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Next issue: Sat 11th May
Deadline: 10am, Fri 10th May



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Closing date: Tuesday 14 May

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THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY FORUM. Tuesday 14 May. 'Scientific Understanding and the Coining of Words in Middle English'. Speaker: Professor J.D. North. 5pm at Rewley House, Wellington Square.

WHEATLEY CHORAL SOCIETY with Oxford Symphonia: Haydn, Bruckner and Stravinsky. Sat 11th at 7.30pm, St Margaret's, Oxford. £8/£6. 01865 872009

TONIGHT

Oxford University Orchestra
Strauss - Four Last Songs
Elgar - First Symphony
The Sheldonian Theatre, 8pm
Tickets £10/5 available on the door

FREVD
FRI 10 DJ MANFEE MUSIC & DANCING
SAT 11 HOT SPRING HEALERS BLUES
SUN 12 SKELETON CREW FOLK & RENAISSANCE
THEN VIVA SALSA! FROM 6PM
MON 13 DAVE CARLEIDGE (10PM-12) PIANO
TUE 14 RICHARD MOLLER (10PM-12) PIANO
WED 15 THE CHRIS HENLEY TRIO JAZZ
THU 16 LOS HOMBRES LATIN GUITARS
Acts 11pm-2am unless stated

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CINEMA

Fri 10th - Thurs 16th May
Ultimate Picture Palace 245288
MONSOON WEDDING (15) Fri: 9.15 Sat: 4.30, 9.15 Sun: 3.30, 8.15 Mon - Thurs: 7.15
See review at www.dailyinfo.co.uk
THE EXORCIST: DIRECTOR'S CUT (18) Fri & Sat 11.30pm, Sun 10.30pm

Based on a true story...
CITIZEN KANE (U) Fri & Sat: 6.50, Sun: 6.00
Welles' demolition of William Randolph Hearst
NIGHT ON EARTH (15) Mon: 9.30
Five tales, five stories...
A FISTFUL OF DYNAMITE (15) Tue-Thurs: 9.30
Politics and bank robbing from Sergio Leone

Odeon George St 0870 5050007
DARK BLUE WORLD (12) Fri & Sat: 12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15 Sun - Thurs: 12.15, 3.00, 6.00, 8.45
Czech pilots in WW2
DOG SOLDIERS (15) Fri & Sat: 2.30, 6.45, 9.45
Sun: 2.30, 6.15, 9.30 Mon-Thurs: 12.45 (Not Weds), 3.30, 6.15, 9.15

Squaddies v werewolves
THE PANIC ROOM (15) Fri & Sat: 12.30, 3.30, 6.30, 9.30 Sun - Thurs: 12.00, 2.45, 5.45, 8.45
Mother and daughter hide from burglars in secret room.
BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM (12) Fri & Sat: 12.15 (not Sat), 3.00, 6.00, 9.00 Sun - Wed: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30
Women's football comedy

ABOUT A BOY (12) Fri & Sat: 1.00, 4.00, 7.00, 10.00
Sun - Wed: 2.15, 5.15, 8.00 Thu: 12.00, 2.15, 3.00, 5.15, 6.00, 8.00, 9.00
12 year old helps Hugh Grant grow up
CROSSROADS (PG) Sat & Sun: 12 noon
Britney frolicking across the US
SHOWTIME (12) Fri & Sat: 7.15, 9.45 Sun - Thu: 1.30, 4.00

Murphy & De Niro (!)
ICE AGE (U) Fri & Sat: 12.30, 2.45, 5.00, 7.15, 9.30 Sun - Wed: 1.30, 4.00
Furry animation
RETURN TO NEVERLAND (U) Sat: 12.45, Sun: 12.30

Peter Pan in WWII... animated
SENIOR SCREEM: BANDITS (12) Wed Doors 10.15, Film 10.45 Refreshments included.
Good natured crime caper.
STAR WARS II (PG) Thu: 10.00, 1.15, 4.45, 8.15
Send in the clones...

Odeon Magdalen St 08705050007
THE SCORPION KING (12) Fri: 1.00, 3.45, 6.30, 9.30, Sat: 3.45, 6.30, 9.30 Sun - Weds: 12.15 (not Sun), 2.45, 5.30, 8.30
Much sweat, little plot
JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS (U) Sat: 1.00, Sun: 12.30

Saving adults from aliens
ABOUT A BOY (12) Fri - Weds: 12.00, 3.00, 6.00, 9.00
12 year old boy helps Hugh Grant grow up
BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM (12) Thu: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30
Women's football comedy
STAR WARS II (PG) Thu: 10.45, 2.00, 5.45, 9.15
Send in the clones...

