the previous 534 first-class matches at the ground, and no team having chased down more than 322 runs since Don Bradman's 'Invincibles' in 1948, the victory was truly momentous – and all the more so for staff and pupils at Bede's Senior School in East Sussex.

Hope joined Bede's on a scholarship into the Sixth Form in 2010 and attended the school in Upper Dicker for two years, during which he captained the 1st XI cricket team to victory in the Sussex County Cup – a title Bede's has continued to successfully defend for six of the seven previous years.

With Bede's having produced several professional cricketers in recent years, including Sussex CCC's Luke Wells, Delray Rawlins and Middlesex's Ollie Rayner, the school's reputation for cricket is well-earned. Bede's prides itself on maintaining

strong links with professional clubs and young players benefit from a coaching team which includes Director of Cricket, Alan Wells who is supported by Neil Lenham and James Kirtley – all who played for Sussex. Bede's has recently won the U15 National Cup, beating the over 1,000 other schools and the 1st XI also recently won the Langdale County Cup.

Alan Wells himself went out to Barbados six years ago to select a cricket scholar to join the School for Sixth Form and watched Shai Hope as well as a number of other young cricketers play at their schools; Hope was the outstanding talent who joined Bede's soon after.

Commenting on the Hope's performance in the first innings, Bede's Director of Cricket, Alan Wells said, "To have come back from defeat in the first test to make such a significant individual contribution is a sign of a great sportsman.

"Shai demonstrated great maturity and calmness under pressure as well as technical skill and in so doing has become part of West Indies cricketing history and established himself as a world-class batsman.

To have played a small part in Shai's journey brings me, and all my colleagues, great satisfaction. I couldn't be happier for him."

ALUMNI NEWS



Luke Wells, Deis 1995-2009

Having recovered from surgery on a knee injury over the winter, Luke Wells went on to have a fantastic season for Sussex. In May he hit a career best 258 runs against Durham, beating his father Alan Wells' record by 5 runs. It was Luke's 14th first class century.

Having scored 155 against Worcestershire, Luke continued his superb batting form and was instrumental in the win against Leicestershire with an unbeaten 90 to help Sussex achieve the 132 runs needed for victory.

Delray Rawlins, Camberlot 2014-2016

Delray Rawlins, who left Bede's School in September 2016, has been in sparkling form, scoring on his debut, a match-winning century for England U19s against India in Mumbai.

In the first One Day International at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, Delray struck 107 not out from 88 balls, including eight 4s and five 6s, before taking two wickets, as the tourists won by 23 runs. In doing so, he helped England recover from a disastrous start, being 98 for 4 when Delray walked to the crease, to post 256 for 7 in 50 overs.

He followed this performance up by top scoring in the 2nd One Day International with a quick fire 46 from 35 balls and then, unfortunately fell just 4 runs short of another century in the 3rd ODI, scoring

96 out of a total of 215. Delray also took 2 wickets in each of the 3 matches.

This was only England's third U19 one-day win in India and Delray's performance is the joint second best by an U19 debutant, the record still held by Mike Gatting, who scored 128 against the West Indies in 1976.

Delray's talent was first spotted aged 16, whilst he was attending a state school in Crawley, by Alan Wells, Bede's Director of Cricket. He spent 2 years at Bede's, during which time he made regular appearances for Sussex Academy and Sussex 2nd XI, along with captaining the Bede's 1st XI.

Having completed his sixth form studies at Bede's, Delray was offered a contract by Sussex CCC.

Bede's Director of Cricket, Alan Wells, said, "This is an incredible performance by any standards, but particularly given the challenging conditions of the sub-continent. We are all very proud of Delray and the start he is making at county and national level and I am sure his achievements will act as further inspiration to many of Bede's current cricketers who aspire to follow in his footsteps. We look forward to seeing what's next for him!"

Solly March, Knights 2008 - 2011

Congratulations to Bede's alumnus and Brighton and Hove Albion midfielder Solomon March, who scored the winning goal against Wigan Athletic that secured



the Seagulls promotion to the English Premier League.

The extraordinary moment capped off an incredible story of recovery for Solly, who returned to play for Brighton in November after a serious injury.

