

THE-REX

PROGRAMME

BEN HUR

OCTOBER 2016

"possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema..." (BBC)
Britain's Best Cinema – Guardian Film Awards 2014

OCTOBER 2016 • ISSUE 139
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	£9.00
Concessions	£7.50
Table	£11.00
Concessions	£9.50
Royal Box Seat (Seats 6)	£13.00
Whole Royal Box	£73.00
All matinees £5, £6.50, £10 (box)	

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)

REX ADVANCED BOOKING LIST (ABL 2017)

The Advanced Booking List (ABL) entitles you to the following:

- A confirmed listing posted to you monthly, first class or by email.
- At least one week's advanced booking, ahead of general release.
- £1.50 off your ticket.
- Up to six seats per show, including your own. (Five at usual Box Office price).
- Up to half the House. No titles will be sold beyond half capacity (150 seats). This is to ensure that nothing sells out before General Release.

We work to make sure nothing sells out too early or at least not before everybody's had a good chance. As you know and

support it, The Rex is not an exclusive club.

Already there are great films on release with many more due out next year. We will select the best, alongside those choices we think you'll love but might not get to see. Old classics too, alongside Rex requests and the best we can find from across the world, alongside the odd turkey.

Even on the ABL, if for you miss your time slot, you can come on any night and try the raffle. We'll always try to squeeze you in. Thank you for continuing to come and see everything from the obscure to the banal, the beautiful to the blockbuster and that odd turkey.

All renewals should be made by phone on 01442 877759 or in person at the Box Office.

This is your reminder

- It is open to only 500 individual names.
- **Current ABL members** can renew from Sat 29th October.
- **New ABL members** are then welcome from Sat 12th November until all remaining places are taken.
- The Fee for 2017 (Jan-Dec) stays at £150. With an option for a donation to The Rex (please ask).

Your first advanced booking list will be for **JANUARY 2017**. You will be sent a full January film listing early in December, with plenty of time to book before it goes on General Release.



February 2016



OCTOBER FILMS



Jason Bourne

Poor Jeremy Renner was just keeping the seat warm for Matt Damon, and now the everyman returns to the amnesiac assassin he so comfortably inhabited fifteen years ago.

Bourne is wandering the globe alone, partaking in the occasional illegal fistfight, when yet another figure from his murky past returns to call him back into action. You know the score by now, the fourth true instalment (third collaboration with Greengrass) plays out like a Bourne's greatest hits, so let's rundown the checklist: Erratic camerawork? Check. USB stick encryption? Yep. Government agents furiously typing on keyboards? Of course. A close quarters bust up with Bourne using a piece of furniture, kitchen utensil, or both? Wouldn't have it any other way. You see the Bourne formula is so perfectly calculated it's hard to get anything wrong. The problem is 2007's *Ultimatum* ended with the perfect trilogy close, so this return feels a little like the Bourne Redundancy. Still, the Damon/Greengrass collaboration adds muscle to any thriller; whether it's a tense riot in Athens, or a car chase down Las Vegas strip, Jason Bourne remains riveting from start to credits (*Jack Whiting*) Fantastic. See it again here on The Rex & Odyssey huge screens.

Director: Paul Greengrass
Cast: Matt Damon, Alicia Vikander, Vincent Cassel
Duration: 123 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 12A
Company: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

When...

Sat 1 2.00, 7.00
Tue 4 2.00, 7.30



Swallows and Amazons

Arthur Ransome's beloved tales recounting childhood adventures are told anew on the big screen. The twelve books were named after the title of the first one in the series and set between the two World Wars. Despite some deviations from the original plot, including the renaming of central character Titty to Tatty. This schoolboy's tittering embargo is not well received by the family of Mavis (Titty) Altonyan who inspired the original character in the novel. However, one not-so-subtle tweak is the addition of Russian spies. handy in the dumbering down dept. Luckily, the Lake District setting is portrayed in all its beauty, serving to remind us of 'hills and streams and trees'. As for simple penknife and string adventures, this is a delicious treasure set in what we think of as a time of assured innocence "A good-natured, if self-conscious period adaptation that grafts on a new grownup (dumbed down) plotline of treachery" (*Guardian*)

"There's a period-appropriate honesty to it, easily mistaken at first for earnestness or nostalgia. It sets it apart from any other family film you'll see this summer" (*Telegraph*)

Come for Derwent Water and the very special 'Cat Bells' ridge, background throughout (and on Sept's Rex cover). Don't miss.

Director: Philippa Lowthorpe
 Cast: Rafe Spall, Kelly Macdonald, Andrew Scott
 Duration: 97 mins
 Origin: UK 2016
 Certificate: PG
 Company: Studiocanal



Untouchable

Here to send you into October uplifted, this fabulous heartwarming treat. A huge hit in France, now around the world, and especially at the Rex where it will always have a home.

The film chronicles the unlikely burgeoning friendship between Philippe (Cluzet) a wealthy and cultured quadriplegic, and Driss (Omar Sy) a young banlieue ('Projects') dwelling French West African hired to be his live-in carer. It is routine 'odd-couple shtick' but it works gloriously, simultaneously wry and tender hearted. Perhaps inevitably, Philippe and Driss quickly disregard the cosmic differences between them to reveal more about themselves. Philippe's reluctant romantic involvement with his pen-friend; Driss with his flirtatious, mischievous ways and his deeper family roots.

"A charming, uplifting French drama, a real-life irreverent, comic take on disability." (*Guardian*) "Untouchable's moral is give a man responsibility and he will act responsibly? Not a film to change a charmless world, but might charm it." (*Telegraph*). From its opening ambiguity, it draws you in, teasing tension, before you/they/we all fall in love with them. Only the French seem able to make these films, certainly we can't.

