



**RETAIL NEWS THAT MATTERS** ● £2.40 ● 10.03.2017

Nisa's 2020
Strategy
Bosses Nick Read
and Peter Hartley
reveal store and
own label plans
SYMBOL NEWS
Page 9 \$>

Store Survivors

- Our shop is back and better than ever, says
   Storm Desmond victim Daphne Eddington
- We'll be prepared for next flood, says Defra



TRAINING

# Symbols told: make us better retailers

Store owners call for development advice, not just deliveries Page 5 >>>



POLICING

# 95% rise in cost of crime to c-stores

Shock new figures as police watchdog reveals downgrading crisis Page 4 >>>



Vol 128 No 10
FOR TRADE USE ONLY

INNOVATION

# Food to go service delivers 25% boost

Home deliveries drive profits for Mo Razzaq, as UK trend booms Page 12 >>>

Shaping the future of independent retail since 1889



Editor Chris Gamm © @ChrisGammRN 020 7689 3378



**Associate editor** @ChrisRolfeRN 020 7689 3362



**News editor** 020 7689 3386



Features editor Tom Gockelen-Kozlowski **②** @TomGK\_RN 020 7689 3361



Reporter Charlie Faulkner @CharlieFaulkRN 020 7689 3357



Reporter Dave Songer @DaveSongerRN 020 7689 3358



Reporter Jennifer Hardwick @JenniferH\_RN 020 7689 3350



**Head of production** Darren Rackham @DarrenRackhamRN 020 7689 3373



Senior designer 020 7689 3391



Designer Emma Langschied 020 7689 3380

Production coordinator Billy Allen

020 7689 3368 **Director of sales** Mike Baillie

020 7689 3367 **Account director** Will Hoad 020 7689 3370

**Account managers** Marta Dziok-Kaczynska

020 7689 3354 Erin Swanson 020 7689 3372

**Marketing manager** Tom Mulready 020 7689 3352

**Marketing executive** Tom Thorn 020 7689 3384

**Marketing executive** 

Keelan Farley 020 7689 3356

Financial controller Parin Gohil 020 7689 3375

**Managing director** 07966 530 001

If you do not receive your copy of RN please contact  $\boldsymbol{Tom\ Thorn}$ on 020 7689 3384 or email tom.thorn@newtrade.co.u

**Printed by** Southernprint, Poole, on 80gsm Galerie Fine Gloss paper **Distributor** Seymour Distribution, 2 East Poultry Avenue, London, EC1A 9PT

Audit Bureau of Circulations
July 2015 to June 2016 average net circulation per issue 13,316

**Annual Subscription** 

UK 1 year £150 2 years £237 Europe £302 Rest of world £354 3 years £333

recycle

**To subscribe contact** 020 7689 3384



Newtrade 11 Angel Gate, City Road, London EC1V 2SD **Tel** 020 7689 0600 email letters@newtrade.co.uk

RN is published by Newtrade Publishing Limited, which is wholly owned by NFRN Holdings Ltd, which is wholly owned by the Benefits Fund of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents.

Retail Newsagent is editorially independent of the NFRN and opinions, comments and reviews included are not necessarily those of the Federation and no warranty for goods or services described is implied. Reproduction or transmission in part or whole of any item from RN may only be undertaken with the prior written agreement of the Editor.

Contributions are welcomed and are included in part or whole at the sole discretion of the edito Newtrade accepts no responsibility for submitted material. Every possible care is taken to ensure the accuracy of information.

For trade use only



# **HEADLINES**

**4 BREAKING NEWS** 

Retail crime cost rises 95%

**6 STORE LOOKBOOK** 

Inside Daphne Eddington's refurbished store

**9 SYMBOL NEWS** 

Nisa bosses reveal Heritage and store upgrade plans

**10 NEWS & MAGS** 

Young shoppers opt for premium, no-ad mags

**12 YOUR NEWS** 

Food to go deliveries feed 25% turnover increase for Mo

**13 PRODUCT TRENDS** 

Kepak targets £200m burger growth with retailer focus

**14 BRAND SNAPSHOT** 

News from 12 big brands

## **16 WHAT'S NEW?**

his range right Page 32

where customers make a judgment

of the whole store"

Dave Lewis on getting

11 products to find at IFE 2017

**18 PRICEWATCH** 

Benchmark your health & beauty prices and profit margins











to have your say on the latest news

@ThisisRN for expert advice

**@ThisisRN** for expert advice to help you grow your sales

Follow RN



email letters@newtrade.co.uk tel 020 7689 0600



www.betterretailing.com/RN extensive galleries and news



# **WELCOME**

Find the right product and it won't just create a point of difference, it might just prove to be your silver bullet

# **OPINION**

### **20 YOUR VIEWS**

Your letters, tweets and views

### **24 YOUR REGION**

NFRN Eastern Counties, Northern and South West district reports

# **INSIGHT**

### **27 PRICING STRATEGIES**

Why suppliers have faith in pricemarking

### **30 TEST THE TOOLS**

Ferrero's new Your Perfect Store website

### 32 RRFAD

RN's guide to making your baking takings rise

### **34 THIS WEEK IN MAGAZINES**

11 sales opportunities





Editor
Chris Gamm

@ @ChrisGammRN

020 7689 3378

e're trying to find the silver bullet for food to go that will bring more customers into the store."

This is West Midlands Nisa retailer Rav Garcha's succinct summary of the challenge facing every proactive retailer and the reason he reads RN's What's New feature. This week, we bring you an IFE show special, featuring 11 interesting products – from bamboo water to elephant gin – that you can find at this year's event.

Shows like IFE are so important because there are so many products and ideas under one roof, says Rav.

RN launched What's New in December to help retailers like Rav find that silver bullet. Our aim is to be your buyer, recommending innovative and interesting products to try that will make you stand out from your competition.

It was great to have feedback from a retailer recently who says it's working.

Llandudno Premier retailer John Parkinson says What's New is the first page he turns to each week because it shows him the products Booker doesn't stock and how to source them.

"Customers want to see different products, and I go to shows to find them. What's New is like going to a show every week," he says.

We don't expect you to stock every product or category. But we will give you insight into the exciting trends and products your customers are looking for.

Find the right product and you won't just create a point of difference from your competition, it might just prove to be your silver bullet.

**(** 

# BREAKING NEWS

# Have your say on new tobacco sanctions

Retailers should voice their opinions on tobacco sanctions in a new government consultation, Imperial Tobacco has said.

The consultation, which launched last month, is seeking views on four potential new sanctions, including increased financial penalties for repeat offenders and a civil penalty for dealing in illicit tobacco.

The news comes as Imperial announced it has worked with the Federation of Wholesale Distributors to launch a new, wholesalefocused poster for its Suspect It? Report It! campaign, inspired by wholesaler evidence that drops in sales can indicate spikes in illegal trading. "Where wholesalers have reported increased sales performance following sustained enforcement action in an area," said Peter Nelson, anti-illicit trading manager at Imperial.

# Sales of e-cigs still growing

The head of an independent body with a focus on the e-cigarettes market has reported steady growth in the category, contradicting the findings of a recent Mintel report.

Mintel reported growth in the value of the e-cigarette sector has tapered off with sales up by 8% in 2015 and 6% in 2016, compared to 300% in 2013, in its Smoking Cessation and E-Cigarettes report. But Tim Phillips, managing director of ECIGIntelligence, told RN the market is seeing "10% growth year on year".

He called Mintel "a reputable source", but questioned the report's findings. "We're still seeing growth," he said.

Scottish retailer Harris Aslam said his sales have been "very strong".



**Shock findings by police watchdog** NFRN urges shopkeepers to report every crime

# Retail crime downgraded by cops as cost rises 95%

### by Gurpreet Samrai

gurpreet.samrai@newtrade.co.uk

The cost of retail crime has soared by 95%, new figures have revealed, as an inspection by the police watchdog found some forces are "downgrading calls to reduce pressure on their teams"

Crime cost convenience retailers £4,631 per store last year and the sector £232m. This is up from £2,370 and £122m the previous year, an increase of 95% and 90% respectively, the Association of Convenience Stores' Crime Report 2017 revealed this week.

The report's launch comes only days after Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) warned of a national crisis in the shortage of detectives for the first time. Its inspection of police forces across the country

HMIC grading of	overall perf	es				
	Inadequate	Requires Improveme	Good ent	Outstanding	Declined	Improved
<b>Crime prevention</b>	1	10	30	2	11	3
Crime investigation	on O	17	26	0	8	6
Overall pillar grad	le 1	13	28	1	9	10

found some crimes are being shelved without proper investigation, and fewer arrests are being made, while 33% of forces were graded 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement'.

MP Martin Vickers, chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Retail Crime set up in partnership with the NFRN, told RN he raised the issue of different police responses across the country with MP Sarah Newton, parliamentary under-secretary of state at

the Home Office, this week, who said she would "take this issue forward".

"It's obviously an issue which is on the Home Office agenda," said Mr Vickers.

"Clearly, the police are under pressure. But we have got to ensure the resources they have got are focused on this particular crime as we've heard repeatedly it's too often not given high enough priority. We have got to ensure that it happens."

Retailers estimated

only 34% of shop theft was reported to the police last year, down from 52%, due to a lack of confidence in the police responding, the ACS report states.

"We believe independent retailers should not be left to pick up the tab of retail crime and a new system is needed to address lack of justice," said NFRN chief executive Paul Baxter.

"In the meantime, I urge our members to stop the trend of not reporting and report retail crime incidents to the police."

# Record £2.5bn flood protection spend

A record £2.5bn is being invested in better flood protection by the government following the devastation caused by Storm Desmond.

Daphne Eddington, of The Village Shop in Braithwaite, told RN she has built a better business, with stronger flood defence helped by a government grant, after her store was completely gutted by flooding in December 2015 (see Store Lookbook – p6).

It was the fifth time her store had been devastated by flooding since 2005.

"During the flooding the role of the village shop became clearer than ever. Since reopening, support for the shop has been even greater," she said.

"Locals understand what

they stand to lose if there was no shop."

This week, the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) told RN £2.5bn is being invested to better protect 300,000 businesses and homes from flooding by 2021, with £72m being invested in Cumbrian flood defences.

A spokesman added:

"If the worst happens, we want to see businesses back open as soon as possible.

"That is why we have made available property resilience grants of up to £5,000 for businesses affected by last winter's floods, so preventative steps can be taken to limit any future flood damage."







## **It's Spar for Baz**

Bolton retailer Baz Jethwa has opened his third store under the Spar fascia with two-thirds of the 3,000sq ft retail space dedicated to hot and fresh food. "We wanted to take our food to go offer to another level so we had to make sure we had the right wholesale partner behind us," he said. "Spar is very good at that." Mr Jethwa told RN the store model and Spar fascia will now be transferred over to his two Costcutter stores.





**Symbol groups and wholesalers 'need to do more'** Call for greater support and training

# Retailers say BDMs are key to successful stores

### by Charlie Faulkner

charlie.faulkner@newtrade.co.uk

Symbol groups and wholesalers must do more to equip retailers with the business skills they need to run successful shops, store owners have told RN.

Jag Aytain, of The Rural Hub & Post Office in Linton, Derbyshire, believes business development managers (BDMs) need to work harder to support retailers and identify when store owners are struggling or looking to improve.

Formerly a Spar retailer but now operating under a combined Costcutter and Mace fascia, Mr Aytain said: "A BDM can't just be someone who calls in and provides you with promotions. They need to teach you how to add value to your business."

A retailer – who did not want to be named – agreed, adding their wholesaler sells them goods without adding value to their business

Mr Aytain, who has independently financed a store refit, said: "If retailers are taught how to be self-sufficient, the loyalty to the group will be automatic and it leads to a stronger business, benefiting both

"There's no point giving me £120,000 for a refit and then not giving me the tools to make that money back."

Nick Fraser, who runs six stores including three Budgens, said Musgrave pushed him to become a better retailer and he is challenging Booker to do the same.

"We're never arrogant enough to say we know everything – we want a wholesaler who, as well as delivering the product, adds an element of expertise," he said.

Symbol groups told RN their BDMs are supporting members in various ways.

Nisa said it operates a retail academy which provides business training and is available to all members through their development managers.

Meanwhile, Bestway said its members receive an initial six-weeks of 'hypercare', providing training on processes and budgets, then receive two visits a month from sales reps and BDMs.

Neil Mercer, Blakemore Trade Partners sales director, said BDM roles are varied depending on the retailer, but they offer sales and margin analysis, as well as commercial support packages.

# Indies are beating the market for growth

Independent stores have grown ahead of the overall grocery market for the first time since January last year, Kantar WorldPanel figures have revealed.

Symbol and independent stores have recorded a 3.5% growth in customer spend, from £507m for the 12 weeks to 28 February last year, to £525m for the same time period to 26 February this year.

