

WHAT'S ON

PARTICIPANTS WANTED
 A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE PART IN A ROMAN ONDAK PERFORMANCE
MONDAY 7 MARCH, 6 - 7PM

For details of the performance by renowned contemporary artist Roman Ondak, and to secure your place, simply complete the registration form available to download from www.modernartoxford.org.uk or Tel. 01865 722733.

MODERN ART OXFORD
 30 PEMBROKE STREET, OXFORD OX1 1BP
WWW.MODERNARTOXFORD.ORG.UK

Oxford Music Network
Friday 4 March, Sheldonian Theatre, 7.30pm
MUSIC AT OXFORD
John Williams - guitar
 Tickets from £10
www.musicatoxford.com
 Booking: 01865 244806

Sunday 6 March, North Wall Arts Centre, 7.30pm
OXFORD CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
Ralph Towner & Paolo Fresu
 An untouchable duo playing with effortless brilliance
 Tickets £14 (£10 concessions)
www.ocmevents.org
 Booking: 01865 319450

Celia Green
COFFEE MEETINGS
 Tuesdays, 4.30pm; cgoxfordforum@gmail.com
www.celiagreen.com

GIGS
Tue 1st
HIPBONE SLIM AND THE KNEETREMBLERS / Live rockability + Djs Cont Skyline & Leo Bedford / 10pm. £7 / O2 Academy, 190 Cowley Rd / 0844 477 2000
BARE YOUR BONES / Acoustic and semi-acoustic bands / 8pm. Free / Cafe Tarifa, 56-60 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1JH / 01865 256091
ART BRUT / 8pm. £8 / The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton St, OX2 6AZ / 311775
TROPY WIFE, PET MOON / 7pm. £6 / The Cellar, Frewin Court, off Cornmarket St. / 244761 / 07769 690177
MAISON D'ETRE OPEN MIC / Get to know your open-mic-ers. / Free, 8.30pm / The Masons Arms (Headington Quarry), 2 Quarry School Place, Headington
GLAMOUR OF THE KILL, SHADOWS CHASING GHOSTS, K-LACURA / Metal / 7pm. £7 / O2 Academy, 190 Cowley Rd, OX4 1UE / 0844 477 2000

Wed 2nd
FICTION, BEATY HEART, GUNNING FOR TAMAR / Plus resident Blue Flowers Djs / 7pm. £6 / The Cellar, Frewin Court, off Cornmarket St. / 07769 690177
PHAT SESSIONS PRESENTS THE OXFORD JAM SESSION / 10pm-3am. £5, £3 (musicians) / The Cellar, Frewin Court, off Cornmarket St. / 07769 690177
OPEN MIC WORKSHOP / 8pm. Free / 542568 / Folly Bridge Inn, 38 Abingdon Rd
BLUES WEDNESDAY / Live classic and contemporary blues with Tony Bates & Friends / 9pm. Free / Cricketers Arms, 43 Ifley Rd, (corner of Circus St) / 429691

