

THE-REX

M A Y 2 0 1 8

A WRINKLE
IN TIME

"possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema.." (BBC)
Britain's Best Cinema - Guardian Film Awards

MAY 2018 • ISSUE 158
www.therexberkhamsted.com

01442 877759

Mon-Sat 10.30-6.30pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

THE-REX

CINEMA BERKHAMSTED

CONTENTS

Films At A Glance 16-17

Rants & Pants 26-27

BOX OFFICE: 01442 877759

Mon to Sat 10.30-6.30

Sun 4.30-5.30

SEAT PRICES

Circle £9.50

Concessions/ABL £8.00

Back Row £8.00

Table £11.50

Concessions/ABL £10.00

Royal Box Seat (Seats 6) £13.00

Whole Royal Box £73.00

Matinees - Upstairs £5, Downstairs £6.50, Royal Box £10

Disabled and flat access: through the gate on High Street (right of apartments)

Director: James Hannaway
01442 877999

Advertising: Chloe Butler
01442 877999

Artwork: Demiurge Design
01296 668739

The Rex

High Street (Three Close Lane)
Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2FG
www.therexberkhamsted.com

“Unhesitatingly The Rex is the best cinema I have ever..” (STimes Culture)

BEST IN MAY



Nothing Like A Dame

Dames Judi, Maggie, Eileen and Joan reflecting together on their lives and laughter. Once only. See page 11

FILMS OF THE MONTH



Isle Of Dogs

Wes Anderson making more stop frame animation, here about dogs on the scrapheap. A great tale of determination. See page 10



Pad Man

The fabulous true story from Southern India of a remarkable man, who single handedly took on a taboo and won. See page 14



A Quiet Place

A brilliant idea for a packed audience; practically a silent movie. Your heart will be in your mouth throughout. Come and hear a pin drop. See page 20



A Fistful of Dollars/ Grease

A Bank holiday weekend for two fab classics from vastly different movie worlds. One 50 yrs old, the other 40. Come fans, come all.

See page 22



MAY FILMS



Finding Your Feet

Director Richard Loncraine and his all-star cast present what promises to be the breakaway hit of the year. Imelda Staunton recently claimed that ageing cinema audiences wished to watch films with intelligent dialogue that deal with real people, subsequently trash-talking a stream of recent let-downs as 'terrible' blockbusters which gave the impression that 'millions' were lavished on the special effects and '£4.80 on the script' (almost a matinee seat). No finer example then in this delightful comedy-drama.

Here she plays self-proclaimed 'Lady' Sandra Abbott who, after forty years of married middle-England life, discovers her husband has been having an affair with her best friend. Ditching her plush Surrey home, she traces her estranged, free-spirited sister Bif (Imrie) to an inner-London council estate.

Reluctantly dragged along to a local community dance class, she is introduced to her sister's friends Ted (David Hayman) Charlie (Timothy Spall) and Jackie (Joanna Lumley). Gradually, she comes to realise that retirement is in fact only a new beginning, and that her impending divorce might just give her a whole new lease of life and love. "Unquestionable, undeniable, unmissable entertainment." (*research Chris Coetsee*) With this cast, expect fun and much self-deprecating low key British (Carry On-esque) humour. Don't ask, just come.

Director: Richard Loncraine
 Cast: Joanna Lumley, Timothy Spall, David Hayman, Imelda Staunton, Celia Imrie
 Duration: 111 mins
 Origin: UK 2017
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Entertainment One UK Ltd

When...

Tue 1	2.00, 7.30
Wed 9	2.00
Sun 13	6.00



Three Billboards

Outside Ebbing, Missouri

Mildred Hayes, there's a name you won't forget in a hurry. Frances McDormand is a hurricane of no-nonsense that not so much swept the awards season, as tore it up, kicking the Academy square in the groin. Martin McDonagh returns to a world of hard-as-nails, yet complex and vulnerable people and upending expectations. Seven months after her daughter was brutally raped and murdered, Mildred Hayes emblazons the roadside billboards of the title with signs taunting police chief Willoughby (Woody Harrelson) about the lack of arrests. This opens a whole can of worms on the townsfolk. Beneath the caricatures, however, even among Ebbing's most unsympathetic residents, officer Dixon (Sam Rockwell) there are complex lives and motivations. *Three Billboards* feels like high-intensity comedy circuit training; causing strains in ethical muscles you didn't know you had. It is a film that continually forces you to question your own responses: is it okay to laugh at this bit, cry at this... Thanks to McDonagh and his livewire star McDormand, *Three Billboards* is a renegade western, and a masterpiece that will leave its mark for years to come. (*research Jack Whiting*). One more Oscar notch on the Rex's anniversary preview list (13th anniversary 5.12.17) Come again, you'll see/hear more.

Director: Martin McDonagh
 Cast: Frances McDormand, Woody Harrelson, Sam Rockwell
 Duration: 115 mins
 Origin: USA 2017
 Certificate: 15
 Company: 20th Century Fox Film Co. Ltd

When...

Wed 2 2.00, 7.30



Lady Bird

Greta Gerwig's offbeat sensibility is usually left to her on-screen personas via indie 'dramedies'. With *Lady Bird*, we witness her full potential as a filmmaker with a voice.

This coming-of-age story takes the broad details of Gerwig's own upbringing and uses them to create moments full of spiky humour, all the while sketching a family set-up loaded with struggle. Saoirse Ronan's characterisation of 17-year-old Christine "Lady Bird" McPherson has the forceful momentum of a natural disaster. Unlike the rich kids at her Catholic School, Christine's family is scraping by on mum's nurse's salary. She has no interest in being defined by her socioeconomic bracket and clashes with her mother over everything. Saoirse Ronan whirlwinds through every scene, bristling with a feral desire for experience. *Lady Bird* is a small film making a lot of big noise; a hidden gem that has been exposed in the Oscar spotlight. It deserves the exposure because *Lady Bird* is bursting with warmth, wit and melancholy; it is both thrillingly real and (be warned) deeply personal. Ms's Gerwig and Ronan, take a bow. (*Jack Whiting*) Come and see if it moves you.

Director: Greta Gerwig
 Cast: Saoirse Ronan, Laurie Metcalf, Tracy Letts, Lucas Hedges, Timothée Chalamet, Beanie Feldstein, Stephen McKinley Henderson, Lois Smith
 Duration: 94 mins
 Origin: USA 2017
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Universal Pictures Int (UK)

When...

