Langham Court Theatre

presents

C-alendar Girls

By Tim Firth

Directed by Michael King

June 12 - 29, 2013

27



presents at the McPherson Playhouse

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Director's Notes

Who are the Calendar Girls? A group of ordinary women who hit on the right combination of tenacity and bravery and appear nude in a charity calendar that sets off a global phenomenon. Calendar Girls is based on the inspiring true story of all the good things that can come out of the loss of a loved one. It is the story of good friends and friendships tested. It is the story of tragedy and grief and how love and friendship can overcome those trials. Our main characters are all members of the W.I. or Women's Institute. The W.I. movement was formed in the UK in 1915 to revitalize rural communities and to encourage women to become more involved in producing food during the First World War. Since then, the organization's aims have broadened and it is now the largest women's voluntary organization in the UK. The W.I. celebrated its 95th anniversary in 2010 and currently has 208,000 members in 7,000 W.I.s. There are also chapters around the world. As well as the social aspect, much of their present work revolves around fundraising for special causes. For the last 4 months, I have been blessed to work with a truly talented group of volunteers. There is nothing more satisfying than having a great script and an enthusiastic cast and crew. Thank you to all who worked so hard. I hope you will laugh, cry and enjoy the story of Calendar Girls.

Michael King

Langham Court Theatre presents Calendar Girls

by Tim Firth

Based on the Miramax motion picture by Juliette Towhidi and Tim Firth

Calendar Girls was first presented by David Pugh Ltd at Chichester Festival Theatre on 5th September 2008. Calendar Girls transferred to the Noël Coward Theatre, London, on 4th April 2009. Associate Producer: Stoneface Ltd.

June 12 - 29, 2013

Langham Court Theatre - Home of the Victoria Theatre Guild & Dramatic School

Director	MICHAEL KING
Producer	PAUL GILLAN
Stage Manager	NICK STULL
Set Design/Decorator	LISA PRESTON
Lighting Design	KARRIE WOLFE
Costume Design	LISA LEIGHTON, CHRIS STUSEK
Sound Design	DIANA KEATING
Properties	PEARL ARDEN

Cast

	150
MORGAN CRANNY	Rod
RANDI EDMUNDSON	Lady Cravenshire, Elaine
VICKY ETCHELLS	Chris
JOY FARRELL	Ruth
ROSEMARY JEFFERY	Marie
WENDY LONDON	Brenda
WENDY MAGAHAY	Celia
TRACEY ROATH	Annie
LESLIE SANCHEZ	Cora
HENRY SKEY	Lawrence
DREW WAVERYN	John, Liam
ELIZABETH WHITMARSH	Jessie

Synopsis

Calendar Girls is set in Knapely village, Yorkshire. The action takes place over the course of two years in the village church hall, on top of a nearby hill and at the annual Women's Institute (W.I.) conference in London.

There will be a 15 minute Intermission

Production Team

Assistant to the Director	PETA MACKENZIE
Assistant to the Producer	VINNIE CHADWICK
Assistant Stage Managers	DIANE BRIGGS-HOYLE, PETA MACKENZIE, SARAH INNES
Assistant Sound Design	MAX TERPSTRA
Properties Assistants	ANGELA HENRY, QUINN MACTAVISH, ROSEMARY HENRY
Stage Manager Shadow	GORD HOYLE
Assistant Set Decorator	CONNIE DANIELS
Costume Creators	ANN-MARIE ARNESON, RAMONA SCOTT, HOPE CAMPBELL,
	CHRIS STUSEK, LISA LEIGHTON, RANDI EDMUNDSON
Costume Assistants	JANE KRIEGER, MADELEINE MILLS, SARAH HEINE
Dressers	JEAN deCARTIER, VINNIE CHADWICK, RANDI EDMUNDSON,
	GLORIA SNIDER, SARAH INNES, WENDY LONDON, CHRIS STUSEK
lead Scenic Carpenter/Painting	DOUG ANDERSON
Set Construction	MIKE KUSS, CHARLIE ENCELL, DOUG CRAIG,
	JULIUS MASLOVAT, GORDON ALEXANDER
Set Painters	LISA PRESTON, JOHN SMITH, BARRY GRIMSHAW, ANNE SWANNELL
Mural Artist	ANNE SWANNELL
Lighting Operators	KEN MASON, LAURA BROUGHAM
Lighting Crew	TODD AYOTTE, PERRY BURTON, CAROL-ANNE MOORE, ROD HOGG,
	BEN BURROW, ALAN MACKENZIE, LANE CHEVRIER, PAUL HILTON,
	COLIN HOPCRAFT, MICHAEL ROMANO
Sound Operators	PAUL HILTON, ADAM HJERMSTAD
Rehearsal Prompt	JOAN EMERY, ANTOINETTE CHURCH
Makeup Artist	CHELSEA WILSON

