



## Our Country's Good

**Written by:** Timberlake Wertenbaker

**Directed by:** Richard Frampton and Giles Checkley

**Performed:** 21st-24th April 2004 at St. Anne's Hall, Wandsworth

### Cast

<b>Captain Arthur Phillip, RN</b> .....	Ian Pring
<b>Major Robbie Ross, RM</b> .....	Jay Cunliffe
<b>Captain David Collins, RM</b> .....	Daniel Comens
<b>Captain Watkin Tench, RM</b> .....	Benjamin Ellis
<b>Captain Jemmy Campbell, RM</b> .....	Stuart Butler
<b>Reverend Johnson</b> .....	Sally Hudson
<b>Lieutenant George Johnston, RM</b> .....	Rachel Tozer
<b>Lieutenant Will Dawes, RM</b> .....	Tracey Childs
<b>Second Lieutenant Ralph Clark, RM</b> .....	Mike Ainsworth
<b>Second Lieutenant William Faddy, RM</b> ..	Orna Joseph
<b>Midshipman Harry Brewer, RN</b> .....	Stuart Butler

#### An Aboriginal Australian

<b>John Arscott</b> .....	Stuart Butler
<b>Caesar</b> .....	Benjamin Ellis
<b>Ketch Freeman</b> .....	Jay Cunliffe
<b>Robert Sideway</b> .....	Daniel Comens
<b>John Wisehammer</b> .....	Ian Pring
<b>Mary Brenham</b> .....	Sally Hudson
<b>Meg Long</b> .....	Rachel Tozer
<b>Dabby Bryant</b> .....	Orna Joseph
<b>Liz Morden</b> .....	Tracey Childs
<b>Duckling Smith</b> .....	Rachel Tozer

### Crew

<b>Producer</b> .....	Emma Dhesi
<b>Stage Manager</b> .....	Susan Jones
<b>Lighting &amp; Set Design</b> .....	Richard Frampton & Giles Checkley
<b>Lighting Operator</b> .....	Eamonn O'Reilly
<b>Sound Design</b> .....	Jay Cunliffe
<b>Sound Operator</b> .....	Sara Stickland
<b>Costumes</b> .....	Tracey Childs
<b>Make-up</b> .....	Nici Huck & Tracey Childs
<b>Set Construction</b> .....	Paul Checkley & Members
<b>Props</b> .....	Zoe Andrews
<b>Front of House Manager</b> .....	Mark Stannett
<b>Catering Manager</b> .....	Diane Lane
<b>Special Thanks</b> .....	Malsar Kest Catering Wholesalers

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### Synopsis

At the Sydney Cove penal colony in 1789, a young lieutenant directs rehearsals of the Restoration comedy "The Recruiting Officer", the first play ever to be staged in Australia. With only two copies of the text, a cast of convicts, opposition from sadistic officers, and one leading lady about to be hanged, the production is in trouble from the start...

Based on an historical incident and on Thomas Keneally's novel "The Playmaker", Timberlake Wertenbaker's inspirational play, despite it's historical setting, explores issues relevant to society today - along with the liberating effect that the prisoners' production has on those involved.

Now recognised as a modern classic, and an A-level set text, it was first performed at the Royal Court Theatre, London in 1988, winning the Laurence Olivier Award that year.

### NODA Review

The company provided an enjoyable evening's entertainment telling the story of the difficulties facing both the convicts and the officers in the first Australian penal colony established in 1788. Timberlake Wertenbaker's play is a powerful piece of drama depicting the attempts of The Governor to bring a degree of civilisation to the colony through the vehicle of a play to be performed by some of the convicts under the direction of one of his junior officers. [\[more\]](#)

## **Production Photos** (Click to enlarge)

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