Oxford's DAILY INFO

Issue No. 7696

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Next issue: Thu 27th April
Deadline: 10am, Wed 26th April

Tue 25th - Wed 26th April 2006 (First Week)

WHAT'S ON / COMING SOON

BRASENOSE COLLEGE

TANNER LECTURES

ON

HUMAN VALUES

To be given by

CAROL BELLAMY

former Executive Director of UNICEF

on **Tuesday 25th** & **Wednesday 26th April**

in **The Examination Schools at 5.00pm**

Children in Crisis

- the state of the world's children and the challenges they face in the 21st century.

25th April:

From Taliban to the Tsunami

– true stories from the front lines of making a world fit for children.

26th April:

Stealing Childhood

– poverty, war and disease.

THESE LECTURES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Paddy Ashdown

(Rt Hon Lord Ashdown of Norton-sub-Hamdon, Former High Representative in Bosnia & Herzegovina)

'Peace Stabilization – learning the lessons from Bosnia'

Wednesday 26 April, 5.00 pm

in the Lecture Theatre, St Antony's College

01865 274537 / seesox@sant.ox.ac.uk

SCHOLA Cantorum of Oxford

James Burton - conductor

Israel in Egypt

G. F. Handel

Saturday 29th April 2006, 7.30pm

Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

Tickets £24 / £18 / £14 / £6

01865 305305 / www.oxfordplayhouse.com

ARE YOU OPEN FOR MAY MORNING?

Are you serving a five course breakfast, bacon sarnies, or simply beer?

Tell us & we'll tell your punters!

info@dailyinfo.co.uk

01865 241133

QIGONG WORKSHOP in Oxford

Learn how to be healthy and happy with the delightful Master Yap.

Master Yap Soon-Yeong is an internationally renowned healer, qigong master, and meditation teacher, and is the founder of the CFQ system.

May 20th & 21st, 2006, CFQ level one:

The 7 step "hexagram dance" and three complementary techniques. Workshop includes group healing.

Also including CFQ standing meditation.

For more details visit - **www.cfq.org.uk**
or contact **01865 423247 / 07879 054217**

THE STORYTELLING CIRCLE OF OXTALES will meet on Friday 28th April, 26th May and 30th June at 7.30 p.m. in the Library at the Friends' Meeting House, St. Giles. Everybody is welcome. Come and enjoy listening to stories or tell one yourself and have a lovely evening.

THE DA VINCI CODE AND THE RESURRECTION - Gnosticism, the Cathars and esoteric Christianity. A seminar by Dr Celia Green, author of The Human Evasion. Tuesday 2nd May at 3pm, Kings Arms, Holywell Street. Entrance Free. www.celiagreen.com

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For those who appreciate good food

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25 Walton Crescent, Oxford Telephone: 310066

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SERVICES OFFERED

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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 - www.mbesummertown.co.uk, Headington 01865 741729 - www.mbeheadington.co.uk

GRADUATE (MA) SEEKS EMPLOYMENT to keep wolf from the door. Proof-reading, thesis / dissertation / revision assistance. Great references, reasonable rates. 07834 324035 tomcunliffe@warpmail.net

MUSICAL SERVICES

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

DISCO, PA, AND LIGHTING EQUIPMENT – hire and sales. 118 Cowley Road, 01865 722027

CINEMA
Until Thu 27th April

Phoenix Picture House (0870 758 3218)

MANDERLAY [15] Tue: 8.30pm, Wed: 1.30pm
Second of Lars Von Trier's USA trilogy.

THE SQUID AND THE WHALE [15] Tue, Thu: 2.45, 4.45, 6.45, 8.45pm
Two boys adjust to parents' divorce in comedy drama. Wed: 2.45, 6.45, 8.45pm

PIERREPOINT [15] Tue: 2.00, 6.30pm, Wed: 7.00pm Thu: 2.00, 7.00pm
Timothy Spall as Britain's last hangman.

THE THREE BURIALS OF MELQUIADES ESTRADA [15] Tue: 4.15pm, Wed, Thu: 4.15, 9.00pm
Tommy Lee Jones's directorial debut, a modern western.

