05.02.2016



Margin cuts 'risk future of news'



CONVENIENCE

My Local bread and milk guarantee

Promotions and community events to win back lost trade. Page 4 >>

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But indies missing out on 'biggest growth area'. Page 7 >>>





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Menzies' Wakefield manager addresses RN readers' concerns.

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B...More premium fascia trial

Retailers approached to test Blakemore format focusing on high-end fresh and chilled products.

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Retail crime hits record high, new figures reveal. Page 10 >>

PLAYER'S

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INTRODUCING PLAYER'S RED MORE VOLUME, GREATER VALUE





I discovered one factor in any service improvements out on a delivery round – my driver



CHRIS GAMM Editor OchrisGammRN

Last Wednesday, RN news editor Gurpreet Samrai and I spent a fascinating night and morning in Menzies' Wakefield super hub, seeing first-hand the news and magazines packing, returns and delivery process.

The timing was interesting, as it was the same week you'd told us service from the depot has turned a corner in the past few months. With this in mind, we took six reader concerns covered in RN since the summer to find out how they have been addressed and what improvements have been made.

Depot manager Allen Harrigan and his team were candid about what they've got right and where further improvement is needed. You can read about what we learnt this week (see page 13) and next week.

I discovered one factor in any service improvements out on a delivery round - my driver, Alan Fulton. At 24 years of age, and having joined the business eight months ago, Alan spoke about how he goes out of his way to ensure independent retailers don't lose business from late deliveries.

He'd already been out before our 4.15am run to deliver and collect magazines to speed up the newspaper deliveries. I saw him leaving papers in vans and car washes, chatting to service station night staff and helping bring in totes for other drivers at the end of his shift. I don't believe it was for my benefit, either.

One of the main problems you experienced was caused by inexperienced staff. My experience highlights the improvements made, as well as the importance of recruiting and developing brilliant people. It's just one of the areas Menzies must keep focusing on if it is to fully address your issues in a sustainable way for the future.

Dreamies 20 **CONTEN NEXT WEEK** Do you think business More of your customers NEWS franchises are brains. This week, want breakfast on the **4 INDUSTRY NEWS** Exclusive go to fit in with their now a more **Digby Jones** promotions in store to viable option for **20 RETAILER PROFILE** busy lifestyles. Find out boost My Local independents? The Kumar family has what five top retailers 6 BUSINESS NEWS B...More 15 LETTERS Eurocrats told been focusing are serving up is new high-end fascia to stop interfering with on value-led 27 CHOCOLATE for Blakemore paper rounds shopping. We Your need-to-know 7 NEWSTRADE Indies get **16 INDUSTRY PROFILE** look at how guide to what's new incentives to cash in on **50 IDEAS TO MAKE AND** Federation of Wholesale Landmark and what's popular bookazines' growth SAVE MONEY Distributors chief Wholesale's in this vital FMCG 8 PRODUCT NEWS 'Win in Part one inside executive James Bielby, Lifestyle Value category Spring' with P&G below right store model is 32 PREVIEW **REGIONAL NEWS** Crime 10 17 COLUMNIST working for them B&H Blue in 17s; Cocasentencing welcomed Lessons in lawful 16 Cola Zero Cherry **FEATURES** NFRN DISTRICT COUNCIL 12 trading with Doug NAKED TRUTHS North West DC report Love THIS WEEK RN hears from **18 PRICEWATCH COMMENT &** IN MAGAZINES celebrity chef and Spirits prices **IN-STORE BAKERY ANALYSIS** healthy food 34 ROUND-UP Tailor-made around the UK How retailers of all campaigner 13 YOUR ISSUE Behind the news and mags ranges **19 THE ENTREPRENEURS** Jamie Oliver kinds are getting in on scenes at Menzies' 35 FOR YOUR SHELVES Outdoor What you can Wakefield super hub 24 ON THE GO: Photography special; Great the action learn from the 14 YOUR STOCK, YOUR SAY BREAKFAST Airports one shot world's best "BE HONEST ABOUT WHETHER YOUR PRODUCT HAS GRAT NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS OR IS A TREAT"

– JAMIE OLIVER CALLS FOR GREATER CLARITY FROM THE FOOD INDUSTRY Page 22 🎾

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NEWS

No duty is paid on one in ten beers sold

One in every ten beer cans and bottles on retailers' shelves has had no UK duty paid, according to the Federation of Wholesale Distributors.

James Bielby, FWD chief executive, told RN during an interview for this week's industry profile, that the majority of this 10% is found on the shelves of smaller stores. "Retailers may be offered beers, wines and spirits well below the price they get from their usual wholesaler, and that's very likely to be because duty hasn't been paid on the stock," he said.

However, NFRN chief executive Paul Baxter said the finger can't simply be pointed at retailers: "We are supportive of measures that will reduce illicit trade. It is important that wholesalers check stock and supply sources as ultimately retailers will pay the penalty if wholesalers don't."

● Industry profile – p16.

North East Nisa split

Nisa has declined to extend the membership of North East Convenience Stores (NECS) as part of its turnaround strategy launched last year. The decision to split from NECS is the first step towards its strategy focusing on addressing a number of loss making members.

Nick Read, Nisa CEO, said: "We are moving away from loyal members subsidising other members and from non-profit-making members benefiting from Nisa, but not contributing."

The 31-strong convenience estate, based in the north of England, will cease to have Nisa as its main supply partner from 1 August 2016, after 16 years.



Generous Samantha's donation

IAA winner Samantha Coldbeck (pictured) donated £500 and a 40" HD Smart TV to a hospice near her Wharfedale Premier store after holding a raffle during a celebration day at the end of last year. The bumper donation was made after the raffle winner failed to claim the prize. Mrs Coldbeck said: "No one claimed the TV so I decided to donate it and the cheque."

Long-term growth strategy revealed Promise of free bread and milk if stock runs out

Exclusive promotions instore to boost My Local

by Nadia Alexandrou

My Local is focusing on exclusive promotions and store community events to win back lost trade as part of its long-term growth strategy.

The group's sales are currently around 15% below the level when the stores were owned by Morrisons. This is largely due to the stock problems it encountered when it opened and losing the strength of Morrisons own brand, My Local's trading director Neil

Turton told RN.

Up until now stores have been "piggy-backing" off Nisa's promotions, but the chain is now looking to focus on its own deals to get more customers into its stores. The first will be a bread and milk guarantee that promises customers these items free on their next purchase if the store they are at has run out.

Matt Philips, pricing and promotions manager at My Local, said: "These are the two most common products people pick up in stores, and this will help us win back customer confidence."

He added that My Local will consider rolling the guarantee out across more of its "golden lines" - a list of around 150 items it has identified to be the core bestsellers in convenience - depending on feedback. "We don't want to be a cheap supermarket or a high-end outlet, but inbetween the two. We'll be constantly checking and reviewing our golden lines with competitors to make sure this happens," he said.

Stores will also be hosting local community days throughout the year as part of its strategy to reconnect and engage with customers. Mr Turton added the company plans to continue its average growth of 1% to 2% a week in the next quarter in order to exceed Morrisons' sales by the summer. The company is also in talks with Nisa to improve its fresh range, and last week hosted its first supplier conference, which attracted more than 270 suppliers.

PayPoint's weather explanation branded 'limp'

PayPoint's statement that unseasonably warm weather was behind a decline in bill transactions in the last quarter is "slightly limp", a stockbroker has told RN.

The payment services provider's third quarter report states bill and general transactions declined by 2.4% in the three months ending 31 December "mainly due to lower energy consumption" a knock-on effect of the unseasonable weather.

However, David Mc-Cann, director, speciality and other finance equality research at Numis Securities Limited, believes there is more to the figures than the company is revealing. "My view is it's a slightly limp excuse given the comparative period last year they also used the same excuse. It just leaves me with the feeling we're not getting the complete picture," he said.

"I don't know the answer. It'll probably come out in the wash at some point in the future, but something is causing less business to go through the terminals." The report states the company saw "strong

growth" in retail services of 22.7% and 9.6% in mobile and online, net revenues were up 1.8% to £35.0m from the third quarter last year. However, top-ups also saw a decline of 13.7%.

PayPoint did not want to comment.





Category could suffer in range reviews to pay for NLW 'News and mags don't justify space'

Publishers warned margin cuts may alienate stores

by Chris Rolfe and Chris Gamm

Newspaper publishers who cut margins risk driving retailers away from the category as business owners conduct range reviews to calculate how to pay the National Living Wage.

That was the warning from Nisa store owner Paul Cheema in the week that the Daily Mail increased the price of its Monday to Friday edition by 5p and reduced margins from 23.2% to 22.4%. While the price rise added an extra 0.58p margin per copy, the cut denied news sellers a potential £1.8m a year in profit according to RN analysis.

"The Mail is wrong to put the price up but cut our margins," said Mr Cheema. "With the National Living Wage, we need to maximise our profitability. We're looking at every category and cutting ranges drastically where they aren't earning a good margin."

Slow-selling products are also being cut, he added, and the Star is "a big question mark at the moment" following Northern & Shell's decision to halve its price last October.

Londis retailer Atul Sodha added: "Everything is about margin. I'm looking at mine so closely right now, but I'm concerned that newspapers and magazines aren't justifying the space they occupy for the margin they earn."

Earlier in the week, the Mail defended its move, saying retailers would benefit from the extra profit the price rise would earn store owners. A spokesman said: "Overall, this will generate an incremental £16.1m retail sales value and a further £1.9m profit for retailers from the Monday to Friday editions of the Daily Mail."

Brian Murphy, head of news at the NFRN, urged publishers to engage with retailers to ensure newspapers remain a core category.

"Newspapers are still prime products and publishers must build relationships with the people who sell them," he said. "Failure to do that will cause retailers to invest less effort in selling them."

Healthy message

Food and drink manufacturers such as Coca-Cola and Unilever as well as major retailers have the opportunity to become "great global educators" of healthy eating, campaigner and chef Jamie Oliver has said.

Speaking about his support for a UK sugar tax to members of the Advertisers Association in central London last week, Mr Oliver recognised the industry's efforts to tackle obesity. However, he called for greater clarity with packaging and labelling. • News analysis – p22

Menzies' challenge

Recruiting and training 150 new staff was the biggest challenge bosses at Menzies faced as they moved major parts of the supply chain to the Wakefield super hub, depot manager Allen Harrigan told RN.

He said despite improvements in the overall service from packing to stock replenishment, the wholesaler will not be complacent and will continuously push to provide a higher level of service to retailers.

"You're only as good as your last distribution, so we have to make sure what we do is accurate as we can possible make it." ● *News analysis – p13*

News analysis – p13

EasyFood by Stelios

EasyJet founder Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou has launched a trial EasyFood mega discount store in London.

Raaj Chandarana, of Tara's News, High Wycombe, said there was a mixture of Happy Shopper, Euro Shopper and Best-in brands promoted at 25p. He said: "It could devalue symbol groups' stock and threaten our exclusive footfall."

Mandeep smells the coffee after refurb

Retailers must improve their businesses if they want to be successful in an era of higher minimum wages and pension autoenrolment, according to the director of Booker Wholesale's Premier symbol group, Martin Swadling.

Mr Swadling was showing the media around Mandeep Singh's newlyrefurbished Manor Store in Sheffield where a raft of new categories have been introduced including a new food to go and coffee offer, kid zone and a studentfriendly non-food range.

"What's the sales opportunity that wasn't there before? We've got to think about it more broadly," Mr



Swadling told RN. He added that much of what the company had been developing in the Singh's store would be available to stores across the UK, including a new meal deal, fascia design and PoS material to promote "bigger packs, better value". "The challenge to my team is to work with every retailer and find out what the opportunity in their store is," he added.

New push for extra Sunday trading hours

The government confirmed it will push ahead with proposals to extend Sunday trading hours as RN went to press.

During the second reading debate of the Enterprise Bill on Tuesday, business minister Sajid Javid MP announced devolution of Sunday trading will be added to the bill during the committee stage. Shadow business minister Kevin Brennan MP reportedly responded by saying bringing the proposals through at a late stage of the bill was a "gross abuse of power". Chief executive of the Association of Convenience Stores James Lowman said: "We cannot allow this unpopular, unnecessary and damaging legislation to be forced through parliament when it did not feature in the Conservative manifesto, and when there is such strong opposition from within all parties at Westminster and from a broad coalition of shop workers, small shops, family groups and churches."

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Today's craft beer guide

Today's Group is launching new category guides to help its retailers grow their wine and craft beer sales.

The firm is producing two booklets under its Plan for Profit scheme offering retailers tips and advice on how to grow their alcohol section.

The first booklet, launched this month, is dedicated to wine and will focus on three key strategies to make independent stores a destination for wine buyers. It will include an overview on world wines and an introductory guide to wine tasting.

Today's said it will soon launch a second booklet offering similar advice around craft beers.

The group said both guides have been launched in response to sales generated by a soft drinks merchandising booklet launched last summer.

Morrisons price wars

Morrisons has fuelled supermarket price wars by announcing plans to slash the cost of more than 1,000 "staple" products.

The firm's chief executive, David Potts, revealed it would cut prices on goods, including fruit and vegetables, by an average of 19%, with offers remaining in place for at least three months.

Mr Potts said: "We are cutting the prices of products that customers will welcome being cheaper at Morrison and we are cutting every penny we can."

The news follows on from a better-than-expected Christmas trading period for Morrisons, where likefor-like sales were up 0.2%.



