

UK CHARTS: Singles - Albums - Downloads  
 EUROPEAN CHARTS: SPAIN: Albums

Read this week's UK Chart Commentary by James Masterton

**TOP 75 SINGLES**

1 - 75

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	SONG	SHOPPING
	1	LEONA LEWIS	A MOMENT LIKE THIS	
	2	1 TAKE THAT	PATIENCE	
	3	MCFLY	SORRY'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH	
	4	50 GIRLS ALoud	I THINK WE'RE ALONE NOW	
	5	4 CASCADA	TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	
	6	10 POGUES	FAIRYTALE OF NEW YORK	
	7	2 CLIFF RICHARD	21ST CENTURY CHRISTMAS/MOVE IT	
	8	5 BOOTY LUV	BOOGIE 2NITE	
	9	6 AKON FT EMINEM	SMACK THAT	
	10	7 CHRIS CORNELL	YOU KNOW MY NAME	
	11	3 GWEN STEFANI	WIND IT UP	
	12	9 LAZY TOWN	BING BANG (TIME TO DANCE)	
	13	8 P DIDDY FT CHRISTINA AGUILERA	TELL ME	
	14	12 KATIE PRICE & PETER ANDRE	A WHOLE NEW WORLD	
	15	11 NELLY FURTADO	ALL GOOD THINGS (COME TO AN END)	
	16	16 CRAZY FROG	LAST CHRISTMAS	
	17	48 RAZORLIGHT	BEFORE I FALL TO PIECES	
	18	13 JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE FT TI	MY LOVE	
	19	15 FEDDE LE GRAND	PUT YOUR HANDS UP FOR DETROIT	
	20	14 BEYONCE	IRREPLACEABLE	
	21	23 SLADE	MERRY XMAS EVERYBODY	
	22	20 EL CHOMBO	CHACARRON	
	23	22 RAZORLIGHT	AMERICA	

	24	17 LIL' CHRIS	GETTIN' ENOUGH	
	25	26 RICKY TOMLINSON	CHRISTMAS MY A*SE	
	26	18 ANDY ABRAHAM/MICHAEL UNDERWOOD	DECEMBER BRINGS ME BACK TO YOU	
	27	27 SCISSOR SISTERS	I DON'T FEEL LIKE DANCIN'	
	28	21 LILY ALLEN	LITTLEST THINGS	
	29	29 BODYROX FT LUCIANA	YEAH YEAH	
	30	48 JAMES MORRISON	THE PIECES DON'T FIT ANYMORE	
	31	63 QUEEN VS THE MIAMI PROJECT	ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	
	32	28 GIRLS ALoud	SOMETHING KINDA OOOOH	
	33	MARY J BLIGE	MJB DA MVP	
	34	24 JAMELIA	BEWARE OF THE DOG	
	35	MICKY MODELLE V JESSY	OVER YOU	
	36	SHARAM	PATT (PARTY ALL THE TIME)	
	37	30 AMY WINEHOUSE	REHAB	
	38	19 MATT WILLIS	DON'T LET IT GO TO WASTE	
	39	26 EMMA BUNTON	DOWNTOWN	
	40	36 WESTLIFE	THE ROSE	
	41	37 FEELING	LOVE IT WHEN YOU CALL	
	42	32 MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE	WELCOME TO THE BLACK PARADE	
	43	35 SNOW PATROL/MARTHA WAINWRIGHT	SET THE FIRE TO THE THIRD BAR	
	44	33 CHRISTINA AGUILERA	HURT	
	45	34 SHAKIRA FT CARLOS SANTANA	ILLEGAL	
	46	40 RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS	SNOW (HEY OH)	
	47	38 SNOOP DOGG FT R KELLY	THAT'S THAT	
	48	ALL ANGELS	ANGELS	
	49	49 SHAKIRA FT WYCLEF JEAN	HIPS DON'T LIE	
	50	43 FISH GO DEEP FT TRACEY K	THE CURE & THE CAUSE	
	51	51 JAMES MORRISON	WONDERFUL WORLD	
	52	39 JAY-Z	SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT	
	53	52 JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE	SEXYBACK	
	54	47 KILLERS	BONES	