The perfect film to kiss in a beautiful Autumn with a little more hope in our hearts. Don't dare miss.

Directors: Eric Toledano, Olivier Nakache
 Cast: François Cluzet, Omar Sy
 Duration: 112 mins
 Origin: France 2011
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Entertainment Film Distribution

When...
Sun 2 1.00 Sat 15 2.00
Mon 24 2.00

When...
Sun 2 6.00



Things To Come

Isabelle Huppert stars as Nathalie, a recently divorced 50-something and academic, in Mia Hansen-Løve's fifth and possibly best feature.

Nathalie teaches philosophy at a high school in Paris. "I'm lucky to be fulfilled intellectually – that's reason enough to be happy," she proudly states months after Heinz (Andre Marcon), a fellow academic and her husband of 25 years, unveils that he's leaving her for another woman. Still, solitude brings Nathalie no pleasure, and her philosophy proves limited solace for the messiness of human existence. Newfound 'freedom', as Nathalie forlornly notes, isn't as exciting as it sounds when its circumstances are entirely involuntary. *Things to Come* is a intimate, intellectual film with a breezy, meandering narrative despite its weighty subject matter. With patience and unimpeachable tenderness, the story covers the full spectrum of Nathalie's emotional undulations, whilst maintaining a good-humoured uncertainty about what the final burst of it all might be.

"Mia Hansen-Løve, writer-director of such intimate films as *Father of My Children* and *Goodbye First Love* possesses a maturity that belies her 35 years." (*Times*) "An emotionally observant character study" (*Hollywood Reporter*) (research Emma Filippides) Sad, deep, thoughtful but buoyant, that's quite an achievement. Come, see if Mia Hansen-Løve pulls it off.

Director: Mia Hansen-Løve
 Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Roman Kolinka, Édith Scob
 Duration: 102 mins
 Origin: France/Germany 2016
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Curzon / Artificial Eye

When...

Mon 3 2.00, 7.30
Thur 13 2.00, 7.30



Bad Moms

A trio of highly strung mothers ditch their over-worked lifestyle for an overdue binge of partying and freedom. Amy (Mila Kunis) leads the pack with support from sidekicks Carla (Kathryn Hahn) and Kiki (Kristen Bell). The plot follows the mothers on their raucous all-nighter which prompts Amy to begin a spell of relaxed attitudes towards her children, and further through maternal rivalry with overbearing PTA leader Gwendolyn (Christina Applegate with a fab caricature). Lurking beneath the surface of trashy comedy is a message of truth. The strains of motherhood, and all parental responsibility with little or none from their husbands. Despite the plot being of little substance, the film's appeal lies in its connection and understanding. It is easy to be sceptical about the extent of directing duo's (Lucas and Moore, infamous for *The Hangover*) inside knowledge of a typical suburban mother from Chicago. (research Grace Atkins)

"Things get X-rated rather quickly, but always in the service of a solid punchline, not shock." (*Guardian*)
 "Hardcore hilarity for stressed moms looking for a girl's night out. Guys should also check out *Bad Moms*. You just might learn something." (*Rolling Stone*) They all say that... Come and see.



Directors: Jon Lucas, Scott Moore
Cast: Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell, Kathryn Hahn
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Entertainment Film Distributors

When...

Wed 5

2.00, 7.30



The Beatles: Eight Days A Week

"We were kids. We were all pretty scared... We all started to get pretty fed up. We were looking for somewhere new to go." (Ringo/Paul)
Jumping into the height of 'Beatlemania', Ron Howard's engaging documentary sees the legendary group feeling the overwhelming sensation of success.

The film explores the inner workings of the group, their unique musical gifts and their complementary personalities and includes early shots of the Cavern Club in Liverpool to their last concert at Candlestick Park in San Francisco in 1966 – a never-before-seen, fully restored recording. Shea Stadium was the first stadium rock concert, and in front an unprecedented crowd of more than 55,000.

For even the most hardcore fans of the Fab Four, this looks like it will have something new to say. (research Jack Whiting) Unlikely. They can't keep coming up with more rare/forgotten footage of The Beatles. As much as I loved them, their story is well told and re-told, and as cruelly observed by Victor Lewis Smith after George died in 2001... "The Beatles have died in the wrong order." "We were normal. The rest of the world was crazy" (George) who certainly died in the wrong order and much missed. So don't miss.

Director: Ron Howard
Duration: 100 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Studiocanal

When...

Thu 6 2.00



War Dogs

The Hangover's Todd Phillips marks his directorial return with this calamitous comedy escapade.

Based on an incredible true story, War Dogs centres on the lives of David Packouz (Miles Teller) and Efraim Diveroli (Jonah Hill), two friends in their early twenties, as they exploit an unknown loophole to supply arms to military contracts and begin to earn millions of dollars.

Now living the party lifestyle in Miami, the pair suddenly get in way over their heads when they successfully bid on a \$300 million contract from the Department of Defence to supply ammunition to the American-allied Afghan military.

What follows is a dangerous game of cat and mouse as Packouz and Diveroli find themselves in increasingly deep water when dealing with crooked diplomats and mercenaries, holding meetings with foreign embassies and discussing business with high-ranking Army officers.

It's a thrilling romp, made all the more truly incredible (real meaning) by the access they had to the highest offices, without question. Jonah Hill is always a great foil to any screen partnership and energises every scene in any film. Here he animates even Miles Teller's plunk persona out of 2-D.

Director: Todd Phillips
Cast: Miles Teller, Jonah Hill, Bradley Cooper
Duration: 114 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Warner Brothers

When...

