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Ex fights Maroney in court

IN THE latest in a long line of public conflicts, the former husband of retired swimming champ **Susie Maroney** will today contest in court an AVO taken out against him by his former wife.

The private interim order against **Robert Charles Warren Daniels**, who the marathon swimmer walked out on in 2008, was first filed by Maroney on March 15 following an undisclosed dispute.

Daniels, a banker, is expected to appear at Sutherland Local Court, while Maroney will be represented by a police officer.

Maroney's agent **Max Markson** did not return *Confidential's* calls yesterday.

Controversy has never been far away since their marriage breakdown, from paid teary tell-alls to the heartbreaking death of one of Maroney's twin babies.

While Daniels took out his own AVO against Maroney's mum **Pauline** following the split, new groom **Darren May** has brought his own history to the relationship, with an AVO against the furniture maker by his ex-wife.

Proceedings were later dismissed when the ex admitted to the court that she had no evidence.



Controversy: Susie Maroney



George feels right at home

HE HAD a "whale" of a time during his extended Aussie visit early this year. So it's only fitting that Brit pop legend **George Michael** has taken a bite out of the Sydney real estate market and snapped up a home at Sydney's super-posh Whale Beach.

It's understood Michael recently splashed out \$6 million for a slick three-storey, five-bedroom pad on mega-exclusive Whale Beach Rd, overlooking Palm Beach cliffs.

Boasting a lap pool, glass walls, a terrace and a huge deck, the home is described as "ideal for entertaining" which is perfect for the ex-Wham! singer who makes no secret of his love of a good time.

Originally planning to stay for just a few nights during his world tour in February, Michael ended up hanging out here for two months and impressed Sydney's gay crowd with his voracious party power.

The *Fast Love* singer, who put in a surprise performance at the official Mardi Gras party, was a fixture on Oxford St and was spotted smooching his share of hunky Aussie men — perhaps one of the reasons he decided to put down roots in the Harbour City.

"He loves Aussie guys... loves Sydney and plans to split his time between here and London," a well-placed source said.

Rumoured sale agent **Glenn Lee**, of Raine and Horne Palm Beach, was coy when contacted yesterday, telling *Confidential*: "I would like to help you but I have signed a confidentiality clause in regards to this sale."

Michael's reps at Lippman Entertainment didn't comment when contacted yesterday.

Cheers: George Michael enjoys a boozy lunch during his Aussie holiday and (left) a peak inside his luxury Sydney home