Thu 3 2.00, 7.30



Director: Wes Anderson
 Cast: Bryan Cranston, Edward Norton, Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson
 Duration: 101 mins
 Origin: USA 2018
 Certificate: PG
 Company: 20th Century Fox

Isle of Dogs

Man's best friend is the subject of Wes Anderson's fantastical stop-motion animated comedy.

Following the outbreak of canine flu, terror grips Japan. All dogs are rounded up and shipped to an off-shore dump-island, littered with the mountains of waste. Young boy Atari, devastated by losing his beloved friend Spots (voiced by Liev Schreiber - director of *Everything is Illuminated*!!) sets off to find him amongst the rubble with the help of a ragtag group of mutts, including Chief (Cranston) Rex (Norton) Boss (Murray) and Duke (Goldblum). Together they set out a quest to expose a lurking government conspiracy. Outwardly simple yet never simplistic, the film is more sophisticated than his 2009 stop animation adaptation of Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr Fox*, but equally accessible, and bears the filmmaker's unique, distinctive and quirky stamp as he combines his fascination for dogs and his love of Japanese cinema. A futuristic adventure with meticulous attention to detail, wry sense of humour and wonderful voice cast, offers all the hallmarks of a cult following, while showcasing a creative maverick who always makes his statement count. (research Chris Coetsee) It's grown up but on for a kids' matinee too. Little ones won't get it. 8/10+ should have fun. Come and see.

When...

Fri 4 7.30
 Sat 5 2.00, 7.00



Nothing Like A Dame

Pivotal to the seismic changes that ripped through the cultural establishment 60 years ago, together with music and fashion, British Theatre experienced an explosion of creativity and talent, the impact of which is still tangible today.

To colour-in these creative and social shifts, enter four gorgeous young actresses: Joan Plowright, Judi Dench, Maggie Smith and Eileen Atkins. Now all Dames of the Realm. The film invites you to share their memories of being bright young things, even brighter now.

Last summer, Joan invited Judi, Maggie and Eileen to her home. Here the BBC would spend two days filming at the house she had shared with her late husband, Laurence Olivier, from 1961. They reminisce freely about their past and about what it is like to grow old whilst still enjoying some success in their mad unpredictable profession. Intercut with archive, famed director Roger Michell captures it all, these uninhibited seen-it-all women, behind their awards. The familiarity of their surroundings and ease with each other, brings out their mischief. They are natural comedians. Their company and their joy is infectious.

The most beautiful thing about the film... is them. (Here at the Rex only once, before broadcast on the BBC early in June.)

Director: Roger Michell
Cast: Dames Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Eileen Atkins and Joan Plowright
Duration: 90 mins
Origin: UK 2018
Certificate: 12A (tbc)
Company: Picturehouse

When...

Sun 6

6.00



Ghost Stories

Martin Freeman and Paul Whitehouse shine in this hair raising horror anthology, from the men behind The League Of Gentlemen and Derren Brown.

Adapted from Jeremy Dyson and Andy Nyman's 2010 hit play, this collection of chilling tales develops from its stage origins to fill every corner of the screen with sinister threats. It's an anthology of eerie supernatural tales, each one individually stranger than the last. Nyman stars as Professor Phillip Goodman, who stumbles across old files containing details of mysterious hauntings, and sets out on his terror filled quest.

Ghost Stories is cleverly made in the English tradition of Amicus portmanteau films from the 1960's (Dead of Night, Dr Terror's House of Horrors). This is not a film that wants to be subtle, it creates a tremendous atmosphere, cleverly stage-managed illusions and a dream like oddness to everything. Nyman and Dyson have created a weird world of danger, despair and decay. (*research Beth Wallman*) That should make you feel at home...

"The most unsettling British horror in decades" (*Radio Times*) Well, if the Radio Times says it is, then it must be. Come and see.

Directors: Jeremy Dyson, Andy Nyman
Cast: Martin Freeman, Paul Whitehouse, Jill Halfpenny
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: UK 2018
Certificate: 15
Company: Lionsgate

When...

Mon 7 7.30

Tue 8 2.00, 7.30



The Greatest Showman

Hugh Jackman steps into the spotlight as 1800s impresario P.T. Barnum in this all-singing-all-dancing rags to riches extravaganza.

2012's *Les Mis* was supposed to be the movie that showcased Jackman's triple-treat talents as a singer, dancer and serious actor. Yet somehow it didn't, it fell short. Here debut director Michael Gracey deservedly hands him a better chance and this time around he smashes it out of the park.

Born the son of a poor cobbler, Phineas Taylor Barnum longs to rise above this life and dazzle the world. Having conned his way into the money to start a 'museum', he assembles the unfortunates and the bizarre of marginalised society, creating a showcase of oddities to draw people in.

A freak show, to break the ground for circus, sleight-of-hand and live derring-do.

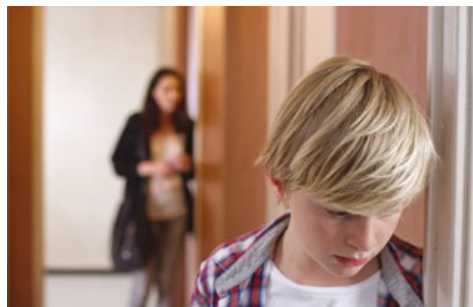
But despite his flourishing success, he yearns to debunk his critics. To garner the attention and loosen the purse strings of high-art snob culture, Barnum risks it all, and his family...

Questions are raised over this sanitised telling of a rags to riches tale, but showbiz is showbiz and historical haziness aside, this is nothing short of spectacle and splendour. (research Chris Coetsee) Glorious big screen cinema, trickery and all. Keep coming, it'll be here.

Director: Michael Gracey
Cast: Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Rebecca Ferguson, Zac Efron
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: USA 2017
Certificate: PG
Company: 20th Century Fox Film Co. Ltd

When...

Wed 9 7.30



Custody

Themes of domestic violence and coercive abuse are explored in Xavier Legrand's raw, visceral and harrowing debut feature.

After being granted joint custody of their 11-year-old son Julien, despite protestations from the boy and his 18-year-old sister Joséphine, Antoine (Ménochet) and Miriam (Drucker) find themselves locked in a bitter dispute, exacerbated by Antoine's incessant demands and behaviour towards his terrified estranged wife and their two children.

As Antoine appears to be increasingly angered by what he sees as an attack on his rights as a father, it soon transpires that there is far more to the separation than meets the eye. Taking most of his psychopathic anger and frustration out on the boy, Antoine soon descends into full-blown stalker territory when he realises that things are being kept away from him, resulting in a terrifying stand-off between the former couple.

