



THE TIMES

CITY PEOPLE

The feuds, the faces and the farcical
Dominic Walsh @walshdominic

THE VOICE OF MIDDLE ENGLAND IS GIVEN AN M&S MAKEOVER

A polite appraisal of Marks & Spencer's image might describe the retailer as more classic than edgy. That may change if the direct approach of the woman in charge of refreshing M&S's image is anything to go by. In an expletive-laden interview with *Management Today*, Vicki Maguire, below, executive creative director of Grey London, decried the "pale, grey and stale" world of adland and dismissed most of her former employers as "shitty, misogynist places". She said that the paucity of women in senior roles in advertising was "embarrassing", and added: "How can agencies say that they are in touch with the consumer if they keep rolling out the same old boys? It's absolute bollocks."

WE FEEL YOUR PAIN

It's tough being one of Britain's six biggest energy companies. First, you have to put up with people calling you a "Big Six" energy supplier the whole time. "We actually find it upsetting," Dan Hopcroft, of EDF Energy, told MPs on the business select committee. Then, if that wasn't bad enough, there was last year's in-depth Competition and Markets Authority



Business big shot

NAME MARÍA AMPARO MORALEDA MARTÍNEZ
AGE 52
POSITION NON-EXEC, VODAFONE



For a global business such as Vodafone, María Amparo Moraleda Martínez certainly has the right CV, one that led the telecoms group to appoint her as a non-executive director yesterday (Robin Pagnamenta writes).

In a varied career, the Madrid-born 52-year-old has worked at some of the world's biggest companies, including IBM and Iberdrola, the Spanish utility. She has also served a non-executive of Airbus Group since 2015, CaixaBank, of Spain, Solvay, the Belgian chemicals group, and Faurecia, a maker of car parts. She was previously a non-executive director of Alstom and Meliá Hotels International. She is also a member of the advisory boards of KPMG España and SAP Ibérica. She will start her new position in June.

investigation to cope with. "It was actually exhausting from our perspective," Mr Hopcroft lamented. No doubt customers facing an 8.4 per cent hike in their electricity bills next month will sympathise.

CAPTIVE AUDIENCE

Yotel, the capsule-style hotel chain set up by YO! Sushi founder Simon Woodroffe, is to open a hotel in Clerkenwell late next year. Its 212 cabins will be small but high-tech, with a "space-saving adjustable SmartBed, monsoon rain shower and techno-wall features". Given that Clerkenwell is said to have the highest concentration of architects and building professionals in the world, the Yotel should find an appreciative audience.

QUOTING FROM THE EXPERTS

Nobody can accuse Tory MPs on the international trade committee of being unprepared. Two of them — Ranil Jayawardena and Sir Edward Leigh — quoted from an "expert" who urged the City to shed red tape to become a deregulated offshore centre. They were independently quoting from a brief comment article written a few days after the referendum by Tim Worstall, a one-time Ukip press officer and MEP candidate. The City is in safe hands, clearly.



Bdaily

BUSINESS NEWS

Yotel to open its first UK city centre hotel in the heart of London's tech cluster

Yotel to open its first UK city centre hotel in the heart of London's tech cluster : Do you do business in your region? Sign up to our daily bulletin to keep up-to-date. European hotel chain Yotel has announced it is to open its third UK site in Clerkenwell after revealing plans for a new 212-bed hotel in the heart of East London's tech belt.

The property, which will be developed by Medina Investments, is scheduled for a late 2018 opening and will include Yotel's 'luxurious cabin' rooms carrying smart adjustable beds, monsoon rain shower and techno-wall features.

Located at 96-100 Clerkenwell Road, the new hotel will join the US hospitality chain's London Gatwick and London Heathrow hotels and will be its first in a European city centre.

Ground has already been broken on the development, which will also include the usual hotel facilities such as a gym, bar, independent dining outlet and flexible meeting and co-working spaces.

Yotel Chief Executive Officer, Hubert Viriot, said: "We are more than ready to bring the YOTEL city-centre concept home. Since the opening of our flagship in New York, we have been looking for the right opportunity and we finally found it in Clerkenwell.

