

# IT'S MY DIG-NET RING, 62YRS ON

By ADAM BENNETT

A GREAT-grandad who lost a signet ring in a field as a young man has been reunited with it after 62 years — thanks to a metal detectorist.

Roy Beddows was working as a farm labourer when the band slipped off back in 1957, when he was 17. Now 79, the retired plumber said: "I didn't realise it was gone till the following day. I'd bought it for my birthday. I remember being annoyed."

But detectorist Robin Kynaston, 35, found it in 6in of soil in the field in West Felton, Shropshire. He said: "I was going over the



Reunited... Roy and ring

perimeter. I was about to go home when I picked up a strong signal. "I dug a hole and saw a bit of gold in the corner. It was amazing."

The ring was perfectly preserved with the initials R.A.B — Roy Arthur Beddows — on the front.

Robin took it to the current land-owner who managed to recall a labourer of that name who had worked for his father.

They put Robin in touch with a old neighbour of Roy's, who arranged the handover.

Roy, of Shrewsbury, said: "It's like having back part of myself that's been missing over the years."

## Gunman jail death

A SHOTGUN robber who murdered two people has died in prison.

Alvin Black, 64, was jailed for life in 1998 after German tourist Johana Czardebou, 56, was shot in a bar in Bedford, where Black lived.

In 2001 he was also found guilty of the 1995 murder of Timothy Nalty, in Shortstown, Beds.

Black collapsed and died in his cell in White-moor Prison, Cambs.

**HOW DISGUSSETING**

One in 20 adults has returned underwear to the shops after wearing it, a survey found.

# METOO ACCUSED WEINSTEIN CASE IS 'BIGGEST SINCE OJ'



ASSISTANT ... Haley



RAPE CLAIM ... McGowan



ACTRESS ... Argento



HOTEL TALE ... Delevingne



A-LISTER ... Thurman



CONTRACT CLAIM ... Klass



STORY ... Hayek



IN THE FRAME ... Weinstein hobbles into a pre-trial hearing last month

# Monster trial of century

**HOLLYWOOD'S 'GOD' CHARGED WITH 2 RAPES AND 3 SEX ASSAULTS**



PRIME ... with Beckinsale at The Aviator's London premiere in 2004



From HUGO DANIEL In Los Angeles

**AMERICA is braced for its biggest trial in decades as fallen Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein finally faces justice for his alleged sex crimes.**

Described as "God" by actress Meryl Streep at the height of his powers, he will look anything but that as he hobbles into court to defend himself against a series of sexual assault and rape charges.

And with its captivating mix of sleaze and A-list celebrities, insiders say the court case — which starts tomorrow — could be an even bigger media sensation than the OJ Simpson murder trial, which gripped the world in 1995.

Public interest is so high because of the huge power movie super-producer Weinstein wielded in Tinseltown — and the global #MeToo movement his downfall sparked.

Under New York law, the proceedings cannot be televised. But online and cable channel Court TV, which shot to fame with its coverage of the OJ trial, will be running blow-by-blow coverage and analysis.

Weinstein, 67, who recently used a Zimmer frame to walk into court, is accused of raping one unnamed woman in a New York hotel in 2013 and forcibly performing oral sex on production assistant Mimi Haley at his Manhattan apartment in 2006.

In total, he faces five charges — one of a criminal sexual act in the first degree, two of predatory sexual assault and one each of rape in the first and third degree. Predatory sexual assault carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

**'I still have nightmares, of white, revolting flesh'**

The studio mogul turned himself in to police in May 2018, but his downfall began in October 2017 when the New York Times published a story detailing decades of alleged sexual harassment by him.

Actress Ashley Judd was among those to come forward, as were several former female employees.

Among the claims were that he forced women to massage him or look at him naked, for promises of career advancement.

Days after the New York Times piece another bombshell story, in the New Yorker magazine, included allegations by 13 more women — including three accusations of rape.

Actress Asia Argento, as well as an unnamed woman claimed Weinstein forced himself on them, in Evans' claim that she was forced into a sex act after going to his office for a supposed casting meeting, aged 21, had been part of the criminal case against him but was controversially dropped after prosecutors said she gave a witness a different version of events.

Hollywood reeled as big names then came forward, one after another, with horrifying stories about Weinstein, prompting his British fashion designer wife Georgina Chapman to leave him.

Scream actress Rose McGowan

## TEAMS FOR AND AGAINST



FIGHT ... Rotunno and Illuzzi-Orbon

**HERE'S a who's who of the courtroom legal teams.**

**DEFENCE:** Weinstein's lead lawyer is Donna Rotunno, a specialist in men accused of sex crimes. She will be joined by Damon Cheronis, Arthur Aidala and Marianne Bertuna. Aidala's former clients have included rapper 50 Cent.

**PROSECUTION:** Manhattan District Attorney Joan Illuzzi-Orbon is lead prosecutor. Marsha Bashford, chief of the New York Sex Crimes Unit, oversaw the investigation and Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr brought the charges.

