

THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E

POPULAIRE
JUNE 2013...

"Unhesitatingly The Rex is the best cinema I have ever seen..."
(Sunday Times 2012)

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

JUNE 2013 Issue 99
www.therexberkhamsted.com

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Mon-Sat 10.30-6pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

Gallery	4-5
June Evenings	11
Coming Soon	26
June Films at a glance	26
June Matinees	27
Rants and Pants	42-45

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 Mon to Sat 10.30 – 6.00
 Sun 4.30 – 6.30

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Natalie Jones	James Wallman
Abigail Kellett	Jack Whiting
Amelia Kellett	Olivia Wilson
Lydia Kellett	Roz Wilson
Tatjana LeBoff	Keymea Yazdanian
Emily Main	Yalda Yazdanian

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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
Darren Flindall Maintenance
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Lynn Hendry Advertising 01442 877999

James Hannaway ceo 01442 877999
Betty Patterson Company Secretary and THE ORIGINAL VISIONARY of The Rex.

The Rex

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

BEST IN JUNE



Star Trek

Not Treky or sci-fi but witty, thrilling & fabulous
 Thu 27/Fri 28 7.30/Sat 29 7.00/Sun 30 6.00
 USA 2013

FILMS OF THE MONTH



Rebellion

Thrilling tense traumatic & true..
 Mon 10 7.30. France 2012



A Hijacking

One of the best films of the year
 Fri 14 7.30/Sat 15 7.00. Denmark 2013



White Elephant

Priests in Buenos Aires slum, gripping and true
 Mon 17 7.30. Argentina/Spain/France 2013

OUT OF THE BLUE...



The sun sets right down the middle of the High Street throughout the early summer. This burning sky was captured on an i-phone one Saturday early in May. I hope you saw it. It was truly breathtaking, the i-lense has only picked up a fraction of the blue, the yellow, and flame pink exploding in slow motion all over the sky. I was going the other way but turned, looked up and had to follow it. Look out for it at dusk on sunny days, you'll be glad.

Poking the blue

The sun shone on Aldbury's fabulous May Day. Here, a chief Aldbury Morris man in a magnificent hat and stunning regalia, is accosted by two ladies, more interested in the elaborate detail in the embroidery of his smock. Don't think they noticed the hat...

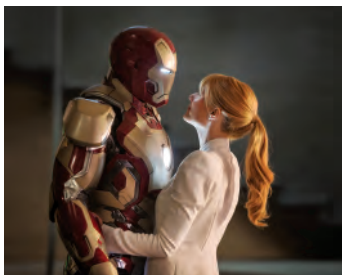
The Shock of the blue

Another of nature's beautiful surprises, a few bluebells in the shade. No fanfare or big hurry of colour, no carpet so glorious that people come, merely a shock of blue in the shade of a leaning tree beside a country lane. Perfect.





J U N E E V E N I N G S



Director: Shane Black
Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Kingsley, Guy Pearce
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Walt Disney Studio INTL

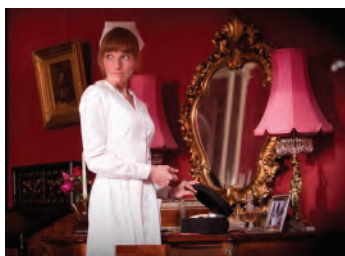


Iron Man 3

Sat 1 7.00, Sun 2 6.00

After three outings, one featuring that much celebrated all-star team-up, Robert Downey Jr and his shell suit are now as inseparable, and occasionally as annoying, as Ant & Dec. So it's refreshing to see Iron Man 3 step outside its comfort zone; separating man from machine. Tony Stark (Downey Jr) has regressed into a Howard Hughes (albeit well-manicured) frame of mind, rejecting sleep, and Gwyneth Paltrow, for obsessive mechanical tinkering as a result of post Avengers anxiety (originally alcoholism, but folks, this is Disney). Ben Kingsley's shadowy Mandarin – a sort of Bin Laden meets Bane – starts to broadcast his acts of terrorism for all to see. Meanwhile mega scientist turned mega villain Aldrich Killian (Guy Pearce) is scheming his way into Stark's technology, and love life. So Stark must put his problems aside and don the armour once more. Responsible for this tonal shift is writer/director Shane Black of the Lethal Weapons and previous Downey Jr collaboration Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, which coincidentally, re-launched Jr's career (as this IM3 has done for Black; now they're even). His eye and ear for self-aware smugness and cocky characters pay off in spades, allowing Stark to bow out on a high. Iron Man 3 then, is Lethal Weapon with missiles; Downey Jr is Riggs, Don Cheadle is Murtaugh, and it's Christmas. Black is the WD-40 this franchise needed. *(Jack Whiting)*





Director: Fred Schepisi
Starring: Charlotte Rampling, Geoffrey Rush, Judy Davis
Certificate: 15
Duration: 119 mins
Origin: Australia 2013
By: Munro Film Services

Eye Of The Storm

Mon 3 7.30

The cantankerous, complex, gay Patrick White published his lengthy *The Eye of the Storm* in 1973, the year he became the first (and still the only) Australian to win the Nobel prize for literature.

Charlotte Rampling cuts a Miss Havisham-type figure as Elizabeth Hunter, a brilliant and demanding woman slowly dying – and succumbing to morphine-fuelled flashbacks – as she summons her grownup children to her elaborately furnished Sydney home to impose her caprices on them one final time, torturing them with suspicions about what they can expect in her will. Her putative heirs are the successful and conceited stage actor Basil, played by Geoffrey Rush, and the unhappy Dorothy (Judy Davis), still addressed as ‘Princess’ after a failed marriage to some European aristocrat. “Somewhere inside this baggy, stately, beautifully acted movie there’s something smaller and fiercer busting to get out.” (*Guardian*)

“Top notch performances from the stellar cast help Schepisi nail the book’s citric tone.” (*Empire*)

“For many though, the glacial pacing and starchy performances will be obstacles too high to hurdle.” (*Total Film*)

“It’s a chilly, cruel film about characters that are difficult to like or warm to. The performances are excellent, however, and is photographed with great sensitivity.” (*Observer*) Worth more than your curiosity...?





Director: Jeff Nichols
Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Tye Sheridan, Sam Shepard, Michael Shannon, Reese Witherspoon

Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Entertainment One UK



Mud

Tue 4 7.30, Thu 6 7.30,

Mud is the latest American coming of age drama, which weaves together an elaborate plot of poverty, love, youth and violence. We follow the story of two teenagers living on the Mississippi river front with their parents. During an excursion to a nearby island they find Mud, a fugitive hiding in an abandoned boat. Mud recruits the teens into his world of bloodshed and retribution, asking them to help locate his girlfriend Juniper, whom he cannot contact directly as he is being watched by a violent syndicate. It isn't long before Juniper comes to town... followed by a string of bounty hunters.

"It's quite possibly the most beautiful film ever made about the Mississippi River, a bittersweet (but ultimately optimistic) ode to a dying way of life."

(L White L)

"The harshness and the beauty of this economically depressed setting, where nondescript target-strip malls share close quarters with mythically swampy backwoods, is vividly rendered in gritty widescreen compositions, giving it an appropriately fable like air." *(Time Out)* With hints of Huckleberry Finn and Great Expectations and with a cast including Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon and two great new-comer Mississippi swamp kids, we can see why Mud is getting an array of plaudits and accolades, long before the new award season is on its feet. Another real gem, co-starring Mr Mc's pecs and abs. Don't miss.

