The singer on new friends and fresh fame

o celebrate the best of the best in telly land, heat popped down to the BAFTA Television Awards at London's Royal Festival Hall last week. We were right at the heart of the action, as our favourite actors, musicians and reality stars graced the red carpet, and of course we grabbed them for a chat. For Chesney Hawkes, Celebrity Big Brother seems to have taken him from 'one-hit wonder' to superdad...

You're having quite the comeback! How has life changed since Celebrity Big Brother?

It's been overwhelming in a way because it's all taken off quite amazingly. These last

JB: secon

popular JLS

few months have been great, but since Big Brother, there's been even more of an influx. It's funny seeing the public out here today. When people see me, they usually call out, 'Chesney, the One and Only!' But now I'm getting, 'It's Chesney from Bia Brother'. It's all changed.

Who are you still intouch with from the series? Everyone really. They were

kind enough to put me in with some really nice people. I chat to everyone - Danny and Donna, Jack, Chris, JoJo, Angellica - they're all great people. We can't get ourselves together to make a WhatsApp group, though. Someone needs to take the lead on that one.

JoJo, even though she's in America...

We talk to each other daily. impacted your career?

I've had three radio hits now are just awesome. I'm on So, can we expect to see you on another TV show

into Big Brother without any preconceptions, and Hike that one.



My daughter [Jesse, who's 21] is going to Pride with JoJo. She's meeting my daughter in LA and they're going to go together, which is really nice. Whatabout music - how have the last few months

from my latest album. Things cloud nine, it's truly amazing. anytimesoon?

Never say never. I went



tour this winter, JB Gill filled us in on how times have changed for the lads, as tours are now a full-on family affair with each band member's wives and kids in tow. JBwho's dad to Ace, 10, and Chiara, six told us, 'My kids love going on tour!'

But when asked if he was their favourite JLS member, he admitted 'My daughter loves Uncle Aston' putting it down to their close bond with the Merrygolds, who have children around the same age. Honestly, we don't blame you, Chiara - we all have our favourites!



and the other nominees were so incredible, so I genuinely didn't think I'd win. I even took my shoes off because I was settling in for the night! For someone who doesn't get fazed by anything, even Nessa was shocked and honoured by this BAFTA.

Will Nessa stick with you forever? I've had a 17-year journey with the character, which is so rare. She's in my soul and in my heart. I've worked with the best people the cast, crew, production team and James Corden, I love working with James. I hope we can carry on working together. So, working together in the

future is on the cards? I think we will. We both like sitting in a room together. We do a lot of napping, but we do write, as well. when we eventually get going.





ollowing her split from Love Island boyfriend Andrew Le Page in February, Tasha Ghouri told us that she's embracing single life. 'My dating chapter is well and truly closed, the 30 year old revealed. 'I'm focusing on me and the things I want to achieve, my passions and career.' And after taking part in Strictly last year, she has her sights set on returning to the show, admitting she'd 'love' to become a judge one day.

How did it feel to win Best

Comedy Performance? There'll be some people fuming at this. To do my first scripted comedy and nick one of these is mental to me. I'm really proud of the show | Mr Bigstuff | and Ryan Sampson, in particular, who wrote it. He gave me all the funny lines, he gave me this vehicle, so cheers! When you accepted the award, it was clear how much it meant to you...

I can't believe how emotional I was when I got up. I didn't think that would happen to me, you

know, trying to be 'masculine' and all that, But it's OK to cry now and again.

Afterbeing at the heart of EastEnders and then stepping into the unknown, does it all feel worth it now?

Unless you roll the dice and decide to see what else is out there, you'll never know. I happened to try it, and it's working really well for meat the moment anyway! I've had a really good one this vear. Rivals has been so well received, I've got Mr Bigstuff, too - I feel like I've made it. ■

