

Daily Mail

# BRITAIN'S MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN

Some are famous, some you may never have heard of. But their influence shapes ALL our lives. They come from every background, range in age from their 20s to 70s and belong to every religion and race – yet they share one unique bond. Starting today and continuing all this week, the Mail is beginning a sensational new partwork on Britain's 100 most influential women – what they earn, their aspirations, the forces that shaped them, their loves and their hates. It's a series no woman – and no man – can afford to miss.



### SPORT

- FRANCES DONE CBE — Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games chief executive
- DENISE LEWIS OBE — Heptathlete
- KATE HOEY MP — Former Sports Minister
- TANNI GREY-THOMPSON OBE — Disabled athlete
- GABBY LOGAN — TV football presenter
- PAULA RADCLIFFE OBE — Athlete
- KARREN BRADY — Birmingham City MD
- ELLEN MACARTHUR — Yachtswoman

### HEALTH and ACADEMIC

- Prof CAROL BLACK — President of Royal College of Physicians
- GINA FORD — Baby trainer
- VAL GOODING — Chief executive of Bupa
- Baroness SUSAN GREENFIELD — Neuroscientist
- Dame Prof JULIA HIGGINS — Chemical engineer
- Professor PARVEEN KUMAR — Medical text-book author
- ANNE LONSDALE — Pro-vice chancellor of Cambridge University
- Dr ANNE McLAREN — IVF pioneer, Wellcome CRC Institute
- BEVERLY MALONE — General sec of Royal College Of Nursing
- Prof ALISON RICHARD — Vice-chancellor of Cambridge University
- Baroness WARNOCK — Philosopher of science ethics
- SUZI LEATHER — Chairwoman, Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority

### FASHION WOMEN

- ROSE MARIE BRAVO — CEO of Burberry
- SARAH DOUKAS — founder of Storm Model Agency
- JACQUELINE GOLD — CEO Ann Summers
- NICKY KINNAIRD — founder of Space NK Apothecaries
- STELLA McCARTNEY — designer
- KATE MOSS — Fashion icon
- SERENA REES — Founder of Agent Provocateur
- JANE SHEPHERDSON — Brand director, Topshop
- ALEXANDRA SHULMAN — Editor of Vogue

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- TRINNY and SUSANNAH — Celebrity style queens
- LINDA BENNETT — Founder of L. K. Bennett
- YASMIN YUSUF — Creative director Marks & Spencer
- BELINDA EARL — CEO Debenhams

### ARTS and DESIGN

- JULIA BARFIELD — Architect who designed the London Eye
- JANET DE BOTTON — Art collector and donor
- VIVIAN DUFFIELD — Arts patron
- SALLY GREENE — Theatre designer
- KELLY HOPPEN — Interior designer
- EVA JIRICNA CBE — High-tech designer
- JULIA PEYTON-JONES — Head of the Serpentine Gallery

### MEDIA WOMEN

- DAWN AIREY — Ex-chief executive Channel 5, now at Sky
- VICKY BARNESLEY — Head of HarperCollins UK
- JANA BENNETT — Director of programmes for the BBC
- HELEN BOADEN — Controller of Radio 4
- NICKI CHAPMAN — The only female judge on Pop Idol
- HELEN FIELDING — Creator of Bridget Jones
- LORRAINE HEGGESSEY — Controller BBC1
- M. T. RAINEY — First Lady of advertising
- GAIL REBUCK — Chair and chief executive of Random House Group

- JENNY ABRAMSKY — Head of BBC radio
- J.K. ROWLING — Harry Potter billionaire-in-waiting
- REBEKAH WADE — Editor, the Sun

### STATESWOMEN

- Her Majesty THE QUEEN
- CHERIE (BLAIR) BOOTH
- ELIZA MANNINGHAM-BULLER — head of M15
- Dame ELIZABETH BUTLER-SLOSS — Top family-law judge
- Dame RENNIE FRITCHIE — Public Appointments Commissioner
- PATRICIA HEWITT — Trade Secretary
- TESSA JOWELL — Culture, Media and Sport Secretary
- Baroness HELENA KENNEDY — lawyer
- RACHEL LOMAX — Deputy Governor, Bank of England
- THERESA MAY — kitten-heeled Tory Party Chairwoman
- FIONA MILLAR — Cherie Booth's right-hand woman
- SUE NYE — Controls access to Gordon Brown
- Baroness USHA PRASHAR — Chair of the Parole Board
- Baroness THATCHER
- Baroness MORGAN of Huyton — Tony's gate-keeper

### FOOD and DIET

- ROSEMARY CONLEY — Diet and fitness guru
- ANGELA HARTNETT — Chef at the Connaught
- SAHAR HASHEMI — Co-founder of Coffee Republic

- KAREN JONES — Chief executive of the Spirit Group
- NIGELLA LAWSON — Domestic Goddess
- NELLIE NICHOLS — Head of food development, Pret a Manger
- MEENA PATHAK — Curry sauce boss
- RUTH ROGERS and ROSE GRAY — River Café cooks
- DELIA SMITH — The one and only

### MONEYMAKERS

- SLY BAILEY — CEO of Trinity Mirror
- DIANNE THOMPSON — CEO of Camelot
- BRONWYN CURTIS — Managing editor Bloomberg TV
- CLARA FURSE — Stock Exchange CEO
- Baroness SARAH HOGG — First woman chairman of Footsie 100 company 3i
- NICOLA HORLICK — City superwoman
- DeANNE JULIUS — Potential first woman Governor of Bank of England
- MARTHA LANE-FOX — Founder of lastminute.com
- JULIE PANKHURST — Founder of Friends Reunited website
- ROBIN SAUNDERS — Ace City deal-maker
- MARJORIE SCARDINO — CEO of Pearson
- ANNE WOOD — Boss of Ragdoll Productions (Teletubbies)
- SARAH WATSON — Head of training, Weight Watchers

