

CHELMSFORD FILM CLUB

An Independent film society based in Chelmsford

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THE LINE WE CROSSED

Monday 20 October 2025 113 mins

A new documentary released earlier this year provides the chance to enter into the debate about the rights of pressure groups, and the public in general, to protest about issues which affect the whole of society. In Liz Smith's film a 'non-violent civil resistance' group is demanding the UK government stop licensing new oil, gas and coal projects in the face of the perceived 'climate emergency'. The more they resist and protest, the more the government clamps down on their rights to protest and subjects them to arrest and harsh prison sentences.

The film will undoubtedly provide its audiences with much food for thought: is some civil disobedience and protest 'crossing the line' and where should that line be drawn? Is stopping traffic on the Queen Elizabeth bridge or glueing hands to the roadway just such a line?

We hope the film will stimulate and provoke, as well as informing, as it challenges audiences to question what makes dissent effective and where the line of acceptability is crossed, if at all. Hence the Q & A session at the end of the film, probably not lasting longer than 30 minutes, will be just such an opportunity to express your reactions.

Our next screening: **APRIL** on Monday 3 November. If you remember 'Blackberry, Blackberry Blackbird' from last season, here is another offering from a Georgian director but on a very different theme. As members of the Club, don't forget to use your two cut-price guest vouchers if you haven't yet used them!