

APR
2026

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01.

SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT LANDS FOR BOOTS OPTICIANS

Based in one of London's most recognisable luxury retail locations, this practice showcases more than 40 designer brands; from Gucci to Porsche Design.

Following a seven-week refurbishment to transform the historic Wigmore Street site, the store opened in late March, after ground-up creative concepts by **we.are.sdi** became reality through technical development, manufacture and installation; parts of the process all completed by us too.

Everything comes together to offer a more personal, guided

journey in a space that feels calmer and more considered.

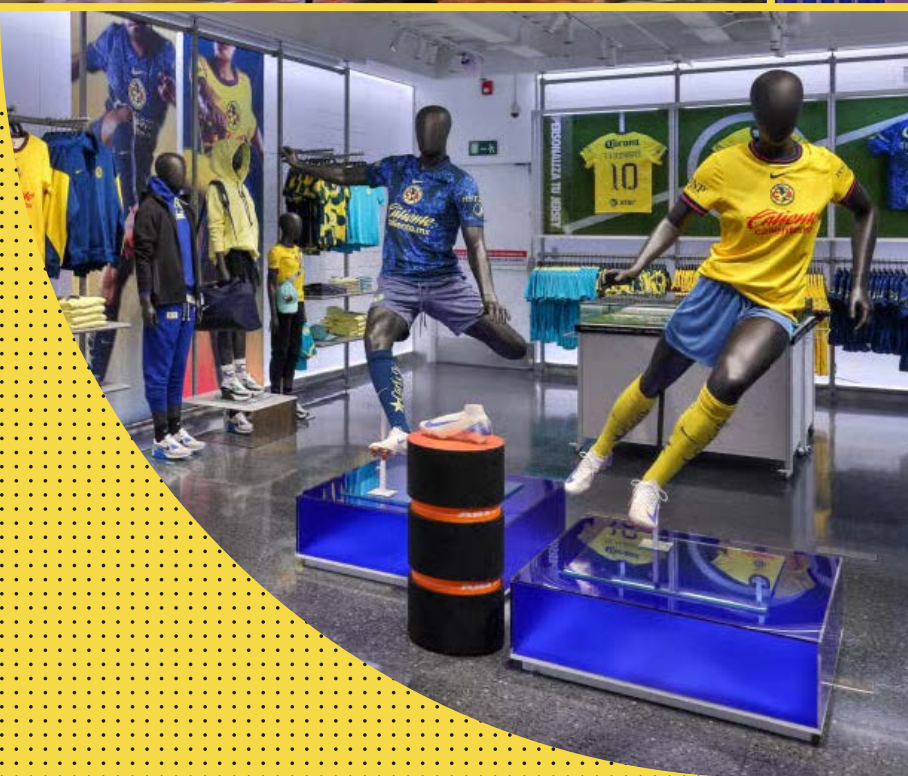
And a shift towards something more premium and boutique-led than is usually seen in this field.

Every detail has been designed with the customer in mind - how they move, how they're welcomed, and how they interact with the space.

From specialist consultation areas to contact lens trial stations, every element has been carefully considered with customers and clinicians in mind, to support personalised, proactive eyecare.

Click here to see more...

This one's all about the experience.



02.

NIKE & JORDAN OPEN HUGE FLAGSHIP IN MEXICO

Nike and Jordan Brand have always celebrated diverse cultures, and their newest venture, the Nike & Jordan World of Flight Store Mexico City, is a testament to that commitment.

The groundbreaking store, the first of its kind in Latin America, merges the best of Nike and Jordan products with a deep appreciation for Latino culture across three curated floors and 22,000 square feet.

Situated in the heart of Mexico City, the World of Flight store goes beyond retail, serving as a cultural hub that highlights the vibrant essence of Mexican and Latin American communities.

From its design elements to its community-focused initiatives, the Nike & Jordan World of Flight Mexico City store is a dedicated space where consumers can connect with the brand on a cultural level through sport.

As the 2026 World Cup approaches, this store will also play a pivotal role in celebrating football, further cementing its place in the hearts of Mexican and Latin American sports enthusiasts.

03.

MARKS & SPENCER OPENS THREE NEW FOOD HALLS IN ONE WEEK

Last month, M&S opened three new food stores in the space of two weeks, as part of its strategy to double the size of its food business and attract more family shoppers.

Creating a combined 200 new jobs, the openings have included a 15,000 square foot fresh market-style food store at Hatfield Oldings Corner, as well as a 16,000 square foot Luton Bramingham location.

These were followed by a 18,600 square foot store in Farnham.

