

THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E

MILLION DOLLAR ARM
OCTOBER 2014...

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

Britain's Best Cinema - Guardian Film Awards 2014

OCTOBER 2014 Issue 115
www.therexberkhamsted.com

01442 877759
Mon-Sat 10.30-6.30pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

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

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SEAT PRICES

Circle	£9.00
Concessions	£7.50
At Table	£11.00
Concessions	£9.50
Royal Box (seats 6)	£13.00
or for the Box	£73.00
All matinees	£5, £6.50, £10 (box)

BOX OFFICE:	01442 877759
Mon to Sat	10.30 – 6.00
Sun	4.30 – 6.30

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

Some of the girls and boys you see at the Box Office and Bar:

Dayna Archer	Ellen Manners
Ally Clifton	Liam Parker
Kitty Clucas	Amberly Rose
Nicola Darvell	Georgia Rose
Ashley Davis	Sid Sagar
Romy Davis	Alex Smith
Karina Gale	Alex Stephenson
Ollie Gower	Liam Stephenson
Elizabeth Hannaway	Jordan Turner
Billie Hendry-Hughes	Bethanné Wallman
Natalie Jones	James Wallman
Abigail Kellett	Jack Whiting
Amelia Kellett	Olivia Wilson
Lydia Kellett	Roz Wilson
Tatjana LeBoff	Keymea Yazdanian
Emily Main	Yalda Yazdanian

Ushers:

Amy, Amy P, Annabel, Becca, Cameron, Ellen W, Ellie, Freya, Hannah, James, Katie, Lizzie, Luke, Meg, Patrick, Sophie, Zoe

Sally Rowbotham In charge

Alun Rees Chief projectionist (ret'd)

Jon Waugh Projectionist

Anna Shepherd Projectionist & writer

Martin Coffill Projectionist

Jacquie Rose Chief Admin

Oliver Hicks Best Boy (ret'd)

Simon Messenger Writer

Jack Whiting Writer

Jane Clucas & Lynn Hendry PR/Sales/FoH

Andrew Dixon Resident Artist

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Betty Patterson Company Secretary and THE ORIGINAL VISIONARY of The Rex.

The Rex

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

EVENT OF THE MONTH:



Rik Mayall Tribute

The live tribute is here. Don't miss
Sun 26th 6.00pm

FILM OF THE MONTH



Watermark

Powerful and stunning. Don't miss this either
Mon 6th 7.30pm

REX ADVANCED BOOKING LIST (ABL 2015)

- The new ABL opens the New Year's programme on Friday 2nd January 2015.
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Benefits and details on page 7

NEVER GO ANYWHERE NEAR YOUR HEROES...

Two of my all-timers came to the Rex within weeks of each other. A flying visit by Ken Loach on his way to Sarejevo on 20th August for Jimmy's Hall, then Roger McGough on Sunday 14th September.

I could hardly contain my excitement in Ken Loach's presence and even worried at any moment on stage, I might unwittingly lick his face. The audience loved him even more. He was the coolest, warmest, easiest person you could ever meet, and would be nobody's hero. He recognised his own in Eric Cantana, but would have no truck with his own giant place in film making. I listened intently to him talking about needing 'one pair of eyes through the camera' and how to let those in focus, whose story it is, tell it. The director and camera has nothing to do except watch the world created by those people (actors perhaps) on the other side of the room. "With the wrong lighting you can see the acting..." Listening too intently, I got it, but like those things you desperately want to keep, you can't repeat other than by half-rote.

A quiet genius, rare in the noise of film making. He might come to the Rex again. But as he's even more of a hero here now, may choose to fly directly to Sarejevo.



Jimmy's Hall





Roger McGough, Andy Roberts and James Hannaway at the Rex on Sunday 14th September.

This has real longevity in the hero dept. Me, my brother John, Bobby Hopwood, Raymond Orr and Denis Lunt, would stand next to Roger McGough at the bus stop on Merton Road on Tuesday mornings on the way to our Tech apprenticeship day release up Queens Drive. We weren't cheeky enough to say anything. We were 15, he was a proper grown up, probably no more than 23, but we knew who he was and though nudging each other, none of us would speak. The Liverpool Poets were known to us all as part of the whole fabulous breaking music/Beatles scene. At fifteen, we could only look on,

“When all's said and done, there'll be nothing left to say or do.” Roger McGough

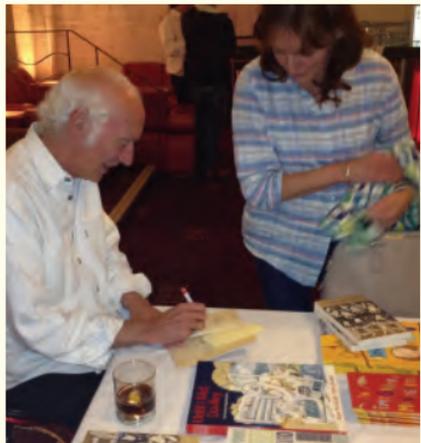
no part of it. Then here was one of them at our bus stop every Tuesday that Spring. We didn't know then his dad and ours were on the docks together either. Then, we couldn't wait to be their age and be part of it all.

Now he's here at the Rex, being just as he was then, and without the blushes of nudging, we can talk to each other. Accompanied by his life long friend and musician Andy Roberts, Roger was on

better form than ever. He was on a roll with new stuff and past. His delivery has never changed. Gentle, spontaneous and immediately witty, with a turn of phrase and easy rhythm so fast his wordplay soft and sharp hardly has time to catch up; and all without a trace of ego.

It takes a big bus stop indeed to stand up and recite something you have written, be open to anything an audience can throw, even silence, and make it look easy.

Roger McGough remains the master of making the hell of having to do it, look very easy indeed. Not a hero, just giving and taking it easy. Priceless.



SEEING THINGS...



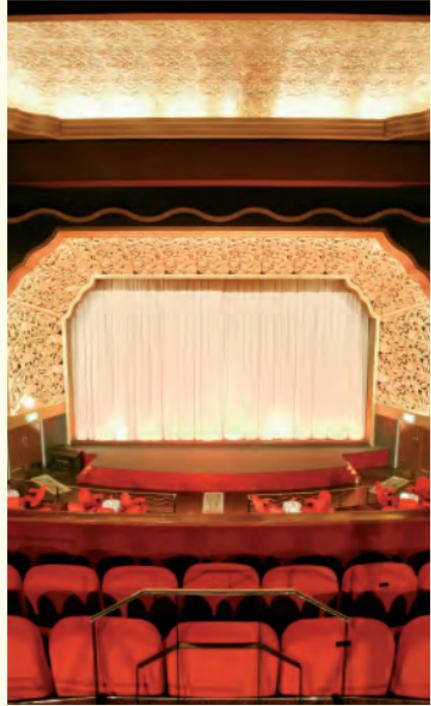
Spelt out on a pavement. Villagio: a clean, beautifully furnished restaurant with the best staff you could care for, in the best location in the centre of any High Street, has closed...? Perhaps there are already too many restaurants and day cafes in Berkhamsted to feed most of Sudan for a fortnight. Or maybe it didn't get the dinners right? With loose research (agents won't tell you on the phone) it is presumed to belong to the ASK/Pizza Express brotherhood. You'd think chains would know better than 'bottom lines' by now. A Chain describes itself, but like Costa has proven, we willingly chain ourselves to them. If an independent, can genuinely

make people feel welcome and mean it, if it's not up itself, its plates are delicious, effortless and worth every penny, Bill's might stay open. As for Sudan, you're in the wrong place.

Bikes billy-whizz down Lower Kings Road on a Friday in September in the final stages of the Tour Of Britain. For the 30 seconds it took them to pass, the fabulous sense of occasion was almost carnival. The Police bikes entertained with bells, whistles and waves. I overheard: "Only in Berkhamsted would you hear a mob cheer for the police..." (Bicycle is screening at the Rex on Sunday 19th October at 6pm). Shaved legs only.



THE REX 10TH ANNIVERSARY ADVANCED BOOKING LIST (ABL)



THE ABL ENTITLES YOU TO:-

- A confirmed listing posted to you monthly, first class. AND/OR an email will be sent directly to you the day after posting.
- At least one week's advanced booking, ahead of general release.
- £1.50 off your ticket. (except for 'royal boxes').
- Up to six seats per show, including your own. (Five at usual prices).
- Up to half the House. No titles will be sold beyond half capacity (150 seats). This is to ensure that nothing sells out before general release.

We do all to ensure nothing sells out too early or at least not before everybody's had a good chance. There are no on-line bookings. Nor will it ever be an exclusive club.