Olympus Has Fallen

Wed 5 7.30



Proving that the Die Hard concept could work in any place, director Antoine Fuqua (*Training Day*) lets loose a group of terrorists on the White House, and it's up to scotsman Gerard Butler to show them the true meaning of US patriotism. "A mob of Korean goons storms the White House and kidnaps the President, played by the too-young Aaron Eckhart. The bad guys are led by a man called Kang (Rick Yune), who demands that all Western forces withdraw from the Korean peninsula, and also has big plans for the US nuclear arsenal. Enter Butler as the President's disgraced servant, who scampers through the front door and raises star-spangled hell." (*Telegraph*) Butler shoots and punches his way with none of the 'subtlety' of Bruce W, whilst a furrowed Morgan Freeman, as acting President, doesn't so much phone in his performance as leave it on hold. Gerard Butler is no John McClane either, yet there are pleasures to be had if you like your action, well, packed... "Luckily, in spite of the usual this and that, it becomes easy just to sit back and giggle" (*Total Film*) Leave your brain at home. (*research Jack Whiting*) But bring the rest of you. Something, I can't remember, appealed about this film come and see if you can find it too (the clue might be in the director's name).

Director: Antoine Fuqua
Starring: Gerard Butler, Morgan Freeman, Aaron Eckhart, Angela Bassett
Certificate: 15
Duration: 120 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Lionsgate Films UK

Iron Man 3

Fri 7 7.30, Sat 8 7.00

Director: Shane Black
Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Kingsley, Guy Pearce
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Walt Disney Studio INTL

After three outings, one featuring that much celebrated all-star team-up, Robert Downey Jr and his shell suit are now as inseparable, and occasionally as annoying, as Ant & Dec. So it's refreshing to see Iron Man 3 step outside its comfort zone; separating man from machine. Tony Stark (Downey Jr) has regressed into a Howard Hughes (albeit well-manicured) frame of mind, rejecting sleep, and Gwyneth Paltrow, for obsessive mechanical tinkering as a result of post Avengers anxiety (originally alcoholism, but folks, this is Disney). Ben Kingsley's shadowy Mandarin – a sort of Bin Laden meets Bane – starts to broadcast his acts of terrorism for all to see. Meanwhile mega scientist turned mega villain Aldrich Killian (Guy Pearce) is scheming his way into Stark's technology, and love life. So Stark must put his problems aside and don the armour once more. Responsible for this tonal shift is writer/director Shane Black of the Lethal Weapons and previous Downey Jr collaboration Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, which coincidentally, re-launched Jr's career (as this IM3 has done for Black; now they're even). His eye and ear for self-aware smugness and cocky characters pay off in spades, allowing Stark to bow out on a high. Iron Man 3 then, is Lethal Weapon with missiles; Downey Jr is Riggs, Don Cheadle is Murtaugh, and it's Christmas. Black is the WD-40 this franchise needed. (*Jack Whiting*)



Benjamin Britten: Peace and Conflict

Sun 9 6.00



This year we celebrate the centenary of one of Britain's most acclaimed and inspiring composers, for whom we might only know for his 'A Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra'.

Peace and Conflict tells the story of a young Britten, starting at his prep school in Norfolk in 1929. This audacious drama-documentary, against any thought for fashion, explores the pacifism that so subtly shows itself in his work.

In a society still reeling from the First World War, Britten's hatred of all things military is forged, and this film explores the effect of this upon a fledgling composer's career. Comprised of a mixture of archive footage, recitals and dramatisation, the creation of not only a remarkable composer, but also a war-loathing pacifist.

This film has been a long running effort, made almost entirely upon donations from the public, and not only shows the story of Britten's influences, but also the socially conscientious revolution that created a generation of pacifists.

Directed by Tony Britten, a life long fan but not a relation, and narrated by John Hurt, this is a beautiful tribute, showing a hidden side of Britten, but one that subsequently channelled his extraordinary and brilliant career, as one of Britain's itself, outstanding composers. (*Will Newis*) Not just for fans, this film is for everybody. Come.

Director: Tony Britten
Starring: Alex Lawther
Certificate: PG
Duration: 109 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Capriol Films

Rebellion

Mon 10 7.30

Director: Mathieu Kassovitz
Starring: Mathieu Kassovitz, Malik Zidi
Certificate: 15
Duration: 136 mins
Origin: France 2011
By: Lionsgate Films UK

Mathieu Kassovitz made his name in 1995 as writer and director of La Haine. After many years in the making, his latest film has been hailed as a return to form.

Based on the memoirs of Captain Philippe Legorjus, head of an elite group of the Gendarmerie National trained to negotiate in hostage and anti-terrorist crises, portrayed here by writer and director, Kassovitz himself.

The action takes place on the New Caledonian Island, Ouvéa in the southwest Pacific. In the Spring of 1988, the indigenous inhabitants; the Kanaks, demanded instant independence from France (10,000 miles away).

A group of independence fighters attacked a police station killing four and taking 27 hostages.

The film follows the dramatic events that unfold over the next 10 days.

In 1988, France was wracked with political division as François Mitterrand and Jacques Chirac locked horns for the presidency. Kassovitz shows how the Kanak crisis was cynically exploited by the political class for their own gain in the elections.

"Intelligent political drama, part thriller, part war movie, and informed by something of the anger against established authority that fuelled La Haine." (*Observer*)

Legorjus's book is called 'La Morale et l'Action', the film was released in France as 'L'Ordre et la Morale', both titles superior to the one picked for us in the UK. (*research Anna Shepherd*) Forget the title, don't miss the film.



In The House

Tue 11 7.30



Back by huge demand, it is loosely based on Spanish playwright Juan Mayorga's *The Boy in the Last Row*, François Ozon's latest outing since 2010's *Potiche*, comes this comic social satire of the bourgeois family. Fabrice Luchini returns to play Germain, a bored and disheartened High School French literature teacher. His wife Jeanne; played by Kristin Scott Thomas, runs a contemporary art gallery. After setting the assignment "Write about what you did last weekend"; one pupil's work stands out from the others. 16-year-old Claude, writes in detail about his attempts to insinuate himself into the lower-middle-class home of fellow classmate, Rapha. This includes his fascination with Rapha's beautiful mother (Emanuelle Seigner). Germain becomes increasingly excited by Claude's writing and finds unscrupulous ways to get him to complete more of his fiction.

"It's a scintillating intellectual tease, rigorously controlled, but terrific fun at the same time." (*Telegraph*)

"Fact and fiction collide messily in a film that will be a treat for Ozon fans, which boasts an impressive breakthrough performance from one-to-watch Ernst Umhauer." (*Film4*)

A teasing reflection on mentoring, the creative process and the very nature of fiction; its ability to conjure alternate lives and more fulfilling identities for both author and reader.

(research Anna Shepherd)

Director: Francois Ozon
Starring: Kristin Scott Thomas, Fabrice Luchini, Ernst Umhauer
Certificate: 15
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: France 2012
By: Momentum Pictures

I'm So Excited

Wed 12 7.30

Director: Pedro Almodovar
Starring: Cecilia Roth, Javier Camara, Pepa Charro
Certificate: 15
Duration: 90 mins
Origin: Spain 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Pedro Almodóvar's up front plane-bound comedy is a boisterous riot that recalls the bawdy humour of his earlier Post-Franco films.

When a Spanish flight heading for Mexico City is discovered to have a fault in its landing gear; the trio of stewards manning Business Class decide to forego panicking in favour of a mile-high party. To avoid explaining the bad news to them; the entire economy-class passengers have been drugged into passivity. Meanwhile, with only 7 people in business class (and the pilots) to attend, the stewards are free to entertain them fully.

Providing them with cocktails (laced with mescaline) and a flamboyant but perfectly timed dance routine; the passengers and crew begin to unwind, revealing truths and confessions about themselves.

"I'm So Excited! is a slight, likeable movie, beautifully designed and charmingly performed." (*Observer*)

"It is a feature grounded in Spain's political actualities and arguably celebrates the need for playful pleasure and excess at a time when politicians can only respond with the bland, uninspired discourses of austerity." (*Sight&Sound*) A seductive satire of Spain's current economic woes? Or merely an entertaining energetic romp in the sky? You decide... (*Anna Shepherd*).

