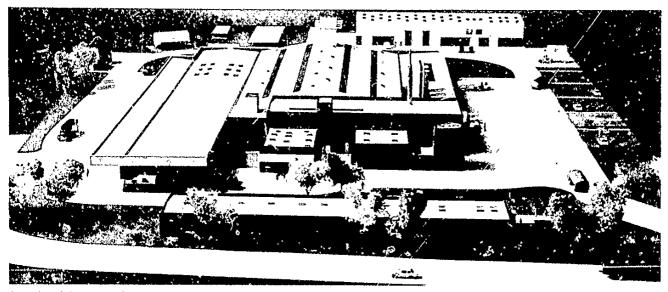


DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 1976



A model of the new Dairy Complex for the North East at Longberton, North Tyneside.

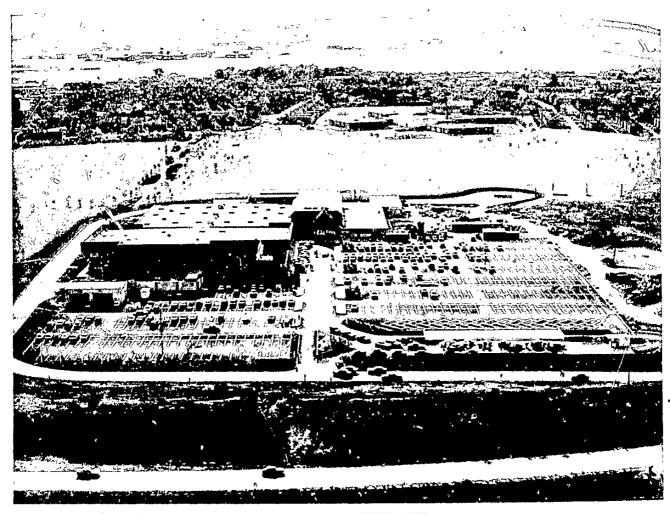
The building programme, started in February 1976, is expected to be completed with the plant commissioned in the summer of next year. The complex contains one of the first computer-controlled fully automated milk processing units in the U.K.



Above. The cutting and boning line of the new Lofthouse Beef Plant opened in June 1976.



Right: Vacuum packing of the boneless cuts of beef ready for delivery to Asda Superstores Meat Departments.



Asda's Superstore in the District Centre at Dyce, Aberdeen, was opened in May 1976. The store, on the left of the picture, is approached through a shopping mall (centre) and the spare land on the right is to be used by the Aberdeen County Council for amenity development including a swimming pool, games hall, library, theatre and school. The car park accommodates 600 cars and the Asda filling station is in the foreground.



Two views of the Asda Superstore at Llandudno, North Wales, opened in April 1975.

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Directors and Officers

Directors

executive

A N Stockdale DFM chairman

E E Binns FCA managing director and vice-chairman

P Asquith

D Baddiley FCA

E G Bousfield MA (Cantab)

P Firmston-Williams

A E F Gardiner

J D Ridgway NDD MIBiol

non-executive

A D Dobson

C F Lister

Secretary and registered office

P R Baines MA (Cantab) FCIS

Craven House, Kirkstall Road, Leeds LS3 1JE

Auditors

Whinney Murray & Co

Chartered Accountants

Yorkshire House, Greek Street, Leeds LS1 5SQ

Registrars and transfer office

National Westminster Bank Limited

Registrar's Department—Bristol Office

National Westminster Court

37 Broad Street, Bristol BS99 7NH

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Limited

Leeds City Office

8 Park Row, Leeds LS1 1QS

Stockbrokers

J & A Scrimgeour Limited

The Stock Exchange London EC2N 1HD

Notice of Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the ordinary shareholders of the company that the TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the company will be held at the Headingley Pavilion, St. Michael's Lane, Leeds 6, on Wednesday 27 October 1976 at 2.30 in the afternoon for the following purposes:

To receive the report of the directors and the accounts for the fifty-two weeks to 1 May 1976 with the report of the auditors thereon and declare a dividend.

(Resolution 1)

2 To re-elect the following directors:

Mr A E F Gardiner	(Resolution 2)
Mr C F Lister	(Resolution 3)
Mr A D Dobson	(Resolution 4)
Mr D Baddiley	(Resolution 5)
Mr J D Ridgway	(Resolution 6)

3 To authorise the directors to fix the remuneration of the auditors.

(Resolution 7)

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4 To transact any other ordinary business of an annual general meeting.

A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint one or more proxies to attend and on a poll, vote on his behalf; a proxy need not be a member. A form of proxy is enclosed.

By order of the board P R BAINES secretary

Craven House Kirkstall Road, Leeds LS3 1JE 28 September 1976

The register of directors' shares and debenture interests will together with directors' service agreements be available for inspection by members at the registered office from this date until the close of business on 26 October 1976 and at the place of the meeting for fifteen minutes prior to and until the termination of the meeting.

The directors submit their report and the company's balance sheet at 1 May 1976 together with the group accounts for the fifty-two week period ended on that date.

Profit and appropriation	1976 £	1975* £
The group profits for the fifty-two weeks to 1 May 1976 before taxation amounted to	14,721,625	9,881,820
After allowing for taxation, minority interests and extra- ordinary items of	7,686,961	5,273,393
There remains a net profit attributable to the company of	7,034,664	4,608,427
dividends as detailed in the group profit and loss account of (See Note 7 to the Accounts)	571,728	524,379
Leaving retained profits of	6,462,936	4,084,048
		*53 weeks

On 25 August 1976 the directors recommended the payment of a final dividend on the ordinary shares of 0.44497p per share making a total dividend for the period of 1.24497p per share. If approved this dividend will be posted on 28 October 1976 to members appearing on the register on 27 September 1976.

The directors consider that the state of the group's affairs at 1 May 1976 was satisfactory.

Principal activities of the group

There have been no significant changes in the principal activities of the group during the financial period, which have been to carry on business as dairymen and retailers of goods to the general public through the medium of supermarkets and superstores.

