

# GHISLAINE'S WORLD

## A life on the front page

How did an Oxford bluestocking with a thing for Aran sweaters become one of the world's best connected and most glamorous women – only to find herself embroiled in a sordid scandal making headlines on both sides of the Atlantic? Keith Dovkants investigates

**C**oocooned in her Manhattan townhouse, Ghislaine Maxwell sits out the storm. Buffeted by accusations and gossip, she has battened down and buttoned up. Outside, even those who think of her with affection – and they are many – continue to wonder about her role in an affair as bizarre and humiliating as it is possibly to imagine. Jeffrey Epstein, the rich money manager who has been the focus of her life for the past 20 years, finds himself in an unceasing turmoil over his criminal conviction for a paedophile offence. Ghislaine has been accused of being his procurer of young girls who were then paid by Epstein for sexual favours. Prince Andrew was photographed with one of them, and his links to Epstein and Ghislaine have proven embarrassing and awkward. On the New

*Below, from left, Ghislaine Maxwell with Wendi Deng Murdoch; Mick Jagger; Jean Pigalle; and Colin Firth*

