



The Curzon Community Cinema 46 Old Church Road Clevedon North Somerset BS21 6NN

PRESS RELEASE

8 September 2003

To celebrate the national release of the film '*Calendar Girls*' the Curzon Community Cinema in Clevedon is launching its very own cheeky calendar. The Curzon Calendar features naked staff and volunteers undertaking their duties around the cinema – with the odd popcorn carton or two to cover their modesty.

Calendar Girls, which has become known as the girls' Full Monty, tells the story of the ladies from Rylstone & District WI who published their own nude calendar as a fundraiser back in 1999. The film's London Premier took place at The Odeon Leicester Square last week, with the national release date this coming Friday 12th September.

The Curzon has managed to secure *Calendar Girls* on release, which is a bit of a coup for the local community-run cinema, and will be showing it every evening for the next 3 weeks. The advertising strapline for the film is "*Some ladies will do anything for a good cause*" and Curzon staff and volunteers have adopted the same attitude in agreeing to get their kit off for the Curzon Calendar. In fact there seem to be more volunteers than there are months in the calendar.

Curzon Manager Jon Webber explained, "When someone first suggested a Curzon Calendar, the idea wasn't taken too seriously, but as soon as word spread around I was inundated with staff and volunteers wanting to be in the calendar. We have now had the first of our sessions with our photographer Stuart Sadd, and already we have some cracking photographs. The Curzon has proved to be a fabulous photographic backdrop. The difficulty will be deciding which photographs to leave out."

The Curzon Calendar, which is expected to be available by early December, will cost around £10 and all proceeds will go to The Curzon Restoration Fund. Anyone wishing to register interest in buying a copy of the Curzon Calendar should send their name and address (but no money at this stage) to calendar@curzon.org.uk, or by post to Jon Webber, Curzon Cinema, 46 Old Church Road, Clevedon, BS21 6NN.

Calendar Girls, starring Helen Mirren and Julie Walters, opens at The Curzon on Friday 12th September at 7.45pm and will run for three weeks, plus the usual Tuesday and Thursday midweek matinees. The Curzon and the Avon Federation of Women's Institutes have taken the opportunity to team-up, and ladies from the WI – fully clothed this time – will be available before each film performance to talk to you about the many benefits of joining your local WI group. WI groups from all across North Somerset, from Clevedon to Abbots Leigh, Portbury and Easton-in-Gordano, are coming in organised groups to see *Calendar Girls* at The Curzon.

For any questions about this press release please call Chris Brain on 07919 018753

Notes to Editors

1. The Curzon Community Cinema is believed to be the oldest purpose-built, continuously operated cinema in the world, having first opened its doors in April 1912.
2. Now run as a registered charity, The Curzon has plans for a complete restoration of this historic cinema that will cost in excess of £5.2m, most of which will hopefully come from a Heritage Lottery Fund grant. At least £1.3m of ‘matched funding’ has to be raised by The Curzon – proceeds from The Curzon Calendar will go into this fund.
3. The Curzon is run almost completely by volunteers, and could not survive but for their tireless support. More volunteers are always needed, and in all aspects of the running of the cinema. Contact Jon Webber on 01275 879115.
4. The two photographs submitted with this press release feature Mr October (Volunteer Co-ordinator, Mike Luker) and Miss December (Kiosk worker, Gina Scarboro).

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