

Oxford's DAILY INFO
 Issue No. 8247 Next issue: Thu 27th Oct. Deadline: 10am, Wed 26th Oct
Tue 25th - Wed 26th Oct 2011 (Oxford Uni 3rd Week)

WHAT'S ON

HALLOWEEN PARTY! SMOKE machines, ultra-violet lights, strobes - hire/sales. 118 Cowley Road, 01865 722027, www.722027.co.uk.

The 10th Oxford Lieder Festival
 14th - 29th October 2011
NOW ON at the Holywell Music Room
 Concerts, masterclasses, talks and more every day
 More details at: www.oxfordlieder.co.uk

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GINEMA to Thu 27 Oct
Phoenix Picturehouse: 0871 902 5736
 WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN [15]
 A mother tries to understand her sociopathic son.
 Tue, Thu: 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45pm
 Wed: 4.15, 6.45, 9.15pm
SLEEPING BEAUTY [18]
 Young student, unspoken desires.
 Mon, Thu: 3.30pm; Tue: 8.15pm; Wed: 12.30pm
THE HELP [12A]
 1960s America: aspiring author writes from the point of view of African-American maid.
 Tue: 2.45, 8.15pm; Thu: 8.15pm
MIDNIGHT IN PARIS [12A]
 Mon, Thu: 1.00, 6.00pm; Tue: 3.45, 6.00pm
TINKER, TAILOR, SOLDIER, SPY [15]
 Star-studded remake of Le Carré's cold war classic.
 Tue: 1.00pm
TROLLHUNTER [15]
 2010 Norwegian dark fantasy documentary.
 Mon: 8.45pm
BIG SCREAM: WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN [15]
 Exclusive screening for parents with babies under 1.
 Wed: 11.30am

Vue Cinema: 08712 240 240
TIN TIN: SECRET OF THE UNICORN [PG]
 Mon & Tue, Thu: 12.30, 3.10, 5.40, 8.20pm
 Wed: 12.30, 3.10, 5.40, 8.20, 10.50pm
THE HELP [12A]
 Tue: 8.10, 11.20pm; Thu: 8.10pm
KIDS AM: MR POPPER'S PENGUINS [PG]
 Daily: 10.00am
 Manhattan businessman besieged by Antarctic avians. £1.25 per ticket.
THE THREE MUSKETEERS (3D) [12A]
 Mon - Tue: 6.00pm
 Much swashbuckling saves Europe from war.

THE LION KING (3D) [U]
 daily: 9.30, 11.40am, 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.30pm
MONTE CARLO [PG]
 Daily: 10.10am
 Girl holidaying in France is mistaken for British heiress and whisked away to Monte Carlo.
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3 [15]
 Mon & Tue, Thu: 12.40, 2.40, 4.40, 6.50, 8.50pm
 Young girls befriended an invisible entity.
WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN [15]
 Wed: 3.00, 5.30, 8.00, 10.30pm; Mon - Tue, Thu: 3.00, 5.30, 8.00pm
 Adaptation of the book a mother tries to understand her sociopathic son.
RA ONE [15]
 Wed: 9.45am, 1.10, 4.30, 7.50pm, 11.00pm
 Hindi science fiction superhero film.
THE THREE MUSKETEERS (2D) [12A]
 Mon - Tue: 3.20, 8.40pm
 Much swashbuckling saves Europe from war.

DOLPHIN TALE (2D) [U]
 Daily: 8.50, 11.20am, 1.50pm
 Boy makes friends with injured dolphin.
REAL STEEL [12A]
 Sun - Tue: 11.30am, 2.30, 5.20, 8.10pm; Wed & Thu: 11.30am, 2.30, 5.20pm
 Science fiction film about robots in boxing, starring Hugh Jackman.
FOOTLOOSE [12A]
 Daily: 9.50am, 12.20pm
 A remake of the 1984 dance film.
JOHNNY ENGLISH REBORN [PG]
 Mon & Tue: 9.00, 10.40, 11.10am, 1.00, 1.30, 3.50, 4.20, 6.10, 6.40, 8.30pm
 Wed & Thu: 9.00, 11.10am, 1.30, 3.50, 4.20, 6.10, 6.40, 8.30pm
 Rowan Atkinson returns as eccentric-prone secret agent.
DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE DARK [15]
 Wed: 10.50pm
 Horror, young girl moves into gothic mansion and is tormented by creatures.
TINKER, TAILOR, SOLDIER, SPY [15]
 Wed: 9.00, 11.45pm
 Star-studded remake of Le Carré's cold war classic.
THE SMURFS (2D) [U]
 daily: 9.00am
 The blue world collides with our own in smurf-based family adventure.

