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## **Sir Jocelyn's temper**

Although a sign on his office door reads "the floggings will continue until morale improves", Sir Jocelyn Stevens, Chairman of English Heritage, denies he's "the fascist cannibal beast" he's made out to be. "I don't like being thwarted," he told *The Express*. "There are incidents of which one is terribly ashamed ... [but] I'm a perfectionist, driven mad by people who don't get it absolutely right." Once, he fired a secretary over the Tannoy; another time, he threw Lady Rendlesham's typewriter out of the window after sacking her. "I was helping her clear her office," he explained. Sir Jocelyn puts his toughness down to his unusual childhood. His mother died in childbirth, leaving him a £1m inheritance. "I bought myself up largely. I had my own little household with a nanny, a chauffeur [and] two grannies who'd fuss over one. I was always dressed in white satin."

## **Ingrams on death**

Richard Ingrams, the former editor of *Private Eye* and now editor of *The Oldie*, has been dwelling on mortality. "A lot of people have been dying – Peter Cook, Willy Rushton, Jeff Bernard. You start thinking it's your turn next," he told Caroline Phillips in *The Express*. Ingrams's own life has been touched by tragedy. "I've lost my parents, two brothers, a son... Maybe we're just one of those unlucky families." He is still coming to terms with the recent death of his mother. "It was a great shock. Your mother is your last protector, the person who always sticks up for you. She didn't like the *Eye* but would always defend me, write letters to Dempster when he attacked me and read my *Observer* column, which nobody else does."