The figures also reveal supermarket sales grew at their fastest rate since June 2014 – up by 2.3% compared to the same time last year.

The report highlights the proportion of groceries sold on promotion continues to decline, falling to 34.3% during the past 12 weeks – its lowest level since October 2009.

# Feedback to help Smiths SNapp to it

Smiths News has said it is using customer feedback to improve its new website, SNapp Online, after retailers told RN it is missing key features.

The wholesaler's former website, Connect2U, was turned off last month.

Mark Ansell, of Liskeard News in Cornwall, said: "It has made everything more time-consuming than it was. It's like someone designed the site without even thinking about how a retailer would use it."

Stuart McClymont, of Mac's Newsagents in Nottinghamshire, said he is hoping more features from Connect2U will be added in due course.

Michael Williams, Smiths' retail controller for independents, said customer feedback is helping with the website's next phase of development.

# Wholesaler complaints are up 43% in 2016

The Press Distribution Forum (PDF) has attributed the receipt of a record number of complaints about wholesalers in 2016 to an increased awareness of the complaints process.

The annual report from the Press Distribution Review Panel (PDRP) shows the number of complaints classified as Stage 2, meaning they were not resolved with informal discussion with a wholesaler, increased by 43% year on year to 166.

Of those, 75% were made against Smiths News and 8% Menzies, with 34% relating to delivery timelines and 22% relating to customer service.

PDRP chairman Neil Robinson said he "firmly believes" the increase is due to increased awareness of the complaints process.

However, NFRN head of news Brian Murphy called the complaints rise "alarming" and questioned whether the PDF's role should be extended to reduce the number of complaints reaching Stage 2.

Steve Archer, who owns

three Premier stores in Cheshire and Staffordshire, said it is clear there has been a rise in retailers struggling to speak to people at wholesalers who will resolve their problems.

A Smiths spokeswoman said a new complaints procedure has been introduced which should increase resolution before Stage 2.

p5 News.indd 5 07/03/2017 17:46



# STORE LOOKBOOK





# Back and better

6

By turning adversity into opportunity Daphne Eddington has overcome her village store being flooded five times in 12 years. The revamped store offers greater freezer, fridge and shelf space.

Gurpreet Samrai reports

he old saying 'lightning never strikes the same place twice' may often be true, but for Braithwaite retailer Daphne Eddington it certainly isn't – for her store has been devastated by flooding not once, not twice, but five times since 2005.

When the store was completely gutted after the latest incident, Storm Desmond in December 2015, Daphne decided to evaluate every section of the 590sq ft shop to build a "bigger and better" business, bringing in new features and products with the end result boosting her turnover by 30%.

"I decided to use this opportunity to bring in new ideas. This was an opportunity to make radical changes to the layout to ensure this village shop doesn't go into oblivion in the same way as so many others across the UK have," says Daphne.

"Innovation, even at such a small scale, is not easy. To make everything bigger and better, I had to squeeze in more shelving. Every fitting from the fridges to shelves were sourced to save space, but allow more products to be brought in. The result was I created more shelf and fridge and freezer space than I had before, meaning more space for more product lines, but the shop actually appeared more spacious and airy."

At the centre of Daphne's plan was catering for the needs of her varied customer base. "We have everything from builders

coming in for bacon butties and cups of tea, to tourists who range from people in tents and caravans who want the basic convenience items plus lager, wine and freshly-made pies, bread, and sandwiches to higher-end people who buy more fancy food such as local cheeses from the nearby Appleby Creamery and Cow and Co, local ales, the Cottage Delight range of jams and chutneys and Delverde pastas. We needed to cover a massive range," she says.

Local suppliers played a big part in making the store "bigger and better". This included expanding the off-licence to feature more local breweries, the patisserie to accommodate more locally-made cakes, and bringing in locally-made ready meals and a larger range of products from a local butcher.

Other additions included a range of 'finer' foods, a gluten-free range, Alex Clark cards and gifts, a bean to cup coffee machine and an extra chiller for sandwiches and food to go "for those who don't want to wait to have them freshly-made".

"A lot of decisions were made on the basis of 'everything was working very well before the floods, so let's look at each area and see how we can make it bigger and better'. Local suppliers have played a big part in that," says Daphne.

"We have four ceiling-to-floor shelf units which are about a metre wide each and are

**RN** • 10 March 2017



•

Identify your strengths and build on them so you're different to every other store, we did this after the flood to make the store bigger and better" DAPHNE EDDINGTON







"This was an opportunity to make radical changes to the layout to ensure this village shop doesn't go into oblivion in the same way as so many others across the UK have"

## **INFORMATION**

### Location

The Village Shop, Main Street, Braithwaite, Cumbria CA12 5ST

### Size

590sq f

### **Average basket spend**

£4.05 during peak season

### **Key categories**

Local produce, freshly-made food, gifts, traditional CTN categories



**8** 10 March 2017 • **RN** 

# STORE LOOKBOOK





lacktriangledown

full of what we call fancy foods, so Cottage Delight jams and chutneys and products from Taste Traders we couldn't get before. We have made an upmarket part of the shop. We have finer foods on one end and the usual cash and carry items – where we tend to have pricemarked well-known brands for just about everything and the cheaper own brand fitted inbetween – on the other end, with a cake cabinet inbetween."

Daphne has also extended the store's opening hours from 8am to 5.30pm before the flooding to 8am to 7pm seven days a week, with the closing time extended to 9pm during peak season from May to September.

"We have worked hard at promoting the shop and have taken on extra staff. Sales have increased and average basket spend is much higher. We're up about 30% overall."

For Daphne, the local community remained a key focus throughout the project. With that in mind, the store has tables and chairs for customers to sit outside and offers a delivery service for everything from groceries and hot food to logs for the fire and prescriptions from a surgery three miles away.

"During the floods the role of the store became ever more clear. Since reopening, support for the shop has been even greater than before," says Daphne. "Locals understand what they stand to lose if there was no shop".



**Want to see more** of Daphne's store? Go to betterretailing.com/village-store-braithwaite



# SYMBOL NEWS

**500 of 2,900 stores revamped by 2020** 'We're developing a modular approach to upgrades'

# Nisa plans to upgrade stores and Heritage label

by Charlie Faulkner

charlie.faulkner@newtrade.co.uk

Nisa is committed to being the 'retailer and wholesaler of choice', the group's bosses told RN, as it revealed plans to invest in stores and its own label as the group celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Speaking to RN, Nick Read, chief executive, and Peter Hartley, newlyappointed chairman, outlined plans to develop 500 of its 2,900 stores by 2020, but with a new approach.

"Currently, retailers can only really undergo a full refit, which means a complete overhaul of their store. However, we're developing a modular approach which will allow retailers to upgrade specific areas in their stores, such as the beers, wines and spirits area, or chillers, rather than the entire shop," said Mr Read.

"We've formed a development team to focus on achieving the concept of 'store of the future'."

Nisa also plans to invest in its Heritage own label, including the launch of its own label wine, set to be unveiled at its conference next month.

"We think own label is a very powerful tool in the independent market," said Mr Read. "It's about making sure we get that right, which is really important."

Both Mr Read and Mr Hartley have been out on the road with delivery drivers visiting stores to gain a better understanding of the challenges drivers and retailers face.

Umat Yeter, owner of Hornsey Road Nisa, which received a visit from Mr Hartley last week, said: "It's quite surprising for someone to step out of the office and it shows he's got a handson approach and wants to make Nisa one for the members."

Mr Read, who has been visiting rural stores, said: "It's important we're out there understanding what the job entails and how we can make improvements.

"Our job is to be the retailer and wholesaler of choice. We will be bigger than the business has ever been by the end of next year and we continue to grow year on year."



# Spar wine festivals aim to raise sales

Spar has launched a series of wine festivals aimed at showcasing leading brands and its own label range to drive sales.

Spar set up the first festival at the end of last month and it will continue until 5 April. Leading brands including Hardys, Casillero del Diablo and Mud House are on promotion, as well as the Speciale Prosecco, Fern Hills Sauvignon Blanc and Rios de los Andes Malbec wines from Spar's own label range.

The wine promotions will be supported by lead deals on Spar Brie, dips and continental meats.

The second Spar Wine Festival is set to run from 27 July until 6 September.

# Postmasters get in-store and online support

The National Federation of SubPostmasters has launched in-store and online support to help subpostmasters maximise their sales.

Through the new six-strong retail team, the federation is offering a range of support for subpostmasters such as in-store 'health checks' and support to improve their retail offer, including a series of networking and training opportunities.

Clare Brierley, of Tottington Post Office, who has had tailored support, said: "I have gone from thinking I needed to sell the whole business because I couldn't sustain it to being excited and inspired to develop the post office services and my retail offering."

# Set prices by understanding your customers

Retailers must understand the reasons behind purchases to deliver the best prices for their customers.

That is the message from store owners, including Vince Malone, of Tenby Stores & Post Office in Pembrokeshire, who believes pricing strategy is not just about margin or RRP. He said it

is about understanding a store has several different types of customer who are willing to pay different prices.

"We've got milk at £1 a bottle because that's what drives footfall in terms of local customers," he said.

"But we know we can add an extra bit on to other items bought by holidaymakers. We don't have one customer that buys everything."

Manjinder Singh, of Dunston Convenience Store in Gateshead, said: "You've got to look at the product and understand the reasons behind the purchase."

Sales of Grey Goose vodka have overtaken Smirnoff in his store, an example he said shows people are willing to spend a bit more on premium goods.

"My prices are determined based on the competition in the area and by understanding whether my customers are either in work or on benefits," he said.

For more, see Why Pricemarking? – p27.

# NEWS & MAGS

# Magazine prices rise 31% in 10 years

The average price of magazines in the UK increased by almost a third in the decade up to 2016, new figures show.

Figures from Frontline collected by the Professional Publishers Association reveal the average selling price rose by 31%, from £1.51 in 2006 to £1.98 in 2016

Distributors told RN the increase is in line with price increases for other products and is partly due to a rise in the cost of paper, but also reflects a rise in higher-priced specialist titles and a shift in market shares.

Susan Hefferon, senior sales development manager for Frontline, said: "Children's magazines now represent 12% of the independent channel RSV. These are a higher cover price so would have an impression on the average."

# Grazia increases to £2.20

Bauer Media has increased the price of women's weekly Grazia from £2 to £2.20.

The move comes after Condé Nast halved the price of rival monthly title Glamour to £1 at the start of this year.

Hearst slashed Cosmopolitan's price from £3.80 to £1 in 2015.

The change has been made on a pro-rata basis, according to the The Association of Newspaper and Magazine Wholesalers, meaning retailers will get more pence per issue. Bauer Media declined to comment on the change.

Young customers pay £15 for premium titles 'Consumers don't just want to be paying for ads'

# New generation opts for premium, no-ad mags

### by Jennifer Hardwick

jennifer.hardwick@newtrade.co.uk

A "new generation" of magazine readers is willing to pay higher prices for premium titles which contain minimal or no advertising, retailers and publishers have said.

Raj Patel, of Wardour News in London, told RN he has noticed more young customers coming into the store who will pay up to £10 or £15 or even higher for premium art, design or fashion titles.

"There is a new generation of young people who appreciate being able to come into the store and see and feel the magazines.

They are then happy to pay the higher price for them," he said.

Jai Patel, of Regent News in London, agreed. He



added: "I have noticed a lot of people will pay more for titles that are high-quality and don't contain any adverts."

Printed Pages, a biannual art and design magazine published by It's Nice That, launched in 2013 and sold out of its past two issues for the first time, with 42% of its UK sales occurring outside London. It costs £10 and contains a maximum of 10% advertising.

**Printed Pages** 

Producer Manda Wilks said: "Consumers are looking for something interesting and creative when they are buying a magazine like ours and they don't just want to be paying for advertising.

"We send out surveys and our customers say

they want to see less adverts, although we don't have many, so it's definitely a consumer trend."

Meanwhile, GMC Publications launched an adfree bimonthly wellbeing magazine called Breathe last year.

"Feedback we receive regularly highlights not only the quality of the title, but the fact that it is pure and unspoilt by distracting advertising," said marketing and circulation executive Anne Guillot.

Rob Humphrey, group circulation manager for Marketforce, said customers are willing to pay higher prices for quality content across a broad range of sectors, provided the products "physically feel" high value.

# Partwork display adds 25% sales



A Dublin retailer has increased his partwork sales by 25% after displaying them more prominently in his store.

Joe Sweeney, of Newscentre, said: "There have been some good launches and I have given them a

lot of space. I'm delighted with how they're selling. I think driving partwork sales is a good way to get more money in."

His most successful titles include Assassin's Creed: The official collection and My Animal Farm.

# Minimum card charges cut trade

Charging customers for card payments could negatively impact magazine sales, retailers are being warned.

