

## Kanye West & Kim Kardashian

NEW ENTRY

Musician/reality TV star

**81** You'll see them sitting on the front row of catwalks. They're the world's most talked about couple, and - love them or hate them - their presence in the fashion world has become difficult to ignore.

With a controversial *Vogue* cover that sold more than 500,000 copies, a small clothing empire between them and a one-year-old tot with a wardrobe better than most, this power duo's profile is higher than ever.

Kardashian launched her fifth Kardashian Collection with Lipsy, which broke the young fashion retailer's record for online sales when it launched in October 2013, while West continues to dominate streetwear style with his trademark cargo trousers and extra-long knits. His collaboration with French brand APC sold out within hours, crashing the website when it was released, and he continues to produce sought-after trainers - his Nike Air Yeezy 2 trainers sold out within 11 minutes of going on sale, according to a report by *Vibe* magazine. Is there anything these two can't do? **AH**

## John Browett

NEW ENTRY

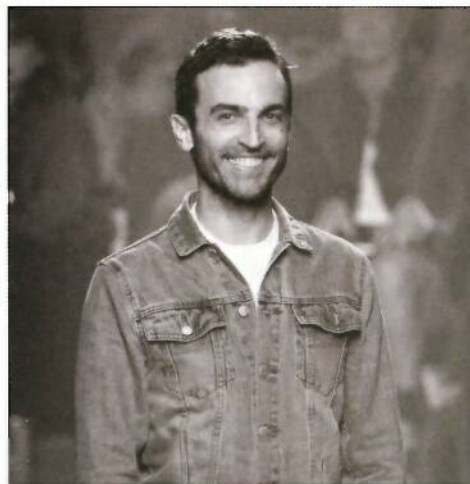
Chief executive, Monsoon

**82** As the former chief executive of electronics retailer Dixons and senior vice president of retail for tech giant Apple, Browett's move to head up Monsoon in March 2013 was slightly incongruous, but he has since led a strong turnaround of the womenswear retailer, pushing it back into the black.

In its latest results published in February for the year to August 31, 2013, it reported a pre-tax profit of £18.1m compared with a loss of £2.4m



in 2012. The strategy to turn the business around has involved improving its multichannel offer, enhancing its international arm, improving stock management and systems and reshaping the store portfolio, which has led to combined Monsoon and Accessorize stores. The retailer is also bolstering its Artisan range of collaborative pieces with overseas craftspeople in a bid to boost its ethical credentials. **KS**



## Nicolas Ghesquière

NEW ENTRY

Artistic director, Louis Vuitton

**83** It was no mean feat to step into the shoes of Marc Jacobs as the artistic director of Louis Vuitton, but Ghesquière took on the challenge in November 2013. As the former creative director of Balenciaga, Ghesquière had gained notoriety for his falling-out with the label, stepping down from his position after declaring the label too "corporate". In his Louis Vuitton role, Ghesquière took on responsibility for a much larger team, with the business bringing in revenues around 25 to 30 times the size of Balenciaga's and a broader global reputation. The 43-year-old's first collection for Louis Vuitton in March went down a storm, with *Drapers'* own review stating "the collection shone with signature Ghesquière and a nod to trademark Vuitton". His second in September was met with equal praise, and he rounded off the year by winning the international designer category at the British Fashion Awards this month. **EN**

## Roger Bromley

NEW ENTRY

Chairman, Russell & Bromley

**84** Footwear retailer Russell & Bromley, which is today led by founder Frederick Bromley's great-grandson Roger Bromley, has remained under the control of the family since its creation more than 120 years ago. It has 42 branches in the UK, 11 of which are in central London. In its most recent accounts for the year to December 31, 2012 Russell & Bromley increased turnover by £6.4m to £107.4m, although profits after tax edged down to £14.5m from £15.2m the previous year, as a result of the challenging trading environment.

As well as its own label, Bromley has secured many exclusive footwear brands at the retailer, including Stuart Weitzman, Beverly Feldman, Marc Joseph New York, Donald J Pliner and Aqualia, which are complemented by an extensive handbag range. The men's collection features traditional and classic styling through to modern looks, including brands such as Moreschi, Barker, Lacoste, Sebago and Panama Jack. **JG**



## Wendy Hallett

LAST YEAR 76

Founder, Hallett Retail

**85** Wendy Hallett has had a busy 2014, which has included continuing to expand into the world of logistics. Spotting a gap in the market for e-fulfilment and logistics, she now has two logistics sites able to deal with 1,500 parcels, which aim to ensure the wider Hallett Retail concession business can offer retailers a one stop shop for all their needs. She has also expanded the photography studio at Hallett Retail Logistics, shooting ecommerce and lifestyle photography and videos for retailers and brands, and is steadily expanding Hallett Jewellery Concessions, which now represents 50 brands including Lola & Grace and House of Holland. Her wide-ranging interests span mainstream, contemporary, plus-size, jewellery, accessories and footwear and she works with some of the biggest multiples in the UK including John Lewis, Next and House of Fraser.

Hallett took the helm of retail's most exclusive networking event this year, The Twenty Club. She plans to use her two-year leadership of the long-established club to target etailer and start-up retailer members and grow its female participants. In a similar vein, she became a member of the Women's Business Council. **KS** ►