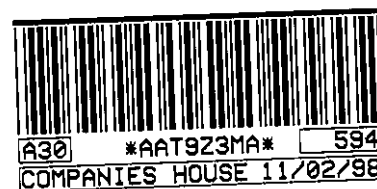


THE BERKSHIRE COUNTY ADVERTISER LIMITED

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997



Registered No. 377020

THE BERKSHIRE COUNTY ADVERTISER LIMITED

Directors' Report

The directors submit their report and accounts for the year ended 31st December 1997.

Results, Dividends and Activities

The Company is dormant and in accordance with Section 250 of the Companies Act 1985 no auditors have been appointed.

Directors and their Interests

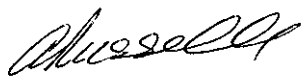
S J H Coles
T E Dyer
A Russell

No director had any beneficial interest in the Company.

A Russell has a beneficial interest in the common shares of an intermediate parent company as detailed below:-

	31st Dec 1997	1st Jan 1997
Common shares of The Thomson Corporation and related common shares of The Thomson Corporation PLC	92	89

By order of the Board



A Russell
Secretary

Registered Office

First Floor,
The Quadrangle
180 Wardour Street
London
W1A 4YG

30th January 1998

THE BERKSHIRE COUNTY ADVERTISER LIMITED

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1997

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>1997</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>1996</u> <u>£000</u>
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Debtors:			
Amount due from holding Company		40	40
Total Assets		<u>40</u> ==	<u>40</u> ==
<u>Capital and Reserves</u>			
Called up share capital	2	2	2
Capital Reserve		12	12
Profit and Loss Account		<u>26</u> <u>40</u> ==	<u>26</u> <u>40</u> ==

The company was dormant within the meaning of Section 250 of the Companies Act 1985 throughout the year ended 31 December 1997.

Approved by the Board



T E Dyer
Director

30th January 1998

THE BERKSHIRE COUNTY ADVERTISER LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts at 31st December 1997

1) Trading Activities and Assets

The Company did not trade and was dormant for the year ended 31st December 1997.

2) Share Capital

	Authorised		Allotted, called up and fully paid	
	<u>1997</u> No.	<u>1996</u> No.	<u>1997</u> No.	<u>1996</u> No.
Ordinary Shares of £1 each	2000	2000	2000	2000
	—	—	—	—

3) Company Status

The company is a close company within the meaning of Section 414 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. Within the meaning of the Companies Act 1985 Thomson Investments Limited ("TIL") is regarded by the directors of the company as being the company's ultimate parent company. Within the meaning of the said Act The Thomson Corporation ("TTC") is the parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings for which group accounts are drawn up and of which the company is a member and Thomorg No. 1401 Limited ("1401") is the parent undertaking of the smallest group of undertakings for which group accounts are drawn up and of which the company is a member. TIL and TTC are incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada. 1401 is incorporated in England and Wales.

Copies of the TTC and 1401 annual report are available from: First Floor, The Quadrangle, 180 Wardour Street, London W1A 4YG.