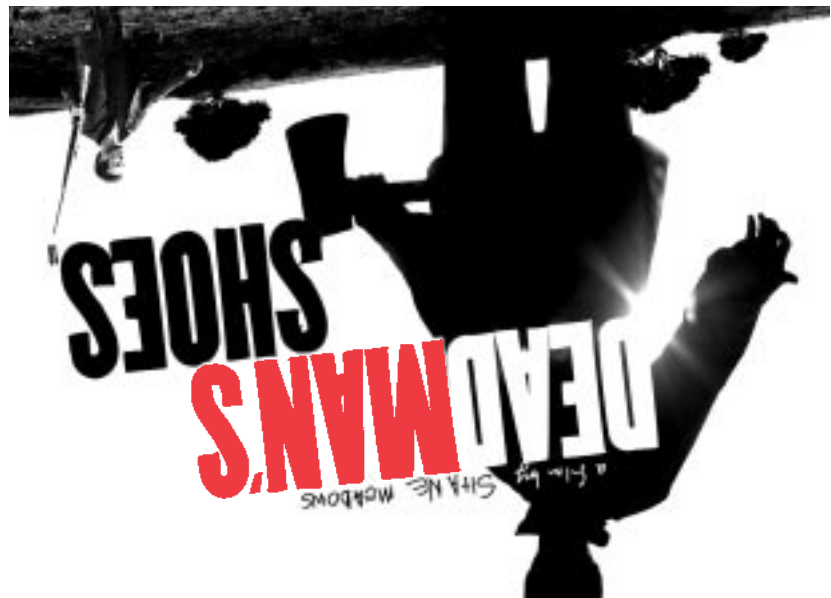




Richard returns to settle the score. get and playing. Seven years later, of lads. Anthony becomes the gang's vicious local drug dealer and his gang (Gary Stretch), a controlling and army, Anthony is taken in by Sonny where they have grown up to join the When Richard leaves the rural village Anthony is simple-minded.

and fair, while the loving and gentle (Toby Kebbell). Richard is strong protected his little brother Anthony Richard (Paddy Considine) has always



Financiers

Warp Films

Warp Films is the sister company of Warp Records, the Sheffield based label which released The Aphex Twin, and Squarepusher among others.

Their approach to filmmaking mirrors their music policy, namely to support artists with individual visions, providing a platform for left-of-centre projects. Warp envisioned the revolution that happened in music 12 years ago, with the accessibility of better equipment allowing artists to lay down tracks in their bedrooms, being mirrored in filmmaking. The rise of digital technology in film that allowed people to shoot cheaply and edit anywhere has contributed to this.

Warp's first project was the Chris Morris BAFTA winning short My Wrongs 8245-8249 and 117, released on DVD last year. **Dead Man's Shoes** is the company's first feature film.

In the words of producer Mark Herbert, "Warp films are about having a voice. I hate manufactured indie or manufactured pop. Anything that feels like you're doing something just to fill certain criteria. The ethos isn't a set of rules, it's about not worrying about commercial influences or ticking the right boxes and becoming mainstream. No one process is right or wrong."

EM Media

EM Media is the regional screen agency responsible for shaping a vibrant media future across England's East Midlands. People. Organisations. Projects. Businesses. These are the fundamental elements of the sector we operate in. These are the vehicles for our investment decisions. Talent, creativity, ideas, achievement and ambition are, however,

the cultural assets we invest in. These assets are the lifeblood of a vibrant, progressive media region.

EM has invested in and backed numerous projects, including Chris Cooke's debut feature *One For The Road* (One for the Road Productions), the feature film *Anita & Me* written by Meera Syal (Take 3 Partnership, UK Film Council and BBC Films) and *In Denial of Murder* (Hat Trick Productions).

FilmFour

FilmFour, headed by Tessa Ross, is Channel 4 Television's feature film division. It both develops and co-finances films and is known for working with some of the most exciting talent in the UK *Touching The Void*, *Sexy Beast*, *East Is East*, *The Crying Game*, *Trainspotting*, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Elizabeth* are just a few of the hundreds of titles developed and financed by Channel 4's film arm since its inception in 1982.

Currently in production: *Annie Griffin's Festival*; James Marsh's *The King* - starring Gael Garcia Bernal and William Hurt.

Titles for release in the UK 2004

August 27th - Walter Salles' *The Motorcycle Diaries* starring Gael Garcia Bernal, Rodrigo de la Serna and Mia Maestro; November 26th - Roger Michell's *Enduring Love*, an adaptation of the Ian McEwan novel, starring Daniel Craig, Rhys Ifans and Samantha Morton.