GINEMA to Fri 4 Mar
Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)
TRUE GRIT [15] Wed: 6.30, 9.00, 11.35pm
 Coen brothers remake of the John Wayne classic.
YOGI BEAR [2D] [U] Tue: 7.30, 9.30, 11.35pm
 CGI Yogi and Boo-Boo.
BIG MOMMIES: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON [PG] Tue - Thu: 12.10, 2.20, 4.20pm
 The FBI meet the Trinans. Subt. Sun: 1.10, 3.10, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10, 11.10pm
PAUL [15] Tue: 1.10, 3.10, 6.10, 8.30pm; Wed: 1.10, 3.10, 6.10, 8.30, 11.00pm
 Road trip with Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Karl Pilkington.
GNOMEO AND JULIET [3D] [U] Tue - Thu: 11.50am, 1.50, 3.50pm
 Flirting and feuds around the fishpond, in animated adventure.
DRIVE ANGRY (3D) [18] Tue, Thu: 9.20pm; Wed: 9.20, 11.40pm
 Quirky literary father from hell.
THE KING'S SPEECH [12A] Tue - Thu: 6.20, 8.20, 10.20pm; Wed: 6.20, 8.20, 10.20pm
 Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter and Geoffrey Rush in story of King George VI.
GNOMEO AND JULIET [3D] [U] Tue - Thu: 12.20, 2.20, 4.20pm
 Flirting and feuds around the fishpond, in animated adventure.
THE FIGHTER [15] Tue - Thu: 6.50pm
 Biographical sports film about the life of professional boxer "Irish" Mickey Ward.
TEEN SCREENING: LITTLE FOCKERS [12A] Tue - Thu: 6.20pm
 Tastesless fun, with the next generation taking charge. Teen screening.
BLACK SWAN [15] Wed: 9.30, 11.50pm
 When Helenio returns to ballet, Natalie Portman as disturbed dancer.
TANGLED [2D] [PG] Tue - Thu: 1.40, 4.00pm
 Disney Pixar retooling of Rapunzel.
THE RITE [15] Wed: 6.00, 8.40, 11.20pm
 American priest travels to Italy to study exorcism.
I AM NUMBER FOUR [12A] Tue, Thu: 12.50, 3.20, 5.50, 8.20pm
 New kid in school pursued by aliens.
NO STRINGS ATTACHED [15] Tue, Thu: 12.30, 3.00, 5.30, 8.10, 10.40pm
 When Helenio returns to ballet, Natalie Portman as disturbed dancer.
WEST IS WEST [15] Wed: 1.00, 3.10, 5.40, 8.00, 10.30pm
 A father escapes from hell to avenge his family.

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007)
TANGLED (3D) [PG] Tue - Thu: 1.45pm
 Disney Pixar retooling of Rapunzel.
SENIOR SCREEN: ANOTHER YEAR [12A] Tue: 10.45am
 Odeon Senior Screen. Bittersweet comedy from the director of Vera Drake
NO STRINGS ATTACHED [15] Tue - Thu: 3.00, 6.00, 9.00pm
 Romantic with Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher
NEVER LET ME GO [12A] daily: 6.15pm
 Sinister romance in seemingly idyllic English dystopia.
TRUE GRIT [15] daily: 3.15, 5.45, 8.30pm
 Coen brothers remake of John Wayne classic. Subt. Fri: 5.45pm, Sun: 5.30pm, Wed: 5.15pm
THE KING'S SPEECH [12A] daily: 3.30, 6.30, 9.15pm
 Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter and Geoffrey Rush in story of King George VI.
I AM NUMBER FOUR [12A] Mon - Thu: 2.45, 5.30, 8.15pm
 New kid in high school is pursued by enemy aliens.
GNOMEO AND JULIET (3D) [U] Tue - Thu: 4.15pm
 Flirting and feuds around the fishpond, in animated adventure.
BLACK SWAN [15] daily: 8.45pm
 When Helenio returns to ballet, Natalie Portman as disturbed dancer.
DRIVE ANGRY (3D) [18] Tue - Thu: 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30pm
 A father escapes from hell to avenge his family.

Odeon Magdalen St (0871 2244 007)
JUST GO WITH IT [12A] daily: 5.45pm
 Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston team up to get him the girl of his dreams.
BIG MOMMIES: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON [PG] Fri: 3.00pm
 FBI agent and stepson go undercover at girls' boarding school.
THE FIGHTER [15] daily: 8.30pm
 Mark Wahlberg & Christian Bale in biography of boxer "Irish" Mickey Ward.
PAUL [15] Tue - Thu: 3.30, 6.15, 9pm
 British comic geeks take a road trip with escapee alien. Subt. Mon: 6.15pm, Wed: 3.30pm

