

SERIES TWO

THE GAMES

EPISODE

13

THE END

BROADCAST DATE
11/09/00



A montage of shots of Sydney traffic, the town filled with visitors, people jogging, excitement building. A super appears – Sydney, Australia. Not long to go now. Please remain calm.

In the midst of the montage, John addresses the camera.

JOHN I would like to welcome everybody to Australia, officially. To our country. On behalf of our government and people. It's an honour and a privilege to have been part of the organising of these Olympics and we hope they'll be a very wonderful Olympics and for the next fortnight, wherever you are watching this anywhere in the world, we are, of course, all part of the wonderful international Olympic family.

His mobile begins to ring.

We hope that when you come to Australia either in person or through the miracle of television (Phone still rings) that you're able to get just as much out of (Phone keeps ringing)...just excuse me for a moment, I'm sorry about this... as much out of the... (Answers phone) just excuse me.

Hello? What is it? I'm just trying to record something for international... Oh, what problem with the Closing Ceremony? Oh no. No, please, not that

Back at the Games office, Tim is returning service beautifully.

TIM Hello, Games office, can you hold please.
Hello, Games office, can you hold please.
Hello, Games office, can you hold please.
Hello, Games office. Not at the moment, no. Sorry.
Hello, Games office. Yes, Mrs Gosper. Certainly, Mrs Gosper.

Bryan is in a meeting with Doug Bowles, the Head of Security.

DOUG If there's any security problem at all, we send out a Category 1. (Pointing to map as he speaks) We close these roads here, we route any traffic through this corridor here and we throw a blanket over the whole area. Someone will need to be here.

BRYAN Yes, there's always someone here.

DOUG When you get the Category 1, you switch your frequency on this (A device like a pager) to 1222 and you'll get the information coming out of our control operation.

BRYAN Do you think this is very likely?

DOUG Don't know, Bryan.

Tim enters.

BRYAN Yes, Tim?

TIM Excuse me, Bryan, John Ralph called. There's something on the radio he says might interest you.

BRYAN Thanks, Tim. Do you know what it is?

TIM Something by The Inkspots, I think.

Tim leaves.

BRYAN Thanks Tim. (To Doug) Is there any indication there's going to be trouble?

DOUG (Still looking at Tim's departing figure) Who's he?

BRYAN That's Tim.

Gina is sitting with the North America Media Liaison Officer, Betty.

BETTY What happens if the power system goes down or someone jams the frequencies?

GINA There are two systems. There's the one you're using now and there's a whole separate back-up system.

BETTY Separate transmitter?

GINA Completely separate transmitter. We can switch you over or you can switch it yourselves. The specifications are all in here.

She shows Betty a list.

BETTY So the Media Centre will always have 500 lines up 24 hours a day?

GINA Yes.

BETTY Because we want 1000 gigabytes an hour out of there.

GINA Yes, that's all working now. You haven't had any problems, have you?

BETTY No, it's great.

Tim enters.

TIM Sorry to interrupt. Gina, the Torch Relay rang. There's a photo opportunity at Rooty Hill this afternoon and do we want to be in it?

GINA I can't. John won't. Bryan might.

TIM Yes.

He leaves.

BETTY Who is that?

GINA That's Tim.

Tim is in the Games office, singing quietly into the phone, a traditional air.

TIM Waltzing Matilda. Waltzing Matilda.

The other line rings.

TIM I'd better call you back. Hello, Games office.

John comes into the office, sweeps past Bryan's and then Gina's office and continues into his own.

JOHN Bryan, can you come and talk to me about a problem that has just emerged please?
Gina, can you come and talk to be for a minute about the Closing Ceremony please?

Gina and Bryan enter, concerned.

GINA What's up?

BRYAN What is it?

JOHN I'm afraid we have a bit of a problem with Closing Ceremony.