Some critics had hoped they would laugh more. Perhaps it might tickle you more, they didn't get their full quota. Of all creatures, they need laughter most.





Director: Michael Winterbottom
Starring: Steve Coogan, Anna Friel
Certificate: 18
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Studiocanal



The Look Of Love

Thu 13 7.30

The Look Of Love portrays the story of property and soft-porn magnate Paul Raymond in an almost Faustian tale of power, comedy, riches and sex, countered by the parabolic tale of his doomed daughter. Steve Coogan takes the role of the King of Soho, and brings a dose of Alan Partridge to this very British tale of sleaze, bad hair and hedonism. From a mind reader on Clacton pier to the richest man in Britain, we follow Raymond's tale, from the 1950s to the 90s, jumping between colour and black and white, showing the changes in British perception and law and giving an entertaining look into the racy backstreets of the West End.

"Coogan has a high old time, embellishing Greenhalgh's witty script with gleeful Sean Connery and Marlon Brando impressions." (*Total Film*) oh dear.

"Raymond's world-of-erotica is portrayed affectionately and with very British irony. From the 1950s-set black-and-white scene where we see his nude models fleeing from a lion to his 1970s parties in his luxurious apartment designed by Ringo Starr, the film plays up the comic dimension." (*Independent*) designed by Ringo Starr!?

"Coogan looks like Raymond." (*Observer*) Fantastic. Look him up, he does Coogan no favours. "Raymond would probably have approved (the film). So not such a good thing" (*LWL*)

Another cock and bull story with extra tits and bum from Winterbottom and Coogan.

A Hijacking

Fri 14 7.30, Sat 15 7.00



Hijacking is the latest from the magic pen of Tobias Lindholm, the man responsible for *The Hunt* and *Borgen*.

It is to many, a Danish approach to *Argo*. We follow the four month story of a Danish ship captured in the Indian Ocean by Somali pirates and how the ship's cook is forced to be the sole link to the shipping line's CEO in Copenhagen. In a cynical game of life and death with the crew's future on the line, a psychological drama unfolds with the relationship fraying between the increasingly traumatised cook and the pirates.

"As weeks turn into months, Lindholm portrays well the claustrophobia on board the ship and the tension at home." (*Time Out*)

"But the genius of the film is that only half of it takes place at sea, while the rest plays out in the swanky head office of the shipping company, thousands of miles away in Denmark" (*Independent*)

"As the hijacking drags on for three months, Mikkel endures the powder-keg unease which is made no more comfortable by the language barrier that separates him from his AK 47-toting captors." (*Little WL*)

Thoroughly rooted in the no-nonsense Danish approach to film making, we have a truly sober, albeit nerve-racking and memorable cat and mouse thriller. (*review Will Newis*).

Another independent world-cracker, not to miss in June. So please don't.

Director: Tobias Lindholm
Starring: Johan Philip Asbæk, Søren Malling, Dar Salim
Certificate: 15
Duration: 103 mins
Origin: Denmark 2013
By: Arrow Films

A Very Long Engagement

Sun 16 6.00

Director: Jean-Pierre Jeunet
Starring: Audrey Tautou, Dominique Pinon, Gaspard Ulliel
Certificate: 15
Duration: 134 mins
Origin: France 2005
By: Warner Brothers

This is one of a growing list of treasures we bring back from time to time when that time feels right. It is over two years and has not left my mind since its first screening here in February 2005. June is perhaps the right time to show it again, to mourn those conscripts, mostly children just turned sixteen, who would never see another summers day. Whose lives were wasted in a stinking war they had no say in, nor knew why they were there or who they were fighting.

As World War One comes to an end, a young French woman's greatest fight is about to begin. Crippled, Mathilde receives word that her childhood sweetheart, Manech is one of five soldiers court-martialled and pushed out into no-mans land... to certain death. Audrey Tautou and Amelie director, Jean-Pierre Jeunet, have made a thriller with love's heartbreaking determination at its core.

It captures the vile horrors of mud-deep trench life and the terrible decisions made in haste by incompetents and distracted, corrupt generals. A haunting, warm and beautiful story of loyalty and hope, where there is none. Above all it is a detective story meticulously unfolding piece by piece. Come, it will carry with it and for days after.



White Elephant

Mon 17 7.30



Following last year's hard-hitting Carancho, Pablo Trapero brings Ricardo Darín and Martina Gusman back to the screen. This time he teams them up with Dardenne Brothers' favourite Jérémie Renier, for another impactful portrayal of his native Buenos Aires.

The White Elephant of the title comes from the nickname of a ruin in Buenos Aires, now the centre of a slum occupied by approximately 30,000 poor and homeless. Gang and drug warfare is everywhere and armed police make regular and violent raids.

In amongst the turmoil, social workers and Catholic priests; Father Julián (Darín) and Father Nicolás (Renier) collaborate to finish a housing project that's strapped for cash whilst also keeping the peace between gangs.

"The drama is intense ... as Trapero shows how millions of poverty-stricken people live in his home country, and how a few brave people attempt to do something about it." (*Evening Standard*) "The election of an Argentinian Pope with a strong sense of social justice gives the film a peculiar and biting topicality." (*Observer*)

The central issue of the Catholic Church's involvement with Argentina's poor has suddenly come under the global spotlight in a way the director could not have anticipated. (research Anna Shepherd) It's tough and looks pretty real, so don't miss.

Director: Pablo Trapero
Starring: Ricardo Darín, Jeremie Renier, Martina Gusman
Certificate: 15
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: Argentina/Spain/France 2013
By: Axiom Films

The Reluctant Fundamentalist

Tue 18 7.30

Director: Mira Nair
Starring: Liev Schreiber, Riz Ahmed
Certificate: 15
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: Usa/Uk/Qatar 2013
By: Mara Pictures

Adapted from Mohsin Hamid's 2007 book, Mira Nair delivers a tense thriller that also manages to provoke thought.

When an American university professor is kidnapped in Lahore, the local CIA unit send resident journalist, Bobby Lincoln (Liev Schreiber); to interview local lecturer Changez Khan (a remarkable Riz Ahmed).

As Bobby begins to glean information from Changez and his whereabouts on the evening of the kidnapping, Changez decides to tell him the story of his life. Born and raised in Pakistan, Changez moved to New York to live the American Dream. After graduating from an Ivy League college, he gets picked up by a sought after consultancy firm. Changez's boss, Jim (Kiefer Sutherland) sees he holds great potential, with ambitions to make managing director by the age of 30. However, after the 9/11 attacks, the attitudes of Changez's colleagues suddenly shift. In the face of rising and obvious Islamophobia, Changez is torn between his life in America and the call of his family's homeland.

"There's much to enjoy: fine photography, juicy supporting turns from Kiefer Sutherland and Liev Schreiber, and a powerfully sustained sense of a man adrift in a world going mad." (*Time Out*) "An intriguing film about the blowback involved when melting-pot America goes to war." (*Guardian*) (research Anna Shepherd)

A brilliant jigsaw puzzle, don't miss.



