

**Oxford's DAILY INFO**  
**www.dailyinfo.co.uk**  
 Issue No. 8099 Next issue: Thu 4th May. Deadline: 10am, Wed 5th May.  
**Tue 4th - Wed 5th May 2010**

The Buskins Theatrical Society presents:  
**HENRY VIII**  
 Worcester College Chapel  
 6th/7th May: 7.45pm. 8th May: 2pm & 7.45pm £5 / £7  
 www.oxfordplayhouse.com/ticketsoxford

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

**SELECTED EXHIBITIONS**

**I'M IN LOVE WITH THE WORLD** / New work by artist Josephine Lyons. Until 22nd May. / Free - open daily / info@josephinelions.net / www.josephinelions.net / Jam Factory, The Old Jam Factory, 27 Park End St

**AFTER MICHELANGELO** / 33 Old Master drawings to trace Michelangelo's genius through his followers and what's next? Christ Church Picture Gallery, Christ Church (entrance via Canterbury Gate / Oriol Square) Opening times: Mon-Sat 10.30am-5pm; Sun 2-5pm. £3/£2. Tel: 01865 276172

**ALBANIA AND THE BALKANS** / Drawings and photographs by traveller, artist and writer Edith Durham (1863-1944), widely known for her published accounts of Albania and the Balkans in the early 20th c. / Pitt Rivers Museum, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PP. Opening times: Mon-Tue 12-4.30pm, Tue-Sun 10am-4.30pm. Tel: 01865 270927

**ARTWEETS AT THE OS GALLERY** / Sculpture Garden - S. Naybour, P. Ridley & R. Shock / 11am-4pm, free / OS Gallery, Oxford Castle, OX1 1AY. Opening times: Tue-Fri 12-5pm, Sat & Sun 11-4pm, closed Mon. Free entry.

**MARIA PASK: DÉJA VU** / New film made on location in Rose Hill by Amsterdam-based video artist. / Modern Art Oxford (MAO), 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford OX1 1BP. Opening times: Tue & Wed 10am-5pm, Thu - Sat 10am-10pm, Sun 12-5pm, closed Mon. Tel: 01865 722373

**OBJECTS OF DEVOTION** / Five rarely seen paintings of the Madonna and Child from the Christ Church collection / 01865 276 172 / Christ Church Picture Gallery (details as above).

**TIME AND SPACE** / Dionne Barber & Adam Griffiths present artworks inspired by the space and collection of the museum / Pitt Rivers Museum (as above)

**GOZLIA GRADUATES FROM OXFORD** / Paintings by Betina Ip / Free contact@betinap.com / The Missing Bean, 14 Tull Street, Oxford OX1 3DD

**THE PLEASURES & SORROWS OF WORK** / Photographs by Richard Baker accompanied by texts from Alain de Botton's new book / Alain de Botton / Free / 01865 272780 / Museum of the History of Science, Old Ashmolean Building, Broad Street, Oxford OX1 3AZ. Opening times: 12-5pm Tue-Fri, 10am-5pm Sat, 2-5pm Sun.

**SPECTACULAR SPECTACLES** / A selection from the Museum's large collection of spectacles - try them on online too! / Free / Museum of the History of Science (as above)

**"WHAT IS MET? ART EXHIBITION"** / Moving and exciting images inspired by this much misunderstood illness. / OMEGA / 9am - 6pm / HHS@tiscali.co.uk / www.omegax.com/omega / 01865 718274 / The Magic Cafe, 110 Magdalen Road, Oxford OX4 1RQ. Opening times: 10am-6pm Mon-Sat, except Fri: 10am-10pm. Live music Sat lunchtimes. Tel: 01865 794604

**THE CONCEPT SHOW** / The magical world of avant-garde fashion, presented in a theatrical concept show. / Oxford Fashion Week / 7.45-10pm, TUESDAY ONLY. £35 inc. afterparty from 10.30pm at the Cellar / http://oxfordfashionweek.com / The Randolph, Beaumont Street, OX1 2LN

