Oxford's DAILY INFO
www.dailyinfo.co.uk
Issue No. 7491

Queries: 553377 (Mon-Fri 9-5)
Adverts: 554444 or via our website: www.dailyinfo.co.uk
Snail mail: 10 Kingston Road, Oxford OX2 6EF
Email: dailyinfo@dailyinfo.co.uk
Line ads@40p/wd. (min.10) + VAT
Display boxes@£8/cm. (min 3) + VAT
Daily Information: *daily issues* Tue, Thu, *Sat in Oxford University term*, Fridays *in the vacation*

Next issue: Sat 13th March
Deadline: 10am, Fri 12th March

www.dailyinfo.co.uk

Thu 11th & Fri 12th March 2004 (8th week)

COMING

"JUST LET GO", healing meditation / chi kung with Burgs. Friday March 12th, Yoga Garden, Summertown. 700 - 9.30pm, £10. Enquiries to Simon on 516988 or burgsinoxford@hotmail.com

OXFORD BACH CHOIR
Saturday 13 March, 7.30pm, Sheldonian Theatre
Bruckner: *Mass in E minor*
Mendelssohn: *Six Seasonal Motets, Hear my Prayer, Mitten wir im Leben sind*
Mozart: *Serenade in C minor K388*
Britten Sinfonia — Soprano: Elizabeth Weisberg
Conductor: Nicholas Cleobury
Tickets: £7-£36, from the Box Office: 305305
Email: tickets@oxfordbachchoir.org

Oxford Vocalists presents
A British Song Masterclass with Richard Jackson
Saturday 27th March 10am – 6pm
Plus Evening Concert at 7.30pm
at the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building
Book Online : mike@oxfordvocalists.co.uk
Box Office: 01865 735910
Daytime Masterclass £5 (students and OAP £4)
Including Evening Concert @ 7.30pm £7.50 (students and OAP £6)
www.oxfordvocalists.co.uk

Virginia Woolf's
A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN
Burton Taylor Theatre, April 22-24 at 7:30 pm, plus 3 pm Saturday matinee.
Tickets £7.00 Concessions £5.00
Playhouse Box Office: Call 01865 305305

St Barnabas Church, Jericho
An Oxford Story
Music, Detective Fiction & Oxford
performed by **Liedertafel**
with **Colin Dexter O.B.E.**
music by **Fauré, Mozart and Schubert**
8pm Saturday 20th March
Tickets available at the Door: £10 (£7)

! DAILY INFO AUCTION !

Bid online for a delicious meal at Fishers Restaurant
visit www.dailyinfo.co.uk/fishers
closing date: Thursday 18 March

CINEMA
Until Thu 11th March

Phoenix Picture House 512526
21 GRAMS (15) Daily: 1.20, 3.50, 6.20, 8.50 plus Thu: 11.20pm
Revenge drama.
ORPHEE (PG) Tue & Wed: 1.10, 5.00, 7.00 Thu: 1.10, 5.00
Cocteau's version of classical myth.
OSAMA (12A) Tue-Thu: 3.10, 9.00
Disguising daughter from the Taliban
UMM KULTHUM: A VOICE LIKE EGYPT
Thu: Egyptian food from 6.30, dancing from 7.15pm
With live act by the Wolfson Middle Eastern Dance Society
INTERMISSION (18) Thu: 11.20pm
Black comedy from Ireland

Odeon George Street 0870 5050007
21 GRAMS (15) Daily: 2.30, 5.30, 8.15
Revenge drama.
BIG FISH (PG) Tue-Thu: 1.45
Tim Burton Fantasy
LOST IN TRANSLATION (15) Daily: 3.50, 6.15, 8.55
Thoughtful RomComDrama with Bill Murray & Scarlett Johansson*
SCHOOL OF ROCK (PG) Tue-Thu: 3.10, 5.45, 8.30
Teaching imposter turns class into band.
TORQUE (15) Daily: 2.15, 4.45, 7.00, 9.10
Biker gang crime thriller
UPTOWN GIRLS (12A) Daily: 1.30, 3.45, 6.30, 8.45
Nanny and charge bond.