Contagion [12A]
 Mon - Tue, Thu: 8.50, 11.15am, 1.40, 4.00, 6.30, 9.10pm
 Wed: 8.50, 11.15am, 1.40, 4.00, 6.30, 9.10, 11.35pm
 Deadly outbreak takes doctors. Subt. Daily: 1.40, Tue: 6.30pm
Odeon George St: 0871 2244 007
TINTIN: SECRET OF THE UNICORN [PG]
 (3D) Mon - Thu: 10.30am, 1.30, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30, 9.30pm
 (2D) Mon - Thu: 11.30am, 2.00, 4.30, 7.00pm
 Intrepid boy reporter travels the world to salvage treasure. Small white dog assists.

JOHNNY ENGLISH REBORN [PG]
 Mon - Thu: 6.30, 9.15pm
 Accident-prone secret agent. Subt Fri: 3.30pm, Sun 6pm, Mon 8.45pm, Wed 12.45pm
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3 [15]
 Wed: 11.10pm
 Young girls befriended an invisible entity.
THE HELP [12A]
 Wed: 8.15pm, Thu: 8.30pm
 Aspiring author writes from the point of view of an African-American maid.
REAL STEEL [12A]
 Mon - Thu: 2.30, 5.30, 9.30pm
 Science fiction film about robots in boxing.
THE LION KING [U]
 Mon - Thu: 11.15am, 1.30, 3.45pm
 Lions re-released. (2D) Wed: 12noon; Mon - Tue, Thu: 11.00am
THE THREE MUSKETEERS (3D) [12A]
 Mon - Tue: 12.15, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00pm
 Much swashbuckling saves Europe from war. Mon - Tue, Thu: 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 9.00pm
ODEON KIDS: THE SMURFS (2D) [U]
 Mon - Thu: 11.00am
 The blue world collides with our own in smurf-based family adventure.

Senior Screen: RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES [12A]
 Meddling geneticists unleash super apes with a grudge. Wed: 10.45am
Odeon Magdalen St: 0871 2244 007
DOLPHIN TALE (3D) [U]
 Mon - Thu: 4.00pm
 Boy makes friends with injured dolphin.
FOOTLOOSE [12A]
 Mon - Thu: 6.30pm
 A remake of the 1984 dance film.
MONTE CARLO [PG]
 daily: 11.00am, 1.30pm
 Girl holidaying in France is mistaken for British heiress.
MIDNIGHT IN PARIS [12A]
 Mon - Tue: 9.00pm
 Romantic comedy by Woody Allen: rich American couple visit Paris.
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3 [15]
 Daily: 12.00, 2.20, 4.40, 7.00, 9.15pm
 Young girls befriended invisible entity. Subt: 7.00, Thu: 2.00pm
TINKER, TAILOR, SOLDIER, SPY [15]
 Wed & Thu: 9.00pm
 Star-studded remake of Le Carré's cold war classic.

Magdalen College Auditorium
PLAY PLANET FILM FESTIVAL 2011
 Festival of cinema by young Polish directors. Info: <http://oxpol.org>
Ultimate Picture Palace: 245288
MELANCHOLIA [15]
 Wed: 9.00pm
 A planet is on a collision course with the earth.
TOMBOY [U]
 Fri, Wed: 7.00pm
 Head-winning French film about pretending to be a boy.
BABY CLUB: TOMBOY [U]
 Thu: 12.30pm
 French, screening for parents with children under one.
ARRIETT [U]
 Thu: 4.30pm
 Studio Ghibli animated version of the Borrowers.
LAST NIGHT [15]
 Mon: 7.00pm
 1998 film by Don McKellar
DEEP END [15]
 Fri: 11.30pm
 Rehearsal of 'lost' 1970 British-West German drama

