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## DUKE'S DIARY

### Open Mic UK 2009

# Charlese gets through to the final

AND making it through to the October 25 Liverpool Liner Hotel regional final is 25-year old Charlese Allen (*right*) from Ansdell. She has been singing since she was eight, concentrating on classical and choral music until 16 when she discovered soul, blues, jazz.

"Funnily enough I went to school with Victoria Hesketh aka. Little Boots and we used to sing together," she says.

At 17 she started singing in bars and resaurants and after finishing at

school took a year out before starting a Diploma in Popular Music and Sound Technology at Paul McCartney's Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA).

Whilst there she started singing in a couple of function bands, performing at events across the country and in Germany. "I get so much enthusiasm and support from people," she says. "It's amazing to be able to connect with



people and to be reminded to keep on trying!" Now back on the Fylde she has started playing with well known local guitarist Tom Vernon and is getting another band together."

If anyone wants to support her she has tickets available for the Liverpool event. Find her on YouTube or Facebook 'Charlese to win Open Mic Uk'.