Dear Old Bedalian,

At this time of year, we start working on the printed OB Newsletter, due out in 2019. If you would like to contribute to the next edition, we welcome articles from you within the next few weeks. These can be about your time at Bedales, what you have been doing since, or a topic which you feel will be of interest to OBs. We would also like to receive your News in Brief and another announcements of births, engagements and marriages. Please contact me via email. We hope to hear from as many of you as possible.

We have recently welcomed new cattle at Bedales. Do you know when they were last present at the school? Agnes and Audrey have joined us from Cowdray Farm Estate. Their mothers are Holstein Friesian cattle used for milking; their fathers are used for beef. Agnes is a Holstein-Friesian cross Aberdeen-Angus. Aberdeen-Angus is a native breed, black in colour and known for their hardiness and the quality of their beef. They have a great temperament which we hope proves true as Agnes grows up! Audrey is a Holstein-Friesian cross Hereford. Hereford cattle are distinctive, with their white faces and markings, and auburn bodies. They are another native breed famous for their good temperament. This should make Audrey and Agnes absolutely ideal for our school environment. See photo and read more here.

A final reminder that Ruth Whiting’s memorial will be taking place on Saturday 10 November, 2.30pm. Please let us know if you will be attending.

Best wishes,

Leana

Drawing & Seeing
Out of the Ashes
Gloucester Crescent
Rice’s Language of Buildings
Landru’s Secret
Trading by the Wind

Artist Clara Drummond (1991-96) was awarded first prize for the BP Portrait Award in 2016. In 2017 she was commissioned by Her Majesty the Queen to do an Order of Merit portrait which is now part of the Royal Collection. She is a tutor at The Royal Drawing School and has released her first book, Drawing & Seeing. Clara shows how everyone can develop their artistic style by keeping their own sketch book. Clara believes that no one can tell you how to draw. Instead you can learn by practising and discarding preconceived ideas. Clara uses artists who inspire her, to demonstrate how everyone's approach is unique and features images of her favourite drawings and sketchbooks, to spark your creativity. Chapters focus on the different media and offer tips such as where to start on the page and how to best use your materials. Available to purchase here.
Frieda Hughes (1973-78) has gathered together her first four poetry collections in *Out of the Ashes*. Her introduction gives background to some of the poems, and includes an anecdote about her English teacher, the peerless John Batstone (staff 1963-93), who also taught her publisher’s publicity manager Christine Macgregor (1980-82). The book takes the reader on a journey through Frieda’s life – the fable-like poems draw on her early years in Devon and Yorkshire, a lifelong engagement with nature and itinerant wildlife, and later experiences when living in Australia, London, and most recently, Wales. They examine the ideas of argument, resolution and the acceptance of what cannot be changed. Available now from Bloodaxebooks. For more details about Frieda’s books, paintings and exhibitions please click here.

William Miller (1980-82) has released *Gloucester Crescent: Me, My Dad and Other Grown-Ups*. Set in a curving, leafy street hidden between Camden Town and Primrose Hill, unremarkable in many ways, unless you notice the lady in the van parked outside one house, and the famous-looking residents crossing the road. Written through the eyes of a growing child and adolescent, it is the story of a family and their circle of well-known, left-wing, idealistic and intellectual friends, who all lived in the street between the 60s and 80s. We follow William as he explores the back gardens and homes of his neighbours, attends dramatic rehearsals with his dad Jonathan Miller and tries to watch the moon landing with Alan Bennett and a room full of writers. He also covers his time at Bedales in part three. Available to purchase here. Read recent interviews here and here.

Matthew Rice’s (1975-80) *Rice’s Language of Buildings* is an updated and larger format edition of *Rice’s Architectural Primer* (2009). This beautifully illustrated book covers the grammar and vocabulary of British buildings, explaining the evolution of styles. Its aim is to enable the reader to recognise, understand and date any British building. Complete with over 400 exquisite watercolour illustrations and hand-drawn annotations, this is a joyous celebration of British buildings and will allow you to observe and describe the world around you afresh. Available to purchase here. Matthew will also be talking at the upcoming Richmond Literature Festival (14 November) about another of his recent books, *Pat Albeck: Queen of the Tea Towel*. Matthew’s mother, designed over 300 tea towels for the National Trust. The book is a fascinating insight into her best loved designs. Tickets available here.

Richard Tomlinson (1966-76) has published a book about France’s most infamous serial killer Henri Désiré Landru. During his research, Richard consulted thousands of previously unseen case documents in the Paris police archives and another archive near Versailles, where Landru was tried and executed. In *Landru’s Secret: The Deadly Seductions of France’s Lonely Hearts Serial Killer*, Richard concludes that Landru murdered more women than the 10 fiancées who vanished between 1915 and 1919 at two country houses near Paris. A century after Landru’s arrest, the book also reveals the first convincing solution to a murder mystery with no bodies and no conclusive proof of how Landru disposed of his victims. Available to purchase here.
Brenda Tyler (née Lawrence, 1955-57) has edited and released a book about her uncle’s sea voyages. Godfrey Wicksteed (1913-17) joined the Merchant Navy in 1917 and after the war was employed as a seaman on the Bellands, one of the last British-built full-rigged sailing barques. Godfrey was at sea for the next four years and kept a diary. The entries he wrote every day give a vivid account of life at sea – the work, the officers, his shipmates, the livestock on board, the fish and sea creatures around the ship and the interesting ports and cargos. Brenda has illustrated the sea-diaries with maps, diagrams, photographs and sketches. The book also includes interviews with Godfrey when he was in his 90s. Hardback 200 pages, £18.99 (inc p&p). Please contact Brenda to purchase.