



DEVONPORT CHORAL SOCIETY'S PRODUCTION OF **CALENDAR GIRLS** THE MUSICAL

AUDITION KIT

Thank you for your interest in the Devonport Choral Society 2025 production of *Calendar Girls*. Auditions will be held 11-13 October 2024 at Forth Primary School. All auditionees are encouraged to try out for any role that they are interested in.

Calendar Girls - The Musical by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth is the award-winning production based on the true story of the calendar girls - a group of ordinary ladies who achieved something extraordinary.

The death of a much-loved husband prompts a group of ordinary women in a small Yorkshire Women's Institute to do an extraordinary thing. Blasting away all preconceptions of what it is to be in the Woman's Institute, they decide to do an artistic nude calendar to raise money for charity. Upturning preconceptions is a dangerous business and none of them expect the emotional and personal ramifications, but gradually the making of the fabulous and funny calendar brings each woman unexpectedly into flower.

The true story of the Calendar Girls launched a global phenomenon, a million copycat calendars, a record-breaking movie, stage play and musical.

With unforgettable songs, every performance continues to add to the millions already raised for charity and also prove that there is no such thing as an ordinary woman.

PRODUCTION TEAM:

- Director – Emil Djakic
- Musical Director – Del Polden
- Vocal Director – Carloyn Harris
- Choreographer – Dana Sallese
- Producer – Andrew (Drew) Grey
- Stage Manager – Fiona Paterson
- Set Design – Jenny Slater

PERFORMANCES:

- Venue – Town Hall Theatre, paranapple arts centre
- Number of performances – 10
- Performance dates - 16/05/2025, 17/05/2025, 22/05/2025, 23/05/2025, 24/05/2025, 29/05/2025, 30/05/2025, 31/05/2025

REHEARSALS:

- Rehearsal venue TBA
- Beginning Sunday 2 February 2025
- Tuesday & Friday evenings 7-9.30pm
- Sundays 12-5pm

AUDITIONS:

All auditionees are encouraged to try out for any role that they are interested in. All roles are open. Casting will be based entirely on people seen at these auditions.

The audition panel will include the Director (Emil Djakic), Musical Director (Del Polden), Vocal Director (Carolyn Harris) and Choreographer (Dana Sallese).

Auditions will be held at Forth Primary School, 45 Wilmot Road, Forth.

Auditions will be held at 20-minute intervals on:

- Friday 11 October, 6.30 – 9.30pm
- Saturday 12 October, 9am – 12noon and 1 – 4pm
- Sunday 13 October, 9am – 12noon

To book your audition call Maree (0408 079 805) or send an email to DCSCalendarGirls@gmail.com.

Please ensure you are prepared for your audition:

- Warm up your voice for 15 minutes prior to your audition
- Bring water to drink (especially if you are nervous!)

WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR AUDITION:

Acting

- You will be asked to read a short passage of dialogue. Panel members will focus on diction, accent, expression and flexibility of vocal tone.
- You may be asked to read the dialogue again, incorporating changes suggested by the Director.

Singing

- You need to prepare excerpts from 2 contrasting songs for your audition.
- The songs you choose should be in a contemporary musical style, not from *Calendar Girls*.
- During your audition, panel members will be focusing on the following abilities:
 - Vocal range & pitch

- Vocal strength
 - Ability to hold basic harmony parts
 - Connection with the lyrics
 - Expression
- You may be stopped during your audition. This does not necessarily mean that you have not got the part; it could just mean that the panel has seen enough to base their decision on.
 - You might have to do some short exercises to determine your range, ability to hold a part or change your vocal quality.
 - An accompanist will be available at the audition (MD Del Polden).

Movement

- Wear clothes and footwear that you can move easily in. Please tell the panel if you have a dance specialty.

Do not be afraid to seek clarification on any instruction that you do not understand.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Auditions are a chance for you to demonstrate your skills, energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to be in this production. Give it your very best shot by preparing and showing you care about your audition.
- The Audition panel want you to succeed in your endeavours, so help them by giving your all. The panel will choose the cast that they believe will exhibit the balance and character required to enhance the challenges and highlights of *Calendar Girls*. If you are unsure of anything, please ask for clarification. The Panel are there to help.
- Audition times are by appointment only. If you know someone else who is interested in auditioning, then please have them make an appointment.
- Please arrive at least 10 -15 mins earlier in order to fulfil the administrative requirements for the audition, and to adequately warm up for the audition.
- Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear that is comfortable to dance in.
- Complete the Audition Form and indicate which role/s you would like to be considered for. Feel free to discuss any questions about the show with the various Directors.

- You will be required to bring an up-to-date photograph to be presented with your audition form.
- It is vital that your voice and body are warmed up well before your audition.
- Auditions are closed and last around 10 - 15 minutes.
- You will be working with the Audition Panel only and be required to sing your prepared songs, perform some choreography, and complete some characterization scenarios. The latter will involve sections of dialogue from the show or asking you to act out/characterize parts of a song! Feel free to seek clarification etc if you are unsure of the process.
- All auditionees will be informed of the Panel's decisions ASAP either via email and/or by phone.
- Successful auditionees will be required to formally accept their role and to abide by the values of the Devonport Choral Society and the expectations and schedules of Production Team. Any special requirements, anticipated absences, or requests for absence should be indicated as early as possible.
- Parents and friends will not be admitted into the audition room. A waiting area is available.
- Due to unforeseen circumstances delays can occur. Please be patient.
- Rehearsal schedules will be given out at regular intervals and will be available via email and through a closed group on Facebook.
- All cast and band members must be available for every performance.

