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TONY BARBER

The Salesman of the Century

Tony Barber is best known as the long time host of Channel Nine's "Sale of the Century". Having previously hosted "Temptation" and "Family Feud", after an eleven year stint with "Sale", Tony moved onto "Jeopardy" and finally to the immensely popular "Wheel of Fortune".

Born in Oldham Lancs, England in 1940, Tony says he owes much of his enthusiastic and driving personality to a loving Irish grandma and a whole street full of Aunties who kept the spirits high during the dark years of World War II.

The family came to Australia in 1947 and Anthony (as the relatives call him) survived the Sisters of Mercy, the Christian Brothers and seven years training to be a Royal Australian Naval Officer finally getting his foot on the first rung of the ladder as a cadet announcer at 6GE Geraldton in 1961. "The sisters of so-called mercy taught me to sing & dance, the brothers taught me to bob & weave. The navy taught me to play rugby," says Tony explaining how he came to play rugby at Twickenham for the Navy.

By the end of 62' he was Perth's leading DJ as well as the star of the Charles Hotel floor Show and two nights a week at the Lido Coral Room doing Johnny Mathis and Paul Anka impressions. Also starring in rep. productions with the Scarborough players

Through the mid sixties Tony pursued his dreams in Sydney via Hotel Talent Quests, a regular gig as resident compere and vocalist at the legendary Spellsons Nitery in Pitt St. and a "day job" as an advertising executive. He cast himself as the "Cambridge Whistler", the central character in a TV cigarette campaign and came under national scrutiny.

The commercial caught the public imagination, and more importantly the eye of Bruce Gyngell then directing the Network 7 "Revolution". Gyngell proposed Tony as Host for the Grundy daytime show "Temptation" and his career really took off from there.

Prime time followed with "Great Temptation", a Gold Logie, a series of Gold Albums for R.C.A. and sell-out concerts all round the country. Including the "Temptation" series "Family Feud", through to eleven years with "Sale of the Century", Tony estimates he's hosted over 8,500 individual episodes of successful Grundy Games.

Tony's own show 'Who am I', is a one man musical biography which he's played in over three hundred venues to over a quarter of a million patrons. His recently published autobiography (Random House) of the same name, made the best seller lists nationally in May 2000, and has been critically acclaimed.

Tony is now available for **BARBER TRIVA CHALLENGE**, as a Entertainment Spot or in addition to Tony being engaged as MC. The demand for Tony's services in the corporate sector is constant and has included long-term associations with Westfield Corp., Hyundai, Diners Club, Trafalgar Tours, and presently Renaissance Television and Primelife Corporation.

He also works with Visy Industries, Australia's biggest manufacturer and distributor of packaging and paper products, and for the Pratt family and associated Charities and Companies as Entertainment co-ordinator and Presenter. Tony resides in Malvern VIC, and has been happily married to Helen for 30 years and has two daughters Kelly, 29 an Art Director, Jacqueline 27, a part time Actress plus Ben the corgi.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

As a consummate Host and Master of Ceremonies, the demand for Tony's services in the corporate sector is constant and includes long-term associations with Westfield Corporation, Trafalgar Tours, **Brashs, Diners Club International and Hyundai.**

CLIENT FEEDBACK

"Tony had 5000 people well under control and without his professional style the event would not have worked half as well"

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