

January 2013									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S			
		1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30	31					

	February 2013									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S				
					1	2				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
24	25	26	27	28						

March 2013									
S	M	Т	F	S					
					1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
31									

April 2013									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	6			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
28	29	30							

May 2013									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S			
			1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
26	27	28	29	30	31				

June 2013									
S	M T W T F								
						1			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
30									

July 2013									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	6			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
28	29	30	31						

August 2013									
SMTWTF									
				1	2	3			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			

September 2013										
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
29	30									

October 2013									
M	Т	W	Т	F	S				
	1	2	3	4	5				
7	8	9	10	11	12				
14	15	16	17	18	19				
21	22	23	24	25	26				
28	29	30	31						
	7 14 21	M T 1 7 8 14 15 21 22	M T W 1 2 7 8 9 14 15 16 21 22 23	M T W T 1 2 3 7 8 9 10 14 15 16 17 21 22 23 24	M T W T F 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25				

November 2013									
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S			
					1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30			

	December 2013										
S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28					
29	30	31									



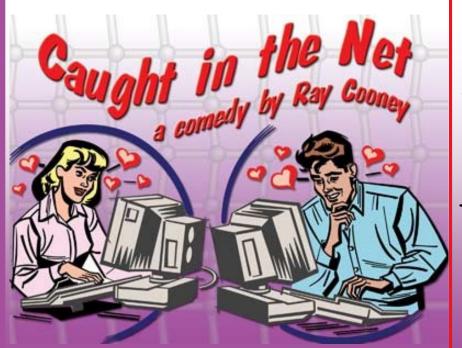
JANUARY

Jan 13	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		Тне	MITRE F	PLAYERS	PRESENT	5	6
Week 1							
		I E	ND	AR		IDI	C
						12	
Week 2			By T	ім Firth			
	_		_	_	_	<u>_</u>	
	BASED ON	THE MIRAMAX	X MOTION PIC	TURE BY JUL	JETTE TOWHII	DI AND TIM F	IRTH 20
Weak 3	Тне	MITRE TI	HEATRE, 7	TRINITY S	CHOOL, C	ROYDON	
	21	24ті	н то 27т	н Остов	ER 2012		
Week 4			DIRECTED	BY DI Jo	ONES	20	
		An amateur p	roduction, by a	rrangement wit	h Samuel Frenc	h Ltd.	
	Calendar	Girls was first p	resented by Da	avid Pugh Ltd at	the Chichester	Festival Theatro	9
	on 5th Septe	mber 2008. It tr		e Noel Coward ducer: Stonefac		n on 4th April 2	009.
Week 5			Accesiate Due		0 I ± 0		



FEBRUARY

OUR FEBRUARY PRODUCTION



PRESENTATION EVENING

Thursday 8th Nov. at 7.30

AUDITIONS

Thursday 15th Nov. at 7.30

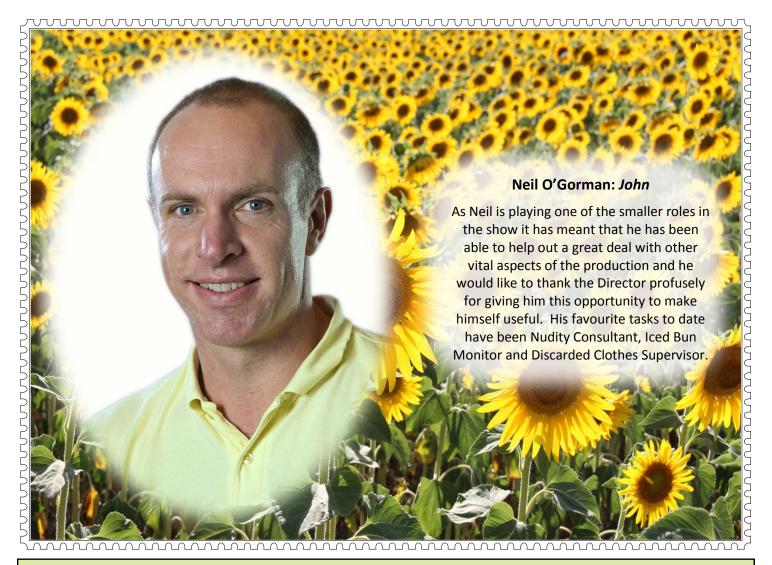
For more details please contact:-Ian.Brown@mitreplayers.org.uk

PERFORMANCES

Thurs 21st to Sat 23rd Feb.