Ozone Multiplex (0870 444 3030)
ALONG CAME POLLY (12A) Daily: 1.15, 3.15, 5.15, 7.15, 9.15
Ben Stiller & Jennifer Aniston in (allegedly dull) tale of risk-taking
DOGVILLE (15) Tue-Thu: 1.00, 4.30, 8.00
Nicole Kidman on the run from gangsters in sleepy 1930s town
GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING (12A) Tue-Thu: 1.35, 6.35
Colin Firth is Vermeer to Scarlett Johansson's Girl *
TORQUE (15) Daily: 1.05, 3.05, 5.15, 7.25, 9.30
Biker gang crime thriller
LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING (12A) Daily: 12.00, 4.00, 7.45
Contains intense battle violence and horror scenes *
LOST IN TRANSLATION (15) Tue-Thu: 4.25, 9.20
Thoughtful RomComDrama w/ Bill Murray & Scarlett Johansson *
LOVE ACTUALLY (15) Daily: 1.30, 8.45
Romantic comedy of "4 weddings" type.*
MYSTIC RIVER (15) Daily: 3.45, 8.45
Clint Eastwood's oscar winning directorial effort
SCHOOL OF ROCK (PG) Daily: 11.30, 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.25
Teaching imposter turns class into band.
THE DREAMERS (18) Daily: 1.15, 3.50, 6.25, 9.00
Bertolucci's erotic drama set in 1960s Paris.
THE MISSING (15) Daily: 11.45, 2.45, 5.45, 8.45
Tommy Lee Jones & Cate Blanchett in reconciliation costume drama*

Odeon Magdalen St (0870 5050007)
ALONG CAME POLLY (12A) Daily: 2.10, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40
Ben Stiller & Jennifer Aniston in tale of risk-taking
MONA LISA SMILE (12A) Thu: 2.45, 5.45, 8.15
Dead Poets Society for girls*

Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)
BREATHLESS (PG) Daily: 6.45
Original French version
LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING (12A) Tue-Thu: 8.30
Contains intense battle violence and horror scenes *
* Review on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

COMPUTERS FOR SALE/ HELP

REGULAR COMPUTER FAIRS IN OXFORD. Huge savings on everything. www.afm96.co.uk

PCFIXIT. No fix, no pay Free consultation. Ring 01865243609. pcfixit@go.com

RENT AN IMAC with printer from £45.00/month, iBook from £65.00/month. www.macfaction.co.uk / 01865 764091.

OXFORD MACINTOSH SOLUTIONS Ltd for all your Apple Macintosh Sales Services and Support. 0871 7170000 www.omsuk.com

47 *MORE* on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

Blackbird Leys Leisure Centre
the All Formats
Saturday 13th March 10am-3pm
COMPUTER FAIR
See local press or website
Click www.afm96.co.uk
Also on : Saturday 27th March

Computer Assistance
Macintosh & PC Specialists at our Cowley Rd shop
In-shop & on-site support for all problems including network & broadband.
Upgrades & custom built PCs — New Macs & Laptops
Call 0870 2461682

MEETINGS & LECTURES

Thu 11th

GREEN POWER: GREEN RESPONSIBILITY? With Steven E. Sanderson, President & Chief executive of the Wildlife Conservation Society / Lecture Series on the changing marketplace for NGOs, www.eci.ox.ac.uk / 5.15pm / School of Geography. Mansfield Rd

FIN DE SIÈCLE SEMINAR / Young Bosnia and the Psychodynamics of Terrorism / 5pm, free / Email: carol.peaker@wolfson.ox.ac.uk / Wolfson College, Linton Road, Oxford

SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES PROGRAMME SEMINAR / South East European prospects of EU membership / 5pm. Tel 274477 / European Studies Centre, 70 Woodstock Road

THE THEATRE AT HEADINGTON / What is the European Union for? / 1.50pm / Headington School. the London Road

MIDDLE EAST CENTRE SEMINAR PALESTINIANS ON PALESTINE / Palestine: Reconstruction or deconstruction / 5pm. Tel 284780 / St John's College

CENTRE FOR CHRISTIANITY AND CULTURE / The Bible in music, art and literature / 5pm / Regent's Park College