GINA What sort of problem

JOHN Well, don't tell anyone. (To camera) Actually, can you go for a minute please. I'm sorry to do this to you but we have a problem here, just for a minute. [John, the text in the post-prod script differs slightly. The last line reads: 'Actually nobody know about this yet, but we have a very substantial . . .' ●●●] (GO WITH THE POST PRODUCTION SCRIPT I THINK BUT ADD 'PROBLEM' AFTER 'SUBSTANTIAL')

BRYAN Isn't the Closing Ceremony all organised?

JOHN Yes, it is. We've just got a slight problem with it.

GINA I thought it was all done.

JOHN We did have it organised but...

BRYAN John, it's on in a fortnight.

JOHN I know when it's on, Bryan. I've just organised seats for your Rotary Club.

Tim comes in.

TIM John, there's a television crew downstairs.

JOHN Oh God, Tim. What do they want?

TIM They want to know if it's true that there's some sort of cock-up with the Closing Ceremony and if it is can you go on Real Life Bastards tonight and if it's not, can you go on Celebrity Bathrooms tomorrow night?

JOHN No it isn't, Tim. And, thank them, but no.

Nicholas has entered the outer office and is coming straight into John's office.

NICHOLAS John!

JOHN Look out. Here we go.

GINA What's the problem?

BRYAN What's it about?

JOHN Look, you two just stay out of the way for a minute. I'll do this.

GINA He doesn't look happy.

JOHN No, I don't think Nicholas is a very happy person.

NICHOLAS John!

JOHN Just sit down. Nicholas.

NICHOLAS What have you done?!

JOHN Haven't done anything, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS (Sees Gina and Bryan) You really have surpassed yourselves this time, haven't you?

GINA Settle.

BRYAN Don't know what you're talking about.

JOHN Well, what's that supposed to mean?

NICHOLAS John, is this true that you've blown the main act at the Closing Ceremony?

JOHN No, it is not true, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS Why is the Minister telling me that it is true, John?

JOHN Because the Minister has lost the main act from the Closing Ceremony and as usual he's got the 'It Wasn't Me Sir' defence running and he's sent somebody over here to shout at some people who didn't do it. That's pretty standard with the Minister, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS You haven't lost the main act?

GINA The main act? We haven't got a main act for the Closing Ceremony>

JOHN No. I don't think we have currently, Gina. No, technically we haven't. But it wasn't our fault, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS This is a catastrophe. There isn't anything bigger you could cock up.

JOHN I repeat, it wasn't our fault, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS You told you me it was all set up.

JOHN It was. They were arriving on Thursday.

NICHOLAS Have you got a fallback position?

JOHN It's only Wednesday.

GINA I thought we were asking Crowded House.

JOHN We did.

NICHOLAS They don't do anything any more.

JOHN That's right. That what Neil Finn told us and we told Nicholas that. And the Minister called a press conference and announced that Crowded House were doing it, so that was the end of that.

GINA Oh God.

NICHOLAS You're supposed to have spoken to Neil Finn.

JOHN We did.

NICHOLAS You were supposed to speak to Dame Edna.

GINA AND JOHN We did.

NICHOLAS Yes, but then you lost her. Then you were supposed to speak to the Seekers.

JOHN We did.

GINA Did we?

JOHN Yes.

NICHOLAS Yes, but then you lost them too.

JOHN We didn't lost them, Nicholas. You did.

NICHOLAS What about the Minister's other choice?

JOHN I wrote to you about the Minister's other choice.

NICHOLAS Well, I didn't get it.

JOHN That's hardly my fault either. For the record, The Rolling Stones aren't available and anyway they've got a guitarist, thank him very much.

NICHOLAS What about the Prime Minister's choice?

JOHN Rolf Harris is not available. And Horrie Dargie isn't working as much any more.

NICHOLAS What about the first choice?

JOHN OK, let's discuss the first choice.

GINA Who was it?

NICHOLAS The Seekers.

GINA I tell you what. If they sang 'The Carnival Is Over' it's be fantastic. There wouldn't be a dry eye in the house.

JOHN Absolutely brilliant. It's the ideal solution.

GINA Yes.

NICHOLAS But you've made a mess of it.

JOHN No, we didn't.

NICHOLAS So where are they?