The scene was jubilant at the Amex stadium at the end of the season, with Brighton fans invading the pitch in celebration of the club's return to top flight football after a 34-year absence.

The victory was particularly sweet for Solly however, who has always aspired to play premiership-level football and who was clear about his ambitions even during his time at Bede's, where he studied from 2007-2012.

ALUMNI NEWS

Solly's ex-1st XI coach at Bede's David Leggett said "Everyone at Bede's is extremely proud that one of our former students will be a premier league footballer this season, and we are all very excited to see how both the Seagulls and Solly take on the challenge."



***Nadia Gjerdingen, Dorte,
2012-2016 and Ben Laws,
Camberlot 2014-2016***

Nadia Gjerdingen and Ben Laws, both of whom earned straight A*s in Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Further Maths at A'Level, returned to Bede's to assist with Judging and spoke to the pupils about University at the annual Schools Galactic Challenge in January. Both Ben and Nadia are now studying at Engineering at Imperial College London.

***Lucinda Stuart-Grant
& Leeza Schmidt, Dorte
1997-2002***

Lucinda and Leeza popped into Bede's to catch up with Mr Rimmington, Mrs Belrhiti and Mr Walker. Leeza and Lucinda were delighted to see their old haunts and following her visit Leeza said 'Although it is strange to see how the school has changed, it still is such a unique place and all the students and teachers we spoke to seemed really happy to be there. Maybe one day I will have to move back to the Dicker.'



***Alicia Caillard, Charleston,
2010-2014 and Dan Harding,
Deis 1990-2000***

We were delighted to welcome back Alicia Caillard and Dan Harding as the guest speakers at our first Bede's Sports Awards that took place at the Senior School in June.

***Emma Butler-Way,
Bloomsbury 2004-2014***

Congratulations to Emma who graduated from Aberystwyth with a first in English Literature and is now staying on to complete her masters in Literary Studies.

***Ellie Stoddart Dilley,
Dicker / Crossways
1992-1999***

Ellie and Richard are proud parents to their beautiful daughter Nyah Rose Dilley, following their Wedding in July 2015. Nyah is already familiar with the Bede's Campus after recently visiting us in the Marketing Office.



***Ellen Parsons,
Bloomsbury 2003-2008***

After studying at University in Birmingham, Ellen moved to France and has bought an old sandstone building that she went on to renovate with friends and family into a 5 bedrooomed luxury Bed and Breakfast, which she is now successfully running. If you would like further information about Ellen's B&B please visit:

laisonneegirondine.com
or ***en-gb.facebook.com/Chambres
maisongirondine/***

***Yolanda King,
Charleston 2008-2011***

Congratulations to ex Charleston Girl Yolanda King who represented Great Britain in table tennis at the Student Games in Taipei.





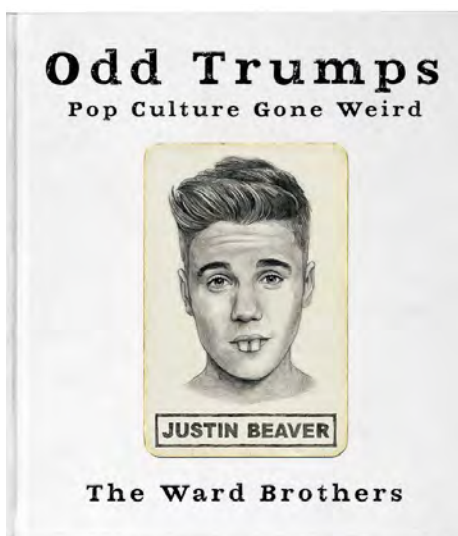
***Tom Stanish,
Camberlot 2001-2006***

Since moving to the USA in 2007 Tom taught snowboarding at many of the Colorado resorts including Vail Beaver Creek, Keystone, Breckenridge and Copper Mountain.

In 2012 he joined the US Army as a Cavalry Scout and was stationed in Hawaii until 2015, when he moved to Fort Carson, Colorado.

Since being in the US Army Tom has been promoted from private to Staff Sergeant. During these years he has been able to go to many different schools to include Pathfinder Jungle Warfare (Hawaii, Burma and Australia). Tom has also been on multiple deployments both training and combat and is currently attending a military school known as Bradley Master Gunner.