PANDORA: LA PREMIÈRE FEMME / Lecture in French by Jean-Pierre Vernant, Collège de France / All welcome / 5.15pm. Admission free / Email: maison@herald.ox.ac.uk / Web: http://www.mfo.ac.uk / Maison Francaise, Norham Rd,Oxford.OX2 6SE; Tel: 274220; Fax: 274225; Email: maison@herald.ox.ac.uk; Web: http://www.mfo.ac.uk

STAGELIGHTS-GROVETHEATRE GROUP / Meet every Thursday, Old Mill Hall / New members always welcome / 8pm-10pm / Web: http://www.stagelights-group.org / Old Mill Hall, Grove

LUNCHTIME GALLERY TALK / 18th century painting (£1.50) / 1.15pm / Ashmolean Museum. Beaumont Street. Opening times : Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; Tel: 278000; Fax: 278018; Web: http://www.ashmol.ox.ac.uk

Fri 12th

DEATH AND BURIAL IN ANCIENT EGYPT / Lunchtime Gallery Talks / 1.15 - 2.00. £1.50. Booking essential. / Ashmolean Museum. Beaumont Street. Opening times : Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; Tel: 278000; Fax: 278018; Web: http://www.ashmol.ox.ac.uk

AFRICAN STUDIES CENTRE SEMINAR / Politics and the economic sustainability of thoroughbred horseracing in Kenya and South Africa / 5pm. Tel 274477 / St Antony's College

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK KEYNOTE LECTURE / Professor Marcus du Sautoy. The music of the primes / University Museum of Natural History. Parks Rd, Oxford

THE DISPUTABLE BANKOVIC CASE / A talk by the European Court of Human Rights' Vice-President Rozakis / Law Faculty and Greek Society / 16.00 - Open to all / Email: greeksoc@herald.ox.ac.uk / Web: http://denning.law.ox.ac.uk/news/eventdetail.php?events_ID=209 / St Cross Building

THEATRE
Until Thu 11th March

BMW Group Plant, Cowley 01865 245745
THE WINTER'S TALE Until April 3rd 2004.
Daily: Mon-Sat: 7.30pm. Sat matinees: Mar 13, 20, 27 & Apr 3: 3pm. *No shows Sun.*
Creation Theatre Company presents. £6.50-£18.50; concs available.*

New Theatre, Oxford 0870 6063500
OXFORD SCOUT AND GUIDE GANG SHOW 2004
Mon 8-Fri 12: 7.15pm Sat 12: 2pm, 7pm
A variety show for all the family. £4.50-£9

Burton Taylor Theatre 305305
THE GLASS MENAGERIE BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS
Tue 9 - Sat 13: 7.30pm
Fading southern belle tries to obtain happiness for her wayward children. £6/£5

Oxford Playhouse 305305
THREE SISTERS
Thu 11, Sat 13: 2.30, 7.30 Fri 12: 8pm
Christopher Hampton's version of Chekhov. £7-£12

Old Fire Station Theatre 297170
THE WHITE DEVIL Tue 9 - Sat 13. Daily: 7.30pm Sat mat: 2.30pm
Poisoned Skull Productions present Webster. £5.50-£8.50

The Theatre at Headington, Headington School 759138
STUDENTS OF RIDLEY COLLEGE, ONTARIO PRESENT PHOENIX RISING Thu 11: 7.30pm
Boy becomes man. FREE! Booking essential
* Review on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

JOBS OFFERED

RESEARCH ASSISTANT
Picker Institute Europe
£13,000–£16,000, depending on experience. A varied and interesting temporary post in a friendly central Oxford office. See www.pickereurope.org (news/job vacancies), contact an.gay@pickereurope.ac.uk, or call 01865 208100. Closes 10th March 2004

EXPERIENCED GRADUATE TUTORS required for Easter revision course in High Wycombe, particularly Physics and Chemistry at 'A' level and also GCSE, but also other subjects. Extremely good rates of pay, considerably above the average rate. Contact PBastow@aol.com or phone 01494 524955.

