

From **Daniel Bates** in New York

A FITNESS instructor who claims she was groped by Sir Philip Green says her boss told her: 'If you deal with it he will probably tip you.'

Jennifer McAmis alleges that the Topshop boss repeatedly tried to fondle her during one-on-one gym sessions.

Miss McAmis said she had 60 hours of private classes with the tycoon while working at an exclusive US resort. She said she did not receive a tip from Green, who is worth £950million.

Miss McAmis, 30, said she did most of Green's sessions during spring 2016 because she was the only female instructor at the Canyon Ranch in Tucson, Arizona, who would put up with him. She called it 'taking one for the team'.

Green categorically denies any wrongdoing or impropriety. But Miss McAmis claims that at least five trainers told her that Green had tried to fondle them.

This includes Pilates instructor Katie Surridge, 37, whose claims have led to Green, 67, being charged with four counts of assault by prosecutors in Arizona.

Green denies these claims. A hearing is scheduled to take place on Wednesday.

Mrs Surridge – who waived her right to anonymity in February – has said that Green repeatedly and 'vigorously' spanked her in 2016 and touched her bottom inappropriately again in January last year. She added that Green's behaviour made her feel 'almost like a prostitute'.

Miss McAmis began working with Green

'You're a naughty girl, aren't you?'

in early 2016 at Canyon Ranch, where he also has a £2.3million home. She saw him five days a week for two-hour sessions.

Miss McAmis said her boss warned her that Green was 'handsy' and 'known for trying to grab people's bottoms'.

She asked around in the locker room and a number of female instructors told her to 'be on your guard', warning: 'Don't wear your most low-cut shirt.'

In an interview with the Daily Mail, Miss McAmis said: 'I just sucked it up. My bosses told me if you deal with it he will probably tip you and he never did.'

'It was laid out from the start [by the bosses], "you're going to do this and you're going to deal with this otherwise you're not only going to not get paid for those hours", [along with] probably more negative repercussions.'

Miss McAmis described Green as 'grabby' and said that within the first hour he made her stand in front of him on the treadmill – making her feel like 'eye candy'.

She claims Green would tell her: 'You're a naughty girl, aren't you? You're a dirty girl, aren't you?'

Miss McAmis took to wearing multiple jackets because they made her feel safer and asked male colleagues to sit in on the sessions.

She also said she agreed to continue with the sessions because she didn't want to 'put one of [her] co-workers through that experience'. She added: 'Also, I needed to get paid at the end of the day. It was a grin-and-bear-it, no-way-out situation.' The rate at

Green 'groped me – but bosses told me to deal with it'



Claims:
Jennifer
McAmis
and, left,
Sir Philip
Green

Canyon Ranch was \$40 (£31) an hour for a private session – three times what she could get at an outside gym.

Miss McAmis said that the attitude at the resort towards staff was 'look how lucky you are'.

She described Green's comments to her as having a 'sort of cheesy, flirty air' which was 'not warranted' and 'not reciprocated'. She said: 'It was just what he did. I think it speaks so much to the bigger picture of things.'

'It wasn't an isolated incident,

it wasn't anything about me, it was just how he's used to interacting with women and especially women who are working for him and with him. He's used to being in a position [where] he can do anything he wants and he continues doing that.'

Miss McAmis said she wanted to speak out and be part of the MeToo movement against sexual harassment, adding that she hoped any women in the UK who have gone through similar experiences with Green

would feel emboldened to make their voices heard.

Miss McAmis, who left Canyon Ranch in 2016, said she was not going to the police with her story but she did want to see Green punished. Speaking of the other women she says Green groped at Canyon Ranch, she said that most of them were still working there.

'It sounds like they are very distressed, they need their jobs and employment,' she said. 'If they have to share their experiences

and to relive them and lose their job on top of that or face punishment at work, I understand why they aren't speaking out openly.'

A Canyon Ranch spokesman said: 'Canyon Ranch does not condone or tolerate inappropriate behaviour towards our employees, guests, homeowners or any other person who comes into contact with our brand. [We have] strict policies and procedures that prohibit such behaviour, and takes prompt, remedial action based on claims presented.'

Now petitions to save free TV licences for over-75s edge towards 1m signatures

THE BBC defended its lavish pay deals yesterday as petitions to save free TV licences for the over-75s edged towards one million signatures.

The corporation has resisted calls to slash its massive wage bill after announcing last week that it will strip 3.7million pensioners of the perk.

The move prompted questions about its spending on salaries while it makes the elderly pay £154.50 a year. Last year the BBC spent £148million on presenter

By **Mario Ledwith**

pay, with Match of the Day host Gary Lineker topping the bill with nearly £1.8million.

However, BBC director of policy Clare Sumner said that even if salaries were capped at £150,000, this would only save £25million. At least £745million a year would be needed from 2021 to fund the

Dominic Lawson
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current scheme, she said, adding: 'If we had continued the current scheme, its rising cost would have meant closures of services we know older audiences in particular love, use, and value.'

As of last night, more than 930,000 people had signed online petitions – about 530,000 on one from charity Age UK, and 400,000 more on government petitions. From next June, the licence fee will only be waived for over-75s on pension credits, a benefit claimed by just 900,000.

Speeding drivers caught TEN times in four years

DOZENS of drivers have been caught speeding at least ten times in the last four years.

Of the 38 to reach double figures, one was clocked driving too fast on 25 occasions. The figures from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency prompted concerns that too many dangerous drivers are being let off the hook.

Nearly a quarter of a million motorists have multiple endorsements on their licence for speeding. Drivers are usually banned if they are caught speeding four times within three years. How-

By **James Salmon**
Transport Editor

ever, some are able to keep their licence by convincing a court that disqualification would cause them exceptional hardship.

Road safety campaigners described the figures, covering the number of 'SP30' endorsements for speeding held on driving records as of April 20, as 'shocking'. Olympic cycling champion Chris Boardman said allowing repeat offenders to keep their licence was 'plain wrong'.