

www.dailyinfo.co.uk  
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Next issue: Sat 7th May  
Deadline: 10am, Fri 6th May


**Thu 5th May - Fri 6th May 2005 (2nd Week)**

**COMING SOON**

**MOZART'S REQUIEM + BACH.** Merton Chapel. 7th May, 7.30pm. £10/£8 at door or 01865 557547  
**OPEN MORNING:** d'Overbroeck's College, Independent Sixth Form & Leckford Place School (age 11-16). Saturday 7 May, 10am to 12.30pm. Entry into d'Overbroeck's Sixth Form (for First or Second Year Sixth). Entry at age 11 or 13 into Leckford Place School (part of d'Overbroeck's college) - Oxford's new independent day school for girls and boys. Tel: 310000 for details. All welcome.

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via 'What's On' / 'Balls'

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UKCP registered Psychotherapist offering short and long term therapy Email enquiry@katesimpson.co.uk or call 07963 259954 for further details.

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**CINEMA Until Fri 6th May**

**Odeon Magdalen Street (0871 2244 007)**  
HITCH [12A] Thurs: 6.45pm  
SAHARA [12A] Thurs: 1.45, 4.15, 9.00  
THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY (PG) Life, the Universe & Everything. Wheelchair access. Thurs: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN [15] Fri: 2.00, 5.15, 8.30pm  
THE AMITYVILLE HORROR [15] Fri: 4.30, 8.45pm  
GUESS WHO [12A] Fri: 2.15, 6.30pm  
Phoenix Picture House (512526)  
MELINDA & MELINDA [12A] Thu: 6.45pm  
SHOWCASING SHORTS - OVFM (15) Thu: 8.45pm  
MARRIA FULL OF GRACE (15) Thu: 4.15pm Fri: 1.30, 6.30pm  
DON'T MOVE (15) Thu: 1.00pm  
THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY (PG) Life, the Universe & Everything. Best Fri: 1.45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.15pm  
FUTURE SHORTS [15] Fri: 11.30pm  
Ozone Multiplex (0870 444 3030)  
DOWNFALL [15] Thurs: 2.10, 5.20, 8.30pm  
HITCH [12A] Fri: 2.00, 5.00, 8.15pm  
THE AMITYVILLE HORROR [15] Thu: 1.00, 3.30, 5.50, 8.15pm  
MISS CONGENIALITY 2 - ARMED AND FABULOUS [12A] Action comedy sequel with Sandra Bullock. Thurs: 12.50, 5.00pm Fri: 5.10  
WEDDING DATE [12A] Thurs: 3.10, 7.20, 9.10pm  
THE INTERPRETER [12A] Thurs: 3.20, 6.00, 8.45pm  
CURSED [15] Thu: 1.20, 3.40, 5.40, 7.40, 9.40pm  
SAHARA (12A) Thurs: 2.00, 6.50, Fri: 1.10, 3.50, 6.20pm  
GUESS WHO [12A] Thu: 3.00, 5.30, 8.00pm  
Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)  
CITY OF GOD (PG) Thu: 9.30pm  
SOMERSAULT (PG) Thu: 7.00pm  
DOWNFALL [12A] Fri: 5.30, 8.30pm  
9 SONGS [18] 11.30pm  
Odeon George Street (0871 2244 007)  
VALIANT [U] Thu: 12.00pm, Fri: 12.15pm  
ROBOTS [U] Thu: 12.15pm, Fri: 12.00pm  
POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE [U] Thu: 12.30pm  
THE INTERPRETER [12A] Thu: 12.00, 2.45, 5.30, 8.30pm  
THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY (PG) Life, the Universe & Everything. Thu: 1.30, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00pm  
THE AMITYVILLE HORROR [15] Thu: 1.45, 4.15, 7.00, 9.15pm  
XXX2: THE NEXT LEVEL [12A] Thu: 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.15pm  
GUESS WHO [12A] Thu: 2.30, 5.00, 8.00pm  
WEDDING DATE [12A] Thu: 2.15, 4.30, 6.45, 8.45pm  
HITCH [12A] Fri: 12.00, 4.30pm

