

THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E



BEGIN AGAIN

AUGUST 2014...

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

Britain's Best Cinema - Guardian Film Awards 2014

AUGUST 2014 Issue 113
www.therexberkhamsted.com

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Emily Main	Yalda Yazdanian

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Sally Rowbotham in charge
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The Rex

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

BEST IN AUGUST



Finding Vivian Maier

Startling, beautiful, remarkable and very strange... Mon 11th 7.30

FILMS OF THE MONTH



Belle

True story, lovely costumed melodrama at Kenwood House
 Tue 5th/ Wed 6th/ Thu 7th 7.30pm



Chinese Puzzle

Romain Duris always: strong, funny, lively, never skips a beat... Wed 13th 7.30



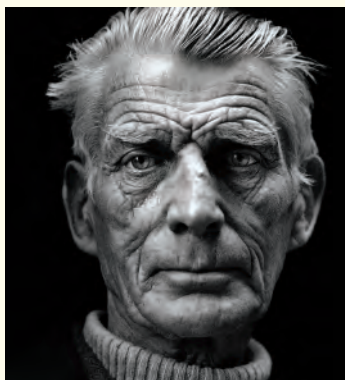
God's Pocket

Gritty tale, great stars and Philip Seymour Hoffman's farewell Thu 28th 7.30

LUKE DODD AT THE REX FOR JANE BOWN

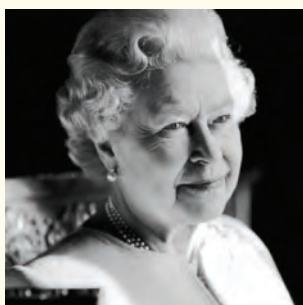


22nd June. Director Luke Dodd regaling us with fabulous tales of this beautiful woman's life and her love of taking the shot.





If ever there was Life in pictures... Pictures behind faces perhaps but always seeming to find Who lives inside that split second of light. "Ahh there you are..."





AUGUST EVENINGS



Director: Jon Favreau
Starring: Jon Favreau, Robert Downey Jr, Scarlett Johansson, Dustin Hoffman
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 114 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Lionsgate Films UK

Chef Fri 1 7.30, Sat 2 7.00, Sun 3 6.00

John Favreau returns to the indie-swinging roots that kick-started his acting/directing career with this deliciously sincere comedy.

Carl Casper (Favreau) was once the up-and-coming darling of the LA food scene. He still works hard at a restaurant managed by Riva (Dustin Hoffman) but every attempt to dislodge the old favourites and spice up the menu meets with firm rejection.

This is particularly disastrous when food critic Ramsey Michael (Oliver Platt) visits, only to be served uninspiring dishes. His damning blog post causes Carl to interrupt his next meal with a blistering tirade that goes instantly viral.

At the cajoling of his ex-wife, Carl escapes his newfound internet infamy, returning to Miami and his long-neglected son, Percy. Reinvigorated by his old stomping grounds, Carl decides to pull a culinary 180 and ditch his fine-dining chef's whites for a junk food truck, embarking on a road to redemption both at home and in the kitchen.

Perhaps Favreau sees *Chef*, which he wrote himself, as a recipe for self-reflection; Casper's once popular, but now tired recipes are much like Favreau's own big-budget movies (the Iron Mans, Cowboys and Aliens) a case of diminishing returns, so *Chef* is his meal ticket out. It's a mouth-watering proposition, and one that works beautifully. Don't come on an empty stomach. (*Jack Whiting*) Our cheese & biscuits, though 5 star-exquisite, is an unlikely match...?





Director: Amma Asante
Starring: Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Matthew Goode, Emily Watson
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 104 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox



Belle Tue 5 7.30,
 Wed 6 7.30, Thu 7 7.30,
 Sun 10 6.00

Belle is based on the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle (Gugu Mbatha-Raw) a mixed-race daughter of a well-born 18th century sea captain, who had fathered the child with a slave and brought her back to be raised by his uncle, an enlightened reformist, Lord Mansfield (Tom Wilkinson).

Belle's lineage affords her certain privileges, yet her status prevents her from the traditions of noble social standing. While her cousin, Elizabeth (Sarah Gadon) chases suitors for marriage, Belle is left on the sidelines. After meeting an idealistic young vicar's son bent on changing society, he and Belle help shape Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery in England. The film is also partly inspired by a famous portrait of Belle and Elizabeth which, almost but not quite, accords equal status to the two women side-by-side. "A handsomely mounted and emotionally engaging drama that smartly examines issues of race, class and gender while leaving nary a dry eye in the house." (*Observer*)

"Amma Asante's powerful, moving and gently subversive romantic melodrama is a finely wrought tale of a woman out of time, a film that plays eloquently upon the heartstrings as it weaves familiar personal intrigue with stirring social history." (*Guardian*) (research Jane Clucas) It is commercial costume-drama at Kenwood House. What more could there possibly be...?



Director: Jim Mickle
Starring: Michael Hall, Sam Shepherd,
Don Johnson
Certificate: 15
Duration: 110 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Icon Film Distribution



Cold in July

Fri 8 7.30, Sat 9 7.00

If two wonderfully atmospheric, American genre indies weren't enough this year (Blue Ruin, and this month's Joe) then this 80s set Texan crime drama will fill that blood soaked hole.

Michael C. Hall, of *Six Feet Under* and *Dexter*, usually plays crazies, but here he starts out as a mulleted average citizen with a family, sweating as he loads a gun. Then circumstances drag him into a murky world that spectacularly disturbs and unsettles him and his family. Sam Shepard shows his powerhouse charisma as a man of ferocious will and dark integrity. The trio is completed by Don Johnson as a cowboy-hatted, pig-farming private eye who fills in the brooding spaces between the other characters with hilarious non sequitur chatter.

"The film forms a flipside companion piece to *A History of Violence*, another tale of a quiet man drawn into a world of comic-strip brutality, littered with broken-backed narrative left turns that wrong-foot the audience, leaving them wondering how much of this is but a bloody, fevered dream." (*Guardian*) I hope you like your twists, because *Cold in July* is riddled with them, but the three veteran actors gruff it up convincingly and the smattering of violence will keep action fans pleased. (*Jack Whiting*) Let action fans come for their pound of gore, you must come for the strong and gripping edge-of-seat 'true story' thriller...?



Directors: Charlie Siskel, John Maloof
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 83 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Soda Pictures



Finding Vivian Maier

Mon 11 7.30

Chicago nanny Vivian Maier died in 2009, on her days off she took to the bustling streets taking stacks of photos. She left behind her a legacy of 100,000 negatives, images that no one but she had ever seen.

Since buying her work by chance at auction, amateur historian John Maloof, has crusaded to put this prolific photographer in the history books. Now she is considered one of the 20th Century's greatest street photographers, and this documentary will show you how and why.

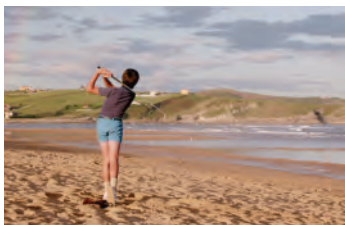
Maier's strange and riveting life and art are revealed through never-before-seen photographs, films, and interviews with dozens who thought they knew her. Many of her images are of people on the margins; she documented the poor, elderly and homeless of New York and Chicago, and certainly seems to have thought of herself as a fellow outsider. It's hard to imagine then, this intensely private person welcoming the sort of exposure and excitement that her work is getting now.

"It seems fitting that she escapes definition even here; by the end, we feel as if we have been hearing not of a real person, but of a character in a book" (*New Yorker*)

"Completely captivating documentary about the most undiscovered of real artists." (*Film Journal International*) Looks and sounds unmissable. (*Anna Shepherd*) so please don't...



Seve Tue 12 7.30



The story of one of the world's greatest ever golfers, Seve Ballesteros, the film mixes archive TV footage with dramatised reconstructions of Ballesteros' tough boyhood on the family farm in northern Spain.

Before his global dominance as the winner of five majors and the mastermind behind Europe's resurgence in the Ryder Cup, Ballesteros was a penniless prodigy who bunked off school to whack pebbles around a makeshift course on the beach, and as a humble caddy, stunned players with his skills.

