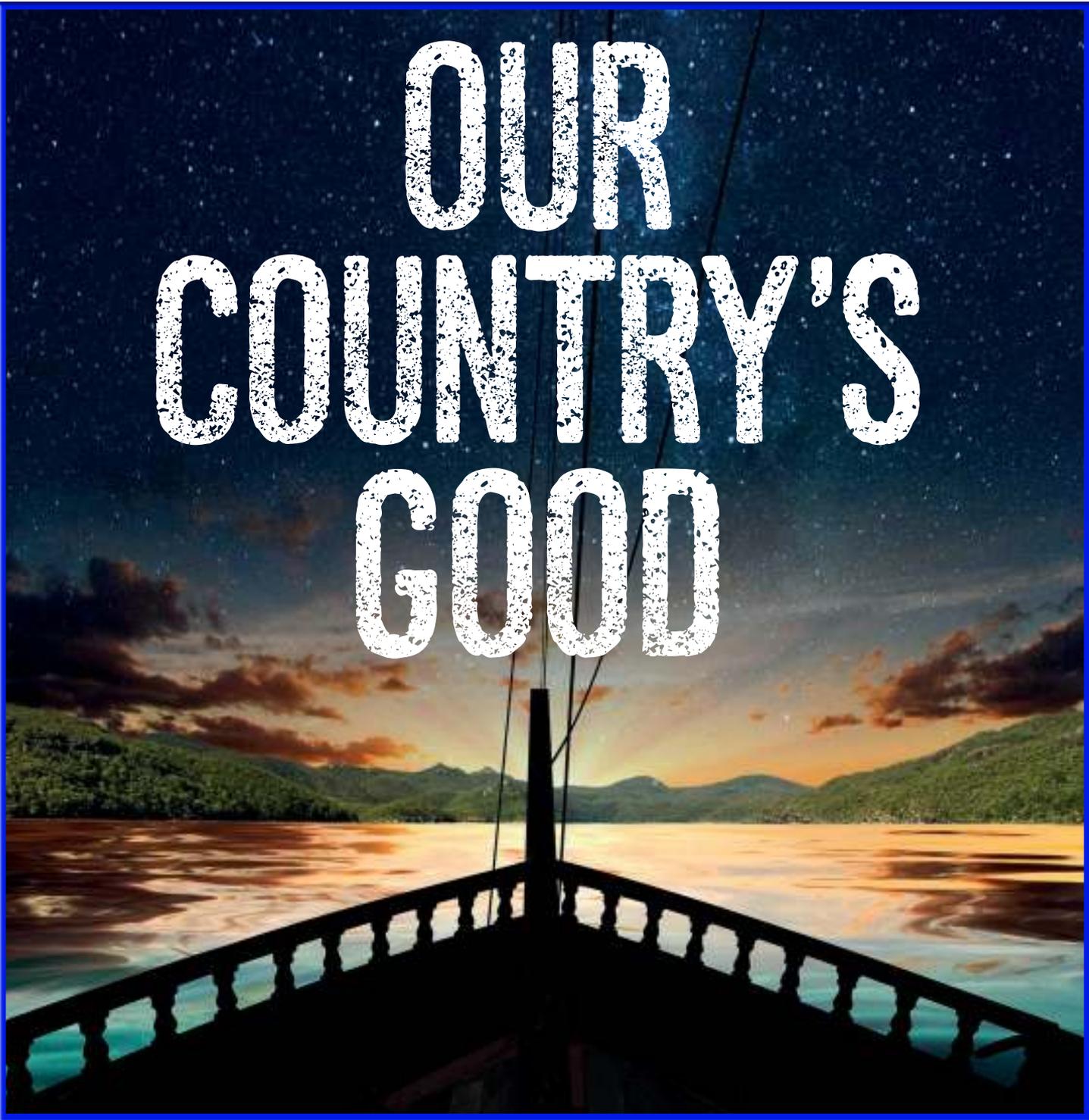


A Nottingham Playhouse Theatre Company production
in co-production with Ramps on the Moon

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD



By Timberlake Wertenbaker
Based on The Playmaker by Thomas Keneally

Visual Story

**Nottingham
Playhouse**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Welcome to Our Country's Good

You are visiting the theatre to watch a performance of **Our Country's Good**. **Our Country's Good** is a play about the first prisoners and officers that were sent to Australia in 1788. This booklet introduces you to the actors, the characters they play, and the story.

Some actors are deaf and do not use their voices, so other actors are their voices in the play. In the play there is an actor playing an Aboriginal Australian who is also doing the audio description. Sometimes he can be seen on stage talking quietly.

