

A PASSION FOR STORYTELLING

BY JON WOLFE

If storytelling is indeed an essential part of country music, then **DOUG MCINTYRE** has all the right credentials to be ranked amongst our finest songwriters.



I just love writing and performing my country music,” Doug said. “I particularly love the Australian stories, whether it be great stories from our past or stories about people that I know or I’ve met in my own life.”

Doug grew up in Goolgowi in the northern Riverina area of New South Wales.

“A lot of my stories are inspired by my upbringing actually,” Doug said.

DOUG MCINTYRE is a singer/songwriter who clearly has a passion to make music that comes from within. There is something refreshingly unique and at the same time familiar, about his music.

His songs are proudly about this country, mindful of the past, yet very much in the present.

“My father was on property, but like a lot of people these days we ended up living in town after grandfather sold the farm just before I was born,” says Doug. “I worked a lot on farms and I’ve got friends on farms. I grew up

in a small country town.”

Doug says that he was inspired by the works of **SLIM DUSTY**, **JOHN WILLIAMSON**, a bit of **TROY CASSAR-DALEY**.

“They were the people my parents were listening to, but like a lot of people their age they listened to a lot of American music too. Like **MARTY ROBBINS**, who was a great storyteller.”

Doug decided to follow his muse because he loves singing and performing.

“I started out doing a few talent quests and did quiet well, if I do say so,” he said. “Then people started to encourage me and I decided to really get into it.

“I suppose it was always on the backburner when I was growing up, and with the encouragement of those people I started to write my own songs for different categories in the talent quests. You know, the Bush Ballad category or the Gospel category or the Songwriter category. Then I thought ‘I can do this for all the categories’! I found that I could perform and sing my own songs better.”

Doug says that storytelling is an important part of his songwriting.

“I sort of think that if I’m not telling a story, I’m ripping people off!” Doug said. “You know, like I’m not giving then something worthwhile. I love telling a story and I love people getting proud about stories they can identify with.”

Doug has teamed up with **BILL CHAMBERS** and **ROGER CORBETT** to produce his first album, *Turn The Tide*, which contains 12 of Doug’s songs and a cover of the **STAN COSTER** classic *Cunnamulla Fella*.

Doug decided to name the album *Turn The Tide* after

his song that raises awareness of depression in the bush.

“Mateship is a great part of our culture,” Doug explains. “If we look out for our mates, be present for them when they’re doing it tough, and talk things out, it can help to turn things around.”

Doug says that a few of the songs have very personal touches but he says that that is what he is like in everyday life. “I suppose I’m a passionate person. I get excited about everyday things in life.”

Doug also confesses to being a bit of a romantic. “I’m always fascinated by the extraordinary nature of ordinary romance,” he says.

“The song *Hungry Hearts* is about a two strangers who hadn’t had much luck in the romance department. The teacher-meets-farmer thing is common in the bush. She left everything behind, caught a train, and turned up in a little town. She met one of the local farmers and they really hit it off and got married.”

Turn The Tide presents a very confident and able young singer/songwriter and is sure to bring Doug to the notice of fans and industry alike.

His songs are full of the spirit of the Australian landscape, characters and his passion for his country and his countrymen is on display throughout the songs that make up the album.