**MARK HADGON EXHIBITION** / Thinking About Words: First solo exhibition from acclaimed author Mark Hadgon / Free. 10.30-5.30pm / info@wordwall.com / www.wordwall.com / 01865 515123 / Sarah Wiseman Gallery, 40/41 North Parade, Summertown. Tel: 01865 515123

**ART AT ANNIE'S TEA ROOM** / Art display of Oxford canal paintings, prints & local cards. Tea & home made cakes. Parking / Michele Field / 10am-5pm. www.britishtartists.co.uk/michele\_field / Canal Road, Thrupp, Kidlington, Oxfordshire OX5 1JZ

**JOHANNA BILLING: I'M LOST WITHOUT YOUR RHYTHM** / New film by Swedish video artist Johanna Billing / Modern Art Oxford (times as above)

**RICHARD WOODS** / Launching the first in a series of new commissions for the yard at Modern Art Oxford / Modern Art Oxford / Free / Modern Art Oxford / KAREN PURPLE / An exhibition of new work inspired by natural history and the landscape historian / 11am-4pm, free / sarahlaure@theorhwall.com / www.theorhwall.com / 01865 319 450 / North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade. Opening times: Mon - Sat: 11am - 4pm; Tel: 01865 319450

**PRAXES** / OVADA is proud to present the first Ruskin DP10 show, curated by Natalie Sanderson. / 10am-5pm, free / info@ovada.org.uk / www.ovada.org.uk / OVADA, 21 Gloucester Green, Oxford OX1 2AQ. Opening times: Open 10am-5pm Tue-Fri, 11am-4pm Sat, closed Sun/Mon; Tel: 01865 207182



**QUEEN OF CLUBS CABARET**  
**SUMMER BALL**  
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**WOOD**  
**MEETINGS & LECTURES**  
**Tue 4th**

**MY LIFE WITH OTTERS** / Talk by Daphne Neville. / Ashmolean Natural History Society / 8pm, non-members £2 / Earth Sciences Dept, Parks Road

**JULIAN OF NORWICH** / Revd. Emma Pennington introduces the 14th century anchoress. / 7.30-9.30pm, £5+ / 01235 847401 / The Abbey, Sutton Courtney

**LANGUAGE EXCHANGE NIGHT** / 8pm, free / James Street Tavern, James St.

**IRISH CONVERSATION GROUP** / Email for more information / dirlopp@talktalk.net / The Half Moon, 18 St Clements

**DIPLOMATIC ELECTION FORUM** / Candidates take your questions 7.30pm, free / election@ctdd.org.uk / Cornerstone Arts Centre, 25 Station Road, Didcot

**WOMEN'S BUSINESS NETWORK** / Developing consultative selling skills / 7.30-9pm, £1 suggested / leysbusinesswomen@yahoo.co.uk / 07979 953156 / Starlight Enterprise, 26 Kingsfisher Green, Greatey Leys

**FEEDING OXFORD** / Investing in a Food Supply Fit for the Future - speaker Mark Winne / Campaign for Real Farming / 9pm, free / www.markwinne.com / The Vaults & Garden, University Church of St Mary, High Street

**DEUTSCHSPRACHIGER STAMMTISCH** / Speak German, meet new people. / 8.30pm, free / deutschstammtisch@yahoo.co.uk / Anchor Inn, Hayfield Rd

**MEDITATION - THICH NHAT HANH** / Oxford Weekly Sangha Meets / 6.30pm / oxfordweeklysangha@gmail.com / Oxford Quaker Centre, 43 St Giles

**COMICS AND COMIC BOOKS MEET** / Friends of Caption / 8.30pm, free / http://caption.org.uk / Magdalen Arms, 243 Ifley Road

**PLAY GO** / Watch, play, learn for free. / Oxford Go Club / 7-11pm, free / oxfordgoclub@goban.demon.co.uk / 01865 248775 / Freud, 119 Walton St

