Ben Johnson and Company Limited



Accounts — 31 December 1988
Together with Directors' and
Auditors' Reports

166396

BEN JOHNSON AND COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Ben Johnson and Company Limited will be held at the offices of the Company at Boroughbridge Road, York at 10.45 a.m. on 10 April 1989 for the following purposes -

As ordinary business -

- (1) To receive and approve the Directors' Report and the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1988.
- (2) To re-appoint Messrs. Arthur Andersen & Co. as Auditors of the Company and authorise the Frectors to determine their remuneration.
- (3) To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

C.H. Renton Secretary

Boroughbridge Road, York YO2 5SS. CONTAINES HOUSE
17 MAY 1989

16 March 1989

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

The directors present their annual report on the affairs of the company together with the accounts and auditors' report for the year ended 31 December 1988.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW:

The principal activities of the company are the manufacture of high quality colour printing, the production of telephone directories and computer software manuals, the distribution of telephone directories and the retailing of office equipment and supplies.

The operations of this business continued to improve during 1988 resulting in improved profits despite severe price pressures being exerted in the marketplace. Investments are planned to continue during 1989 at both Gateshead and York.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS:

Results are as follows -

Retained profit at 31 December 1987 Profit for the financial year Interim dividend paid	£ 18,171,024 11,369,805 (631,837)
Retained profit at 31 December 1988	£ 28,908,992

The directors do not recommend payment of a final dividend.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS:

J.A. Capstick (appointed 19 January 1989)

J.W.D. Ward

J.D.Hansen (appointed 4 October 1988)

C.H. Renton

P.M. Sweet

V.J.N. Auer

J. Craft

K.B. Dallas

P.J. McQuillan

The directors do not have any interests required to be disclosed under Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985.

FIXED ASSETS:

Information relating to changes in tangible fixed assets is given in Note 10 to the accounts.

The directors are of the opinion that the land and buildings, which have a net book value of £6,030,601, have a continuing use value in excess of this figure.

DISABLED EMPLOYEES:

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the respective aptitudes and abilities of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled every effort is made to ensure that their employment with the company continues and that appropriate training is arranged. It is the policy of the company that the training, career development and promotion of disabled persons should, as far as possible, be identical with that of other employees.

EMPLOYEE CONSULTATION:

The company places considerable value on the involvement of its employees and has continued its previous practice of keeping them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on the various factors affecting the performance of the company. This is achieved through circulation of information to employees via notice boards, production of a monthly in-house bulletin and presentations given at regular intervals.

AUDITORS:

The directors will place a resolution before the annual general meeting to re-appoint Arthur Andersen & Co. as auditors for the ensuing year.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD:

C.H_Renton Secretary

16 March 1989

To the members of BEN JOHNSON AND COMPANY LIMITED:

We have audited the accounts set out on pages 6 to 18 in accordance with approved Auditing Standards.

In our opinion the accounts, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets, give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at 31 December 1988 and of the profit and source and application of funds for the year then ended, and comply with the Companies Act 1985.

Arthus Anderson & Co.

Arthur Andersen & Co.

Leeds

16 March 1989

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

	Note	1988	<u> 1987</u>
TURNOVER	2	£89,083,776	£76,222,705
Cost of sales		(75,089,530)	(68,288,047)
GROSS PROFIT		13,994,246	7,934,658
Other operating expenses	3	(5,342,643)	(4,691,333)
OPERATING PROFIT		8,651,603	3,243,325
Interest receivable and similar income	.	1,539,309	1,631,278
Interest payable and similar charges	4	(1,127,883)	(87,314)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	5		4,787,289
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	(1,211,000)	(1,654,000)
PROFIT BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS		7,852,029	3,133,289
Extraordinary items	8	3,517,776	
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		11,369,805	3,133,289
Dividend paid	9	(631,837)	
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		10,737,968	3,133,289
RETAINED PROFIT, at 31 December 1987		18,171,024	15,037,735
RETAINED PROFIT, at 31 December 1988		£28,908,992	£18,171,024

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this profit and loss account.