The Actors



Colin Connor
playing
Major Robbie Ross



Fifi Garfield
playing
Dabby Bryant



Tom Dawze
playing
John Wishammer
& Lieutenant
George Johnston



**Keiren
Hamilton-
Amos**
playing Caesar &
Second Lieutenant
William Faddy



**Jarrad
Ellis-Thomas**
playing
Captain Jemmy
Campbell



**Gbemisola
Ikumelo**
playing
Liz Morden



Dave Fishley
playing
Captain
David Collins



**Kieron
Jecchinis**
playing
Governor-in-Chief,
Captain
Arthur Phillip



Sapphire Joy

playing
Mary Brenham



Tim Pritchett

playing
Second Lieutenant
Ralph Clark



Will Lewis

playing
John Arscott &
Captain
Watkin Tench



**Fergus
Rattigan**

playing
Ketch Freeman



Milton Lopes

playing
The Aboriginal
Australian &
Audio Describer



Garry Robson

playing
Midshipman
Harry Brewer



Alex Nowak

playing
Robert Sideway &
Reverend Johnson



**Emily
Rose Salter**

playing
Duckling Smith



**Caroline
Parker**

playing
Meg Long &
Lieutenant Will
Dawes

**All other parts played by
members of the company**

The Story



Act 1

The convicts are huddled together on a dark ship on the way to Australia. They talk about how horrible the long journey has been. One of them is being whipped.



The officers go out shooting birds and talk about how they think the convicts should be treated in this new country.



Lieutenant Ralph Clark is in his tent writing in his diary, he is talking about how much he misses his wife when Harry Brewer comes in. They talk about the other officers and Ralph says he would like to help put on a play with the convicts.



We see the convicts talking to Ralph about being in his play and auditioning for it. Some of them are very keen, and some are not.



All the officers sit round the dinner table talking about the play. Major Ross is very angry because he thinks that it is a ridiculous idea. Some officers agree with him and some do not. Captain Phillip listens to them all and then decides that they will do the play.



Harry and Duckling go rowing together. She is angry at him because he won't let her do anything she wants to do. He then decides to let her be in the play.



The women try and learn their lines together. Liz doesn't get on well with the other women and they fight.



Ralph is in his tent writing another letter to his wife. Ketch comes in and tells him that he wants to be in the play too.



The convicts begin rehearsing the play with Ralph. It is very difficult for them to all work together and some of them are very late. Sideway is a very over the top actor.



Major Ross and Captain Campbell interrupt the rehearsal to say that some convicts used the rehearsal time to try and escape. They say this is Ralph's fault. They accuse Liz of stealing food and say she needs to be hanged as punishment.



Act 2

We see Liz in prison talking to the other convicts about how hard life has been for them.



We see Harry talking to himself. He is hearing the voices of all the people he has sent to be hung. Duckling tries to calm him down.



The convicts try and rehearse again but Liz, Wisehammer and Caesar are still in chains and Major Ross and Captain Campbell are watching. The convicts are very scared of them. Ross starts shouting at the convicts and embarrassing them.



Harry tells Ketch to measure Liz to be hung, he really does not want to do it. The voices Harry is hearing are getting worse.



Harry is very sick, Duckling tells him she will be much nicer to him if he lives, but he is very ill and dies.



Mary and Ralph rehearse the play together, they kiss.

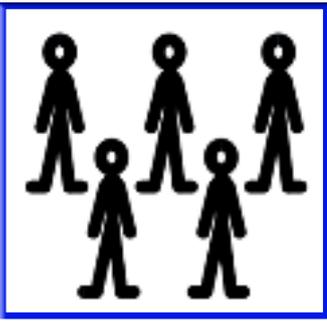


The officers talk about what to do with Liz, some of them do not want her to be hung. Phillip decides to let her be in the play first.

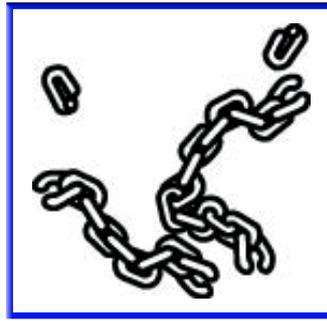


The convicts are running around backstage before the play. They are all very nervous but they are all finally getting along. The aborigine walks across the stage. He is very sick and dying of smallpox. Arscott and Caesar go on stage and begin their play.

Keywords



Convicts



Punishment



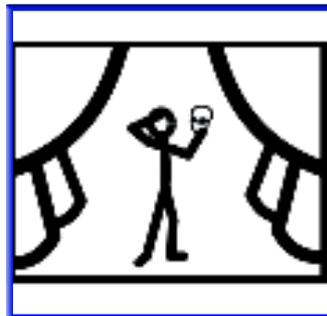
Ship



Lieutenant



Home



Play



Dream



Crime

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