

# the Sunday MUSIC



## ONE2WATCH by CHRIS SWEENEY

**POP rockers Club Drive are relishing life in the fast lane after hitting the jackpot with smash single Spare Time.**

It ended up as BBC Radio 1 Introducing's track of the week last month – virtually unheard of for a band's first proper release.

And it has propelled the group into the limelight.

Frontman Aaron Trowbridge says: "For a band in our position, that doesn't really happen – we were really lucky."

"Off the back of that things have gone mad. I didn't think it would be such a game-changer."

"I thought it would be a great week and then things would fizzle out. But we've got tours, festivals, new singles and videos coming out soon."

"It's such an exciting time. And we've had a lot of response online – that's the biggest thing for us."

"We had a small tour after the single's release and people were turning up after hearing us on the radio."

### 'We're too busy to work on our own songs'

"Normally word of mouth spread from our old fans, who'd tell someone else about us and then bring them along to the gig."

The Hertfordshire lads have been together for just over a year.

And they do sympathise with other bands who say it's near impossible to catch a break in the music industry.

Aaron, 26, explains: "We didn't see our break coming."

"This is the first single we've shown to radio."

"Radio 1 have got a million of bands to sift through."

"We're in that culture now when most organisations don't take a risk on new music."

"It makes us feel a bit special. It's nice to have people who you have no connection to championing our music."

The video for Spare Time is also a corker, with parts of it shot in Malaga, Spain. But the boys didn't get to lap up the sunshine.

Aaron moans: "We got the short straw. We did our band bits in the UK and the actors and crew went across to Malaga."

"We wanted that sunny vibe even though it's shot in a dark way, because of the nature of the song. We wanted the palm trees and the

## CLUB DRIVE EMBRACE RAPID RISE TO FAME



# On the road to success

beach." And the video looked so much fun actors are already expressing an interest in appearing in future releases.

Aaron adds: "We've had people since contacting us, saying if we've got any other videos coming up – they're a model or an actor, and here's their agent's details."

Club Drive have a big UK tour coming up and hit Edinburgh's Liquid Room on May 6.

They've also got a busy summer festival season planned.

And the mania means the guys are even struggling to work on their own songs.

Aaron says: "We're jam-packed from now until the end of summer. We don't get a lot of time off – I think it's five days in all that time. So it's difficult to find time

to get to the studio. We're working on some of the tracks right now."

"It sounds ridiculous but we're too busy to work on our songs."

"It's just got to that position where something is always going on. We have to splinter up. Two of us might do some writing, while the other two go do interviews."

"It's a nice position to be in, but it's hard work."

Despite the cliches, the band say they're the best of pals and are being careful to share the glory among each other.

Aaron adds: "No one has an ego. Even though I'm the singer, I'm not desperate to be in the limelight more than any of the others."

"We all take it on the chin. We divide the duties equally so we don't fall out. We know there's

times when we might not all be part of something."

While the radio has got their foot in the door, the group reckon their live skills will see them walk through it.

Aaron says of their gigs: "Energy would sum us up. We're very much a live band."

"It's great the people love what comes across on the single."

"But if you want to get into us then come see us live."

"There are millions of bands doing what we're doing and fighting for people's attention."

"So we really put on a show and make a big deal of it."

● FOR more on the group check out [www.clubdriveband.com](http://www.clubdriveband.com)

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## ONE2HEAR

**RISING** singer Dewey's debut single is named after a memorable trip to Loch Linnhe in Argyll.

The Londoner was so blown away by her time on Scotland's west coast it inspired her to write the upbeat pop track.

Loch Linnhe is not out until April 28.

But you can give it a listen just now at [soundcloud.com/speedywunderground](http://soundcloud.com/speedywunderground)

## ONE2SEE

**RYAN** Joseph Burns nearly died after being knocked down by a New York taxi in 2014.

But the singer-songwriter reckons it was the key to finding his voice on debut album *Absence*.

The album is out now and Ryan will play a hometown gig at St Luke's in Glasgow on Wednesday night to launch it.

For more info go to [www.ryanjosephburns.com](http://www.ryanjosephburns.com)

## TEENS NOT STANDING STILL

### STATIC UNION

**WHO:** Sean McGarvey (vocals/guitar), James Harker (guitar/synth), Liam Adams (bass), Cameron "Kangus" Angus (drums).

**WHERE:** Glasgow.

**FOR FANS OF:** The 1975, James, U2.

**JIM SAYS:** With their jangly guitars and electro-pop undertones, teenage outfit Static Union are making some heavenly music just now.

Formed at school in Glasgow's southside in 2014, Liam and James had known each other since they were very young, with their fathers playing in a band together.

James, 18, told me: "Myself and Liam competed against Sean in a school talent show with our band at the time (The Tutors). Sean won."

"A wee while later I was walking down a road in Donegal, Ireland, when a car goes by and screeches to a halt. Out pops Sean, who says 'All right mate, how's it gaun?'"

"We talked at length that night about starting a band. Sean had a wealth of tunes he wanted to bring into a full band set-up."

"I got in touch with Liam, and Kangus who was playing for another band at the time, and the idea was born. We started jamming this song we had called The City



## NEW MUSIC By Jim Gellatly

We Once Knew, which we later released as a single.

"We were all just wee guys playing this big epic tune and everyone just looked at each other in disbelief."

"That was when I knew this band was real. Even then I knew that we'd give plenty of other bands around a run for their money."

Some other encouraging tracks, including a great song called Late Night Fever, first alerted me to their potential a couple of years ago.

Originally known as The Static Union, they released their first single as Static Union, Turn Out The Lights, at the start of this year.

A confident blast of indie-pop, it picked up rave reviews and key radio play. A second single, Accelerator, followed last month,

paving the way for further acclaim.

James said: "Accelerator has been about in various forms for ages. It took a while for the current version to come around, but it's definitely the best the song has sounded."

Sean, 19, continued:

"It was one of the toughest songs to write."

"We've had the verses since the band formed really, but we were even changing it when we were in recording at 45 A-Side studios."

"Paul McNally there deserves credit for taking the song up a notch with some of the arrangements."

"Even now the song is still evolving with new riffs being added to the live version."

I've had a sneak preview of the third single, and again it hits all the right spots. Static Union are a young band with the



world at their feet. All the signs are that they are set to make a huge impression on the scene.

If you want to catch the guys live later this month, Static Union support Holy Esque at The Classic Grand in Glasgow on April 22.

**More:** [www.facebook.com/StaticUnionBand](http://www.facebook.com/StaticUnionBand)

● JIM GELLATLY presents a weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio on Sundays from 2-4pm.

[www.amazingradio.com](http://www.amazingradio.com)  
[www.jimgellatly.com](http://www.jimgellatly.com)

▶ Watch a video of the band playing at: [www.thescottishsun.co.uk](http://www.thescottishsun.co.uk)