BALANCE SHEET -- 31 DECEMBER 1988

	<u>Note</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1987</u>
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	£14,487,791	£ 8,428,947
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	12 13	7,485,964 22,327,201 9,660,119	7,379,070 17,886,665 9,983,759
		39,473,284	35,249,494
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(13,727,332)	(14,726,196)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		25,745,952	20,523,298
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		40,233,743	28,952,245
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(424,522)	(141,992)
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	16	(1,489,000)	(1,228,000)
NET ASSETS		£38,320,221 ========	£27,582,253
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital Revaluation reserve Capital contribution Profit and loss account	17 18 18 18	£ 5,157,850 253,379 4,000,000 28,908,992	£ 5,157,850 253,379 4,000,000 18,171,024
TOTAL CAPITAL EMPLOYED		£38,320,221	£27,582,253

Signed on behalf of the board:

) Directors

16 March 1989

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

STATEMENT OF SOURCE AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1988

SOURCE OF FUNDS	<u> 1988</u>	1987
Profit for the financial year	£11,369,805	£3,133,289
 add (deduct) items not involving cash flow: Depreciation charge for the year Net profits on disposal of tangible fixed assets Increase in provision for liabilities and charges 	1,265,283 - 261,000	931,160 (3,283) -
FUNDS FROM OPERATIONS	12,896,088	4,061,166
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets Transfer of fixed assets to other group companies Increase in creditors falling due after one year		253,393 62,647 45,813
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS	13,178,618	4,423,019
APPLICATION OF FUNDS		
Purchase of fixed assets at cost Dividends paid	(7,324,127) (631,837)	(2,110,647)
TOTAL SURPLUS OF FUNDS	£ 5,222,654	£ 2,312,372
REPRESENTED BY INCREASE IN NET CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks Debtors Creditors falling due within one year:		£ 777,087 3,562,013
- UK Corporation tax payable - Others		(1,654,000) (2,840,419)
	5,507,006	(155,319)
Movement in net liquid funds - Cash at bank and in hand - Bank loans and overdrafts	(323,640) 39,288	431,787 2,035,904
	£ 5,222,654	£ 2,312,372

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS -- 31 DECEMBER 1988

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The principal accounting policies are:-

a. Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

Tangible fixed assets

All the tangible fixed assets of the company, other than 10 acres of freehold land which were revalued in 1976, are stated at the amount at which they were revalued on 31 December 1964 plus additions at cost and less disposals subsequent to that date.

Regional development grants are deducted from the cost of additions.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of fixed assets on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:-

Freehold buildings - 3% per annum
Plant and machinery - 5% - 20% per annum

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

The acquisition of certain plant is being financed by leases. The plant acquired has been capitalised at its cost value and is depreciated in accordance with the above rates. The future liability to the leasing companies has been snown, net of deferred interest, as a liability in the balance sheet. Interest payable to the lessors is being charged against profits at the effective rate of interest for the duration of the primary periods of the leases.

c. Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of average cost and net realisable value. Cost includes material, labour and an appropriate proportion of manufacturing overheads based on normal levels of activity.

Net realisable value is based on estimated normal selling price less further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete, slow moving or defective items where appropriate.

d. Taxation

Corporation tax payable is provided on taxable profits at the current rate.

Deferred taxation is provided at the rate at which the liability is estimated to crystallise to the extent that the directors are of the opinion that such taxation may become payable in the foreseeable future.

e. Pension costs

It is the policy of the company to fund pension liabilities, on the advice of external actuaries, by payments to independent trusts. Payments made to the funds and charged in the accounts comprise current and past service contributions. Independent actuarial valuations on a going concern basis are carried out every 3 years.

f. Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange current at the date of the transaction. Foreign currency items in the year end balance sheet are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange gains and losses are included in the profit and loss account.

g. Consolidated accounts

The company had one subsidiary company at 31 December 1988. Consolidated accounts have not been prepared because consolidated accounts are prepared for the ultimate UK resident holding company, Donnelley Holdings Limited and in the opinion of the directors, consolidated accounts for Ben Johnson and Company Limited would be of no real value to the members of the company.

h. Investment

The investment in subsidiary company is stated at cost less amounts written off.

i. Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of sales, excluding VAT, of goods and services supplied in the normal course of business.

2. SEGMENT INFORMATION:

The analysis of turnover by activity and geographical market has been omitted.

T. OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES:

			<u>1988</u>		<u> 1987</u>
	Selling and marketing costs Administrative expenses		1,256,197 1,086,446		,008,645 ,682,688
		£ 5	5,342,643	£ 4 ===	,691,333 ======
4.	INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES:				
			<u>1988</u>		<u> 1987</u>
	On bank loans, overdrafts and other loans - repayable within five years, not by				
	instalments On finance leases	£	976,203 48,574	£	13,297
	Discount allowed		1,024,777		52,159 35,155
		£	1,127,883	£	87,314

Discounts allowed were previously classified within cost of sales. It is now more appropriate that they should be reclassified as a finance cost. Prior year comparatives have been restated.

