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'We'll still have record shops in 20 years', says Last Shop Standing author



by **Tom Pakinkis**

Thursday, Apr 18th 2013 at 1:14PM



Graham Jones - the author of UK indie record store chronicle Last Shop Standing - is confident that record shops will still feature on High Streets in 20 years time.

Speaking ahead of Record Store Day this Saturday, April 20, Jones pointed to a complete change in mood in the UK compared to when he first wrote his book, which has in turn inspired a documentary of the same name.

"I'm confident that in 20 years time we'll still have record shops," Jones told [Billboard](#). "I [originally] wrote the book because I thought that, in 20 years, there might not be any.

"The mood has completely changed," he added. "When I wrote the book it was the lowest point in the U.K. - we only had 269 record stores left. Doing the film was great because independent record store [owners] have confidence now and feel they are the future.

"They feel that the public cares and the media cares. Before Record Store Day came along, the only thing in the media was about another record store or record chain closing. When I did the book, most stores had a reasonable amount of space devoted to vinyl, but on the second visit it was quite noticeable how much more space was taken up by vinyl records. You're never going to see supermarkets rack vinyl next to the baked beans."

Record Store Day organisers are touting this weekend's event as "the biggest celebration yet".

[The full list of Record Store Day 2013 releases can be found here.](#)





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