GRADUATE A LEVEL &/OR I.B. TUTORS REQUIRED for Easter revision courses. All subjects of interest, but particular requirement for Geology, Geography, Sociology, Economics, Business Studies. Contact Oxford Agency, Tel: 01865 311503, email oa@dial.pipex.com

Albion International Study Centre
Tutors Urgently Needed
in the following subjects for Easter Revision (late March–mid April) & long term tuition:
Environmental Systems, Law, Biology & Chemistry.
1–1 and small group tuition.
Tel: 01865 244470. Fax: 01865 244112
Email: johanna@albionschools.co.uk

HOUSE KEEPER REQUIRED at the Royal Oxford Hotel. Call Mrs. James on (01865) 248432

D'OVERBROECK'S COLLEGE • OXFORD
I.T. TECHNICIAN
We are looking for an IT technician to help maintain, support and trouble-shoot a college network spread over a number of sites in north and central Oxford.
Technical requirements: familiarity with Windows 2000 servers and networks ideal, but full training will be given. Knowledge of Linux would be an advantage.
Personal qualities: we are looking for someone who is quick, flexible, effective and keen to learn. Starting salary in the range £13 – 16K.
For details, please contact Mrs Pat Harris, by phone: 01865 888922 by e-mail: pat.harris@doverbroecks.com

Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP) Practitioner course.
Oxford, June to December 2004.
Gain greater self-awareness. Empower yourself. Transform yourself.
Explore your physical, emotional and spiritual self.
Details: Margaret Walton 07929 755051, Hugh Jones 07940 553877

Gym Instructors & Aerobic Instructors Required
Full Time or Part Time
Phone François on (01865) 521621

The Letting Centre
Tel: 01865 763785
Mobile: 07899 993311
Email: tlcdarren@aol.com

ENTHUSIASTIC AND CHEERFUL waitresses, floor staff and kitchen staff required for award-winning gastro pub. Part-time and full-time positions available. Experience not essential. Flexible hours, good pay and tips. For front of house positions call David Robinson, for kitchen positions Nigel Clark. (01865) 244372

BATH PLACE HOTEL requires part-time receptionist for 2-3 shifts per week. Must be computer-literate, flexible (able to work weekdays and/or weekends), with admin skills and pleasant manner. £6.60ph after training. Call Yolanda, (01865) 791812, or email info@bathplace.co.uk

FULL TIME CLEANER required at the Royal Oxford Hotel. The job is available from the 23/03/04. Please contact Mrs. James on 01865 248432 or e-mail info@royaloxfordhotel.co.uk

40 *MORE* Jobs on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

SERVICES OFFERED

GOING HOME? Got a lot of luggage / personal effects / papers? Don't pay airline prices. Don't lug it through airports and stations. U.K services available as well as foreign destinations. We can ship your personal effects back home at a fraction of the cost of airline excess baggage prices, and with none of the hassle. R.M. baggage services. Ring freephone 0800 018 4268

ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE LESSONS, central Oxford and Headington. Student rates. Tel; 01865-765511. s.c@btinternet.com www.oxat.net

VANOLOGY REMOVAL SERVICE. Reasonable rates. Local and long distance. Reliable. 01865-243609. vanology@go.com

BIG OR SMALL WE SHIP IT ALL. 50% discount on packaging materials to all students who ship with us, free pick up in Oxford. Mail Boxes Etc., Summertown 01865 514655, Headington 01865 741729

STRESSED ABOUT EXAMS? Procrastinating? Stress management, revision skills; 6-week class, Begins 29/4/04. £45. email: stressawareness@onetel.net.uk

20 *MORE* on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

COMPETITIONS ON www.dailyinfo.co.uk

Win two tickets to see MacBeth for Kids at the New Theatre, 18th March (10.30am or 1.30pm)!
Send your answer to the question below to macbeth@dailyinfo.co.uk
(the winner will be randomly selected from all those with the correct answer at midnight on Thurs March 11):
By what alternative name is 'MacBeth' known in theatrical circles?
IF YOU HAVE A GOOD OFFER, WHY NOT AUCTION IT or RUN IT AS A COMPETITION ON www.dailyinfo.co.uk?
CALL US ON OX. 553377 / EMAIL auction@dailyinfo.co.uk

1p/MIN CALL ABROAD FROM YOUR UK MOBILE PHONE

To Europe, USA and Canada, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan.
Text TALKMORE to 83006
aimworld@02.co.uk
(TELCO GLOBAL LTD)

