

Sinéad asked for equality with co-hosts... but station said 'no'

EXCLUSIVE

By **Niamh Walsh**
AND **Eoin Murphy**

SINÉAD Desmond has left her presenting job on TV3 because of a dispute over the gender pay gap, the Irish Mail on Sunday can exclusively reveal.

The Dublin-born television personality left her job at the station after a row with bosses over the pay difference between her wages and those of Mark Cagney and Alan Hughes.

The MoS understands that her co-hosts on the sofa earn considerably more and that Sinéad broached the subject with management, but they have refused to meet her request for comparable pay.

A source told the newspaper: 'She went into them and said she was disgusted at the difference. But they said "no".'

'They have called her bluff.'

They earn considerably more pay than her

Her decision to quit her Ireland AM role will surprise fans, many of whom have taken to social media to express their concern over her absence.

She has also given voice to the growing anger over the difference between what women and men are paid for doing what seem to be similar jobs, and she has retweeted a number of anti-gender-pay-gap messages in recent months.

Sinéad, 43, has not been seen on TV3 since late August, after the gender-gap issue was brought to national attention as a result of RTE's popular Six One News co-presenter, Sharon Ní Bheoláin, spoke out on it.

Confirming her departure this week, a TV3 spokesperson said she was no longer working at the station.

The representative said: 'Sinéad Desmond has decided to leave Ireland AM after 11 years working on the show. We would like to thank Sinéad and wish her well for the future.'

TV3 insiders argue that there are many variables involved and it's not just as simple as a gender pay gap.

Mark Cagney has been at TV3 for the past 17 years after joining the station when it was in its infancy. Alan Hughes has been there for more than 15 years and although he is not on the staff he



Ireland AM presenter quits TV3 in row over gender pay

TAKING A STAND: Sinéad Desmond and, above, with Mark Cagney, Alan Hughes and Ciara Doherty

negotiates contract deals that keep him at the Ballymount station.

Sinéad has been at TV3 for the past 11 years.

Length of service is a consideration when salaries are negotiated, TV3 sources say.

The MoS understands that after Sharon Ní Bheoláin revealed that she was on a lower salary than Bryan Dobson, Sinéad broached the subject with station bosses.

The Dalkey-based presenter has

been absent from screens since August when she took leave from the station as they tried to resolve

Spoke out after Sharon Ní Bheoláin raised issue

the dispute. She hasn't been back on screen since. And with TV3 unwilling to bend on the issue,

Sinéad then took the decision to quit her role. She declined to comment on her departure when approached to speak this week.

However, in the past week she has retweeted a number of tweets that have centred on the subject of pay equality. She was especially active last week and retweeted on a number of accounts with the hashtag 'EqualPayDay'.

She retweeted a tweet from BBC's Orla Guerin: 'When I started

full-time work, in 1985, never occurred to me that I or any female colleague might be paid a penny less than a man for the same work. Have learned some lessons since then. #EqualPayDay.'

The phrase 'EqualPayDay' refers to the day in the year when women, according to average pay rates, will effectively be working for free, when wages are compared to their male colleagues.

niamh.walsh@mailonsunday.ie



DOWNFALL: Kevin Myers

I was treated like a paedophile or rapist

SACKED journalist Kevin Myers has blamed political correctness for his downfall and said the treatment he received would be fitting for 'a paedophile, a rapist or an unrepentant terrorist'.

He also criticised Taoiseach Leo Varadkar for welcoming his dismissal after an article he wrote in The Sunday Times, was labelled anti-Semitic by some. While admitting the piece was 'poor', he denied the anti-Semitism charge and said the Jewish Representative Council had supported him, the Leinster Express reported.

By **Eoin Reynolds**

Myers was speaking at the James Fintan Lalor Autumn School in the Midlands Park Hotel in Portlaoise yesterday. He bemoaned the lack of due process involved in his ban by The Sunday Times and condemned the 'politically correct mobs' that labelled him a bigot and an anti-Semite.

He accused some journalists of killing freedom of speech by destroying freedom of expression, the freedom to offend and to be

wrong. Addressing the Taoiseach's role in his demise, he said: 'Perhaps the worst damage came from the Taoiseach and Tánaiste [Frances Fitzgerald]. When I thought I was steadying the ship, the Taoiseach not merely applauded my dismissal but, by extension, he applauded my being banned for the rest of my life by The Sunday Times.'

He said the article he had written was 'systematically misrepresented' and he was labelled on the 'Twitosphere' as an anti-Semite.

He said: 'At 4am the editor of The Sunday Times was woken up and took down my column online, and that pretty much was that.'

'Anybody who knows me, such as the Jews of Ireland, knows that I am not anti-Semitic and I am and remain a firm friend of Israel.'