**GLOBE CAFE** / Coffee & conversation for international students and visitors in Oxford / 8pm / globecafeoxford.org.uk / St Andrew's Church, Linton Road

**Wed 5th**

**FAIRTRADE STALL** / Fairtrade accessories from around the world / www.tradingfordevelopment.com / 07965 582630 / Town Hall, St Aldate's

**OSCU LECTURE** / Professor Charles Godfrey: Malaria, Mosquitoes & Models / 8.15pm, free / £2 / science@herald.ox.ac.uk / Inorganic Chemistry Building, South Parks Rd

**PUGWASH MEETING** / Proliferation resistant nuclear reactors / 7.30pm, free / nicolas@young-pugwash.org.uk / 273456 / Merton College (Hawkins Room)

**MEDITATION** / Guided meditation applicable to busy everyday life of lay people. / Diamond Way Buddhism UK / 8pm, free / www.dwbuk.org / 07757511009 / North Oxford Association, Diamond Place, Summertown

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** / Speaker Bede Gerrard from Churches Together Oxon. / 7.30pm, free / 01865 764524 / Church Hall, New High St, Headington

**DAYTIME WEEKEND KNITTING GROUP** / Join the knitting group on Wednesday afternoons at Carluccio's / 2.30-4pm, free / schoolmarm@fmail.net / 01865 727979 / Carluccio's, Oxford Castle, Castle Street

**DAVID PATTERSON SEMINAR** / Prof A Downy: The Four Stages of the Arab-Israeli Conflict - a reintroduction. / Hebrew and Jewish Studies Unit / 8pm, free / enquiries@ochjs.ac.uk / www.ochjs.ac.uk / Yarnton Manor, Yarnton

**GIGS & COMEDY**  
**Tue 4th**

**ACOUS TIC TUESDAYS** / 9pm, free / Cafe Royal Oxford Hotel, Park End St

**MASON D'ETRE OPEN MIC SESSION** / Find out more about Oxford celebrities / The Masons Arms, Quarry School Place, Headington

**CREATIVE TUESDAY** / Kimwei, The Tommy Guns, Bethany Weimers / From 9pm / Free / Cafe Tarifa, 56-60 Cowley Rd

**LIZZIE NEWBERY JAZZTET** / Jazz, blues, and fun! / 9-11pm, free / 243203 / Chester Arms, 19 Chester St

**Wed 5th**

**OPEN MUSIC WORKSHOP** / Exchange ideas with tutors. All welcome. / 8pm, free / PontMusic@aol.com / 07769 608124 / Folly Bridge Inn, 38 Abingdon Rd

**FIRE ACUSTIC!** / Simon Davies & Colin Fletcher, Moqam, Jon Fletcher Group, Susanna Starling / Oxford Amnesty International / 7.30pm, £6.50/£5 / http://oxfordcity.amnesty.org.uk/index.asp / The Vaults & Garden, Radcliffe Sq.

**ALVIN ROY'S REEDS UNLIMITED** / Jazz / 8pm, free / boxer884@yahoo.co.uk / 01993 891063 / The White Horse, Stonefish, OX29 8EA

**JAZZ, SOUL & FUNK @ THE TALKHOUSE** / 8ish - 10.30pm Free admission / livegigs@blissfulmusic.net / 351648 / The Talk House, Wheatley Road, Stanton St John, Beckley

**CINEMA to Thu 6th**

**Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)**

**CLASH OF THE TITANS** Wed: 1.00, 3.40, 6.10, 8.45, 11.30pm  
 Remake of 1981 film; Sam Worthington as Perseus. Thu: 1.00, 3.40, 6.10pm

**DATE NIGHT [15]** Wed & Thu: 5.40, 8.10, 10.30pm  
 Comedy with Steve Carell, Tina Fey. Subtitled. Tue & Wed: 8.10pm Mon & Tue: 5.40, 8.10pm

**DEAR JOHN [12A]** daily: 11.45am, 2.30, 5.10, 7.45pm  
 A soldier's life is shaped by a series of letters.

**THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ALICE CREED [18]**  
 Ex-cons plan kidnaping. Mon & Tue: 11.00am, 1.40, 4.10, 6.40, 9.10, 11.40pm

**FURRY VENGEANCE [PG]** Mon, Tue, 1.10, 3.30, 5.50pm  
 Family comedy with Brendan Fraser and plenty of animated animals.