The Big Wedding

Wed 19 7.30



A fine director, a fine cast, the formula should be there for a relatively pain free film. De Niro plays Don, who has been divorced from his wife Ellie (Diane Keaton) for years, and is now with Bebe (Susan Sarandon) Ellie's oldest best friend. They all get together when their adopted Columbian child Alejandro (Ben Barnes) is about to get married to Missy (Amanda Seyfried) uh oh! Alejandro's biological mother, the very traditional Madonna (Patricia Rae) is to attend the wedding. She doesn't know the grooms parents are divorced. It is time for the divorced couple to pretend once more to be a couple. What fun. (DeNiro and comedy: always worth the ridiculous spectacle?) "The Big Wedding is unabashed and unashamed, though with its cast of top-tier talent, it should be" (*LA Times*) "There's not a bad performance in this movie. De Niro, Keaton and Sarandon are particularly good, what a surprise. But it feels as if all the guests are wearing ID tags overdoing their one plot-point." (*Chicago Times*) A great opportunity to try our new wine list? and at 89 minutes there's not too long to wait until the credits. (*research Will Newis*) Hollywooded from the original French: *Mon Frère se Marie* (2006) How did we miss it? We'll show it soon to make up for this.

Director:	Justin Zackham
Starring:	Robert De Niro, Diane Keaton, Amanda Seyfried
Certificate:	15
Duration:	89 mins
Origin:	USA 2013
By:	Lionsgate Films UK



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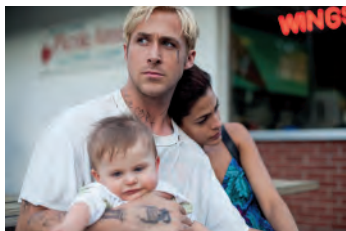
THURSDAY 20 JUNE

7.30

Balcony tickets on sale: usual prices.
DON'T MISS



The Place Beyond The Pines Fri 21 7.30



Director Derek Cianfrance knocked it out the park with Ryan Gosling in *Blue Valentine*, now here he's let loose with the same star, but with far bigger ambitions.

Split into three interlinked acts, *Pines* first follows Gosling's Luke, a motorcycle stunt rider who spends his time wowing New York circus audiences in the *Globe of Death*. He reconnects with Romina (Eva Mendes) a fling that resulted in their one year old son. Luke feels that in order to provide he must resort to more extreme methods of earning; namely bank robbing.

During an eye watering getaway, Luke gets into a stand-off with rookie police officer Avery Cross (Bradley Cooper). Wounded in action Cross becomes a local hero, but his entanglement with police corruption leads him to question his position. Cross and Luke's family, particularly their children, have a connection that leads into its third and final act. This act is, at first, an unsettling transition, yet once Cianfrance's scope is realised all the pieces fall perfectly into place.

Pines is pure heavyweight, American melodrama; backed by some incredible camera work and a stirring, soulful soundtrack. The Gosling and Cianfrance combo wins again, and from here onwards they can only continue to go above and beyond. (Jack Whiting) Come for casting at its best and brilliant turns, particularly from Gosling's brooding Brando.

Director: Derek Cianfrance
Starring: Ryan Gosling, Bradley Cooper, Eva Mendes
Certificate: 15
Duration: 140 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Studiocanal

The Iceman Sat 22 7.00

Director: Ariel Vromen
Starring: Michael Shannon, Ray Liotta, Winona Ryder
Certificate: 15
Duration: 103 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Lionsgate Films UK

Michael Shannon's villainous persona will be undoubtedly amplified when he'll be toe to toe with Superman in the upcoming *Man of Steel*, until then, here's another cool performance from the man who portrays delirium perfectly.

"Here are the facts: He's a cold-blooded killer who's adopted into the New Jersey mafia after his porno-distributor gig goes under. He's also a devoted family man with a wife (Winona Ryder) and two daughters who know nothing of his work as an underworld assassin. If the story sounds familiar, that's because it's true. The real-life Kuklinski was credited with more than 200 murders between his 1940s adolescence and his eventual life-imprisonment in the 1980s, a period during which he earned the chilly moniker *The Iceman*." (*Time Out*)

"An odd assortment of bit-players keeps proceedings lively: David Schwimmer is cast against type as a Mafia enforcer with a David Seaman moustache and ponytail, Chris Evans is unrecognisable as an ice cream van-driving hitman called Mr Freezy, and James Franco has a grimly brief cameo as one of Kuklinski's victims" (*Telegraph*) Shannon continues to exude a brilliant sense of unease in his performances, and *Iceman* is no exception. A little underwhelming considering the talent involved, but chilling to the end. (Jack Whiting)



Bonnie & Clyde

Sun 23 6.00



Influenced by the French new wave of the early 1960s, the first choice for director, François Truffaut, expressed a keen interest and may have even been involved in the development of the screenplay. However, before filming could begin, the opportunity arose for Truffaut to make his long-cherished project: *Fahrenheit 451*, so dropped out. After his departure, producers approached Jean-Luc Godard. Some sources claim Godard didn't trust Hollywood and refused; others allege he planned to make *Bonnie and Clyde* teenagers and relocate the story to Japan, prompting the film's investors to opt for Arthur Penn.

Warner Bros. gave the movie a limited, B-movie release, for drive-ins and flea-pits. When critics began raving about it and young people queued in thousands, it was given a wider release and became a huge hit worldwide (including Japan). Ann-Margret was considered for Bonnie Parker. Wow! what a shame, still Faye Dunaway sold a million dollars worth of berets worldwide (including Japan). Come and see how well it holds up 46 years on.

Director: Arthur Penn
Starring: Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway,
Certificate: 15
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: USA 1967
By: Park Circus Films

Our Children

Mon 24 7.30

Director: Joachim Lafosse
Starring: Emilie Dequenne, Niels Arestrup
Certificate: 15
Duration: 111 mins
Origin: Belgium/Luxembourg/France/
 Switzerland
By: Peccadillo Pictures

Emilie Dequenne gives a performance of searing intensity as the young mother of four children, matched by Niels Arestrup and Tahar Rahim, replaying their lethally symbolic relationship from 'A Prophet'.

The initial focus divulges the relationship between Moroccan-born, Mounir (Rahim) and his fiercely protective Belgian benefactor and adoptive father, Dr Pinget (Arestrup).

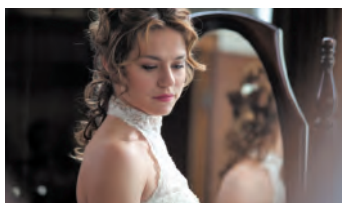
When Mounir marries school teacher Murielle (Dequenne), Pinget offers his home to share, and soon he begins to implement his control as their family grows.

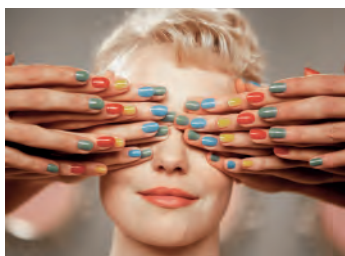
Director Joachim Lafosse skilfully exposes how Murielle's comfortable domestic life gradually becomes "walled up"; trapped between her sulky, naïve husband and the ultra-controlling Dr Pinget.

The young mother finds herself isolated in the strange family unit and Lafosse subtly shows why she might be compelled to take desperate measures.

"Lafosse's use of music (from Scarlatti and Haydn to Julien Clerc) is inspired, while Rahim and Arestrup once again demonstrate the persuasive bond they shared in *A Prophet*." (*Radio Times*)
 "Niels Arestrup plays [the father] imperiously, the white hair all but saying 'I am your Lear, try to expel me'". (*Financial Times*)

A quiet masterpiece. (*Anna Shepherd*)
 Somehow overlooked as film of the month for *Star Trek*! Wrist slitting already begun. Don't miss this beautifully put - 'quiet masterpiece'.





Director: Régis Roinsard
Starring: Romain Duris, Deborah François, Bérénice Bejo
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 111 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Entertainment One UK



Populaire

Tue 25 7.30, Wed 26 7.30

This sumptuous and chic French romantic comedy, starring Romain Duris and Déborah François sparkles with vintage Hollywood charm.

Set in the spring of 1958: 21 year-old Rose Pamphyle (Déborah François) lives with her grouchy widower father who runs the local village shop. Rose dreams of escaping her village and the inevitability of becoming a bored housewife.