The Mitre Theatre
Trinity School, Shirley Park
Croydon CR9 7AT

Box Office: 07914 763422 tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk www.mitreplayers.ticketsource.co.uk



MARCH

THE CAST

Annie Tonia Porter Ruth **Eve Simpson** Jill Poulloin John Neil O' Gorman Jessie Chris Lorraine Price Elaine Kara Johnston Rod Dave Price Lawrence Simon Long Charles Marriott Marie Julia Gibbs Liam Cora Jane Kortlandt Claire Ali Lady Cravenshire Celia Katherine Bottomley Brenda Hulse Sue Long

We are the only UK charity solely dedicated to research into blood cancers, including leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma. Our life-saving research is focused on finding causes, improving diagnosis and treatments, and running groundbreaking clinical trials for all blood cancer patients. **The Calendar Girls** have raised £3 million for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research, inspired by the death of a much-loved husband,



father and friend John Baker and a percentage of tonight's royalties and tombola profit etc. will be added to the cause. Their story has inspired one of the UK's most successful films, the most successful touring play and is likely to beat the world record for the largest number of productions too.

For more details of our work or to make a donation, please see:- http://leukaemialymphomaresearch.org.uk



APRIL

BEHIND THE SCENES

DirectorDi Jones

Construction Coordinator and Stage Manager Alan Collins

Lighting DesignerAlan Bishop

Sound James McLeod

Backstage Assistance
Alex Cooper, Liz Dolman,
Jo Gunner, Mary Holton,
Derek Lee, Jon Lee, Val Lee,
Alan Magrath, Pete Marr,
Sue Marr, Julian Parsons,
Andy Thompson, Anna Warnock

Scenic Artist
Jill Wilson

PropertiesElizabeth Lee
Kate Sheehan

Specialist Properties
Alison Bottiglia

Make Up Julia Gibbs

Prompter Tamsin Reeve

Programme and
Publicity Photography
Charles Marriott

Production Photography
Marcus Ascott

Programme and Handbill

Alan Bishop Anna Warnock

Press Liaison Lesley Bates

> **Publicity** Anna Frost

Production Manager Anna Warnock

Box Office Manager
Gill Frost

Front of House and Refreshments

Alex Greenslade and Friends of the Mitre Players

Patrons are reminded that the taking of photographs and the use of recording equipment is not allowed.

You are also reminded to switch off all mobile phones. Thank you.



MAY

THE CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Friend

Welcome to the Mitre Theatre for this evening's performance of *Calendar Girls*, by Tim Firth. Tim, you may have observed is doing well out of us Mitres - we are in the middle of performing a trio of his shows, starting with *Our House in 2011* and continuing into 2013 with our Christmas production – but that is leaping ahead. And so to tonight....

The story of *Calendar Girls* is unique; it is also well known. These ladies made a massive impact with their WI calendar, and all for an excellent cause. Their creative use of such a simple tool made them pretty much global celebrities, and the slightly naughty calendar is nowadays to be found everywhere for all sorts of causes. I understand that the Firemen's Calendar is immensely popular.

The opportunity to do this show came up some time ago; the play's rights are only available for a short time and with such a pedigree, the show has been snapped up by many companies. So the Mitre Players are but one of many, but therein lies the challenge - to present a memorable show, which we believe we have done.

We welcome back Di Jones as Director, her CV is an impressive one to say the least. The cast is the best that we have to offer; make no mistake, the cast is of the highest quality. We hope and believe that you will have a most enjoyable and moving evening. And as always, the backstage crew, lights, sound - all as good as we can do - which is top drawer!

The play, as you are quite possibly aware, deals with the aftermath of leukaemia, a condition which needs much research, support – and funds. So, as a condition of obtaining

the rights for these performances, a percentage of the royalties will go to Leukaemia Research. And, should I be permitted to say so, a good thing too. Tim's play is being widely performed and hopefully will raise a goodly sum during the 18 months that the amateur rights are available. IN ADDITION! You may have seen in the foyer a Tombola Stall. The proceeds of this stall also go to the same cause. Support it! Win a bottle of champagne! - Win a bottle of shampoo!

