

THE-REX

J U L Y 2 0 1 9

BALLOON...

MON 15TH JULY 7.30

"velveteen glamour and brilliant programming..." (The Guardian)

"possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema..." (BBC)

JULY 2019 • ISSUE 172
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Mon-Sat 10.30-6.30pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

THE-REX

CINEMA BERKHAMSTED

CONTENTS

Films At A Glance 16-17

Rants & Pants 25

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

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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
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apartments)

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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 JULY



Kind Hearts And Coronets

The definitive Ealing Comedy. A masterpiece remastered for the you-tube generation, with not a hair or syllable out of place.

See page 9

FILMS OF THE MONTH



Late Night

Emma Thompson at her imperious
best and holding her own with
fabulous newcomer Mindy Kaling.

See page 13



John McEnroe: In the Realm of Perfection

Perfection indeed. McEnroe prowls
the court like it's his, taking no
prisoners from opponent, umpire or
himself. See page 14



Balloon

A true Cold-War thriller, where their
daring and the nasty chasing Stasi
will have you on the very edge of
your seat.

See page 18



Support The Girls

A delicious hard-hitting comedy
drama set in a 'Hooters' style bar
run by women many jumps ahead
of predictable bar flies.

See page 21



JULY FILMS



Rocketman

If we've learnt anything from the insanely popular Bohemian Rhapsody, it's that we should never take biopics for granted again.

Rocketman stars Taron Egerton as music legend Reginald Kenneth Dwight aka Elton John, Bryce Dallas Howard is Reg's mum...!?, Jamie Bell is Elton's esteemed songwriting partner Bernie Taupin, and Richard Madden his manager John Reid. Director Dexter Fletcher, best known for taking over from Bryan Singer on the Queen biop: 'Bo-Rhap' (to us in the know) yet unlike the glossy Freddie parade, Dexter takes Rocketman in an audacious and unconventional direction, making it a far more satisfying and entertaining tale in the process. Rocketman doesn't shy away from Elton's dark side of drug and alcohol abuse and depression, and treats his career as a surreal, out of body experience. The highlight is the piano-playing prodigy elevated high into the air during a rousing rendition of Crocodile Rock.

Egerton not only embodies Elton, but he does all of his own singing; it takes a moment to adjust your ears, but Egerton comes scarily close to the pop legend's vocal range. I think it's gonna be a long long time before we see a biopic this flashy again. (research Jack Whiting) There is a god after all.

Director: Dexter Fletcher
Cast: Taron Egerton, Jamie Bell, Richard Madden, Bryce Dallas Howard
Duration: 121 mins
Origin: UK/ USA 2019
Cert: 15
Company: Paramount

When...		Fri	12	2.00
Mon 1	2.00	Fri	12	7.30
Thu 4	2.00	Sat	13	7.00
Thu 4	7.30	Fri	19	2.00
Sun 7	6.00	Fri	19	7.30



Kind Hearts And Coronets

In the years after World War II, there emerged from the Ealing Studios a series of comedies so dry and droll, so literate and cheeky. Beautifully observed, they would often catch the flavour of a black, white and grey 1950s austerity Britain, that the phrase "Ealing comedy" described them and no others. Many starred Alec Guinness, then in his 30s and so anonymous in appearance that while dressed as Hitler for a costume fitting, he stepped outside and failed to raise the eyebrow of a passing policeman. Little wonder his autobiography would be entitled *Blessings in Disguise*.

In *Kind Hearts and Coronets* he plays eight different members of the same family, of both genders and a six-decade age span, by doing relatively subtle things with makeup, posture and behaviour. Because he was 'nobody' he could be anybody.

In this, one of his most renowned performances, he comes up with lines like... "It is so difficult to make a neat job of killing people with whom one is not on friendly terms." A masterpiece remastered for the big screen and fresh new eyes. Don't miss.

Director: Robert Hamer
Cast: Dennis Price, Alec Guinness, Joan Greenwood, Valerie Hobson
Duration: 104 mins
Origin: UK 1949
Cert: PG
Company: StudioCanal

When...

Mon 1 7.30



Fisherman's Friends

The unlikely but real-life tale of shanty-singing seafarers whose novelty debut album triumphantly sailed into the UK top ten.

British cinema is as well known for its charming tales of triumph over adversity as it is for the darkness of its kitchen sink grit. Just look at 2014's *Pride* or last summer's *Swimming with Men* and you get the picture. The latest entry to that underdog canon is *Fisherman's Friends*.

When hotshot music producer and city boy Danny (Daniel Mays) arrives in the Cornish fishing village on a stag do, a prank gone awry leaves him stranded alone in the village. Urged by his boss to try to sign the local sailors, who regularly perform in the harbour, a bewildered Danny tries to make the deal a reality. He's unaware that this is yet another wind-up but when something in the music speaks to his romantic soul, Danny makes it his mission to bring the fishermen and their music to the world.

Director Chris Foggin's lovely little film, while gleefully wallowing in its quaintness, smartly knows when to get serious and land some truly emotional blows. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Come for an uplifting, easy, perfect, wet or dry (landlocked) sea breeze.

Director: Chris Foggin
Cast: Tuppence Middleton, James Purefoy, Christopher Villiers, Daniel Julys, Noel Clarke, Christian Brassington
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: UK 2019
Certificate: 12A
Company: Entertainment Film Dists Ltd

When...

Tue 2 2.00, 7.30



Booksmart

Beanie Feldstein and Kaitlyn Dever deliver laugh after laugh in the best coming of age comedy since *Superbad*, or simply for ages, which ever rocks you.

Molly and Amy are the two no-hopers intent on making a name for themselves on the last weekend of term. Realising they should have worked less and partied more the girls set out on a mission to cram four years of fun into one last night.