FRENCH CINEMA: STRAYED [15] Tue, Thu: 12.45pm, Wed: 4.45pm
The uneasy relationship of a mother and young man in WW2.

BIG SCREAM: THE SQUID AND THE WHALE [15] Wed: 11.30am
Two boys adjust to divorce in comedy drama. For parents with children under one.

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007)

TAKE THE LEAD [12A] daily: 6.15, 9.00pm
Teaching dance in the New York public school system.

ICE AGE 2 [U] daily: 12.30*, 1.30, 3.00*, 4.00, 6.00*, 7.00, 9.15pm
(* =wheelchair access, and the others are all audio described)
Another mammoth undertaking.

EIGHT BELOW [PG] daily: 12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30pm
Men and dogs battle to survive the antarctic winter.

SCARY MOVIE 4 [15] daily: 2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30pm
Another horror parody.

SHE'S THE MAN [12A] daily: 1.15, 3.45pm
Another teen America remake of Twelfth Night.

THE INSIDE MAN [15] daily: 8.15pm
Spike Lee directs New york police drama

SILENT HILL [15] daily: 2.15, 5.30, 8.45 (wheelchair access for all)
A mother goes to a strange place in search of a cure for her child...

SENIOR SCREEN: MRS HENDERSON PRESENTS [12A] Wed: 10.45am (wheelchair access)
Judi Dench as a bored widow in wartime London who decides to put on a strip show.

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)

SHE'S THE MAN [12A] daily: 4.15pm
Another teen America remake of Twelfth Night.

AN AMERICAN HAUNTING [15] daily: 8.30pm
Based on a "true story" of possession in Tennessee.

TAKE THE LEAD [12A] daily: 6.30, 9.15pm
Teaching dance in the New York public school system.

ICE AGE 2 [U] daily: 1.30, 2.00, 2.50, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 7.15, 9.30pm
Another mammoth undertaking.

THE INSIDE MAN [15] daily: 2.15, 5.10, 8.00pm
Spike Lee directs New York police drama.

AMERICAN DREAMZ [12A] daily: 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30pm
The President judges a talent show.

EIGHT BELOW [PG] daily: 2.40, 5.20, 8.15pm
Men and dogs battle to survive the antarctic winter.

SCARY MOVIE 4 [15] daily: 1.00, 3.15, 5.30, 7.45, 9.45pm
Another horror parody.

TRISTAN & ISOLDE [12A] daily: 3.00, 6.00, 9.00pm
Doomed lovers. Doomed, I tell you...

SILENT HILL [15] daily: 2.30, 5.45, 8.45pm
A mother goes to a strange place in search of a cure for her child...

Odeon Magdalen St (0871 2244 007)

TRISTAN & ISOLDE [12A] daily: 2.00, 5.15, 8.30pm
Doomed lovers. Doomed, I tell you...

AMERICAN DREAMZ [12A] daily: 1.00, 3.30, 6.15, 9.00pm
The President judges a talent show. (wheelchair access)

Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)

DOUBLE INDEMNITY (PG) daily: 7.30, 9.40pm
Classic 1944 noir communicating the very depths of depravity, greed, lust & betrayal.

TUITION

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For more information contact:
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Email: icels@brookes.ac.uk Web: www.brookes.ac.uk/icels

BIOLOGY / CHEMISTRY A-LEVEL & GCSE tuition offered. Phone: 0777 558 2800

THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN IRAQ today are aged 10. See why at www.gardenofdemocracy.org

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TUITION. Cambridge / IELTS exams. Writing skills. Thesis checking. 01865 728698.

ENGLISH MOTHER-TONGUE INSTRUCTORS -qualified (CELTA or similar) some experience - please contact Rosalind Richard, Berlitz Language Centre Director - rosalind@languagecentres.com 01865 241242. Year-round work on offer to teach adult business people, mainly one-to-one.

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OFVM centre for film • digital media

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Researching for Film and TV. Weekend course for those wanting to get into the industry. 29 & 30th April. £140.
OFVM, East Oxford / 01865 792731
www.ofvm.org for all courses / office@ofvm.org

THEATRE
Until Sat 29th April

New Theatre, Oxford (0870 6063500)

LITTLE BRITAIN Mon 24th -Wed 26th: 7.30pm
Sold Out!