Travelling to Lisieux in Normandy, Rose applies for a job as a secretary to insurance broker Louis Echard (Romain Duris). Despite the interview being a disaster; Rose reveals a real skill: typing at great speed. Louis, a former athlete, decides to train Rose to compete in a regional speed-typing competition; and then on to the world championships!

"Pastel-coloured sets and suave costumes nail the period vibe, while our lead male revels in society's chauvinist attitudes with wit as sharp as his side-parting." (*Glasgow Film Fest*)

"The chemistry between the two leads is positively nuclear, and the film's effervescent, spot-on evocation of the period in its visual style and soundtrack is a joy to absorb." (*Screen Daily*)

This fine blend of *Pygmalion*, popular American cinema and *Mad Men* references is a winning combination. (*research Anna Shepherd*) A winning synopsis from Ms Shepherd, describing possibly one of the most fulfilling, beautifully staged, and enjoyable films of our ninth year. So don't dare miss.



Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, Chris Pine
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 132 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Paramount International Pictures

Star Trek (Into Darkness)

**Thu 27 7.30, Fri 28 7.30,
Sat 29 7.00, Sun 30 6.00**

In 2009 JJ Abrams re-energised the sagging franchise with warp-speed precision; giving Trekkies a breezy re-introduction to Kirk and co. as well as roping in newbies who wouldn't know their Klingons from their Romulans.

Everything is brought forward from the first, lens flare n'all. So with relationships firmly established, it's simply a case of upping the stakes. And boy are the stakes upped; largely in thanks to Benedict Cumberbatch's mysterious menace.

A mission to save an indigenous planet from volcanic doom re-introduces us to Kirk (Chris Pine), Spock (Zachary Quinto) and the rest of the Enterprise at their snarky best. It's the arrival of Cumberbatch, however, that causes the crew to start taking things seriously. BFFs Kirk and Spock's bromance reaches fever pitch when things get tough, alas, let us not forget this is summer action fare, so CGI money shots aplenty and at breakneck pace that'll give you whiplash (where you not at the Rex).

Into Darkness threatens to go boldly into darker territory as Cumberbatch chews every scene with Shakespearian authority, but it doesn't forget to evolve the charm and warmth of its blistering predecessor. Abrams has the monumental job of kick-starting the new Star Wars trilogy, and judging by this he'll have the full force on his side. (Jack Whiting) It shows, when a director is not a fan, the movie boldly works. Bring the kids.



COMING SOON

New releases

Man of Steel
Summer In February
Therese
Byzantium
The Hangover Part 3
The Company You Keep
Everybody Has A Plan

Back by demand

Populaire
Star Trek
A Hijacking
Plus golden oldies



Byzantium



Man Of Steel



Summer In February



Therese

JUNE FILMS AT A GLANCE

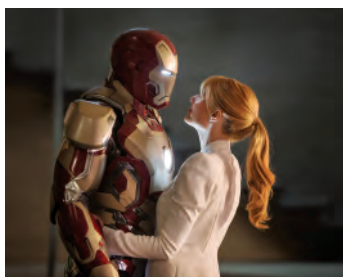
Please check times carefully and watch out for early shows.

1	Sat	IRON MAN 3	2.00, 7.00
2	Sun	IRON MAN 3	6.00
3	Mon	IRON MAN 3	2.00
3	Mon	EYE OF THE STORM	7.30
4	Tue	IRON MAN 3	12.30
4	Tue	MUD	7.30
5	Wed	BENJAMIN BRITTEN: PEACE AND CONFLICT	2.00
5	Wed	OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN	7.30
6	Thu	MUD	2.00, 7.30
7	Fri	IRON MAN 3	7.30
8	Sat	IRON MAN 3	2.00, 7.00
9	Sun	BENJAMIN BRITTEN: PEACE AND CONFLICT	6.00
10	Mon	MY AFTERNOONS WITH MARGUERITTE	2.00
10	Mon	REBELLION	7.30
11	Tue	I'M SO EXCITED	12.30
11	Tue	IN THE HOUSE	7.30
12	Wed	IN THE HOUSE	2.00
12	Wed	I'M SO EXCITED	7.30
13	Thu	LOOK OF LOVE	2.00, 7.30
14	Fri	A HIJACKING	7.30
15	Sat	ERNEST & CÉLESTINE	2.00
15	Sat	A HIJACKING	7.00
16	Sun	A VERY LONG ENGAGEMENT	6.00
17	Mon	THE GREAT GATSBY (1974)	2.00
17	Mon	WHITE ELEPHANT	7.30
18	Tue	THE BIG WEDDING	12.30
18	Tue	THE RELUCTANT FUNDAMENTALIST	7.30
19	Wed	THE BIG WEDDING	2.00, 7.30
20	Thu	LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED	2.00
20	Thu	ODYSSEY SPONSORSHIP EVENT	7.30
21	Fri	THE PLACE BEYOND THE PINES	7.30
22	Sat	MY NEIGHBOUR TOTORO	2.00
22	Sat	THE ICEMAN	7.00
23	Sun	BONNIE & CLYDE	6.00
24	Mon	BONNIE & CLYDE	2.00
24	Mon	OUR CHILDREN	7.30
25	Tue	POPULAIRE	12.30, 7.30
26	Wed	POPULAIRE	2.00, 7.30
27	Thu	STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS	2.00, 7.30
28	Fri	STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS	7.30
29	Sat	STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS	2.00, 7.00
30	Sun	STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS	6.00



J U N E M A T I N E E S

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



Director: Shane Black
Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Kingsley, Guy Pearce
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Walt Disney Studio INTL



Iron Man 3

Sat 1 2.00, **Mon 3** 2.00,
Tue 4 12.30

After three outings, one featuring that much celebrated all-star team-up, Robert Downey Jr and his shell suit are now as inseparable, and occasionally as annoying, as Ant & Dec. So it's refreshing to see Iron Man 3 step outside its comfort zone; separating man from machine. Tony Stark (Downey Jr) has regressed into a Howard Hughes (albeit well-manicured) frame of mind, rejecting sleep, and Gwyneth Paltrow, for obsessive mechanical tinkering as a result of post Avengers anxiety (originally alcoholism, but folks, this is Disney). Ben Kingsley's shadowy Mandarin – a sort of Bin Laden meets Bane – starts to broadcast his acts of terrorism for all to see. Meanwhile mega scientist turned mega villain Aldrich Killian (Guy Pearce) is scheming his way into Stark's technology, and love life. So Stark must put his problems aside and don the armour once more. Responsible for this tonal shift is writer/director Shane Black of the Lethal Weapons and previous Downey Jr collaboration Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, which coincidentally, re-launched Jr's career (as this IM3 has done for Black; now they're even). His eye and ear for self-aware smugness and cocky characters pay off in spades, allowing Stark to bow out on a high. Iron Man 3 then, is Lethal Weapon with missiles; Downey Jr is Riggs, Don Cheadle is Murtaugh, and it's Christmas. Black is the WD-40 this franchise needed. *(Jack Whiting)*



Benjamin Britten: Peace and Conflict

Wed 5 2.00



This year we celebrate the centenary of one of Britain's most acclaimed and inspiring composers, for whom we might only know for his 'A Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra'.

Peace and Conflict tells the story of a young Britten, starting at his prep school in Norfolk in 1929. This audacious drama-documentary, against any thought for fashion, explores the pacifism that so subtly shows itself in his work.

In a society still reeling from the First World War, Britten's hatred of all things military is forged, and this film explores the effect of this upon a fledgling composer's career. Comprised of a mixture of archive footage, recitals and dramatisation, the creation of not only a remarkable composer, but also a war-loathing pacifist.

