HAYNES BROTHERS LIMITED REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31ST DECEMBER 1997

REGISTERED NUMBER: 48511

Kidsons Impey
Chartered Accountants
Spectrum House
20-26 Cursitor Street
London EC4A 1HY



DIRECTORS REPORT

31st December 1997

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31st December 1997.

Principal activities and business review

The company trades under the name Haynes of Maidstone Limited as Motor Engineers with a Distributorship for Ford cars that includes a Sports and Recreational Specialist Dealer Franchise and a Ford Transit Specialist Dealer Franchise. Additionally, the company holds an Iveco Ford Truck Franchise. The company also trades under the name Haynes Agricultural (Kent) Limited as Agricultural Engineers including the New Holland Franchise for Ford and Fiat Tractors and Harvest Equipment for Kent together with other Franchises for Agricultural and Turfcare Equipment.

In the face of the continuing pressures generally of a highly competitive market, the balance sheet on page 5 continues to reflect a very strong commercial base, from which the company will continue wherever possible to expand its business opportunities.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are required under company law 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 these financial statements they are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, and give details of any departures;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless in my view the company will be unable to continue in business.

They are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the company's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Profits and dividends

The profit on ordinary activities for the year after tax amounted to £104,671 (1996: £173,141). Dividends of £26,102 (1996: £28,676) were paid in the year on the variable rate cumulative preference shares. It is recommended that a dividend of £175 be paid in respect of the 3½% preference shares. The directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of £50,000 on the ordinary shares. The balance of £28,394 (1996: £44,290) is added to reserves.

Directors

The following were directors of the company at 31st December 1997 and served throughout the year.

D.B. Haynes A.D.S. Haynes

DIRECTORS REPORT

31st December 1997 (continued)

Directors shareholdings

The interests of the directors in the company's share capital are set out below:

At 31st December 1997 Shares of £10 each 3\% cumulative

At 31st December 1996 Shares of £10 each 3½% cumulative Ordinary preference shares Ordinary preference shares

D.B. Haynes

4,200

4,200

225

A.D.S. Haynes

225

The interest of Mr D.B. Haynes in 1,440 ordinary shares of £10 each is non-beneficial and Mr A.D.S. Haynes has an interest as trust beneficiary in these shares.

In addition D.B. Haynes holds £14,000 (1996: £14,000) of the perpetual unsecured loan stock.

Disabled persons

It is established company policy to offer the same opportunity to disabled people as to all others in matters of recruitment and career advancement, provided they have the ability to perform the tasks required with or without training, and to provide retraining where necessary in cases when disability is incurred during employment with the company.

Employee involvement

It is company policy to ensure that employees are provided with information on all matters of concern to them. Accordingly appropriate steps are taken to ensure that employees or their representatives are aware of the financial and economic factors affecting the company's performance, are consulted wherever necessary and are encouraged generally to be involved in the company's overall performance.

Donations

During the year, the company made donations for political and charitable purposes amounting to £2,870 (1996: £3,171).

Auditors

Kidsons Impey have agreed to offer themselves for re-election as auditors of the company.

Mr P.E. Haynes, a partner in Kidsons Impey, has an interest in his capacity as a Trustee, in 150 non-voting ordinary shares of £10 each.

Mr J.R. Hetherington, a former partner in Kidsons Impey, has an interest in his capacity as a Trustee, in 1,150 voting ordinary shares of £10 each and 250 non-voting ordinary shares of £10 each.

By order of the board

G.J. Morgan

Secretary

Registered Office: 23 Ashford Road Maidstone Kent ME145DQ

19th August 1998

AUDITORS' REPORT

Auditors' report to the members of Haynes Brothers Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 13 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 8.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 1 the directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of 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 31st December 1997 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Kidsons Impey

Registered Auditors

Chartered Accountants

London

19th August 1998

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31st December 1997

	Note	1997 £	1996 £
Turnover	2	30,696,285	30,798,180
Cost of sales		<u>(28,378,085</u>)	(28,527,549)
Gross profit		2,318,200	2,270,631
Advertising and distribution costs		(584,596)	(443,502)
Administrative expenses		(1,409,629)	(1,461,993)
Operating profit		323,975	365,136
Interest payable	3	(188,804)	(136,995)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	3	135,171	228,141
Taxation	6	(30,500)	(55,000)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		104,671	173,141
Dividends	7	(76,277)	(128,851)
Retained profit for the financial year		28,394	44,290
Balance brought forward		4,323,057	4,278,767
Balance carried forward		4,351,451	4,323,057

All activities are classed as continuing.

A statement of recognised gains and losses has not been prepared as there are no recognised gains and losses other than the profit for the year.

