

MID-LIFE CRISIS

Sometimes it's better to just do nothing

Brendan O'Connor
Page 13



ALL NEW

7 day TV listings

Anne Boleyn and the Wolf at the door
Page 39



LIVING

THEATRE,
CINEMA,
RELATIONSHIPS,
BOOKS &
ARTS



WHERE DID IT ALL GO WRONG FOR THE PLAYBOY PRINCE?

THE EDGE



Barry Egan

Ex Miss Ireland moves to Windy City



US BOUND: Glamorous Siobhan McClafferty

SOME bad news involving America. No, Health Minister Leo Varadkar *hasn't* been sunburnt on his hols in Miami and needed urgent treatment on trolley. (Getting trolleyed has taken on a whole new meaning.) No, the bad news is that Siobhan McClafferty is moving to Chicago at the end of the month with her partner Julian O'Sullivan

and Siobhan's 14-year-old daughter Lauren. (Another beautiful, dynamic blonde exits my life — am I missing something here?) They are getting their visas next Friday. Even Siobhan's dog Jody had to get a passport to travel. "If she wasn't going, I wasn't. She's like another family member," Siobhan told me.

"We're all going over with Julian's job. He's

been offered a fantastic opportunity there. I'm really excited about getting involved in something new over there. The land of opportunities and all that.

"But I will miss Ireland terribly," Miss Ireland 1990 said.

At least any sense of sadness at Dublin airport — when Siobhan and Julian jet out to Chicago — will be tempered by the fact that

Siobhan and Julian met there in the summer of 2012. The beauty queen turned businesswoman was at the airport to meet her little brother John off a flight from Madrid.

As Cupid pulled back his bow, 6ft 4 Julian was coming in off a flight from America, when he spotted Siobhan. He immediately thought of an excuse to chat to her. So, they'll have plenty to

talk about on the flight to Amerikay.

John Rocha's daughter Zoe is jetting to New York in May. Not permanently. She is filming for her new company. Zoe and her husband Matt Tester (they married at Christmas, 2013 with Zoe in a dress specially made by her famous daddy) rang in 2015 at London's Shoreditch House's uber-bling New Year's Eve party.

Cruella turn for Queen Victoria

THE rain in Spain? Perhaps the precipitation is lighter in Catalonia than county Louth . . . which is maybe why one of Dundalk's most famous daughters spent the Christmas and New Year happily in Barcelona.

I speak, of course, of Sharon Corr.

The singer enjoyed a long Yule with her husband Gavin Bonnar and their two kids, Cathal and Flori. Sharon will be jetting off to Australia on tour next month. So she deserved some r'n'r in Espana with her nearest and dearest before she goes Down Under.

Another ultra-creative Irish beauty, however, flew home from warmer climes for the festive season.

Internationally acclaimed actress Victoria Smurfit flew in from her adopted home in Los Angeles with her husband Dougie Baxter and their three young children Evie, Ridley and Flynn.

"I spent Christmas eating all the Brennans and sausages I could! It was lovely to be home. I've no idea when I'll be back again," Victoria told me from LA, where she has lived for four years.

The striking blonde added that she was packing because she was, last Monday, "off to Vancouver"



GLAMOUR TRIP: Victoria Smurfit is due at the Golden Globes in Beverly Hills after filming in Vancouver

to film her part as Cruella de Vil for Disney's *Once Upon a Time*. "Fun stuff," she said.

Even more fun stuff awaits as the star, who was born in Dublin on January 7, 1974 — she looks closer to 31 than 41

— is due back in La La Land for tonight's Golden Globes. "I'm looking forward to going with [her media pal] Patricia Danaher."

Who knows, maybe next year Queen Vic might well go home with an award for Cruella?

Dolores makes a transfer to Manhattan

I'M glad to report (exclusively, obviously) that Dolores O'Riordan is singing a happy tune these days. . . My favourite chanteuse is not only in a very good place emotionally — after her well-publicised troubles last year — but she is actually in a very good place geographically too.

Dolores has officially moved to New York. Indeed the one-time singer with The Cranberries is in the middle of putting down roots by buying a new home in the city that never sleeps — a bit like Dolores before, until, with the help of friends and family, she re-found her Zen inner calm.

"I'm in the process of buying an apartment here in the East Village," she told me. "It's a lovely pad. It's beautiful, with a veranda," said Dolores, who clearly didn't linger in Limerick and decided to make the Manhattan transfer.

"I love New York," she added. "I guess I was captive for so long. So I love it here. The people are



NEW YORK STATE OF MIND: Dolores O'Riordan chats to Barry Egan. Photo: Kyran O'Brien

so nice in New York. I have tons of fans here and they're polite and discreet."

Dolores enjoyed the festive season in the Big Apple with two members of her sublime new band, Jetlag NYC — bassist Andy Rourke (once of

The Smiths) and DJ Ole Koretsky. "I spent Christmas here in New York with Andy, his wife and Ole. It was nice and quiet. New Year's Eve is mad here but really cool. It's so nice to be alive."

It's so nice to have the old Dolores back too.

Flatley and wife at Cork top table

MICHAEL Flatley and his lovely wife Niamh will be at the top table in Cork this Friday at the Rochestown Park Hotel. I suppose this is nothing new, because down the road in their sumptuous 18th-Century home Castlehyde, Mr & Mrs

Flatley are at — or perhaps knowing The Lord Of The Dance's world-famous libido *on* — the top table every night. Only joking.

At the chic gala for The Cork Person Of The year, the deity of dance will be presented with an Honorary Corkman award by local resident and superstar

Jeremy Irons. Possibly to ensure these two humble souls won't be stuck for a few words of luvvie mutual appreciation, the joint masters of ceremonies, *Nationwide* presenter Mary Kennedy and MEP Brian Crowley, will be on hand if necessary.

Those expected in the

real capital include culinary geniuses Rachel and Darina Allen, politicians Micheal Martin and Minister Simon Coveney, sporting legends Donal Lenihan and Sonia O'Sullivan as well as bishops John Buckley and Paul Colton. A great day awaits. Bopping bishops below in Cork?



CHIC GALA: Niamh and Michael Flatley will be at an awards lunch where the dancer will be made an honorary Corkman