Looking forwards - in February of next year we will be presenting a Ray Cooney farce, *Caught in the Net*. Farce is a bit of a Marmite thing; you love it or you don't. BUT, Ray's farces are beyond compare and there is one guaranteed result – audiences weeping, and indeed rocking in their seats with laughter. The Director will be lan Brown – and for those who know lan's work – he is made for the job - book your seats now! Then the tour to Dawlish Summer 2013 will be *A Slice of Saturday Night* directed by Charles Marriott. More in good

December 2013 will see us present *Flint St Nativity* - again by Tim Firth, would you believe, directed by John Harries-Rees. More again in good time....

As Chairman, I am immensely proud of the Mitre Players, and all who are in it. Come and be part of it - we really do love it – we love it all.

Have a great night and — maybe — get in touch! As always, sit back and enjoy our show.

Alan Merricks, Chairman (chairman@mitreplayers.org.uk)



JUNE:

THE DIRECTOR WRITES

As I discovered when I first read the play, Calendar Girls is so much more than a nude (naked!) calendar scene. It is an exploration of relationships. The members of the Knapely WI are not the most productive group, by WI standards, in fact Marie has trouble getting them to do anything. They fall far short of the stereotypical jam making, cake baking types they encounter at other WI groups, with the exception of a couple of hard workers and Marie, who leads them with the frantic zeal of a "failed" Cheshire socialite. Everything changes when Annie's husband John dies and the "girls" embark on a highly risky, but ultimately

wildly successful, way of making enough money to buy a sofa for the local hospital. This cleverly observed play has enabled us to explore in detail the relationships that make the group "tick". Humour is an essential part of the play and it has been clear to us from the beginning of rehearsals that we must give it weight within the production. I feel the key to good comedy writing is when, six weeks in to rehearsals, the cast are still laughing at lines written for them. However, it is not all comedy, and the art is to find a balance between it and the serious issues addressed in the play. I hope we have achieved it

The action takes place in Knapeley village, Yorkshire, in the Church Hall, on top of a nearby hill (John's Hill) and at the annual WI conference in London. Time: Present day

Act One

- 1. The Church Hall, Autumn
- 2. The following Winter
- 3. The following Spring
- 4. John's Hill, early Summer
- 5. The Church Hall, later that Summer
- 6. Night, a few days later

There will be a 20 minute interval.

Drinks may be pre-ordered at the Bar

Act Two

- 1. The WI conference, London
- 2. The Church Hall, the following day
- 3. A few days later
- 4. A few days later
- 5. Later the same day
- 6. The next day
- 7. Late Summer
- 8. John's Hill, half an hour later



JULY

Our Summer Musical



Presentation Evening

Sunday 18th November at 5.00

AUDITIONS

Thursday 29th November at 7.30

For more details please contact:-Charles.Marriott@mitreplayers.org.uk

PERFORMANCES

Tuesday 16th – Friday 19th July The TMWA Clubhouse Lime Meadow Avenue, Croydon CR2 9AS

Tuesday 20th to Saturday 24th August The Shaftesbury Theatre, Dawlish

Box Office: 07914 763422 tickets@mitreplayers.org.uk www.mitreplayers.ticketsource.co.uk



AUGUST

Charles Marriott: Liam

Charles should be a natural for the part of Liam the TV director, after all, that's what he does for a living. As he has such a brief appearance towards the end of the play, his big fear is missing his first entrance! Next year he will swap roles to direct the Mitre's summer touring show A Slice of Saturday Night, a complete contrast to directing the slimy monster in the film footage of the recent Mitre production of Return to the Forbidden Planet! Calendar Girls is very funny.....and needless to say rehearsals have been fairly hysterical at times!

Kara Johnston: Elaine

Kara has been acting from an early age (11 to be exact - her first gig was for Zanussi washing machines) and has performed regularly in her hometown of Edinburgh, at the Fringe. Productions include Brighton Beach Memoirs and Dancing at Lughnasa. Deciding acting is a precarious profession, Kara studied Filmmaking (which, as it turns out is just as perilous), but so far its turned out okay as she's gone on to win a BAFTA for her work. Having recently migrated from the frozen north, this is Kara's first role with the Mitre Players. Please be nice!