Healthy margins with Graze

to have your say on the latest news

Kenilworth retailer Sid Sidhu is attracting healthy sales and 40% margins after introducing all 14 products in the Graze snacks range in his Simply Fresh store. "I read that Graze was Boots' third best-selling range and it fits with my aim of creating a point of difference and offering healthy alternatives," he said. Mr Sidhu became the latest retailer to trial News UK's new display stand this week and has also secondsited the Graze range with newspapers to encourage cross-category sales.

Fascia to focus on high-end fresh and chilled products Retailers 'interested' in Blakemore offer

Blakemore's new fascia B...More to launch soon

by Steven Lambert

Blakemore Wholesale is understood to be developing its own premium fascia with plans to start trials with retailers in the next few months.

Store owners have told RN they have been approached by the company to discuss a new fascia called 'B...More'.

They claim the concept will place a large focus on

high-end food and fresh and chilled products, and will feature green and black signage and graphics.

The news comes soon after Landmark Wholesale, of which Blakemore Wholesale is a member, launched two new fascias of its own – Lifestyle Value and Lifestyle Extra.

Lifestyle Express retailer Bay Bashir, owner of Belle Vue Convenience Store in Middlesbrough, said he had been approached for his opinion on the fascia.

He said: "It has a similar design to Marks & Spencer so it definitely looks the part.

"I'm due for a refit soon and I am interested in finding out more. But I'm not sure whether that will clash with what Landmark is doing with the new Lifestyle fascias."

Barjesh Kumar, who has been trialling the Lifestyle Value fascia since last May, said Blakemore has also presented him with details on B...More.

"It does look interesting, and I'm considering whether we should introduce it at one of our other shops," he said.

A spokesman for Blakemore confirmed it was looking into launching a B...More fascia, but was unable to supply further details on the concept.

New EPoS system from Conviviality

Conviviality Retail is working on a new EPoS system and offering more exclusive deals through its Matthew Clark business for its franchise retailers following a "pleasing" set of half-year financial results.

Speaking to RN this week, the company's chief executive Diana Hunter said members of its Bargain Booze and Wine Rack franchises had benefited from Conviviality's acquisition of drinks wholesaler Matthew Clark last October by stocking exclusive alcohol offers from the firm, with plans to expand this further this year.

She also revealed that the group is to launch a new "flexible" EPoS system developed using feedback from retailers.

The news comes as Conviviality announced a 38% increase in revenue to £252m in the 27 weeks to 1 November.

It said the number of stores owned by multi-site franchisees was up 7.4% to 276 during the same period, adding that it expects to end the financial year with 50 net store openings and a 50% reduction in store closures.

While like-for-like sales were down 1.3%, Christmas like-for-like sales were up 1.1%, with Wine Rack's sales growing by 11.1%.

Ms Hunter said: "I'm really pleased with the results. We're now seeing the fruits of our labour from the strategy we set out three years ago."

She added that on-trade wholesaler Matthew Clark, which Conviviality acquired last October, had also increased revenue by 2.7% to £60.6m.

NEWSTRADE

CHOCOLATE FAVOURITES Pages 24-26

Publisher targeting indies with incentives 'Biggest growth area in print publishing worldwide'

A new chapter of sales growth for bookazines

by Nadia Alexandrou

A wholesaler and publisher are offering retailers the chance to capitalise on "the biggest growth area in print".

The bookazine market is worth more than £40m in retail sales making it the 10th largest category in the magazine sector, according to Smiths News.

The wholesaler has selected 250 independent retailers to help grow their bookazine sales through a collaboration with distributors, looking at bookazines that complement their best-performing magazine categories.

The shops were chosen because they showed strong sales in particular sub-segments including crafts, entertainment/film, fitness, sport, technology, and women's.

A Smiths spokesman said: "The bookazine market is worth over £40m in retail sales value and was up 18% in sales volume for 2015, making it the 10th largest segment within the magazine market and the best-performing.

"Independents have predominantly not been supplied with bookazines and therefore the opportunity for growth is substantial for them. Due to their higher cover price, they provide a great opportunity for more profit."

The wholesaler said independent retailers are not being targeted because of a high level of early returns.

Imagine Publishing is also targeting independents with incentives and educational material.

The publisher is working with its distributor Market-Force to offer retailers the chance to win one of three £100 vouchers for stocking two issues of its Curious Minds bookazine.

Damian Butt, manag-

ing director at Imagine Publishing, said: "This is the biggest growth area in print publishing worldwide, and I see independents as a key priority for its continued growth."

Meanwhile, Andrew Howell, of Loch Lomond News in Scotland, said: "We've been selling bookazines for 18 months, and sales have grown quickly. We now sell 30-40 a month.

"It's sometimes a struggle to know what's available and we don't stock as many as we'd like, but it's definitely a category I want to expand."



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advice to help you grow your sales

Future publishing announced two new senior appointments last week in its recently created magazine division, as part of its strategy to focus on print magazines.

Matt Pierce has been appointed the editorial director of Future's design, games and photography portfolios, with Paul Newman handling film, music and technology titles.

Mr Newman said: "We set up this division because we see a really strong future in print magazines. There will always be a market for great magazines."

£53.6m in GNM cuts

Guardian News and Media has announced plans to cut running costs by 20% – £53.6m – over the next three years. It said it is considering charging for some of its content, although a paywall is not planned.

GNM is expected to declare more than £50m in operating losses in the year to the end of March, more than double last year's total, largely due to its expansion in Australia and America.

Ban paper rounds call

The European Committee of Social Rights, part of the Council of Europe, has suggested that children's paper rounds should be banned, and allowing children to deliver newspapers before school puts their "attendance, receptiveness and homework" at risk.

The council is to further investigate the situation in the UK, which it believes could be in breach of the European Social Charter on social rights, of which the UK is a signatory.

Bauer bargain fitness bonus

Bauer Media has launched its first 40-page fitness supplement in this week's issue of Grazia. It will feature an exclusive cover shot, using only Souluxe products. As part of an exclusive partnership with Matalan, 500,000 copies of the supplement will be distributed throughout UK stores in January and February. There will also be Grazia branding in-store at cashiers and on Matalan's website.



Extra outlets 'straining supply chain'

Declining newspaper and magazine sales are being spread across a growing number of outlets that sell them, putting pressure on an already thinlystretched supply chain, an industry report and analyst have warned.

The number of outlets selling newspapers and magazines has grown by 2.3% to 54,525 after three years of decline, according to analysis of ANMW figures by marketing firm Wessenden.

The majority of growth comes from grocery outlets (600), specialist outlets (482) and convenience stores (298), whereas traditional newsagents are in decline.

Douglas McCabe, CEO and head of publishing

and tech at Enders Analysis, said: "The pressure on wholesalers and distributors, which are already operating on very thin margins, is further increased because they have more contractual arrangements and more physical outlets to deliver to.

"We believe there is serious pressure on the wholesale and distribution layer already, which could be considered onerous."

Jim Bilton, managing director of Wessenden Marketing, told RN that drastic measures needed to be taken as the pressure builds.

"I think we need a very urgent and radical review of the magazine supply chain," he said.

NEWS P

CCE cuts Life range calories

Coca-Cola Enterprises (CCE) is reformulating its Coca-Cola Life range to lower calories and sugar in the drinks by 45% compared to regular colas.

The new recipe, which contains a greater level of natural sweetener stevia, will replace the original Coca-Cola Life product launched in September 2014, which contained a third less sugar and calories.

A 330ml can of Coca-Cola Life will now contain 76 calories and 19 grams of sugar, according to CCE.

In addition, the firm has extended its Coca-Cola Zero range with the addition of a cherry flavour in the convenience sector this month.

The brand will be available in 330ml and 500ml formats, which will be available pricemarked at 49p and £1 respectively.

Monster's sugar drop

Halo Foods is launching a multimedia marketing campaign to promote a 25% reduction in sugar in its Honey Monster Puffs.

The company said the latest move will see sugar content in the cereal reduced to 6.6g per 30g serving, adding that sugar levels for the brand have more than halved over the last 10 years.

The reformulated product will hit shelves in March and will be backed with TV and outdoor ads, as well as updates on packs informing shoppers of the changes.

PRODUCTS

JTI launches B&H Blue 17s ahead of new laws

JTI is launching smaller 17s packs of its B&H Blue brand just months before the introduction of new tobacco legislation banning packs of fewer than 20 cigarettes.

The new packs are available now and run across King Size and Superkings Blue and Sky Blue variants, at a lower price of £5.99.

The launch takes place ahead of the the amended Tobacco Products Directive in May, which will bring in laws to abolish sales of smaller cigarette and rolling tobacco packs. Jeremy Blackburn, JTI head of communications, said: "The trend towards value cigarettes is going strong, and as JTI's cheapest cigarette brand, B&H Blue is a must-stock for any retailer looking to capitalise on this sales opportunity." JTI is backing the launch with wholesale deals running on B&H Blue and Sky Blue products, and is also offering retailers the chance to win £100 worth of Amber Leaf stock in a competition running on its JTI Advance website.

ShelfHelp website revamp and core range update Campaign will create sales opportunities

P&G unveils plans to help retailers Win in Spring

by Steven Lambert

A revamped ShelfHelp website and a tighter core range of products will form part of Procter & Gamble's (P&G) plans to support independent and convenience stores this year.

The manufacturer made the announcements during a presentation of its new 'Win in Spring' campaign, which aims to unlock new sales opportunities for retailers in categories including home cleaning, health & beauty and laundry.

The plans include updates to P&G's ShelfHelp category management website, which has been relaunched this month with a host of new features.

These include a news section for retailers to keep up-to-date with the latest developments in the retail HEVES & MAGE OPENS & TO 11 PH 7 DUS & VIEW OPENS & TO 11 PH 7 DUS & VIEW OF DU

to local businesses.

It will add a £3.49 pricemark to Daz 22-wash packs backed with TV and digital marketing, while Ariel will be available in a smaller 500ml laundry pack pricemarked at £1.99.

In addition, Fairy cleaning products will be pricemarked and supported with TV ads on the Disney channel, the first time the brand has been promoted on the small screen in five years.

Ian Morley, group sales director, said the products will be used to target more people 'proximity shopping' at stores close to their home, claiming that top-up purchases now make up half of all shopping trips.

He added that P&G is committed to "trimming" its product range by 20%, saying the firm is adopting a "no more SKUs for news" policy.

Mr Morley said: "We're going to be more selective and want to give retailers genuine products that can grow categories."

Malibu Pineapple bottle follows can success

Pernod Ricard is launching 70cl bottles of Malibu Pineapple following successful sales of the flavour in premixed cans.

Available to retailers from this month, the drink fea-

tures a combination of pineapple and coconut rum and will come with an RRP of £14.99. It will come in case outers of six bottles, which will feature a pineapple skin design to help the

ing more retailers will be

able to view content while

unveiled a number of pack

formats and products de-

signed to drive more trade

Meanwhile, the firm has

on the move.

product stand out. Jo Alexander, marketing manager at Pernod Ricard, said the move will build on sales of its Malibu Pineapple pre-mixed cans, which she claimed have generated 23% value and 24% volume growth in the past year. Pernod Ricard will sup-

port the brand with neck collar recipes and a summer digital marketing campaign.

Hot products for your shopping list



CCE is cutting calories in its Coca-Cola Life range and adding a cherry flavour to its Zero line-up



Malibu Pineapple will be available in 70cl bottles after a successful trial in cans



Packs of 17 B&H Blue are being launched ahead of tobacco legislation changes

PRODUCTS





Summer sales targeted with new products and bigger sales force £3m Cornetto ad spend Unilever takes five with massive ice cream drive

by Helena Drakakis

Unilever is targeting summer sales with five new ice cream products and a commitment to increase its sales force in a bid to reach five times as many retailers.

From March, the company will release new additions across its Twister, Feast, Cornetto, and Magnum brands.

Noel Clarke, Unilever brand building director for ice cream, said: "To help deliver strong sales we are significantly investing in our distribution and product innovations."

The new products include Twister Blackcurrant (£1 single and £2.49 multipack of six), a lower fat, salt and sugar product, while Feast will break into the snack bar range with a maximum 250 calorie-count bar, available in peanut butter flavour (single £1 and £2.25 six-pack).

Meanwhile, Unilever will launch Cornetto Choc 'n' Caramel disc to build on the format which first hit shops in 2015. It will be supported by a £3m marketing campaign across TV and digital.

The firm will also launch two new flavours, Double Chocolate and Magnum Double Peanut (£1.90 or multipack of three £3.35), with a significant ad campaign promised for April.

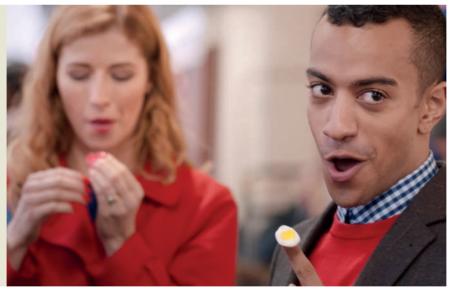
Meanwhile, R&R Ice Cream has announced a relaunch of its Kelly's of Cornwall range, which will see the launch of four new flavours in a bid to encourage sales among younger consumers. Joining the existing Honeycomb Crunch and Clotted Cream flavours are Berry Eton Mess, Praline Caramel, Lemon Curd Tart and Chocolate Brownie Salted Caramel, all available in 950ml cartons.