Winney Film Festival
SHORTS - Winney Con Exchange: 01993 702399
 An exhibition of short films from a selection of innovative filmmakers. Free
THE ISLAND - St Mary's Church, Winney: 07800 62928
 Thu: 7.00pm
 Screening of independent feature film introduced by director Brink Taylor. Free

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GIGS & COMEDY
Tue 25th
 SHADOW WRITING / + Jam session / 8.30pm, £4 (£2) / Copa, George St
 MAVERICK SABRE / UK rapper / 7pm, £10.50 / O2 Academy, 190 Cowley Rd
 SAM DUCKWORTH, SHOES AND SOCKS OFF / 'Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly' alter ego / 8pm, £10 / Jericho Tavern, Walton St, OX2 6AE; Tel: 01865 311775
 EASTSIDE RHYTHM KINGS / New Orleans/Dixieland jazz / 8pm, free / Gladiator Club, 263 Ifley Rd
 ROBERT VIENNA / Jazz & DIs / 9.30pm, free / Bullingdon Arms, Cowley Rd
Wed 26th
 CHARLIE BAXTER, SPACE HEROES OF THE PEOPLE, LEFT OUTERJOIN / Electro-pop / 8pm, £5 / Wheatsheaf, 129 High St
 TRISH ELPHINSTONE QUINTET / Jazz / 8.45pm, free / Half Moon, St Clements NOLAY / London-based lyricist, singer-songwriter / 7pm, £5 / O2 Academy
 FOREIGN OFFICE / Electro-funk / 8pm, £6 / Jericho Tavern, Walton St
 CHIPMUNK, THE HARRY SHOTTA SHOW, JACKAPELLA / MOBO winner / 7pm, £16 (adv), £20 (vip) / Regal, 300 Cowley Rd
 MELISSA JAMES / & Rob Terry Trio / 8pm, £10 / jazzellconcerts.wordpress.com / 07710 54555 / St Michael at the North Gate, Cornmarket St
 RASCALS OF RHYTHM / Live jazz with Mike Cotton (trumpet) / 7.30pm, free / The Lamb Inn, 59 Mill St, Wantage, OX12 9AB; 01235 766768
 PHAT SESSIONS PRESENTS THE OXFORD JAM SESSION / Open Jam with house band / 10pm-3am, £5, £3 (musicians) / The Cellar, Frewin Court

MEETINGS & LECTURES
Tue 25th
 SUPPORT GROUP / Support group for female survivors of sexual abuse and/or rape / Free, 6.30-8pm / oxfordrapecrisis.net / Oxford; contact for location
 HOME RENTAL MASTERCLASS / 5.30pm / RMA Properties, 101A Cowley Rd
 A PORTRAIT OF JOHANNES HEVELIUS / Dr Inga Elmqvist talks about the Polish astronomer / 7pm, free / Museum of the History of Science, Broad St
 CAN FINANCIAL MARKETS BE SUSTAINABLE? / 5pm / Hayes Hes, 75 George St
 BODY LANGUAGE + SPECIAL EFFECTS / 2 Lectures / 7.30pm, £5 / Ifley, Co.uk/friends.htm / 01865 774404 / Ifley Church Hall
 AGM / Guest Speaker Andrew Chivers 'Walking our way to happiness' / Oxford Pedestrians Association / 7pm, free / Town Hall, St Aldate's
 LANDSCAPE PAINTINGS 17-19TH C. / Places allocated Info Desk 1pm / 1.15pm, donations / Ashmolean, Beaumont St
 VIEWED FROM THE PODIUM / Concert Scenes and Film Narrative / 5.15pm, free / 276133 / Music Faculty, St Aldates OX1 1DB
 SYMPOSIUM: MOTETS AND NUCLEAR ENERGY / 5pm / Queen's Coll, High St
 HEALTH OF VEGETARIANS / 1pm, free / www.ox.ac.uk/org/rm?id=21861 / Richard Doll Building, Old Road Campus, Headington OX3 7LF
 BUDDHISM IN INDONESIA: EPIGRAPHIC / Prof Nagaraju, historian, will deliver this lecture. / 4pm, free / Wolfson College

