

Films for screening March - May 2023

Date	Title	Description
8 Mar	The hedgehog (12A certificate)	Paloma is a serious and highly articulate but deeply bored 11-year-old who has decided to kill herself on her 12th birthday. But as the date approaches, she meets kindred spirits in her building's grumpy concierge and an enigmatic, elegant neighbour, who lead her to question her pessimistic outlook on life.
12 Apr	After love (12A certificate)	Drama about a widow who discovers her late husband's secret family in France after his sudden death, and fortuitously gets a cleaning job with it. The film combines domestic tragedy and psychological thriller.
10 May	Tampopo (15A certificate)	Japanese comedy. A truck driver stops at a family-run noodle shop and decides to help its fledgling business. The main narrative is interspersed with stories involving food on several levels.

Doors will open at 7 pm and screenings start at 7.30



Wednesday 8 February 2023



The Duke

In 1961 sixty-year-old self-educated working-class Kempton Bunton appeared in the Old Bailey, pleading not guilty to charges of stealing Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington and its frame from the National Gallery in London, six months after he had been jailed for thirteen days for watching TV without a licence. He had taken the painting as part of a campaign against pensioners having to pay for TV without a licence, exemplifying his wider strong beliefs about supporting the common man. He had then sent a series of ransom notes to the government, saying that he would return the painting on condition that the elderly be exempted. The true story of what happened next includes some unexpected plot twists.

The final film made by director Roger Michell before his untimely death in 2021, it draws heavily on 1950s Ealing comedies. Jim Broadbent's performance as Bunton came in for high praise from the critics. The Guardian said: 'Broadbent's performance satisfyingly shows both the public and the private man to be the same: the stubborn eccentric and the individualist ..., and the born standup comic who in court gets laughs from the jury and the press gallery. There is a fair bit of sentimentality here, but an awful lot of affection and energy as well.'

UK - 2020 - 96 minutes - 12A certificate

Wednesday 8th February 2023

St John's Place, Lower Road, Lower Bemerton

Doors open 19.00

Programme starts 19.30 Entrance £6

Bemerton Film Society

In the autumn of 2010 a group of Bemerton residents decided to set up the Bemerton Film Society (BFS) as a fundraiser in support of local efforts to turn St John's Church into a community centre. The Society aimed to offer people the chance to see quality films that had in one way or other made film history. Since our first outing in December 2010 we have screened 126 feature films, covering a wide range of subjects and styles, from classic Hollywood films to modern comedies, documentaries and dramas. We have travelled in time from 1933 (Duck soup) to 2021 (Operation Mincemeat) and geographically across 3 continents.

At first we used to screen the films in St John's School, but following installation of new cinema equipment and comfortable seating in St John's Place we transferred operations there in January 2017. We can now screen blu-ray films in full HD and surround sound, thus enabling our audience to enjoy an authentic cinema experience.

To date (January 2022) BFS screenings have contributed well over £10,000 to the Bemerton Community Project, and we will continue to generate funds for that worthy cause into the foreseeable future.