**THE GHOST [15]** Tue & Wed: 11.20am, 2.20, 5.20, 8.30pm  
 Polish's adaptation of Robert Harris' political thriller.

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 3D [PG]** Mon, Thu: 8.30pm  
 Four friends wake up in 1986 after a heavy night in a hot tub.

**HOLLYWOOD [12A]** Tue: 12.30, 4.00, 7.20pm; Thu: 4.00, 7.20pm  
 Bollywood. Man hopes to banish misfortune by finding love. Hindi with English subtitles

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2D [PG]** Tue-Thu: 12.45, 3.15pm  
 Teenage Viking deviates from a destiny of dragon slaying. Subtitled. Sun 3.15pm

**IRON MAN 2 [12A]** Over 18s; Sun Tue 0.00pm Wed: 11.00am, 12.00, 2.00, 3.00, 5.00, 8.00, 9.00, 11.00pm, 12.00am  
 Tue: 11.00am, 12.00, 2.00, 3.00, 5.00, 8.00, 9.00pm  
 Thu: 11.00am, 12.00, 2.00, 3.00, 5.00, 8.00, 9.00pm

**IT'S A WONDERFUL AFTERLIFE [12A]** Wed: 11.15pm  
 Comedy. An Indian mother murders her daughter's unsuccessful suitor.

**KICK-ASS [15]** Wed & Thu: 10.20pm  
 Teenage boy just sort of decides to become a superhero...

**KIDS AM: PERCY JACKSON & THE LIGHTNING THIEF [PG]**  
 American teenager discovers he's the son of Poseidon. Thu: 10.30am

**THE LAST SONG [PG]** Wed & Thu: 11.30am, 2.10, 4.50, 7.30, 10.00pm  
 Milely Cyrus falls in love. Mon & Tue: 11.30am, 2.10, 4.50, 7.30pm

**NANNY MCPHEE AND THE BIG BANG [U]** Wed & Thu: 10.50am, 1.20pm  
 Sequel to Emma Thompson's family hit.

**Phoenix Picturehouse (0871 704 2062)**

**AGORA [12A]** Tue, Thu: 12.45, 6.00pm; Mon: 6.00pm; Wed: 3.45, 6.00pm  
 Historical drama. Rachel Weisz stars as Hypatia.

**BIG SCREEN: PSYCHO [15]** Wed: 11.30am  
 50th anniversary Hitchcock reissue. Exclusive screening for parents with babies under one

**CITY OF LIFE AND DEATH [15]** Mon, Wed: 6.20pm  
 The battle of Nanjing. Chinese/Japanese with English subtitles

**THE GHOST [15]** Tue-Thu: 3.30, 8.45pm  
 Roman Poland's adaptation of Robert Harris' political thriller.

**LIFE DURING WARTIME [15]** Mon: 1.00pm; Tue: 1.30pm; Tue: 4.00pm  
 Dark comedy film from drama sequel.

**PSYCHO [15]** Mon: 1.00pm; Tue: 4.00pm; Tue: 9.00pm  
 50th anniversary reissue of Hitchcock masterpiece.

**SIDEWAYS [15]** Tue: 8.30pm  
 Two middle-aged men take a bachelor road trip. Californian wine tasting at 7.30pm

**SLACKERS' CLUB: A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET [18]** Wed: 1.30pm  
 Sam Bayer remake of 1984 slasher. Free screening for students only

**Odeon George Street (0871 2244 007)**

**CLASH OF THE TITANS 3D [12A]** Mon: 11.30am, 2.10, 4.50, 7.30, 10.00pm  
 Remake of 1981 film, with Sam Worthington as Perseus.

