



## THE GOSS

### AMY CROFFEY

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**Lucy Peach sings about the power of the period**



# Another day, another Mehajer in court

The construction company that tried to sue a bankrupt Italian Mehajer for \$60,000 in unpaid work in March took his reportedly ex-wife Aysha Learmonth to court this week in an effort to recoup some of the debt from her.

The civil case between Port Tension Company Pty Ltd and Learmonth was mentioned at Wyndham Local Court on Thursday, a day after what would have been their third wedding anniversary.

Learmonth, who has an AVO against Mehajer, has been asked to file a defence by September 26.

The former Auburn deputy mayor has been in and out of custody since he was charged with perverting the course of justice and conspiracy to cheat and defraud over an allegedly staged car crash in October 2007. He was also placed on an 18-month good behaviour bond in May for intimidating Learmonth.

Since their OTT wedding she has kept a low profile, working as a beauty therapist specialising in non-surgical Brazilian butt lifts, including on pro-reality star Keira Maguire. (How many butt lifts would she need to carry out to pay back that kind of debt?)

Port Tension Company Pty Ltd said they were "not in a position to make any comment".

Aysha Learmonth did not respond to questions from The Sun-Herald.



Salim Mehajer and Aysha Learmonth at their 2013 wedding ceremony; below, Sam Dastyari at Ten's pilot week launch.

The case will return to court on September 27.

#### DASTYARI NEEDS TO WASH HIS MOUTH OUT WITH SOAP

He was up against some of Australia's best-known spotlight-hoggers in Kyle Sandilands and Rove McManus at the launch of Ten's all-male pilot week.

This week, as Sam Dastyari desperately needed to say something to help him stand out from the crowd,

The ex-Labor senator dropped a rather cringe remark in front of a room full of Ten's top execs and media when discussing his upcoming show *Diggars!* compared to Kyle Sandilands' *Judge Judy-esque*, but far more provocative, *Trial by Kyle*.

"After watching the clip of Kyle's show, I think what we really need is more *Judge*," Dastyari said.

Hardly food in terms of the language used by the likes of

Sandilands, and if it had been the KIIS 1065 shock-jock who had said it, not an eyelid would have been batted. But it was unexpected from the father of two daughters who, despite that Chinese donations scandal, tried to do some good in the world during his time in office by bringing Muslims and others together.

Poking fun at himself in the hopes that others will stop, Dastyari, aka "Shanghai Sam", added: "I took my family to the art set when we filmed it and I said to my wife, 'We have to get a family photo,' and she said 'What, here under the big sign that says "Diggars" or should we get one that says "Corruption"?'"

#### DAYS OF LINDY KLIM ARE OVER

There's no love lost between Lindy Klim and her estranged ex-husband Michael Klim, so as soon as she said "I do" to second husband Adam Ellis in a secret Italian ceremony earlier this month, the Ballinese princess was able to cut her last remaining tie (minus their three children) to the Olympic swimmer - her moniker.

Introducing "Lindy Rama-Ellis".

"Myself, the kids and Adam had all discussed a name change and so we all decided that I should change it back to my maiden name, which is 'Rama', which means king in Indonesian and then 'Ellie' which is Adam's name," she told The Goss.

"The kids are like, 'We are so happy that we have Adam and we understand that we see Klim and that a name is a name, it doesn't really matter.'"

Although Lindy stunned in a high-end Toni Maticevski bikini gown, she swears

Lindy Rama-Ellis, Maria Venuti and Julie Singleton. Photos AAP, Facebook/Careflight

everything else was really "low-key".

"I didn't work out for my wedding, I had grey hair, I had no manicure, I had no shoes on, I did my own hair and makeup," she laughed. "I'm usually an over-shaver, but I wanted to keep this just for us. It was beautiful and low-key."

