

WORLD EXCLUSIVE

Sophie Toscan du Plantier's son, in his first interview, recalls the horror of being told about her killing and says fight for justice goes on...



Pierre Louis Baudey-Vignaud in Paris this week and, above, with his mother; Sophie, as a child

THERE MUST BE A TRIAL

In a heart-wrenching interview Sophie's son, now 32, recalls when, at 15, he lost the one true love of his life and reveals:

■ How he adored her: 'I'm not even closer to my wife now'

■ His continuing fight for a trial: 'It is my obligation'

■ The last chat and how he got her last fax from the bin

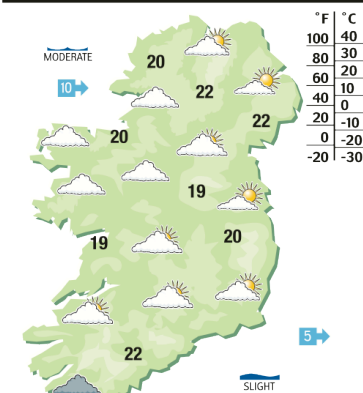
■ The importance of family and naming his first child Sophie

■ He still comes to Schull to the house his mum loved

■ 'When I dream about her, we are always in Ireland...'

SEE STORY ON PAGE 2 AND EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW ON PAGES 8 AND 9

Weather forecast



Summary: Dry with sunshine

DUBLIN: Dry with periods of hazy sun and variable amounts of cloud. A light westerly wind. Warm. Max 23c (73f).

WATERFORD: A dry day with spells of sunshine and patchy cloud. A light westerly breeze. Max 21c (70f).

CORK: A dry day with sunny intervals and variable amounts of cloud. A light westerly wind. Warm. Max 22c (72f).

TRALE: A mainly cloudy, but dry day with some sunny intervals. A light to moderate westerly wind. Max 19c (66f).

LIMERICK: A dry, but largely cloudy day with occasional sunny spells. A moderate westerly wind. Max 21c (70f).

GALWAY: A dry, but mostly cloudy day, although some sun is expected. A moderate westerly wind. Max 19c (66f).

OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Largely dry with patchy cloud and sunny spells, but isolated showers cannot be ruled out.

5 day city forecast

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Belfast	23c	22c	23c	23c	25c
Cork	22c	23c	24c	24c	24c
Dublin	23c	23c	23c	22c	23c
Galway	20c	20c	22c	24c	24c
Limerick	23c	23c	25c	28c	28c

Around the world yesterday

weather c			weather c			weather c		
Algiers	Sunny	28	Gibraltar	Sunny	23	New Delhi	Fair	33
Amsterdam	Sunny	21	Guernsey	Sunny	24	New York	Fair	24
Athens	Sunny	31	Helsinki	Sunny	24	Nice	Sunny	27
Barcelona	Sunny	28	Hong Kong	Cloudy	33	Oslo	Cloudy	21
Beijing	Fair	29	London	Sunny	23	Paris	Sunny	26
Berlin	Cloudy	19	Madrid	Sunny	26	Rome	Sunny	28
Bombay	Cloudy	23	Moscow	Sunny	23	Singapore	Fair	29
Buenos Aires	Sunny	22	Osaka	Sunny	27	Sydney	Fair	19
Calcutta	Sunny	26	Perth	Cloudy	16			
Cairo	Sunny	26	Prague	Fair	21			
Cape Town	Sunny	27	Rangoon	Sunny	31			
Cardiff	Sunny	25	Rio de Janeiro	Sunny	30			
Casablanca	Fair	24	Riyadh	Sunny	34			
Copenhagen	Sunny	18	Sao Paulo	Sunny	27			
Corfu	Sunny	32	Seoul	Sunny	27			
Dublin	Cloudy	21	Taipei	Sunny	28			
Dubrovnik	Sunny	27	Tokyo	Sunny	34			
Edinburgh	Sunny	21	Toronto	Sunny	27			
Fair	Sunny	24	Vancouver	Sunny	28			
Florence	Sunny	30	Wellington	Showers	9			
Geneva	Sunny	26	Yokohama	Sunny	34			