Thu 6 7.30



Café Society

The peaks and troughs of Woody Allen's career are just as much fun to predict as the films themselves. *Café Society*, thankfully, is one such peak.

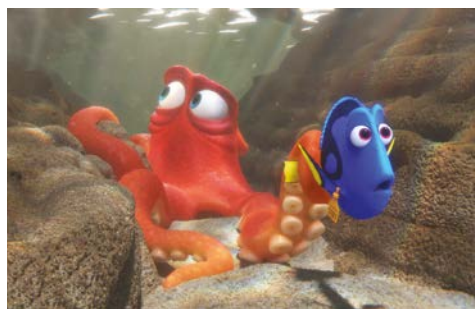
The time is 1930s. At a Tinseltown pool party, power agent Phil Stern (Steve Carell) takes an irritating call to remind of his New York past. His sister Rose (Jeannie Berlin) has sent him a present from home: Phil's nerdy nephew Bobby Dorfman (a wonderfully skittish Jesse Eisenberg) who needs a job. There's been a long line of young actors that Allen has directed to mimic his halting line readings, and Eisenberg's natural fit, just nails it. The kid's wide-eyed at first, but disillusion sets in when he falls for Phil's secretary Vonnie (a radiant Kristen Stewart). Vonnie is a free spirit who rejects the name-dropping aura of her job. Or does she? After being rejected by Vonnie, Bobby crawls back to New York to run his gangster brother's nightclub where he meets Blake Lively. But the bittersweet return of Vonnie causes painful regret in Bobby. Regret that Woody displayed in *Annie Hall*. (*review Jack Whiting*) His very best yarns are all about him or some neurotic projection of himself. The whole cast is brilliant. Don't miss.



Director: Woody Allen
 Cast: Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart, Steve Carell
 Duration: 96 mins
 Origin: USA 2016
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Warner Brothers

When...

Fri	7	7.30
Sat	8	7.00
Sun	9	1.00, 6.00
Mon	10	2.00, 7.30
Wed	12	2.00



Finding Dory

It was thirteen years ago that the Pixar classic **Finding Nemo** warmed our hearts with its central theme of the enduring parent-child bond. In this 'charming' sequel we follow Dory. Perhaps the most memorable character from Finding Nemo, on an emotionally searching journey of her own. Dory (voiced by Ellen DeGeneres) was the loveable amnesiac blue tang, who assisted clownfish Marlon on his quest to find his only son, Nemo. A year has passed since Marlon and Nemo were reunited and Dory has become part of the family. Despite her new found companionship, Dory seeks a parental (Diane Keaton and Eugene Levy) reunion of her own. The three embark on an adventure that takes them across oceans to the far side.

A Californian marine park, which 'hosts' an array of weird and wonderful aquatic creatures for our sweet pleasure! "We may witness our heroine cover a vast expanse of ocean, but Finding Dory is (parabled to be) an intimate and hopeful tale of perseverance and friendship, as much about humans as it is about fish." (*Empire*)

(research Heather Graves)

It sounds like They might be milking fish for a few more blubbery sentimental, easy dollars. Come and sea...

Directors: Andrew Stanton, Angus MacLane
Voices: Ellen DeGeneres, Albert Brooks, Hayden Rolence
Duration: 103 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: U
Company: Walt Disney Int'l

When...

Sat 8 2.00



Anthropoid

Cillian Murphy and Jamie Dornan share top billing in Sean Ellis' rousing war thriller.

Based on an extraordinary true story, Operation Anthropoid closely follows Jozef (Murphy) and Jan (Dornan), two Czechoslovakian freedom fighters, as they secretly parachute into their Nazi-occupied homeland in an attempt to assassinate SS General Reinhard Heydrich, a chief architect of the Holocaust. Inching towards their target, the duo and their network of underground allies begin to comprehend the potential repercussions of their actions should the mission be successful. As lives hang in the balance and the threat of brutal German retaliation hovers ominously, the two soldiers continue in their effort, an act which could change the face of Czechoslovakia, and Europe, forever.

"An intelligent, tough, and gripping movie." (*Guardian*)

"Ellis, who shot the film as well as directed it, has an acute eye for the ominous beauty of this occupied city and captures both the jagged terror of combat and its crushing, deathly boredom." (*Observer*)

"Shooting in grainy Super 16mm format, Ellis has given his film a mood and atmosphere that is utterly absorbing." (*Daily Mail*) (*Chris Coetsee*)
 One not to be missed.

Director: Sean Ellis
Cast: Cillian Murphy, Jamie Dornan, Charlotte Le Bon
Duration: 120 mins
Origin: UK/Czech Republic/France 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Icon

When...

Tue 11 2.00 **Tue 11 7.30**
Wed 12 7.30



Hell Or High Water

Now that the summer blockbuster fluff has departed our screens, the real meaty stuff is starting to emerge.

Toby (Chris Pine) and Tanner (Ben Foster) are the Howard brothers heisting their way across sleepy, one-horse Texas. The Howard boys are not your typical bank robbers. For one, they hit only the registers, pocketing a modest few thousand from every score. Secondly, they target a specific local bank with a few branches scattered across the state. The regional nature of the crime spree keeps it out of federal jurisdiction. Instead, it falls onto the desk of grizzled Texas Ranger Marcus (Jeff Bridges, at his grizzled best) a few days from retirement. Marcus spots the pattern and suspects a motive beyond money. He and his partner, Alberto (Gil Birmingham) take slow chase. Taylor Sheridan wrote last year's blistering *Sicario*, and his screenplay here bleeds some of that raw southern intensity. And like *Sicario*, there's just as much to chew on in the downtime; it's the little details that shine. I wouldn't be surprised if it makes most peoples' end of year top ten. (*research Jack Whiting*)

It is a fabulous old school cat and mouse Western tale. Don't miss.