THAT'LL BE THE DAY Fri 28th: 7.30pm
Over 100 of your favourite hits from the 50's, 60's & 70's. £12.50-£18.50

THE AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD SHOW Sat 29th: 8pm
Another brick in the wallaby! £22.50

Oxford Playhouse (305305)

EDWARD ALBEE'S THREE TALL WOMEN To 13th May
Mon-Wed: 7.30pm, Thu, Sat: 2.30, 7.30pm, Fri: 8.00pm
How we live, how we love, what we settle for and how we die. £9.50-£22.50

Old Fire Station Theatre (297170)

BECKETT SHORTS Tue 25th- Sat 29th daily: 7.30pm
Rough for Theatre II, Catastrophe and Not I. Sat: 2.30, 7.30pm

JDP Music Building (305305)

MACBETH Mon 24th - Fri 28th: 7.30pm
New take on Shakespeare's tragedy by a groundbreaking new group. £8/£6/£5

JOBS OFFERED

AUDLEY

WEB CONTENT CO-ORDINATOR
Salary £20k-22k

We are looking to recruit a bright and enthusiastic person to join our team as a Web Content Co ordinator reporting to our E-Commerce Manager.

The role is to actively maintain and develop the range of content offered on the Audley website including research, co-ordination of input from the Audley team and creation of the web pages for publication including text and images.

This is an exciting new opportunity for someone who has a good understanding of HTML and Photoshop with an eye for design and page layout and who understands the way websites are created and organised.

Specialising in tailor-made travel, Audley is a fast-growing company committed to the highest standards of quality and customer service. In recognition of our positive and enlightened approach as an employer we have appeared in The Sunday Times '100 Best Small Companies to Work for' list for two years running.

THE SUNDAY TIMES 100 BEST SMALL COMPANIES TO WORK FOR 2006

For more details, visit our website:
www.audleytravel.com/careers

Please send your c.v. with covering letter to Human Resources, Audley, Willows Gate, Stratton Audley, Oxfordshire OX27 9AU or email **work@audleytravel.com**

Only successful applicants will be contacted. No agencies please.

'GREEN' PRINT SHOP MANAGER, 4 days per week, £14,000 - £16,000 pa, plus bonuses. Closing date: 2nd May 2006. Oxford Greenprint is Oxford's environmentally sound printer. Manager will direct three people and day-to-day operations. Good communication and time management essential. Job description on request. Application by CV and letter. 0845345 1398 mail@oxfordgreenprint.com

YOUNG POLISH ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS WANTED!!! Send me your CV (cdabrowski@gmx.de). Any questions? Call Czarek on 01865 244358 or 07748 025099 (after 6.30pm weekdays and after 10.00am on weekends).

JOBS WANTED

EXPERIENCED GEOGRAPHY TUTOR. Trained Geographer / Experienced Tutor, BA, MSc. from Oxford University. Personalized tutoring in a safe and friendly environment. Contact Kelly, (07962) 655195, Kelly.Dolan@Green.oxon.org

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Oxford OX2 7BY Tel: 01865 515955

SKILLS / VOLUNTEERS

Tue 25th

LACEMAKING / Friendly group for lacemakers, all welcome. / Isis Lacemakers / 7-9pm £15 per annum / christinarnder@hotmail.com / St Nicholas Church Hall, Old Marston

SEWING COLLECTIVE / B.K. Luwo offers free sewing & machine knitting and embroidery classes / 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. drop-in / bk.luwo@tiscali.co.uk / East Oxford Community Centre. Princes Street

CALLING ALL SKIP DIVERS! / Volunteers needed to help with wood collections. / Oxford Wood Recycling / Any week days. / info@oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk / oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk / Milton Park- Oxford pick up

Wed 26th

JUGGLING AND POI WORKSHOP / Juggling, club passing, poi spinning, etc. Beginners welcome. / 8pm - 10pm / £2 / East Oxford Community Centre. Princes Street

AARGH!! LIFE DRAWING CLASS /6.30pm - 8.30pm, £5 / info@aargh.co.uk / Marmalade Café & Gallery. Back of the old Jam Factory, Frideswide's Square (opp. Said Business School), Park End St/Oxpens Rd

MEETINGS & LECTURES

Tue 25th

TANNER LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUES

"Children in Crisis: From The Taliban to The Tsunami." Carol Bellamy, former Executive Director of Unicef Examination Schools / 5pm / Open to the Public.