Simon Long: Lawrence

Having just returned from the *Forbidden* **Planet** at the Minack Theatre, Simon is delighted to take on the role of Lawrence, the photographer – and he absolutely hand on heart promises not to see anything he shouldn't. As a keen amateur photographer in real life, he understands the seriousness of nudity as an art form (yeh, right, he's also 20 years old!!) This is Simon's 6th outing with the Mitre Players, so he's almost an old hand! He's currently applying for drama school, having completed a BTec in Performing Arts, and also helps out with teaching drama to youngsters - a mostly rewarding experience!

The Mitre Players would like to thank.

The Governors and Headmaster of Trinity School for permission to perform **Calendar Girls** in The Mitre Theatre; Jeremy Covell; Robin McKinlay; Janet Dean; Gill Rawlins; Mario Sammut; Phil Jupp; Dean Sammut; all the staff at Trinity; Paul Elliott of St Johns Ambulance; Rosemary Saw for her advice on the WI; Martin Harbridge; Debbie Leonard, Head of Croydon High School; our friends from the "Mitre League of Nations" for their vocal recordings and everyone else who has helped with this production.



SEPTEMBER

THE WI (WOMEN'S INSTITUTE)

The WI was started in Canada by Adelaide Hoodless in the late 1800s, as she was concerned that the local women needed help in child rearing and housewifery skills.

It came to the UK during the First World War and several Institutes were started in Surrey by 1919. Reading old records, membership was often over 100 and meetings might start with news of events and classes that were available, continue with a demonstration of a skill, then maybe refreshment and could be followed by a speaker and perhaps entertainment. After World War Two the meetings were shorter and now generally have news, a speaker and refreshments.

There were some very strong women in the early or perhaps first 50 years, one, Lady Denman was notable as she was National Chairman in the 30s and in her will left her home to become "our college". Set in several acres near Abingdon and still going strong, it offers courses on many different subjects which last from 1-5 days, and has accommodation for about 80 people, both members and non-members

As we are so familiar with the sight of the Olympic rings at the moment, WI seems to me to be rather similar as there is a National structure, Denman College, County Federations, individual Institutes and groups of local Institutes. For most people, one of the biggest benefits of this is the ease with which friendships can develop through the movement.

That may give you a little background to The Calendar Girls.

The friendship and support is very evident in the play, also that at times the history of the WI can stand in the way of new ideas. We have to be aware that we are an educational charity and as such cannot give money directly from our funds to another charity. Money can be used for something which is for the general good of members, such as a seat by a bus stop. Other giving such as for cancer charities are put in the name of a member and the resulting collection is not shown in the Institute's accounts.

The calendar came at a time when there was a loosening up and more lateral thinking in general and was soon followed by "that Meeting" when we slow handclapped Tony Blair. I was there and had the feeling that he had not been told or realised that when we say no religion or politics we do mean it. For these meetings, everything is timed to almost the last second, so he was given, at very short notice, about 10 minutes to speak. We boiled with exasperation when he started one of those long lists as to who was doing what. Most wonderful was Gyles Brandreth, who was the first invited speaker. He come out quaking but telling us his mother was a member and in no time we were very relaxed and enjoyed every moment that followed.

Recently new Institutes have been opened at Sainsbury's head office, a women's prison as well as many more traditional places. They all offer friendship and passing on skills and something to stimulate the mind.

Rosemary Saw



OCTOBER

TIM FIRTH

Tim began writing when he was eighteen and after studying | from 1994, winning the "Best Comedy Drama" at the British at Cambridge for three years his first professional commissions were *Heartlands* for Chichester, directed by Sam Mendes, and A Man of Letters for the Stephen Joseph

Theatre, Scarborough. Tim's subsequent work includes Neville's Island (1993) and The End of the Food Chain (1994) both for the Stephen Joseph Theatre.

The Nottingham Playhouse production of Neville's Island went on to the Apollo Theatre in London's West End where it was nominated for an Evening Standard award and four Olivier awards. Tim's association with Ayckbourn's theatre developed over successive plays to the point where The Safari Party was directed by Ayckbourn himself and transferred to the New Hampstead Theatre. At the same time, in Spring 2003, Tim's first musical, Our House, with

music and lyrics by Madness, won the Olivier for Best New Musical.

