

Welwyn Thaliens Present

Calendar Girls The Musical

By Gary Barlow and Tim Firth

An amateur production of Calendar Girls is presented
by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd.



Tuesday 25th to Saturday 29th October 2022
Thalian Hall, 64 Bridge Road East, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 1JU



PRESIDENT

Brian King MBE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Vincent Clemmens
Vice Chairman: Tim Spink
Treasurer: Angela Monaghan
Secretary: Alison Downes
Committee: Amanda Sayers, Tammy Wall, Colleen Town, Martin Lester and Louise Batemean.

Directors



Clive Dancey Director

Since joining Welwyn Thaliens in Made in Dagenham Clive has performed as the Major General in Pirates of Penzance, dressing as various random characters in our Christmas shows and directing the 2020 Award winning production of Chicago.



David Meek Director of Music

Over many years, David's directed & accompanied many musicians. Locally, he played for his first Thaliens' show, Oklahoma in 1978. Since then he's worked for many groups including Barn Theatre, Digswell Players & Welwyn Wailers. In "lockdown", his online singalongs helped raise £2,500 for Cancer & Demetia charities.

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A Message from Angela Baker (Miss February) to the Welwyn Thilians.

I married John Baker from Bradford in 1966 and lived in Harrogate North Yorkshire. In 1974 we moved with our two children to the Yorkshire Dales to allow John to take up the position of Assistant National Park Officer for the Yorkshire Dales.

In July 1998 John tragically died of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. During his illness I and John's friends decided to raise money for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. As I and my friends were active members of the Women's Institute the idea for the Alternative W.I. Calendar was born and the idea provided much mirth and entertainment for John throughout his illness.

After his death we were determined to continue our fund-raising.

Our story is now portrayed in the world-famous film "Calendar Girls" and the award-winning Stage Show that played all over the world.

"The Girls", a musical by Tim Firth and Gary Barlow, had its world premiere in Leeds then transferred to The Phoenix Theatre in London's West End.

So far, all these activities have raised £6 million for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research (now called Blood Cancer UK) of which I am Honorary President. I am so glad that Welwyn Thilians are performing The Calendar Girls Musical and I wish you all well. I hope that you have enjoyed their journey so far and that you have good audiences.

Whether you are performing or watching, sometimes you will feel sad and sometimes you will have lots of laughs but most of all I hope that you will all go away full of inspiration.

Best wishes to everyone.

Angela

Miss February in the Calendar

Annie in the Film, Stage Show and Musical. (10th September 2022)

PRINCIPALS



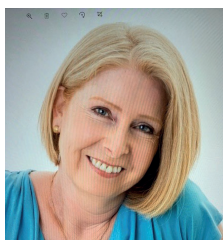
Tammy Wall Annie

Trained through the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Key stage credits include Roxie Hart in Chicago, Young Queen Elizabeth in The Audience & Emma in Tell Me on a Sunday, for which she won the GODA award for best actress.



Lisa Fitzgerald Chris

Lisa has been performing for local audiences since she moved to Hertfordshire 20 years ago. She has been involved in shows with Radlett, St Albans, Harpenden and Berkhamsted Musical Theatre Companies. Calendar Girls is her first production with Welwyn Thaliens. She can't wait to play the formidable Chris Harper.



Alison Downes Celia

Alison has performed with the Thaliens for many years, most recently as one of the victims of Jack the Ripper. Whilst she acknowledges that there are elements of her own personality in the character of Celia, she is relishing the opportunity to inhabit this funny, outspoken member of the Calendar Girls group.



Mandy Sayers Cora and Director

Mandy is looking forward to returning to the stage since her last portrayal as Mrs. Thatcher in 'The Audience' in November. She has found playing Cora very liberating especially with the support of five wonderful and equally brave actors.

PRINCIPALS



Susan Read Jessie

Susan is extremely thrilled & proud to be joining the cast of Calendar Girls. Susan is local to W.G.C You will often find her treading the boards of local theatre groups or singing in local hostelrys which she has done for a very long time! A phrase Susan loves is 'never do what age expects of you' -PS thanks Mum for the knitting!



Louise Bateman Ruth

Originally from Ireland, Louise has kept her accent and Irish wit. She loves Amateur Dramatics having been involved since 2010 with The Thaliens and The Barn Theatre, in a variety of roles - comedy to straight acting and her first love, Musical Theatre.



Alex Ryde John

Alex is delighted to be back with the Thaliens after previously playing Freddy in 'Dirty Rotten Scoundrels', and Frederic in 'Pirates of Penzance'. Alex also appeared in The Barn Theatre's streamed/staged production of 'Class' last summer.



Adam Beckman Rod

Adam brings a larger than life energy to the action in his 8th show with Thaliens. Adam, a voiceover artist and a robust baritone, has professional pursuits outside of the society and appeared as a guest artist in BBC drama 'Casualty' in a one off episode in June 2022.

PRINCIPALS



Emma Gilby Jenny

Emma began dancing aged three and is now a qualified dance and drama teacher. Her love of the arts lured her into the world of live theatre, and she has been acting, singing, dancing and choreographing ever since. A rising star!"



Archie Davies Danny

Archie is an aspiring young student at the Pauline Quirke Academy of Arts. He has been performing on stage for 6 years from the Gordon Craig theatre to the West End. Archie dreams of a career in musical theatre or film and tv.



Kyle Hoy Tommo

Kyle's desire to act impelled him to join the Pauline Quirke Academy where he performed in his first show at the WGC Vintage Festival. With growing confidence and a passion to perform, Kyle auditioned for the role of schoolboy Tommo.

Performing is Fun

Don't delay – Join today. We meet on Monday and Thursday evenings at Thalian Hall directly opposite B&Q in Bridge Road East. For further details contact our wonderful membership secretary Collen Town on Tel: 07901 518695.