SPIRITUAL HEALING / Meditation - 6.30 pm, Healing - 7.00 pm / Free (donations) / oxfordpm@yahoo.co.uk / 43 St. Giles

PAINTINGS OF EVERYDAY LIFE / Lunchtime gallery talk. / 1.15 - 2pm £2 Booking recommended. / Ashmolean Museum. Beaumont Street. Tel: 278000

PAUL CEZANNE : THE FATHER OF MODERN ART? / £90 for all six lectures. (begins 25/4) / 10.30am - 12noon / Rewley House. 1,Wellington Square; Tel: 270380

PEACE STUDIES SEMINAR / "Back to the Future"- Current Economic Models and Conflict / 7.45 pm Free / 43 St. Giles

GROUP MEETING - THE YEAR AHEAD / Meeting for the Campaign for an Elected Head of State / Oxford Area Republic Group / 7pm, Free, Supporters Welcome / www.republic.org.uk / Oxford Town Hall. 109-113 St Aldate's; Tel: 252195

Wed 26th

TANNER LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUES

"Children in Crisis: Stealing Childhood."

Carol Bellamy, former Executive Director of Unicef Examination Schools / 5pm / Open to the Public.

PATTERN & DESIGN / Lunchtime gallery talk. / 1.15 - 2pm £2 Booking recommended. / Ashmolean Museum. Beaumont Street. Tel: 278000

DAVID PATTERSON SEMINAR / Dr M Golani : British Administration and the Civil War in Palestine / OCHJS / 8pm / enquiries@ochjs.ac.uk / Centre Mapham. Yarnton, Oxford OX5 1PY / Tel: 377946

OPEN EVENING - MORIT HEITZLER / Family Constellations - counselling & therapy. / Introduction and demonstration. / 7.30-9.30pm / £5 at the door / Friends' Meeting House. 43 St Giles; Tel: 01865 557373

PADDY ASHDOWN "PEACE STABILIZATION - LEARNING LESSONS FROM BOSNIA" / St Antony's College Lecture Theatre / 5pm / seeox@sant.ox.ac.uk / 01865 274537

What are you doing?

And have you told us?!

Free advertising for events:

Gigs, Meetings, Talks, Classes, Exhibitions, Concerts, Plays, Clubs, Worship, Pub Quizzes...

Just enter your details at the bottom of any events page on **www.dailyinfo.co.uk**

GIGS

Tue 25th

OPEN MIC / Free, all welcome / 8.30pm / Exeter Hall Pub. 1 Oxford Rd (corner of Cowley & Marsh Rds.); Tel: 01865 776431

FIGMENT + TOY 1 + NOVEMBER + THE OBJECTIONS / Charity gig to raise money for Oxford Development Abroad. / 8.00pm / £4 / The Wheatsheaf. 129, High St

Wed 26th

JOHN HOARE AND LUIS D'AGOSTINO / Brillant trumpet join The Luis D'Agostino Trio for Jazz-Grooves-Funk / 8.30 PM. Free Admission / luisdagos@aol.com / www.johnhoare.co.uk / Chester Arms. Chester St, off Iffley Road

FOLK SESSIONS / Free, all welcome / 8.30pm / Exeter Hall Pub. 1 Oxford Rd (corner of Cowley & Marsh Rds.); Tel: 01865 776431

OPEN MIC NIGHT / Perform 3 songs if voted best act play 10 days later and receive £50 / 8.30pm FREE / Marlborough House, Western Rd

DIRTY SCI-FI + BABY GRAVY / 8.00pm £4 / The Wheatsheaf. 129, High St

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Previous experience preferred but not essential.

