

Registered number: 618045

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005**



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COMPANIES HOUSE 18/08/05

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

Company information

Directors

E M A Arlington
J R S Tapp
M J G Tapp
W R N Tapp
C B Jackson
J H Tapp
R A Field

Secretary

W R N Tapp

Company number

618045

Registered office

St Nicholas Court
St Nicholas at Wade
Birchington
Kent
CT7 0PT

Auditors

Reeves & Neylan
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
37 St Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2JP

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

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St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

Directors' report For the year ended 31 January 2005

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2005.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors 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 those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Principal activities and review of business

The company's principal activity continues to be that of arable farming and the operation of a potato business.

Final outturn from the 2003 harvest contributed strongly to profits. Commodity prices have since returned to previous levels.

The company remains a supplier of fresh potatoes to major multiples, and has developed the potato business in new markets.

Results and dividends

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £407,110 (2004 - £236,069).

The directors have approved the payment of a dividend of £7.50 per share (2004: £5).

Directors

The directors who served during the year and their beneficial interests in the company's issued share capital were:

	Ordinary shares of £1 each	
	<u>31/1/05</u>	<u>1/2/04</u>
E M A Arlington (appointed 12/02/04)	-	-
J R S Tapp	5	5
M J G Tapp	832	832
W R N Tapp	2,236	2,236
C B Jackson	-	-
J H Tapp	200	200
R A Field	-	-

In addition to the above, J R S Tapp is the life tenant of a trust that holds 1,399 Ordinary shares of £1 (2004: 1,399) and M J G Tapp is the life tenant of a trust that holds 600 Ordinary shares of £1 (2004: 600).

Political and charitable contributions

During the year the company made charitable contributions totalling £1,989 (2004: £264).

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Directors' report
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

Land and buildings

The company's interest in freehold land and buildings was valued by Messrs Strutt & Parker of 2 St Margaret's Street Canterbury on 11 April 2002 at which date the open market value amounted to £3,615,000. Since that date the company has sold a cottage included within the valuation. The directors estimate that the value of the cottage in 2002 was £80,000.

Auditors

The auditors, Reeves & Neylan, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report was approved by the board on 29 July 2005 and signed on its behalf.

W R N Tapp
Director



9th August 2005

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Independent auditors' report to St Nicholas Court Farms Limited
Under section 247B of the Companies Act 1985**

We have examined the abbreviated accounts of St Nicholas Court Farms Limited for the year ended 31 January 2005 set out on pages 4 to 14, together with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 January 2005 prepared under section 226 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report is made solely to the company, in accordance with s.247B of the Companies Act 1985. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company those matters we are required to state to it in a special auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

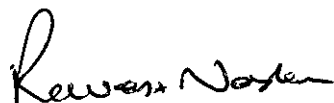
The directors are responsible for preparing the abbreviated accounts in accordance with section 246A of the Companies Act 1985. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion as to whether the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with section 246A(3) of the Act to the registrar and whether the accounts to be delivered are properly prepared in accordance with those provisions and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of audit opinion

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to confirm, by reference to the financial statements, that the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts and that the abbreviated accounts to be delivered are properly prepared. The scope of our work for the purpose of this report did not include examining or dealing with events after the date of our report on the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with sections 246 A(3) of the Companies Act 1985, and the abbreviated accounts on pages 4 to 14 are properly prepared in accordance with those provisions.



Reeves & Neylan

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

Canterbury

9 August 2005

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Abbreviated Profit and loss account
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

	Note	2005 £	2004 £
Gross profit		4,440,036	3,887,395
Selling and distribution costs		(1,177,257)	(909,195)
Administrative expenses		(2,673,158)	(2,706,213)
Operating profit	2	589,621	271,987
Exceptional items			
Profit on sale of freehold land and buildings		-	103,534
Profit on ordinary activities before interest		589,621	375,521
Interest receivable		2,842	12,418
Interest payable	5	(94,681)	(87,308)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		497,782	300,631
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	6	(90,672)	(64,562)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		407,110	236,069
Dividends - On equity shares	7	(44,000)	-
Retained profit for the financial year	16	363,110	236,069

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2005 or 2004 other than those included in the profit and loss account.

The notes on pages 6 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Abbreviated Balance sheet
As at 31 January 2005**

	Note	£	2005 £	£	2004 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	8		2,897,272		2,919,768
Investments	9		93,957		85,407
			<u>2,991,229</u>		<u>3,005,175</u>
Current assets					
Stocks	10	497,266		590,539	
Debtors	11	1,034,938		1,313,788	
Cash at bank and in hand		31,171		2,417	
			<u>1,563,375</u>		<u>1,906,744</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,336,245)		(2,022,666)	
			<u>227,130</u>		<u>(115,922)</u>
Net current assets/(liabilities)					
			<u>3,218,359</u>		<u>2,889,253</u>
Total assets less current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13		(804,851)		(892,855)
Provisions for liabilities and charges					
Deferred taxation	14		(54,000)		-
			<u>2,359,508</u>		<u>1,996,398</u>
Net assets					
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	15		8,800		8,800
Profit and loss account	16		2,350,708		1,987,598
			<u>2,359,508</u>		<u>1,996,398</u>
Shareholders' funds - all equity	17				
			<u>2,359,508</u>		<u>1,996,398</u>

The abbreviated accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 applicable to medium-sized companies, were approved by the board on 29 July 2005 and signed on its behalf.



