Dear Old Bedalian,

May has been a busy month at Bedales: students are preparing for exams; External Relations is rife with preparations for two of our biggest events of the year: Hamper Ball on 28 June and Parents' Day on 29 June, and at Outdoor Work we were delighted to hear 5 piglets and 44 lambs were born.

In addition, for the second year running the 'Badley Behaved' dog show and fete took place on 11 May which involved lots of fun with our four-legged friends. Take a look at our short video of the day's highlights if you missed out.

We are also looking forward to holding an OB social event on 3 July for OBs that work in business consultancy and professional services or are interested in these areas of work. If you would like to join us please read more information and reserve your ticket here.

I would also like to remind you that all Old Bedalians are welcome to join us for the drinks reception on Parents' Day, 29 June, that is taking place in the Dining Hall 17.30-18.30. Many of you will have been contacted about Mo Hali's retirement to coincide with the OB drinks reception. This year marks Mo's 45th year of unstinting service and devotion to thousands of Bedalians. Several former members of staff will be present and Martin Box has kindly agreed to say a few words. If you would like to write a message for Mo to go in the book that is being put together for him, please email Head of Design, Alex McNaughton by 15 June.

For more details on any of these events please do not hesitate to email me.

Lastly, please accept my apologies for a couple of broken links in last month's bulletin. Please find the link to more information, courtesy of Paul Raphael (1970-76), about the new digital advertising initiative, TAO, True Advertising Optimiser, here, and more information about Peter Grimsdale's (1968-73) latest book, High Performance here.

Best wishes,

Alexandra Beckmann
Alumni Liaison Manager
Jacy Wall, née Davies (1960-1968) was pleased to feature her work at a show in Lansdown Art Gallery, Stroud, this month as part of Select Art Trail 2019. Having been a tapestry weaver for 30 years, Jacy thanks former staff member "Cor" at Dunhurst for igniting her passion for tapestries and etching. Jacy’s work explores textiles in the broadest sense and in recent years she has been drawn to the improvisation, traditions and ingenuity of mending. The show exhibited much of her work along with ceramics by Bjork, who also happens to be her neighbour in West Dorest! For more information about Jacy’s work, see her website.

Lorne St Clair (2004-2009) would like to share the news of his charity, Football United which provides Syrian youngsters living in refugee camps in the Bekaa Valley, many of whom are orphans, with a fun hobby and a way of making new friendships by giving them a happy escape in surroundings that are filled with trauma and violence. Working with local NGO, Football United provides kits, pitch rental and coaching for boys aged between 10 and 13. For more information about the charity see their Facebook or Instagram. Any donations you are able to contribute to their JustGiving page would be greatly appreciated in supporting their plans for hiring more coaches and involving girls in the project, with the aim of keeping the charity continuing in the future.

Esther Biddle (1994-1999) is set to direct ‘Singin’ In The Rain’ at The Adelphi Theatre on the Strand for this year’s Showtime Challenge: 48 Hour Musical on 13 October in aid of the Lewy Body Society. The fully-staged musical is put together in just 48 hours, with rehearsals starting on Friday evening and then performed on Sunday night. Auditions are being held on 1 and 2 June in London and are now booking up fast. To sign up, find out more, and buy tickets, click here. If you are interested in sponsoring this event in any way, or donating any prizes to the raffle please email Ian.

We are hosting a social event on Wednesday 3 July from 18.00 – 20.30 for OBs that work or are interested in business consultancy, professional services and related sectors. We are delighted to host the event at McKinsey Offices in Piccadilly, London and are grateful to Robin Nuttall (1981-88) for facilitating this. If you would like to join us if you work or are interested in similar fields, please book your ticket here by, Friday 21 June. If you are able to spare half an hour prior to the drinks reception, the Bedales Association’s AGM is taking place at 17.30. We will be discussing upcoming events, our Old Bedalian careers guidance network and online alumni communities and would welcome your thoughts.

Anna Fargher (2000-2002) debut novel, The Umbrella Mouse was published by Macmillan Children's books this month. Macmillan describe the novel as “A timeless tale of courage, resistance and friendship and a heart-stopping adventure drawing on the true stories of animals caught in the conflict of WWII.” The Daily Telegraph has described the book as “enchanting” giving the book a five star review and author of War Horse, Michael Morpurgo quoted the book as “an ambitious and wonderfully well achieved first novel”. We look forward to welcoming Anna back to Bedales soon to hear more about her successes. For more details on the story see Macmillan’s website.
Based in Copenhagen, Ömer Sami (2006-2011) has been paving his way as a documentary filmmaker since leaving Bedales. Making character driven films, Ömer is proud to announce his documentary for The Guardian is being released this month. As Britain’s largest nuclear power plant, Hinkley Point C, rises next to his home, 11 year old Sam cannot stop worrying about what will happen to the fish and the film explores themes of holding on and letting go. For more information about the film click here. To learn more about Ömer’s other work view his website.

Old Bedalian, John Harman (1925-31) was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross medal for his heroic action and supreme devotion to fighting against the Japanese in World War II. John Romano (1963-69) has brought our attention to a world premiere of a film exploring the brutal battle against Britain and the Japanese called 'Forgotten Allies' taking place in London from 6.15-8.15pm at the National Army Museum. The film also explores Burma (now Myanmar) and their further decline after the war and how Britain forgot the bravery of these men. Click here to read more about the film and buy your ticket to the premiere.

We are pleased to share that two OBs, Delilah Montagu (2009-2016) and Marika (2000-2010) Hackman have been confirmed for the line-up for Mumford & Sons’ All Points East show taking place in Victoria Park on 1 June. Both Delilah and Marika have recently released new singles on Columbia Records and Universal Records respectively. Listen to Temptation and I’m Not Where You Are and for more information on All Points East click here.