### CAMPAIGNERS

- GERMAINE GREER — Feminist icon
- JANET NEWMAN OBE and MARY ASPREY OBE — Sisters who set up the National Missing Persons Helpline
- ERIN PIZZEY — Founder of the first battered women's refuge
- ESTHER RANTZEN — Founder of Childline
- SHEILA McKECHNIE — Consumers' champion
- ANITA RODDICK — Founder of the Body Shop
- MARJORIE WALLACE — Founder and CEO of SANE
- JAYNE ZITO — Founder of the Zito Trust for the mentally ill



**TOMORROW: DISCOVER WHO CHOOSES THE CLOTHES WE WEAR AND THE CAMPAIGNERS WHO HAVE CHANGED PEOPLE'S LIVES**





# Daily Mail BRITAIN'S 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN

Picture: CAMILLA PERSHALL/KNOX



Picture: Harry Boston/PA

**ROSE GRAY, 63 (LEFT) AND (LADY) RUTH ROGERS, 54**  
Job: Co-founders, River Cafe  
Earnings: Millionaires

Gave Britain modern Italian cooking and the Naked Chef

**ON-DUTY:** The old friends founded Hammersmith's River Cafe in 1987 as a canteen for the architectural practice run by Ruth's husband, Richard (now Lord) Rogers. It soon became an upmarket eatery for Labour's elite. As well as making Tony and Gordon's pasta, Ruth and Rose have spread the gospel of Italian food via their 500,000-selling cookbook and TV series. If your local pub puts out olive oil, not butter, with the bread, blame the River Cafe. And blame (or thank) them for training Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Jamie Oliver. **OFF-DUTY:** Ruth, who has two sons and three stepsons, lives in Chelsea. Rose, a mother of four, lives in Marylebone with her husband, David Macilwaine. **DID YOU KNOW:** The River Cafe's food was inspired by Ruth's mother-in-law, Dada, who was a stickler for simplicity. As she lay dying, she called Ruth to her bedside and whispered: 'Go easy on the herbs, not so many herbs.'



## Nigella's done for cooking what Liz Hurley did for safety pins

**Nigella Lawson, 43**  
Job: Goddess of domesticity  
Earnings: £3.4 million  
Luscious, pouting deity. Makes cookery and housework super-sexy

**ON-DUTY:** Nigella, like Madonna, or Sting, has become a one-word global brand. Beginning her foodie career as restaurant critic of the Spectator magazine, where her brother Dominic was editor, she moved to Vogue, before writing her first best-seller, How To Eat. Her combination of status (her father is former Tory chancellor Nigel Lawson), glamour and tragedy (her husband, John Diamond, died of cancer in 2001) made her irresistible to TV and her C4 series, Nigella Bites, made her a household name. With her biggest book, How To Be A Domestic Goddess, Nigella found herself at the heart of that great female argument, for and against

women's role as a home-maker — a debate that has gone transatlantic as Nigella (a millionaire in her own right) has become famed in the U.S. as a columnist and TV star. **OFF-DUTY:** Lawson, 42, has two young

children by John Diamond, Gosima and Bruno. She lives with multi-millionaire art investor Charles Saatchi in London's Belgravia and drives a Jeep. Long, bias-cut skirts worn with cashmere twin-sets and trainers are her trademark, and her favourite designers include Amanda Wakeley and Valentino. She admits to enjoying make-up and has written a column on cosmetics. **DID YOU KNOW:** Nigella may not be quite so velvety soft as she seems on TV. 'I've been prevented from becoming a monster by my friends,' she has said, 'but I'm sure I have it within me.'

**ANGELA HARTNETT, 33**  
Job: Executive Chef, Connaught Hotel  
Earnings: est £50,000+

**ON-DUTY:** Restaurant kitchens are super-macho. Star chef Gordon Ramsay used to claim that women spent too much time suffering stomach cramps to work in them. But it was Ramsay who trained Angela Hartnett at his restaurant Aubergine, and last year chose her for London's grandest hotel: the Connaught. She is the first woman to boss a top London hotel restaurant. **OFF-DUTY:** Working round-the-clock, six days

a week. Hartnett, who is single, is never off duty. Even holidays are culinary research trips. **DID YOU KNOW:** Like a true Ramsay protégée, she kicked her first customer out of the Connaught within a week of opening.

**KAREN JONES, 46**  
Job: Chief executive, Spirit Group  
Earnings: £135,000 plus dividends

**ON-DUTY:** Restaurant chains such as Café Rouge and the Dome have made dining out an everyday experience for millions. Karen helped found both chains. She began work

as a teenage waitress at Peppermint Park, a West End cocktail bar, returning after her first-class degree in English Literature to work on new restaurants with PP founder, Roger Myers. The duo floated their company on the stock market and made millions before Jones joined Punch Taverns.

There she made its Spirit Group of pubs (Britain's largest independent chain) a stand-alone company, running 1,000 premises with 16,000 staff. So it's your round, but her pub.

**OFF-DUTY:** Jones is married. She and husband Hamish have three children, aged six to 11, and live in South London. A statuesque (she is almost 6ft) blonde, Jones likes to shop for clothes at Nicole Parli and TopShop. An art lover, she visits galleries and museums whenever possible. She drives a diesel Mercedes estate.