Booksmart is the first major starring role for Feldstein, after scene-stealing performances in *Lady Bird* and *Bad Neighbours 2*, and she makes the absolute most of the opportunity, making every line a little bit funnier with her spirited delivery. Dever, less flashy but equally as essential, makes Amy the sturdy emotional backbone of the story. Both of them perfectly sell their half-cooked teenagers on the verge of beginning the journey of discovering the real-world is nothing like they expected...

Told from a wildly original, fresh and modern perspective, Booksmart is an unfiltered comedy about best friends and the bonds we create that last a lifetime. Capturing the spirit of our times, it's a coming of age story for a new generation. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) A rare teen gem – for everyone. Don't miss.

Director: Olivia Wilde
 Cast: Beanie Feldstein, Kaitlyn Dever, Billie Lourd, Lisa Kudrow, Will Forte, Jason Sudeikis
 Duration: 102 mins
 Origin: USA
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Entertainment One UK

When...

Wed 3 2.00, 7.30



Avengers: Endgame

The end is nigh (oh yeah!?). It feels like the Marvel train has been rolling on for decades, (it has) but we've reached the apex... with Endgame? Think of it as a series/serial finale.

Concluding not only the story started by last year's *Infinity War*, but also wrapping up ten years of superhero adventures. After Thanos claimed a surprising victory and decimated half of all life in the universe, the remaining Avengers are left picking up the pieces. Spirits are low, but Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, and the recently joined Captain Marvel must band together to defeat the big baddie. (A po-faced waste of, sometimes, witty stars) The sense of finality with *Endgame* will mean the stakes really are this time (I promise): Will half of the universe be restored? Will one beloved hero perish? Will Capt Marvel save the day in the nick? Where did Renner get that haircut? All these questions may be answered in a satisfying manner. What you will be guaranteed, however, is three hours (yes, three) of explosive entertainment. (*Jack Whiting*) Nothing explosive lasts three hours Jack. Come, if for no other daft reason, you can't stop yourself. Can't be helped, it's not your fault.

Directors: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo
 Cast: Brie Larson, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth
 Duration: 180 mins
 Origin: USA 2019
 Cert: 12A
 Company: Universal Pictures

When...

Fri 5 2.00



Godzilla

After the radioactive lizard was reintroduced to audiences five years ago, it was only a matter of time before he was given a handful of equally monolithic monsters to take on.

The story, unsurprisingly the film's weakest element, is as follows: scientist, Dr. Emma Russell (a wasted Vera Farmiga) has invented a contraption, dubbed 'orca', that can communicate with Titans; those giant, ancient beings that once ruled the Earth and are now lying dormant underground. She believes she can control their behaviour. In short, the war comes down to those who believe humans should live in peace with the monsters (Ken Watanabe, Sally Hawkins) and those, represented by the villainous eco-terrorist Colonel Jonah Alan (Charles Dance - a smart role for him) who want to blow the creatures off the face of the earth. For fun and a little profit – on the side, of course.

Do you care? Probably not. But our champ 'Zilla is front and centre and witnessing him go toe-to-toe with a three-headed dragon, a volcanic pterodactyl, and... a butterfly!? in a prize fight that only the big screen can suitably capture, is breathtaking. As Watanabe so delicately put it "let them fight". (research Jack Whiting) Critics hated it. So come.



Director: Michael Dougherty
Cast: Millie Bobby Brown, Charles Dance, Vera Farmiga, Sally Hawkins, Bradley Whitford, Ziyi Zhang
Duration: 132 mins
Origin: USA 2019
Certificate: 12A
Company: Warner Brothers

When...

Fri 5 7.30



Aladdin

Guy Ritchie makes an unlikely addition to his directorial resume in this fun, yet standard addition to Disney's live-action vault.

The cheeky street urchin Aladdin (Mena Massoud) has a problem: He yearns for Jasmine (Naomi Scott) a princess far beyond his pay-grade. You won't recognize Jasmine from her cartoon origins. She no longer dreams only of love; she would like to succeed her father the sultan (Navid Negahban) and make (pay-grade?) decisions for her country. While a likable Will Smith can't replicate the mad-cap energy Robin Williams brought to Genie (an impossible ask, in his defence) he does put his own fresh prints on the role.

If Marvel and Star Wars weren't enough for the The Mouse House – who has now absorbed 20th Century Fox in its somewhat terrifying vie for world domination – then the ongoing remakes, or in some instances regurgitation, of its animated classics are sure to keep investors happy. This, though, thanks to the energy of Ritchie and Smith, is an Aladdin made with tremendous verve. What could have been a cynical exercise in repackaging an old hit turns out to be an invigorating ride. (*Jack Whiting*) Which indeed it is. Off with the critics, come for your own joy.

Director: Guy Ritchie
 Cast: Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott, Will Smith, Alan Tudyk (voice), Billy Magnussen, Nasim Pedrad
 Duration: 128 mins
 Origin: USA 2019
 Certificate: PG
 Company: WDSMP UK

When...

Sat 6 2.00, 7.00
 Sat 20 2.00, 7.00
 Thu 30 2.00



Sunset

Napszállta (original title)

László Nemes is a filmmaker who keeps his friends close and his cameras closer. His stunning debut, Son of Saul, distinguished itself not just by sticking right next to its main character, but virtually breathing down his neck.

His signature style is applied to his follow-up *Sunset*, an indulgent costume drama that is nevertheless intoxicating in its atmosphere. It is Budapest 1913* the existential anxieties of the Austro-Hungarian Empire are embodied in the slender form of Irisz Leiter (Juli Jakab) a young woman with a dark past. She bears the name of the city's most stylish hat store, Leiter: her parents died there in a fire when she was two so was orphaned-out far from home. She returns, looking for work and answers. Instead she finds secrets and dark rumours about a murderous brother she never knew she had. Nemes' ability to find actors capable of handling such close-up scrutiny and emotional heavy lifting is borne out by Jakab, who keeps things moving even when the story strolls into confounding detours. You may leave feeling that her face means so much to the camera, to the filmmaker, to us... (*research Jack Whiting*) Check the date of this tale* of a "Europe slipping into an abyss." Don't miss.

