

# s f t w MOVIES

## TOP 5 FILMS

1. Wonder Woman 1984
  2. The Secret Garden
  3. Spider-Man – Far From Home
  4. Roald Dahl's The Witches
  5. Maze Runner – The Death Cure
- officialcharts.com

YOU don't have to be a fan of director Nick Broomfield to enjoy this beautiful documentary – but it probably helps.

I have long admired the work of the award-winning British documentary maker, whose films include *Whitney: Can I Be Me*, *Tales Of The Grim Sleeper* and *Aileen: Life And Death Of A Serial Killer*.

His talents for revealing raw emotion of his subjects are played out in this gentler version of his usual work, which is about the relationship with his late father, Maurice.

He was a factory worker turned celebrated photographer, specialising in images of industrial post-World War Two England.

While Nick admits his dad's pictures inspired his own career, the pair had a very different outlook.

While Maurice was a romantic, Nick's left-wing political views caused some



SNAP HAPPY  
... young Nick  
with dad Maurice

### MY FATHER AND ME

97mins

★★★★

problems with his dad. Until, Nick admits, the pair became "best friends who had mundane conversations about the garden".

As well as a heart-warming family story, this documentary shows the

extreme changes that have taken place in the country between the two men's lifetimes, with the rise and fall of industry in the North and the class divide.

●BBC Two, 9.45pm tomorrow and BBC iPlayer.

SILK Road was the world's first unregulated online superstore, a place to buy and sell illegal drugs that could then be mailed from a dealer to your door.

The dark web venture became a global success.

Its founder, Ross Ulbricht, a 27-year-old libertarian from Austin, Texas, made millions in crypto-currency – until a Drug Enforcement Administration agent stepped in to take him down.

Based on true events, this cyber-crime drama certainly had a surplus of juicy material to work with.

But it's not quite the gripping, suspenseful thriller it could have been.

Director Tiller Russell sensibly steers clear of too much geek action, limiting the code-writing storylines to focus more on the generational divide instead.

Nick Robinson is believable as the millennial idealist Ulbricht, who becomes consumed by the



### SILK ROAD

(18) 117mins

★★★★

marketplace monster he has created, alienating his family, friends and girlfriend.

The Wire's Darrell Britt-Gibson is comedy gold in the role of streetwise informant Rayford. But it is Jason

Clarke as stereotypical, grumpy FBI agent Bowden who keeps you watching.

It lacks the nuance of Facebook biopic *The Social Network*, but still absorbing. ●On digital platforms from March 22.

# Dulcie Pearce ON THE SOFA WITH THE REMOTE

## CREATION STORIES

(18) 100mins

★★

HE discovered some of the country's biggest bands, swigged champagne with Tony Blair and called Coldplay "bedwetters".

So it is no surprise that this Alan McGee biopic is a high-tempo mix of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.

It is a surprise, however, that all those elements come across as very uncool in this chaotic movie.

Director Nick Moran has taken heavy influence from executive producer Danny Boyle in this tale of the Scots businessman who famously discovered Oasis in King Tut's Wah Wah Hut in Glasgow in 1993 after missing his train home.

### Breakneck speed

His music label Creation Records also launched The Jesus And Mary Chain, Primal Scream, My Bloody Valentine and Teenage Fanclub.

Ewen Bremner (Spud from Danny Boyle's *Trainspotting*) plays McGee and there are strong echoes of that 1996 film with the frantic pace and strong Scots dialect.

The story of music-obsessed McGee hurdles through the decades at breakneck speed.

We start with him as a Sex Pistol fanatic dancing in his bedroom – and getting clipped round the ear by his dad – and see him escape to a London squat and discover bands.

While 50-year-old Bremner gives a decent enough performance, he starts playing McGee at the age of 20, with only a frizzy wig to disguise his age. And the wear and tear of five decades on his face jars embarrassingly next to his younger co-stars. McGee started Creation



# This is Britplop

Records with a small group of friends, but none of these characters are explored to any extent.

Contributions from the supporting cast are little cameos, which is a shame as many are familiar faces (Ed Byrne as Alastair Campbell and Alistair McGowan as Jimmy Savile).

Director Moran also takes one for himself, playing a very OTT version of punk god Malcolm McLaren. Much of the film sees McGee flying

from hallucinogenic drugs to addiction to therapy to a very bad breakdown – all the while calling most people he meets the C-word.