Director: David Mackenzie
Cast: Chris Pine, Ben Foster, Jeff Bridges, Gil Birmingham
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Studiocanal

When...
Fri 14 7.30 **Sun 16 6.00**
Sat 15 7.00 **Mon 17 2.00**
Thu 20 2.00



Swallows and Amazons

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"There's a period-appropriate honesty to it, easily mistaken at first for earnestness or nostalgia. It sets it apart from any other family film you'll see this summer" (*Telegraph*)

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Director: Philippa Lowthorpe
Cast: Rafe Spall, Kelly Macdonald, Andrew Scott
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: UK 2016
Certificate: PG
Company: Studiocanal

When...
Sat 15 2.00 **Mon 24 2.00**

COMING SOON TO THE ODYSSEY

BACK BY DEMAND

BRIDGET JONES'S BABY

CAFÉ SOCIETY

HELL OR HIGH WATER

NEW RELEASES

I, DANIEL BLAKE

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN

AMERICAN HONEY

AMERICAN HONEY



THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN



THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN



I, DANIEL BLAKE



THE ODYSSEY

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

BOX OFFICE: 01727 453088

OCTOBER	FILM	TIME
1 SAT	FINDING DORY	2.00
1 SAT	JASON BOURNE	7.00
2 SUN	THE BFG	1.00
2 SUN	DAVID BRENT: LIFE ON THE ROAD	5.00
3 MON	CAFÉ SOCIETY	12.30, 7.30
4 TUE	CAFÉ SOCIETY	2.00, 7.30
5 WED	CAFÉ SOCIETY	2.00, 7.30
6 THU	BAD MOMS	2.00, 7.30
7 FRI	BEN-HUR	7.30
8 SAT	MY NEIGHBOUR TOTORO	2.00
8 SAT	SAUSAGE PARTY	7.00
9 SUN	SWALLOWS & AMAZONS	1.00
9 SUN	ANTHROPOID	5.00
10 MON	ANTHROPOID	12.30, 7.30
11 TUE	HELL OR HIGH WATER	2.00, 7.30
12 WED	HELL OR HIGH WATER	2.00, 7.30
13 THU	CAPTAIN FANTASTIC	2.00, 7.30
14 FRI	CAPTAIN FANTASTIC	7.30
15 SAT	KUBO & THE TWO STRINGS	2.00
15 SAT	SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER	7.00
16 SUN	HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	1.00
16 SUN	JULIETA	5.00
17 MON	HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	12.30
17 MON	THINGS TO COME	7.30
18 TUE	BEN-HUR	2.00
18 TUE	DON'T BREATHE	7.30
19 WED	THE INFILTRATOR	2.00, 7.30
20 THU	THINGS TO COME	2.00
20 THU	HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	7.30
21 FRI	BRIDGET JONES' BABY	7.30
22 SAT	KUBO & THE TWO STRINGS	2.00
22 SAT	BRIDGET JONES' BABY	7.00
23 SUN	CAFÉ SOCIETY	1.00
23 SUN	WEST SIDE STORY	5.00
24 MON	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	12.30
24 MON	BRIDGET JONES' BABY	7.30
25 TUE	MATILDA	2.00
25 TUE	BRIDGET JONES' BABY	7.30
26 WED	FINDING DORY	10.30
26 WED	BRIDGET JONES' BABY	2.00, 7.30
27 THU	KUBO & THE TWO STRINGS	10.30
27 THU	BRIDGET JONES' BABY	2.00, 7.30
28 FRI	FREE STATE OF JONES	7.30
29 SAT	PHANTOM BOY	2.00
29 SAT	THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS	7.00
30 SUN	MY SCIENTOLOGY MOVIE	1.00
30 SUN	THE FIRST MONDAY IN MAY	5.00
31 MON	DEEPWATER HORIZON	2.00, 7.30

THE-REX

BERKHAMSTED

BOX OFFICE:

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OCTOBER	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 SAT	JASON BOURNE	2.00, 7.00	8
2 SUN	SWALLOW & AMAZONS	1.00	9
2 SUN	UNTOUCHABLE	6.00	9
3 MON	THINGS TO COME	2.00, 7.30	10
4 TUE	JASON BOURNE	2.00, 7.30	8
5 WED	BAD MOMS	2.00, 7.30	11
6 THU	THE BEATLES: EIGHT DAYS A WEEK	2.00	12
6 THU	WAR DOGS	7.30	12
7 FRI	CAFÉ SOCIETY	7.30	13
8 SAT	FINDING DORY	2.00	14
8 SAT	CAFÉ SOCIETY	7.00	13
9 SUN	CAFÉ SOCIETY	1.00, 6.00	13
10 MON	CAFÉ SOCIETY	2.00, 7.30	13
11 TUE	ANTHROPOID	2.00, 7.30	14
12 WED	CAFÉ SOCIETY	2.00	13
12 WED	ANTHROPOID	7.30	14
13 THU	THINGS TO COME	2.00, 7.30	10
14 FRI	HELL OR HIGH WATER	7.30	15
15 SAT	SWALLOW & AMAZONS	2.00	9
15 SAT	HELL OR HIGH WATER	7.00	15
16 SUN	CAPTAIN FANTASTIC	1.00	18
16 SUN	HELL OR HIGH WATER	6.00	15
17 MON	HELL OR HIGH WATER	2.00	15
17 MON	CAPTAIN FANTASTIC	7.30	18
18 TUE	HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE	2.00, 7.30	18
19 WED	THE CLAN	2.00, 7.30	19
20 THU	HELL OR HIGH WATER	2.00	15
20 THU	SAUSAGE PARTY	7.30	19
21 FRI	BRIDGET JONES'S BABY	7.30	20
22 SAT	KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS	2.00	21
22 SAT	BRIDGET JONES'S BABY	7.00	20
23 SUN	BRIDGET JONES'S BABY	1.00, 6.00	20
24 MON	SWALLOW & AMAZONS	2.00	9
24 MON	DON'T BREATHE	7.30	21
25 TUE	KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS	2.00	21
25 TUE	INGRID BERGMAN: HER OWN WORDS	7.30	22
26 WED	BEN-HUR	2.00	22
26 WED	THEO AND HUGO	7.30	23
27 THU	THE INFILTRATOR	2.00, 7.30	23
28 FRI	THE INFILTRATOR	7.30	23
29 SAT	KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS	2.00	21
29 SAT	BEN-HUR	7.00	22
30 SUN	BRIDGET JONES'S BABY	1.00	20
30 SUN	DEEPWATER HORIZON	6.00	24
31 MON	FREE STATE OF JONES	2.00, 7.30	24