Having earned an Oscar nomination for his brilliantly received short-film *Before Losing Everything* in 2013, Legrand has penned a narrative which is as terrifying as it is satisfying in its brilliantly well-judged denouement, offering a truly astounding piece of filmmaking. (research Chris Coetsee) Phew! What fun. Not one to bring your knitting to then.

Director: Xavier Legrand
Cast: Léa Drucker, Denis Ménochet, Thomas Gioria, Mathilde Auneveux,
Duration: 94 mins
Origin: France 2018 (Subtitled)
Certificate: 15
Company: Picturehouse Entertainment

When...

Thu 10 2.00, 7.30



Ready Player One

Virtual reality headsets are all the rage right now - and finally done right - so it's no surprise that Ernest Cline's pop-culture stuffed novel has reached the screen.

It's 2045, and in a junkyard in Columbus, Ohio, humans reside in stacked trailers but live in the Oasis, a fantastically detailed virtual reality. Before he died, its creator, James Halliday (Mark Rylance) planted an Easter egg in his virtual world. The first person to reach it – after finding three hidden keys – will inherit the Oasis itself. Leading the race is gamer geek Wade Watts (Tye Sheridan) via his avatar Parzival, alongside his virtual friends, the orc-like Aech and Olivia Cooke's Art3mis, whom Wade begins to fall for. To show you how Steven Spielberg doesn't just sit on his hands between projects, *The Post* was prepped, shot and released as the VFX were being finalised for this film. Such vastly different styles being shot in parallel. I'm glad the 71-year-old is still shepherding the type of gleeful filmmaking he has mastered over the decades. Watch out for those references, they come thick and fast. Anyone born in the eighties will be in digital heaven. (*research Jack Whiting*) While *The Post* audience might not.

Director: Steven Spielberg
Cast: Tye Sheridan, Hannah John-Kamen, Ben Mendelsohn, Mark Rylance, Olivia Cooke, Simon Pegg
Duration: 140 mins
Origin: USA 2018
Certificate: 12A
Company: Warner Brothers

When...

Fri 11 2.00, 7.30
Sat 12 2.00, 7.00



The Square

Swedish director Ruben Östlund skewers the stuffiness of the worldwide modern-art scene in this Cannes Palme D'Or winning satire.

Christian (Claes Bang) the esteemed curator of a contemporary art museum, is first introduced, abruptly woken for an interview with American journalist, Anne (Elisabeth Moss). She wants him to explain the rationale behind his museum's latest installation which encourages altruism from his upmarket clientele. As he wades into a defiant academic critique of his most recent triumph, it becomes evident we're in for a shrewd deadpan treat; a send-up of an era where even the art itself has become self-despising (whatever that means). Östlund's previous film, the icy-sharp *Force Majeure*, is focused in a way *The Square* is defiantly anything but. Here imagination is left to fly in every direction, resulting in a film that stays alive, often hilariously leaping and swooping from moment to moment, a story of good intentions resulting only in random, preposterous incidents. The absurdity of the art world is an easy target, and *The Square* hits every mark with unabashed precision. (*research Chris Coetsee*) Fantastic, but nuts, and from Sweden (uh oh Swede-ist). At 151 minutes, it starts at 7:30 sharp-ish. Knitting essential. Weird enough not to miss. So don't!?

Director: Ruben Östlund
Cast: Claes Bang, Elisabeth Moss, Dominic West, Terry Notary, Christopher Læssø
Duration: 151 mins
Origin: Sweden 2018 (Subtitled)
Certificate: 15
Company: Artificial Eye Film Co. Ltd

When...

Mon 14 2.00, 7.30



Edie

Screen Veteran Sheila Hancock stars in this life affirming and inspiring story.

The death of Edie's controlling husband brings a surge of regret for her wasted years. With her daughter pushing her into a nursing home, Edie chances on an old rucksack that sparks memories of her father, and the trip they never managed to take. Edie, who has become rather less than cheery, hops on the Caledonian Sleeper and heads to Scotland. A series of chance encounters pairs her with Jonny (Kevin Guthrie), a young and charming guide, who after a frustrating start, become a wonderful team. Beyond the story of Edie is the awe inspiring location. Filmed in the surrounding areas of Mt Suilven, August Jakonsson's brilliant cinematography produces stunning scenes and beautiful backdrops. Edie is a film, and a character, with an infectious spirit of adventure. While it is nothing new, it triumphs as a great feel-good film. Edie will leave you smiling, and perhaps booking your next walking holiday. (*research Beth Wallman*) The hills are alive and crawling. A lovely film, only here once so not to be missed.

Director: Simon Hunter
Cast: Sheila Hancock, Kevin Guthrie, Paul Brannigan
Duration: 100 mins
Origin: UK 2018
Certificate: 12A
Company: Arrow Film Distributors Ltd

When...

Tue 15 2.00, 7.30



Pad Man

The true tale of activist and unexpected entrepreneur Arunachalam Muruganantham receives an epic fanfare in R. Balki's Hindi hit comedy-drama. Based on the short story The Sanitary

Man of Sacred Land, this happy-go-lucky adventure champions Muruganantham (here renamed Lakshmi) a school drop-out from a small village in Southern India where menstruation is fraught with taboo and shame, hence care and hygiene abysmally low. His perseverance to invent sanitary pads at a fraction of the cost, allowed thousands of women across rural India, access to a safer and healthier life. Concerned for his wife Gayatri (Radhika Apte) Lakshmi (Akshay Kumar) urges her to opt for sanitary napkins, yet availability and expense takes them out of reach. Lakshmi is subjected to hostility and ridicule from both women and men, for daring to openly ruffle the religious and age-old beliefs of his community. Hugely, braving it against all sides, he tackles it head on, delicate or not.

"It's an engrossing and important subject raised by a man who challenges patriarchal taboos with a candour and determination that many men all over the progressive world might shrink from even now." (*Guardian*) (*research Chris Coetsee*) A fabulous real story, beautifully told without making a song and dance about it. Don't miss.

Director: R. Balki
Cast: Akshay Kumar, Radhika Apte, Sonam Kapoor, Amitabh Bachchan
Duration: 140 mins
Origin: India 2018 (Subtitled)
Certificate: 12A
Company: Columbia Pictures Corporation Ltd.

When...

Wed 16 2.00, 7.30



Beast

With a title like *Beast*, one expects a certain level of intensity. Thankfully, this slow-burn debut from Michael Pearce delivers on that expectation.