Phoenix Picture House 512526
PAULINE AND PAULETTE (15) Daily: 1.30, (not Sun), 3.10, 6.45
Bittersweet story of elderly sisters.
ALI ZAOUA (15) Fri - Tue: 4.45, 8.30, Wed & Thu: 4.45, 9.00
Homeless children plan a special funeral.

ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS (15) Fri & Tue: 2.20, 7.10, 9.30, Sat & Sun: 7.10, 9.30, Mon & Thurs: 2.20, 9.30, Wed: 4.40, 9.30
Socail comedy of close-knit community
HAMMETT (15) Sat, Mon & Thu: 4.40
The author as detective.
ONE FROM THE HEART (15) Fri & Tue: 4.40, Weds 2.20

Coppola's musical 4th of July
GREASE (PG) Fri: 11.30pm
A blueprint for the future.
MAGNOLIA (18) Fri & Sat: 10.30pm, Sun 12 noon

Humanity laid bare, with frogs.
THE SHINING (18) Sat: 11.30pm
Jack's back to work.
KIDS CLUB: VIVA ROCK VEGAS (U) Sat: 2.00pm
Prehistoric humour. No unaccompanied adults.
APOCALYPSE NOW REDUX (18) Sun: 12.15

An extra 41 minutes of madness
SUCH IS LIFE (15) Sun: 5.00
Czech silent classic
FRENCH CINEMA: LE DINER DE CONS (15) Mon: 6.30
Tables are turned in social farce.
NIGHT TALKS WITH MOTHER (18) Tue: 7.00
Autobiographical confessions.

THE WILD BUNCH (18) Thu 11.30pm
Violent western classic.
GREASE 2 (PG) Thu 11.30pm
Another study of human courtship rituals

MEETINGS / LECTURES

BONES 'N' STONES: OXFORDSHIRE OBJECTS / Family event, finding local objects hidden in displays / free / Pitt Rivers Museum, Parks Road. Open Mon-Sat 1pm-4.30pm, Tel: 270927 (info 270949).

K.E.E.N. (KIDS ENJOY EXERCISE NOW): ZIG-ZAG / Music/drama workshop / 5.15-6.15pm / St Aldate's Parish Centre, 40, Pembroke St

PAUL BUCK / Discussing new book 'Lisbon: A Cultural and Literary Companion' / 5pm Details: 286880 / Centre for Portuguese Language, Littlegate House, St Ebbes

MARKETS IN HISTORY / Hicks Lecture in Economic and Social History / 5.00 / Schools

THEATRICAL NEEDS

ACTORS WANTED FOR short film. 2 male, 1 female of around 40 yrs old. Email ameetgill@hotmail.com for audition information.

THEATRE

Fri 10th - Thurs 16th May
Oxford Playhouse 305305
PEER GYNT Wed 8th - Sat 11th
Wed & Thu: 7.30pm Fri: 8pm Sat: 2.30pm, 7.30pm
OUDS present Ibsen's epic tale of a lovable rascal. Music by Grieg and new Oxford-based composer Amoret Abis. £6-£12

ANDY SHEPPARD: NOCTURNAL TOURIST Mon 13th: 7.30pm
One of Britain's top saxophonists £12.50/ £10.50
THE OXFORD REVUE VS THE CAMBRIDGE FOOTLIGHTS Tue 14th: 7.30pm
New comedy. £6.50 (students) / £8

GEORGE PIPER DANCES Thu 16th: 7.30pm
Ballet Boyz Nunn & Trevitt with their fierce new company. £6.50 (concs)-£17

Apollo Theatre 0870 6063500

THAT'LL BE THE DAY Sun 12th: 7.30
50s, 60s & 70s Rock 'n' Roll Show. £10.00-£15.50

Old Fire Station Theatre 297170
PICASSO IN THE LAPIN AGLE Tue 7th - Sat 11th
Daily 7.30, Sat: 2.30, 7.30pm
By Steve Martin. See review on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

CHARITY THE MUSICAL Tues 14th - Sat 18th Daily 7.30, Sat mat: 2.30
Sparking new musical by Sara Kreindler

Pegasus Theatre 722851
RHINOCEROS Thu 9th - Sat 11th Daily: 8pm
'Spectacular and ridiculously funny' -Sunday Times/ £7/£4.50

Burton Taylor Theatre 305350
SCENES FROM AN EXECUTION Tue 7th - Sat 11th
Daily: 7.30pm
By Howard Barker. Single show with interval

UNNATURAL SELECTION Tue 14th - Sat 18th Daily: 9.30pm
A silly story of pseudo-science. New writing.