BALANCE SHEET

at 31st December 1997

	Note	199	97	199	96
Fixed assets		£	£	£	£
rized assets					
Investments Tangible assets	8 9		8,082		8,082
rangible assets	9		5,332,615		5,240,218
Current assets			5,340,697		5,248,300
Stocks	10	6,024,862		5,390,511	
Debtors	11	2,757,549		2,934,946	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,175		2,070	
Creditors: amounts falling due within		8,784,586		8,327,527	
one year	12	5,953,371		_5,528,959	
Net current assets			2,831,215		2,798,568
Total assets less current liabilities			8,171,912		8,046,868
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12	575,430		474,280	
Provisions for liabilities and charges	13	20,000		24,500	
			<u>595,430</u>		498,780
Net assets			7,576,482		7,548,088
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	14		415,000		415,000
Revaluation reserve Profit and loss account	15		2,810,031		2,810,031
	15		4,351,451		4,323,057
Net assets			7,576,482		7,548,088
Attributable to:					
Equity shareholders			7,221,482		7,193,088
Non-equity shareholders			355,000		355,000
-			7,576,482		7,548,088

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 19th August 1998.

Director

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the year ended 31st December 1997

	Note	1997 £	1996 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities	а	850,246	539,612
Returns on investment and servicing of finance	С	(218,340)	(165,846)
Taxation		(65,226)	(56,688)
Capital expenditure	c	(192,732)	(140,987)
		373,948	176,091
Equity dividends paid		-	(200,000)
Financing	с	<u>(582,105</u>)	497,905
		(208,157)	473,996

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the year ended 31st December 1997

a) Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities

		1997 £	1996 £
	Operating profit	327,234	365,136
	Depreciation charges	112,168	107,410
	Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(11,833)	•
	(Increase) in stocks	(634,351)	(499,204)
	Decrease in debtors	188,049	74,590
	Increase in creditors Decrease in deposit with Ford Motor Company	868,979	342,236
	Decrease in deposit with Ford Motor Company		149,444
		850,246	539,612
b)	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt		
	Decrease/increase in cash in the year	(208,157)	(473,996)
	Net debt at 1 January	<u>(606,143</u>)	149,444
	Net debt at 31 December	(814,300)	(606,143)
	Cash at bank and in hand	2,175	2,070
	Bank loans and overdrafts	<u>(816,475</u>)	(608,213)
		(814,300)	(606,143)
c)	Gross cash flows		
	i) Returns on investment and servicing of finance		
	Interest paid	(192,063)	(136,995)
	Non-equity dividends	(26,277)	(28,851)
		(919 940)	(165.946)
	ii) Capital expenditure	(218,340)	(165,846)
	Payment to acquire tangible fixed assets	(250,116)	(179,888)
	Receipts from sale of tangible fixed assets	57,384	38,981
	Payments to acquire investments	<u> </u>	(80)
		(192,732)	(140,987)
	iii) Financing	(132,102)	(140,981)
	Bills of exchange	(500,000)	500,000
	Capital element of finance leases	(206,405)	(242,651)
	Finance leases acquired	124,300	240,556
		(582,105)	497,905
		<u>,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,</u>	10.,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December 1997

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost accounting rules except for certain freehold land and buildings which are stated at revalued amounts.

Cost of sales

Cost of sales is stated as all those costs directly incurred by the company, including depreciation, in order to bring each product sold to its saleable condition and to provide the services to customers.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land and buildings, in equal annual instalments over their estimated useful lives, at the rate of 10% per annum, except for motor vehicles which are written down to their estimated realisable value at the balance sheet date.

It is the company's policy to maintain its properties in such a condition that their residual value, as assessed at the time of acquisition or subsequent valuation, is at least equal to book value. Having regard to this, it is the opinion of the directors that depreciation of any such freehold property, as required by the Companies Act 1985 and accounting standards, would not be material and accordingly none is provided.

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

The dealership has made arrangements with a limited number of customers which include the commitment to repurchase vehicles at a future date at a pre-determined price. In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard No. 5, the residual interest in these vehicles is included in stock with the corresponding liability included in creditors falling due within one year and creditors falling due after more than one year.

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided under the liability method in respect of the taxation effect of all timing differences to the extent that tax liabilities are likely to crystallise in the foreseeable future.

Assets held under finance leases

For assets under finance leases acquired since 1st January 1991, the asset is capitalised and the corresponding liability to the finance company is included in finance lease creditors. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the profit and loss account at rates calculated to write off the capitalised value of the asset over the shorter of its expected useful life and the term of the lease. Finance lease payments are treated as consisting of capital and interest elements and the interest is charged to the profit and loss account over the period of the agreement.

Certain agricultural vehicles are leased to customers on a short-term basis, the asset being included in agricultural stocks.

For assets acquired under finance leases in earlier years, the assets were not capitalised and the rentals are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis.

Pensions

Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account on the basis of actuarial recommendations to the scheme trustees.

