

# YOU ARE, TONY?

# BENDER



**BIZARRE CLAIMS:** Susan Morrice

claimed to have received phone calls from people who had tried to “black-mail” Tony in return for money and claimed hackers had stolen confidential information from the email accounts of shareholders.

While she did not go into details of these shocking allegations, Morrice lashed out at the general “negativity” which she said had widened a “rift” among the shareholders of the oil company and Quinn’s international organisation as a whole.

One shareholder and former Quinn supporter, Maire Lalor, even left the meeting after questioning why pictures of herself and her son Javey Fennelly were displayed on a screen as part of a slideshow to illustrate disloyal members of the Quinn organisation.

“Stop hiding behind the oil,” she warned Quinn before exiting the meeting.

## Rambling

A mob atmosphere dominated the AGM underscored by bursts of applause as each speaker attacked those who did not share Quinn’s vision.

As the meeting got more bizarre, Quinn made a rambling appeal to the ‘Doubting Thomases’ – about half the crowd – to row in with the rest.

“In a very simple way can we decide nobody is the bad guy and just leave it at that? Do we have to be so vicious to each other?” he begged.

“I thought we all admired each other so much. I really don’t know what we’re going on about. If we’re divided, you’ll still be able to collect these profits, but imagine what would happen if we weren’t divided....I don’t know when we can get together to make more miracles happen.”

On stage Quinn adopted the classic Jesus pose – arms out from his side to form a triangle, palms towards the audience and eyes staring out soulfully – a typical cult leader technique.

Afterwards he enjoyed a slap-up meal at the Four Seasons hotel where a meal for two typically costs €400.



**LAP OF LUXURY:** (clockwise from top) Quinn’s girlfriend and Mary Power at the RDS; his car at home and his plush pad

the *Sunday World* had damaged his reputation and threw in RTE and the media in general for turning on him and damaging the value of shares in the company which struck oil in 2005.

Angry shareholders had earlier met to air their concerns about the fact that Quinn was brought in as a director of the company in 2007 and was gifted more than US\$20m in shares.

They are perturbed about the

appointment and believe that Quinn may now be set to cream the profits while shareholders have yet to receive any dividend on their investments, many of which were made nine years ago.

## Concerned

No questions were taken at the meeting and, despite the fact that concerned investors were told they could have a private meeting with Quinn

afterwards to air their grievances, he was whisked away by his team of bodyguards before anyone could talk to him.

A *Sunday World* team gained access to the meeting and heard Quinn’s ludicrous rantings about how WE had damaged his reputation and de-valued the oil shares.

Quinn and his inner circle spun a ridiculous scenario that culminated in shareholders being told if they wanted their money back they would have to

borrow it from the company.

Warning shareholders to stop leaking stories to the media, Quinn and his fellow directors urged them to “stick together” to “get rich”.

Amazingly, one of the oil company’s co-founders, Susan Morrice, even

# THE DOUBTS MOUNT

their bodies and bending backwards in a sort of reverse rugby scrum, watched by their colleagues.

The scene mirrors the behaviour of Tony Quinn’s devotees at his seminars on Paradise Island, who have been seen writhing on the floor in ecstasy as the guru watches.

The oil company’s directors were trained in mind-control by Quinn before they struck gold, according to Quinn’s website.

Most of the three-hour meeting in Dublin’s Burlington Hotel was spent attacking the *Sunday World* and a “break-away group” of disgruntled shareholders who had “turned against Tony”.

One of the oil company’s co-founders, Susan Morrice lashed out at the “negativity” which she said had widened a “rift” among the shareholders of the oil company and Tony’s international organisation as a whole. Clearly talking about articles in the *Sunday World* which exposed his bizzare lifestyle and mind-bending techniques for getting people to part with their money, Quinn added: “Everything about my life was undermined. Would you do it to someone?”

“The people who did this to me, I would have staked my life on them. We were a small group and some outsiders joined us. People are talking about us as if we are doing something dishonest.”

Referring to the Belizean people who have apparently lost faith in the project due to negative media reports, Quinn pointed out: “They loved us – they were really for it and we saw it all vanish.”

“What good did any of that do? Okay, we got to be nasty to each other. But how did any of us gain from it? I got nothing from it.”

Susan Morrice told the meeting the well was still working – but that negative press coverage had driven down the share price. But despite being mobbed by everyone from angry shareholders to fans, ‘the Messiah’ wasn’t hanging around. He dashed out a back door where the glamorous Eve was waiting.