The real Ballesteros (died in 2011) is a fascinating, effortlessly charismatic figure who combined discipline and ruthlessness with a sense of mischief. Jose Luis Gutierrez, who plays him as a kid in the Cinema Paradiso-style scenes of Seve growing up, captures his subject's charm and innocence, so too his extraordinary ambition.

"It is hard to watch the final scenes of the film without a golf-ball-sized lump in your throat. Seve is moving in a way that sports movies rarely are." (*Independent*) "Yet however under par it gets, it's impossible not to shed a tear as the final chapter in Ballesteros' oft-magical life unfolds." (*Total Film*)

"There is some charm to this drama-documentary on the rise of Severiano Ballesteros from Spanish farmer's boy to world-class golfer." (*Times*)

OR

"A blur of bad knitwear." (*Telegraph*) (research Jane Clucas) You choose, but it's more than just for golfers...

Director: John-Paul Davidson
Certificate: PG
Duration: 124 mins
Origin: UK/Spain 2014
By: Entertainment Film Distributors

Chinese Puzzle
Wed 13 7.30

Director: Cédric Klapisch
Starring: Romain Duris, Kelly Reilly, Audrey Tautou, Cécile De France
Certificate: 15
Duration: 117 mins
Origin: France/USA 2013
By: Studio Canal

Following on from Pot Luck (2003) and Russian Dolls (2006) (not essential viewing to enjoy this final episode) Cédric Klapisch completes his trilogy.

Anti-hero Romain Duris plays Xavier, a 40-year-old writer and father of two, who still finds life very complicated. When Wendy (played by Kelly Reilly, who outshone in recent Rex favourite, *Calvary*) announces she's moving to New York and taking the kids with her, Xavier cannot bear being apart from them, so decides to move there too.

After a few months of living in the city, Xavier finds himself juggling: writer's block, fathering a child for his lesbian friend Isabelle (Cecile de France) and her partner, getting himself a green-card marriage to a Chinese-American, and also rekindling feelings for old flame Martine (Audrey Tautou) who shows up in NY to do business with a Chinese tea company! "A light but charming meditation on life, and a few gently moving life lessons on the subjects of parents and children." (*Observer*)

"He captures the urban mood with ebullient aplomb, while amusing himself with stylistic flourishes and riffing on François Truffaut's Doinel cycle." (*Empire*) It is Duris's engaging, breakneck performance, bolstered by energetic turns from Kelly Reilly, Cecile de France and Audrey Tautou that gives the film such vitality. (research Anna Shepherd) A fabulous cast indeed, topped by favourite Rex Frenchman, Romain Duris. Don't miss.





Director: Clint Eastwood
Starring: John Young, Erich Bergen, Christopher Walken
Certificate: 15
Duration: 134 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Warner Brothers



Jersey Boys

**Thu 14 7.30, Fri 15 7.30,
Sat 16 7.00**

Clint Eastwood's big screen version of the Tony Award winning musical tells the story of the four young men from the wrong side of the tracks in New Jersey who came together to form the iconic '60s rock group, The Four Seasons.

The film opens in 1951 and follows teen, Frankie Castelluccio (John Lloyd Young who originated the role on Broadway) and his experiences growing up in blue-collar New Jersey. Musically gifted, but yet to assume his stage surname of Valli.

We are introduced to the friends and band mates who will shape Frankie's future, including fast-talking neighbourhood ne'er-do-well, Tommy DeVito (Vincent Piazza) and Nick Massi (Michael Lomenda, who has played the role on tour). An introduction by Tommy's friend, (Joe Pesci) brings in talented songwriter, Bob Gaudio (Erich Bergen, who played him on the Las Vegas stage).

Their trials and triumphs are accompanied by the hit songs that influenced a generation, and are now being embraced by completely new generations of fans.

"Eastwood's film version is a classy affair, beyond schmaltz and nostalgia although it has its fair share of both. One of its pleasures is its re-creation of post-war America." (*Independent*) (research Jane Lucas).

Kids from the wrong side of the tracks, they were 50 yrs ahead of today's toughguy 'ghetto' pop.



The Fault in Our Stars

Sun 17 6.00



Hold on to your heartstrings, this one's a real tugger. The young and talented Shailene Woodley leads another young-adult adaptation (after *Divergent*) based on the bestseller by John Green.

At the end of an eventful three-day trip to Amsterdam, Hazel (Woodley) and Gus (Ansel Elgort), two American teenagers, are in a reflective mood. Rather than squeezing in a last-minute visit to the Van Gogh Museum, they sit on a bench by the Amstel, watch the grey water washing past, and talk. Hazel and Gus are both diagnosed with cancer and have months to live, a year at best. Yet they've reached a point where, to waste time is to make the most of it. "As the narrative follows its sparky subjects from America to Amsterdam in search of answers to life, the universe and everything else, we get to enjoy their amiable company and become seduced by their no nonsense attitude, their conversation sparking plenty of laughs and oceans of tears as love blooms and nature takes its inexorable course." (*Guardian*)

Fault in Our Stars does a great job of working its way into your heart, but it doesn't quite feel earned. I hate to use the word manipulative, especially when such a serious issue is tackled, but its melodrama is a hard pill to swallow. Bring heavyweight tissues. (*Jack Whiting*)

Director: Josh Boone
Starring: Shailene Woodley, Ansel Elgort, Laura Dern, Willem Dafoe
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 126 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox

The Golden Dream

Mon 18 7.30

Director: Diego Quemada-Díez
Starring: Brandon López, Rodolfo Domínguez, Karen Martínez
Certificate: 15
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: Mexico 2014
By: Peccadillo Pictures

From Ken Loach's protégé, Diego Quemada-Díez, comes an astounding and gripping debut feature.

A piercing and poetic road movie, which follows the fortunes of three Guatemalan teenagers on the dangerous journey across the Mexican border and into America.

After packing up their belongings and leaving a shantytown positioned so close to a rubbish tip, it is hard to tell where one ends and the other begins, they journey towards the land of cowboys and snow. They encounter another boy, an indigenous Indian called Chauk. Neither can speak the other's language, but the trio band together in pursuit of their common dream.

The camera is always at the level of the human eye. Quemada-Díez never puts the camera where there would not be a human being. There is always a human point of view: no cranes, no helicopter, no Steadicam, no dollies, no devices.

"A beautiful film. Full of human warmth, compassion and truth. The struggle of the innocent is caught with precision.

Terrific!" (*Ken Loach*)

"Quemada-Díez meets his young charges on equal terms, viewing the world through their eyes, seeing its strange wonder even as they gaze unflinchingly at an unforgiving future. The result is at once urgent, defiant, and heartbreaking." (*Observer*)

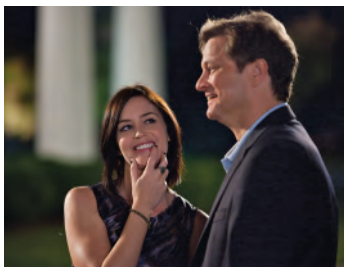
Honest, captivating and arresting filmmaking.

(*research Anna Shepherd*) Extraordinary and unmissable, so don't miss.





Director: Dante Ariola
Starring: Colin Firth, Emily Blunt, Anne Heche
Certificate: 15
Duration: 93 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Arrow Films



Arthur and Mike

Tue 19 7.30

Wallace Avery (Colin Firth) is tired of his existence. Divorced, disconnected from his young son, dissatisfied with his love life, depressed and in the doldrums of middle age, he decides to make a radical change by walking away from his old life. He buys a new identity and hits the road as Arthur Newman to begin life anew, bound for Terre Haute, Indiana, where he dreams of inventing himself as a golf pro at a tiny country club.

But his road trip is derailed by the entrance of Michaela "Mike" Fitzgerald (Emily Blunt) whom Arthur discovers passed out poolside at a seedy roadside motel. Soon romance blossoms on the road to Indiana as the unexpected couple infiltrate the lives of random strangers as a way of better grasping the essence of their own waylaid lives. Painful secrets unfold: new lives take shape. But is it possible to truly start all over again?

