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Issue No. **8087** Next issue: Sat 6th Mar. Deadline: 10am, Fri 5th Mar.

Thu 4th - Fri 5th March 2010 (7th week)

WHAT'S ON / COMING SOON

EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL (age 3-11)
Open Evening - Thursday 4th March
5:30pm - 7pm.
Small classes - family atmosphere - affordable fees
Enquiries always welcome: Sandford Road, Littlemore, OX4 4PU
www.ecschool.co.uk 01865 395236

THE SPIN JAZZ CLUB
129 High St, OX1 4DF
THU 4 MAR: JAMES PEARSON with THE SPIN TRIO
'an exceptionally gifted artist' - Sir John Dankworth
8.15pm - 12am. £9/£7 OAP/£6 students
TO BOOK SEATS & INFO:
WWW.SPINJAZZ.COM • 07711 671647

THE **OFFSHOOT**
oxford folk festival fringe
2010
EARLY MARCH - ACROSS OXFORD
THEE SILVER MT. ZION MEMORIAL ORCHESTRA - TREMBLING BELLS - THOMAS TRUAX - ERIC CHENAUX - TARIK BESHIR - WE AERONAUTS - THE FAMILY MACHINE - JOE ALLEN + MUCH MORE
myspace.com/theoffshoot - wegottickets.com/theoffshoot

OXFORDSHIRE SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2010
6th - 21st MARCH
Explore, interact, debate & experience science at over 100 events across the county. Most events are free! Kicks off with **Science in Your World**, Broad Street, Oxford, on Saturday March 6th, 12.00am - 5.30pm
For further details check out www.oxfordshiresciencefestival.co.uk

OU SALSA BALL
SATURDAY 6TH MARCH
The Oxford Union. Workshops **2-5pm**
Black Tie Party **7.30pm-2am**
Famous teachers, DJs & performers.
Tickets from £13
www.oxfordsalsasociety.co.uk/ball10

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

GOD'S GRANDEUR
Robert Hardy with Vox Angelica
Hopkins and Hildegard
Fri 12th March, The Oxford Oratory
£5 undergraduates - otherwise £10 (£8)

EASTER REVISION COURSES
Small group or individual tuition with excellent teachers
A LEVEL
(I)GCSE
International Baccalaureate
English Language Support
Telephone 01865 201009
Email alice@oxintstudycentre.com

AL-SALAM
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Good Food, Good Atmosphere, Open EVERY day!
6 Park End Street, Oxford OX1 1HH
Telephone 01865 245710

FITNESS CLASSES

Female Only Fitness Classes
Running in Headington & Cowley
FIRST CLASS IS FREE!!
More details: www.Naxusfitness.com

PERFORMERS WANTED

SEASONED PERFORMERS SOUGHT by regular Oxford vintage variety night. Do you have a short, attention-grabbing, performance-ready piece (art, circus, theatre, dance, music, burlesque, etc.)? Are you a professional or very good amateur performer with a myspace/youtube/dvd or local show where we can see what you do? Please send details: t4eg@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

GIGS & COMEDY

Thu 4th

SPARKY'S FLYING CIRCUS / Weekly open music, poetry and song session / 9pm, free / The Half Moon, 18 St Clements, Oxford OX4 1AB

CATWEAZLE CLUB / Weekly performance space for music, poetry and story. / 8-11pm, £5/£4 (performers free - sign up before 8pm) / catweazleclub.org / East Oxford Community Centre, 44b Princes Street, (corner of Cowley Rd)

THE ANTLERS / Change of venue, original tickets still valid. / YMD! presents / £8 adv / www.ymdpresents.co.uk / O2 Academy, Cowley Road; 0844 477 2000

OPEN MIC VARIETY NIGHT / Hosted by Pete The Temp / 8pm, free / www.jamesstreettavern.co.uk / 01865 202804 / James Street Tavern, James Street

JAMES PEARSON WITH THE SPIN TRIO / Internationally renowned jazz pianist / The Spin Jazz Club / 8.15pm, £9/£7/£6 / The Wheatsheaf, 120 High St

LAST DAYS OF LORCA, SAM POPE BAND, SILVANITO, PEACH / Alt-rock / The Bullingdon Arms, 162 Cowley Road, OX4 1UE; Tel: 01865 244516