Ireland yesterday

City	Sun	Rain	Temp	City	Sun	Rain	Temp
24 hrs	(hrs)	(hrs)	(max)	24 hrs	(hrs)	(hrs)	(max)
Belfast	11.2	0.0	8	Lough Lee	6.3	0.0	8
Birr	10.8	0.0	8	Malin Head	4.3	0.0	8
Carrigrohane	9.7	0.0	8	Valentia	10.6	0.0	15
Claremorris	6.5	0.0	11	Cork	10.7	0.0	16
Clones	8.0	0.0	11	Kilkenny	11.5	0.0	11
Mullingar	9.9	0.0	12	Shannon	12.7	0.0	14
Rosslare	12.7	0.0	11	Dublin	9.7	0.0	11
Knock	5.0	0.0	11	Belmullet	3.6	0.0	8

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

Moon and Sun
Moon rises: 13.0pm, sets: 5.32am
Sun rises: 5.32am, sets: 9.46pm
High tide: Dublin: 5.7pm
Low tide: Dublin: 12.0pm

WEATHER ALERTS
Call 1550 507 157 for today's forecast (updated 3 times daily)
Calls cost €0.95 per min. Calls from mobiles cost more. Texts cost €0.80 per SMS. This is a daily subscription service. To unsubscribe text STOP to 53307. SP Phonovoice 0818217100

LEINSTER SMS Alerts
MUNSTER SMS Alerts
CONNACHT SMS Alerts
ULSTER SMS Alerts

Gay marriage referendum could be held in the next year, says Tánaiste

A REFERENDUM on gay marriage may be held in 2014, Eamon Gilmore has signalled.

The Tánaiste also suggested that the coalition could take a neutral stance to avoid more defections from conservative Fine Gael TDs.

Mr Gilmore has previously described the matter as the 'civil rights issue of this generation' and yesterday said he did not want to see any undue delay in granting full marital rights to same-sex couples.

He said: 'The issue of gay marriage was referred to the Constitutional Convention and they have considered the issue. The Government has committed to respond within four months of getting the report

By **Niamh Lyons**
Political Correspondent

from the Constitutional Convention. I don't expect there will be any undue delay in the holding of a referendum.

'It will be a matter of finding a suitable time for it to be held.'

The Constitutional Convention has recommended holding a referendum on the issue. It is a core Labour Party principle. However, Fine Gael TDs are understood to be divided on the issue. In the wake of the loss of five TDs on the abortion legislation, there is no appetite to hold another campaign on a divisive social issue.

But Mr Gilmore suggested the Govern-

ment could possibly proceed without having to take a position for or against the proposal.

'That is something that may well arise, it is something we haven't given a great deal of consideration to yet.'

However he indicated there could be issues regarding the feasibility of when to hold a ballot due to a packed electoral schedule. This year the Government will hold a referendum to abolish the Seanad in the autumn and a ballot to establish a new Court of Appeal is expected to be held on the same day. The State must also hold a referendum to ratify the new European-wide patent system, which is expected to come into force next year.

Gardaí must help French police find my mother's killer

EXCLUSIVE

From **Ali Bracken**

In Paris

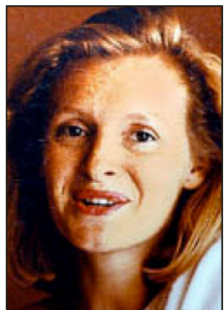
THE son of murdered Sophie Toscan du Plantier says the case 'must come to trial'.

In his first Irish interview, Sophie's son Pierre-Louis Baudry-Vignaud appealed to the Garda Serious Crime Review Team to co-operate with ongoing French efforts to find the killer.

'I will fight on for this'

'It must come to trial,' he said, in an exclusive interview in today's Irish Daily Mail. 'It is not a possibility for me that it won't. It is an obligation for me.'