World Sales

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FilmFour and Em-Media present a Warp Films Production in Association with Big Arty Productions
A Shane Meadows Film "Dead Man's Shoes" Paddy Considine Gary Stretch Toby Kebbell
Locations Richard Knight Art Director Adam Tomlinson First Assistant Director Griffin Editors Chris Wyatt Lucas Roche
Director of Photography Danny Cohen Co-Producer Louise Knight Line Producer Barry Ryan
Executive Producers Tessa Ross Peter Carlton Steve Beckett Will Clarke Screenplay by Paddy Considine and Shane Meadows
Produced by Mark Herbert Directed by Shane Meadows



Financed through Em-Media part funded by the European Regional Development Fund

Day 1

Two silhouetted figures appear on a rural Midlands horizon. They walk together with Richard in the lead, an army bag slung over his shoulder. Anthony follows. Now grown men, they shared a happy childhood which we are privy to through old family video footage of Christmas, playground visits and the seaside where the little brothers smile together for the camera. Off-screen, Richard mutters vengeful words: "God 'll forgive 'em. He will forgive them and allow them into heaven. I can't live with that."

The brothers reach a dreary, ordinary village. Dogs wander around, a child's tricycle has been left in a garden. In black and white, the story flashes back seven years earlier. As Anthony walks down this street, Big Al (Seamus O'Neal) and Patti (Emily Aston) lean out of a window and order to him to run down the shop for a pot noodle and Vaseline. Anthony dutifully obeys. 'You tell me every-thing I need to know', runs Richard's internal monologue.

Inside a pool hall, Herbie (Stuart Wolfenden) deals drugs. Richard watches disgusted from a corner table. When Herbie asks him what he's looking at, Richard leaps to life, spitting strong words back at him. Herbie is a small time dealer, selling for local king of the shit-heap, Sonny, the physically impressive pack leader. He takes his earnings to Sonny and his cohort Big Al at Sonny's club, where he is given more drugs. On Herbie's way out through the yard at the back of the club, Richard suddenly appears. Herbie is clearly freaked, especially when Richard extends his hand and apologises for the outburst. 'It weren't me' he says.

Inside their flat Soz (Neil Bell) and Tuff (Paul Sadot) Herbie's loser sidekicks, read porn magazines together. Bongs and drug paraphernalia litter the coffee table. Herbie arrives and relates what has just happened. He tells his friends he thinks that the stranger in town is Richard, Anthony's brother. They fall silent, remembering their complicity seven years ago when they bullied Anthony into getting stoned and teased him when he became paranoid. Sonny is clearly the ringleader, deciding just how far the gang are allowed to push Anthony.

At an abandoned farm where they are camping out, Anthony and Richard joke together. It is clear they care for each other very much.

Back at the flat, it is now a long way into the evening and the gang has made a significant dent in the stash they are meant to be selling. On his way out, Herbie staggers down the several flights of steps to the door and is terrified to see Richard, his face hidden by a gas mask. Herbie flips out and runs back up to the flat to get Soz and Tuff, raving about the apparition of an elephant man. They follow him outside but find nothing and are not quite sure if Herbie is just losing it. On returning to the flat they find it has been trashed, there is graffiti on the walls, and worst of all, Sonny's drugs are missing.

Later that night Big Al and Gypsy John (George Newton), two older heavies, are returning home drunk. Still wearing the elephant gas mask, Richard watches them from across the street. He steals into their house while they're sleeping, and stands over Al with a spray can and a hammer.

Day 2

A 2CV chugs along the street, reggae blaring from the stereo. Herbie, Tuff, and Soz pull up outside Sonny's grey concrete house. Theyicker about the stolen gear. They decide not to mention the elephant. To their surprise, Sonny comes to the door made up like a clown. Their knocking has awakened him and he is in a foul mood.

At the farm Richard shows the drugs to Anthony. He warns his little brother about the dangers of drugs and announces that he's declaring chemical warfare as he mixes up the pills. Anthony looks worried.

Fully awake, Sonny accuses the lads of pulling a prank with the clown face paint. They argue and Herbie cracks and tells Sonny the whole story. The elephant doesn't go down well, but when he tells Sonny that Anthony's brother is back... Sonny's face turns stony. He thinks back over the mental torture he inflicted on Anthony, the sexual threats and the beatings.

Richard and Anthony are investigating the abandoned farm. Richard finds a blunt axe.

Back at the flat Big Al arrives, his hair has been spray-painted, and so has Gypsy John's jacket. They also think the trio are responsible for the high-jinks, but when they learn of the others' suspicions, all thoughts turn to Patti. Patti was partly complicit in their bullying of Anthony, but she was also threatened and abused by the gang. They pay her a visit, violently demanding if she knows anything. She doesn't. Patti now has a daughter, and it is clear that her life has moved on in the last seven years.

The brothers watch the 2CV as it drives back to Sonny's. The gang notice Richard, and pull up. Richard tells Anthony to disappear. There is a confrontation between Sonny and Richard. Sonny tries to make light of the situation, but Richard doesn't hesitate to reveal his plan. He plans 'to hit them all.'

The gang return to Sonny's club to weigh their options. They are scared now, and realise that Richard isn't going to go away. They decide to go to the farm where Richard has told them he is staying and shoot him. Gypsy John leaves the group to use the toilet. When Herbie follows a short time later, he returns screaming. The gang rush into the loo, their faces ashen when they see Gipsy John's blood-soaked corpse and the words 'one down' smeared on the wall.