This film has been a long running effort, made almost entirely upon donations from the public, and not only shows the story of Britten's influences, but also the socially conscientious revolution that created a generation of pacifists.

Directed by Tony Britten, a life long fan but not a relation, and narrated by John Hurt, this is a beautiful tribute, showing a hidden side of Britten, but one that subsequently channelled his extraordinary and brilliant career, as one of Britain's itself, outstanding composers. (*Will Newis*) Not just for fans, this film is for everybody. Come.

Director: Tony Britten
Starring: Alex Lawther
Certificate: PG
Duration: 109 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Capriol Films

Mud

Thu 6 2.00

Director: Jeff Nichols
Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Tye Sheridan, Sam Shepard, Michael Shannon, Reese Witherspoon
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Entertainment One UK

Mud is the latest American coming of age drama, which weaves together an elaborate plot of poverty, love, youth and violence. We follow the story of two teenagers living on the Mississippi river front with their parents. During an excursion to a nearby island they find Mud, a fugitive hiding in an abandoned boat. Mud recruits the teens into his world of bloodshed and retribution, asking them to help locate his girlfriend Juniper, whom he cannot contact directly as he is being watched by a violent syndicate. It isn't long before Juniper comes to town... followed by a string of bounty hunters. "It's quite possibly the most beautiful film ever made about the Mississippi River, a bittersweet (but ultimately optimistic) ode to a dying way of life."

(*L White L*)

"The harshness and the beauty of this economically depressed setting, where nondescript target-strip malls share close quarters with mythically swampy backwoods, is vividly rendered in gritty widescreen compositions, giving it an appropriately fable like air." (*Time Out*) With hints of Huckleberry Finn and Great Expectations and with a cast including Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon and two great new-comer Mississippi swamp kids, we can see why Mud is getting an array of plaudits and accolades, long before the new award season is on its feet. Another real gem, co-starring Mr Mc's pecs and abs. Don't miss.



Iron Man

Sat 8 2.00



After three outings, one featuring that much celebrated all-star team-up, Robert Downey Jr and his shell suit are now as inseparable, and occasionally as annoying, as *Ant & Dec*. So it's refreshing to see Iron Man 3 step outside its comfort zone; separating man from machine. Tony Stark (Downey Jr) has regressed into a Howard Hughes (albeit well-manicured) frame of mind, rejecting sleep, and Gwyneth Paltrow, for obsessive mechanical tinkering as a result of post Avengers anxiety (originally alcoholism, but folks, this is Disney). Ben Kingsley's shadowy Mandarin – a sort of Bin Laden meets Bane – starts to broadcast his acts of terrorism for all to see. Meanwhile mega scientist turned mega villain Aldrich Killian (Guy Pearce) is scheming his way into Stark's technology, and love life. So Stark must put his problems aside and don the armour once more. Responsible for this tonal shift is writer/director Shane Black of the Lethal Weapons and previous Downey Jr collaboration Kiss Kiss Bang Bang, which coincidentally, re-launched Jr's career (as this IM3 has done for Black; now they're even). His eye and ear for self-aware smugness and cocky characters pay off in spades, allowing Stark to bow out on a high. Iron Man 3 then, is Lethal Weapon with missiles; Downey Jr is Riggs, Don Cheadle is Murtaugh, and it's Christmas. Black is the WD-40 this franchise needed. (Jack Whiting)

Director: Shane Black
Starring: Robert Downey Jr, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Kingsley, Guy Pearce
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Walt Disney Studio INTL

My Afternoons With Marguerite

Mon 10 2.00

Director: Jean Becker
Starring: Gérard Depardieu, Gisèle Casadesus
Certificate: 15
Duration: 82 mins
Origin: France 2010
By: Picturehouse Entertainment

Directed by Jean Becker (son of Jacques), "My Afternoons With Marguerite" is a sweet natured, heart in your hand, French comedy.

Set in a small, sunny town, Germain (Gérard Depardieu), a semi-literate, bumbling, fat handyman, strikes up an unlikely friendship with ninety-something Marguerite (the astonishing, real life nonagenarian, Gisèle Casadesus). Their chance meeting on a park bench sets in motion a whimsical friendship. Marguerite reads Camus to the big man, and slowly sets him on a path to self-improvement. It's unashamedly cosy, inimitability French, set in a leafy town where the sun always shines. The character of Germain is a strange one, a mixture of blustering assurance and low self-esteem, despite having a fabulous blonde girlfriend half his age. Such inconsistencies Depardieu pulls off with ease. However, Gisèle is the star; an actress since the 1930s, she is grace and charm personified. "It's charming, sentimental, well-acted, and any readers' group should make an outing to see it." (*Observer*) "Nicely acted, feel-good lesson in self-improvement with a portrait of petit bourgeois village life that uses every cliché in the book." (*Independent*) It's close to Conversations with My Gardener in the sure knowledge that only one of them is in charge and it's not that one. So too, if you loved Orchestra Seats you'll love this. If you have yet to see either, start with this. Parfait.



I'm So Excited

Tue 11 12.30



Pedro Almodóvar's up front plane-bound comedy is a boisterous riot that recalls the bawdy humour of his earlier Post-Franco films.

When a Spanish flight heading for Mexico City is discovered to have a fault in its landing gear; the trio of stewards manning Business Class decide to forego panicking in favour of a mile-high party.

To avoid explaining the bad news to them; the entire economy-class passengers have been drugged into passivity. Meanwhile, with only 7 people in business class (and the pilots) to attend, the stewards are free to entertain them fully.

Providing them with cocktails (laced with mescaline) and a flamboyant but perfectly timed dance routine; the passengers and crew begin to unwind, revealing truths and confessions about themselves.

"I'm So Excited! is a slight, likeable movie, beautifully designed and charmingly performed." (*Observer*)

"It is a feature grounded in Spain's political actualities and arguably celebrates the need for playful pleasure and excess at a time when politicians can only respond with the bland, uninspired discourses of austerity." (*Sight&Sound*)

A seductive satire of Spain's current economic woes? Or merely an entertaining energetic romp in the sky? You decide... (*Anna Shepherd*).

Some critics had hoped they would laugh more. Perhaps it might tickle you more, they didn't get their full quota. Of all creatures, they need laughter most.

Director: Pedro Almodovar
Starring: Cecilia Roth, Javier Camara, Pepa Charro
Certificate: 15
Duration: 90 mins
Origin: Spain 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

In The House

Wed 12 2.00

Director: Francois Ozon
Starring: Kristin Scott Thomas, Fabrice Luchini, Ernst Umhauer
Certificate: 15
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: France 2012
By: Momentum Pictures

Back by huge demand, it is loosely based on Spanish playwright Juan Mayorga's *The Boy in the Last Row*, François Ozon's latest outing since 2010's *Potiche*, comes this comic social satire of the bourgeois family.

Fabrice Luchini returns to play Germain, a bored and disheartened High School French literature teacher. His wife Jeanne; played by Kristin Scott Thomas, runs a contemporary art gallery.

After setting the assignment "Write about what you did last weekend"; one pupil's work stands out from the others. 16-year-old Claude, writes in detail about his attempts to insinuate himself into the lower-middle-class home of fellow classmate, Rapha. This includes his fascination with Rapha's beautiful mother (Emanuelle Seigner).

Germain becomes increasingly excited by Claude's writing and finds unscrupulous ways to get him to complete more of his fiction.

"It's a scintillating intellectual tease, rigorously controlled, but terrific fun at the same time." (*Telegraph*)

"Fact and fiction collide messily in a film that will be a treat for Ozon fans, which boasts an impressive breakthrough performance from one-to-watch Ernst Umhauer." (*Film4*)

A teasing reflection on mentoring, the creative process and the very nature of fiction; its ability to conjure alternate lives and more fulfilling identities for both author and reader.