Dean Russell, Comag's independent retail and sales development manager, said he is concerned retailers charging for payments under £5 could be losing out.

"If people come in just for a magazine and they haven't got cash they are likely to walk away," he said. "But we know it's very difficult for retailers because they get charged."

David Woodrow, of Woodrow's Newsagent in Bishopston, charges 20p for any card transaction under £5. He said he doesn't lose sales because he is able to offer customers the option of withdrawing cash from the post office in his store, but thinks he would if that wasn't available.

"You can imagine magazines would be one of the areas where you could lose sales, especially in more urban areas," he said.

"It would be helpful if the magazine distributors could lobby the card providers in order to cut their fees."

Ketan Patel, of Purley Bon Bon in Surrey, said he does not charge for card payments and believes doing so could put customers off buying magazines.







# YOUR NEWS

# Video blogs put store in YouTube spotlight

A London newsagent is set to feature in a YouTube vlog for the third time, with his last appearance on a channel that has more than one million followers.

Wardour News first featured in a vlog named The Hyman Archive three years ago and owner Raj Patel is expecting a third vlogger this weekend. He said the online appearances have helped raise the store's profile.

"People come in and say they have seen the video blogs," he said. "Everything that gets the name out there helps."

The second and most recent video featuring Wardour News has been viewed almost 190,000 times.

The film by vlogger Estée Lalonde, named Magazine Shopping and Haul, also features a visit to nearby store Charlotte Street News.

# Waitrose's 'difficult' indie move

Waitrose has said it made its "best efforts" to continue using an independent roundsman to deliver newspapers to one of its Guernsey stores.

It comes after RN reported last week the Rohais branch of the supermarket will now be taking its supply directly from the island's distributor, H Le Gallez & Son.

A company spokesman said: "Like any business, we have to make decisions which we believe are right for our future and our partners, however difficult they may be."

He added the supermarket's other branch at Admiral Park would continue to be supplied by a rounds-



# Ansell celebrates 15 years of success

Ansell Village Stores celebrated 15 years of business with a party and birthday cake for staff. Owner Stephen Ansell now runs four shops in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, after first opening in Meppershall in 2002 with a convenience store and post office. He has 32 members of staff and splits his time between the shops. "It's nice to celebrate our survival against all odds," he said. "How people view convenience stores has changed completely in that time."

Customers have growing appetite for meals on wheels "You need to be fully committed"

# Food to go delivery gives retailer 25% sales rise

by Charlie Faulkner

charlie.faulkner@newtrade.co.uk

Retailers are cashing in on the growth of home delivery with some adding 25% to their food to go sales since investing in the service.

Home delivery grew 10 times faster than the eatingout foodservice market in Britain last year, according to figures from global information company the NPD Group. While eat-out visits increased by just 1% year on year to 11.3 billion, the delivery sector jumped nearly 10% to 599 million visits.

Mo Razzaq introduced a

Subway delivery service at his Family Shopper store in Glasgow three months ago. He has seen his food to go sales increase by 25% and delivery now accounts for 20% of the business.

"It was tough initially because we'd never done anything like it before but we are now starting to see the benefits," said Mr Razzaq. "We've invested in staff and a van."

Mr Razzaq plans to offer grocery delivery at the store and is forecasting a 10% increase in turnover.

Zahid Ula, of Day-Today in Kelty, launched GrocerOnline.co.uk, "the independent retailers' version of Just Eat", last month. He has already seen an 8% increase in turnover and is aiming for a 30% uplift by October.

From April, retailers across the UK will also be able to sign up.

Cyril Lavenant, foodservice director at the NPD Group, believes the trend is a result of more online shopping with companies like JustEat and Deliveroo aggregators in the success of delivery.

However, he sees independent retailers benefiting the most from offering a click and collect service.
"By offering that service it makes popping in for lunch or top-up snacks much more streamlined," he said.

"Food to go is about quick and efficient transactions. It would transform the lunch time trade if office workers, for example, could place their orders before leaving their desks."

It comes as Repsol announced a deal with Amazon that will allow shoppers to pick up parcels at its filling stations, while MacDonald's announced it will expand its delivery service to the UK.

# Glasgow retailer moves on to set up new site

A well-known Glasgow retailer has announced he is giving up the lease of one of his stores as he seeks a site for a "new challenge".

Mo Razzaq told RN the lease of Premier Mo's Convenience will be transferred to his brother from February next year, but he will continue to run his Family Shopper store, which he owns.

"It's sad but I'm excited for a new challenge," he said. "I just need to know my new location and then I can get to work."

He has expressed interest in three stores, which are all in the Glasgow area, and is waiting to hear which one he will be able to buy.

He said he will stay with Booker, but believes one of the stores would work well as a Family Shopper, while the other two would better fit a Premier or Londis fascia.

"We've been at Premier Mo's for quite a while now and I think we need a challenge," he said.

"That was my first store and I've learned so much but I can't make all the changes I want to in an existing store."





### •

# PRODUCT TRENDS



# Kepak pushes for extra £200m sales by 2020

by Dave Songer

dave.songer@newtrade.co.uk

Convenience food manufacturer Kepak is contacting 3,000 retailers a month and launching an advertising campaign as part of its plan to grow sales by up to £200m by 2020.

Kepak, which produces Rustlers food to go products including burgers, chicken sandwiches and hot subs, aims to contact 50.000 retailers by 2018.

The initiative is part of the company's 2020 growth plans, the year by which it aims to have increased its sales by £150m to £200m. The company said it experienced 18% growth in the 12 months to January 2017.

The plans were announced at the launch of its latest range, a quarter pounder burger and a gourmet burger available with a £2 and £3 pricemark.

The burgers, which contain meat fully traceable back to the farm of origin, were created following Kepak's research that showed 80% of people want to be have a premium takeaway burger at home.

Coventry retailer Paul Cheema, who sells the whole range in his Nisa store, said he believes the company's retailer initiative will work well. "Kepak is a good company to work with; it's all about partnerships. I look forward to getting the new products in," he said.

The company also revealed its plans for an advertising campaign focus in the north of England during April and May including cinema and outdoor ads.

It will follow a similar move by the company in Scotland last year, and will be backed by national social media and new PoS – part of a £2.5m brand investment for 2017.

Rav Garcha, who sells Kepak's Rustlers products, said updated PoS proved vital for his sales when he ran a promotion during Euro 2016. "When we used the PoS and posters supplied they absolutely flew off the shelves," said Mr

# Ferrero's online help



Ferrero has launched a new retailer website that aims to "drive sales, grow categories and evolve businesses".

The Your Perfect Store digital platform includes a PoS catalogue, ideal stock list and planograms.

The manufacturer said its research showed 79% of retailers want more help with category advice and new product news.

Levi Boorer, customer development director at Ferrero, said: "By working together, we can make Your Perfect Store the tool that we know it can be and continue to listen to our valued customers' needs."

Reacting to the new website, Darren Goldney from Palmer & Harvey, said the system is "interactive, interesting and intuitive".

● Test the tools – p30.

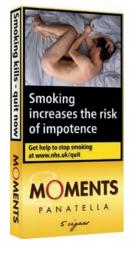
# Link coffee and water

Retailers were reminded of the importance of linking sales, as Nestlé revealed the popularity of water among coffee drinkers.

Julia Holbrook, category development lead, out of home, at Nestlé Water, said bottles of water should be positioned close to coffee facilities to "drive incremental sales".

The company also revealed bottles of water sell well with energy drinks and advised retailers to have a secondary siting for water to take advantage of the trend.

# STG offers lowest-priced cigar



Cigar manufacturer Scandinavian Tobacco Group has announced plans to launch a panatella next month with an RRP that will make it the "lowest-priced small cigar in the market".

Moments Panatella will be priced at £4.20 for a pack of five, a price the company said would attract existing smokers and still offer a "competitive margin" for retailers. According to STG UK, the new price will make the small cigar up to £1.40 cheaper than its immediate competitor.

Jens Christiansen, head of marketing and public affairs at STG UK, said it expected the valuefor-money trend to gain further momentum.

"The Moments brand has already seen significant success in the Miniatures segment. In fact, since its launch only five years ago, the brand has grown to become the fastest-growing cigar brand in the UK," he said.

Harshal Kshatri, of Connoisseur in Wallington, Surrey, who has recently expanded his cigar range, said it would work well for his customers, many of whom are price-conscious. "I think they'll definitely try it, the price will appeal," he said.



# **BRAND SNAPSHOT**



## Coca-Cola vanilla launch

Coca-Cola European Partners launches a vanilla variant of its Zero brand in April. It will be supported with PoS and digital and social media campaigns.



## **Bigger Bear range**

Bear Nibbles, the children's dried fruit snack, has extended its range of Yoyo with three sour flavours, including Strawberry & Apple and Mango & Apple.



## **Lower sugar Monster**

Honey Monster Puffs has been relaunched with a lower sugar content and new packaging. The cereal has half the sugar level of the original.



## **Whole Earth on the Ball**

Wessanen UK's Whole Earth brand has launched a new protein snack. Power Balls are available in four flavours and are gluten-free.



# **Pioneering Bulmers**

Heineken has expanded its cider range under its Bulmers brand. Bulmers Orchard Pioneers will be available in Red Apple and Cloudy varieties.



**(** 

### **Free-from for Vitalite**

Dairy Crest is to release a coconutbased spread – Vitalite Dairy Free – that aims to appeal to consumers adopting a free-from diet.



## **Crisp & Thin pricemark**

Ritz Crisp & Thin has launched a 39p, 30g pricemarked pack for independent retailers. Available until the end of May, it comes in two flavours.



### **Boost from Tropicana**

PepsiCo's Tropicana brand has a new Morning Boost smoothie that combines fruit juice, fruit purée and cereals, in 750ml bottles with an RRP of £2.99.



## Schweppes' 50 calorie can

Coca-Cola European Partners is to launch a 250ml can for its Schweppes Sparkling Juice Drinks. Available from the end of March, each can contains 50 calories. **RN** • 10 March 2017



## **Hula Hoops Jump to it**

KP Snacks has revealed an advertising campaign for Hula Hoops, a £3.5m investment including a takeover of Channel 4's programme, The Jump, and promotions in convenience stores.



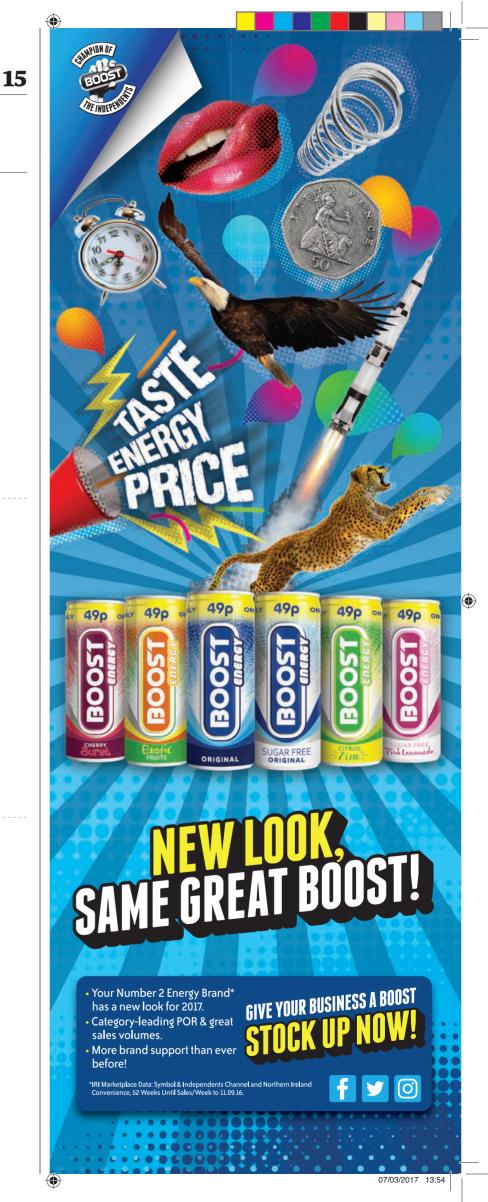
### F1 star Lewis's drinks drive

Triple F1 World Champion Lewis Hamilton has joined forces with Coca-Cola's Monster Energy brand to release a black grape-flavoured energy drink.



## **Doritos goes bold on TV ads** PepsiCo is supporting the recent launch of its

PepsiCo is supporting the recent launch of its Doritos Heatburst tortilla crisps with a two-month TV campaign – For the Bold. The crisps are available in BBQ and Chipotle Cream.



# WHAT'S NEW

# Products to find at the IFE show







## Candia Croissance Groei

Candia Croissance Toddler Milk is for infants aged from 10 months to three years. The 25cl container can be turned into a baby bottle by breaking the seal on the lid.

