

EXCLUSIVE

University holds alumni's children hostage

THE UNIVERSITY's fund-raising team had to issue a formal apology this week after the kidnap and ransom of the children of over a hundred wealthy alumni.

Peter Front, whose four year old son was among the kidnapped, described the experience as "delightfully harrowing".

The operation, code-named Operation Kidnap Children, was masterminded by Alumni Relations Officer Carol Wittham, who admits to personally carrying out fourteen of the kidnappings. Wittham told the Oxymoron "I don't see what the issue was, really. These people spent three years and thousands of pounds studying here, and now they're refusing to give even more. How can Oxford continue to provide a first-class education if Congregation can't even afford to bathe in liquid gold once a year?"

PEOPLE STAND AROUND WITH SIGNS FOR SOME REASON

A WHOLE bunch of people stood around pretty much all day last Thursday holding signs and chanting about something or other. They seemed to feel very strongly that something ought to be done about it, whatever it was. They were getting in everyone's way and kept repeating themselves.

Julian Mangum, the leader of the group, told the Oxymoron, "This is a really important issue that people need to hear about. The government are deliberately mumble mumble mumble, and that's a serious threat bla bla bla civil rights etc etc indigenous people something something the environment skip



to the end unacceptable".

Mobs of people aimlessly standing around and chanting and suchlike have become an ever more common occurrence in Oxford.

Alice Lyttleton, of Bal-

liol, claims to have been subjected to several similar outbursts, "A few weeks ago a bunch of teachers were out there shouting and waving banners. I'm sure it's fun for them, but should they really be doing that on a school day?"

Her friend, Anna Cryer, added, "Sometimes people stand out there with pictures of suffering animals. If they like looking at animal torture, fair enough, but why do they want us to look at them? We tried to buy the pictures off them once, just so they'd leave, but that just made things worse.

"I wish they'd just tell us what they want, and when they want it."

CHERWELL CRITIC LAMBASTS 'CLICHÉD, PREDICTABLE' FUNERAL

RENOWNED DRAMA critic Tim Radley offers one of the harshest reviews of his career in this week's Cherwell, with a scathing attack on the funeral of his own mother.

Radley took exception to the event's "mawkish over-sentimentality" and "dull, linear script".

As his mother's coffin was covered by the dirt of the churchyard, "it was

certainly dramatic", he writes - "but the audience saw it coming a mile off."

"Watching this, I wanted the ground to swallow me up!", he added. "She was probably the lucky one!"

Angela Radley died of multiple stab wounds.

Radley described his one-star rating as generous, saying "it would have been no-stars if I hadn't left halfway through."

MAN HUMILIATED BY 'TOMATO IS FRUIT' REMINDER

A BALLIOL student was humiliated yesterday after hearing that tomato was in fact a fruit, and not a vegetable, as he had accidentally implied in an irrelevant aside to a polite conversation.

The corrector, James Pickles - who spends the first few minutes of each afternoon

chastising anyone who says "good morning" - is thought to be pleased with the results.

"This was truly incredible", remarked one witness to his triumph. "This is better than the time he reminded that guy that black wasn't actually a colour. He sure won that conversation."