The Official UK Top 75 Albums  
 Week of Mon 25 Dec

UK CHARTS: Singles - Albums - Downloads  
 EUROPEAN CHARTS: SPAIN: Albums

Read this week's UK Chart Commentary by James Masterton

TOP 75 ALBUMS

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ARTIST	ALBUM	SHOPPING
1	1	TAKE THAT	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	
2	3	WESTLIFE	THE LOVE ALBUM	
3	2	OASIS	STOP THE CLOCKS	
4	4	IL DIVO	SIEMPRE	
5	9	GEORGE MICHAEL	TWENTY FIVE	
6	5	U2	U218 SINGLES	
7	7	SNOW PATROL	EYES OPEN	
8	6	BEATLES	LOVE	
9	13	RAZORLIGHT	RAZORLIGHT	
10	11	SCISSOR SISTERS	TA-DAH	
11	8	GIRLS ALoud	THE SOUND OF - THE GREATEST HITS	
12	14	JAMES MORRISON	UNDISCOVERED	
13	12	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	VOICES OF THE VALLEY	
14	10	JAMIROQUAI	HIGH TIMES - SINGLES 1992-2006	
15	16	PINK	FM NOT DEAD	
16	15	SUGABABES	OVERLOADED - THE SINGLES COLLECTION	
17	21	TAKE THAT	NEVER FORGET - THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	
18	18	PAUL WELLER	HIT PARADE	
19	17	FRATELLUS	COSTELLO MUSIC	
20	27	AMY WINEHOUSE	BACK TO BLACK	
21	24	PAOLO NUTINI	THESE STREETS	
22	20	KILLERS	SAW'S TOWN	

55	45	ALL SAINTS	ROCK STEADY	
56	41	PAOLO NUTINI	REWIND	
57	53	BOB SINCLAR & CUTEE B	ROCK THIS PARTY (EVERYBODY DANCE NOW)	
58	58	CAST OF HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL	BREAKING FREE	
59	44	MUSE	KNIGHTS OF CYDONIA	
60	42	SCISSOR SISTERS	LAND OF A THOUSAND WORDS	
61	56	CAST OF HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL	WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER	
62	31	FRATELLUS	WHISTLE FOR THE CHOIR	
63	57	CASSIE	LONG WAY 2 GO	
64	62	FEELING	NEVER BE LONELY	
65	55	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	LOVELIGHT	
66	60	PAOLO NUTINI	LAST REQUEST	
67	59	DAMIEN RICE	9 CRIMES	
68	61	KOOKS	SHE MOVES IN HER OWN WAY	
69	66	PINK	U & UR HAND	
70	75	RAZORLIGHT	IN THE MORNING	
71	54	LEMAR	SOMEONE SHOULD TELL YOU	
72	67	DAVID GUETTA VS THE EGG	LOVE DON'T LET ME GO (WALKING AWAY)	
73		KASABIAN	SHOOT THE RUNNER	
74	68	LILY ALLEN	SMILE	
75	65	PANIC AT THE DISCO	I WRITE SINS NOT TRAGEDIES	

23	25	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE	FUTURESEX/LOVESOUNDS	
24	19	KATHERINE JENKINS	SERENADE	
25	23	ANGELIS	ANGELIS	
26	22	ROD STEWART	STILL THE SAME - GREAT ROCK CLASSICS OF	
27	29	LUTHER VANDROSS	THE ULTIMATE	
28	26	LEMAR	THE TRUTH ABOUT LOVE	
29	28	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	RUDEBOX	
30	30	NEIL DIAMOND	THE BEST OF	
31	35	FEELING	TWELVE STOPS AND HOME	
32	37	LIONEL RICHIE & THE COMMODORES	THE DEFINITIVE COLLECTION	
33	32	CLIFF RICHARD	TWO'S COMPANY - THE DUETS	
34	33	BEYONCE	B'DAY	
35	42	LILY ALLEN	ALRIGHT STILL	
36	36	KOOKS	INSIDE IN/INSIDE OUT	
37	39	ALL ANGELS	ALL ANGELS	
38	34	ANDREA BOCELLI	AMORE	
39	38	MEAT LOAF	BAT OUT OF HELL 3 - THE MONSTER IS LOOSE	
40	31	AEROSMITH	THE VERY BEST OF	
41	41	NELLY FURTADO	LOOSE	
42	49	DAMIEN RICE	9	
43	44	MARY J BLIGE	REFLECTIONS (A RETROSPECTIVE)	
44	40	GLORIA ESTEFAN	THE VERY BEST OF	
45	54	AKON	KONVICTED	
46	46	DEPECHE MODE	THE BEST OF - VOL 1	
47	47	SIMON WEBBE	GRACE	
48	48	GWEN STEFANI	THE SWEET ESCAPE	
49	43	KATIE PRICE & PETER ANDRE	A WHOLE NEW WORLD	
50	51	G4	ACT THREE	
51	50	MUSE	BLACK HOLES & REVELATIONS	

