

The spirit of Demrutlidge is alive and rocking in Youngbreeder, MATTHEW HEATH reports

When Demrutlidge – the Melbourne fuzz rock band which took its name from characters in a Jack Daniel's advertisement and was responsible for the minor Triple J hit *Lines On The Table* – called it a day in 2003, bass player/vocalist Jason "PC" Fuller thought it would be for good.

So when a rousing reception for a one-off reunion show in January 2006 (which reportedly broke the bar record at Melbourne live music venue Ding Dong Lounge) rushed plans for a permanent reformation, the proud rocker Fuller was adamant any continuation would be under a new identity.

"We ended," Fuller says of Demrutlidge. "We did a final gig and thought it was wrong to say last gig ever and then come back... I thought if we're going to get it together, we'll do it under new name."

After typing "smells like teen pregnancy" into an internet band-name generator, the four-piece settled on Youngbreeder as its new moniker. As Fuller says, "same topics, same dudes, same bad attitudes". The band even plays a few Demrutlidge songs at its shows.

Youngbreeder will be one of the highlights of Canberra's inaugural Devil's Kitchen Festival which will rock the ANU Bar to its foundations tomorrow night.

The annual event aims to offer an "alternative to the alternative", showcasing the nation's best independent stoner/fuzz/psychedelic/dom/sludge/garage rock bands with a different line-up in every different city.

"I don't really understand the concept, but I like the line-up," Fuller says of the bill which includes Nunchukka Superfly, Pod People, Looking Glass, Fattura Della Morte, Log, Clagg and Moh Van Wah. "Every one keeps asking me, 'what's cooking in the Devil's Kitchen?'. I don't know. It's just a bunch of bands!"

"We don't want to be part of any scene



COOKING UP A TREAT: Youngbreeder's Craig Westwood and Jason Collins rip up the stage ahead of their appearance in Canberra tomorrow night.

Still warming up

... the square pegs, round holes thing. We just want to play and cause some trouble."

Youngbreeder has wasted no time in getting into the studio, and has an album's worth of songs to choose from.

"They're more songs, as opposed to the riff-based stuff [we did in Demrutlidge]," Fuller explains. "There's heavy stuff and mellow stuff but there's a bit less of the stoner vibe."

As producer, it will be Fuller's job to whittle them down for an EP later in the year.

"It can be shit [producing your own work]," he says. "You find yourself kind of endlessly tweaking. All this technology came out a few years ago allowing bands to put out their own records, but three or four years later

they're all still sitting at home making the records. It's the left brain, right brain thing. One is creative, one is mechanical and it is hard to do both at once.

"We'd get someone in but we've got no money to go anywhere else. We'd just waste it if we did anyway!"

As well as a heap of new material, the Canberra show will also mark the arrival of new guitarist Matt "Stinky Pants" Collins, who takes over from recently departed original Demrutlidge member Jason "Spaz" M.

While Fuller has admitted on the band's website it will be weird not playing with Spaz, whom he has been jamming with since he was 16, he is looking forward to joining forces with his fellow Blood Duster bandmate in a different guise.

As a current full-time member of four diverse bands (Youngbreeder, metal legends Blood Duster, grindcore act Dolphin Stabber and pop-rock group Raw Sexes War), Fuller knows exactly where the big heavy, fat rolling rhythms of Youngbreeder fits into the equation.

"It's the more mellow, smoke a joint, have a few beers kind of band."

And there's sure to be plenty of that action cooking in the Devil's Kitchen.

Devil's Kitchen Festival

With: Pod People, Looking Glass, Youngbreeder, Nunchukka Superfly, Fattura Della Morte, Log, Clagg, Moh Van Wah, Cloves
When: Tomorrow, 6.30pm
Where: ANU Bar, Acton
Tickets: \$15 at the door

Finding a new home in rock's Sin City

By Matthew Heath

Since sprouting from the seedy streets of Perth as the wild Local Pricks more than five years ago, the four members of Sin City have always had a reputation as rock pigs. Now, after a move to Melbourne, a debut album, and a record deal with boutique label High Voltage to their name, they are rock pigs with some serious songs to back them up.

"We still put on a full-on entertaining show, but you're still stuck with the tracks in your head for next week," drummer Tom "Tommy Gunn" Brownrigg says.

The raucous band emerged with the sated rock/pop slab *Hungry For Love* late last year after a sweaty stint at Melbourne's Sing Sing Studios with legendary ARIA Award-winning producer Tony Cohen.

Brownrigg says the experience was a fantastic one.

"Working with Tony Cohen was amazing. He has still got it. He did such great work with The Birthday Party, INXS... To get that experience at Sing



ROCK PIGS: Perth-via-Melbourne pop rock band Sin City.

Sing and Tony behind the boards, it really helped us get the most out of the songs."

Brownrigg says he has already noticed a distinct shift since the band emerged from the studio, with a greater emphasis on songwriting as opposed to simply a

wild stage show. It really let us know we are on the right track. Now it isn't just a case of going in and bashing them out because the songs are developed now."

Brownrigg says the songs themselves have also taken on a new character.

"There's a whole new level to them and the live show has improved for it. There's slower songs with a Calypso, lighter surf feel. They didn't translate well live initially, but since doing the album, the studio really brought the life out of them. They're coming off just as well as the wild rock songs and there is still a certain intensity to them."

Sin City's plans for the rest of 2008 are simple: to try and break its record of 118 gigs in a year. That task will start with a show at the Greenroom in Phillip tonight, Brownrigg delighted by news the refurbished venue comes with a bigger stage.

"Brilliant, that's more room to throw ourselves around!"

The record chase has also been made easier by the band's decision to pack up and shift to Australia's rock capital, Melbourne, a few years ago.

"The Perth scene is great but the isolation is an issue, Brownrigg explains. "Once you've done the Big Day Out, there's only so far you can go. For us being a rock 'n' roll band, it really makes sense to go to Melbourne. There's such a rock 'n' roll culture and you can just jump in a van and go up to places like Canberra."

It comes as no surprise, then, that the band is pretty chuffed with where it is at.

"It is all going well at moment, sales are good, and there's been a good response from radio and the industry."

"It has been a long and wild ride, all five years of it. But trying to piece together the memories, it only feels like two such is the debauchorous nature of Sin City."

Sin City

With: Dogact, Hailer
When: Tonight, 8pm
Where: Greenroom, Phillip
Tickets: Free