Phoenix Picturehouse (0871 9025736)
HOWL [15] Tue - Thu: 4.00, 9.00pm
 Biopic of beat poet Allen Ginsberg.
ANIMAL KINGDOM [15] Tue, Thu: 1.00, 3.30, 6.15, 8.45pm
 Award-winning Australian true crime.
INSIDE JOB [12A] Fri, Sun - Thu: 1.30, 6.30pm; Sat: 1.30, 8.45pm
 Inside story of how the global financial crisis came about.
BIG SCREAM: HOWL [15] Wed: 11.30am
 Biopic of beat poet Allen Ginsberg. Exclusive screening for parents of babies under 1.
North Wall Arts Centre (319450)
FROM THE RED TO THE SILVER Tue: 6pm. Free, ticketed event. Donations welcome.
 A stunning, evocative film that describes a woman's journey through the menopause.
Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)
BRIGHTON ROCK [15] daily: 6.45pm
 Graham Greene's novel updated to the 1960s.
THE FIGHTER [15] Tue - Thu: 9.00pm; Wed & Sat: 6.45pm
 Biography of the professional boxer "Irish" Mickey Ward.
BITUTFUL [15] Wed: 9.00pm
 Man struggles against Barcelona's criminal underworld.

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International Language Schools
RESIDENCE COORDINATOR
LIVE IN POSITION
 Join our busy accommodation office and take on responsibility for smooth running of residential accommodation for foreign students on the campus.
Duties will include:
 • Allocation of bookings on database
 • Confirmation of accommodation to sales offices
 • Monitoring residence occupancy rates and arranging promotions where required
 • Liaising with cleaning, catering & security services
 • Overseeing work of weekend staff
 • Handling payment & refunds of deposits
 • Dealing with student queries, complaints & issues related to conduct
 • Negotiating arrangements & setting up temporary summer residences
 This is a very busy, varied role requiring someone who enjoys a challenging position & multi-tasking role. We are looking for a full-time team member to be in place by the start of April, preferably living in campus accommodation.
 Applications no later than 11 March 2011 with CV and covering letter to: rob.abbotts@ef.com

JOIN US UNDER THE BRIDGE OF SIGHS
8th March 2011: 100th International Women's Day
 Meet at noon on Tuesday for music, inspirational stories & a fund-raising raffle draw. For raffle tickets, email ciar.mandrew@herford.ox.ac.uk
<http://groups.gps.com/WomenforWomenOxford/>