JOHN What happened was they got so sick of dealing with someone at the Closing Ceremony that they pulled out.

NICHOLAS Who at the Closing Ceremony, John?

JOHN You know as well as I do who they were talking to, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS You told me they wanted to do it.

JOHN They did want to do. They said it was the dream gig. They're finishing their final farewell concert tour. They're the biggest live act in Britain at the moment. They would then fly back to Australia, where they came from in the first place, and they'd sing 'The Carnival Is Over' at the Closing Ceremony of the Sydney Olympic Games. It would be the last song they ever sang together.

BRYAN That'd be fantastic.

GINA Yes.

JOHN Yes. A brilliant spectacle.

NICHOLAS But it's not going to happen.

JOHN No, it's not. But that's not our fault. We didn't talk to them.

NICHOLAS Why didn't you talk to them?

JOHN You know very well why we didn't talk to them, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS Why?

JOHN The Minister wouldn't let us.

NICHOLAS That's not what the Minister says, John.

JOHN Well, ring the Seekers, Nicholas. Ask them who spoke to them.

NICHOLAS John. This problem – you caused it, you fix it, all right?

JOHN We didn't cause it. You know bloody well who caused this problem.

NICHOLAS (Looking at Gina and Bryan) What about you two?

GINA We haven't done anything!

JOHN They don't know. Look, just get the Minister to acknowledge that we did not cause this problem, then the four of us can work out what we're going to do about it. It'll be us who has to solve it, Nicholas, as always.

Nicholas leaves.

BRYAN How are we going to do that?

JOHN I don't know, Bryan, but while Nicholas is off talking to the Minister we'll have to think of something.

Tim is answering the phone. Calls are coming in thick and fast.

- TIM** (Answering Bryan's phone) Hello, Bryan Dawe's phone, Tim speaking. Yes, I can do that for you.
- (Answering Gina's phone) Hello, Gina Riley's phone, Tim speaking. Yes, yes, no worries. I'll just pass that on.
- (At the main switchboard) Hello, Games office. Not available, I'm afraid. Perhaps about an hour. Thanks.
- Gina, John and Bryan are still in John's office.*
- GINA** What are we going to do?
- BRYAN** We'll end up with John Williamson if we're not careful.
- JOHN** No, no. John Williamson is not singing at the Closing Ceremony.
- GINA** No. We have to get someone you could understand.
- JOHN** Plus, John Williamson is singing at the Opening Ceremony.
- GINA** Yes. That too, of course.
- JOHN** There's a full rehearsal of the Closing Ceremony tomorrow afternoon. We've got till then to jack something up.
- BRYAN** I can't go.
- JOHN** (Hands him a rehearsal schedule) Have a look, Bryan. You'll find you'll be in attendance.
- GINA** I can't go either.
- JOHN** (Hands her a rehearsal schedule) Have a look, Gina. You're going to be there too.
- BRYAN** I've got a meeting with Nicholas.
- JOHN** Don't worry about Nicholas. You'll find he'll be in attendance as well.
- John walks out to Tim's area.*
- JOHN** Tim, I wonder if you can do me a favour?
- TIM** Yes. Can you ring these people?
- Tim hands John a large wad of messages.*
- JOHN** Yes. (He drops them all in the bin.) Can you fax this to Nicholas?
- TIM** Yes.
- JOHN** Thanks. Can you duck out and get me a couple of things quickly?
- TIM** Yes. Do you realise you're doing a radio interview at two?
- JOHN** I am?
- TIM** Yes.
- JOHN** At two?
- TIM** Yes.
- JOHN** Oh. You might have to do that, Tim.
- TIM** OK.
- Nicholas is on the phone in a cab.*
- NICHOLAS** John. What is this? (He has a fax in hand.)

JOHN It's a rehearsal schedule. That's the timetable for rehearsing the Closing Ceremony.

NICHOLAS Why have I got it?

JOHN Well, the good news is we might have solved this business with the Seekers.

NICHOLAS Really? Good.

JOHN Nicholas?

