

the Sunday MUSIC



ONE2WATCH by ANNA GAULT

ROCKERS Milk Teeth got more than they bargained for after a gig in Scotland — when they were left stranded in a car park with DOGGERS.

Lead singer Becky Blomfeld recalled their van breaking down outside a Glasgow venue, resulting in a horror trip back down south.

The band have headed back here for a gig at King Tut's Wah Wah Hut in the city tonight — and Becky hopes the night doesn't end the way the previous show did.

She said: "We had made it from Dublin to Glasgow and it was freezing cold and our van broke down outside the Garage nightclub.

"We had gone through three countries — Ireland, England and Wales but Scotland broke us.

"There was no sleep and we had to get a hire car and drive it back down south and we almost crashed.

"We then slept in this car park and there were loads of people dogging."

'I was terrified about being a front woman'

But Becky insists the band didn't join in on the antics.

She laughed: "There was definitely no participation — in fact if anyone had been willing I still think they would have been too tired.

"It's a great story for the grandchildren."

The punk rock four-piece, from Stroud, Gloucestershire, started out as a male-lead band but Becky had to step up when original singer Josh Banister left.

Moving out of the shadows and into the spotlight wasn't easy for Becky but her bandmates Chris Webb, Oli Holbrook and Billy Hutton had her back.

She said: "Losing Josh wasn't a bad thing — he wasn't making people very happy.

"But stepping up as lead singer was daunting as hell.

"When I first found out I thought 'Oh s***' but my band mates knew I could do it so I came round to it eventually."

Becky, 26, also plays bass in the band and co-writes their tunes too and she admits she



Get your Milk Teeth into rockers

was content in that role. She said: "I had gone from being the moody bass player on the side to a full front-person of a band.

"I was quite happy hiding behind writing too because I was quite shy.

"It was kind of terrifying but I think everything happens for a reason and it works."

The switch from male vocals to female is stark but Becky feels there is a big gap when it comes to the number of women fronting rock bands.

She admits that growing up there were only a handful of girls to look up to like Gwen Stefani, Shirley Manson and

Hayley Williams — but even they were on the lighter side of rock.

Becky hopes she will be a trailblazer for other women looking to sing in heavier rock bands.

She said: "People have been pretty chilled about me coming forward and they seem to respect it.

'It's amazing to play the same stage as Oasis'

"Strong frontwomen who want to play heavier music are lacking in the industry.

"I want there to be more — I don't think it is fully down to sexism, a lot of it is getting

girls to want to play it or believe they can.

"If I can help lead the way for other girls to try it then that's a great thing because I didn't have a lot of it at a young age."

Becky will show off her frontwoman flair tonight and gets a thrill out of playing the King Tut's venue after legends Oasis were discovered there.

She said: "Scotland shows are always such fun.

"The Scots are always positive which I like.

"King Tut's is such an iconic venue with Oasis being discovered there — they were a band I grew up with — and it's amazing to play the same stage

as they did." The band formed in 2013 and have been touring ever since, and despite their gruelling schedule they can't get enough of it.

Becky said: "I love being on the road but obviously everyone has their down days.

"It's hard maintaining relationships on the phone and people forget that you are juggling a lot when you are away.

"But you're in a band because you want to be out there playing shows.

"I get such a buzz off it. We don't even like getting days off — we just want to be playing all the time."

● seetickets.com/tour/milk-teeth



THE SNUTS

WHO: Jack Cochrane (vocals/guitar), Joe McGillveray (guitar), Callum Wilson (bass), Jordan McKay (drums)

WHERE: Whitburn, West Lothian

FOR FANS OF: The View, The Libertines, Kings Of Leon

JIM SAYS: I first came across The Snuts in March last year. They were playing a gig at Nice N Sleazy in Glasgow that my daughter helped put on as part of her college course.

It was enough to hint that they were on the verge of something special. Sure enough, when I saw them support fellow Whitburn lad Lewis Capaldi at King Tut's in January, they more than backed up my initial thoughts.

Performing to a capacity crowd, they were in their element. Their debut single Glasgow was a particular highlight. As indie rock anthems go, it's up there with the best of them. It is approaching around 250,000 streams on Spotify alone.

They've worked hard at perfecting their music since getting together at school. Singer Jack Cochrane said: "We quickly realised we shared a passion for writing and making music. It always seemed inevitable to us that if we worked hard at



NEW MUSIC By Jim Gellatly

if we would get the gigs and support we wanted. The music has developed massively. From the age of 15 we have written more songs than we know what to do with. But in the last two years we have put together an overall sound that we feel is unique. We're extremely passionate about it."

The singles Proper and Sing For Your Supper continued the momentum. They've now released their first EP, The Matador. A glorious collection of songs to provide further evidence that there's no stopping The Snuts. Jack said: "We recorded it at Nathan Campbell Audio in Livingston. It was the first record that we produced by ourselves.

"After months of 15-hour shifts in the studio we

finally created an EP we are really proud of. We played the EP in its entirety for the first time last Saturday as part of the King Tut's Summer Nights festival in Glasgow.

"It was a huge moment for us hearing a sold-out crowd singing along to every song."

The Snuts play another festival today, with a lunchtime appearance at Kendal Calling in the Lake District. Closer to home they'll headline The Scottish Sun Break Out Stage at Glen's Party at the Palace in Linlithgow on Saturday, August 12, along with X Factor star Lucy Spraggan.

Jack said: "We attended it a couple of years ago when Chic featuring Nile Rodgers headlined. The festival had a great vibe. With it being so close to Whitburn we look forward to having that small-town support we've become accustomed to."

The Snuts share the bill with the likes of Kaiser Chiefs, Ash and The Lightning Seeds on the first day. Amy Macdonald headlines the main stage on the Sunday. Ticket info at partyatthepalace.co.uk.

MORE: facebook.com/TheSnutsOfficial
● Jim presents a weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio Sundays 2-4pm.

amazingradio.com
jimgellatly.com

▶ Watch a video of the band playing at: www.thescottishsun.co.uk