



## The Bedford Society

We start the 2019/20 academic year by welcoming our three new Bedford Society Scholars, Aliyah, Hayley and Emily and you can read more about them below.

In 2020 the Department of Geography is marking its centenary and we hope many Bedfordians will join in with the celebrations of a department that was a very important part of Bedford College. We would love to hear from any Geography alumni who would be interested in arranging a reunion to mark the occasion - please contact the [Alumni Relations Team](#) if you are keen to help.

Many of you, but perhaps particularly historians, will want to read about two forthcoming books honouring Professor Caroline Barron and the late Professor Hugh Lawrence. The book for Professor Barron, celebrating her long career, is due to appear in November and those interested in purchasing it will want to take special note of the [online order form](#) and of the September deadline - further details are below.

Finally, in the coming weeks, look out for more information about this year's Big Give Challenge, the matched funding initiative which can see your donation to the Bedford Society Scholarship Fund doubled - every penny can help and we hope you will consider supporting the campaign.

I hope you might be able to find time to read through the newsletter. There is much of interest here. If you have any comments, or would like additional information, the Alumni Office will be pleased to hear from you.

With best wishes

Dr Claire Gobbi Daunton  
Bedford Society Chair

## NEWS



## Welcoming our new Bedford Society Scholars

We are delighted to announce that Aliyah (MSc Forensic Psychology), Hayley (MA Crusader Studies) and Emily (MSc Quaternary Science) have been awarded Bedford Society Scholarships in 2019/20 thanks to the valued support of many Bedford College alumni and former staff.

Hayley told us: "In no uncertain terms, receiving the Bedford Society Scholarship has been life-changing, making the once seemingly distant possibility of studying at postgraduate level a reality. Without the scholarship, the financial barriers to completing a Master's degree would surely have prevented me from accepting my offer to study the MA Crusader Studies and by consequence, precluded the pursuit of doctoral studies in the future."

We look forward to telling you more about our 2019/20 scholars in the next newsletter, and welcoming them to upcoming Bedford Society events.



## Celebrating our past, present and future

Honorary Fellow and Chair of the Bedford Society, Dr Claire Gobbi Daunton, shares the highlights from the Society's eventful and successful year, including raising £35,000 for the Bedford Society Scholarship Fund.

[Read more >](#)

[Discover more about the impact of support made possible by donors and volunteers in the Year End Review 2018/19 >](#)



## Bedford Sciences alumni reunite

In June, more than 60 alumni from a breadth of science subjects spent a stimulating afternoon meeting new people, renewing old acquaintances and sharing memories of absent friends during the Bedford Sciences Reunion at 11 Bedford Square.

[Read more >](#)

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## Survival Statistics MOOC: Secrets for Demystifying Numbers

This free massive open online course (MOOC), starting on 16 September, has been developed thanks to the support of the Bedford Society and is suitable for anybody and everybody who is curious about the world and does not want to be bamboozled by slippery statistics!

[Read more and register now >](#)



## 11 Bedford Square - an historic London base

The College's Central London base is an eighteenth century building in the same square where Bedford College was founded in 1849. The Bedford Room, a common room available for all alumni to use (pictured), is a valuable space for the Bedford Society, allowing us to host meetings and events - you can read more about recent enjoyable gatherings in this newsletter.

[Visit the Bedford Room >](#)



## Kew Palace: 100 years of Royal Summers

The Bedford Society recently enjoyed an illustrated talk on Kew Palace during the 18th century by Bedford alumna, Susanne Groom (BA French 1969), the recently retired Curator of Historic Royal Palaces. A few weeks after the event, Susanne kindly hosted a visit and tour of Kew Palace for the attendees.

[Read more and view photos >](#)



## The Bedford Centre blog

Explore the latest news and events from the Bedford Centre, supporting research into the history of women and gender. Registration is now open for their interdisciplinary conference on *Gender, Religion and Power* in September which will analyse the historical links between the three subject areas.

[Find out more >](#)

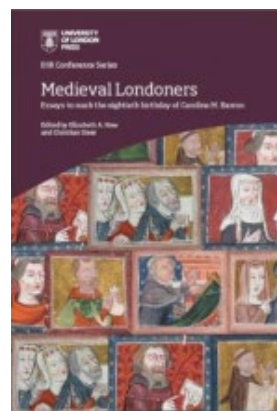
## Books for Historians

### ***Medieval Londoners: essays to mark the 80th birthday of Professor Caroline Barron OBE***

*Medieval Londoners* brings together archaeologists, historians, art-historians and literary scholars whose essays provide glimpses of medieval Londoners in all their variety. This volume, to be published in November, is offered to Caroline Barron, Emeritus Professor at the

College, former Bedford College staff and Bedford Society Committee member, on the occasion of her 80th birthday as a tribute to her scholarship and her friendship and encouragement to others.

**Purchasing via the link below guarantees you will receive a discounted copy of the book on its release and will be included in Caroline's Tabula Gratulatoria (deadline for inclusion is 20 September 2019). [Read more and purchase >](#)**



### **Collected essays of Professor Hugh Lawrence**

Professor Hugh Lawrence, who died in 2018, was a member of the Bedford College History Department from 1951 until his retirement in 1987. He was the Head of the Department during the merger with Royal Holloway and ensured that the relations between the two departments were both harmonious and constructive. Hugh was a scholar of the medieval Church and especially of the intellectual life of the Church in England in the thirteenth century. A volume of his collected essays will be published in 2020 and will include an essay by Hugh's daughter Clare on 'Hugh's War' based on a short diary kept by Hugh in the spring of 1945 when he was fighting in Burma.