The new-look 'parlour range' has been designed to replicate the delivery of ice cream within the company's almost 50 parlours dotted around Cornwall.

The relaunch, which includes a redesigned logo, will be supported by a £2m advertising campaign.

Haribo's kids put words in grown-ups' mouths

Haribo returns to TV this month with the latest addition to the confectionery brand's ongoing 'Kids' Voices' campaign. The first set of ads, which will feature a group of adults talking about Haribo with kids' voices, launched this week to promote Starmix sweets, with similar ads promoting Tangfastics launching on 15 February.



PepsiCo kicks off Champions League promo

PepsiCo is giving football fans the chance to win tickets to the UEFA Champions League finals in a new campaign running across its crisps and snacks range. The activity kicks off

Hot products for your shopping list



Football-loving snack fans can win Champions League tickets in a PepsiCo promo

on 16 February on packs

of Walkers. Doritos and

the new Walkers Tear 'n'

including footballs and

Consumers will be

t-shirts every hour.

Share range, offering prizes

encouraged to enter a code found on promotional packs on a website to see if they have won. In addition, PepsiCo is

giving away match tickets to the quarter finals, semifinals and finals of the Champions League as part of the scheme. PepsiCo is backing the campaign with digital and social media ads, PoS material, and TV ads.

Freedom by Kerry

Kerry Foods says it will target growing numbers of shoppers looking for 'freefrom' foods with the launch of its Pure microwaveable meals this month.

The company has unveiled a range of seven Pure products - four lunchtime (RRP £2.85) and three evening meal (RRP £3.50) options - including Spicy Singapore Chicken Noodles and Roasted Butternut Squash Risotto.

The new range will be supported with an ongoing social media campaign, with plans to sample the products at various summer events.

Lager gets fruit lift

Kopparberg is aiming to broaden its appeal among young adult drinkers with the launch of its Kopparberg Fruit Lager brand.

The product will be available to independent retailers in April in a 5% ABV Lemon & Lime flavour, which will come in a pack of four 330ml bottles (RRP £5.99). Kopparberg will support Fruit Lager with a £6m marketing campaign.

Pots of cash

Shoppers will have the chance to win £1,000 every day for 60 days under Unilever's latest promotional campaign for King Pot Noodles. Launched this week, the scheme will offer cash prizes to King Pot Noodle buyers through daily draws. Unilever is supporting the initiative under its £2m 'You Can Make It' campaign.

Kopparberg is making a Fruit Lager variant available to indies from April



Kelly's of Cornwall's ice cream range is relaunching with four new flavours



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Call for return of rate relief

The chancellor is being called on to reintroduce the retail rate relief scheme for small businesses as part of a package of measures to help local shops and high streets.

In its submission to the Budget on 16 March, the Association of Convenience Stores (ACS) said the "important measure" is needed to offset some of the costs businesses are now facing.

Other measures being called for are the ring-fencing of funding for HMRC to tackle the illicit alcohol and tobacco market at a local level and the scrapping of proposals requiring businesses to report on their business taxes quarterly.

James Lowman, ACS chief executive, said: "2016 is already set to be a year of difficult trading conditions for local shops dealing with higher wage costs and uncertainty over their business rates bills."



REGIONAL

A big hit for Down **Under day**

Ludgershall store manager Steve Pope donned his best cork hat as **Connolly Spar** stores marked Australia Day last week. Sales for the four stores were up 12% year on year as customers were treated to a table of goodies and deals including Foster's beer and chocolate treats.

Official figures show rise in violent crime NFRN and MP welcome new guidelines

Cost of retail crime hits highest level on record

by Gurpreet Samrai

The annual cost of retail crime soared to £613m last year - the highest level since records began - new figures have revealed.

The sum is a 2% increase on 2014 – and three times higher than in 2007/08. There was also a 28% increase in offences involving abuse or violence against shop staff, rising to 41 out of every 1,000 crimes committed compared to 32 last year, according to the annual retail crime survey published by the

British Retail Consortium on Monday.

The NFRN has expressed its dismay and stated 2016 will be the year "we step up efforts to raise awareness of the blight that retail crime causes".

Chief executive Paul Baxter said: "Retail crime - be that shop theft, verbal abuse or physical assault - threatens the very existence of local shops and the communities they serve. Our members will be laying bare the physical and psychological impacts that such incidents can have on

their lives when they meet with ministers and MPs at an NFRN reception in parliament next week and will be appealing for their support and assistance in addressing retail crime."

It comes as the NFRN and MP Guto Bebb, chair of the retail crime all-party parliamentary group, welcomed new tougher guidelines for robbery offences announced by the Sentencing Council last week, which call on courts to take the full impact on victims into account. Under the new guidelines, the sentence range for shop robbers who use weapons and inflict serious harm is between seven and 12 years, with a starting point of eight.

Mr Bebb said: "Often it is felt the sentence is comparably light in relation to the damage it has done to individuals, so anything that shows that people are taking the issue more seriously will be welcomed by retailers and the APPG. If the new guidelines come coupled with prioritisation for such crimes that will be a positive step forward."

Window display brings early Easter boom

A London retailer is targeting a boom in Easter confectionery sales after selling more than 100 Cadbury Mini Eggs in a week thanks to his new bespoke window display.

Paul Donegan, operations manager for Peter Wagg's News on the Wharf estate, has been promoting Cadbury confectionery brands using digital screens and promotional packs to attract passing trade at one of his stores in Canary Wharf.

Mr Donegan said: "We set it up last month and in the first week we sold more than 100 Mini Egg bags. We initially thought about having the display up for a couple of weeks, but now we're looking to extend it all the way through Easter."

He added that sales of Creme Eggs are also up after displays in gutter trays were placed next to magazines and a three for £1.20 deal was introduced.

Susan Nash, trade communications manager at Cadbury owner Mondelez, said: "This just goes to show how having a simple and effective display can grow confectionery sales for retailers."

RN READER POLL



Will My Local's plans to tailor news and magazines ranges to individual stores help increase standards in other convenience stores?

NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION Is the Daily Mail's 5p price increase on its Monday to Friday edition good news for independent retailers?



REGIONAL

Shoppers 'want to spend locally'

More than 55% of shoppers prefer their spending to benefit local businesses. according to new research.

The 2016 Shopper Stock Take was this week launched by independent shopper research agency,

Shoppercentric. Director Iona Carter said: "There are some encouraging findings for independents, and with shopper habits and attitudes changing at a pace never seen before, there is

good reason to believe that these could have a positive impact going forward.

RRFAKFAST

IS SERVED

Pages 24-26

"For example, 57% of UK shoppers prefer to see the money they spend benefiting local business, rising to 61% saying the same

when it comes to British business."

The report adds 73% of shoppers prefer to buy ingredients to make meals than buy ready meals and 80% now buy fresh food as and when they need it.

A post office, coffee concession and LED lighting among changes 'New customers on board'

Retailers switch symbol group to add more fresh

by Gurpreet Samrai

Fresh has remained a top priority for retailers who are dedicating more space to the category and moving symbol group to increase their offering.

Former Premier retailer Sophie Towers has relaunched her Hillingdon store, pictured far right, under the Spar symbol group due to its fresh offering.

The Burnley store has undergone a £120,000 expansion and refit, going from around 1,000sq ft to 2,700sq ft with new additions including more fresh products, a post office and hot food as well as LED lighting and new fridges to improve efficiency.

She said: "People were asking for things I couldn't offer them such as fresh fruit and veg and meat and I couldn't get it from Premier, so we decided to



move and Spar was offering the things I was looking for. We are already gaining new customers, it's been really positive."

She told RN the store's turnover is up 25% since the refit.

Meanwhile, Spar retailer Paul Stone has opened his sixth store, pictured above, and is gearing up for the launch of his seventh. The sixth store - a former

McColl's at Manchester

University – opened last week with Cheeky Coffee, a seating area, wifi and an increased fresh range.

He said: "We have cut back on news and magazines, cut back on canned and packet grocery and increased the space given to fresh because 'feed me now' is a very important shopper mission for us.'

The seventh store in Marple will open next month.

Mr Stone said: "We know the site's a good one with a lot of potential, it's an affluent area so a different type of consumer.

Chilled beers & wo

"We will be targeting mums on the way back from the school run. It was a Premier so we'll be taking half of the shelving out and putting more refrigeration in. We will have one bleach and one toilet roll pack because that's not important. What's important is fresh."

Be social, do better

A convenience retailer is spearheading the organisation of a new social networking event in the south west.

Dan Cock. of Premier Whitstone Village Stores in Devon, said the main objective is to get retailers sharing information and ideas. He hopes to include store visits and get suppliers such as Booker onboard to support the event.

"It's by retailers for retailers, so it'll be very informal and modern," Mr Cock told RN. "If it goes well it could be an annual or bi-annual event. We're hoping other branches and districts will take on the idea as well."

The first event is expected to take place in April or May this year.

Vigilance warning

Police Scotland is warning retailers about a scheme where individuals or small groups attempt to confuse staff into accidentally handing over money.

The body says either a small purchase is made with a high-value note to get change or they attempt to change currency from one denomination to another. During the transaction they confuse the retailer by changing their mind numerous times, leading to a sum of money frequently being obtained.

MPs call on govt to save local papers

MPs are calling on the government to stop the "destruction" of local newspapers.

Labour MP Helen Goodman has tabled an early day motion calling for a "short, sharp inquiry" to produce a coherent strategy for defending local journalism and to prevent the "destruction of these vital community assets". She states that more

than 150 newspapers have closed since March 2011. So far, it has been signed by six MPs - Peter Bottomley (Conservative), Mark Durkan (SDLP), Kelvin Hopkins (Labour). Caroline Lucas (Green), Liz Saville

Roberts (Plaid Cymru) and Christopher Stephens (SNP).

It comes after Johnston Press' announcement earlier this month telling staff to expect cuts in "a number of areas" across its business. Johnston Press said MPs

"will be well aware that the regional media industry

continues to operate in challenging times".

A spokeswoman added: "Changes such as councils" obligations to place public notices in local papers previously a major source of revenue - have added to this pressure and, as a result, difficult decisions have to be made."

Post Office in spotlight

Citizens Advice has launched an online survey looking at the benefits of the new post office models.

It is seeking the views of current and former operators of the Local and Main formats, as well as postmasters on traditional contracts being asked to convert to a new model.

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REGION NFRN DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT NORTH WEST 20.01.2016

Glyn Bellis reports from the NFRN North West district council meeting

Menzies is improving supply

12

A meeting between NFRN representatives and Menzies senior management has helped improve service, the North West district heard.

The wholesaler had been the subject of many complaints from newsagents, particularly after its move to a distribution super hub in Wakefield. But difficulties including late deliveries, missing bundles and insufficient supplies were raised during face-to-face talks last month.

District president Suleman Khonat said: "Menzies has got much better



saler said it had improved Suleman tote documen-Khonat tation follow-

ing customer feedback. Retailers can now track tote box deliveries with the box ID recorded on parcel content notes and the date of distribution is now displayed on tote tickets.

Meanwhile, district delegates also met Smiths News in Stockport. The wholesaler urged newsagents to make greater use of SNapp, which allows retailers to email the distributors' teams directly.

Other key issues discussed were late supplies, shortages, and missing tote boxes or bundles. There were 74 occasions when a title arrived "late" into Liverpool, Stockport or Warrington in the final two months of last year, with the Daily Mirror the worst culprit.

Trinity Mirror will be



contacted about the inbound times and re-runs after Oldham member Jayesh Parekh complained that weekend copies of Mirror publications arrived torn.

He said: "They were not good enough to sell. I am worried customers will go elsewhere.'

Mr Parekh added the problems were caused by the way magazines were inserted.

Floods highlight insurance worries

Recent major flooding

Your say



The shop is run by my husband and I and a couple of part-time staff. We could do with the flexibility of setting lower wages, but we will adapt to it.

Rukshana Mahetaji

A & M Newsagents, Lancaster

with a value of around £268,000



Menzies has got much **better than** it was three months ago **Suleman Khonat**

North West district president

Are you prepared for the introduction of the National Living Wage?

allowed retailers to demonstrate their community spirit, but also highlighted the difficulties small businesses face in getting adequate insurance.

In Todmorden. West Yorkshire, national councillor Muntazir Dipoti donated cases of bottled water to flood victims who had been forced out of their homes. He also gave out torches and candles to Muntazir people whose Dipoti Christmas had been ruined.

Mr Dipoti said: "My shop was lucky and I am relieved. But next door there was a grid and the force of the water was like a huge fountain coming out of the pavement. I was involved in trying to stop water coming into another shop for three to four hours."

He told delegates it was important for members to check their flood cover with insurers

Suleman Khonat said NFRN members had helped colleagues to

clear up in the aftermath of the flooding. But he added: "We have some members who have been declined insurance for flooding.

"Members need to look at their cover and see what is protected in case anything happens. I also believe the government needs to do more to help retailers because they are a vital part of communities.

"It's important retailers reopen as quickly as possible. They need money for the clean-up."

Don't leave it late to write a will

Retailers were advised not to put off writing their wills. North West Manchester member Alan Dryden said many retailers left it too late, which could result



in major complications after their deaths.

Huge hauls from HMRC raids

HM Revenue and Customs seized more than one million illicit tobacco products worth an estimated £268,000, as well as 74 litres of alcohol, in swoops on 29 premises in the Manchester and Bolton areas

The hauls were highlighted in a report by membership services manager Chris Appleton.

