

Oxford's VALENTINE INFO

Issue No. 7779

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Next issue: Thu 15th February
 Deadline: 10am, Wed 14th February

WHAT'S ON / COMING SOON

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CINEMA To Thu 15th

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)
DREAMGIRLS [12A] daily: 10.30, 1.30, 4.45, 8.00pm
HAPPY FEET [U] Tue: 11.00am
MISS POTTER [PG] Wed & Thu: 12.30pm
HANNIBAL RISING [18] Tue - Thu: 3.15, 6.00, 8.45pm
SENIOR SCREEN: SUPERMAN RETURNS [12A] Tue: 12.00pm
BLOOD DIAMOND [15] Tue: 2.00, 5.00, 8.15pm
EPIC MOVIE [12A] Tue - Thu: 3.00, 5.20, 7.30, 9.40pm
ASTERIX AND THE VIKINGS [U] daily: 10.15am
MUSIC & LYRICS [PG] Tue - Thu: 11.15am, 1.45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.15pm
CHARLOTTE'S WEB [U] daily: 9.45am, 12.15, 2.45, 5.10, 7.45pm
THE QUEEN [12A] Tue - Thu: 12.50pm
THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNNESS [12A] Tue: 12.40, 3.30, 6.20, 9.00pm; Wed & Thu: 6.20, 9.00pm
ROCKY BALBOA [12A] Tue: 6.10pm
ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES [U] daily: 10.45am, 1.15, 3.45, 6.15pm
FLUSHED AWAY [U] daily: 11.45am
NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15] Tue: 2.15, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30pm
CASINO ROYALE [12A] daily: 9.45am, 12.15, 2.45, 5.10, 7.45pm
HOT FUZZ [15] Wed & Thu: 11.30am, 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.30, 7.00, 8.30, 9.50pm
Deon George St (0871 2244 007)
HANNIBAL RISING [18] daily: 11.45am, 2.30, 5.45, 8.45pm
EPIC MOVIE [12A] daily: 11.30am, 1.45, 4.15, 7.00, 9.15pm
THE REEF [U] daily: 12.45, 2.45pm
NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15] daily: 3.45, 6.00, 8.30pm
BABEL [15] daily: 8.30pm
DREAMGIRLS [12A] daily: 10.45am, 1.15, 3.45, 6.15pm
MUSIC & LYRICS [PG] daily: 12.15, 3.00, 6.15, 9.00pm
DREAMGIRLS [12A] Tue: 11.00am, 2.00, 5.15, 8.15pm
ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES [U] daily: 11.15am, 1.30pm
SENIOR SCREEN: TRUST THE MAN [15] Wed: 10.45am
HOT FUZZ [15] Wed & Thu: 12.30, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00pm
Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)
PAN'S LABYRINTH [15] Tue: 4.15, 6.45, 9.15pm
WUTHERING HEIGHTS [U] Wed: 7.00pm
Odeon Magdalen St (0871 2244 007)
THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND [15] Tue: 4.00pm
THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNNESS [12A] Tue: 2.45pm
CHARLOTTE'S WEB [U] daily: 1.00, 3.30, 6.00pm
MARIE ANTOINETTE [12A] Tue: 9.00pm
DREAMGIRLS [12A] Wed & Thu: 2.45, 8.45pm
Phoenix Picture House (0870 758 3218)
THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND [15] Tue: 4.00pm
THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNNESS [12A] Tue: 2.45pm
CHARLOTTE'S WEB [U] daily: 1.00, 3.30, 6.00pm
BALLETS RUSSES [PG] Wed: 1.30pm
BIG SCREEN: STRICTLY BALLROOM [PG] Wed: 11.00pm
STRICTLY BALLROOM [PG] Tue: 1.00pm
BABEL [15] Tue: 12.45, 8.30pm; Wed & Thu: 8.45pm
NOTES ON A SCANDAL [15] Tue & Wed: 1.15, 3.15, 5.15, 7.15, 9.15pm; Thu: 3.15, 5.15, 7.15, 9.15pm
 Judi Dench and Cate Blanchett teach people a thing or two.
www.dailyinfo.co.uk

two fried chickens and a diet coke promotions in association with delicious music

