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The Regal Theatre set to reopen on May 21

If the government's roadmap remains on track and restrictions are eased in line with current plans, Minehead's Regal Theatre aims to open its doors for a weekend of film on Friday May 21, and hopes to be able to launch itself out of lockdown with an Oscar front-runner.

While cinemas are scheduled to re-open on May 17, the film distribution companies are due to start taking bookings from April 21 which at the time of writing is still some way off, so the Regal volunteers are hoping that everyone will keep an eye on the local press, social media and the theatre and film society websites to see what titles have been possible to book and what treats are in store. Because audiences will continue to be limited to around 100 under social distancing rules, until restrictions are scheduled to be lifted on June 21, the plan is for repeat screenings, to meet demand.

A programme of live events as well screenings is planned as soon as circumstances allow.

The Regal is entirely run by volunteers and as the theatre gradually returns to full operation, it will need all the support possible from existing and new volunteers. If there is anyone who is not yet aware of the exciting possibilities of being part of the Regal team of volunteers putting on a full programme of shows for the community, then the message is to get in touch now for a chat.

The theatre is always looking for volunteers with a wide range of skills from admin, technical and professional backgrounds or with the enthusiasm and energy to provide general help with selling tickets, stewarding, helping on the bar or working with professional companies as they set their kit up for a performance. Right now the theatre is looking for volunteers to help with publicity and the production of the Regal brochure, listing the huge variety of events that will be on offer when the theatre is fully up and running again, so don't miss out. Training is available.

For more information please email mail@regaltheatre.co.uk, telephone Monica Hartwell on 01643 703921 or visit the website www.regaltheatre.co.uk or www.regalfilmsociety.org.



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