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sue@oldparsonage-hotel.co.uk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MALARIA VACCINE STUDIES. Two to three million people in tropical areas (including travellers to these) die each year of malaria and there is currently no vaccine available. New vaccines against this disease have recently been developed in Oxford and elsewhere. Would you be willing to assist with studies of these vaccines that are currently in progress at the Churchill and John Radcliffe hospitals? We are seeking healthy volunteers, aged 18-50 years, who have not had malaria previously. If you might be able to help by volunteering please contact the Malaria Vaccine Trial Group: Telephone:01865 857 401(answer phone) E-mail:malaria@well.ox.ac.uk. We will provide reimbursement to you for your participation, including allowances for time spent on the study and travelling expenses.

OXFORD MONTESSORI SCHOOL S. Do you love working with children? Are you creative and enthusiastic? We need a brilliant 'Create' club Supervisor (min NVQ level 3 or equivalent) - full days in half terms and holidays at Iffley Montessori Nursery. We also need regular Supply staff for our schools. CV with photo to oms.schools@btconnect.com

CHILDREN'S DRAMA TEACHER (2 - 6 yrs) wanted for 3 nurseries in Oxford. Must be experienced, enthusiastic, creative and inspiring. Term times only, part-time. CV to oms.schools@btconnect.com

PART-TIME COOK needed for nursery school. 25 hrs p/w. Iffley. Contact LOUISE COLLING: 01865 358210

SMART STUDENT? Up to £30 per hour? Surely not! http://www.fundmydegree.com

PROGRAMMER WANTED. ASP & .NET based in Worminghall (just outside of Oxford). Interesting, permanent role, £18k - £23k. Tim. Ellert@SimplyAutomate.co.uk

WOODSTOCK ROAD DELI - Assistant wanted for our vegetarian deli. Hours: 12 noon to 7pm, 1 or more days / week. Pay: £7.50 / hr. Tel. 0771 2000 406 or 01844 338055

MUSIC AND DANCE

Tue 25th

SALSA LESSONS / £5/lesson, students £4. / Beginners, Improvers @ 7.30pm. Social dancing @ 8.30pm - 9.15pm - Intermediates @ 9.15pm / rosa@onsalsa.com / Summertown Church Hall.

CUBAN STYLE SALSA CLASSES / 19.30 Advanced Rueda, 20.30 Beginners and Intermediate salsa, 21.30 Rueda / £5 for entire evening / b.prentiss@studiosixdesign.net / South Oxford Community Centre, Lake Street

FLAMENCO DANCE COURSE / All levels, with an Andalusian teacher and renowned professional dancer. / Embrujo Flamenco / 6.30 pm Sevillanas, 7.30 Beginners; 8.30 Intermediate. £30 (6 weeks) or £6 p/h / paula@embrujoflamenco.net / Oxford Community School, Glanville Rd (off Cowley Rd)

CEROC - MODERN JIVE / Beginners/ Intermediates. Fun & easy to learn. No need to bring a partner. ceroc_oxford@hotmail.com / 8pm-11pm / Guildhall, Abbey Close, ABINGDON

SALSA LESSONS – ALL LEVELS / Salsa. On2 Salsa, Cuban. No partner necessary. Get fit & meet new friends. / 7pm / SalsaEngland@aol.com / David Lloyd fitness centre, Cowley Business Park

STONESFIELD FOLK DANCE / Social folk dancing, friendly full instruction. No partner/experience required / Stonesfield Folk Dance Group / 8pm to 10pm £1.50 / Email: pvdavis@talk21.com / STONESFIELD Village Hall OX29 8EF

EGYPTIAN DANCE (RAQS SHARQI) / beautiful 'traditional' form. General/Intermed. level. / Raqs Sharqi Society teacher / 6.30-8pm. £6 class / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

JIVE + MODERN JIVE / Modern Jive classes and social dancing / Jive+ / 7.45 -10.45 pm £7 pp / coralie@jiveplus.com / Langdale Hall, Langdale Gate, WITNEY, OX28 6AB

Wed 26th

CEROC - MODERN JIVE / Beginners and Intermediate Classes. Fun and easy to learn. No need to book. / ceroc_oxford@hotmail.com / 7.30-10.30pm / Oxford Town Hall

SALSA LESSONS – ALL LEVELS / On1 Salsa, Cuban. No partner necessary. Get fit & meet new friends. / 7pm / SalsaEngland@aol.com / David Lloyd fitness centre, Cowley Business Park