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**JOBS OFFERED**

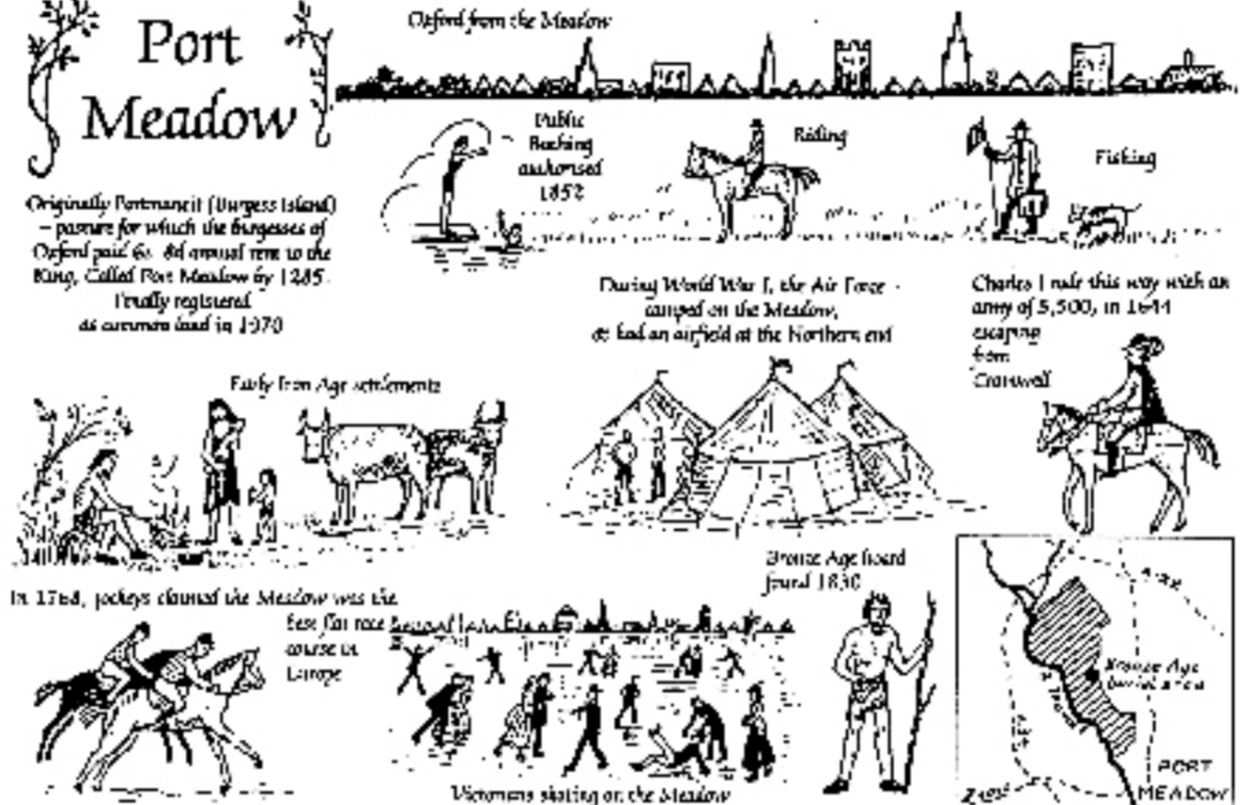
**Homelinguua**  
Language school operations manager required  
The job involves preparing itineraries, quotations and operations of homestay based study programmes in the UK. Most of our students are from Japan. The candidate must have experience in the language school or travel business, perhaps as an accommodation officer or school manager.  
The job also involves some sales, contacting overseas agents etc. Driving license required. Second European language preferred. Summertown office. Starting date is mid-May. Salary from £17000 pa depending on experience.  
For further details please contact Mrs. James on 01865 248432 or e-mail your CV to marzenajames@aol.com  
Royal Oxford Hotel, Park End Street Oxford, OX1 1HR

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**MM OXFORD STUDY SERVICES** is currently seeking qualified and experienced EFL Teachers and Social Activity Programme Co-ordinators for short-term summer contracts in Oxford during July and August. Knowledge of foreign languages and an active interest in sports an advantage. Some residential posts also available, as well as part time Social Activity positions. MM Oxford Study Services are also seeking a Japanese speaking Social Activity Leader during July and August either on a full or part time basis. Apply to: MMOSS, 44 Blenheim Drive, Oxford OX2 8DQ english@mmoxford.co.uk tel: 01865 513788



**MARY POTTERS OXFORD**



1. Disputes between Oxford and Wolvercote over the ownership of Port Meadow raged from the 13th to the 20th century. The Abbess of Godstow several times blocked the main burgesses' entrance (then by Aristotle Lane) and was required by law to repair it. By 1970, grazing rights established by 130 Wolvercote householders (entitled to graze anything from a few geese to 60 head of cattle each) outweighed those established by Oxford Freeman. However, once a year the Sheriff of Oxford would ride out with the Freeman to impound the animals. They were then given back to their owners on payment of a £3 fine. The date changed from year to year, and was kept a strict secret beforehand. The Sheriff usually conducted operations from horseback, except for one in the early sixties who, as a member of the RAF, preferred to do so from a helicopter.

