

Andy Irvine in Tulla Nov. 8th

The Island Music Club

*Our next show takes place in **Minogues Bar, Tulla, Co Clare** when we welcome
Andy Irvine*

Sat Nov 8th, Onstage @ 9:30pm. Bookings Contact : **086-8599957**



Photo © Shigeru Suzuki

From Andy:

Welcome to my website!

<http://andyirvine.com/about.html>

It's been running now since early 2001. I'd been meaning to put this on the Internet for a couple of years, ever since I'd noticed that somebody else had put up a site called "Andy Irvine's web page," where my surname was spelt in about three different ways! I hope nobody was fooled into thinking it really was my web page!

Anyway, as you can see, I'm writing this myself in the first person singular. If you continue, you will find a longish autobiography in nine chapters. This is also written by me.

I could have gone down the well worn path of having somebody write a eulogy but I'm not really into the highways of Music Business hype. So...you may think this 'homely'.

Well it is but hopefully it makes a refreshing change from the usual Publicity Bureau type approach.

-Andy

My Instruments

My instruments have been made for some years, by Stefan Sobell (www.sobellinstruments.com) in Northumberland in the North of England. I wanted a rounder, warmer sound and we came to the conclusion that a bigger body was the answer. Rather than have a very large tear drop shaped body, I opted for the guitar shape which is easier to hold. A pity in a way because people who do not know me think I'm playing a guitar.

Stefan also made me a mandolin/mandola. Never quite know what to call it. Its two frets longer than a mandolin. I used to play a Gibson mandola which had the same string length as Stefans. Classicly, a mandola should be tuned way down to CGDA but I always thought this stupid with a Gibson because it didn't have a big enough body, nor a long enough string length to cope with the hawser-like strings required. So I thought it logical--as it was two frets longer than a mandolin-- to tune it a tone lower, using mandolin strings. So I tune it FCGC (I nearly always have the top string tuned down a tone)

When baggage allowances permit, I also play a bass bouzouki, made for me by Davy Stuart in Christchurch, New Zealand. This is a large bodied bouzouki-shaped bouzouki with heavy strings. At present I have .056s on the 4th, 38s on the third, 26s on 2nd and unwound 16s on the top. I have been tuning it DAEA--a 4th down from the usual Irish bouzouki tuning of GDAD but recently found that it would go down to CGDG--a 5th lower. It sounds grreat!

The Island Music Club

We have been running musical events in County Clare for almost 5 years as "The Island Music Club". We currently operate in a number of venues namely, Minogue's Bar, Tulla, the Highway Bar, Crusheen and The Barge Rooms in Ennis.

The following are a small portion of the acts that we have had. **"Scullion, Mick Hanly, Roesy, Tír Na Nóg, Freddie White, Johnny Fean & Steve Travers, Jim Page, Eleanor McEvoy, Frankie Lane & Paul Kelly, Clive Barnes, John Spillane, Ger Wolfe, Jimmy Crowley, Sonny Condell, Dawn Kenny, Fred, Tommy Peoples, Gerry O'Beirne, Sean Tyrrell.**

Crusheen Singers Club

The Highway Bar is also the home of the Crusheen Singers Club who have been in existence for more than 6 years. The singers club runs on the second Wednesday of every month all year round. The session consists of unaccompanied singing of mainly traditional or folk songs. All singers and listeners are welcome. Occasionally instruments are allowed by pre-arrangement and from time to time we have special guest singers/musicians. *To contact the singers club call 00353-86-8599957 or email fhayes23@gmail.com.*