Theatre Manager Facilities Maintenance Technical Director House Manager Head Carpenter Costume Manager Properties Newsletter Arts Coordinator Program Coordinator Custodian Photographer Box Office Manager

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Denise Brown Dick Newson Alan MacKenzie Alex Carroll Doug Anderson Ned Lemley Sally Crickman Corinna Gilliland Jeani Reynolds Linda Billings Pauline Quinlan David Lowes Chad Laidlaw

Theatre Team

Admin/Box Office 250-384-2142 Costume Loft 250-384-2025 Mailing Address 805 Langham Court Victoria, B.C. V8V 4J3 email: boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca www.langhamtheatre.ca Charitable donation number: 11928 5294 RR001

Acknowledgements

Aaron & Kwyn Maxwell, Dorothy McWatters, Geli Bartlett, David Lowes, Wendy Cornock, Oak Bay Florists, Lou-Ann Edgar, Angela & Gil Henry, Lynda Raino, Mike Raino, Gilbert Noussitou and the Culinary Arts Program at Camosun College, Opus Art Supplies, Doug Anderson & Caprina Valentine, Beverley Anderson, Manna Saunders, Rod Neighbour, Sylvia Rhodes and Salvation Army Victoria Citadel.

Please refrain from using perfume/cologne when attending a performance. Some of our patrons are highly allergic to certain scents. Thank you.





MICHAEL KING

Director

Directing *Calendar Girls* has been the culmination of a very busy year for Michael. In January he was elected President of the Victoria Theatre Guild and Langham Court Theatre and was last on stage playing Hugh, the "absent father", in *That Face*. This is Michael's debut as Director for Langham Court Theatre and he would like to thank all of the incredibly talented people who worked tirelessly through thick, thin and illness and especially his partner and producer, Paul.

Production Biographies

PAUL GILLAN Producer

Paul Gillan started helping out at Langham Court Theatre with Lady In The Van and since then has been in several productions of Readers' Theatre, a production in the Fringe Festival as well as continuing to help out at Langham Court Theatre as Assistant Stage Manger and Producer. This season, Paul has been in 84 Charing Cross, Lady Windermere's Fan and produced That Face. Now, he is producing Calendar Girls and is looking forward to a bit of rest.





NICK STULL

Stage Manager

Rumor has it that as soon as Nick heard that Michael King was directing *Calendar Girls*, he immediately went to see Michael at his job and insisted on being considered as his stage manager! Michael agreed, after having worked with Nick in *Elizabeth Rex* and wilting under the pressure. This is Nick's 11th show as stage manager for Langham Court.

LISA PRESTON

Set Design

Lisa has had fun collaborating with Michael King and the amazing cast and crew on her 3rd Langham production. Recent LCT work includes set design for *That Face* and *1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible*. She also co-produced and designed the set for *Love Letters for Georgia* in the 2011 Victoria Fringe Festival and is the stage/venue design coordinator for TEDxVictoria. She hopes you enjoy the show!





KARRIE WOLFE

Lighting Design

"Sunflowers turning towards the light..." That's the Calendar Girls image that speaks to Karrie. May the energy and honesty of this fun-loving cast and crew speak to you as well. Selected designs include: The 39 Steps, Lady Windermere's Fan, Drowsy Chaperone, Laramie Project, Midsummer Night's Dream, Under Milkwood. Thanks to Michael for dreaming, Lisa and Lisa for respective canvases, and Pearl, Angela and Rosie for well-placed bits. For Todd, whose patience amazes, and phil, whose light still shines.



LISA LEIGHTON

Costume Design

Lisa has done 16 shows at Langham, including *The History Boys* and *Elizabeth Rex*, and it never stops inspiring. She is delighted to be working with Chris again, and with this wonderful group of talented, creative, funny people. Huge thanks to our fearless actors, many of whom have supplied a lot of their own costumes, to Michael for his support, to our brilliant costume team, and to Mark, Sarah and Charlotte, who are the light behind every show.

CHRIS STUSEK

Costume Design

Calendar Girls is Chris' third costume venture with Langham Court Theatre and the second time working with Lisa Leighton. Coming from a sewing, design and artistic background, Chris enjoys the creative process and fulfillment of the vision costuming for theatre presents. Chris has also costume designed for Victoria Operatic Society productions such as *Music Man, West Side Story* and *Gypsy* as well as using her skills in aid of The Canadian College of Performing Arts and Reynolds Secondary School.





DIANA KEATING

Sound Design

Diana is pleased to be back at Langham Court Theatre after a brief hiatus. For her, the most enjoyable part of Sound Design is the exciting challenge of trying to find music which compliments the emotional tones of the particular play. She has worked in various other capacities at this grand old theatre including producer, asst. director, board vice-president, lighting operator and construction painter. "Hats off (but that's all!) to the lovely cast and crew."