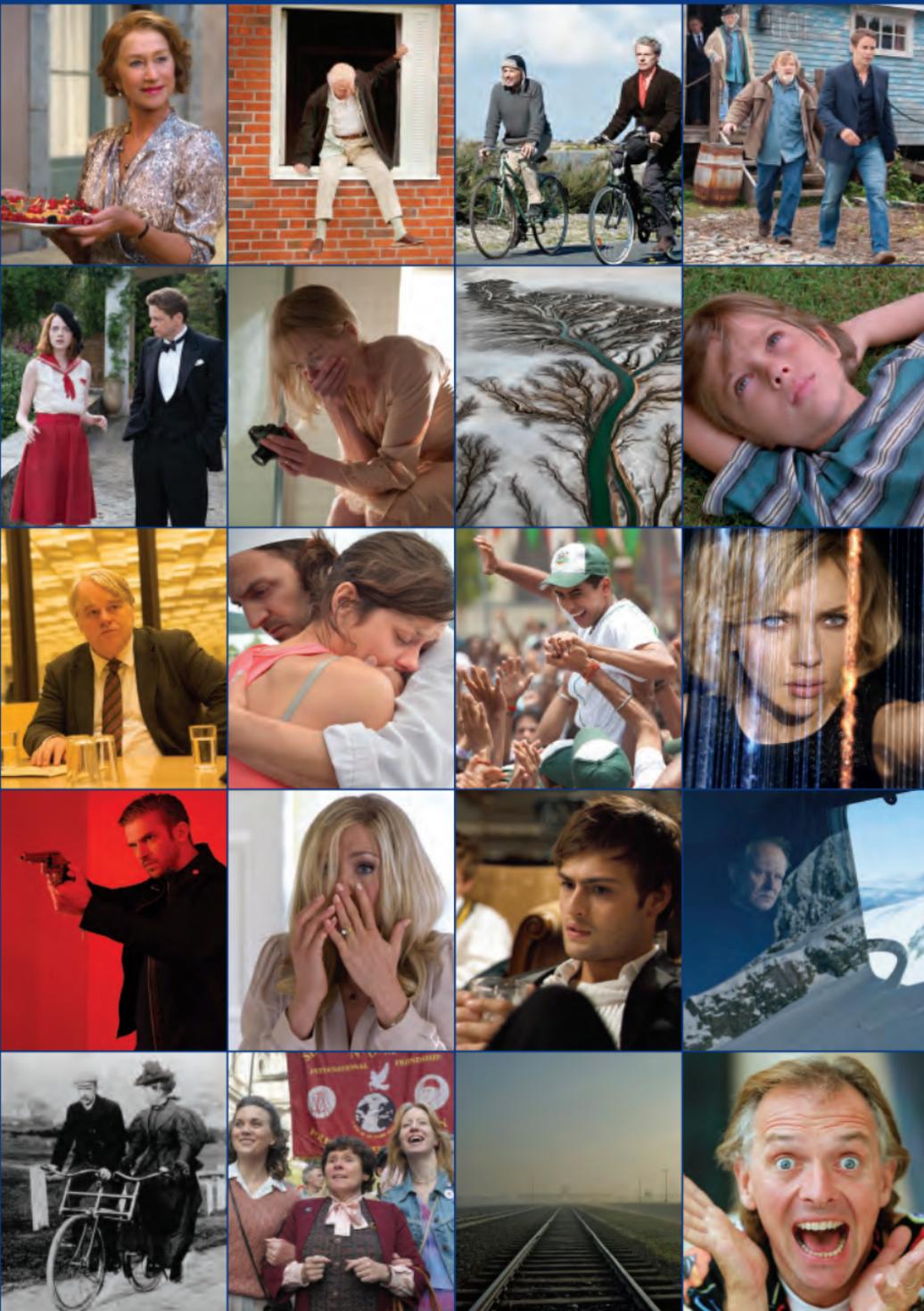
Already there are fantastic films on release this year. We'll select the best of them alongside those few turkeys you love so much!? Old classics too

alongside Rex returns and the best we can find from across the world. Even on the ABL, if for you miss your time slot, you can come on the night and try the raffle. We'll always try to squeeze you in.

Thank you for continuing to believe in us by coming to see everything from the obscure to the banal, the beautiful to the blockbuster and not minding the queues.

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OCTOBER EVENINGS



Director: Don McKellar
Starring: Brendan Gleeson, Taylor Kitsch, Liane Balaban
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 113 mins
Origin: Canada 2013
By: Entertainment One UK



The Grand Seduction

Wed 1 7.30, Thu 2 7.30

Tickle Head, a down-on-its-luck fishing village in Canada, wants to lure a recycling plant to provide employment to a population who are almost entirely on welfare. However, the company requires that the village has a doctor (which it doesn't) and so the residents, led by acting Mayor, Murray French (Brendan Gleeson) set about trying to persuade a visiting physician, Dr Head (Taylor Kitsch) to settle in Tickle Head.

This involves not only making the town look more appealing than it is but also making it seem to embody all of the doctor's interests, which are gleaned by eavesdropping on his phone calls. Among other things, residents try to pass themselves off as aficionados of cricket, and the sport may never recover. As the doctor's time in the village winds to a close, Murray has no choice but to pull out all the stops and begin The Grand Seduction.

"A fish-out-of-water fable set within a fabulously scenic backdrop, against which wholesome humour and a thoroughgoing humanist streak play out and intertwine with gentle, unforced ease." (*Washington Post*)

"Ah, those wacky foreigners and their impossibly charming villages. If they're not posing naked for fund-raising purposes (*Calendar Girls*) they're trying to collect a dead man's lottery winnings (*Waking Ned*). The latest entry in this tradition is *The Grand Seduction*. And it's adorable." (*New York Times*) Don't miss.



Director: Luc Besson
Starring: Scarlett Johansson, Morgan Freeman, Amr Waked
Certificate: 15
Duration: 90 mins
Origin: France 2014
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd



Lucy

Fri 3 7.30, Sat 4 7.00

Scarlett Johansson stars as Lucy, a sleek, punchy action caper that examines the possibility of what one human could do if they unlocked 100% of their brain capacity.

After playing an alien in *Under the Skin* and voicing a computer operating system in *Her*, Johansson turns her versatile talent to play Lucy, an American student in the Taiwanese capital, who is forced to act as a drug mule for a group of brutal Korean gangsters.

When the drug she is carrying is accidentally unleashed into her body in a dangerous quantity, Lucy begins to transform into a merciless warrior, evolved beyond human logic.

Between the action scenes, there are time-outs for philosophising about the nature of time, matter and perception. Her sounding board is Professor Samuel Normal played with solemn and dignified gravitas by Morgan Freeman. An academic, whose area of research precisely matches Lucy's predicament. "A supremely silly and pleasurable action movie." (*Times*)

"Lucy is not about to win any prizes from Mensa ... but this isn't quite like any other blockbuster you'll see this year." (*Time Out*)

A highly entertaining action romp fronted expertly by Scarlett J. (*Anna Shepherd*) For all those reasons and Scarlett herself, Lucy should most definitely not be missed.



Two Days, One Night

Sun 5 6.00



From the directors of the outstanding, **The Kid With A Bike**, the Dardenne brothers present Marion Cotillard as Sandra. In a mesmerising performance of a woman's fight to keep her job .

Sandra is a mother of two whose job at a small solar panel factory is hanging in the balance. Suffering from depression, and after a recent long-term absence from work, her employers have decided to squeeze her out.

Her boss, Mr Dumont (Baptiste Sornin) puts the matter to her colleagues in a slightly contrived public vote: they must choose between their €1,000 annual bonus or allow Sandra to keep her job. "Specialists in unvarnished intimacy, the Dardenne brothers add another clear-eyed contemplation of stark social reality to their impressive output."

(*Hollywood Reporter*)

"Two Days, One Night glows with compassion, but it's hard to think of another feature film that depicts our current economic troubles with such trenchant fury." (*BBC*)

This is the Dardenne's first collaboration with a major star, but it is arguably their greatest cinematic achievement to date.

(*Anna Shepherd*)

Low key direction and even lower key performances turn this tiny film into something extraordinary. Don't miss

Directors: Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne

Starring: Marion Cotillard, Catherine Salée, Fabrizio Rongione

Certificate: 15

Duration: 95 mins

Origin: Belgium/Italy/France 2014

By: Curzon Film World

Watermark Mon 6 7.30

Directors: Jennifer Baichwal, Edward Burtynsky

Certificate: PG

Duration: 92 mins

Origin: Canada 2013

By: Soda Pictures

From the filmmakers who brought us **Manufactured Landscapes**; multi-award winning director Jennifer Baichwal and renowned photographer Edward Burtynsky, deliver this fabulous **Watermark**.

Shot in stunning 5K ultra high-definition video and full of soaring aerial perspectives, this film shows water as a terraforming element and the scale of its reach, as well as the magnitude of our need and use.

It is a visually breathtaking exploration into the importance of water as a global asset. However, the film intends to do more than ravish the eye with an onslaught of natural phenomena. Its goal is to come down from the sky and move among people who work intimately with water.

We see massive floating abalone farms off China's Fujian coast and the construction site of the biggest arch dam in the world – the Xiliodu, six times the size of the Hoover dam. Cutting between parched mosaics of Mexican soil and California's artificially maintained greenery makes a subtle point.