2. While Port Meadow is now common land, tempers still run high when there is any suggestion of change or development. Not only do the local residents enjoy the possibility of country walks just beyond their back gates, but the ecology of the boggy ground, left virtually untouched for hundreds of years, is of great interest to naturalists. The closest the meadow ever came to planned development was in the harsh winter of 1860-1. A subscription was raised to provide work for the poor, which took the form of building walks on the meadow. Sir Richard Cresswell intended to carry on the work at his own expense and planned a circuit of walks, planted with willows and flower borders. Opposition from the Freeman of the City prevented him from doing this.

3. Now used by private horse owners and riding schools, the meadow was for centuries a popular site for horse racing, and its peak of excellence in 1768 was the result of work paid for by the Duchess of Marlborough. By the mid 18th century the race meetings had become important social occasions, estimated to be worth £2,000 to the city in trade. The last race meeting was held in 1880, after 40 years of disputes over rights to use the meadow.

4. Port meadow provides some of the most picturesque easy walks within reach of central Oxford. Best of all, by walking away from Oxford along the West side of the meadow, one encounters first the Perch, and then, by walking all the way to Godstow The Trout Inn, which both serve food and good ale.



**GIGS**

**Thurs 5th**  
**'THE SCENE' ROCK NIGHT** / Live music from Decora + 100 Ways Forward + The Tiger Mendoza Project / Solid Promotions / Doors 7pm. Entry £3 / Email: solidpromotions@aol.com / Web: www.solidpromotions.com / upstairs @ The Pub Oxford  
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**THE SPIN JAZZ CLUB** / Dave Gordon - top UK pianist (The Travis, Chris Garrick) / £7.50 open 8 / band on 8.30 / The Spin/The Wheatshed, Wheatshed Alley, 129 High Street; Tel: 243276; Web: www.spinjazz.com  
**LIVE MUSIC** / The Treat + Warren / The Money Shots / Kiss Bar Park End Street / 8.30pm £4 / Web: www.quickfirerecordings.co.uk / Kiss Bar

**MEETINGS & LECTURES**

**Thur 5th**  
**INTRODUCTION TO THE IMPRESSIONISTS** / British Sign Language Interpreted Gallery Talk / Booking required / 11.30am, free / Email: education.services@ashmolean-museum.ox.ac.uk / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street. Opening times: Tue-Sat 10 - 5, Sun 12 - 5, Bank Hol Mols 10 - 5; Tel: 278000; Fax: 278018; Web: www.ashmolean.org.uk  
**FREEDOM IN RELATIONSHIPS** / Four individuals share their journeys of living with celibacy / Brahma Kumaris / 7.30pm. Free of charge / Web: www.globaleartcentre.org.uk/events\_guide/talks/default.htm / Global Retreat Centre  
**STAGELIGHTS** / New members always welcome / Grove Theatre Group / 8.10pm / Web: www.stagelightsgroup.org / Old Mill Hall, Grove  
**OXFORD STUNT FACTORY** / Gravity & Extreme Sports club at Oxford & Brookes / 7pm / Email: enquiries@oxfordstuntfactory.com / Upstairs at the Pub Oxford, The Plain  
**OARC WEEKLY OPEN MEETING** / Come and be part of shaping the project, consensus decision making. Room 1, upstairs / Oxford Action Resource Centre / 7pm-9pm / Free / Email: oarc@seup.net / East Oxford Community Centre, Princes Street; Tel: 792168

**Fri 6th**

**THE ART OF THE JEWELLER** / 45 minute lunchtime gallery talk. / 1.15, £2, booking recommended on 278015 / Randolph Gallery, Room 1, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street; Web: http://www.ashmolean.org.uk/ash/education/  
**CHEMICALS & CONSCIOUSNESS** / Baroness Susan Greenfield discusses the effects of drugs on mood, etc. £6/£4 / 5pm / Web: www.oxtrust.org.uk/sciencecity / Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street; Tel: 305305 / Fax: 793748; Web: www.oxfordplayhouse.com/

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**Chekhov - The Seagull**  
Oxford Theatre Guild

Chekhov himself described this play as a comedy in four acts. Since then, however, there has been some debate over to what extent this play is a comedy or a tragedy. This production seemed to place more emphasis on the comic elements of the play and generated more than a few laughs from the audience - often from the melodramatic actress, Arkandina, played brilliantly by Cathy Oakes, and her brother, the ageing Sorin (Colin Burnie).