Fixed assets

The following net additions have been made during the financial year to the fixed assets of the group:

Freehold land and buildings Leasehold property Plant, equipment, machinery and vehicles	£3,689,882 £3,602,805 £5,541,882
Plant, equipment, machinery and venicles	

Shares issued

Pursuant to resolutions passed at an extraordinary general meeting held on 22 October 1975

- (a) The authorised capital of the company was increased from £10,000,000 to £12,000,000 by the creation of 8,000,000 ordinary shares of 25p
- (b) The sum of £2,260,858.50 was capitalised from reserves and share premium account and 9,043,434 ordinary shares of 25p each credited as fully paid issued to ordinary shareholders in the proportion of one such ordinary share for every four ordinary shares of 25p each, for every four partly paid ordinary shares of 25p each (5p paid) and for every four 'A' ordinary shares of 25p each held by such shareholders at the close of business at 22 September 1975.

Pursuant to resolutions passed at directors meetings held on 28 January 1976 and 11 February 1976, 34,856 and 29,355 ordinary shares of 25p each were issued as fully paid at a premium of 200p per share being part consideration for the respective acquisitions of Anzo Holdings Limited and Gazeley Properties Limited. Pursuant to the rules of the Senior Executive Share Incentive Scheme 113,499 partly paid ordinary shares of 25p each (5p paid) and 226,730 'A' ordinary shares of 25p each were converted to 340,229 ordinary shares of 25p each fully paid. Pursuant to Rule 6(b) of the Senior Executive Share Option Scheme 30,750 ardinary shares of 25p each fully paid. ordinary shares of 25p each fully paid were issued during the year.

Directors and their interests

The following is a list of the present directors of the company who were directors during the year, together with their interests, including family interests, in the shares and debentures of the company at 1 May 1976:

and debentures of the	company at 1	May 1976:		
and dependings of the	197	<i>'</i>	1975	5
		Other	Beneficial	Other
	Beneficial			interests
	interests	interests	71700.00.0	
	264,387 a	69,410 a	219,511 a	57,528 <i>a</i>
A N Stockdale	25,000 b		25,000 <i>b</i>	
H = H	51,291 c		36,033 c	
,, ,,			71 <i>d</i>	
" "		17,586 a	104,909 a	14,069 a
E E Binns	131,136 <i>a</i>	17,000 0	25,000 b	
	25,000 <i>b</i>		36,033 c	
••	51,291 c	0.000 -	28,718 a	2,560 a
A ["] D Dobson	35,897 a	3,200 a	35 d	
	35 <i>d</i>			104,332 a
C'F Lister	82,080 <i>a</i>	120,416 <i>a</i>	70,664 <i>a</i>	104,002 0
C P Elstei	46,553 a		65,043 <i>a</i>	
E G Bousfield	25,000 b		25,000 b	
,, ,,	51,291 c		36,033 c	0.700 0
""	6,201 a	3,485 <i>a</i>	4,961 <i>a</i>	2,788 a
D Baddiley	25,000 b		25,000 <i>b</i>	_
<i>u "</i>	51,291 c		36,033 c	
,, ,,	122.364 a	31,578 a	150,000 a	30,663 a
P Asquith	120,000	01,070	25,000 <i>b</i>	
n n	20/44-		36,033 c	-
	51,291 c			
Ű D Ridgway	1,250 <i>a</i>		25,000 b	
	20,000 b		36,033 c	
n n	41,034 c	~ OTO *	4,297 a	4,299 a
P"Firmston-Williams	5,371 a	5,373 <i>a</i>	15,000 b	
	15,000 b		14 206 0	
"	21,620 c		14,296 c	
!!		•		

Ordinary shares of 25p each.

b Ordinary shares of 25p each (5p paid)

'A' Ordinary shares of 25p each.

d 3.85% (formerly 5½% gross) preference shares of £1 each.

The only change in the above interests between 1 May 1976 and 31 August 1976 has been the purchase of 400 (beneficial) ordinary shares of 25p each by Mr A E F Gardiner to satisfy the Directors' Share qualification requirement and the cessation of Mr C F Lister's (other) interest in 120,416 ordinary shares of 25p each.

Under the senior executive share option scheme approved by the shareholders in January 1973 the executive directors, in common with other senior executives participating in the scheme, were granted options in November 1974 to subscribe for ordinary shares at the then market price of 52p per share (after adjustment for scrip.) These options may be exercised in accordance with the rules of the scheme between 12 November 1977 and 12 November 1981.

Mr J S Bousfield held office during the year until his death on 17 December 1975.

Mr A E F Gardiner was appointed a director on 1 June 1976. In accordance with Article 85 of the articles of association he retires at the forthcoming annual general meeting and being eligible offers himself for re-election.

Mr C F Lister and Mr A D Dobson having attained the age of 70 or over, retire at the forthcoming annual general meeting in accordance with Article 112(B) of the articles of association, and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The directors retiring by rotation at the forthcoming annual general meeting are Mr D Baddiley and Mr J D Ridgway who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

No director had any interest during the year in any significant contract with the company or any subsidiary.

Directors' report continued

The weekly average number of persons employed by the group (including parttime employees) during the period was 13,225 (12,100). Their aggregate remuneration amounted to £19,550,321 (£14,905,002).

Charitable and political contributions

The group made the following contributions during the year:

For charitable purposes £1,786 For political purposes £ 901

Political contributions exceeding £50 were as follows:

West Riding Industrialists Council £500 Aims for Freedom and Enterprise £276 Leeds Conservative Association £125

Substantial holdings

So far as the directors are aware there is no shareholder with a substantial interest as defined by Section 33 of the Companies Act 1967.

Exports

The value of goods exported from the United Kingdom by the company and its subsidiaries during the period amounted to £66,051.

Health and safety

The directors regard the health and safety of employees and of the general public who resort to our premises as one of their most important responsibilities. The company's policy therefore is to ensure that the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974 are complied with at all its premises.

Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970

The 'Close Company' provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 do not apply to this company.

Auditors

The company's auditors, Whinney Murray & Co., have expressed their willingness to continue in office.

By order of the board P R BAINES secretary

28 September 1976

We were all shocked by the sudden death of my predecessor James Sidney Bousfield on the 17 December 1975. Mr Bousfield was a member of the original Dairy Company and the longest serving director in the group. His unique contribution was that he served your company in three major executive roles; that of group secretary, managing director, and chairman, until his retirement in October 1969. He was, by any standards, one of the pillars upon which the business as we know it today was founded.

