

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Directors: A.R. Goode (Chairman)  
E.T. Rayner  
K.J. Sadler  
R.K. Simpson (resigned 29 March 1996)

Secretary: A.P. Vickery, FCA

Registered Office: Temple Way, Bristol BS99 7HD

The directors present their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 March 1996.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW


The principal activities of the company are selling features material and crosswords to newspapers, books and magazines and providing a parliamentary lobby service to newspapers and broadcasting stations.

The company's profit for the year amounted to £40,050 and the directors recommend a dividend of this amount.

The directors expect to maintain the present level of the company's principal activities.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

In The Bristol Evening Post PLC, A.R. Goode and K.J. Sadler each held 400 shares, and R.K. Simpson held 100 shares throughout the year. Otherwise, no director had any interest in the shares of any group company as at 30 March 1996.

  
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD  
A.P. VICKERY  
Secretary  
13 May 1996



CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are required by UK company law to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

The directors confirm that suitable accounting policies have been used and applied consistently, and reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 30 March 1996. The directors also confirm that applicable accounting standards have been followed and that the statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

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

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS  
TO THE MEMBERS OF CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 3 to 8.

**Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors**

As described above the company's directors 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**

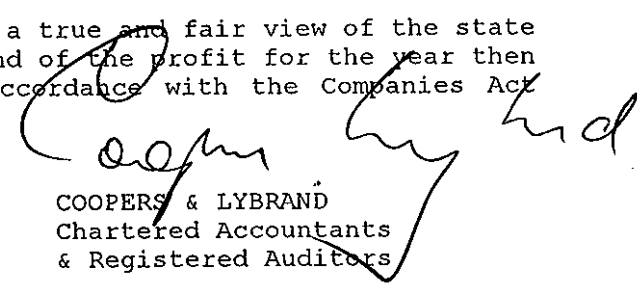
We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements 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 affairs of the company at 30 March 1996 and of the profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Bristol  
28 May 1996

  
COOPERS & LYBRAND  
Chartered Accountants  
& Registered Auditors

CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR  
THE YEAR ENDED 30 MARCH 1996

		<u>1995/96</u>		<u>1994/95</u>
	<u>Notes</u>	£	£	£
Turnover	3		748,238	<u>826,447</u>
External charges		147,048		189,802
Staff costs	5	403,741		413,795
Depreciation	4	24,218		21,689
Other operating charges		<u>110,485</u>		<u>99,963</u>
			<u>685,492</u>	<u>725,249</u>
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	4		62,746	101,198
Less taxation	6		<u>22,696</u>	<u>39,910</u>
Profit for the year			40,050	61,288
Dividend proposed			<u>(40,050)</u>	<u>(61,288)</u>
Retained profit carried forward			<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>

All of the company's profit and turnover have been generated from continuing activities.

There have been no recognised gains or losses, nor movements in shareholders' funds, in the period other than those shown in the profit and loss account.

There is no difference between the profit on ordinary activities before taxation and the retained profit for the year stated above, and their historical cost equivalents.

CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

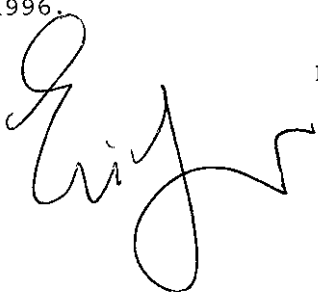
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 MARCH 1996

		1996	1995
	Notes	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	7	68,498	66,882
Investment in Group company	8	<u>1,832</u>	<u>1,832</u>
		70,330	<u>68,714</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	9	124,194	138,973
Cash at bank		<u>2,236</u>	<u>4,453</u>
		<u>126,430</u>	<u>143,426</u>
Less: CREDITORS			
amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors	10	115,144	95,166
Proposed dividend		40,050	61,288
Corporation Tax		<u>29,689</u>	<u>39,192</u>
		<u>184,883</u>	<u>195,646</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(58,453)</u>	<u>(52,220)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		11,877	16,494
Provision for dilapidations	11	(5,194)	(4,664)
Provision for deferred taxation	12	<u>1,718</u>	<u>(3,429)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>8,401</u></u>	<u><u>8,401</u></u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called-up Share Capital	13	8,401	8,401
Profit and loss account		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		<u><u>8,401</u></u>	<u><u>8,401</u></u>

The accounts on pages 3 to 8 were approved by the Board of Directors on  
13 May 1996.

E. T. RAYNER

Director



# CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 MARCH 1996

### 1. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The immediate parent is Western Newspapers Ltd., formerly Bristol United Press Ltd. The ultimate parent is The Bristol Evening Post PLC, which prepares consolidated financial statements.

### 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- (a) The 'year' refers to a period of 53 weeks ending on Saturday, 30 March 1996 (1994/95, 52 weeks to 25 March 1995).
- (b) The accounts are drawn up under the historical cost basis of accounting and in accordance with applicable accounting standards in the United Kingdom.
- (c) Turnover represents the invoiced value of sales excluding VAT.
- (d) Depreciation is made on the straight-line method over the estimated life of the assets as follows:-

Leasehold premises	8 years
Office equipment	4 to 6 years
Motor vehicles	4 or 5 years
- (e) Stocks of features are not valued.
- (f) Deferred taxation is provided on the liability method at the current rate of Corporation Tax where there is a reasonable probability that the liability will become payable in the foreseeable future.
- (g) The pension costs charged against profits are based on an actuarial method and actuarial assumptions designed to spread the anticipated pension costs over the service lives of the employees in the funds.