"It looks like raunchy indie movie on the surface but with the soul of a Hallmark greetings card within." (*Guardian*)

"The stars play strangers on an odd road trip who are meant to be finding things out about each other: if you were put next to either of them on a plane, you would quickly move." (*Telegraph*) (*Jane Lucas*) Firth/Blunt must surely ignite a puff of screen magic between them...? Ignore crits, come.

Jimmy's Hall

Wed 20 7.30



Rumoured to be Ken Loach's last feature, Jimmy's Hall tells the true story of political activist, Jimmy Gralton who in 1932 and after ten years in the USA, returns to his native Ireland to help his mother run the family farm.

A new government is in power in Ireland, ten years after the end of the Civil War.

To meet the needs of the young people of County Leitrim, Jimmy, in spite of his reluctance to cause upset to his old enemies, the Church and the local landowners, decides to reopen the 'Hall'. A kind of youth centre, free and open to all, where the local people meet to dance, study and talk. Success comes quickly, but the growing influence of Jimmy and his radical ideas is not to the taste of all...

"Jimmy's Hall is full of bursting with wonderful traditional Irish music and movement but also American; Gralton was, apparently, a big fan of jazz. Its focus though is on words (the Irish gift). Sophisticated, witty, sometimes heartbreaking rhetoric used by ordinary people to change hearts and minds." (*Standard*)

"Jimmy's Hall is one of the sunniest, most optimistic films in the Ken Loach canon." (*Independent*)

"Jim Norton's nuanced performance leavens this sometimes heavy-handed tale of a law-baiting Irish socialist." (*Guardian*) A brilliant piece of Ken Loach film making, back by huge demand.

Director: Ken Loach
Starring: Barry Ward, Simone Kirby
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 109 mins
Origin: Ireland/UK 2014
By: Entertainment One UK

Joe Thu 21 7.30

Director: David Gordon Green
Starring: Nicolas Cage, Tye Sheridan, Gary Poulter
Certificate: 15
Duration: 117mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Curzon Film World

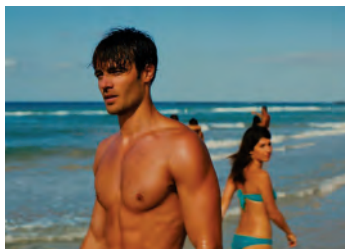
A contained, nuanced Nicolas Cage, impossible you say? Well take a look at this, a bleak but brilliant drama from Prince Avalanche director David Gordon Green.

Cage's title character is a foursquare backwoodsman, employed by the lumber companies to poison the weak trees and clear the ground for resilient new timber. Along the way, he finds room in his crew for Gary (Tye Sheridan), a troubled teenager from a shack outside town. Gary is desperate to earn some money and shake off the attentions of his vicious alcoholic father (Gary Poulter). 'I'm your friend,' Joe assures the kid, although events have a way of intruding on the idyll. Joe, in any case, is not quite the wise, reliable anchor that he so clearly wants to be.

"Joe and Gary's mentor-protégé relationship is the heart of the tale, though the film frequently shuffles off the narrative path to sketch in the economically depressed environs. Green captures the bucolic beauty of the setting even as he populates it with down-and-out people who might have stepped out of a Faulkner story." (*Time Out*)

Joe is not a fun ride, but an earned one. The complexities of the characters seep through the cracks. This is the Cage we all knew and loved in Leaving Las Vegas, Adaptation and Bad Lieutenant. Welcome back to reality, man. (*Jack Whiting*) Reality Jack...?





Directors: Max Giwa, Dania Pasquini
Starring: Annabel Scholey, Greg Wise, Leona Lewis
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Vertigo Films



Walking on Sunshine

Fri 22 7.30, Sun 24 6.00

Walking On Sunshine is a light-hearted, frothy musical, featuring pop songs of the 1980s and set in the beautiful coastal village of Puglia in Italy. It is Mamma Mia relocated, but unfortunately avoiding shipwreck and drowning on the way.

Taylor (Hannah Arterton, Gemma's sister) goes to this sun kissed Italian paradise for the wedding of her feisty sister, Maddie (Annabel Scholey). Maddie has apparently just dumped her roguishly unfaithful older boyfriend, Doug (Greg Wise) in favour of a whirlwind romance/engagement with Raf (Giulio Berruti) a gorgeous young Italian. But Taylor was in Puglia herself a few years earlier, uh oh... Yes you've twigged it, Maddie doesn't know that Raf and Taylor have... Some intense singing and ensemble choreography in holiday-brochure scenarios and locations are on the hand to bounce the 'plot' along. There's even a guest appearance by the X-factor girl herself, Leona Lewis!

"You have to admire the brazen chutzpah with which this 80s jukebox musical attempts to ape the bizarrely successful formula of Mamma Mia: a sun-drenched island, a holiday romance, a selection of popstastic hits crowbarred into a contrived narrative, some dodgy singing, all delivered en route to a sing-along showdown at the chapel of love." (*Guardian*)

"Cheery and inane romcom could double as an ad for Puglia's tourist board." (*Telegraph*) or preferably, doubled up all night with the runs.



Director: Michael Bay
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 165 mins
Origin: USA/China 2014
By: Paramount International Pictures



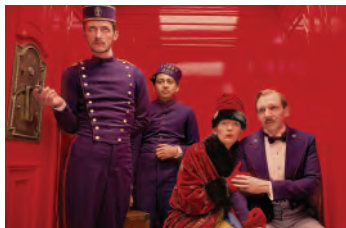
Transformers: Age of Extinction Sat 23 7.00

All hail Michael Bay, the destroyer of modern cinema! Bay brings in the loud and the dumb, and in the aptly named *Age of Extinction*, it seems no lessons have been learned.

So after three movies, Shia Labeouf is out. Filling the hero shoes is Mark Wahlberg as Cade Yeager, an inventor with twenty inch biceps, living the quiet Texan life with his unnecessarily delicious daughter, Tessa (I mean unnecessary because of Bay's history with casting models for what is essentially set decoration, rather than, y'know, actors.)

When a banged-up, old truck Cade salvages, turns out to be none other than Optimus Prime in hiding, it's not long before the baddies find out, forcing Prime to round up his Transformer buddies and save the world, blow shit up etc. Kelsie Grammer relishes his Machiavellian role as a CIA bad man who believes that all Transformers, good or evil, must be destroyed. To do this he enlists the help of Lockdown, a sort of galactic bounty hunter, to track the Autobots. While a shouty Stanley Tucci is having a ball playing a crazed megalomaniac using, get this, 'Transformium', to create an army of home-made robots. Then in the last 15 minutes transforming dinosaurs show up, because... why not? (how long you got?) Chronic migraine doesn't begin to describe it. Welcome to the extinction of your intelligence. (*Jack Whiting*) Dare you to miss it.

The Grand Budapest Hotel Mon 25 7.30



Back by huge demand. Ralph Fiennes expertly plays eccentric hotel concierge Monsieur Gustave H. accompanied by Zero (fascinating newcomer Tony Revolori) the new lobby boy at the famous European hotel.

Perched on top of a mountain, in the fictional Republic of Zubrowka, and reached only by an old acute funicular railway. The story begins when a young writer (Jude Law) meets an impressive old man, the hotel's owner, Mr Zero Moustafa (F. Murray Abraham). The young writer hears the tales of legendary concierge M. Gustave H, who in the pre-war period ran the hotel with impeccable control and style. Gustave's attentiveness to the rich, old, insecure, vain and needy patrons of the hotel extends to rather more personal services. As he bids farewell to the 84-year-old fright Madame D (Tilda Swinton) her shocking murder sets in motion Wes Anderson's crazy clockwork of a plot. "Even on a second viewing, you hardly have time enough to take in all its intricate detailing and sumptuous furnishing." (*Standard*) "Beneath all the jokiness there's a sense of loss, a nostalgia for an age that neither the filmmakers nor all but a few of their audience can ever have known". (*S&S*) Bewilderingly star-studded, come and indulge in this grand film in The Grand Rex Cinema in August (*AS*). Non-stop fabulous, ridiculous, riotous, quick witted and crystal clear. Last time, so don't miss.

