

# THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E

THE DIVING BELL  
AND THE BUTTERFLY

MARCH...



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

THE-REX

MARCH 2008 Issue 36  
[www.therexcinema.com](http://www.therexcinema.com)

**01442 877759**

Mon-Sat 10.30-6pm Sun 4.30-6.30pm

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**SEAT PRICES:**

Circle	£7.00
Concessions	£5.50
At Table	£9.00
Concessions	£7.50
Royal Box (seats 6) or for the Box	£11.00 £60.00

**BOX OFFICE:**

01442 877759

Mon to Sat 10.30 – 6.00

Sun 4.30 – 6.30

(Credit/Debit card booking fee 50p)

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:

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<b>Henry Beardshaw</b>	<b>Louise Ormiston</b>
<b>Julia Childs</b>	<b>Izzi Robinson</b>
<b>Lindsey Davies</b>	<b>Georgia Rose</b>
<b>Holly Gilbert</b>	<b>Diya Sagar</b>
<b>Becky Ginn</b>	<b>Miranda Samson</b>
<b>Tom Glasser</b>	<b>Tina Thorpe</b>
<b>Beth Hannaway</b>	<b>Olivia Wilson</b>
<b>Luke Karmali</b>	<b>Calum Wood</b>
<b>Jo Littlejohn</b>	<b>Keymea Yazdanian</b>
<b>Bethany McKay</b>	

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THE ORIGINAL VISIONARY of The Rex.

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[www.therexcinema.com](http://www.therexcinema.com)

First moon over Holliday St. Jan 2008

**THE RECEIVING OF CHEESE...**

I've been asked to mention this on behalf of the ushers. If expectant of cheese, please be alert when you see plates approaching, especially in the dark and particularly upstairs.

Of late there have been some tragic incidents of cheese. Some has been delivered into the wrong hands, leaving those awaiting the presence of cheese bereft and likely to fidget.

If you are guilty of 'wrong hands' cheese please own up immediately and report to cheddar monitor Adolf. She will chastise you in the proper manner, whereupon you will be withdrawn from cheese until we are satisfied. I hope I have made myself clear.

**ICE CREAM...**

We have new local ice cream, made from the finest ingredients. No more Baileys rage. There will be three flavours only and we will expect you to do as you're told - and enjoy them.

**PRICE 'ADJUSTMENTS'...**

From April fools day our ticket prices will rise to accommodate the very silly VAT we've been paying for these first three years. Inflation and its various impostors will not be present. It is VAT pure and simple. As VAT is like Wilde's truth: 'rarely pure and never simple' we will round it up or down to suit our change, thus avoiding 5ps and arithmetic the children can't fathom. It won't hurt much and Matinee prices will stay the same until September.

**THEY WERE THERE...**

Two boys in foyer after I'm Not There. They were brothers, the elder no more than fourteen or fifteen, the younger 12ish. When I asked what they thought, the smaller one said it was really good and looked like he'd got it. The elder boy's critique... "I don't think it quite knew when it should have stopped... It went on." Between them they'd grasped it and his is probably the most astute and succinct description of all. Thousands of words wasted by critics, and all it needed was a couple of kids to see it. Not unlike the boy in the Emperor's New Clothes...

Richard Briers sent us these precious originals of Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford dated 1928 and signed by them in proper ink, to thank us. And gave Ollie (our best boy) fabulous Good Life memorabilia for taking them to the station.

(Right) Allison Steadman, Richard and Anne Briers, Adrian, his son Jake.



ADRIAN SCARBOROUGH  
19TH JANUARY 2008

Our celebrations for Adrian's birthday to thank him for all the guests and stars he has brought to the Rex in three short years. (left) Ade and Rose. (below) Imelda Staunton, Alison Steadman & friends.







M A R C H E V E N I N G S

## No Country for Old Men

Sat 1 7.00, Mon 3 7.30,  
Tue 4 7.30

**Director:** Coen Brothers  
**Starring:** Tommy Jones, Woody Harrelson, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 122 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Paramount International Pictures

It's 1970s small-town Texas.

A Vietnam vet stumbles across a bag of middle-of-nowhere cash.

Enter Javier Bardem's bad-hair, coin-tossing killer in cold pursuit...

Coen's - business as usual.

"Harrelson delivers an icy cameo as the corrupt private dick. Tommy Lee plays weary seen-it-all sheriff who doesn't miss a trick." (*Times*) Better than all weary seen-it-all sheriffs.

"The beauty is that it is Cormac's words throughout... A great story teller... it doesn't go in the extemp... Faithful to the book plus the highest level of acting... Are we going to change Cormac McCarthy??? (No jokes). Its his words, they don't need to be changed. Speeches were all taken verbatim from the book as are the descriptions of the scenes.

The garrotting-cycling scene is straight from the book..."

"Preparations - storyboard most important - everything is prepared to the frame... but (serious-ish) always willing and/open to change on set... The dialogue is right from the book... 'We were just following instructions'" (*Joel and Ethan one at a time and interrupting - from a BBC The World Service interview Jan 2008*)

Waited nearly a year for this, so don't miss.



## An Officer and A Gentleman

Sun 2 6.00



Richard Gere plays Zack Mayo (why not Ned Dwogg or Arthur Bromwich?) an aloof, taciturn man who aspires to be a navy pilot.

Once at training camp Mayo falls foul of abrasive, no-nonsense drill sergeant Emil Foley (Louis Gossett Jr.). Mayo or "Mayonnaise" (ahh that's why) as he is dubbed by the mean (heart-of-gold - you see that coming a mile off) Foley is an excellent cadet, but a little cold around the heart.

Foley rides Mayo mercilessly, sensing he is prime officer material if he weren't so self-absorbed.

Zack's affair with working girl Paula Pokrif (Debra Winger) is likewise compromised by his unwillingness to 'commit' (you know that one girls). Only after something happens...

Would you believe this creamy synopsis has told me the end...? luckily Arthur and Ned got to it first. Now you can bring your mum and a big hanky for this charming little number.

Hope there's no bad language but suddenly I've got a horrible feeling ones 'mother' might be referred to from time to time. Sorry I've only just read the storyline...

**Director:** Taylor Hackford  
**Starring:** Richard Gere, Debra Winger, David Keith, Robert Loggia  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 124 mins  
**Origin:** USA 1982  
**By:** Paramount

## The Kite Runner

Wed 5 7.30, Thu 6 7.30

**Director:** Marc Forster  
**Starring:** Zekeria Ebrahimi, Khalid Abdalla, Ahmad Mahmizada  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 128 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Paramount International Pictures

A glorious afternoon in Kabul and the skies are filled with the exhilarating joy of a kite-fighting tournament. But in the aftermath of the day's victory, one boy's fearful act of betrayal will mark two lives forever and set in motion an epic and perilous quest for redemption...

With much of Kabul destroyed, Forster used a region of China to stand in for Amir's childhood Kabul "The [Afghan] people felt it was a love letter to Afghanistan"

PS It's too late. The time to be scared was when the yanks thought they could play chess! Crushing 'communism' at ALL costs fooled us all (see Charlie Wilson's War).