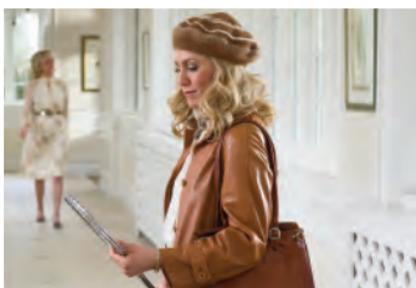
"It's not as focused as its predecessor, but it's best sequences rehydrate the mind" (*Guardian*)

"Within it float beautiful archipelagos where the relationship between people and water take on a divine significance." (*Little White Lies*)

A stunning documentary which begs to be seen on the big screen.

(*Anna Shepherd*) Beautifully observed review Ms Shepherd. Not to be missed.





Director: Daniel Schechter
Starring: Jennifer Aniston, Tim Robbins, John Hawkes
Certificate: 15
Duration: 99 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Curzon Film World



Life Of Crime

Tues 7 7.30

Adapted from *The Switch*, a novel by the late Elmore Leonard, which acts as a prequel to *Rum Punch*, also written by Leonard; although most will know that one as Tarantino's much loved classic, *Jackie Brown*.

Mickey (Jennifer Aniston) is playing the stoical socialite wife of fraudster Frank (Tim Robbins, fabulously sweaty and repellent). She becomes the target of an ill-planned plot by a young Ordell, played by Mos Def (taking over from Samuel L Jackson in *Jackie Brown*) and Louis (John Hawkes), who plan to kidnap her for a ransom of \$1m.

Problem is: Frank wants her out of the picture anyway, having filed divorce papers before jetting down from still-prosperous Detroit to Florida to catch up with longterm mistress, Melanie (Isla Fisher). The idea of skipping alimony into the bargain means not parting with the ransom is a 'no-brainer'.

Though not a particularly original comedy caper, it borrows heavily from The Coens and David O Russell, *Life of Crime* is a fun if forgettable pastiche. It certainly isn't the worst Leonard reworking (I wish I could un-see *Be Cool*) and there's a cheeky sense of fun that, despite some of the limp dialogue, keeps things ticking along its relatively brisk runtime. (*Jack Whiting*) Sounds alright. A good cast not too wasted.

Boyhood Wed 8 7.30



Back by demand, Richard Linklater's groundbreaking story of growing up, filmed over 12 years with the same cast.

The focus of this epic and affecting story is centred on one Texas family. Divorced parents Olivia (Patricia Arquette) and Mason (Ethan Hawke) and their children Samantha (Lorelei Linklater, who had to beg her father to play the part?) and Mason Jr (Ellar Coltrane).

The film charts the rocky terrain of childhood like no other film has before. It has the same relaxed life-as-it-happens naturalism as many of Linklater's other films. Like a novel in its richness and scope. From the age of 5 to 18, we follow Mason on a journey and into adulthood.

As in Linklater's "Before" trilogy, the actors age in concert with the characters. It becomes a joy to see them develop as they age.

"Both a conceptual tour de force and a fragile, unassuming slice of movie life." (*Artforum*)

"Boyhood shimmers with unforced reality. It shows how an ordinary life can be reflected in an extraordinary movie." (*TIME*)

Boyhood is a real pleasure to watch (so don't be put off by the run-time). Most definitely, this is one of the greatest achievements in film of the last decade.

(*Anna Shepherd*) Sounds pretty indulgent to me, worried about any impro scenes.

But take no notice, everybody else seemed to like it.

Director: Richard Linklater
Starring: Ellar Coltrane, Ethan Hawke, Patricia Arquette
Certificate: 15
Duration: 166 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Cycling With Molière Thu 9 7.30

Director: Philippe Guay
Starring: Fabrice Luchini, Lambert Wilson, Maya Sansa
Certificate: 15
Duration: 104 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Curzon Film World

A witty and intelligent French buddy comedy. Drawing parallels with *The Trip*, *Cycling with Molière* is a beautifully performed and darkly funny dissection of the life and work of actors.

Two French actors portray two French actors, Fabrice Luchini (a Molière expert in real life) and Lambert Wilson, friends at odds with each other in every possible way, except for their love of Molière's *The Misanthrope*.

Wilson plays Gauthier, tall, handsome, and the beneficiary of a leading role in a ridiculous soap opera, as a beloved surgeon who "saves lives". Luchini is Serge, who has met with much less success, becoming a middle-aged curmudgeon who has renounced the stage to live on the beautiful île de Ré, off France's Atlantic coast.

Gauthier arrives on Serge's turf to try to convince his pal to return to Paris to play opposite him in a new production. When not arguing or rehearsing scenes while cycling, they consider their options in life.

"Cycling with Molière gives us both a French-language fest and acting fireworks." (*Sight & Sound*)

"A droll, intellectual delight, and probably one for Francophiles who have at least a vague knowledge of Molière's *Misanthrope*." (*Times*)

Sophisticated fun. (*research Anna Shepherd*). An unmissable treat:





Director: Lone Scherfig
Starring: Max Irons, Sam Claflin, Douglas Booth, Sam Reid, Freddie Fox, Holliday Grainger, Natalie Dormer
Certificate: 15
Duration: 107 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Universal Pictures



The Riot Club

Fri 10 7.30, Sat 11 7.00

Posh, Laura Wade's play was a hit just before the 2010 election. It is inspired by Oxford's Bullingdon Club, in which a mob of toffs destined for high office, bond over disgust for the poor and a 10-bird roast. This film adaptation, arrives just in time for next general election! The story starts with a 17th century prologue explaining the club's origins (basically: libertine student stabbed by a jealous husband, so a hedonistic society established in his name.) Flash forward to contemporary Oxford, where the club is periscoping for new recruits: good egg Miles (Max Irons) and bad seed Alistair (Sam Claflin), who cross swords in a tutorial after Miles suggests that the welfare state has its merits.

Initiation ceremonies are held eg: the general knowledge urine cocktail quiz. We are introduced to other club members including Harry (Douglas Booth), who likes prostitutes and fencing, James (Freddie Fox) set for a career in finance, and Hugo (Sam Reid) a louche post-grad with his eye on Miles. It's not until well in to the film that we get to the supper, which makes up most of the play: a debauched multi-course in the private dining room of a rural pub.

"The Riot Club hands its audience a ticket, as well as a free pass to scorn over proceedings.

A double-bill which should prove pretty irresistible." (*Guardian*) (*Jane Lucas*)





Director: Craig Gillespie
Starring: Jon Hamm, Lake Bell, Aasif Mandvi, Alan Arkin, Bill Paxton, Madhur Mittal, Suraj Sharma
Certificate: PG
Duration: 124 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Walt Disney Int'l



Million Dollar Arm

Sun 12 6.00

The impossibly handsome Jon Hamm - known to most as the conflicted Don Draper in *Mad Men*, gets another shot in the cinematic spotlight in this earnest sports movie. (a beautifully judged presence in B.Affleck's *The Town*) JB Bernstein (Hamm) is the quintessential American hustler. He's fast-talking, a little shady and always looking for an angle. A one-time hotshot, he is struggling badly. Then by a process of elimination and unlikely inspiration from Susan Boyle (or her story) comes... cricket and India!

JB comes up with the idea of a reality show that will offer cricket-loving Indian kids the chance to become Major League Baseball pitchers.

Million Dollar Arm is about as sweet as they come (think: Remember the Titans or Rudy) not surprising when Disney is behind the reins.

Its heart is in the right place even if it lacks energy and the sharp riveting bite of something like *Moneyball*. It also views India through a travel brochure, something which *Slumdog Millionaire* avoided. Luckily the brilliantly grumpy, and the main reason it's at the Rex - Alan Arkin!! is on screen to prevent the schmaltz factor from wet blanketing the movie altogether.

Jon Hamm's commanding presence proves that he's certainly leading man material. (*research Jack Whiting*) Yes, a perfect next Bond? Witty, square jawed with a twinkling cool presence. Shame he's American.



Director: Anton Corbijn
Starring: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Rachel McAdams, Willem Dafoe, Robin Wright
Certificate: 15
Duration: 122 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Entertainment One UK



A Most Wanted Man

**Mon 13 7.30, Wed 15 7.30,
Thu 16 7.30**

Anton Corbijn's masterful adaptation of John le Carré's spy thriller; with Philip Seymour Hoffman centre stage, for one last time as a world weary Hamburg spook.

When a half-Chechen, half-Russian, brutally tortured immigrant called Issa Karpov turns up in Hamburg's Islamic community, laying claim to his father's ill-gotten fortune, both German and US security agencies take a close interest. Günther Bachmann (Hoffman) and his team, including Max (Daniel Bruhl) as his surveillance officer and his right-hand woman Irna (Nina Hoss) decide they can use Issa in a sting operation. But first they must gain the trust of his immigration lawyer, Annabel Richter (Rachel McAdams).

"An old-school spy thriller, Corbijn's taut le Carré riff does its genre proud. Hoffman commands every second."