Tim's first play for television was the BBC Film *Money for* **Nothing**. It was shot in New York and Tim's hometown Frodsham. His first series Preston Front ran for three series Comedy Awards amongst many other trophies.

Tim's first two feature films were released in 2003. Calendar Girls, starring Helen Mirren and Julie Walters went to

> number one in the UK, becoming the seventh most successful British film of all time. **Blackball**, starring Paul Kaye, Johnny Vegas and Vince Vaughn reached number three in the UK charts. The two films opened in the same week at cinemas either side of Leicester Square.

His recent work for stage includes a UK tour in 2009 of A Sign of the Times, starring Stephen Tompkinson. Calendar *Girls* which opened in Chichester then transferred to London's West End was a huge success in 2009. Since then it has toured the UK and the rest of the world continuously - one of the largest ever tours for a play. Now released to

amateurs, it is hoped to get into the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest number of productions in one year, whilst raising thousands of pounds for Charity,

Tim lives in the North West of England with his wife Katy, and children Jack, Joe and Georgia.





NOVEMBER

THE MITRE PLAYERS

Officials

President: Mark Bishop Past Presidents: Chris Tarrant, Robin Wilson

Vice-Presidents Julia Ascott, Gillian Bartle, John Bartle, Alan Bishop, Sheila Garnett, Di Jones, Warwick Jones, Peter Stockwell, Andy Thompson, Martin Tyrrell, Anna Warnock, Colin Warnock

Current Committee

Chairman: Alan Merricks Secretary: Di Jones Treasurer: Alan Bishop Additional Members: Ian Brown, Julia Gibbs, Alex Greenslade, Charles Marriott, Joe Pepper, Anna Warnock

Additional Contacts

Theatre Club Organiser: Colin Warnock Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott Box Office Manager: Gill Frost

The Mitre Players is the dramatic society of the Old Boys of Trinity School (The Trinity Mid Whitgiftian Association). We are a very friendly and sociable society, presenting 4 or 5 productions a year in a wide variety of venues. Putting on a show not only requires people on stage, but also involves a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. We design, build and paint our own sets, find and make our own props, make many of our own costumes and use "in house" musicians whenever possible.

We would welcome any new members, so if you have any aspirations to act, sing, dance or play a musical instrument, we would like to hear from you. If you prefer to remain out of the spotlight, building scenery, lighting, painting, making costumes, making props, doing 'Front of House' or simply would like to make tea for the team, we would still like to hear from you.

Our rehearsals take place at the TMWA Clubhouse in Sanderstead where the bar facilities create a social and convivial atmosphere and all members are encouraged to use these facilities as often as possible.

If you would like more information, please contact our Membership Secretary: Julia Ascott on: 020 8239 1010 or visit our website at www.mitreplayers.org.uk



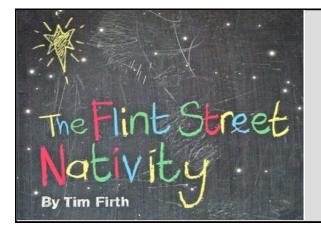
DECEMBER

Claire Ali: Lady Cravenshire

A Mitre Player since 1994, she has been involved in many productions over the years, performing and choreographing. For *Calendar Girls* she is looking forward to swanning about in a huge hat as Lady Cravenshire, and also to putting her feet up in the dressing room for the whole of Act 2 with a pot of Yorkshire Tea and a nice slice of Victoria sponge cake (homemade of course, this is the WI you know!).

Sue Long: Brenda Hulse

Having not trodden the boards since her school days (xx years ago), *Calendar Girls* seemed the perfect opportunity for Sue to have another go, Whether this is a wise move is for you to decide! She is definitely happy not to have to remove her clothes – especially as her son, Simon, is playing the photographer! Sue also thought it was about time for another challenge – running the London Marathon, completing an Open University degree and mothering three sons being amongst other major achievements. When not doing daft things, Sue works as a business development manager for a well-known audio manufacturer.



OUR 2013 CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

The action of the play begins as the young pupils of Flint Street Primary School, all played by adults, are about to perform their nativity play for their proud parents. All kinds of mishaps ensue, until the culmination during the final few scenes of the play when the focus shifts and the children become their parents!

Tuesday 10th to Friday 13th December 2013 TMWA Clubhouse, Lime Meadow Avenue. Croydon