Director: László Nemes
 Cast: Susanne Wuest, Juli Jakab, Levente Molnár, Vlad Ivanov, Evelin Dobos
 Duration: 142 mins
 Origin: Hungary 2018 (Subtitled)
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Artificial Eye

When...

Mon 8 2.00, 7.30



Late Night

Writer Mindy Kaling co-stars with Emma Thompson in this biting, feel-good satire of diversity and late night television. After over thirty years at the top, late night's only female host Katherine Newbury is being phased out by the network's new president. Difficult to work for, Newbury is challenged to hire a female wordsmith to freshen up a white male-dominated writers room. When Molly Patel lands the dream job, her opinions about the show and its direction forward do not sit well with Newbury and her cohorts who initially refuse to welcome her modern approach. As the network moves to shift the show away from her, Katherine begins to embrace the bright personality and youthful perspective of her new colleague and the two women separated by culture and generation are united by their love of a biting punchline. As Katherine, Emma Thompson is wonderful; commanding, imposing, casually cruel, she shows just enough of Katherine's humanity for you to care. Kaling does a great job of conveying the neurotic, competitive rhythms of the writers' room and the unique pressures of working for a demanding boss. An earnest and funny comedy, with very sharp teeth. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Sounds fantastic. Come

Director: Nisha Ganatra
 Cast: Emma Thompson, Mindy Kaling, John Lithgow, Hugh Dancy
 Duration: 102 mins
 Origin: USA 2019
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Entertainment One UK Ltd

When...

			Wed 10	7.30
Tue 9	2.00	Thu 18	2.00	
Wed 10	2.00	Thu 18	7.30	



John McEnroe: In The Realm Of Perfection

Julien Faraut's elegant documentary captures a perfectly imperfect tennis superstar.

In the days before Hawkeye, players would simply stand and berate umpires for minutes on end about whether or not a ball was out. In this field John McEnroe was peerless. In the Realm of Perfection imagines him as a true auteur of the court.

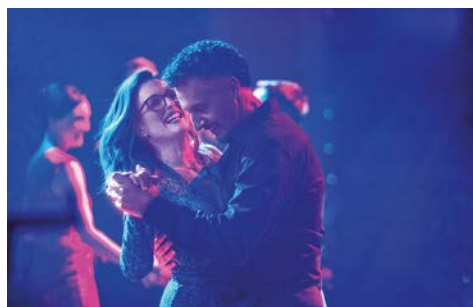
The story of the 1984 French Open has a famous sting in the tail, as McEnroe, on a seemingly unassailable run of triumphs, lost in the final to Ivan Lendl over five sets. It meant that his final win/loss stat for the year stands at 96.5%. It's still a modern-era record in the men's game. Vibrant, disregarded 16mm court-side footage, found of this fateful final, illuminates a fascinating essay on the kinship between tennis and filmmaking and the ongoing conversation between sport and cinema.

It is a film very much about a volatile legend but it's bookended with a quote from his namesake, the similarly antagonistic Jean-Luc Godard who once uttered "Sport tells the truth, cinema doesn't." Faraut sets out to find that truth but also to show how tennis, or how we consume it at least, is in itself cinematic. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Fantastic Chris. Tennis/Mc fan or not, don't miss.

Director: Julien Faraut
 Cast: John McEnroe, Ivan Lendl, Mathieu Amalric (voice)
 Duration: 95 mins
 Origin: France 2018
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Modern Films

When...

Tue 9 7.30



Gloria Bell

Julianne Moore is outstanding as a free-spirited divorcee who finds love dancing in L.A. clubs

Calling Gloria Bell a "cover version" of his Chilean original, Oscar-winning director Sebastián Lelio transports his story to Hollywood (a decision spurred on by Moore herself). Recreated scene by scene, the remake maintains the original's essence under Lelio's direction and Moore's wonderful central performance. Playing Gloria, a mother of two adult children, she wishes to combat her loneliness and the boredom that accompanies working a 9-to-5 in insurance. A bar in the heart of L.A. is the answer. (uh oh) One night spent dancing to cheesy disco classics, Gloria meets fellow divorcee Arnold (John Turturro) a former Navy officer-turned-paintball instructor. Sharing a lot in common, the pair start seeing each other – re-introducing Gloria to the complications (and joys) of dating. Although Gloria has been divorced for over a decade and is in a new stage of life, Arnold's ex wife and two grown daughters are still demanding and interfering. Like Lelio's other work, the film is attuned to life's ambiguities and fluctuating relationships. Moore's emotional depth and warmth brings a light touch to this high-quality remake. (*research Rachel Williams*) Sounds better than first thought. Come and see.

Director: Sebastián Lelio
 Cast: Julianne Moore, Sean Astin, Jeanne Tripplehorn
 Duration: 102 mins
 Origin: USA 2019
 Certificate: 15
 Company: Artificial Eye

When...

Thu 11 2.00, 7.30
Tue 16 2.00, 7.30



The Secret Life Of Pets 2

For fans of talking domesticated animals, it's been a long three years since we last got to spend time with Max, Snowball, Gidget, and the gang.

The wait is finally over.

Max (a Jack Russell voiced by Patton Oswalt) faces some major changes after his owner Katie gets married and now has a child, up to the point he becomes overprotective. On a family trip to the countryside, Max meets a farm dog named Rooster (voiced by Harrison Ford) and both attempt to overcome his fears.