**If you would like to know more about this publication, please contact either [Claire Daunton](#) or [Caroline Barron](#).**

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### **Queen's Birthday Honours 2019**

Many congratulations to three Bedford College alumni and former staff who have all been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2019 for their outstanding achievements.

Professor Caroline Barron, Bedford Society Committee member, Honorary Fellow and Emeritus Professor at the university has been awarded an OBE for her services to education. Dr Anne Kemp, (BSc Geography 1984) Chair at the UK BIM Alliance, has been awarded an OBE for her services to Digital Construction Innovation. Molly Poulter (BA History 1955) has been awarded a BEM for her services to the community in Maidstone, Kent.

We look forward to updating you further when their investitures have taken place.

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### **Celebration of the life of Patricia Brown**

Bedford College alumni and former staff are invited to a celebration of the life of Patricia Brown, former Bedford College Governor and Honorary Fellow, who died in April. The event will be held at St Michael and All Angels Church Hall, Blackheath Park, London SE3 9JL on Friday 20 September from 2-4pm - there will be light refreshments. If you plan to attend, please contact the [Alumni Relations Team](#), who can let Patricia's family know who to expect.

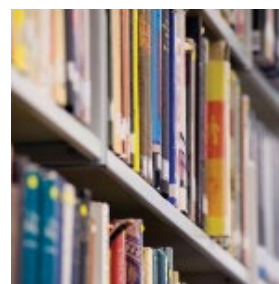
## **BEDFORD SOCIETY EVENTS**

### **Bedford Authors' Evening**

**Tuesday 8 October 2019, 5.30-8.30pm at 11 Bedford Square**

**Tickets: £10**

We are looking forward to welcoming Bedford writers (and would-be writers) to this event. Some fifteen of you have already been in touch and we shall have some group discussions guided by Professor Robert Hampson from the RHBNC Creative Writing course and Lucy Hughes-Hallett (Bedford College BA English 1973). Many different kinds of writing will be discussed including, poetry, fiction, war memoirs, autobiography, children's books, thrillers and school histories. Whether you are a published author or an aspiring one, please join us in this evening of exploration over a glass of wine and some nibbles. If you have questions or ideas, please contact [Caroline Barron](#).



**Numbers are limited so please book your place in advance >**

## COLLEGE EVENTS AND OTHERS OF INTEREST

**A full list of the College's autumn events is available [online](#). A few are highlighted below, along with others that may be of interest.**

### **Heritage Open Day**

**Sunday 15 September 2019, 11am-5pm, Egham campus**

Explore the College's spectacular grade I listed Founder's Building, Picture Gallery, Chapel and extensive grounds at this year's Heritage Open Day. A series of ticketed tours of campus, the archives and Virginia Park (the former Holloway Sanatorium) will also be available.

**[Read more >](#)**

If you are planning to attend the Heritage Open Day, you are welcome to join us for an alumni reception in the Herringham Room in Founder's Building between 10am and 12pm. This newly refurbished space was named in recognition of Christiana Herringham, whose family built a close connection with Bedford College.



**Please email [rsvp@rhbc.ac.uk](mailto:rsvp@rhbc.ac.uk) to register your place.**

### **Theatres of Revolution: The Stuart Kings and the Architecture of Disruption**

**Lecture series, starting 18 September, Museum of London**

Bedford alumnus and Honorary Fellow, Dr Simon Thurley CBE (BA History 1985), is giving a free public lecture series for Gresham College. These lectures explore key moments in 17th century history through the lens of the architectural expedients the Stuart monarchs adopted to rule. Simon is a leading architectural historian, a regular broadcaster and was, for thirteen years, Chief Executive of English Heritage, the Government's principal advisor on the historic environment in England.

### **The Architecture of Bedford Square**

**Monday 24 September, 6.30pm at 11 Bedford Square**

Members of the Bedford Society are invited to a talk by historian Andrew Byrne about the Architecture of Bedford Square. If you would like to come to the talk (which follows the AGM of the London Record Society) please email [londonrecordsoc@btinternet.com](mailto:londonrecordsoc@btinternet.com).

## **St Cecilia's concert and reception**

**Saturday 23 November, 6-7.30pm, Egham campus**

Join us for this popular annual event in celebration of the patron saint of music. The choir will perform a varied programme of music at the concert, followed by a reception in the Picture Gallery.

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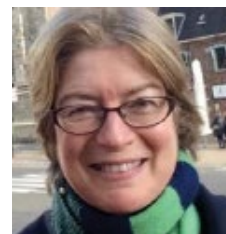
## **Political geographies: From women's geographical work to geographies of diversity, inclusion and citizenship**

**Gordon Manley Lecture**

**Monday 10 February, 6.15pm in the Moore Building Auditorium, Egham campus**

In this lecture Professor Avril Maddrell, from the University of Reading, will give an overview of women's contributions to geographical study, including pioneering female geographers working at Bedford College. She will highlight challenges that women often faced in pursuing their careers in the discipline, the moves to a more inclusive and welcoming subject for women, as well as reflecting on the current debates around diversity within geography.

Save the date - booking information will be available soon.



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