Green Onions

'Unpeeled'
 The UK blues brothers tribute band slim down to a 4-piece band playing classic blues. Plus support.
 On A Mission From God
 Tuesday 13th Feb, 8.30pm. £3
 The Market Tavern, Market Street, Oxford
www.ukbluesbrothers.com

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POETRY COMPETITION WINNERS

As in our previous poetry competitions, the standard has been extremely high and judging has been very difficult. But finally, through a unique combination of democracy and argument, we have emerged with two winners. They are below. We are honouring a number of our favourite runners up (and quietly saluting the ones that were too rude or twisted to publish) to the right and below, and may be able to print a few more in coming sheets. We should also mention that thanks to the generosity of the folks at Shanghai 30s, four runners up in that competition will get a free bottle of sparkling Rosé when they next visit.

Shanghai 30s Valentine's Day Competition Winner
 She has a top-class language degree
 I merely left school with one CSE
 What can it be that she sees in me?
 I have 3 children and one ex-wife
 She has been single for most of her life
 Why does she tolerate all this strife?

Big Bang Anti-Valentine's Day Competition Winner
 Do they have a day each year,
 Where they serve tee-total people beer?
 Each year, do they take the chance,
 To humiliate the injured by having a dance?
 Once in every solar path,
 Do they point at the unfunny and laugh?
 When twelve months have passed them unaware,
 Do they give free money to millionaires?
 When a whole year has gone by again,
 Do they hand out umbrellas when there is no rain?

Crispy
 I'm a bit out of shape and not very fit
 She's rather slender and sporty with it
 I'm glad it was me she decided to pick

GeeyJayGee
 But despite all this, she loves me so
 I love her truly I want her to know
 Neither of us quite can explain why
 Maybe the answer's to be found at Shanghai...

MEETINGS & LECTURES

Tue 13th
MECO QUR'AN SEMINAR CLASS / Multiple translations with traditional and contemporary analysis. / Muslim Education Centre, Oxford / All welcome. 7-10pm. £20 pm. www.meco.org.uk / www.muslimcentre.org.uk
ROTARY CLUB OF OXFORD SPIRES / Newest and youngest Rotary Club in Oxford. Members aged 30+. / www.oxfordrotary.org.uk / Red Lion, Islip
CHIPPING NORTON'S 1607 CHARTER / Talk by Dr Adrienne Rosen. / 0485 / 5.30pm Free / www.aahs.org.uk / Rewley House, 1, Wellington Square / 270380
COMMONWEALTH, KINGSHIP AND AUTHENTIC LOGIC: SIMON BEALE'S TRUMPET / Presentation and discussion about musical scholarship. Hélène Le Bar, St Cross College. / Graduate Students' Colloquia / 1.50pm, all welcome / www.music.ox.ac.uk / Denis Arnold Hall, Music Faculty, St Aldate's
BRITISH DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS / Introductory talk; meet in the Randolph gallery (room 1). Booking recommended. / Lunchtime Gallery Talks / 1.15 - 2pm. £2 / www.admolean.org / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street. / 278000
SPIRITUAL HEALING / Meditation 6.30, Healing 7.30pm / Free (donations welcome) / 43 St. Giles
OXFORD SPEAKERS' CLUB / Have fun! Learn leadership and public speaking! / 10am-12pm members / 7.15pm / guests warmly welcomed / www.oxfordspeakers.co.uk / The Court Room, Oxford Town Hall
ONENESS DEEKSHA / Meditation, deeksha giving, relaxation. / pure healing energy. / £8 (£6 conc.) / www.onenessuniversity.org / Trianga House, 42 Magdalen Road
DR. COLIN SHINDLER / Reader in Israeli and Modern Jewish Studies, London University / Israel, Zionism and the Left / 18pm / 18pm / herald.ox.ac.uk / Lecture Series on Israel / Oriol College, Harris Lecture Room
Wed 14th
RELATING TO EMPYNNISS / Weekly classes on sitting meditation practice. All welcome. / 7pm - 9.30pm / £7.50 / www.empynniss.org.uk / Therapy House, 42 Magdalen Road
FILM ABOUT TYPE 2 DIABETES / Coping with Type 2 Diabetes followed by question & answer session / Diabees UK, Oxon / Free. 7.40pm tea; 8pm film / linadimondsmiles@aol.com / Northway Evangelical Church, Sutton Road (Northway estate)
ANDREW MILLS, LECTURE / Exploring Meaning in West Polynesian Weapons / 6.00-2.00 members / www.gpm.ox.ac.uk / Friends / New Extension, Pitt Rivers Museum, Robinson Close, South Parks Road
MIRROR OF NATURE: 17TH CENTURY DUTCH PAINTINGS / Introductory talk; meet in the Randolph gallery (room 1). Booking recommended. / 1.15 - 2pm. £2 / www.admolean.org / Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street. / 278000