We knew nothing of it. Now we're alright; we have 'facebook'.

Kabul, beautiful for centuries, is now a deliberate wasteland chained to the Middle Ages.

Happily, the beards have chosen not to use medieval weaponry, except for torture of course. The West was/is always happy to supply weapons of mass destruction, torture trinkets and real ale.

Now instantly www'd comfortably from home, we are more impotent than when Hitler became vice-chancellor or when Hannibal crossed the fucking Alps.



# Things We Lost In The Fire

Fri 7 7.30, Sat 8 7.00

**Audrey Burke (Berry) had it all: a stunning home in a prosperous suburb, two happy children and a devoted husband, Brian**

**(Duchovny).** He was successful and unquestioningly committed to his family and friends. So when he is killed in a random incident, the lives of his wife, family and friends are understandably blown apart. Attempting to come to terms with her grief, Audrey seeks out Brian's childhood friend and favourite lost cause, the long-term addict Jerry (Del Toro). Although previously critical of the needy friend, Audrey hopes that he might hold the key to turning her life around. As with her two films the most most fabulous Susanne Bier explores with characteristic insight and with a distinctly European sensibility how lives are transformed by tragic events.

"Del Toro proves utterly magnetic in a character perfectly suited to his shambling demeanour and eccentric line readings." (*Channel 4*)

"Berry shows that *Monster's Ball* was no fluke. She never overplays, her quiet desperation is measured and subtle... A sombre film, but never a depressing... here is a director who wants to do more than just send us comfortably home." (*Standard*)

**Director:** Susanne Bier  
**Starring:** Halle Berry, David Duchovny, Benicio Del Toro  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 118 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2008  
**By:** Paramount International Pictures



# American Gangster

Sun 9 6.00



**"The loudest (dressed) man in the room is the weakest man in the room..."**

This is the 'true' tale of a Harlem henchman whose uncompromising loyalty and loathing of 'bling' made him the drug kingpin of the early 70's. Nobody noticed Frank Lucas (Washington), until his underworld boss died.

From nowhere, he sets a new standard. Without blinking, Frank ruthlessly claims his status as Harlem's most dangerous and innovative drug dealer by delivering it pure and cheaper – direct from Vietnam to the treacherous envy of his competitors, family, friends and corrupt cops.

Enter Russell Crowe's dishevelled, philandering, but unbendingly straight cop (Richie Roberts) and Frank's empire begins to rattle from all sides. But it is more complex.

Here are two stories with different notions of family but with the same integrity, stubborn egos and extreme loyalty. Each is used to violence and its results.

It is a surprisingly compelling film with much more to it than its non-stop triple pace-maker heartbeat. Thought it wouldn't be back, how wrong?

Might even be an Oscar for Ruby Dee glorious as Frank's mum.

**Director:** Ridley Scott  
**Starring:** Cuba Jr, Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe, Josh Brolin  
**Certificate:** 18  
**Duration:** 157 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd





## Battle for Haditha

Mon 10 7.30

**Director:** Nick Broomfield

**Starring:** Andrew McLaren, Yasmine Hanani, Elliot Ruiz

**Certificate:** 15

**Duration:** 98 mins

**Origin:** UK 2007

**By:** Contender Films

In November 2005 in the Iraqi city of Haditha, a roadside bomb kills a US Marine.

What follows is the slaughter of 24 men, women and children in alleged retaliation by four of his unit.

Like his 'Ghosts' (Rex March 07) Broomfield's dramatic jigsawing of real events brings the viewer uncomfortably close to the action. Bursting with powerful imagery, finding compassion and humanity amidst the brutality, his disturbingly realistic cinematography imagines the circumstances surrounding the slaughter.

Moreover, as impressive as his non-actors are (especially former Marine Ruiz) the heartbreak is the film's astonishing objectivity and attempt to see events from all sides.

"It persuasively shows the marines themselves not as hateful murderers, but bored, excitable and very scared young men – boys!" (*Guardian*) "Cinema Verete... is a documentary forum but it is definitely drama. There is a script but I used people, not actors – Marines were played by ex soldiers the Iraqis by refugees... Because who has been through the fighting and knew that madness could bring a much stronger performance - heart rending - than trained actors, as indeed they do" (verbatim: *Nick Broomfield The Film Prog BBC R4*) Filmed in Jordan.



## Charlie Wilson's War

Tue 11 7.30



This adaptation of George Crile III's incendiary bestseller tells the remarkable story of the Texas congressman whose efforts to prevent the Red Army from overtaking Afghanistan eventually led to the collapse of the Soviet Union and at the same time fuelling the rise of radical Islam! (well done Charlie from Texas).

In the early 1980s, a hastily assembled army of Afghan 'freedom fighters' achieved the remarkable feat of fending off Soviet invaders against overwhelming odds. Wilson spearheaded an effort to provide hundreds of millions of dollars in weapons and training to the Mujahadeen with more than a little help from suspect CIA man Gust Avrokotos (Hoffman) and rich, republican, nutter, widow (Julia Glorious Roberts).

"This is intelligent political filmmaking of the highest class." "Aaron Sorkin's masterful script combines insight, wit and political nous but never forgets its own underlying seriousness." (*Channel 4*) "Hanks and Roberts have fun harnessing their screen personas to these juicy roles; Hoffman's feverish ranting is yet another glowing testament to his skills at playing charismatic ass-holes" (*Time Out*) Come, laugh and be scared.

**Director:** Mike Nichols

**Starring:** Julia Roberts, Amy Adams, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Tom Hanks

**Certificate:** 15

**Duration:** 102 mins

**Origin:** USA 2007

**By:** Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

## The Savages

Wed 12 7.30

Thu 13 7.30

**Director:** Tamara Jenkins

**Starring:** Laura Linney, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Philip Bosco

**Certificate:** 15

**Duration:** 114 mins

**Origin:** USA 2006

**By:** Twentieth Century Fox

"Subjects seldom aired – ageing, compromise, death – take centre stage capturing well the short-cuts to affection and irritation that intimacy brings." (*Time Out*)

It takes the unglamorous subject of ageing and turns it into something witty and wise.

Wendy Savage (Linney) is an aspiring playwright who temps while applying for grants without success. She is single, but embroiled in an affair with a married man.

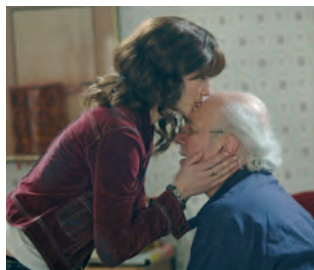
Her brother Jon (Seymour Hoffman) is a college professor specialising in Brecht's alienation theories. He has a girlfriend, but – it's got no chance.

The siblings have little contact with each other, until their ageing and estranged father is dying.

Forced to find a way of caring for a parent who never cared much for them, they have to face up to the discomfort of their own relationship. "Hoffman and Linney hit every beat, underplay it so perfectly that crumpled, bittersweet truths continue to surface." (*TO*)

"It's a bit neat and tidy with some off-the-peg touches (cue words of wisdom from an African nurse)." (*Knowledge, Times*)

"a triumph – an impeccably acted and beautifully observed study of the end of life, spiked with refreshingly irreverent humour... never mawkish." (*Times*) Don't miss.