NICHOLAS What?

JOHN What size pants do you wear?

Tim is on the phone in the Games office, doing a radio interview.

TIM Yes. Well, I think what we've got to do is put on the best games anyone can imagine. That's what we want for Sydney – the best Olympics ever.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (On phone) Can we afford it?

TIM No-one's going to thank us for running about cutting costs if it means a reduction in the quality of this fantastic event.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (On phone) All right, better leave it there. Thank you very much. We've been talking to Mr...

TIM Schwerdt. Tim Schwerdt.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (On phone) Thank for you time, Tim. What's your position there, Tim?

TIM I'm the Senior Executive here at the moment.

RADIO ANNOUNCER (On phone) That was Senior Executive Tim Schwerdt joining us for...

In a bar. Drinks are being enjoyed.

JOHN So this is what happens.

BRYAN Yes.

JOHN You see? This is the Seekers. (Moving a glass on a coaster to demonstrate) They are on the back of a low-loader. You've got them coming out here. They do a complete circuit and then end up in the middle.

BRYAN And they're singing 'The Carnival Is Over'?

JOHN That's right.

BRYAN And it comes over the PA.

JOHN That's right. Yes.

BRYAN Have we got The Seekers again, have we? I thought we'd lost them.

JOHN Do you want another drink? Whose go is it? I think I bought these, didn't I?

BRYAN It's me, I think.

JOHN Can I have another one of these?

BRYAN Sure.

JOHN Thank you very much.

He goes to buy drinks. Gina and Tim arrive.

GINA Are you going to the bar, Bryan?

BRYAN Yes.

GINA A couple of cheeky chards?

JOHN Hello.

GINA Hello. Where have you been?

JOHN I had to go and see the Minister.

GINA Have you spoken to Barry Conifer?

JOHN Barry Conifer? No. Why?

GINA Did you get a letter about the Opening Ceremony?

JOHN No.

TIM Yes you did. It's on your desk.

JOHN Hello, Tim. How nice to see you. I heard you speaking on the radio today.

TIM How did it sound?

JOHN It sounded fine but as a matter of interest why did you tell the guy you were the Senior Executive?

TIM I was just pretending.

JOHN Well, you want to be a bit careful about that, Tim. That's actually my job.

GINA I got a message from the Opening Ceremony.

JOHN If I've got a message from Barry Conifer I haven't read it yet.

GINA You know about the Opening Ceremony? How are they going to have...

JOHN Yes, I do, but we're not talking about the Opening Ceremony here, are we?
(He obscures the camera's view with his hand)

GINA In front of the camera? They know about it.

JOHN No, they don't, they're not allowed to.

GINA John, they've heard us discussing it for months.

JOHN They've heard us discussing it but they don't know what's happening on Friday. Nobody does.

CAMERA What don't we know?

JOHN Don't worry about it. I'm talking to Gina at the moment.

TIM (To camera) Would you like a drink?

CAMERA No thanks, Tim.

GINA Barry Conifer is after us. You're aware of the celebrities who are appearing at the Opening Ceremony?

JOHN Let's say I did. What about them?

GINA We've been approached.

JOHN Approached to do what?

GINA They want us to be in it.

JOHN We've been approached to be in the Opening Ceremony?

GINA Yes.

JOHN Why?

GINA Why do you think?

JOHN I've got no idea. Why have we been approached to be in the Opening Ceremony?

GINA They've seen us on television and they like it and they want us to be part of the actual event.

JOHN Have you spoken to them?

GINA Yes. I said I'd talk to you about it.

JOHN And they like the program?

GINA They love it. Apparently on Monday nights down there, everything stops. They flick the TV on. They love it.

JOHN Do they know what we're doing?

GINA What do you mean?

JOHN Do they get it?

GINA I don't know.

JOHN A lot of people think this is a satirical program.

GINA Whatever. They love it and they want us to be part of the Opening Ceremony.

CAMERA Great idea.

JOHN Why don't you go and get a drink? Gina, why do they want us in the Opening Ceremony?

GINA I've told you.