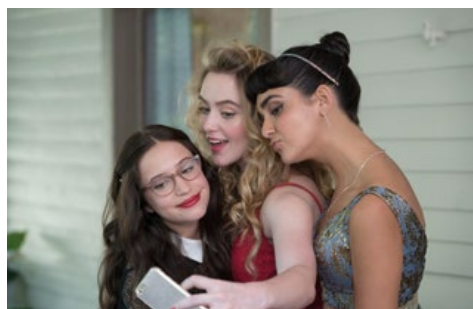
More Channel Island shenanigans. The scene is Jersey, where a serial killer has murdered several young girls; in their tense, clenched way the citizens are carrying on, only rarely acknowledging this elephant of horror in their room.

Two kooky, kindred spirits are drawn together by an undeniably steamy magnetism. Moll (flame haired Jessie Buckley) and Pascal (Johnny Flynn) are edgy outsiders who find solace and understanding in each other. They embark on a torrid love affair that is frowned upon by Moll's judgemental and entitled family and friends. Despite their warnings, she just can't pry herself away from him, even when he becomes the prime suspect in the murder investigation. This is a psychological thriller masked by a sweeping and scandalous romance and Jessie Buckley is a force of nature persuasively capturing the tumult of conflicting emotions stirred. In one scene, she is following him deep into the woods when suddenly she freezes, like an animal scenting danger. We assume she's afraid, but in fact it is desire which draws her. *Fifty Shades* take note. (research Jack Whiting) Wow... Jersey with jumpers.

Director: Michael Pearce
Cast: Jessie Buckley, Johnny Flynn, Geraldine James
Duration: 107 mins
Origin: UK 2018
Certificate: 15
Company: Altitude Film Distribution

When...

Thu 17 2.00, 7.30



Blockers

Another gross-out comedy with smarts! Hot on the heels of *Game Night*, we're gifted the next surprisingly refreshing social satire with a terrible title in *Blockers*.

Thanks to the witty and charm filled script by Pitch Perfect creator Kay Cannon, three parents trying to stop their teens' sexed-up prom-night plans, turns a typical crude comedy into something actually quite meaningful. Best friends Julie (Kathryn Newton), Kayla (Geraldine Viswanathan) and Sam (Gideon Adlon) are the smothered princess, the stoner jock and the closeted goth respectively, and headed for college – but not before making #SexPact2018. When Julie's overbearing mother, Lisa (Leslie Mann) discovers the details of their master plan, she ropes in fellow parents Mitchell (the newly crowned comical king John Cena) and Hunter (Ike Barinholtz) to "cock-block" the girls.

What follows are increasingly hilarious skits as the adults (who hog all the laughs) stay one step behind the fleeing teens. Underneath is a thoughtful exploration of parental responsibility and the capacity of burgeoning teen adults to navigate life's difficult choices... all that, plus Cena chugging beer through his bottom and you've got yourself the recipe for a typical Friday night. (research Jack Whiting)

Director: Kay Cannon
Cast: Kathryn Newton, Leslie Mann, John Cena, Ike Barinholtz, Graham Phillips
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2018
Certificate: 15
Company: Universal Pictures Int (UK)

When...

Fri 18 7.30

COMING SOON TO THE ODYSSEY

BACK BY DEMAND

THREE BILLBOARDS

GAME NIGHT

FINDING YOUR FEET

GREATEST SHOWMAN

NEW RELEASES

THE NILE HILTON INCIDENT

I FEEL PRETTY

MARY & THE WITCH'S

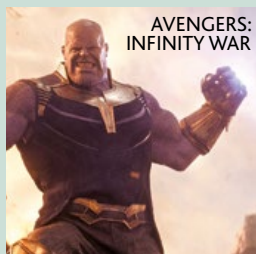
FLOWER

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

THOROUGHBREDS



MARY & THE
WITCH'S FLOWER



AVENGERS:
INFINITY WAR



THE NILE HILTON
INCIDENT



I FEEL PRETTY



THE ODYSSEY

C I N E M A S T A L B A N S

BOX OFFICE: 01727 453088

MAY	FILM	TIME
1 TUE	THREE BILLBOARDS...	12.00, 7.30
2 WED	I, TONYA	1.00
2 WED	ISLE OF DOGS	7.30
3 THU	ISLE OF DOGS	2.00, 7.30
4 FRI	I, TONYA	7.30
5 SAT	A WRINKLE IN TIME	2.00
5 SAT	RED SPARROW	7.00
6 SUN	ISLE OF DOGS	1.00, 5.00
7 MON	THE GREATEST SHOWMAN	5.00
8 TUE	PHANTOM THREAD	12.00, 7.30
9 WED	FINDING YOUR FEET	1.00
9 WED	THREE BILLBOARDS...	7.30
10 THU	RED SPARROW	2.00
10 THU	LOVE, SIMON	7.30
11 FRI	THE BIG LEBOWSKI	7.30
12 SAT	READY PLAYER ONE	2.00, 7.00
13 SUN	READY PLAYER ONE	1.00, 6.00
14 MON	ISLE OF DOGS	2.00
14 MON	120 BEATS PER MINUTE (S)	7.30
15 TUE	PAD MAN (S)	12.00, 7.30
16 WED	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL...	1.00, 7.30
17 THU	JOURNEYMAN	2.00, 7.30
18 FRI	TOMB RAIDER	7.30
19 SAT	THE GREATEST SHOWMAN	2.00, 7.00
20 SUN	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL...	1.00
20 SUN	THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING	6.00
21 MON	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL... (HOH)	2.00
21 MON	THE SQUARE (S)	7.00
22 TUE	THE SQUARE (S)	12.00
22 TUE	GHOST STORIES	7.30
23 WED	LADY BIRD	1.00, 7.30
24 THU	BEAST	2.00, 7.30
25 FRI	BLACK PANTHER	7.30
26 SAT	PETER RABBIT	2.00
26 SAT	BLACK PANTHER	7.00
27 SUN	A WRINKLE IN TIME	12.00
27 SUN	SOME LIKE IT HOT	5.00
28 MON	READY PLAYER ONE	5.00
29 TUE	ISLE OF DOGS	12.00
29 TUE	THE LEISURE SEEKER	7.30
30 WED	READY PLAYER ONE	1.00
30 WED	A QUIET PLACE	7.30
31 THU	LOVE, SIMON	2.00
31 THU	A QUIET PLACE	7.30

(S) Subtitled. *Hard of Hearing subtitled screening (HOH) The same format applies but with closed caption subtitles along the bottom of the screen

