

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."