

the Sunday MUSIC

CHRIS BOURNE'S music has been cranked out in stadia across the globe by chart kings 5 Seconds Of Summer.

His brother is Busted star James... but now it is his chance to step into the spotlight and he is ready to take it.

But he admitted he could already have been a big hitter, but the time wasn't right. Now he thinks it is.

Chris, 24, said: "When I was 18, I left the UK and went to join a band in America for three years.

"We had a major record deal offered, but turned it down.

"It wasn't because we were anti-establishment or anything, it just wasn't right for us.

"I'm happy now plodding along, doing my own thing. If something comes along, then great.

"My personal opinion is the industry is in a real state.

"Everyone around the artist is setting up these deals... but they don't benefit the artist.

"It takes so long for money to trickle down and, in most cases, the artist is the last person to get paid.

"Going forward, I haven't got a huge following, but I can handle it myself at this point and it's nice to be making a living out of music.

"If I had a whole team and the same size following, I wouldn't be able to."

The Southend-on-Sea boy has just released his second EP In Your Arms. It ended up selling big on iTunes.

Chris explained: "I had management last year but they ended up dropping me three weeks before my first EP came out for no reason. Their side of the deal was the promotion so I didn't get much for that.

"On this one, I took money I made from a small tour to record it - and promoted it on the Busted tour.

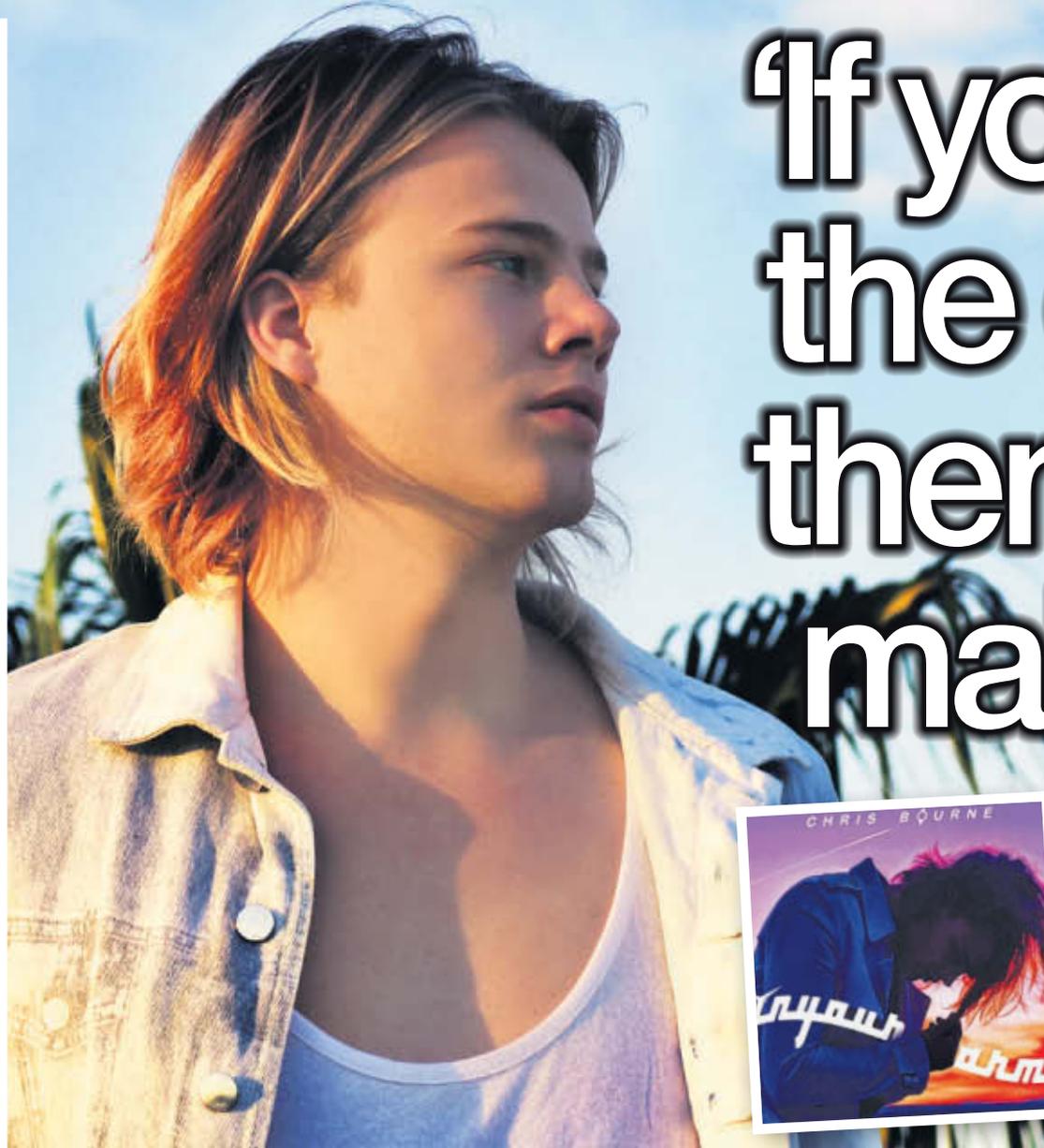
"Then I was in the car with my friend and he said, 'You're on the front page of iTunes.' "I thought it was a joke.