STONESFIELD FOLK DANCE / Social folk dancing, friendly full instruction. No partner/experience required / Stonesfield Folk Dance Group / 8pm to 10pm £1.50 / Email: pvdavis@talk21.com / STONESFIELD Village Hall OX29 8EF

JIVE + MODERN JIVE / Modern Jive classes and social dancing / Jive+ / 7.45 -10.45 pm £7 pp / coralie@jiveplus.com / Langdale Hall, Langdale Gate, WITNEY, OX28 6AB

SPORT / WELL-BEING

Tue 25th

AMATEUR BOXING / Wolvercote ABC / 9.00 - 10.30 am / faz@wboxing.freeserve.co.uk / St Peter's Road, Oxford

USKO MOUNTNEY KARATE / 6.00pm - 8.00pm / www.hca.ath.cx / Headington Community Centre. Gladstone Road

ASTANGA YOGA / Mixed ability classes, Mysore style practitioners welcome / 10.30 to 12.00, £7.50, £6 concessions / maxine_howells@yahoo.co.uk / Yoga Garden. Behind Cibo's (on the right), South Parade, Summertown

KARATE (GOJU RYU) / Separate self defence classes for children & adults (at 3 levels: beg/int/adv). / JKF, Selwakai / 6pm adults / www.oxfordkarateacademy.com / Aspirations Health Spa, Sandy Lane, Blackbird Leys

TAI CHI / Oxford Internal Arts (tutors to UK's largest college of chinese medicine) / 7.30-9pm / www.oxinar.com / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

KUNG FU / Traditional Chinese Martial Arts. All levels welcome, come along and have a go. / 7.30-8.30pm / abingdonmartialarts@hotmail.com / White Horse Leisure Centre, ABINGDON

SOCIAL VOLLEYBALL CLUB / All skill levels welcome. Informal coaching & friendly atmosphere. / 7-9pm £4 / philip.postle@hondaracingfl.com / Park Sports Centre, HOLTON

OXFORD ANGELS SOFTBALL CLUB / New & Experienced players welcome / 7pm / Contact clubhouse@oxfordangels.com

FUJIAN WHITE CRANE KUNG FU / Traditional Chinese Martial Art / 6.30pm (kids), 7.30-9.00pm (Adults) / stefanw@fwckungfu.com / www.fwckungfu.com / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

DANCE, FITNESS & YOGA / Classes for children and adults. / Divine dance & fitness / 4pm 3yrs - 5pm 6yrs, 6pm adults. £2.50/£3.50/£4. / michelle.divinefitness@hotmail.co.uk / 22nd Oxford Scout HQ, Meadow Lane (off Donnington Bridge Road)

SUANG YANG TAI CHI / Soft and Gentle Art. Beginner friendly classes for all fitness levels / 6.00-7.00pm / stefanw@fwckungfu.com / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

Wed 26th

JUGGLING AND POI WORKSHOP / Juggling, club passing, poi spinning, etc. Beginners welcome. / 8pm - 10pm / £2 / East Oxford Community Centre. Princes Street

ASTANGA YOGA / for strength, flexibility and relaxation / 6.30 - 8 pm and 8:15 - 9.30 pm / Yoga Garden. Behind Cibo's (on the right), South Parade, Summertown

ASTANGA-INSPIRED DYNAMIC YOGA 6:30-8pm, £7/£5 AND **MEDITATIONAL YOGA** 8-9pm, £5/£4 / All welcome. / lissa.rodd@ntlworld.com / St Alban's Hall, Charles St, East Oxford

CFQ RELAXATION CLASS / Level one: Gentle movements for health & peace. Beginners welcome. / 7pm / sj.philpp@care4free.net / SS Philip & James School. 01865 311064

CRICKET NETS AND COACHING / Hanney Cricket Club / 18:00 - 20:00 / Free / kent.dixson@hodder.co.uk /

KARATE (GOJU RYU) / Separate self defence classes for children & adults (at 3 levels: beg/int/adv). / 4.30-6 children, 7pm adults / paul@oxfordkarateacademy.com / Aspirations Health Spa, Sandy Lane, Blackbird Leys

