



The Bedford Society

Over the past few weeks College has been welcoming students back to campus for the start of a new term and a return to face-to-face teaching. This year I understand there will also continue to be some online teaching where I understand that it has worked particularly well.

I think you'll be pleased to know that the new Bedford Society Scholars for 2021/22 are Rosa (MRes Classical Reception), Charlie (MSc Quaternary Science), Swathi (MSc Forensic Psychology). It's very pleasing also that there is now the new Bedford Access Scholar Bethany (MA Creative Writing). We, as Bedford alumni, continue to help make these scholarships possible and thus keep the spirit of Bedford College alive.

We know as well that, with the challenges of the pandemic, current and prospective students will need as much encouragement and support as we are able to provide. Once again this year the College is taking part in the **Big Give Christmas Challenge** to raise funds to support the next generation of students. Any gifts made online in support of Bedford Society Scholarships between 12pm on 30 November and 12pm on 7 December will be matched, doubling the contribution, so it is an excellent opportunity to make even more of a difference. Last year, £40,000 was raised for Bedford Society scholarships during the challenge. If you are in a position to **pledge your support** this year, I know the College would be most grateful.

During the course of this academic year, we hope to resume some of our in-person Bedford Society events in Bedford Square. We'll also continue to complement these with online events for those unable to join in person. **Please visit the College's website for details.** Those based in or near London may also wish to join a group of Bedford Alumni who have been arranging more *ad hoc* gatherings and meeting up to visit places, or just enjoy the company of fellow Bedfordians. You can find out more in Betty Hales' write up below.

I do hope to see many of you in person, where possible, over the course of the next academic year.

Very best wishes

Dr Claire Gobbi Daunton

History 1974

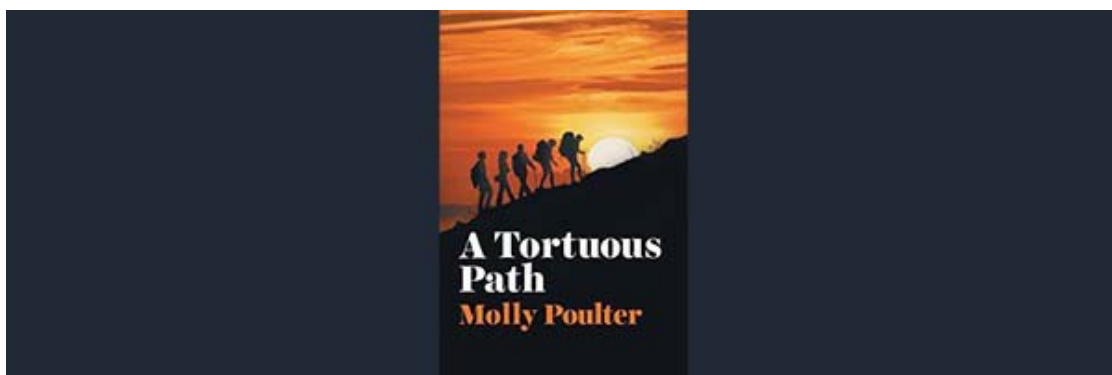
Bedford Society Chair

Year End Review

The College's Year End Review celebrates the initiatives and projects which have been

made possible, thanks to you, our donors and supporters. Read more on how you have made the difference by giving to the College, financially, or by volunteering your time and expertise.

[Read the review online.](#)



Bedford alumna has first novel published

Molly Poulter (History 1952-1955), has had her first novel, **[A Tortuous Path](#)** published recently. Molly participated in the Bedford Alumni Writer's Evening. We caught up with her to find out more about her novel, and her time at Bedford College.

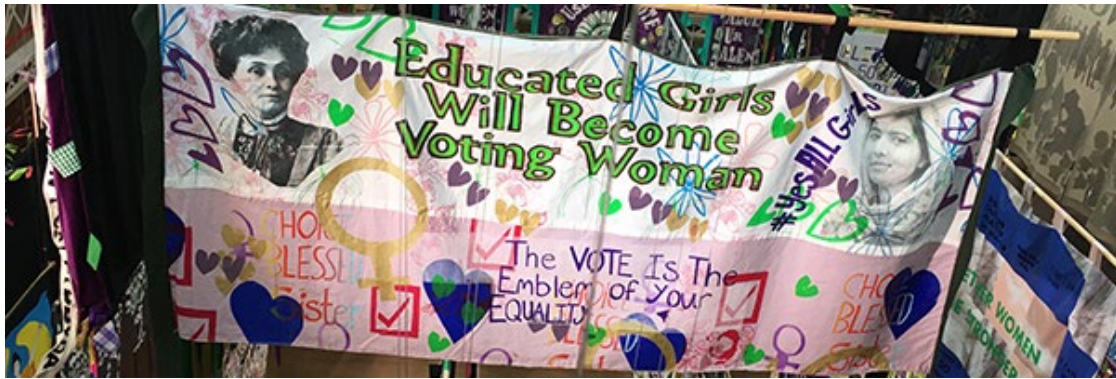
[Find out more.](#)



2020/21 Honorary awards

Each year the College bestows honorary awards in recognition of outstanding contributions to the life and work of the university, or to the wider cause of education. This year, awardees included Bedford College graduates Prof Jackie Hunter CBE, Margaret Busby CBE, Amanda Mackenzie OBE and Dr Rupert Whitaker.

[You can find a full list of this year's recipients online.](#)



Bedford Society WhatsApp Group

In February 2020 a group of Bedford Alumni who live or work in London decided to form an informal group with the plan of meeting up regularly. A WhatsApp group has been formed so the group can keep in touch more easily and a number of meet ups have been possible between lockdowns, including a visit to the 'Women's Solidarity Banners' exhibition.

If you would like to join the group you can find out more online.

Memories of Bedford College

In the last newsletter, we asked readers to share their memories of studying at Bedford College. Thank you to those who submitted the following contributions - we hope you enjoy reading them. If you would like to submit a piece for future newsletters, please email alumni@rhbnc.ac.uk with your contribution.



Jonathan Sant (Mathematics 1984) **"Hot chocolate galore"**

One evening in the main television room at Hanover Lodge it was very apparent that everyone was drinking hot drinks, because there were cups everywhere and more drinks than students. It turned out that the vending machine by the stairs just beyond the television room was giving out free hot drinks; we all took advantage of its generosity. The scene resembled a low-budget version of "Whisky Galore!" [Read more](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

The College's programme of events, lectures and concerts are currently online and in person this term.

Please visit rhbnc.ac.uk/events for more upcoming events.

Incase you missed it - Heritage Open Days.

We are delighted to have participated in this year's virtual Heritage Open Days, which is England's largest festival of history and culture. Our curator, [Dr Laura MacCulloch](#), presents a series of short documentaries celebrating our heritage, community and history. [Watch the Heritage Open Day videos.](#)

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