In 2012 Tom married Kristelle, who has been there with him every step of the way through his career and 'helped to guide me through the dark times'. Tom and Kristelle had their first Child Lewis Gene Stanish on 3 April 2016 – Congratulations!



***James and Eddie
(Edmund) Ward,
Bede's Prep and Senior
School 2003 and 2006
Leavers***

James and Eddie, now both live in Hackney, London from where they run their own business designing and making a range of hand-drawn funny cards called Quite Good Cards. As well as selling their cards on a regular Saturday stall on Borough Market, companies such as W.H. Smith and Scribber together with many independent London shops stock their cards. Since they set up their business four years ago they have sold thousands of cards. Impressed by the irreverent humour of their cards they were approached by publishers Pan Macmillan to create a pocket sized book of their designs for Christmas. If you would like to purchase a copy, the book is called Odd Trumps: Pop Culture Gone Weird by the Ward Brothers and is available from Amazon, Waterstones or from their own website www.quitegoodcards.com.

***Frédéric Debusne, Bede's
Prep 1968-1976***

Frédéric joined St. Bede's in September 1968 and left in 1976. At that time, he was one of the youngest foreign pupils St. Bede's had welcomed – 5 years and 9 months old without knowing one word of English. Frédéric pursued his education at Brentwood Public school, Brentwood where he passed his A' Levels and then began working in 1984 for an import/export as customs clearance office manager up to the opening of the EU. In 1993 Frédéric began working for a medium size English family transport company based in Kent and in Calais until mid-2003 and from then on working for himself in the catering industry (café and brasserie) for 10 years.

In September 2013, Frédéric became an English trainer for adults (face to face coaching) as well as interpreter for 3 years and now works for a security company as interpreter, translator and English trainer and hobbies include tennis, motorbike (touring) and has two daughters (29 and 24) and one grand-daughter (nearly 3).

Frédéric would love to catch up with any old boys and girls of his era and passes on his greetings to all teachers who remember him.

If you have any news or updates that you would like to share with the Bede's Alumni, please email caroline.harms@bedes.org together with any photos. We look forward to hearing from you.

MEMORIES OF BEDE'S

John Berryman, Teacher at Bede's from 1983 to Present Day

If anyone told that I would one day be teaching at an independent, fee paying school, I would have questioned their prescience. From a childhood backdrop on a council estate to time spent as a schoolmaster in Mission and State schools in the West Indies, the concept of 'Public School' smacked of social privilege, and financial elitism.

How paradoxical, therefore, to deem it a privilege in itself to have shared in the lives of so many over the past three decades at Bede's; that unique conception of Peter Pyemont and Roger Perrin who carved out of Bottomley's erstwhile country sect a singularly quirky educational institution such as to provide Sir Anthony Seldon into asking Mr Perrin 'Why would anyone want to go to your School?'.

In many ways, Sir Anthony posed the wrong question. All of us who have been associated with Bede's have never thought of it as belonging to anyone, save that as to 'all of us'. From the outset Bede's set out to be a collective, a family affair; Angela Perrin and Janet Cole, the respective first ladies reinforcing the domestic feel about the place; Giles and his friend Ed donning the hard hat, their participation in constructing new boarding houses prior to their morphing in to Housemasters of Bede's, and thence to Headmaster and Deputy Head at Claremont, in their own right.

What has made Bede's different, among so many other things is its emphasis on outreach; thinking, looking, and acting outside the box: Alan Serper planting daffodils in the village, Mandy Walker-Child helping out at Park Mead; Manuela Scarlett with Goodwill Children's Village; Knights House sponsoring Charlie's Challenge; Crossways embracing Help for Heroes; Paddy Green's Knit and Natter; Andries Oesterween recycling throughout Upper Dicker; Amy Rimmington volunteering in Kabbubu; Glen Tailford in Nepal.

