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Next issue: Tue 6th February

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Oxford University Faculty of English Language and Literature Visiting Lectures on Life-Writing

Penelope Lively 'The Hazards of Hindsight: on Memoir-Writing' 4pm, Lecture Theatre 2, St Cross Building, Manor Rd. All welcome.

Tuesday 6 February:

SIXTH FORM OPEN MORNING: d'Overbroeck's College, Oxford. Join us on Saturday 3 February from 10am to 12.30pm. An informal event which gives students and parents an opportunity to look around the college and meet our teaching staff. Tel: (01865) 310000 or visit www.doverbroecks.com/sixthform for details. All welcome.

RAUTAVAARA'S VIGILIA - Oxford Collutorium. Spectacular 20th century Finnish work based on Byzantine chant. sung, whispered and spoken passages conducted by Will Orr. All proceeds to SeeSaw - grief support for young people in Oxfordshire. Sunday 4th February, 8pm, Keble College Chapel, Parks Road. £10/£6 on door.



Until Thu 8th Feb

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240) THE QUEEN [12A] 🗷 Fri, Mon - Thu: 2.10pm

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS [12A] 🗷 Fri & Sat: 12.45, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00, 11.35pm; Sun - Thu: 12.45, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00p Will Smith and his son chase dreams and money. ROCKY BALBOA [12A] A] Fri: 1.45, 4.10, 6.45, 9.15, 11.40pn Sat: 11.20am, 1.45, 4.10, 6.45, 9.15, 11.40pn

Sun: 11.20am, 1.45, 4.10, 6.45, 9.15pm; Mon - Thu: 1.45, 4.10, 6.45, 9.15pm PERFUME: THE STORY OF A MURDERER [15] 🗷 Perfumier searches for the scent of femininity. PAN'S LABYRINTH [15] 🗷 Fri & Sat: 11.25pm

BOBBY [15] VENUS [15] 🗷 Fri: 2.00, 9.30, 11.45pm; Sat: 9.30, 11.45pm, Sun: 9.30pn

BLOOD DIAMOND [15]
Fri & Sat: 1.00, 4.20, 8.00, 11.10pn NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15] & Fri: 2.20,4.50, 7.15, 9.40, 11.50pm Sat: 11.50am, 2.20, 4.50, 7.15, 9.40, 11.50pm; Sun - Thu: 2.20, 4.50, 7.15,9.40pm Judi Dench and Cate Blanchett bring Heller book to life.

CASINO ROYALE [12A] 🔏 mall-headed muscleman Daniel Craig makes surprisingly good Bond. MISS POTTER [PG]
Fri - Wed: 1.15, 4.00, 6.30pm; Thu: 1.15 Renée Zellweger in mildly inaccurate biopic of Peter Rabbit's creator.

BABEL [15] daily: 1.30, 5.00, 8.15pm Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett in multi-story star park. SMOKIN' ACES [18] 🗷 Fri & Sat: 11.20pm ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES [U] Fri, Mon - Thu: 4.30, 7.00pm Sat & Sun: 11.30am, 2.00, 4.30, 7.00pm

10-year-old joins mini-people in the garden to save house. FLUSHED AWAY [U] 🗷 Sat & Sun: 11.10am avage indictment of class barriers through the eyes of an animated rat. BARNYARD [PG] Sat & Sun: 10.40am

hilren's musical with anatomically inaccurate cattle. Sat & Sun: 11.40, 2.10pm HAPPY FEET [U] dancing penguin contributes to Antarctic society. daily: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm also: Fri & Sat: 11.30pm; Sat & Sun:11.00am DREAMGIRLS [12A] 🔏

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH [12A] Sat & Sun: 10.50am wo warehousemen compete for a date with the new girl. ERAGON [PG] 🗷 Sat & Sun: 10.15am

Senior Screen: HARSH TIMES [15] 🔏 Tue: 12.00pm HANNIBAL RISING [18] Thu: 6.05, 8.45pm

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007) NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15]

daily: 12.15, 3.00, 5.30, 8.30pm THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND [15] 🗷 👚 daily: 5.45, 8.45pm

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS [12A] 🗷 daily: 2.45, 6.00, 9.00pm ROCKY BALBOA [12A] daily: 12.45, 3.45, 6.30, 9.15pm ylvester Stallone lurches into the ring once more. daily: 1.15, 3.30pm use. also – Sat & Sun: 11.00am ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES [U]

BABEL [15] daily: 1.45, 4.45, 8.00pm HAPPY FEET [U] Sat & Sun: 11.45am BLOOD DIAMOND [15] 🔏

daily: 1.00, 5.00, 8.15pm FLUSHED AWAY [U] 🔏 Class struggle in the sewers, with the voices of Ian McKellan and David Suchet. Senior Screen: THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA [PG] 🔏

Phoenix Picture House (0870 758 3218) ART SCHOOL CONFIDENTIAL [15] Fri: 11.00pm; Sun: 10.45am BLUE BLOOD [15] 🗷