It has been nearly 17 years since the film producer was beaten to death outside her holiday home near the village of Goleen, in West Cork. A renewed investigation is ongoing in France led by Judge



Murder: Filmmaker Sophie

Patrick Gachon. An attempt by the French authorities to extradite the self-confessed former chief suspect, Ian Bailey, was halted by the Irish Supreme Court last year.

Sophie's son, who is now 32, said he did not know if Mr Bailey should still be a suspect but he just wanted answers.

'I am a very pragmatic person,' he said. 'I have a good sense of things. I don't know if it is him [Ian Bailey] or not.'

'But he is a person who used to fight his wife, had scratches on his face the next day [after Sophie's murder], and might



Speaking out: Pierre-Louis

have been seen on the night nearby. I just want him to tell everyone it is not him. If he can convince me, good.'

A team of French policemen is due to return to Cork in September to interview witnesses, before preparing a full file for Judge Gachon.

In theory, Judge Gachon could seek to have Mr Bailey tried in absentia. If convicted, the French could again attempt to extradite him.

Mr Bailey's solicitor, Frank Buttner, said last night: 'Ian Bailey has personally expressed his sympathy to the family of

Sophie Toscan du Plantier for their inconceivable loss, for which he has no accountability.'

'The people in France have shown they have no respect or understanding of the Irish judicial system. They have demonstrated this by their constant pursuance of Mr Bailey.'

The Garda's Serious Crime Review Team - or 'cold case team' - has shown renewed interest in the case. Six months ago, Sophie's uncle, Jean Pierre Gazeau, and the family's lawyer, Alain Spilliaert, met with gardai in Dublin to discuss the case, but the Garda Commissioner has still not signed off on the investigation.

Mr Baudry-Vignaud called on the gardai to cooperate with French police.

'A person succeeds when they find the person responsible - they [the gardai] did not do that,' he said. 'I want to appeal for the new team to get involved. I strongly believe they could co-operate with Judge Gachon's inquiry... It should happen.'

The Parisian, who works as a real-estate consultant, recalled the moment he found out about his mother's death two days before Christmas when he was 15.

'It was like the end of the world,' he said. 'My best friend, my mother. It was a nightmare after that... Between two people, you couldn't be closer. I am not even closer with my wife now.'

Sophie's parents have battled for years for a conviction, but it was not until her son walked past Mr Bailey in a shop last year that he decided to throw himself into finding justice.

'I had thought many times about seeing him. Different emotions have run through my body - violence, pity, I froze and left.'

Comment - Page 14
ali.bracken@daily@mail.ie

In Cork, I am close to my mother

STILL HAUNTED BY SOPHIE'S AWFUL DEATH

SEE PAGES 8-9

Clarifications & corrections

If you feel any report in the Irish Daily Mail has been incomplete or inaccurate you can email Corrections and Clarifications at corrections@daily@mail.ie



This publication supports the work of the Press Council of Ireland and the Office of the Press Ombudsman, and our staff operate within the Code of Practice for journalists in Ireland. You can obtain a copy of the Code, or contact the Council, at www.presscouncil.ie. Lo-call 1890 208 080, or email: info@presscouncil.ie.

INSIDE: Mary Ellen Synon 12, Red Carpet 23, Coffee Break pullout, Television 46-49

IF YOU CAN'T GET YOUR IRISH DAILY MAIL...

We always try to keep your favourite newspaper available at all times but if the Mail was sold out at your retail outlet let us know by calling 01 256 8000 (or 0853 12568000 from NI) and we will act upon it straight away.

In Cork, I am Clo

**EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW**

from Ali Bracken
in Paris

Photos: John Cogill

IT was two days before Christmas in 1996 and 15-year-old Pierre-Louis was sleeping peacefully in his grandparents' house in Orleón in the French countryside.

He was excited about a family holiday to Senegal he was due to take on Christmas Day with his mother, Sophie Toscan du Plantier, and his stepfather, Daniel Toscan du Plantier.

They were due to visit family in the West African country and it promised to be the trip of a lifetime for the youngster.