THEATRE until Sat 17th Feb

Oxford Playhouse (305305)
KING OF HEARTS Thu 13th & Fri 16th: 7.30pm
 Scathing satire about Royal affairs of the heart by Alistair Beaton. 9.50 - £22.50
Pegasus Theatre (722851)
MISSION RE-POSITION SHOWCASE Fri 16th & Sat 17th: 8pm
 Talented Black choreographers to inspire and excite everyone. These new compositions draw on contemporary jazz, street and Brazilian dance and martial arts. £8.50/16
St. Catherine's College (271700)
THE INFERNAL MACHINE BY JEAN COCTEAU Thu 15th: 7pm
 The 1930s Parsian glamour in which Cocteau staged the myth of Oedipus.
Burton Taylor Theatre (305305)
PLAY ON WORDS BY TOM CRAWSHAW Tue 13th, Thu 15th, Sat 17th: 7.30pm
 Tragi-farce: two actors struggle to remember dialogue-entactment. £5/14
LOST PROPERTY BY NICK BOWLING Tue 13th, Thu 15th, Sat 17th: 9.30pm
 A socially inept teenager, a misanthropic games teacher, a corrupting influence: so much HOT PROPERTY. £5/14
IFU THEATRICAL INFORMATION SECTION BY BEN ARNOLD Wed 14th, Fri 16th: 7.30pm; Sat 17th: 2.30pm
 A dystopian black comedy from an award-winning writer. £5/14
VIGILANTS BY ROBERT MORGAN Wed 14th, Fri 16th: 9.30pm
 Seven soldiers set out their sexual tensions in the cinema. £5/14 Sat 17th: 4.30pm
OF5 Studio (297170)
CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF Tue 13th, Fri 16th: 7.30pm
 Sexuality, greed, lust love & mendacity. 8.50/16.50
Lincoln College Hall
HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING Thu 15th & Fri 16th: 8pm, Sat 17th: 2pm & 8pm
 Young, ambitious window-cleaning follows a step-by-step guide to climbing the business ladder. A Musical Comedy by Frank Lussier, writer of Gags and Dolls. £8/16
Oakshott Room, Lincoln College
THE DIVING BOARD Mon 12th & Tue 13th: 7.30pm
 Scenes exploring family relationships and playfulness.
Fimmer Aerodrome, adjacent to market site, A421 (07766 552211)
BIG KID CIRCUS SHOW Mon 12th: 5pm
 New production for 2007 (suitable for all ages) presented in a massive heated big-top.
Drayton Village Hall, Drayton, nr Abingdon (01235 200350)
THE BOY FRIEND BY SANDY WILSON Thu 15th - Sat 17th: 7.30pm
 Musical with fabulous 1920s toe-tapping tunes. £7

JOBS OFFERED

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

For Mental Health Helpline
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 For more info email: crisis.line@virgin.net or call Jen on 01865 791105.
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OPTIX THE WORLD IS WATCHING

IMPRESARIO WANTED

For a short term engagement based in Oxford, OPTIX is looking for a creative individual with entertainment management skills and initiative, who is prepared for a challenge. This role would suit a student theatre director / producer or budding Club promoter. Must be into the music scene, with a flair for finding talent. Business and budget skills essential. Apply with CV and cover letter to: info@theworldiswatching.tv

WEB & TECHNOLOGY GURU WANTED

For a short term engagement based in Oxford, lateral thinking techie required with the technical skills to fit out an external location for light and sound, and also set up and manage a web-based broadcasting system. Apply with CV and cover letter to: info@theworldiswatching.tv

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& SOME OF OUR FAVOURITES

Love letters straight from your heart
 Make me afraid after dark,
 I'm not alone in the night,
 When you're in the garden, just out of sight.

Well, when you first took a shine,
 I thought I just had to decline...
 Now I'm being pursued by a loon through the park -
 Letters were only the start.