MEETINGS & LECTURES
Tue 1st
SUPPORT GROUP / Support group for female survivors of sexual abuse and/or rape. / Free. 6.30 - 8.00pm. / groups@osarc.org.uk / oxfordrapcrisis.net / Oxford City: contact for details.
QURAN STUDY SEMINAR CLASSES / 7pm. Study materials, Quran translations and refreshments provided. Muslims and non-Muslims welcome. / mosque.oxford@me.co.uk / 766032 / St Edward's School, Woodstock Rd
THE CONCEPT SHOW / Fashion's equivalent of an atomic bomb creates the platform for the outrageous and unbelievable fashion creations of this show. / Oxford Fashion Week 2011 / 8pm - midnight, £10 - £75 - see website for more info and to book / oxfordfashionweek.com / The Regal, 300 Cowley Rd / 241261
BABY CAFE DROP-IN / Breastfeeding support drop-in for mums and mums-to-be / 12.30 - 2.30pm, free / Rose Hill & Littlemore Children's Centre, The Oval
COMICS AND COMIC BOOKS MEETING / Meet people who are into reading, creating and discussing comics. / 9pm, free. / Magdalen Arms, 245 Ifley Rd
PLANNING MEETING / All welcome. / Campaign to Close Campfields / 7.30pm / free / closecampfields.org.uk / Town Hall, St Aldate's, OX1 1DP / 252195
FREE MENTORING SERVICE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES / A talk by Mike Jennings from TBAAC / 7.30pm, £3 / www.business-network.co.uk/services / 07951 263191 / 76 Kingfisher Green, Greater Leys OX4 6SN
RADIO MANUFACTURING IN THE TWENTY YEARS / Lecture by Professor Peter Scott (University of Reading) / Douglas Byrne Marconi Lecture / 5.30pm, free / mhs.ox.ac.uk / 277280 / Exeter College (Saskatchewan Row), Turf St
ASTRONOMY / Observing Evening in Uffington (8.30pm). Clear evenings only / First visit fee / abingdonastro.org.uk / 725094 / 07817 687627 for details
BOOK GROUP / Discuss things literary with other readers at this monthly session for adults / 7-8.30pm. £2 a session / comerstone-arts.org / 01235 551444 / Cornerstone Arts Centre, 25 Station Road, Didcot
MAKING SENSE OF NUMBERS / Workshop with fun interactive online tools to understand numbers. / 6.30pm, free / scienceoxfordlive.org / 810000 / Science Oxford Live, 1-5 London Place, St Clements
CYCLE SAFE / Calling all cyclists: have a go in a tory cab and help increase road safety by promoting understanding of the different perspectives of drivers and cyclists. / 8am-9pm, free / Radcliffe Square
AV REFERENDUM Q&A / Come along and find out more about 'Why Vote Yes?', or volunteer in our phonebank / 12-9pm, free / yestofarivotes.org / 07557035563 / Cowley Road Methodist Church Centre, Cowley Rd / 735569
MAKING SENSE OF THE LIVE IN MUSIC BUSINESS / Seminar with Professor Simon Frith / 5.30pm, free / Music Faculty, St. Aldate's / 276125
CUTS & WOMEN'S WELLBEING / Explore how to build resistance to the cuts. Led by Oxford and District TUC. / International Women's Festival / 6.30pm - 9pm (Free) / oxfordwomen.co.uk / Ruskin College, Walton St / 554331
KNIT, CROCHET, SEW...CHAT / Bring along anything you're working on for a chat / 8pm, free / G & D's (George and Della), 104 Cowley Rd / 727111
ENGLISH CONVERSATION PRACTICE / meetup.com/Learn-English-in-Oxford/events/16068381 / 8pm. £1 / The Cape of Good Hope, 1 Ifley Rd

Wed 2nd
MEAT AND DAIRY CONSUMPTION / What would be optimal for both health and the environment? / Dr Mike Rayner / OU Scientific Society / 5pm, free / Queen Elizabeth House, Seminar Room 2
TALK: IS FASHION BAD FOR SOCIETY? / Drinks reception and relaxed, informal discussion focussing on body image and the impact of the fashion industry - as part of Oxford Fashion Week 2011 / 5-6pm, free (although places are limited) / osjaggy.co.uk / O3G Gallery, Oxford Castle, OX1 1AY / 246311
MALMSON LINGERIE SHOW / Celebration of the woman, through theatrical, glamorous and exciting design. Two champagne and caviar receptions! Dress code: black tie. / 7-10pm, £25-£30 - see website for more info and to book / Malmson, 3 Oxford Castle, Castle St / 268400
GLADYS DEACON, ATAK / Hugo / Wickers speaks about the life of the 2nd wife of the 9th Earl of Marlborough. / 12.45pm, in the Orangery. £35 pp including lunch / To book please call 01993 813874 / Blenheim Palace
ATHEISM IN PUBLIC LIFE - PAST & PRESENT / by Dr Aki Vaisala and Dr David Leech / Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life / 5.15 for 5.30pm. All welcome / kellogg.ox.ac.uk / 612015 / Kellogg College, 62 Banbury Rd
ASTRONOMY / An Observing Evening in Uffington (8.30pm start). Clear evenings only / abingdonastro.org.uk / 725094 / Phone 07817 687627 for details
KIDLINGTON TAKING CONTROL / What Bletchley has done to reduce energy in buildings; learn about renewables. / Kidlington by Climate Change / 7.15-9pm. £2 donation. climate.org.uk/kidlington / Baptist Church Hall, Kidlington
PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS EVENING / IVC Social Events Club / 8.15pm / oxfordshireivc.org.uk / 516239 / Oxford Spire Four Pillars Hotel, Abingdon Rd
OCEAN FORGING OF ICE SHEET IN WEST ANTARCTICA / Adrian Jenkins - expeditions to observe ice shelves and oceans of West Antarctica / 8.15pm, £2 non-members. / Inorganic Chemistry Building, South Parks Rd
ASK A GENETICIST / Have all your questions answered about genes, DNA & inheritance. / 7.30pm, £5 / Science Oxford Live, 1-5 London Place, St Clements
CHILDREN IN ADVERSITY: SURPRISING FINDINGS / Dr Jo Boyden / 7.30pm, £1 inc tea & cake / smi-oxford.org.uk / St Margaret's Institute, Poistead Rd
AFTER MUBARAK: MIDDLE EASTERN ENERGY SUPPLIES / Bassam Fattouh and Hakim Barhouk / OIES & St Antony's College / 5pm. / sant.ox.ac.uk/centres/geopolitics.html / St Antony's College, Woodstock Rd / 284700
AV REFERENDUM Q&A / Find out more about 'Why Vote Yes?', or volunteer in our phonebank / 12-9pm, free / yestofarivotes.org / 07557035563 / Cowley Rd Methodist Church Centre, Cowley Rd
EAST END POETS YIDDISH / ENGLISH / Life + Works Avrom Stencel, intro Ray Keeney poets/translators Watts and Burialah / 6.45-8pm, £4/£2 / 07951 614937 / Albion Beattik Bookstore, 34 Walton St