Meanwhile, Gidget (a cat) tries to rescue Max's favorite toy from a cat-packed apartment, and Snowball (a rabbit) sets on a mission to free a white tiger named Hu from a circus.

As with the first surprisingly fun installment – not just content with slapping on the animal related gags - the sequel attempts to further explore the question every pet owner has wondered: what are my pets really up to when I'm not at home?

Whether it really answers that question is another matter entirely. For now just soak up the silliness. *(Jack Whiting)* There's lot's of it, you may need a towel. Fabulous fun. Come.

Director: Jonathan del Val, Chris Renaud
Voices: Patton Oswalt, Eric Stonestreet, Kevin Hart, Jenny Slate, Ellie Kemper
Duration: 86 mins
Origin: France/ Japan/ USA 2019
Cert: U
Company: Universal

When...

Sat 13 2.00



The Keeper

David Kross stars in this charming true story set against a backdrop of top-tier football and postwar anger and intolerance.

In the history of the oldest cup competition in world football, the tale of goalkeeper Bert Trautmann is legendary. A Nazi prisoner of war, he would suffer years of abuse after becoming the first German footballer to play in the British football league after WWII. He had to convince teammates, supporters and Manchester's Jewish community of his right to play. He went on to make over 500 appearances for City during his 15-years, including the 1956 FA Cup Final during which he broke his neck but incredibly continued to make vital saves until the final whistle. Trautmann would later be voted the club's best ever player. But this is just part of his remarkable story. Stepping away from the pitch, *The Keeper* focuses chiefly on Trautmann's relationship with his first wife, Margaret Friar and reconciliation with his time in the War and the will to become a British footballing hero. It's a celebration of how forgiveness and persistence can bring home more than just a winner's medal. *(Research Chris Coetsee)* Goal! Chris. As kids in Goodison's 'boys pen', we saw Bert play, mostly his green jumper.

Director: Marcus H. Rosenmüller
Cast: David Kross, Freya Mavor, John Henshaw, Harry Melling, Michael Socha, Dave Johns
Duration: 119 mins
Origin: UK 2019
Certificate: 15
Company: Parkland Entertainment

When...

Sun 14 6.00 Mon 15 2.00

COMING SOON TO THE ODYSSEY

BACK BY DEMAND

ROCKETMAN

LATE NIGHT

SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM

HOME

TOY STORY 4

SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER

NEW RELEASES

THE LION KING

DON'T LOOK NOW

(RERELEASE)

THE MATRIX (RERELEASE)

MIDSOMMAR

VARDA BY AGNÈS



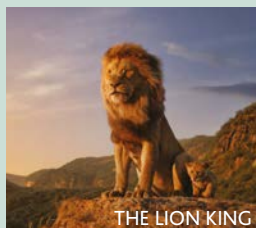
VARDA BY AGNÈS



MIDSOMMAR



DON'T LOOK NOW



THE LION KING



THE ODYSSEY

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

BOX OFFICE: 01727 453088

JULY	FILM	TIME
1 MON	BOOKSMART	7.30
2 TUE	TOLKIEN	7.30
3 WED	ROCKETMAN	1.00, 7.30
4 THU	AMAZING GRACE	1.00
4 THU	ROCKETMAN	7.30
5 FRI	GODZILLA: KING OF THE MONSTERS	7.30
6 SAT	ALADDIN	1.00
6 SAT	THE HUSTLE	7.00
7 SUN	ALADDIN	1.00
7 SUN	THE KEEPER	6.00
8 MON	AT ETERNITY'S GATE	7.30
9 TUE	STYX	7.30
10 WED	THE KEEPER	1.00
10 WED	ROCKETMAN	7.30
11 THU	AT ETERNITY'S GATE	1.00
11 THU	EATEN BY LIONS	7.30
12 FRI	LATE NIGHT	1.00, 7.30
13 SAT	DETECTIVE PIKACHU	1.00
13 SAT	X-MEN: DARK PHOENIX	7.00
14 SUN	SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER	1.00
14 SUN	BALLOON (S)	6.00
15 MON	JOHN MCENROE: IN THE REALM OF PERFECTION	7.30
16 TUE	SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER	12.00
16 TUE	BIRDS OF PASSAGE (S)	7.30
17 WED	SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER	1.00
17 WED	LATE NIGHT	7.30
18 THU	AGAINST THE TIDES	1.00
18 THU	DIEGO MARADONA	7.30
19 FRI	TOY STORY 4	1.00
19 FRI	MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL	7.30
20 SAT	TOY STORY 4	1.00
20 SAT	MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL	5.00
20 SAT	MAD MAX (1979)	8.45
21 SUN	TOY STORY 4	1.00
21 SUN	AGAINST THE TIDES	6.00
22 MON	AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS (1987) (S)(+i)	7.30
23 TUE	SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER	12.00, 7.30
24 WED	GLORIA BELL	1.00, 7.30
25 THU	MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL	1.00
25 THU	BOOKSMART	7.30
26 FRI	SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME	1.00
26 FRI	YESTERDAY	7.30
27 SAT	TOY STORY 4	12.00
27 SAT	YESTERDAY	5.00
27 SAT	SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME	8.45
28 SUN	ALADDIN	1.00
28 SUN	SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME	5.00
28 SUN	YESTERDAY	8.45
29 MON	TOY STORY 4	10.30
29 MON	SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME	2.00
29 MON	APOLLO 11	7.30
30 TUE	SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME	12.00
30 TUE	YESTERDAY	7.30
31 WED	SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME	1.00
31 WED	YESTERDAY	7.30

(S) SUBTITLED (+i) INTRO

THE-REX

BERKHAMSTED

BOX OFFICE:

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JULY	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 MON	ROCKETMAN	2.00	8
1 MON	KIND HEARTS AND CORONETS	7.30	9
2 TUE	FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS	2.00, 7.30	9
3 WED	BOOKSMART	2.00, 7.30	10
4 THU	ROCKETMAN	2.00, 7.30	8
5 FRI	AVENGERS: ENDGAME	2.00	10
5 FRI	GODZILLA: KING OF THE MONSTERS	7.30	11
6 SAT	ALADDIN	2.00, 7.00	12
7 SUN	ROCKETMAN	6.00	8
8 MON	SUNSET (S)	2.00, 7.30	13
9 TUE	LATE NIGHT	2.00	13
9 TUE	JOHN MCENROE: IN THE REALM OF...	7.30	14
10 WED	LATE NIGHT	2.00, 7.30	13
11 THU	GLORIA BELL	2.00, 7.30	14
12 FRI	ROCKETMAN	2.00, 7.30	8
13 SAT	THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2	2.00	15
13 SAT	ROCKETMAN	7.00	8
14 SUN	THE KEEPER	6.00	15
15 MON	THE KEEPER	2.00	15
15 MON	BALLOON (S)	7.30	18
16 TUE	GLORIA BELL	2.00, 7.30	14
17 WED	ELLA FITZGERALD: JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS	2.00	18
17 WED	THELMA & LOUISE	7.30	19
18 THU	LATE NIGHT	2.00, 7.30	13
19 FRI	ROCKETMAN	2.00, 7.30	8
20 SAT	ALADDIN	2.00, 7.00	12
21 SUN	SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER	6.00	19
22 MON	THE RAILWAY CHILDREN	2.00	20
22 MON	A SEASON IN FRANCE (S)	7.30	20
23 TUE	SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER	2.00, 7.30	19
24 WED	SUPPORT THE GIRLS	2.00, 7.30	21
25 THU	APOLLO 11	2.00, 7.30	21
26 FRI	TOY STORY 4	2.00	22
26 FRI	MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL	7.30	23
27 SAT	TOY STORY 4	2.00, 7.00	22
28 SUN	THE ITALIAN JOB	6.00	23
29 MON	THE ITALIAN JOB	2.00	23
29 MON	STYX	7.30	24
30 TUE	ALADDIN	2.00	12
30 TUE	YESTERDAY	7.30	24
31 WED	YESTERDAY	2.00, 7.30	24

(S) SUBTITLED

COMING SOON TO THE REX

BACK BY DEMAND

AMAZING GRACE

ALADDIN

TOY STORY 4

MEN IN BLACK

YESTERDAY

ROCKETMAN

NEW RELEASES

THE LION KING

ROLLING THUNDER REVUE:

A BOB DYLAN STORY

X-MEN: DARK PHOENIX

MIDSOMER

NEVER LOOK AWAY



NEVER LOOK AWAY



THE LION KING



MIDSOMMAR



ROLLING THUNDER REVUE



Balloon

You could probably choose a less conspicuous method of getting over the wall than floating across the border in what looks like a giant glowing lightbulb. Yet a spectacular nocturnal breakout from communist East Germany by hot-air balloon is exactly what two families did on one chilly night in September, 1979. Director Michael Bully Herbig tells the true story of the Strelzyks and the Wetzels, who built their balloon in a cellar. After sewing and tinkering for weeks, they make their first attempt.

A few feet from West German freedom, their balloon suffers from the rain and crash lands. Luckily, they manage to avoid being caught by the nazi Stasi. However, the wreckage from their escape attempt is found and that triggers a desperate manhunt. The tension rises as the families determine to try again, and a race against time begins. Besides being a fine thriller, *Balloon* also shows very well the effects authoritarian societies have on its people. It's further proof that Herbig is one of the best directors his Country has to offer. (*research Jack Whiting*) I remember my own family's joy at the international news of this fantastical escape. Miss everything else, but not this.

Director: Michael Bully Herbig
Cast: Friedrich Mücke, Karoline Schuch, David Kross, Alicia von Rittberg, Thomas Kretschmann
Duration: 125 mins
Origin: Germany 2019 (Subtitled)
Certificate: 12A
Company: Studio Canal

When...

Mon 15 7.30



Ella Fitzgerald: Just One Of Those Things

There's a lot to say about Ella Fitzgerald that goes beyond the stock superlatives. And happily, Just One of Those Things addresses the lack of attention accorded Ella as a subject worthy of thoughtful chronicle. Ella Fitzgerald was a 15 year-old street kid when she won a talent contest in 1934 at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem. Within months she was a star. This fascinating documentary follows her extraordinary journey over six decades as her sublime voice transforms the tragedies of her own life and the troubles of her times into joy. Fitzgerald was aesthetically an unlikely star; a woman who didn't fit society's conventional idea of a traditionally glamorous, slender beauty. She rallied against sexism and racism in her day to day life. Marilyn Monroe is credited as demanding the prestigious Hollywood club, Mocambo open its doors to Ella. One of the film's poignant moments witnesses Fitzgerald speaking out against racism on a radio show...the piece was never broadcast. There's a thrill of hope for a future in which Ella Fitzgerald's music lives on. We loved her as kids despite her being 'parents music'. Her voice and style transcended, and does now will on and on.

Director: Leslie Woodhead
Cast: Margo Jefferson, Tony Bennett, Norma Miller, Smokey Robinson, Jamie Cullum, Cleo Laine, Jim Blackman
Duration: 89 mins
Origin: USA 2019
Certificate: 12A
Company: Music Screen LTD

When...

Wed 17 2.00



Thelma & Louise

Two pals on the run with a gun. This self-discovery-on-the-road movie, set against the promise and perils of the American West, remains a genuine big-screen must-see.

