



Tony Cook is a country music artist with a passion for the outback, good people & great music.

Tone's music reflects his passions & background and he has been quietly building a collection of original material over the last few years and making a name for himself along the way.

BACKGROUND

Having grown up in outback pubs and regional townships of North Western and Central Queensland, Tony was influenced at a very young age by country music and has always had a burning passion for the bush. He worked on remote cattle and sheep stations after leaving school, prior to joining the Australian Defence Force (ADF). During his time spent in the ADF he experienced many thrilling adventures, like being deployed to an active war zone and jumping out of perfectly serviceable aircraft as an Airforce ATC tactical Specialist Officer & qualified paratrooper, but he never lost interest in country music and his passion for the outback of Australia.

Since retiring from the ADF, Tony has pursued his musical interests releasing one EP so far and is now working on a second collection of original material for a debut album, due for release late 2018 / early 2019.



1ST SINGLE LAIDBACK COUNTRY

Tony released his first single off his forthcoming debut album, titled "Laidback Country" in March of 2017, which was written about his then hometown of Charters Towers as a way of promoting the town to tourists. The music video which accompanied the song featured some well known Australian identities namely state MP Shane Knuth and federal MP Bob Katter from the KAP. The song also featured Phil Emmanuel on lead guitar and it charted all around the country reaching #1 on the international radio show "My Country Australia" and #2 on the national airplay chart "Country Tracks Top 40". The video clip has been viewed on social media more than 65,000 times, which was an amazing achievement.

2ND SINGLE THAT'S COUNTRY

Hot on the heels of the first singles success Tony released his second single "That's Country" in Oct 2017. Written about the Aussie bush, it encompasses all that is truly outback Australia. The song actually went to #1 on the national airplay chart "Country Tracks Top 40" in just its 2nd week on the chart and eventually went on to remain in the top spot for 5 more consecutive weeks. That's Country also topped the International radio show "My Country Australia's" Top 40 and the music video which was shot right in the heart of Queensland's outback (Julia Creek & Richmond), has been viewed on social media 60,000 times.

3RD SINGLE COUNTRY RECOGNISED

Tony followed up his chart success in 2017 with the release of his 3rd single "Country Recognised" in March 2018 just in time for Anzac Day. The song which pays tribute to those who served overseas and never returned home also touches on Tony's personal battles with PTSD and highlights the struggles faced by returning veterans who suffer the condition. Tony partnered up with Mates 4 Mates veteran organisation donating profits of the song to them in support of their amazing work they do for the veteran community. Country Recognised charted around the country reaching #1 in Tasmania and #43 on Foxtel's Country Music Channel. The music video was shot in Central Queensland at Emu Park's Anzac Memorial and has been viewed on social media over 20,000 times.



LIVE PERFORMANCES

Tony backed up his chart success with some major event appearances namely, central Queensland's, Rockhampton River Festival (2017 & 2018) and Australia's Beef Week (2018) held in Rockhampton every 3 years, as well as north western Queensland's Julia Creek Dirt & Dust Festival (2017 & 2018), and Central Western Queensland's Winton's Way Out West Fest WWOWF (2018).

Tone's live shows consist of a variety of good solid original & classic country music as well as some highly popular mainstream covers from artists and bands, such as, Paul Kelly, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Johnny Cash, Garth Brooks and The Zac Brown Band which always gets crowds buzzing.

Tony considers himself lucky to have shared the stage with some incredible artists over the years, including Aussie guitar legend Phil Emmanuel, Golden Guitar winners Adam Brand & Travis Collins, who headlined the 2015 Townsville City Country Music Muster and Aussie icon James Blundell who Tone supported in 2016 at Emu Park's Pine Beach Hotel and again at the 2017 Julia Creek Dirt & Dust Festival to a 3,500 + crowd.

BELIEFS

Tone loves to be around good people who have good intentions. He firmly believes you get back what you give out! Follow your passions, be kind and humble, with honesty and integrity and always give back, are beliefs near to his heart. You only get one chance at living a good life.

Tony is always trying to find ways to support and promote causes close to his heart. The outback, its people and ADF veteran welfare are high on the list, as is mental health. If you know of someone who might be interested in teaming up with Tone, who has similar belief systems and ethics, please feel free to reach out and contact us via our email below.

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

Tony would like to thank his supporters, sponsors and production teams, namely Dick Smith Foods, Queensland RSL, Mates4Mates, Matilda Poppy and Richmond, McKinlay & Livingstone Shire councils, for their generous support. Publicity specialists Therese McKee and Aly Cook from Key 2 Artists Promotions, Parée Erica for her awesome web design, the team from "The Filmery", Duncan, Josh, Brock & James for their tireless efforts in creating the music videos which are nothing short of spectacular and lastly to the incredibly talented Simon Johnson from Hillbilly Hut and his brilliant studio musicians for producing the music.

A huge thank you to Ringers from the Top End, Rural Room and Glenn Adamus Photography for their amazing support.

CONCLUSION

Tone's passion for the outback is evident in his story telling, he is always engaging and entertaining. If you get the opportunity to find out what the underground movement in outback Queensland has been talking about, be sure not to miss Tony Cook and his band The B.A.R.B. (The Busted Arse Ringers Band, previously known as "The Bush Kings").!

If you would like to help Tony in his endeavours to promote the bush and its culture, ADF veteran welfare or mental health, feel free to email him at laidbacktone@yahoo.com.au