**Sarah Watson, 48**  
Job: Head of training at WeightWatchers  
Earnings: £40,000

The woman who got the nation's slimmers counting points not calories

**ON-DUTY:** The daughter of a butcher and a nurse from Southend, Sarah was 'overweight and lonely' when she joined WeightWatchers 19 years ago. She began running classes in Camberley, Surrey, then worked her way up the organisation. A former home economics trainer, she used her own experiences to devise the Points Programme, which she researched for 18 months before its launch in 1996. Based on the amount of calories and fat in a portion, the system does not ban any form of food and is designed to minimise guilt. An instant hit, it boosted WeightWatchers membership across the world, with

more than one million people a year attending points-based classes. Coming next is Time To Eat, based on seasonal foods. **OFF-DUTY:** Married for the second time in September, her husband works in IT. She has two children from her first marriage. Watson drives a BMW 7 series and a Mercedes CLK and describes herself as a High Street label queen. She lives in an apartment in the home of Queen Victoria's solicitor in Crowthorne, Berks. **DID YOU KNOW:** Britain's most influential dieter adores fine dining. Her favourite restaurant is the Michelin-starred Gordon Ramsay.

## 100 FOOD

## and DIET

**SAHAR HASHEMI, 34**  
Job: Co-founder, Coffee Republic  
Earnings: £10 million



**ON-DUTY:** On a visit to New York in the early Nineties to see her banker brother Bobby Hashemi — a corporate lawyer by training — discovered the city's coffee bars and realised London had no equivalent. The Hashemis decided to change that. Turned down by most banks, they raised £80,000 from NatWest and opened their first Coffee Republic on London's South Molton Street in 1995.

Six years later, they had 110 cafes, sales of £30 million, and the whole country knew about grande mochas, lattes, semi-skimmed lattes and low-fat blueberry muffins.

Hashemi has stepped down from the company, written an inspirational book — Anyone Can Do It — and spreads the word as a corporate speaker. **OFF-DUTY:** The Persian-born blonde, who is single, lives in London's Belgravia and drives a Jeep Cherokee. A keen jogger, she holidays regularly in Capri and dresses from head to toe in Burberry. She also boasts an impressive designer shoe collection.

**NELLIE NICHOLS, 44**  
Job: Head of food development, Pret A Manger  
Earnings: Not Disclosed

**ON-DUTY:** Nellie — who learned to cook when caring for her father, after her mother died when she was a child — is the right-hand woman to the sandwich bar chain's founder Julian Metcalfe. For the past ten years, as Pret has expanded from seven to 70 stores (now going global under its new owner, McDonald's) she has developed new ideas and fillings, including the best-selling All-Day Breakfast and a new No Mayo range.

**OFF-DUTY:** A single mother with a young son living in South London, Nichols cooks in her spare time, too, making all her own jams, marmalades and chutneys. She loves horse riding and water skiing, holidays in Mauritius and shops at Prada and Gucci. She can also be found hunting for antique silverware at car boot sales.

**DID YOU KNOW:** It can take up to three months to perfect a new sandwich recipe.

**DELIA SMITH, 61**  
Job: Food writer and football director  
Earnings: Worth £24 million



**ON-DUTY:** No one has had more influence on British cooking than Delia. She left school with no qualifications, not even in domestic science. Yet since starting as a cookery writer for the Daily Mirror in 1969, she has sold more than 11 million books, made countless TV programmes and amassed a £24 million fortune.

Her fool-proof, no-nonsense recipes — relying on organisation more than inspiration — are the staple diet of middle-class dinner parties. Ignoring the sneers of jealous (usually male) chefs, she has taught the country the basics, from boiling an egg on up.

And when she mentions anything — from favourite omelette pans to cranberries — shops sell out the next day. Factories and growers have to step up supplies to cope. **OFF-DUTY:** Married to Michael Wynne Jones, publisher of the Sainsbury's magazine, for 31 years, Delia says not having children may be why she threw herself into her career. The couple have a country cottage in Suffolk and a smaller pad near Norwich.

**DID YOU KNOW:** A committed Christian, Delia has given up being a food star to devote her time to Norwich City FC. She and Wynne Jones have spent 17 million buying 61 per cent of the club, which now — of course — has the best catering, by far, in football.



## Meena had the sauce to take on a nation

**Meena Pathak OBE, 46**  
Job: Product development manager, Patak Foods  
Earnings: £50 million turnover

**ON-DUTY:** When Kirit Pathak married in 1976, he had no idea that his new bride (a former model) would revolutionise his family business — an Indian catering company, originally started with just £5, selling samosas and pickles to the Asian market. Unknown to Kirit, Meena had studied food technology and hotel management in Bombay. She started developing new ranges of curry sauces, selling them to restaurants (more than 10,000 curry houses use Patak

sauces) and supermarkets. The privately owned company boomed, with annual sales now exceeding £50 million. Recently, it opened an £18 million factory in Wigan — the world's largest Indian kitchen. So, if you eat chicken tikka masala, chances are it's Meena's recipe. **OFF-DUTY:** Meena and Kirit, parents of three grown-up children, live near Wigan. Meena drives a BMW. She has written a cookbook, Flavours Of India. To relax, she practises meditation and yoga.

The British wouldn't be able to enjoy their new national dish, chicken tikka masala, without her

**Rosemary Conley, 56**  
Job: Diet & fitness tycoon  
Earnings: Several million

Don't blame Rosemary if you've still got fat hips and thighs

**ON-DUTY:** Having left school at 15 to work as a secretary, Conley became involved in the slimming industry in 1972 when — motivated by her own weight problems — she started a slimming club for neighbours. Having suffered gall bladder problems, she came up with the low-fat/regular exercise regime that was the basis of her best-selling Hip And Thigh Diet book (she has since sold five million copies). This inspired a business empire of award-winning franchised diet and fitness clubs, with more than 80,000 members, and the Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness Magazine. Conley, who is now a millionaire — and a Freeman of the City of Leicester (her home town) — has acted as a consultant to Marks & Spencer, advising on low-fat foods.