52	53	MCFLY	MOTION IN THE OCEAN	
53	56	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS	STADIUM ARCADIUM	
54	57	ANDY ABRAHAM	SOUL MAN	
55	60	KATIE MELUA	PIECE BY PIECE	
56	58	MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE	THE BLACK PARADE	
57	55	KEANE	UNDER THE IRON SEA	
58	45	BONEY M	THE MAGIC OF	
59	63	KASABIAN	EMPIRE	
60	52	TONY BENNETT	DUETS - AN AMERICAN CLASSIC	
61	62	CHRISTINA AGUILERA	BACK TO BASICS	
62	66	JOOLS HOLLAND & HIS R&B ORCH	MOVING OUT TO THE COUNTRY	
63	65	FAITHLESS	TO ALL NEW ARRIVALS	
64	68	ABBA	NUMBER ONES	
65	59	LIL' CHRIS	LIL' CHRIS	
66	67	LIONEL RICHIE	COMING HOME	
67	61	CARPENTERS	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	
68	68	NAS	HIP HOP IS DEAD	
69	69	TENACIOUS D	THE PICK OF DESTINY	
70	72	QUEEN	GREATEST HITS I, II & III	
71	74	PUSSYCAT DOLLS	PCD	
72	71	MOBY	GO - THE VERY BEST OF	
73	73	GAME	DOCTOR'S ADVOCATE	
74	74	JAY-Z	KINGDOM COME	
75	73	NINA SIMONE	THE VERY BEST OF	

**CHART COMMENTARY from JAMES MASTERTON**

26/12/06

I have this theory, one which I have expanded upon in detail in another place, that Christmas is the best time of the year to be a music fan. Whether subconsciously or by design, artists and their management always ensure that their best product is "in the marketplace" in time for the festive season and the sales rush that results. Pick any seasonal chart from years gone by and you will find more than your fair share of accepted classics.

So how will history judge the product of Christmas 2006? Well they will certainly be recording the predictability of the Christmas Number One. Once again any fun that used to exist in betting just which record would top the pile come Christmas Day has been sucked out by the mighty X Factor juggernaut. Just as in 2005 when winner **Shayne Ward** swept the competition away, so it turns out that TV talent show winner **Leona Lewis** charges to Number One with her debut single 'A Moment Like This'. Following her triumph on the TV show last weekend, a great deal of hypebole was flying around over just how many sales she was doing, with speculation that over a million copies of her single would be shifted in the run up to the big day.

In the event it was a little over half that, the single having sold 571,000 copies, still a phenomenally impressive total in a year when 40,000 has been enough to guarantee a chart-topper. Much will be made of the fact that Leona has sold rather less than Shayne Ward did a year ago, 'That's My Goal' doing three quarters of a million, but it must be pointed out that Leona's single did not arrive in the shops until Wednesday and her early week totals were dependent entirely on downloads. I could rant for hours at the almost criminal stupidity of the music industry allowing a flash in the pan talent show contestant to overshadow the sales and material of the artists on whom they depend for the rest of the year, but I did it all last year and very little has changed.

So let's draw out some interesting positives from the Christmas Number One. This is actually the second time that the song 'A Moment Like This' has launched the career of the winner of a TV talent contest. The emotional ballad was the track chosen for the winner of the very first series of American Idol - a certain **Kelly Clarkson** who similarly turned the US chart on its head by selling thousands of CD singles in a market that had been almost entirely album focused for well over a decade. Her version was never released over here, making this the first time the song has been a hit in this country.

'A Moment Like This' is also notable for being yet another chart-topping production for Steve "Mac" McCutcheon. If I've counted correctly this will be his 17th in all, a quite amazing total accumulated in just seven years thanks to his work with **Boyzone**, **Westlife**, **Ronan Keating**, **Gareth Gates** and oh yes, X Factor and Pop Idol winners like **Michelle McManus**, **Steve Brookstein** and now **Leona Lewis**. Although the single is his first chart-topping production in over a year he is still churning up the list of all-time successful producers faster than anyone else on it. The record for most Number One hits is currently held by George Martin who notched up 28 Number Ones between 1960 and 1997.