Wed 26th
 WOMEN'S WELLBEING SESSION / Women-only peer support / 5-7pm, free / oxfordshire-mind.org.uk / 263758, 01865 604368 / The Mill, 46 Cowley Rd
 PRESSING DOWNSTAIRS TUNNEL TOUR / 9.30am, £13 / Bodleian Library
 DRESSMAKING / SEWING CLUB / 7pm, £13 / Kennington Village Centre
 GREEN NETWORKING DRINKS / 6.30pm / Kings Arms, Holywell St
 CHRISTIAN STORIES IN THE QURAN / Tickets from Info Desk 1pm. / 1.15pm - 2pm / Ashmolean, Beaumont St
 A NICE CUP OF TEA / Talk (Tickets Info Desk 1pm) / 1.15pm / Ashmolean
 WHY LISTEN TO ECONOMISTS? / 5pm / 279214 / Queen's College, High St
 PNEUMONIA / Why they are important in research and how to get them in place / 12 - 1pm / Richard Doll Building, Old Road Campus, Headington
 MEDITATION & MODERN BUDDHISM / 7.30-9pm, £6 (£3) / Jesus College
 RAIDERS OF THE LOST AMP / Oxford Uni Scientific Soc. / 8pm, £0/£2, member/non-member / Inorganic Chemistry Building, South Parks Road

North Wall Arts Centre (319450)
 A DELICATE BALANCE Wed 26th - Sat 29th: 7.30pm + Sat: 2.30pm
 Edward Albee's modern classic. Performed by the Oxford Theatre Guild. £12 (£10)
New Theatre (0844 8471585)
 SISTER ACT Tue 25th, Thu 27th & Fri 28th: 7.30pm
 Musical based on hit 1992 movie. £22.25-£44.25
 Wed 26th, Sat 29th: 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Cornerstone Arts Centre (01235 515144)
 BARBERSHOPERA: APOCALYPSE NOW! Sat 29th: 8pm
 Notable identity at the Apocalypse. Age: 12+. £14, £12.50 (£), £11.50 (£)
Burton Taylor Studio (305305)
 THE DUMMY TREE Tue 25th - Sat 29th: 7.30pm
 A new musical by Conor Mitchell. Tickets selling fast. £6 (£5)
 FAILURE - AND HOW TO ACHIEVE IT Tue 25th - Sat 29th: 9.30pm
 By Max Fletcher & Nick Davies. Comedy with two pastry chefs. £6 (£5)
Oxford Playhouse (305305)
 RICHARD DAWKINS & LALLA WARD: THE MAGIC OF REALITY
 Richard Dawkins is joined by wife Lalla to present his new book. Fri 28th: 5pm
 ETIQUETTE Fri 21st - Sat 29th: for times - check oxfordplayhouse.com
 Find a friend, take a table and enjoy a 30 minute theatrical experience. £5
Abingdon School (01235 521563)
 HELLO, DOLLY! Mon 24th & Tue 25th: 7.30pm; Wed 26th - Sat 29th: 7.30pm
 Abingdon Opera Society present the classic musical 'Hello, Dolly!' from #13 (88)
O'Reilly Theatre (Kebble College)
 CHILDREN OF OEDIPUS Wed 26th - Fri 28th: 7.15pm
 What happens after tragedy? How do the family live on? £7 Sat 29th: 2.15pm & 7.15pm
Bladon Methodist Church (01869 337881)
 THE WIZARD OF OZ Mon 24th - Sat 29th: 7.30pm
 Follow the yellow brick road to Bladon to see this wonderful musical! £10 (£7)

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 This position is available for a motivated, flexible individual able to work five days per week (35-40 hours). Must be able to work at weekends and any weekdays am or pm as required. Shifts vary from week to week. Minimum six month contract offered. Fluent English essential, administration experience + working with the public advantageous. All applications by email only with current CV + cover letter to info@bathplace.co.uk

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www.oxfordrapecrisis.net
 Closing date: 5pm on 31/10/11; Interview date: 9/11/11
 Previously shortlisted applicants need not apply

FILM REVIEW

The Help [12A]



As I sat through the two hours and seventeen minutes of *The Help*, I was more than aware that my emotions were being thoroughly, albeit crudely manipulated. However, it was done so joyously and guilelessly, with the touching affection of a toddler first learning empathy that I didn't mind a bit. The story follows a sympathetic reporter who decides to tell the tale of the silent community of black women who serve the majority of the middle-class American South in the 1950s.