**OFF-DUTY:** Conley lives in Leicestershire with her second husband, Mark Rimington, 13 years her junior, who works with Christian charities. She has an adult daughter, Dawn, from her first marriage. Her chauffeur-driven Bentley has the registration number ROS 1E. She relaxes with her dogs, cats and horses. **DID YOU KNOW:** Conley inherited her business brain from her parents. Her father was a hosiery wholesaler and her mother, Celia, designed a nylon cap to be worn over hair rollers, which she sold through Harrods.



I HAVE to say I've greatly impacted people's awareness of healthy eating and exercise, if you want to control or lose weight. I know from letters I get that, if people go on my diet, it changes their life, big-time. In my business, my gender is crucial. I'm a role-model as a woman who has been overweight and conquered it. And being a successful businesswoman is important to other women, too. It shows it can be done.

I would say I balance my professional life and home life very well, and I think I work quite smartly. I work four days a week, and I don't take work home. It's really important to have balance. If you haven't got a good home-life, why are you working?

I love clothes, but I hate shopping. I only shop in two places: the Elegance catalogue and a boutique in Knightsbridge called Yvette's.

I'd love to buy some diamond earrings, but I've never felt I could justify spending thousands of pounds on jewellery. I'd feel incredibly guilty and self-indulgent. So many people in the world need that money more.

Picture: ALAN COLLEY/SCOPE



**JANA BENNETT, 46**  
 Job: BBC Director of Television  
 Earnings: Salary £200,000



**ON-DUTY:** The most powerful of the women — known as Gregory's Girls or Dyke's Darlings — who control BBC TV and radio, Bennett is an ex-Panorama producer and Horizon editor who gave the BBC massive hits like *Animal Hospital*, *The Human Body* and *Walking With Dinosaurs*. Born in the U.S. (she came to England in 1969), she returned to the States to run the Discovery and Learning channels before taking up her current job in April 2002. A strong bet to complete the women's takeover of the BBC by becoming its first female Director-General when Greg Dyke departs.

**OFF-DUTY:** Married to Richard Clemmow, former head of BBC News. They have two children and live in a large house in East Acton next to her younger sister. She is the middle of five daughters born to the dean of admissions at New England College in New Hampshire.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Bennett went to Oxford University, where she was a friend of — guess who? — the young Tony Blair.

**JENNY ABRAMSKY, 56**  
 Job: Director of BBC Radio and Music  
 Earnings: Salary £260,000



**ON-DUTY:** When BBC Director-General Greg Dyke bought a radio last year, he called Jenny Abramsky to tell him how to make it work. TV execs have never known much about poor-relation radio. Now, thanks to Abramsky, they have to.

She created Radio Five, the news-and-sport Radio Biote station loved by footy-mad lads. As boss of BBC radio, she has watched over the reinvention of Radio Two, from a musical rest-home, to a hip, grown-up destination. And she's restored the order (and listeners) that Nineties 'modernisation' had stripped from Radio 4. Britons now turn on their trannies more often than their TVs. Radio's hot again.

**OFF-DUTY:** Lives in Dartmouth Park, South-East London with husband Alasdair Liddell (an NHS manager) and their two children.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Abramsky's grandfather was a Moscow rabbi, imprisoned under Joseph Stalin's reign of terror.

**HELEN BOADEN, 46**  
 Job: Controller, Radio 4  
 Earnings: Salary est £100,000



**ON-DUTY:** The Today programme is as important a part of the political and media elite's breakfast as croissants or crossants. Radio 4's classic shows, like *Woman's Hour*, *Start The Week*, and *Any Questions?* are national institutions. The Archers is a middle-class obsession.

But under Boaden's predecessor James Boyle, 4's calm assurance was destroyed by radical changes to the schedule that left listeners angry and confused. Boaden, who began her BBC career with Radio Leeds in 1983, has put the furniture back in the right places, modernised more subtly, and attracted record numbers of listeners. Phew! The establishment can relax.

**OFF-DUTY:** Boaden is married to journalist Stephen Burley. They spend their spare time at their house on the Yorkshire coast, where Boaden indulges her hobbies: walking, cooking, eating good food — 'and spending time with my husband'.

**REBEKAH WADE, 34**  
 Job: Editor of the Sun  
 Earnings: Known to very few



**ON-DUTY:** She's a flame-haired scorcher who was editor of the News of the World at 31, broke massive scoops from Prince Harry's drugs to Angus Deayton's tarts, and caused huge controversy when her name-and-shame campaign against paedophiles sparked mob violence and attacks on paediatricians.

Now this world-class networker, with ambitions to match, is the first woman editor of Britain's biggest daily tabloid. As her recent



In a picture that captures the power and the glamour of our 100 Most Influential Women, Female gathered these women from the fields of campaigning, food, fashion, money, sport, academia and politics

front-page about a Labour MP and his rent-boy researcher proved, there's no girly sweetness about Wade's methods. A mark of her influence: Tony Blair spent more time at the Sun party celebrating the paper's switch of editors than at the Commons debate on the war against Iraq.

**OFF-DUTY:** Married to Ross Kemp, alias *EastEnders'* Grant Mitchell. They live in a large Victorian house in Battersea. Works out at the Harbour Club in Chelsea.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Sun used to say *Hop Off You Frogs*, but Wade — who speaks fluent French — began her journalistic career on the Paris magazine *Architecture Aujourd'hui*. So her anti-French headline read, 'Chirac est un ver' ('Chirac is a worm').

