

JOURNEY'S END

By R.C. Sherriff



Genesian Theatre

13th March - 24th April 2010

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

Lt.-Col. John McCrae (1872 - 1918)

A dugout in the British trenches before St Quentin

Act 1 Evening on Monday, 18th March 1918

Act 2 Scene 1 Tuesday morning

There will be an interval of 15 mins

Act 2 Scene 2 Tuesday afternoon

Act 3 Scene 1 Wednesday afternoon

Scene 2 Wednesday night

Scene 3 Thursday, towards dawn

By Arrangement with Dominie Pty Ltd

About the Production

Sherriff used his own WWI experience as a captain in the East Surrey Regiment as inspiration for the play *Journey's End*. The play's first full season in 1929 was performed at the Savoy Theatre with Laurence Olivier starring in the role of Stanhope. After glowing reviews and box office success, it toured Europe and England and this enabled Sherriff to become a full time writer. In 1930, James Whale directed a motion picture based on the play. Since then, *Journey's End* has often been performed. In 2007, it won The Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revival and the Tony Award for Best Revival Play on Broadway.

With a career spanning forty years, Sherriff wrote many other memorable plays including *Badger's Green* (1930), *Windfall* (1933), *Home at Seven* (1950), *The White Carnation* (1953) and *The Long Sunset* (1955). He is also celebrated for his screen writing such as *The Invisible Man* (1933), *Goodbye Mr. Chips* (1933), *Lady Hamilton* (1941), *No Highway* (1950) and *The Dam Busters* (1955).

It's difficult to encapsulate all the themes and ideas Sherriff examines in the play *Journey's End*, as each audience member will be affected in a unique way. This powerful play shows historical detail about trench life, but more importantly, it delves into the psyche of a group of men who are confronted with extraordinary circumstances. It studies their relationships, their personal strengths and vulnerabilities, and their value systems; and as such, forces us to scrutinize ourselves. Above all, it reaffirms the notions of the value of human life and the need for peace.



HUNTER MCMAHON - Stanhope Hunter graduated from theatre Nepean in 2006. Since then, Hunter has been seen in the films *Kokoda* and *Cedar Boys* and the TV series *All Saints*. He also worked on the film *Australia*. Recently Hunter appeared in the short films *Loop* directed by James Best and *Auto Love* directed by *Road Train* writer Clive Hopkins. This year he has already appeared in two Short and Sweet plays *Vienna Syndrome* and *Froot*.

ANDREW O'CONNELL - Osborne Andrew first appeared at the Genesian in May 2009 as Horatio in *Hamlet*. He then returned as Larry in *Intent to Murder* later in the same year. Andrew also enjoys writing. His full-length play, *Casanova's Duel* was put on at the Genesian last year as a workshop and his short play, *The Clown and the Vampire* was included in this year's Short and Sweet Wildcards.



AARON GLENANE - Raleigh Born and bred in Ballarat, Aaron moved to Sydney in 2005 to pursue a career in the arts. He studied at Brent Street Studios and is currently at The Actor's Pulse. His credits to date are feature films *The Black Balloon*, *Point of View*, *Horizon's Crossing* and the TV series *Rescue Special Ops*. He has made numerous commercials.

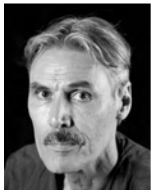
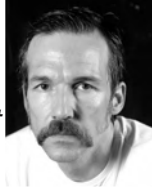
ZACHARY VERMEER - Hardy / Hibbert / Soldier Zac Vermeer studied Arts/Law at the the University of Sydney. He recently graduated and is now working as a law lecturer at the University of Notre Dame. He became interested in drama at school, and since then has performed in productions of the Sydney University Dramatic Society, and in musicals organised by Artes Christi at the Seymour Centre.





TOM MASSEY - Trotter Tom has been involved in over 45 theatrical productions. In 2006 Tom appeared as Bridey in the Australian premiere of Parsley's adaptation of Waugh's *Brideshead Revisted* for RGP. Other notable roles include Caliban in Shakespeare's *Tempest* and Mole in *Wind in the Willows*. Recently, Tom appeared in *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*. Later in 2010 he is directing David Williamson's *Dead White Males* for the Genesians.