Davis is Thelma, a housewife married to a cheating salesman. Sarandon is Louise, a waitress who is pushing forty and fed up waiting for her musician boyfriend to stop roving and commit. Piling into a classic Thunderbird convertible, they find trouble without getting much of a chance to feel the wind in their hair. At a roadhouse, Sarandon rescues Davis from a parking-lot rape, then kills her assailant. Seeing no other options, and expecting no fair shake from the law, the pair make a run for Mexico, passing a series of loathsome, disappointing or dangerous men along the way.

Are they feminist martyrs or bitches from hell? Neither. They are flesh-and-blood women about to "spontaneously and haphazardly question the blight of casual use and abuse." Ridley Scott's films are usually glossy and thick with atmosphere, but with this getaway classic he jettisons all of that and gets right to the point, delivering the goods in style. (*research Jack Whiting*) Style indeed Jack. So, how/why did the fabulous Geena Davis vapourise from the Hollywood kettle so immediately...

Director: Ridley Scott
Cast: Susan Sarandon, Geena Davis, Harvey Keitel, Michael Madsen, Brad Pitt
Duration: 124 mins
Origin: USA 1991
Certificate: 15
Company: Park Circus

When...

Wed 17 7.30



Sometimes Always Never

Bill Nighy is as terrifically dour as ever in this downbeat comedy drama. Nighy steps into the shoes of Alan, a semi-retired tailor whose measured and debonair demeanour has driven his adult son, Peter (Riley) to the fringes. Alan has never fully come to grips with the disappearance of his son, Michael, two decades prior. Michael stormed out of the family home after an innocuous argument over a game of Scrabble, never to be seen again. Now Alan is obsessed with Scrabble; a walking dictionary partial even to hustling unsuspecting players he meets on his travels. Dealing with loss and searching for answers, he heads off to reconnect with Peter and together they embark on a life-changing journey. Scripted by Frank Cottrell Boyce, the dialogue bristles with wry exchanges and throwaway wit while the central performances share an effortlessly charming, self-deprecating quality. Bill Nighy's minimalist, deadpan delivery underlines Alan's arrogance, which he wears like a perfectly tailored suit. Sam Riley is similarly excellent as Peter, a persistent source of dark humour throughout. Sweet without cloying, it's a quirky, quintessentially British affair. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) As Bill Nighy plays himself effortlessly, so why the effort for a distracting, and patchy mid-Mersey accent...?

Director: Carl Hunter
Cast: Bill Nighy, Alice Lowe, Jenny Agutter
Duration: 89 mins
Origin: UK 2019
Certificate: 12A
Company: The Movie Partnership

When...

Sun 21 6.00 Tue 23 2.00
Tue 23 7.30



The Railway Children

Always a welcome Summer return of this beautiful film. We keep 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 and Brexit was a wet Farage dream. A tale of innocence, pride and good manners hardship, adversity and the once easy friendship between children and grown-ups. It is a celebration of posh fortitude set in an environment of steam trains, endless summer days and buns for tea. Unashamedly sentimental, it is Lionel Jeffries' faithful 1970s film of Edith Nesbitt's classic children's novel. A chance to choke back a new tear and give new children the chance to be lost in the simple beauty of hills, tracks and polished railways, muckier now, but nobody dies in this film. "Whether today's kids get it is open..." (*Time Out*) But having girls, "Daddy ... my daddy!" as the last steam clears the platform, will for ever be heartbreaking and soaring all at once. If you don't fidget, there might be buns for tea at home... Or fidget and miss your buns, but don't miss this perfect summertime treat here at the Rex – 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...

Mon 22 2.00



A Season In France

North African director Mahamat-Saleh Haroun paints a human face on the refugee crisis in this Parisian drama.

Abbas (Eriq Ebouaney) a former teacher, has fled conflict in the Central African Republic with his two young children. Their high hopes of a fresh start in Paris are relentlessly worn down by the grim realities of their situation. Drifting through a succession of cramped, temporary homes and with his application for asylum at the mercy of bureaucrats, Abbas must combat a lack of legal aid and loss of dignity in order to save his family from destitution.

Most of Haroun's previous work has been set in Chad and concerned with displacement, migration and war. Here, he turns the tables, looking at migration from the perspective of those arriving. The subtlety and power of Haroun's script allows for some truly terrific central performances, with Ebouaney particularly conveying how dehumanising the position that Abbas occupies is and how it can eat away at a soul's independence.

A Season In France presents the horror of losing your sense of place, self-worth and a host of other things that make us who we are, warts and all. (*Research Chris Coetsee*). Don't think. Just come.

Director: Mahamat-Saleh Haroun
Cast: Eriq Ebouaney, Sandrine Bonnaire, Aalayna Lys, Ibrahim Burama Darboe, Bibi Tanga, Léonie Simaga
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: France 2017 (Subtitled)
Certificate: 12A
Company: New Wave Films Ltd

When...

Mon 22 7.30



Support The Girls

Regina Hall excels in this heartfelt comedy about workplace sisterhood. Lisa (Hall) is the general manager of Double Whammies, a Hooters-esque sports bar in Texas. Described by one of the characters as a fantasy fuelled by "boobs, brews and big screens", the waitresses in Double Whammies are all attractive twenty-somethings reliant on tips to make a living. More a mother-hen figure than a manager, Lisa protects the girls from disrespectful customers, often going above and beyond to look out for her team. Mostly centered around one day, we first meet an exhausted Lisa crying in her car before starting a shift. A string of incidents follow which test her optimism, from finding the cook's relative stuck in the air ducts after trying to rob the restaurant, to the TV breaking before a big fight night. It focuses on the sisterly bond the women cultivate, whilst subtly uncovering the nightly microaggressions they meet working in the service industry. With standout performances from Hall and Haley Lu Richardson as the bubbly Maci, the characters are not merely tropes but fleshed out characters with complex inner lives. An entertaining and revealing comedy. (*research Rachel Williams*) Picked from the hat of unlikely winners, this is a perfect mid-week antedote.