**M.I. RAINEY, 46**  
 Job: Joint Chief Executive, Y&R advertising  
 Earnings: Six-figure salary



**ON-DUTY:** The Scottish founder of an independent ad agency, bought by U.S. giants Young & Rubicam last year in a £24million deal that made her a millionaire, MT (short for Mary Teresa) Rainey is now in charge of the UK's sixth largest agency.

When Marks & Sparks broke the habits of a lifetime and began advertising, she guided their campaigns. Rainey has also worked for clients as varied as Lego, Carlsberg, Virgin and Jaguar.

But this Glasgow University psychology graduate, who spent a decade working in the U.S., has applied her skills to

conscience as well as commerce, working on ads for a campaign against domestic violence.

**OFF-DUTY:** Rainey, who is single, lives in West London, handy for the boutiques of Notting Hill where she loves browsing.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Despite being a millionaire, Rainey does not have a car, preferring to take minicabs.

**GAIL REBUCK CBE, 51**  
 Job: Chief Executive, Random House  
 Earnings: Est £1m a year



**ON-DUTY:** Rebeck made her name 20 years ago as the co-founder of the Century publishing company. Its buyout by Hutchinson brought her first £1million. And a further takeover led both it and her to mega-publishers Random House — part of the giant German Bertelsmann group — whose imprints include Jonathan Cape and Chatto & Windus, with authors such as Sebastian Faulks and Salman Rushdie.

Rebeck's empire stretches from the UK to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. And if that did not give her enough influence, her marriage to Tony Blair's pollster Philip Gould puts her at the heart of New Labour high society.

**OFF-DUTY:** Rebeck and Gould have two daughters, Georgia and Grace. They divide their time between a house in Camden, North London, and a 15th-century villa in Majorca.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Rebeck is so focused she signed the deal that made her the Random House boss in the hospital delivery room where she was giving birth to her second daughter Grace.

Her elder daughter George got a toy office for her sixth birthday, staffed by Barbie executives.

**HELEN FIELDING, 44**  
 Job: Author  
 Earnings: Worth £2.2million plus



**ON-DUTY:** Helen Fielding was halfway through an earnest, tedious novel about class and race in the Caribbean when her editor made a suggestion: why didn't she take the jolly little column she was writing for the Independent, about life as a single, thirtysomething woman, and turn it into a book?

Three months later, *Bridget Jones's Diary* — a Nineties spoof of *Pride and Prejudice* — was completed, and a cultural phenomenon was born. More than 10million copies of two *Bridget* novels have been sold across 33 countries.

Renee Zellweger has made *Bridget* a screen idol (another film is on the way in 2004). And countless women have laughed in recognition as *Bridget* struggles with her job, her weight, her mother and — of course — her men.

**OFF-DUTY:** Having left her Notting Hill flat three years ago, after a sick stalker posted a bullet through her letterbox, Fielding now

lives in Los Angeles with her sitcom writer boyfriend Kevin Curran.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Helen Fielding was once a freelance features writer on the Daily Mail.

**J.K. ROWLING, 37**  
 Job: Author  
 Earnings: Worth £47million



**ON-DUTY:** The biggest media or entertainment event of the year will occur on June 21, with the publication of *Harry Potter And The Order Of The Phoenix*, the fifth in the boy wizard series. Four months before its release, it was already top of the Amazon.co.uk charts, just on advance orders.

Meanwhile, the two *Harry Potter* films have taken £1.1billion-plus at the box office, and far more in sales of videos, DVDs and Potterish merchandise.

Harry Potter, the creation of an impoverished single mum who was trying to eke out a cheap coffee in an Edinburgh cafe, is now a brand on the scale of Nike or Coke (and a Time magazine cover star). Rowling has made reading fun, and cool, for tens of millions of children. And that is an achievement beyond any price.

**OFF-DUTY:** Rowling married Dr Neil Murray in December 2001. They have a £4.5million townhouse in West London and a home in Scotland. She has a daughter, Jessica, by her first marriage to Jorge Arantes and a newborn son with her husband.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Nicholson's Café, in which Rowling famously first created *Harry Potter*, was owned by her brother-in-law.

**LORRAINE HEGGESSEY, 46**  
 Job: Controller, BBC1  
 Earnings: Salary est £434,000



**ON-DUTY:** She may be a petite blonde, once described as 'The Skinny Controller', but Lorraine Heggessey is no one's pushover. She once confronted tough-guy TV reporter Roger Cook and told him, 'Answer the question, you fat bastard.' She breast-fed her baby in front of *Mad Frankie Fraser*.

Heggessey inflicted *The Weakest Link* on the nation, and she risked the wrath of Britain's cultural watchdogs by making Rolf Harris the presenter of a show on classic art.

On arriving at BBC1 in 2000, she found a declining channel, symbolised by its balloon logo: a lot of hot air drifting around. Ruthless scheduling (critics claim she has marginalised *Panorama*, a programme she once produced) and unashamed populism (Harris, she notes, pulled in more viewers than any art show in TV history) have done the trick. BBC1 is winning the battle against a demoralised ITV.

For most of her career, Heggessey never considered being more than a programme-maker. Now she's one of the most powerful women in media.

**OFF-DUTY:** Heggessey relies on her 'incredibly supportive' husband, freelance musician Ron de Jongh to run her home and care for their two daughters, aged 10 and 13. She loves skiing and tennis.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Her favourite BBC1 programme is the Scottish islands drama series, *Two thousand Acres Of Sky*.