In presenting to shareholders the report and accounts for the 52 weeks to 1 May 1976 I am pleased to report that group profits before taxation and extraordinary items increased to £14,722,000 (£9,882,000). The profit earned for ordinary shareholders is £7,015,000 (£4,589,000) and we are proposing to pay a final dividend of .44497p per share which, together with the interim dividend of .8p per share makes a total of 1,24497p per share for the contract of the c share, makes a total of 1.24497p per share for the year. This compares with 1.16198p per share for the previous year on the increased capital. It is the maximum permitted under the current counter inflation legislation, and leaves £6,463,000 (£4,084,000) to be added to retained profits.

Your directors consider that the present state of reserves makes it desirable to recommend a capitalisation issue of one ordinary share for every three ordinary shares, for every three partly paid ordinary shares and for every three 'A' ordinary shares held and an extraordinary general meeting, notice of which accompanies these accounts, will be held following the annual general meeting to give effect to this. At the same time we propose to take the opportunity to make a minor to this. At the Section Executive Share Option Schools and thereby correct on amendment to the Senior Executive Share Option Scheme and thereby correct an anomaly, namely, to equate employees who retire early from full time employment with the consent of the directors, with employees who retire at normal retirement date.

On behalf of shareholders, may I pay tribute to my colleagues, executives, management and all members of the staff for their outstanding contribution to this most successful trading year. These efforts have enabled your board to embark with confidence on a massive capital development programme during the course of the next eighteen months, details of which are summarised later in this report.

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During the year, which has been generally acknowledged as one of stagnation for consumer spending, this side of your business has remained remarkably buoyant, which naturally gives enormous confidence for the future.

New Stores were opened on schedule at Kirkby, Chapeltown and Cambuslang, in addition to which two smaller units in Manchester and Birmingham were opened in August and October respectively.

During the current year the investment on the above amounted to some £2.9 million, in addition to which £2.1 million was expended in modernising a number of our existing stores.

Since the year end new stores have been opened at Dyce, Coatbridge and Birkenhead and at the moment a further eight new stores are in the course of construction, representing a further investment of £15.0 million. An additional £1.9 million has been authorised for up-dating existing units.

Statement by the chairman

I am delighted to note that in July 1976 official support was given by the Department of Environment to the principle of superstore development. It appears the object of this revision of development control policy is to encourage local authorities to co-operate more fully with superstore operators with a view to planning permissions being authorised without the necessity of appeal to the Department of Environment. Only in the future will we be able to monitor the effectiveness of Environment. Only in the future will we be able to monitor the effectiveness of these guide-lines in reducing the enormous delays which have taken place in the past in obtaining planning consents and which have incurred considerable expense.

Capital invested in our Lofthouse meat factory is now paying dividends and the introduction of our made-up meat products into all our major stores has resulted in a substantial increase in turnover. The new bulk meat packing factory at Lofthouse was completed shortly after the end of the financial year; sixteen of our stores are being supplied from this source. Adjacent to this, further premises for the preparation of deep-freeze packs will shortly be in production.

Demand for our pre-packed fruit and vegetables has been such that the capacity of our produce warehouse in Pontefract Lane has become inadequate. Plans have been submitted to the authorities at Normanton for permission to erect purposebuilt premises which will house fully automated packing plant. This should be in operation by early Summer of 1977 and the cost involved is £800,000.

In spite of the increased cost of liquid milk to the consumer over the past year, mainly due to the government cut in subsidy, sales throughout the division have been more than maintained. The building of our £3 million Newcastle-upon-Tyne dairy will be completed before the end of 1976, and after plant commissioning, dairy will be completed before the end of 1976, and after plant commissioning, should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at our cheese should be operational early 1977. Improved installations carried out at

The acquisition of Settle creamery has proved a further valuable investment, and is, at the moment, supplying and packaging for the stores part of their butter requirements to the extent of 5,000 tons per annum.

Prior to the drought, increased milk production from the UK farms led to a substantial increase being made available for manufacture. The outlook for the future is somewhat difficult to predict as the final transition to harmonise with the EEC is imminent.

I trust our government will stand by its White Paper—'Food from our own resources' and resist outside pressure to introduce measures such as those recently determined by the Commission. Projects that your company were hoping would be supported by grants from FEOGA have been refused as part of the Commission's strategy. Yet these, by their very nature, would have increased efficiency, reduced strategy. Yet these, by their very nature, would have increased efficiency, reduced sosts and in one case effected our ability to compete with imports, thus helping to reduce the balance of payments. I trust, however, that the government with respond in a more tangible form to the industry's plea to make more money available for capital investment through the media of the target rate of profit which is due for review from the 1 October.

The fact that your directors have embarked on such a substantial capital expenditure programme reflects the confidence which we hold for the future.

Much has been said of the effects of crippling taxation imposed on the private sector of business and on individuals in every walk of life. Governments must surely take heed of those who earn the country's wealth. Incentives in the past have encouraged effort and I have found no evidence that human nature has changed to such an extent that this no longer applies. If the incentive is forth-coming man can move mountains, but without incentive pleas from government will go unheeded. How often does one hear people in extremely responsible positions advocating that the government should supply cash for some project or other. Let us bear in mind that government, whatever its colour, is dependent on its revenue from the tax payer, which now includes the vast majority of our countrymen. Very simply, it is the tax payer who subsidises, not the government.

In July of this year the company announced the pending retirement from full executive duties of your managing director, Eric E Binns, who has for some time felt that a way must be made clear for younger men. Your board respects his judgment in reaching this decision and are delighted that he readily acceded to their request to remain on the board in the capacity of non-executive vice chairman, which position he will hold for the foreseeable future.

Your board unanimously agreed to appoint E G Bousfield as his successor. Mr Bousfield has served your company for twenty-eight years, twenty-two of which he has been a director, thus giving him great depth of knowledge in all aspects of your company.

We have been extremely fortunate in securing the services of A E Gardiner to head up the dairy division, the responsibility previously undertaken by Mr Bousfield.

Mr Gardiner was managing director of Express Dairies (Northern) Limited and has been well known to all members of your board for many years and they are confident of the substantial contribution he will make to the group.

A N STOCKDALE

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Report of the auditors to the members

We have examined the accounts of Associated Dairies Limited set out on pages 11 to 21. These have been prepared under the historical cost convention as explained in note 1(a).