Theatre to Sat 5 Mar
Burton Taylor Studio (305305)
TO HOLD AN APPLE Tue 1st, Thu 3rd, Sat 5th: 7.30pm
 Rainer Maria Rilke & Paul Celan take up actor's crisis under the guise of theatre. £6/5
BACK TO BACK Tue 1st, Thu 3rd, Sat 5th: 9.30pm
 What would you do if your lover got a tattoo... of everything she hates about you? £6/5
FAULTLINES Wed 2nd, Fri 4th: 7.30pm; Sat 5th: 2.30pm
 Five sisters find themselves standing at the water's edge as the waves of their past gather before them. £6/5
LEMONWORLD Wed 2nd, Fri 4th: 9.30pm; Sat 5th: 4.30pm
 When Max decides to write a play, his brother is filled with terrifying questions. £6/5

Pegasus Theatre (812150)
KITH / KIN Sat 5th: 8pm
 Dance about the company's 2 male dancers. £10, £8 (concl), £6 (U18), £5 (project meet)

Oxford Playhouse (305305)
AFTER TROY Wed 2nd: 7.30pm; Thu 3rd: 2.30pm, 7.30pm; Fri 4th: 8pm
 Song and sarcasm in the ruins of Troy. £11.50 - £24.50
SAT 5TH: 2.30pm, 7.30pm
LIVE CANON: ON TROY Fri 4th: 9pm
 3000 yrs of poems about the Trojan War selected by Prof David Taplin + live music. £11.6

New Theatre (0844 8471585)
THE NAKED TRUTH Tue 1st: 7.30pm
 Hit comedy from Dave Simons, tailor-made for women. £21.25-£23.25

North Wall Arts Centre (319450)
ORPHEUS Thu 3rd: 8pm
 Greek myths as told by Daniel Morden and cellist Sarah Moody. £12/10
Blackwells Bookshop (792792)
DOCTOR FAUSTUS Mon 28th - Sat 5th: 7.45pm
 A scholar is preparing to offer the devil his soul in exchange for absolute power. £8-£31
St John's College Auditorium
AFTER THE DANCE Wed 2nd & Thu 3rd: 7.30pm
 Student production of Terence Rattigan's witty and devastating masterpiece. £6/5
Worcester College (278300)
ACCESSORY TO MURDER Tue 1st & Wed 2nd: 7.30pm
 A night filled with murder, cruelty and lipstick, in the JCR. New writing. £5/4
CHEKHOV'S BABY Tue 1st - Sat 5th: 7.30pm
 Comedy: appalling actor tries to win the role he believes is rightfully his. £7/5.50