This touching episode of one delightful Russian young lady, whose name escapes me for the moment highlights our spirit. Having left her beloved skateboard behind at a local skate park, it was reportedly recovered by the police. By virtue of a great gesture, she opted to donate that which she assured to be lost anyway, to a charitable cause; not quite the end of the story. On 25th March notification was received that a representative of a small settlement in the Caribbean would be arriving to the school 7 days later to present a badge of honour to the generous donor, on behalf of his little island in recognition of her kindness. The skateboard had brought so much pleasure to the young people there. The medal was duly presented at the regular Sunday meeting for boarders, by the island's representative who was accompanied by his wife and son. What an honour for the school. It can have such a profound effect on the lives of others. I would like to think that through the regular diplomatic channels, Mr Putin himself would have been informed of the presence of mind of this model citizen of his country. Who knows?

The list is endless. Thousands and thousands of pounds must have been raised down the years. It's this sense of community spirit, so many hours, so willingly and enthusiastically offered, which makes one's association with Bede's more than palatable.

Remembering my first ever students at Bede's, Emre Saridja and Robin Townsend, as bequeathed by the effervescent Pamela Saxby, one recalls with gratitude rubbing shoulders with a plethora of humanity's representatives down the years, who have played by their park in dispelling many of my irrational prejudices.





EXTRAORDINARY BEDE'S

Archie
Lower Sixth
Scholar

You are warmly invited to our
Senior School Open Morning
Saturday 16 September 2017
9.30am to noon (Entry at 13 and 16)
HMC – Day, weekly and full boarding
Boys and girls 13 to 18

To register please contact:
admissions@bedes.org
T 01323 843252
or online at **bedes.org**
Bede's Senior School
Upper Dicker
East Sussex BN27 3QH



CURIOUS BEDE'S

You are warmly invited
to our Open Morning
30 September 2017
9.00am to noon

Nursery, Pre-School
and Pre-Prep
IAPS – Boys and girls
3 months to 7 years

New expanded Nursery
facilities open
51 weeks a year 7.45am – 6.00pm
Monday – Friday
Now offering 30 hours EYEE
childcare entitlement

Bede's
Duke's Drive, Eastbourne
East Sussex BN20 7XL
bedes.org

For a personal visit please contact:
holywell@bedes.org
T 01323 356987
or online at **bedes.org**

BEDE'S ALUMNI OF 2017



We hosted a magical summer ball to celebrate the end of the Upper Sixth pupil's time here at Bede's. Over 250 pupils, parents and staff enjoyed a sumptuous meal, with speeches from headmaster Mr Peter Goodyer, heads of school Talisker Cornford, Jay Adebisi and Anna Dagwell and deputy head: Academic Mr John Tuson. Following a lively awards ceremony, the evening entertainment continued with a band and casino tables and finished with champagne whilst watching a firework display over the lake.



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Bede's pupils are over the moon to be heading to NASA

Bede's pupils Parmis Fadavi-Hosseini and Kozma Prelevic are flying off this summer as part of the UK and EU teams in the International final of the Space Design Competition, taking place at NASA's Kennedy Space Center at the end of July, spending a week competing with teams from across the world.



Parmis and Kozma won their hard-earned selection to the teams after competing at the final of the UK Space Design Competition held at Imperial College London this Easter, where they were selected from a group of nearly 200 individuals to join 12 other pupils heading to NASA.

Parmis, 18 who is currently studying Maths, Physics and Biology A Levels at Bede's said 'the trip to NASA really is going to be an experience of a lifetime. It is an incredible opportunity to visit the space station and to work alongside fellow competitors from across the globe.'

Kozma, aged 15, who found out the news that he had won a place to represent the EU team whilst in the middle of his GCSE exams said 'I can't wait to go to NASA, I am really over the moon about being chosen!'

Bill Richards explains 'One of the reasons that Bede's is exceptionally keen to be involved in this competition is that it helps our pupils when they apply for university. For Parmis, who is looking to study Architectural Engineering, the experience of such a different learning environment will be highly regarded on her UCAS application next year. I am incredibly thrilled that these two exceptional pupils have the chance to experience this life-changing opportunity and I am really looking forward to hearing all about it when they return to Bede's in the autumn'.

Cricket: Bede's Crowned U15 National Champions

Our Cricket u15 side have achieved the fantastic accolade of becoming national champions after a convincing 56-run victory over Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby at Oakham School. A competition with over 1,100 entries, where Bede's saw off the likes of previous winners Wellington College, Tonbridge, Hampton and Kings Taunton in earlier rounds to claim the title.