THE-REX

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MAY	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 TUE	FINDING YOUR FEET	2.00, 7.30	8
2 WED	THREE BILLBOARDS	2.00, 7.30	9
3 THU	LADY BIRD	2.00, 7.30	9
4 FRI	ISLE OF DOGS	7.30	10
5 SAT	ISLE OF DOGS	2.00, 7.00	10
6 SUN	NOTHING LIKE A DAME	6.00	11
7 MON	GHOST STORIES	7.30	11
8 TUE	GHOST STORIES	2.00, 7.30	11
9 WED	FINDING YOUR FEET	2.00	8
9 WED	THE GREATEST SHOWMAN	7.30	12
10 THU	CUSTODY (S)	2.00, 7.30	12
11 FRI	READY PLAYER ONE	2.00, 7.30	13
12 SAT	READY PLAYER ONE	2.00, 7.00	13
13 SUN	FINDING YOUR FEET	6.00	8
14 MON	THE SQUARE (S)	2.00, 7.30	13
15 TUE	EDIE	2.00, 7.30	14
16 WED	PAD MAN (S)	2.00, 7.30	14
17 THU	BEAST	2.00, 7.30	15
18 FRI	BLOCKERS	7.30	15
19 SAT	DUCK DUCK GOOSE	2.00	18
19 SAT	PACIFIC RIM: UPRISING	7.00	18
20 SUN	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL...	6.00	19
21 MON	LET THE SUNSHINE IN (S)	2.00, 7.30	20
22 TUE	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL...	2.00, 7.30	19
23 WED	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL...	2.00, 7.30	19
24 THU	GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL...	2.00	19
24 THU	A QUIET PLACE	7.30	20
25 FRI	TOMB RAIDER	7.30	21
26 SAT	TOMB RAIDER	2.00	21
26 SAT	FUNNY COW	7.00	21
27 SUN	A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS	6.00	22
28 MON	GREASE	7.30	22
29 TUE	A WRINKLE IN TIME	2.00	23
29 TUE	FUNNY COW	7.30	21
30 WED	PETER RABBIT	2.00	23
30 WED	UNSAFE	7.30	24
31 THU	THE RAILWAY CHILDREN	2.00	24
31 THU	A QUIET PLACE	7.30	20

(S) Subtitled.

COMING SOON TO THE REX

BACK BY DEMAND

GAME NIGHT

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I FEEL PRETTY

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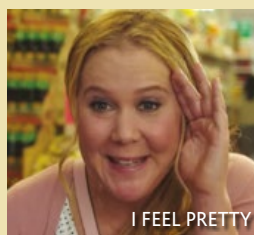
THOROUGHBREDS

MARY & THE WITCH'S
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INCIDENT

THOROUGHBREDS



I FEEL PRETTY

AVENGERS:
INFINITY WAR



Duck Duck Goose

When a film's opening minute features a poo joke, a butt joke and a Twitter reference, you certainly can't blame those responsible for misrepresenting the overall product.

Peng (Jim Gaffigan) is a rude bachelor goose who thinks he's better than everyone else in his migrating flock. But when he crashes during a daredevil stunt, he loses his flock and separates two ducklings, Chao (Lance Lim) and Chi (Zendaya) from their family.

The three birds end up heading south together, and Peng learns the power of love by taking the two siblings under his wing.

Come for the cutesy animation, stay for the simply wince inducing punnery; the feline antagonist character, for instance, declares that it has "turtle recall", after meeting Peng's turtle pal Larry. Yikes. For adults it can feel quite punishing (the 80 minutes will feel like an eternity). I would never encourage one to take out their phone during a film but, perhaps, here I'll make an exception. Good luck. *(Jack Whiting)*

Director: Christopher Jenkins
 Voices: Jim Gaffigan, Zendaya, Lance Lim, Greg Proops, Natasha Leggero
 Duration: 91 mins
 Origin: USA/China 2018
 Certificate: PG
 Company: Entertainment Film Dists Ltd

When...

Sat 19 2.00



Pacific Rim: Uprising

Now that Guillermo del Toro is busy polishing his Oscars - thanks to a certain fish-centric romance - it's up to someone else to further the ongoing struggle between robots and monsters.

Pacific Rim was simple: interdimensional aliens have opened a rift in the ocean and sent through it gargantuan creatures dubbed 'kaiju' to destroy our cities. The last hope for humanity was to construct equally enormous bipedal machines, or 'jaegers', to battle the invaders. It was a delightful spectacle, one tailor-made for the biggest screen. Uprising doesn't quite match the lofty heights of del Toro's 2013 original (his absence is felt) nor does it have that film's heart and sincerity, but John Boyega does a fine job as the film's central character, Jake Pentecost.

Guiding us through the silly plot with weapons-grade charm and swagger, Jake takes over from his father (played by Idris Elba in the first) as pilot of Gypsy Avenger, leader of the jaeger team. From here on out it's punchy, smashy as the monolithic entities duke it out in a playground made of skyscrapers. It's Power Rangers for adults, and big kids. *(Jack Whiting)*

Director: Steven S. DeKnight
 Cast: John Boyega, Scott Eastwood, Adria Arjona, Tian Jing, Charlie Day
 Duration: 111 mins
 Origin: USA 2018
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Universal Pictures Int (UK)

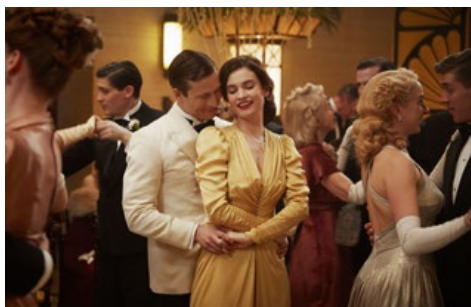
When...

Sat 19 7.00



Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society

Lily James and Jessica Brown Findlay enjoy a Downton reunion in this intimate post-war showpiece. Adapted from Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows' NY Times' Best Seller, Mike Newell's historical drama delves into a picture of Britain in the immediate aftermath of war. A nation trying to appreciate and savour the lives they've been blessed with, while old traumas still continue to haunt. When Juliet Ashton (James) a free-spirited writer, receives a letter from a member of a secretive literary club formed in Nazi-occupied Guernsey, her curiosity is up... There she meets the delightfully eccentric members of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, including the one who sent her the letter. The inevitable rugged, handsome, intriguing farmer: Dawsey. As the secrets from their wartime past unfold, Juliet's growing attachment to Dawsey, the book club and the island itself change her life forever. A wonderful supporting cast including Katherine Parkinson, Michiel Huisman and the evergreen, delicious Penelope Wilton and Tom Courtenay. This is a picture focused on characters and their journey to re-connect. Utterly charming and full of heart. (*research Chris Coetsee*) And bound to charm the hearts of us all, throughout the summer. Come; especially for Devon, Dorset and Cornwall – not Guernsey.