Director: Wes Anderson
Starring: Ralph Fiennes, Saoirse Ronan, Jude Law
Certificate: 15
Duration: 100 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Under The Rainbow Tue 26 7.30

Director: Agnès Jaoui
Starring: Agathe Bonitzer, Agnès Jaoui, Arthur Dupont
Certificate: 15
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Curzon Film World

Agnès Jaoui has gained a reputation as 'The Woody Allen of French Cinema'. Her latest film *Under the Rainbow* is a Paris-set comedy, which plays on the fairy-tale theme - with a modern guise.

Rather than opt for one classic fable, Jaoui draws on many, populating her film with a cast of familiar characters. Laura (Agathe Bonitzer) dreams of a Prince Charming, and when she meets Sandro (Arthur Dupont) at a party she thinks he is the one. While the youngster's relationship runs amok, Laura's aunt (Jaoui) and Sandro's father, Pierre (Bacri), are living their own mid-life crisis.

Along with co-writer and star Jean-Pierre Bacri, Jaoui delivers a smart, funny and ultimately affecting tale of what happens when romance in a relationship loses its lustre.

"The intertwining of the two generations is nicely carried off by a cast not short on charm and verve. The chemistry between Bonitzer and Dupont fairly fizzles on the screen." (*Irish Times*)

"Bacri is especially potent here as the sardonic, ever-groaning Pierre, and the way he handles his character's closeted phobia shows to what extent he remains one of Gaul's strongest comic talents, underplaying scenes that most actors would blow out of proportion."

(*Hollywood Reporter*)

An amusing and quirky French comedy.

(research Anna Shepherd)

Fabulous, another not to be missed...





Director: Felix Herngren
Starring: Robert Gustafsson, Ivar Wiklander, Mia Skäringer, Alan Ford
Certificate: 15
Duration: 114 mins
Origin: Sweden 2013
By: Studiocanal



The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out Of The Window And Disappeared

Wed 27 7.30

Based on the internationally best-selling novel by Jonas Jonasson, the unlikely story of 100-year-old man who decides it's not too late to start over.

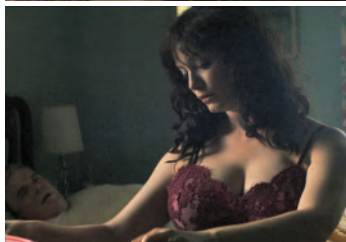
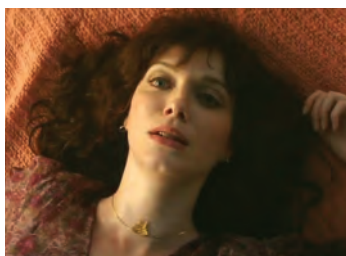
Allan Karlsson (Swedish comic Robert Gustafsson) a jovial pyromaniac, is committed to a care home (for trying to incinerate a fox which has killed his beloved cat). Allan then makes a swift exit via THE window just as his centennial birthday party is about to start. Throughout his long life he has many accidental encounters with all sorts of key 20th Century figures, including General Franco, Stalin and Ronald Reagan. A highlight includes, meeting Einstein's dimwit half-brother Herbert (played by the splendid David Shackleton) who doodles animals in class while Albert tackles field equations. Allan innocently becomes caught up in a crime caper involving a suitcase of cash, some tattooed heavies, a frozen body and, an elephant.

"A film that might not always make sense, but is never dull." (*Total Film*)

"A soundtrack of bubbling brass and some lively cinematography keep the fires of mischief lit. Daft and delightful." (*Irish Independent*)

Already a hit in Sweden last Christmas, this silly but winning romp has arrived on UK screens. (*research Anna Shepherd*) Also in for a kids's matinee, it sounds brilliant on every level, including 'not always making sense'.





Director: John Slattery
Starring: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Christina Hendricks, John Turturro
Certificate: 15
Duration: 89 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Arrow Films



God's Pocket

Thu 28 7.30

Featuring a top-shelf cast; including the late Philip Seymour Hoffman, Mad Men's John Slattery makes his feature-length directorial debut with this gritty God's Pocket.

Adapted from Peter Dexter's first novel, inspired, at least in part, by Dexter's own violent history in the South Philadelphia neighbourhood of Schuylkill (known as Devil's Pocket in real life).

Philip Seymour Hoffman plays Mickey Scarpato, a small-time criminal who, along with his buddy, Bird (John Turturro) resells sides of beef they steal from trucks (in collusion with drivers).

When Mickey's crazy stepson, Leon (Caleb Landry Jones) is killed in a construction "accident", Mickey quickly tries to bury the bad news with the body. But when a local columnist, Richard Shellburn (Richard Jenkins) comes sniffing around for the truth, and Mickey's wife Jeanie (a mesmerising Christina Hendricks) things go from bad to worse.

"Slattery draws terrific performances from his superb cast: Hoffman and Turturro make an appealing best buddies double act (too late) while Hendricks is heart-breaking as the grief-stricken mother, her scenes with Jenkins are quietly devastating." (*The List*)

"While the subject matter is often bleak, this isn't a depressing journey. Seeing great actors at the top of their game working with such rich material is never a downer." (*Chicago Times*)

A vividly realised milieu. (research Anna Shepherd) Chuffed to get this into the Aug programme, so don't miss.



Director: Matt Reeves
Starring: Gary Oldman, Keri Russell, Andy Serkis
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: 20th Century Fox



Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes

Fri 29 7.30, Sat 30 7.00

'Rise of...' ended the rubber masks with astonishingly rendered chimps. It worked beautifully, and was the surprise hit of 2011. 'Dawn of' ups the ante considerably both in its stunning cinematography and weighty, emotional heft.

It's been a decade since the global outbreak wiped out most of humanity at the end of *Rise of*. Barricaded within the city of San Francisco, Malcolm (Jason Clarke), Ellie (Keri Russell) and Dreyfus (Gary Oldman) lead the handful of survivors struggling to rebuild civilisation. Tensions run high when, whilst out in the redwoods, hoping to fix the dam for essential power, Malcolm stumbles upon the thriving ape community led by Caesar (a triumphant Andy Serkis).

In a Shakespearian twist, the aptly named Caesar's increased empathy for man, and his firm stance on peace between the species, is having a detrimental effect as leader of the ape community. Koba, a horrifically scarred chimp with an understandable hatred of humans, plots to overthrow Caesar and start an all-out war.

The Apes franchise has never treated its audience like a bunch of monkeys; thought provoking, real-world politics (religion, race, slavery, gun laws) are weaved into hard, sci-fi tropes. *Dawn* is no different, only now it is lifted by the most believable animation ever put to screen. This is mature filmmaking disguised as popcorn fare. And the award for best ape goes to... *(Jack Whiting)*



Director: John Carney
Starring: Mark Ruffalo, Keira Knightley, Catherine Keener
Certificate: 15
Duration: 104 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Entertainment One UK



Begin Again

Sun 31 6.00

The latest film from writer-director, John Carney (*Once*) *Begin Again* starts Keira Knightley as Gretta, a singer-songwriter stumbling from a recently stalled relationship with a corporate sell-out rocker (Maroon 5's Adam Levine) who catches the drunken eye/ear of washed up A&R man, Dan (a ruffled Ruffalo). Hearing in her hesitant open-mic strummings the makings of a full-blown hit, Dan attempts to sign Greta to the label from which he has recently been dumped.

But when her indie integrity reawakens his own long-lost musical passion, the odd couple embark on a series of makeshift pavement and rooftop recording sessions in which the natural sounds of NYC (sirens, trash cans, car-horns) become an endearing part. From this chance encounter emerges an enchanting portrait of a transformative collaboration, set to the soundtrack of a summer in New York City.

"I found it moving, funny and really rather charming, provoking more than enough laughter and tears to dispel my underlying anxieties about the "live" performances." (*Guardian*)

"Kiera - It's a typically brave performance from an actress who is always prepared to try anything." (*Independent*)

"The gentle lightning of *Once* doesn't strike twice for Carney, but his latest music movie has charm beneath its slick surface and Knightley and Ruffalo harmonise just fine." (*Total Film*) John was better without big stars. Imagine Shane Meadows/Andrea Arnold offered the next Bond. What horror.