COMING SOON TO THE REX

BACK BY DEMAND

BRIDGET JONES'S BABY

CAFÉ SOCIETY

HELL OR HIGH WATER

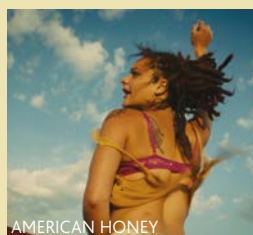
NEW RELEASES

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

AMERICAN HONEY

I, DANIEL BLAKE





Captain Fantastic

Giving potentially his finest performance to date, Viggo Mortensen stars as rugged idealist patriarch, Ben Cash, in this debut comedy drama from Matt Ross. Ben and his wife Leslie (Trin Miller) abandoned concrete civilisation some fifteen years before, opting to raise their children in the woods of the Pacific Northwest. The children are schooled in survivalist, intellectual theories and the joy of music around a campfire. They appear to live harmoniously with each other, and nature. Until one day Leslie has to go into a 'civilised' hospital. When she doesn't return, Ben has to draw the children close and decide the best thing to do next.

Disregarding her father Jack's (Frank Langella) strict instruction to stay away, Captain Ben gathers them up for the five-day journey to New Mexico for their Mum's funeral. The journey proves to be one of discovery for the children, who have not come into contact with the 'outside world' before. For Ben predictably, the reunion is met with hostile scrutiny, questioning his fitness as a father.

"Gorgeously shot and peppered with genuine emotion Captain Fantastic surely earns the lofty praise of its title." (*Guardian*) (research Heather Graves) Moving, self aware, reassuring and uplifting. Come.

Director: Matt Ross
 Cast: Viggo Mortensen, Frank Langella, George MacKay
 Duration: 119 mins
 Origin: USA 2016
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Entertainment One UK

When...

Sun 16 1.00
 Mon 17 7.30



Hunt For The Wilderpeople

Ricky (Julian Dennison) is a chubby hip-hop loving pre-teen who's been moved from home to home for most of his 13 years. Described by his child-services worker, Paula (Rachel House) as a 'very bad egg', his new foster placement is his last chance before being sent to juvenile lockup.

Bella (Rima Te Wiata) and Hec (Sam Neill) a self-sustaining old-ish couple living in a remote clearing at the edge of the bush, become Ricky's guardians and, despite a slightly rocky start, their domestic situation seems promising. When tragedy strikes, Ricky escapes into the bush to avoid the inevitable return to the public system. Fortunately, his cantankerous "Uncle Hec" finds him hungry and cold in the wilderness. Then the real adventure begins. There's Haiku poetry from Ricky who turns out to be the right foil for Hec's laconic outdoorsman (and Neill's great role).

Director Taika Waititi's last film was the truly fabulously silly vampire comedy *What We Do In The Shadows* with the *Flight of the Conchords* boys "It's formulaic at heart but has a sweet predictable sense of humour and a nice way with words..." (*ST Culture*) (review Heather Graves) It's fabulous. Don't miss.

Director: Taika Waititi
 Cast: Sam Neill, Julian Dennison, Rima Te Wiata
 Duration: 101 mins
 Origin: New Zealand 2016
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Vertigo Films

When...

Tue 18 2.00, 7.30



The Clan

Argentinian director Pablo Trapero masterminds this scintillating biographical crime thriller.

Based on a series of chilling events that took place during the early 80s, *The Clan* examines the lives of the Puccios, a comfortably middle class family from a wealthy suburb of Buenos Aires.

When patriarch Arquímedes' sudden financial instability coincides suspiciously with a string of kidnappings and the subsequent big money ransom demands of the unknown abductors, it soon becomes apparent that the hostages are chained up in the Puccio cellar. As the horror beneath the floorboards unravels, an unsettlingly dysfunctional act of denial continues above. Awarded the Silver Lion at 2015's Venice Film Festival, this is a film that performs in every area. Trapero's direction is exquisite whilst Guillermo Francella (Arquímedes) from the Oscar winning *The Secrets in Their Eyes*, is simply outstanding, calculating every command behind cold, dead eyes before hissing out orders with venom.

"The unsettling calm is the most disturbing aspect of the film." (*Guardian*)

Hot on the heels of Damián Szifron's *Wild Tales* and Lisandro Alonso's engrossing *Jauja*, *The Clan* is yet further proof that Argentinian cinema is cementing itself at the centre of the world stage.