**SLY BAILEY, 41**  
 Job: Chief Executive of Trinity Mirror group  
 Income: Estimated £750,000 plus



**ON-DUTY:** The ex-shop assistant from Tower Hamlets left school at 16. She began her media career at 21 selling ads on *The Guardian*. Within a decade, aged 31, she was the youngest-ever board member of giant magazine publishers IPC, overseeing magazines from *Marie Claire* to *Loaded*. Within a few years, she was running the whole company.

Now she's the boss of the Trinity Mirror group, owners of the *Daily Mirror* and a massive regional paper group. As the *Mirror*, *Sunday Mirror* and *People* suffer losses in sales and advertising revenues, observers are wondering: will Bailey sell them? And what will she tell *Mirror* editor Piers Morgan?

**OFF-DUTY:** Married with three step-children. She drives Porsches and wears Prada.

**DID YOU KNOW?** 'Sly' is short for Sylvia.

**WORDS:** David Thomas  
**PICTURE RESEARCH:** Claire Cisotti  
**RESEARCH:** Robina Dam, Laurie Laird, Karen Wheeler, David Kemp and Kate Watson Smyth, Stephanie Young and Alice Smellie

**DAWN AIREY, 42**  
 Job: MD of Sky Networks  
 Earnings: Said to be £1m



**ON-DUTY:** As programming chief of Channel 5, Airey — a feisty, ambitious, no-nonsense Cambridge geography graduate — described its contents as 'football, films and f\*\*\*ing.' But the addition of *Home And Away*, strong documentaries and U.S. imports made the infant channel a surprise success.

Airey's reputation grew so stellar that she was offered £750,000 a year to head ITV, but just as she was about to sign the deal, Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB stepped in with an even higher bid. Now she's the queen of satellite TV, where the three 'Fs' are still all-important. But is it just a stepping stone to a bigger future — in Murdoch's American empire?

**OFF-DUTY:** Ever the geographer, Airey collects antique maps — her best-ever investment, she claims — and goes on long country walks.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Her nickname is Zulu Dawn.

**Nicki Chapman, 36**  
 Job: Creative Director, 19 Entertainment  
 Earnings: Reputedly £500,000pa

Where would Will, Gareth and a zillion teenage girls be without her?

**ON-DUTY:** After working as a top publicist and record-plugger, with clients including Clapton, Bowie, Take That and the Spice Girls, she is one of the most powerful, and visible, of the entertainment industry's new generation of female executives. At 19, pop svengali Simon Fuller's company, she has a hand in everything from Emma Bunton's comeback to Gareth Gates's conquest of Europe, to the 11 TV series 19 is now making in the U.S. alone.

And that's beside a TV career that has blossomed from the judging panel of *Pop Stars and Pop Idol*, to a daytime slot on BBC1. Up every day at 5am, Chapman drives to the BBC in her Audi A4 convertible, does her TV work, wipes off her make-up, pulls on her jeans, and gets into 19 by lunch, ready for another day's work.

**OFF-DUTY:** Married to record executive Dave Shackleton for four years. No children. She grew up in Herne Bay, Kent. Loves watching *EastEnders* at home.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Charlotte Church volunteered to sing at Nicki's wedding, flying in just after singing for Bill Clinton at the White House.





Patricia Hewitt, 53

Job: Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and Minister for Women  
Earnings: About £125,000pa

Feminine feminist at the top

ON-DUTY: Bossy and bird-like, Australian-born Hewitt (who calls herself an 'old lag feminist') has spent 25 years battling for better pay and working conditions for women, insisting that jobs must be family-friendly. She has been instrumental in increasing maternity benefits, granting fathers paternity pay and giving employees the right to ask for flexible working hours. And her commitment to equality has extended to the Royal Family, arguing that Princess Anne should have the right to ascend the throne before her younger brothers.

OFF-DUTY: Married to barrister and Labour councillor Bill Birtles, whom she met when working at the National Council for Civil Liberties. She loves theatre and music. They live in Camden, North London.



FIONA MILLAR, 45

Job: PA to Cherie Blair  
Earnings: est £58,000pa

ON-DUTY: Millar, a left-wing feminist vegetarian, whose partner is spin-chief Alastair Campbell, has spent the past six years organising Cherie's life, as the PM's wife, and ferociously guarding her from the Press of which Millar herself was once a member. The Campbell-Millars have been family friends, as well as employees, of the Blairs. But years of fierce control have been wrecked by the chaos of the Cherie-Caplin-Foster affair.

So now the question must be asked: who has the most influence — Millar the minder, or Caplin, the sexy style guru?

OFF-DUTY: Millar met Campbell on a training scheme for journalists in the early Eighties. They have two sons and a daughter, but remain unmarried. They live in North London.

THERESA MAY, MP, 46

Job: Conservative Party chairman  
Earnings: Salary £55,118

ON-DUTY: A vicar's daughter with a City career, May was a diligent Tory spokesman on education and transport. But it was her Size 10 lilac leather jacket and heels that sent MPs into a frenzy.

The leopard-print kitten heels she wore to deliver her Tory Conference speech attracted as much attention as her controversial message that the Tories had to lose their image as the Nasty Party. There have been reports that her time as Chairman will soon be up — but can the party really afford to sideline such a rare female star?

OFF-DUTY: Lives in Sonning, Berkshire, with her banker husband Philip. They have no children. A regular shopper at the Chelsea branch of LK Bennett, favourite designers include Amanda Wakeley, Aquascutum and Versace. Drives a sporty Audi convertible and holidays at Lake Como in Italy.

DID YOU KNOW: Those leopard-print HotTrot shoes sold out so fast at Russell & Bromley that their grateful designer, Beverly Feldman flew from America to present Theresa with a new design, inspired by her.