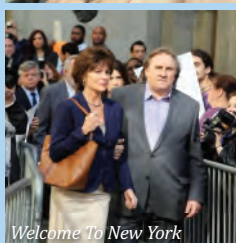
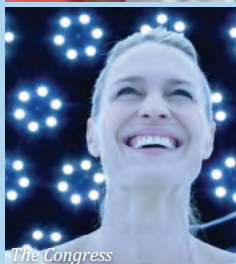
COMING SOON

NEW RELEASES

Two Days And One Night
 The Congress
 Welcome to New York
 Grand Central
 Guardians of the Galaxy

BACK BY DEMAND

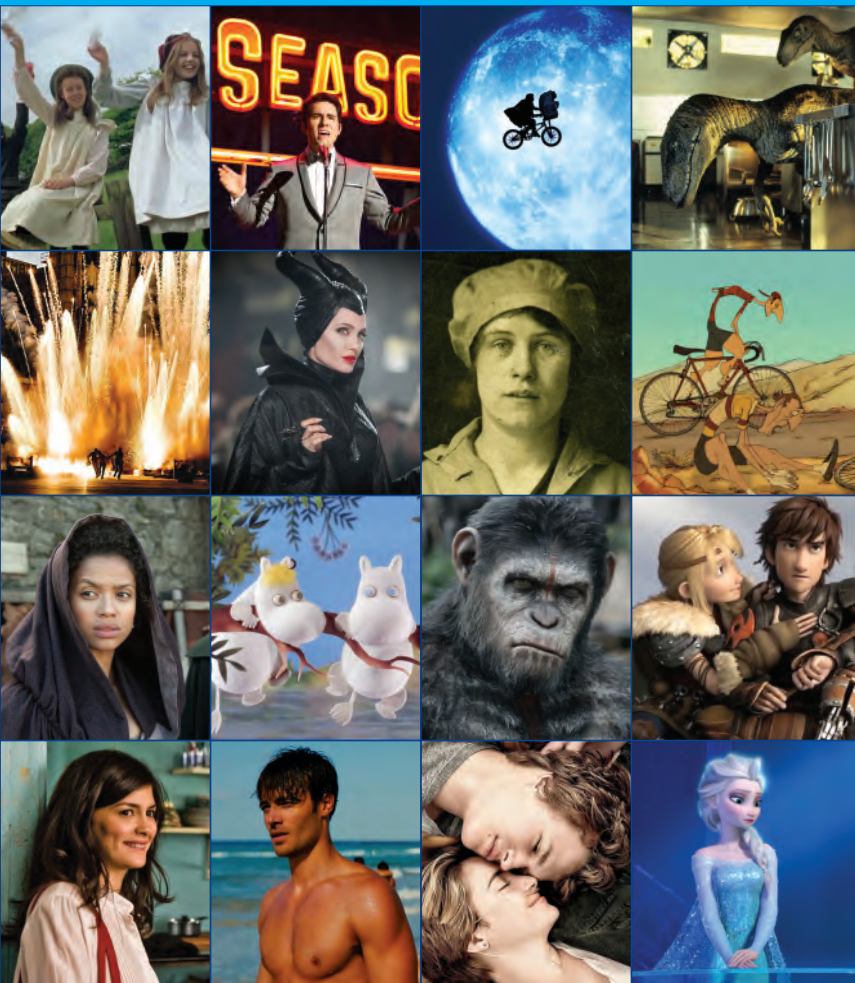
Belle
 Jimmy's Hall
 Planet Of The Apes
 Chinese Puzzle



AUGUST FILMS AT A GLANCE

Please check times carefully and watch out for early shows.

1	FRI	CHEF	7.30
2	SAT	MALEFICENT	2.00
2	SAT	CHEF	7.00
3	SUN	CHEF	6.00
4	MON	SPECIAL EVENT: COMMEMORATION OF WORLD WAR 1	2.00, 7.00
5	TUE	BELLE	12.30, 7.30
6	WED	BELLE	2.00, 7.30
7	THU	FROZEN SINGALONG	2.00
7	THU	BELLE	7.30
8	FRI	COLD IN JULY	7.30
9	SAT	MOOMINS & MIDSUMMER MADNESS	2.00
9	SAT	COLD IN JULY	7.00
10	SUN	BELLE	6.00
11	MON	JURASSIC PARK	2.00
11	MON	FINDING VIVIAN MAIER	7.30
12	TUE	TRANSFORMERS 4	12.30
12	TUE	SEVE	7.30
13	WED	JERSEY BOYS	2.00
13	WED	CHINESE PUZZLE	7.30
14	THU	BELLEVILLE RENDEZVOUS	2.00
14	THU	JERSEY BOYS	7.30
15	FRI	JERSEY BOYS	7.30
16	SAT	THE RAILWAY CHILDREN	2.00
16	SAT	JERSEY BOYS	7.00
17	SUN	THE FAULT IN OUR STARS	6.00
18	MON	THE FAULT IN OUR STARS	2.00
18	MON	THE GOLDEN DREAM	7.30
19	TUE	FROZEN SINGALONG	12.30
19	TUE	ARTHUR AND MIKE	7.30
20	WED	CHINESE PUZZLE	2.00
20	WED	JIMMY'S HALL	7.30
21	THU	E.T.	2.00
21	THU	JOE	7.30
22	FRI	WALKING ON SUNSHINE	7.30
23	SAT	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2	2.00
23	SAT	TRANSFORMERS 4	7.00
24	SUN	WALKING ON SUNSHINE	6.00
25	MON	THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL	7.30
26	TUE	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2	12.30
26	TUE	UNDER THE RAINBOW	7.30
27	WED	WALKING ON SUNSHINE	2.00
27	WED	THE 100 YEAR OLD MAN WHO...	7.30
28	THU	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2	2.00
28	THU	GOD'S POCKET	7.30
29	FRI	DAWN OF PLANET OF THE APES	7.30
30	SAT	DAWN OF PLANET OF THE APES	2.00, 7.00
31	SUN	BEGIN AGAIN	6.00

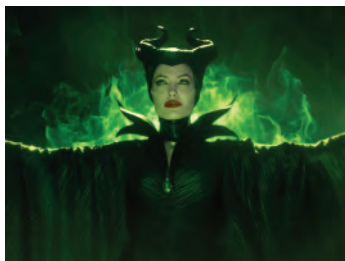


AUGUST MATINEES

ALL MATINEES: Balcony £5.00 • Table seats £6.50 • Royal Box seats £10.00
Matinee Warning: May contain babies



Director: Robert Stromberg
Starring: Angelina Jolie, Sharlto Copley, Elle Fanning
Certificate: PG
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: UK/USA 2014
By: Walt Disney Int'l



Maleficent

Sat 2 2.00

Angelina Jolie's cheekbones aside, this is a fabulous big screen fairy tale, with fantastic effects and a proper beginning, middle and end script

Another 'story behind the fairytale' this is Disney's retelling of its own Sleeping Beauty tale focusing on Jolie's embodiment of the Maleficent.

One day, a young trespasser from the human realm appears: this is Stefan, who breaks young Maleficent's heart and returns, some years later on royal orders, to ensure her fairy wings suffer the same fate. Stefan, played as an adult by Sharlto Copley with a mysterious and ropery (which wasn't there at the beginning?) Scottish accent, inherits the throne. Fuelled by vengeance and wrath, not jealousy, Maleficent turns up to curse his daughter, Aurora.

For the next 16 years, on and off, she watches Aurora, played as a young girl by Jolie's daughter Vivienne, and as a teen by Elle Fanning, brought up by the three multi-coloured haphazard fairies deep in the countryside.

The visuals are lush (Robert Stromberg was Oscar winning art director on *Avatar*) and Jolie's brooding presence is captivating. Listening to the critics, which I swear I never do, I was prepared to dismiss it, so am very pleased they are wrong yet again. It sold trillions on its opening weekend in the US.

It's wicked! Don't miss. Look out for Imelda Staunton as one of the fab miniature fairies.