(Total Film)

"Directed beautifully, Hoffman seems to have the whole film under lock and key, but pads around cagily, watchfully, as if prowling the perimeter to stop an imminent intruder." *(Telegraph)*

An impressive and talented cast who pull you deep into the narrative and don't let go even after its final heart-stopping scene. *(Anna Shepherd)* Definitely one not to miss, if only for Philip Seymour Hoffman's last outing, the likes of which we may never see again.



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

Tue 14 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. (*Anna Shepherd*) Also in for a kids's matinee, it is brilliant on every level, including 'not always making sense'. It's back, don't miss.

Director: Felix Herngren
Starring: Robert Gustafsson, Iwar Wiklander
Certificate: 15
Duration: 114 mins
Origin: Sweden 2013
By: Studiocanal

The Guest

Fri 17 7.30, Sat 18 7.00

Director: Adam Wingard
Starring: Dan Stevens, Maika Monroe, Ethan Embry
Certificate: 15
Duration: 100 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Icon Film Distribution

Blackly comical yet unnervingly tense, The Guest is an intoxicating throwback to eighties slasher movies. Genre fans are in for a treat.

An unrecognisable Dan Stevens (Matthew Crawley of *Downton Abbey*) is David, a soldier who appears unexpectedly at the home of the Petersons, claiming to have served with their late son in Iraq. With his all-American smile and calm demeanour, David is welcomed into the household as one of their own. Infiltration successful. Their teenage daughter, Anna (Maika Monroe), is not convinced, and neither is the audience. From the outset it's obvious that David is not who he seems and it's that sense of playfulness which makes *The Guest* so wickedly charming. There's a scene where David looks into the lens as it zooms in on his intense expression, almost winking to the audience "Yes, I am evil!" Not to mention the wonderfully gothic synth score which only deepens the mood.

If *The Guest* is *Drive*'s murkier cousin, it is without the egotism. Director Adam Wingard (*A Horrible Way to Die & You're Next!*) has his roots firmly in the horror genre and even in the second half, when David turns into the full Terminator and everything careens into balls-to-the-wall lunacy; it doesn't once lose sight of its underlining humour.

(*Jack Whiting*).

Come, if only to catch a sneak preview of *Downton*'s next twist.



Bicycle Sun 19 6.00



Arriving just weeks after the Tour of Britain sped through the streets of Berkhamsted, *Bicycle* is a 90 minute documentary, asking the question 'why is cycling and the bicycle back in fashion?' The film, which is directed by BAFTA winning director and keen cyclist Michael B. Clifford, tells the story of cycling in the land that invented the modern bicycle, its birth, decline and re-birth from Victorian origins to today. He weaves bicycle design, sport and transport through the retelling of some iconic stories and features interviews with notable contributors Sir Dave Brailsford, Gary Fisher, Chris Boardman, Ned Boulting, Sir Chris Hoy, Tracy Moseley, Mike Burrows and many more, plus great archive, animation and music.

But the most touching stories come from everyday people. Honest accounts from people who quite simply love to ride and talk about their two-wheels like a friend. As new cycling lanes are planned for London and beyond, *Bicycle* is a fascinating account of a pastime that the nation has taken to their hearts – and, more surprisingly, has become a sport that is, for once, dominated by the British.

"At a time when the bicycle is back in fashion, it is great to see a film about this beautiful machine coming out." (Chris Boardman MBE, Olympic gold medallist). You'll get a head start with your trousers tucked into your socks...

Director: Michael B. Clifford
Starring: Chris Hoy, Chris Boardman, Dannielle Khan
Certificate: PG
Duration: 87 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Blue Hippo Media

Night Will Fall Mon 20 7.30

Director: Andre Singer
Certificate: 15
Duration: 75 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Bfi

Researchers discovered film footage from WWII that turned out to be a lost documentary shot by Alfred Hitchcock and Sidney Bernstein in 1945 from inside the Nazi concentration camps.

When Allied forces liberated the Nazi camps in 1944-45, their terrible discoveries were recorded by army and newsreel cameramen, revealing for the first time the full horror of what had happened.

Despite the initial support from the British and US Governments, the film was shelved, and only now, 70 years on, has it been restored and completed by the Imperial War Museum.

Making use of British, Soviet and American footage, the Ministry of Information's Sidney Bernstein (later founder of Granada Television) aimed to create a documentary that would provide lasting, undeniable evidence of the Nazis' unspeakable crimes.

This eloquent, lucid documentary by André Singer (executive producer of the award-winning *The Act of Killing*) tells the extraordinary story of the filming of the camps and the fate of the Bernstein's project, using original archive footage and eyewitness testimonials.

This deeply moving film reveals the power of documentary and why it matters. (*Anna Shepherd*) Please come.





Director: Matthew Warchus
Starring: Imelda Staunton, Bill Nighy, Dominic West
Certificate: 15
Duration: 120 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Pride

Tue 21 7.30,
 Wed 22 7.30, Thu 23 7.30

Set during the miner's strike in 1984, Mathew Warchus' film centres on the rumpled workers on the picket line in the Welsh village of Onllwyn, in the Dulais valley, and their unlikely allies: a flock of gay fund-raisers who tramped the streets of London, buckets in hand, collecting money for supplies and fuel.

The story is true a one, following the antics of a group who form the little known Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners (LGSM) offering their support because they saw the striking miners as kindred spirits, demonised in the tabloids and at odds with the police.

The 'gays', as the Welsh call them, are led by young Mark Ashton (Ben Schnetzer) loud and determined. Those at his side in the LGSM include barely out Joe (George MacKay) and a couple, actor Jonathan (Dominic West) and his meeker partner, Gethin (Andrew Scott), for whom a return to Wales holds special meaning. An equally sprawling cast of Welsh characters includes Hefina (Imelda Staunton), Dai (Paddy Considine) and Cliff (Bill Nighy). Both 'sides' meet on various occasions, culminating in a raucous visit to London when Mark and his comrades organise a series of 'Pits and Perverts' fundraising concerts.

"I laughed, I cried, and frankly I would have raised a clenched fist were both hands not already occupied wiping away the bittersweet tears of joy." (*Observer*) There there...





Director: Rowan Joffe
Starring: Nicole Kidman, Colin Firth, Mark Strong
Certificate: 15
Duration: 92 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Studiocanal



Before I Go To Sleep

Fri 24 7.30, Sat 25 7.00

Nicole Kidman is Christine, a middle-aged woman who wakes every morning with no memory of her life from her mid-20s onwards.

Recognising neither the man in her bed nor her own face in the mirror, Christine must begin every day with a catch-up lesson delivered in tired but endlessly patient tones by her husband Ben (Colin Firth). She was in an accident; she has amnesia, tonight she will fall asleep and by morning, forget everything.

On the wall of their bathroom, photographs tell the story of a life lost; of romance, marriage, holidays, mementoes of an unremembered past. But while Ben is out at work, a phone call from the mysterious Dr Nasch (Mark Strong) alerts Christine to the existence of a camera on which she has been keeping a secret video diary. According to Nasch, Christine was the victim of a brutal attack, the details of which her husband is hiding. Whom should she trust, her oddly evasive spouse or the not-so-good doctor?

"Kidman conveys both tremulous uncertainty and creeping paranoia with aplomb. Colin Firth twists his understated screen charm to deliciously subversive ends and Mark Strong cements his reputation as one of modern cinema's most hypnotically unpredictable presences." (*Observer*)
 "Enjoyably preposterous." (*Guardian*)
 (research Jane Clucas)



A Tribute To Rik Mayall - Alexei Sayle & Robin Ince

Sun 26 6.00



Rik Mayall was an icon. A comedy legend who erupted onto television and made comedy cool, and violent, and absurd and, for some, even sexy. With *The Young Ones*, *Kevin Turvey Investigates*, *The Comic Strip Presents* and *The New Statesman*, as well as explosive cameos and *Drop Dead Fred*, he ensured his place as a comedy great. To celebrate his life, Alexei Sayle, a comedy hero in his own right and friend of Rik's since the first days of alternative comedy, will be in discussion with Robin Ince about Rik's life and work. As well as clips from some of his greatest moments, the discussion will be followed by a screening of the loud, stupid and disgusting *Mr Jolly Lives Next Door*, co-starring Peter Cook, Adrian Edmondson and Nicholas BLOODY Parsons. Proceeds from the evening to go to Headway – the brain injury association.

In Order Of Disappearance

Mon 27 7.30

Director:	Hans Moland
Starring:	Stellan Skarsgård, Bruno Ganz, Pål Hagen
Certificate:	15
Duration:	117 mins
Origin:	Norway 2014
By:	Metrodome Distributors

Introverted and hard-working snow plough driver Nils (Stellan Skarsgård) learns of the suspicious death of his son and begins to ask questions.

After being awarded Citizen of the Year, Nils receives devastating news that his only son has died of an overdose. Unconvinced by the official report, he soon uncovers evidence of the young man's murder: a victim of a turf war between the local crime boss known as The Count and Serbian rival, headed by mafia boss, Papa.