BANDS, DISCOS, LIGHTS

DISCO PA & LIGHTING EQUIPMENT: hire and sales. 118 Cowley Rd. 01865 722027

DISCOS, KARAOKES AND EQUIPMENT HIRE: Dave Seamer Entertainments, (01865) 240054

BANDS, DISCO, KARAOKE, equipment hire, from ODS. 01865 736660

THEATRE REVIEW

The White Devil (1612), by John Webster
at The Old Fire Station until Sat 13 March

The White Devil is probably only worthwhile for an evening's entertainment if you have a limitless passion for revenge drama. Almost every character has a bloodthirsty desire to avenge some dishonourable act or another, but it really is vexing that the only characters who seem to have any real cause for such behaviour are precisely the ones who don't stoop to it – the women, who are given a somewhat unsympathetic portrayal here as 'sexually ambitious' and 'highly manipulative'.

The story is as convoluted as you'd expect from sub-Shakespearean medieval drama, with so many twists and turns and new avowals to seek revenge that by the second half it's difficult to hold interest in the action, or to care about what happens to the characters (although placing bets on how outlandish their death scenes will be does liven things up a bit – who could have predicted 'death by poisoned helmet'?). The plot is not easily summarised, admittedly because I'm still wrestling with understanding it myself, but the action basically revolves around two noble families of Italy – the household of the Duke of Bracciano, played with lots of bluster and not much substance by Ben Levine, and the family of his wife the Duchess, whom he has killed in order to be with his mistress (adulterous relationships are the other main theme of the play, presumably to provide a flimsy explanation for why everyone wants to kill one another).

That seems to be the main problem of the play, and it's a problem that this production, despite its good intentions, can't overcome. There are no motives and no messages; the richness of the language is a mere gloss to disguise the fact that the play itself is essentially lots of bluster and not much substance. It is the richness and complexity of the language that provides the stumbling block for many of the actors here, and there is a strong feeling that if only there had been more subtlety and experience applied to the reading of the text, any natural drive that the play has would have been much more easy to find. As it is, many lines are swallowed up in the breathless endeavour to get to the end of the sentence, although to be fair there is great variation in how far the actors are guilty of this. There is some well-balanced dialogue between the Cardinal and Vittoria (Kate Donald) in the trial scene, which proves to be one of the best scenes of the evening.

There are other positive points worthy of mention – on the technical side, the lighting design is creative and effective, the set is well-matched to the action, and there is good use of original music to set the atmosphere. However, it seems that, like the language, these simply function as attractive glosses to conceal the flimsiness of the play itself. Entertaining it may be, but The White Devil lacks the substance to pack a real punch.

Alison Gowland, March 2004

FOOD

GREEK TAVERNA
AUTHENTIC GREEK-CYPRIOT RESTAURANT
272 BANBURY ROAD, SUMMERTOWN
Tel. OXFORD 511472 / 316983

Excellent cuisine at reasonable prices
THE STANDARD TANDOORI
INDIAN RESTAURANT & TAKEAWAY
(FULLY LICENSED)
– *Opposite the Phoenix Cinema* –
For bookings, tel. 553557
117 Walton St, Oxford, OX2 6AJ.
Open 7 days - 12- 2.30pm, 6- 11.30pm

For those who appreciate good food
AL SHAMI
LEBANESE RESTAURANT
25 Walton Crescent, Oxford Telephone: 310066
OPEN MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT

LOADS MORE Restaurants, reviews & menus on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

GIGS

Thu 11th

THE SPIN JAZZ CLUB / INGRID LAUBROCK - hip, happening sax star. / £6 £4 - open 8.15pm, band 9pm / The Spin@The Wheatsheaf. Wheatsheaf Alley, 129 High Street; Tel: 243276; Web: http://www.the-spin.net

THE GATHERING / An Acoustic Open Mic Night..... All welcome / The Flowing Well, Sunningwell / Starts @ 9pm & it is Free / Email: theflowingwell@aol.com / Web: http://www.thflowingwell.com/ Telephone: 01865 735846