But in the middle of the night, he was woken by his father, Pierre Baudey, climbing into his bed. His father hadn't been at his grandparents' home earlier, so immediately the sleepy teenager knew something was gravely wrong.

"My father came up and woke me. He got into my bed for a cuddle, took me in his arms and told me, 'I remember thinking it was strange that he was giving me a cuddle because I was a teenager,' Pierre-Louis Baudey-Vignaud tells the Irish Daily Mail at his family lawyer's office in central Paris.

He broke the news that his mother had been murdered at her holiday home in Cork.

"It was like the end of the world. She was everything. My best friend, my mother. It was a nightmare after that. I was that age, still

'My father took me in his arms and told me'

trying to figure out my own personality, who I was."

Many times since, he wished that his father's words were just a bad dream. But it was all horribly real. The teenager's film producer mother was dead, beaten to death in West Cork, the place she loved best in the world.

Sophie gave birth to her only child Pierre-Louis in 1981, a year after she married Pierre Baudey. The marriage broke up in 1983 and for the next seven years she was a single mother, and Pierre-Louis became her whole world.

She married her second husband Daniel Toscan du Plantier in 1990. Pierre-Louis, 32, now a successful real-estate consultant, struggles to find the words to aptly describe the depth of their bond.

"I was a unique son and she was a unique mother," he says. "She was everything. I was less than one when she and my father divorced. From the age of one to nine, it was just the two of us. We were so close. I saw my father at the weekends. Between two people, you couldn't be closer. I am not even closer with my wife now."

The well-dressed professional bears a striking resemblance to his tragic mother, whose unsolved murder has been the subject of massive media interest, both in Ireland and France.

Some killings simply refuse to be forgotten.

It has been nearly 17 years since the filmmaker was beaten to death outside her holiday home near the village of Goleen in West Cork. A renewed investigation into the killing is ongoing in France, and an attempt by the French authorities to extradite the self-confessed former chief suspect, Ian Bailey, was halted at the Irish Supreme Court last year.

Despite this, the French investigation headed by Judge Patrick Gauchon - which has led to police travelling to Ireland to interview witnesses - is ongoing.

It remains open to the judge to seek to try Mr Bailey in his absence and, if he were found guilty, another attempt to extradite the former journalist could be made.

The French-led investigation was prompted by intense lobbying from Sophie's relatives and friends.

In 2007, Sophie's uncle, scientist Jean-Pierre Gazeau, and her cousin

Unsolved
killing:
Sophie
Toscan du
Plantier



In a heart-wrenching interview, Sophie's son talks to the Mail in Paris on her murder, how she's still in his dreams and his continuing fight for justice



Self-confessed former chief suspect: Ian Bailey

Heartache:
Sophie's
parents
Georges
and
Marguerite
Bouniol



Francis Lefevre, set up the Association For The Truth About The Murder Of Sophie Toscan du Plantier, which is also lobbying for the harmonisation of EU laws to allow victims' families abroad greater access to information.

It has attracted the support of prominent figures in French politics and entertainment, including a former justice minister and the president of the Cannes Film Festival. Sophie's second husband, Daniel, who died in 2003, was a close friend of former French president Jacques Chirac, who took an interest in the case.

As far back as 1997, Paris magistrate Brigitte Pellegrini was assigned to investigate the killing following an action brought by Daniel and Sophie's parents against 'persons unknown'. Her parents, Marguerite and Georges Bouniol, have been outspoken in their quest for justice.

They stepped up to the role to protect Pierre-Louis from the high-profile campaign in France to uncover what happened to his mother that December night 17 years ago.

Shortly after his mother died, he was sent back to boarding school as his family tried to keep him in a stable routine. "I was quite protected from it for many years. It's difficult to know when you are strong enough," he explains. "When you are older, you can manage your feelings better."

"When people say: 'You must be strong to lose your mother or father so young,' that's bull****. It is always hard. My grandparents are 88 and 84.

'She was everything - we were so close'

For this fight, you must put in a lot of energy. But I don't want it to take over my life. I have to segment it."

