

Issue 14 - August 2011



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Also Out This Month

- Sarah's Key Kristen Scott Thomas stars into this touching French drama
- The Devil's Double Dominic Cooper stars as both the son of Saddam Hussein and his body double
- Project Nim documentary focusing on a chimp raised by humans
- The Guard Irish black comedy with Brendan Gleeson and Don Cheadle
- In A Better World Denmark's Oscar-winning war drama comes to UK screens
- Final Destination 5 the fifth instalment of a series featuring mortally-unlucky teenagers
- The Skin I Live In Antonio Banderas stars in Pedro Almodovar's latest dramathriller

MOVIE OF THE MONTH:

SUPER 8

With Steven Spielberg, the director of such classic sci-fis as Close Encounters of the Third Kind, E.T. and Minority Report, off focusing on and directing other things (he has The Adventures of Tintin and War Horse

coming out within the next six months), when the time comes for a sci-fi that harkens back to

those films the world needs a director that everyone can trust enough to provide the goods.

Enter J.J. Abrams, the creator of Alias and Lost and not to mention the director of Mission: Impossible 3 and Star Trek. That resume alone means that we can trust him with just about anything he touches.

Together, these two forces unite (Abrams as director, Spielberg as producer) to create Super 8, a film that, just like Spielberg's E.T., combines the sci-fi genre with the timeless coming-of-age story. Abrams, who also wrote the screenplay, has also managed to find a group of talented actors to take part in his first original screenplay. The cast includes Elle "sister of Dakota" Fanning (Somewhere), Kyle Chandler (King Kong), Ron Eldard (Black Hawk Down), Zach Mills (Changeling), Gabriel Bas-

so (The Big C), Glynn



Turman (*The Wire*), Noah Emmerich (*The Truman Show*) and Bruce Greenwood (Star Trek), while young actors Joel Courtney, Riley Griffiths, and Ryan Lee make their movie debuts.

Abrams' film is set in the summer of 1979, when a group of friends, including Joe (Courtney), Alice (Fanning), Charles (Griffiths), Preston (Mills), Martin (Basso) and Cary (Lee), decide to make a low-budget zombie movie on Charles' Super 8 camera for entry in a competition. One night, as they're shooting, they witness a horrific train crash which releases a mysterious creature from its cargo and into their town. Soon after, they begin to notice some strange occurrences throughout, and it's up to

them, as well as Joe's police officer father Jackson (Chandler), to work out what the creature is and what its true intentions are, before the US Army recaptures it. It promises to be one of the best films of the year so far, so don't miss it when it comes out on August 5th.

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News Round-Up

- Don Payne (My Super-Ex Girlfriend) is hired to write the Thor 2 screenplay
- Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides makes over \$1 billion worldwide
- Adam Sandler is Dracula in DreamWorks Animation's Hotel Transylvania
- Colin Firth is being courted by Danny Boyle for a role in Trance
- Spike Lee could direct a remake of Oldboy
- Christopher Walken is to play the God Zeus in the highconcept comedy Gods Behaving Badly
- Johnny Depp is officially in talks to return as Captain Jack Sparrow in a fifth Pirates of the Caribbean film
- Abigail Spencer (Mad Men) joins Sam Raimi's Oz, The Great and Powerful
- Oscar-nominated actress Rinko Kikuchi (Babel) joins Guillermo del Toro's Pacific Rim
- The arcade game Space Invaders is preparing to become a movie
- Harry Lennix (The Matrix)
 joins Zack Snyder's Man of
 Steel, which has been moved
 to a Summer 2013 release
 from December 2012
- Naomie Harris joins Bond 23 as Miss Moneypenny
- Ray Stevenson signs on as the main villain Firefly in G.I. Joe 2
- Brendan Gleeson casts
 Michael Fassbender for his
 directional debut At Swim Two-Birds
- Arnold Schwarzenegger signs on for director Kim-ji-Woon's Western The Last Stand, due to be released early 2013
- Chris Hemsworth is likely to star in Formula 1 driver
 James Hunt biopic Rush
- Johnny Depp is planning two films with Disney: an adaptation of vampire TV movie The Night Stalker and a biopic of Paul Revere
- Edward Norton and Oscar
 Issac join The Bourne Legacy

GUNFIGHT AT THE E.T. CORAL: COWBOYS AND ALIENS

February's *True Grit* reminded us that cowboys were still popular. Every other month seems to be filmed with alien films, so it's safely certain that aliens are still very much popular.