A COUNTY AT WAR LIFE ON THE HOME FRONT in HERTFORDSHIRE

Written and directed by Howard Guard DL

Hertfordshire became one of the great staging areas for troops going to France in WW1. Made from photographs supplied by local museums and the public, the camera looks deeply into the faces of the unsung heroes of the Home Front, at home and at work.

It offers a fresh and surprisingly local view of a story that is now retold on television on a wider canvas. Interlaced with original recordings of songs of the period, the film makes compulsive viewing, often haunting, ultimately uplifting and forever Hertfordshire.

Commissioned by the Lord-Lieutenant at the Queen's request for every county to mark the centenary of World War 1, it was produced by the University of Hertfordshire.

A concert of songs performed by the widely praised OVO Theatre Company will follow the film. Like a true Edwardian Music Hall the audience will be invited to join in.

In aid of Keech Children's Hospice.

THE-REX

Monday 4th August 2pm

Tickets £5/£6.50





Director: Amma Asante
Starring: Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Matthew Goode, Emily Watson
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 104 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox



Belle

Tue 5 12.30, Wed 6 2.00

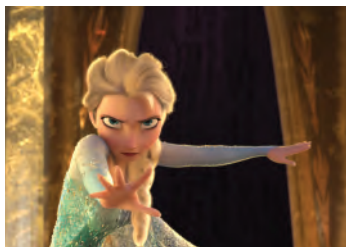
Belle is based on the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle (Gugu Mbatha-Raw) a mixed-race daughter of a well-born 18th century sea captain, who had fathered the child with a slave and brought her back to be raised by his uncle, an enlightened reformist, Lord Mansfield (Tom Wilkinson).

Belle's lineage affords her certain privileges, yet her status prevents her from the traditions of noble social standing. While her cousin, Elizabeth (Sarah Gadon) chases suitors for marriage, Belle is left on the sidelines. After meeting an idealistic young vicar's son bent on changing society, he and Belle help shape Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery in England. The film is also partly inspired by a famous portrait of Belle and Elizabeth which, almost but not quite, accords equal status to the two women side-by-side. "A handsomely mounted and emotionally engaging drama that smartly examines issues of race, class and gender while leaving nary a dry eye in the house." (*Observer*)

"Amma Asante's powerful, moving and gently subversive romantic melodrama is a finely wrought tale of a woman out of time, a film that plays eloquently upon the heartstrings as it weaves familiar personal intrigue with stirring social history." (*Guardian*) (*research Jane Clucas*) It is commercial costume-drama at Kenwood House. What more could there possibly be...?

Frozen Sing-A-Long

Thu 7 2.00



Disney's Frozen, an animated fairy tale musical inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's Snow Queen takes place in the kingdom of Arendelle, where the young princess Elsa was born with the ability to magically create ice and snow using her bare hands. When Elsa slips up and nearly kills her sister Ana, by accident.

Fearing Elsa might cause serious harm, the panicking king and queen decide to isolate both daughters from the outside world! (Weird)

Several years later, following some tragic events, grown-up Elsa (Idina Menzel) and Ana (Kristen Bee) no longer share the close bond they once had. However, upon Elsa's coronation day, people from all over the kingdom flock to meet the new queen and Ana meets and falls for the handsomely goofy Prince Hans (Santino Fontana). Unfortunately, Elsa's mounting emotions start to break free, as she terrifies the locals with her powers and inadvertently starts an eternal winter upon fleeing the kingdom.

'Cheesy critical metaphors are hard to avoid: with such warmth within its icy landscape, this is a celluloidbaked Alaska. It is glorious family entertainment'.

(Guardian)

'This is terrifically enjoyable; romantic, subversive, engaging and enthralling'.

(Observer)

"Frozen is the best Disney since Aladdin, a glittering, sparkling cartoon epic..."

(ST Culture). This film wont go away...

So here's yet another chance to singalong on the big screen with an audience bubbling with excitement...

Directors: Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee

Certificate: PG

Duration: 108 mins

Origin: USA 2013

By: Walt Disney Int'l

Moomin and Midsummer Madness

Sat 9 2.00

Director: Maria Lindberg

Certificate: U

Duration: 77 mins

Origin: Finland 2008

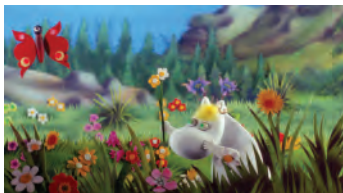
By: Axiom Films

A very special screening to celebrate the 100th birthday of author Tove Jansson.

It's been a long, hot summer in the Moomin Valley. All of the creatures are becoming bored with the unchanging season until a volcanic eruption causes a major flood. As the Moomin family searches for refuge, they are rescued by a floating abandoned house. But this is no ordinary house, and it's definitely not abandoned. Occupied by the feisty Emma, the Moomin learn that the building is actually a theatre. With plenty of costumes and props to occupy their time, soon the family is engrossed in creating their own play: the first ever Moomin stage production!

Praised for their connection with young children and their focus on values, these charming characters have become iconic figures. From New York, to London and Tokyo, the original books have been translated into 44 languages and now, in celebration of Tove Jansson's centenary, here is the digitally re-mastered film created from the original, beloved animated television series.

"A wonderfully enchanting story, ready to capture the hearts of children once again." Come and see.



Jurassic Park

Mon 11 2.00



Jurassic Park is the perfect celluloid equivalent of a theme park ride; its flawless pacing assures nary a dull moment, and in the audience participation dept, you can count on a few screams!

Eccentric billionaire John Hammond (Richard Attenborough) wants to play God and zookeeper at the same time by cloning a bunch of dinosaurs from preserved DNA. Before giving his exotic island park the green-light, he needs the expert opinions of a palaeontologist, palaeobotanist and a mathematician? Events get off to a shaky start when a greedy employer knocks out all power around the park, letting the once caged beasts roam free. This leaves the scientists fleeing for their lives, scrambling to find a way off of the island. Director Steven Spielberg (who was shooting *Shindler's List* whilst editing this) keeps everything PG, with a good deal of magical Spielberg ingredients. No fancy 3D or unnecessary tinkering (save for a puppeteer's hand removal) this is a perfectly preserved yarn that has hardly dated. Spielberg & Co paved the way for computer animation which large scale productions rely on so heavily today. When you witness that first brachiosaurus stomping across the screen, you'll shed a tear, or something or other. (*Jack W*). Don't forget to go before you leave! Oh yes and, stay out of the kitchen... dar dar dar dar dar dar dar dar

Director: Steven Spielberg
Starring: Sam Neill, Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum
Certificate: PG
Duration: 92 mins
Origin: USA 1993
By: Paramount International Pictures

Transformers: Age of Extinction

Tue 12 12.30

Director: Michael Bay
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 165 mins
Origin: USA/China 2014
By: Paramount International Pictures

All hail Michael Bay, the destroyer of modern cinema! Bay brings in the loud and the dumb, and in the aptly named Age of Extinction, it seems no lessons have been learned.

So after three movies, Shia Labeouf is out. Filling the hero shoes is Mark Wahlberg as Cade Yeager, an inventor with twenty inch biceps, living the quiet Texan life with his unnecessarily delicious daughter, Tessa (I mean unnecessary because of Bay's history with casting models for what is essentially set decoration, rather than, y'know, actors.) When a banged-up, old truck Cade salvages, turns out to be none other than Optimus Prime in hiding, it's not long before the baddies find out, forcing Prime to round up his Transformer buddies and save the world, blow shit up etc. Kelsie Grammer relishes his Machiavellian role as a CIA bad man who believes that all Transformers, good or evil, must be destroyed. To do this he enlists the help of Lockdown, a sort of galactic bounty hunter, to track the Autobots. While a shouty Stanley Tucci is having a ball playing a crazed megalomaniac using, get this, 'Transformium', to create an army of home-made robots. Then in the last 15 minutes transforming dinosaurs show up, because... why not? (how long you got?) Chronic migraine doesn't begin to describe it. Welcome to the extinction of your intelligence. (*Jack Whiting*) Dare you to miss it.