RRP Unconfirmed
Contact 0203 8652372



Inspired by Sundowner, a gin and tonic drink popular in the African bush, Elephant Gin is made with botanicals from the continent such as Lion's Tail, Buchu and Baobab.

RRP £25 (500ml)

Contact info@elephant-gin.com

## **Honeybuns**

Honeybuns Oaty Coconut Bar is a moist flapjack that uses date syrup and light muscavado sugar, giving it a caramel flavour. It contains virgin coconut oil and is certified by the Vegan Society.

RRP £1.90

Contact 01963 23597







# Liberation Up & At 'Em

Liberation Foods is championing nuts' healthy credentials with its 'smart snacking' mixes. Up & At 'Em pocket-sized snacks contain nuts, dried fruits and pumpkin seeds.

RRP £1.20

Contact 0207 3757603 / info@chooseliberation.com

### **Radnor Hills**

Radnor Hills Fruella Hydrate range is made with spring water and fruit juice and comes in Tetra-Paks. The drink is school-compliant in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. RRP 35p (125ml), 65p (200ml), 70p (250ml)

**Contact** 01547 530220 / sales@radnorhills.co.uk

## **Sygenix**

Sygenix is a health drink designed to boost metabolism and give a sustained source of natural energy. It has no preservatives, taurine, synthetic caffeine or artificial sweeteners.

RRP £1.50-£1.85

Contact clientcare@sygenix.com



Dave Songer

dave.songer@newtrade.co.uk

**a** 020 7689 3358







## **Uncle Joe's Mints**

A confectionery manufacturer since 1898, Uncle Joe's has always used the same method of production. Its most recent launch is Sugar Free Mint Balls, which are hand-cooked on open fires.

Contact 01942 243464



Sibberi's waters contain up to four times less sugar than coconut water. Birch supports kidney and liver function, maple aids muscle recovery, and bamboo helps hair look healthy.

RRP 250ml

Contact hello@sibberi.com

## **Food Connections**

With each pack containing a chocolate sauce sachet, Food Connection's waffles can be eaten hot or cold, on the go or as a dessert. They have a 16-week shelf-life.

RP 89p

Contact sales@foodconnections.co.uk



## Forest Feast Baked Not Fried

This snack range is seasoned and roasted, giving it a rich roasted and salted taste. One new variety is Slow Baked Sweet & Salty Fruit & Nuts with twice baked apple.

RRP £1.20 (40g), £4.99 (175g)

Contact 02838 350934 / enquiries@forestfeast.com



# Rebel Kitchen Dairy Free Organic Coconut Mylks

Rebel Kitchen's Organic Coconut Mylk is made from a single source of organic green coconuts. It contains no refined sugar, additives or preservatives.

RRP £1.19 (250ml), £1.89 (330ml)

Contact 0203 8021919 / sales@rebel-kitchen.com



Nisa Local, Shrewsbury

"We're trying to find the silver bullet for food to go in the convenience store with a solution that will bring more customers into the store. Shows like IFE are absolutely ideal

because there are so many ideas and products under one roof."

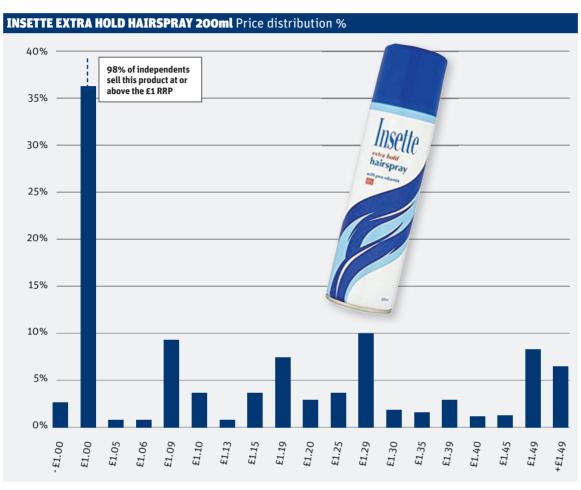
for retailers.



p16-p17 What's New.indd 17 07/03/2017 13:56

# PRICEWATCH

# **Profit checker** Personal care



# **Analysis**

Retailers told RN hairspray is a product which is unlikely to result in high volume sales and it's vital to know your customer base to know how to price it. The data shows more than 36% of retailers stick to Insette

Extra Hold hairspray's RRP of £1, which, according to Booker's margin calculation of 28% means these retailers make 40p a sale. As Vince Malone points out, customers have their preferred brand so rather than trying to

meet each one's demand, stock a core range of the essential personal care items with brands people know. Chaz Chahal, however, said he relies on pricemarking to reassure customers they are getting the best price.

## **Price checker**

# Colgate Advanced Whitening

# 50ml Always Ultra Night Pad

**PRODUCT** 

# 10s Lynx Bodyspray

# Africa 150ml

## Insette Extra Hold Hairspray

## Oral B Toothpaste

## Silvikrin Maximum Hold Hairspray

### Carex Handwash Original 250ml

### Dove Cream Bar 2 x 100g

### Vaseline Petroleum Jelly 50g

### Wisdom Toothbrush Medium

### Gillette Shave Foam Regular 200ml

### Tusk Bodyspray Hunter 150ml

# How we drive our profit

# Chaz Chahal

STORE Simply Fresh LOCATION Worcestershire SIZE 900sq ft TYPE rural

### **TOP TIP**

Either price high on a slow-selling category or try and drive repeat purchases with pricemarking



We aim for a margin of 25% upwards, but it's not a particularly fast-selling category and we just have a core range. Products sell better when they're pricemarked but we don't see much of that. Handwash and toothpaste tend to be the most popular items and we sell an outer a week of handwash, I think they do well because they're branded and pricemarked at £1. What you can offer depends on your wholesaler or cash & carry. It would be good to see more pricemarked items from Costcutter in this area because it reinforces value for money.

# Kam Nijjar

STORE Spar Meriden LOCATION Coventry SIZE 1,000sq ft TYPE village

## TOP TIP

Shop around. People get comfortable with their wholesaler and don't realise they could be saving money



We sell hairspray from £1.49 to £3.69 although we don't sell high volumes of it. We aim for a 22% margin across our toiletries and I make a point of shopping around to get the best deal from wholesalers and cash & carries. We do well with handwash because it's pricemarked at £1, but we also do well with things like deodorant and toothbrushes because we're near a few hotels. Deodorants are now located behind the counter too so they are immediately in customers' line of sight. We're able to add a bit extra on the price because people will still pay it.



Charlie Faulkner

charlie.faulkner@newtrade.co.uk

**2** 020 7689 3357

Data supplied by



EDFM is a specialist in helping leading suppliers to the UK's independent convenience channel get value, insights and business benefits from EPoS data. To find out how they could help you call 07976 295094

	jo ma out non une court neut you out or sy o 2 sac y							
	AVERAGE UK RETAIL PRICE*	BOOKER RRP	RETAILER  1 C STORE IN SUBURB OF LARGE CHESHIRE TOWN	RETAILER 2 HIGH STREET NEWSAGENT IN NORTHUMBER- LAND VILLAGE	RETAILER  SOUTH WALES VILLAGE HIGH STREET SHOP	RETAILER  SUBURBAN PORTSMOUTH HIGH STREET C-STORE	RETAILER 5 SMALL C-STORE IN NORTH WEST COASTAL VILLAGE	RETAILER  6 HIGH STREET C-STORE IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE TOWN
	£1.00	£1.00	-	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
	£2.28	£2.29	£2.29	-	£2.29	£2.29	-	-
	£3.21	£3.29	£3.29	£3.29	£3.29	-	£3.29	£3.29
	£1.15	£1.00	-	£1.19	-	-	-	£1.00
	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	-	£1.00
	£2.42	£2.25	-	£2.49	-	-	£2.25	-
<del>-</del>	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00	-	-	£1.00	£1.00	£1.00
	£1.01	£1.15	-	89p	-	-	-	-
	£1.76	£1.75	£1.99	-	-	£1.75	-	-
	£1.21	£1.00	-	£1.50	-	99p	£1.00	-
	£1.51	£1.00	£1.99	-	£1.45	-	-	-
	£1.01	£1.00	-	£1.00	-	-	-	£1.00

\* from a sample of 3,500 stores

# **MY LOCAL HERO**

Retailers reveal the most profitable produce on their doorsteps

# **Harris Aslam**

Greens of Markinch

Fisher and Donaldson bakers' fudge donut, £1.49



**(** 

### How did you discover them?

Fisher and Donaldson bakers are quite well known in Fife and the local area. We were looking at what was available locally and we managed to get them to supply us. We now offer a number of their products but their fudge donut is the most popular.

### Who buys them?

Everyone buys them – a whole range of customers, whether it's parents buying a few to take back for the family or workmen popping in on their lunch to pick one up with a juice.

### Why are they so successful?

Since we've had the donuts in they've become one of the top 10 selling products, and that's taking into account newspapers and cigarettes. We offer a range of donuts from Fisher and Donaldson but we sell around 175 fudge ones a week at a 35% margin. The bakery is only about 10 miles away from the store, so it is local, but if someone wants a donut they'll go to their convenience store. Stephen's bakery is the most common bakery in the area and I think people were pretty bored because they're so used to it so they come into our a store for a more unique choice.

# Joe Williams

**STORE** The Village Shop **LOCATION** Banbury **SIZE** 1,250sq ft **TYPE** rural

# TOP TIP Offer a core range and keep prices up to combat the low volume sales



We do particularly well on bars of soap - it's something we get asked about regularly. We get through about 12 bars a week. I think perhaps other places are delisting them but the older generation still likes to buy them. We aim for a 35% to 40% margin on our toiletries because people only buy items when they need them urgently or if they've come away for the weekend, so dropping prices wouldn't make a difference. We only sell Wella Maximum Hold hairspray and that's at £3.39. We sell one or two bottles a week.

# Vince Malone

**SHOP** Tenby Post Office **LOCATION** Pembrokeshire **SIZE** 900sq ft **TYPE** residential and tourist

## TOP TIP

Know your customer base for each area of the shop and know what they will spend



We sell Wella Hairspray at the RRP of £2.25 and get through a case a week. We also sell Happy Shopper hairspray for £1 but it doesn't sell well. A lot of these purchases are men buying items on behalf of women and they don't feel comfortable buying anything other than known brands. We aim to get around 31% margin on those items. There are a lot of hotels near us as we're 100 yards from the beach, so we get tourists who will pay for the convenience or we get toiletry purchases in the evenings and on a Sunday when other shops are closed.

# **YOUR VIEWS**

# **YOUR LETTERS**

# ■ Positive change in the partworks sector long overdue

In response to the story 'Partworks recycling saves 80%' (RN, 3 March) I would like to make the following points.

Over the years, many members have been vocal about the myriad problems associated with handling partworks, from missing numbers to poor allocation and direct-to-consumer offers which undercut retailers and send collectors down the subscription route.

Because of this, the NFRN has campaigned long and hard on this issue, lobbying all sectors of the news industry for change. We are extremely grateful for the input we have received from NFRN members like Stuart McClymont, which has enabled us to do this.

Armed with retailers' concerns, both managing directors of the news wholesalers were challenged and we are pleased that through the creation of a pan-industry partworks group, chaired by Simon Gage of Smiths News, progress is now being made in a number of key areas, most

I feel we have been treated very shabbily by Next who we helped to make its online returns service a success

**Michael Brown** 

notably the use of early returns to satisfy allocation issues. NFRN member Stuart McClymont played a key role in helping establish this group.

We want to see positive change in the partworks sector and are pleased to see that by working together, independent retailers can bring about a difference.

We look forward to even greater progress being achieved at the next meeting of the partworks group this

Paul Baxter NFRN chief executive

# ■ Next has treated us very shabbily

One of our most successful ventures recently has been in the area of parcel services. We are a UPS Access Point, but by far our best earner was Next returns processed through the Payzone terminal.

On 14 October 2016, we were advised that the Next parcel service would be discontinued and we were to remove all PoS material.

A few weeks later, a member of staff accidentally processed a parcel through the terminal, and it worked.

We then received a letter to say that the removal of the service had been delayed due to operational issues and would now be discon-



tinued on Friday 13 January 2017. If we had known, we could have enjoyed revenue from the busy Christmas period. Then after 13 January, Next would collect all outstanding returns within two weeks

It is now March and I am still waiting. I feel we have been treated very shabbily by Next who we helped to make its online returns service a success

### Michael Brown

Browns Newsagents, Stokesley, North Yorkshire

### A spokesman for Next said:

"A communication was sent by Payzone to all of its store network in mid-October 2016, to advise that Next parcels would cease via Payzone on 31 October 2016. This decision was then reversed because of a technical delay. I understand this reversal communication was sent via the Payzone terminal. I suspect Mr Brown missed this 'reversal' communication on his terminal. The Payzone terminal comms was then followed up by a letter – reiterating the continuance of the Next parcel service until Friday 13 January."