THE DOMINIC LASH BAND / Jazz Trio / 11pm - 2am / Freud's, Walton St; Tel: 311171

CATHODE / Live @ Modern Art Oxford / 5.45pm. £2 (under-10s free) / Tickets 01865 813800/door / Web: http://www.ocmevents.org / Modern Art Oxford

SPARKY'S FLYING CIRCUS / Every Thursday. Poets & Performers welcome. Free / From 9pm on / The Half Moon. 17 St Clements, Oxford

Fri 12th

THE ROSS STANLEY QUARTET / 11pm - 2am / Freud's, Walton St; Tel: 311171

LISA FITZGIBBON + KATE GARRETT / downstairs 7pm. £4 adv £5 inc admission to Boogie Basement after / The Zodiac. 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042; Web: http://www.the-zodiac.co.uk/

ROTATION WITH HINSLEY, KNUCKLEHEADZ, SILICA, RYAN H / Hard house/hard trance night. £7 / 9pm - 2am / The Zodiac. 190 Cowley Road; Tel: 420042; Web: http://www.the-zodiac.co.uk/

OXFORD FOLK CLUB / Open Night - singers, musicians and audience equally welcome / 8.30 pm, admission £1 / Email: pamcooper@hotmail.com / Web: http://www.oxfordfolkclub.com / Port Mahon. St. Clement's

HOUSES & FLATS TO LET

HEADINGTON/SLADE: 4 bed house. Fully fitted kitchen, 2 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, GCH, double glazed, garden & integral garage. £1,250pcm plus bills. Would suit professional sharers/family.

HEADINGTON/EAST OXFORD: 2 new modern 1 bed flats. £675pcm each plus bills.
Families, professional sharers & students accepted on both the above properties.

GARSINGTON: beautiful 2 bed cottage, fitted to an extremely high standard. ***Profs only.*** £1050pcm

Part of North Oxford Property Services
Largest selection of quality student property in Oxford
01865 318 520
OXFORDLET .COM

EAST OXFORD. CHARMING 3/4 bed furnished/unfurnished Victorian terrace with new carpets, living room, bathroom, garden and gas central heating. Rent: £925 Available: Now. info@collegeandcountyblz (01865) 722277

OFF COWLEY RD. New built 1 bed flat. Unfurnished, stunning. Rent: £720. Available: April 1st. info@collegeandcountyblz (01865) 722277

BOTLEY. LUXURY 2 bed flat over 2 floors, with large double bedrooms, private garden, off road parking. Rent: £750. Available: Now. info@collegeandcountyblz 01865 722277

HEADINGTON. 2 BED furnished cottage with double bedrooms, living room, bathroom and gas central heating. Rent: £TBC. Available: Mid March. info@collegeandcountyblz 01865 722277

NEW MARSTON 1 bed flat with open plan kitchen/dining/living area and double bedroom, off road parking for 2 vehicles, Intercom access and Internet throughout and bathroom with shower. Rent £630. Available Now. info@collegeandcountyblz (01865) 722277

BRAND NEW ONE bedroom apartment in Grandpont, 500m from Thames. Private entrance, superior bathroom and kitchen with granite work top. Available mid-April. £795 pcm. 07718 781189

HEADINGTON. 4/5 FURNISHED bed house, would suit professional sharers. Newly refurbished. Rent: £1150. Available: Now info@collegeandcountyblz (01865) 722277

51 *MORE* on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

FURNITURE AND BEDDING

Mahogany unit and coffee table o.r.o. £40. Good condition. Please call Oxford 722929 after 7pm.

ROOMS TO LET

Single between Science area & Port Meadow. Share with 5 others.
2 bathrooms, 2 kitchens. No lounge.
Scientist preferred. £300pcm all-inclusive (except room electricity).
Email k@dailyinfo.co.uk

Single, Woodstock Road. 5 minutes' walk from Science area.
Own entrance. Share kitchen & bathroom with 1 other. £325pcm
(includes all bills except room electricity).
Email w@dailyinfo.co.uk

IFFLEY ROAD: LARGE DOUBLE ROOM in clean up-market victorian house suit non-smoking female professional/postgraduate. £365pcm incl. 01869 350372.