SPINE QI GONG: MARRIAGE OF HEAVEN & EARTH / Oxford Internal Arts (tutors to UK's largest college of chinese medicine) / 7.45-8.30pm / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

OXFORD ZEN GROUP / Soto zen meditation. / rose@magic40.fsnet.co.uk / Friends' Meeting House. 43 St Giles; 01865 557373

YOGA / Energising & relaxing. Beginners welcome. £6 / 6.30-8pm / Asian Cultural Centre. Manzil Way

TAOIST BREATHING / Oxford Internal Arts / 6.15-7pm / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

STANDING MEDITATION / 7-7.45pm / Jericho Community Centre. 33a Canal Street

WOMENS BOXERCISE / Get fit, burn fat, relieve stress. / OWB / 7.00 - 8.00 pm / faz1@fsmail.net / Summertown Church Hall

KEEP FIT CRECHE / 10.00am - 11.00am / www.hca.ath.cx / Headington Community Centre. Gladstone Road

WEIGHT WATCHERS / 12.30pm - 1.30pm / www.hca.ath.cx / Headington Community Centre. Gladstone Road

BEGINNERS ROWING COURSE / 6.30 / We are a friendly club on the Thames at Oxford, all are welcome! / rosinurse@hotmail.com / Falcon Boathouse, Meadow Lane, Oxford (near Donnington Bridge)

HOUSES & FLATS TO LET

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THEATRE REVIEWS

The Birds **by Glyn Maxwell - Metta Theatre - Merton College Chapel**

Metta Theatre are to be congratulated for their innovation and courage in mounting this witty and challenging piece of music theatre. They have staged an entertaining performance that deserves a large audience. The Greek original has been reworked by librettist Glyn Maxwell to bring it fully into line with modern ideas. This is essential when updating a classical satire – and has been done with care and flair. The music is both interesting and accessible. It is clear that the cast spent a lot of time in creating their individual bird characters. With very simple costumes (various coloured pashminas over black) and appropriate masks, they used gesture and physical theatre techniques to great effect. Musically-speaking the production was outstanding. With only two instrumentalists, a complex and involving sound world was evoked. The mixture of percussion and cello worked supremely well. In terms of the vocal performances, they were all excellent. The blending of the voices in the choral sections was near perfect – each individual giving their best at all times. If I have one complaint it is that the acoustics of Merton Chapel were not best suited to the clever libretto. All too often, the voices were lost in the ether. This was particularly noticeable when the full cast were singing. However my enjoyment of the evening was not seriously marred. Owen Findlay as Pitcher, the only human character in the piece, showed a real understanding of rhythm and vocal technique. He dominated the stage with charisma and charm. He was well matched with James Ballance as the Hoopoe. Mr Ballance has a rich baritone voice and a pleasing stage manner. This sort of enterprise is one that should be encouraged – it is an accomplished production. All involved should be commended. - **Simon Taverner**

Confusions **by Alan Ayckbourn - Caboon! Theatre Group - The Burton Taylor Theatre**

Confusions is a series of one-act plays performed by the Caboon! theatre group in aid of Cheney School's drama department. The programme describes the performances as "A collection of witty one act plays by one of Britain's best-loved playwrights"; but unfortunately, on the first night of the run, the company didn't quite manage to pull off what it promised. The fault lay in two areas: firstly, the scripts, written by the popular playwright Alan Ayckbourn, seemed clichéd and somewhat outdated; secondly, the young cast lacked the experience and comic timing needed to bring their characters to life. The male actors in particular seemed self-conscious on the stage, and appeared far younger than the characters they were playing, while the female actors, although stronger, had a tendency to over-act. However, some of these weaknesses may have been due to first-night nerves. The actors made good use of the stage, suggesting they had been well directed by Ellie Cartwright, who also acted in the plays; and the backstage team did well to recreate the different scenes required for each play within the limited space of the Burton Taylor studio. If you are intending to see *Confusions*, do not expect highly polished performances: but perhaps this should not be demanded of such a young company. Instead, go to be entertained, and amused, by a group of enthusiastic and lively young actors who are performing in aid of a very good cause. - **Tara Stubbs**

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