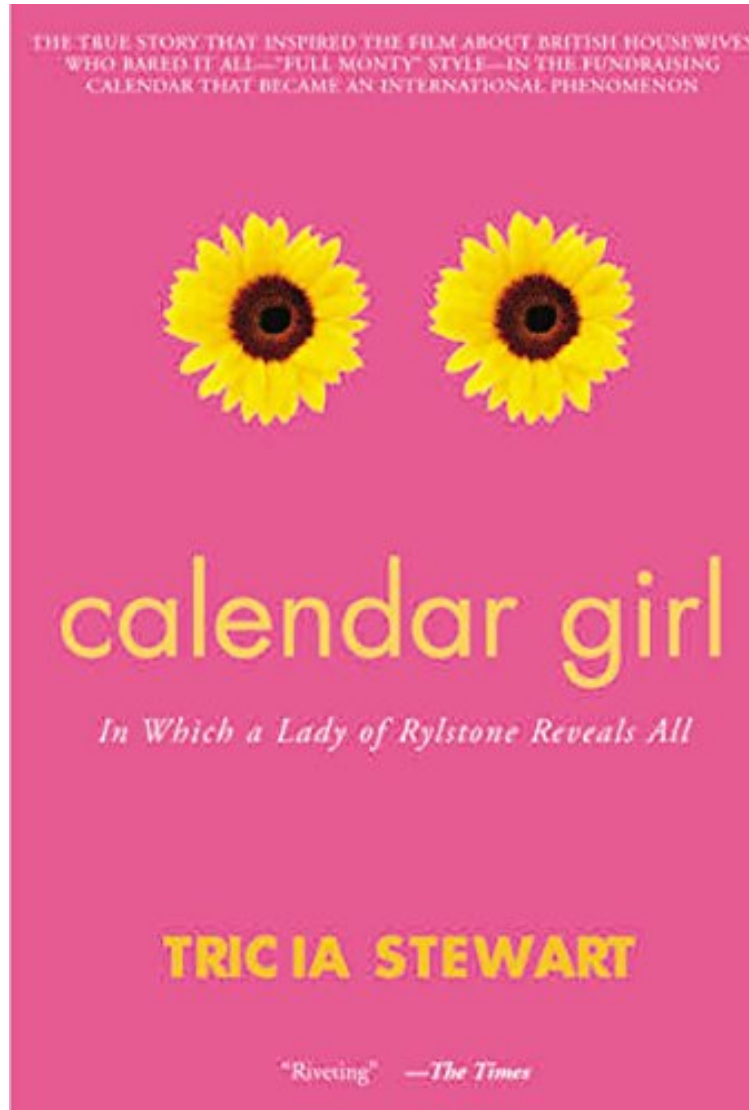


[Read now] Calendar Girl: In Which a Lady of Rylstone Reveals All

Calendar Girl: In Which a Lady of Rylstone Reveals All

Tricia Stewart

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



#3586017 in Books 2003-11 2003-11-25Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.10 x .90 x 5.40l, .64 #File Name: 1585675156272 pages | File size: 51.Mb

Tricia Stewart : Calendar Girl: In Which a Lady of Rylstone Reveals All before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Calendar Girl: In Which a Lady of Rylstone Reveals All:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. and emulating your wonderful calendar (I have that oneBy Chuck SmithTricia...I've not yet finished your book...but am digesting all the mechanics behind your success. My wife and produce the Gorgeous Women of Baja calendars, featuring mostly women in their 60's and 70's, and emulating your wonderful calendar (I have that one, and the one from the movie). Would love to chat with you at some point. All the best to you.Chuck Smith7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. No front bottomsBy Mr. JoeIn 2003,