Members were also reminded they couldn't ignore their duties as employers with new rules governing pensions.

At least one NFRN member had faced a £400 fine from the HMRC.



do what the government says.

My four shops are run by family members or staff. Fortunately, we won't have to reduce their hours and will be able to cope with the additional financial burden.

Birley Street News, Blackpool

Salma Patel

We have to



member of staff. I already meet the minimum wage so it won't come as a shock to the business. We have experienced staff and keeping them means we keep providing good customer service. Jamal Kazi Union News, Accrington



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WHAT WE LEARNED IN WAKEFT

N editor Chris Gamm and news editor Gurpreet Samrai visited Menzies' Wakefield super hub last week to see first-hand the newspaper and magazine packing and distribution process. During the visit, RN raised retailers' concerns about the wholesalers' service since the move to Wakefield with depot manager Allen Harrigan. Here he addresses six issues covered in RN in the past seven months.

The move

"In terms of size, complexity and timeframe, this was a very big operation we put together. It was necessary for the future of the business and also the timeframe we had for securing the building. There are not many 100,000sq ft buildings available, so getting the whole project completed was timecritical. Branches were brought in every three weeks from the depots themselves, which were big on their own. We brought Leeds in first, then Sheffield, Preston, Chester and York."

Inexperienced staff

"We had to do a major recruitment drive because we couldn't transfer all the staff into Wakefield. That was probably the biggest challenge. The night packing operation was effectively lifted out of Leeds and we did take some people from Sheffield. We had a big team of people here from Edinburgh and we interviewed 600-700 people altogether. Around 150 people were then brought in. They were trained with a high level of support and we identified future supervisors and put those into position. Many of them have done extremely well. We still have a way to go in terms of what we want to do, but fundamentally the operation is sound and is performing well. We've come a long way in six months. If it was a child, it wouldn't even be walking yet."



Late deliveries

"We don't change our process every day, but when we have a good day or a bad day there's a corresponding pattern. It's about delivery, and the variable is when we get stuff in. Our cut-off time is 3.30am - that's not the time publishers should be delivering the papers, but if they arrive after that we have to re-run. Some people think 'all the papers arrived at 3.25am, what's the problem?' The problem is you have millions of copies to sort in five minutes. No two days are the same, they can bunch, they can come in early, certain days of the week are better than others. However, the customers' perception is we've had them late or on time.

"Through our head office, we push back on publishers when we have particularly late arrivals and ask what changes they can make to their distribution so we can receive papers in good time to be able to pack them. Publishers are fairly receptive and they realise the impact as well. It can be for a number of reasons - production problems are the biggest issues they face."

Damaged magazines

"Some magazines don't go in tote boxes, but get packed like

newspapers because of the time we receive them, and sometimes due to volumes. As an industry standard we've always packed certain magazines over the benches. We try to make sure they are protected as best as they can be. I guess you'll always get some that are damaged - we are putting out 18,000 totes a day. It's not right, or good, but it's inevitable that there's going to be some sort of damage during transportation. But we don't know what point in the chain that damage has occurred. We don't want this to happen regularly and we will go to as much effort as we can to get the product right to people."

Wet totes

"We instruct all staff that the first person on the line who puts anything into a tote box must take it out if it's wet and remove any litter from the box. Of course, there will be instances where someone says they have something in their tote box, but again we are packing into 18,000 totes a day, four days a week, so realistically we're not going to eliminate the problem entirely. The culture we're bringing into the warehouse is that any wet tote is removed from the ma-

chine and replaced."

Packing accuracy

"In terms of packing, the packers have got more efficient and their accuracy level has increased. The processing speed has also increased as they get more proficient. One of the areas we were weak on was stockroom replenishment and we've focused heavily on that. We have a good team of supervisors in there now, led by an individual manager, and we're turning around requests a lot faster. Accuracy of packing, quick replenishment of any claims or extras, documentation and delivery times - it's these four things we need to get right."

What's next?

"There are areas we need to work on. Packaging accuracy, again, is one. It's continuously getting better, but we are never going to say 'job done we're okay'. We want to improve it constantly. Our customers want stuff on time, packed accurately and with the right paperwork. You're only as good as your last distribution, so we have to make sure what we do is as accurate as we can possibly make it."

See next week's issue for more.

5 February 2016 Retail Newsagent

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OPINION



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YOUR SAY With the franchise sector up 10% in the last two years and further growth expected in 2016, do you think franchises are now a more viable option for independents?

Adrian Rodda

Harrogate, Yorkshire Personally, I wouldn't entertain the idea. I believe it would take away my shop's individuality which, for me, is what being a retailer is all about. It could, however, be good for retailers who are just coming into the trade or those with little experience, because it would give them structure and support. I've been in this trade for many years so I wouldn't need the type of training and management that franchises offer.

Bay Bashir

Lifestyle Express Belle Vue Convenience store,

Middlesbrough, Cleveland Very possibly. I think it depends on location and if you have the right criteria, but some of the franchises have great concepts and a wealth of expertise that can help independents grow. Also, I've only heard about successful franchisees, and no complaints or challenges from them. The rise



of symbol groups and franchises just shows the opportunity in this sector, and I believe independents who want to move forward now have to be part of something bigger.

Amandeep Singh

Family Shopper, Hoyland, Barnsley Franchises don't really appeal to me, largely because I don't like being tied down. Most franchises like One Stop require 95% compliance, whereas with Family Shopper it's roughly 70% and this gives me the freedom to source my own deals and suppliers that work best for me. Also, with WH Smith Local, 80% of the products it sells in its stores are more expensive than mine and it has more of a newsagent format, which would not be good for the area I'm in.

YOUR STOCK How have your customers reacted to the influx of lower-calorie and sugar-free products?

James White

Spar White's Calver, Hope Valley, Derbyshire

I've not noticed any reaction from my customers, only within the trade, and mainly from suppliers. Although since Christmas, my fruit and vegetable sales have gone up over 20% compared to last January, which is very good. I've also had a lot more customers asking for gluten-free products, which I'm putting down to New Year's resolutions. I'm interested to see if both these trends will continue throughout the year, and not just after Christmas.

Rishi Madhani

Today's C J Stores, Stokenchurch, Buckinghamshire I know there's been an ongoing



call for reduced-sugar products in the industry, but I haven't seen this translate into customer demand. I always get a sales peak for healthy items in January, so any extra sales I've seen in the past month are nothing unusual. Healthier desserts are particularly popular now – especially the Weight Watchers desserts which are on promotion – as are fruit and vegetables.

Serge Notay

Nisa, Batley, West Yorkshire My customers have not engaged well with sugarfree products - they prefer full-sugar and full-fat

variants. Full-sugar energy drinks are the biggest seller in my store, and isotonic drinks in particular are flying off the shelf. I think the reaction to sugar-free and lower-calorie products very much depends on the area you're in, and there is very little demand for it with my demographic.





RETAIL

The opinions on this page do not necessarily represent those of the editor

Letters may be altered by the editor for reasons of clarity or of length

EUROCRATS SHOULD LEAVE PAPER ROUNDS ALONE

I am sure one of this week's big news stories will have caused consternation for my local newsagent Mike Brown and his fellow retailers around the country. "Paper rounds may breach European law says watchdog", read the headline.

It appears that allowing children aged under 15 to do a paper round before school is "in principle" contrary to human rights, according to the European watchdog.

I have no desire to enter into the debate about the "big brother EEC". Nor do I want to see an erosion of the work that has been done since the industrial revolution to protect and enhance the rights of children.

But I do want to bring the debate back to the local, common sense perspective.

Paper rounds are, to many children, a "rite of passage". They provide them with their first real job, responsibility, discipline, time management and their first taste of financial independence.

I remember my first paper round on the Parkside Estate in West Bowling, Bradford. I had a pocket book to mark off every paper delivered. I got to know some of my older clients, and I planned my route, finding places to hide my paper bag while I climbed the many flights of stairs in the tower blocks.

Menzies will force my dad to shut down his business

My dad has been running our family newsagents shop for the last 30 years, but he is thinking of leaving the business because of problems he is having claiming credits from Menzies.

We have 200 HND customers so having newspapers available in time is critical in the morning.

Since November last year, we have been having persistent problems with credits being refused

Sometimes our delivery is short by, say, five Daily Telegraphs here or eight Daily Mirrors there. On one occasion a bundle of 45 Daily Telegraphs was missing.

We managed to get hold of a bundle of Telegraphs that day, but we were charged twice and

NEWSTRADE

It's a sad fact that the job of a news deliverer is not without risks. One district of the NFRN a determined to make sure that he young people involved are as afe as possible. **Tom Gockelen-Kozlowski** reports

Are your deliverers safe and seen?

<text><text><text><text><text>

I also remember the brown envelope I received each week containing my wages.

I know from speaking to many of my son's friends who have graduated from "the Mike Brown school of paperboys and girls" how special those first jobs were. Over the years he has provided many young people with their first taste

refused credit.

We write everything down and keep records of what our claims and reference numbers are and what we hear back from Menzies.

But all we hear from Menzies in return is that the delivery was made in full, and our claim for a credit is rejected.

I keep chasing, but am getting nowhere.

I've got a list of everything we are owed going back to 24 November. It is not a massive amount – around £80-£100 – but it is the principle. Plus the calls we have made to Menzies far outweigh the value of the credits. It's so much hassle.

We're not trying to claim what we are not owed. My dad has been an important part of our community for so many years and he just wants to do an honest day's work.

But now he's saying he can't handle it and wants to pack the business in. The situation is sapping his love and passion for the shop. of work.

For some children, that job and the subsequent wage may have been a lifeline and will have shaped their attitude towards work.

So my plea to the government and the "European watchdog" is this – don't start interfering with something that isn't broken.

I would even go and show the boss of Menzies our evidence as I can't face the business being killed off because of this.

> **Purvesh Patel** East Peckham Newsagents, Tunbridge

A spokesman from Menzies responds: "After investigation, we've determined the claims referenced by Mr Patel in his letter were incorrectly assessed, and have arranged for them to be credited.

"We'll also ensure that additional training is provided to operators in future to avoid repetition of this problem.

"Menzies Distribution sincerely apologises to Mr Patel's father for any distress which this situation has caused him.

"Our aim is to help our customers make the most of the news and magazine category, not to undermine their enthusiasm; we hope to continue working with him, and other passionate businesspeople across the newstrade, for many years to come" BE SAFE, BE SEEN COMPETITION QUESTIONS News delivers in the VERN Northern Durite's were asked to provide abort written. Answere to end of theme provide abort written answere given a score out of Lo Try it with, your team - are you happen with the answer

1 What made you want to become a newsboy/girl?

Do you check your round before leaving an you check with your employer for any adds stops?

• You go to one of your basses on your round and the milk is still on the descring and yesterday's

200402

delivering year round?

IE BREAKER a motto "Be safe, be seen" is a good safety rul ide by. Can you think of a new safety singan?

RN, 15 January

There are adequate safeguards in place and children need to have the opportunity to learn about work.

Yes, there will always be a few who flout the regulations and exploit children, but this is not a reason to take away an opportunity that so many enjoy and gain so much from.

Sue Cross Stokeslev

Revolution solution has lost me sales

I only received half my original order for the fourth issue of Revolution, which came out last Tuesday.

Although more were sent on Thursday, I couldn't put any on sale because I had to reserve what I had for customers who had put in orders.

This meant I lost out on around 25% of sales.

I was disappointed to find that the Eason's (part-owner of EM News) nearby had a full supply of the magazine, despite Newspread telling me it had fallen short of copies.

I've been assured that I will get my full order tomorrow.

And an approximation of the second se

INDUSTRY PROFILE Federation of Wholesale Distributors

Wholesalers can now apply to register under the government's Alcohol Registration Scheme, but why is it being introduced and what does it mean for independent retailers? FWD chief executive James Bielby explains

RETAIL NEWSAGENT What is the Alcohol Registration Scheme?

JAMES BIELBY It is one of several government initiatives to drive fraud out of the alcohol supply chain. Any company which sells duty-paid alcohol to other businesses for resale must apply before 31 March to register with HMRC. If they are deemed to be a 'fit and proper' trader, with no history of involvement in criminal activity and good records of where they source their stock, they will be approved by HMRC and added to a database of registered wholesalers.

RN Why was it considered necessary?

JB Alcohol fraud costs taxpayers £1.2bn a year in lost duty. About 10% of the beer on retailers' shelves doesn't have UK duty paid on it, and the problem is mostly found in smaller shops. Retailers may be offered alcohol well below the price they get from their usual wholesaler, and that's very likely to be because duty hasn't been paid on it. So although retailers might think they are getting a good deal, legitimate wholesalers and the treasury lose out – and retailers are breaking the law, whether they realise it or not.

RN What is driving the illicit alcohol market?

JB Alcohol is bought "under bond" – tax free – for export, then diverted back into the domestic market without tax being paid. Other than spirits, the product is not marked as being duty-paid in the UK, so retailers have no way of knowing whether it is legitimate, other than the low price they paid for it. They could be prosecuted if it is found on their shelves, or lose their licence.

RN How will the scheme affect independent retailers and their dealings with wholesalers?

JB From April 2017, retailers will be required to check the wholesaler they are buying from is registered, which they can do by looking them up online. Wholesalers will have a registration number which retailers can use to confirm they

** Company CV **

Company Federation of Wholesale Distributors **Chief executive** James Bielby **Profile** The FWD is a member organisation for grocery and foodservice wholesalers in the UK who supply independent



retailers and caterers. The FWD promotes and protects their interests within the UK and European parliaments.



