

# Back from Nashville with new songs

Ramelton's rising Country star Trevor Loughrey bumped into a few stars on his visit to Tennessee earlier this month.

BY SEÁN P. FEENY

One of Donegal's rising stars of Country Music has released two very successful albums in just over a year and now he's all set for his third.

Ramelton's Trevor Loughrey has just returned from Nashville, Tennessee where he recorded two brand new songs which are set to feature on his new album next summer.

Trevor recently spent ten days in 'the home of Country music' with his good friend, Highland Radio's Tommy Rosney, on a tour organised by Hugh O'Brien and the Hot Country Sky Channel.

While he was there, Trevor was introduced to broadcaster, journalist and founder of the Country Music Association of Ireland, Roger Ryan.

He said: "Roger is a real authority when it comes to Country music and spends time in Nashville at least two to three times a year.

"I knew that while I was in Nashville I'd want to record a few songs and Roger would be the man to point me into the right direction.

"Roger put me in contact with Mark Thornton, a well-known guitarist and friend of the late Grammy Award-winning singer and actor, Jerry Reed who wrote East Bound And Down, the theme song for the movie Smokey And The Band in which he also co-starred alongside none other than Burt Reynolds."

Trevor spent a full day in Mark's studio with session musicians who have played with everyone from Marty Stewart, Alan Jackson, Kenny Chesney, Toby Keith and even the great Johnny Cash himself.

"We recorded two songs which I want to keep a secret until they new album is out next year," he laughed. "Tommy [Rosney] and I were just mesmerised from the moment we arrived in the studio that day.

"I've never recorded with session musicians before and the difference is simply amazing, but I have to admit that I was very nervous at first singing in front of such accomplished musicians," said Trevor.

"But they were a great bunch of fellas and put me at ease immediately while Mark is just fantastic at his job as a producer."

Trevor also bumped into a few big stars of the American Country music industry which he was in Nashville.

"I met Mark Chesnutt who told me that he had heard my version of his song It Wouldn't Hurt To Have Wings while he was browsing the Internet one day and he told me I did a great version," said Trevor.

"I also met Vince Gill at the Old Station House outside Nashville where he performs every Thursday.

"Of course we also went to the Grand Ole Opry and we got to meet Laurie Morgan and none other than Kris Kristofferson," he said.

While he is still working on his third album to date, Trevor has already released a brand new song.

Just last week his new hit (My Heart Goes) Tickety Boo, written by Mary B. Nielson, has been playing nonstop on North Western airwaves and around the country.

The single, which was recorded at Terry McGinty's studio in Ballybofey, also features a b-side Home To You, written by John Michael Montgomery, which Trevor specially

recorded for his wife Collette.

"My wife Collette really loved the song when she first heard it and being away from her for ten days in Nashville really reminded me of why I recorded the song for her, it's tough being away from your loved ones."

Trevor has chosen eleven songs for his new album, a number he has stuck with from his first release for a very special reason.

When Trevor released his first album he named it Eleven, featuring eleven songs, dedicated to his late grandmother who passed away on November 11, eleven years on from the release of the album.

For his second album, Write This Down' he stuck to this number and he will do the same for his new album once it's release next June/July.

Trevor admitted he can't believe how well things have been going over the past year, with his first two albums receiving tremendous feedback and more importantly a lot of airplay. "I have to say a big thank you to all my friends and family who have supported me over the past year and followed me around to all the gigs and especially the radio DJs who have played my music."

Trevor said he has been very fortunate to get a lot of gigs performing at concerts alongside the likes of Lisa McHugh, Nathan Carter, Shawn Cuddy, Margo and Brian Coll.

One of the big gigs coming up in the new year will be A Night Of The Stars at the Mt Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on January 31, a fund-raising night in aid of Ramelton man Jonathan Patton's Rise To Challenge Cycling For Cancer' around Ireland.

*For all of Trevor Loughrey's upcoming dates, further information or to purchase one of his albums long onto his website [trevorloughrey.com](http://trevorloughrey.com) or find him on facebook.*



Trevor with Country Superstar Vince Gill.



Trevor with American Country artist Mark Chesnutt.



Trevor, Highland Radio's Tommy Rosney and the session musicians at Mark Thornton's studio in Nashville, TN.