

WEALTHY HUGH TO GET HITCHED

PRINCE George's rich god-father is getting married. Hugh Grosvenor, the seventh Duke of Westminster, 32, got engaged to Olivia Henson, who he has been with for two years, at the family home in Cheshire. A statement read: "Members of both their families are absolutely delighted with the news." The Duke took over his

■ by TED HENNESSEY family's billion-pound fortune and estate when his father Gerald died in 2016. Grosvenor Group owns about 300 acres of land in Mayfair and Belgravia, and major city centre developments such as the Liverpool ONE shopping centre. The family is estimated to be worth just under £10billion.



RICH: Grosvenor

Vegans' grub not healthy

MORE than half of vegans eat an unhealthy diet, a study has shown. The "convenience" diet of 53% of vegans includes more processed fish and meat alternatives, savoury snacks and sweets. Scientists have already coined the term "pudding vegetarianism" for them. Study chief Professor Maria Wakolbinger, of the Medical University of Vienna, said: "Being vegan is not per se synonymous with being 'healthy'."

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CHILD'S PLAY WRITER WANTS HIS MONSTER TO TAKE ON ELM ST KILLER



■ WANT TO PLAY?: Chucky has become an enduring villain in movies and TV shows

Chucky V Freddy



THE STARS: Brad Dourif with daughter Fiona. Top, Alex Vincent, the child actor in the first film

HE created Child's Play's homicidal doll Chucky who's been stabbing, electrocuting and decapitating victims for more than three decades.

Now writer Don Mancini wants to set up the ultimate horror screen showdown – Chucky vs Freddy Krueger. He sees the two 80s film icons going head to head to see how many teenagers they can bump off in one night. Don says: "My idea is to do Child's Play on Elm Street. Chucky ends up in some kid's house on Elm Street, he meets Freddy in his dreams, they're both like, 'Oh I'm a big fan of your work', but they realise Elm Street is not big enough for the two of them. "So they have to have a contest. Who can kill the most teenagers before sunrise gets to stay. It's funny right?" But who would win? "I'm biased," laughs Don. "I would always support the little guy." Don, 60, has helmed the Child's Play franchise since the first film in 1988 and is currently working on the third series of the Chucky TV show, which airs on Sky SciFi. He also appears in new documentary Living With Chucky, which is released today and explores the series' appeal alongside interviews with its crew and actors. While the TV show is keeping him busy now, Don is keen to make more Child's Play

EXCLUSIVE ■ by NADINE LINGE

films – he's worked on seven so far including Bride Of Chucky, which sees the character get a crazed doll girlfriend called Tiffany. Plus he has another more unusual idea... "I have wanted to do a musical for a while now," says Don. "I would specifically like to do a musical of Bride Of Chucky because I think that story would lend itself well. "I've seen a couple of horror genre franchises do this – like Evil Dead The Musical." The plot of the original Chid's Play movie saw a serial killer use a voodoo spell to transfer his soul into a young boy's doll. He was



SPOTLIGHT: Kyra Elise Gardner, who made the documentary

named Charles Lee Ray which came from three real-life killers – cult leader Charles Manson, JFK assassin Lee Harvey Oswald and James Earl Ray, who murdered Martin Luther King Jr. But actor Brad Dourif, who still plays Chucky today aged 73, added in a bit of Jack Nicholson after the pair worked on a film together. Don says: "There's a certain – for lack of a

better term – working-class vibe that Brad has in his performance as Chucky, that was similar to Nicholson as Jack Torrance in The Shining. "In the first movie the doll was sort of turning human so at one point his hairline is receding in a way that was similar to Nicholson. I think between that

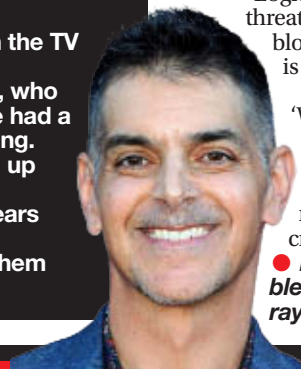


LOOKING SHARP: Freddy could battle Chucky

TRANS OFFSPRING

THE franchise introduced a transgender character in 2004's Seed Of Chucky – the offspring of Chucky and Tiffany. Identifying as Glen/Glenda and changing their pronouns and presentation accordingly, the character also appears as twins in the TV show – played by non-binary actor Lachlan Watson. Don, inset, says: "It think it's unusual in the genre. For Chucky, who is an amusingly macho character for such a diminutive guy, if he had a child who was his opposite, I just thought that could be interesting. "And as a gay man, I could identify with some of that, growing up with a macho Italian father who didn't want his son to be gay. "The movie did not succeed on release but happily over the years it's come into its own, and it's been really gratifying to hear from young gay and trans fans that the character has meant a lot to them growing up."

visual and the timbre of his voice and the fact that he's running down hallways with a weapon going, 'I'm going to get you' was reminiscent of Jack Torrance." When it comes to the fear factor of dolls, Don reckons it's a "primal response". He says: "Dolls are in the uncanny valley, they look like people but not quite, there's something slightly off and it's in that comes the creepiness." Chucky's got himself a rival in the shape of new AI killer doll M3GAN who went on the rampage in a film released earlier this year. Don says: "In the run-up to the movie coming out, Chucky and M3GAN were sniping at each other on Twitter. "Logically Chucky might feel a little threatened by this new kid on the block, threatened that this new kid is female. "I think Tiffany may feel like, 'Wait M3GAN's not going to turn Chucky's eye is she?' "We're all at the same studio at Universal so who knows, maybe you could see some crossover some day." ● Living With Chucky is available on Digital Download & Blu-ray now.



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