(research Anna Shepherd)



The Look Of Love

Thu 13 2.00



The Look Of Love portrays the story of property and soft-porn magnate Paul Raymond in an almost Faustian tale of power, comedy, riches and sex, countered by the parabolic tale of his doomed daughter. Steve Coogan takes the role of the King of Soho, and brings a dose of Alan Partridge to this very British tale of sleaze, bad hair and hedonism. From a mind reader on Clacton pier to the richest man in Britain, we follow Raymond's tale, from the 1950s to the 90s, jumping between colour and black and white, showing the changes in British perception and law and giving an entertaining look into the racy backstreets of the West End.

"Coogan has a high old time, embellishing Greenhalgh's witty script with gleeful Sean Connery and Marlon Brando impressions." (*Total Film*) oh dear.

"Raymond's world-of-erotica is portrayed affectionately and with very British irony. From the 1950s-set black-and-white scene where we see his nude models fleeing from a lion to his 1970s parties in his luxurious apartment designed by Ringo Starr, the film plays up the comic dimension." (*Independent*) designed by Ringo Starr!?

"Coogan looks like Raymond." (*Observer*) Fantastic. Look him up, he does Coogan no favours. "Raymond would probably have approved (the film). So not such a good thing" (*LWL*)

Another cock and bull story with extra tits and bum from Winterbottom and Coogan.

Director: Michael Winterbottom
Starring: Steve Coogan, Anna Friel
Certificate: 18
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Studiocanal

Ernest & Célestine

Sat 15 2.00

Directors: Stéphane Aubier, Vincent Patar
Certificate: U
Duration: 77 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Studiocanal

Here is a simple, yet delightful animation based on a series of children's books by the late Belgian author and illustrator Gabrielle Vincent.

"Young mouse orphan Célestine is being groomed for a career in dentistry, but she longs to be an artist instead. She has a sweet meet-cute with outsider bear Ernest, a musician-poet who lives in a secluded cottage in the forest, when she persuades him not to eat her and helps him break into a confectioner's store instead. After various scrapes with the law for Ernest and reprimands for Célestine for her rebellious behavior, the two set up house together in Ernest's woodland home." (*Variety*)

"The Ernest and Célestine series was created by late Belgian author and artist Vincent in the early 1980s, and currently includes over two-dozen volumes, many of which have been translated into English." (*Hollywood Reporter*)

"The watercolour backgrounds and pen and ink characters have a bespoke charm that's hard to resist." (*Screen Int*) Vincent's works have been sincerely transformed into an inoffensive and utterly absorbing tale about childhood. (*research Jack Whiting*).

So bring the street, come and see.



The Great Gatsby

Mon 17 2.00 (The old one 1974)



This Great G was also panned on release in the Summer of 1974, even with a script by Francis Ford Coppola, and starring Robert Redford's magnificent jib. So as there's nothing new under the sun, why bother to remake something that was all style and little substance? For that very reason. Style is always worth chasing, especially in today's bereft desert of track suits, fleeces and hoodies. That said, whatever the new one does, it won't outdo these faces or the music... Perfect for a Monday afternoon. Don't miss.

Director: Jack Clayton
Starring: Robert Redford, Mia Farrow, Bruce Dern, Karen Black
Certificate: PG
Duration: 144 mins
Origin: USA 1974
By: Park Circus Films

The Big Wedding

Tue 18 12.30, **Wed 19** 2.00

Director: Justin Zackham
Starring: Robert De Niro, Katherine Heigl, Amanda Seyfried
Certificate: 15
Duration: 89 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Lionsgate Films UK

A fine director, a fine cast, the formula should be there for a relatively pain free film. De Niro plays Don, who has been divorced from his wife Ellie (Diane Keaton) for years, and is now with Bebe (Susan Sarandon) Ellie's oldest best friend. They all get together when their adopted Columbian child Alejandro (Ben Barnes) is about to get married to Missy (Amanda Seyfried) uh oh! Alejandro's biological mother, the very traditional Madonna (Patricia Rae) is to attend the wedding. She doesn't know the grooms parents are divorced. It is time for the divorced couple to pretend once more to be a couple. What fun. (DeNiro and comedy: always worth the ridiculous spectacle?) "The Big Wedding is unabashed and unashamed, though with its cast of top-tier talent, it should be" (*LA Times*) "There's not a bad performance in this movie. De Niro, Keaton and Sarandon are particularly good, what a surprise. But it feels as if all the guests are wearing ID tags overdoing their one plot-point." (*Chicago Times*) A great opportunity to try our new wine list? and at 89 minutes there's not too long to wait until the credits. (*research Will Newis*) Hollywooded from the original French: Mon Frère se Marie (2006) How did we miss it? We'll show it soon to make up for this.



Love Is All You Need

Thu 20 2.00



Award winning and remarkable Danish director Susanne Bier co-wrote and directs 'Love Is All You Need' or translated from the Danish: The Bald Hairdresser! We follow the story of Ida (Trine Dyrholm) who comes home following chemo-therapy to find her husband in bed with his lover. Pulling the remnants of herself together, she travels to Italy for her daughter's wedding. Whereupon, she meets Philip (Pierce Brosnan) a lonely widower and estranged father of the groom, who still blames the world for his wife's demise. The result is a cocktail of loss, trust, love and laughter. "Bier's film is not an out-and-out romantic comedy so much as a romance with some very funny moments, although the wedding and holiday backdrop are strong reminders of Mamma Mia. Happily, Brosnan resists bursting into frightening song." (*Telegraph*) The bumpy path towards the union of their children, the clashes and faux pas of wedding guests, force Philip and Ida together to re-evaluate their notions of family, and the pains and joys of moving on and recovering. This is a real diversion for Bier, whose previous Rex favourites: the heartbreaking, *Brothers* and *After The Wedding* were far from romantic comedies. But this film too carries her hallmark of family tragedy turning everyday worlds upside down. An interesting mix of faces and Scandinavian storytelling. Don't miss.

Director: Susanne Bier
Starring: Pierce Brosnan, Trine Dyrholm
Certificate: 15
Duration: 116 mins
Origin: Denmark/Germany/Italy/Sweden 2012
By: Arrow Films

My Neighbour Totoro

Sat 22 2.00

Director: Hayao Miyazaki
Certificate: U
Duration: 83 mins
Origin: Japan 1989
By: Studiocanal

Released in 1988, though the gorgeous, hand-drawn animation would find home in any decade, Hayao Miyazaki's enrapturing tale, the first of his to reach an international audience, still overshadows most modern efforts. Totoro follows two young girls, Satsuke and Mei, who have moved to a remote house in the countryside with their father, as their mother recovers in hospital. They soon discover that the surrounding forest is filled with all kinds of exciting creatures, one of them being the wide eyed Totoro himself. "Here is a children's film made for the world we should live in, rather than the one we occupy. A film with no villains. No fight scenes. No evil adults. No fighting between the kids. No scary monsters. A world that is benign. A world where if you meet a strange towering creature in the forest, you curl up on its tummy and have a nap." (*Roger Ebert*) Revisiting Totoro, it's easy to see why Miyazaki was soon heralded as the Walt Disney of Japan, but in truth he's much better; forgoing sentimentality for a giddy sense of innocence, as well as animating his own films. It shouldn't just be regarded as one of the greatest animations, but one of the greatest examples of world cinema. (*Jack Whiting*) Fantastic, bring every tech-slave-kid in the street.



