

EMBARGO - Saturday 27 April, 8pm AEST

Savannah in the Round Hosts Rocking Concert on Great Barrier Reef and Adds Sheppard, Lee Kernaghan and More to its Lineup

To launch the upcoming Savannah in the Round, the festival held a massive party on the Great Barrier Reef on Saturday, with performances from Lee Kernaghan, Sheppard, Max Jackson and Kairos Kin.



Photo: Sheppard (John Elliott)

Savannah Sounds on the Reef was the ultimate music-meets-nature event; with performances from high-end Australian artists **Sheppard, Lee Kernaghan, Max Jackson** and **Kairos Kin**, over 100 of the country's local heroes were given the rare opportunity to boogie on the Great Barrier Reef during the pop-up event on **Saturday 27 April**.

If that weren't enough, performers Sheppard, Kernaghan and Jackson used the opportunity to announce they'd each be returning to the region later in the year to play at **Savannah in the Round** from **October 11 to 13**.

They'll be joined by the newly announced **Darlinghurst, Caitlyn Shadbolt, Melanie Dyer, Roadtrippers, Black Image (Looking Forward/Looking Back), Route 33, Lane Pittman,**

Joan & The Giants, Denvah, Viper Creek Band and Jeremy Fletcher. These names join an already stellar lineup including headliner **Kip Moore, The Living End, Hoodoo Gurus, Vika & Linda** and many more.

Queensland-born indie music legends Sheppard have been an important voice in the Australian scene since they broke out with juggernaut single “**Geronimo**” in 2014, earning them **ARIA Awards** for Song of the Year and Best Group. Now one of the nation’s most beloved musical exports, the group say they were ecstatic to perform the event that was unlike any other, *“It was an unbelievable privilege to perform for these legends today. And at Moore Reef, the jewel in the crown of the Great Barrier Reef, no less!”*

With over three decades in the industry, country music star Lee Kernaghan is a **multi-award-winning** artist known for his authentic storytelling across numerous chart-topping albums, including ***The Outback Club*** and ***Spirit of the Bush***. His contribution to Australian culture earned him the title of Officer of the **Order of Australia** in 2004.

Kernaghan's unwavering dedication to his craft and his country makes him a cherished icon. The star said of today’s show, *“It’s a real privilege to meet and sing a few songs for some amazing local heroes at Savannah Sounds on the Reef. And coming back to beautiful North Queensland for the incredible Savannah in the Round Festival in October will be a highlight of the year!”*

After guests were able to take in the breathtaking beauty of their surrounds by taking a dip or having a snorkel, favoured local artist Kairos Kin took to the stage to kick off the show. Legend Lee Kernaghan followed behind with his touching set, using the opportunity to thank his audience for their inspiring work across the country.

Country artist and the event’s MC Max Jackson was next up to perform for the crowd, warming them up for the day’s final set from country-pop icons Sheppard who put on a cracking show.



Photo: Max Jackson (John Elliott)

Set at the idyllic Seventh Wonder of the Natural World, the musicians used the unique backdrop of the Tropical North to reward **100 of Australia's local heroes**, each nominated by their community and awarded a ticket to the concert via a nationwide competition, with the concert of a lifetime.

Savannah Sounds' local heroes represent the nation's finest stand-up citizens - from **Brett "Magoo" Little** who piloted a rescue helicopter during the floods, **saving 16 people** from the roof of the Lions' Den Hotel, to **Charlie Erlewein**, who at just 12 years old is **saving our turtles and marine life** by lobbying to local councils and businesses about the harmful effects of single use plastics and raising thousands of dollars for wildlife rehabilitation centres.

The event has heightened anticipation for the upcoming Savannah in the Round, heading to Mareeba in October. Punters can purchase tickets to the festival via savannahintheround.com.

Savannah Sounds was supported by presenting partner, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, in recognition of the event's ability to deliver a proactive message about efforts to protect the reef and ocean habitats.

In response to the mass bleaching event on the Great Barrier Reef this summer, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation launched the Reef Rescue Appeal so that everybody can play their part to support these urgent conservation efforts. Find out more at reefrescueappeal.org.

Jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

SAVANNAH IN THE ROUND 2024 LINEUP

Kip Moore
The Living End
Hoodoo Gurus
Jon Stevens
John Williamson
Lee Kernaghan
Sheppard
James Johnston
Troy Cassar-Daley
Vika & Linda
Glenn Shorrock & Brian Cadd
The Wolfe Brothers
Graeme Connors
The Whitlams Black Stump
Max Jackson
Darlinghurst
Caitlyn Shadbolt
Melanie Dyer
Roadtrippers

Black Image (Looking Forward/Looking Back)

Route 33

Lane Pittman

Joan & The Giants

Denvah

Viper Creek Band

Jeremy Fletcher

Chocolate Starfish

Hindley Street Country Club

Brooke McClymont & Adam Eckersley

Mahalia Barnes & The Soul Mates

Brooke Schubert

19 Twenty

Bondi Cigars

Roshani

Hillbilly Goats

Chris Matthews

Kairos Kin

Tim Woodz & The Dirty Shoes

Eddie Skiba

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