**DATE NIGHT [15]** Mon-Thu: 3.45, 6.00, 8.30pm  
 Steve Carell and Tina Fey have quite an evening.

**DEAR JOHN [12A]** daily: 12.45, 6.15pm  
 A soldier's life is shaped by a series of letters.

**THE GHOST [15]** daily: 3.15, 8.45pm  
 Roman Poland's adaptation of Robert Harris' political thriller.

**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 3D [PG]** Tue-Thu: 11.30am, 1.45, 4.30pm; Mon-Wed: 1.45, 4.30pm  
 Teenage Viking deviates from a destiny of dragon slaying.

**IRON MAN 2 [12A]** Mon, Wed: 11.00am, 1.00, 2.00, 4.00, 5.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 11.00pm, 12.00am  
 Tue: 11.00am, 1.00, 2.00, 4.00, 5.00, 7.00, 8.00pm  
 With Robert Downey Jr. Thu: 11.00am, 1.00, 2.00, 4.00, 5.00, 7.00, 8.00pm

**THE LAST SONG [PG]** Tue: 2.30, 5.15, 7.45pm  
 Milely Cyrus falls in love. Subtitled. Tue 2.30pm, Wed 11.45am

**REMEMBER ME [12A]** daily: 11.15pm  
 Romantic drama, starring Robert Pattinson not as a vampire this time

**SENIOR SCREEN: INVICTUS [12A]** Wed: 10.45am  
 The story behind the Springboks' 1995 Rugby World Cup bid.

**Odeon Magdalen Street (0871 2244 007)**

**IRON MAN 2 [12A]** Mon: 12.00, 3.00, 6.00, 9.00pm  
 Robert Downey Jr returns as Tony Stark.

**KICK-ASS [15]** Tue & Wed: 2.00, 5.00, 8.00pm  
 Teenage boy decides to become a superhero...

**NANNY MCPHEE AND THE BIG BANG [U]** Thu: 2.15pm  
 Sequel to Emma Thompson's family hit.

**Ultimate Picture Palace (01865 245288)**

**LOURDES [U]** Thu: 9.00pm; Mon, Wed: 7.00pm  
 A disabled woman faces questions in the wake of a miracle. French with English subtitles

**SAMSON & DELILAH [15]** Thu: 2.00pm; Sun: 8.30pm; Wed: 9.00pm; Tue: 7.15pm  
 Two teenage Aborigines flee their village for Alice Springs. In English and Warlaji

**THE SCOUTING BOOK FOR BOYS [15]** Tue: 9.15pm; Wed: 2.30pm  
 A boy helps his best friend hide.

**JOBS**

**D'OVERBROECK'S COLLEGE**  
 SHMIS Co-educational 11 - 18; Sixth Form: 240  
**TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS**  
 at the College's International Study Centre  
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 Further details of the post may be found on [www.doverbroecks.com/posts](http://www.doverbroecks.com/posts)  
 They may also be obtained from Mrs Pat Harris at d'Overbroeck's College, The Swan Building, 111 Banbury Road Oxford, OX2 6JX. email: [pat.harris@doverbroecks.com](mailto:pat.harris@doverbroecks.com)  
 Closing date for applications: 11th May 2010

**HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR WANTED** friendly, enthusiastic, flexible, able to work under pressure. Relevant experience required. 30-40 hours, £6.90 per hour, maternity cover 10 months. Send CV to [housekeeping@oldparsonage-hotel.co.uk](mailto:housekeeping@oldparsonage-hotel.co.uk)

**ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT REQUIRED** for busy dance school [www.expressionsdance.co.uk](http://www.expressionsdance.co.uk). 5 hrs/day, 3 days/week. £5000pa starting salary with increases based on performance. Must be a hard worker who can work well independently, prioritise and manage their own workload. Looking for a bright individual who can bring energy, enthusiasm and ideas to the workplace. Previous experience of similar work and/or a knowledge of performing arts organisations an advantage. [wy48@users.dailyinfo.co.uk](mailto:wy48@users.dailyinfo.co.uk)