Tom Gockelen-Kozlowski
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Alcohol fraud costs taxpayers £1.2bn a year in lost duty have been approved. If they don't have a number, or are not on the list, retailers mustn't trade with them. Retailers will need to be able to prove they have carried out this check on each of their alcohol providers, and if they can't, it will be an offence for which there is a range of penalties.

RN How can retailers check the wholesalers they work with are legitimate?

JB Even now, retailers can be prosecuted or lose their licence if they stock duty-evaded product. So they should be aware of very low-priced stock offered by a new wholesaler or someone who turns up in a van. If the sale is cash-only, there's no invoice, or the seller has no permanent address or VAT number, retailers would be taking a huge risk if they buy from them.

RN Finally, does the FWD expect to see price rises for retailers as a result of the National Living Wage?

JB Wholesalers' wage bills will rise by 0.7% when the £7.20 NLW is introduced, and that is only taking into account those employees who will legally be subject to the new rate. By 2020 the increase in wage bills will be between 2.6% and 3.7% of current wage bills, over and above the increase that would have been incurred had the minimum wage continued to increase at its historic rate. More worrying is the effect it will have on retailers who can't absorb costs in the same way. We are lobbying for the rate of introduction to be slowed to allow businesses to plan for the higher rate pledged by the government.

DOUG COLUMNIST

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Islington's Trading Standards team works with 500 businesses a year to help sellers of age-restricted goods stay within the law. Here, its leader Doug Love tells RN about the support available to retailers, pitfalls they should avoid and the difference his team is making

Lessons in lawful trading

ince April 2015, I have done 116 Challenge 25 test purchases for alcohol, tobacco, and knives in Islington in north London, of which half have resulted in unchallenged sales to 18 or 19-yearolds who appear just below or just above the age of 18.

And in the last full year, 22.6% – or nearly one in four – of underage test purchases resulted in a sale.

This figure is an improvement on previous years, but is still far too high given that the test purchasers put staff under no pressure and do not intimidate them into making these sales. It shows how crucial Trading Standards' work to support sellers of age-restricted goods really is.

We work with around 500 businesses in Islington every year, and our work can be split into three main areas: helping businesses stay legal; monitoring them to ensure they are; and dealing with any that fail to be so.

The first of these areas is every bit as important as the other two, and we help make it easier for businesses to comply with the law by providing help and training. With this, my aim is to persuade owners that – however irritating – issues such as age-restricted goods and illicit tobacco and alcohol need to be a priority.

This is particularly true where the business is licensed, as (certainly in Islington) the majority would not survive if their licence was revoked. After mistakenly handing out too many licences, many councils are now increasing pressure on poor licensees who don't take precautions to prevent underage sales, stock illicit alcohol or tobacco or ignore licensing conditions.

Our advice comes in several



suggests that attendees find the

sessions very useful and, although

I cannot do everything for them,

I hope they go away much better

Our work to monitor businesses

focuses on test purchasing regard-

ing illegal tobacco and loose ciga-

rettes, as well as age-restricted

lenge 25 tests come in. The rea-

goods, which is where the Chal-

sons shops make underage sales

are almost always inaccuracy in

from doing so or not concentrat-

ing. Underage sales are an offence,

so we remind businesses that sell

without requiring proof of age of

margin for error when assessing

Monitoring also involves in-

which occasionally result in sei-

spections to check for illicit goods,

zures. In the last couple of months

in Islington, I've found two busi-

nesses selling illegal tobacco and

two from which I've seized illicit

spirits. While three of these are

still being investigated, Trading

review in regard to one.

Standards has applied for a licence

Overall, though, the situation

age, by using Challenge 25.

the importance of allowing a large

assessing age, being distracted

equipped to get things right.

forms: printed and online advice and, through a 'Primary Authority' relationship with the NFRN, advice for NFRN members nationwide.

I much prefer talking to businesses directly, though, so I also arrange regular training sessions.

In the last year, I have trained 184 people from 138 Islington businesses on issues such as avoiding underage sales, illicit goods, dealing with confrontation and (for managers) licensees' responsibilities. Feedback



We help make it easier for businesses to comply with the law by providing help and training advice and taking action against persistent transgressors means seizures are fewer in number and smaller in value and honest retailers are better protected.

has improved. Five years of giving

For our work to be even more effective, however, we need businesses to provide information about firms that are competing unfairly and we urge retailers to report anything that harms their businesses in this way. All Trading Standards teams will protect our sources of information, so there is no need to worry about being identified.

The last and most unpleasant part of my work is taking sanctions against offenders. In Islington, we use a variety of formal and informal sanctions, but will always take action if a serious breach is detected to provide a deterrent against further offences.

Last year, after underage sales or seizures of illicit goods, five business had their licences reviewed (three were revoked), 10 'voluntarily' added licence conditions (one of these also took a 'voluntary' period of not selling alcohol) and many others received warnings or were required to come to training events.

But this is time-inefficient and, for the more serious sanctions, very stressful and damaging for the businesses concerned.

My advice is to do everything reasonable to avoid getting into this position and I would canvass all readers to make use of Trading Standards as a source of (usually) free help and advice.

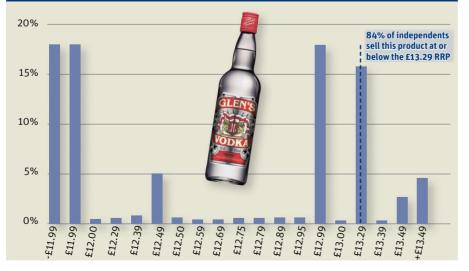
Doug Love has worked in Trading Standards for over 25 years and is responsible for enforcing legislation on age-restricted goods and illicit alcohol and tobacco in Islington

PRICEWATCH SPIRITS

SPIRITS PRICES AROUND THE UK

PRODUCT	AVERAGE	RRP	RETAILER	RETAILER	RETAILER 3	retailer 4	retailer 5
Smirnoff Red 70cl	£13.79	£13.79	£13.79	£13.79	£13.79	£13.79	£12.00
Smirnoff Red 35cl	£7.89	£7.89	£7.59	£6.99	£7.39	£6.99	£7.49
Smirnoff Red 20cl	£4.79	£4.79	£4.79	£4.79	£4.79	£5.50	£5.99
Teacher's 70cl	£14.00	£13.99	£14.49	£13.99	£18.75	£13.99	£13.99
Russian Standard Vodka 70cl	£14.05	£16.49	£12.99	£13.99	£16.96	£13.99	£13.99
Captain Morgan Spiced 70cl	£14.19	£14.19	£14.19	£14.19	£14.19	£14.19	£12.99
Jack Daniel's 70cl	£19.99	£19.99	£19.99	£19.99	-	£19.99	£18.99
High Commissioner Scotch Whisky 70cl	£13.86	£15.29	£12.99	£12.99	-	-	£11.99
The Famous Grouse 70cl	£15.99	£15.99	£15.99	£17.99	£19.02	£13.99	£13.99
Gordon's Gin 70cl	£14.37	£18.29	£14.49	£14.49	£14.49	£14.49	£12.99
Bacardi Carta Blanca 70cl	£14.99	£14.99	£14.99	£14.99	£19.34	£14.99	£13.99
Bell's Whisky 35ml	£8.89	£8.89	-	£7.99	-	£7.99	£10.99

GLEN'S VODKA 70cl Price distribution %





Average selling prices and best-selling products rankings are sourced by EDFM Ltd from EPoS data from over 3,500 independent retailers throughout the UK. The prices given on this page are the prices at point of purchase. RRPs are sourced from Booker and are correct at time of going to print.

Pricing strategies

NAME SANDEEP BAINS STORE Simply Fresh LOCATION Faversham, Kent SIZE 1,800 sq ft TYPE main road

I'm competing with Iceland and Tesco nearby. I never undercut myself but I do try to keep prices competitive. I buy on promotion and always aim for a 15% margin. Last year, I refurbished and remerchandised. I expanded my range of spirits and alcohol in general and since then I've seen a 20% uplift. Obviously, I sell more spirits at Christmas and then I'll normally have a freestanding display in store, but most of the time my spirits are displayed behind the tills. I sell more ciders and Pimm's in the summer and I always try to keep my range seasonal.

RETAILER



NAME NADEEM HANIF STORE F&K Stores LOCATION Central Parade, Rotherham SIZE 1,000 sq ft TYPE estate

We stock mainly pricemarked products and when Christmas comes around we do lots of offers. Then I'll drop my prices slightly below the RRP. Last year, Ciroc sold really well and we had it on offer at £20.99. Flavoured vodkas seem popular at the moment. Teacher's whisky goes well too because I always have it in for regulars. I stock my spirits behind the counter and never have them on the shop floor for security reasons. I always try to make between 15% and 20% margin on spirits but I've got a lot of competition. Within half a mile there's eight shops selling booze so I need to be competitive.

Helena Drakakis RNreporter@newtrade.co.uk

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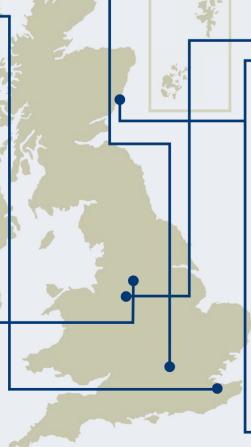
STORE Spar Crescent Stores LOCATION Witney, Oxon **SIZE** 1,800 sq ft **TYPE** village

In May, we will move over to a range of spirits set by Blakemore. I'm a little worried about it because I don't want to stock a line that doesn't sell. What sells in inner-city Manchester isn't necessarily going to sell in a sleepy Oxfordshire village. I am hoping I will be able to negotiate if any products don't sell well. The spirits that do sell here are Spar's Glen Dhu whisky and Imperial vodka, and we display them behind the till. Obviously at Christmas, drinks like Baileys do really well for us. We look for between 15% to 20% margins on drinks and we do well on promotions.



NAME AMARDEEP SANDHU **STORE** Go Local Extra **LOCATION** Chesterfield **SIZE** 1.700 sa ft TYPE main road

We normally price below the RRP. We have a lot of competition around us and so we always want to remain competitive. We apply the same strategy to our alcohol as we do to our cigarettes which make us around a 5% margin. The most I'd look for in spirits is an 8% margin. We want to drive footfall and promotions and good pricing really achieves that for us. We display many spirits behind the counter but we do have a few metres on the shop floor where we display budget brand equivalents. Our best line is probably Prince Consort vodka.



NAME FAISAL NASEEM **STORE** Party Time LOCATION Arbroath

RETAILER

SIZE 400 sq ft TYPE main road

We have a lot of competition so we always aim to have the upper hand when it comes to pricing. I normally go below the RRP with a strategy to shift volume on a maximum 10% margin. We have the advantage of being a known specialist offlicence in the area. To advertise all our promotions we do leaflet drops and use social media. It's a small shop, so we stack high and drive seasonal sales. Gins, Pimm's and drinks like Malibu sell well in the summer, with whiskys and brandies in the winter. So far the strategy has worked.

The world's best business brains and what you can learn from them



DIGBY JONES Route to the top

Lord Digby Jones says his earliest memories are with his mother, father and sister in the busy corner shop that his parents owned in Birmingham. The former director general of the CBL he now serves as chairman, non-executive chairman, adviser to and ambassador for several highprofile businesses including Triumph Motorcycle and Jaguar. He made his name in corporate finance and client development, having been awarded a cadetship with the Royal Navy and working for a midlands law firm. In 2007 he was made a life peer in the same year he became Minister of State for

Trade and Investment.

Key achievements

• Jones made his name in the CBI with his forthright attitude, candid opinions and media appearances championing British business.

• Using his CBI profile, he campaigned on many issues including the move from traditional manufacturing of commodities to value added, business innovation, and against protectionism.

• In 2005 he was knighted for his services to business and became Sir Digby Jones in the Queen's New Year's Honours List. He was made a peer in 2007.



Lessons for your store

1 Make your business look easy to customers - you need to work hard, prepare and take nothing for granted. **2** Be innovative – the notion that firms must adapt to changing needs to stay competitive is a mantra that Lord Jones has hammered home. 3 Don't get drawn into a cycle of negative thinking – take action to sort out problems and appeal to new customers.

20 **RETAILER PROFILE**





Success is a Lifestyle choice

Brothers Barjesh and Yogesh and their dad, Sudesh have taken one of their four stores in a new direction by focusing on value-led shoppers using Landmark Wholesale's Lifestyle Value store model. **Steven Lambert** reports ith 10 years' experience in the independent trade, the Kumar family, consisting of brothers Barjesh and Yogesh and their dad, Sudesh, have been making a name for themselves in south Wales for quite some time.

With four shops under their belt – two with the Lifestyle fascia and two with Costcutter – the retailers have decided to take a bold step by taking on a completely new fascia at one of their businesses.

They were one of the first to trial Landmark Wholesale's latest concept, Lifestyle Value, a store model based around giving the best possible deals and offers to value-led shoppers.

The Kumars decided to use the opportunity to take on the model at their Fairway Post Office site in Port Talbot, investing £130,000 in a total refit that saw floor space at the business move from 300sq ft to 1,800sq ft.

Barjesh says: "The shop is located in the middle of a council estate and a lot of people are looking around for bargains.

"There's a supermarket about a half a mile away and a few bargain shops, but not too many. We saw it as an opportunity to launch our own value shop."