Group of Oxbridge lads train for Varsity Boxing. Docu-drama. Fri, Sun, Tue - Thu: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00pn lind the age-gap romcom. Sat: 4.00, 7.00, 9.00pm; Mon: 3.00, 5.00, 9.15pm NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15] Fri - Tue, Thu: 12.45, 2.45, 4.45, 6.45, 8.45pm ench & Blanchett teach people a thing or two. Wed: 2.45, 4.45, 6.45, 8.45pm THE QUEEN [12A] 🗷 Fri, Sun - Thu: 1.00pm

BACK TO THE FUTURE [PG] Sat: 11.00pm; Sun: 10.50am ghtning, time-travel, metaphysics and romance Kids' Club: OPEN SEASON [PG] 🔏 Sat: 1.30pm

rench Cinema: RIDICULE [15]

Big Scream: NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15] Wed: 11.30am

Odeon Magdalen St (0871 2244 007) VENUS [15]
Fri - Mon, Wed: 2.30, 6.00, 8.45pm; Tue: 2.30, 6.00pm

LITTLE CHILDREN [15] Fear and self-loathing in American suburbia. DREAMGIRLS [12A] 🔏 Wed: 2.00, 5.15, 8.15pm Beyoncé stars in story of pop group stardom.

HANNIBAL RISING [18] Thu: 3.00, 6.00, 8.45pm lso gorge. The formative years of the monster cannibal fiend. **Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)**

THE HISTORY BOYS [15] 🗷 Fri: 4.30pm; Sat: 5.45pm Sun & Mon: 4.45pm outh in pursuit of sex, sport and higher education. PERFUME: STORY OF A MURDERER [15]
Fri: 7.00pn Perfumier goes bad. Sat: 8.15pm; Sun & Mon: 7.15pm; Tue - Thu: 9.15pm WILD AT HEART [18] Sat: 11.15pm; Sun & Mon: 10.15pm ery strange David Lynch murder romance with Nicolas Cage UNCOVERED: THE WAR ON IRAQ [PG] Sat: 3.45pm; Sun: 3.00pm

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE [PG] 🗷 Vith Tilda Swinton as the White Witch. Sat: 12.45pm; Sun: 12 nooi BREAKING AND ENTERING [15] 🗷 Tue - Thu: 6.45pm An architect starts a relationship with his burglar's mother.

= review on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

Deadline: 10am, Mon 5th February

Sat 3rd - Mon 5th February 2007 (3rd - 4th weeks)

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THEATRE until Sat 10th Feb

O'Reilly Theatre, Keble College (305305) IF STRANGERS MEET (TWICE) Tue 6th - Sat 10th: 7.30pr Oxford Playhouse (305305)

Mon 5th - Wed 7th: 7.30pm Thu 8th, Sat 10th: 2.30pm, 7.30pm; Fri 9th: 8pn Ayckbourn's 70th play, featuring a dysfunctional family. £9.50 - £22.50 **BLONDE BOMBSHELLS OF 1943** Musical full of swinging 40's hits. £9.50 - £22.50 New Theatre, Oxford (0870 6063500)

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Autobiographical anecdotal stand-up from the co-creator of The Office and Extras. £25 Fri 9th & Sat 10th: 7.30pr Chisinau National Opera, complete with stallion and dancing fountains. £13.50-£41 Moser Theatre, Wadham College Fri 2nd & Sat 3rd: 7.30pm nclement sketches designed especially for this intemperate weather. £4.50/£6

OFS Studio (297170) THE HOTHOUSE BY HAROLD PINTER 🗷 Fri 2nd: 7.30pr Sat 3rd: 2.30pm,7.30pr Rarely performed blend of farce & terror, considered Pinter's most comic work. £8.50 (£6.50) COMPANY Tue 6th - Fri 9th: 7.30pm; Sat 10th: 2.30pm,7.30pr n's witty relationship comedy. £8.50 (£6.50

Burton Taylor Theatre (305305) BABY WITH THE BATHWATER
Fri 2nd & Sat 3rd: 7.30pr An absurdist look at how hard it is to be a parent and how scary it is to be a child. £5/ً£4 WE GOT CHICKENS! **Æ** Fri 2nd & Sat 3rd: 9.30pr Oxford's newest comedy team offer mirth, hilarity, and jokes about AIDS. £5/£4 THE WEIR Tue 6th - Sat 10th: 7.30pr by Connor Mcpherson. Four guys. One girl. One pub. Four supernatural stories. £5/£4 ALL IN THE TIMING Tue 6th - Sat 10th: 9.30pm by David Ives. Featuring chimpanzees attempting to write Hamlet, eight variations of Trotsky's death, the triumph of love over absurdity and several barrels of laughs. £5/£4

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MEETINGS & LECTURES

Sat 3rd HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ASHMOLEAN TOUR /Objects chosen by the guide. ′ 11am - 12 noon, £2 / www.ashmolean.org / Ashmolean Museum. Beaumont Street. /