JOBS

International Language Schools
RESIDENCE COORDINATOR
LIVE IN POSITION
 Join our busy accommodation office and take on responsibility for smooth running of residential accommodation for foreign students on the campus.
Duties will include:
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 • Confirmation of accommodation to sales offices
 • Monitoring residence occupancy rates and arranging promotions where required
 • Liaising with cleaning, catering & security services
 • Overseeing work of weekend staff
 • Handling payment & refunds of deposits
 • Dealing with student queries, complaints & issues related to conduct
 • Negotiating arrangements & setting up temporary summer residences
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 Applications no later than 11 March 2011 with CV and covering letter to: rob.abbotts@ef.com

gfk
Allocation Executive
 We have a position available in our friendly, client focused team. We work on an exciting continuous survey measuring accessibility and customer service on modes of public transport.
 You will be responsible for allocating specific journeys to a panel of assessors with a range of impairments; ensuring they have all the materials they need to complete their job, monitoring fieldwork, checking questionnaires when they are returned and working with the account team to deliver high quality data to our client.
You must:
 • Be able to communicate effectively and confidently with a wide range of people, supporting their needs whilst meeting strict delivery deadlines
 • Be flexible in your approach
 • Be able to adapt quickly to changing priorities
 • Have brilliant attention to detail
 • Be able to manage your own workload in a busy environment, taking ownership of the role
 • Be able to identify potential issues and come up with potential solutions
 To apply please send your CV and a covering e-mail to Selina.Vesey-Hague@GfK.com
 Salary dependant on experience. 6 month contract which may extend.

Richmond
 Richmond Publishing is looking to recruit an **Administrative and Marketing Assistant** to join its busy Oxford-based team.
 Working closely with the Sales and Marketing Director, this new role will initially involve a lot of marketing administration but is an exciting opportunity for someone keen to develop their marketing skills.
 You will need to be a graduate, or equivalent, and have proven administrative and IT skills plus plenty of initiative. You must also be an excellent communicator and able to prioritise a busy and varied workload.
 For a full job description and details of how to apply, please email info@richmondelt.com.

EXPERIENCED LIVE-IN CARER needed from 2nd until 18th March (02.03.11-18.03.11). The person has to be friendly, speak fluent English, clean driving licence, has to have experience working with disabled people, reliable and trustworthy. The pay is £1000 for this period. Please call Anna 07896 235298 or 33rue@users.dailyinfo.co.uk
MERRY MAIDS OXFORD - We carry out domestic home cleaning in Oxford and the surrounding towns and are looking for new people to join our team based in Gaslington. Cleaning experience would be a benefit but we do provide full training for successful candidates. However, a full driving licence and a car is essential. For more info please contact Malcolm on 01865 368999 or email. 33rue@users.dailyinfo.co.uk
WANTED: BLOG BUILDER and maintainer: must be willing to take on the establishment. Part time - approx 8- hours pw. Rewarding and interesting work. Contact Blacksnow: 33srk@users.dailyinfo.co.uk
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS. We have a position available within our company for someone with suitable Sage Line 50 accounts and general office experience. In your application please include your full CV. More information will be provided to you in reply to receipt of CV and application. Location: South Oxford. Salary: 25k/annum. On site parking. Convenient location. Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5.30. 33r19@users.dailyinfo.co.uk
PART-TIME W/P OPERATOR required. Wallingford outskirts. Must be totally proficient in Power Point - Text/Graphics and able to work on an 'as required' basis. pauline@paulinespersonnel.freeserve.co.uk
VOLUNTEERS
Clinical Vaccine Trials - TB
 Are you interested in taking part in a TB (tuberculosis) vaccine study?
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COURSE & WORKSHOP REVIEW

Novel Writing Courses & Workshops

One-day workshops and 12-session courses on different aspects of novel-planning and writing, run by Megan Kerr. Ongoing, Jericho.