The business was shut for two months before officially being reopened under the Lifestyle Value banner last May. Barjesh says the family worked closely with their wholesaler, Blakemore, during this time to remerchandise the store to suit the new retail model.

He says: "With the extra space, we were able to introduce a lot more products such as general groceries and household goods.

"It also meant we could expand our promotional areas to show we were offering good value to shoppers. For example, we now have a four metre £1 zone, and we also have five one metre £1 zones at the end of the aisles.

"We fill these with pricemarked products from the Lifestyle Value range, as well as good quality branded goods such as Walkers £1 sharing bags, soft drinks and non-food items."

This is complemented by an increased number of deals running around the store, including even more £1 and 'two for one' offers, which are promoted with PoS material such as stickers and shelf barkers.

Barjesh says the extension of the shop floor has also allowed the family to increase space for two of their best-selling categories, confectionery and alcohol.

"We now have a five metre chiller for beers and wine, and that has helped us grow alcohol sales by 40%.

"We have a couple of schools nearby, so we have also increased the space we have for sweets and chocolate. We get quite a big trade coming in for confectionery at lunchtime, both from kids



We find RN useful for finding out about new products and, with our new shop, it has also helped us look at our prices and compare them to other stores." BARIESH KUMAR



"Offer good deals to shoppers, give the best customer service you can and keep your shop clean and tidy, and you can't go wrong"

VISIT MY SHOP

Lifestyle Value Fairway Post Office Fairway, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan SA12 7HR and adults."

Barjesh says the changes have had a knock-on effect on impulse sales and basket spend, which have backed up the constant footfall the store receives from its popular post office and Lottery services.

to cater to bargain-hungry customers

"We never used to have baskets in the shop before, but now people are coming in to take their money out from the post office, picking up a basket and spending it in the shop. We have some people doing a big shop and spending up to £25.

"The customers have also been very positive about the changes and they like the new look."

The positive reaction has led the Kumars to look into expanding the format into one of their other stores this year, although Barjesh says the family are also looking at other options.

He adds that the success has also come about from following the same principles that have helped them maintain footfall and sales over the past decade.

"Offer good deals to shoppers, give the best customer service you can and keep your shop clean and tidy, and you can't go wrong."



Want to see more of Barjesh's store? Go to betterretailing. com/barjesh-kumar

HEALTH CAMPAIGNS

Back the sugar tax? Think it's a step too far? **Tom Gockelen-Kozlowski** went to see the most famous campaigning chef on the planet to find out more about the man behind calls for greater food regulations and his latest health crusade

Jamie's challenge for you

e's the celebrity chef who led a campaign against unhealthy school dinners and now Jamie Oliver has his sights set on the food industry. With calls for tighter controls on portion sizes, labelling and – most controversially – a sugar tax, if this latest campaign is anywhere near as effective as his school dinners crusade, it could have a profound effect on your business.

Last week, Retail Newsagent went to hear him speak to the country's advertising industry at the Advertising Association's LEAD 2016 event in central London.

His health campaigns spark change

Jamie Oliver, it is fair to say, has done more – at least publicly – than anyone else to demand the food industry helps Britons to live healthier lives. He made his reputation as a campaigner against unhealthy school dinners and made "turkey twizzlers" public enemy number one. "We started from a terrible base but 10 years on things have improved massively," he said. Now his sights are set more widely, and his previous success means nobody is able to dismiss this campaign.

He says he doesn't want a sugar tax

This will be a surprise to anyone who has seen Jamie Oliver on the news recently. "You think I like the idea of a sugar tax?," he asked the LEAD 2016 audience. "Is it how I want to spend my year?" The chef emphasised the fact that it was only rising obesity rates, particularly among the young, which meant that such legislation was necessary. "I know it's the right thing to do," he said.

He wants to raise awareness

"We like to have naughty things – I want my cake and I want my bottle of Coke – but it's when you are unaware of what's really in them that there's a problem," the TV chef said. He criticised products which make false claims to be healthy when they're actually not, and made a plea to manufacturers. "Be honest about whether your product has great nutritional benefits or is a treat. It's about clarity."

He will keep pushing the industry

McDonald's was one example of where the industry had undertaken a huge shift in attitude when it came to healthy eating, Jamie Oliver said - he even described its international chief executive and president as "an amazing man on a mission". So does this let McDonald's off the hook? Not at all. "You might be doing great things in Europe but you're bastards in other countries," he apparently told the boss recently.

> Jamie Oliver has set his sights on the food industry



He wants to see packaging changed

"If you look at Ribena, there's nutritional information for half the bottle," he said. "But there could be 40 spoonfuls of sugar in there and parents don't understand that. I don't understand that." He did give credit to companies, including Coca-Cola, which had transformed the way information is communicated on packaging (while also altering portion size), but maintained that further clarity was needed.

He wants a "joined up" approach

As with so much of his carefully chosen words, Jamie Oliver's compliment to Coca-Cola came with a barb. He said he'd met the company's chief executive and congratulated him on his moves toward colour-coded nutrition and portion size information. He then referenced a recent 'Tooth Fairy' flash mob campaign

PA Photo

against the company's trucks being used as marketing in town centres where parents had complained about the effect of Coca-Cola on their children's teeth. He asked how the company can be doing so well with one part of its approach while doing so badly on another.

He's changed tack

The days of Jamie Oliver happily using any means necessary to get his point

> Jamie Oliver says retailers can engage with the shift towards healthy eating

across may be over. "When we started school dinners I was younger and a true activist," he said. He said change now relied more on collaboration and conversations. "Where we are now – looking at how McDonald's has changed in 10 years – we're involved in a lot of meetings."

He will campaign about water

In the UK we drink less water than anywhere else in Europe yet, he said, UK water was "no different" from mineral water. He proposed water companies and major brands such as Britvic and Evian to come together to send out the message that Britons should be drinking more water full stop. He even promised to "do an ad on X-Factor" if an agreement could be made.

He sees an opportunity for retailers

From advertising watersheds to sugar tax, it's very clear that Jamie Oliver's crusade against unhealthy lifestyles and childhood obesity is as ambitious as it is wide ranging. But this isn't limited to his own campaign. He articulated the opportunity available to retailers and suppliers who engaged with the shift towards healthy eating: "Could you be a great global educator on kids' health? Yes you could", he said. Could you be a great global educator on kids' health? Yes you could

YOUR VIEWS I back Jamie! Adeil

Adeil Hussain Family Shopper, Motherwell

I definitely think local stores need to play their part in encouraging healthy lifestyles. We've got an initiative called Healthy Scotland and teams come round offering advice and handing out point of sale material to make our fruit and veg range stand out. Just talking to customers, you realise how little some people know about

healthier Scotland scottish GOVERNMENT Nutrition so I'll often have a conversation, letting them know that beans count as one of their five a day, for example. One thing I think

manufacturers

need to work on is packaging, however, because I don't think it's always clear how much sugar is in products and sugar is one of the major causes of diabetes.

Back off Jamie!

Woodrow's, Bishopton, Renfrewshire **B**

The term nanny state comes to mind here and, as a retailer, there's an element to a sugar tax that's like turkeys voting for Christmas. What we need is education for kids in schools about healthy foods it worked for recycling so why can't it work for this? I also don't trust that any money gained from a tax would be spent in the right way. Governments love taxes because it means they don't have to do anything, but look at tobacco. If it's so bad for your they should ban it, but they won't because they want the tax revenue.

24 ON THE GO BREAKFAST



Two in 10 customers now eat breakfast outside their home more than once a week, but do your morning sales reflect this? **Tom Gockelen-Kozlowski** finds out how five retailers are taking advantage of this huge market

Let's make a meal of it

What I offer my Customers... Vip Measuria The One Stop Prior Way, Derbyshire

We get a lot of builders and commuters coming into the store and they will use our meal deal. We sell a Wall's breakfast roll which they can get with a pint of milk or soft drink and a packet of crisps for £3. We're now considering getting a coffee machine so there's the option of getting a hot drink with their morning meal too. I think this will be really popular and I know that the margins on coffee are a lot bigger than on a can of Red Bull.

LIESSON FOR YOUR STORE

A strong meal deal can help customers to think of your store as the right destination for a quick and cheap breakfast

> Builders love Vip's meal deal

What I offer my customers... Vip Panchmatia

Hexagon Stores, Andover

We sell quite a lot of food to go and in the mornings our bacon baps, which are £2.29, are popular with builders and parents dropping their children off at school. Country Choice supplies our store and they've got products for breakfast, lunchtime and for snacks throughout the day too. We sell about eight bacon baps per day – with everything from potato dogs to steak slices also on offer – and alongside this we sell coffee which is available with a coffee on a deal at £3. We've tried to stock cereal pots too but have found these didn't take off.



Working closely with a food to go supplier can help you ensure you've got the right range for your area

Vip's bacon

with coffee

baps are link-sold



Win in the mornings with the No.1 Breakfast biscuit



Price marked packs also available***

Stock the range today

For further details on category advice go to www.deliciousdisplay.co.uk

*Kantar data to 2015 **The Nielsen Company, 05.09.15 *** Retailer are free to set RRP

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ON THE GO BREAKFAST



What I offer my Customers... Dean Holborn Holborn's, Redhill, Surrey

We can sell up to 100 croissants and pain au chocolat every morning. With margins of close to 40% and the fact that many people buy a coffee alongside – which has 70% margins – this is a really strong area for us. We see a real spike on the weekends because although people, from workmen to mums and office workers to school kids, buy croissants during the week, they only buy one each. At the weekend they come in and get half a dozen to share with their families.

What I offer my Customers... Harj Dhasee Nisa Village Stores, Gloucestershire

Bacon rolls and sausage rolls sell really well in our store alongside cups of coffee. I find that people who are looking to be healthier tend to eat breakfast at home, while those who want breakfast from us won't be as concerned. Having said that, sales of cereal snack pots are ticking over quite nicely. We also sell a lot of 330ml bottles of Tropicana too. I think it's vital that retailers offer some kind of breakfast to their customers. Alongside the lunchtime and dinner trade it's one of the key times of day for us.

LLESSON FOR YOUR STORE

Offering a tempting breakfast for busy weekday mornings can drive even greater sales during the weekend



Lesson For your Store

If like Harj, the mornings are a key time for your business, it's a good sign that an on-the-go breakfast range could work well in your store



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Here's two non-mutually exclusive strategies that can allow retailers big and small to get in on this very profitable opportunity

belVita

Strategy #1 Snack pots

If a retailer can offer hot water then that's all they need to offer a piping hot breakfast thanks to the array of porridge snack pots on the market. Offering the right range -complete with pricemarks - can help retailers to "maximise their impulse purchases throughout the colder months", according to Matt Goddard. Porridge sales have been growing by 10% over the past two years and PepsiCo's snack format Oats So Simple now accounts for 15% of Quaker Oats sales, highlighting the popularity of these more mobile formats. This, no doubt was behind the company's decision to invest in the new Quaker Warm & Crunchy variant late last year. For those who aren't in need of a piping hot breakfast but still need a quick

What I offer my

We have a Subway franchise in our

store which brings in a lot of footfall,

fast, a newspaper, some confectionery

pricing system. For £2, customers can

get an egg and cheese, bacon and cheese

30p they can get an egg and bacon, for ex-

ample, and for £2.60 they can have a roll

with everything in plus a drink. We're

the only shop in the area that offers any-

thing like this and our margins can be as

high as 50%, which makes it very valuable

part of the business.

or sausage and cheese roll. For another

with customers buying their break-

and a snack. We have a three-tiered

customers...

Bhavesh

Parekh

Kwiksave,

Bolton



Strategy #2 Food to go

There are now a host of companies which can provide retailers with a bake-off option for their stores – with many options available that take up little space, need little training and lead to minimal wastage. Arizta – the company which owns the Cuisine De France brand – recommends baking little and often so products are always fresh and available but do not end up in the bin. "Retailers should ensure that freshly-baked pastries and other breakfast

favourites are well stocked and available throughout the morning," it says.

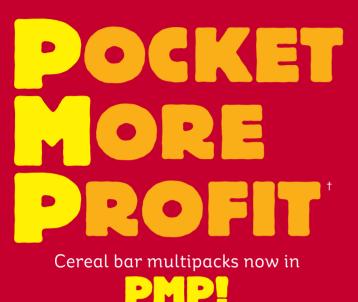


Investing in food to go to the extent that Bhavesh has can make your store totally unique

Read our in-store bakery feature in our **12 February** issue to find out how you can offer freshly-baked products whatever your store type and size.

NEW FROM Kelloggs

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Price Marked Packs account for **37% OF THE BISCUITS CATEGORY**, that's even more than last year^{*}

Multipacks are **GROWING THE CEREAL SNACKS CATEGORY** in Symbols and Independents**

The Cereal Snacks category is 75% INCREMENTAL to the Total Biscuits category's value sales^{***} *Source IRI, **IRI 52 w/e 13 Sep 15, ***Kantar to 25 May 2014.

STOCK UP NOW & MERCHANDISE IN YOUR BISCUITS FIXTURE

For range and merchandising information, call the **Kareline** on **0800 783 6676**













† Based on RRP, price at retailer's sole discretion D@KelloggsTradeUK © 2016 Kellogg Company Visit our new trade website. Designed with uou in mind. ۲

CHOCOLATE

 $\mathbf{28}$

If every convenience store shared out UK confectionery sales equally it would be worth almost £150,000 to each business. **Tom Gockelen-**

> Kozlowski speaks with five retailers to review this vital FMCG category

Get your tills choc-full



NEED TO KNOW

Mars' new Galaxy Duet is a permanent addition to its confectionery portfolio with two variants: Cookies & Cream and Caramel & Shortcake.