In our opinion the accounts give, under the accounting convention stated above, for the company and for the group so far as concerns members of the company, a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 1 May 1976 and of the profit and sources and application of funds for the period then ended and comply with the Companies Acts 1948 and 1967.

WHINNEY MURRAY & CO
Chartered Accountants

Leeds 25 August 1976

Associated Dairies Limited Consolidated profit and loss account for the fifty-two weeks ended 1 May 1976

Turnover	Note 2	£000s	1976 £000s £312,000	1975 £000s £221,000
Trading profit	3		13,548	9,086
Other Income	4		1,174	796
Profit before taxation and extraordinary items Taxation	5		14,722 7,983	9,882 5,296
Profit ofter taxation Minority interests			6,739 3	4,586
Profit before extraordinary items Extraordinary items	6		6,736 299	4,586 22
Profit for period available for appropri	ation		£7,035	£4,608
Appropriations Dividends of Associated Dairies Limited	7		572	524
Retained profit added to reserves: Associated Dehies Limited Subsidiary companies Associated companies		6,499 (36) (—)		4,176 (161) 69
	8	ing MCCO	6,463 £7,035	4,084 £4,608 10·38p
Earnings per ordinary share	•			•

The notes on pages 16 to 21 form part of these accounts

Associated Dairies Limited and subsidiaries

Consolidated balance sheet at 1 May 1976

	Note	£000s	<i>1976</i> £000s	<i>1975</i> £000s
Assets employed				
Fixed assets	9		36,426	25,277
Investment in subsidiary	40		75	
not consolidated	10 11		75 49	264
Investment in associated companies	12		12	11
Trade investments and loans	13		31	26
Sinking fund	13		0,	20
Current assets		15,811		11,878
Stocks Debtors		3,376		3,273
Short term deposits		14,700		8,887
Cash		458		281
Cesii				
			34,345	24,319
			70,938	49,897
Deduct current liabilities			70,336	45,657
Bank overdrafts		588		
Creditors		23,246		21,322
Taxation		7,007		5,631
Proposed final dividend		198		159
110000000000000000000000000000000000000				67.450
			36,039	27,182
			34,899	22,715
Goodwill	14		3,042	2,914
4004#:III	• •			-
			£37,941	£25,629
			النبتيت	
Financed by Shareholders' funds				
	15		11,766	9,459
Share capital Share premium	16		293	156
Reserves	17		14,504	10,150
Undaraca	••			-
			26,563	19,765
Minority interests			28	
74% debenture stock 1988/93	18		377	460
Loans on mortgage			405	409
Deferred taxation	19		10,257	4,918
Government grants			311	77
			£37,941	£25,629

A N STOCKDALE Directors

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these accounts

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Balance Sheet at 1 May 1976

			1976	1975
	Note	£000s	£000s	£000s
Assets employed			05.005	24 050
Fixed assets	9		35,985	24,858 1,294
Interest in subsidiaries	10		755	76
Investment in associated companies	11		32	11
Trade investments and loans	12		12 31	26
Sinking fund	13		31	20
Current assets		4==40	ſ	10,869
Stocks		15,542	,	2,391
Debtors		3,192		8,838
Short term deposits		14,700		234
Cash		301	į	201
			33,735	22,382
				48,647
			70,550	40,047
Deduct current liabilities		488		
Bank overdrafts		28,126		20,023
Creditors		6,987		5,797
Taxation		198		159
Proposed final dividend				ļu
			35,799	25,979
			34,751	22,668
	14		2,635	2,556
Goodwill	1-7			
			£37,386	£25,224
Financed by				
Shareholders' funds	15		11,766	9,459
Share capital	16		293	156
Share premium	17		14,193	9,804
Reserves	•		00.050	19,419
			26,252	460
74% debenture stock 1988/93	18		377 405	409
Loans on mortgage			10.081	4,859
Deferred taxation	19		271	4,033 77
Government grants			2/1	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
#-x				
			£37,386	£25,224
			F-1-1	

A N STOCKDALE } Directors

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these accounts

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Associated Dairies Limited Statement of source and application of funds for the fifty-two weeks ended 1 May 1976

	0000-	1976 £000s	£000s	975 £000s
Source of funds Profit before tax and extraordinary items less minority interests	£000s	14,719	10003	9,882
Extraordinary items before tax		443 15,162		9,904
Adjustment for items not involving movement of funds: Minority interests in retained profits		3		-
Depreciation Government grant credit Profits retained in associated companies		2,108 (54) —		1,513 (25) (70)
Total generated from operations		17,219		11,322
Funds from other sources Shares issued for value less expenses Government grants received Investments and loans realised		335 288 (1)		256 30 707
		17,841		12,315
Reduction in investment in associated companies and creation of minority interest (see note below)		240		شعبسير محمد به در معرب سياسي
Application of funds		18,081		12,315
Dividends paid Taxation paid Purchase of fixed assets Long term loans repaid	533 1,382 13,257 87		559 2,354 6,305 24	
Sinking fund Investment in subsidiary not consolidated Goodwill relating to milk rounds Goodwill on acquisition of subsidiaries	5 75 79 79		5 14	
		15,497		9,262
		£2,584		£3,053
Increase/decrease in working capital increase in stock increase in debtors increase in creditors	3,933 103 (6,854))	891 1,083 (7,985)	
Movement in net liquid funds: Reduction/increase in cash balances Increase in short term deposits	(411) 5,813)	1,927 7,137	
		£2,584	than 0 mg .	£3,053

Note: The item 'Reduction in investment in associated companies and creation of minority interest' arises as a result of the company acquiring further holdings in two associated companies, Rosenda (Blackburn) Limited and Settle Creamery Limited during 1975/76 to the extent that both companies are now subsidiaries and are consolidated as such. The assets and liabilities acquired as a result by the group are included under their appropriate headings.

Associated Dairies Limited and subsidiaries

Notes on the accounts

1 Accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of properties existing at April 1965 and certain stores revalued by the directors in 1974 and 1976 which are incorporated in the accounts.

(b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts of the company and its subsidiaries (but see note 10(a)) for the period ended 1 May 1976 and also include the group's share of post-acquisition profits less losses of associated companies.