Director: Mike Newell
Cast: Lily James, Jessica Brown Findlay, Michiel Huisman, Matthew Goode, Katherine Parkinson, Glen Powell
Duration: 124 mins
Origin: UK 2018
Certificate: 12A
Company: Studio Canal

When...

Sun	20	6.00	Wed	23	2.00
Tue	22	2.00	Wed	23	7.30
Tue	22	7.30	Thu	24	2.00



Let The Sunshine In

The midlife dating game comes under comic scrutiny in Claire Denis' empathetic and intimate drama. Adapted from Roland Barthes' 'A Lover's Discourse', a fragmented collection of lovers' philosophy, *Sunshine* stars the magnificent Juliette Binoche as divorced artist Isabelle, a fabulous-in-her-fifties woman whose romantic frustrations threaten to emotionally overwhelm her unstable personal and professional lifestyle (sound familiar...?) As Isabelle bounces from one spectacularly awful encounter to another, the loose, airy narrative knits together something of a series of dalliances with men of various ages and neuroses, with nothing in common save for the fact that they have nothing in common with Isabelle either. While legendary cinematographer Agnès Godard makes Binoche glow like a goddess, Denis and co-writer Christine Angot give believability to Isabelle's plight as Binoche renders her as intensely human with a wonderfully layered, often self-deprecating performance. Together with an ensemble heavy on French A-listers, they bring out all the colours of love and rejection as Isabelle flits between anxiety, bliss, desperation and hope. A rare romantic-comedy that defiantly goes out of its way to disparage its lead character, to marvellous effect. (*research Chris Coetsee*) The French get the power of women alongside the exquisite devastation of passionate love. Don't miss it, in any language.

Director: Claire Denis
 Cast: Juliette Binoche, Xavier Beauvois
 Duration: 95 mins
 Origin: France 2018 (Subtitled)
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Artificial Eye Film Co. Ltd

When...

Mon 21 2.00, 7.30



A Quiet Place

John Krasinski silently jangles the nerves in this fraught supernatural thriller. Set in a dystopian future, a race of mysterious creatures have taken over the planet and while seemingly impossible to defeat, they have one critical weakness – they're blind with, presumably, no sense of smell? Make a sound however, and you're hunted. Caught up in a frantic struggle for survival are Lee (Krasinski) Evelyn (his missus - Emily Blunt) and their children. Heartbroken and empty following a tragic family loss, they have an obligation to each other to stay alive, but when Evelyn becomes pregnant, their ability to navigate their treacherous, noiseless land in silence is pushed to extreme limits. It's a fair argument to suggest that sound is a most important ingredient to begin unsettling audiences, when it comes to tense or horror-ish movies. *A Quiet Place* is such an intriguing production for just this reason. Remove your most prominent narrative device and it makes it even more prominent. The sounds of wind and water, how much people say with their eyes, the power of communication and the keenness of its loss. All the more engaging... and all the more terrifying. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Don't miss this fabulous, thrilling, heart-in-mouth tension. Suck your crisps.

Director: John Krasinski
 Cast: John Krasinski, Emily Blunt, Noah Jupe, Millicent Simmonds, Cade Woodward
 Duration: 90 mins
 Origin: USA 2018
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Paramount Pictures UK

When...

Thu 24 7.30
Thu 31 7.30



Tomb Raider

Lara Croft has been raiding tombs in the digital landscape since 1996; the preposterously proportioned avatar even became a household name. Cinema hasn't quite been so kind.

Angelina Jolie had a blast in the role, twice, but they were classic examples of computer game adaptations - a bit rubbish. Alicia Vikander aims to rectify that and step into the boots of the intrepid explorer with gusto.

The plot races along from London to Hong Kong, and thence to a barely reachable island in the Devil's Sea. There lies the final resting place of Himiko, "the first queen of Japan," who, if disturbed, will unleash immeasurable terrors upon the world.

Lara is treading in the footsteps of her father (Dominic West), who embarked on a similar search seven years ago and has not been seen since. He bequeathed a boxful of maps, puzzles, codes, and clues, more than enough to point Lara in the right direction. So far, so Indiana Jones, but Vikander's steely, no-nonsense performance drops the quips and settles for a serious character study; one with some interesting 'daddy issues' no less. But don't let that get in your way. It's big, dumb fun. (research Jack Whiting)

Director: Roar Uthaug
 Cast: Alicia Vikander, Walton Goggins, Kristin Scott Thomas, Dominic West
 Duration: 118 mins
 Origin: UK 2018
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Warner Brothers

When...

Fri 25 7.30
Sat 26 2.00



Funny Cow

Maxine Peake rules the roost as an ambitious club performer in the dark days of British stand-up.

Working the Northern comedy circuit of the 1970s and 80s, Peake's pithy central character remains unnamed, instead defined by the casual misogyny and common language of the era ('Funny Cow' and more). Segments of a life story are cut into scenes on stage where she recalls her troubled past.

As flashbacks dip haphazardly into various periods, before settling onto her childhood, we take the place of the club audience whose laughter fades as the grim realities of growing up poor with a drunken mother and a violent father unfold.

Acknowledging the racism, sexism and homophobia that tainted the humour of the period, we're given a real sense of what forged a ruthlessly tough woman willingly prepared to take on the 'blokes' at their own game and beat them with their own weapons. "There is no moral, and in the words of Jerry Seinfeld, there is no hugging, no learning. There is just a hypnotically belligerent performance from Peake, whose anti-heroine explodes like a firework, burning herself to an ashy crisp." (*Guardian*) (research Chris Coetsee). Sounds like a belt in the mouth from all sides. See what you think.

Director: Adrian Shergold
 Cast: Maxine Peake, Paddy Considine, Stephen Graham, Vic Reeves
 Duration: 103 mins
 Origin: UK 2018
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Entertainment One UK Ltd

When...

Sat 26 7.00
Tue 29 7.30



A Fistful of Dollars

The fierce and fearless first instalment in Sergio Leone's iconic Dollars Trilogy.