How he sets about tracing the gangster in chief (Pal Sverre Hagen, a vegan eccentric constantly sipping juice) has a serious core but a comedic touch. One after the other the gang members get slaughtered and in very original ways. Our mild-mannered hero appears more than a match for Serbian monsters, Albanian crooks and even Bruno Ganz's hitherto undefeated veteran mobster. "A slice of Nordic noir with surprising black comedy and some pretty spectacular deaths. Very Coen brothers." (*Scotsman*)

"Funny and nasty in the best traditions of *Headhunters* and *Jackpot*, this is the Stellan Skarsgård vengeance thriller we've all been waiting for." (*Empire*) Another hit for fans of Scandinavian action, crime comedies. (*Anna Shepherd*) Come for the fabulous don't-cross-me face of Stellan Skarsgård. He even managed to keep most of his dignity in *Mamma Mia*...!





Director: Lasse Hallstrom
Starring: Helen Mirren, Om Puri, Charlotte Le Bon
Certificate: PG
Duration: 122 mins
Origin: India/UAE/USA 2014
By: Entertainment One UK

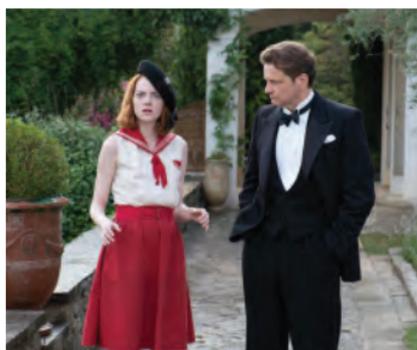


The 100 Foot Journey

**Tue 28 7.30, Wed 29 7.30,
 Thu 30 7.30**

Hassan Kadam (Manish Dayal) is a culinary ingénue with the gastronomic equivalent of perfect pitch. Displaced from their native India, the Kadam family, led by Papa (Om Puri), settles in the quaint village of Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val in the south of France. Filled with charm, it is both picturesque and elegant, the ideal place to settle down and open an Indian restaurant, the Maison Mumbai. That is, until the chilly chef proprietress of Le Saule Pleurer, a Michelin starred, classical French restaurant run by Madame Mallory (Helen Mirren) gets wind of it. Her icy protests against the new Indian restaurant a hundred feet from her own, escalate into all out war between them, until Hassan's passion for French haute cuisine and for Mme Mallory's enchanting sous chef, Marguerite (Charlotte Le Bon) combine with his mysteriously delicious talent to weave magic between their two cultures and imbue Saint-Antonin with the flavours of life that even Mme Mallory cannot ignore.

"It is a pleasure to watch two such accomplished scene-stealers as Mirren and Puri vying with each other. After a while, we even get used to Mirren's 'Allo Allo' French accent." (*Independent*) "Cliché piles up, but good-natured, undemanding fun." (*Guardian*) (*research Jane Clucas*) Pity the once so fanciable Helen Mirren, turns every part now into AmDram-pretend-bossy, no nonsense, cliché. Fanny Ardant would have smouldered, but wouldn't touch it...



Director: Woody Allen
Starring: Colin Firth, Emma Stone
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Warner Brothers



Magic In The Moonlight Fri 31 7.30

Directed by Woody Allen, *Magic in the Moonlight* sees Chinese conjuror Wei Ling Soo as the most celebrated magician of his age, but few know that he is the stage persona of Stanley Crawford (Colin Firth) a grouchy and arrogant Englishman with a sky-high opinion of himself and an aversion to phony spiritualists. Persuaded by his friend, Howard Burkan, Stanley goes on a mission to the Cote d'Azur mansion of the Catledge family: where matriarch Grace (Jacki Weaver) is firmly in charge. To debunk the alluring young clairvoyant, Sophie Baker (Emma Stone) he presents himself as a businessman under an assumed name. Sophie is at the Catledge villa at the invitation of Grace, who is convinced she can help contact her late husband. However, What follows is a series of Woody Allen situations which tear characters apart then glues them back together. "Charming without being laugh-out-loud funny, *Magic in the Moonlight* seems more intent on casting its own spell than going for the jugular." (*Guardian*) "The film's hardly a chore to watch, and it looks like a million 1928 dollars. It just has its heart in the wrong place." (*Telegraph*) (research Jane Clucas) It's been pushed around by critics and Woody's fascination with magic and psychology being no secret, it takes nothing from his reliable take on human interaction. Come.

COMING SOON

NEW RELEASES

Maps To The Stars
 Gone Girl
 What We Did On Holiday
 Wilde Salomé
 Human Capital

BACK BY DEMAND

Pride
 Most Wanted Man
 Before I Sleep
 100 ft Journey
 Magic In The Moonlight

What We Did On Holiday



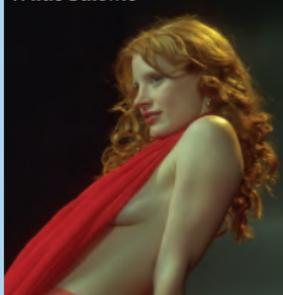
Map To The Stars



Gone Girl



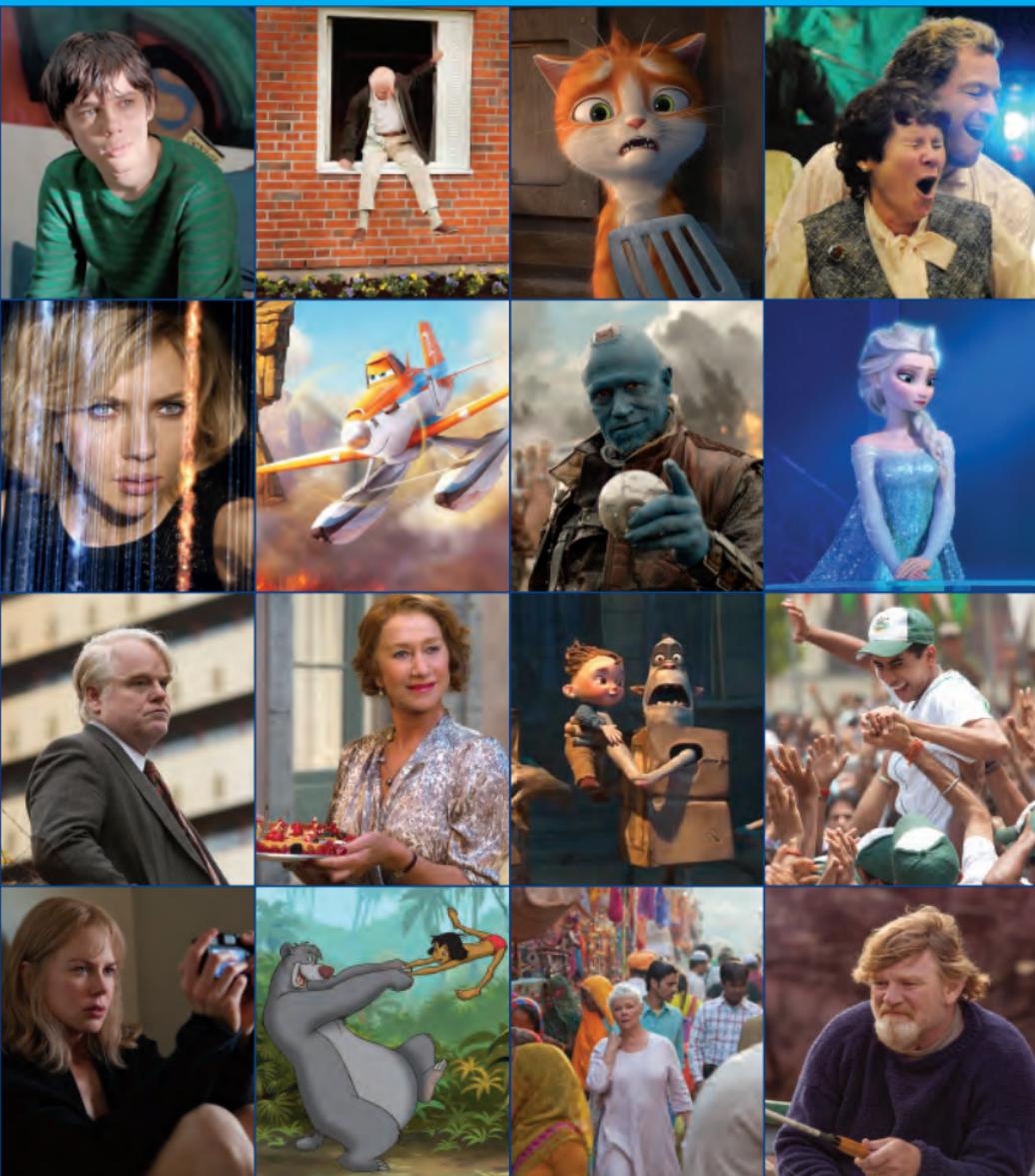
Wilde Salomé



OCTOBER FILMS AT A GLANCE

Please check times carefully and watch out for early shows.