CHARACTERS

Please note that the ages listed below serve only as a guide however all ages will be considered for all roles to achieve the best overall fit for the cast. All ages are approximate playing ages. All roles are available, and casting is open.

Chris* 50s

Lively friendly, likes being the centre of attention, mother of Danny, wife of Rod.

Solo Singing F3-Eb5

Annie* 50s

A calm, empathetic woman, dislikes conflict but always ready to join in mischief, married to John.

Solo Singing G3-E5

Cora* Mid-late 30s

A single mother of a teenage son, Tommo, with whom she has a very strong bond. Witty and funny. A fighter.

Solo Singing F3-D5

Jessie* 70s

A retired teacher, but still a teacher. An inspirational woman who makes the most of life. Loyal but doesn't suffer fools gladly. Married to Colin.

Solo Singing Eb3-Bb4

Celia* 50s

Ex-airhostess and the most glamorous of the women. She has a rebellious streak and is a newcomer to the village.

Solo Singing E3-D5

Ruth* 40-50s,

Eager to please and keep everyone happy; emotionally abused by her husband, she goes on a journey from false self-confidence to genuine self-confidence.

Solo Singing G3-D5

Marie Late 40s-early 50s.

Mother of Jenny and Chair of the WI. The WI gives her the status she craves.

No solo singing

John 50s

Annie's husband. A man who is kind, generous and liked by all - when he dies the loss is felt by everyone.

Solo singing A2-F4

Rod 50s

Chris's husband, John's mate. A man who loves life with the unpredictable Chris. He has a deadpan humour and he is committed to making the shop a success.

Some Solo singing B2-C4

Lawrence 20s/30s

A shy rather nervous young man with wit and spirit. Focussed on his art -photography.

No solo singing

Colin 70s

Jessie's husband – both rebellious and compliant in that relationship.

Some limited solo singing F#2-D4

Denis 50s

Celia's husband. Working class lad who has done well. Captain of the golf club and proud of it.

Some limited solo singing Bb2-D4

Miss Wilson* (Tea)

Miss Wilson*(Coffee)

Two sisters who are part of the fabric of the village and stalwarts of the WI. They say nothing except their drinks offerings.

Sing as part of the female chorus in several scenes A3-D5

Brenda Hulse 50s-70s

Speaker at the WI.

No solo singing

Lady Cravenshire 50s -70s

Local dignitary.

No solo singing

Danny 16

Chris and Rod's son. The conscientious head boy.

Solo singing C3-F4

Jenny 16

Marie's daughter and a rebel.

Solo singing A3-C5

Tommo 16

Cora's son, Danny's best mate and also his Mum's best mate.

Some limited solo singing Bb2-F4

*Indicates characters involved in the photo shoot.

A WORD ON NUILITY:

Everyone will be aware of the Calendar shoot that is the best known aspect of the Calendar Girls' story. It is essential that the audience see nothing that we do not wish them to see in this scene. It will be carefully choreographed and will require a great team effort from all those involved to ensure that each person's modesty is protected by her fellow actors. The characters who are part of this scene are marked with an asterisk.

MUSICIANS REQUIRED:

- 1 x Keyboard 1
- 1 x Keyboard 2/Guitar (Acoustic Guitar, Ukulele)
- 1 x Cornet (doubling Trumpet)
- 1 x Trombone
- 1 x Drums
- 1 x Double Bass (doubling Electric Bass)

MUSICAL NUMBERS:

Act 1

"Yorkshire" - *Company*
"Mrs Conventional" – *The Girls*
"Lighting the Sunflowers" – *Chris, John*
"Scarborough" – *Annie*
"Danny-Festo" – *Danny*
"Who Wants a Silent Night?" – *Cora, Company*
"After Silent Night" – *Tommo*
"Very, Slightly, Almost" - *Annie*
"Spring Fete" – *Company*
"Girls/Hello Yorkshire, I'm a Virgin – *Tommo, Donny*
"Time Passing" – *Company*
"Danny -Festo 2" - *Jenny*
"Sunflower" – *Chris*
"Dare" – *The Girls*

Act 2

"Girls" – *Colin, Den, Rod*
"Protect Me Less" – *Jenny, Danny*
"Kilimanjaro" - *Annie*
"So I've Had a Little Work Done" - *Celia*
"What Age Expects" – *Jessie*
"Drunken Danny" - *Danny*
"Kilimanjaro" – *Annie*
"Don't Go Out with Christine Butler" – *Rod*
"Scarborough" (Reprise) – *Annie*
"Dare (Reprise)" – *The Girls*
"My Russian Friend and I" - *Ruth*
"For One Night Only" – *The Girls*
"Sunflower of Yorkshire" - *Company*
Bows – *Orchestra*

We wish you the very best for your audition.



Devonport Choral Society Inc
PO Box 397
Devonport TAS 7310
Dev_choral@hotmail.com