

My Week Jacob Rees-Mogg*

Monday

One is often mocked for still having Nanny, but if she was my valet people would think it perfectly normal. And anyway, she has been working for my family for decades.

"No I haven't," says Nanny, as she prepares a bottle for my sixth child, Sixtus Dominic Boniface, in our Somerset kitchen. "You employed me last year."

Rubbish Nanny, I tell her, indulgently. Why, I remember calling for her as a babe myself! "Nanny!" I would cry. "Nanny!" And she would come running, smoothing her pinafore, and ...

"No," says Nanny. "That was a completely different person. Maybe several different people. You've just called us all 'Nanny'. And made us wear the same clothes. Remember?"

This strikes one as wholly implausible.

"I'm sorry, Nanny" I say. "But I am a man of conviction and on this I believe myself to be right."

"They said you were weird at the agency," says Nanny.

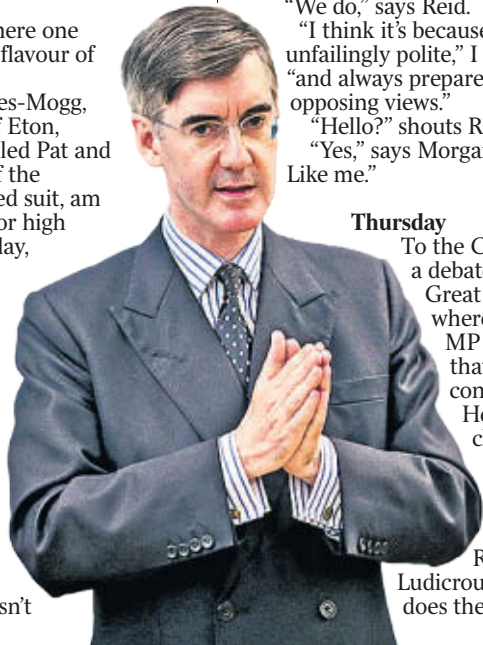
Tuesday

Up to London, where one appears to be the flavour of the month.

Yes! I, Jacob Rees-Mogg, proud alumnus of Eton, owner of a cat called Pat and famed inventor of the quadruple-breasted suit, am suddenly tipped for high office. And so, today, one has a clandestine briefing with two influential backbenchers on the right to discuss a future leadership challenge.

"This is serious," says one of the MPs. "You could be the next Boris."

"It actually doesn't



sound very serious," says the other one, "when you put it like that."

"Or the next Andrea Leadsom," says the first.

"I haven't thought this through," says the second, and leaves.

Wednesday

Obviously one regards this all as flattering fluff and nonsense. Which is why one is on the television, literally every day, milking it. Today I'm on *Good Morning Britain* explaining why I'm opposed to abortion, even in cases of incest or rape.

Afterwards, Piers Morgan says that even his female co-presenter, Susanna Reid, admires my conviction.

"What?" says Reid. "No I don't."

We both ignore her.

"Because you're entitled to a personal view, aren't you?" says Morgan. "And people respect that. And it's not like you'd impose it on anyone else."

Indeed, I say. Unless there was a vote, I add. In which case, I'd definitely try.

"Fascinating," says Morgan. "So how come women don't hate you?"

"We do," says Reid.

"I think it's because I'm unfailingly polite," I explain, "and always prepared to listen to opposing views."

"Hello?" shouts Reid.

"Yes," says Morgan. "That's it. Like me."

Thursday

To the Commons for a debate on the Great Repeal Bill, where a Labour MP suggests that the controversial Henry VIII clauses could give "sweeping powers" to a future PM Rees-Mogg. Ludicrous. Nanny does the sweeping.

Scrap the jury system, says mother of machete victim

John Simpson Crime Correspondent

The mother of a celebrity minder who was hacked to death with a machete when he interrupted a moped thief has criticised the jury system after the killer was convicted of manslaughter.

Ricky Hayden, 27, was killed when he ran out in his underwear to confront a gang trying to steal his brother's moped from outside the family home. The former bodyguard for celebrities including the footballer Peter Crouch died from a wound to his thigh.

Tommy Roome, then 19, was charged with murder alongside another man, but after hearing the evidence a jury at the Old Bailey found him guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter and cleared his co-defendant.

Outside the court as Roome was sentenced to 14 years in prison, Suzanne Hedges, the victim's mother, said yesterday: "We are here to let people know this system is rubbish. They need to get rid of the jury and have people who know what DNA is, not people who fall asleep ... We got no justice."

In a victim impact statement read in court, she said the family had been crushed by her son's death and des-

cribed listening to the "sickening" details in court that her son was "unarmed, unprepared, confused and wearing nothing but his underwear".

The court was told that Roome had 25 previous convictions, including for possession of an offensive weapon.

Michael Turner, QC, in mitigation, suggested that the jury had convicted his client because he "inflicted the fatal injury but without intent and without realising he was causing really serious



Ricky Hayden, 27, worked in security as a bodyguard

harm". "We accept of course Tommy Roome's own evidence that he regularly carried a machete but he has never used that weapon and on the jury's verdict there must have been an element of self-defence," Mr Turner said.

Judge Philip Katz, QC, said in sentencing that Roome's actions were "within a hair's breadth of the crime of murder".

One doesn't even know where she keeps the broom.

In the corridor that evening, one is approached by one of the two Gavins who work for the prime minister. As it happens, one can speak to people called Gavin quite naturally. One just doesn't use long words.

"Listen Jake," says the Gavin. "This God stuff hasn't done you any harm with the grassroots. So the PM was wondering whether you had ambitions to become a minister?"

"Oh, one knows one's place," I say, modestly. "One might as well aim for

the papacy!"

"I think she meant a different sort of minister," says the Gavin.

Friday

Back home to the family pile to see my many, many children, who are called Onus, Duos, Thirdus, and so on. My wife says Nanny is down in her flat, watching tennis. Which is peculiar, because I don't even remember having Tennis. I thought we'd stopped at six.

"Darling?" says my wife. "All this Moggmentum business. Is it serious?"

Might you really be destined for Downing Street?"

"Please," I say. "A risible notion. The sitting prime minister would need to be a disaster. The cabinet would need to be nonentities, and the party would need to have lost any comprehension of modern Britain and be in an absolute panic about how to get it back. And then the Labour leader would have to be even less electable than I was."

"So there's a chance?" says my wife.

"Oh definitely," I say.

*according to Hugo Rifkind

PEUGEOT

NEW PEUGEOT 308
AUGMENTED TECHNOLOGY

AVAILABLE WITH 0% APR REPRESENTATIVE*
DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION FROM £1200*

PEUGEOT i-COCKPIT[®] 8 SPEED AUTO

ADVANCED DRIVER ASSISTANCE SYSTEMS
NEW GENERATION ENGINES
NEW 8-SPEED (EAT8) AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
PANORAMIC FIXED GLASS ROOF

NEW 308

PEUGEOT RECOMMENDS TOTAL Official Fuel Consumption in MPG (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions Combined 47.1 – 91.1 (6.0 – 3.1) and CO₂ 139 – 82 (g/km). MPG figures are achieved under official on-the-road driving conditions.

*Personal Contract Purchase. Finance subject to status. 18s +. Guarantee may be required. Finance provided by PSA Finance UK Ltd, broker and is not a lender. To finance your purchase we will introduce you to PSA Finance UK, RHT 1QA. Offer available until 30th optional. New 8-speed (EAT8) automatic transmission is available to order from November 2017 production and is available on GT correct at time of going to print.