Director: Andrew Bujalski
Cast: Regina Hall, Haley Lu Richardson, Dylan Gelula, Zoe Graham, Ann McCaskey, Elizabeth Trieu, Lea DeLaria
Duration: 88 mins
Origin: USA 2018
Certificate: 15
Company: Bulldog Film Distribution Ltd

When...

Wed 24 2.00, 7.30



Apollo 11

Todd Douglas Miller's breathtaking documentary peels away the familiar to make one giant leap into the cosmos. On the eve of the mission's 50th anniversary, NASA's vaults have opened for the first time to reveal this exquisite, never-before seen film footage of the Apollo 11 mission. There is no voiceover, no talking heads appear and on-screen text is limited to identifying the key players and a few tasteful info-graphics. This isn't a testament to individuals and their psychologies; this is a story of process and progress.

From the opening images of Saturn V inching its way to destiny across Pad 39A to shots of thousands of Americans who camped out under a clear summer sky to witness it, the shimmering 70mm footage, beautifully captured on the ground by a team of NASA staff, captures a dreamy-eyed portrait of America as it stepped into the future.

As the voices of mission control calmly guide Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins from Cape Kennedy to the lunar surface, Miller's Apollo 11 becomes a phenomenal historical time capsule that cements NASA's first moon landing as a pivotal moment in our history. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Priceless. Try not to have had-enough of it all before you see this.

Director: Todd Douglas Miller
Cast: Buzz Aldrin, Joan Ann Archer, Janet Armstrong, Neil Armstrong, Jack Benny, Johnny Carson.
Duration: 93 mins
Origin: USA 2019
Certificate: U
Company: Dogwoof Pictures

When...

Thu 25 2.00, 7.30



Director: Josh Cooley
 Voices: Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Joan Cusack,
 Annie Potts, Christina Hendricks,
 Keanu Reeves
 Duration: 100 mins
 Origin: USA 2019
 Certificate: U
 Company: WDSMP UK

Toy Story 4

Skepticism is only natural when confronted with an unwanted entry to a series that concluded perfectly with the third.

Fear not Woody and Buzz fans! Turns out Pixar knew what they were doing all along – Toy Story 4 is simply wonderful. It's possibly the zaniest of them all, certainly the funniest.

Forky is a plastic spork with mismatched googly eyes, pipe cleaner for arms, and an existential crisis. Despite not being an official toy – young Bonnie Frankenstein's him together herself – he steals her affections over the others, Woody does his best to persuade this tortured soul that being a toy can be as rewarding as being a disposable utensil, but he is distracted by the sight of a small-town antique shop. Sneaking inside in search of his lost love, Bo Peep, Woody falls into the clutches of Gabby Gabby (Christina Hendricks), a damaged doll who has designs on his pull-string voice box. He escapes, but Forky doesn't, which means that it's time for one of the franchise's signature rescue-missions.

Toy Story 4 reaffirms that Pixar, at their best, are like no other animation studio around. (*Jack Whiting*) You'll have seen it by now, so come again and enjoy it properly here.

When... Sat 27 2.00
 Fri 26 2.00 Sat 27 7.00



Men In Black: International

One of the best blockbusters of the nineties hits the reboot button, and after two disappointing sequels to the original, this is actually a welcome reset. Chris Hemsworth and Tessa Thompson are in the sunglasses this time, effortlessly carrying over the chemistry from their time together on Thor: Ragnarok (Tessa played fellow Asgardian warrior, Valkyrie). She has dreamed of joining the Men In Black since she was an astronomy-loving little girl. Once she talks her way into a job, the newly christened Agent M is assigned to the London branch, where she teams up with cocky, foolhardy Agent H (Hemsworth) to protect a benign alien. But their mission turns deadly, suggesting the possibility that there may be a rogue agent in the MIB. The duo are clearly having an intergalactic blast (even if Hemsworth comes off a bit smug) and although they can't possibly fill their respective Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones shaped holes, it's MIB veteran Agent O (Emma Thompson) beamed over from the previous films, who steals every scene. *(research Jack Whiting)* Sounds okay. The first film was fab, this one may take its place in the also-ran dept. Once more, critics sniffed, so come.

Director: F Gary Gray
 Cast: Chris Hemsworth, Tessa Thompson, Rebecca Ferguson, Liam Neeson, Emma Thompson, Kumail Nanjiani
 Duration: 115 mins
 Origin: USA 2019
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Columbia Pictures Corporation Ltd

When...

Fri 26 7.30



The Italian Job

As three Minis rock from side to side in sewage tunnels, carrying £4 million in gold bullion in their boots, ask yourself this: is there a film – certainly a British film – that delivers a greater infusion of pure joy than this?

The answer, after 50 years, is No. The cast of this chirpily patriotic movie is led by Michael Caine, reprising his Alfie persona as Charlie Croker, a smooth criminal who inherits a plan to rob the Fiat factory in Turin by causing the world's biggest ever traffic jam (then: 1969). But first he must get the go-ahead from ageing crimelord Mr Bridger, a dangerously camp prison Farage, gifted by Noël Coward, who Runs-Things from his cell. Charlie tells him it's a patriotic attack on "Europe, the Common Market, Italy and Fiat..."

The brio and ambition can't be doubted and together with Caine's enormous charisma and 'that' ending (which to this day delights and frustrates equally – and by only 2% – equally). As a metaphor for England at the dawn of the 70s, The Italian Job is hard to top. *(research Jack Whiting)* An empty robbery not worth "blowing the bloody doors off" for... 50 years later.

