

NOEL'S MUST-SEE GIGS



1 TOBY WREN QUARTET
Wren (pictured) launches his new CD *Rich and Famous* – he's jazz, so you see the irony there?
Turnaround Jazz Club, Exhibition St, Bowen Hills, tonight, 7pm; \$10 at the door.

2 LOVEJOY
The band featuring guitarist Jeff Lovejoy, recording engineer to the stars, and sister Kylie reforms for a show on Saturday to launch the new compilation *Greatest Hits* – yes, we know, ironic.
The Zoo, \$14.30, www.zoo.oztix.com.au

3 PLUS ONE SHOWCASE
Brisbane indie label Plus One Records takes over The Zoo on Tuesday leading into the Bigsound festivities, with The Medics, We All Want To, Halfway and Dubmarine.
The Zoo, \$17.85, www.zoo.oztix.com.au

NASHVILLE SOUND CHECK

GUITARIST Mark Moffatt brought some interesting gear home with him to Brisbane after spending time in London in the early '70s. Among it was a pedal steel guitar. And some very loud guitar amps.

That pedal steel, the classic country music instrument, was a pointer to the path that would eventually take him to working as a producer in Nashville, where he still resides. One of the guitar amps had another role to play in music history. Moffatt was working as an engineer in a Brisbane studio when The Saints arrived to record punk classic *(I'm) Stranded* in 1976.

When The Saints' guitarist Ed Kuepper plugged into Moffatt's amp, the wonderful buzzsaw sound created helped make one of the most influential records of all time.

Moffatt, originally from Maryborough, returns to Brisbane for the first time in decades for next week's Bigsound music industry conference.



“By the time I arrived in London the blues boom was a bit passe and the Telecaster was becoming king, everyone was twanging,” Moffatt says. That inspired his interest in the kind of music that these days is called Americana.

Moffatt the musician — he played in bands including the Carol Lloyd Band — would give way to Moffatt the record producer. His career took him to Sydney and Melbourne, where he worked on recordings such as Yothu Yindi's *Tribal Voice* and Mondo Rock's *Chemistry*.

“The records I really value are the ones that opened doors and did something first rather than the big hits like Anne Kirkpatrick's *Out of the Blue*,” Moffatt says.

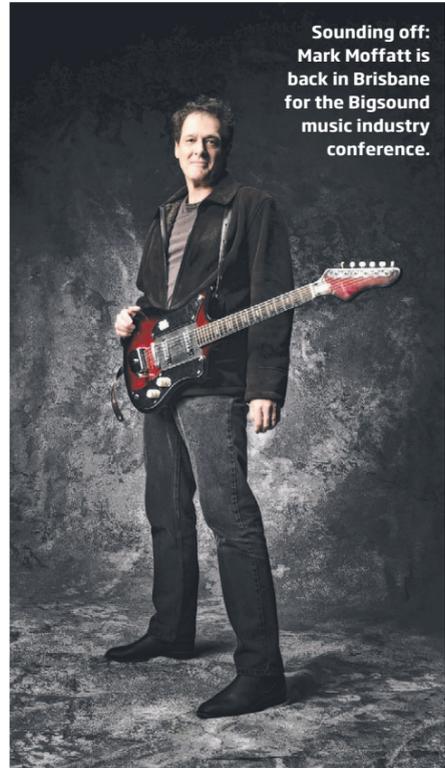
Moffatt moved to Nashville in 1996 and produces artists such as Australian husband-

and-wife duo O'Shea. He is heavily involved with the annual Americana festival in Nashville and will tell Bigsound delegates there's more to Nashville than commercial country and big hats.

“Nashville is within 500 miles of 70 per cent of the population and it has become the hip, affordable touring base for a lot of indie bands, and people like The Black Keys and Jack White have studios there.

“I want to break down the stereotype of what Nashville is. It's an incredible resource centre for music, full stop.”

SEE Bigsound music conference, Judith Wright Centre, Wednesday to September 14. Bigsound is sold out. Tickets are available for Little Bigsound, September 15, for young people seeking a career in the music business, and for Bigsound Live on Wednesday and September 13. www.bigsound.org.au



Sounding off: Mark Moffatt is back in Brisbane for the Bigsound music industry conference.

MATES

[\$20+]

LET THE FUN BEGIN

The city will be in full festive swing during the 2012 Brisbane Festival. This cultural banquet starts Saturday serving up the creme de la creme of cabaret and circus, La Soirle, explosive dance production Mass and Brisbane musician Seja. For info visit brisbanefestival.com.au

[\$35+]

TAKE IT AS READ

Don't sit on the fence during the Great Debate at the QPAC. Will you be for or against the controversial argument that Reading the Bible Is Good for You? This Saturday, as part of the 2012 Brisbane Writers' Festival, passionate speakers including Germaine Greer, Bob Katter and Benjamin Law will talk the talk to sway your opinion. For info and tickets visit qpac.com.au

COUPLES

[\$10+]

BECOME A BETTER HOME RENOVATOR

Build on your DIY knowledge at *The Sunday Mail Home Show & Outdoor Living Expo*. Until Sunday, visit more than 300 suppliers offering products and services for building, renovating and landscaping. At the RNA showgrounds. For details visit brisbanehomeshow.com.au

[\$14+]

RUSSIAN FILM FESTIVAL STARTS SATURDAY

The Russian Resurrection Film Festival opens at the Palace Centre on Saturday with thriller *Spy*. This year also marks the bicentenary of the defeat of Napoleon, with visiting actors and directors adding to the celebration of Ruski culture. Finishes September 16. For details visit russianresurrection.com and tickets palacecinemas.com.au

FAMILIES

[FREE]

SPRING INTO ACTION FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE

What's old is new again at the Moorooka Spring Fair. Delve into a treasure trove of showgirl headdresses, designer labels, bric-a-brac and pushbikes at Moorooka Bowls Club this Saturday. With all vintage items 20 years and older, another's spring cleaning could be your bargain buy. From 9am. For info, call 0418 712 349.

[\$15+]

UNITED FOR A WALK IN THE PARK

This Sunday, take a walk in the park with Ian Findlay. Show your support for the former Australian butterfly champion and the 16,200 Queenslanders living with Parkinson's disease at the fourth annual Unity Walk in New Farm Park. From 10am. Children under 5 free. For info and to register, visit unitywalk.com.au

SEND IN YOUR EVENT TO LUCY EMLYN-JONES AT GODIRECTORY@QNP.NEWSLTD.COM.AU

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