"The mixed-use project, developed by Medina Investments, complements the YOTEL brand perfectly. It's dynamic, creative and forward-thinking and backed by a developer with acumen and vision."

Yotel was founded in 2007 by YO! Company founder Simon Woodroffe, who has drawn inspiration from Japanese capsule hotels for luxury, compact venues across its hotels in Paris, New York, London and Amsterdam.



Yotel to open central London hotel

Yotel to open central London hotel : Yotel has announced plans to open its third property in the UK.

The group – best known for its compact cabin concept at airports including Gatwick, Heathrow, Amsterdam Schiphol and most recently Paris CDG – will open a 212-room hotel in London's Clerkenwell district in late 2018.

The property will be located on Clerkenwell Rd close to Farringdon station, which will be a hub on the Crossrail line when it opens in late 2018.

The hotel will feature signature facilities including adjustable "smart beds", mood lighting, free wifi, smart TVs and monsoon rain showers, along with a Club Lounge offering "flexible meeting and co-working spaces that will be designed in keeping with the surrounding area".

Other facilities will include a gym, bar, and an "independently operated dining outlet".

Yotel unveiled the Yotel Air brand last year, which has been developed to differentiate its airport properties from existing and forthcoming city centre hotel including the 669-room Yotel New York.

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CoStar

YOTEL to open in Clerkenwell

YOTEL to open in Clerkenwell : YOTEL is to open its third property in the UK in late 2018 with a 212-cabin hotel in Central London's creative quarter of Clerkenwell at 96-100 Clerkenwell Road.

Regarded as the heart of London's design and architecture scene, Clerkenwell is ideal for YOTEL's first city-centre hotel in Europe.

The project, developed by Medina Investments, has already broken ground and is set to open in late 2018. The hotel will offer 212 cabins which will be equipped with YOTEL's revolutionary technology-driven hospitality offering.

The compact but luxurious cabins will include YOTEL's signature space saving adjustable SmartBed™, monsoon rain shower, techno-wall features, which includes mood lighting and entertainment options, with smart TVs.

Additional facilities include a gym, bar, an independently operated dining outlet and YOTEL's Club Lounge concept, which offers flexible meeting and co-working spaces that will be designed in keeping with the surrounding area. All cabins and communal areas of the hotel will be served by super-fast and free WiFi connectivity.

YOTEL's CEO Hubert Viriot, said: "We are more than ready to bring the YOTEL city-centre concept home. Since the opening of our flagship in New York, we have been looking for the right opportunity and we finally found it in Clerkenwell. The mixed-use project, developed by Medina Investments, complements the YOTEL brand perfectly. It's dynamic, creative and forward-thinking and backed by a developer with acumen and vision."

Zain Hussain, Managing Director at Medina Investments, said: "We are delighted to be involved in such an exciting project, using our expertise to create an opportunity by looking beyond the obvious to identify undiscovered potential.

"We have many years' experience in site acquisition, planning and development and our vision is to expand our investment and development activity with a sustainable strategy. Clerkenwell is a unique area that buzzes with creativity and this requires a similarly creative approach to development.

"I've no doubt that between our talented team and the YOTEL brand – this hotel will be 'the' place to stay in the City's coolest new neighbourhood."

The Clerkenwell development is funded with capital from ICG-Longbow, which specialises in value-add real estate loans across the UK.

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Yotel to open first UK city centre hotel in Clerkenwell

Yotel to open first UK city centre hotel in Clerkenwell : Yotel has announced plans to open its third UK hotel in late 2018, which will be situated in Central London's creative quarter of Clerkenwell at 96-100 Clerkenwell Road.

Regarded as the epicentre of London's design and architecture scene and a leader in the UK's Tech Nation programme, Clerkenwell is ideal for Yotel's first city centre hotel in Europe

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The hotel will benefit from the impending arrival of Crossrail to Farringdon Station, set to complete in 2018 and forecasted to be one of the most popular stations on the new line.