"Ultimately it charted at 11 in the album charts, which is pretty awesome.

"It's got retro vibes. There are a lot of analogue synths, some funky guitar riffs and slap bass on there.

"It's four songs. I wrote the first track Lemonade with Steve Solomon, who co-wrote James Arthur's Say You Won't Let Go."

Chris also admitted that big



'If you do the graft then you make it'



ONE 2 WATCH
By CHRIS SWEENEY

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Chris also admitted that big

brother James has been an inspiration.

He said: "If it wasn't for James, I wouldn't be doing music to be honest.

"Whenever I ask him, he comes back to me and is always very supportive. He'll tweet about my stuff.

"I wrote a song Daylight and James finished it with me.

"And it got cut by 5 Seconds Of Summer. They tour stadiums and play my song. I wrote that when I was 17.

"Someone told me it was cheesy pop then I thought, maybe it's not that good.

"It really changed my opinion on the song but, lo and behold, look where it went.

"Since then I've always remem-

bered that - your songs won't cater for everyone."

Chris could have called in a few favours to help ease his way in the music world.

But he is relishing earning his stripes - whether it's vlogging on social media or handing out wristbands.

He added: "I just feel a lot of people get told this is the way it is or this is industry standard.

"A lot of younger artists walk down that path blindly and it doesn't really become apparent where you're at, until it's a little bit too late.

"If you've got that drive and the fire, and want to push yourself, then you can do it.

"I just spent the past month travelling around the UK following



my brother's tour, at my own expense. I printed off a bunch of wristbands and gave them away purely for promotion.

"There's a lot of bands who don't have the drive to do that.

"If you're willing to do the graft, then the good things could come your way."

Chris also can't wait to kick off on his own headline tour. It starts on April 6 and hits Glasgow's O2 ABC on April 8.

He raved: "I'm really pumped. Last time I played there was some great vibes.

"Everybody on the tour is completely independent. It's all about good vibes, good people and good songs."

● Get tour ticket info at seetickets.com

ONE2HEAR

THEY have a rubbish name which leaves nothing to the imagination - but don't judge a book by its cover.

2Cellos have already got Elton John excited.

Their new album Score was released on Friday and it features a totally spine-tingling rendition of For The Love Of A Princess from Braveheart.

It's one to get you walking 10ft tall.

They've also done some of the Game Of Thrones and Chariots Of Fire tracks. Check out 2cellos.com

ONE2SEE

HALIFAX is best known for its building society... but The Orielles are putting that right.

The rockers have bags of momentum behind them. And no wonder. Their stuff is catchy with a distorted, twisted feel - it's pop, but not too polished.

The trio's UK tour hits Leith Depot in Edinburgh on April 5 and the next night at The Hug & Pint in Glasgow. Go to facebook.com/theorielles

GREG C CLARK

WHERE: Glasgow.

FOR FANS OF: Travis, James, The Stone Roses. JIM SAYS: Greg C Clark may well be one of Scotland's best-kept secrets. He's created a wonderful album, but I feel he's not convinced of his talent. Perhaps he's just modest. It's a captivating selection of hook-laden DIY indie pop.

He explained: "I've been trying to write songs for years, but I hated everything I ever wrote.

"I always sounded like someone else. I'd throw the guitar away in disgust. A few months later I'd go back to it. Nope, still no good.

"Then, to my utter shock, one day I wrote something that didn't make me want to vomit. Trust me, I was more surprised than anyone."

He booked some studio time with musician and producer Jim Lang, who's worked with Attic Lights, Malcolm Middleton and Ian McCulloch among others. Posting it online he got more than 500,000 hits and positive feedback from across the world. That's not bad for an artist who hasn't played any live gigs. He joked: "I'm



NEW MUSIC

By Jim Gellatly

in my living room on my computer playing a video game called Amateur Pop Star Level 1. I recorded the first stuff in secret and I played it as a surprise to friends and family. The best reaction I had was "Shut up, that's not you, that's good."

Greg took that as the compliment it was meant to be and persevered. Moving on to write the album, it proved to be a release from tough times he was having in his life.

He added: "I was feeling quite low and the only thing that made me feel better was writing. I realised I wasn't just writing songs. I was trying to get

something out." The album is called What Everyone Wants, a nod to the now-defunct high street stores. His mum worked there in the 70s and it's ingrained in his childhood.

Greg reckons it's a perfect fit for the album. He said: "I needed to find something positive to hold on to, and reconnect with something real that wasn't the madness in the world. Writing songs helped me do that.

"It feels genuine now and people are responding to that. I like to think it can create that connection with the listener so they can feel something.

"I think that's what everyone wants. What songwriting used to be about before it was ruined by careerists, money and haircuts."

It sounds like he is making music for the right reasons. There's no pressure on commercial success. Indeed, What Everyone Wants is out as a pay-what-you-want download on Bandcamp.

MORE: gregclark.bandcamp.com
Jim presents a weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio Sundays 2-4pm. amazingradio.com/jimgellatly.com

▶ Watch a video of the band playing at www.thescottishsun.co.uk