# Sweeney Todd

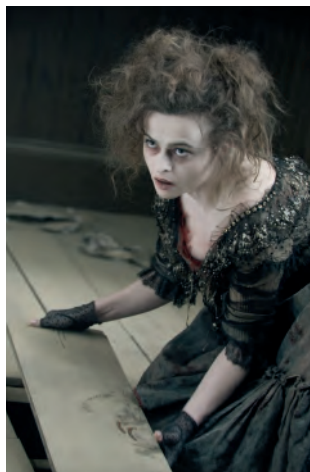
Fri 14 7.30, Sat 15 7.00,  
Sun 16 6.00

Take a Victorian tupenny-melodrama, let Sondheim turn into a musical thriller. Simmer for thirty years. Enter Tim Burton and hey presto 120 years later its on the big screen. So what is all the fuss about? You'll have to come and see. Embittered for being wrongly imprisoned and determined to avenge the grim fate that befell his wife and daughter, Johnny returns home, changes his name and opens a barbers shop. However a quick trim will leave you nothing for the weekend, sir! So he became known as 'The Demon Barber of Fleet Street' by the terrified locals, whom nevertheless loved Mrs Lovett's (Bonham Carter) succulent 'meat' pies...

"This macabre musical, their sixth partnership, has Depp's demon barber wielding razors (like extensions of his arms). "Shocking but exhilarating, is this the first 18 certificate musical?" (*Observer*)

A flat middle section contrasts with the atmospheric opening and spectacular finale but mostly this is grand-scale studio-work at its most beguiling... A great deal bloodier than most musicals, Burton's beautifully crafted direction feels like a kids' film –not for children! The Hulk, meets Fred West!" (*Time Out*) "Tim recalls dreaming of "venting anger on a grand scale" (at his parents' restricting values). Here, set free by Sondheim, he lets rip... Just about perfect" (*Standard*) As for the hype about the singing: "The songs are amiably lilting and melodic without ever once producing a barnstorming set-piece singalong." (*Knowledge, Times*) Johnny's a bit Anthony Newley, Helena and Alan Rickman hit the big notes okay and no one sounds like Jeremy Hardy. Ignore it all and come.

**Director:** Tim Burton  
**Starring:** Johnny Depp, Alan Rickman, Helena Bonham Carter, Timothy Spall  
**Certificate:** 18  
**Duration:** 116 mins  
**Origin:** UK/USA 2007  
**By:** Warner Brothers





## The Diving Bell and The Butterfly

**Mon 17 7.30, Tue 18 7.30,  
Wed 19 7.30, Thu 20 7.30**

Schnabel's third feature recounts the remarkable true story of Jean-Dominique Bauby (Amalric), charismatic editor of French *Elle* magazine, who at the age of 43 suffered a stroke that rendered his brain stem inactive. He awoke from a coma to find himself a victim of locked-in syndrome: mentally alert but physically paralysed. His only means of communicating was by blinking his left eye. He was forced to look into himself for two other things that weren't paralysed, his imagination and his memory.

He learned a blinking code for each letter of the alphabet and (through devoted women) painstakingly told this profound story.

"The performance of Mathieu Amalric as Bauby (once reserved for Johnny Depp!) is as honest as anyone could wish, whether frozen to his bed and voicing his exasperated thoughts or as the seemingly healthy young tyro from *Elle*." (*Derek Malcolm*) "It's a gorgeously atmospheric and deeply affecting piece of work" (*Times*)

"Schnabel treats this amazing real-life story as a testament to the importance of memory and the boundlessness of human imagination" (*Time Out*) The faces, the screenplay, the language, the camera... and that music, will move you beyond where you want to go. Don't miss a second, then come and see it again.

**Director:** Julian Schnabel  
**Starring:** Marie-Josée Croze, Anne Consigny, Emmanuelle Seigner, Mathieu Amalric  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 112 mins  
**Origin:** France 2008  
**By:** Pathe Distribution



## The Bucket List

**Fri 21 7.30, Sat 22 7.00**



Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman star as two terminally ill cancer patients who decide to break out of the hospital and live their last days to the fullest in Reiner's 'serio-comic' road movie. Billionaire Edward (Nicholson) and mechanic Carter (Freeman) are sharing a hospital room.

Though initially they seem to have nothing in common, conversation gradually reveals that they both have a long list of things to do before they 'kick the bucket'. When they make a break for it with their checklist: gambling in Monte Carlo, women, fast cars, exploring the world they've so far missed, etc "the two men also forge a truly remarkable friendship." My arse. It is an all-expenses-paid Jack romp with expensive locations, pretty girls (on & off-set) and a few drinks...

Come just for these and laugh as much as it makes you. Who cares if it's irritating, it didn't stop *Atonement*.

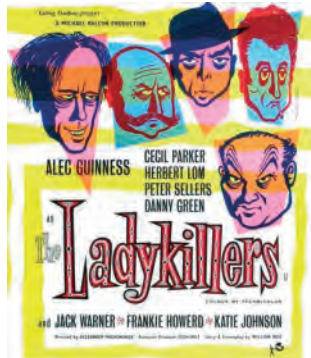
**Director:** Rob Reiner  
**Starring:** Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 97 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Warner Brothers



EASTER SUNDAY  
**The Ladykillers**  
 Sun 23 6.00

**Director:** Alexander Mackendrick  
**Starring:** Peter Sellers, Alec Guinness, Cecil Parker, Herbert Lom, Danny Green, Katie Johnson, Jack Warner, Frankie Howard  
**Certificate:** U  
**Duration:** 97 mins  
**Origin:** UK 1955  
**By:** Optimum Releasing

We searched for a classic family film (still in print) for Easter Sunday and found this gem. Mackendrick and Ealing's resident American writer William Rose collaborated again on this, their last, possibly the most enduring and one of the best known of all the Ealing Comedies. The sheer blackness of the central concept is barely disguised by the accomplished farce which surrounds it. Katie Johnson, the innocent hostess to a gang who find it easier to silence each other than her, proves resistant to all shades of science, strategy and brute force as she unwittingly and beautifully foils a criminal getaway, which never gets further than St Pancras. A finely wrought image of the time (1955). Charles Barr suggested the gang represents the first post-war Labour government! Apparently, after this Mackendrick immediately upped for America and the darker ironies of Sweet Smell Of Success! That's the history. This is now. Come and see how fresh it is.



# A Knights Tale

Mon 24 7.30

In celebration of Heath Ledger who died in January.

"This is a deeply silly film... And yet I came out of the cinema with a great big grin on my face. It's somehow very entertaining, and its bizarre, in-your-face anachronisms are carried off with such insouciance, such cheerful effrontery, that you can't help indulging them." (*Peter Bradshaw, Guardian 2001*).

We had the same grin. From Chaucer (Bettany) being found naked on a hillside having lost his shirt gambling, to Sewell's nastier than nasty Black Knight, through to mediaeval jousting set to Freddie Mercury and David Bowie, it is fabulous.

