

Paul Ryan

Paul Ryan, son of Joseph and Margaret Ryan, New Line, Roscrea, started Irish dancing at the age of four with Doreen Browne's Dancing School. He went on to compete in competitions such as the Munster Championships, the All-Irelands, American Nationals, British Nationals and the World Championships. At the age of eight he began to learn music with Joan Murray playing tin whistle in the Roscrea Marching Band. He then went to Teresa Larkin to learn Piano-accordion. It was at this stage he began to compete in Fleadh Cheoil competitions representing Roscrea CCE. At the age of thirteen, he taught himself Piano and Flute and also competed at County, Munster and All-Ireland level with these instruments.

Paul started touring at the age of fifteen, going to Australia, Asia, Germany and France with the Irish Group "Ceol Ciarraí". After his leaving Certificate, having been bitten by the travel bug, Paul joined "Lord of the Dance" and performed on stage with Michael Flatley, touring for one year as a dancer. For the following two years he toured as a musician with "Gaelforce Dance" playing piano-accordion, tin whistle, flute and low whistle. In the three years of touring he revisited Australia and went to America, Canada, New Zealand, Tasmania, South Africa and performed in the major cities of Europe.

He is now in second year in St. Patrick's Teacher Training College studying education with a major in music. Last year he returned to music competition and won the All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil on Piano in the senior category. Presently, he is teaching music every weekend in Roscrea passing on skills and knowledge learned from performing on the world stage and his career of teaching, and he is keeping dancing skills fine-tuned by dancing in Dublin in a show called "Celtic Rhythm".