# **YOUR SAY How are you making your store more efficient?**



### **Lorriane Lettley**

E J Teare Newsagents, Wellington,

Staff training is the thing that makes a difference. You have got to make sure it is up-to-date and we find it works better if you keep the training ongoing and don't just teach them the basics and leave it. We've got a staff reward system so they can be awarded stars for going above and beyond. The person with the most stars gets "Employee of the Month". They all vie to gain the stars.

### **Kath Hitchin**

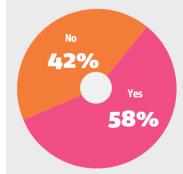
Lifestyle Express, Caenarfon
I have rearranged the store
recently because I wasn't happy
with it, so now I have a new
design and it's a lot clearer.
The customers prefer it more

open and it also means I can focus on the items which I know sell well – for example I wasn't selling much ice cream so I have saved space by taking out the freezer. By focusing on what does well for me I can stop wastage.

### **Vim Odedra**

Nisa Local West Chiltington, Sussex We've started online training for staff which is a different model. It covers health and safety, and customer service as well and we update them every quarter. I also started a monthly staff meeting in the middle of last year, which allows staff to ask any questions and for me to talk to them about interactions with customers. I find that is good for morale, which in turn is good for profits too.

## **RN READER POLL**



Do you expect to have sold all your branded tobacco stock by 20 May?

### **NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION**

Has your wholesaler helped you develop your business?



p20-p21 Your Views USE!!!.indd 20 07/03/2017 17:34





# I'M FEELING SNAPP UNHAPPY

SNapp Online has made everything more timeconsuming than it was.

You can't search by barcode anymore which is a complete pain. You can only search by genre or topic now, so you can't even search for a certain title.

It's like someone designed the site without even thinking about how a retailer would use it. Who did Smiths News actually speak to for feedback?

It's so upsetting that they've brought out a new site which does less than the old site. I just feel so disillusioned.

> Mark Ansell Liskeard News, Cornwall

### Michael Williams. **Smiths News retail** controller for independents, said:

"We worked hard to ensure that all the functionality in Connect2U was replicated or replaced within SNapp or SNapp Online. Searching for titles is available on both systems, you can even scan a barcode on the app, but

lots of ideas for

and adding new,

functionality."

improving existing,



10 March 1917

Newspapers were divided on how best to adhere to the economy of paper laws as part of the war effort. The Daily Mail increased prices in an attempt to reduce circulation, but The Daily News said the most logical way to educe paper use is to cut pages

# VIEW FROM **THE COUNTER**

# with Mike Brown

I travelled to London for the district's vice president's seminar last month. The highlight of the three days was a visit to the Houses of Parliament for a reception hosted by Martin Vickers MP to launch the NFRN's 2017 agenda. More than 30 MPs turned up to listen to our concerns with the main theme being retail crime.

I have never been inside the Palace of Westminster so it was a very exciting experience. It constantly amazes me how my involvement with the NFRN takes me to places and gives me opportunities I would never have normally had.

There was a bit of a coup recently at our monthly local comedy club, held in the Town Hall, when Geordie comic Chris Ramsey performed new material for his forthcoming national tour. He bragged about his various television appearances including I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here with Ant & Dec Down Under. Anyway, we seem to be firmly on the map as a venue for artists to try out new routines before exposure to a larger audience.

Meanwhile, the England women's U16 football team won the UEFA cup tournament beating Spain 3-0 in the final. My daughter was given her No.15 shirt to keep and it is now framed and hanging on her bedroom wall surrounded by gifts from the other competing nations - Finland and Italy. It's a good job she has got the biggest bedroom to fit all these trophies in.

# YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA COMMENTS THIS WEEK

contact us facebook.com/ThisisRN and @ThisisRN





**(** 

@CocaCola unveils its latest @MonsterEnergy variety. Flavoured by black grape, powered by @LewisHamilton

**Dave Songer** @DaveSongerRN





#DyddGwylDewi hapus i bawb gan Pikes Porthmadog. Happy #StDavidsDay from all at Pikes!

**Meryl Pike Williams** @meryl\_pike

@ThisIsRN i made it. great store [Peter Robinson's new Londis store in Pembrokel. friendly staff and fantastic product range. Miles above other stores in the area

**Susan Connolly** @RetailSusan

@martinvickersmp highlights the rise in violence & abused experienced by retailers & their staff at biz questions

**Edward Woodall** @woodbines

#HND A delivered copy is a sold copy! Promote your home news delivery service in store and secure more newspaper sales!



**Richard Wright** @RichardW\_NewsUK

### E J Teare Newsagents

We had great fun inflating this huge airwalker balloon for a lucky young man's birthday. We have a selection of these balloons in stock including Stormtrooper, Frozen's Elsa, Iron Man and My Little Pony at only £19.99 fully inflated.









# **Profiling the JTI sales force**

With just months to go until May 2017, JTI continues to support retailers with its 'Your Guide Through Change' initiative.

JTI's clear and practical steps aim to ensure retailers are prepared for the TPD2 and plain packaging legislative changes, providing online training modules, educational videos and information packs.

JTI also recognises the importance of working face to face with retailers and listening to their feedback, so our salesforce is on hand to support the trade with personal visits and tailored advice to address any questions in the lead up to 20th May 2017.

From 20th May 2017 tobacco and e-cigarette products must comply with new legislation.

# What are the changes?



# What should I be doing now?

- Maintaining
   availability at all
   times is of vital
   importance to ensure
   that retailers become
   a destination store
   of choice for existing
   adult smokers
- Price is one of the key factors for existing adult smokers when choosing where to shop for tobacco<sup>2</sup> so retailers should look to remain competitive by selling at RRP or below, as PMPs are phased out<sup>3</sup>

£2,000 LOST SALES

Tobacco shoppers can be worth £2,000



54%

of shoppers regularly check the price of tobacco<sup>2</sup>

1. JTI Estimates. 2. JTI/IPSOS Shopper Missions Research 2016. 3. Retailers are of course free to sell JTI products at whatever price they choose

# **Retailer insight**

Here, tobacco **retailer**, **Jazz Goraya**, talks about how Your Guide Through Change and how his **JTI sales rep**, **James Honey**, has supported him through this transition period:

## Jazz Goraya, Tobacco Retailer Nisa Local

"When the TPD2 legislation was announced, it left many questions for retailers and also for customers. I've worked closely with my JTI rep James Honey, who has supported me throughout the changes and ensured that I am prepared for when they come into effect.

"Having James around to answer any questions or concerns that I might have or that my customers might ask me has been invaluable and I'm now confident that my store and my staff are ready for TPD2. I'd encourage other retailers to take advantage of the valuable, free advice from their local JTI rep."





# James Honey, JTI sales representative, talks about how he has supported retailers, including Jazz Goraya ahead of TPD2:

"JTI has been supporting retailers throughout the build up to TPD2 in a number of ways, including online resources, POS materials but perhaps most importantly by ensuring we, the reps, are fully equipped to support retailers when we visit them in store.

"When Jazz told me that his customers were asking him the same questions about pack sizes, I was able to provide him with a poster explaining the changes, and suggest that he point them towards the **packchanges.co.uk** website for more information."

# Where do I find more information?





JTI has created training modules and a number of informative videos containing everything retailers need to know about TPD2. To access these free resources, visit the legislation hub of JTI Advance (https://www.jtiadvance.co.uk/article/tobacco-products-directive) or ask your sales representative.

If you haven't signed up yet, speak to your sales rep or contact JTI's Customer Care Line on **0800 163 503**.

JTI's UK trading company is Gallaher Limited.



 $\bigcirc$ 

RN page ad.indd 3 02/03/2017 11:03

# YOUR REGION



# **EASTERN COUNTIES NFRN DISTRICT COUNCIL 20.02.2017**

Richard Goss reports from the NFRN Eastern Counties district council meeting

# Talks to begin district merger

The planned merger of the Eastern Counties and East Midlands districts will begin with informal talks, members of the East Anglia group have agreed.

There is no doubt a merger will take place, members were told, but Eastern Counties members had expressed concerns about the differences between the regions at a recent meeting.

Great Yarmouth retailer Owen Church



**(** 

the line denoting the new district boundary would be drawn on the map. One view was the M1 would mark it, but others felt the A1 would be a better border for the new area.

# Paperboy's 999 call rewarded

A teenage paperboy in Ipswich has been rewarded for his quick-thinking which may have saved a man's life, following a Facebook search to find him.

Ollie Parker, 15, was on his early morning round when he found a man lying unconscious on the



**Basford and Ron Kendall** 



pavement with a head injury and called 999 for help.

The man, Dean Harvey, had been on his way to work when he tripped and fell.

He was allowed home after treatment for a head injury, but realised he did not know the identity of his rescuer so launched an appeal on Facebook to find him.

Mr Parker contacted the Ipswich Star after spotting the appeal and said: "I was just doing what anyone would have done – I saw the man on the floor and knew I had to do something about it."

His actions have now been recognised by the NFRN. Local members



The danger is the news industry is losing touch with the people they are supplying

**Josie Dixon** 

Retailer, Lowestoft

decided to award him with an Xbox as a token of their appreciation.

Ipswich member Alwyn Basford said: "What he did was terrific – and he was so modest he didn't even tell his parents what he had done when he got home."

# Paper publishers hard to contact

Changes in local print journalism are making it harder than ever to contact publishers, members told the meeting.

Archant, publisher of the region's two biggestselling daily newspapers, was highlighted as one firm in particular that retailers were struggling to make contact with.

"I am worried about what is going on – we can't get details of people we are trying to contact. Personnel have changed but we have not been told, so we have lost the personal touch with the titles," said Lowestoft retailer Josie Dixon.

"The danger is the news industry is losing touch with the people they are supplying. A newspaper is a service, not a tin of baked beans."

Dixon

Great Yarmouth retailer Ralph Childs added:
"We have to react to our customers on a day-to-day basis, but things like fly-sheets for specific local areas are no longer a regular feature in the business. We just get general fly-sheets of news that is not relevant to my customers."

## New president, VP are elected

The new officers for the Eastern Counties district were elected, with two women in the top posts. Josie Dixon takes over as president and the new vice president is Debbie Turner. Ralph Childs will continue as treasurer.

# Councillor retires after 26 years

Veteran Eastern Counties district councillor Jim Page was presented with gifts to mark the end of his 26 years' service to the NFRN.

Mr Page's retirement coincides with the dissolving of his role as secretary of the Norwich branch under changes where the Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Norwich branches have merged.

### **Your say**

What food hygiene processes do you have in place at your shop?



We have a hand-wipe system for everyone

who works in the shop, even though we don't sell food, and the sweets are always served with a scoop. But we do keep an air-freshener in case anyone coming in is less than fragrant.

**Josie Dixon** 

Dixon's Newsagents, Lowestoft



We use antiseptic wipes and have a wall-

mounted soap dispenser for our staff but much of what people buy – including our fruit and vegetables – is self-service.

Owen Church

Post Office Stores, Great Yarmouth



Everything we sell is wrapped, but we still

advise staff to keep their hands clean with regular washing. We have notices up in the washrooms reminding them to do it.

**David Starling** 

Starlings,



# YOUR REGION



# NORTHERN NFRN DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT 28.02.2017

John Dean reports from the NFRN Northern district council meeting

# **Council hears of challenges ahead**

Outgoing district president Mike Mitchelson outlined the wide variety of challenges being faced by independent retailers, in his opening address to council.

He cited a number of factors impacting on store finances

finances including living wage rises, auto-enrolment, increases

in business rates, retail crime, signs that customers were 'tightening their belts', erratic publication deliveries and carriage charge rises.

Warning that many shops were closing down or had ceased the sale of news, Mr Mitchelson urged members to lobby their MPs about 'the burden' facing newsagents so that politicians understood independent traders need support.

He also urged members to check how the new business rates alterations would affect their shops because a number would be under the £12,000 rateable value level, which could benefit their businesses.

Mr Mitchelson said it was important for traders to appeal if they disagreed with the new valuations.

# Mike Brown takes up the presidency

Teesside member Mike Brown was elected district president.

He was nominated by outgoing president Mike Mitchelson, who said Mr Brown was an experienced NFRN officer and had been a pleasure to work with during the year he had served as vice president.



Newcastle member Graeme Pentland was elected district vice president.

# Praise flows for Dorothy

Mike Mitchelson made a presentation in honour of veteran member Dorothy Scott, who has stepped down from the committee.

# Check how the new business rates will affect your shops Mike Mitchelson

Outoing Northern DC president

Praising the Northumberland member's longstanding commitment to the NFRN, Mr Mitchelson said: "Dorothy is one of the characters of the federation and it is sad that we are losing our characters."