2 Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value excluding value added tax, of goods sold and services provided to customers.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December 1997 (continued)

3	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	19 £	997	_	996
	This is stated after charging:	ž	£	£	£
	Interest payable: Finance charges under finance leases Loans wholly repayable within five years Loans not wholly repayable within five years Bank overdraft and other interest	3,259 84,641 5,500 98,663	192,063	36,155 5,500 <u>95,340</u>	136,955
	Depreciation Auditors' remuneration for audit Auditors' remuneration for other services		112,168 18,750 18,575		107,410 18,000 14,355
4	Directors' emoluments			1997 £	1996 £
	Total emoluments			237,515	253,380
	Emoluments, for management, excluding pension co	ntributions		237,315	249,958
	The emoluments of the highest paid director were			177,139	201,183
5	Employees				
	The average number of persons including direct the company during the year was:	tors employ	ed by		
	Service and workshop staff Management and administration Sales staff			140 62 <u>25</u> 227	138 61 <u>24</u> <u>223</u>
	Staff costs:			£	£
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs			3,517,723 333,033 115,686	3,453,409 331,615 106,339
	Pensions costs			3,966,440	3,891,363

The company operates a pension scheme based on final pensionable pay. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company, being invested with insurance companies. Contributions funding the scheme are charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the company.

The financial position of the scheme is determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of triennial valuations using the projected unit method. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return of investments and the rates of increase in salaries. The most recent valuation available was at 1st April 1996. It was then assumed that share dividends would increase by 4%, pensionable salaries by 6% and investment returns by 9% per annum. This valuation showed that the scheme's assets covered 100% (1993: 89%) of its liabilities.

For the purposes of determining the pension charge in the financial statements, different actuarial assumptions are used, the key change being a higher assumed investment return. These assumptions lead to a pension charge for the year of £115,486 (1996: £102,917).

The contributions of the company for the year were 7.2% (staff) and 2.4% (works) and contributions are to continue at this level until the next triennial valuation. No contributions are paid by employees.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December 1997 (continued)

6	Taxation		1997 £	1996 £
	United Kingdom corporation tax payable based on the profit for the year at 21.75% Transfer (from)/to deferred taxation (Note 13)		35,000 (4,500)	47,000 8,000
			30,500	55,000
7	Dividends		£	£
	31/2% Cumulative preference shares -proposed Variable rate cumulative preference shares -paid Ordinary shares - interim paid - final proposed		175 26,102 	175 28,676 100,000
8	Fixed asset investments	Others	76,277 Subsidiary undertakings	128,851 Total
		£	£	£
	At 31st December 1996	<u>7,880</u>	202	8,082
	At 31st December 1997	7,880	202	8,082

The investments in subsidiary undertakings comprise two dormant agency wholly-owned subsidiary companies, Haynes of Maidstone Limited and Haynes Agricultural (Kent) Limited which are incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales.

The other investment relates to a minority holding in Dealer Truck Services, an unlimited private company formed to hold Iveco Ford dealers' interests in Trucksure Services Limited. This investment is held through a wholly-owned subsidiary company, Haynes Truck (Contracts) Limited, also incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales.

9	Tangible fixed assets	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Plant and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
	Cost or valuation					
	1st January 1997	4,790,355	284,784	1,067,359	347,317	6,489,815
	Additions	-	7,493	78,655	163,968	250,116
	Disposals	-	<u>(24,379</u>)	<u>(177,170</u>)	(96,340)	(297,889)
	31st December 1997	4,790,355	267,898	968,844	414,945	6,442,042
	Depreciation				-	
	1st January 1997		238,646	810,284	200,667	1,249,597
	Charge for the year	-	12,422	58,616	41,130	112,168
	Disposals		(24,379)	<u>(175,158</u>)	(52,802)	(252,339)
	31st December 1997		226,689	693,742	<u> 188,995</u>	1,109,426
	Net book amount					
	31st December 1997	4,790,355	41,209	275,102	225,950	5,332,615
	31st December 1996	4,790,355	46,138	257,075	146,650	5,240,218

All tangible fixed assets are shown at cost with the exception of freehold land and buildings which comprised £4,521,000 at valuation in 1992 and £269,355 at cost. The company's freehold premises in Maidstone were revalued on 19th November 1992 by Montagu Evans Chartered Surveyors on the basis of open market value for existing use. The freehold properties at Appledore and Eastry continue to be shown at cost.

Included in motor vehicles are vehicles being acquired under finance leases with a book value of £111,600 (1996: £25,500) on which the depreciation charge for the year was £14,498.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December 1997 (continued)

10 Stocks	1997 £	1996 £
Cars and commercial vehicles	2,427,977	1,984,274
Vehicle repurchase commitments	728,460	564,980
Agricultural vehicles and implements	1,659,561	1,571,749
Parts stock	1,208,864	1,269,508
	6,024,862	5.390.511

The replacement cost of stocks is not materially different from the balance sheet value.