JOHN You haven't told me.

TIM Yes, she has.

JOHN Alright Tim, you tell me, why do they want us in the Opening Ceremony?

CAMERA They're looking for celebrities.

JOHN I'm asking Tim, thanks.

TIM They're looking for celebrities.

GINA There's a whole section of the Opening Ceremony that features Australian celebrities.

JOHN Who are they?

Gina pulls out a piece of paper.

GINA Tom and Nicole.

JOHN Hold it right there. Who are Tom and Nicole?

GINA Oh come on, everyone knows who Tom and Nicole are.

JOHN Do you (camera) know who Tom and Nicole are?

CAMERA You don't know who Tom and Nicole are?

JOHN I've got absolutely no idea. Who are they?

GINA Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman.

JOHN It's no use just repeating it, Gina. We're trying to find out who these people are.

GINA Oh my God. Do you know who Richard and Joan are?

JOHN Yes. Joan's a singer and Richard faces the other way and keeps time with a little stick.

GINA Do you know who Danni is?

JOHN Yes, I saw him six times in *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*. He's a genius. What's the point? Is he going to be there?

GINA The point is we've been invited to participate in the opening ceremony.

JOHN Why?

GINA Because we're celebrities.

JOHN But we're not celebrities.

GINA Well, they say we are.

JOHN Of course they do.

GINA Why would they say we were celebrities if we're not celebrities?

JOHN Why wouldn't they say we were celebrities? They want us to be in the opening ceremony.

TIM John, what is a celebrity?

JOHN A celebrity, in this country, is anyone who is said to be a celebrity. I think it's pretty rigorous out there, Tim.

GINA Well, I thought it might be fun, John.

JOHN Gina we're on a program that a lot of people think is sending the Olympics up.

GINA It doesn't matter. We're famous.

TIM John, if we're just pretending, why can't I tell the guy on the radio I'm the Senior Executive?

JOHN Because it's not true, Tim. I think we've got to have some standards, don't we?

GINA They're actually very nice, the Opening Ceremony people.

Bryan arrives with drinks.

BRYAN What's this?

GINA We've been asked to go in the Opening Ceremony.

BRYAN I know. I got a message from Barry Conifer. I reckon we should do it.

JOHN Do you?

BRYAN Yes.

JOHN Do we know why they want celebrities in the Opening Ceremony?

GINA They're getting all of Australia's top celebrities to be in it.

She provides a list. All look. John points to a name.

JOHN Who's he?

BRYAN Leader of the Opposition

Nicholas arrives and looks over John's shoulder.

NICHOLAS Giddy.

GINA Hello.

NICHOLAS Thought I'd find you here.

JOHN AND BRYAN Giddy, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS What's this?

JOHN These are the celebrities they've got for the Opening Ceremony.
Nicholas scans the list. He points to a name.

NICHOLAS He's dead, isn't he?

JOHN He is. I'm sure he died.

NICHOLAS He did. I know that because I went to the funeral.

BRYAN (He points to a name) Who is she?

JOHN I've got no idea, Bryan. She's a celebrity.

GINA The point is, we've been asked. What do you think?

JOHN No thanks. Not for me.

BRYAN I can't see why not.

JOHN Bryan, we've got enough trouble on our hands with the Closing Ceremony without getting involved with the Opening Ceremony at all.

NICHOLAS You said you'd fixed that.

JOHN Yes, more or less. We might have to box a bit clever but yes, I think we'll get away with it, Nicholas.

BRYAN Come on, John. The Opening Ceremony's just a oncer.

JOHN That's good. Just go and lie down till it's over. It's not going to be on next week, Bryan.

BRYAN I think it might be a bit of fun.

NICHOLAS It's just a Games, Bryan.

BRYAN It's the greatest sporting event in the world, Nicholas.

JOHN What are these people doing at it then?

BRYAN John, they are just celebrities. It's a bit of fun at the Opening Ceremony. What do you reckon, Gina?

GINA I wouldn't mind.

JOHN You two go then.

BRYAN We might.