Fri 5th

BODY GLASS, AGE OF MISRULE, SMALL MACHINE / Original eclectic music / 8.30pm. £5 / The Wheatsheaf, 120 High Street, Oxford / 721156

SKYLARKIN' SOUNDSYSTEM / Soaring live reggae / 9pm-3am, £4 /£5 / thecount@skylarkinsoundsystem.co.uk / The Cellar, Frewin Court / 07769 690177

SPOKEN WORD / Offshoot festival fringe event, ft. Thomas Truax + Sophia Blackwell / 8pm, £10 (£8) / myspace.com/theoffshoot / Vaults & Garden, Church of St Mary, High St / 279112

SKYNY NYRDS / Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band / 8.30pm. Free entry / Chester Arms, 19 Chester Street, Oxford OX4 1SN; Tel: 01865 243203

VICARS OF TWIDDLY, FROM LIGHT TO SOUND, THE ROUNDHEELS, NICK TINGAY / Ecclesiastical-surf-punks / 7pm, £6 / The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton St

LIVE JAZZ / Tim Dawes (double bass) and Tim Lapthorn (piano) / 8pm / The Old Parsonage Hotel, 1 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6NN; Tel: 01865 310210

DENNY ILETT JR, ADY DAVEY, MIKE DAVEY / Jimi Hendrix tribute / The Port Mahon, 82 St Clements, Oxford OX4 1AW; Tel: 01865 790970

TOM MCRAE, BRIAN WRIGHT / Mellow singer-songwriter / 6.30pm, £14.30 / O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Rd / 0844 4772 000/0905 0203 999

THE PORTSMOUTH SHANTYMEN / Live folk band / Oxford Folk Club / 8.30pm. £6 / oxfordfolkclub.com / Folly Bridge Inn, 38 Abingdon Rd / 790106

CINEMA to Thu 18th

Phoenix Picturehouse (0871 704 2062)

CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY [12A] Thu: 3.45, 6.30, 9.00pm
Documentary. Michael Moore asks at what price the American Dream. Fri: 3.45pm

EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP [15] Fri: 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 9.00pm
Banksy unleashes street art sensation.

THE LAST STATION [15] Thu: 1.15pm
The battle for control over the works of Tolstoy.

MICMACS [12A] Thu: 1.30, 4.00, 6.20, 8.45pm; Fri: 1.30, 8.50pm
One man sets out to bring down weapons manufacturers. *French with English subtitles*

A SINGLE MAN [12A] Thu: 6.45pm; Fri: 6.45pm
Gay professor contemplates life in 60s California without his long-term partner.

Ultimate Picture Palace (01865 245288)

THE BOYS ARE BACK [12A] Thu: 7.00pm
Widowed sports writer adopts his own parenting style.

INVICTUS [12A] Fri: 7.00pm
The story behind the Springboks' 1995 Rugby World Cup bid.

NOWHERE BOY [15] Fri: 9.30pm
Drama about the teenage John Lennon.

UP IN THE AIR [15] Thu: 9.00pm
High-flying frequent flier is brought back down to earth.

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)

ALICE IN WONDERLAND 3D [PG]
Tim Burton does Lewis Carroll in 3D. Fri: 1.20, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00, 11.30pm

ALICE IN WONDERLAND 2D [PG]
Tim Burton does Lewis Carroll in 2D as well. Fri: 12.20, 3.00, 5.30, 8.00, 10.40pm

AVATAR 3D [12A] Thu: 12.30, 4.00, 7.30pm
The highest-grossing film of all time.

AVATAR 2D [12A] Fri: 12.30, 3.50, 7.30, 11.00pm
James Cameron's latest and greatest blockbuster.

CASE 39 [15] Fri: 1.00, 3.30, 5.50, 8.15, 10.50pm
Horror. Social worker wishes she hadn't brought her work home with her...

THE CRAZIES [15] Thu: 12.15, 2.45, 5.15, 7.45pm
Toxin turns townsfolk into psychopaths. Fri: 12.40, 3.20, 6.00, 8.30, 11.10pm

EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES [PG] Thu: 2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45pm
Biotech executive searches for a cure for his children.

FROM PARIS WITH LOVE [15] Thu: 6.45, 9.30pm
US ambassador's aide is drawn into a terrorist plot. Fri: 7.00, 9.30, 11.45pm

INVICTUS [12A] Thu: 12.55, 3.45, 9.15pm
The story behind the Springboks' 1995 Rugby World Cup bid.