PEARL ARDEN

Properties Pearl is delighted to be working with this talented cast and crew. Last seen on stage in Lady Windermere's Fan, she is often backstage sorting props. Backstage or onstage she enjoys working with the many people that make a performance enjoyable.





Production Biographies

About the Playwright



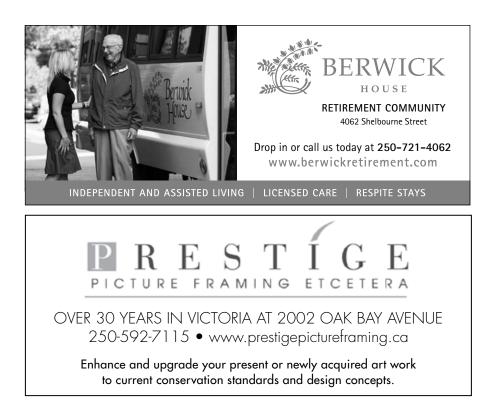
TIM FIRTH

Tim Firth grew up in Warrington in the North West of England. He began writing for theatre by accident after applying at the age of 18 to attend a songwriting course run by Willy Russell (*Blood Brothers*) only to find it was actually a playwriting course. He then went to Cambridge where he met the director Sam Mendes, who directed his plays in several theatres. On leaving university, he met Alan Ayckbourn and began an association with the Steven Joseph Theatre in Scarborough, which resulted in the play *Neville's Island. Neville's Island* transferred to the West End and received many nominations for awards. Since that time, it has

been performed around the world. Other plays for Scarborough include the *Safari Party* and *The End of the Food Chain*. Tim's musical *Our House*, written with the band Madness, opened in the West End in 2002 and won the Olivier Award for best musical.

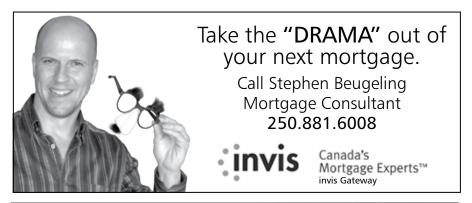
Tim's first two feature films came out in the same week in 2002. *Blackball* starred Vince Vaughn and Paul Kay, and *Calendar Girls* starred Helen Mirren and Julie Walters. The latter went on to become one of the most successful British films of all time. His next film *Kinky Boots* won audience awards at several American film festivals and is now a major Broadway hit musical with music by Cyndi Lauper and book by Harvey Fierstein. *Kinky Boots* has 13 Tony award nominations including Best Musical.

Tim lives in North Cheshire with his wife and three children. His most recent work includes the play *Sign of the Times*, which toured the UK starring Stephen Tompkinson.





Cast and Crew of Calendar Girls



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VICKY ETCHELLS

Chris

Vicky started her acting career in England; her experience ranging from historical and drama to farce, comedy and pantomime. Moving to Canada she joined St Luke's Players where she's enjoyed performing in various productions including *Move over Mrs. Markham, The Chalk Garden* and *Key for Two*. Regretful that she never joined the W.I. whilst living in England, particularly now that she realizes the antics they got up to, Vicky is very excited to be playing Chris in her first Langham Court production.

Cast Biographies

TRACEY ROATH

Annie Originally from Somerset, England, Tracey is thrilled to have her debut performance at Langham Court. As an actor who works primarily in film, she is excited to be 'treading the boards' with a talented group of women willing to 'get their kit off' to make the audience laugh. Tracey would like to thank her friends for believing in her, cats Zip and Lulu for their unconditional purrs, George Grant for his guidance as an artist, and her incredible husband Norm, for his unwavering support and love.





LESLIE SANCHEZ

Cora

Leslie lives and is involved with community theatre in the Cowichan Valley. She recently appeared in *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Mercury Players) and *Albertine In Five Times* (Shawnigan Players). This is her first Langham Court production and she is absolutely thrilled to be a *Calendar Girl*! Thanks to everyone involved for making this the second most fun she's had being, 'Nude'! Thanks to Grant for his encouragement and Kristie and Tina for all the sleepovers!

ELIZABETH WHITMARSH

Jessie None of Elizabeth's previous roles have required any display of flesh. She still can't quite believe she is actually going to disrobe in front of you. But life must have its challenges. So fuelled by vodka, she displays her Rubenesque figure of glorious plump curves – behind a most carefully positioned prop. And for all of ten seconds. Bucket List Item... to appear publicly in the nude... is now achieved!