Both Luton and Farnham are two of the former twelve Homebase sites which M&S is developing across the UK.

Each of the new stores will stock either all or the majority of the full M&S Food catalogue including its Remarkable Value range and the family-friendly Bigger Pack Better Value range.

M&S is working to double the size of its food business by growing its store footprint and expanding existing locations.





EE AND SAMSUNG DELIVER FREE AI TRAINING

EE has teamed up with Samsung to offer free bookable AI training sessions for people looking for help to get the most out of their connected technology.

This comes as research shows only 28 percent of people feel confident in their ability to use AI tools in their daily lives, highlighting a growing need for hands-on support.

The AI masterclasses, delivered by Samsung specialists at the EE Studio

in Westfield White City, ran daily until the 5th of April, and were open to everyone.

In small groups of up to eight people, participants learnt how to use Galaxy AI tools on the new Samsung S26 Ultra for a range of uses, such as photography, note taking, translation, and searching for information online, and gained a deeper understanding of how to stay safe online when doing so.

The informal 20-minute sessions showcased the capabilities of the Galaxy AI platform on Samsung devices, with specially trained experts available to offer personalised support.

05.

THE WORKS EXITS E-COMMERCE TO FOCUS ON STORES

The Works has shut down its ecommerce operations with immediate effect as it looks to simplify its business model and double down on its store-led strategy.

The value retailer said it will transition to a non-transactional website, with the online channel now acting as a brand and product showcase designed to drive footfall to its estate of more than 500 stores.

The decision follows a review of the channel's long-term viability, with the business citing ongoing operational

challenges linked to two third-party fulfilment partners, alongside a relatively small and loss-making revenue contribution.

Chief executive Gavin Peck said the move would allow the retailer to reduce complexity and focus on its most profitable channel.

"We are confident that focusing on our successful bricks-and-mortar business is the right step to reduce risk, improve operational clarity and support long-term profitable growth," he said.

Since launching e-commerce in 2012, more than 90% of The Works' sales have continued to come from its physical store estate.



06.

MANGO OPENS NEW STORE ON KING'S ROAD

Spanish retail giant Mango is continuing its UK expansion with a new store on King's Road in London.

The site, spanning 5,920 square feet, comes in response to strong regional financial performance for the brand, which reported a 20 percent growth in UK turnover during 2025.

Located in Chelsea, the store offers Mango's latest womenswear collection, including clothing, footwear and accessories. Its interior

further reflects the company's 'New Med' concept, which draws inspiration from its Mediterranean heritage reflected in natural textures and "sustainable materials".

In a statement, Fiona Cullen, international regional director for the UK and Ireland, said: "King's Road is the perfect new home to introduce our Woman collection to London customers, in a store format that truly represents the Mediterranean soul of our brand."



“Our new Woman store in London is a confident step forward for Mango, building on the strong progress we have made over the last year to broaden the appeal of Mango to even more customers across the UK”.

FIONA CULLEN, MANGO INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR, UK AND IRELAND

HARRODS PARTNERS WITH TRAUD TO REDUCE TEXTILE WASTE

Department store chain Harrods has partnered with charity retailer Traid on an initiative designed to reduce textile waste.

The duo have come together on an initiative to repurpose surplus clothing and materials into “meaningful resources”, putting to use Traid’s expertise in clothing collection, sorting and reuse.

As part of the partnership, Harrods employees will be involved in

volunteering opportunities, personal clothing donations and workshops, all with the goal of building awareness around circular fashion.

“At the heart of the collaboration is a shared belief that circularity is essential to the future of fashion,” a press release read. “Together, Harrods and Traid will explore new ways to give clothing a longer life, support communities and inspire more sustainable choices across the industry.”

To date, Traid said it has “put back 240 million garments into use, saving 655,000 tonnes of CO₂ and 112 million m³ of water – and counting.”





08.

PRIMARK PLANS STORES IN FRANCE AND MIDDLE EAST

Fashion retailer Primark detailed the next steps of its physical expansion strategy during a press conference on March 18, 2026. Three new stores will open in France in 2026.

The company has been present in the country since 2013. It currently operates 30 stores and employs nearly 7,000 people.

This expansion will continue in 2026 with the opening of three new stores.

Each new store will be located in a shopping centre: the Central Parc shopping centre (Grand Epagny) near Annecy; the Aushopping Pôle Europe shopping centre (Mont-Saint-Martin) in Meurthe-et-Moselle; and the Polygone shopping centre in Béziers.

These openings represent an investment of around thirty million Euros for an additional 6,650 square metres of retail space.



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