

# Couple who found happy ever after in Lisdoon return for 10th anniversary



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ONE OF the great romances of the Lisdoonvarna Matchmaking Festival returned to North Clare this weekend - ten years after cupid's arrow struck in the famous Matchmakers Bar.

Husband and wife, Enda and Stacey McDarby, returned to Lisdoonvarna on Saturday, ten years after meeting for the first time at the 2006 festival.

The pair managed to get together without the help of local matchmaker, Willie Daly, with just a few moments in the famous Matchmaker Bar enough to bring the pair together.

It was Limerick woman Stacey's first trip to Lisdoonvarna when she met her future husband Enda - who she spotted before she even parked the car.

"We drove into the town and it was packed, I saw a bunch of lads walking up

and there was my husband. I was giving him the eye and smiling at him but he looked away. I thought he was married or maybe not interested. It wasn't until we met them later in the night club that I spoke to him.

"I was talking to him for ages and wondering was he ever going to make the move. So I made the move, I went in for the shift and that was that."

Seven months after their first meeting in Lisdoonvarna, Stacey quit her job and left Limerick to live with Enda in Kildare. A decade on they are happily married with two young children.

"We didn't even need the matchmaker. We'd put Willie Daly out of the job - if people find out I was able to find love without going into Willie's corner," said Stacey. "It was amazing going back over the weekend. We haven't been back for ten years and it was an amazing trip. The atmosphere was just the same."

Kerry politician, Michael Healy