'This is the kind of punishment you reserve for a paedophile, for a rapist, for an unrepentant terrorist.'

'It is not the voice of the Catholic Church any more,' he continued. 'It is the voice of political correctness,' he added.

By **Niamh Walsh**

SHOWBUSINESS EDITOR

VOGUE Williams recently announced her engagement to her London boyfriend Spencer Matthews – but does she have other news she's hoping to tell us?

The glamorous presenter jetted into Dublin this week to celebrate Elle No.5 beauty salon's third birthday.

Wearing a floaty Helen Steele dress that draped her figure gently, Vogue happily sipped on water all night.

Last week, on March 6, Vogue revealed on her Instagram page that she had begun to develop motion sickness when in a car for more than 20 minutes, joking that it was a 'fantastic new addition to my life'.

Motion sickness can be a symptom of pregnancy, particularly if it wasn't an issue before.

The television personality has also been wearing a variety of floaty dresses of late in place of the more form-fitting numbers she is well known for.

On the same day as the motion sickness post, she shared a picture of a hot pink floaty M&S dress, telling her followers on Twitter: 'Can summer hurry up already so I can wear this dress, tights don't do it justice.'

Last month – on February 10 – Vogue denied that she got cosmetic surgery to enhance her bust after she shared a racy

With a 'fuller' figure, car sickness, and a new-found love of floaty numbers, is there something the glam presenter is not telling us?

Vogue keeps us in



suspense(r)

Vogue has had to deny having cosmetic surgery on her bust

lingerie snap after uploading a picture, again on Instagram.

Posing in a lacy bodysuit she showed off her killer figure, but was soon bombarded with questions about her seemingly bigger bust.

The 32-year-old, who also does some modelling, flaunted her curves in a red bodysuit, adding the caption: 'BTS [behind the scenes] from last week's shoot with @officialbrownthomas I love this body suit, no more Bridget Jones knicks for me!'

Fans were quick to question if she had cosmetic surgery: 'Are those boobs real?'

While another asked: 'Is it photoshop or you got your boobs done? If you did just to say you didn't need to, they were perfect.'

However, Vogue was quick to nip those rumours in the bud replying: 'No but they look mahoooooooooosive!'

When approached by the MoS at the Elle No.5 beauty salon event, and asked if she was expecting, the usually chatty Vogue remained tight-lipped and said she wasn't 'answering any questions'.

Vogue announced her engagement last month to Made in Chelsea star Spencer Matthews on Instagram. Spencer got down on one knee following a tour of The Lion King on the West End and presented Vogue with a bespoke €200,000 diamond ring.

In 2012, exclusive access of her first wedding to former Westlife star, Brian McFadden, was sold to Hello! Magazine.

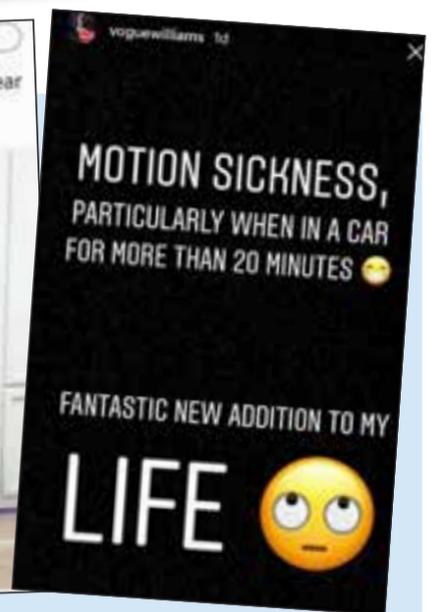
She later had a column with the celeb mag in which she wrote about her break-up after three years of marriage.

niamh.walsh@mailonsunday.ie



A LOVE THAT STAYS IN STYLE

FUN IN THE SUN: The couple got engaged 11 months after meeting on the set of a reality television show. Since then, they've left their fans in no doubt as to their happiness.



PERFECT CHOICE: Olivia Colman and Hugh Laurie

Guess Hugh might take over The Crown...

By **Katie Hind**

HE'S known for his caustic one-liners, not to mention the occasional flash of temper. So who better to play Prince Charles than Hugh Laurie?

The Mail on Sunday understands the Fry and Laurie star is being lined up to replace Matt Smith, who played the younger Prince Philip, in the third series of the hit Netflix

drama The Crown, which covers the period from the 1960s to the 1980s.

Creator Peter Morgan – who has already announced that Olivia Colman, 44, will play the Queen, taking over from Claire Foy – is said to be 'very keen' on Laurie to

portray Philip in middle age. If the 58-year-old accepts the role, it would mean renewing his partnership with Miss Colman that was so successful in the recent BBC series, The Night Manager.