(c) Depreciation

- (i) The cost of motor vehicles is written off over equal monthly instalments over five years. Depreciation in respect of other assets is charged on the cost of items in existence at the commencement of the period at rates sufficient to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.
- (ii) No depreciation has been provided on freehold shops and houses, nor on shops and houses held on long lease. Depreciation on other properties has been provided at the rate of 1½% per annum or at a rate sufficient to amortise the property over the term of the lease.

(d) Government grants

Government grants in respect of expenditure on fixed assets have been credited to a separate account and credit is taken in the profit and loss account over the estimated average life of the relevant assets.

(e) Stocks

Stocks have been valued on a basis consistent with the previous year, namely at the lower of cost and not realisable value. In respect of stock for re-sale cost comprises retail selling prices less a calculated average gross profit margin.

(//) Deferred taxation

Tax has been provided at the current proposed rate of 52% on:

- (i) the excess of the book value of fixed assets qualifying for taxation allowances over their written down value for tax purposes
- (ii) the amount on which tax is deferred by stock appreciation relief
- (iii) accrued income not liable to tax until later years
- (iv) chargeable gains arising from sale of assets which are carried forward by deduction from the cost of replacement assets (roll-over relief)
- (v) revaluation of properties for the estimated tax at the current rate which would be payable if these properties were to be sold at their revalued amounts.

The provision is reduced by tax at the year-end rate on expenditure not deductible for tax purposes until later years.

The advance corporation tax relating to the current year's proposed final dividend is deducted from deferred taxation and included under current liabilities.

(g) Pension benefits

Pension benefits provided to ex-employees are funded over the employees' period of service. The company's contributions are based on the most recent triennial actuarial valuation of the fund.

2 Turnover

Turnover comprises value of sales exclusive of V.A.T. and inter-group transactions.

Associated Dairies Limited and subsidiaries

Notes on the accounts

3	Trad	ing profit is arrived at after charging:	1976	1975
•		.	£000s	£000s
			2,039	1,427
	(a)	Depreciation and amortisation	•	
		(see also note 1 (c)) Additional depreciation in respect of obsolescence		
		subsequent to store modernisation		53
		3450444444	2,039	1,480
			69	33
		Losses on sales of fixed assets		
			2,108	1,513
		Deduct: Government grant credit	54	25
		Boddon Covernment Branch	£2,054	£1,488
			£2,054	£1,400
			-	
	<i>(b)</i>		30	34
		Debenture Mortgage interest	61	41
		Short term loans and bank overdrafts	99	73
		•	£190	£148
	1-1	Hire charge for plant and machinery	£831	£650
				
	(d)	Auditors' remuneration (including £18,000 in respect	£20	£19
	• •	of the parent company) (1975 £14,500)		ران
		Empluments of directors of Associated Dairies Limited:		
	(0)	Fees	. 1	. 1
		Management remuneration	149	125
		•	C150	£126
				
		Directors' emoluments waived—fees under article 82,		
		£4,250 (1975 £4,000)		
		Additional information in respect of emoluniants of		
		directors and employees excluding pension contributions:	Number	of directors
			1976	1975
		Chairman—emoluments £18,239 (1975 £16,211)	1	1
		Other directors' emoluments in scale:	2	2
		Not more than £2,500	í	2
		£2,501 —£5,000	_	Ĩ
		67,501 — 610,000 612,501—615,000	=	4
		£15,001—£17,500	5	1
		£17,501—£20,000	1	⇔ •
		Employees	3	1
		£10,001—£12,500	•	
4	0	ther income	1976	1975
			£000s	£000s
	D.	vidends from quoted investments		17
	SI	nort term corporation and bank loan interest	1,171	621
	Ω	ther interest	1 2	7 2
	Δ	senciated companies' loan interest		149
	S	hare of associated companies' losses/profits		
			£1,174	£796

5 Taxation

9

U	The charge based on the profit for the period comprises:	6000-	£000s
	U.K. corporation tax payable 1 January 1978 Tax on franked investment income Applicable to profits of associated companies Transfer to deferred taxation Prior year adjustments: Corporation tax Deferred tax	£000s 4,154 ————————————————————————————————————	3,015 6 79 2,201 (183) 178
		£7,983	£5,296
	U.K. corporation tax has been provided at 52% (1975—52%).		
6	Extraordinary items Net profits on sales of properties (less tax) Profit on sale of investments (less tax) Profit on redemption of debentures Goodwill written off Compensation in respect of cancellation of agreement (less tax) Option consideration—senior executives' option scheme	£000s 300 7 36 (30) (15) 1 £299	£000s 2 2 7 ————————————————————————————————
7	Dividends	<i>1976</i> £000s	<i>1975</i> £000s
	Preference Ordinary—Interim ·8p per share (1975 1p) proposed final ·44497p per share (1975 ·45247p) Surplus on the sale of fractions on shares issued in lieu of dividends	19 355 198 ———————————————————————————————————	19 348 159 (2)

Earnings per ordinary share
Earnings per fully paid ordinary share are calculated on profits after deducting preference dividends, but before taking into account extraordinary items.

	ed assets	Freehold properties COOOs	Leasehold properties £000s	Plant, machinery equipment and vohicles £000s	<i>Total</i> £000s
(0)	Group Cost or valuation: At 3 May 1975 Relating to new subsidiaries Reclassification Additions during period Cost of disposals	10,784 671 130 3,449 (460)	3,761 (130) 3,922 (190) 7,363	13,553 644 5,758 (860)	28,098 1,215 13,129 (1,510) 40,932
	At 1 May 1976 Depreciation: At 3 May 1975 Relating to new subsidiaries Reclassification Charge for period Relating to disposals	429 40 27 161 (7)		5,275 407 1,783 (533)	5,907 447 2,038 (556)
	At 1 May 1976 Net book amounts 1 May 1976	650 £13,824	254 £7,109	6,932 £12,163	7,836 33,096
	Payments under contracts not yet completed (1975 £3,086,029)	<u> </u>			3,330 £36,426