LEAP YEAR [PG] Thu: 1.05, 3.25, 6.05, 8.30pm
An elaborate proposal does not go to plan. Fri: 12.00, 2.30, 5.05, 7.45, 10.30pm

THE LOVELY BONES [12A] Thu: 2.30, 5.30, 8.45pm
Murdered girl watches her family from heaven. Fri: 12.10, 3.10, 6.15, 9.15pm

MY NAME IS KHAN [12A] Thu: 9.00pm
Following a Muslim/Hindu family after 9/11.

PERCY JACKSON & THE LIGHTNING THIEF [PG]
Teenager is Poseidon's son. Thu: 12.45, 3.35, 6.15pm; Fri: 12.15, 2.50, 5.40pm

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG [U] Thu: 1.30, 4.10, 6.30pm
Cursed prince mistakes debutante for royalty. Fri: 2.00, 4.30pm

VALENTINE'S DAY [12A] Thu: 2.25, 5.05, 8.00pm
Expect Love Actually in Los Angeles. Fri: 8.45pm

Odeon George Street (0871 2244 007)

ALICE IN WONDERLAND 3D [PG] Fri: 1.45, 4.45, 7.30, 10.15pm
Tim Burton's take on the Lewis Carroll stories.

AVATAR 3D [12A] Thu: 4.00, 7.45pm
James Cameron's latest and greatest blockbuster.

CRAZY HEART [15] Fri: 2.15, 5.15, 8.15pm
Down-and-out singer-songwriter tries to turn his life around.

INVICTUS [12A] Thu: 2.45, 5.45, 8.45pm
Story behind the Springboks' 1995 Rugby World Cup bid. Fri: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm

THE LOVELY BONES [12A] Thu: 1.45, 5.15, 8.15pm
Murdered girl watches her family and killer from heaven. Fri: 2.00, 5.30, 8.30pm

MICMACS [12A] Thu: 3.45, 6.15, 9.00pm
One man sets out to bring down weapons manufacturers. *French with English subtitles*

SHERLOCK HOLMES [12A] Fri: 10.30pm
Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law star in latest adaptation.

A SINGLE MAN [12A] Thu: 2.30, 5.00, 8.00pm
Gay professor contemplates life in 60s California. Fri: 2.00, 5.00, 8.00pm

VALENTINE'S DAY [12A] Thu: 2.15, 5.15, 8.15pm
Love in Los Angeles. *Subtitled: Fri 4.00pm* Fri: 1.00, 4.00, 7.00, 10.00pm

Odeon Magdalen Street (0871 2244 007)

ALICE IN WONDERLAND 2D [PG] Fri: 2.30, 5.15, 8.00pm
Tim Burton's take on the Lewis Carroll stories.

AVATAR 2D [12A] Fri: 4.00, 7.30pm
James Cameron's latest and greatest blockbuster.

THE CRAZIES [15] Thu: 2.00, 5.00, 8.00pm
Toxin turns the residents of a small town into violent psychopaths.

PERCY JACKSON & THE LIGHTNING THIEF [PG]
American teenager discovers he's the son of Poseidon. Thu: 3.30, 6.30pm

UP IN THE AIR [15] Thu: 6.15pm
High-flying frequent flier is brought back down to earth.

Exeter College (01865 279600)

OIS CINEMA OF INDIA SERIES Fri: 7pm
Sonar Kella (The Golden Fortress) *Bengali with English subtitles*

Brookes Human Rights Film Festival

TRADE - *Brookes (Main Lecture Theatre)* Thu: 7.00pm
Discussion led by Anti Slavery International. *Free*

OUTSIDE THE LAW - *Brookes (Headington Hill)* Fri: 7.00pm
Stories from Guantanamo with Omar Deghayes & director. *Free*

MEETINGS & LECTURES

Thu 4th

WOLFSON HALDANE LECTURE / Professor Sir Martin Evans, FRS, DSc, 'Embryonic Stem Cells: Origins & Futures' / 6.00pm. Free/ 274100 / Wolfson College Hall, Linton Rd

TAR SANDS / Action planning meeting with Indigenous Environmental Network / 7.30-9.00pm, free / jess_worth@hotmail.com / East Oxford Community Centre, 44b Princes St

PLAY GO / Watch, play, learn for free. / Oxford Go Club / 7pm, free / www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford_c.html / 01865 248775 / Freud, 119 Walton Street