## THE KEY WOMEN

**THE jury will hear from six witnesses — the two primary accusers, Sopranos actress Annabella Sciorra, and three other as-yet-unnamed women.**

Pulp Fiction actress Rosanna Arquette has said she will attend the first day of the trial as well as the days Sciorra testifies.

tweeted that Weinstein raped her when she was 23. She later reached a \$76,000 settlement with him.

Sopranos actress Annabella Sciorra accused him of forcing his way into her flat and raping her in 1993. The alleged incident was too long ago to lead to criminal charges but the judge has allowed the claimant to testify in the upcoming trial.

Other big names who have come forward with sexual misconduct stories about Weinstein include Mira Sorvino, Rosanna Arquette, Daryl Hannah, Salma Hayek, Heather Graham and Uma Thurman. A-listers Angelina Jolie and Gwyneth Paltrow also said they were harassed.

British stars Cara Delevingne, Kate Beckinsale and Lena Headey told of creepy hotel encounters and The Sun told how Weinstein allegedly propositioned Myleene Klass with a "sex contract" at the Cannes film festival in the South of France in 2010.

Hollywood actress Lysette Anthony said Weinstein raped her in her London home in the 1980s — and in a recent TV interview she said: "I still

have nightmares, of white, revolting flesh, and skin with pores like bloody black volcanoes stuffed with crusty pus."

Recounting sleazy propositions from Weinstein, 12 Years A Slave star Lupita Nyong'o recalled how, after she rejected his advances and asked if they were then "good", he replied: "I don't know about your career, but you'll be fine."

As the allegations stacked up, Hollywood royalty including Quentin Tarantino, Ben Affleck, Matt Damon and George Clooney deserted and condemned Weinstein.

In total, more than 80 women have accused the dad of five of sexual assault, sexual harassment or rape. But Gloria Allred, a lawyer for Haley and Sciorra, told The Sun on Sunday it was not unusual that the New York case, to be heard at the State Supreme Court in Manhattan, is focusing on a small number of allegations.

She said: "Most criminal cases don't include everyone and anyone who may make an accusation.

Prosecutors are very, very cautious. They are more conservative about filing against powerful, famous or infamous men because they know there will be extra scrutiny and they know powerful figures have very significant money to spend on their defence and investigators."

### 'It takes great courage to take the stand'

Allred, who also represented the family of murdered Nicole Brown Simpson in the OJ Simpson case, said of the Weinstein trial: "Do I think it will be bigger? In coverage, potentially, as people have more access to the internet than they did in the Nineties.

"I have had enquiries about this from around the world — not just the UK... Germany, Scandinavia, France, Australia, so many I can't even name them all."

The lawyer described how hard it has been for her clients to decide to take the stand. But she said: "I hope they [the accusers]

will not focus on Weinstein, even though he will be sitting there. Hopefully they'll focus on what they allege is their truth.

"It takes great courage, because all witnesses for the prosecution can expect to be vigorously attacked by Mr Weinstein's team."

But she added of the trial: "None of us know all the evidence, except the prosecutors and potentially the defence, but sometimes there's evidence admitted at trial that no one knows will be forthcoming."

"So it's impossible to say if the jury will find him guilty."

Weinstein has denied all claims of non-consensual sex made against him. His representative, Juda Engelmayer, said: "He's cautiously optimistic but anxious. You're looking at something that could put him away for the rest of his life, away from children and family."

Last month, it emerged that Weinstein was on the verge of reaching a \$19million settlement with more than 30 actresses and ex-employees. But news of the deal

sparked outrage — as the payout would have come from insurers for the Weinstein film company.

One accuser involved in the settlement, model Zoe Brock, 45, said: "It's a joke and signifies a broken system." After news of the deal emerged, Polish ex-model Kaja Sokola, 33, filed a lawsuit accusing Weinstein of sexually assaulting her when she was 16.

She said the proposed settlement was not "fair or just". Weinstein called her claim "preposterous".

Weinstein, whose bail was recently doubled to more than \$15million over claims he tampered with his ankle monitor, recently broke his silence to claim he should be PRAISED for his treatment of women.

Speaking from a swish hospital suite in New York after a back up he needed following an August car crash, he said: "I feel like the forgotten man. I made more movies directed by women and about women than any film-maker, and I'm talking about 30 years ago. I

did it first. I pioneered it." He was hitting back after claims he faked his recent ailments to win sympathy. But he refused to talk about his trial. Instead, he said alleged victim Gwyneth Paltrow became the top-paid female actor in an independent film thanks to him, and touted his charity work and "social-justice" films he made.

Some of Weinstein's victims not involved in his prosecution plan to attend the trial to show solidarity. One of them is Rosanna Arquette, 60, who says she went to a hotel to get a script from Weinstein in the Nineties and he answered the door in his dressing gown and pulled her hand toward his crotch.

She said: "Our presence is important. It's supporting each other. This trial is for everyone." Swingers star Katherine Kendall, 50, who says Weinstein chased her naked around his apartment when she was 24, added: "It will send a message to the world that men like this, in power, can't keep getting away with this."

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