Director: Peter Collinson
 Cast: Michael Caine, Noel Coward, Benny Hill, Raf Vallone, Tony Beckley, Margaret Blye, Irene Handl
 Duration: 99 mins
 Origin: UK 1969
 Certificate: PG
 Company: Paramount Home Entertainment

When...

Sun 28 6.00 Mon 29 2.00



Styx

A solo sailor faces an agonising moral dilemma in Styx, a tense yet compassionate navigation of the refugee crisis.

German doctor Rike (Susanne Wolff) flies to Gibraltar to fulfil a lifelong dream: single handedly sail a yacht to Ascension Island, located halfway between West Africa and Brazil. Weathering a ferocious storm en route, demonstrating her physical prowess as a sailor, we soon realise that this is merely the calm before the real storm. In the distance Rike spots a sinking fishing trawler, carrying too many passengers to save on her own boat. Sending out a distress signal, the coastguard warns her to stay put, promising that the authorities are on their way. Horrified by the helplessness this official response commands of her, she must face her sense of social responsibility head on. Director Wolfgang Fischer says Rike is "shown the limits of her importance and of the empathy of her cultural milieu." Casting people who have done the perilous journey themselves to play the refugees, Styx aims to accurately portray the experiences people face, miles away from the debates had on land. (Wow). A thought provoking test of one's moral compass. (Rachel Williams) Brilliant. Dont miss.

Director: Wolfgang Fischer
 Cast: Susanne Wolff, Gedion Oduor Wekesa, Felicity Babao, Alexander Beyer, Inga Birkenfeld, Anika Menger
 Duration: 95 mins
 Origin: Germany 2019
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: 606 Distribution



Yesterday

This Curtis and Boyle musical fairytale imagines a world without the Fab Four. Jack (Himesh Patel) is a struggling singer-songwriter from Suffolk, ready to pack in his music career. After crashing his bike during a freak global power surge, Jack is the only one in the universe that can remember The Beatles and their back catalogue. Reconstructing their songs from memory, Jack is presented with a golden opportunity for him to pursue the kind of success he's always dreamed of. Elevated by two fine performances courtesy of Patel and Lily James, the film wears its heart on its sleeve from the get go. Patel, previously of EastEnders fame, is an excellent choice for Jack. He's the millennial Hugh Grant character, mumbling and slightly more down-played, but much less self-consciously. He nails the everyman vibe and the panic of suddenly having the world at your feet. Yesterday doesn't exactly rip up the rulebook but the new L&MC, Curtis and Boyle, have gone to great lengths to subtly tweak the traditional romcom formula to create a genuinely touching, smart comedy, which will undoubtedly become the feel-good hit of the summer. (Research Chris Coetsee) As did the Beatles - for a few summers of their own. Fab. Come.

Director: Danny Boyle
 Cast: Himesh Patel, Lily James, Ana de Armas, Kate McKinnon, Sanjeev Bhaskar, Ed Sheeran
 Duration: 116 mins
 Origin: UK 2019
 Certificate: 12A
 Company: Universal Pictures International

When...

Mon 29 7.30

When...

Wed 31 2.00
Tue 30 7.30 Wed 31 7.30

Rants and sumo wrestling pants

A selection of your comments from the book in the foyer.

“ Now this is what I call a cinema, don't ever change! Excellent.

LORO – A pile of shit in a puddle of piss.

Can you please make the seats more comfortable and spinny.

James, I love your rants – about HS2, your avoidance of greedy money, your refusal to put up your prices, just your attitude in general. You are radical and you speak your mind and most importantly I agree with you... Thank you, we get what we deserve and deserve what we get.

Fed up with the old bald guy telling his paying customers his opinions of films that we want to be allowed to enjoy.

Get a life you bore.

If it weren't for the "old bald guy" this cinema wouldn't exist you ignorant moron.

What a beautiful Cinema!
We absolutely loved the owner chap! Funny and charming.
Wonderful evening.

The Box office is the nicest office I have ever seen. Thanks!

James, so good to see the Rex & the great work you have done here (I seem to remember kissing a good number of the towns young girls here in my youth!) Thanks for being such a good mentor and friend in those days and keeping me on the straight and narrow (well wide, wild and wonderful). Mark

James, change the record about the council, you are boring!

What is your problem with the local council? You attack people who give up their free time to serve the local community. After all don't you live in a council flat...

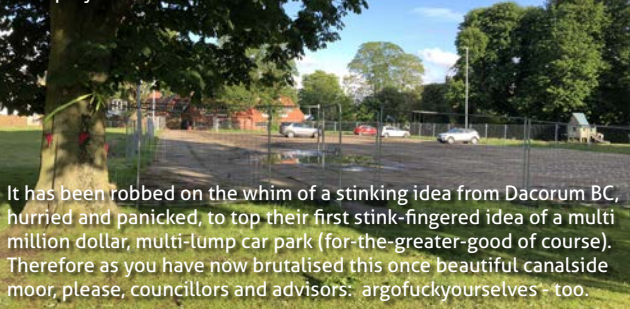
All the way from Portugal to watch a film in this beautiful cinema!

Fabulous way to view a film, such a beautiful venue!

The Rex will always be my happy place.

”

A typically busy, occasionally sunny, June weekday afternoon and this travesty (bordering on criminal) permanently waterlogged, and very stupid 'democratic idea' - lies empty still. Six months wasted of a once unspoilt green town space where our children once played.



It has been robbed on the whim of a stinking idea from Dacorum BC, hurried and panicked, to top their first stink-fingered idea of a multi million dollar, multi-lump car park (for-the-greater-good of course). Therefore as you have now brutalised this once beautiful canalside moor, please, councillors and advisors: argofuckyourselves - too.



November 2001



Sometimes Always Never

Sun 21 6.00 • Tue 23 2.00, 7.30 July



Bill Nighy standing tall among the Gormleys - on location Crosby shore 2018