

Lisa says Tony Quinn's fees worth paying if guru builds self-esteem

CONTROVERSY: Support as stylist launches own seminars



CONTROVERSIAL: Tony Quinn and his partner Eve Hatting

By Lorna Nolan

TOP stylist and model mum Lisa Fitzpatrick has spoken out in support of controversial health guru Tony Quinn. She said the work he does to help people gain confidence is invaluable, no matter what the cost.

The businessman was this week forced to defend himself when his company and supporters came in for attack over the amount of money he charges people for seminars, with some even comparing his organisation to a cult.

However, the stunning blonde rubbished the claims, and said that the self-help classes are a necessary part of society and people should be allowed to make their own decisions without being judged.

She told the *Herald*: "I think it's a case of whatever works for you. Some people go to fortune tellers and if that works for them, I'm all for it."

"If someone wants to read into angels then let them on and if someone else gets help from Tony Quinn's seminars then it can only be doing good for them."

"I would never put down anything whether it's Reiki, massages, acupuncture or Tony Quinn's methods," she added.

And given that Lisa is about to launch her own Style and Body academy, she's all about building confidence from an early age.

In fact, Lisa's so keen on her new venture, she might sacrifice her blossoming media career if it takes off in order to travel the country and give seminars full-time.

"I absolutely love giving the seminars. My first one is this weekend and I honestly cannot wait."

'I gained confidence from self-help and I want to share that'

"You can take the TV and the radio and the styling and do whatever with it. This is my passion and nothing else gives you the sense of satisfaction it does."

"I get lovely letters and notes and calls from people thanking me for changing their lives and I just can't describe the pleasure it brings me."

"I can immediately sense the people who are in need of help because their shoulders are hunched

forward and they can't make eye contact with anyone."

"My dream is to get them standing tall and proud. I'm not going to lie, it takes a lot of tears and emotional outbursts, but we always get there in the end," she said.

Having suffered from low self-esteem herself in the past, Lisa swears by the motivational teaching approach.

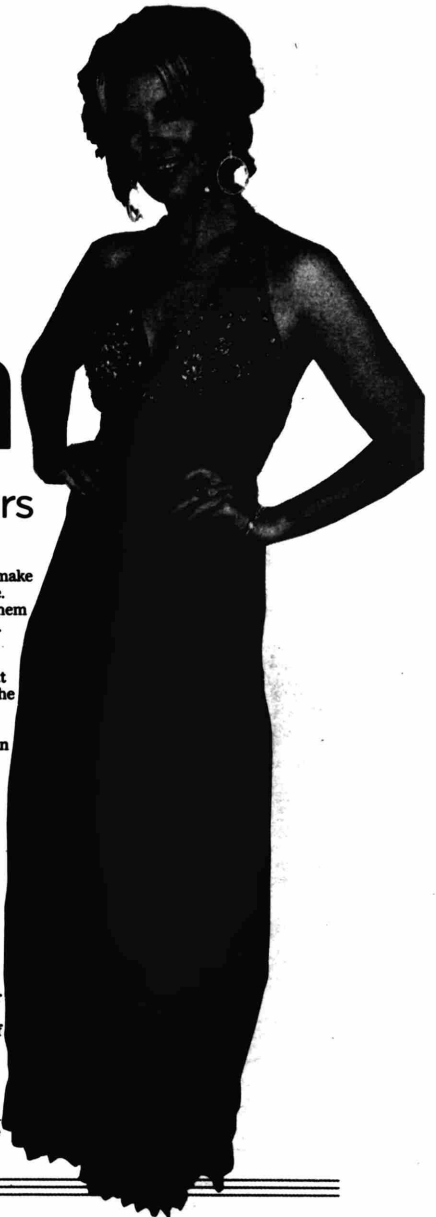
"I used to go into a room and I'd get nervous," she revealed.

"I was too shy and afraid to even look at people let alone talk to them."

"I felt so inadequate talking to people who had more qualifications and had studied more than me because I never went to college."

"It's only as a result of all the self-help that I've gained confidence and I want to share it with others."

hnews@herald.ie



Late Late show pays tribute to Fair City's Mags

By Lorna Nolan

TONIGHT'S Late Late Show promises to be an emotional one as Joan Brosnan Walsh, one of Ireland's best-known actresses will join Pat Kenny to bid farewell to more than 20 years on screen.

Tragically, the well-known actress, who plays Mag's Kelly in RTE's Fair City, has been forced to give up her role in the soap following a devastating diagnosis of motor neurone disease.

QUIT

Joan was first diagnosed with MND last year and made the difficult decision to quit the Dublin soap before her condition deteriorates.

According to the actress: "I



MAGS: Joan Brosnan Walsh

suppose it all started in October 2007. I was in the south of France with my neighbour and I was having a wonderful time; drinking wine in the evenings.

"One morning when we were standing on the platform in Cannes waiting for a train, I noticed I was slurring my words.

We both joked that I was still drunk. But it persisted," she says. Chat show host, Pat Kenny revealed he is delighted to have the privilege of honouring Joan's years as an actress.

EAGER

"Brave Joan is joining us tonight to reflect on 20 years playing Mags Kelly and to tell us why raising awareness for Motor Neurone Disease is so important," he told the *Herald*.

Joan will also be joined by husband Willie Brosnan-Walsh and daughters Helen and Ingrid, not to mention a host of Fair City faces, all of whom are eager to pay tribute to a popular colleague.

Among those who'll be making an appearance are TV husband

Tom Jordan who plays Charlie Kelly, Martina Stanley who is better known as Dolores Molloy, Jim Bartley who's worked with Joan from the very beginning as Bela and of course Dave Duffy who plays the character of Leo.

TV husband Charlie will reveal how he and Joan are the only couple in any soap that have stayed together for 20 years — never having an affair or getting married again.

According to Tom: "I have lasted 20 years on the show because of Joan. She has a great sense of humour; we never had an argument or fell out. I'm a difficult person to get on with; so that is down to her. If anyone had any problems she would be the first to help. I am going to miss her terribly," he added.



PALS: Joan with Tom Jordan in an early episode