He has many memories of his mother but the last time he saw her has stuck with him most, although at the time it seemed unremarkable. "I was going back to boarding school," he recalls. "She woke me up and got me ready to go to school. It was about

four or five days before she went to Ireland. Everything after, you try and remember. The last song, the last dinner, the last argument."

"You only say 'I love you' when the person is gone. She sent me a fax a couple of days before she died. She would always do this, saying things like, 'I am thinking about you. I can't wait to see you. I love you, your mother.' I threw the fax out but I was able to find it later in the bin."

Pierre-Louis has forged a successful career, working in London for a few years before settling back in his native Paris after he finished university.

He now has a family of his own with his wife Aurelia. The couple welcomed their first child into the world 15 months ago - and they named her Sophie.

"My wife chose the name. I didn't even know she was a girl and then she was put in my arms and I was told her name was Sophie," he says, beaming.

The day after Pierre-Louis met the Irish Daily Mail in Paris last Monday,

his wife gave birth to their second child, a son they named Louis. Family is clearly very important to him and becoming a father has changed his thought process regarding his mother's murder.

Shortly after her death, he travelled to Cork with his father to stay in his mother's holiday home in Goleen, the place she had loved with a passion.

Her family said the idyllic surroundings gave her the time and space to become inspired in her creative work as a documentary film producer.

Pierre-Louis had spent a lot of time at the holiday home with his mother over the years and he was left the house in her will.

She bought the house in 1991, when I was about ten or 11," he says. "I'd go there for a week at Easter and sometimes for a week in summer. After she died, I went with my father and we decided to keep the house. I go there now three or four times a year."

Rather than leading him to recall the horror that took place there, he says the house brings him peace.

"My grandparents go every year for a pilgrimage; I go for a different reason," he says. "I feel close to her there. I feel her spirit. I don't feel bad there. It is the place of my mother."

"I can feel her energy there, that is important. I can't explain to you why I am in a good mood in that place. It is like love - I am in a good mood in this place. I can show my daughter why my mother loved it there."

In West Cork, Pierre-Louis is anonymous. The only photo of him ever printed in the media until now was a picture of him as a young boy with his arms around his mother. A grainy photo of the teenager at his mother's funeral has also been published previously - but neither image bears any resemblance to the man today.

For the past few years he has been involved, largely behind the scenes, in the Association for the Truth About the Murder of Sophie Toscan du Plantier.

But it was an encounter last year in Schull that spurred Pierre-Louis to finally put himself firmly in the spotlight and to give this interview about the tragic event that has moulded every aspect of his life.

It was when he passed Ian Bailey in a supermarket. Mr Bailey had consistently been linked with the death by the French investigating team and Pierre-Louis had, of course, seen many photos of him but it was his first time he saw him in the flesh. It is an encounter that he will never

Last year, I passed Ian Bailey in the supermarket in Schull. He was standing beside the carrots. It was a shock

se to my mother

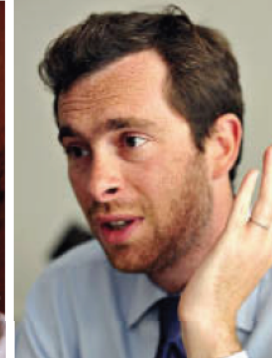


Determined:
Sophie's son
Pierre-Louis
last week
in Paris



Success: Sophie and Daniel Toscan du Plantier with Pierre-Louis, left, and Daniel's son Carlo, right, at Cannes festival

Bond:
Sophie and
Pierre-Louis



Fighting for justice: Pierre-Louis
Baudey-Vignaud in his Paris office

forget. 'Last year for the first time, I passed Bailey in the supermarket, Super-Valu in Schull. I went in to buy a lemon for a lemon sole dinner. He was standing beside the carrots. It was a shock. He didn't recognise me,' he recalls.

'I can go anywhere in Cork, no one knows me, I don't say who I am. My wife and daughter were outside in the car. It was strange to see him. I had thought many times about seeing him. Different emotions have run through my body - violence, pity, I froze and left.'