A grim Mexican border town, torn apart by greed, pride, and revenge. No law, no commerce, just two evenly matched gangs in an uneasy truce. In this town folks get rich or they get dead. Into its dusty streets rides the Man with No Name. As the two clans struggle for dominance, their new neighbour quietly plots to play them both and take off with a fistful of gold.

Where squinted eyes and curled snarls do all the talking, Eastwood becomes something of an embodiment of the unforgiving environment and the culture of death and chaos within it, just as Ennio Morricone's score swirls on the soundtrack like a preview of the carnage to come, crafting a score that would typify the Spaghetti Western, and define what the West is "supposed to" sound like. A Fistful Of Dollars may not have been the first Italian Western but it was the one that broke the all-American hero mould, revitalised the genre and ushered in a new type of cowboy. (*research Chris Coetsee*) Not to mention Clint, his cheroot and squint, heralding a new fearless resourceful strong silent cool dude. 50 years on and never melted...!

Director: Sergio Leone
 Cast: Clint Eastwood, Marianne Koch, Johnny Wels, Wolfgang Lukschy,
 Duration: 96 mins
 Origin: Italy/Spain/West Germany 1964
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Park Circus

When...

Sun 27 6.00



Grease

There's no need to tell you the story, so this will do for first-timers...

Good girl Sandy and greaser Danny fell in love one summer. But when term begins, they discover they're at the same high school. Will they be able to rekindle that Summer Lovin'? Come and see, as if you don't know. It's May Bank holiday Monday 40 years after it first hit the screen in 1978. Come and lose yourself in schmaltz.

Director: Randal Kleiser
 Cast: John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John, Stockard Channing
 Duration: 105 mins
 Origin: USA 1978
 Certificate: PG
 Company: Park Circus

When...

Mon 28 7.30



A Wrinkle In Time

Disney's bonkers new offering is like a surrealist painting reinterpreted by a child; it makes even less sense than the original, but the sheer ambition should be commended.

If you can say nothing else about Ava DuVernay's adaptation of this American curriculum staple by Madeleine L'Engle, it most definitely taps into a childlike sense of that what-if wonder. Its central storyline concerns Meg Murray (Storm Reid) the young daughter of two NASA scientists, played by Gugu Mbatha-Raw and Chris Pine, who travels to a mysterious planet in search of her missing father. She's accompanied by her precocious six-year-old adoptive brother Charles Wallace, her friend/crush Calvin, and three cosmic entities known as Mrs Whatsit (Reese Witherspoon), Mrs Who (Mindy Kaling) and Mrs Which (an Oprah Winfrey). Ah, and – because searching for her missing father isn't enough of a story – Meg must battle an all-consuming evil entity known as 'The IT' as well. The Selma director deserves respect for tackling such a peculiar story; it may lose its way, but I suppose it's better to shoot for the stars and stumble, than play it boringly safe. (*Jack Whiting*) Indeed. Worth seeing for the big screen spectacle alone.

Director: Ava DuVernay
 Cast: Storm Reid, Levi Miller, Reese Witherspoon, Oprah Winfrey
 Duration: 109 mins
 Origin: USA 2018
 Certificate: PG
 Company: WDSMP UK

When...

Tue 29 2.00



Peter Rabbit

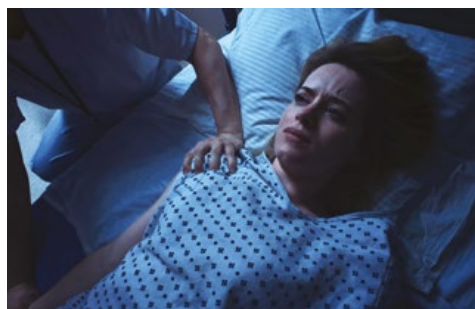
Has it come to this? The desecration of a literary classic? Or perhaps a much needed modern twist? Beatrix Potter would surely be startled.

It's actually... not terrible? If you can stomach James Corden being, well, James Corden, and his version of Peter having a supposed tearaway charm founded on deception, theft, greed and a seemingly pathological anti-human bloodlust. At the start of the film, Peter tries to insert a carrot into the exposed gluteal cleft of Mr McGregor (poor Sam Neill) while the elderly gardener is tending to his vegetable patch. A jape which ends with McGregor dying of a heart attack. Domhnall Gleeson (giving it 110 percent) is Farmer McGregor's nephew and heir, who has been working in Harrods but is continually passed over for promotion. He hates the countryside but swoons at the sight of Beatrix Potter or 'Bea' (Rose Byrne). This makes Peter extremely jealous and sparks full-on warfare, Peter Rabbit is deliberately abrasive and uneven to the extreme. Its riotous approach won't appeal to anyone hoping for soothing moments in the company of Mrs Tiggy-Winkle and Jemima Puddle-Duck, but its ballsy energy is enjoyable. An anti-Paddington, so to speak. (*research Jack Whiting*) It's silly but... fun.

Director: Will Gluck
 Voices: James Corden, Margot Robbie, Daisy Ridley, Elizabeth Debicki, Sia
 Cast: Domhnall Gleeson, Rose Byrne, Sam Neill
 Duration: 95 mins
 Origin: UK 2018
 Certificate: PG
 Company: Columbia Pictures Corporation Ltd.

When...

Wed 30 2.00



Unsane

Steven Soderbergh continues his retirement from retirement with this tight little social thriller about a woman's crumbling mental state.

Shot entirely on an iPhone - which offers the diverse director techniques and perspectives he wouldn't have considered with conventional cameras, ("it's the future" he says, apparently) Unsane stars Claire Foy as Sawyer Valentini, an efficient, tough-talking data analyst. She's just moved to Pennsylvania, where a stalker has made her life a living hell. She is a complete wreck, unable to form friendships or relationships. One day she ill-advisedly appears to confess to fleeting thoughts of suicide to her hospital-based psychotherapist. This therapist coolly asks her to sign a document, which she thinks is just committing her to more sessions. But suddenly big white-coated men lead her to a locked room. And in that secure facility, she becomes convinced that the attendant nurse is actually her stalker. Claire Foy gives a dedicated performance and tackles the increasingly ludicrous plot with a straight face. The smartphone approach gives such an eerily claustrophobic viewpoint that you'll find yourself losing your marbles too. (*Jack Whiting*) Bring a hand to hold - tight.

Director: Steven Soderbergh
 Cast: Claire Foy, Juno Temple, Aimee Mullins, Amy Irving, Jay Pharoah,
 Duration: 98 mins
 Origin: USA 2018
 Certificate: 15
 Company: 20th Century Fox

When...

