

LETTERS

Impressed by BNT's 'Who Remembers the Great War'

I ATTENDED the opening performance of *Who Remembers the Great War?* by the Ballarat National Theatre and was extremely impressed overall.

The simplistic but stylish and shrine-like set design set the tone for the show and provided the continuity to a number of acts.

As a regular patron of BNT productions, it was great to see new faces as well as some of the regulars performing.

The Ballarat Centre of Music and the Arts vocal ensemble was delightful with its talented choral arrangements interspersing a potpourri of short plays, sketches and poems.

Peter Nethercote's *What did you do in the War, Mummy?* and *Never Again* were well crafted and performed as was Greg Roberts' *Great War*.

The audience was reminded of the futility of a war that so many Australians, young and old, naively joined up to fight in and the impact it had on wives, mothers, lovers, sisters and daughters who remained home, taking on new roles and responsibilities, anxious for news of their loved ones and hopefully their eventual return from the battlefields.

The audience was exposed to a brief but poignant reminder of a war that did not end all wars and the impact it had on the individual at the time, as well as future cultural and social Australia.

If the success of the show can be measured by the degree that it allows the audience to form clearer insights of war and emotional connections, especially World War I, then Ballarat National Theatre's production of *Who Remembers the Great War?* is a winner.

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