FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED

29 FEBRUARY 1996



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

Company registration number: 31789

Registered office:

Boswell House Broad Street Oxford OX1 3AG

Directors:

Mr A F H Pearson Mr C G Pearson Mr R de P Pearson Mr J A H Pearson Miss S B Pearson

Secretary:

Miss S B Pearson

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank Plc 15 Broad Street Oxford OX1 3AS

Solicitors:

Marshall & Galpin Vanbrugh House 20 St Michael's Street Oxford

Oxford OXI 2EA

Auditors:

Grant Thornton Registered auditors Chartered accountants 1 Westminster Way

Oxford OX2 0PZ

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their report together with financial statements for the period ended 29 February 1996.

Principal activities

The company is principally engaged in retail trading, mainly in pharmaceutical goods and toys.

Business review

The company has had a satisfactory year and the directors are of the opinion that the company will continue to trade profitably in the future.

There was a profit for the period after taxation amounting to £49,187 (1995: profit £33,610). The directors recommend dividends absorbing £25,200 (1995: £23,400), leaving £23,987 retained (1995: £10,210 retained).

Directors

The present membership of the Board is set out below. All directors served throughout the period.

Mr C G Pearson retires by rotation and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

The interests of the directors and their families in the shares of the company as at 29 February 1996 and 1 March 1995 were as follows:

	Ordinary shares	
	29 February	
	1996	1995
Mr A F H Pearson	21	21
Mr C G Pearson	31	31
Mr R de P Pearson	25	25
Mr J A H Pearson	20	20
Miss S B Pearson	3	3

Directors' responsibilities for the financial statements

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Auditors

Grant Thornton offer themselves for reappointment as auditors in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Miss S B Pearson

Secretary

Boswell House Broad Street Oxford

11 July 1996

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF

OXFORD DRUG COMPANY LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 12 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on pages 4 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of the directors and auditors

As described on page 1 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 29 February 1996 and of its profit for the period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

GRANT THORNTON
REGISTERED AUDITORS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

OXFORD 11 July 1996

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The principal accounting policies of the company have remained unchanged from the previous year and are set out below.

TURNOVER

Turnover is the total amount receivable by the company in the ordinary course of business with outside customers for goods supplied as a principal and for services provided, excluding VAT and trade discounts.

INVESTMENTS

Investments are included at cost.

DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives. The methods used are:

Motor vehicles

20% per annum; reducing balance

Fixtures and fittings

10% per annum; reducing balance

Store extension

Remainder of lease

Computers

20% on costs, equal annual instalments

REPAIRS AND RENEWALS

All repairs and renewals are written off as incurred.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost means purchase price, transport and handling charges (less trade discounts) determined on a first in first out basis.

Net realisable value means estimated selling price (less trade discounts) less all costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

DEFERRED TAXATION

Deferred tax is provided for under the liability method using the tax rates estimated to arise when the timing differences reverse and is accounted for to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallise. Unprovided deferred tax is disclosed as a contingent liability.

Debit balances arising in respect of advance corporation tax on dividends payable or proposed are carried forward to the extent that they are expected to be recoverable.

LEASED ASSETS

All leases are regarded as operating leases and the payments made under them are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

DEBTORS

Known bad debts are written off and specific provision is made for any considered to be doubtful.

BANK BALANCES

Bank balances are as stated in the bank statements, outstanding cheques and receipts being included in creditors and debtors respectively.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PENSION FUNDS

The pension costs charged against profits represent the amount of the contributions payable to the company's defined contribution pension scheme in respect of the accounting period.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the period ended 29 February 1996

	Note	1996 £	1995 £
Turnover Cost of sales	1	1,510,624 1,029,725	1,457,866 1,014,667
Gross profit		480,899	443,199
Administrative expenses		428,591	406,757
Operating profit		52,308	36,442.
Profit on sale of investments		(4,865)	-
Income from investments Interest receivable	3	(1,655) (8,221)	(1,828) (7,435)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1	67,049	45,705
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	17,862	12,095
Profit for the financial period	13	49,187	33,610
Dividends	5	25,200	23,400
Profit transferred to reserves	12	23,987	10,210

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the financial period.

BALANCE SHEET AT 29 FEBRUARY 1996

	Note	1996 £	1995 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	57,348	54,122
Investments	7	5,941	14,091
		63,289	68,213
Current assets		•	
Stocks	8	289,702	256,917
Debtors	9	424,903	342,885
Cash at bank and in hand		1,159	24,097
		715,764	623,899
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	259,890	196,936
Net current assets		455,874	426,963
Total assets less current liabilities		519,163	495,176
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	11	2,000	2,000
Share premium account	12	750	750
Profit and loss account	12	516,413	492,426
Shareholders' funds	13	519,163	495,176

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 11 July 1996.