So, that fateful morning when studio executives decided to combine the two, it was either the best or worst thing to happen to fandom ever.

Either way, Cowboys and Aliens was born.

Director Jon Favreau (*Iron Man*) has rounded up an impressive cast to take part in this very special film, including Daniel Craig (*Casino Royale*), Harrison Ford (*Indiana Jones*), Olivia Wilde (*Tron Legacy*), Sam Rockwell (*Moon*), Noah Ringer (*The Last Airbener*) and Paul Dano (*Little Miss Sunshine*).

The story kicks off in 1873 Arizona, a man named Jake Lonergan (Craig) wakes up in the middle of the desert with no memory and a mysterious



shackle around his wrist. Upon entry of the town of Absolution, Jake learns that he's a wanted criminal that everyone, especially the town's ruthless ruler Colonel Dolarhyde (Ford), wants to get their hands on. However, Absolution faces an even greater threat when alien spaceships start to attack. Still with us? Okay, good. Anyway, it turns out that Jake's mysterious shackle is the key

to defeating the strange extraterrestrial beings, so Jake must team up with Dolarhyde and other former enemies to make a stand against the aliens.

Who'll be triumphant will be have to be seen on **August** 19th.

BUMDERS OF THE CENTURY: THE INBETWEENERS

The world loves idiots.
Homer Simpson, Peter
Griffin and Charlie Sheen
come to mind in an instant,
but for most British
teenagers the idiocy (with
positive effects) doesn't get
higher with The
Inbetweeners.

For the past few years, we have watched the hilarious antics of "briefcase mong" Will (Simon Bird), hopeless romantic Simon (Joe Thomas), compulsive liar Jay (James Buckley) and 100% idiot Neil (Blake Harrison) as they've gotten into various scrapes at nursing homes, caravan clubs and fashion shows (if you watch the show, you'll immediately recognize the references). But for their first, and presumably only, big-screen outing the boys are packing their bags for a trip to what is currently considered to be



the hottest destination for wild teenagers - that's right, the Inbetweeners are going to Malia!

But what exactly will they get up to over there? There have been various reports of this, but for the sake of viewer enjoyment I shall not spill the beans here - all I'll say is that this film will take the boys to entirely new levels of humiliation than ever before, and not everyone will come out of the international experience in one piece. I also hear rumours of Simon's endless pursuit of Carli D'Amato (Emily Head) reaching fever pitch, and also of the boys' sadistic teacher Mr. Gilbert (comedian Greg Davies) showing up in some capacity. These may be true, maybe not, but we'll hold tight and see what happens when this film is out on **August 19th.**

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MONKEY BUSINESS: RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

"Exactly how did the titular Planet of the Apes come about?" asked absolutely no-one when the studios announced that this prequel was in the works.

Rise of the Planet of the Apes (for that is the real title - quite a mouthful, is it not?) manages to answer this unasked question with a quality cast and astounding visual effects.

In reference to the latter, this is the first Apes film to not depict apes as humans under heavy make-up but rather as motion-captured CGI beings. And they've hired mo-cap saint Andy Serkis (Lord of the Rings) to provide such capture with the movie's main chimp... but more on him in a second.