USHA PRASHAR, CBE, 54

Job: First Civil Service Commissioner, Chair of the National Literacy Trust and chancellor of De Montfort University  
Earnings: est £50,000+

ON-DUTY: Born in Kenya, but educated at Wakefield Girls School, then Leeds and Glasgow Universities, Prashar has biased traits, both as a woman and a British Indian. In 1997, she was the first female Chairman of the Parole Board, and also the first woman to be appointed Director of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

Prashar is also a passionate advocate of the importance of literacy, believing that it can break down social barriers, provide

Baroness Morgan Of Huyton, 43

Job: The PM's Director of Political and Government Relations  
Earnings: salary about £120,000

Tony's secret fixer

ON-DUTY: Years of loyal work for the Labour Party paid off in November 2001 for former teacher Sally Morgan, when Tony Blair's old friend, and her great rival Anji Hunter quit the PM's office to work for BP. Morgan, who had earlier lost an internal power-struggle with the ruthless Hunter, when working as the PM's Political Secretary, suddenly found herself in Hunter's old role, as Blair's right-hand woman.

She is one of three advisers running the No 10 Office in the style of the U.S. President's West Wing. Morgan controls access to Blair and conducts private negotiations on his behalf. If you want to get close to him, you'd better get close to her first.

OFF-DUTY: Lives in a £1million South London home with her barrister husband John Lyons, and their two sons.

DID YOU KNOW: Morgan made a rare appearance in the public eye when it was revealed that she was sending one of her sons to a £9,000-a-year public school.

opportunity and reduce crime. In 1993, she helped found the National Literacy Trust.

OFF-DUTY: Married to Vijay Kumar Sharma since 1973.

SUE NYE, 48

Job: PA to Gordon Brown  
Earnings: est £40,000

ON DUTY: In the midst of the simmering feud between the Prime Minister and his Chancellor, Nye — a willow blonde, who began her career as a typist for Seventies Labour PM Jim Callaghan — is one of the few intermediaries trusted by both sides. Communications have become even tougher since the departure of Nye's friend, the PM's former right-hand woman Anji Hunter. But the immediate future of British politics may rest on Nye's ability to prevent all-out war between Nos 10 and 11 Downing Street.

OFF-DUTY: Nye has a real rags-to-riches story. She began childhood in a two-room Brixton flat. She's now married to Gavin Davies, the Labour-supporting Chairman of the BBC who has a £120million fortune. They have two sumptuous homes, one in North Devon, and one son, Ben.

DID YOU KNOW: Nye introduced Gordon Brown to his future wife, PR company boss Sarah Macaulay. When Mr Brown tried to soften his image by posing with Sarah, his fiancée, he did it at Ben Davies's birthday party.

DAME ELIZABETH BUTLER-SLOSS, 69

Job: President of the Family Division of the High Court  
Earnings: She hasn't a clue, she told TV

ON-DUTY: The wife of a retired High Court judge and sister of the late Lord Chancellor, Lord Havers, Dame Elizabeth (a former Tory candidate for Vauxhall) became a High Court Judge in 1979, aged 46, before joining the Court of Appeal in 1988.

She became nationally known with her inquiry into the Cleveland Child Abuse inquiry, and hit headlines again when granting lifelong anonymity to the killers of toddler James Bulger.

The first woman to hold her post, Dame Elizabeth has a huge influence on divorce and child-custody law, thereby affecting the lives of millions of Britons, and her rulings are central to issues of parental and children's rights arising from fertility treatments.

OFF-DUTY: Married to Joseph Butler-Sloss. They have three children and live in East Devon.

DID YOU KNOW: Dame Elizabeth is actor Nigel Havers's auntie.

BARONESS HELENA KENNEDY, QC, 52

Job: Barrister, author  
Earnings: Undisclosed

ON-DUTY: The third daughter of a Glaswegian newspaper dispatch handler and a part-time waitress, Kennedy became a barrister in 1972 and a QC in 1991, acting in major cases including the Brighton Bombing trial and the Guildford Four appeal.

Committed to women's issues, she has defended battered women who kill their partners, written an award-winning book *Evil Was Framed* about the law's treatment of women, and handed sex-discrimination cases.

Very influential in New Labour circles, she is also Chair of the Human Genetics Commission, President of the Children's Bureau, holds or has held various high-level academic posts, has headed endless important inquiries and has 15 honorary doctorates. Directly affects lives through her Helena Kennedy Bursary, awarding £1,000

to students entering higher education as adults.

OFF-DUTY: Married to top facial cancer surgeon Iain Hutchinson, she has one daughter and two sons (one by her former partner).

ELIZA MANNINGHAM-BULLER, 54

Job: Director General of MIS  
Earnings: Salary £150,000

ON-DUTY: Just after the New Year, Manningham-Buller sent Tony Blair a handwritten note. It told him her agents had uncovered a plot to make the deadly ricin toxin in Britain. It was her advice, too, that caused Heathrow to be ringed with troops and tanks.

The second woman to head MIS, with a £1billion budget and 1,900 staff, she has to plug the gaps left by an asylum policy that encourages terrorists into the UK. As she struggles to keep us safe, does this Benedictine school contemporary of Princess Anne, who's been an agent since 1974, ever wish she'd kept her first job — as an English teacher?

OFF-DUTY: Married since 1991 — her husband has five children from a previous marriage. They live in Bath and she's a great believer in the family Sunday lunch.

DID YOU KNOW: Manningham-Buller has inherited a nickname coined for her father, Lord Chancellor in Harold Macmillan's Tory government. It's 'Bullying-Manner'.