Day 3

The 2CV makes its way to the farm. It pulls up along the farm track, all five men squashed inside. They look terrible. Big Al nervously approaches the farm, money in hand as a bribe for Richard. Rifle aimed, Sonny and the lads watch him from the car. Very suddenly Richard appears. Sonny fires and shoots Big Al in the head. He drops like a stone.

At a petrol station, the gang stare into space. The day is grim, the car has broken down. Each one considers the way they treated Anthony. Tuff breaks down and starts crying. He accuses Sonny of shooting Al. Sonny, also in shock, mumbles 'it was an accident.' They are all worn down. Tuff runs off into the countryside.

Sitting together in the fields, Anthony reminds Richard of bygone, innocent times, how Richard won the fun run at school.

Sonny, Herbie and Soz walk the long way back to town, heads down, hands in pockets. They return at nightfall. Inside Sonny's house he distributes weapons: a sword, a knife, a crossbow. Richard is hidden under the stairs, once again wearing his gas mask. He sneaks out and empties the stolen drugs into the kettle while the other three check the rooms upstairs. The trio make themselves mugs of tea, with the spiked kettle water, and try and recuperate on the sofa. They are afraid to the point that they won't leave each other alone, even sitting together in the bathroom while Sonny takes a bath and Soz has a shit. As the drugs kick in their behaviour becomes more manic. They lift weights, listening to techno and begin to trip out. Richard is still in the house. Sonny imagines he can see Big Al laughing maniacally; he sees Anthony crying and he comforts him.

Richard is in the room with them. Soz asks if he is the devil. They are so far gone that they can't react. Richard makes them dance before dragging Sonny into the kitchen, putting a plastic bag over his head and shooting him through it. Next he dispatches Soz. Richard turns to Herbie. He has something he wants to show him. From under the stairs, Richard pulls out a suitcase and instructs Herbie to open it. Inside are the remains of Tuff. Herbie begins to cry. 'It's hard losing somebody close to you isn't it?' says Richard. He offers to make Herbie a deal: the whereabouts of a final member of the gang, Mark, who is now absent from their scene, in exchange for Herbie's life. Herbie agrees, Mark is in Weston. Richard hugs Herbie close and stabs him through the heart.

Day 4

Richard and Anthony walk purposefully across fields, through woods. The countryside is beautiful. Eventually they come to a halt, overlooking Weston.

Two little boys (Matt and Craig Considine) play outside a family home. They leave the house with their football on the way to the park.

Marie, (Jo Hartley) their mother, waits for her sons inside. She hears the front door go and calls them to her. One is wearing Richard's mask, the other has a knife. Marie is appalled. They say they met a soldier in the park who said he was a friend of their Dad's. 'Mark!' Marie yells.

Richard walks through the countryside alone. His monologue continues. It is now clear he is addressing Anthony, although Anthony is nowhere to be seen.

Mark (Paul Hurstfield) chastises his kids at home. It is clear he and Marie are good and caring parents. His life has moved on. Incensed by this 'mental lunatic' who has put his kids in danger, Mark takes them back to the park to confront him. As soon as Mark and the boys leave, Richard comes out of hiding. Marie answers the door. No fool, she realises that Richard must be the man from the park, and calmly challenges his behaviour. Richard is thrown by her sense of right, and the happiness of the family he encounters. He delivers the fateful message for Mark that Anthony's brother called.

When Mark and the kids return, Marie is sitting in the dark. She tells him Richard called at the house. The name means nothing to Mark, but the words 'Anthony's brother' deal a heavy blow. He breaks down and confides to Marie the whole story of what happened to Anthony. She listens in tears. He remembers how seven years ago when he was hanging out with Sonny and the gang, they went out for the day to an old zoo and everyone dropped acid, including Anthony. As the day progressed it became clear that Anthony was not handling the drugs. Sonny pushed him further and further, leading him round the zoo by a piece of rope. Out of his mind, Anthony was left in an old stable while the gang piled back into their van.

In the dark stable, Anthony's body swings from the rope. He has hanged himself.

Day 5

Mark awakes on the sofa with Richard crouching over him, brandishing a large knife. Richard forces Mark out of the house and into his car. It is dawn. They drive through the countryside to the old zoo. It is completely desolate.

Richard pushes Mark to the stable where Anthony died and forces him to recount what happened that day. Mark is terrified and guilt-ridden but is shocked by Richard's own admission of guilt. Richard ran away to the army to get away from Anthony. Richard has been torturing himself for leaving his brother alone when he needed him most.

But Richard cannot bring himself to kill Mark. Mark has a family, two little brothers just like Richard and Anthony once were. Richard has become a monster and wants Mark to kill him. He passes him the knife. Gently, almost lovingly, Richard coaxes Mark into stabbing him through his shattered heart. Mark exits the stable numb and blood-soaked leaving Richard dead on the floor of the stable.