#### MARIA VENUTI'S SURPRISE PUBLIC APPEARANCE

There are the days when people were mortified at the thought of being associated with cosmetic procedures, never mind losing their names to a cosmetic centre launch. Veterans socialites Lizzie Buttrose, Julie Singleton and the Billies were more than happy to front the opening of *Gondwana* in Drummoyne this week, where some guests were treated to a range of free treatments in the back rooms while the champagne-fuelled party was in full swing.

Maria Venuti, who is recovering from a stroke following an alleged stalking incident in November 2006, made a surprise appearance on the night in a wheelchair alongside her daughter Bianca and a then-11-year-old Lizzie Buttrose, troublesome niece of Ita.

"Everyone broke into an applause when she came through the door, they were so excited [to see her and she wasn't expected to be there]," an organiser told The Goss.

# Why Katy Perry and others sing for their supper

## PRIVATE SYDNEY

### ANDREW HORNERY



We've come a long way since the days of Seal Quattro turning up in Sydney with little more than her leather jacket, base guitar, amp and headphones.

Over the past few days Sydney has hosted the Holy Trinity of big-name international acts: Pink, Celine Dion and Katy Perry.

Their shows are on a scale Quattro could never have dreamt of, involving tonnes of equipment and many months of planning and coordination.

There are small armies of technicians, roadies, dressers, dancers, musicians, computer programmers, make-up artists, stylists, hairdressers, lighting and sound crews enlisted to pull them off.

We've seen Pink ricochet like a human yo-yo around the huge arena spaces she

continues to fill, even after her bout of gout.

Katy Perry pulled out every high-tech glitz and gadget in the book at Olympic Park, including sitting atop her own orbiting planet which soared high above the crowd during her show.

And what Celine Dion lacked in high wire acts and interstellar gadgetry, she made up for in over-stuffed ball gowns and her unique brand of arias, for which locals were keen to pay big bucks to hear. Yip, we lapped it up.

Collectively such shows represent a multi-million-dollar investment on behalf of the artists and the promoters bringing them all the way to Australia.

And given that they keep on coming, with the likes of Cher, Taylor Swift and Bob Dylan, all booked, there is clearly money to be made.

The big

Touring brings in the big bucks for artists like Katy Perry, whose Australian tour has just finished. Photo: AAP

question is, exactly how much? In Perry's case, a fortune in illuminated cat's eyes alone. Sitting in the crowd of her Sydney show this week, the seven was glowing with the cat's eye headbands which Perry's "merch" stand were selling for \$35 a pop.

The most recent figures available from Live Performance Australia reveals that in 2016-17, 5,665,000 Australians attended a contemporary music performance, spending \$440 million on tickets alone.

Touring the off-limits like Australia has become quite a nice little earner for the big names of global pop music, especially given the collapse of physical music sales and the modest earnings of digital streams.

ARIA figures reveal the wholesale value of album sales dropped more than 57 per cent between 2006 and 2015.

According to America's Doggy Entertainment, the big headline acts like Madonna, Bruce Springsteen, Justin Bieber and Taylor Swift pull in more than \$128 million per concert.

Katy Perry falls into the tier below, earning between \$125000,000 and

\$139750,000 per show, around the same as Pink and Celine Dion.

Last year's Adele tour of Australia was attended by a staggering 600,000 people across the country, smashing all records for a visiting artist. The total global earnings of the tour were \$10525 million including ticket, merch and other souvenir sales. The touring company took \$16322 million of that while Adele pocketed \$15374 million, a fair whack of it from her Australian fans. Adele reportedly made between \$1 million and \$2 million per show on her Australian tour, on top of earning a percentage of ticket sales once enough units had been shifted, which she did comfortably.

Compare that to having one's music streamed, with services such as Spotify reportedly paying less than 1 cent per play to the publisher, which is then split between the artist, label and creator of the music. According to Billboard's annual Money Makers report, touring accounts for almost 80 per cent of the total income of the world's top 50 music acts. No wonder the likes of Katy Perry and Céline Dion sing for their supper in Sydney.

MARK MCINTOSH



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**Lindy Rama-Ellis; Maria Venuti and Julie Singleton.** Photos: AAP, Facebook/Careflight

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