Among those paying tribute to Ms Scott's support of the federation over her 38 years as a member were fellow Northumberland member John Gardiner and Durham members Glyn and Barrie Taylor.

Ms Scott thanked members for the 'comradeship' that they had shown over her years on the committee and said it was important that the NFRN continued to support its members.

### **Hard copy support**

Delegates backed a suggestion from national councillor Martin Ward that the NFRN should further explore the idea of sending out hard-

copy district bulletins to members if requested by individual districts.

Martin

Ward

Reacting to a national decision that the newsletter in future be distributed by digital means only, members agreed that some people would still appreciate a hard copy instead. They also argued that not all emails were opened

District officials will now draw up costings for a motion to conference

# Three go national

Delegates selected three national councillors without an election.

Durham member Jason

Birks, Colin
Reed from
Cumbria and
Martin Ward,
of Teesside,
were the
only candidates

only candidates and were appointed unopposed.

Colin

Reed

## **Fund cup retained**

The District President's Charity Cup for fundraising was retained by the Darlington branch. The trophy was received by Darlington member Sue Abbott.

### **Your say**

### Which beers sell best in your store?



I have limited space in the shop so I stock the

bestselling brands because I know I can sell a lot of them, rather than niche brands like craft beers, of which I will only sell a few.

### **Martin Ward**

Cowpen Lane News, Billingham



We stock the bestselling brands. We do not

stock craft beers and we have not really seen much demand for them from our customers.

### **Anne Mitchelson**

Mitchelsons Newsagents, Brampton



outselling everyone else. We do not really sell craft beers, and we have found that special promotions on craft beers do not sell.

We stock the

with Carling

big brands

and Fosters

### Jason Birks

Mosci's Convenience Store, Horden









# YOUR REGION



# **SOUTH WEST NFRN DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT 28.02.2017**

**Nick Constable** reports from the NFRN South West district council meeting

# Car workers miss out on the papers

Retailers are losing vital early-morning newspaper sales to car factory workers due to avoidable late drops, council was told.

District president Derek Cook said shops in Swindon, which open to catch the 6am shift change at the Honda works, are losing out.

Instead of delivering to them first, two Smiths News vans had prioritised supermarkets and other late-opening stores.

"The drivers insist that this is how their rounds must be done," said Mr Cook. "I accept Swindon

is a big area for them. It takes in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and parts of Oxfordshire. "But when

Smiths News operations move to

Hemel Hempstead from Reading this problem will become even more worrying."

Derek

Cook

# Fight unfair rates says ex-president

One of the NFRN's past national presidents has urged the federation to "come out fighting" against unfair business rates.

Peter Seaman said supermarkets would be "laughing their pants off" at the extra financial burden looming over vulnerable independent retailers. He told the meeting: "The federation has to show leadership. We need to fight and challenge some of these valuations."

National president Ray Monelle assured him there was "a lot of lobbying" going on - particularly in the London area where some



members were facing 30% to 40% increases.

"It's fair to say that some areas are also seeing rate decreases," he said. "But we're very aware of the problem. The clarity is atrocious and it's a nightmare for some members."

# Trade show debut a great success

The district's debut at a major trade show was hailed an outstanding success by delegates.

The Youings Wholesale event at Sandy Park - home of Premiership rugby's Exeter Chiefs generated huge interest



Some re-runs are clearly caused by drivers not knowing where they're going

**Derek Cook** 

South West district president

in the NFRN, according to district vice president Duncan Finlayson.

"Around a third of those attending stopped at our stand," he said.
"It generated some good membership leads.
It was our first event here and we can learn a lot from it."

Gloucestershire roundsman Martin Ballinger praised Youings use of seminars and workshops. He added: "RetaiIers are drawn to events like this because they know problems can be dealt with.'

# Driver couldn't find the A30

Training for Smiths delivery drivers needs attention if recent bizarre incidents are to be avoided, council heard.

District president
Derek Cook said a driver,
travelling from Broxbourne in Hertfordshire,
was unable to find
Bodmin on the A30 in
Cornwall. Mr Cook said:
"We experience a lot of
re-runs and some are
clearly caused by drivers
simply not knowing
where they're going."

Meanwhile, Devizes retailer Russell Haynes revealed how a new driver told him "it's not my job" when asked why he hadn't collected news returns.

Mr Haynes added:
"They were taken after
two days. But it's concerning if these things
aren't explained to drivers in advance."

# Left on the shelf...

A newsagent trying to buy new shop fittings through Smiths News has waited four months without success, the council heard.

Devizes retailer
Russell Haynes said he
accepted a £600 quote
from Smiths. But months
later he was told
the estimate was
wrong because it
failed to include
a labour charge.
Since then he has
heard nothing.

"It seems unusually difficult to buy a simple thing," said Mr Haynes.

Russel

National president Ray Monelle advised him to purchase through the NFRN's Shoplink team, which deals direct with a wide range of manufacturers.

## **Your say**

How do you maintain a good HND relationship with customers in the face of delivery delays or short supplies?



flyers with my mobile number and

I print

urge customers to call if papers haven't arrived. Where there's a re-run, I'll drive an extra 40 miles if necessary. And if I know that copies will be late – during the Olympics or a World Cup, for example – I'll tell everyone in advance.

**Andrew White** 

East Devon roundsman



My dad started the round 50 years ago

and I've carried on. So customers all know my name and that they can call 365 days a year. My dog Ruby is the star of the show, though. She comes with me in the van and customers love her.

Jeff Savage

Somerset roundsman



My advice to new HND retailers keen to serve cus-

tomers well is simple: get to know the night team at your local house and build a rapport. That way you'll minimise problems. And if customers know your name and friendly face it's the best PR you'll ever get.

**Martin Ballinger** 

Gloucestershire







# PRICING STRATEGIES

# Why pricemarking?

It is still controversial with some retailers, but pricemarking is a pricing strategy suppliers have every faith in. Charlie Faulkner speaks to the industry to find out why

n the years since the financial crash, the industry has seen the rise of many trends - from food to go to pound zone. Yet one trend pricemarking - has become so ubiquitous it would be hard to find a store that doesn't stock a product with a ready-marked price on its packaging. Yet relinquishing control of pricing and accepting often, but not always - lower margins still irritates some retailers. Here, RN gives the industry a platform to argue its case: why pricemarking?

# 'It helps stores compete'

**Dawood Pervez** 

Trading director, Bestway



At Bestway we offer retailers pricemarked alternatives on most products to help them compete. However, these pricemarks have to be relative and relevant: relative in terms of what is happening in the multiples and other convenience stores and relevant to the needs of retailers and their shoppers. Through Best-one and Xtra Local, our members can offer shoppers significant reductions on the pricemarked items and still make attractive margins.

**Pricemarking** 

is used on

bestselling

new and

brands

**Cath Mcilwham** 

We have completed a very attractive redesign and an excellent £1 pricemark on everyday frozen vegetables to ensure customers come back again and again. Pricemarking is a great way to catch consumers' eyes and it's a useful tool for communicating value for money to shoppers, which is a key role for own brand. We also know it helps our retailers boost sales of Spar-branded products. With this in mind, we introduced pricemarked packs to our ready meals, evening meals and meal accompaniment ranges

# 'It out performs the alternative

## **Matt Collins**

convenience, wholesale, discounters & foodservice, KP Snacks

Crisps and snacks remains a vital category within the convenience sector with 82% of shoppers buying a snack on impulse. Our £1 pricemarked ranges of sharing bags are growing at 11% - that compares to 7.2% for the non-pricemarked version of the same products. Our 39p pricemarked singles range including Discos, Wheat Crunchies, Frisps and Skips, is also growing ahead of the overall format at 16%.



products also benefit from pricemarking







**Pricemarking** 

is a great way

consumers'

to catch

Own brand





# **HOW I USE**



## **Manjinder Singh Dunston Convenience** Store, Gateshead

Around 80% to 90% of my store is pricemarked. Customers are happy if they know the product they are buying is priced at the rate set by the manufacturer and if they trust you, and the price you're charging, you'll get repeat puchases. More generally, prices are determined by the competition around us and by understanding whether my customers are in work or on benefits. A lot of it is just trial and error. You've got to look at the product and understand the reasons behind the purchase. So, on luxury goods, such as premium biscuits, wine and spirits are things we can put a bit extra on. Smirnoff used to be the premium vodka, but these days people will spend a bit more for Grey Goose. On these items we're not looking for pricemarked products. But everyday items like toilet roll, crisps, fizzy pop and sweets are the things that need to remain low.



# 'It improves a store's image<sup>i</sup>

# **Rich Fisher**

Category developmer manager, Red Bull UK

Research shows more than three quarters of shoppers say pricemarks help a convenience store improve its overall price image, with 38% of shoppers saying pricemarks reassure them they are not being overcharged. We know 44% of shoppers are more likely to buy a product if its pricemark is visible, yet only 80% of retailers stock them. Many stores have placed increased impor tance on value-tier brands, providing them more space on shelf and resulting in a negative impact on the value of the category. Brands like Red Bull actually drive a higher spend per shopper.

# 'It encourages shoppers to try new products'

## **James Cragg**

Head of category development at Diageo



Having a range of pricemarks available in your store creates a perception of value, particularly with new products - we know that 53% of consumers are more likely to try a new product if it's pricemarked. Gordon's and Captain Morgan Spiced pricemarked bottles both saw great success when they launched in 2014, and now Johnnie Walker Red Label is joining the Diageo pricemarked range in 70cl and 35cl formats. Pricemarked packs are a growing trend and consumers are increasingly looking out for them in convenience stores.







**Stuart Graham** 

Convenience and impuls director at Pladis

**Making** prices visible to shoppers plays a huge role in driving sales in a c-store

We recently announced an exclusive launch for the convenience channel – an 89p pricemarked everyday biscuit range. This launch has received fantastic and welcoming feedback from retailers and wholesalers as they offer great value with an improved cash and percentage margin opportunity for both. We have more than 40 brands available in pricemarked packs. They are and will remain an important part of our growth strategy in convenience, making prices visible to shoppers plays a huge role in driving sales in a convenience store.

'It leads to additional sales'

### **Graham Breed**

Marketing director, Princes

Many of our pricemarked products can lead to sales in other areas through sales of products for occasional and top-up missions - for breakfast, for example, a canned fruit pricemarked tin may be bought with yogurt or a pricemarked can of beans may be bought with eggs and bread. Opportunities like this can drive sales for retailers, so complementary products should be displayed together off-shelf to stimulate sales. Pricemarking helps to encourage trial and, when customers believe in the product, ultimately this results in brand loyalty.

p27-28 Pricemarking.indd 28 07/03/2017 14:08

# **Nestle**®



# £2.50 VOUCHER OFF A CASE OF SHREDDED WHEAT



# £2.50 off your next purchase

of Shredded Wheat PMP (5 x 16 biscuit) or Shredded Wheat (8 x 16 biscuit)

Consumer terms and conditions: This coupon is worth £2.50 towards your next purchase of Shredded Wheat PMP (5 x 16 biscuit) or Shredded Wheat (8 x 16 biscuit). It may not be used against the purchase of any other product as this would constitute a breach of the terms of this offer. It cannot be used online or in conjunction with any other offer. Only coupon per purchase. Subject to availability. Offer applies in UK only. Acceptance is at the discretion of the retailer. Void if reproduce d. altered or expired.

Retailer terms & conditions: This coupon will be redeemed at its face value only if received by the Cereal Partners Redemption Centre
PO Box 55, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 1PJ provided that a) it has been accepted against a normal retail sale to the consumer for
Shredded Wheat PMP (5 x 16 biscuit) or Shredded Wheat (8 x 16 biscuit) b) the consumer terms & conditions have been enforced and c

VALID LINTH 16/06/2017



# BOOK YOUR FREE CATEGORY RELAY ONLINE NOW AT WWW.CEREALSUCCESS.CO.UK



® Reg. Trademark of Société des Produits Nestlé S.A. Reducing consumption of saturated fat contributes to the maintenance of normal blood cholesterol level

# TEST THE T# LS



## YOURPERFECTSTORE



### **GREAT BRANDS**

Want to know more about our brands and why you should be stocking them? Simply clic

















Ferrero's new website,
yourperfectstore.co.uk,
promises to provide wholecategory guidance for retailers
- tailored to their store type and
location. With downloadable and
requestable information, it aims

to be a hub for category insight



# Your Perfect Store

# Five reasons yourperfectstore.co.uk will help you grow your sales







It has been built with retailer research and insight at its heart to provide category advice and news



The site has been mobileoptimised to allow retailers to access it anywhere while they are on-the-go



It will be regularly updated with industry and brand news, blogs and calendar events for retailers



Interactive planograms and ideal stock lists to help retailers grow sales are key features of the site



Retailers can request free display options from our catalogue and get advice on shopper missions



# **Pardip Kumar**

Kings Ride Supermarket,

### How easy was the site to use?

I found it incredibly stress-free to use and it was really well laid out. I could reach key information such as shopper missions, display options, product and category information really quickly. You can



immediately sense the site has been created with real consideration for busy retailers who want digestible information quickly. It helps that it works on mobile phones too.