But Pierre-Louis could not shake off the encounter in the weeks that followed. Of course, he had imagined many times in the past meeting and speaking to this man, and his wife had even seen Mr Bailey the year before at the French farmers' market in Schull.

After all, this was the person that gardai claimed was involved in his mother's death, but the DPP twice ruled he was not responsible and highlighted several significant deficiencies with the Garda investigation. Mr Bailey has always denied any involvement.

'I have thought about it many times,' he says of the quest to find out what really happened to his mother and to bring the killer to justice.

'When I was younger, I was protected. But three or four years ago, I decided to get involved. One reason is because my grandparents are elderly now. But I am only 32. I will fight on. The other reason is because I saw Bailey. It was a critical shock. Since then, Pierre-Louis has been active in seeking answers about his mother's killing. And he insists he will not stop until he has them.

'It must come to trial,' he says with conviction. 'It is not a possibility for me that it won't. It is an obligation for me.'

Does he believe Mr Bailey is a suspect, despite the DPP ruling twice there is no evidence to charge him? He is measured in his response.

'I am a very pragmatic person,' he says. 'I have a good sense of things. I don't

know if it is him or not. But he is a person who used to fight his wife, had scratches on his face the next day [after Sophie's murder] and might have been seen on the night nearby. I just want him to tell everyone it is not him. If he can convince me it is not him, good.'

Mr Bailey has previously been convicted of physically assaulting his long-term partner, artist Jules Thomas. Gardai noticed that the journalist-turned-law student had scratches on his face the day after Sophie was found dead.

In explanation, he said he had been trimming branches. The gardai's main witness, shopkeeper Marie Farrell, initially made but later retracted a statement claiming she saw the Manchester native close to the scene of the murder on that night. She later said that she was put under undue pressure by gardai to place him close to the scene.

The Garda investigation has been

'When I dream of her, we are in Ireland'

dogged by other controversy. In November 2011, Mr Bailey's lawyers were presented with a 2001 review of the case by the DPP which includes allegations that a garda made improper attempts to bring a prosecution against Mr Bailey, an accusation that another garda offered cannabis as a 'reward' if an addict provided information, and claims that there was another suspect.

Pierre-Louis is well aware of the problems associated with the case. His family are of course disappointed by the failure of the Irish system to ever charge anyone with the crime. 'A person succeeds when they find the person responsible - they [the gardai] did not do that,' he says.

The failure to extradite Mr Bailey to France last year was another bitter blow for the family. But despite the setbacks,

Pierre-Louis remains optimistic about developments in the case.

A team of French policemen are due to return to Cork in September for final interviews with witnesses about the killing. A full file will be prepared for Judge Gachon, who will then decide whether to send the matter to trial.

It is at least possible that the judge could seek to have Mr Bailey tried in absentia. If convicted, the French could again attempt to extradite him.

The Garda Serious Crime Review Team has shown renewed interest in the case. Six months ago, Sophie's uncle, Jean Pierre Gazeau, and the family's lawyer, Alain Spilliaert, met gardai in Dublin to discuss it. Senior gardai indicated a willingness to review the case. But the Garda Commissioner has not signed off on the investigation, which is 'under review'.

Pierre-Louis is anxious for the officers to act. 'I want to appeal for the new team to get involved,' he says.

'I strongly believe they could cooperate with Judge Gachon's inquiry. I strongly believe it should happen.'

Sophie's husband Daniel is no longer here to help the fight for justice, after his death at the age of 61. Pierre-Louis maintained a good relationship with him after his mother's death and he recalls: 'The last time I saw him, we had a good lunch, for three or four hours. He had just become a father for a second time.'

'He spent the whole time crying about my mother. About how they met, dated, how she turned him down and how he kept pursuing her.'

Pierre-Louis also has a close relationship with his father, which he values highly, but his mother is never far from his thoughts and he feels she is watching over him. 'I always think that,' he says. 'When big things happen, I think of her. When I dream of her, we are always in Ireland. When I dream of her, I am not yet a father. I have not dreamt of her since I became a father.'

ali.bracken@dailymail.ie