The recently-updated packaging of **Cadbury's** countlines puts the company's purple colouring on the ends of every bar.

Nestlé has launched a new on-pack "Celebrate the Breakers Break" campaign for KitKat recognising the different way people choose to eat its various formats.

Countlines My view Paul

Patel WH Smith Local, Dibden Purlieu, Hampshire



Our sales of countlines are good – although, because of discounter multipacks and customers being more valueconscious, they're not as good as they used to be. The Tesco Express near to us sells chocolate at the same prices as us but they benefit from deals such as three for £1.20 so I'm talking to WH Smith to see if we can get a similar deal too. Bars such as Bounty Dark and KitKat Dark which other shops don't stock sell really well for us.

Blocks My view

Kamal Thaker The Stop Shop News, Middlesex



Rocky Mallow Road is

the latest

Marvellous

Cadburv

Creation

Our bestsellers are Cadbury Dairy Milk, Cadbury Fruit & Nut and Galaxy and Galaxy Cookie Crumble. I think customers are attracted by the price point for these bars so £1 pricemarking always works very well. Having said that, our countlines customers are shopping for a different reason so I haven't seen the success of chocolate blocks having an adverse effect on countline sales at all. I haven't seen many new products being that popular with my customers in this sector.

NEED TO KNOW

The **Cadbury** Dairy Milk Marvellous Creations range now contains Rocky Road Mallow alongside the Jelly Poppin' Candy variant

Both now come in a **'Smashables**' shape that lets customers turnover the bar, give it a whack and then share

Mars is investing in a series of pricemarked blocks and bags across its portfolio including Malteaser, Minstrels and Galaxy brands. Bars such as Bounty Dark and KitKat

Bounty Dark and KitKat Dark which other shops don't stock sell really well for us



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Depot Number:

۲

Manager/Assistant Manager – Print Name:

*Voucher entitles customer to 24 outers of specific Pick 'n' Mix (see range in depot), a Pick 'n' Mix stand and listed accessories as detailed above from Hancocks Cash & Carries. Deal available 12th January -29th February 2016. Voucher can only be used once, one per customer. While stocks last. Hancocks reserves the right to remove the promotion at any time. 20 Cash and Carry Depots Nationwide and Online too!

Major brands drive sales at Easter and throughout spring

Novelties & seasonal My view Samantha

Coldbeck

Hull

Premier Wharfedale



Novelty products do sell very well and it's a sector which our wholesaler, Booker, is very good at getting promotions on. Our bestsellers are Malteaser Reindeers and MaltEaster Bunnies at Christmas and Easter and parents will often buy them for their children as a treat. Our customers have started calling Cadbury Creme Eggs "Cadbury Quail Eggs" because the price has gone up and I've had a lot of comments about the change in taste. At three for £1.20. however, they are selling on promotion.

Specialist and premium

Mv view Avtar

Sindhu Sukhi's Simply Fresh, . Kennilworth

We stock a premium British chocolate brand called Kingdom. British products sell really well in our store and we're thinking of bringing in another brand called Raw from Scotland. We've also sold Lindt and Green & Blacks in the past but I find that customers tend to only want the choice of one of these brands and we'll usually pick one on promotion with our wholesaler.



NEED TO KNOW



For Easter, Ferrero has launched Kinder Joy – a new split plastic egg in which half is chocolate and half contains a toy.

Mars has launched Galaxy Golden eggs for 2016 – both in an 80g bag (RRP £1.30) and a large egg format (RRP £5.49).

Mondelez has opened a Creme Egg Café in central London ahead of this year's Easter celebrations. The café serves food and drink inspired by the brand.

Love and chocolate are a perfect Valentine's Day match

NEED TO KNOW

Specialist wholesaler Hancocks is stocking a range of springthemed products including its own Kingsway-branded chocolate hearts (RRP 85p).

The wholesaler is also stocking Beech's Fine Chocolates' Valentine's Day "I Love You" Chocolate Box (RRP £3.49).

Lindt & Sprüngli,

manufacturer of Lindt chocolates in the UK, recorded double-digit growth of 13.5% last year, highlighting the strength of the premium sector.

bags help shoppers

NEED **TO KNOW**

Mondelez's launch of Boost Bites mean the brand is now available in a sharing format for the first time.

Mars saw growth of 42% on its M&Ms sharing pouch format in 2015 off the back of its heavily-advertised Ms. Brown limited edition packs.

Last year saw the arrival of Nestlés Caramac brand in a sharing format for the first time with Caramac Buttons.



British products sell really well in our store

Sharing bags My view Amandeep

Singh Family Shopper, Barnsley





reaching <mark>91%</mark> of the UK population

*Sugar exc. mints & medicated spend amongst individuals with no children who are over 25. Source: Kantar worldpanel online w.e. 07/12/14 ** Source Total coverage MATTY 31.10.15

No.1

Candy Bag**

PREVIEW



Feeling Blue?

JTI is introducing 17s packs to its B&H Blue range this month, including King Size and Superkings Blue and Sky Blue variants. RRP various Outers various Contact 0800 163503



Zero-regrets cherry Coca-Cola Enterprises has launched Coca-Cola Zero Cherry in 330ml and 500ml packs this month.

RRP 49p - £1 Outers not given Contact 08457 227222



Cola's New Years' diet

Coca-Cola Enterprises has reformulated Coca-Cola Life, which now contains 45% less sugar and calories compared to standard cola drinks. RRP 65p · £1.69 Outers 6 · 24 Contact 08457 227222



Sweet Dreamies

Dreamies cat treats have been revamped with updated pack designs featuring a new logo and redesigned graphics. **RRP** various **Outers** various **Contact** 01664 411111



Flamin' good investment Kepak Convenience Foods is investing £350,000 to fund the first stage of its new Flamin Tasty marketing campaign for Rustlers. RRP various Outers various

Outers various Contact 01772 688300



Bassetts bags Bertie's Mondelez is launching Bertie's Jelly Mix in 130g and 160g packs next

Mix in 130g and 160g packs next month under its new Maynards Bassetts brand.

RRP £1 - £1.52 Outers not given Contact 0870 191 7343



Befitting bowls

Walkers' new Tear 'n' Share range features thicker cut crisps and packs that transform into sharing bowls.

RRP £1.99 Outers not given Contact 01189 306666



Bestway has expanded its wine range with the launch of Royal Prosecco, a range of Spanish wines under the Toro Riendo label, and Villa Principal rioja. RRP £4.79 - £7.49 Outers 6 Contact 020 8453 1234



Exceedingly Good Cake Premier Foods has unveiled its Exceedingly Good Cake range, a selection of 'better for you' oat and fruit cake slices.

RRP £1.49 Outers not given Contact 01727 815850

"We spend £25 per month on giant banners to advertise our better than half price deals. Now every customer knows about our great prices"

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Vip Panchmatia Costcutter, Stroud

TWEET US WHAT YOU'VE DONE THIS YEAR @retailnewsagent

WE

COMING UP IN

RETAI

NEDAZWE

01

Don't miss RN's 12 February issue. Order from your wholesaler today

to

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Nadia Alexandrou nadia.alexandrou@newtrade.co.uk 0 020 7689 3350

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Young fun CBEEBIES-THEMED MAG FOR PRE-SCHOOL TOTS

DC Thomson launches its first ever pre-school publication with the promise of educational development and light entertainment

EACH ISSUE of DC Thomson's first ever pre-school magazine, Twirlywoos, is themed around an episode of the CBeebies TV show of the same name, which first aired on the kids' channel last February. The Twirlywoos are four small bird-like characters which are used in the show to encourage pre-schoolers to think for themselves. The magazine emulates the show's focus on pre-school development and light entertainment through its "Professor Cathy Nutbrown" character. Every issue comes with a covermounted gift linked to the content in the magazine, with issue one featuring a stamp, stick and colour set.



TWIRLYWOOS On sale 10 February **Frequency** monthly Price £2.99 Distributor Marketforce **Display with CBeebies** Special, CBeebies Magazine and Thomas & Friends

Round up



NADIA ALEXANDROU Magazines reporter

TAILOR-MADE **NEWS & MAGS**

As symbol groups, franchises and retail groups continue to harness opportunities in convenience, it's encouraging to see that newspapers and magazines are a part of this, despite the ongoing challenges they present.

My Local told me how it is working with magazine consultancy Fore to find the best way to tailor ranges to fit local demand, while the NFRN is now working with another consultancy, Lucid, to help independents manage their newspapers and magazines in Northern Ireland. Some symbol groups are also looking at how to strengthen sales in this category. Most notably, Spar's news group is working closely with its member retailers and Fore to help it manage every aspect of its newspapers and magazines.

For some specialist newspaper and magazine retailers - like Mark Ansell of Liskeard News in Cornwall - who have long since invested and excelled in this market, this is a confirmation of their faith in the category. Other retailers, however, have voiced their concerns - if the multiples start going after a bigger share of a shrinking market, independents may struggle to remain competitive.

Bay Bashir, of Belvedere News, told me that he believes retailers need to be part of something bigger if they want to move their business forward. I'm amazed to see the resourceful ways store owners are already doing this, including setting up exclusive agreements with distributors, working closely with publishers and taking advantage of their promotions and signing up to news groups.





CREATIVE COLOUR

This special edition of adult colouring magazine Creative Colour features more than 45 designs and original artwork. Issue 3 is inspired by popular Japanese art and includes a free set of colouring pencils. The perforated pages also allow people to tear out and keep their completed work. The magazine aims to allow people to spend time away from screens and enjoy completing the elaborate and original designs featured.



BBC GOOD FOOD MAGAZINE

This month's issue of BBC Good Food offers a choice of two seasonal covers for the first time. One version carries a T-Bone steak with 'best-ever onion rings' while the other features a stack of chocolate-filled pancakes. The issue gives readers the chance to choose between cooking a steak supper for Valentine's Day or a stack of pancakes for Shrove Tuesday, with recipes for both of these dishes – plus Ken Hom's homemade Peking duck – included inside both versions of the magazine.



DINOSAUR ACTION

In celebration of Dinosaur Action's 100th issue, the magazine will feature a bumper pack of gifts including a dino blaster, 3D dinosaur eraser and a set of dinosaur stickers. Launched in 2007, Dinosaur Action was Signature Publishing's first children's magazine. It has gone on to sell more than 1.2 million copies at retail and is available in over 8,000 stores across the UK.



GREAT AIRPORTS OF THE WORLD VOLUME 2

Great Airports of the World vol.2 is a 100-page publication which examines in detail the most influential, busiest, largest and most impressive global air hubs. This special edition from the team behind Airports of the World magazine details 10 airports from around the world – some of which have won awards – those that have handled huge amounts of traffic, and others that are exciting or pleasant to use.



OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Outdoor Photography magazine is dedicated to landscape, wildlife, nature and adventure photography. The March issue includes a 15-page collection of the Outdoor Photographer Of The Year 2015 competition winning images, which are also exhibited at the Telegraph Outdoor Adventure & Travel Show in London this month (11-14 February).

SPECINY THEE GIVE

On sale 10 February Frequency bi-monthly Price £5.25 Distributor Marketforce Display with Creative Colour, Relax with Art, Art Therapy



On sale 5 February Frequency monthly Price £4.25 Distributor Frontline Display with Delicious, Good Housekeeping



On sale 5 February Frequency monthly Price £3.99 Distributor Seymour Display with Toxic and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles



On sale 4 February Frequency one shot Price £5.99 Distributor Seymour Display with Aviation News, Airforces Monthly, Pilot



On sale 11 February Frequency monthly Price £4.75 Distributor Seymour Display with Digital Camera Magazine, Practical Photography



Bestsellers

Women's weeklies

	Title	On sale date	In stock
1	Take a Break	04.02	
2	Womans Weekly	10.02	
3	Chat	11.02	
4	People's Friend	10.02	
5	Closer	09.02	
6	That's Life	04.02	
7	Heat	09.02	
8	Bella	02.02	
9	My Weekly	02.02	
10	Woman	02.02	
11	New	09.02	
12	Womans Own	09.02	
13	Grazia	09.02	
14	Real People	10.03	
15	Pick Me Up	04.02	
16	Reveal	08.03	
17	National Enquirer	10.02	
18	ОК	09.02	
19	Love It	04.02	
20	Now	09.02	
Data	a from independent stores supplied by	SmithsN	ews



THIS WEEK N MAGAZINES



36

ANDY'S AMAZING ADVENTURES

ARABLE FARMING

GAMESMASTER

Arable Farming provides in-depth, technical and

management advice to service the needs of progres-

sive farmers. Originally launched in the 1960s, the

brand established a loyal following among growers

and is now one of the best-loved titles among UK farm-

ers and agronomists. Arable Farming is published 11

times per year. The magazine also produces specialist

supplements and pocket guides throughout the year.

GamesMaster magazine celebrates its 300th issue

and future. Bringing together some of the world's

leading gaming journalists, they have devised lists

Games To Play Right Now, and take a look forward

to the next 100 years according to video games. Ad-

with Eiji Aounuma, creator of the Zelda franchise.

ditionally, issue 300 contains an exclusive interview

of The 100 Most Influential Games Ever, The 100 Best

with a special analysing gaming of the past, present

Andy's Amazing Adventures magazine is based on the popular CBeebies show Andy's Wild Adventure and explores the history and development of animals. It is one of an increasing number of new children's titles, which now account for 12% of launches, up from 4% in 2010, and rank third in number of new titles released, after women's and leisure titles.



