

# the Sunday MUSIC



## ONE2WATCH by CHRIS SWEENEY

**BROTHERS** Ewan and Callum Merrett admit they agree on very little in their musical tastes — but it seems to be working for **Bad Sounds**.

One likes pop and the other is into hip-hop — and both want more of their favourite influences on the band's sound.

Ewan, 25, admitted: "I'm always trying to push the hip-hop side of things, and Callum is always trying to push the pop stuff."

"Growing up, Callum got into pop music and I got really into hip-hop so we come at it from very different angles."

The Chippenham lads also admit they only formed a band together because they couldn't find anyone else to team up with.

Ewan said: "Cal couldn't get a band together, and I couldn't find an MC as I was producing tracks — so we came together and comprised."

"It's a small town we're from and Bath is the closest city, but there's not really a music scene there either. All of us gravitated towards Bristol."

"I think that's why me and Callum got into such different things — there wasn't a scene be part of."

But it's panned out well. They have just sealed a deal with Sony.

They are also riding high with new single **Meat On My Bones**, which is inspired by a tattoo of a dead dog.

Ewan explained: "All the songs come from conversations I have, I'm not really good at writing lyrics that are made up."

"In the single, there's a line about someone showing me a tattoo of their dog when it died."

"I thought it was weird — not in a bad way but an interesting thing to do. So it came from there."

"But people are more surprised that I managed to rhyme rhinoceros and oesophagus in the lyrics."

"And there's a line also about an old teacher of ours, Dr Papadopoulos."

"I've had messages from kids at my old school saying big up to her, I don't know if she's heard it — I don't say anything bad, but it still might weird her out."

He added: "I don't feel I've ever tried to make a statement in my lyrics. Sometimes when you do that, it comes over a bit naff and teen-angsty."

"Ninety per cent of my lyrics are out of conversations I've had. I feel it's a good window into our



# Our songs are chats I've had

lives. I don't sit down and think, 'What am I going to say with this?'

"I have had my girlfriend and my dad say things, then go 'Don't put that in a song'."

"Most people aren't wise to it. I haven't told the girl with the tattoo, but maybe she's heard the song — either way, she hasn't said anything to me yet."

Bad Sounds are on a UK tour and hit **Stereo** in Glasgow on Thursday night. And the band — which also includes Charlie Pitt, Sam Hunt and Olivia Dimery — will be doing their best to make a splash without losing their cash. Ewan said: "Callum

especially wants to put on a bit of a spectacle."

"When we first started, I admitted I've always found bands to be boring. I went to watch shoegazing bands and they just stood there with no one moving."

"Then we went to see De La Soul and it was a huge party. Everyone was getting involved."

"So we tried to combine that into our shows."

"The last time we brought a light-up dancefloor for the fans to stand on. It made us lose lots of money, we had loads of balloons all over the place too."

"The one thing that was s\*\*\* was

that no one realised we'd brought it — they just thought it was part of the venue."

"We asked people after, did you like it? And they'd be like, 'yeah, this venue is so cool'."

"We can't bring it on this tour to Scotland as it'd totally bankrupt us. Plus we try not to do the same thing twice. We'll have something else up our sleeves."

"If you're paying to go watch someone, you want to have a good time and dance — rather than just watch. That's what it is about."

And for the future plans, Ewan added: "We just want to do what feels right at the moment — that's worked pretty well for us so far."

"We're playing it all by ear."  
●For tour tickets and more, go to [facebook.com/realbadsounds](http://facebook.com/realbadsounds)



## ONE2HEAR

**METAL** rockers **From Sorrow To Serenity** are hoping to burst out of their scene — and make it on the mainstream scene.

New single **Golden Age** is their passport to success. It's a thundering track and shows the Glasgow lads in top form.

Give it a blast and it will certainly wake you up if you need it. A real adrenalin booster.

Check it out now at [facebook.com/FSTSOFFICIAL](http://facebook.com/FSTSOFFICIAL)

## ONE2SEE

**INTO** The Ark are refusing to give up the dream despite failing in their bid for glory on ITV show **The Voice**.

Their mentor **Sir Tom Jones** is taking them out on tour this summer.

To make sure they are ready, they've announced their own run of gigs.

They'll be in **Edinburgh, Inverness and Inverary** on **May 24/25/26**.

Get all the info at [intothearkofficial.com](http://intothearkofficial.com)

# THE THIEFS ARE RIGHT UP FOR TOP BANTER

## THE BANTER THIEFS

**WHO:** Keith Condie (vocals/guitar), Derek Watson (guitar/vocals), Aaron Smith (guitar), Darren O'Rourke (drums)

**WHERE:** Motherwell

**FOR FANS OF:** The Libertines, The View, The Enemy

**JIM SAYS:** The Scottish summer festival season has an early start next Sunday with Glasgow's multi-venue **Stag & Dagger** hosting the likes of **DMA's**, **Fatherson** and stacks of emerging acts. Over at **Strathclyde Park** by Motherwell, meanwhile, it's the ever popular **Stereofunk Festival**.

Best known as a dance event, it also has its fair share of guitar bands. I'll be hosting the main stage — **Jim Gellatly's Main Stage** no less.

Acts performing include **Vladimir**, **Indigo Velvet**, **Jamie & Shoony**, **Mickey 9's** and **Vida**, plus 90s rave legends **TTF** headlining.

Motherwell's very own **The Banter Thiefs** also make a welcome return.

Singer **Keith Condie** said: "We've played it around four times previously. **Stereofunk** has always catered for a wide range of music ever



## NEW MUSIC By Jim Gellatly

since its inception. Although widely considered a dance event, it allows people who might not be into bands to hear what's going on 'on the other side' so to speak.

"It gives people a chance to get outside and away from the dance music for a bit."

The **Banter Thiefs** formed around 10 years ago, but have gone through several personnel changes.

With the departure of singer **David Clark** last year, **Keith** now takes on lead vocals. **Guitarist Derek Watson** is the only remaining member from the original line-up.

Forever flying the flag for their home town, **Derek** was also behind last month's **Motherwell Makes Music** festival, showcasing over 30 up

and coming Scottish acts. **Derek** said: "It was something I'd been hoping do to for quite a while. There's a wealth of musical talent from Motherwell and the surrounding areas yet up until now there's not been a platform to showcase that talent."

"Motherwell and Lanarkshire has always had great music. Everyone knows the success of the likes of **Teenage Fanclub**, **BMX Bandits**, **Mogwai** and **The Delgados**. We've got **The LaFontaines** really leading the way in Scotland at the moment."

"It's important not only for the musicians, but for the town itself, to continue this tradition."

After a successful first year, plans are already afoot for 2018. **Derek** added: "I'm confident we can make it even bigger and better next year."

It's a while since **The Banter Thiefs** released any new music, but **Keith** said: "We've been writing a fair bit recently and have finished recording one track in the studio. We're quite excited about the next few releases."

**MORE:** [facebook.com/thebanterthiefs](http://facebook.com/thebanterthiefs)

●Jim presents a weekly showcase of **New Music** on **Amazing Radio** Sundays 2-4pm.

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



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