And his discovery of Oasis becomes a frustratingly small footnote in this topsy-turvy film, reminding me of the band's disappointing third album *Be Here Now*.

You thought you needed it, but then you got it... and realised you didn't want it after all.

●On Sky Cinema

## MOVIE NEWS

●HAMILTON writer Lin-Manuel Miranda has released a trailer for his first musical film production, *In The Heights*.

●GODZILLA Vs Kong will now be out on digital platforms instead of waiting for a big-screen release in May.

●COMEDY actors Rob Delaney and Mark Gatiss, right, have joined the cast of *Mission Impossible 7*.



## GAMES

By Stuart Cullen



THINK of anti-gravity racers and PlayStation classic *Wipeout* or Nintendo's *F-Zero* series will be top of your list.

They are a bit scarce nowadays, but R8 Games have ridden to the rescue with this love letter to the genre.

Pacer actually began life as a Kickstarter called *Formula Fusion* in 2015. It has evolved into a stunning game. Yes, it is a sort of cloned *Wipeout*, but this imitation is more of a tribute than a nicked concept.

It adds some fun twists to the core *Wipeout* formula to create something that could easily have been a sequel to that

## PACER

Xbox One, PS4 and PC £33.49

series – and that is no surprise when you find out some of the original *Wipeout* team helped on the development.

This is fast, fun and challenging as you pinball your way around the tracks. The control choice is a bit random so expect to blow up every five minutes until it all clicks – and then it becomes a right laugh, both on and offline.

There are a number of tracks – from cities to snow-topped

mountains – each packed with lots of small details that bring them to life. There is also a great selection of ships which you can customise... and then there's the power-ups which are a blast.

Pacer looks, sounds, and even feels like *Wipeout* (and that is no bad thing) but it also moves the genre on in its own way. It's well worth a play for anyone yearning for an anti-gravity racing hit.

★★★★

●Read our exclusive chat with R8 Games lead designer Carlton Gaunt at [thescottishsun.co.uk/tech/gaming/](https://thescottishsun.co.uk/tech/gaming/)

# NEW MUSIC

By JIM GELLATLY

## BRAW

WHO: Iain Mundy (vocals/piano/guitar/bass/drums), Andrew Mundy (vocals/guitar/tambourine).

WHERE: Glasgow. FOR FANS OF: Simon & Garfunkel, Skerryvore, The Proclaimers.

JIM SAYS: The Mundy brothers are onto a winner with Braw's debut album *A Few Miles More*.

It's packed with wonderful folk-pop songs complemented by glorious harmonies.

They've been likened to The Proclaimers, but they are huge fans of Biffy Clyro.

Iain said: "The Proclaimers would definitely be number one as an influence. Aside from that we draw a lot from duos who sing in harmony like Simon & Garfunkel and A Great Big World."

"I do really love songwriters such as Jamie Cullum and Gary Barlow, and Scottish bands like Tide Lines, Skerryvore, Talisk and Rura, but our favourite band hands down is Biffy



Clyro." The brothers formed Braw a couple of years ago, though they had been in brass bands when they were young.

One of the songs on the album, *The Tide*, was originally the title track of a solo EP Iain released in 2018, recorded when he was still living down south.

He said: "I roped Andrew in to sing backing vocals. That was the first time we had sung together."

Braw is very much a family affair with Iain's journalist wife Steph contributing lyrics to three tracks – including one of the standouts, *Home From Home*.

Iain revealed: "It's about a real love for Scotland but written from the opposite standpoint to *Caledonia*. It describes her experience of feeling welcomed as an outsider."

MORE: [brawofficial.com](https://brawofficial.com) ●Jim presents a weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio, Sundays at 2-4pm.

[amazingradio.com](https://amazingradio.com)  
[jimgellatly.com](https://jimgellatly.com)

# BOOKS

Edited by NATASHA HARDING

## THE LAMPLIGHTERS

Emma Stone, £14.99

PICK OF THE WEEK  
IN 1972, three keepers mysteriously vanish from a lighthouse in Cornwall.

Twenty years on, and the women who were left behind are broken. Helen, Jenny and Michelle should have found strength from each other, but didn't.

When a writer asks for their story, perhaps they will finally find some peace after the disappearances so long ago. Inspired by true events, *The Lamplighters* is a dark, evocative tale that is a pleasure to read.

★★★★