# RETAIL IN DETAIL

6<sup>th</sup> February 2015 WEEKLY RETAIL NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM AROUND THE MARKET

Knight Frank

# GENERAL RETAIL NEWS

**Nike** the sportswear giant, is to launch a women's-only shop at 33 Kings Road. The 3,000 sq ft store was signed on a 10 year lease at a rent of £435,000 per annum.

**Hugo Boss** the high end fashion brand, has begun a major expansion and remodelling of it's flagship store at Liverpool's Metquarter. They have taken a 10 year lease and doubled their floorspace to 3,600 sq ft, the largest Hugo Boss store in the UK outside of London.

**Bill's** the all-day restaurant chain, is to open on Baker Street in the former Ladbrokes unit.

Jamie's Italian the Italian restaurant chain, has partnered with Italian Food Concepts to open Jamie's Italian in the Netherlands, Belgium and NordRhein Westphalen area, Germany.

**Five Guys** and **Nando's** the restaurant chains, have both signed up to the WestQuay Watermark development in Southampton. Five Guys is taking a 3,960 square feet unit, while Nando's will have a 3,430 square feet unit alongside.

Aldi the discount grocer, is intending to open 70 new stores in 2015, adding to their existing 560 current stores, as part of the retailers plans to double the number of stores they occupy over the next eight years.

**F Hinds** the jewellery retailer, launched three new stores across the UK on 1st February including a 1,300 sq ft unit in Stockport's Merseyway shopping centre, a 1,000 sq ft shop in Walsall's Sadler's shopping centre and a 1,300 sq ft store in Bristol's the gallery shopping centre.

**Shackfuyu** the concept launched by Bone Daddies, is to open at 14A Old Compton Street in Soho. The concept revolves around food made in the pizza oven of the previous incumbent.

**Thor Equities** the US investor, are reportedly close to buying a £50 million section of London's Oxford Street from Strathclyde Pension fund, at a yield of 2.9%, ahead of the opening of Tottenham Court Road crossrail station in 2019 which is predicted to bring rents up to around £750 Zone A.

**Morrisons** the discount supermarket operator, has agreed sale-andleaseback deals on their Reading, Darlington and High Wycombe Branch in a £100 million deal representing between 4.5% and 5% yeild. Morrisons is expected to take RPI-linked 25 year lease for rents around £20 psf.

**LloydsPharmacy** the medical group, has opened its first ever UK franchise store in Gloucester. Celesio, the pharmacy's owner, has already transformed more than 300 pharmacies in its UK network.

**The Italian Job** the craft beer pub, is to open a new venue in Devonshire Road, Chiswick, formerly occupied by Pickwicks's wine bar.

**H&M** the fashion retailer, is planning to open 400 new stores off the back of posting £500 million in sales in Q4 of last year.

**Alba Rose** the engagement and wedding ring specialist , will open it's first store over 863 sq ft in Wales at Intu's St. David's shopping centre in Cardiff.

### DEAL OF THE WEEK

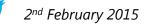


#### 191 Baker Street to Dunkin' Doughnuts

The Knight Frank retail agency team has secured a 10 year lease at a record rent for the area on behalf of clients Berkeley Court Investment. This will be the retailers first location in Central London.

### TWEET OF THE WEEK





Watch out **#Dublin**! **@FiveGuys** are planning to open five outlets in a franchise deal with Brett, Ross and Derry Desmond http://bit.ly/1K2jSbT

# RETAILER OPTIMISM

**DFS** the sofa retailer, has announced plans to float on the London Stock Exchange and is expecting to raise proceeds of £105 million. The 105 store-strong retailer which is owned by Advent International the private equity firm has a 25.7% share of the £3 billion furniture market in the UK.

**Poundland** the value retailer, is set to buy 99p Stores for £55 million which will include 99p Stores' 251 shops.

**Cotswold Outdoor** owner AS Adventure group has been sold to PAI partners in a £301 million transaction. The stores portfolio includes 70 UK shops, 40 AS Adventure own-brand stores in Belgium Luxembourg and France and 40 Bever brand stores in the Netherlands.



There are twice as many empty shops in towns and cities in the North of England than there are in the South, according to new figures. A report from the Local Data Company (LDC) announced that one in five retail units in the north of the country were vacant, compared to one in 10 in the South.

Westfield the shopping centre operator, is predicting a rise in visitor numbers over Chinese new year in their Westfield London Shopping Centre and Westfield White City Shopping Centre, where visitors are expected to also spend more.



**RETAIL OUTLOOK FOR THIS WEEK** 



Asda the supermarket chain, has announced its potential to invest £170 million in its superstore estate if the opportunities arise according to the company's head, depending on the trading performance of recent trial stores. **ScS** the sofa and carpet retailer's shares rose 8.6% to 190p on its first day back on the stock market signalling that the market wants more retail IPOs. The stock opened at 175p last Wednesday when it was released and now 51% of the company is owned by public investors.

COTSWOLD

**Carpetright** the carpet specialist reported that it's Q3 like-for-like sales were up 7.5% following successful boxing day sales. In the 13 weeks to January 24<sup>th</sup> Carpetright's total sales increased by 6.6%.

### **Did You Know?**

Nike founder Phil Knight was rejected from an interview prior to founding the brand because he accidentally pulled a dirty sports sock out of his pocket to blow his nose on as opposed to the handkerchief he had intended.

## MARKET SENTIMENT

Food prices are decreasing at the fastest rate in eight years as supermarkets battle it out to gain dominance in the discounter market. Grocery prices decreased by 0.5% in January compared to the same time one year ago according to figures released by the British Retail Consortium accompanied by non-food deflation of 1.8% from 2.8 in December with consumers taking advantage of good bargains of furniture, flooring and electrical good. In the January sales.

The UK eating out market is growing at a rate of 2.7% per quarter according to the latest figures released by Allegra Foodservice, with the average number of meals eaten out per month rising to 9.2. Over the Christmas period people ate out 1.94 times which is up from 1.8 times in 2014.

### KEY CONTACTS

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