One source said: 'Hugh's name has been swirling around for a long while now and it hasn't yet stopped – he is the sort of big name that

would draw in viewers. He and Olivia were formidable on The Night Manager and bosses of The Crown would love to recreate that.

'Other actors have been considered, but Hugh is viewed as the perfect choice.'

Helena Bonham Carter will play Princess Margaret in the next series, replacing Vanessa Kirby.

Q What do you get when you pair an All-Ireland model with an All-Ireland medallist?

A A love match made in heaven!

'IRISH GUYS ARE SHYER': Former Miss Ireland Jessica Hayes doesn't think her looks are intimidating



HE may be the Hurler of the Year and a living legend to his devoted fans in Galway, but to the new love in his life, Joe Canning is more likely a funny guy... and a bit shy.

The All-Ireland winner is dating former Miss Ireland, model Jessica Hayes, the Irish Mail on Sunday can exclusively reveal... and she knows exactly what she wants in her man.

The quality hurler and the Assets model were introduced by mutual friends before Christmas and have been an item since. But the MoS understands that Canning – who last year led Galway to their first All-Ireland victory in 29 years, and is fearless in his pursuit of glory on the pitch – was smitten with Jessica for some time before plucking up the courage to ask her out.

Since he did, their romance has

EXCLUSIVE

By Niamh Walsh

SHOWBUSINESS EDITOR

blossomed and Cork model Jessica was in Joe's home county of Galway last weekend for a romantic Easter break. A source told the MoS: 'They are getting on really well. They suit each other and

SHY SIDE: Joe was smitten for some time before he asked Jessica out

are really happy.' And as well as being a sporting hero, Joe must also have a funny side, as Jessica previously told the MoS that she was looking for a man to make her laugh.

Only last July, her catwalk career was the most important aspect of her life. She told the MoS: 'I have been single for some time now, I am just focused on work and getting established in London.' She also revealed that

she was on the look out for a chirpy Irish chap. And while she didn't think her stunning looks and enviable figure could intimidate men, she said it had been mentioned to her by her model boss.

'I really want someone who can make me laugh'

'I wouldn't say that guys are intimidated but Courtney [O'Hara, the Assets boss] does say that they can be,' she said with a laugh.

'But I don't think so. Although, in general, I do think Irish guys are far shyer and would hesitate before asking any girl out.

'And there are definitely more

girls than guys out there. English guys would be far more forward. So I don't really get asked out on a lot of dates.

'I do go on dates but it's not that often. I'm not looking for anything serious at the moment. I just really want someone who can make me laugh. As clichéd as that sounds that's what I want.'

Jessica, 23, has always harboured dreams of becoming a model since a young age. She took the Miss Ireland title in 2014 after she entered the competition for second time. 'I won Miss Ireland in the summer of 2014. So I was Miss Ireland until 2015,' she said.

'I had always thought about being a model but I hadn't really got the confidence but my friends pushed me into entering for Miss Cork.'

niamh.walsh@mailonsunday.ie

Love in an Insta! Daniella snaps her new love Dave



BASKING: Daniella with Dave on her worldwide travels

MODEL Daniella Moyles has gone public – or insta public – over her new romance with poker player Dave Foran.

As we previously revealed, Daniella has been dating Foran for some time, and he has joined her on a round-the-world jaunt.

This week Daniella uploaded a series of pictures to her Instagram page showing the pair in some gloriously exotic locations.

They are seen basking in the flush of early romance, holding hands on a beach and snorkelling with exotic fish in the clear blue sea.

Daniella's decision to go insta public with her Foran came just

By Niamh Walsh

weeks after we revealed that the pair had been dating.

Formerly based in the US, Foran moves around depending on his poker tournament schedule.

Daniella, who recently split from her artist boyfriend Maser, decided late last year to quit her job with Spin radio and go on the world trip.

And in the last few months she was joined by Foran, who is the son of music promoter Pat Egan and a promoter in his own right, as well as a professional gambler.

Last month, Daniella made a



UNDER SEA: The couple snorkelling

fleeting reference to her new man when she put out a video with the comment: 'When you're sick and

your boyfriend brings you food.'

Foran has told friends at home that he enjoys his trips with Daniella, and that they are 'getting on amazing'.

He is also understood to be a good friend of Daniella's former boyfriend Maser, who is still on good terms with Daniella, despite the pair splitting late last year. Maser has previously dated Vogue Williams and Thalia Heffernan.

When Daniella left Spin last July and decided to take off around the globe without Maser, she said: 'It's not an easy task to just go travelling on your own as a lady, but I'm going to give it my best shot.'