**MUSICIAN NEEDED**

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 Please email Emily with your CV via the website. [www.eau-de-vie.co.uk](http://www.eau-de-vie.co.uk)

**PROGRAMMER REQUIRED** for small local firm - see [oxfordware.com/jobs](http://oxfordware.com/jobs)

**RECEPTION/LODGE STAFF** (evening shifts) required at St Catherine's College, 59 hours per fortnight, £8.40/hour. Strong customer service skills essential, and front-desk experience in high quality hospitality environment is desirable. See [www.stcatz.ox.ac.uk](http://www.stcatz.ox.ac.uk). [wsg7@users.dailyinfo.co.uk](mailto:wsg7@users.dailyinfo.co.uk)

**C++ SOFTWARE ENGINEERS WANTED:** If you enjoy and consider yourself a good computer scientist and enjoy software development we would like to speak with you. We are based in central Oxford. We are a team of over 20 software engineers. We pay extremely well and offer all kinds of benefits. Send us your CV. [why@users.dailyinfo.co.uk](mailto:why@users.dailyinfo.co.uk)

**RESEARCHER, FOOD/NUTRITION** project. To source and collate a wide range of information for Charity project. £12 per hour. Immediate start. Oxford. Apply with CV. [wixg@users.dailyinfo.co.uk](mailto:wixg@users.dailyinfo.co.uk)

**WORK IN PROVENANCE.** Live and work in Provenance for 6 weeks. Driving licence, resourcefulness and some French required. £1500. Apply with CV. [wixj@users.dailyinfo.co.uk](mailto:wixj@users.dailyinfo.co.uk)

**PA TO MD.** Are you very organised, literate, adaptable and dynamic? Do you hold a full driving licence? Knowledge of European languages and ability to travel an advantage. Oxford based. Salary subject to experience. Apply with CV. [wxfj@users.dailyinfo.co.uk](mailto:wxfj@users.dailyinfo.co.uk)

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Oxford Vaccine Trials**  
 If you are aged 18-50 and in good health, you could be eligible to take part in one of our clinical vaccine trials. Get in touch for more information. [VaccineTrials@well.ox.ac.uk](mailto:VaccineTrials@well.ox.ac.uk) • 01865 857406 [www.jenner.ac.uk](http://www.jenner.ac.uk)  
 Volunteers will be reimbursed for their participation.

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**SERVICES OFFERED**

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DISCOS, KARAOKES AND EQUIPMENT Hire - Dave Seamer Entertainment: (01865) 240054. [www.dave-seamer.co.uk](http://www.dave-seamer.co.uk)

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**Rickshaw Rides**

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**REVIEWS: KICK ASS [15]**

**KICK-ASS: DOES IT KICK ASS?**

A hyped-up swizz of a movie, *Kick Ass* talks big but doesn't kick ass. Less sassy or surprising than Matthew Vaughn's helming of *Stardust*, it's more akin to his nudge-nudge trickys debut *Layer Cake*. Whip-edit, not whup-ass, the action underwhelms. Thanks then to Chloe Moretz for her cussing, sword-slashing, gun-toting twelve old assassin: the film's strongest card and its best actor.



*Kick-Ass* is brilliant! Incredibly violent in quite a shocking and unexpected way but also laugh out loud funny, not only thanks to the perfectly timed one-liners, but also to the gut wrenching implausibility of the stunts and the ludicrous character mockery.

Comic book fan Dave (Aaron Johnson) is a typical teen. But his decision to don a superhero costume to right wrongs causes all sorts of mayhem. Ineptly stepping in to stop a street beating, Dave's Kick-Ass persona becomes a YouTube sensation. Catching the attention of real-life crime-fighters Big Daddy (Nicholas Cage) and daughter Hit-Girl (Moretz) is one thing. Being mistaken for the duo by crime boss Frank D'Amico (Mark Strong) is another. Targeted by the baddies, Kick-Ass must put-up or shut-up. But with D'Amico's pampered kid, Christopher Mintz-Plasse (*Superbad*'s McLovin), donning a cape as Red Mist to lure him in, Kick-Ass is gonna need some ball-busting help. Step forward Hit-Girl and Big Daddy.