Associated Dairies Limited and subsidiaries

Notes on the accounts

3,330 £35,985

9	Fixed assets (continued)			Plant, machinery equipment	
		Freehold properties £000s	Leasehold properties £000s	and vehicles £000s	<i>Total</i> £000s
	(b) Company Cost or valuation: At 3 May 1975 Additions during period Inter-company transfers Cost of disposals	10,584 3,407 296 (304)	3,682 3,922 1 (111)	13,372 5,658 634 (715)	27,638 12,987 931 (1,130)
	At 1 May 1976	13,983	7,494	18,949	40,426
	Depreciation: At 3 May 1975 Charge for period Relating to inter-company transfers Relating to disposals	426 154 34 (2)	201 91 1 (11)	5,239 1,733 389 (484)	5,866 1,978 424 (497)
	At 1 May 1976	612	282	6,877	7,771
	Net book amounts 1 May 1976	£13,371	£7,212	£12,072	32,655
	Payments under contracts not yet completed (1975 £3,086,029)				3,330
	Completed (1919 notes)				C25 005

(c)	Included in the net book value of properties were stores	revalued by Group £000s	the directors: Company £000s
	1974 1978	173 175	173
	1910	£348	£173
(d)	The net book amount of leasehold property comprises: Leases with fifty years or more unexpired Leases with less than fifty years unexpired	5,640 1,469	5,640 1,572
		£7,109	£7,212

10 Interest in subsidiaries

(a) Group
The Interest in the subsidiary not consolidated relates to Gazeley Properties Limited in which Associated Dairies Limited acquired a 100% interest during the year. The directors are of the opinion that its consolidation would involve delay out of proportion to the value to the members of the company in view of the insignificant amount involved.

(b) Company

Company	<i>1976</i> £000s	<i>1975</i> £000s
Shares at cost less amounts written oif Amounts owing by subsidiaries	1,397 313	1,281 935
	1,710 955	2,216 922
Less amounts owing to subsidiaties	£755	£1,294

The subsidiaries of Associated Dairies Limited, all incorporated in England, are: Wholly-owned: Robert Hardman Limited Sandmartin Foods Limited Settle Creamery Limited Southern Gold (U.K.) Limited Strongmill Limited Forty-one non-trading companies

Rosenda (Blackburn) Limited— 75% of 'A' ordinary shares 100% of 'B' ordinary shares

Investment in associated companies (a) The associated companies concerned are set out below. The dates indicated are those to which audited accounts have been received, the results of which, together with management accounts, have been used to form the basis for calculation of the group's 1975 share of profits/losses. 1976

	Shale of proms, research	2000s 9	£000s 25
(b)	Cost of shares	23	51
1-7	Loan accounts Investment held attributable to Associated Dairies Limited Share of undistributed profits since acquisition Investment held attributable to Associated Dairies Group	32 17 <u>£49</u>	76 188 £264

The company holds in excess of 10% of the equity capital of the following company. which is incorporated in England:

Proportion Date of last of equity audited accounts capital held 27 September 1975 45%

Eden Vale (North) Limited (d) During the year the company acquired the remaining 50% interest in Settle Creamery Limited and an additional 40-26% interest in Rosenda (Blackburn) Limited, and both companies are now consolidated as subsidiaries.

12 Trade investments and loans

Trade investments and loans		p and pany
	1976 £000s	1975 £000s
Trade investments—unquoted	12	11 محمد محمد
Loans	£12	£11

The sinking fund comprises premiums paid on a sinking fund insurance policy taken out as the sinking fund comprises premiums paid on a sinking fund insurance Society Limited. collateral security for a loan on mortgage from Legal and General Assurance Society Limited. The policy is to mature in 1995 and the premium is £5,200 per annum. Sinking fund

Associated Dairies Limited and subsidiaries

Notes on the accounts

£3,042

£2,635

•		<i>Group</i> £000s	Company £000s
	Balance at 3 May 1975: Relating to milk businesses Other goodwill including excess cost of shares	1,021	1.021
	over assets purchased	1,893	1,535
	Net purchases of milk rounds Net goodwill in respect of subsidiaries acquired	2,914 79 49	2,556 79
		£3,042	£2,635
	Balance at 1 May 1976: Relating to milk businesses Other goodwill including excess cost of shares	1,100	1,100
	over assets purchased	1,942	1,535

15 Share capital

14 Goodwill

	Authoris	eď	Issued at fully pa	
	1976	1975	1976	1975
	£000s	£0005	£000s	£000s
5-5% (now 3-85% plus tax credit) cumulative preference shares of		******		2000
C1 cach	500	500	500	500
Ordinary shares of 25p each		880	~~~	200
fully paid	11,500	9,500	11.110	0.700
'A' Ordinary shares of	11,560	0,000	11,110	8,799
25p each				
	Cute	2000	142	140
Ordinary shares of 25p each				
Sp paid	W100		14	20
		F 77		
	£12,000	£10.000	£11.766	£9.459
			2-4	,
				-

The authorised share capital was increased on 22 October 1975 by 8,000,000 ordinary shares

of 25p each.
'A' ordinary shares, which arise as bonus issue on the partly paid ordinary shares issued under

the Senior Executive Share Incentive Scheme, do not rank for dividend.

The increase in the issued share capital, as a result of the bonus issue of one ordinary share of 25p for every four fully paid ordinary shares hold, and one ordinary share for every four partly paid shares held, amounting to £2,260,858 on 22 October 1975, was capitalised out

of reserves (see notes 16 and 17).

During the year all the shares in Gazeley Properties Limited, Anzo Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries, Rabee Limited and Strongmill Limited, were acquired, the consideration being the issue of 64,211 ordinary shares of 25p each at a premium of 200p per chare. Further calls were made on shares in respect of the Senior Executive Share Incentive Scheme

and options exercised under the Senior Executive Share Option Scheme together amounting

Under the terms of the Schlor Executive Share Option Scheme there are 1,477.625 ordinary shares for which options to subscribe have been granted at an adjusted price of 52p per share as to 1,291,875 and 208p per share as to 185,750 exercisable between November 1977 and

16 Share promium account

10s 56 93 56)
93

Reserves At 3 May 1975 Retained profits		<i>Group</i> £000s 10,150 6,463	Company £000s 9,804 6,498
Retained profits		16,613	16,302
Deduct: Amount capitalised on bonus issue	2,105 4		2400
Expenses of issue		2,109	2,109
At 1 May 1976		£14,504	£14,193

18 73% debenture stock 1988/93
In accordance with the provisions of the trust deed dated 10 November, 1967 the company is required to provide £7,500 per annum towards redemption of stock. During the year the company purchased £83,154 nominal value of stock at a cost of £46,686.