"He (Ledger) also holds his own against two British screen kleptomaniacs who will steal any scene their in... You cannot underestimate the charisma ballast you need not to be swept away by strong idiosyncratic performances as these (Bettany and Sewell), and the fact that he is a plausible romantic hero who also knows how to bounce the laughs back at them - a considerable performance."

(*Adam Mars-Jones BBCR4 Jan 08*)  
 Come, it is great fun from start to finish and it saves going over Brokeback Mountain again. Better to celebrate a life through laughter than cowboy tears, don't you think?



**Director:** Brian Helgeland  
**Starring:** Heath Ledger, Mark Addy, Rufus Sewell, Paul Bettany  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 132 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2001  
**By:** Sony Pictures Releasing



## Away from Her

Tue 25 7.30

**Director:** Sarah Polley  
**Starring:** Julie Christie, Michael Murphy, Gordon Pinsent, Olympia Dukakis  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 109 mins  
**Origin:** Canada 2007  
**By:** Metrodome Distributors

Already awarded (and an Oscar?) for a beautiful 66 year old Julie Christie in this overlooked film of middle-aged love. We had it here first in June 07.

There are some startling women this year. Hope it's not an empty token. This intelligent directorial debut from actress Sarah Polley is adapted from a short story by Alice Munro - a New Yorker short story through and through - all quiet lyricism and emotional restraint (as was *Brokeback Mountain*). Grant (Pinsent) and Fiona (Christie) are a long-married couple in their golden years, still in love and connected to each other in every way. Torrents of guilt and regret stir when Fiona insists on being put into care as her memory begins to slip. There, one seemingly well-meaning but awful decision turns everybody's lives upside down...

"It avoids the clichés and high drama of films about a long-loving couple succumbing to illness. There's no tugging at heartstrings... but seems inaccurate as a portrayal of dementia" "Julie Christie, has seldom been better... through her, small glimpses of awareness are snuffed out, little by little..." (*mixed crits*) Critics, awards? As always, you will decide.



## Before The Devil Knows You're Dead

Wed 26 7.30, Thu 27 7.30



**Director:** Sidney Lumet  
**Starring:** Albert Finney, Ethan Hawke, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Marisa Tomei  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 123 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Entertainment Film Distribution

Sidney Lumet may be 83 but his new film - the best he has made for some time - looks like the work of a much younger man. It's a thriller about a robbery that turns into a colossal mess.

We've seen many such before, but in this case the robbery involves an entire family and the result is even more traumatic for it.

Businessman Andy (Phillip Seymour Hoffman) has a drug habit and wants out of his boring job and into a Brazilian adventure. So he persuades Hank, his feckless and cash-strapped "baby" brother (Ethan Hawke), to rob a jewellery store owned by their parents (Rosemary Harris and Albert Finney). No one will be harmed, the store is fully insured and the brothers will share the loot between them. Uh oh, Hank can't do anything right...

"It's a heist thriller-meets-Greek tragedy" (*Guardian*)

"Perhaps the movie is too long at two hours, but that is an old Lumet trait..." (*Standard*)

So what? Let's indulge the old Dog Day bugger in his late afternoon.





# Juno

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

The second film from Reitman looks likely to be one of the most enjoyable of the year. Juno MacGuff (Page, whose *Hard Candy* girl had people fainting in the audience) a bright teenager with a fine sardonic wit, finds herself pregnant after first time sex with her classmate Paulie Bleeker (Cera). With the aid of her best friend and the small ads she finds her unborn child a set of 'perfect' parents: an affluent suburban couple, Mark and Vanessa (Bateman and Garner) who are longing to adopt. However, things aren't quite as straightforward as they seem and she faces some tough decisions as she flirts with adulthood and figures out where she fits. A film of heart-warming depth with a frequently hilarious script, it offers a whip-smart observation of teenage life. Altogether now... who gives a flying teenage \*\*\*\*?

I wanted to like Thank You for Smoking more than I did. I don't want to like this at all. It is hyped to the pain threshold and it's about spotty, trendy clever-arsed American teens. I want to hate it and hope I do and you too.

**Director:** Jason Reitman  
**Starring:** Ellen Page, Jennifer Garner, Jason Bateman, Michael Cera  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 95mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Twentieth Century Fox



**4 Months, 3  
Weeks and 2 Days**  
**Mon 31 7.30**



"Get over the fact that it's the most depressing subject imaginable (illegal abortion in Ceausescu's Romania), this Cannes-winner is a genuine revelation, brilliantly crafted and acted, superbly observed, subtle and as exciting as any thriller" (*Bradshaw, Guardian*) "Who would have thought a small Romanian film, made for £200,000, would not only win the Palme d'Or but the International Critics Award as best film of the year?"

Cristian Mungiu's brilliant little tale set in the last years of Ceausescu's vile regime, deserves the praise heaped upon it. It could hardly be better told. (*Standard*)

"Marinca gives a wonderful performance as Otilia, who puts herself in harm's way to aid her friend. (If her face is familiar, she was in David Yates' *Sex Traffic* and Coppola's *Youth Without Youth*). Mungiu's direction looks plain but is, in fact, precise and well-judged."

(*Time Out*)

"This exceptional, masterful piece of film-making combines social realism, political comment and nail-biting tension" (*Times*)

Critics agreeing, especially in the gushing with praise dept, is never pretty nor a good sign... Remember Dylan wasn't there but Jesse James was, was and was...



**Director:** Cristian Mungiu  
**Starring:** Anamaria Marinca, Laura Vasiliu, Vlad Ivanov  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 113 mins  
**Origin:** Romania 2007  
**By:** Artificial Eye

## Coming Soon

### New releases

There will be Blood  
Caramel  
The Other Boleyn Girl  
Don't Touch The Axe  
The Lady Vanishes

### Back by demand

Diving Bell and the  
Butterfly  
The Band's Visit  
Sideways

*Don't Touch The Axe*



*The Other Boleyn Girl*



*There will be blood*



*Caramel*



## MARCH FILMS AT A GLANCE

Please check times carefully and watch out for early shows.

