

Another  
**Now**  
exclusive



The couple have  
been good friends  
for five years

# RYAN & MICHELLE'S DINNER DATE

Now catches Corrie's Michelle Keegan and Ryan Thomas sharing a cosy meal!

**A**t first glance, it looks as though Coronation Street stars Ryan Thomas and Michelle Keegan were simply grabbing a bite to eat. But in the wake of claims they're actually a couple since Michelle's split from *The Wanted*'s Max George, 23, we couldn't help wondering – what's going on?

As our exclusive pic shows, the pair were caught enjoying a meal at Australasia restaurant

in Manchester on 1 August. Ryan, 28, and Michelle, 25, were sat in a quiet corner on a cosy table for two and were locked in deep conversation throughout their meal, enjoying a combination of sushi and skewers.

Our spy says: 'They were laughing a lot and Ryan was looking really happy to be there with Michelle. They had a few cocktails first and then ordered

a bottle of wine to go with their meal. They certainly didn't look short of conversation and they were really comfortable in each other's company.'

Last week, rumours began to circulate that Michelle

had jumped into a relationship with Ryan after splitting with Max. But she quickly took to Twitter to deny any romance, saying:

'I have that many teeth marks in my tongue & having to keep biting it when I see incorrect stories about MY life – it's unbelievable. #notfair'

The Corrie actress broke up with Max last month after it was revealed the singer had been sexting and having phone sex with his ex-girlfriend Bobbi Aney, 29, throughout their two-year relationship.

From the look of our photo, though, Ryan – who has a three-year-old daughter Scarlett with former co-star Tina O'Brien – is at least a good shoulder to cry on. The pair have been close since Michelle joined the soap in 2007 and their characters Tina McIntyre and Jason Grimshaw got together on screen in 2009. So could there be a chance of something more?

Well, apparently not yet. A Corrie spokesperson insists Ryan's just being a good friend to Michelle. But our onlooker reckons there's definite romantic potential, saying: 'I could feel the chemistry between them from across the restaurant.' Ooh-er!



Will reel life  
spill over into  
real life?



Michelle  
ended her  
romance with  
love rat Max