They say everyone has a novel in them. There's just one problem... getting it redrafted, edited, perfected and published. In fact getting the damn thing plotted and written would be a good start. But most people have to face down a variety of demons in their writing, often because they suddenly realise they don't know where it's all going.

It's easy to think you have the plot all figured out, but if it isn't there in enough detail to tell you where each scene is going, what the plot sub-layers are, how everything will come together and when, what each character's point of view is, and all the myriad other fiddly bits you'll need to know, then it isn't really a plot yet, just the idea for one. At this point you might need help in knowing how to focus on each area in turn - what questions to use to cross-examine your ideas.

Megan Kerr uses practices from TEFL training, including meticulous planning, pacy lessons and clear objectives. There are several underlying tenets to her teaching: first off, an expectation of rigour, which makes everything simultaneously harder and easier - harder in the short-term but easier in the writing. You can't plot and write well both at the same time, so the key is in the groundwork. Second is the wonderfully basic assumption that writing novels is perfectly normal.

Much of the class-time we work in groups. The results are frequently hilarious, and the combination of collaboration and speed really prevent anyone being precious about writing. Working as a group also means most of the tasks feel like games, even the ones that don't involve dice. Homework assignments are manageably short so you can fit them into your week.
 Many activities help you to visualise ideas and thought processes: how to lay out plots, how to check your tension is in the right places, using forms and questions to see where current holes are and how to plug them. And in all this a slight obsession with felt tip pens is seen as an advantage, not a handicap - here are displacement activities which will positively help.

The processes build up, so this week one of our quick tasks was something that took more like an hour a couple of weeks ago. Each week I feel simultaneously pleased that we're getting a stage further, more skills in the arsenal, and sad that it means we're closer to the end. In that respect it's like a very good book.

Of course in class the exercises are idealised, and transferring those ideas to your own half-thought-out novel can be harder. Think army medic, learning First Aid in a nice, clean operating theatre, but actually performing it on a makeshift bed in a sandy cave in the middle of battle.

For the one-day workshops you are expected to have some work in progress, and part of the day is spent with everyone focussing on each other's novels, making suggestions and applying activities to particular sticking points. For the 12-week course you just need a will to write - most of the practice assignments will use the (frequently extraordinary) ideas cooked up in class. If you have other things you're dying to work on all to the good, but it's not vital.

As you can probably tell, I would really, really recommend Megan's novel-writing tuition. I've always loved frenetic games of *Balderdash* and *Consequences*, and the zany haste of the *Improvised Musical* on Radio 4, and so I find Megan's games and the group-orientated nature of the classes great fun. To be doing that sort of thing and learning too, feeling your own writing steadily coming under your control, that is heady stuff.

Jen Pawsey

PROPERTY

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 Death in the Bodleian Library

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 HEADINGTON. DOUBLE IN nice modern flat. £400 pcm inclusive. No couples please. 33sy@users.dailyinfo.co.uk
 JACK STRAWS LANE: SINGLE room, non-smoking, now to mid August. Brookes/Oxford Uni. student. £385pcm includes wireless and bills. Email me: 33q3@users.dailyinfo.co.uk
 OX3: DOUBLE ROOM available now in Headington nr JR. £360 inc. all bills. Call 07403 056316. 33s2@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

MAD SPRING DRAGON
 Illustration of a dragon's face.

SALES & SERVICES

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 STEVE AND VAN - removals, clearance etc... Email: manwithavan2011@live.co.uk. Mobile: 07995 648989
 GOING HOME? GOT A lot of luggage / personal effects / papers? Don't pay airline prices. Don't lug it through airports and stations. UK services available as well as foreign destinations. We can ship your personal effects back home at a fraction of the cost of airline excess baggage prices, and with none of the hassle. Free collection in the Oxfordshire area. RM Baggage Services. Ring freephone 080