So what of the record that but for X Factor may well have been the seasonal chart-topper. Perhaps to the surprise of many that would have been **Take That** who may have seen the four week chart-topping run of **Patience** come to an end but instead can console themselves with the fact that the single still sold an impressive 50,000 copies last week, it's highest total since the 62,000 it shifted in its first week on physical release. A generation ago **Take That** were involved in a rather more closely fought battle for top honours at Christmas. Back in 1993 their single 'Babe' was pretty much odds on to top the chart at Christmas but instead was plipped at the post by **Mr Bobby** in what was at the time a major, major shock.

Take That's success comes at the expense of two other big name acts who had released new singles in time for the Christmas chart. The winners of that particular dual are **McFly** whose single 'Sorry's Not Good Enough'

<http://uk.launch.yahoo.com/charts/comment.html>

didn't even make the Top 10. Downloads last week but whose physical sales are enough to make it a Number 3 hit. That is a marked improvement on the performance of their December hit from last year 'Ultaviolet' which wound up at Number 9 to become their smallest hit to date. If 'Sorry's Not Good Enough' fails to improve on this position next week McFly will have managed the odd feat of following up two consecutive Number One hits with a single that peaked at Number 3, not once, not twice but three times since their career began.

Runners up in the battle of the semi-plastic pop stars are the group who four years ago were exactly where Leona Lewis is now. Christmas 2002 saw **Girls Aloud** become Christmas Number One with 'Sound Of The Underground', released after the viewing audience voted them together in the grand finale of Pop Stars - The Rivals. It all seems so long ago. Having now nicely transcended their reality TV origins, the girls are on a Greatest Hits collection of course and swiftly follow up October's 'Something Kinda Oooh!' with their version of famous old track 'I Think We're Alone Now'. Originally written and recorded by **Tommy James and the Shondells** who had a Top 5 hit with the track in America in 1967, the song is perhaps best known to a more modern audience thanks to the version by teen pop star **Tiffany** who topped the charts on both sides of the Atlantic in 1987 and 1988. It is clearly that version from which Girls Aloud take their inspiration, and proving that you cannot keep a great song down it duly becomes their 14th Top 10 hit on the trot, the first time in two years to boot that they have had back to back Top 5 hits. Indeed the only thing that strikes you about the chart record of Girls Aloud is their lack of Number One hits - just two in all, the last of those coming well over two years ago.

The Christmas chart this year has more than its fair share of Christmassy songs, but the biggest is not only one of the oldest but one which actually nobody was expecting to be there at all. The presence of **The Pogues** and 'Fairytale Of New York' at Number 6 this week, proves that you should never assume anything, especially when the small print of the chart rules gives the OCC the discretion to override the rules about the removal of singles. Given that this is the penultimate chart to be compiled under the old rules, it seemed rather petty to remove a Top 10 single from the chart just because its physical release was exactly 52 weeks ago. Hence the single is allowed to remain, ensuring that for the fourth time it is a hit for Christmas and the third time it has been a Top 10 single. Aside from the still strongly selling **Mariah Carey** (who doesn't have any kind of dispensation for her download-only classic to chart), the other golden oldie in the listings is **Slade's** 'Merry Xmas Everybody' which slides 23-21, just shy of becoming a Top 20 hit for the third time.

The only other significant new arrival on the festive chart is **Razorlight's** 'Before I Fall To Pieces' which limps to Number 17 on combined sales. Whilst we could explain this away by suggesting that the single like so many others before it has just been lost in the Christmas rush, it is also worth noting that it is by no means their smallest hit single ever, although 'Vice and Rip It Up' were released in 2004 before their career went stratospheric.

One could also argue that **Razorlight** are yet another victim of the most curious phenomenon of 2006 - the curse of the Number One single. Many big name acts who have managed a chart-topper this year have released followups on to seem them die on their backsides. Just take a look: **Chico** (Number 24 with his followup), **Orson** (11), **Gnarls Barkley** (10), **Sandi Thom** (22), **Shakira** (34), **Scissor Sisters** (19), and now **Razorlight**. That isn't to say other acts haven't had a little more consistency, **Madonna**, **JT**, **Beyonce** and **Nelly Furtado** have done very nicely thank you but it is incredibly telling that in the whole of 2006 just one act topped the singles chart twice. I just can't bring myself to name them right now.

So that's the Christmas chart and in truth I'm glad we didn't get to hype it up so much this year. Next week will kind of be the end of an era, the last singles chart compiled using the old methodology. If last year is anything of an indication, it should actually be enormous fun. Every single brand new mp3 player unwrapped on Christmas morning will be loaded with

<http://uk.launch.yahoo.com/charts/comment.html>

newly purchased songs over the next few days, and this will likely turn the singles market on its head, if only for one week. Happy Christmas all, see you on new years eve.