SAT	1	ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS	2.00
SAT	1	NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN	7.00
SUN	2	AN OFFICER & A GENTLEMAN	6.00
MON	3	NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN	2.00, 7.30
TUE	4	EAT DRINK MAN WOMAN	12.30
TUE	4	NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN	7.30
WED	5	THE KITE RUNNER	2.00, 7.30
THU	6	THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE	2.00
THU	6	THE KITE RUNNER	7.30
FRI	7	THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE	7.30
SAT	8	ENCHANTED	2.00
SAT	8	THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE	7.00
SUN	9	AMERICAN GANGSTER	6.00
MON	10	ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE	2.00
MON	10	BATTLE FOR HADITHA	7.30
TUE	11	BRICK LANE	12.30
TUE	11	CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR	7.30
WED	12	THE SAVAGES	2.00, 7.30
THU	13	SIDEWAYS	2.00
THU	13	THE SAVAGES	7.30
FRI	14	SWEENEY TODD	7.30
SAT	15	THE WATERHORSE	2.00
SAT	15	SWEENEY TODD	7.00
SUN	16	SWEENEY TODD	6.00
MON	17	SWEENEY TODD	2.00
MON	17	DIVING BELL & THE BUTTERFLY	7.30
TUE	18	DIVING BELL & THE BUTTERFLY	12.30, 7.30
WED	19	DIVING BELL & THE BUTTERFLY	2.00, 7.30
THU	20	THE BUCKET LIST	2.00
THU	20	DIVING BELL & THE BUTTERFLY	7.30
FRI	21	THE BUCKET LIST	7.30
SAT	22	GOLDEN COMPASS	2.00
SAT	22	THE BUCKET LIST	7.00
SUN	23	THE LADYKILLERS	6.00
MON	24	A KNIGHTS TALE	7.30
TUE	25	EARTH	12.30
TUE	25	AWAY FROM HER	7.30
WED	26	WINGED MIGRATION	2.00
WED	26	BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD	7.30
THU	27	FINDING NEMO	2.00
THU	27	BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD	7.30
FRI	28	JUNO	7.30
SAT	29	AZUR AND ASMAR	2.00
SAT	29	JUNO	7.00
SUN	30	JUNO	6.00
MON	31	JUNO	2.00
MON	31	4 MONTHS 3 WEEKS & 2 DAYS	7.30



# MARCH MATINEES

**ALL MATINEES:** Balcony £5.00 • Table seats £6.50 • Royal Box seats £10.00



## Alvin and The Chipmunks

Sat 1 2.00

**Director:** Tim Hill  
**Starring:** Jason Lee, Justin Long  
**Certificate:** U  
**Duration:** 91 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Twentieth Century Fox

Alvin, Simon, and Theodore are back in director Tim Hill's computer-animation/live-action hybrid following the further adventures of the world's most adorable singing trio... Very silly and funny.



## No Country for Old Men

Mon 3 2.00



It's 1970s small-town Texas. A Vietnam vet stumbles across a bag of middle-of-nowhere cash.

Enter Javier Bardem's bad-hair, coin-tossing killer in cold pursuit... Coen's - business as usual.

"Harrelson delivers an icy cameo as the corrupt private dick. Tommy Lee plays weary seen-it-all sheriff who doesn't miss a trick." (*Times*) Better than all weary seen-it-all sheriffs.

"The beauty is that it is Cormac's words throughout... A great story teller... it doesn't go in the extemp..."

Faithful to the book plus the highest level of acting... Are we going to change Cormac McCarthy??? (No jokes). Its his words, they don't need to be changed. Speeches were all taken verbatim from the book as are the descriptions of the scenes. The garrotting-cycling scene is straight from the book..."

"Preparations - storyboard most important - everything is prepared to the frame... but (serious-ish) always willing and/open to change on set...? The dialogue is right from the book... 'We were just following instructions'"

(*Joel and Ethan one at a time and interrupting - from a BBC The World Service interview Jan 2008*)

Waited nearly a year for this, so don't miss.

**Director:** Coen Brothers  
**Starring:** Tommy Jones, Woody Harrelson, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 122 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Paramount International Pictures

## Eat Drink Man Woman

Tue 4 12.30

**Director:** Ang Lee  
**Starring:** Sihung Lung, Yu-Wen Wang, Chien-Lien Wu, Kuei-Mei Yang  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Duration:** 123 mins  
**Origin:** Taiwan 2007  
**By:** Park Circus Films

Retired Master Chef Chu lives in a large house in Taipei with his three unmarried daughters, Jia- Jen, a chemistry teacher converted to Christianity, Jia-Chien, an airline executive, and Jia-Ning, a student who also works in a fast food restaurant.

Life in the house revolves around the ritual of an elaborate dinner each Sunday, and the love lives of all the family members.

It is as simple as that. There isn't much to it or anything more to say, except it is Ang Lee and there's bound to be sex.

He paints slow pictures, beautifully and always with an edge...

Come and watch paint and be edged (who knows how) on a Tuesday afternoon...



## The Kite Runner

Wed 5 2.00

Wed Matinee Warning: May contain babies



A glorious afternoon in Kabul and the skies are filled with the exhilarating joy of a kite-fighting tournament. But in the aftermath of the day's victory, one boy's fearful act of betrayal will mark two lives forever and set in motion an epic and perilous quest for redemption... With much of Kabul destroyed, Forster used a region of China to stand in for Amir's childhood Kabul "The [Afghan] people felt it was a love letter to Afghanistan?" PS It's too late. The time to be scared was when the yanks thought they could play chess! Crushing 'communism' at ALL costs fooled us all (see Charlie Wilson's War). We knew nothing of it. Now we're alright; we have 'facebook'. Kabul, beautiful for centuries, is now a deliberate wasteland chained to the Middle Ages. Happily, the beards have chosen not to use medieval weaponry, except for torture of course. The West was/is always happy to supply weapons of mass destruction, torture trinkets and real ale. Now instantly www'd comfortably from home, we are more impotent than when Hitler became vice-chancellor or when Hannibal crossed the fucking Alps.

**Director:** Marc Forster  
**Starring:** Zekeria Ebrahimi, Khalid Abdalla, Ahmad Mahmidzada  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 128 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Paramount International Pictures

## Things We Lost In The Fire

Thu 6 2.00

**Director:** Susanne Bier  
**Starring:** Halle Berry, David Duchovny, Benicio Del Toro  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 118 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2008  
**By:** Paramount International Pictures

Audrey Burke (Berry) had it all: a stunning home in a prosperous suburb, two happy children and a devoted husband, Brian (Duchovny). He was successful and unquestioningly committed to his family and friends. So when he is killed in a random incident, the lives of his wife, family and friends are understandably blown apart. Attempting to come to terms with her grief, Audrey seeks out Brian's childhood friend and favourite lost cause, the long-term addict Jerry (Del Toro). Although previously critical of the needy friend, Audrey hopes that he might hold the key to turning her life around. As with her two films the most mad fabulous Susanne Bier explores with characteristic insight and with a distinctly European sensibility how lives are transformed by tragic events. "Del Toro proves utterly magnetic in a character perfectly suited to his shambolic demeanour and eccentric line readings." (Channel 4) "Berry shows that Monster's Ball was no fluke. She never overplays, her quiet desperation is measured and subtle... A sombre film, but never a depressing... here is a director who wants to do more than just send us comfortably home." (Standard)



## Enchanted

Sat 8 2.00



Classic Disney animation meets contemporary urban chaos when a princess is banished from her magical animated homeland to to the unforgiving metropolis of New York. Princess Giselle (Adams, an Oscar nominee for Junebug) lives in the blissful cartoon world of Andalasia, where magical beings frolic freely and musical interludes punctuate every interaction. She is engaged to the handsome Prince Edward (Marsden) but fate takes a turn for the worse when the villainous Queen Narissa (Sarandon) banishes her ... "Enchanted embodies the best traditions of Disney - while gently mocking its legacy... She (Adams) can play both toughness and wide-eyed innocence, with finely calibrated timing to make her a great screen comedienne... hers is the star-making performance of this year." (Telegraph) "The best adult romantic comedy and child's fairy tale we've had for a long time. It's the sheer force of her (Adams) compelling charm that makes Enchanted so enchanting" (Times) "It is sentimental, quite silly and determinedly old-style Disney, while maintaining a gentle knowing and ironic touch." (Standard). Fab in Feb, magic in March. Bring grandparents... everybody's.

