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**TheSunSFTW**



BY CHRIS  
SWEENEY

ANNA PANCALDI  
BLACK TEARS



**MOST** singers would reckon it was a disaster if their single limped into the charts at 52.

But singing sensation Anna Pancaldi was over the moon because *Out Ahead* was a real solo effort – and she faced a real battle against stage fright just to perform in public at all.

Anna explained: “I was shocked by the reaction. I only announced it on Facebook – people shared it and their friends shared it.

“It created this domino effect. I could never have dreamt of it, as it’s only one track off my first EP.

“I had the most incredible week – getting to number six in the singer/songwriter charts on iTunes and 52 in the top charts.”

**I am more harsh  
than I am kind**

Anna admits she has taken the long road to producing her first record. At eight, she bottled it when performing at a singing competition.

She said: “I adored singing, but I just found it unimaginably hard to overcome the fear in front of people after that experience. I used to play in front of my best friend, in my bedroom, but I would make her turn round and close her eyes.”

She and her family moved to South Africa where Anna used to write songs on the beach, then she returned to the UK to go to music college in Colchester in a bid to beat the fear.

Anna then went to New Zealand where an open mic night opened the floodgates.

She said: “I got a slot and played some of my own songs, the first time I’d really done that. I got an incredible reaction, it was a very special night for me.”

Unleashed, she gigged across Hong Kong, South Africa, South America and the States before returning to the UK.

Then she won a competition to be part of a band that supported the likes of Rita Ora,



# All fright on the night for Anna

Rudimental and Tinchy Stryder. She added: “Playing in venues of that size and supporting the acts that we did was quite something – terrifying but also exhilarating. It put me in a situation where I had to push myself.” It also prepared her for her bid to go solo.

Colchester girl Anna revealed how she has to be her own boss and admits there’s no

point thinking everything is up to scratch.

Anna, 25, said: “I’m really critical of myself.

“I am more harsh than I am kind to myself. I trust my instincts. I’ve written tons of songs and no one will ever hear them. For every song I like, I’ve written ten that aren’t good.”

“I’ve never sat there and

loved everything I’ve made.” The next step on her rise up the ladder will be the release of her *Black Tears* EP on March 22.

Then she goes on tour and can’t wait to hit Scotland because her parents live in Orkney.

Anna said: “I am coming up to Scotland, I just haven’t announced the dates yet. I’ll be

on tour at the end of March and into April, I’ll put the dates up soon.

“My parents live in the Orkney Islands, they built a house up there.

“So I’ve got a lot of love for Scotland. We’ve spent a lot of time up there over the years as a family.”

● To pre-order the EP, go to [annapancaldi.com](http://annapancaldi.com)

## ONE2HEAR

**JESSIE** Ware has quietly mastered her craft. New single *Champagne Kisses* is a pearler. It sounds superb, is well-written and has a point. Out on March 23. Go to [facebook.com/jessiewaremusic](http://facebook.com/jessiewaremusic)

## ONE2SEE

**IF** Nick Mulvey was a motor he’d be a Volvo. Maybe not the sexiest but top quality. You know what you’re getting.

He’s at the Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow on March 24. Tickets from [nickmulvey.com](http://nickmulvey.com)

ONE2WATCH

# WE’LL BE OSKAR WINNERS

## OSKAR

**WHO:** David Stevens (vocals), Grant Allan (guitar), Conor Young (guitar), Darren Hood (bass), Andrew Davidson (drums).

**WHERE:** Fife.

**FOR FANS OF:** Kings Of Leon, The National, Editors.

**JIM SAYS:** They may have formed less than a year ago, but Oskar already look capable of making a major impact.

In May their debut gig supported Catfish And The Bottlemen at RJ’s in Dunfermline. Soon after they were back at

## NewMusic

By Jim Gellatly



RJ’s to win the Make Your Mark battle of the bands.

The prize saw Oskar head into the Sub Station studio in Rosyth to record a debut EP. In October, they supported Embrace at the Dunfermline Live festival, and they rounded off 2014 with their first appearance at King Tut’s in Glasgow. The guys have just unleashed

their debut single *Wildlings*. Grant said: “It came at a time where I was spending far too many hours watching *Game Of Thrones*. I was captivated by the relationship between Jon Snow and Ygritte in the series, and tried to tell their story through my lyrics.”

It’s a soaring indie epic, with all the hallmarks of a band

going places. They’re already hard at work on a follow-up called *Ghosts*, and hope to get their music out to a wider audience. Grant said: “We aim to play some festivals this year and head down south for a few gigs.”

Oskar play *The Attic* in Bathgate with *Tijuana Bibles* on February 21, with March gigs including Dunfermline, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

**MORE:** [facebook.com/band-calledoskar](http://facebook.com/band-calledoskar)

● Jim presents *Drivetime* on XFM Scotland, Monday to Friday 4-7pm. [xfm.co.uk/jimgellatly.com](http://xfm.co.uk/jimgellatly.com)