Frequency monthly **Price £2.75 Distributor** Frontline **Display with CBeebies** Magazine, Octonauts, **Something Special**



On sale 4 February **Frequency** monthly **Price £2.95 Distributor** Seymour **Display with Farmers Guardian, Farmers Weekly**



World, Xone Magazine



On sale 5 February **Frequency** monthly Price £6.25 **Distributor** Seymour Display with Guitar World, Modern Drummer, Total Guitar



On sale 9 February **Frequency** monthly **Price £5.49 Distributor** Seymour **Display with Wire, Froots,** Brass Bound World

Customer viewpoint Eilidh Steele Magazine reader, aged eight



MEET MY NEEDS AND SECURE MY LOYALTY

began reading magazines when I was six. Mum and dad took me to the newsagents and let me choose. I like magazines because they let you know what's happening.

I started reading Blossom, which is definitely for girls. I liked the

activities, and every week there was a page telling me what free gift would be in next week's magazine, so I could remind mum to buy it.

Now I am reading The

Week Junior. I really like the page

that tells you who's had a good week and who's had a bad week.

I have a tablet but I can't do colouring in on it, and I'm not allowed to play on it all the time. But mum and dad don't mind me reading.

My friend bought me a Jacqueline Wilson annual for Christmas and it looked interesting because it was about writing stories, so dad bought the magazine for me.

I like it when someone tells me about a magazine I'll like.

Mum prefers it when I'm allowed to read magazines before I buy, but she doesn't like it when the rack is near a door. She's afraid I'll wander out or someone might take me.

I'd like it if more shops had a reading area for children because then mum could shop and leave me to read



ithe UK's 0 67055 SIN PLEASE DISPLAY PROMINENTLY







GUITARIST

With a striking Bowie cover and a new interview with his guitarist on the latest album and retrospective career, sales are expected to increase on this issue. The issue also offers customers a chance to win a Jackson Quilt-Top Soloist Electric. To maximise sales, retailers are encouraged to display the magazine at the front of the fixture. Guitarist is currently the biggest-selling guitar magazine in the UK.



RHYTHM

This issue of Rhythm includes an exclusive 14-page feature on Yahama's new kit, as well as a competition to win a recording custom kit worth more than £4,000. The issue also comes with free gifts including a Yamaha Lanyard, a poster and a CD. The CD contains 38 drum lessons that teach users how to master the art of blue shuffles, practice inverted paradiddles and learn tracks by Motorhead & Wings.

On sale 28 January **Frequency** monthly Price £4.99 **Distributor** Seymour **Display with Neo, Pocket** No Pts

£

Partworks

Title

Geckos & Co

Magic Box

Zomlings Series 4

The	NU	rus	2
DeAgostini			
Build the Millennium Falco	n 56	100	8.99
Cake Decorating	203	210	2.99
Cake Decorating Relaunch	152	165	2.99
Dinosaurs & Friends	50	60	5.99
Official Star Wars Factfile	106	120	2.99
Zippo Collection	11	60	19,99
Eaglemoss			
3D Create & Print	55	90	6.99
Batman Automobilia	81		10.99
Build A Solar System	24	104	
DC Comics Graphic Novel	13	60	9.99
Disney Cakes & Sweets	126	120	
Doctor Who Figurines	62	70	
Marvel Chess Collection	56	64	8.99
Marvel Fact Files	151	150	3.50
Military Watches	52	80	9.99
Star Trek Off. Starships Col	l. 65	70	10.99
Hachette			
Art of Crochet	23	120	2.99
Art of Knitting	54	90	2.99
Art Therapy	46	100	2.99
Black Pearl	108	120	5.99
Build the Mallard	75	130	7.99
Build the U96	74	150	5.99
Classic Pocketwatches	91	80	8.99
Dr Who Complete History	5	80	9.99
Judge Dredd Mega Collectio		80	9.99
Marvel's Mightiest Heroes	56	60	9.99
My 3D Globe	57	100	5.99
Your Model Railway Village	114	120	8.99
RBA Collectables			
Amazing Dinosaur Discovery		80	5.99
My Zoo Animals	22	60	5.99
Precious Rocks, Gems & Mineral		100	5.99
Real Life Bugs & Insects	72	85	5.99
Collectables			
DeAgostini			
Magiki Kittens			2.50

Collectables

Topps





Lego Friends Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Lego Ninjago

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Match Attax

2015/16

Starter £3.99

Cards **£1.00**

Merlin Official

League Sticker

Premier

Collection

Starter £2.50

Cards £0.50

Minions

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Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

1.99

0.50

Rugby Attax Starter £4.99 Cards **£1.00**

Minions

Starter £4.99

Cards £1.00



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C B

Shopkins Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50



Starter £4.99 Cards £1.00



Star Wars Stickers Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50

UEFA Champions League **Official Sticker** Collection Starter £2.00 Stickers £0.50



Now, Forever Cards £1.00



Jurassic World Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50

Wales Sticker Collection Album **£2.99** Stickers £0.50



JEREMY LESLIE ON WHY MAGAZINE SALES ARE ALIVE AND KICKING IN HIS STORE

COMING UP IN NEXT WEEK'S RETAIL NEWSAGENT

Plus, in time for the National Living Wage, get part one of RN's 50 ideas to make and save you money, and read retail property expert Barry Frost's exclusive column





Panini



Dragons

Starter £2.99

Cards **£0.50**

Fifa 365

Fifa 365

Starter £4.99

Cards **£1.00**

Adrenalyn XL

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Descandants

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50



Northern **Ireland Sticker** Collection Album £2.99 Stickers £0.50

Inside Out

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50





Peppa Pig Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50



100

2016 Starter £4.99 Cards **£1.00**

Star Wars

Cards **£1.00**

The Good

Dinosaur

Ultimate

Spider-Man

Album **£2.99**

Stickers £0.50

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Abatons Starter £7.99



Official Sticker Collection Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50

THIS WEEK IN MAGAZINES

Partworks

Title	No	Pts	£
DeAgostini			
Build the Ford Mustang	5	100	8.99
Build the Millennium Falco	n 58	100	8.99
Cake Decorating	204	210	2.99
Cake Decorating Relaunch	153	165	2.99
Dinosaurs & Friends	51	60	5.99
Jazz at 33 and third RPM	2	70	9.99
Official Star Wars Factfile	107	120	2.99
Simply Stylish Knitting	6	90	3.99

3 60 **9.99**

11 60 **19.99**

Zippo Collection Eaglemoss

Star Wars Helmets Coll'n

•			
3D Create & Print	56	90	6.99
Build A Solar System	25	104	6.99
DC Comics Graphic Novel	16	60	9.99
Disney Cakes & Sweets	127	120	4.50
Doctor Who Figurines	65	70	7.99
Marvel Chess Collection	57	64	8.99
Marvel Fact Files	152	150	3.50
Military Watches	52	80	9.99
Star Trek Off. Starships Co	ll. 65	70	10.99

Hachette

Art of Crochet	24	120	2.99
Art of Knitting	55	90	2.99
Art Therapy	47	100	2.99
Black Pearl	109	120	5.99
Build the Mallard	76	130	7.99
Build the U96	76	150	5.99
Classic Pocketwatches	91	80	8.99
Dr Who Complete History	5	80	9.99
Judge Dredd Mega Collection	1 28	80	9.99
Marvel's Mightiest Heroes	56	60	9.99
My 3D Globe	58	100	5.99
Your Model Railway Village	116	120	8.99

RBA Collectables

Amazing Dinosaur Discovery	50	80	5.99
My Zoo Animals	23	60	5.99
Precious Rocks, Gems & Minerals	55	100	5.99
Real Life Bugs & Insects	73	85	5.99

Collectables

De	eA:	go	stini	

Magiki Bunnies	2.50
Frogs & Co	1.99
Magic Box	
Zomlings Series 4	0.50

Collectables

Topps





Rugby Attax Starter £4.99 Cards **£1.00**

Minions

Starter £4.99

Cards **£1.00**





C B

Shopkins Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50





Panini

Descendants

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Disney Frozen

My Sister,

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

My Hero

Disney Princess Fabulous **Talents** Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50



Peppa Pig Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50

Inside Out

Starter £2.99

Northern

Collection

Album £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Ireland Sticker

Stickers £0.50



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Road to **UEFA Euro** 2016 Starter £4.99 Cards **£1.00**



England **Official Sticker** STAR Collection Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50

Star Wars Abatons Starter £7.99 Cards **£1.00**



Fifa 365 Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50



The Good Dinosaur Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50



Spider-Man Album **£2.99** Stickers £0.50





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38



Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Match Attax

2015/16

Starter £3.99

Cards **£1.00**

Premier

Collection

Starter £2.50

Cards £0.50

Minions

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8

Starter £2.99

Stickers £0.50

Lego Ninjago

Star Wars Force Attax Starter £4.99 Cards £1.00

Star Wars

Stickers Starter £2.99 Stickers £0.50

UEFA Champions League

Official Sticker Collection Starter £2.00 Stickers £0.50



WWE Slam Attax Then, Now, Forever Starter £4.99 Cards £1.00



Fifa 365 Adrenalyn XL Starter £4.99 Cards **£1.00**







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- ✓ Family Welfare Issues
- ✓ Almoner Home Visits
- Support for the Disabled and their Carers



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We are the helping hand of the News Trade

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Steven Lambert

steven.lambert@newtrade.co.uk

"Unfortunately, one of our

pupils has been diagnosed

with a chocolate intolerance

and can become very ill if in

"Sadly the pupil is also

who will have to do without

though, as the school's staff

a chocolate-free zone.

at the gate?"

their Dairy Milks and KitKats

room has also been designated

However, the South Wales

Evening Post reports that not

everyone is pleased with the

ban, with one parent asking:

"Will we have chocolate police

highly

sensitive to

chocolate if it

is airborne or

being eaten by

another pupil."

It's not just

the pupils

contact with chocolate.

 O20 7689 3357
 O20 7689
 O20
 O @StevenLambertRN

Back in the day



The greatest success has attended the publication in book-form of the delightfully funny pictures of the war by Captain Bairnsfather, which have been appearing in The Bystander. The first edition sold out, a second edition is now exhausted, and a third edition is in preparation.





Birmingham area newsagents are to receive their profit in advance each time a customer sends Punch a six-month subscription order at a special offer rate of 30s. An extension of successful sales promotions in other areas, the scheme will start in the week ending 11 February and continue for eight weeks.



8 February 1991

Emap has lined up various promotions for its gardening titles in the coming months to capitalise on its recent ABC success and to give BBC Gardeners' World a run for its money. The company is investing £600,000 in promoting its titles this year.

School imposes a ban to avoid death by chocolate

When Extra Extra! heard news of a school in Wales banning all chocolate on its grounds, our initial thoughts were that teachers were taking a hard line stance on the whole sugar tax debate.

But. as it turns out, the actual reason for the confectionery cull is down to one of the pupils

at the school - who has a rare allergy to chocolate.

Parents of children attending Alltwen Primary School in Pontardawe, Neath Port Talbot, have this month received a letter from the headmaster Owain Hvett. informing them they have adopted a "no chocolate policy".

In the letter, Mr Hyett says:

Ham-fisted Aldi gives it 110% Aldi has been accused of telling porkies to its customers after one eagle-eyed shopper

cooked ham

found a glaring error on the company's packaged ham this month.

IT engineer and vegetarian Della Farzad had

bought a pack of cooked ham trimmings for her dog George from an Aldi store in Wakefield.

But when she inspected the product closely, she noticed that the top ingredient on the label said '110% pork'. Ms Farzad shared pictures

of the packet online, which since gone viral. She told the Metro: "When I saw it I burst out laughing. Maybe

the marketing people are taking the micky." Aldi has since shed more light

on the 'super meat', saying that the label should read '110g' instead of '110%**'**

A spokesperson said: "This was a simple typing error and we have informed the branded supplier, which is working to correct it."

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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Never mind "Walking the Himalayas" with Levison Wood, try walking the North Yorkshire Moors National Park with our leader, Harry.

I have recently joined a local walking group. We meet at a designated location every Tuesday and cover between nine and 12 miles.

Last week we met at the Hole of Horcum, between Whitby and Pickering. A spectacular walk passed the Bridestones - a group of striking sandstone rocks, high on an exposed moor. Managed by the National Trust and part of a na-

ture reserve, one example is aptly nicknamed "the pepper pot".

I was sceptical about being part of an organised group, especially when one



member told me he was 79, but, embarrassingly, I was last back to the car park. The only thing that kept me going for the last couple of miles was the thought of a pint of real ale in the Salmon Leap pub in Sleights in front of a roaring log fire. You never know, before the end of the year I may be recounting tales of wild camping or open water swimming.

My waste collection provider Yorwaste has introduced a monthly rental charge of £2 for my container

For a small business like mine, any increase in costs is unwelcome, especially with the National Living Wage and auto-enrolment pensions on the horizon. While I understand the need for cost recovery for any sustainable business, I need to survive too.

How I can recover my costs to maintain profits seems to be the challenge this year. So far I have changed my energy supplier and fitted some LED security lighting.





Got something to say? Want to gain business insight? Join our online community today

THIS WEEK IN MAGAZINES

No Pts

6 100 **8.99**

205 210 2.99

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