(research Chris Coetsee)

Director: Pablo Trapero
Cast: Guillermo Francella, Peter Lanzani, Lili Popovich
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: Argentina/Spain 2015
Certificate: 15
Company: Artificial Eye

When...

Wed 19

2.00, 7.30



Sausage Party

Co-writers and long-time collaborators Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg cook up something truly original.

As the 4th of July sale draws near, the happy groceries at Shopwell's supermarket are positively buzzing with excitement as they wait with glee to be plucked from the shelves and venture out into the 'Great Beyond'.

Their happy existence is soon shattered however when they discover what dark, digestible truth has store for them. Buoyed by their knew-found knowledge, sausage Frank (Rogen) and his hot dog bun girlfriend Brenda (Wiig) embark on an extraordinary adventure through the aisles to escape their fate. With an ensemble cast featuring Jonah Hill, James Franco and Paul Rudd, there's no shortage of versatile vocals to follow a summer of average sequels, remakes and lacklustre superhero movies, *Sausage Party* offers up something refreshingly unconventional.

"It sounded like the dumbest movie of all time, but it's actually smart, subversive and packed with famous voices saying wonderfully unspeakable things. In fact, it's a banger." (*Empire*)

"The staggeringly rude finale may put you off your dinner." (*Guardian*) (review Chris Coetsee)

From the other side of the shelf, this self-consciously crass *Sausage Party* is balanced by next week's, high-art: *Theo and Hugo*. Come for both.

Director: Conrad Vernon, Greg Tiernan
Cast: Seth Rogen, Kristen Wiig, Jonah Hill
Duration: 88 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Sony Pictures

When...

Thu 20

7.30



Bridget Jones's Baby

Another in a long line of turn of the century comebacks, Bridget Jones's third and probably final outing, is – shock horror, rather good.

We encounter Bridget this time alone, single, and being woken up on her 43rd birthday. Twelve years hasn't dulled Rene Zellweger's beaming face. Inexplicably, she appears to have got younger? Bridget is working on a television news show now being overtaken by click-bait culture. She's back to square one still scribbling in her diary a decade on. And once more she's stuck. Déjà vu? Yep, and that's the point. Bridget and Mark Darcy (Colin Firth) have been apart for five years, (Hugh Grant is absent) but just as the title suggests, this is about Bridget and her rather unexpected baby, conceived after either a one-nighter with the American entrepreneur she meets at a festival or a one-off bunk-up with Mr Darcy at a christening.

Emma Thompson as Bridget's doctor shamelessly steals every single scene, but then she does have the best one-liners, most memorably expelling the expectant fathers from the delivery room after her ex-husband described it as "watching his favourite pub burn down" (*Jack Whiting*) Come expecting... it to be fun. You won't be disappointed.

Directors: Sharon Maguire
 Cast: Renée Zellweger, Colin Firth, Patrick Dempsey
 Duration: 123 mins
 Origin: UK/Ireland/France/USA 2016
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Universal

When...

Fri 21	7.30		
Sat 22	7.00	Sun 23	6.00
Sun 23	1.00	Sun 30	1.00



Kubo And The Two Strings

From the makers of Coraline comes an equally intricate and visually stunning tale. An all-star cast tell the story of young Japanese boy, Kubo (Art Parkinson). After a stumble with his supernatural powers, a vengeful spirit is summoned from the past to disrupt Kubo's routine of origami-told narratives accompanied by his lute, and caring for his mother at their home in the mountains. Hence, this quiet life does not last long, and an action-packed journey begins. Unusually, the threat comes from within the family; Kubo's "Moon King" grandfather (Ralph Fiennes) and witch-like aunt (Rooney Mara). Kubo's encounter with his malevolent family leads him on a journey, with sidekick "Monkey" (Charlize Theron) and "Beetle" (Matthew McConaughey). With the charm of a children's movie but the added dimension of interwoven mythology, Kubo is not to be missed. "It explores unexpectedly profound ideas of rebirth and destiny rewritten, like origami paper sheets refolded into another form" (*Guardian*) "Utmost care with every shot, the adults will be marvelling as much as the kids" (*Independent*) (review Grace Atkins)

Only Dad's and assorted grown ups will marvel at stop frame animation. Kids just want to be told a story. They don't care how it was made.

Director: Travis Knight
Voices: Art Parkinson, Charlize Theron, Ralph Fiennes, Matthew McConaughey
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: PG
Company: Universal Pictures

When... **Tue 25 2.00**
Sat 22 2.00 Sat 29 2.00



Don't Breathe

Robbing a blind man's house sounds like a pretty simple task, however, what if you pick the wrong blind man? For three reckless thieves, desperate for an easy way out of their dead-end town, this is a big mistake.

With daredevil and super-hero abilities, the 'Blind Man', played terrifyingly by Stephen Lang, hears every bump, scratch and breath they make in the dark. Hence not one of them is safe.

Don't Breathe makes you do exactly that. Led by a fantastic medley of sound design and claustrophobic editing. Powered by a moral choice of whose side you're on, you'll be catching your breath long before the credits roll.

Produced and Directed by the creators of the Evil Dead, but don't let that put you off.

"Director Fede Alvarez is as good as it gets when it comes to playing with things that go bump in the night." (*Rolling Stone*)

"A home invasion story that is as artfully terrifying as Home Alone was entertaining." (*Globe and Mail*) (research Matt Snowden)

This is as close as we get, at the Rex and Odyssey, to Halloween. It beats most other contrived horror movies in the jump out of your seat dept. So come and jump.