1	WED	GRAND SEDUCTION	2.00, 7.30
2	THU	GRAND SEDUCTION	2.00, 7.30
3	FRI	LUCY	7.30
4	SAT	THE HOUSE OF MAGIC	2.00
4	SAT	LUCY	7.00
5	SUN	TWO DAYS ONE NIGHT	6.00
6	MON	THE 100 YEAR OLD MAN	2.00
6	MON	WATERMARK	7.30
7	TUE	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY	12.30
7	TUE	LIFE OF CRIME	7.30
8	WED	BOYHOOD	2.00, 7.30
9	THU	LIFE OF CRIME	2.00
9	THU	CYCLING WITH MOLIERE	7.30
10	FRI	RIOT CLUB	7.30
11	SAT	FROZEN SINGALONG	2.00
11	SAT	RIOT CLUB	7.00
12	SUN	MILLION DOLLAR ARM	6.00
13	MON	A MOST WANTED MAN	2.00, 7.30
14	TUE	MILLION DOLLAR ARM	12.30
14	TUE	THE 100 YEAR OLD MAN	7.30
15	WED	BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	2.00
15	WED	A MOST WANTED MAN	7.30
16	THU	A MOST WANTED MAN	2.00, 7.30
17	FRI	THE GUEST	7.30
18	SAT	PLANES 2	2.00
18	SAT	THE GUEST	7.00
19	SUN	BICYCLE	6.00
20	MON	PRIDE	2.00
20	MON	NIGHT WILL FALL	7.30
21	TUE	THE 100FT JOURNEY	12.30
21	TUE	PRIDE	7.30
22	WED	PRIDE	2.00, 7.30
23	THU	PRIDE	2.00, 7.30
24	FRI	BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP	7.30
25	SAT	BOXTROLLS	2.00
25	SAT	BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP	7.00
26	SUN	SPECIAL EVENT: TRIBUTE TO RIK MAYALL PLUS FILM	6.00
27	MON	BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP	2.00
27	MON	IN ORDER OF DISAPPEARANCE	7.30
28	TUE	JUNGLE BOOK	12.30
28	TUE	THE 100FT JOURNEY	7.30
29	WED	THE 100FT JOURNEY	2.00, 7.30
30	THU	BOXTROLLS	2.00
30	THU	THE 100FT JOURNEY	7.30
31	FRI	MAGIC IN THE MOONLIGHT	7.30



OCTOBER MATINEES

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



Director: Don McKellar
Starring: Brendan Gleeson, Taylor Kitsch, Liane Balaban
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 113 mins
Origin: Canada 2013
By: Entertainment One UK



The Great Seduction

Wed 1 2.00, Thu 2 2.00

Tickle Head, a down-on-its-luck fishing village in Canada, wants to lure a recycling plant to provide employment to a population who are almost entirely on welfare. However, the company requires that the village has a doctor (which it doesn't) and so the residents, led by acting Mayor, Murray French (Brendan Gleeson) set about trying to persuade a visiting physician, Dr Head (Taylor Kitsch) to settle in Tickle Head.

This involves not only making the town look more appealing than it is but also making it seem to embody all of the doctor's interests, which are gleaned by eavesdropping on his phone calls. Among other things, residents try to pass themselves off as aficionados of cricket, and the sport may never recover. As the doctor's time in the village winds to a close, Murray has no choice but to pull out all the stops and begin The Grand Seduction.

"A fish-out-of-water fable set within a fabulously scenic backdrop, against which wholesome humour and a thoroughgoing humanist streak play out and intertwine with gentle, unforced ease." (*Washington Post*)

"Ah, those wacky foreigners and their impossibly charming villages. If they're not posing naked for fund-raising purposes (*Calendar Girls*) they're trying to collect a dead man's lottery winnings (*Waking Ned*). The latest entry in this tradition is *The Grand Seduction*. And it's adorable." (*New York Times*) Don't miss.

The House Of Magic

Sat 4 2.00



This curiously mawkish animation from Belgium, about the adventures of a ginger cat, bares all the hallmarks of a Disney classic but lacks the charm and wonder.

A pet kitten is abandoned from a car, the movie's single moment of dramatic heft, and finds refuge in a creepy-looking house that is actually the home of a kindly old magician and all his wacky animals and clockwork props.

Lawrence, the lovable elderly fellow has a smarmy estate-agent nephew trying to turf him out.

Director Ben Stassen, whose previous films *A Turtles Tale* and its sequel *Sammy's Great Escape*, had a similar feeling of redundancy to them. Perhaps Stassen's priority should be on storytelling over pioneering 3D animation, not needed here.

The rather literal inclusion of two '80s hits on the soundtrack: the Cure's *The Love Cats* and Madness' *House of Fun*, is perhaps the sole gesture made to accompanying parents, given the script's avoidance of double-layered snark.

"British adults, however, might find themselves wishing that Lawrence bore less of an accidental resemblance to Jimmy Savile!" (*Variety*)

Take no notice, there might be enough visual flourishes in *House of Magic* to prevent boredom from settling in. It's cute as a button, too. (*Jack Whiting*)

Directors: Ben Stassen, Jeremy Degruson
Voices: Ewan McGregor, Kiefer Sutherland, Ron Perlman, William Shatner
Certificate: U
Duration: 85 mins
Origin: Belgium 2013
By: Studiocanal

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

Mon 6 2.00

Director: Felix Herngren
Starring: Robert Gustafsson, Iwar Wiklander
Certificate: 15
Duration: 114 mins
Origin: Sweden 2013
By: Studiocanal

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. (*Anna Shepherd*) Also in for a kids's matinee, it is brilliant on every level, including 'not always making sense'. It's back, don't miss.



Guardians Of The Galaxy **Tue 7** 12.30



It's back... Like the cool kids crashing a party, Guardians of the Galaxy intends to disrupt Marvel's predictable groove. And thank goodness.

The goofy Chris Pratt plays Peter Quill, who, after being abducted from Earth as a child with nothing but his Walkman. 20 years later Quill, now basically Han Solo, is thrown together with an unlikely band of misfits featuring Gamora (Zoe Saldana), Drax the Destroyer (David Bautista), and instant fan favourites Rocket Raccoon (Bradley Cooper) and his protector Groot, a walking, talking tree (Vin Diesel on stilts). Hot on their heels is Ronan the Accuser (Lee Pace) a warlord with nefarious intentions, who wants the orb for his master.

On paper, Guardians sounds frivolous, but that's the point. What makes it work is a total sense self awareness that borders on pure comedy, thanks in part to director James Gunn's B-movie history. No other superhero movie gets this many laughs, most of those provided by the visual effects double-act of Rocket and Groot.

The music gets a special nod not only because it features a track list no other space opera can boast (Blue Swede, Jackson 5, The Runaways, Redbone) but because, oddly, they are the emotional core of his journey. If you want to see the hero defeat a super-villain by bopping to 'Ooh Child', this is your movie. *(Jack Whiting)*

Director: James Gunn
Starring: Chris Pratt, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 122 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Walt Disney Studios

Boyhood **Wed 8** 2.00

Director: Richard Linklater
Starring: Ellar Coltrane, Ethan Hawke, Patricia Arquette
Certificate: 15
Duration: 166 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Back by demand, Richard Linklater's groundbreaking story of growing up, filmed over 12 years with the same cast.

The focus of this epic and affecting story is centred on one Texas family. Divorced parents Olivia (Patricia Arquette) and Mason (Ethan Hawke) and their children Samantha (Lorelei Linklater, who had to beg her father to play the part?) and Mason Jr (Ellar Coltrane).

The film charts the rocky terrain of childhood like no other film has before. It has the same relaxed life-as-it-happens naturalism as many of Linklater's other films. Like a novel in its richness and scope. From the age of 5 to 18, we follow Mason on a journey and into adulthood.

As in Linklater's "Before" trilogy, the actors age in concert with the characters. It becomes a joy to see them develop as they age.

"Both a conceptual tour de force and a fragile, unassuming slice of movie life." *(Artforum)*

"Boyhood shimmers with unforced reality. It shows how an ordinary life can be reflected in an extraordinary movie." *(TIME)*

Boyhood is a real pleasure to watch (so don't be put off by the run-time). Most definitely, this is one of the greatest achievements in film of the last decade. *(Anna Shepherd)* Sounds pretty indulgent to me, worried about any impro scenes.

But take no notice, everybody else seemed to like it.



Life Of Crime

Thu 9 2.00



Adapted from *The Switch*, a novel by the late Elmore Leonard, which acts as a prequel to *Rum Punch*, also written by Leonard; although most will know that one as Tarantino's much loved classic, *Jackie Brown*.