ATTITUDINAL HEALING / Non-judgemental circle / 7.30-9pm, donations / nick_clegg(at)hotmail.com / Ann, 01869 246839 / 43 St Giles

LUNCHTIME TALK: THE GOOD BOOK / Rev Prof Michael Screech: Some Renaissance views of the Bible / 12.30pm, free / St Giles' Church, St Giles'

PRACTISE PUBLIC SPEAKING / Welcoming all levels of speaking ability / Isis Speakers Club / 7pm, £5/month / 01865 724542 / Town Hall, St Aldate's

PLAGUE: HISTORIES AND CONTINUITIES / Professor Paul Slack, Principal, Linacre College / 5.30pm / Plant Sciences Dept. Large Lecture Theatre, Parks Rd

PROFESSOR DIRK HELBING / Cooperation, Norms and Conflict / 3.30pm, free / www.21school.ox.ac.uk / 01865 287440 / Old Indian Institute Building

RIGHT TO WORK PUBLIC MEETING / Fight job cuts & defend public services / 7.30pm / righttowork.org.uk / 07947 857906 / Friends' Meeting Hse, 43 St Giles

LADYFEST / Help plan this year's festival / 6.30pm / ladyfestoxford@gmail.com / Far From The Madding Crowd, Friar's Entry, (off Magdalen St), Oxford

THE CASE FOR CHIROPRACTIC / Are therapies like chiropractic brilliant or bogus? / 7.30pm, £3 / scienceoxfordlive.com / Science Oxford Live, London Pl

PLAGUES AND POLITICS / Professor Andrew Price-Smith, Colorado College / 5.30pm / Plant Sciences Dept. Large Lecture Theatre, Parks Road, Oxford

COMPAS SEMINAR / Dr Iain Walker and Dr Oliver Bakewell: the impact of diasporas / 2pm, free / compas.ox.ac.uk / Pauling Centre, 58 Banbury Rd

SHIFTING POWER: WHAT DOES CLIMATE CHANGE MEAN FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE? / Prof. Steve Rayner / The Weidenfeld Debates / 4.30-6.30pm / www.weidenfelddebates.org / Magdalen College Auditorium, High Street

THE IMAM AND THE PASTOR / Award-winning film on interfaith peacebuilding in Nigeria with Imad Karam. / OxPeace / 8pm, free / http://oxfordpeace.blogspot.com / St John's Auditorium, St John's College, St. Giles

Fri 5th

OXFORD SPIRITUAL FILM CLUB / 2 short films & discussion. Wine & refreshments included / meetup.com/Oxford-Spiritual-Film-Club / £12.50. 7-9pm / 236058 / Bothy Cottage, Medley Manor Farm, Binsey

GYORGY GORDON (1924-2005) / James Hamilton talks about this Hungarian artist / 8pm / http://hungsoc.com / 736973 / McGregor Room, Oriel College

VEGETARIAN COOKING CLUB OXFORD / Cooking a 3 course meal. / 6.30pm-8.30pm, £20 / Booking required. To reserve, visit meetup.com/Vegetarian-Cooking-Club-Oxford/ 236058 / OX2 0NJ (please contact for venue)

BELIEF IN AN AGE OF SCEPTICISM / Dr Timothy Keller, author of bestseller, 'The Reason for God' / 8pm, free / office@stebbes.org.uk / 240438 / Oxford Town Hall

SOCIAL EVENING / Prospective members welcome. / 9pm / oxfordshireivc.org.uk / 516239 & 01635 578215 / Clarendon Sports Centre, Jordan Hill

THEATRE to Sat 6th

New Theatre, Oxford (0844 8471585)

THE BOOTLEG BEATLES Fri 5th: 8pm
Multimedia show featuring classic Beatles hits. *£22.50 / £21 (concs)*

JETHRO TULL Sat 6th: 7.30pm
Still rocking, with original members Ian Anderson and Martin Barre. *£26.50-£29.50*

Burton Taylor Studio (01865 305305)

REVIVAL Thu 4th, Sat 6th: 7.30pm
Crispin's bar is unlike any other: you tell him a story; he'll make you a drink. *£5 (£4)*

THE FIREFLIES Thu 4th, Sat 6th: 9.30pm
Rising, spitting and cursing, from the remains of 20th century Absurdist drama. *£5 (£4)*