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5. PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION:

Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after crediting -

	<u> 1988</u>		<u> 1987</u>
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets Rent receivable (net)	£ - 900 	£ ====	3,283 900
and after charging -			
Depreciation - tangible fixed assets (leased) - tangible fixed assets (owned)	£ 312,325 952,958		372,012 559,148
Hire of plant and machinery	2,577,144	2,	589,514
Auditors' remuneration	36,000		32,500
Staff costs (Note 6)	19,839,889	•	417,675

6. STAFF COSTS:

Particulars	of	employees	(including	executive	directors)	are	as	shown
below:-								

below:- Smployee costs during the year amounted to:-	1988	1987
Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	£17,578,857 1,287,045 973,987	£14,409,542 1,127,396 880,737
	£19,839,889	£16,417,675
The average weekly number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:-		
Production Sales and marketing Administration	771 42 110	706 38 109
Directors' remuneration:-		
The employee costs shown above include the following remuneration in respect of directors of the company:-		
Remuneration for management services Pension paid to former director	£ 569,400 2,139	£ 457,333 1,840
	£ 571,539	£ 459,173
The directors' remuneration shown above (excluding pensions and pension contributions) included:-		
Chairman (1987 - Chairman and Lighest paid director)	£ 66,196	£ 73,655
Highest paid director	£ 107,777	£ -
Other directors and higher paid employees received emoluments between:-	Directors 1988 1987	Employees 1988 1987
£ 0 - £ 5,000 30,001 - 35,000 35,001 - 40,000 40,001 - 45,000 45,001 - 50,000 50,001 - 55,000 55,001 - 60,000 65,001 - 70,000 70,001 - 75,000	1 2 3 - 2 1 1 2 1 1 1 - 1	22 - 4 - 1 - 1 -

7. TAX CHARGE ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES:

The tax charge is based on the profit for the year and comprises:-

Adjustment of deferred taxation in respect of prior years	, ,211,000	(48,000) £ 1,654,000
Deterred taxation	1988 950,000 261,000	1987 £ 1,654,000 48,000

Current taxation of approximately £2,011,000 (1987 - £Nil) has been eliminated by the surrender of group relief by fellow subsidiaries free of charge.

8. EXTRACRDINARY ITEMS

Extraordinary items comprise:-

		1988	198	<u>7</u>
	Dividend received following transfer of trade from subsidiary company	£10,538,000	٤ -	
	Provision against amount due from fellow subsidiary company	(7,020,224)	_	
		£ 3,517,776	£ -	:=
9.	DIVIDERD PAID			
	Interim on 2 November 1988 of 12.25p per share	£ 631,837	£ -	==

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS:

a. The movement in the year was as follows -

	Freehold land and buildings	Plant a Owned	and machinery Leased	Total
COST OR VALUATION Beginning of year Additions Reclassifications	£ 5,321,678 1,855,434	£ 5,745,966 4,815,629 5,398	£ 2,480,270 653,064 (5,398)	£13,547,914 7,324,127
End of year	7,177,112	10,566,993	3,127,936	20,872,041
DEPRECIATION Beginning of year Charge	977,066 169,445	2,384,093 783,513	1,757,808 312,325	5,118,967 1,265,283
End of year	1,146,511	3,167,606	2,070,133	6,384,250
Net book value, beginning of year	£ 4,344,612	£ 3,361,873	£ 722,462	£ 8,428,947
Net book value, end of year	£ 6,030,601	£ 7,399,387	£ 1,057,803	£14,487,791

Freehold land included in the above at £265,000 (1987 - £265,000) is not depreciated.

b. Basis of valuation

Plant and machinery is shown at cost. Freehold land and buildings are shown at valuation in 1964 and 1976 with subsequent additions at cost as shown below -

	<u>1988</u>	<u> 1987</u>
Professionally valued - existing use (1964) - existing use (1976)	£ 481,000 180,000	£ 481,000 180,000
Total at valuation At cost	661,000 6,516,112	661,000 4,660,678
Cost or valuation end of year	£ 7,177,112	£ 5,321,678

Freehold buildings included at valuation with an original cost of £111,392, are fully depreciated, based on cost, as at 31 December 1988 and 1987.

Freehold land included at valuation with an original cost of £6,250 is not depreciated.

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENT:

The company has a fixed asset investment which was fully written down in a prior year. The total cost of the investment was £2,000. This is represented at 31 December 1988 by underlying net assets of £2,902 (1987 - £9,955,213). This represents a holding of 100% of the issued ordinary share capital of Ben Johnson Trading Limited, a company incorporated in England whose principal activity was the production of alphabetical telephone directories. On 1 January 1988, trading activities were transferred to Ben Johnson and Company Limited.