ONE DAY RETREAT / An introduction to meditation in a beautiful and tranquil setting. / Brahma Kumaris / Free of charge / 10am - 5pm / info@globalretreatcentre.org / Global Retreat Centre. Nuneham Park, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxon, OX44 9PG / 343551 NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK / Theme: 'Long Ago and Far Away' Listeners/tellers of all ages welcome!/Oxford Storytelling Society/2.30-4.30 pm/£3-£1/ www.communigate.co.uk/oxford/oxstorysoc/Friends'Meeting House.43 St Giles, 557373 DARFUR AWARENESS DAY / Darfur forum chaired by Jon Snow, fundraisin art & photo exhibitions / Hands up for Darfur / From 11am / www.HandsUpForDarfur. co.uk / Free / Oxford Union. Frewin Court / 241353

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Sun 4th

FIRSTSUNDAY / LGBT Storytelling: A panel tell their stories. Followed by FirstCafe.

work and answer questions / 5pm / Free / www.queens.ox.ac.uk / Queens College. High

7.15 pm / www.firstsunday.info / St. Columba's Hall. Alfred St.

SIXTH FORM OPEN MORNING: d'Overbroeck's College, Oxford. / 10am

ASPECTS OF TREASURES EXHIBITION: COINS & VALUES / Numbers limited to 15: booking essential. / Tea and Talks / 3-4pm, free. / www.ashmolean.org/ Headley Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont St. Mon 5th AN EVENING WITH CARYL PHILLIPS / Professor Phillips will read from his Creation

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GIG REVIEW

Port Marhem I Bands & cabaret night.

Port Mahon, St Clements, Thu Feb 1st 2007 (And the first Thursday of each month.)

At its best, live music makes us breathless, selfless, inspired. At worst it leaves us dull, restless, and drunk for all the wrong reasons. Usually, it falls somewhere in between, and a broad scope of live acts can cover the entire range of human emotion. Port Mayhem, a monthly night of band and cabaret, does just that, and we were led between several kinds of tears and several kinds of laughter. Run by local musicians upstairs at the Port Mahon pub, it's relaxing and cozy in a way that most parties in shabby share-houses are and most live music venues aren't.

and began strumming simple clear melodies on an acoustic guitar, we sat completely soundless in ladder back chairs. Her voice was simultaneously plaintive, clear, and piercing, with just enough depth and breath to lend power to her songs. I have never seen such an attentive crowd. We sat, spell-bound, and some of us wet-eyed, listening as she sang songs of love and home in English and Portuguese. Another wave of people came in while the second band, the Plaudits, were setting up, and soon it was standing

room only: those at the back on chairs to see the band

itself. Though only a few months old, the Plaudits were

also surprisingly good: loud, melodramatic, amusing

and very ironic. The crowd loosened up, and appeared

As the newly-solo Mariana Magnavita took the stage

repeatedly on the verge of breaking into dance, but the music (seemingly deliberately) dragged in places and kept things at the level of toe-tapping and head-nodding as they swung us between wry laughter, frustration and excitement. Acoustic sets at the end of the night can be soporific. Borderville, though, the band we'd heard about and had been waiting to see, was quite the opposite. They took to the stage with an odd mix of gentle humour and dramatic gesture, and immediately captured our attention. Though reduced to four members, drummerless, acoustic, they created a rich tapestry of sound that a dozen or so people would have been glad to make. A set of songs with clever allusions, with pretty, unsettling lyrics, and rather gorgeous melodies was followed by

an unexpectedly operatic cover of Leonard Cohen's Chelsea Hotel, and the night finished in appropriate mayhem with three of the band members drumming (dare I say a solo?) which left the crowd laughing and applauding. They were obviously having a good time, a surprisingly rare thing in the world of art and music. and consequently so did we.

If every month at Port Mayhem is as good as tonight, there are few better ways to spend a few quid on a Thursday evening.

Skye Hohmann, 02/02/07

See www.myspace.com/portmayhem for details of coming shows.

GIGS

Sat 3rd THE DEBRETTS ~ HAMMER VS THE SNAKE ~ GEORGE PRINGLE: 8:30 til 1am, £4, plus Raffle! / www.myspace.com/exposureoxford / Exeter Hall Pub. 1 Oxford Rd (corner of Cowley & Marsh Rds.) / 776431

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Sun 4th

Zodiac. 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042 BOB MARLEY FESTIVAL 2007 / Peace and Dub featuring Jah Paul & Tony Marshall + Ali Palmer Smith / 7-11pm FREE / peaceanddub@hotmail.com / Cricketers Arms. 43, Iffley Rd; Tel: 427505 JOE ALLEN + CHARLOTTE JAMES + AGENTS OF JANE / 3 Spirit Music / 8pm-10:30pm, £4.00 /www.myspace.com/3spiritmusic / Jericho Tavern. Walton St / 311775 **STAND UP COMEDY NIGHT** / The best of Oxford's local and student comedians,

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GRACE + CLOCKS / Academy Events presents / Doors 7pm/ £6 adv / 14+ / Downstairs @ the Zodiac. 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042 THE OXFORD IMPS / 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?' Style Comedy! / 8pm / £2 / www. oxfordimps.com / The Wheatsheaf. 129, High St **JEFF, MATTY & FRIENDS** / Weekly swing jazz session. / 9 pm / free admission

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