TOFFEE Fri 5th: 7.30pm; Sat 6th: 2.30pm
Alfie's girlfriend has vanished, and he's wondering if talking to you might help. *£5 (£4)*

INSTEAD OF BEAUTY Fri 5th: 9.30pm; Sat 6th: 4.30pm
School friends John and Matthew meet two very different girls. *£5 (£4)*

Oxford Playhouse (01865 305305)

FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT Thu 4th: 7.30pm
12 stark, funny and absurd stories of fiscal failure. *£19 / £17 / £12*

CHARLIE AND LOLA'S BEST BESTEST PLAY
Fri 5th: 4pm; Sat 6th: 11am, 1.30pm & 4pm
Will Lola ever tidy her room? Will Charlie get Lola to sleep?! *£10.50 / £8.50 children*

OFS Studio (0844 847 2360)

BLOOD WEDDING Thu 4th - Sat 6th: 7.30pm
Lorca's classic tragedy.

College Venues

BENT - *Keble* Thu 4th - Fri 5th: 7.30pm; Sat 6th: 2.30, 8pm
Examination of Nazi persecution of homosexuals; a defiant love story.

THE REVENGER'S TRAGEDY - *Exeter* Thu 4th - Sat 6th: 8.15pm
An exciting production of Thomas Middleton's Renaissance classic. *£5 (£3)*

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES - *Pilch Studio, Jowett Walk* Fri 5th, Sat 6th: 8pm
V-Day Oxford 2010: The Vagina Monologues presented by the OUSU Women's Campaign *£5/£4 adv (pidge cheques marked OSARCC to Emily Pfefer, Lady Margaret Hall)*

JOBS OFFERED

KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL WIMBLEDON
Boys 7 - 18 Girls 16 - 18

Are you a Physicist in the final year of your degree or research?
Interested in teaching at one of the best schools in the world?
Would you like to earn £27,000 plus in your first year of teaching?

King's College School Wimbledon requires a
TEACHER OF PHYSICS
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We would welcome applications from innovative and well-qualified graduates without a formal teaching qualification since the school is able to offer the successful applicant QTS training.

The school has recently been awarded 'The Sunday Times IB School of the Year' and is expecting its first intake of girls into the Sixth Form in 2010.

Closing date: Thursday, 11th March 2010.

Further details of the post, including an electronic copy of the application form, can be found on our website: **www.kcs.org.uk/jobs** or by registering your details on **020 8255 5308.**

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Please contact Pupinder Ghatora on 01865 242649 or Davinder Ghatora on 07850 759956 to arrange interview, or e-mail, with **current CV** to **woodlands.pharmacy@npanet.co.uk**

Part-time Delivery Driver *required for a National Award-Winning Pharmacy*

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New Media Production Assistant
(Maternity Contract)

We are looking for a New Media Production Assistant to provide technical production and administrative support to New Media Producers in developing digital products.

Responsibilities will include asset processing, co-ordinating asset handovers, liaising with external developers, flowing content into interactive templates, creating and maintaining web pages, functionality and cross-platform compatibility testing, attending project meetings, producing project documentation and maintaining project files, archiving multimedia assets and providing general administrative support to the project teams when required.

Closing date: 16 March 2010. For further information and to apply please visit **http://ukjobs.oup.com**

ALLIANCE FRANCAISE IS recruiting French native speakers with university degrees for tutoring positions. Apply with cv and references: j55@jstrawson.com

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER PHP for Oxford IT company. Great opportunity with varied development work. See http://www.alberon.co.uk/about-us/careers for more details. vy68@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

OXFORD-BASED PR agency is offering a fantastic opportunity for graduate-level individuals to break into the PR industry. Full &/or part time position. Immediate start. Consumer and business to business client work. Perfect, fluent spoken and written English are a must. Good understanding of the UK media: newspapers, magazines, TV & radio, and social media, is also required. Please submit CV & cover letter. vx9v@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

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OLD PARSONAGE HOTEL: Room Attendant position available, 30 hours pw, £6.00 ph. Experience preferable. Contact Mirka or Anna on 01865 310210 / vx85@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

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Salary depending on skills & experience

The Journals IT department are looking for a customer focussed individual with excellent problem solving skills who would like to work in a systems development team.

You will be carrying out systems development tasks under the supervision of senior developers and supporting divisional staff in their use of available IT systems.

