



**PARKLIFE** SATURDAY 26th SEPT 2009  
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## The Sunburys



### SUNSHINE AFTER THE RAIN

ANTHONY DETTORI HAS SLUGGED IT OUT WITH BRISBANE BANDS FOR THE MAJORITY OF HIS ADULT LIFE – BUT MATT O'NEILL LEARNS THAT IT WASN'T UNTIL THE SUNBURYS THAT HE FELT TRULY SATISFIED WITH HIS WORK.

There's something to be said for clichés. While the majority of them are rightfully considered unsubstantiated excerpts of contemporary dogma, a handful will always hold a certain gravitas for those willing to award them credit - particularly 'be yourself'. A seemingly endlessly recycled seed of moralistic preaching and feel-good vibes, 'be yourself' has nevertheless been proven countless times over to be a valid and helpful piece of advice. The cynical, kicked dog youth in us all may wish to defiantly howl at the world's apparent inability to assimilate the romantic and idealistic conceptions of our respective childhoods but, in all reality, one is only permitted to have an impact on others when one has the temerity to remain true to oneself.

Anthony Dettori, guitarist and vocalist for rising Brisbane outfit The Sunburys, has well and truly grown to appreciate the validity of such wisdom in recent years. A veteran of the Brisbane music scene with bands like Shatterspeed, The Daisycutters and The Newtown Jets, Dettori has spent the past decade lending his skills as a guitarist and songwriter to other musicians and outfits that didn't always operate within his own beloved pop/hard-rock territories. His career, while not without its highlights, was still almost solely defined by creative dissatisfaction and reluctant adaptation. It wasn't until the musician began to assemble pop rock three-piece The Sunburys and well and truly forsake any attempts to adapt to someone else's vision that he became truly satisfied with his musical output.

"It is what it is. We don't want to make records that aren't what we are," Dettori says with understated bluntness. "I think we've all had the experience of being in bands where we weren't playing music that was 100% true to ourselves. I obviously can't speak for the others but I know, for myself, The Newtown Jets were making the music we wanted to make but didn't really make the record we wanted to make and it didn't turn out the way we wanted it. There were a lot of things involved with that but I think one of the main things was that there was just too much thought and too much pressure put into the album. The record was okay but I don't think anyone in the band was 100% on it."

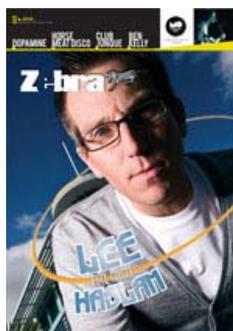
The band's recently released debut album Here Comes the Sunburys ably embodies and justifies the confidence that laces Dettori's words about his band. A strong, gloriously unpretentious record of stripped-back rock music recorded with Brisbane production legend Jeff Lovejoy, Here Comes the Sunburys is at once Dettori's greatest triumph and his most recent frustration. While the record's uncluttered aesthetic, platinum songwriting and dynamic diversity position it as one of the better local records of the year, it's actually been sitting on the sidelines for the better part of six months while the band secured distribution and arranged its unique launch celebration (a month-long residency of free Friday night gigs at Brisbane's Powerhouse).

"We want to get in and record the next record next month but,

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realistically, it's going to be September. But the next record is ready to go and we just want to get in there and do it and not worry about the normal industry idea of trying to flog this record for two or three years," Dettori reflects. "This has been the easiest recording process I've ever had and the best result I've had by far. It doesn't feel like it's trying to be anything that it's not – which makes me very proud. I think a lot of the time bands try to, I don't know, follow the trends too much or try something they're not ready to tackle. This is just what the band is. There's no bullshit involved."

WHO: The Sunburys

WHAT: Here Come the Sunburys (Handsome Devil Records)

WHERE & WHEN: Brisbane Powerhouse Friday 17 Jul, Friday 24 Jul, Friday 31 Jul

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