NICHOLAS I'm with John.
Later the same night, Nicholas and John are propping up a bar.

JOHN You know, someone's going to be in very big trouble when this is all over.

NICHOLAS Why do you say that?

JOHN I say that, Nicholas, because it has been a chapter of disasters from day one.

NICHOLAS It's a big job. Look, it's all organised. These Games are probably set to be the best Olympics ever staged. The teething problems will be seen as just that.

JOHN Teething problems? For four years?

NICHOLAS Yes.

JOHN You know Bryan and Gina want to resign, don't you?

NICHOLAS Resign?

JOHN Yes.

NICHOLAS Now? What would be the point in resigning now?

JOHN You're amazing, Nicholas. How can you not acknowledge that there is going to be a bloody great day of reckoning when this is all finished? I'll tell you something for nothing. On October the second, anyone found in our building is going to be lynched.

NICHOLAS John, do you know anything about how this country works?

JOHN Yes. It works the way the media want it to work, Nicholas, and we are a bloodbath waiting to happen.

NICHOLAS I'll tell you what will happen. The Games will be viewed either as a success or a failure.

JOHN Yes.

NICHOLAS Could go well. Could be a shambles. Right?

JOHN I don't think my buzzer is working.

NICHOLAS If they're a success, we'll all get other jobs. We'll all get the AO and you'll probably be made Australian of the Year.

JOHN And if they're a failure?

NICHOLAS If they're a failure, Tim will get the AO and the rest of us will be made Australian of the Year.

JOHN I may have to repeat a year here, Nicholas.

NICHOLAS The bigger the cock-up, the more awards they'll give out. You wait and see.

JOHN Why? How does that argument work?

NICHOLAS If something works, you don't need to be told it's working. You can see it for yourself, John. If it's a shambles, that's a different thing altogether. You might need to jolly the historical perspective along. You know what I mean?

JOHN No, I don't know what you mean, no.

NICHOLAS Do you know the VC?

JOHN Yes.

NICHOLAS The medal? Do you know the greatest number of VCs ever given out in a single day was at Rorke's Drift? One of the biggest disasters in British military history.

JOHN Do you know if they give any out at Gallipoli?

NICHOLAS Nine

JOHN Please don't try to be funny, Nicholas. It's far too late. Did they give out any VCs at Gallipoli?

NICHOLAS Nine. They gave out nine.

JOHN Nine. They'd have given a fair few out at Lone Pine on that basis.

NICHOLAS They gave five VCs in one day at Lone Pine, John.

JOHN Gawd.

NICHOLAS You know they landed them on the wrong beach?

JOHN Yes, I know that.

NICHOLAS They expected them to capture a peninsula from underneath.

JOHN Yes.

NICHOLAS Under Turkish gunfire.

JOHN Yes, I know that.

NICHOLAS In Turkey.

JOHN Yes, I'm familiar with the event, Nicholas. I've got no great uncles.

NICHOLAS So you take my point.

JOHN Yes.

Nicholas checks that they are not being overheard.

NICHOLAS I can tell you now, you're going to get an AO.

JOHN I am? How do you know that?

NICHOLAS The minister's recommended you for it. Gina's getting one for services to Sport and Recreation and Bryan's getting one for services to Accountancy.

JOHN What's mine for?

NICHOLAS I'm not going to tell you. There should be some mystery about these things, John.

Tim is doing a TV interview.

INTERVIEWER So you're looking forward to the Games?

TIM Yes, we're pretty pumped up about it. It should be great.

INTERVIEWER And what's going on here today?

TIM We're just here today for a rehearsal for the Closing Ceremony.

INTERVIEWER You think it will go well?

TIM Yes. We're very pleased with the way the events are shaping up.

INTERVIEWER Do you anticipate any problems?

TIM No. We're a young, confident country. This is one of the world's great cities. We've done the hard work. The thing to do now is let it happen, and enjoy it.

INTERVIEWER Thank you for your time.

TIM Thank you.

INTERVIEWER That was Mr Tim Schwerdt, one of the chief organisers of the Sydney Olympics here in Australia.