JAMES MOIR - Mason / German Soldier James has many years of acting experience. Highlights from his career are *Masterpieces*, *Closer*, *The Next Big Thing*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This is James' first performance for the Genesian Theatre.



PAUL BARBARY - Colonel / Soldier Paul's theatrical experience ranges from *Dimboola* in Adelaide to *Waiting for Godot* in London. He has toured Europe with a German pantomime company and New South Wales with a Shakespearean theatre-in-education company. His training includes The Drama Studio, London and NIDA. On the other end of the spectrum he has been a stand-in for Christopher Lee on *Star Wars Episode II*.

NIC CANADAS - Sergeant Major / Soldier In 1999 Nicolas completed the Power of Acting at the Actor's Centre in Sydney and he has been involved in theatre ever since. His work has included Shakespearean and contemporary plays as well as numerous short films and musicals. *Journey's End* is Nicolas's first contribution with the Genesian Theatre.



PRODUCTION

Director

Debbie Smith

Assistant Director

Paul Treacy

Set Design

Debbie Smith

Lighting & Sound Design

Michael Schell

Costume Consultant

Susan Carveth

Artistic Consultant

Frances Milat

Set Construction

**Debbie Smith, Dean Wright,
and Members of the Company**

Text Control

Frances Milat

Dialect Coach

Del Dines

Casting Assistant

Timothy Bennett

Properties Assistant

Lisa Harrison

Photography

Chris Smith, Craig O'Regan

Graphic Design

Tom Massey

Transport

Debbie Smith

Acknowledgements

**Warwicks Firearms & Military Costume Hire,
Timothy Bennett, and Members of
the Genesian Theatre**

CREW

Stage Manager

Frances Hanna

Lighting & Sound Operation

Janina Olmos-New

CAST

Stanhope

Hunter McMahon

Osborne

Andrew O'Connell

Raleigh

Aaron Glenane

Hardy / Hibbert / Soldier

Zachary Vermeer

Trotter

Tom Massey

Mason / German Soldier

James Moir

Colonel / Soldier

Paul Barbary

Sergeant Major / Soldier

Nic Canadas

About the Genesian Theatre

Born in 1944 and named for St Genesius, Patron Saint of Actors, The Genesian Theatre Company has developed into a strong community-based organisation that boasts among its alumni numerous household names in Australian theatre.

The Company is a non-professional group operating from an historic church in Kent Street. While still retaining links with our origins, the Catholic Church, we do not shy away from meeting the challenges of plays that comment on the human condition.

The building which houses the Company was originally St John's Church, and dates from 1868. It has served as a church, a poor school, and was the first Matthew Talbot Hostel. Since 1954 it has been the home of The Genesian Theatre Company.

Over the years The Genesian Theatre Company has become a community theatre group providing a training ground for young actors and a place where those who love the theatre can meet, share, and extend their knowledge of the performing arts. The Genesian Theatre is one of Sydney's most active theatre companies. In addition to six main stage productions each year we run classes, workshops and many other activities.

Membership

If your interest is in acting, directing, stage management, sound, lights, publicity, admin, etc, or if you just want to experience being a member of the group, we would welcome you as a member. You don't need to be experienced, we can provide training and can cater to different levels of involvement. Please see our web site for further information.

Presenting The Genesian Theatre 66th Season 2010-2011

Pygmalion



By George Bernard Shaw
8th May - 19th Jun 2010

Dead White Males

By David Williamson
3rd Jul - 7th Aug 2010



AND THEN THERE WERE NONE

By Agatha Christie
21st Aug - 2nd Oct 2010



The Glass Menagerie

By Tennessee Williams
16th Oct - 13th Nov 2010



Black Comedy

By Peter Shaffer
27th Nov - 12th Dec 2010



The Fantasticks

By Schmidt and Jones
15th Jan - 19th Feb 2011



Private Lives

By Noel Coward
5th Mar - 16th Apr 2011



The Adventures of a Bear Called Paddington

By Bradley and Bond
8th Jan - 30th Jan 2011



Subscriptions are available
www.genesiantheatre.com.au