### What did you learn from it?

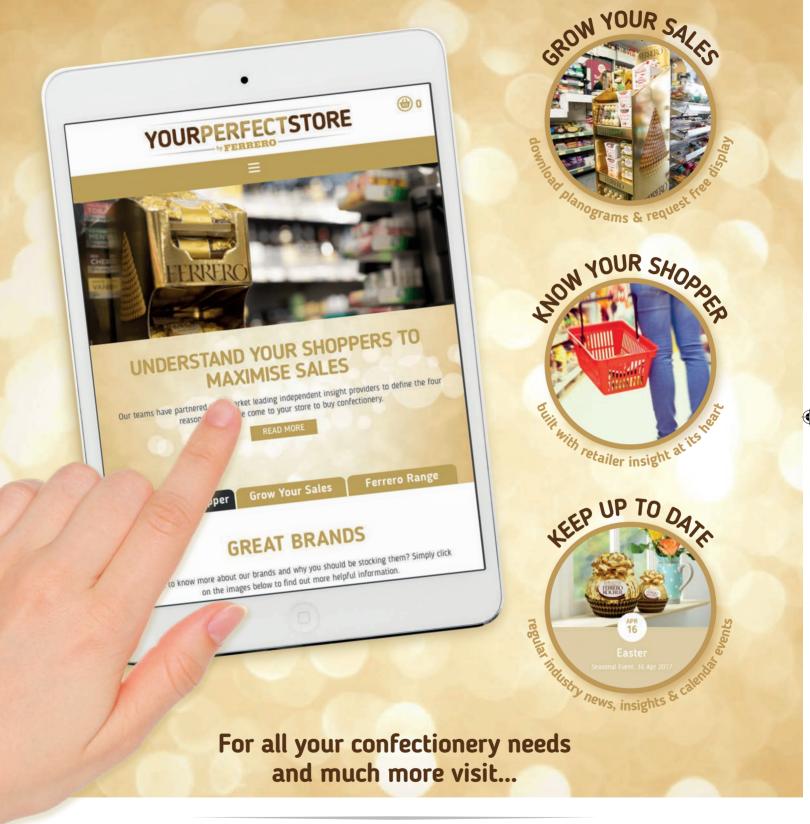
What I especially like is its impartiality. It really helped me to look at the effectiveness of my entire confectionery fixture. There is lots of information on optimising pricing and how to make the most of products in-store.

# What will you do next to implement what you have learned?

It was interesting to see what else Ferrero is doing with the latest news stories and I will check back on these regularly. Retailers can definitely benefit from going onto the site regularly to ensure their store is reaching its true potential within the confectionery category.



# visit yourperfectstore.co.uk



# YOURPERFECTSTORE

by FERRERO

FOLLOW US @FerreroYPS

# BREAD

# Make baking takings rise

Bread is at the core of so many Britons' diets that the opportunities for retailers to grow their profits is huge. Toby Hill speaks to great retaliers and major suppliers to find out how it's done

hatever trends come and go, whichever legislation or additional tax is cutting into your margin, there is one category which will always be fundamental to a convenience store's range: bread.

"Bread is a vital ingredient in the shop and the first thing people see on the shelf," says Marc Jones, owner of Hoffnant Stores in south-west Wales. "People like choice, so getting the range right is fundamental - wholegrain and white, small and large, protein loaves,

gluten-free, weight-watchers, everyone has their preference."

But even here, changes are afoot. "As a society, we are experiencing an increase in smaller households," says Edward Milner, head of category development at Hovis Limited. "Shoppers are looking for loaves that meet the amount of bread they need without compromising on taste and quality." Here, RN speaks to retailers and suppliers about the latest best practice and developments in this quintessential



# Get your range right

## **Croissants and** breakfast bits

**Jacqui Bailey** 

Spar London Road, Boston



Mornings are a peak time of day for us, so we make sure we have a good range to cater to that. When it comes to our breakfast range this includes plain, almond and chocolate croissants.

### **International breads**

**Jimmy Patel** 

Jimmy's Store, Northampton



Stocking Polish bread brings in lots of new customers and gives us a point of difference from the multiples. From day one we've kept the price reasonable: we knew it was more about driving footfall and overall basket spend than making a big margin.

# **Premium products**

**David Hiscutt** 

Westham Road Londis, Weymouth



We've expanded into premium branded products, such as Warburtons' 400g Honey Wheat and a range of premium white loaves. It doesn't sell in vast volumes, but it helps us push up turnover and cater to more customers.

### **Gluten-free**

**Dave Hiscutt** 



We stock some of Warburtons' gluten-free range. White bread is usually the bestseller, but with gluten-free I sell three loaves of brown and three loaves of seeded tzo one loaf of white. It's a different type of customer: for many people, going glutenfree is a health choice, so they go for brown or seeded.

## **New lines Bob Sykes**

Denmore Stores.



### **Taking risks**

**Jacqui Bailey** 

Spar London Road Boston



Wastage can put people off trying new lines, but you have to see it as an investment. It can be demoralising to launch a new product and find yourself throwing it in the bin at the end of the day. But people are creatures of habit, and you have to give them a chance to try something new.





# **Get your pricing right**

# **Promoting standard** lines

### **Dave Hiscutt**

Westham Road Londis



Bread is a very competitive item so you have to be careful with price. We always buy pricemarked Warburtons, and we run the standard Kingsmill on a long-term £1 promotion. It helps the bread sell and creates the right impression for the rest of the store.

# Promoting new lines lacqui Bailey

Spar London Road, Boston

of Both



Promotions are particularly important if you're trying something new. We'll often use tastings to entice people. Placement works too – putting a product under people's noses on the counter, well-priced, tends to make it sell.



# Meeting local needs Bob Sykes

Denmore Stores



FRESH FROM OUR

We've noticed small loaves are very important here, as we have a lot of pensioners who live on their own. So we now have 12 different varieties of small loaves, and sell them on a two-for-£1 promotion, which is very popular.



# Get your merchandising right

# Point of Sale David Lewis

Spar Crescent Stores, Witney



Bread is an important area where customers make a judgement of the whole store. We use PoS material to highlight the category, some of which we get from Spar and some we make on our own, promoting low prices, new lines and local products, such as our 10-in-a-bag rolls from a local baker.

## Timed displays Jacqui Bailey

Spar London Road, Boston



 $\bigoplus$ 

We have a display stand by our counter that we change according to the time of day. In the morning, we fill it with breakfast-related items, such as our range of croissants. Later on this becomes filled with general snacks or lunchtime items.

### **SUPPLIER TOP TIPS FOR BOOSTING SALES**

### **David Tittensor**

Category and insights director, Warburtons

### **Maintain freshness**

To maintain the freshness of bread and bakery products, retailers should keep them away from cold or chilly areas and instead display them in a place where the temperature is around 22°C/72°F.

# Use special displays for seasonal sales opportunities

Use PoS and in-store theatre to maximise seasonal opportunities where wrapped bakery products play a key role, such as Easter for hot cross bun loaf and rolls for picnics and BBQs.

### **Edward Milne**

Head of category development, Hovis

### **Create natural-looking fixtures**

Using alternative materials such as chalk blackboards and wooden edging to shelves creates a fresh and natural appearance for your bread display, making it more appealing to shoppers.

# Merchandise different loaves on different levels

Merchandise white loaves on the lower shelves, wholemeal loaves in the middle, and bread with bits at eyelevel. This demonstrates choice and range and directs shopper attention to the highest value products.

# Tackling competition Iulie Duhra

Premier Jules Convenience Store, Telford



Our bread sales have been squeezed as both Greggs and Lidl have opened nearby. We're currently working on strategies to fight back: we're bringing in a coffee machine and will tie in price promotions on croissants when it arrives, while Booker is coming in to provide advice on merchandising bread.

p32-33 Bread.indd 33 07/03/2017 14:37

# THIS WEEK IN MAGAZINES



Va Va Voom!

# AUTOSPORT TITLE HAS A WINNING FORMULA

It's all change in the glamorous, fast-paced world of Formula 1, and this relaunch is in pole position to achieve maximum sales for you

**AUTOSPORT** Media UK has relaunched F1 Racing magazine on thicker, higher quality paper, with a fresh design and new content. The new-look issue offers a preview to the new season of F1, which itself is facing the dawning of a new era following its takeover by the Liberty Media Group. Cover stars are Red Bull teammates Max Verstappen and Daniel Ricciardo, and an interview with Lewis Hamilton is also included as well as an in-depth guide to the 2017 teams. Autosport Media says sales at least double for the season preview and predicts sales could be more than 250% higher than average with the relaunch.





F1 RACING
On sale 16 March
Price £4.99
Frequency monthly
Distributor Seymour
Display with
Autosport, Motorsport
News, Motor Sport

# **Round up**



Jennifer Hardwick

Magazines reporter
jennifer.hardwick@newtrade.co.uk

# THE DONALD CAN'T TRUMP THE MEDIA

Over on the other side of the Atlantic, the media is continuing to benefit from the country's new outspoken president.

Mr Trump is ploughing on with his war on the media and recently banned the New York Times and the Washington Post from a regular briefing.

But as the New York Times' editor said in a subsequent CNN interview, sales of the title are on the rise and the newsroom is recruiting.

By demonising the press, Trump has actually made its role clearer to the public. While politicians here are not waging such a war on the mainstream media, there is a growing awareness of the importance of the free press and its role in scrutinising our leaders.

At the moment, the UK industry is slightly holding its breath to see whether the strong gains made by current affairs titles like Private Eye, The Week and New Statesman can continue as headlines on Brexit become less frequent.

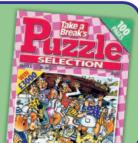
The question is whether the titles have attracted new readers for life or whether they are only going to be called on in times of political turmoil.

However, as one distributor mentioned to me this week, we might not have long to wait for more of that if a second referendum on Scottish independence goes ahead. He recalled that the last one in 2014 triggered big boosts in sales across Scotland and the rest of the UK, as readers sought to gain a full understanding of all the debates and implications involved. He conceded that people are more well-versed in referendums these days, but still predicted another uplift if a vote goes ahead.

What is certain is any reminder of the importance of quality journalism can only be a good thing for magazine sales, so let's hope interest in Trump's antics remain high on this side of the pond.



Issue 3 on sale 16 March A TOP-SELLING
SELECTION OF
ALL-COLOUR PUZZLES









### BELLA

This week's issue of Bella comes with a free Revlon mascara worth £9.99. There are also cook book recipes from WeightWatchers, plus a feature on actress Lisa Riley's post-op body. Publisher Bauer Media says this issue is expected to drive a 15% uplift in sales and has advised front-of-fixture positioning to maximise interest.



On sale out now

**Frequency** fortnightly

**Distributor Comag** 

Price £2.99



## **FUN TO LEARN FRIENDS**

Aimed at girls and boys aged between three and seven, this title includes stories and activities based around popular children's characters including Paw Patrol, Peppa Pig, PJ Masks and The Gruffalo. This issue includes a Ben and Holly sticker activity, the opportunity to win toys from Thomas and PJ Masks and an Elmer the Elephant bedtime story. The issue comes covermounted with a pirate set.



## IAMIE MAGAZINE

This is the relaunch issue of Jamie Magazine, with plenty of new recipes featured that can't be found elsewhere. Jamie Oliver will also be personally promoting the relaunch issue with a Facebook live post showing off the edition and encouraging his six million followers to buy it. Content includes features on must-have homeware and food trends, as well as easy everyday meals and citrus desserts.



Price £3.99 Frequency monthly Distributor Comag **Display with BBC Good** Food, Delicious



### COUNTRY LIVING COUNTRY LIVING

According to publisher Hearst, the April issue is one of Country Living's biggest editions of the year. This one comes with a free craft supplement. Other features include ideas for readers on how to keep their own hens and grow their own vegetables at home, as well as paint projects to transform rooms, colourful planting plans and seasonal ideas for bulbs and blossoms.



On sale out now Price £4.30 Frequency monthly **Distributor Comag Display with Good** Housekeeping, House &





On sale out now Price £3.99 Frequency monthly
Distributor Seymour **Display with** Disney Cars, Lego Ninjago



# **Bestsellers**

## **News & Current Affairs**

	Title	On sale date	In stock
1	Private Eye	22/03	
2	The Economist	11/03	
3	The Week	17/03	
4	The Weekly News	11/03	
5	The Spectator	11/03	
6	New Statesman	17/03	
7	National Geographic	31/03	
8	The New Yorker	13/03	
9	Newsweek	17/03	
10	The Oldie	30/03	
11	Monocle	23/03	
12	Time	13/03	
13	Guardian Weekly	17/03	
14	Prospect	16/03	
15	The Week Junior	17/03	
16	National Geographic Special	07/04	
17	Foreign Affairs	12/05	
18	Newsweek Special	n/a	
19	Standpoint	30/03	
20	The New Internationalist	23/03	

Data from independent stores supplied by Smiths News









STARTER

STICKER **PACKET** 50P....