And oh boy is that Aaron Johnson kid cute! I can quite see how his forty something womanfriend would be keen to snap him up and create perfectly beautiful and talented children together. I am sure there must be more to it than an attraction to perfect bone structure and puppy dog eyes, oh, and some serious acting talent... but that has to help!

The war mongering, potty mouthed, gun totting, switchblade hurling ten year old girlwarrior is dynamite on screen, and even when you do a body count and realise that she's taken out more baddies than she can count on her still juvenile little fingers and toes, you still feel compassion for the kid within.

**CREATIVE TUESDAY** / Kimwei, The Tommy Guns, Bethany Weimers / From 9pm / Free / Cafe Tarifa, 56-60 Cowley Rd

**LIZZIE NEWBERY JAZZTET** / Jazz, blues, and fun! / 9-11pm, free / 243203 / Chester Arms, 19 Chester St

**"it won't numb your ass but it won't kick it either"**  
 The badasses, that's pretty much it. A comic book pastiche-cum-teen comedy, it's a poor man's *Kill Bill* spliced with *Superbad*. But it lacks the bite of either. Some near the knuckle moments - of violence and comedy - add spice but overall it's bland.

The best bits are the bursts of energy brought about by Hit-Girl and Big Daddy. C-words and samurai swords add to Hit-Girl's eyebrow-raising appeal. And Nicholas Cage is suitably touchy-creepy as the damaged dad who's taught her how to kill.

**Burton Taylor Studio (01865 305305)**  
**LITTLE DARK - SKETCH COMEDY** Tue 4th - Sat 8th: 7.30pm  
 Little Dark present 75 mins of sketches. 'A rare treat' - *ComedyLife*

**YASU! - THE MAGIC SHOW** Tue 4th - Sat 8th: 9.30pm  
 An original piece of magical theatre from one of Oxford's finest student magicians. £5/£4

**Oxford Playhouse (01865 305305)**  
**THE ODYSSEY** Wed 5th: 7.30pm; Thu 6th: 2.30pm, 7.30pm; Fri 7th: 8pm  
 Post-show talk with Wed post-show lecture Fri 6.45pm. Sat 8th: 2.30pm & 7.30pm  
 Ancient tale of a man fighting monsters & gods to get back to his family. £9.50-£14.50

nerdy lad, no superpowers, crap with girls - it shifts into 'as if' territory that's more about humour and setting up a sequel. No bad thing that, as Hit-Girl deserves her own movie. In Moretz, Vaughn's found some stardust.

An eye-catching film but not as quirky as it thinks it is: it won't numb your ass but it won't kick it either.

**Glenn Watson**  
**"a poor man's Kill Bill spliced with Superbad"**

Vaughn's *Kick-Ass* is more about the characters than the carve-up. But while it waives reality credentials early on

**"incredibly violent but also laugh-out-loud funny"**

Amidst all the gratuitous violence, which is somehow palatable because it is taken to such extremes of fictionalisation, there comes a moment of heart wrenching reality. As the uber villain, the arch nemesis of the small female heroine, hurls her tiny frame around his plush penthouse office and finally slams her body onto a plate glass table and punches the crap out of her, the horror of this grown man, hell bent on inflicting ultimate pain on girl a fraction his size - albeit that she has the same revenge-driven intent to kill - comes rushing off the screen to hit the audience with about the same impact as each fist he lays into her face. I don't think I was the only one in the room who stopped smiling at that point, just for a second.

Then Kick Ass, clad in his farcical, scuba diver super hero outfit, bursts through the door with a bazooka gun on one shoulder, and delivers a line so cheekily clad in cliché that the momentary reality check is dispelled and the crazy cartoonery continues. Anyway - see it. It's great. Lizzie B