Joining Serkis in the film, directed by Rupert Wyatt (*The Escapist*), are the likes of James Franco (127 Hours), Freida Pinto



(Slumdog Millionaire), John Lithgow (Dexter), Brian Cox (X-Men 2), Tom Felton (Harry Potter) and David Oyelowo (The Last King of Scotland). Franco plays Will Rodman, a man who is testing a new cure for Alzheimer's on apes, in particular a chimp named Caesar (Serkis, in mo-cap form). The drug enhances Caesar's thinking capabilities to the extent that he has the inteeligence of a normal human being.

Although Caesar is treated with love and respect by Will and his Alzheimer's-suffering father (Lithgow), society still tests and contains him.

Eventually, Caesar proves smart enough to escape from his contained cell and lead an ape revolution that will threaten to wipe out humans and make apes the dominant species on the planet.

Apes will rise on **August 12th.**

News Round-Up

- David Goyer will write the script for director Gareth Edwards' Godzilla movie
- A remake of cult classic *The*Evil Dead is given the greenlight
- Unknown director Jaume Collet-Serra will direct the live-action version of anime classic Akira
- Sean Bean is to play the King in Tarsem Singh's Snow White project
- Tom Cruise is confirmed to star as Jack Reacher in the adaptation of Lee Child's One Shot
- Emma Watson is to headline a Guillermo del Toro-backed version of Beauty and the Beast
- Kevin Costner joins Quentin Tarantino's Django Unchained
- Ron Howard's The Dark Tower adaptation falls apart at Universal
- A live-action Captain Planet movie is in the works
- Helena Bonham Carter, Parry Pepper and Dwight Yoakam are in talks for *The Lone* Ranger
- Hugh Jackman confirms that the Silver Samurai will be the villain in *The Wolverine*
- Robert Rodriguez will be director for the long-mooted *Heavy Metal* project
- The *Harry Potter* film series surpasses \$7 billion worldwide
- Steven Spielberg announces that *Jurassic Park 4* has a story and writer, and will be made soon
- A sequel to horror movie
 Wolf Creek acquires financial
 backing
 - The story of the 33 Chilean miners trapped underground for 69 days is headed to the big screen
 - Limitless director is eyeing Bonnie and Clyde flick Go Down Together (though something tells me they're going to change that name...)
 - A new film version of *The Nutcracker* is in the works

TO BE HONEST, IT LOOKS SMURF: THE SMURFS

Just when you thought it was safe for children's cartoons to go back into the water...
This year, we've already had the

dire Yogi Bear adaptation, so now Hollywood feels that it needs to have a go at yet another beloved children's classic, this time it's The Smurfs. However, while the Smurfs are traditionally set in a quiet, Medieval forest, this film apparently kicks it up a notch by being set in a modern-day New York City atmosphere.

You still with us, now? Okay, read on at your own risk...

read on at your own risk...

Anyway, the film, directed by
Raja Gosnell (the live-action
Scooby-Doo films - already a sign
of trouble), manages to have a
decent cast supporting this
movie, including - in live-action
roles - Neil Patrick Harris (How I
Met Your Mother), Jayma Mays
(Glee), Hank Azaria (Night At The
Museum 2) and Sofia Vergara
(Modern Family), while in
voice-over roles we have
Jonathan Winters (the original



voice of Papa Smurf), singer Katy Perry, Anton Yelchin (*Star Trek*), Alan Cumming (*Spy Kids*) and George Lopez (*Rio*).

The plot introduces the Smurfs, including Papa Smurf (Winters), Smurfette (Perry) etc in their tiny village in the forest during the Middle Ages. Unfortunately their greatest nemesis, the evil wizard Gargamel (Azaria), finds them and chases them into a wooded area, where some of them

wander into a "forbidden" grotto and, via some ridiculous magical method, they are transported to New York. There, they take shelter with a married couple (Harris and Mays) as they try and find a way back to the village before Gargamel finds them.

If you are still merely interested in seeing how this one will turn out (my prediction? Not well...), it's out on **August 12th.** Page 4 Issue 14 - August 2011



HAPPY FEET: Mr. Popper's Penguins

Penguins are on the comeback trail, but with Happy Feet 2 not out until Christmas the movie world needs something to whet its appetite. And so, along comes Mr. Popper's Penguins.