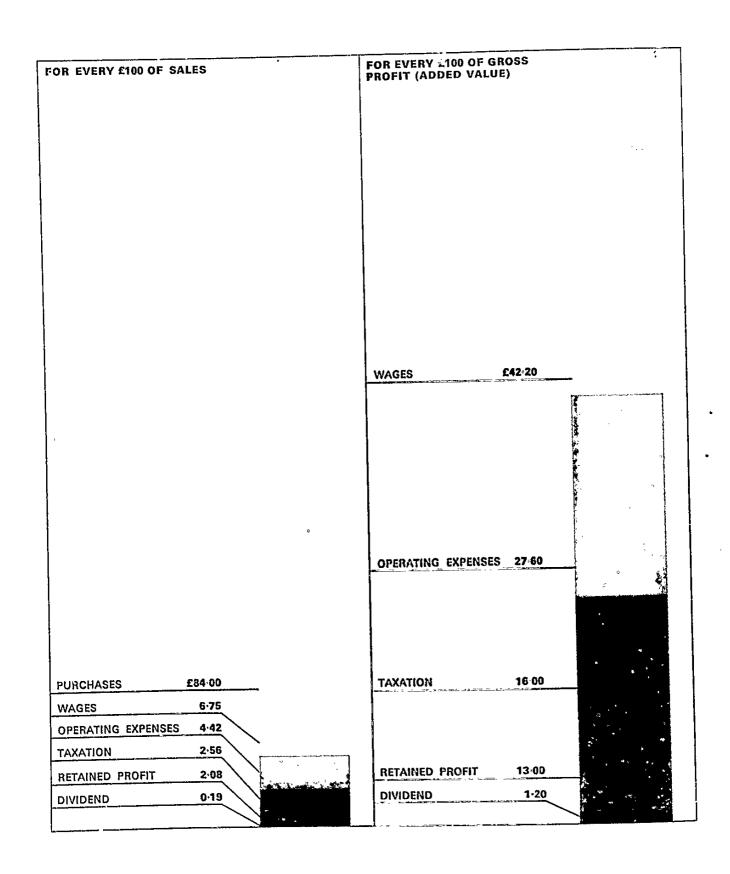
Deferred taxation Deferred taxation at 1 May 1976 comprises:	<i>1976</i> £000s	<i>1975</i> £000s
(a) Group Tax on excess of capital allowances claimed over related depreciation	7,495	4,006
Tax in respect of rollet under provisions	2,685	985
Tax on excess of valuations over cost of properties and on capital gains deferred by 'roll-over' relief Net provision in respect of accrued income and charges	174	 13
Advance corporation tax on proposed dividend	10,363 106	5,004 86
Advance corporation tax on proposed con-	C10,257	r4,918
(b) Company Tax on excess of capital allowances claimed over related depreciation	7,409	3.947
Tay in respect of feller under provisions research	2,623	965
to stock appreciation Tax on excess of valuations over cost of properties and on capital gains deferred by 'roll-over' relief Net provision in respect of accrued income and charges	144	13 13
Advance corporation tax on proposed dividend	10,187 108	4,946 66 =
Advance corporation tox on property	£10,081	r4 859

The directors have authorised future capital expenditure which, without taking account of government grants, amounts to:

government grants, amounts to:		up and mpany
	1976 £000s 6,100	1975 1000s 4,160
Contracted for Not contracted for	4,200	2,960

Contingent liabilities
Forward contracts to purchase 1,608,369 Dutch Florins (approximately £315,000) remain rorward contracts to purchase 1,000,000 outch Fronta (approximately 2000) and outstanding at 1 May 1976.

The company has entered into a joint and several guarantee amounting to £139,000 in respect of an equipment lease on behalf of an associated company.



10-year group financial record sales, profits and dividends

					LUU	/03				
	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
		26,875	34,349	48,265	72,820	95,110	128,100	158,200	221,300	312,000
Turnover	19,342	20,075	34,040			0.707	6,265	7,411	9,882	14,722
Profit before tax	786 328	1,120 466	1,379 515	1,719 749	2,908 1,132	3,787 1,558	2,738	4,017	5,296	7,983
Taxation			004	970	1,776	2,229	3,527	3,394	4,586	6,739
Profit after tax Minority interests	458 7	654 42	864	48	51 (10)	64 123	80 229	(22)	(22)	3 (299)
Eutrantdinant items									****	
Amount written off goodwill of subsidiary Preference dividend*	25	10 27	56 27	27	27	27	23	19	19	19
Amount available for distribution to ordinary shareholders	426 226	575 234	781 258	895 340	1,708 495	2,015 620				7,016 553
Ordinary dividends*	220	204			4 042	1,395	2,679	2,924	4,084	6,463
Retained earnings	200	341	523	555	1,213	1,000				
Profit before tax	4.00	4 17	4 01	3 56	 3∗99	3 98	4-87	4-68	3 4:46	4.72
as % of turnover Earnings per share— new pence†	4-06 1-05					4-90	7 .91	7:70	6 10.38	15.11
Hou housel										

Notes

in 1967 to 1972 inclusive dividends are shown gross of tax.

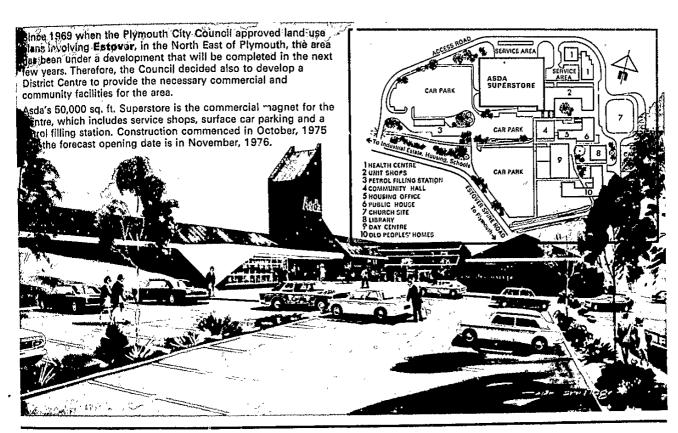
In 1973 the first interim is shown gross, the 2nd interim and final are shown net of tax as a result of the changes in taxation system.

in 1974 to 1976 inclusive dividends are shown net of tax.

