



Feet first: Brian Johnston plans to play an advisory role similar to the one he offers at Bank of Scotland. Photograph: Robert Perry

## Johnston quits post in move to be own BoS

TERRY MURDEN

BRIAN Johnston, one of the most active banking executives in entrepreneurial circles in Scotland, is leaving Bank of Scotland to work for himself.

Johnston, head of corporate relationship banking, has been a familiar face at a number of high-profile events, including dinners and conferences held by the Entrepre-

neurial Exchange at which he has been a speaker and key contributor.

He has worked with some of the country's most successful tycoons and helped hundreds of businesses with advice and funding.

Johnston has clocked up 34 years at the bank and said that during the summer he decided he wanted to make a break "to do something else".

He leaves the bank at the end of the year. However, he will continue in much the same line of work and will work on some projects for the bank.

He is actively involved in the Finance Director of the Year competition which the bank sponsors.

"It is the right time for me," said Johnston. "I was 52 in the summer and I decided I needed to do this while I am still feeling

energetic. This is a second career for me."

He will be offering strategic advice to emerging companies and hopes to pick up a few non-executive roles.

A spokesman for the bank said: "We're sorry to see him go. He has been very instrumental in raising the bank's profile and has a lot of contacts. That has made him a great ambassador for the bank."