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The College is committed to the welfare and safeguarding of children and requires enhanced CRB checks.

www.doverbroecks.com/posts

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20-25 hours per week spread over 5 days per week. £8-£10 per hour. The role includes handling teacher enquiries, dealing with student applications, travel arrangements and record keeping. The applicant must be computer literate, able to prioritise and work with a high degree of accuracy. Fixed 6 month contract with possibility to extend.

Send your CV and cover letter to:
info@homelingua.com
Closing date 20th March. **www.homelingua.com**

SAE Lecturers in Audio Production
Ongoing requirements

SAE Oxford is a leading international college in the field of Audio Production and Audio Engineering, featuring state of the art recording facilities in an outstanding environment.

Applications are invited for lecturers in Audio Production at degree level subjects. We are looking for enthusiastic and talented tutors in all areas of the industry and related subjects.

Application through CV and covering letter to degree coordinator, Ian Wallman: **i.wallman@sae.edu**

SAE Oxford
Littlemore Park, Armstrong Road, Oxford OX4 4FY
Telephone: 01865 787 150 **www.oxford.sae.edu**

GfK
Telephone Mystery Shoppers

Needed for ad hoc work within our busy market research company in Oxford

Normal office working hours are 9:00 to 5:00 Monday to Friday with occasional work available on Saturdays

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Contact: tom.feeney@gfk.com or **01865 262896**

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Temporary Gardening Assistant

We are seeking a self motivated, experienced, reliable and adaptable person to carry out garden maintenance and lawn care from March-October 2010.

RHS qualifications or equivalent in general horticulture and a spraying certificate would be an advantage.

Competitive pay and benefits including 25 days holiday pa (pro rata).

To request an application form please contact
Mrs M Shepherd, Tel: 01865 276179
E-mail ***maureen.shepherd@chch.ox.ac.uk***
Closing date for applications: 19 March 2010

TELEPHONE FUNDRAISERS REQUIRED, full/part time. Cowley area. Full training given. 01865 713615 vwz7@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

JOBS WANTED

CLEANER/HOUSEKEEPER AVAILABLE in Oxford area. 07738 272155 vx6u@users.dailyinfo.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS

TANDEM mental health befriending in Oxford city
Registered charity no. 1078112

Interested in mental health?
An hour to spare a week?
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Help people with mental health problems reconnect with activities and interests outside of the home.

Our volunteer befrienders work with befriendees from a wide range of ages. We especially welcome volunteer applications from people aged 40 +.

Training days: 10 am - 4.30 pm
Sat 17th + 24th April 2010
01865 724225 • stephen@tandem-oxon.org

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MAN WITH A VAN, distance no problem! Call Kevin on 07769 780615.

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THEATRE REVIEW

Revival

The New Writing Festival opens, appropriately enough, with a play about the art and currency of stories. In Crispin's Bar the barman's alcoholic creations are inspired by the tales told by his regulars. The rules of the bar are simple, but what is the point of them, are they still needed, and who by?

Crispin is played by Ben Zelenka-Martin, an almost otherworldly creation, a literal wizard with the drinks, who gives a boyish innocence to his role, captivated by his own magic. The play makes his act of mixing the drinks a magic trick instead, which is a fascinating idea and much less expensive than using real drinks. The tricks are simple enough, but done with skilful sleight of hand. In fact he drew a gasp of astonishment from the audience at one point. A professional magician couldn't ask for more! Unfortunately his repertoire runs dry two thirds of the way in and I was disappointed to see some of the earlier tricks repeated at the end.

The acting when telling the tales is so over the top it is almost surreal, which is the point of course. The heightened dramatic flourishes add to the drama and prevent the storytelling getting boring, though the stories themselves are simple tales. It feels like the actors are showing off at times, but they have good reason to do so as they are so good at it. Ella Flaye playing Jo at one point goes through a sequence of moves that wouldn't look out of place if done by a gymnast.

> "The actors are showing off, but they are good at it."

The play combines this transcendent style with a very real and human story, a seeming contradiction that is extremely well handled by the cast. The production not only balances the two but creates a story and message out of the tension between them. And this is its success, not the tales told or the tricks. I greatly enjoyed this play and would recommend it.

- Michael Hawkes

Revival, by Carla Neuss, at the Burton Taylor Studio; Thu 4th & Sat 6th March