From the very beginning, this film chooses not to hide from all the old clichés of these types of racial identity movies; with the usual hideously nasty racist mistress and bitchy relational aggression of the apparently superior suburban white community, as well as the classic, quiet dignity of the down-trodden eponymous black 'help'. However, a liberal handful of original characters and an excellent cast lift this movie from the farce it could so easily have become.

Viola Davis is incredible in a subtle, understated performance that acts as a foil to the loud, obnoxious 50s housewives who make up her employers. Bryce Dallas Howard gives an admirable performance in the role of the wicked young bigot with just the right amount of bitterness and desperation that means you can understand the danger she embodies without dismissing her as a figure of ridicule - in spite of the overt slapstick comedy to which she is at times subjected. Octavia Spencer is delightfully cast to provide comic relief in the guise of the formidable best friend. Indeed this is a woman's film, in that men play a very minor role, but it is by no means your average chick flick. Whenever Hollywood decides to tackle the 'racial question' it usually does so through the medium of angry young men (*American History X*) or crazy red-necked mobs (*A Time to Kill*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*). Rarely, if ever, do we see the everyday, casual prejudice and discrimination that took place in the supposedly safe, comfortable, middle-class homes. This is something this movie portrays well, along with the easy, casual violence that women can so effectively inflict on each other in their own relationships. That said, I knew when I was meant to feel weepy (cue unfairness, bullying and random cruelty) and when I was to laugh (whenever the bad guy gets their comeuppance), but there was always just a touch of originality in the script and skill in the acting that meant the film was never entirely predictable and no happy endings were begrudged. Certainly, it's the first time I've seen coprophagia used as a comedic device.

All in all, this movie may not bring anything particularly new or special to the genre, but it entertains while leaving you with pause for thought, which is more than most films have to offer nowadays.

PROPERTY

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Immaculate 3 storey stone-built terraced house for rent in OX4
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LIEDER FESTIVAL

Oxford Lieder: Lunchtime Recital by Ida Falk Winland, Håkan Vramsmo & Matti Hirvonen

22nd October 2011, Holywell Music Room
 Mercifully transferred to the Holywell at the last moment, due to a piano malfunction, this delightful recital was the second concert of the Swedish Weekend by the outstanding soprano, Ida Falk Winland. She alternated in the programme with Håkan Vramsmo, the Swedish baritone, who was making his second appearance at the Oxford Lieder. Both soloists were sympathetically accompanied throughout by pianist Matti Hirvonen.

As you might expect, we were treated to a programme of largely Swedish music set to Swedish texts, which turned out to be mostly love poems. Ida Falk Winland started with "The Listening Maria" by Almqvist, a quiet and thoughtful piece, and finished her first set with Rangstrom's more recent and more amusing song about a girl impatiently wishing for her lover, "The Girl beneath the New Moon". The audience was torn between concentrating on the singing and trying to understand the songs by reading the translation booklet. Perhaps Lieder might run to surtitles next year?
 Then Håkan Vramsmo stepped up to take the first of his turns. He has a fabulous baritone voice, well-suited to the intimacy of lieder, so it is no surprise to learn that he has won many prizes in lieder competitions. He sang with excellent tone and control, giving powerful and sensitive interpretations to the music. He was warmly appreciated by the audience, which included the Swedish Ambassador.

The music continued, with alternating soloists performing through a short but delightful concert. Towards the end, the Swedish repertoire gave way to items by Poulenc and Strauss, but the same high standard prevailed. I was particularly impressed by Ida Falk Winland's engaging interpretation of Poulenc's settings of three of Louise Lalanne's poems, and Håkan Vramsmo's rendition of Schumann's "Belsatzar", with words by Heinrich Heine. This was spine-tingling, and will remain in my memory for a long time.

A wonderful pre-lunch recital, with three very good performers, although I did think that they missed a trick: surely there are some charming Swedish duets for soprano and baritone that they could have included?

- Phil Bloomfield