

DRAGONFLY

UK (2025) 98 minutes

Director: Paul Andrew Williams

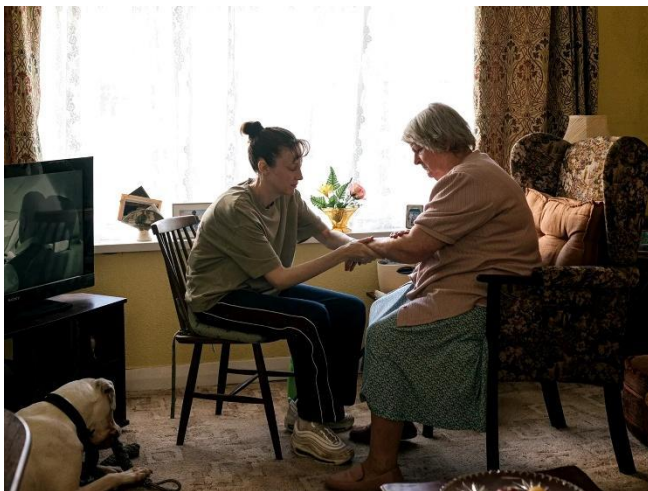
Cast: Brenda Blethyn (Elsie)
Andrea Riseborough (Colleen)
Jason Watkins (John)



Screening 9th September 2026 at Swindon Arts Centre

Neglected pensioner Elsie finds an unexpected ally in her young neighbour Colleen. Over time, a friendship starts to develop but Elsie's resentful, guilt-ridden son stirs up tensions with shocking consequences.

Reviews



"Twenty years ago, Paul Andrew Williams announced himself as a smart new British talent with his ferocious gangland picture *London to Brighton*, and his creativity has continued in film and TV ever since. His new film is a haunted, social-realist drama with elements of Mike Leigh but also moments of thriller and even horror. Williams isn't shy of stabbing us with an old-fashioned jump scare towards the end, which in fact challenges the audiences with its refusal of categorisation. There are two superb lead performances from Andrea Riseborough and Brenda Blethyn and an outstanding supporting turn from Jason Watkins."

Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian

"Two actors, among the very best of their respective generations, come together for *Dragonfly*, a bleak but captivating study of loneliness and social care set in contemporary Britain....

Williams errs on the darker side in his films, as his last movie, the 2021 hallucinatory revenge tale *Bull* shows, and *Dragonfly* is no different. The companionship that Elsie and Coleen conjure is destined to take a disturbing twist, although it's likely you won't see it coming until it's too late."

James Mottram, Radio Times

Film Facts

- Riseborough and Blethyn were nominated for best joint lead performance at the British Independent Film Awards 2025.
- Dixie who plays Colleen's dog, Sabre, was awarded *Femme Fido* and *Best in World* at the Fido Awards 2026.
- The Director, Paul Andrew Williams, began his career as an actor but later began writing and directing pop-promos, before directing his first short film, *Royalty*.

swindonfilm.org.uk