Mickey (Jennifer Aniston) is playing the stoical socialite wife of fraudster Frank (Tim Robbins, fabulously sweaty and repellent). She becomes the target of an ill-planned plot by a young Ordell, played by Mos Def (taking over from Samuel L Jackson in *Jackie Brown*) and Louis (John Hawkes), who plan to kidnap her for a ransom of \$1m. Problem is: Frank wants her out of the picture anyway, having filed divorce papers before jetting down from still-prosperous Detroit to Florida to catch up with longterm mistress, Melanie (Isla Fisher). The idea of skipping alimony into the bargain means not parting with the ransom is a 'no-brainer'.

Though not a particularly original comedy caper, it borrows heavily from *The Coens* and David O Russell, *Life of Crime* is a fun if forgettable pastiche. It certainly isn't the worst Leonard reworking (I wish I could un-see *Be Cool*) and there's a cheeky sense of fun that, despite some of the limp dialogue, keeps things ticking along its relatively brisk runtime. (*Jack Whiting*) Sounds alright. A good cast not too wasted.

Director: Daniel Schechter
Starring: Jennifer Aniston, Tim Robbins, John Hawkes
Certificate: 15
Duration: 99 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Curzon Film World

Frozen Sing-A-Long

Sat 11 2.00

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

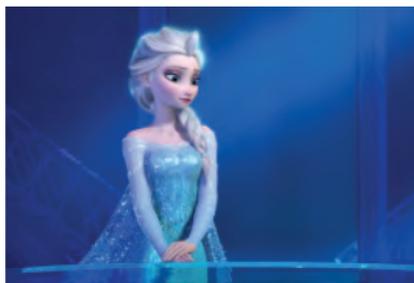
Disney's *Frozen*, an animated fairy tale musical inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *Snow Queen* takes place in the kingdom of Arendelle, where the young princess Elsa was born with the ability to magically create ice and snow using her bare hands. When Elsa slips up and nearly kills her sister Ana,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



Most Wanted Man

Mon 13 2.00, Thu 16 2.00



Anton Corbijn's masterful adaptation of John le Carré's spy thriller; with Philip Seymour Hoffman centre stage, for one last time as a world weary Hamburg spook.

When a half-Chechen, half-Russian, brutally tortured immigrant called Issa Karpov turns up in Hamburg's Islamic community, laying claim to his father's ill-gotten fortune, both German and US security agencies take a close interest. Günther Bachmann (Hoffman) and his team, including Max (Daniel Bruhl) as his surveillance officer and his right-hand woman Irna (Nina Hoss) decide they can use Issa in a sting operation. But first they must gain the trust of his immigration lawyer, Annabel Richter (Rachel McAdams).

"An old-school spy thriller, Corbijn's taut le Carré riff does its genre proud. Hoffman commands every second." (Total Film)

"Directed beautifully, Hoffman seems to have the whole film under lock and key, but pads around cagily, watchfully, as if prowling the perimeter to stop an imminent intruder." (Telegraph)

An impressive and talented cast who pull you deep into the narrative and don't let go even after its final heart-stopping scene. (Anna Shepherd) Definitely one not to miss, if only for Philip Seymour Hoffman's last outing, the likes of which we may never see again.

Director: Anton Corbijn
Starring: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Rachel McAdams, Willem Dafoe, Robin Wright
Certificate: 15
Duration: 122 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Entertainment One UK

Million Dollar Arm

Tue 14 12.30

Director: Craig Gillespie
Starring: Jon Hamm, Lake Bell, Aasif Mandvi, Alan Arkin, Bill Paxton, Madhur Mittal, Suraj Sharma
Certificate: PG
Duration: 124 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Walt Disney Int'l

The impossibly handsome Jon Hamm - known to most as the conflicted Don Draper in Mad Men, gets another shot in the cinematic spotlight in this earnest sports movie. (a beautifully judged presence in B.Affleck's The Town) JB Bernstein (Hamm) is the quintessential American hustler. He's fast-talking, a little shady and always looking for an angle. A one-time hotshot, he is struggling badly. Then by a process of elimination and unlikely inspiration from Susan Boyle (or her story) comes... cricket and India! JB comes up with the idea of a reality show that will offer cricket-loving Indian kids the chance to become Major League Baseball pitchers.

Million Dollar Arm is about as sweet as they come (think: Remember the Titans or Rudy) not surprising when Disney is behind the reigns.

Its heart is in the right place even if it lacks energy and the sharp riveting bite of something like Moneyball. It also views India through a travel brochure, something which Slumdog Millionaire avoided. Luckily the brilliantly grumpy, and the main reason it's at the Rex - Alan Arkin!! is on screen to prevent the schmaltz factor from wet blanketing the movie altogether.

Jon Hamm's commanding presence proves that he's certainly leading man material. (research Jack Whiting) Yes, a perfect next Bond? Witty, square jawed with a twinkling cool presence. Shame he's American.



Best Exotic Marigold Hotel Wed 15 2.00



A re-run ahead of the new one, not out yet. The fabulous cast constitutes a dream team of veteran thespians: Judi Dench is a widow emerging from her shell; Tom Wilkinson is a retired judge revisiting his youth; Penelope Wilton and Bill Nighy are navigating an old marriage; Celia Imrie and Ronald Pickup are randy old goats; and Maggie Smith, as a hip-op patient, offers a fabulous working class variant on her sarky, shrewd Downton Abbey gameplayer. Ol Parker's screenplay is based on Deborah Moggach's novel *These Foolish Things*.

"The film doesn't quite sink to the dewy eyed clichés of Orientalism derided in the book ('oh the poverty, oh the sunsets') But it still presents a superficial take on contemporary India: beaming kids play cricket, wise old men proffer advice and standard issue star-crossed lovers are saddled with corny lines." (*Guardian*)

"With so many characters to juggle several end up getting short shrift, and the lessons learned are banal in nature and schematic in execution. They are all on enjoyable form but none is really challenged." (*mixed crits*)

Anything with Dames Judi and Maggie and the glorious (yet to refuse heraldry) Mr Nighy, and all the other lovely faces, are well worth your time. Refreshing, funny and sad. La la to the critics. Bet they've all got Cliff's greatest hits. Back for the last time in October.

Director: John Madden
Starring: Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Tom Wilkinson, Bill Nighy
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 124 mins
Origin: UK 2012
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Planes: Fire & Rescue Sat 18 2.00

Director: Roberts Gannaway
Certificate: U
Duration: 84 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Walt Disney Int'l

It's telling that whilst experiencing Disney Toons' latest bargain-bin entry, they haven't learned much from the masters at Pixar. Despite this, *Planes 2* is stronger than its predecessor.

Just like *Cars*, this second offshoot features a world populated with talking vehicles. For this instalment, Dusty (Dane Cook) joins a fire-and-rescue team in Piston Peak National Park, where he and his crew, including a sole female plane, voiced by Julie Bowen, whom the film hardly misses a chance to paint as a stalkerish fruit-loop, soar and splutter over forest fires.

"As the film's title would suggest, these fires need to be extinguished, and this is where the film soars as Dusty and the team swoop above forest infernos to douse the flames in stunningly realised set pieces." (*Digital Spy*)

"Harry (12) lost interest and commented that it was drawn out, a bit boring and much the same as the last film: it wasn't very funny, but the animation was great. However, Tom (5) absolutely loves Dusty and this film (being a *Cars/Planes* obsessive it was always going to be the case, regardless of the film's content)." (*Telegraph*)

So there we go, mixed results from children (they can be the harshest critics). Five and unders might revel in the colourful animation, but wiser kids will wish for superior flights of fancy. (*Jack Whiting*) Tosh. It's fab, come.





Director: Matthew Warchus
Starring: Imelda Staunton, Bill Nighy, Dominic West
Certificate: 15
Duration: 120 mins
Origin: UK 2014
By: Twentieth Century Fox



Pride Mon 20 2.00, Wed 22 2.00, Thu 23 2.00

Set during the miner's strike in 1984, Mathew Warchus' film centres on the rumples workers on the picket line in the Welsh village of Onllwyn, in the Dulais valley, and their unlikely allies: a flock of gay fund-raisers who tramped the streets of London, buckets in hand, collecting money for supplies and fuel.

The story is true a one, following the antics of a group who form the little known Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners (LGSM) offering their support because they saw the striking miners as kindred spirits, demonised in the tabloids and at odds with the police.

The 'gays', as the Welsh call them, are led by young Mark Ashton (Ben Schnetzer) loud and determined. Those at his side in the LGSM include barely out Joe (George MacKay) and a couple, actor Jonathan (Dominic West) and his meeker partner, Gethin (Andrew Scott), for whom a return to Wales holds special meaning. An equally sprawling cast of Welsh characters includes Hefina (Imelda Staunton), Dai (Paddy Considine) and Cliff (Bill Nighy). Both 'sides' meet on various occasions, culminating in a raucous visit to London when Mark and his comrades organise a series of 'Pits and Perverts' fundraising concerts.

"I laughed, I cried, and frankly I would have raised a clenched fist were both hands not already occupied wiping away the bittersweet tears of joy." (*Observer*) There there...