Preparation for rehearsal of the Closing Ceremony. A truck emerges from the undercover area. On the back The Seekers are playing and singing 'The Carnival is Over'. We observe that it is in fact by no means The Seekers but Gina, Bryan, Nicholas and John dressed as same and bopping for their country and their own arses.

[John, do you have permission to use the lyrics? Record companies usually charge the GDP of a small country to reproduce material. ●●●] DON'T KNOW. I'LL CHECK WITH MARK. IT'S NO GREAT LOSS IF WE DESCRIBE THE ACTION.

They look very like The Seekers but as the song goes on, Gina becomes slightly irritated and then rather annoyed at some imperfection in the singing from one of the others.

Later, as they return their dressing room.

NICHOLAS Diva!

GINA Well if you'd kept time behind me I could have got it right.

NICHOLAS The rhythm was perfect, thank you.

GINA Well, someone was well out.

JOHN It wasn't me.

NICHOLAS Gina.

BRYAN It's all right you blaming everybody, but everybody knows the song is 'Now the harbour light in falling'.

GINA What did I sing?

BRYAN 'Now the balmy night is calling'

GINA Bryan, I gave and I gave. I was doing my best.

BRYAN I know you were doing your best, Gina.

JOHN I don't think anybody was saying you weren't doing your best.

GINA Well, I think they are, John.

BRYAN Well, I'm not. You just got it wrong.

JOHN I don't think there's any point in having an argument about it.

BRYAN Well, I'm not.

They enter the dressing room.

TIM Hello there, folks.

BRYAN Hello, Tim.

GINA Hi, Tim.

JOHN Oh, hi Tim. How are you?

TIM How do you think that went?

GINA I thought it was pretty good considering, actually.

JOHN I thought the truck was a bit fast.

TIM Why don't you just mime to the original?

NICHOLAS, JOHN, GINA AND BRYAN Mime?

TIM That's what everyone else is doing.

GINA I don't think that's very professional.

JOHN They're not, are they?

TIM Every act in the show, miming.

JOHN What are we doing trying to do a live performance if everyone else is miming?

TIM I've got no idea.

NICHOLAS How do you know all this, Tim?

TIM I'm an understudy at the Opening Ceremony.

JOHN You are?

TIM Yes.

GINA I didn't know this.

TIM Yes.

JOHN Who are you understudying?

TIM John Farnham and John Williamson.

JOHN Really?

GINA What number are you doing?

TIM I'm not allowed to say. It's all under wraps.

GINA Go on.

TIM I'm not allowed.

JOHN Really?

TIM Yes.

JOHN The one you're doing as John Williamson?

TIM Yes?

JOHN Is there any waltzing in it?

BRYAN Anyone called Matilda involved?

GINA It's not 'Advance Australia Fair', is it?

TIM I'm afraid I'm not allowed to say. I've signed a confidentiality agreement.

JOHN Did you sign a confidentiality agreement before or after you were told you were singing 'Waltzing Matilda'?

TIM Before. It's going to go over quite well, I think.

JOHN As a matter of interest, how are you going to look anything at all like John Farnham?

TIM I've got a blond wig and a drizabone and he's teaching me to drop the microphone stand and flick it back up again.

JOHN John Farnham is?

TIM Yes.

TIM Teaching me all the tricks. Fantastic.

JOHN What are you going to do if neither of them actually needs an understudy?

TIM I'm driving an inflatable bunyip around the arena with Michael Callahan.

JOHN You are? Who's Michael Callahan?

TIM Oh, he's a mate of mine. He's an inflatable Captain Cook.

GINA John, is this going to work?

JOHN It's got to work, Gina. The real Seekers aren't available.

GINA It's a disaster.

Tim is rehearsing in the toilet, watching himself in the mirror.

TIM 'Waltzing Matilda. Waltzing Matilda. You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me. And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled. You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me'.

Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. You've been a wonderful audience. Let the Games begin.

At the Games office on the day of the Opening Ceremony.