!!!!! HEADINGTON. FRIENDLY shared house, single professional female, n/s, near hospitals, off-road parking. £250pcm including council tax. Phone (01865) 435543 or 07714534729

ISLIP VILLAGE, 8 MILES city centre, large sunny room in house, to share with one other, £300 pcm incl. 01865 375629

10-MINUTES WALK RAILWAY STATION city centre furnished rooms. Single £330; double with bathroom £400, both pcm incl council tax. Refurbished house, gch, modern facilities, large deck, garden, river. Strictly n/s 1 April. (01865) 721933

CENTRAL NORTH OXFORD (4C), furnished room available now until 31.08.04. £320.00 pcm (plus bills). Oxford 559973

SUMMERTOWN. SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE NOW in quiet shared flat. £250 per calendar month (inclusive of Council tax and heating). Contact 01865-558692 or 01865-274361.

CAR PARKING SPACES IN JERICHO – (Above or below ground) available to rent in secure purpose built development near to city centre & walking distance to Oxford Train Station. £60 pcm. Please call Lucy Properties on (01865) 559973.

EAST OXFORD, LARGE BEDSIT ROOM AVAILABLE FOR SHORT LET - Spacious room in shared house. Available mid March to end July. Rent £340 incl. Council Tax and Water Rates. Please call Lucy Properties on 01865 559973.

CENTRAL ROOMS, SHORT LETS from March 22 through summer (one week, one month, etc.) Mostly in Jericho. Students or recent graduates under 26 to live in houses shared with university students. Telephone, TV, video, computer. Utilities included. £380 p.c.m. £100 per week. Student rooms for 2004-2005 available. Please call Ox. 201132 or email housing@oxfordstudycom

DOUBLE ROOM FOR young professional non-smoker in large house in Summertown £300 pcm exc. bills. For information 07748 637343 or 01865 315011.

CHOICE OF 2 LARGE AND 1 GOOD SIZE SINGLES available now off Abingdon Road in S.Hinksey, 20 mins walk to centre. All mod cons. Suit postgrad/profs. Rent incl. all bills; circa £450pcm. Tel 02380 275201 or 07986 718983.

Fun loving house, looking for professional housemate. Single room £240 excl bills. Garden, parking space. Please ring 07795 064982 / 07906 099118 or (01865) 771977

210 *MORE* on www.dailyinfo.co.uk

THEATRE REVIEW

The Glass Menagerie (1944), Tennessee Williams – *at the Burton Taylor until Sat 13 March*

The 50-seater Burton Taylor Theatre provides the perfect location for recreating a cramped tenement that is the setting for The Glass Menagerie, Tennessee Williams' first major stage success. Within this tiny space – at once intimate and repressive – unfolds the poignant drama of a family's gradual disintegration.

A newspaper lying on the sofa reads, 'Franco Triumphs'. It is 1938, the time of the Great Depression, the rise of Fascism and an imminent Second World War. In the midst of these turbulent times, an 'ageing Southern belle', Amanda Wingfield, abandoned by her husband, persuades her rebellious son, Tom, to find a 'gentleman caller' for her crippled and painfully shy daughter, Laura, only to find that her dreams are shattered by the harsh realities of her circumstances.

The strength of this play lies mainly in its characters, who are multi-faceted, often contradictory, and flawed in many ways, but whose appeal lies in their humanness. Like many directors before them, Tom Littler sets out to challenge some pre-conceived notions about these characters, and succeeds in avoiding typecasting.

For example, actress Elisabeth Gray (an immensely likeable Amanda) conveys to us most convincingly the complexities of a seemingly oppressive and ambitious mother who is, at heart, motivated by genuine love and concern for her children.

A conscious effort has also been made to turn the play's 'present-day' narrator, Tom (played by Neil Gatland), into a more active facilitator of its events. As a puppeteer manipulates his creations, so we see Tom physically moulding Amanda and Laura into his own representations of their characters. This takes to another level the notion of a 'memory play', where reality is as much constructed through the narrator's self-confessed nostalgia as it is 'real'.

The play's music was beautiful and appropriately haunting; the humour and irony inherent in the script were also brought out skilfully in the play, and clearly appreciated by the audience. Overall, this was an intelligent and sensitive production, which promises to become more fluid with each performance.

Suchitra Shah, March 2004