

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."