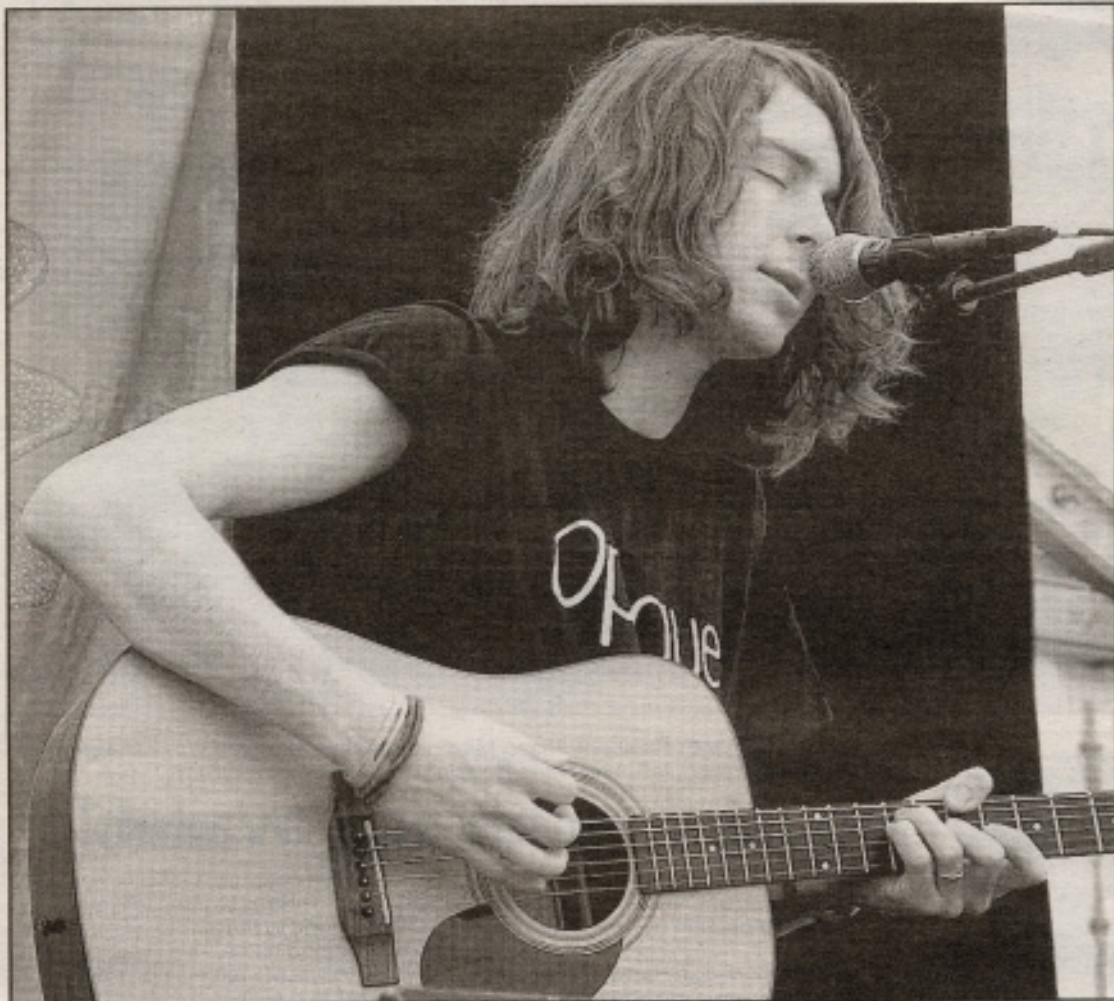


**MUSIC – City lad is in last six up for Radio 2's Young Folk Award contest**

**SOLO:** James Chadwick performs one of his own songs on acoustic guitar.

# James heads for folk finals

**A YOUNG musician is tuning up for his biggest concert yet, after reaching the finals of a national folk contest.**

James Chadwick has been picked as one of the final six acts vying for Radio 2's prestigious Young Folk Award, after wowing judges with his soulful acoustic guitar songs.

The 19-year-old will play in front of 1,500 people at the finals in Gateshead, on December 9, which will be broadcast on the radio.

James has been concentrating on his musical career since leaving King's School in Peterborough earlier this year, and the competition could move him one step closer to his dream of being a professional musician.

**RACHEL WAREING** NEWS REPORTER

He said: "I really enjoyed the semi-finals. We all had a chance to play together and it was good fun. To get to the finals is brilliant. I feel quite nervous about it, though, because I've never played to such a large audience."

James regularly plays at venues across the region and is planning a cross-country tour next month, which will take in London, Manchester and Salisbury.

Inspired by the likes of Bob Dylan and Nick Drake, he plays his own songs on the acoustic guitar, as well as the harmonica and piano.

He said: "I've been playing the guitar since I was 10 and I've been in a string of bands, playing what my friends want to play, which is

mainly punk and metal.

"I'm quite a quiet person and I found playing on my own feels most right."

His album is due out on the Nottingham-based independent label Folkwit Records on November 11.

You can see him play live next Tuesday at the Millstone Inn, in Barnack, or at the Met Lounge in Bridge Street, Peterborough, supporting Black Bud on Friday, November 11, or hear extracts of his music at [www.james-chadwick.co.uk](http://www.james-chadwick.co.uk)

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