American audiences were treated to *CALENDAR GIRLS*, a little gem of a film starring Helen Mirren based on the experiences a group of women in their 40s, 50s and 60s in the north of England who posed starkers for a year 2000 calendar to raise money for leukemia research, and in memory of John Baker, the husband of one of the ladies and a locally well-regarded and much loved Assistant National Park Officer in the Yorkshire Dales, who'd died of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in July 1998. Of course, the nudity, both in the film and on the calendar, was tastefully presented, with the naughty bits obscured and most definitely "no front bottoms". The calendar's concept, and the driving force behind its creation, came from Tricia Stewart, a close friend of John and Angela Baker. In real life, Tricia ran a medical software company with her husband, Ian, and taught yoga and Pilates on the side. This book, *CALENDAR GIRL*, is Tricia's story of the 2-year flurry of frenetic activity that the calendar catalyzed, and the roughly 300,000 copies that were sold in Britain and the United States. First of all, let me unequivocally state that the film adaptation was wonderful, and I deeply admire author Alicia Stewart for the originality of her idea and for the hard work and dedication she and her colleagues demonstrated in getting the calendar created and marketed. What started out almost as a lark burgeoned into a monster with a life of its own - as such things are wont to do - involving a grueling schedule of domestic and foreign media interviews, appearances on television talk shows and at book-signings both at home and in the U.S., product endorsements, the film, and considerable fame. And the Leukemia Research Fund in Britain and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America received a bunch of money. It also destroyed friendships, almost administered the coup-de-grace to a marriage, and, as a final insult, subjected Tricia and Ian to hateful articles in the gutter press. However, that tribute said ...I realized what was wrong with *CALENDAR GIRL* about two-thirds into it. It has the flow of a diary, and I gather that Stewart used such as the primary source for her narrative. Trouble is, she failed to edit out so very much that was trivial and, frankly, numbingly boring. As a random example of the story's "feel", which is typical of the book throughout: "Lynda had had an invite from Preethi, the Indian girl we'd met at the bookfair, to go to her book launch at Dover Street, by the Ritz, on Thursday night. It was the same day as a shoot in London for the "Mail's You" magazine. Lynda had sent her a calendar, which was in her office. She was having a stressful day organizing her launch and when she went in her office, the calendar fell off the shelf. So she phoned Lynda who was also miserable and the depression lifted for both of them." Then later, when they meet this Preethi for the launch dinner: "Sunflowers mean happiness and are Preethi's mum's favourite flower. We met her mum and dad and lots of her friends and drank champagne. Her book focuses on following your dreams, following the African dancer. Later after speeches an African dancer appeared and a band, it was brilliant." All of the above - and so much more in a similar vein - should've been left out, but perhaps wasn't because the resulting volume wouldn't have been much more than a pamphlet in length. I really wanted to award at least three stars because Tricia's heart is in the right place, but just couldn't because I struggled to finish *CALENDAR GIRL*, and was so relieved when I arrived at the last period. I highly recommend the film, but not this well-intentioned but fatally flawed book. 5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Not as Good as the Movie By takingadayoff I expected to like both the movie and the book. The movie was just okay, and the movie was better than the book. To give credit, the movie was faithful to the spirit of the book, if not the details. Tricia Stewart, the author of *Calendar Girl*, and the driving force behind the calendar, would have benefited from someone else writing her story. She rambles on at times and describes everything as "brilliant." She comes across as sometimes overbearing and a bit of a showoff, not unlike her character in the movie, Chris, played by Helen Mirren. The story of a group of women in an English village who decide to raise money for the local hospital by posing for a nude, but tastefully so, calendar, is irresistible. But a story has to have conflict, so there are a few tossed in, and perhaps they really happened. Not everyone in the town thinks a nude calendar is a good idea, especially when it leads to an overdose of publicity. The families of the "models" feel neglected when the calendar becomes a hit and they spend all their time giving interviews and traveling. There are strained relationships within the group of women when some think that others (Tricia) are hogging the limelight. But everything works out in the end, and they become temporarily famous, and make a ton of money for cancer research.

Calendar Girl explores the phenomenon that The Ladies of Rylstone became, recounting with warmth and humor the moments of an exhilarating journey that transformed the lives of the remarkable women who became international sensations. It was a crazy idea and good for a laugh at the time: When Tricia Stewart proposed a more risqu treatment for her local Womens Institutes annual calendar, which normally featured tranquil scenes from nature, laughing alongside her was John Baker, the husband of the soon-to-be Miss February, Angela. When John passed away from cancer, the Ladies of Rylstone decided that posing nude for the calendar and donating the proceeds was one way to honor his memory and cope with this devastating loss. No one could have predicted what happened next. The calendar began to sell, and soon the whole world, it seemed, was interested in their story, with an American tour following and appearances on the Today show, 20/20, CNN, and the Tonight Show.

From Publishers Weekly A few years ago, a certain calendar caused a worldwide stir with its tasteful nude photos of the middle-aged women of the Rylstone Women's Institute in northern England. This book, already published in the U.K. and now a feature film there, chronicles the genesis, creation and subsequent fame of the "calendar girls," told by

Miss October. Stewart's recounting carries a journal-like quality, so readers may either love or hate the abundance of minutiae as they are taken through the decision of the Women's Institute, following the death of a member's husband, to create the calendar and donate the proceeds to cancer research. These details, however, reveal that life in a tiny English town can be as multidimensional and hip as life in a big American city: Stewart teaches yoga and enjoys shiatsu, meditation and tarot. She humorously describes the recruitment of the calendar girls (the youngest was 45), the photo shoots ("breathing in and trying to look unwrinkled"), getting the blessing of the national Women's Institute, and how the ladies handled the subsequent, unexpected fame. The only drama concerns the author's belief throughout that her marriage was deteriorating and the strain of their increasing renown ("before the calendar, I could never understand why groups like the Beatles or the Spice Girls split up"). Although the women experience a tiny bit of shock due to their sudden celebrity, their relationships are ultimately what's important, as evidenced by the author's reconciliation with her husband. In the end, this is more than a "making of" story: it's a reminder of the beauty and power of women's friendships. 21 bw photos. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. 'Riveting' Valerie Grove, Times

About the Author
Tricia Stewart is director of a medical educational software company, which she runs with her husband Ian. Along with the other calendar girls, she continues to raise money for the Leukemia Research Fund.