ON SALE NOW!

**STICKER** 



### **36** 10 March 2017 • RN

# HIS WEEK



## **MY LITTLE PONY COLOURING ADVENTURES**

This is the second issue of Eaglemoss Collections' new magazine, with the publisher saying the title is off to a great start. Every issue comes with a new story colouring book plus free art items to build a stationery collection, with this issue including colouring pencils, patterned tape and a My Little Pony stationery box



On sale out now Frequency weekly Price £3.99 **Distributor** Comag **Display with** My Little Pony, Girl Talk



On sale out now **Frequency** quarterly Price £7.99 **Distributor** Frontline Display with Mojo, Q, **Record Collector** 



# **MOJO '60s**

The latest quarterly spin-off version of Mojo remembering the 1960s covers The Who's iconic drummer Keith Moon and is filled with interviews, photographs and more. Billed as a musthave for all Who fans, publisher Bauer Media says the exclusive content will attract customers and is expecting the issue to make more than £35,900 RSV nationally.



## **WOMAN & HOME FASHIO**I

The spring/summer issue of this special edition of Woman & Home focuses on all things fashion, revealing the latest trends to suit all shapes, sizes and budgets. With a 12-week on-sale period, the issue celebrates this season's must-have pieces. It aims to cover every look from dressing for special occasions to what to wear for work and how to look good in the gym.



On sale 16 March Frequency bi-annual Price £4.99 **Distributor** Marketforce **Display with Woman &** Home, Good Housekeeping



On sale out now **Frequency** monthly **Price £5.99 Distributor** Marketforce **Display with Doctor Who Complete History, Empire** 



### DOCTOR WHO MAGAZINE

This month's issue includes a special tribute to actor and former Doctor, John Hurt, with contributions from many of the people who worked with him, including David Tennant. Elsewhere, writer Richard Curtis is interviewed about his Doctor Who work and showrunner Steven Moffat answers readers' questions. Features include a look at how Sydney Newman tried to reinvent the series in the 1980s.



On sale out now Frequency monthly Price £3.99 **Distributor** Marketforce **Display with** Glamour, Red, Cosmopolitan



Pro-Collagen Marine Cream, worth £28. The issue has a focus on beauty with 67 game-changing products for the spring season. The winners of Marie Claire's prestigious annual Prix D'Excellence de la Beauté Awards are revealed and there's an interview with Homeland actress Claire Danes.



have noticed a lot of people will pay more for titles that are high-quality and don't contain any adverts, like Cereal, which is a travel and culture magazine. People are willing to pay extra because they know it's not going to be full of adverts and will have good content on every page.

If someone comes in and asks for something I haven't got I go on SNapp and try to order it. It's really hard to have all the titles because people come and ask for so many different things

We have increased the number of magazines we have over the years, but of course you can only do what you can with the space you have.

With the high-end hardback titles, in par-

Top tip

You need to know what

customers you have

nearby. We do well with

we are located.

**(** 

ticular, people like to come in and hold them because if you try to order

them online you can't see all the pictures and you don't really know what you're going to get.

fashion, design and art titles because of where We are lucky because we still do a lot of newspaper deliveries

to offices nearby in Charing Cross Road and Great Portland Street.

When we started, it was something we pushed a lot and put out fliers for, but now I wouldn't particularly want to attract more business because it can be very inconsistent with people suddenly stopping their subscriptions.

All the orders are very different, with some getting the full Monday to Sunday bundle and some just getting certain newspapers for certain days.

The PR companies tend to want every title every day, but the fashion companies, for example, tend to just want the weekend ones because they want the supplements.





jennifer.hardwick@newtrade.co.uk

**a** 020 7689 3350

@JenniferH\_RN

facebook.com/thisisRN

### **Partworks**

Title	No	Pts	£
Amercom UK			
Ships of War	12	40	11.99
DeAgostini			
Build the Ford Mustang	62	100	8.99
Build your own R2-D2	10	100	8.99
Enhancing your mind, body, spir	rit 10	120	3.99
Jazz at 33 and third RPM	31	70	14.99
Simply Stylish Knitting	63	90	3.99
Star Wars Helmet Coll'n	31	60	9.99
The Beatles Vinyl Collection	1	23	9.99
Zippo Collection	40	60	19.99
Eaglemoss			
Build A Solar System	82	104	7.99
DC Comics Graphic Novel	41	60	9.99
Doctor Who Figurines	93	120	8.99
Marvel Fact Files	208	200	3.99
Military Watches	80	80	9.99
Star Trek Ships	93	95	10.99

Title	No	Pts	£
Hachette			
Art of Crochet	81	120	2.99
Art of Knitting	112	90	2.99
Art of Quilting	63	90	3.99
Art Therapy	104	120	2.99
Art Therapy 50 Mindful Pattern	s 12	80	4.99
Assassins Creed: the			
official collection	2	80	2.99
Build the U96	133	150	5.99
Dr Who Complete History	40	80	9.99
Draw The Marvel Way	32	100	4.99
Judge Dredd Mega Collectio	n 57	80	9.99
Marvel's Mightiest Heroes	84	100	9.99
Warhammer	14	80	9.99
<b>RBA Collectables</b>			
Real Life Bugs & Insects	29	60	0.99

25 60 **9.99** 

**Panini** F1 Collection

# Collectables

Title	Starter	Cards
Panini		
Disney Princess		
Sticker Collection	2.99	0.50
Doctor Strange		
Trading Card Collection	4.99	1.00
Fantastic Beasts and Where t	0	
Find Them Sticker Collection	2.99	0.50
FIFA 365 Sticker Collection	4.99	1.00
FIFA 365 Trading Cards	4.99	1.00
Football 2017 collection	2.99	0.50
Frozen Northern Lights Sticke	er	
Collection	2.99	0.50
Frozen Sticker Collectio	n <b>2.99</b>	0.50
Moana sticker collection	1 <b>3.99</b>	0.50
Paw Patrol 'A Year of		
Adventures' Stickers	2.99	0.50
My Little Pony	2.99	0.50
Peppa Pig Around the World	2.99	0.50
Beauty & the Beast		
Sticker Collection	2.99	0.50
Magic Box		

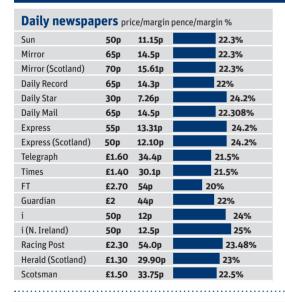
0.50

1.00

Title	Starter	Cards
Topps		
Disney Princess		
Trading Card Game	4.99	1.00
Shopkins Sparkle Sticker		
Collection	2.99	0.50
UEFA Champions League Office	cial	
Sticker Collection 2016/17	2.99	0.50
Premier League		
Sticker collection	1.99	0.50
Star Wars Force Attax	4.99	1.00
Star Wars Rogue One	4.99	1.00
Star Wars Rogue One		
Sticker Collection	2.99	0.50
Trolls Trading Card Game	e <b>4.99</b>	1.00
Trolls Sticker Collection	2.99	0.50
WWE Slam Attax Takeover	4.99	1.00
Match Attax 2016/17	4.99	1.00

Title	No	Pts	£
DeAgostini			
Magiki Mermaids			2.50
Frogs & Co			1.99

## **Newspapers**



Saturday news	paper	'S	
Sun	70p	14.98p	21.4%
Mirror	£1	21p	21%
Mirror (Scotland)	£1	21p	21%
Daily Record	90p	19.8p	22%
Daily Star	50p	12.085p	24.17%
Daily Mail	£1	21p	21%
Express	80p	17.152p	21.44%
Express (Scotland)	80p	18p	22.5%
Telegraph	£2	48p	24%
Times	£1.50	35.25p	23.5%
FT	£3.50	79.1p	22.6%
Guardian	£2.90	63.8p	22%
i Saturday	60p	14.4p	24%
i (N. Ireland)	60p	15p	25%
Racing Post	£2.60	61p	23.46%
Herald (Scotland)	£1.70	39.1p	23%
Scotsman	£1.95	43.88p	22.5%

Zomlings Series 5

Star Monsters

Sunday newspa	Sunday newspapers						
Sun	£1	21p	21%				
Sunday Mirror	£1.40	29.40p	21%				
People	£1.40	29.40p	21%				
Star Sunday	90p	19.89p	22.10%				
Sunday Sport	£1	24.3p	24.3%				
Mail on Sunday	£1.70	35.70p	21%				
Sunday Mail	£1.70	35.70p	21%				
Sunday Telegraph	£2	45.50p	22.75%				
Sunday Times	£2.50	52.50p	21%				
Observer	£3	73.50p	22%				
Scotland on Sunday	£1.70	39.95p	23%				
Racing Post	£2.60	61p	23.46%				
Sunday Herald (Scotland)	£1.70	35.7p	21%				
Sunday Express	£1.40	29.65p	21.18%				
Sunday Post	£1.60	33.6р	21%				

# Weight Watchers 4-5 March

	Total Si weight	upplements weight	Ad inserts weight	Number of Inserts	Heaviest ad insert
Sunday Times	1,430g	835g	325g	3	170g
Daily Telegraph	1,085g	740g	70g	3	40g
The Sun	450g	165g	40g	2	30g
The Times	430g	430g	Og	0	-
Daily Mail	415g	245g	170g	6	55g
Sun on Sunday	355g	110g	30g	2	20g
Sunday Telegraph	340g	330g	10g	1	10g
Mail on Sunday	335g	295g	40g	3	20g

Scale of third-party advertising insert payments								
Insert weight	Original scheme	Mail	Mirror	News UK	Express	Guardian	Telegraph	
Cumulative	e? no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	
0-69g	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
70-100g	1.5p	2.5p	2.57p	2.7p	2.93p	2.75p	2.93p	
101-200g	2p	3р	3.36p	3.3p	3.65p	3.35p	3.65p	
201-300g	4p	5р	6.09p	5.5p	6.26p	5.75p	6.26p	
301-400g	5p	7p	7.43p	6.7p	7.06p	7p	7.06p	
401-500g	*	7.5p	*	*	*	*	*	

Over 500g \* 8p \* \* \*

### **Insertion payment guide**

p37 TWIM 4.indd 37

Per copy sold Guardian Newspapers =2p. News UK =2p. Associated Newspapers =2p. Express Newspapers =2p. Telegraph Group =2p. Per copy supplied Independent News & Media =2p. Financial Times =2p. Mirror Group Newspapers =2p





# **CLASSIFIED**

### **STOCKTAKING**

### Professional Stocktaking Services!!

Stocktakers To Independent:

- Retailers/Wholesalers Specialists In C.T.N.
- Grocery Stores Off Licence
  - OIV Stores Forecourt



For Competitive Rates And Professional Service Call Now On . .

### 020 8360 2491

Fax: 020 8360 6348

www.nikharstocktaking.co.uk Email: Nina@nikhar.freeserve.co.uk H/O: 13 Green Moor Link, London N21 2NN



To advertise in the RN classified section please contact Khi Johnson:

020 7689 3366

Khi.Johnson@newtrade.co.uk





## **DRINKS SYSTEMS**

# LOW CUP COST HIGH PROFIT MARGINS



8 DRINK SELECTIONS CONSISTENT HIGH QUALITY EASY TO MAINTAIN EXTREMELY USER-FRIENDLY QUICK TO DISPENSE IDEAL FOR SELF-SERVICE HOT WATER FOR TEALARGE & STRONG OPTIONS

FREE STARTER PACK & MILLICANO PAVEMENT STAND FREE DELIVERY & INSTALLATION

WITH ALL MACHINES ORDERED BY 31ST MARCH 2017

CALL US TODAY FOR FURTHER DETAILS 0800 44 22 99 01435 860 000



QUOTE: RETAILNEWS

**(** 

### **FINANCE**

# WE WILL INVEST £1K-£100K IN YOUR BUSINESS!



Trading at least two months?



Gross at least £3K monthly?

YOU QUALIFY. It's that simple.

✓ Free application

Minimal documentation required

Approval in just a few hours

No personal guaranty or collateral required - sales based funding

CALL US 0800 368 9695

www.gotcapital.co.uk



BUSINESS FINANCING MADE SIMPLE

Immediate access to working capital!

Approval within 24 hours!









RN page ad.indd 1 08/02/2017 14:48