**Director:** Kevin Lima  
**Starring:** Patrick Dempsey, Amy Adams, Susan Sarandon, James Marsden  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Duration:** 108 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Buena Vista International

## Elizabeth: The Golden Age

Mon 10 2.00



Returning to their roles, Blanchett and Rush play their ruffs off in this captivating, if unreliable, historical thriller laced with treachery and romance. Joining them is ship's plank, Clive Owen as Sir Walter Raleigh. Elizabeth is facing bloodlust over her throne, family betrayal and an open challenge from Philip II of Spain. As she prepares for war and crushes enemies and traitors, she cannot balance her duties with a tantalizing, unexpected and vulnerable urge for Raleigh. Unable to act on her feelings, the silly Queen encourages her favourite lady-in-waiting to befriend him... to keep him near?

"All spectacle, dazzling, over-the-top opulence, fabulous frocks and (ridiculous) hair. Every shot composed like an oil painting (not unlike Zhang Yimou's flying circuses)... you will long for a moment of peace in this visual battering..." (*Times*, *Knowledge*) Cate Blanchett is a miracle of uncertain beauty and absolute conviction, as always. Geoffrey can do no wrong. Samantha Morton's gorgeous breathing is all too short-lived and Clive's Raleigh is all spud and no tobacco.

**Director:** Shekhar Kapur  
**Starring:** Cate Blanchett, Clive Owen, Samantha Morton, Geoffrey Rush  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 115 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

## Brick Lane

Tue 11 12.30

**Director:** Sarah Gavron  
**Starring:** Satish Kaushik, Christopher Simpson, Tannishtha Chatterjee  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 101 mins  
**Origin:** UK 2007  
**By:** Optimum Releasing

This is Sarah Gavron's adaptation of Monica Ali's Booker-nominated first novel.

It is faithful to the book though inevitably, less subtle and wide-ranging. Its characterisations are simpler, but its focus on the struggles of a young Bangladeshi woman saddled with an arranged marriage in a foreign land remains the same. She, Nazneen (Chatterjee) is seventeen and beautiful. He is neither. From a sunny Bangladeshi village childhood to a block of flats in east London with a grown man she has never met.

Pining for her birthplace and her sister, she struggles to make sense of it all. Worse, the terrifying duty to an unknown husband, who sorely tests her compliance. Nazneen submits as she must, devoting her life to raising her family and resisting the demons of discontent. Until Karim, a hot-headed local man, bursts into her life. Against a background of escalating racial tension, they embark on an affair which finally forces Nazneen to take control of her life. There are no heroes or villains, only people... "unfashionably gentle, human, optimistic" (*Guardian*)



## The Savages

Wed 12 2.00

Wed Matinee Warning: May contain babies



"Subjects seldom aired – ageing, compromise, death – take centre stage capturing well the short-cuts to affection and irritation that intimacy brings." (*Time Out*)

It takes the unglamorous subject of ageing and turns it into something witty and wise.

Wendy Savage (Linney) is an aspiring playwright who temps while applying for grants without success. She is single, but embroiled in an affair with a married man. Her brother Jon (Seymour Hoffman) is a college professor specialising in Brecht's alienation theories. He has a girlfriend, but – it's got no chance. The siblings have little contact with each other, until their ageing and estranged father is dying.

Forced to find a way of caring for a parent who never cared much for them, they have to face up to the discomfort of their own relationship. "Hoffman and Linney hit every beat, underplay it so perfectly that crumpled, bittersweet truths continue to surface." (*TO*)

"It's a bit neat and tidy with some off-the-peg touches (cue words of wisdom from an African nurse)." (*Knowledge*, *Times*)

"a triumph – an impeccably acted and beautifully observed study of the end of life, spiked with refreshingly irreverent humour... never mawkish." (*Times*) Don't miss.

**Director:** Tamara Jenkins  
**Starring:** Laura Linney, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Phillip Bosco  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 114 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2006  
**By:** Twentieth Century Fox



## Sideways

Thu 13 2.00

**Director:** Alexander Payne  
**Starring:** Sandra Oh, Marylouise Burke, Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church, Virginia Madsen  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Duration:** 127 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2005  
**By:** Twentieth Century Fox

Back for a matinee, this was one of the favourite films of our first year. Everybody loved it. If there is demand we'll show it one evening in April or May. No forget demand, we'll show it anyway.

As often happens, two very different people can make the greatest friends. Here one is a bull headed go-getting womanizer on his last week of freedom before marriage, the other a lovelorn academic, would-be writer and wine lover. Many accolades. Much talked about. But an Oscar (2005) for Best Adapted Screenplay hardly describes the warmth of this overheard conversation between two luke-warm grown men who still don't know what any of it is about. Top performances from Giamatti as the charismatically challenged, anal, wine expert and the Arnie lookalike, Thomas Haden Church. The whole film is one fabulous comic-tragic-happy-sad moment where nothing is played for laughs, but you wet yourself. Virginia Madsen brilliantly underplays her role as the seen/heard-it-all Maya who gently woos Giamatti's Miles out of his misery and back again... Compelling. Nothing much seems to happen while everything does.



## The Waterhorse

Sat 15 2.00



A lonely boy, Angus, vows to protect the strange hatchling as it emerges from a mysterious egg he found on the shore of a Scottish loch in Russell's adaptation of Dick King-Smith's children's novel.

The bizarre creature comes to be called a 'Water Horse'.

As it grows at an alarming rate, it becomes obvious that Angus will not be able to keep it a secret for very long.

The government develops a particularly keen interest in these Highland shenanigans.

So when Captain Hamilton (Morrissey) of the Royal Navy arrives to investigate, the boy has to do some seriously quick thinking to keep his new-found friend out of the hands of scientists and get it back to the aquatic home where it belongs.

Shades of the Loch Ness monster as a young whipper-snapper.

A 'what if' of the highest caliber.

Good CGI and fabulous Scottish scenery on the big screen.

Fight your grandchildren for a seat...

**Director:** Jay Russell  
**Starring:** Ben Chaplin, Alex Etel, Emily Watson, David Morrissey  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Duration:** 111 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Sony Pictures Releasing

## Sweeney Todd

Mon 17 2.00

**Director:** Tim Burton  
**Starring:** Johnny Depp, Alan Rickman, Helena Bonham Carter, Timothy Spall  
**Certificate:** 18  
**Duration:** 116 mins  
**Origin:** UK/USA 2007  
**By:** Warner Brothers

Take a Victorian tupenny-melodrama, let Sondheim turn into a musical thriller. Simmer for thirty years. Enter Tim Burton and hey presto 120 years later its on the big screen. So what is all the fuss about? You'll have to come and see. Embittered for being wrongly imprisoned and determined to avenge the grim fate that befell his wife and daughter, Johnny returns home, changes his name and opens a barbers shop. However a quick trim will leave you nothing for the weekend, sir! So he became known as 'The Demon Barber of Fleet Street' by the terrified locals, whom nevertheless loved Mrs Lovett's (Bonham Carter) succulent 'meat' pies...