The Mark Waters (Mean Girls)-directed adaptation, based on the classic 1938 children's book, features Jim Carrey (Bruce Almighty) in the title role alongside a pack of real-life Gentoo penguins. To accommodate the latter, most scenes were filmed on a refrigerated set thereby making it more accessible for the little winged stars.

Joining Carrey in this family comedy are Carla Gugino (Sucker Punch), Ophelia Lovibond (4.3.2.1), Clarg Gregg (Iron Man) and Angela Lansbury (Nanny McPhee). Carrrey plays Mr. Tom Popper, a focused but



divorced businessman who, typically, does not have much time for his family. However, when his absent father dies, a crate arrives at Tom's doorstep containing a small Gentoo penguin. Eventually, Mr. Popper ends up with six penguins with whom he is forced to share his apartment when he realizes that their presence is helping him to reconnect with his estranged wife and children. He must now attempt to maintain his new

hold on his family and his new fluffy companions, as well as struggling to keep his job and avoid a local zoo representative who wants to put the penguins in custody. For some reason not holding out for a Christmas release, *Mr. Popper's Penguins* is out in the midst of the summer season on **August 5th.**



TIMELESS: SPY KIDS: ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD

Robert Rodriguez, please can you just give us Sin City 2 instead?
I mean, the Spy Kids film were entertaining and all when they first came out, but surely you must also think that going on to a fourth installment is a bit too much? Did you not SEE Pirates of the Caribbean 4?

Okay, slight rant is over. Spy Kids 4, subtitled All The Time In The World, is the next installment in director Rodriguez's family series, which depicted the adventures of two young siblings who discovered their parents were international spies, with gadgets and gizmos that made Q go green with envy.

However, the two young actors in question - Alexa Vega and Daryl Sabara - are all grown up now and are thus no longer the main focus of the franchise. However, they do return in this installment (albeit in supporting roles) while the likes of Jessica Alba (Sin City), Jeremy Piven (Entourage) and the voice of Ricky Gervais (The Office) are front and center.

Jessica Alba plays Marissa Cortez Wilson, a retired spy who has



settled down with her husband - ironically enough, a spy-hunting television reporter - and her new baby and twin step-children Rebecca and Cecil. Unfortunately, they do not want her around thereby making motherhood a difficult task. Their world is turned upsidedown, however, when the maniacal Timekeeper (Piven) plots to take over the world. Marissa is called back into action at the OSS, home to the now-defunct Spy Kids

division, while Rebecca and Cecil must put aside their bickering once they discover Marissa's secret identity and rely on their wits to help save the world - but not before some help from some rather familiar Spy Kids, Carmen (Vega) and Juni Cortez (Sabara). If you've got time, check out this film from **August 19th.**



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TRUE LOVE TAKES ITS TIME: ONE DAY

If there were only one way to end the summer movie season, it would undoubtedly have to be through the means of a charming romance - in this case, *One Day.*

Lone Scherfig (An Education) directs this tale, adapted from the best-selling book by David Nicholls, and has cast Anne Hathaway (Alice in Wonderland) and Jim Sturgess (21) in the two lead roles.

As for the supporting cast, Romola Garai (Atonement), Rafe Spall (Hot Fuzz), Ken Stott (Prince Caspian), Patricia Clarkson (Easy A) and Jodie Whittaker (Attack The Block) fill in these necessary shoes.

On July 15th 1988, Emma (Hathaway) and Dexter (Sturgess) spend the night together after their university graduation, in the process beginning a friendship that



will last a lifetime.
The film follows key moments in their relationship most of which occur on that same day over many years (hence the title One Day). Of course, this being a romance, somewhere along the line - in the midst of all the fights, dashed hopes, missed opportunities etc - Emma and Dexter realize that what

they have been searching and hoping for had been there for them all along. While some of you may want a bucket after that last bit, others will want to check it out which *One Day* is released on **August 26th.**





THE ORIGINAL HE-MAN: CONAN THE BARBARIAN

With Arnold Schwarzenegger preparing for his long-awaited return to film after a foray into politics and adulterous scandals, it's time to revisit one of the other characters that he brought to life on the silver screen.