Director: Lasse Hallstrom
Starring: Helen Mirren, Om Puri, Charlotte Le Bon
Certificate: PG
Duration: 122 mins
Origin: India/UAE/USA 2014
By: Entertainment One UK



The 100 Foot Journey

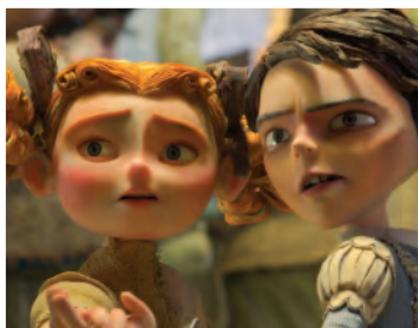
Tue 21 12.30, Wed 29 2.00

Hassan Kadam (Manish Dayal) is a culinary ingénue with the gastronomic equivalent of perfect pitch. Displaced from their native India, the Kadam family, led by Papa (Om Puri), settles in the quaint village of Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val in the south of France. Filled with charm, it is both picturesque and elegant, the ideal place to settle down and open an Indian restaurant, the Maison Mumbai. That is, until the chilly chef proprietress of Le Saule Pleurer, a Michelin starred, classical French restaurant run by Madame Mallory (Helen Mirren) gets wind of it. Her icy protests against the new Indian restaurant a hundred feet from her own, escalate into all out war between them, until Hassan's passion for French haute cuisine and for Mme Mallory's enchanting sous chef, Marguerite (Charlotte Le Bon) combine with his mysteriously delicious talent to weave magic between their two cultures and imbue Saint-Antonin with the flavours of life that even Mme Mallory cannot ignore.

"It is a pleasure to watch two such accomplished scene-stealers as Mirren and Puri vying with each other. After a while, we even get used to Mirren's 'Allo Allo' French accent." (*Independent*) "Cliché piles up, but good-natured, undemanding fun." (*Guardian*) (*research Jane Clucas*) Pity the once so fanciable Helen Mirren, turns every part now into AmDram-pretend-bossy, no nonsense, cliché. Fanny Ardant would have smouldered, but wouldn't touch it...



Directors: Anthony Stacchi, Graham Annable
Starring: Elle Fanning, Isaac Wright, Simon Pegg, Ben Kingsley
Certificate: PG
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd



Boxtrolls

Sat 25 2.00, Thu 30 2.00

From the creators of the wonderfully macabre Coraline and ParaNorman comes this equally ghoulish stop-motion tale of monsters.

In the hill-top-middle-bottom hamlet of Cheesebridge, the upwardly mobile Archibald Snatcher (Ben Kingsley) makes a deal with Lord Portley-Rind (Jared Harris) in return for exterminating every last Boxtroll, a Womble-like underground creature said to snatch and eat children. Snatcher will earn himself the status symbol of a White Hat and a place at the town elite's cheese-tasting table.

Meanwhile a boy, raised as a Boxtroll and dubbed Egg (Isaac Hempstead Wright), becomes an unlikely resistance leader and exposé of community fictions, with help from Portley-Rind's daughter Winnie (Elle Fanning).

Adapted from the 2005 novel *Here Be Monsters!* by Alan Snow, *The Boxtrolls* is a smash n'grab of used ideas that oddly manages to work. Adults will find plenty to snigger along too. A Monty Python-esque humour runs throughout (Eric Idle even fronts a lively musical number). Then there's a mild scary aesthetic reminiscent of Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride* and *Frankenweenie* that clings to every frame, one that more than justifies its PG rating; a far cry from Aardman quaintness.

But for those who like a bit of squelch in their movies, then step right up. (*Jack Whiting*) Squelch hey Jack...? There'll be no such squelching at The Rex. So come unsquelched.

Before I Got To Sleep

Mon 27 2.00



Nicole Kidman is Christine, a middle-aged woman who wakes every morning with no memory of her life from her mid-20s onwards.

Recognising neither the man in her bed nor her own face in the mirror, Christine must begin every day with a catch-up lesson delivered in tired but endlessly patient tones by her husband Ben (Colin Firth). She was in an accident; she has amnesia, tonight she will fall asleep and by morning, forget everything. On the wall of their bathroom, photographs tell the story of a life lost; of romance, marriage, holidays, mementoes of an unremembered past. But while Ben is out at work, a phone call from the mysterious Dr Nasch (Mark Strong) alerts Christine to the existence of a camera on which she has been keeping a secret video diary. According to Nasch, Christine was the victim of a brutal attack, the details of which her husband is hiding. Whom should she trust, her oddly evasive spouse or the not-so-good doctor?

"Kidman conveys both tremulous uncertainty and creeping paranoia with aplomb. Colin Firth twists his understated screen charm to deliciously subversive ends and Mark Strong cements his reputation as one of modern cinema's most hypnotically unpredictable presences." (*Observer*)
 "Enjoyably preposterous." (*Guardian*)
 (research Jane Clucas)

Director: Rowan Joffe
Starring: Nicole Kidman, Colin Firth, Mark Strong
Certificate: 15
Duration: 92 mins
Origin: USA 2014
By: Studiocanal

Jungle Book

Tue 28 12.30

Director: Wolfgang Reitherman
Certificate: U
Duration: 78 mins
Origin: USA 1967
By: Walt Disney Studios

Inspired by Rudyard Kipling's book of the same name, *The Jungle Book* is the 19th animated feature in the Walt Disney Animated Classics series.

Directed by Wolfgang Reitherman, it was the last to be produced by Walt Disney, who died during the production.

The plot follows Mowgli, a feral child raised in the Indian jungle by wolves, as his friends Bagheera the panther and Balloo the bear try to convince him into leaving the jungle before the evil tiger Shere Khan arrives.

"I thought you were entertaining someone up there in your coils,' Shere Khan the Tiger purrs malevolently (the glorious and unmistakable voice of George Sanders) while Kaa the Snake endeavours to squeeze Mowgli the Man Cub in his horrible clutches.

This animated Disney feature based on the Kipling, the last to be supervised by Big Walt himself, is chock-a-block with such sharp lines (with Baloo the dim-witted bear voiced by Phil Harris getting the best). It's also got great knockabout visual gags, mercifully little cutey-poo sentiment, and reasonable songs, including "The Bare Necessities.

"It's a slight tale, and rather short, but the characters and songs are pretty much perfect for viewing time and again." (*Empire*) (research Jane Clucas)
 It is delicious from start the finish.
 Don't miss a single beat... "Ooobe do..."



NOVEMBER...

We must open in November. This Bela Lugosi of all buildings is sucking blood-money fast while Boris Karloff has regulations and delays bolted to his neck. Each is starring as chief disablers, fighting us to the death. Ready or not, we MUST open in November. The teaser is – when? This will be announced on webs and facebook soon.

Best to keep the whole of November's Thursdays to Sundays free. Or better still, wait and come to

a proper up-and-running film the following week, when all the fanfares have quietened and we can open properly...

It will be a long weekend of four opening nights. Each will be an opening night in its own right. There is no chance of getting everybody in for a single opening night or even four. Lenders, small investors, known donors, seat sponsors will be on the list alongside the great & the good, the builders and volunteer fundraisers. But the list will not





squeeze in the whole of St Albans. All opening weekend invitations will be an invitation, not only to come, but to pay to come, including all of the above. There'll be no free rides for at least ten years! So when the date is announced we will set up a ticket office and inform you when to start queuing. We must get the building right, or after 19 years closed and in ruins, and the eight years of Horror B-Movie

adventure, Lugosi and Karloff will refuse us permission to open.

So when the date is announced, the screen, curtains, carpet, seats, projection and sound will be in place and fully up and running. The bars might be buckets of bubbly served from shovels, but the toilets will be magnificent, and the bright 'exit' signs the first thing you'll see. We can welcome you with exits like a trolley dolly...!



This is Alexandra Heal visiting the site for the first time since work began.

You might remember it was her letter to the local paper which renewed the campaign. She was fourteen at the time. It was too late, permission to demolish and build had been approved, but it stirred hope again after the Civic Society's brave efforts to save it. Hence it is entirely Alex's fault that I was drawn back in and dragged you all along with me. Alongside Marion Hamment from the very early campaign stage and throughout, Alexandra is to blame! If it wasn't for that one retired school teacher then, and a child later on, there would be no photographs on this page of a building, almost beautiful, and nearly ready to open. The fanfare is all theirs.

A few fantastic, if crazy, anonymous couples want to pay £500 a seat for the opening weekend.

Are there more fantastic couples, singles, quads who would like to do the same...?

You don't all have to pay that price of course. Other opening nights' ticket prices will be announced when the opening dates are fixed. But please feel free to join this new exclusive £500 Club!!

A further incentive to secure your invitation ahead of the day, is to sponsor those remaining 190 seats. Now is the time Balcony seats £1000. Table seats £1500 and all corporate seats anywhere £1500. So move quickly, there is no better time than this last chance.

Please keep an eye on the websites and facebook's over the coming weeks. All enquiries, sponsorships or 500Club applications to Marie Jahn at funtabiedozie@gmail.com



Alex and Sam against the panoramic auditorium.