### 3. TURNOVER

Geographical market analysis of company's activity:

	<u>1995/96</u>	<u>1994/95</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
United Kingdom	644,830	738,006
Overseas	103,408	88,441
	<u>748,238</u>	<u>826,447</u>
Less intra-group sales	<u>(73,432)</u>	<u>(73,194)</u>
External sales	<u>674,806</u>	<u>753,253</u>

### 4 PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

This is stated after charging:

Depreciation charge for the year	24,218	20,673
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	0	1,016
	<u>24,218</u>	<u>21,689</u>
Auditors' remuneration	1,250	1,450
Hire of motor car	0	1,924

CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 MARCH 1996 (contd.)

	<u>1995/96</u>	<u>1994/95</u>
	£	£
5. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES		
Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	314,984	325,071
National Insurance contributions	26,695	27,690
Pension contributions	5,943	6,230
Management charge	56,119	54,804
	<u>403,741</u>	<u>413,795</u>

The company is a member of the Bristol United Press Group Pension Fund which provides defined benefits based on final pensionable salary. Contributions are based on pension costs across the Group as a whole and are assessed on the advice of an independent qualified actuary. The most recent actuarial valuation was at 5 April 1993, and particulars of the actuarial assumptions and valuation are to be found in the accounts of the parent company, Western Newspapers Ltd. A prepayment of £2,868 (1995 £3,553) is included under debtors, representing the excess of contributions paid over the pension costs.

Average monthly number of employees	Number	Number
Production & editorial	28	29
Sales, distribution & administration	2	2
	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>

These figures include 6 part-time staff.

	£	£
Directors remuneration:		
Fees	0	0
Salaries (including benefits in kind)	44,464	63,242
Pension contributions	12,169	12,943
	<u>56,633</u>	<u>76,185</u>

The number of directors who received emoluments (excluding pension contributions) was:	Number	Number
not exceeding £5,000	3	4
£20,001 - £25,000	0	1
£40,001 - £45,000	1	1

The emoluments of the Chairman and highest paid director included above were £Nil (1994/95 £Nil) and £44,464 (1994/95 £43,224) respectively.

6. TAXATION

	£	£
Corporation Tax at 33% (1994/95 33%)		
on the profits of the year		
Current	29,689	39,192
Deferred (Note 12)	(5,147)	(1,854)
(Over)/under provision in respect of previous year	<u>(1,846)</u>	<u>2,572</u>
	<u>22,696</u>	<u>39,910</u>

CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 MARCH 1996 (contd.)

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Leasehold Premises	Office Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Total
COST OR VALUATION	£	£	£	£
At 25 March 1995	12,667	94,913	11,134	118,714
Additions	0	13,111	15,232	28,343
Disposal	0	(599)	0	(599)
Transfer (to) Group company	0	0	(11,134)	(11,134)
At 30 March 1996	12,667	107,425	15,232	135,324
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION				
At 25 March 1995	7,025	36,520	8,287	51,832
Transfer (to) Group company	0	0	(8,625)	(8,625)
Disposal	0	(599)	0	(599)
Charge for the year	1,555	20,121	2,542	24,218
At 30 March 1996	8,580	56,042	2,204	66,826
NET BOOK VALUE AT 30.3.96	4,087	51,383	13,028	68,498
NET BOOK VALUE AT 25.3.95	5,642	58,393	2,847	66,882

8. FIXED ASSETS - INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY

The company owns the whole of the issued share capital of Newspaper Features Limited, a dormant company. Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as this company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Western Newspapers Ltd.

	1996 £	1995 £
9. DEBTORS		
Amounts falling due within one year:-		
Trade debtors	106,641	129,269
Pensions costs prepaid	2,868	3,553
Other pre-payments and accrued income	14,685	6,151
	124,194	138,973
10. CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year:-		
Trade creditors and accruals	17,166	7,281
Amount owed to parent company	77,755	60,819
Amount owed to subsidiary	3,843	3,843
VAT payable	16,380	23,223
	115,144	95,166

CENTRAL PRESS FEATURES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 MARCH 1996 (contd.)

11.	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
PROVISION FOR DILAPIDATIONS		
Balance at 25 March 1995	4,664	4,144
Charge for the year	<u>530</u>	<u>520</u>
Balance at 30 March 1996	<u>5,194</u>	<u>4,664</u>

This provision represents a potential dilapidations liability at the end of the lease.

12. DEFERRED TAXATION		
Balance at 25 March 1995	3,429	5,283
(Credit) for year	<u>(5,147)</u>	<u>(1,854)</u>
Balance at 30 March 1996	<u>(1,718)</u>	<u>3,429</u>
Being in respect of		
- accelerated capital allowances	2,351	3,797
- other timing differences	<u>(4,069)</u>	<u>(368)</u>

13. SHARE CAPITAL		
Authorised, allotted, called-up and fully paid		
8,401 Ordinary Shares of £1	8,401	8,401
Authorised but not allotted		
6,599 Ordinary Shares of £1	<u>6,599</u>	<u>6,599</u>
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

14. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
Authorised and contracted for, and not provided	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

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