J A H Pearson

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Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

1 TURNOVER AND PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATIO	BEFORE TAXATION
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	The profit on ordinary activities is stated after:	1996 £	1995 £
	Auditors' remuneration	4,775	4,775
	Depreciation and amortisation:	7.025	6 190
	Tangible fixed assets, owned Management charges	7,925 50,000	6,189 48,000 -
2	DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES		
	The directors received no remuneration during the year (1995 Nil)		
3	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	1996 £	1995 £
	Bank interest receivable	(8,221)	(7,435)
4	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
	The tax charge is based on the profit for the period and represents:		
		1996 £	1995 £
	UK Corporation tax at 25% (1995: 25%)	18,100	11,295
	Deferred taxation	400	800
	Tax attributable to franked investment income	331	-
		18,831	12,095
	Adjustments in respect of prior periods:		
	Corporation tax	(969)	
		17,862	12,095

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

5 DIVIDENDS

	1996 £	1995 £
Ordinary shares - interim dividend paid of 4400p per share (1995 4400p) Ordinary shares - final dividend proposed of 8200p per share (1995 7300p)	8,800 16,400	8,800 14,600
	25,200	23,400

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Short Leashold. Store extension	Motor vehicles	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost At 1 March 1995 Additions	11,221	- 11,151	98,112	109,333 11,151
At 29 February 1996	11,221	11,151	98,112	120,484
Depreciation At 1 March 1995 Provided in the period	3,800 190	2,231	51,411 5,504	55,211 7,925
At 29 February 1996	3,990	2,231	56,915	63,136
Net book amount at 29 February 1996	7,231	8,920	41,197	57,348
Net book amount at 28 February 1995	7,421	<u>-</u>	46,701	54,122

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

7 FIXED ASSETS INVESTMENTS

	Investments other than	
	loans	Total £
Cost	£	T.
At 1 March 1995	14,091	14,091
Additions	1,324	1,324
Disposals	(9,474)	(9,474)
At 29 February 1996	5,941	5,941
Net book amount at 29 February 1996	5,941	5,941
Net book amount at 28 February 1995	14,091	14,091

Investments are stated at cost and include £5,040 (1995 £3,716) listed on a recognised stock exchange. The aggregate market value of listed investments at 29 February 1996 was £44,924 (1995 £44,961).

8 STOCKS

9

	1996 £	1995 £
Goods for resale	289,702	256,917
DEBTORS		
	1996	1995
	£	£
Trade debtors	44,281	39,180
H Boswell & Co Limited	372,558	292,893
Other debtors	1,101	6,053
Prepayments and accrued income	6,963	4,759
	424,903	342,885

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

10	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		1996	1995
		£	£
	Trade creditors	173,206	127,829
	Boswells Properties Limited	12,717	6,413
	Corporation tax	19,100	11,800
	Social security and other taxes	21,658	18,783
	Proposed dividends	16,400	14,600
	Other creditors	16,809	17,511 -
		259,890	196,936
11	SHARE CAPITAL		
		1007	1005
		1996 £	1995 £
	Authorised, allotted, called up and fully paid		
	ordinary shares of £10 each	2,000	2,000
12	SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT AND RESERVES		
		Share	
		premium	Profit and
		account	loss account
		£	£
	At 1 March 1995	750	492,426
	Retained profit for the period	-	23,987
	At 29 February 1996	750	516,413
	•		<u></u>
13	RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
		1996 £	1995 £
	Profit for the financial period	49,187	33,610
	Dividends	(25,200)	(23,400)
	Net increase in shareholders' funds	23,987	10,210
	Shareholders' funds at 1 March 1995	495,176	484,966
	Shareholders' funds at 29 February 1996	519,163	495,176

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period ended 29 February 1996

14 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS

All the directors of this company are directors and shareholders of Boswells Properties Limited from which this company rents premises at a rent below current market value.

15 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The company had no capital commitments at 29 February 1996 or 28 February 1995.

16 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 29 February 1996 or 28 February 1995.

17 PENSIONS

The company has a non-contributory insured defined contribution pension scheme to provide retirement benefits for directors and senior employees. The assets of the scheme are administered by trustees in a fund independent from those of the company.