Director: Fede Alvarez
Cast: Stephen Lang, Dylan Minnette, Jane Levy
Duration: 88 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Sony Pictures

When...
Mon 24 7.30



Ingrid Bergman: In Her Own Words

Swedish director Stig Björkman provides a captivating glimpse into the extraordinary life of one of the most celebrated actresses of Hollywood's Golden Age. Focusing less on her illustrious career, Björkman's documentary instead sheds light on Bergman's non-conformist maternal lifestyle, her independence and the struggle to balance her professional and private commitments. Making extensive use of Bergman's personal pictures, letters and home movies, an intimate portrait is carefully constructed, accompanied throughout by Michael Nyman's wonderfully poetic score and fleshed out by a wealth of personal anecdotes, notably those of children Pia Lindstrom and Roberto Rossellini, adding invaluable layers of depth. The image is one of a restless, adventurous woman whose deep imagination and deeper love for her family rose from the ashes of a lonely childhood, fuelling the career of a true screen icon who will forever have her place in cinema's richest history. (research Chris Coetsee)

"This is what you got when you met her, and this is what you get in the movie. The camera loved her and she it." (Observer)

"An intimate and at times unforgiving portrait of a wife, mother and megastar." (Time Out)
She will always have Paris... and Bogey's heart. A treasure, back by demand. Don't miss

Director: Stig Björkman
Duration: 114 mins
Origin: Sweden 2015
Certificate: PG
Company: Soda Pictures

When...

Tue 25 7.30



Ben-Hur

For all the spectacle Ben-Hur's super budget could have allowed, this is an oddly clunky, and staid affair. It's like a microwave dinner version of the 1959 William Wyler classic.

Life is good for Judah Ben-Hur (Jack Huston) until his adopted brother Messala (a wasted Tony Kebbell) who left to join the army, returns three years later as a centurion with a request that Judah informs on potential troublemakers. Pontius Pilate (Pilou Asbæk) is coming to town and Messala needs to guarantee his safety. After a failed assassination attempt, Messala arrests Judah's entire household. Judah's sentenced to life as a galley slave, his mother and sister are sentenced to death. Cue a long story. The sermon like qualities of this Ben-Hur are a little hard to stomach (look, it's Jesus! We know this because he's preaching and building a table!) Oh and there's Morgan Freeman, sporting questionable dreadlocks, who shows up because well, he's Morgan Freeman, to drench our hero in sage-like wisdom. The brutal chariot race is however, actually quite worth catching on the big screen.

(review Jack Whiting)

Happily, it is reduced from the turgid three and half hours in 1959 to just over two here. Come and see.

Director: Timur Bekmambetov
Cast: Jack Huston, Morgan Freeman, Nazanin Boniadi
Duration: 123 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 12A
Company: Paramount

When...

Wed 26 2.00
Sat 29 7.00



Theo And Hugo

French directors Olivier Ducastel and Jacques Martineau's latest collaborative feature is an authentic love story that delivers candid insight into the realities of 21st Century romance.

When Theo (Geoffrey Couët) and Hugo (François Nambot) first meet in an underground Paris sex club, their lust for each other is visceral and lengthy. It is one two three – go, to a backdrop of red and blue strobe lighting. After 20 minutes of this and that (in real-time – oh dear) they leave the club and meander the streets of nocturnal Paris.

Their emotional connection appears strong but this blossoming romance is threatened and their mutual high deadened by the revelation that Theo has risked HIV infection. Uh oh, one two three – stop. Rewind. What began as a night of passion, suddenly becomes serious. "The tender chemistry between them adds credibility to the duo's exploration of their quandary, which is handled with great maturity and sensitivity." (*Variety*) That's for you to decide.

"With believable dialogue and performances, their night pivots between lust, fury and affection. It feels like both an entire relationship and just the beginning." (*ST Culture*)

It is experimental, free form, French Arthouse impro. So don't bring your mum.

Directors: Olivier Ducastel, Jacques Martineau
Cast: Geoffrey Couët, François Nambot, Mario Fanfani, Bastien Gabriel
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: France 2016
Certificate: 18
Company: Peccadillo Pictures

When...

Wed 26 7.30



The Infiltrator

As Breaking Bad so wonderfully showcased, Bryan Cranston is not one to mess with, and The Infiltrator gives him another chance to stretch his varying levels of intensity. Based on the true story of middle-aged FBI agent Bob Mazur (Cranston) who went undercover to take down Pablo Escobar's drug trafficking regime in 1986. The film delivers a moody, suspenseful account of Bob's steady acclimation into an underground world. Shepherded along by street-wise partner Emir Abreau (John Leguizamo) he must juggle his ability to remain credible in the presence of scheming crime lord Robert Alcaïno (Benjamin Bratt) while keeping his concerned wife at bay, even as she remains clueless about the extent of his secret mission. One mistake forces Bob's FBI cohorts to create a fiancée for him to further his cover. Enter Kathy Ertz (Diane Kruger) a nimble figure of deception, she adds to the smoke-and-mirrors scheme that allows him to continue circling his prey. Cranston and Leguizamo elevate a straightforward plot above the straightforward. Cranston, however, I think really needs another anti-hero to sink his teeth into. (*research Jack Whiting*) That aside, he's infiltrated his way into this, so come for his bravura here in this! Don't miss.

Director: Brad Furman
Cast: Bryan Cranston, John Leguizamo, Diane Kruger
Duration: 127 mins
Origin: USA 2016
Certificate: 15
Company: Warner Brothers

When...

Thu 27 2.00, 7.30
Fri 28 7.30



Deepwater Horizon

Peter Berg's biographical disaster thriller acts as a stern reminder of both BP's and the oil drilling industry's darkest hour.