At 31st December 1997 the total amount of consignment stock held on a sale or return basis and not recorded in the balance sheet amounted to £2,596,292 (1996: £1,962,080). The principal terms of the consignment agreements, which can be terminated by either side, are such that the company can return any or all of the stock to the relevant suppliers without financial or commercial penalties and the supplier can vary stock prices. The dealer was previously required to lodge a financial deposit under these agreements.

Stocks include £728,460 (1996: £564,980) relating to the residual interest on vehicles which include a commitment to repurchase at a future date at a pre-determined price. The corresponding liability is included in creditors falling due within one year and creditors falling due after more than one year to comply with Financial Reporting Standard No. 5.

11	Debtors	1997 £	1996 £
	Amounts due within one year:		2
	Trade debtors	2,366,331	2,579,941
	Other debtors	167,141	215,081
	Prepayments and accrued income	193,628	120,127
	Advance corporation tax recoverable	<u>30,449</u>	19,797
		2,757,549	2,934,946

12	Creditors	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due afte more than one year	
		1997	1996	1997	1996
		£	£	£	£
	Bank loans and overdrafts	816,475	608,213	-	_
	Perpetual unsecured loan stock	· -	•	55,000	55,000
	Other loans	1,083,293	342,000		,
	Bills of exchange	-	500,000	-	•
	Trade creditors	2,854,092	2,885,121	_	-
	Corporation tax	31,720	10,199	_	-
	Advance corporation tax	12,500	53,595	_	•
	Other taxes and social security costs	203,428	184,198	_	_
	Other creditors	221,998	219,306	-	_
	Accruals and deferred income	347,158	373,845	-	-
	Amounts owed to subsidiary undertakings	202	202	-	_
	Net obligations under finance leases	124,300	206,405	-	_
	Vehicle repurchase commitments	208,030	145,700	520,430	419,280
	Proposed dividends	50,175	175		
		5,953,371	5,528,959	575,430	474,280

The finance lease obligations shown above relate to short term leases lasting less than a year where the corresponding assets are included under agricultural vehicle stocks.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December 1997 (continued)

13	Provisions for liabilities and charges	Accelerated capital allowances	Short term timing differences £	Total £
	Full provision has been made, based on a corporation tax rate of 25%, in respect of corporation tax deferred because of timing differences			
	At 1st January 1997 Transfer from profit and loss account - movement	36,500 <u>(7,500</u>)	$(12,000) \\ 3,000$	24,500 (4,500)
	At 31st December 1997	29,000	(9,000)	20,000

14 Called-up share capital 1997 and 1996 Allotted, Number of Called-up and shares Authorised **Fully Paid** £ Equity share capital Ordinary shares of £10 each 5,600 56,000 56,000 Non-voting ordinary shares of £10 each 400 4,000 4,000 60,000 60,000 Non-equity share capital Variable rate cumulative preference shares of £1 each 350,000 350,000 350,000 3½% cumulative preference shares of £10 each 500 5,000 5,000 355,000 355,000 Total share capital 415,000 415,000

The variable rate preference shares have no rights other than the right to a dividend of $1^{1}/_{2}\%$ over average bank base rate for the preceding year payable in arrears on 30th June and 31st December and the right on a return of assets on liquidation or otherwise for the capital paid up to be repaid together with any arrears or accruals of the cumulative preference dividend before any amounts are repaid to any other shareholder. The $3^{1}/_{2}\%$ cumulative preference shares have no rights other than the right to a dividend of $3^{1}/_{2}\%$ payable annually and the right to second preference behind the variable rate cumulative preference shares on a return of assets on liquidation or otherwise.

15 Reserves	Total £	Revaluation reserve £	Profit and loss account
1st January 1997 Profit for the financial year	7,133,088 <u>28,394</u>	2,810,031	4,323,057 28,394
31st December 1997	7,161,482	2,810,031	4,351,451

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December 1997 (continued)

16	Capital commitments and contingent liabilities	1997 £	1996 £
	Capital commitments authorised by the Board and for which contracts had been placed:	<u>Nil</u>	Nil
	Contingent liabilities: Terminable indemnity re advance payment guarantee	37,000	74,000
17	Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds	£	£
	Profit for the financial year Dividends	104,671 (76,277)	173,141 (128,851)
	Net addition to shareholders' funds	28,394	44,290
	Opening shareholders' funds	7,548,088	7,503,798
	Closing shareholders' funds	7,576,482	7,548,088

18 Related party transactions

Mr. D.B. Haynes, the Chairman, owns 46% and Mr. A.D.S. Haynes has an interest in 24% of the equity share capital of the company; taken together these shares control 75% of the voting rights.

Included in other loans is a balance of £91,697 (1996: £92,000) owing to Mr D.B. Haynes; no interest is charged on this loan.