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City Diary Peter Stiff



In the blue corner
Nick Aitchison

There is no doubt that the banks of the Thames will be thick with boardroom blazers this weekend as the oars break the water's surface for the Henley Royal Regatta. What better opportunity for Nick Aitchison to get into his stroke as a director of Hanson Green, the headhunter of non-executives. The former chairman of the Leander rowing club has 12 years' experience in boardroom recruitment, being a former managing director of the search firm Russell Reynolds and as a partner at Stork & May, the career advisers. Aitchison started his career at Mars Confectionery and did a stint at BAT before entering professional services. Non-execs, he says, are no longer flattered to sit on FTSE boards. Debate is the order of the day, and the idea that directors are interested only in the rubber stamp is wrong. Let's hope he's right.