Debuting at this year's Toronto Film Festival, *Deepwater Horizon* tells the terrible true story of the fateful 2010 oil rig disaster that cost the lives of 11 men, injured many others and stands as the worst environmental incident in U.S. history.

Mark Wahlberg stars as Mike Williams, an engineer and family man whose life is thrown into chaos when an unexpected crude oil blowout causes an enormous explosion aboard the *Deepwater Horizon* oil rig, some 40 miles off the south coast of Louisiana. As the twisted metal of girders and platforms crash in flames around them, Mike leads a group of survivors whose frantic search for a seemingly impossible means of escape could heroically save the lives of the many on board.

"*Deepwater Horizon* is a gruelling disaster movie and a reminder of one company's catastrophic oversights. It stands as a worthy tribute to the brave men involved." (*Guardian*)

"An efficient and no-nonsense depiction of the worst disaster in US oil drilling history, buoyed by excellent performances." (*Empire*) (research *Chris Coetsee*) Excitement, explosions, heroics.

Director: Peter Berg
 Cast: Mark Wahlberg, Kate Hudson, Kurt Russell
 Duration: 108 mins
 Origin: USA 2016
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Lionsgate Films UK

When...

Sun 30 6.00



Free State Of Jones

The McConaissance may be over for now, but Matthew is certainly pulling out many of his stops in this slow-burning action-drama.

It's the 1860's and America is at the height of Civil War. Disenchanted with the Confederate seizing of crops and livestock across Jones County and the state of Mississippi, southern farmer Newton Knight bands together with a group of local slaves and small-time farmers.

Together, they defiantly launch a raucous uprising against their oppressors and in doing so, force Mississippi to withdraw from Confederate control, thus creating a 'Free State of Jones' and a county of opportunity.

Following our own north v south debacle of the past few months, this particular rendition of the American Civil War may well pale in comparison. Will you Leave or Remain in your seat?

"This is an anti-war film with a commie message that still glamourises southern pride, hard work and the Good Book." (*Guardian*)

"It's a tale of racial liberation and heroic bloodshed that is designed, at almost every turn, to lift us up to that special place where we can all feel moved by what good liberals we are." (*Variety*) (research *Chris Coetsee*) It might be preachy too. Come and see.

Director: Gary Ross
 Cast: Matthew McConaughey, Mahershala Ali, Gugu Mbatha-Raw
 Duration: 140 mins
 Origin: USA 2016
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Studiocanal

When...

Mon 31 2.00, 7.30

“The best ever monkey’s... of a bad idea” (anon)

Of course the multi storey Artist’s impression will have only one careful driver approaching, a few scattered cars on a pristine roof and a couple of people walking. If these pictures tell the same story, isn’t one storey on the ground enough? Or is one picture pretending or guessing while the photograph is true? Does it matter? One shows real sunny day clouds, the other is ‘guessing’. No despised huffing ambition or bragging. The Rex is the most successful business in Berkhamsted. It brings hundreds even thousands here from across a 50 mile radius every day and

night (including Tuesdays). Everybody parks in time to catch even the worst trailers. It is simple. Too simple perhaps, but people: That’s us, You and Me. We find our own way as always. As The Rex is the most ‘Successful Cinema in the UK’ even perhaps throughout the known Universe (save the Bollywood Homeland). After over 12 years, sold out most nights for films from across the whole world, we have never cared to ask where you park. In the foyer, we listen and advise when asked. You all get here roughly on time, and very rarely after the opening credits. Sadly and more often you mostly get caught on the ugly, over crowded,

over heated, extortionate, with no choice but to wait, and always ‘at the bastard’s mercy’ – train. Late, cancelled and none. (welcome; our newest rail-estate agents)

So, as an important fat cigar businessman in this one ashtray town, with little care for your cars and even less for your off-the-shoulder smouldering, barroom parking, you better listen...

The Dacorum Borough Council (DBC) Town Planning dept recommends a multi-storey car park ‘guessing’ to improve parking for the commercial interests of Berkhamsted for the greater good, population, development, expansion and trade etc.

The DBC cite the Berkhamsted Chamber of Commerce in favour. We know they’re shop keepers, minnows, attracting 14 passers-by a day. The Chamber does NOT have a block vote, though favoured councillors make it sound so. Remember that. The amateur councillors are there to represent us, you and me, to uphold our vital democracy. Not their opinions. Moreover, these Town-life changing decisions are in the hands of lack lustre amateurs. Remember this most of all. Thursday 29th September at Dacorum Civic Centre. 7pm the Development Control Committee (the most powerful of all decision-making council committees by amateur councillors, advised by professional Town Planners. They’re the ones you pay too much for guessing. They must persuade those hapless amateur councillors you voted for, to guess with them, in your ‘best interest’. They stay paid, win or lose. Berkhamsted people should be there. No more guessing. I’ll be there too. Don’t miss.



1. Now showing...



2. Coming soon...

Swallows and The Lakes...



'Cat Bells' fell watching over the S&As in action on Derwentwater



Looking out over Derwentwater descending S&A's 'Cat Bells'

The fabulous 103 years old Alhambra cinema Keswick, run by extraordinary Tom Rennie.



Andrea (below) told us of the non-act-ery kids, the locations, but reminded us of the fun of children being children, fearlessly adventuring, on open water and hills. The kids on screen had the most magical adventure of their lives. I know a twin who jumped the rushing breakwater in Laxey. So I loved everything she said.



Andrea Gibb, Screenwriter: introducing her Swallows and Amazons on Sunday 18th September. A spontaneous gift for an unsuspecting audience.