Thank You

We wish to extend our grateful thanks to the "Grassington Players" in the Yorkshire Dales for the loan of some of their props.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

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 Fête	Company
Girls/Hello Yorkshire, I'm A Virgin	Tommo,Danny
Time Passing	Company
Danny-Festo 2	Jenny
Sunflower	Chns
Dare	The Girls

ACT II

Girls (Village Green)	Colin, Den. Rod
Protect Me Less	Jenny,Danny
Kilimanjaro (Village Hall)	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 (Conference)	The Girls
My Russian Friend and I	Ruth
For One Night Only	The Girls
Sunflower of Yorkshire	Company

Show Characters

Annie	Tammy Wall
Chris	Lisa Fitzgerald
Celia.....	Alison Downes
Cora	Mandy Sayers
Jessie	Susan Read
Ruth	Louise Bateman

Colin.....	Peter Sayers
Dennis	Chris White
John	Alex Ryde
Lawrence.....	Vinnie Clemmens
Rod	Adam Beckman

Teenagers

Danny	Archie Davies
Jenny	Emma Gilby
Tommo	Kyle Hoy

Other members of the cast

Brenda Hulse & Tannoy (Fête)	Avril Robinson
Jeff.....	Ray Beckman
Lady C	Sarah Gennoe
Marie	Gill Shaw
Nurse	Bex White
School Girl.....	Chloe Palmer
Sister.....	Maryann Scott
Vicar	Richard Griffiths
Alice	Alice Palmer
Angela, Tannoy (Conference).....	Angela Monaghan
Wilson Coffee	Colleen Town
Wilson Tea.....	Annette Leishman

Musicians

MD & Keyboard 1	David Meek
Keyboard 2	Stephen Lethbridge
Drums	Dan Wild

Past Productions

2000	Oklahoma	2009	Calamity Jane
2001	The Pajama Game	2010	My Fair Lady
2001	Guys and Dolls	2011	Half A Sixpence
2002	Jack the Ripper	2012	Fiddler on the Roof
2002	Anything Goes	2013	Oliver
2003	Cabaret	2014	Little Shop of Horrors
2003	The Wizard Of Oz	2015	Guys and Dolls
2004	Call Me Madam	2016	Oklahoma
2004	Sweet Charity	2017	Sleeping Beauty
2005	Pirates of Penzance	2018	Made in Dagenham
2005	Kiss Me Kate	2019	Pirates of Penzance
2006	Little Shop of Horrors	2019	Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
2006	Annie Get Your Gun	2020	Chicago
2007	South Pacific	2022	Jack The Rippe
2008	Hot Mikado		

Synopsis

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 a women'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.

Production

Directors	Clive Dancey & Mandy Sayers
Musical Director	David Meek
Production Manager	Avril Robinson
Costumes.....	Louise Bateman
	Alice Palmer
Set Design and Build.....	Tim Spink
	Martin Lester
Sound & Lighting Design	Andy Barker
	Maisie Gibson
	With thanks to Nic Mog and Clifton Hoyle
Props.....	Vanessa Baker
	Nick Baker
Advertising and Programme.....	Martin Lester
Treasurer.....	Angela Monaghan
Social Media.....	Louise Bateman
	Adam Beckman



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Welwyn Thaliens – A Short History

Formed in 1929 from a merger with two other amateur societies, the Barnstormers (drama) and the Operatic Society (music). The Old Welwyn Theatre in Parkway, later the Embassy Cinema, was the first venue. Most of the early shows were Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Dame Flora Robson, an early and active supporter, can still be remembered sweeping down the aisles. In those days ticket prices were 2/4d to 5/9d and a special London train, the 10.52 pm, was put on to take patrons back to the city. The society's first producer was A W Richardson and it wasn't long before musical shows and 'straight' plays poured out in succession while the reputation of the Thaliens grew.

A large-scale production of St Joan was reported favourably at length in the Daily Telegraph no less. Festival triumphs took the society as far as America, where the 'Lord Howard De Warden Cup' was won with Not This Man by Sidney Box. The Thaliens were also first at the Letchworth Festival. Before closing down for the duration in 1939 they presented the world premiere of Castles in the Air written for the society by Sidney Box and Montgomery Tully with music by May H Brahe. This South American romance starred Mildred Thompson in her debut as a dark-haired senorita. After the war, in 1947, the Thaliens were back in business with The Gondoliers and continued filling the Welwyn Theatre until in 1962 when, after a successful opening performance of Carousel, a fire broke out and the stage was destroyed. The members pulled together, and the remaining performances were completed at a local school. When the Hawthorne theatre opened the Society moved in and have been performing happily there with many a good production ever since.

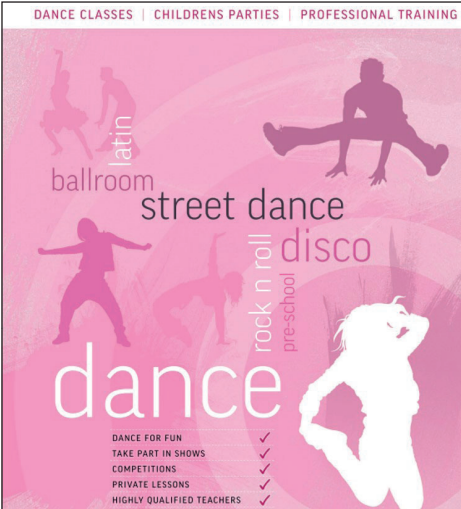
Why not become a Friend of Thaliens?

Get an email now and then to let you know what we are doing and dates for our upcoming auditions and shows. Just go to our website and on the home page, enter your email address.



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