Wed 30 7.30



The Railway Children

Always a welcome Spring return of this beautiful film at the cinema. It keeps it alive for new generations to see for the first time on the big screen.

It perfectly captures the sunny English landscape at a time when children waved at steam trains. It is a tale of innocence, pride and good manners about hardship, adversity and the once easy friendship between children and grown-ups. It is a celebration of old-fashioned fortitude set in an environment of steam trains, endless summer days and buns for tea. It is unashamedly sentimental. Nobody can deny the love and charm of this timeless, faithful 1970 film adaptation of Edith Nesbitt's classic children's novel. It is a chance to choke back a new tear and give new children the chance to be lost in the simple beauty of manners and charm.

There are no explosions and nobody gets a thick ear. "Whether today's kids get it is open to debate." (*Time Out*) But as the father of girls, "Daddy ... my daddy!" as the last steam clears the platform, will remain forever heartbreaking and soaring at once. Bring your grandparents and, if you don't fidget, there might be buns for tea when you get home... Don't miss - ever.

Director: Lionel Jeffries
 Cast: Dinah Sheridan, Jenny Agutter, Sally Thomsett, Gary Warren, Bernard Cribbens
 Duration: 106 mins
 Origin: UK 1970
 Certificate: U
 Company: Optimum Releasing

When...

Thu 31 2.00

"Brilliant programming..."

The Guardian

Property

Where to move for...

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Tom Dyckhoff

✉ @tomdyckhoff

Sat 31 Mar 2018 08:00 BST



A coincidental piece from the Guardian (7th April) leapt over the STimes nonsense about 'Best places in UK to rub up your house prices'. Here by contrast, Tom Dyckhoff coolly hooks places with the best independent cinemas. Ok, still confined to the 'Property' pages and sharing with The Phoenix! The Rex gets a proud note in a top national arts weekender - "brilliant programming..." Well spotted Tom. Say hello next time you're in.

"Berkhamsted's Rex"



Where to move for... the best cinemas

In the age of Netflix, it takes a lot to crowbar us off our sofas



▲ 'The fascinating trend is in smaller cinemas.' Photograph: Alamy

If I had my way, I'd move next door to a good independent cinema. Back in the golden age of picture houses, average high streets had a dozen screens. These days, there are only **801 cinemas left in the country**, says the UK Cinema Association, though the fact this figure has risen over the past decade tells an optimistic story.

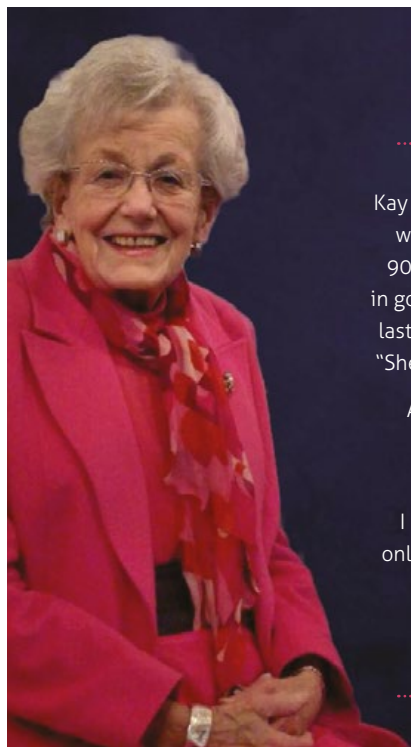
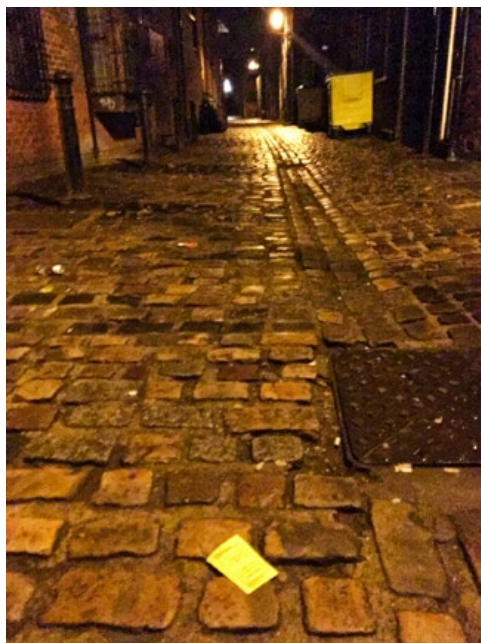
Last year, UK cinema had its highest-grossing year; much was down to high ticket prices and a succession of blockbusters, but much was due to new cinema openings. Multiplexes keep coming, but the fascinating trend is in smaller cinemas prizing visitor experience, community and rootedness. In an age of Netflix, it takes a lot to crowbar us off our sofas. Like the free tea and biscuits at **The Rex in Elland, West Yorkshire**, going strong since 1912. Or the homemade cola at Bristol's nonprofit co-op, **The Cube "microplex"**. The extra treat of a funicular ride to the **Lynton Cinema, Devon**, or the newsreels at **Newcastle's Tyneside**. It's the 30s, velveteen glamour and brilliant programming at **Berkhamsted's Rex** in Hertfordshire or **Finchley's Phoenix** that pulls me in.

And don't get me going on the **Peckhamplex** in south London, one of the last proper fleapits. You can keep what you save on tickets (£4.99) to pay the vast rent to live in Peckham these days.

Dream ticket...

It may have been discarded, or dropped accidentally, but there it was, late one April night, lying on the wet cobbles of Church Lane - a Rex ticket. It is pictured here, where it fell untouched.

In a corny moment I thought a fallen Rex ticket might have a story to tell. After being taken to be wowed by swash, kissing, buckle and stunts twenty feet high, with its rush of huge moving images and all engulfing sound, there it lay; in the silent opening shot of a 'noir' movie all of its own - The Last Ticket Home...



Kay Grey Williams

6/02/1921 - 10/02/2018

Kay Williams loved being at the Rex, and especially table 12 with her family. Seven years ago, independent and a mere 90, I would often see her in town, always most elegant and in good spirits. She would have some witty remark about the last peculiar film she had 'suffered'. As her son, David put it: "She could watch an entire film from behind closed eyelids"

As she started to walk more slowly, I began to see less of her in town, and inevitably at the Rex.

Always respectfully Mrs Williams, she gave up insisting I should call her Kay. Being the same age as my Dad, born only a day apart and a few thousand miles, she never failed to ask about him as a kindred spirit of 1921.

I am glad we had the chance to share the Rex.