Director: Clint Eastwood
Starring: John Young, Erich Bergen, Christopher Walken
Certificate: 15
Duration: 134 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Warner Brothers



Jersey Boys

Wed 13 2.00

Clint Eastwood's big screen version of the Tony Award winning musical tells the story of the four young men from the wrong side of the tracks in New Jersey who came together to form the iconic '60s rock group, The Four Seasons.

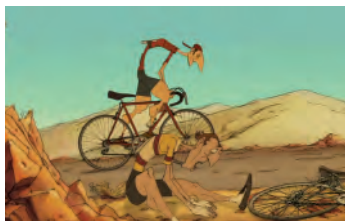
The film opens in 1951 and follows teen, Frankie Castelluccio (John Lloyd Young who originated the role on Broadway) and his experiences growing up in blue-collar New Jersey. Musically gifted, but yet to assume his stage surname of Valli. We are introduced to the friends and band mates who will shape Frankie's future, including fast-talking neighbourhood ne'er-do-well, Tommy DeVito (Vincent Piazza) and Nick Massi (Michael Lomenda, who has played the role on tour). An introduction by Tommy's friend, (Joe Pesci) brings in talented songwriter, Bob Gaudio (Erich Bergen, who played him on the Las Vegas stage). Their trials and triumphs are accompanied by the hit songs that influenced a generation, and are now bring embraced by completely new generations of fans.

"Eastwood's film version is a classy affair, beyond schmaltz and nostalgia although it has its fair share of both. One of its pleasures is its re-creation of post-war America." (*Independent*) (research Jane Lucas).

Kids from the wrong side of the tracks, they were 50 yrs ahead of today's toughguy 'ghetto' pop.



Belleville Rendez-Vous Thu 14 2.00



It is French. It is beautiful. There is little dialogue. The concept is so original it hurts. The story of an orphan boy and his bike is priceless. The delicate, pen-and-ink look of the animation enchants in a way that some lifeless computer generations cannot match, and the humour is universally appealing. As for the songs and the singers... hold on to your hat... It won at Cannes in 2003 with new energy and creativity. Don't miss it here on the huge Rex screen...

Director: Sylvain Chomet
Starring: Jean-Claude Donda, Michel Robin, Monica Viegas
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 82 mins
Origin: France 2003
By: Tartan Films

The Railway Children Sat 16 2.00

Director: Lionel Jeffries
Starring: Dinah Sheridan, Jenny Agutter, Sally Thomsett, Gary F. Warren
Certificate: U
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: UK 1970
By: Studio Canal

The welcome return of this beautiful film on the big screen, keeps it alive for new generations to see for the first time and for us to watch it again and again.

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 tender friendships 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. Is it sentimental? Unashamedly. Nobody can deny the love and charm of this timeless 1970 film version 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 the original.

"Putting aside its fusty look and feel, Jeffries' film remains an enjoyable evocation of the time. Of course, whether today's kids get it is open to debate." (*Time Out*) There are no explosions and nobody gets a thick ear. But no debate; as the father of girls, "Daddy ... my daddy!" when the steam clears the platform, remains forever heartlifting and breaking. Bring your grandparents, and if you don't fidget, there might be buns for tea when you get home...? Don't (ever) miss.



The Fault In Our Stars

Mon 18 2.00



Hold on to your heartstrings, this one's a real tugger. The young and talented Shailene Woodley leads another young-adult adaptation (after *Divergent*) based on the bestseller by John Green.

At the end of an eventful three-day trip to Amsterdam, Hazel (Woodley) and Gus (Ansel Elgort), two American teenagers, are in a reflective mood. Rather than squeezing in a last-minute visit to the Van Gogh Museum, they sit on a bench by the Amstel, watch the grey water washing past, and talk. Hazel and Gus are both diagnosed with cancer and have months to live, a year at best. Yet they've reached a point where, to waste time is to make the most of it.

"As the narrative follows its sparky subjects from America to Amsterdam in search of answers to life, the universe and everything else, we get to enjoy their amiable company and become seduced by their no nonsense attitude, their conversation sparking plenty of laughs and oceans of tears as love blooms and nature takes its inexorable course." (*Guardian*)

Fault in Our Stars does a great job of working its way into your heart, but it doesn't quite feel earned. I hate to use the word manipulative, especially when such a serious issue is tackled, but its melodrama is a hard pill to swallow. Bring heavyweight tissues. (*Jack Whiting*)

Director: Josh Boone
Starring: Shailene Woodley, Ansel Elgort, Laura Dern, Willem Dafoe
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 126 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Frozen Sing-A-Long

Tue 19 12.30

Directors: Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee
Certificate: PG
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Walt Disney Int'l

Disney's *Frozen*, an animated fairy tale musical inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *Snow Queen* takes place in the kingdom of Arendelle, where the young princess Elsa was born with the ability to magically create ice and snow using her bare hands. When Elsa slips up and nearly kills her sister Ana, by accident.

Fearing Elsa might cause serious harm, the panicking king and queen decide to isolate both daughters from the outside world! (Weird)

Several years later, following some tragic events, grown-up Elsa (Idina Menzel) and Ana (Kristen Bee) no longer share the close bond they once had. However, upon Elsa's coronation day, people from all over the kingdom flock to meet the new queen and Ana meets and falls for the handsomely goofy Prince Hans (Santino Fontana). Unfortunately, Elsa's mounting emotions start to break free, as she terrifies the locals with her powers and inadvertently starts an eternal winter upon fleeing the kingdom.

'Cheesy critical metaphors are hard to avoid: with such warmth within its icy landscape, this is a celluloidbaked Alaska. It is glorious family entertainment'.

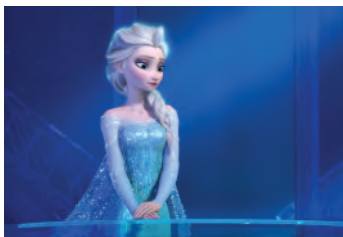
(*Guardian*)

"This is terrifically enjoyable; romantic, subversive, engaging and enthralling'.

(*Observer*)

"Frozen is the best Disney since Aladdin, a glittering, sparkling cartoon epic..." (*ST Culture*). This film wont go away...

So here's yet another chance to singalong on the big screen with an audience bubbling with excitement...



Chinese Puzzle

Wed 20 2.00



Following on from *Pot Luck* (2003) and *Russian Dolls* (2006) (not essential viewing to enjoy this final episode) **Cédric Klapisch completes his trilogy.**

Anti-hero Romain Duris plays Xavier, a 40-year-old writer and father of two, who still finds life very complicated. When Wendy (played by Kelly Reilly, who outshone in recent Rex favourite, *Calvary*) announces she's moving to New York and taking the kids with her, Xavier cannot bear being apart from them, so decides to move there too.

After a few months of living in the city, Xavier finds himself juggling: writer's block, fathering a child for his lesbian friend Isabelle (Cecile de France) and her partner, getting himself a green-card marriage to a Chinese-American, and also rekindling feelings for old flame Martine (Audrey Tatou) who shows up in NY to do business with a Chinese tea company!

"A light but charming meditation on life, and a few gently moving life lessons on the subjects of parents and children." (*Observer*)

"He captures the urban mood with ebullient aplomb, while amusing himself with stylistic flourishes and riffing on François Truffaut's Doinel cycle." (*Empire*) It is Duris's engaging, breakneck performance, bolstered by energetic turns from Kelly Reilly, Cecile de France and Audrey Tatou that gives the film such vitality. (*research Anna Shepherd*)

A fabulous cast indeed, topped by favourite Rex Frenchman, Romain Duris. Don't miss.

Director: Cédric Klapisch
Starring: Romain Duris, Kelly Reilly, Audrey Tautou, Cécile De France
Certificate: 15
Duration: 117 mins
Origin: France/USA 2013
By: Studio Canal

E.T. Thu 21 2.00

Director: Steven Spielberg
Starring: Dee Stone, Henry Thomas, Drew Barrymore
Certificate: U
Duration: 115 mins
Origin: USA 1982
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

There was a queue around the block outside the Rex for eleven weeks when this first appeared in 1982. Alun Rees our then chief projectionist remembers being shoved by the crowd telling him to get to the back of the queue, as he pushed his way through to unlock the doors for them to get in! Imagine, there were no mobile phones otherwise the film would have been over in minutes... and the DVD hadn't been invented!