Cricket: Bede's 1sts Reclaim County Championship

Having qualified for the Langdale County Cup final by defeating Eastbourne College on Tuesday afternoon, Bede's 1st XI put on another superb team display at the Sussex County Cricket Club in Hove yesterday against Hurst, reclaiming a title Bede's had previously held for 5 consecutive years until narrow losses in 2015 and 2016.

Hockey: Bede's 1sts Win Sussex Championship

Bede's 1st team hockey players took part in the Sussex 6's competition held in Eastbourne on Wednesday 8 March and took home the Sussex 6's U19 championship. The team faced stiff competition at the group stage, facing and winning against Seaford College 4-2, Eastbourne College 3-2 and Angemering 4-0. The next stage was the semi-final against Lancing College where the Bede's team worked superbly together to secure a 2-0 win and progress to the final against Eastbourne College.



Event Review: 'Romeo and Juliet' Exposes The Dark Teenage Heart

It felt apropos that this year's Bede's **Junior Production** was staged during the warmest week of the year this year, for on hot days, as we might all attest, the mad blood stirs.

A tale synonymous with love and loss, Romeo and Juliet famously sees cousins, brothers, parents and friends at terminal loggerheads, and, under **Director of Drama Karen Lewis'** expert direction, both the balminess of the Miles Studio theatre and the simmering version of the Bard's Verona within it proved fertile settings for such a drama.



As the cast reeled and gambolled, moving in packs, fights threatened to start over sideways glances. Cheap thrills begged to be chased down, narrators appeared on glitchy mobile phone recordings and pistols nestled awkwardly out of sight, all combining to create a heady and surreal mix of atmosphere, attitude and menace.

It would be easy to forget the youth of this cast, rounded out by so many First Year and Lower Fifth pupils. It is extraordinary to think, however, that the oldest performers here were aged just 15. All did fantastically as individuals, but their endeavours, when combined, left audiences with a heavy and commanding impression both of their theatrical skill and the play's clear moral coda. A tragedy for all time, this version of Romeo and Juliet served to remind us that children are quixotic, passionate and in dire need of guidance.

Thankfully, in this case, leadership was in clear abundance, both from the wider Bede's Drama department and within the cast's own number.

All involved should be very proud of what they accomplished.

Bede's pupil raises £2,000 for Unicef and Cancer Research UK

On Tuesday 7 February, Bede's School Lower Sixth pupil Rosa Witts hosted a concert at Hailsham Pavilion that raised over £2,000 in support of Unicef and Cancer Research UK.

Rosa organised the concert having seen the devastation caused by the conflict in Syria. Rosa said "The inspiration came after I saw the terrible atrocities taking place on the news last year, most recently in Mosul and Aleppo. Many of the suffering children in Syria are living in war zones and have lost everything, with many of a similar age to us."

With over 30 fellow Bedians taking part, a set list was quickly assembled. From the Jazz Choir to solo and small group performers, Rosa's peers stepped up to the mark and helped her to deliver an inspirational evening for all of the 150 Bede's boarders, parents, staff and local residents who attended.



"I feel proud of myself for taking the initiative," Rosa said, "but obviously couldn't have done it without everyone pitching in, including those who worked on lighting and sound and, most importantly in a way, all of the parents, students and local people who bought tickets and came along in support."

Rosa also organised a raffle during the evening that raised £450 for Cancer Research UK. The event ended with Rosa's grandmother, Mrs Annika Parris, presenting her with a bouquet of flowers.



Bede's Art department hosts exhibition of outstanding A Level work

Bede's Art department was proud to present the work of this year's A Level students on Friday 23 June.

Head of Art at Bede's Jonathan Turner said 'There was an excellent mix of Fine Art Painting, Ceramics, Graphic Design, Photography, videos and installations showcasing the talent and variety of approaches taken by Bede's ever-creative students.

With over 70 candidates submitting work, it really did feel like an Art College degree exhibition. This should be no surprise of course, with over a quarter of all Bede's Art, Ceramic and Photography students going on to study at some of the top art schools; including pupils heading to Central St Martin's, and ten pupils heading onto Degrees in Fine Art, Graphics, Photography, Fashion Design and Architecture.'