"This macabre musical, their sixth partnership, has Depp's demon barber wielding razors (like extensions of his arms). "Shocking but exhilarating, is this the first 18 certificate musical?" (Observer)

A flat middle section contrasts with the atmospheric opening and spectacular finale but mostly this is grand-scale studio-work at its most beguiling...

A great deal bloodier than most musicals, Burton's beautifully crafted direction feels like a kids' film – not for children! The Hulk, meets Fred West!" (Time Out)



## The Diving Bell and The Butterfly

Tue 18 12.30, Wed 19 2.00

Wed Matinee Warning: May contain babies



Schnabel's third feature recounts the remarkable true story of Jean-Dominique Bauby (Amalric), charismatic editor of French *Elle* magazine, who at the age of 43 suffered a stroke that rendered his brain stem inactive. He awoke from a coma to find himself a victim of locked-in syndrome: mentally alert but physically paralysed. His only means of communicating was by blinking his left eye. He was forced to look into himself for two other things that weren't paralysed, his imagination and his memory. He learned a blinking code for each letter of the alphabet and (through devoted women) painstakingly told this profound story.

"The performance of Mathieu Amalric as Bauby (once reserved for Johnny Depp!) is as honest as anyone could wish, whether frozen to his bed and voicing his exasperated thoughts or as the seemingly healthy young tyro from *Elle*." (*Derek Malcolm*) "It's a gorgeously atmospheric and deeply affecting piece of work" (*Times*)

The faces, the screenplay, the language, the camera... and that music, will move you beyond where you want to go. Don't miss a second, then come and see it again.

**Director:** Julian Schnabel  
**Starring:** Marie-Josée Croze, Anne Consigny, Emmanuelle Seigner, Mathieu Amalric  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 112 mins  
**Origin:** France 2008  
**By:** Pathe Distribution

# The Bucket List

Thu 20 2.00

Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman star as two terminally ill cancer patients who decide to break out of the hospital and live their last days to the fullest in Reiner's 'serio-comic' road movie.

Billionaire Edward (Nicholson) and mechanic Carter (Freeman) are sharing a hospital room.

Though initially they seem to have nothing in common, conversation gradually reveals that they both have a long list of things to do before they 'kick the bucket'.

When they make a break for it with their checklist: gambling in Monte Carlo, women, fast cars, exploring the world they've so far missed, etc "the two men also forge a truly remarkable friendship." My arse. It is an all-expenses-paid Jack romp with expensive locations, pretty girls (on & off-set) and a few drinks...

Come just for these and laugh as much as it makes you. Who cares if it's irritating, it didn't stop *Atonement*.

**Director:** Rob Reiner  
**Starring:** Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 97 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Warner Brothers



## The Golden Compass

Sat 22 2.00



Based on Philip Pullman's award-winning trilogy: **His Dark Materials**, **The Golden Compass** is a fantasy adventure. In a parallel world where people's souls manifest themselves as small animals, where talking ice-bears fight wars and children mysteriously disappear, 12-year-old Lyra (Dakota Blue Richards – poor kid until she opens her mouth, then poor us) sets out on an extraordinary quest to rescue her friend.

"This beautifully made, spectacularly designed family movie asks serious questions about good and evil, free will and adolescent sexuality" (Standard) Hmmm.

"It's a convoluted, enjoyable, very mad, deeply conservative and, at one moment, horribly violent extravaganza.... Kidman steals the show - pure blonde evil... hear the crackle of her stockings as she sashays threateningly on to the screen - a ridiculous coupling of Darth Vader and Veronica Lake..." (PB Guardian)

If nothing else, come for 007's school-gates beard. Oddly 12A is a 'provisional certificate'. So bring your provisional twelve year olds (but don't let them read this).

**Director:** Chris Weitz  
**Starring:** Nicole Kidman, Eva Green, Sam Elliott, Daniel Craig  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 114 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Entertainment Film Distribution

## Earth

Tue 25 12.30

**Directors:** Mark Linfield, Alastair Fothergill  
**Starring:** Patrick Stewart, David Attenborough  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Duration:** 99 mins  
**Origin:** UK 2007  
**By:** Lionsgate Films UK

This tiny precious place we and the other creatures in this film call home, is fragile.

It shows how it all started by 'accident'. And nothing will destroy it as long as these beautiful creatures remain here. Five billion years ago an asteroid crashed to Earth, tilting the planet by 23.5 degrees. This cosmic accident created the world we know today.

In the Arctic, a polar bear family awakes to the first sunlight of spring. Will they find food before the ice starts to melt?

Half a world away, an elephant mother and her calf must share precious water with a pride of lions. Will their uneasy truce last?

For the final part of the journey, we follow a humpback whale mother. She must keep her calf safe on their 6000 km migration to Antarctica. Filmed in high definition, this is an unforgettable journey through the changing seasons and the daily struggles of and for life across the Earth. It's alright children, all these creatures will live happily ever after.



## Winged Migration

Wed 26 2.00

Wed Matinee Warning: May contain babies



An Oscar nominee, it is visually ravishing and an amazing feat of camera work. Startling close-ups and beautiful long tracking aerial shots follow these birds south for the winter. It tells us that over hundreds and thousands of air miles are navigated by the stars, the sun, the earth's gravitational field and best of all - familiar landmarks!

Apparently, 225 feet of film were exposed for every foot used on the screen!

"Some birds were raised to be the stars of the film; they were exposed to the sounds of aeroplanes and movie cameras while still in the shell, and upon hatching, were greeted by crew members!" (how terrifying for the newborns).

Shots were taken from microlights, hot air balloons and gliders. Happily the film lets the pictures tell the story. The light narration does not distract from the breathtaking visuals. Apart from passing predators this it is a beautiful flight.

**Director:** Jacques Cluzaud, Michel Debats  
**Certificate:** U  
**Duration:** 89 mins  
**Origin:** France 2002  
**By:** Sony Pictures Releasing



## Finding Nemo

Thu 27 2.00

**Director:** Andrew Stanton  
**Starring:** Geoffrey Rush, Willem Dafoe, Albert Brooks  
**Certificate:** U  
**Duration:** 104mins  
**Origin:** USA 2003  
**By:** Buena Vista International

You know the story so come and see it on the big screen in these early Easter holidays.

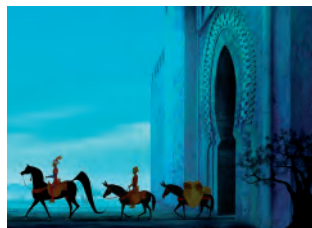
Marlin, Nemo's dad, loses him and sets out to find him. The adventure is endless, heartstopping and funny. There are clown fish, sharks, tortoises and a pelican.