Earnings per share are calculated by dividing the amount available for distribution to ordinary shareholders, excluding extraordinary items, by the following numbers of shares which represent shares in issue as adjusted by bonus issues and issues upon acquisitions.

1967-68 inclusive	40,650,710 43,174,132
1969-71 inclusive	40,047,107
1972	43,217,462
1973	43,307,893
1974	43,461,336
	43,995,347
1976	44,441,529
1976	44,441,020

The partly paid shares and 'A' ordinary shares are not included in these totals.

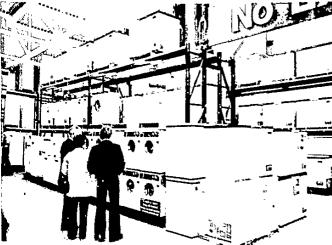




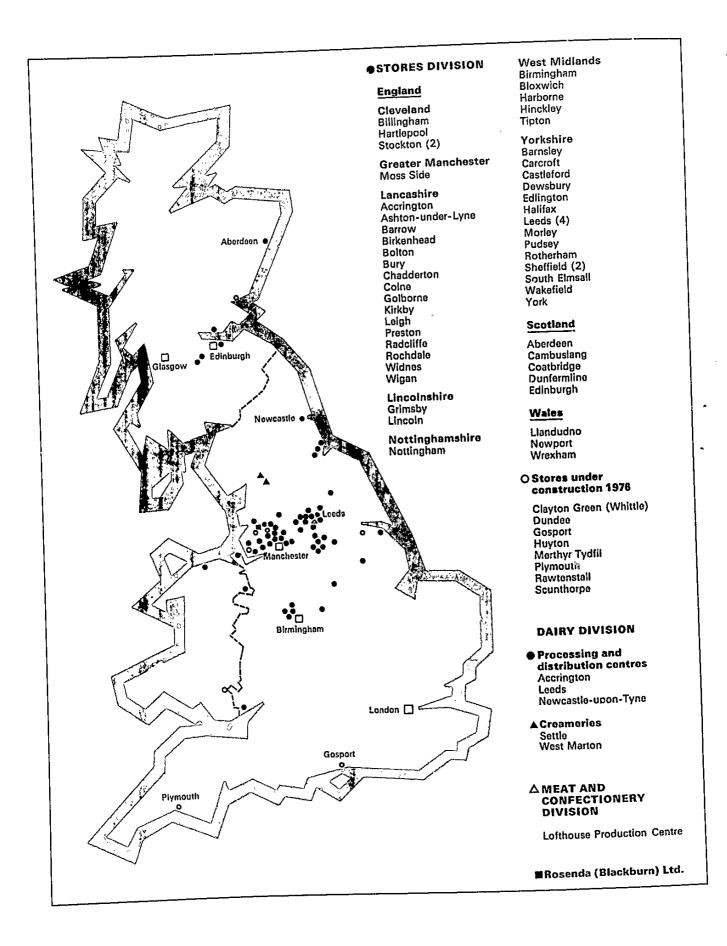
Left: One of the self-assembly Kitchen Furniture departments now being tested at the Aberdeen, Coatbridge and Widnes Superstores.

Below left: Electrical equipment in mass display using the height of the Superstore for storage; thus saving valuable warehouse floor space for selling purposes.

Below: A development in the mass merchandising of groceries in cages, using the area above the display units for storage.







ASSOCIATED DAIRIES LIMITED - ANNUAL RETURN TO 10TH NOVEMBER 1976 PARTICULARS OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY AT THE DATE OF THIS RETURN

* .					
	Any	Nationality	Residential Address	Business Occupation and particulars of other Directorships	Date of Birth
Name	names				
Eric Edward Binns	none	British	Brook Royd, Weeton, Leeds	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies and Dairy Supplies (York) Ltd.	17.2.1914
	none	British	Fieldhead Farm, Burley Woodhead, Ilkley, Yorks	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and Bexdown Foods Ltd.	24,4,1921
James Donate 5	none	British	4 Potterton Close, Barwick in Elmet, Nr Leeds	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd.	11.4.1922
. Peter Asquith	none	British	Reighton House, Moor Lane, East Keswick, Leeds	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies, Asquith & Sons Ltd, NcGay Ltd, Swillington Pig Producers Ltd, Eastern Aviation Ltd, Ravensbury Properties Ltd.	4.1.1927
Peter Firmston-Williams	none	British	Almsford House, 4 Fulwith Mill Lane, Harrogate	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd, Asda Stores Ltd and Bayfleet Ltd.	30.8.1918
Arthur Denison Dobson	m on	British	'Beauvais', Langwith Drive, Collingham, Nr Wetherby, Yorks.	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies.	13.5.1904

ASSOCIATED DAIRIES LIMITED - ANNUAL RETURN TO 10TH NOVEMBER 1976 PARTICULARS OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY AT THE DATE OF THIS RETURN

Date	of Birth	25.12.1920	19.3.1901	2,12,1924	7.11.1930	18.2,1925	15.2.1933
rottermood man	dusiness occupation and particulars of other Directorships	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies, Adel Investment Trust Ltd, Leeds Cricket, Football & Athletic Co Ltd, Steeton Investments Ltd, Grimshawe Holdings Ltd, Halifax Building Society and Commercial	Union Assurance Co Ltd Farmer. Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies and Wharfedale Farmers Auction Mart Ltd	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies.	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd	Company Secretary and Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies.	Director of Associated Dairies Ltd and its subsidiary companies
	Residential Address	Badgers Hill, Orchard Lane, Linton, Wetherby	"Stoney Banks", Ripley, Harrogate	40 Almsford Avenue, Harrogate	Wharfe View, Thorp Arch Park, Thorp Arch, Wetherby	Twitchell Corner, Hooton Pagnell, Doncaster	4 Hall Close, Bramhope, Nr Leeds
	Nationality	British /	British	British	British	British	British
	Any former names	none	none	none	none	none	none
	Мате	Arthur Woel Stockdale	Clifford Foster Lister	Bric Gilroy Bousfield	Arthur Brnest Fiddes Gardiner	Philip Redfearn Baines	Derek Drew

Mighe Conson