GINA The Opening Ceremony's not far away. We'd better get going.

JOHN Coming.

BRYAN Who's got the tickets?

JOHN Nicholas is jacking them up now, isn't he?

NICHOLAS (On the phone) Yes, that was Clarke, Riley, Dawe and Bell.

JOHN Yes.

NICHOLAS Fantastic. We will pick them up when we get there.

GINA I can't believe it's finally going to happen.

NICHOLAS Ready to go?

JOHN How long does it take to get there?

GINA About an hour.

JOHN And then fifteen days and we've got a Closing Ceremony.

GINA Well?

*The four of them walk out of the Games office.
Later, John Farnham is teaching Tim the tricks of the trade.*

JOHN FARNHAM You've forgotten the words again. The microphone stand falls over.

TIM Falls over.

JOHN FARNHAM Drop it.

TIM Yes.

JOHN FARNHAM Then it's up there like that. (He flicks it up with his foot and catches it)
Then flick it up. Flick it up. Not bad, not bad. You're not looking very professional.

(Tim flicks it up with his foot and catches it)

TIM Sorry.

JOHN FARNHAM You could have been me. They love it. Hang on to the lead and then...

*John Farnham swings the microphone behind and catches it again. Tim copies the same move.
It comes off.*

JOHN FARNHAM Ah. I'm leaving. This is too good. (Sings) Once a jolly jumbuck...

TIM (Sings) Jumbuck.

JOHN FARNHAM No, not jumbuck, jum-m-buck.

TIM No, not jumbuck.

JOHN FARNHAM Jum-m-buck. And try to do it in an Australian accent.

TIM Once a jolly jum-m-buck...

JOHN FARNHAM That's beautiful. Perfect.

TIM Beautiful.

JOHN FARNHAM (Executing a move, involving a slight intoxication of the legs) We all sort of, kind of, look like we're just a little bit full. Not drunk. It's a pop star thing. We all go like this. Look at what I'm doing.

TIM OK.

JOHN FARNHAM Concentrate.

TIM OK.

JOHN FARNHAM Under the arm. (Hurls mike stand underarm)

TIM That's ace! (He copies.)

JOHN FARNHAM That's it, that's it, that's it, that's it. Good, good. Excellent.

TIM It's a hard one.

JOHN FARNHAM You were good.

TIM Thanks, mate.

JOHN FARNHAM You are good, man. You are good.

John, Gina, Bryan and Nicholas are in a stretch limo.

JOHN Good seats?

NICHOLAS Fantastic seats.

GINA Will we be able to see anything?

NICHOLAS Best seats in the house.

BRYAN It's the least we deserve, I reckon.

JOHN Well, we have been working on this for a very long time.

BRYAN Yes.

NICHOLAS You'll be able to see the whole stadium.

BRYAN Great.

JOHN Fantastic.

The four are now in a plane, high above the city.

JOHN Fantastic. Well done, Nicholas. Excellent seats.

GINA Yes, you can see the whole stadium from here.

BRYAN How long's the stopover in Singapore?

GINA Nine hours.

JOHN And what is it then? Ten hours to Athens or something?

GINA Yes.

BRYAN Hmm.

GINA (Raises her glass) Cheers.

BRYAN Cheers.

JOHN Cheers. Good luck. Woo hoo.

GINA Listen, John. I know you were serious about all of that stuff belonging to the government, but ah, sorry.
She reveals a small souvenir from the office.

BRYAN (He reveals a small souvenir from the office) Yes. Sorry John.

JOHN Oh well, nobody's perfect.
He holds up a souvenir from the office.

GINA How about you, Nicholas? Trouser a trinket?

NICHOLAS Just a couple of momentos, Gina.
The camera pans and we see that the seat next to Nicholas contains most of the rest of the Games office.
Gina hums to the theme as the credits roll. John, Nicholas and Bryan join in.

GINA John, Gina, Bryan and the Minister's Secretary... Everybody.

JOHN, GINA, NICHOLAS AND BRYAN John, Gina, Bryan and the Minister's Secretary are flying away...