

# PROUST

## QUESTIONNAIRE

**Sarah McQuaid**

SINGER/SONGWRITER

**What is your idea of perfect happiness?**

A long bright summer evening, sitting on the deck with my husband, glass of wine in hand, and the two kids playing together in the garden with no tears or squabbles. It might still happen some day ...



**Which historical figure do you most identify with?**

Jane Austen.

**Which living person do you most admire?**

I admire so many different people I can't rank them one above the other.

**Which is the trait you most deplore in yourself?**

Failure to make time for the truly important things in life.

**What is your greatest extravagance?**

I'm hoping to buy a horse some time in the next year, which will be extravagant indeed!

**What is your favourite journey?**

When walking in the Wicklow mountains.

**On what occasion do you lie?**

I'm not a good liar. The few times in my life I've said something that wasn't true, I've turned a deep shade of magenta, which is a bit of a giveaway.

**Which living person do you most despise?**

George W Bush.

**What or who is the greatest love of your life?**

My children and my husband.

**When and where were you happiest?**

I have a vivid memory of being 10 or 11 years old, standing in the vegetable garden on my grandmother's farm, eating a ripe tomato I'd just picked.

**Which talent would you most like to have?**

The ability to manage my time well.

**What is your current state of mind?**

Distracted.

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**

Bringing my two children into the world.

**If you were to die and come back as a person or a thing, what do you think it would be?**

I'd love to come back as a tree, but doubt I'll be that lucky.

**What is your most treasured possession?**

My guitar. It's a Martin D-28 made in 1965 and I have nightmares about it being stolen or damaged.

**What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery?**

Feeling that I've let other people down.

**What is your favourite occupation?**

Playing music. Well, it would be, wouldn't it?

**What is the quality you most like in a man?**

Trustworthiness.

**What is the quality you most like in a woman?**

Trustworthiness.

**Who are your favourite writers?**

Jane Austen, Alice Munro, Edward P Jones.

**What is your motto?**

Everything will be all right in the end.

*Sarah plays The Crane Bar, Sea Road, on Monday at 9pm. Tickets are €10 from The Crane on 091 - 587419 or [www.thecranebar.com](http://www.thecranebar.com). See also [www.sarahmcquaid.com](http://www.sarahmcquaid.com) and [www.myspace.com/sarahmcquaid](http://www.myspace.com/sarahmcquaid)*

**Kernan Andrews**