The story centres around Konstantin, the frustrated writer who stages a play in the first act which stars Nina, the beautiful aspiring actress, and love of Konstantin's life. The play is not greatly received, and Nina, who is at first enamoured with Konstantin, turns her affections towards Trigorin, his mother's lover. Konstantin is increasingly devastated. He leaves the house and returns with a seagull that he has shot and presents it to her. Nina is confused by his actions and presumes that the seagull is a symbol of something she can't understand; and this is where their relationship ends.

Later in the play when Konstantin's writing begins to be published and his career ensues, he still mourns the loss of his Nina. His melancholy seems to be reflected in his work which is continually noted for its lack of "any living thing" and is described by Trigorin as being "formless". At this point, we wonder if the shooting of the seagull is almost like a sealing of his fate; that some part of him died with the seagull - he cannot live either through Nina or through his lifeless work.

As the play continues it appears that most of the characters in some form can be related to the seagull. There is an overwhelming feeling of unrequited love and loss. Masha, frustrated that her love for Konstantin isn't reciprocated, begins the play dressed in black "mourning for her life". Sorin, now old and partly crippled, mourns the fact that he hasn't achieved the two things he ever wanted in life; to be a "literary man", and to marry. Medvedenko mourns his poverty, and finally Nina mourns her unsuccessful career and her love for Trigorin. When she returns to Konstantin at the end of the play it is not to rekindle their romance, but only to affirm her love for Trigorin who has since left her. She refers to herself as the seagull, drawing a parallel between Konstantin ending the life of the seagull, and Trigorin being the man responsible for ending her life as it once was.

The play closes with an awful tragedy. The finale was both powerful and emotional, a successful end to a very successful performance all round. Hugely enjoyable, this was a great play to celebrate 50 years of the Oxford Theatre Guild.

Chloe Anderson 04/05/05

**EXHIBITIONS**

**THE ARTIST'S PAGE** / Sketches and doodles by Tinoretto, Palma di Giovane, Inigo Jones and others / Christ Church Picture Gallery, Christ Church (entrance via Canterbury Gate / Oriel Square) Open: 1 Oct - 31 Mar: Mo-Sa, 10.30-1pm & 2-4.30; Su, 2-4.30, 1 Apr - 30 Sep: Mo-Sa, 10.30-5; Su, 2-5. Adults £2, concs £1; Tel: 276172; Fax: 202429; Web: www.chch.ox.ac.uk/gallery/index.htm  
**AIMS: MENTAL HEALTH SURVIVORS** / Exhibiting photography, paintings and sculpture. / Ark-T Centre, Crowell Road, / Monday - Friday 10am-3pm / Email: mark@ark-t.org / Ark-T Centre, Crowell Rd, Cowley, OX4 3LN  
**PAINTINGS & PRINTS BY ROS MORLEY** / Paintings and Prints by artist Ros Morley. 'Colour & Atmosphere' / Wolfson College Arts/Music Soc / 10am-4pm / Free / Web: www.paintingforpleasure.com / Wolfson College, Little Rd; Tel: 01865 274700  
**WILLIAM GILPIN'S SUNSETS** / Prints from a book of watercolours by the celebrated 19th c. artist / Magdalen College Arts Festival / Open daily 1pm - 5pm, free. / Web: www.magdalenfestival.com / Magdalen College Auditorium, Longwall St  
**KATE KESSLING NEW PAINTINGS** / A mixed exhibition featuring Kate Kessling and other artists / www.modernartistsgallery.com / some Sundays - phone first / Email: info@modernartistsgallery.com / Web: www.modernartistsgallery.com / modern artists gallery whichurch on thames.oxa  
**FIONA TAN: COUNTESSANCE** / Film/photography installations. Collective memory and the construction of identity through images. / Modern Art Oxford, 30 Pembroke Street. Opening times: Tues - Sat 10-5pm, Sun 12-5pm, closed Mon; Tel: 722733; Fax: 722573; Web: www.modernartoxford.org.uk  
**EVERYDAY MYTHS - WORKS BY JANE BUSH** / Museum-inspired collage artist from London / Christ Church Picture Gallery, Christ Church (entrance via Canterbury Gate / Oriel Square) Open: 1 Oct - 31 Mar: Mo-Sa, 10.30-1pm & 2-4.30; Su, 2-4.30, 1 Apr - 30 Sep: Mo-Sa, 10.30-5; Su, 2-5. Adults £2, concs £1; Tel: 276172; Fax: 202429; Web: www.chch.ox.ac.uk/gallery/index.htm  
**DALMATIAN SUIT**  
DALMATIAN SUIT for small to medium-sized adult. Full body (inc. head, tail, head, paw!) £30 o.n.o. susannabandit@hotmail.com / 07815 050817

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