

26 Board of directors

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1 Lord Blyth of Rowington, 60, chairman. Director since 1987, when he joined Boots as chief executive. He is a non-executive director of Diageo and a senior adviser to Greenhill & Co. Formerly group managing director of Plessey and head of defence sales at the Ministry of Defence.

2 Steve Russell, 55, chief executive since April 2000. He is also a non-executive director of Woolwich. He joined Boots in 1967 and was formerly managing director of Boots The Chemists.

3 David Thompson, 57, deputy chief executive since April 2000 and finance director since 1990. He is also a non-executive director of Cadbury Schweppes. He joined Boots in 1966, was appointed finance director of Retail Division in 1980 and group financial controller in 1989. He is a chartered accountant.

4 Mike Ruddell, 56, personnel director. Director since 1984. He joined Boots in 1966, and has been director responsible for marketing and merchandise in Boots The Chemists and managing director of Boots Properties.

5 John Watson, 58, managing director, Boots Contract Manufacturing. Director since 1996. He joined Boots in 1967 and was director of personnel, Pharmaceuticals Division, before being appointed to his present position in 1991. He is also chairman of Boots Pensions Limited.

6 Barry Clare, 47, managing director, Boots Healthcare International. Appointed 1999. He joined Boots in 1991 to lead the creation and development of the international consumer healthcare business, after gaining strategic marketing experience at Procter & Gamble and Diversey Corporation.

7 Ken Piggott, 51, managing director of Boots The Chemists since April 2000. He joined Boots in 1970 and was appointed merchandise controller for the beauty and fashion department in 1983. On the creation of business centres in 1986, he became beauty business general manager, before becoming managing director of Childrens World, Do It All and Halfords successively.

***8 Sir Michael Angus**, 70, deputy chairman. Director since 1994. He is also chairman of Whitbread and deputy chairman of British Airways. He was formerly chairman of Unilever, president of the CBI and director of NatWest Group.

***9 Fiona Harrison**, 49, appointed 1994. A non-executive director of Scottish Media Group and Thorntons. A former director of Coats Viyella and chief executive of its Fashion Retail Division, which operates the Jaeger and Viyella retail chains. She was previously vice-president of Clairol, part of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company.

27 Board of directors

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***10 Sir Clive Whitmore GCB CVO**, 65, appointed 1994. A non-executive director of Morgan Crucible Company, Racal Electronics and N M Rothschild & Sons. He was formerly permanent secretary at the Ministry of Defence and then at the Home Office.

***11 Sir Peter Reynolds CBE**, 70, appointed 1986. Formerly chairman of Ranks Hovis McDougall, chairman of Pioneer Concrete Holdings, director of Pioneer International and Guardian Royal Exchange. He is a director of Avis Europe.

***12 Dr John Buchanan**, 56, appointed December 1997. Group chief financial officer and an executive director of BP Amoco. Formerly group treasurer and chief executive of BP Finance and chief operating officer of BP Chemicals. He is also a member of the Accounting Standards Board.

***13 John McGrath**, 61, appointed December 1997. Group chief executive of Diageo. He was group chief executive of Grand Metropolitan before GrandMet and Guinness merged in December 1997 to form Diageo. Previously chairman and chief executive of IDV, GrandMet's spirits and wines business. He is also chairman of the Scotch Whisky Association.

***14 Dr Martin Read**, 50, appointed 1999. Managing director and chief executive of Logica, one of the world's leading global IT solutions companies. Before taking over at Logica in 1993, he held a number of senior positions at GEC Marconi. He was appointed a non-executive director of British Airways in May 2000 and served as a non-executive director of Asda Group from 1996 to 1999.

***15 Sir Nigel Rudd**, 53, appointed December 1999. Chairman of Williams and non-executive chairman of Pilkington and Pendragon. He is also a non-executive director of Barclays.

***Non-executive director**