

Calendar Girls: the Musical by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth
Bob Hope Theatre 2nd to 5th March 2022
Directed by Jennifer Sims, Musical Director Nicole Johnson

Audition notice

Calendar Girls the Musical draws strongly on the idea of a supportive community and in particular the strength of the friendships between a group of women. There are many ensemble scenes for the whole cast and for the 'Girls'. In order to emphasise this from the start the audition will be a group audition where work on the spoken word will mostly be prepared and performed on the evening. Those characters who sing solo will be asked to prepare a section of a song as listed below. In addition to the prepared piece all those auditioning will be taught a section of a song at the audition and will perform in a group.

Libretto

A digital copy of the libretto is available for free download at <https://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk/s/66543/calendar-girls-the-musical> Songs can be found on the cast recording on Spotify. If you would like copies of sheet music please let us know.

Auditions will be held in the BHT bar on the following dates:

November 1st 7.30pm

Auditions for all women's roles with the exception of Jenny.

Annie, Chris, Cora, Celia, Ruth, Jessie, Marie, Barbara Hulse, Lady Cravenshire, Miss Wilson (Tea), Miss Wilson (Coffee)

November 4th

7.30 pm auditions for Danny, Jenny and Tommo (*all teenagers*)

8.00 pm auditions for all other men - John, Rod, Colin, Denis, Lawrence,

List of characters and audition pieces

All ages are playing ages.

Some roles require strong singers, others have limited solo singing and some ensemble only. We have tried to indicate this below but if you are unsure please ask.

Chris* 50s

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

Audition song:

Sunflower (2:00 - 3:00 on cast recording; from 'Don't stop to think you might-n't make it' to 'should have their day in the sun')

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Annie* 50s

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

Audition song:

Kilimanjaro (1:05 - 2:27, and 3:14 - end, on cast recording; from *'Take a three-piece suit'* to *'cocoa up a flight of stairs'*; and also from *'a day will come...'* to *'it is not yet'*)

Cora* mid to late 30s

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

Audition song:

Silent Night (0:37 - 0:59, and 2:12 - 2:49, on cast recording; from *'Whoa! Who wants a silent night?'* to end of this chorus; and final chorus in higher key)

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.

Audition song:

What Age Expects(0:11 - 1:04, on cast recording; from *'How silently it begins'* to *'act the colour of your hair'*)

Celia* 50s

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

Audition song:

So I've Had a Little Work Done (0:20 - 0:59, and 1:50 - end, on cast recording; from *'So I had a little survey...'* to *'scaffolding in the end'*, then from *'cause if a girl can turn on all the lights'* to *'who knows it now'*) - please note the cast recording is in a higher key than the score - so we'll be singing it a 4th lower in the show.

Ruth* 40s 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

Audition song:

My Russian Friend (1:54 - 2:45, on cast recording; from *'All the suspicions...'* to *'too invincible to give a damn'*)

Marie Late 40s, early 50s.

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

No solo singing –ensemble singing taught at the audition

John 50s

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

Audition song:

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One more year in Yorkshire (0:13 - 0:51, on cast recording; from '*Monday ten past eight*' to '*on her wedding day*' - sing all lines, regardless of character changes on recording)

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

Audition song:

Spring Fete (0:19 - 0:39, on cast recording; From '*Once every year...*' to '*1603*' - woman's voice on cast recording)

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

Colin does very little solo singing – a few lines

Audition song:

Girls (1:45 - 2:06, on cast recording, from '*And mine...*' to '*alas, only me*')

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

Audition song:

Girls (0:57 - 1:36, on cast recording; from '*Celia - when we met*' to '*angel down to earth*')

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

Brenda Hulse 50s-70s

Speaker at the WI – can double as Lady C

No solo singing

Lady Cravenshire 50s -70s

Local dignitary

No solo singing

Danny 16

Chris and Rod's son. The conscientious head boy

Audition song:

Protect Me Less (1:24 - 2:04, on cast recording; from '*Dignity and self-respect*' to '*from evil and let them be*')

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Jenny 16

Marie's daughter and a rebel

Audition song:

Protect Me Less (0:12 - 1:15, on cast recording; from 'once a famous poet said...' to 'protect me a little less')

Tommo 16

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

Some limited solo singing and ensemble

Audition song:

Protect Me Less (1:24 - 2:04, on cast recording; from 'Dignity and self-respect' to 'from evil and let them be')

***A word on nudity**

*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 *.*

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will start on Sunday 28th November and thereafter be held on Monday and Thursday evenings with the addition of Sundays in February. If you have any queries or would like to discuss any of the information above please get in touch with Jennifer Sims

jennifersims123@gmail.com