As Marlin searches for his son, he makes friends with a friendly but absent-minded Regal Blue Tang named Dory (Ellen DeGeneres), a Great White Shark named Bruce (Barry Humphries – Dame Edna - ask your parents) who is trying to cut fish out of his diet, a beach-rat Sea Tortoise named Crush (Andrew Stanton), and Nigel (Geoffrey Rush), a Pelican who can take Marlin's search from the ocean to dry land. Listen out for Willem Dafoe, Allison Janney, and Eric (better heard than seen) Bana (but only just). Come, bring whole families. It's what the film is about...and its fabulous on the big screen...



## Azur and Asmar

Sat 29 2.00



Once upon a time there were two children who were brought up by the same woman, a nurse: her own son Asmar, the dark-skinned and dark-eyed one and Azur a blond, blue-eyed son of a nobleman.

As they grow up the nurse tells them many enchanting stories but their favourite one is about the Djinn waiting to be released from captivity by a good and heroic prince.

One dark day Azur's father cruelly separates the boys. He sends Azur to the city for a private education and banishes the nurse and Asmar from his home. Some years later Azur sets out on a long journey to find the nurse and Asmar.

When they are finally reunited, it becomes clear that Azur and Asmar will compete against each other to be the first one to rescue the Djinn. Fantastic stuff. Might be a little complicated for the under 6s, but they can always fidget or sleep.

**Director:** Michael Ocelot  
**Certificate:** U  
**Duration:** 100mins  
**Origin:** France 2006  
**By:** Soda Pictures

## Juno

Mon 31 2.00

**Director:** Jason Reitman  
**Starring:** Ellen Page, Jennifer Garner, Jason Bateman, Michael Cera  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Duration:** 95mins  
**Origin:** USA 2007  
**By:** Twentieth Century Fox

The second film from Reitman looks likely to be one of the most enjoyable of the year. Juno MacGuff (Page, whose Hard Candy girl had people fainting in the audience) a bright teenager with a fine sardonic wit, finds herself pregnant after first time sex with her classmate Paulie Bleeker (Cera). With the aid of her best friend and the small ads she finds her unborn child a set of 'perfect' parents: an affluent suburban couple, Mark and Vanessa (Bateman and Garner) who are longing to adopt. However, things aren't quite as straightforward as they seem and she faces some tough decisions as she flirts with adulthood and figures out where she fits. A film of heart-warming depth with a frequently hilarious script, it offers a whip-smart observation of teenage life. Altogether now... who gives a flying teenage \*\*\*\*?

I wanted to like Thank You for Smoking more than I did. I don't want to like this at all. It is hyped to the pain threshold and it's about spotty, trendy clever-arsed American teenies. I want to hate it and hope I do and you too.



## RANTS AND PANTS

BOX OFFICE PHONE CALL 4TH FEB

A man was asking how he's "suppose to get information" from our web site when he couldn't get on it

**Box office:** "Sorry we have been having some problems with our website for the last 3 days... We are aware and are working on it..."

**Customer:** "Well DEAR I'm phoning to tell you your web site hasn't been working for the last 2 weeks. I tried to access it 2 weeks ago and it wasn't working." (We're not sure of this. Apparently it was updated about 4 days before. It is checked daily. This is how we knew it was down. Sorry we couldn't 'post it' on the website to tell you it was down.)

**Customer:** "So how am I suppose to find out what's sold out DEAR When I can't get on your web page (all said in a horrid tone)?"

**Box office:** "I'd happily tell you if you stop being so patronising."

**Customer:** "I don't think I'm being patronising I am just trying to do YOU a favour!"

**Box Office (Jemma afterwards):** "I was determined not to be rude back and resisted putting the phone down. Though I would have loved to have told him where he could stick it..."

What you see in Rs&Ps each month is all there is! There might be one or two a week. We choose between the animated and the obnoxious.

Compared with the thousands of normal enquiries a week, it is miniscule, as are they.

As for the website, I have tried to care. Now, succumbing to the children (and the two lovely ladies from Hackney) a new one is being 'designed' and will be ready when the techno-mules have stopped getting very excited indeed.

## OBITUARY



**Heath Ledger died 22 January aged 28. Very sad and a terrible waste.**

"There's always hypocrisy in our mourning of the beautiful dead. They're in a glass coffin.

Recording artists live on but film actors become their work the way nobody else does. We can see and hear them caught in time, time and time again. Even when they're much younger than us... somehow they outlast us"

(Adam Mars-Jones on Heath Ledger BBC Jan 2008)

# LITTLE HEATH FARM

The nursery is waking up

Perennials are emerging and looking fresh

Buds are swelling on the shrubs and trees and the

Bulbs are looking oh so pretty!

**Little Heath Farm, Little Heath Lane, Potten End, Berkhamsted HP4 2RY**  
**Tel: 01442 864951**

From Berkhamsted take the A4251 towards Bourne End. At Bourne End Church turn left into Little Heath Lane. Follow the lane for about a mile and a half and Little Heath Farm will be on your right.

**OPEN 10-5 EVERY DAY**



## LITTLE BOXES ON THE HILLSIDE...

Once more The Rex is being used to sell houses. This time at Stag Lane, where talked-up designs will make you feel local with thirty six posh unit names: The Winkwell, The Tringford, The Boxmoor, etc. But curiously no The Hemel? The thirty seventh is just called 'Affordable Housing'. In total 150 plus the Affordables. That's all fine and I'm sure they are using the very best materials and most expensive, elite local expertise, but it has nothing to do with us at The Rex. I have made it very clear the Rex wants nothing to do with the buying and selling of 'properties' and will never endorse its use either to hike up prices or as some

usp for opportunist sales. It makes no difference to me what a man does for a living you understand, as long as he doesn't use me without pay or permission. Bellway has used the Rex in its sales campaign without permission.

They may have presumed it would be okay but failed to ask. If they had, the answer would have been No!

So they went ahead. Hence we have a conflict of interests. Not only are we featured in their glossy sales brochure with words lifted straight from our copyrighted material (see big pic), but also in full view in the front window of Aitchesons (small pic). I can't see Waitrose/Tesco in any of their material. Uncharacteristic of developers generally, Bellgate may have believed by the time anyone catches on, it'll be too late and they'll have got away with it. Clearly, The Rex is not an island. On the contrary, it is very much part of Berkhamsted, the community and for miles around. We don't advertise.

Our prog/Magazine has a readership of over 35,000. We have trouble holding on to an archive box, 32 page full-colour, of 15,000 print run... EVERY month. But as a businessman, I'm willing to do business.

So let's say: either recall all your current brochures naming us as an asset to your Locks development at Stag Lane and take us out of Aitchesons window or pay for it. Like you I'm a reasonable man, not greedy. Hence a modest percentage on all sales will do. PS Are you planning to build a school for all the new kids your Locks will bring/produce?

Oh yes one more...

What does 'Affordable' mean? And what is its opposite? Look forward to your call.

Enjoy the  
**THIS IS NOT AN ADVERT**  
perfect retreat...

Throughout the year the town holds arts and music events - from classical music to jazz, opera to folk - at various venues in and around town, and The Rex, a stunningly restored Art Deco cinema - 'possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema' according to the BBC - brings all year round film performances from box-office to classic.