

Bedales Schools



Dear Old Bedalian,

The start of term has seen us joined by new Head, Magnus Bashaarat. We welcome him to Bedales and wish him every success in his new role. Block 3 students headed to Ullswater with their tutors and Badley Seniors (6.2 student mentors) for a fun-packed week, returning as a unified group ([see video](#)). We have also welcomed new additions to the Outdoor Work department, in the form of two Herdwick sheep. See [photo](#).

This year, as part of our student wellbeing sessions, we are keen to invite OBs and the wider Bedales Association community back, to speak about a whole range of different areas - topics such as gender, sexuality, mental health, the struggles/realities of the real world, life beyond education, moving to live somewhere new, etc. These are themes suggested by the students themselves but they would essentially love to hear from people who have a story to tell and a little life experience or wisdom to share. If you would be willing to visit us and talk to them, please [contact me](#).

Best wishes,

Leana

[The Chair Maker](#)

[Maybe 25](#)

[Drive](#)

[St Palo](#)

[The Chalet Edit](#)

[The Great South Run](#)

Hugo Burge (1985-90) has produced a short film, [The Chair Maker](#), about craftsman [Lawrence Neal](#) who makes the rush seated chairs in the Bedales Library. Lawrence has spent his whole life making chairs, in a 100 year tradition passed down from Ernest Gimson, who designed the library. The accumulated knowledge of this highly skilled process now resides with Lawrence alone. Hugo fell in love with the library and its chairs during his school days and first started his own collection in 1994. He is now a supporter of the Heritage Crafts Association and is helping Lawrence to pass his skills, knowledge and tools (many of which were originally owned by Gimson) on to a sixth generation. The beautiful film about the value and heritage of traditional crafts features footage of the library (06:50). Watch [here](#). We are hoping that

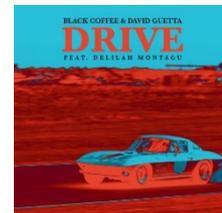


Hugo and Lawrence will visit Bedales this term to talk about their story. If you would like to find out more details (when confirmed), please [contact me](#).

Minke, also known as **Leah Mason (2002-09)** has released her third single, *Maybe 25*. Reviewed by [Earmilk](#) as an 'indie-pop sensation' Minke is 'supported by the likes of Zane Lowe and Spotify and is on the fast track to becoming one of the most exciting indie artists of 2018'. On what inspired her to write the song, Leah explains: 'it was originally my fleeting past experiences with online dating. As I started to write, it became less and less about that and more a general observation on connection. We've never been more connected but disconnected at the same time. It's made us more insular, less open to having a conversation with a stranger and maintaining eye contact for more than a second without looking at your phone. So it's about longing for something more than that, whatever that is. Something real in a seemingly disposable world.' Watch the [video](#).



In May, singer-songwriter **Delilah Montagu (2009-16)** made her professional debut in the Bedales Theatre. She is now featuring on a track from South African house producer Black Coffee and French producer David Guetta, entitled *Drive*. The song has been reviewed by [Billboard](#) as 'cool and sensual, dark and melodic. It's full of mystery and longing, made even more magical by Montagu's hauntingly beautiful performance and a wide array of textural percussion. All three artists' signatures shine through in a beautiful blend of sound. We could really get behind more vibes like this on the dance floor.' Listen [here](#). Delilah will be playing at [St Stephen's Church](#) in Shepherd's Bush, London on Thursday 17 January, 7.30pm. Tickets available [here](#).



Camila Sadler (1997-2007) has launched her new business, [St Palo](#). The St Palo Necklace carries self-diffusing essential oil blends and is a new way to experience the benefits of aromatherapy. Following the sudden death of her mother in 2015, Camila discovered the use of aromatherapy through a book found amongst her Argentine mother's possessions and soon began to implement the art of this holistic therapy. Benefitting greatly through the use of aromatherapy, Camila wanted to both share and continue this therapeutic practice - prompting her design of St Palo Necklace. Whilst working full time in other jobs, Camila spent over three years developing the cleverly crafted silver-plated pendant which unscrews to carry a self-diffusing vial containing one of seven available organic aromatherapy blends. [Find out more](#).



Anna Sampson (1995-2000) is the founder of [The Chalet Edit](#), a specialist ski chalet and travel concierge company which launched last month ahead of the 2018-19 season. The Chalet Edit aims to remove the stress and hassle in finding and booking a luxury ski chalet and create exceptional, tailor-made holidays to Europe's leading ski resorts. Anna offers a carefully edited portfolio of hand-picked chalets and a complimentary concierge service to take care of all the little details from ski school bookings to mountain restaurant reservations, ski experiences and more. Anna is a mountain enthusiast with over 15 years' experience in the industry. She wants to bridge a gap at the top-end of the market and create an independent, trusted authority on the best ski chalets, whilst offering a personal touch. Find out more [here](#).



The Great South Run is almost upon us, and Bedales runners are in training for the 10 mile race in Portsmouth on 21 October. **George Vaughan-Barratt (2008-12)** and **Albie Waterton (2012-14)** will be representing OBs. The group, also made up of staff, students and parents, is expected to be led from the front by teacher **Greg Clarke** following last year's impressive time of 1h06. Two educational causes will benefit - **Cecily's Fund** was established to continue the work started by **Cecily Eastwood (1991-96)** supporting Zambian children orphaned by AIDS; **the John Badley Foundation** provides full bursaries for pupils who could benefit greatly from a Dunhurst and Bedales education. The team is very grateful for the support of **The Country House Company** and **Pledgit**, founded by **Billy Jenks (2002-07)** and father Philip. Donations would be much appreciated and there's also still time to join the running team. More information [here](#).



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