Many people commented on standard of all the work and the multitalented Charlotte Mitchell and Alina Wiltshire had several displays as they both did three Art based A Levels – they really had been to Bede's Art School. People were amazed by Daniel Martirosian's almost lifelike paintings and drawing – and this summer you can see Daniel's work at the National Portrait Gallery.'

It was a wonderful way to end a two year course and show the students the results of their dedication, commitment and talent.

PREP SCHOOL NEWS



Cricket: Bede's Win U11 IAPS South East Regional Tournament

On Friday 26th May Bede's proudly hosted the first ever Independent Association of Prep Schools national U11 South East Regional girls' cricket tournament, featuring squads from Highfield, Brighton and Hove High, Rose Hill, Cranleigh, Old Vicarage and Clapham High.

Bede's, whose side featured eight U11 players, were named the winners after an amazing day of cricket that saw all the teams displaying great camaraderie and sportsmanship throughout.

Petch Lenham, Cricket Coach at Bede's Prep School said "The Bede's girls played with admirable determination, made good decisions and bowled consistently; their energy on the field was infectious.

"They were a delight to coach and thoroughly deserved their success. They continued to improve with every game and fielded bravely, what a great day for Girls' Cricket!"

Year 8 Pupils Win 'Wicked Writers' Contest

On Friday 23 June four of our very talented children from Year 8, attended the final of the National Wicked Young Writers' Competition at the Apollo Theatre, London.

The competition is now in its 7th year and encourages young people aged 5-25 years to use writing as a way of expressing themselves to produce unique and original pieces of prose and poetry. Emillie Head, Amelia Entwisle, Esther Tuson and Isla Siggs were just four of 115 children selected from thousands of participants in this prestigious national writing competition.

Judges from the competition sent their congratulations to our 'very talented students' and told us that 'the quality of the entries this year was excellent so being selected as a finalist was a huge achievement'.

To our absolute surprise and delight, Isla Siggs was announced as the winner of the 11-14 year old category. Judges described her piece as 'entertaining, hilarious and carefully crafted: a grisly tale, giving a meticulously detailed history of a truly disgusting spot that simply will not be defeated'.



Bede's Nursery and Reception children raise over £2,000 for Action for Children

The children at Bede's Preparatory School were very excited to take part in The Giant Wiggle Charity walk, raising funds for the Action for Children charity, during the last week of term.

The children braved the elements on a very wet and windy March day to take part in a fun-filled walk raising much-needed donations for disadvantaged children, wearing their individually decorated vests whilst walking along Eastbourne Seafront.

With the final sponsorship money collected over the Easter holidays, Bede's Nursery and Reception are very happy to announce that a wonderful £2,120.00 was raised for this much-deserved cause.



UPCOMING EVENTS

We kindly request the pleasure of your company at the

Bede's Preparatory School Reunion

*At the Preparatory School in Eastbourne
Afternoon tea and tours of the School*

**Saturday 23 September 2017
2.30pm – 4.30pm**

Please RSVP Angela at:
angela.morgan@bedes.org
by Monday 18 September

BEDE'S
CONNECTED

Senior School Open Morning for Prospective Pupils

**Saturday 16 September 2017
9.30am – 12noon
Upper Dicker**

Click on the following link to reserve your place
www.contact.bedes.org/openmorning.asp
or email: admissions@bedes.org

Prep School Open Morning for Prospective Pupils

**Saturday 30 September 2017
9.30am – 12noon
Eastbourne**

Click on the following link to reserve your place
www.contact.bedes.org/openmorning.asp
or email: prep.admissions@bedes.org

**Cabaret Performance with 3-course Meal
Friday 1 December – Saturday 2 December
2017
6pm - late
Bede's Senior School, Upper Dicker**

If you would be interested in tickets please
email: caroline.harms@bedes.org
Please note that there will be a charge to attend
this event

**Life in Sport Dinner with VIP Guest Speaker
Thursday 1 February 2018
Further details to follow soon
Bede's Senior School, Upper Dicker**

If you would be interested in tickets please
email: caroline.harms@bedes.org
Please note that there will be a charge to attend
this event

**'Oliver' Theatre Production by Bede's
Drama Department
28 February – 3 March 2018
Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne**

Further information and tickets available from
the Devonshire Park Box Office



BEDE'S
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