Tessa Jowell, 55

Job: Culture Secretary  
Salary: £125,000  
Nanny of New Labour

ON-DUTY: Jowell runs a Ministry with minimal prestige but maximum impact on people's lives, involved in controversies over the Olympics, Lottery funding, the new Wembley Stadium, gambling and licensing laws, and the future of the BBC. They land on the desk of the designer-suited, softly-spoken but fiercely determined woman dubbed 'the Nanny of New Labour', Aptly, for a Culture Secretary, Jowell acquired her socialist principles after seeing the slave rebellion film *Spartacus*.

OFF-DUTY: She is married to millionaire

lawyer David Mills, golf partner of Labour spin-king Alastair Campbell. Jowell has two children and three step-children, a home in North London and a luxurious country pile in Gloucestershire, complete with pool, Jacuzzi and Colombian housekeeper.

DID YOU KNOW: Mills is currently being investigated by Italian authorities over claims of his involvement in an alleged tax evasion and money laundering scandal linked to his client, Italy's billionaire premier Silvio Berlusconi. He denies any wrongdoing.



100 POWER BROKERS



Cherie Booth QC, 48

Job: Barrister and judge  
Salary: est £350,000 salary

ON-DUTY: To some a heroine, to others a wicked witch, Cherie Booth — alias Mrs Tony Blair — is an astonishing mix of contradictions. Fiercely feminist, yet willing to use tears to gain public sympathy; fiercely Left-wing, yet so obsessed by

The most controversial woman in British politics (as Prime Minister's consort) since the departure of Mrs T

her family's need for capital that she all-but destroyed her reputation in a bizarre property deal; fiercely intellectual, yet devoted to her New Age style guru Carole Caplin.

As a lawyer, she is a powerful voice for feminism and civil rights, and is a Recorder (junior judge).

As a wife, she exerts huge influence over her Prime Minister husband. As a talking-point, she's a national obsession.

OFF-DUTY: Married to Tony Blair MP. They have four children and divide their time between Downing Street, Chequers, Tuscany and various friends' European estates. Favourite designer remains Ronit Zilkha. Drives a Chrysler Voyager.

DID YOU KNOW: In 1972, a teenage Cherie told a friend she wanted to be Britain's first female Prime Minister.



DAME RENNIE FRITCHIE, 60

Job: Public Appointments Commissioner  
Earnings: £126,000

ON-DUTY: Dame Rennie is a woman who inspires by example. At 28, abandoned by her husband, with two children to raise, she was living in a council house on the East Coast of Scotland. Now, she is a Dame, responsible for regulating 11,000 appointments made on quangos and official bodies. She does the job without fear of offending the Government. One of her first reports noted that in the first 18 months of the Blair Government, 284 Labour councillors were picked for health authority posts compared with 36 Liberal Democrats and 53 Tories.

OFF-DUTY: Lives in Gloucestershire. Tragically, one of her sons was killed in a hit-and-run car smash.

DID YOU KNOW: Dame Rennie's Who's Who interests include, 'Listening to the Archers.'

BARONESS THATCHER, 77

Job: Former PM  
Earnings: Undisclosed, included up to £1.5m per year from public speaking plus £22,550 PM's pension

ON-DUTY: Love her or loathe her (and it was always one or the other), Mrs Thatcher's legacy continues to influence this country and the world beyond. Her privatisation revolution has spread around the globe. Her domestic policies either (take your pick) revived a dying UK economy or condemned millions to unemployment. She went to war to save the Falklands. With Ronald Reagan, she won the Cold War that toppled the Soviet Union — but left a far less stable world order.

The Tory Party has never recovered from the internal coup that removed her. Tony Blair rode to victory on the back of her policies. And she proved, beyond question, that a woman can run the country.

OFF-DUTY: Lives in Belgravia, London with her 87-year-old husband, (Sir) Denis, who underwent a heart bypass operation in January this year. Car: chauffeur-driven Jaguar.

DID YOU KNOW: Medicine has finally done what opponents could not and silenced Mrs T. Following a series of minor strokes, doctors

have ordered her to make no more public speeches.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, 76

Job: Monarch and Head of State  
Earnings: £7.7million 'salary'

ON-DUTY: Of course, Her Majesty has virtually no formal political power. But she has known every PM since Churchill, met each of them every week, and been the ultimate sounding-board — wise, well-informed and

totally discreet — for leaders in times of crisis. Her role as mother of an increasingly fractured Royal Family has — for good and ill — affected our views, both of the monarchy and of family life itself. The majority of her subjects have known no other ruler. And if you want to know how different it would be without her, just imagine singing, 'God save the King'.

OFF-DUTY: Mother-of-four and married to Philip, but you just possibly knew that already. Divides her time between Buckingham Palace, Windsor, Balmoral and Sandringham. Salary is strictly to cover official household costs, including salaries (£4.7m), garden parties (£423,326), food for entertaining and staff (£393,544), petrol (£43,150), flowers (£30,000) and computer equipment (£87,500).

Daily Mail BRITAIN'S 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN



Rachel Lomax, 57

Job: Deputy Governor of the Bank of England  
Earnings: Salary about £200,000

'Old Lady of Threadneedle Street' now has a powerful woman at the top

ON-DUTY: Brilliant, impatient, forthright Rachel Lomax was facing the toughest job in Whitehall — trying to get the trains to run on time — when she was poached from her job as Permanent Secretary, Department of Transport, to become the first woman Deputy Governor in the 300-year history of the Bank of England.

So now she's got the second-toughest task: getting the economy back on track.

She's certainly got the talent for the job. A professional economist, she was vice-president of the World Bank and head of three Whitehall departments before moving to the Bank of England.

OFF-DUTY: Now divorced, she worked part-time for seven years while raising her two sons.

DID YOU KNOW: She can conquer the world of high finance and government, but not her craving for nicotine. She's smoked her way to the top, colleagues joke.