They analysed every line,
 But told me it wasn't a crime,
 Oh is that the crash of the bins in the yard?
 I'm going to dial 999.

I'm not giving you roses, and I'm keeping the champagne
 I'll drink it on my lonesome. In a bathroom lit with candles,
 With soft music in the background, and mirrors at appropriate angles,
 And that scented oil we bought last year on our honeymoon in Spain.

I'm nothing but romantic; I can't resist my charms.
 I've seduced myself with cut-price fizz, and roses from the garage
 And now I'm safe, far from your grasping, pudgy, seal-like arms,
 your stumpy legs, our ill-advised and soul-destroying marriage

I've persuaded me; I'm the one, I'm the ne plus quam ultra.
 I'm all that a girl could wish for, and that's an understatement.
 I've got all the goods for a lovely evening's adult entertainment,
 including - thank God - your absence, your greedy female culture.

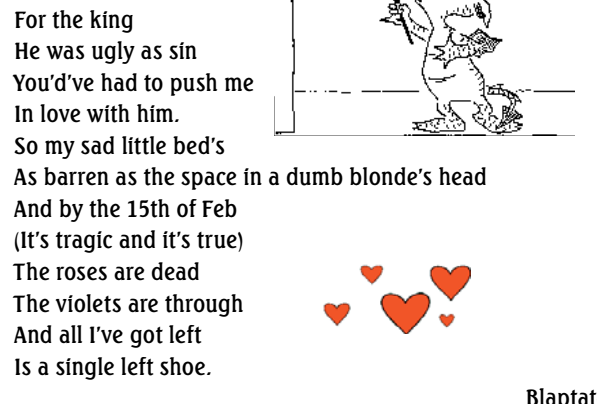
Do I like being lonely? You bet your bottom dollar I do,
 And your lingerie looks better on me than on you.

Shall I compare thee to a winter's day?
 So cold and grey and boring
 Shall I listen to a warthog breathe
 As you lie there simply snoring

Shall I admit to true minds
 your list of impediments
 Shall I puke my guts right out
 When I think of your sentiments

Shall I write it in a card, with hearts
 That I cannot stand your smelly farts
 That I think you are a swine
 My beloved anti-valentine

Cinderella:
 To the ball
 Pumpkin and all.
 Didn't fall
 For the king
 He was ugly as sin
 You'd've had to push me
 In love with him.
 So my sad little bed's
 As barren as the space in a dumb blonde's head
 And by the 15th of Feb
 (It's tragic and it's true)
 The roses are dead
 The violets are through
 And all I've got left
 Is a single left shoe.



VALENTINE'S DAY



The Christian Church has, in recent years, seemed keen to distance itself from the festivities associated with the 14th of February. But the day is named after a real historical figure: until 1069, the 14th was a feast day in honour of St Valentine, a priest martyred in 3rd century Rome. The circumstances of his martyrdom shed some light on the origins of the festival. The Emperor at the time, Claudius II, banned marriage, convinced that married men made bad soldiers. Valentine continued marrying couples in spite of the ban; upon being discovered he was arrested and threatened with death unless he renounced his Christian faith. He refused, and was beaten with clubs before being beheaded on the 14th February, AD 270.
 By a peculiar coincidence, this execution took place on the eve of the feast of Lupercalia, a Roman pagan tradition which had taken place on the 15th February for centuries. Originally in honour of Lupercus, the god who was supposed to have saved early Rome from attack by wolves, its springtime placing meant that Lupercalia soon acquired more romantic overtones. During the celebrations, the names of girls were written on pieces of parchment and dropped into a jar. Each young man drew a name, and the girl in question became his sweetheart for the year.
 Given that his martyrdom was connected both in cause and timing with couples and marriage, it is hardly surprising that St Valentine should give his name to a day for lovers. The origins of the custom of sending of Valentine cards, however, are not so easily traced. Tradition has it that the first Valentine card was sent in 1415 by Charles, duke of Orleans. He was imprisoned in the Tower of London at the time, and sent the card to his wife.

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 251a Cowley Road - 6 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, furnished £1800pcm
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ACCOMMODATION WANTED

WANTED BY 31ST MARCH: 1 bed flat or large bedstlr. On bus routes, with bathroom with shower, kitchen and laundry facilities. For quiet, mature n.s graduate/artist. Oxford villages considered. Telephone point essential. 01865 24320