This new take on *Conan The Barbarian*, based on the tales of the fictional character by Robert E. Howard, is said to be an entirely new interpretation of the character, thus having no connection with the films made with Schwarzenegger in the title role. In other words, a reboot.

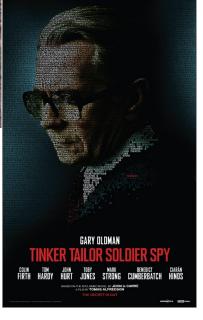
Jason Momoa (*Game of Thrones*) has been selected to play Conan in this new take, which is being directed by Marcus Nispel (*The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*).

Other cast members include



Rachel Nichols (G.I. Joe), Stephen Lang (Avatar), Rose McGowan (Planet Terror), Nonso Anozie (Atonement) and Ron Perlman (Hellboy). The film follows Conan who, after watching his father (Perlman) being murdered and his village destroyed, ventures into an unforgiving world where he manages to survive as a thief, pirate and warrior. Soon, however, he happens upon the warlord responsible for his tribes destruction and must battle monsters, evil henchmen and a powerful witch.

Action lovers will welcome Conan the Barbarian with open arms on August 26th.



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Limitless

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 01/08/11



Sucker Punch

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 08/08/11



Scream 4

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 08/08/11



Source Code

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 15/08/11

STILL SHOWING: WHAT HAPPENED IN JULY?

With August, the summer movie season ends for another year. With that in mind, let's revisit the high point of the season with July's releases. Up first on July 1st, Robert Redford directed a thrilling coutroom drama centered on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in The Conspirator; Tom Hanks went back to school in Larry Crowne: and Michael Bay turned the action up to 11 in Transformers: Dark of the Moon.

Then, on the 8th, Jesse Eisenberg smuggled drugs in the delayed Holy Rollers: Noel Clarke proved to unfunny cobe an median (in the film) in Huge; Rainn Wilson's superhero made Kick-Ass look like Peppa Pig in Super: Terrence Malick's long-awaited The Tree of Life dazzled and confused moviegoers: and David Schwimmer highlighted the dangers of online grooming in Trust. But, on the 15th, it finally arrived - after ten years of watching him and his friends grow up, it was finally



time for The Boy Who Lived to confront Lord Voldemort once and for all. I refer, of course, to Hobo with a Shotgun... only kidding. But that film did open up against Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2, which seriously set the standards high for most other films this summer.

The 22nd started to get relatively quieter with films like the quirky comedy Beginners; the thrilling Pixar sequel Cars 2; and the outrageous comedy Horrible Bosses.
The end of the month

came at last on the 29th, with the releases of WW2-era superhero flick Captain America: The First Avenger, with Chris Evans in the

title role; the family flick Horrid Henry: The Movie which managed to entertain young'uns over the country; and the Kevin James-starring talking animals film Zookeeper, which at least managed to make idiots completely satisfied. So once more, July has proven itself to be one for the ages. and surely one to beat (until next July, when we've got The Dark Knight Rises and The Amazing Spider-Man to get excited for...)

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COMING SOON: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER?

Well, that went quick.
After a summer of
endless blockbusters,
it's time for the industry
to settle down as
everyone goes back to
school or university or
wherever else you're
going back to.
And yet, the industry

And yet, the industry shows little sign of slowing down as such, especially with these exciting new releases.

especially with these exciting new releases. The month kicks off with the following releases on the 2nd - Alien meets Paranormal Activity in Apollo 18; Freddie Highmore and Emma Roberts are young lovers in The Art of Getting By; and Colin Farrell is a super-creepy vampire neighbour in Fright Night.