THE GARDEN PARTY Tue 14th - Sat 18th Daily: 7.30pm
By Vaclav Havel. Surreal story of power politics from the President Of the Czech Republic

Michael Pilch Theatre 07732 607639
THE FIRE RAISERS Wed 8th - Sat 11th
Daily: 7.30pm, Sat mat: 2.30
A city terrorised by unknown arsonists.

Moser Theatre, Wadham College
TROUBLE AND STRIFE IN THE LAND OF COCONUTS AND SAND Wed 8th - Sat 11th Daily: 7.30pm
Written and directed by Peter Easterbrook

www.dailyinfo.co.uk
READERSHIP STATISTICS
(Top left of Home Page)
- Gives the number of times each category is looked at. Currently the average number of visitors to the site is 2,500 a day, each of whom looks at 4 pages.

Between midnight on Sunday and noon Thursday.
103 subjects have been looked at.

The top 8 categories were:
ROOMS TO LET 1534
CINEMA GUIDE 1358
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Theatre Review || Peer Gynt
The Oxford Playhouse until Saturday

Henrik Ibsen first wrote Peer Gynt in 1867 as a long poem, intended to be read rather than performed. The origin of the play as we know it today came in 1874 when he invited Grieg to write some music to accompany a stage production of the work - and so the Peer Gynt Suite was born.

It was performed on this occasion with the original Grieg score, by a student cast - and obviously so, mainly due to the lack of polish which tends to accompany the mechanics of amateur productions. However, the rendition was an enthusiastic and creative one, with excellent choreography. Especially noteworthy was the main man, Matthew Ashcroft as Peer Gynt, who was dynamic, with a beautiful voice quality particularly when being the younger Peer.



Ibsen's play is a kind of odyssey for Peer as he tries to find his true self and thus justify his existence. The many scenes encompassed within the play's five Acts reflect the stages of Peer's life, starting as a young man living in the world of Norway's traditional folk and fairy tales and in his mind embodying every hero apart from himself. This is fine while he is young, but translated into adulthood it cannot lead to self-justification and instead is a negative quality. After he has an encounter with the trolls who serve as a metaphor for everything low and unfulfilled about man, Peer begins his adult life on the wrong track: what he should do is to follow the maxim: 'To thine own self be true', but he is confused by its similarity to the trolls' saying: 'To thine own self be all-sufficient' and it is the latter that he follows. Henceforth, we see him as false prophet, king of fools, and grasping self-preserver. What he needs to realise, and what he is finally taught by an onion, is that a man's soul is placed there by none other than himself - unless he does this he is nothing but a series of layers of experiences.

I tend to find Ibsen plays in general to be overly long and lacking subtlety, and Peer Gynt was no exception. He hits his points home with a sledge-hammer - there is never any danger that one should miss the main thrust of the play, and his method of doing this always strikes me as being like a student desperately trying to demonstrate in his essay that he can stick to the title. If man's motto was: 'To thine own theme be true', Ibsen would be a saint. The frequent and time-consuming scene changes endangered the audience's attention and the message, although often repeated, remained unclear: the blurring of fairy-stories, metaphor and reality at several points just resulted in obscurity and confusion. However, Matthew Ashcroft's skill made sure that, despite all this, the poignant moments are deeply moving, and the play provokes thoughts which stay with one for a good while. Worth seeing if you have the patience, for there are many beautiful moments and an interesting, if confused, theme.

Alison Ireland 9/5/02

GIGS / CLUB NIGHTS / MUSIC EVENTS

OPEN NIGHT / Oxford Folk Club. Singers, musicians, audience equally welcome. £1 / 8.30 pm / Port Mahon, St. Clement's

REEF & REAL FEEL / Riffy rock & roll. £10 adv / £11 door (incl. Boogie Basement) / Doors: 7pm / The Zodiac, 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042

SONIC / Trance & hard house with Fungus & Saltlick. £7 / £5 members / 9.30pm / The Zodiac, 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042

THE BACKGROUND BOOGIE / Soul, funk, party 70's retro stylee with djs Tony Naked Nanton, Jason Blinx, & Mc Oz/ £5 / 10-2am / Bullingdon Arms, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford

BOOGIE BASEMENT / Vintage soul, funk & psych-edelica. £5 / 10.30pm / The Zodiac, 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042
DJ MAN FREE / Old Funk & Soul / 11pm-2am / Freud's, Walton Street; Tel: 311171

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ROOM IN LOVELY sociable house in Grandport for N/S female from 1st July. £300pcm plus bills. 01865250034

ROOMS WANTED
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TRINITY:
Friday 21st June (9th week)
ALL TICKETS NOW SOLD OUT

UNIVERSITY:
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Ballia Tickets- £75. Can be bought on-line.

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