



Lord Blyth of Rowington, 59, chairman. Director since 1987, when he joined Boots as chief executive. He is also non-executive director of NatWest Group and Diageo. Formerly group managing director of Plessey and head of defence sales at the Ministry of Defence.

David Thompson, 56, joint group managing director since 1997 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.

Steve Russell, 54, joint group managing director since 1997 and managing director of Boots The Chemists since 1995. He is also a non-executive director of Woolwich. He joined Boots in 1967 and was formerly Boots The Chemists director of merchandise and managing director of Do It All.

John Watson, 57, 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.

Mike Ruddell, 55, 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. He is also a non-executive director of Mansfield Brewery and deputy chairman of Nottingham Trent University.

Barry Clare, 46, 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.

***Sir Michael Angus**, 69, deputy chairman. Director since 1994. He is also chairman of Whitbread and of RAC Holdings, deputy chairman of British Airways and a director of NatWest Group. Former chairman of Unilever and president of the CBI.

***Sir Peter Davis**, 57, appointed 1991. Group chief executive of Prudential Corporation, formerly chairman of Reed International and assistant managing director of J Sainsbury. He is also chairman of Business in the Community.

***Fiona Harrison**, 48, appointed 1994. 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.

***Sir Clive Whitmore** GCB CVO, 64, 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.

***Sir Peter Reynolds** CBE, 69, appointed 1986. Former chairman of Ranks Hovis McDougall. Chairman of Pioneer Concrete Holdings and a director of Pioneer International, Avis Europe and Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance.

***Dr John Buchanan**, 55, appointed December 1997. Group chief financial officer and an executive director of BP Amoco plc. Formerly group treasurer and chief executive of BP Finance and chief operating officer and deputy chief executive of BP Chemicals. He is also a member of the Accounting Standards Board.

***John McGrath**, 60, 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.

*Non-executive director