Bonnie & Clyde

Mon 24 2.00



Influenced by the French new wave of the early 1960s, the first choice for director, François Truffaut, expressed a keen interest and may have even been involved in the development of the screenplay. However, before filming could begin, the opportunity arose for Truffaut to make his long-cherished project: *Fahrenheit 451*, so dropped out. After his departure, producers approached Jean-Luc Godard. Some sources claim Godard didn't trust Hollywood and refused; others allege he planned to make Bonnie and Clyde teenagers and relocate the story to Japan, prompting the film's investors to opt for Arthur Penn. Warner Bros. gave the movie a limited, B-movie release, for drive-ins and flea-pits. When critics began raving about it and young people queued in thousands, it was given a wider release and became a huge hit worldwide (including Japan). Ann-Margret was considered for Bonnie Parker. Wow! what a shame, still Faye Dunaway sold a million dollars worth of berets worldwide (including Japan). Come and see how well it holds up 46 years on.

Director: Arthur Penn
Starring: Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway
Certificate: 15
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: USA 1967
By: Park Circus Films

Populaire

Tue 25 12.30, Wed 26 2.00

Director: Régis Roinsard
Starring: Romain Duris, Deborah François, Bérénice Bejo
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 111 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Entertainment One UK

This sumptuous and chic French romantic comedy, starring Romain Duris and Déborah François sparkles with vintage Hollywood charm.

Set in the spring of 1958: 21 year-old Rose Pamphyle (Déborah François) lives with her grouchy widower father who runs the local village shop. Rose dreams of escaping her village and the inevitability of becoming a bored housewife.

Travelling to Lisieux in Normandy, Rose applies for a job as a secretary to insurance broker Louis Echard (Romain Duris). Despite the interview being a disaster; Rose reveals a real skill: typing at great speed. Louis, a former athlete, decides to train Rose to compete in a regional speed-typing competition; and then on to the world championships! "Pastel-coloured sets and suave costumes nail the period vibe, while our lead male revels in society's chauvinist attitudes with wit as sharp as his side-parting." (*Glasgow Film Fest*)

"The chemistry between the two leads is positively nuclear, and the film's effervescent, spot-on evocation of the period in its visual style and soundtrack is a joy to absorb." (*Screen Daily*) This fine blend of Pygmalion, popular American cinema and Mad Men references is a winning combination. (*research Anna Shepherd*) A winning synopsis from Ms Shepherd, describing possibly one of the most fulfilling, beautifully staged, and enjoyable films of our ninth year. So don't dare miss.





Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, Chris Pine
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 132 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Paramount International Pictures

Star Trek (Into Darkness)

Thu 27 2.00, Sat 29 2.00

In 2009 JJ Abrams re-energised the sagging franchise with warp-speed precision; giving Trekkies a breezy re-introduction to Kirk and co. as well as roping in newbies who wouldn't know their Klingons from their Romulans. Everything is brought forward from the first, lens flare n'all. So with relationships firmly established, it's simply a case of upping the stakes. And boy are the stakes upped; largely in thanks to Benedict Cumberbatch's mysterious menace. A mission to save an indigenous planet from volcanic doom re-introduces us to Kirk (Chris Pine), Spock (Zachary Quinto) and the rest of the Enterprise at their snarky best. It's the arrival of Cumberbatch, however, that causes the crew to start taking things seriously. BFFs Kirk and Spock's bromance reaches fever pitch when things get tough, alas, let us not forget this is summer action fare, so CGI money shots aplenty and at breakneck pace that'll give you whiplash (where you not at the Rex). Into Darkness threatens to go boldly into darker territory as Cumberbatch chews every scene with Shakespearian authority, but it doesn't forget to evolve the charm and warmth of its blistering predecessor. Abrams has the monumental job of kick-starting the new Star Wars trilogy, and judging by this he'll have the full force on his side. (Jack Whiting) It shows, when a director is not a fan, the movie boldly works. Bring the kids.



ST ALBANS



Proper building work began at the Odyssey on 13th May under the steady eye of Procure. The second phase of construction after the summer will restore it to its Odeon shell, ready for phase three in the new year to bring it up to greater than its former glory as the Odyssey; ready for opening in the Spring next year.

Look out for a banner going up on the scaffolding, telling you what funding is left to find. Now is a good time for sponsors to come and talk to us. Anyone heard of ‘Crowd Funding’? This sounds like that school kid’s daydream of what if everybody in the world gave me a penny? If it is and you know your way around it, shout! Drop JH a quick line at hannaway07@btinternet.com and let’s get on with it.



JillTaylor,
Mayor Cllr Annie Brewster
(with Rex prog)

SEAT SPONSORSHIP

SEATS (£1000)	
SPONSORED SO FAR	149
SEATING CAPACITY	450
SEATS OPEN FOR SPONSORSHIP	301

- Have a seat in your own name or dedicated to a loved one.
- It will be your chosen name on that seat for life.



Sad early doors, not for long

ABL MEMBERSHIP (£285)

[Advanced Booking List For Year 1]

597 sold so far total ABL's available 800

SO ONLY 203 LEFT...**WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR ABL**

- A confirmed listing posted first class or emailed to you monthly.
- At least one week's priority booking, ahead of general release (see queue above).
- £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 (225 seats). This sees to it that nothing sells out before general release.

FINAL WORD ON SPONSORSHIP

Talk to us about how you and/or your company can benefit and how we can help tailor a package to your needs. We are open to your own ideas and suggestions, including corporate events at The Odyssey.



We were invited to Gorhambury by Rosie Grimston to plot the early stages of a Drive-in Movie weekend on the estate fields in September. She made us a fabulous offer we couldn't refuse; to raise awareness as the Odyssey gets closer, and a few last pennies towards its fanfare opening in the spring of 2014. So carve these dates in your diary: Fri-Saturday 13-14th September (Yes, Friday 13th...) Don't know what films yet, might even keep it a surprise? The sloping fields are perfect. We met the new Mayor of St Albans (pre-inauguration) Cllr Annie Brewster, who is quite possibly the most glamorous mayor, let alone local councillor, one is likely to meet. Together we all pounded the fields and Roman amphitheatre excitedly planning this and things at The Rex.

Above: l-r Leanne Douglas, Rosie Grimston, Annie Brewster, Jill Taylor

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JUST THE TICKET...



This traffic warden has just booked a lorry while the driver is still unloading. You can just see his feet below the open cab door, and the back door swung open. An ordinary weekday in the heart of London. This 6ft warden, grunted at me taking his picture while he snapped his prize on the windscreen. The driver took no notice and carried on with his delivery.

It struck me later there might be a strategy, or even a policy, here. London boroughs appear to recruit wardens who can't speak English too well, and seem to be African.

Hence a double catch 22: there is no

common language to argue or plead and you can't give him a piece of your mind in case he pulls the race card and yells "Abuse..."

A sly, cynical, though clever policy/strategy, exploiting ordinary people's fears, which, in itself is exploitative, dangerous and likely to incite anger and rage. Moreover, it denies the small 'pleasure' to be had from a sixty quid fine, by spontaneously voicing one's disquiet. Of course traffic wardens deserve abuse. It's not a job, it is lucrative, institutional bullying. It's not personal, it's not you who is despised, it is the symbol of what you have chosen to become.



On the other hand, these titanic coaches cause mayhem every school-run day. Each takes up the length of three cars but carries fewer passengers. Where is the balance...?

It is a great sadness that Saltmarsh's has gone (only recently became Blakes) You could get anything there, from fork handles to hose. It supplied us with much of the last fixings at the Rex. Tony, was the face of Saltmarsh, never in a hurry and always brilliant at finding roughly what we needed. It was a proper shop, an old fashioned chandlers with hand tools, screws and nails for all occasions. It has had to go because the rent was pushed

beyond reach. How can landlords get away with that? Foolish perhaps, but I thought there was a fair rent act to protect small shops like this? In this latest shot of the Rex spring garden and steps, are hidden many Saltmarsh treasures, holding everything together. It is already sorely missed, even as a jumbled.landmark at the bottom of Lower Kings Rd. Still, here's to a late-night fast-food take-away in its place.