WENDY MAGAHAY

Celia

Seen earlier this season as Mrs Erlynne in *Lady Windermere's Fan*, where not an ankle was showing, Wendy is pleased to be back at Langham playing another strong woman and ready to bare it all this time. Previous favourite Langham roles include mother of the bride in *Maggies's Getting Married* and *Pack of Lies'* Soviet spy. Thanks to the magic of costumes and the mechanics of props for assistance with the patisserie headlamps.

JOY FARRELL Ruth

Joy is pleased to jump exuberantly back into her own gender for Calendar Girls after having played Little John in the Peninsula Players 2011 pantomime Robin Hood. Portraying Ruth marks Joy's third production at Langham Court but the first in several years – she's enjoying being back! She dedicates her performance to all of the strong & beautiful women in her life.

Co



ROSEMARY JEFFERY

Marie

Rosemary would like to thank the wonderful cast and talented members of the production team for welcoming her to Langham Court. Rosemary moved to Victoria in 2006 from the Cowichan Valley where she was involved in a variety of community theatre and vocal groups. Favorite roles include, Mrs. Miller / Doubt (Mercury Players) Jackie Coryton/Hay Fever, Sister Amnesia/Nunsense & Nuncrackers musical comedy (Mercury Players) Elvira/Blithe Spirit (CAT productions) Hattie/Kiss Me Kate (SI musical Society).

Rosemary loves to make people laugh, recently, Rosemary became a 'baby Clown', and a Sunshine Clown Society member. A registered nurse, Rosemary lives in Sidney with her husband, Paul & their Golden Doodle, Sophie.

RANDI EDMUNDSON

Lady Cravenshire/Elaine

Randi happily holds a BFA in Acting and Applied Theatre from UVic. She is delighted to be working on Calendar Girls with this brave and fabulous group of artists! Favourite credits include: Masha in Beautiful Obedient Wife, (Victoria Fringe), Ophelia in The Marowitz Hamlet (Phoenix Theatre) and Viola in Twelfth Night (Project X). Catch the short family-oriented play Epic Adventure Trail - written and performed by Randi and her partner Dan this July in Theatre SKAM's Bike Ride.



Cast Biographies



WENDY LONDON

Brenda

Wendy has a history as a stage mum and costume design for Parklands Grassroots Theatre and for VOS. She's worked wonders with fabric and thrift on Annie, Fiddler on the Roof, The Boyfriend, and My Fair Lady for Grassroots and was happy to work with Sylvia Hosie on Evita for VOS. Calendar Girls is her first time treading the boards herself, instead of ferrying her daughters to their productions. "Lets hope this is the start of something big!"

DREW WAVERYN

John, Liam Drew has been involved with plays at Langham Court Theatre since 1985 and is very happy to be part of Calendar Girls and its wonderfully talented cast and crew. Drew has recently appeared in LCT's productions of The Foreigner, Elizabeth Rex and The Laramie Project. Drew is very sorry to disappoint Henry with such a dull and boring bio. He promises to put in more effort next time.





MORGAN CRANNY

Rod Morgan is excited to work on this fun show with so many lovely, hard working people. Last year you might have seen him play Ray, the "little" brother in 1959 Pink Thunderbird Convertible or maybe not. Rest easy, Morgan is not one of the Calendar Girls. Despite his pleading, he is under strict orders to remain clothed during the performance. If he asks if you'd like to see an excerpt, you should probably say no.

HENRY SKEY

Henry has previously been naked (not nude) on stage; a thrilling, unique experience that he will never forget. Henry has also played a woman on stage; a thrilling, unique experience that he will never forget. Thankfully, Henry has never had to play a naked woman on stage, which might have been described as thrilling and unique in the same sense as stepping on broken glass, and certainly something everybody would wish they could forget.

Lawrence



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Donna has had her photography in the Sooke Fine Arts Show, the Sidney Fine Arts Show and other shows including other juried shows. She has participated in numerous photography workshops and continues to learn more about photography.

To see more of her work visit her website at www.donnarobertson.zenfolio.com. In Donna's other life, she is a professional musician.

Robert V. Moody

Robert is a (supposedly) retired mathematician from the University of Alberta and an Adjunct Professor at U. Vic. Photography is a hobby that represents the more visual side of his fascination with pattern. Black and white photography has always appealed to him, and certainly its great strength is its emphasis toward abstraction and form.

See labyrinth.zenfolio.com for a representative collection of his work and www.math.ualberta.ca/~rvmoody/rvm/ for more about the artist himself.



Victoria Theatre Guild

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The Victoria Theatre Guild has been offering quality community theatre for 84 seasons. It has not only benefitted from the time and talents of the artists but also the generosity of others. This list represents those who have financially contributed this season. If you would like to help us to continue bringing quality live theatre to the community, please contact Denise Brown, Theatre Manager, at 250.384.2142.

Langham Court Theatre thanks the following non-profits that are a part of our 2012-2013 Season:

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