12. STOCKS:

The following are included in stocks -

	<u>1988</u>	1987
Raw materials and consumables Work in progress Finished goods and goods for resale	£ 3,708,098 3,495,131 282,735	£ 4,327,162 2,865,940 185,968
	€ 7,485,964	£ 7,379,070
	=========	========

In the opinion of the directors, the estimated replacement cost of stocks does not materially exceed the book value.

13. DEBTORS:

The following are included in debtors:-	1988	<u>1987</u>
Amounts falling due within one year:-		
Trade debtors Amounts owed by holding company and	£11,787,191	£8,278,750
fellow-subsidiaries	7,215,299	6,155,880
Loan to fellow-subsidiary	1,540,258	1,540,258
VAT	747,287	1,355,980
Other debtors	475,191	150,775
Prepayments, accrued income		
and other assets	561,975	405,019
	£22,327,201	£17,886,665
		222222222

14. CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR:

The following amounts are included in creditors falling due within one year:-

	<u>1988</u>	1987
Obligations under finance leases	£ 146,316	£ 56,320
Current portion of equipment loan repayments	102,133	132,449
Bank loans and overdrafts	_	39,288
Payments received on account	10,553	10,769
Trade creditors	8,158,293	3,090,947
Amounts owed to holding company and		, ,
fellow-subsidiaries	29,254	7,460,116
Other creditors	444,268	468,658
UK corporation tax payable	2,079,000	1,645,000
Social security and PAYE	530,709	423,239
Accruals and deferred income	2,226,806	1,390,410
		~~~~~~
	£13,727,332	£14,726,196
		=======================================

## 15. CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR:

The following amounts are included in creditors falling due after more than one year:-

	===	=======	===	=======
	£	424,522	£	141,992
Obligations under finance leases Equipment loan repayments	£	424,522 -	£	39,859 102,133
		<u>1988</u>		<u>1987</u>

The future minimum lease payments to which the company is committed are as follows:-

		<u>1988</u>		<u>1987</u>
Within one year Within two and five years	£	189,596 474,984	£	63,019 42,671
Finance charges allocated to future periods		664,580 (93,742)		105,690 (9,511)
	£	570,838	È	96,179

## 16. PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES:

Deferred taxation has been provided in full because in the opinion of the directors it will become payable in the foreseeable future.

Timing differences a	at	35%	are	as	follows:-
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raming differences de 55% die de fortows.	1988	1987
Excess of tax allowances over book depreciation of fixed assets Other timing differences related to current assets and liabilities	£ 1,581,000	£ 1,324,000
	(92,000)	(96,000)
	£ 1,489,000	£ 1,228,000
17. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL:	<u>1988</u>	1987
Authorised:-		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	£ 6,157,850	£ 6,157,850
Allotted, called up and fully paid:-		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	£ 5,157,850	£ 5,157,850

#### 18. RESERVES:

Of total reserves shown in the balance sheet, the following amounts are regarded as distributable or otherwise:-

		=========
	£33,162,371	£22,424,403
- revaluation reserve	253,379	253,379
<ul> <li>capital contribution</li> </ul>	4,000,000	4,000,000
Non-distributable		
- profit and loss account	£28,908,992	£18,171,024
Distributable		
	<u>1988</u>	<u> 1987</u>

## 19. GUARANTEES AND OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS:

#### a. Capital commitments

At the end of the year, capital commitments were -

		===	
	£ 8,503,104	£	998,758
Authorised but not contracted for	6,313,955		164,193
Contracted but not provided for	£ 2,189,149	£	834,565
	<u>1988</u>		<u>1987</u>

#### b. Pension arrangements

The company operates a defined benefit pension scheme covering the majority of full time employees. The company's contribution to the pension scheme for the year amounted to £973,987 (1987 - £880,737).

The last triennial actuarial valuation of the scheme as at 1 April 1988 confirmed that the scheme was fully funded at that date.

## 20. ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY:

The company's ultimate holding company is R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company which is incorporated in the State of Delaware, USA.

## 21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS:

Included in sales is £868,066 (1987 - £22,224,240) made to fellow group companies.

Included in cost of sales and operating expenses is £461,435 (1987 - £2,857,656) charged by fellow group companies.

Included in interest payable and similar charges is £896,843
(1987 - £nil) charged by fellow group companies.