The 9th sees Zoe Saldana become a total badass assassin in Colombiana; Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis share a very special relationship in Friends with Benefits; Mia Wasikowska (Alice in Wonderland) takes on a classic character by Charlotte Bronte in Jane Eyre; and Norway surprises us with their first fantasy horror movie (or the first of its kind for Norway) in *Troll* Hunter.

Then, on the 16th, Jesse Eisenberg is forced to become a bank robber with some rather explosive consequences in 30 Minutes or Less; Jason



Bateman and Ryan Reynolds swap bodies in The Change-Up; Sarah Jessica Parker becomes the breadwinner in her family in I Don't Know How She Does It; Gary Oldman leads a stellar British cast in espionage thriller adaptation Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy: and it is discovered how love can be found at music festivals in You Instead.

On the 23rd, Steve Carell acquires relationship advice from Ryan Gosling in Crazy, Stupid, Love: the critically-acclaimed Drive (also starring Ryan Gosling) arrives on UK shores; there's something to entertain the kids with Judy Moody and the **Bummer Summer** (trying hard not to laugh at that ridiculous title); surfing is shown to be 'armless fun (you'll understand when you see it) in Soul Surfer:

and Tom Hardy competes against his brother Joel Edgerton in mixed martial arts flick *Warrior*.

Finally, on the 30th, Twilight star Taylor Lautner flexes his action muscle in Abduction; the longdelayed film The Debt is finally released in cinemas; Kirsten Dunst shows us why she won Best Actress at Cannes in Lars Von Trier's Melancholia; cult director Kevin Smith has a dab at horror in Red State: the latest 3D monster flick is upon us with Shark Night 3D; and Anna Faris is on a desperate search for the right man in What's Your Number? It's clear that, despite the summer season being over, the movie industry - as can be seen by what's on offer in September - is more alive than ever.



Red Riding Hood

Also available on Blu-Ray
Released: 22/08/11



Winnie The Pooh
Also available on Blu-Ray
Released: 18/08/11



<u>Hanna</u>
Also available on Blu-Ray
Released: 29/08/11



<u>Hop</u> Also available on Blu-Ray Released: 29/08/11

UK Film Release Dates

AUGUST

5TH

- Mr. Popper's Penguins
- Sarah's Key
- Super 8

12TH

- The Devil's Double
- Project Nim
- Rise of the Planet of the Apes
- The Smurfs

19TH

- Cowboys and Aliens
- The Guard
- In A Better World
- The Inbetweeners
- Spy Kids 4: All The Time In The World

26TH

- Conan the Barbarian
- Final Destination 5
- One Day
- The Skin I Live In

SEPTEMBER

2ND

- Apollo 18
- The Art of Getting By
- Fright Night

<u>9TH</u>

- Colombiana
- Friends With Benefits
- Jane Eyre
- Troll Hunter

16TH

- 30 Minutes or Less
- The Change-Up
- I Don't Know How She Does It
- Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy
- You Instead

23RD

- Crazy, Stupid, Love
- Drive
- Judy Moody and the Bummer Summer
- Soul Surfer
- Warrior

30TH

- Abduction
- The Debt
- Melancholia
- Red State
- Shark Night 3D
- What's Your Number?

All release dates are correct as of time of press.

OCTOBER

7TH

- Another Earth
- Don't Be Afraid of the Dark
- Jack Goes Boating
- Johnny English Reborn
- The Lion King 3D
- Perfect Sense

14TH

- Footloose
- Pom Wonderful Presents:
 The Greatest Movie Ever
 Sold
- Real Steel
- Sleeping Beauty
- The Three Musketeers

21ST

- African Cats
- Contagion
- Laughing Out Loud
- Monte Carlo
- Paranormal Activity 3
- Restless
- We Need To Talk About Kevin

28TH

- The Adventures of Tintin: Secret of the Unicorn
- Anonymous
- The Help
- The Ides of March

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