Steven Spielberg's magical sci-fi classic about a little lost visitor from another planet who is befriended and protected by a kindly young boy. The film remains a perennial favourite for children and adults of all ages, who are entranced by the legendary moments such as the moonlit bike ride, and the unbelievably moving finale for which there won't be a dry eye in the house. Whether seen for the first time or the hundredth, many of you won't have seen it on the big screen. It is a big screen treat you mustn't miss. It's an August afternoon in 2014, what else are you going to do, go on holiday? Come instead to ET's most exciting (cycling) holiday on earth.





Director: Dean DeBlois
Voices: Jay Baruchel, Cate Blanchett, Gerard Butler
Certificate: PG
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: 20th Century Fox



How To Train Your Dragon 2

Sat 23 2.00, **Tue 26** 12.30,
Thu 28 2.00

DreamWorks have churned out some horrendous 'toons in the past: Shark Tale, Over the Hedge, the Shrek sequels. Yet, How to Train Your Dragon put them back on track. The sequel is no slouch either.

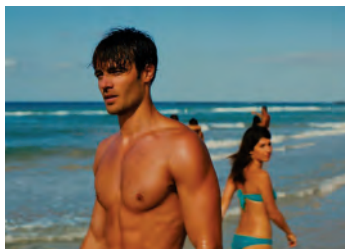
The story sees a stubbly Hiccup (voiced again by Jay Baruchel) scoffing at the idea of one day becoming his Viking tribe's chief. Yet events soon force him to embrace adulthood more quickly than he'd like. First he encounters another tribe intent on capturing dragons, and then a difficult shake-up in his family rocks the foundations of his world. "The arrival of masked dragon rider Valka (Cate Blanchett) herself replete with a mysterious past and some distinctive dragon-wooing ways, will change Hiccup's life forever.

Writer/director Dean DeBlois' decision to break a cardinal animation rule and age his characters is a savvy one, and one that offers up a tantalising new array of narrative possibilities." (*Total Film*) The animation is exquisite and the action comes thick and fast, but not at the expense of dramatic tension. It also wonderfully builds on the characters and themes from its predecessor, precisely what is expected of a strong sequel. Breathe a sigh of relief parents and grownups, this one's for you too.

(*Jack Whiting*)

Another 'don't miss' in August...





Directors: Max Giwa, Dania Pasquini
Starring: Annabel Scholey, Greg Wise, Leona Lewis
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Vertigo Films



Walking on Sunshine Wed 27 2.00

Walking On Sunshine is a light-hearted, frothy musical, featuring pop songs of the 1980s and set in the beautiful coastal village of Puglia in Italy. It is Mamma Mia relocated, but unfortunately avoiding shipwreck and drowning on the way.

Taylor (Hannah Arterton, Gemma's sister) goes to this sun kissed Italian paradise for the wedding of her feisty sister, Maddie (Annabel Scholey). Maddie has apparently just dumped her roguishly unfaithful older boyfriend, Doug (Greg Wise) in favour of a whirlwind romance/engagement with Raf (Giulio Berruti) a gorgeous young Italian.

But Taylor was in Puglia herself a few years earlier, uh oh... Yes you've twigged it, Maddie doesn't know that Raf and Taylor have... Some intense singing and ensemble choreography in holiday-brochure scenarios and locations are on the hand to bounce the 'plot' along.

There's even a guest appearance by the X-factor girl herself, Leona Lewis!

"You have to admire the brazen chutzpah with which this 80s jukebox musical attempts to ape the bizarrely successful formula of Mamma Mia: a sun-drenched island, a holiday romance, a selection of popstastic hits crowbarred into a contrived narrative, some dodgy singing, all delivered en route to a sing-along showdown at the chapel of love."

(*Guardian*)

"Cheery and inane romcom could double as an ad for Puglia's tourist board."

(*Telegraph*) or preferably, doubled up all night with the runs.



Director: Matt Reeves
Starring: Gary Oldman, Keri Russell, Andy Serkis
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: 20th Century Fox



Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes

Sat 30 2.00

'Rise of...' ended the rubber masks with astonishingly rendered chimps. It worked beautifully, and was the surprise hit of 2011. 'Dawn of' ups the ante considerably both in its stunning cinematography and weighty, emotional heft.

It's been a decade since the global outbreak wiped out most of humanity at the end of Rise of. Barricaded within the city of San Francisco, Malcolm (Jason Clarke), Ellie (Keri Russell) and Dreyfus (Gary Oldman) lead the handful of survivors struggling to rebuild civilisation. Tensions run high when, whilst out in the redwoods, hoping to fix the dam for essential power, Malcolm stumbles upon the thriving ape community led by Caesar (a triumphant Andy Serkis).

In a Shakespearian twist, the aptly named Caesar's increased empathy for man, and his firm stance on peace between the species, is having a detrimental effect as leader of the ape community. Koba, a horrifically scarred chimp with an understandable hatred of humans, plots to overthrow Caesar and start an all-out war.

The Apes franchise has never treated its audience like a bunch of monkeys; thought provoking, real-world politics (religion, race, slavery, gun laws) are weaved into hard, sci-fi tropes. Dawn is no different, only now it is lifted by the most believable animation ever put to screen. This is mature filmmaking disguised as popcorn fare. And the award for best ape goes to... *(Jack Whiting)*

ST.A ... THE OUTSIDE CHANCE



The pictures tell the inside story of the outside. (Clockwise from top left)

1. The very latest in rooftop fetish clubs, paying lip-service to Madonna (nice door).
2. Brave pioneers demonstrating phase one - the only way in (phase two: getting out. Still working on that, might include jumping).
3. A new pavement has sprung up for safe landings (Seriously. Much thanks to Herts CC for this fab new pavement, and under its own Highways steam).

4. The genius who is about to install and calibrate the sharpest projection and clearest sound from whisper to boom: Ed Mauger, here standing guard over the club on the very latest in WD49 nuclear resistant barriers.

This is some of the outside work of architect Richard Macan-Lind and our remarkable main contractor Procure, It's a few months too early to thank them, but you can blame them right now... Hold the excitement until the weather breaks.





DARVELLS – DARLING DAREDEVIL DOUGHBOYS...



In 37 years this is the first real shop (besides Petals & Scoops) to open on Berkhamsted High St. It's a baker's, a bread shop, cakes too. And it's all real. Not freshly unfrozen in the early hours from a motorway, this freshly baked bread all hot crust and barely an hour old, comes later in the morning from that magical Charlie & The Chocolate Factory bakery just over the hill in Chesham... Darvells Family Bakery established since 1838. As creepy as this is rant is, it is my own celebration of the first real shop in nearly

two generations. It's not just here that has been sold down every estate agents, hairdressers, coffee franchise and charity shop window, High Street shops are dying all over the Country.

Scrooge landlords, weak councils, and greedy house prices – a combination Costa & Tesco etc, sniffs out and thrives upon.

So another big cheer for the first independent real shop selling fresh, real bread from a tiny counter in a little shop on a High Street... and it's right opposite the Rex.

Hours of operation	
At all times	
Charges	
Monday-Sunday 8am - 6pm	
Maximum stay four hours	
0-1 hour	£0.60
1-2 hours	£1.20
2-3 hours	£1.90
3-4 hours	£2.50
Maximum stay 4 hours. For longer stay parking use St John's Well Lane car park.	
 No charge. Display badge in windscreen.	
5pm-8am	No charge.
SECURITY NOTICE: Be sure to remove all	

That tired expression 'a licence to print money' cannot be bettered here, except perhaps for "never give a sucker an even break" (Al Capone)

Dacorum Borough Council car parks have gone up 10 to 50p a pop. For what? They haven't changed or improved, but then what is there to improve? It's the same flat space with white lines. Suddenly it's dearer to park, not to mention the fag of having the right change. Who decides this stuff... Silvio Berlusconi?

There is no reason.

We're the suckers and there is no even break.