


Client: Nathan Rous PR Yellow News
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Yellow News...

City Spy @City_Spy


How long will vet Rachel stay top dog in this retail battle?

 **IS RACHEL Osborne a glutton for punishment?** The Ted Baker chief financial officer spent two years running the numbers at Domino's Pizza, spinning through the revolving door that is the finance department under the pugnacious leadership of departing chief David Wild. She then spent a year at embattled Debenhams, earning the dubious accolade of being the only board member Sports Direct founder Mike Ashley wanted to keep as he tried to oust the whole board. Osborne, who has a Cambridge degree in veterinary medicine, now finds herself dealing with a crisis as Ted Baker after discovering the value of its stock has been overstated. Osborne also had short stints at John Lewis and Kingfisher. How long will she stay on the horse this time?

 **HANGING** on the telephone, begins the headline on a Which?

 **PRICKLY** news emerges from North Wembley, where Christmas trees hawker Pines and Needles tells Spy it has stopped selling artificial trees after 15 years in the trade. The company sells Scottish-grown trees with its staff sporting kilts and is run by brothers Sam and Josh Lyle, above, the grandsons of the Tate & Lyle sugar dynasty. It counts Dell and Mulberry among its raft of corporate clients while Prince Harry and the Duchess of Sussex even bought their first tree together from their Battersea shop. Its list of famous former customers stretches to Madonna and Theresa May. Spy suspects the latter's may be a more modest affair than last year's Downing Street spectacular.

press release about energy firms not answering the phone. We ask our younger colleagues to what this is a reference. Blank looks. Shrugs. Hanging on the Telephone is a song recorded by Blondie in, erm, 1978. That's 41 years ago. Older than most energy firms.

 **MARK Taber, the champion of bond investors, tweets:** "Today Google is advertising bonds offering 15%, 18%, 21.2% to people looking for savings products. Does anyone at the FCA or Google think this looks slightly suspicious?" How difficult can it be for a) the FCA to order Google takes this stuff down and b) Google to comply?

 **GOLDMAN Sachs** has always tried to be ahead of the times when it comes to diversity, but it hasn't been easy. A former staffer recalls how, a few years ago, the bank started offering pastoral care to any staff undergoing gender transitioning. A well-intentioned effort, but it spread concern, says our mole: "The place had been trying without much luck to promote women for years, so we blokes started panicking that they'd given up and were going to make us have sex changes instead."

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