W R N Tapp
Director

9th August 2005

The notes on pages 6 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The full financial statements, from which these abbreviated accounts have been extracted, have been prepared under the historical cost convention and are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

1.2 Turnover

Turnover comprises the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company, exclusive of Value Added Tax and trade discounts, together with area aid income attributable to goods supplied.

Area aid income, including set aside, is recognised in the profit and loss account when the underlying crops are sold. For crops harvested but unsold at the year end date the relevant area aid and set aside is treated as deferred income on the balance sheet.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation on other tangible fixed assets is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of those assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Domestic buildings, agricultural buildings and works	-	25 - 50 years straight line
Plant and machinery	-	4 - 20 years straight line
Tractors & motor vehicles	-	4 - 10 years straight line

1.4 Leasing and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the company. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the profit and loss account so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

1.5 Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

1.6 Stocks and work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.7 Deferred taxation

Provision is made in full for all taxation deferred in respect of timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except for gains on disposal of fixed assets which will be rolled over into replacement assets. No provision is made for taxation on permanent differences.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is more likely than not that they will be recovered.

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

Notes to the abbreviated accounts For the year ended 31 January 2005

1.8 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and contributes to individual personal pension contracts. The pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.9 Capital grants

Grants received in relation to capital expenditure are capitalised and released in equal annual installments over the life of the asset.

2. Operating profit

The operating profit is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2005 £	2004 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the company	301,897	279,635
Auditors' remuneration	12,300	12,000
Operating lease rentals:		
- plant and machinery	104,274	87,343
- other operating leases	-	18,533
Amortisation of grant	(2,830)	(2,830)
Contracting income	(374,557)	(266,844)
Profit on disposal of plant & machinery and tractors & motor vehicles	(23,546)	(2,352)
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

3. Staff costs

Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:

	2005 £	2004 £
Wages and salaries	1,997,328	1,901,344
Social security costs	165,110	159,059
Other pension costs	68,585	99,951
	<u><u>2,231,023</u></u>	<u><u>2,160,354</u></u>

The average monthly number of employees, including directors, during the year was as follows:

	2005	2004
Packhouse and farm	92	98
Administration	10	9
	<u><u>102</u></u>	<u><u>107</u></u>

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Notes to the abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

4. Directors' remuneration

	2005 £	2004 £
Emoluments	<u>182,269</u>	<u>191,852</u>
Company pension contributions to money purchase pension schemes	<u>32,012</u>	<u>54,830</u>

During the year retirement benefits were accruing to 3 directors (2004 - 3) in respect of money purchase pension schemes.

During the year the company was invoiced £8,000 by E M A Arlington, a director of the company, for consultancy services provided to the company plus expenses of £1,264.

5. Interest payable

	2005 £	2004 £
On bank loans and overdrafts	<u>94,681</u>	<u>87,308</u>

6. Taxation

	2005 £	2004 £
Analysis of tax charge in year		
Current tax (see note below)		
UK corporation tax charge on profits of the year	-	26,705
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	<u>90,672</u>	<u>37,857</u>
Total deferred tax (see note 14)	<u>90,672</u>	<u>37,857</u>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	<u>90,672</u>	<u>64,562</u>

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

Notes to the abbreviated accounts For the year ended 31 January 2005

6. Taxation (continued)

Factors affecting tax charge for year

The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK applicable to the company (19%). The differences are explained below:

	2005 £	2004 £
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	<u>497,782</u>	<u>300,631</u>
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the relevant standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2004 - 19%)	94,579	57,120
Effects of:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	(5,016)	6,255
Capital allowances for period in excess of depreciation	(11,585)	(13,127)
Utilisation of tax losses	(77,978)	(20,630)
Chargeable gain adjustment	-	(2,913)
Current tax charge for year (see note above)	<u>-</u>	<u>26,705</u>

Factors that may affect future tax charges

The company has tax losses totalling £550,000 available to carry forward against future trading profits.

7. Dividends

	2005 £	2004 £
On equity shares		
Total dividends paid	<u>44,000</u>	<u>-</u>

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Notes to the abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and machinery £	Tractors & motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 February 2004	2,303,003	3,671,089	111,477	6,085,569
Additions	-	267,424	43,930	311,354
Disposals	-	(82,497)	(90,827)	(173,324)
At 31 January 2005	<u>2,303,003</u>	<u>3,856,016</u>	<u>64,580</u>	<u>6,223,599</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 February 2004	803,304	2,265,343	97,154	3,165,801
Charge for the year	63,336	227,751	10,809	301,896
On disposals	-	(58,655)	(82,715)	(141,370)
At 31 January 2005	<u>866,640</u>	<u>2,434,439</u>	<u>25,248</u>	<u>3,326,327</u>
Net book value				
At 31 January 2005	<u>1,436,363</u>	<u>1,421,577</u>	<u>39,332</u>	<u>2,897,272</u>
At 31 January 2004	<u>1,499,699</u>	<u>1,405,746</u>	<u>14,323</u>	<u>2,919,768</u>

Included in land and buildings is freehold land at cost of £500,000 which is not depreciated.

9. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted invest- ments £
Cost	
At 1 February 2004	85,407
Additions	8,550
At 31 January 2005	<u>93,957</u>

10. Stocks

	2005 £	2004 £
Raw materials and consumables	253,544	303,391
Cultivations and work in progress	27,759	26,007
Crops in store	215,963	261,141
	<u>497,266</u>	<u>590,539</u>

The difference between purchase price or production cost of stocks and their replacement cost is not material.

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Notes to the abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

11. Debtors

	2005 £	2004 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	912,327	1,140,774
Other debtors	70,853	69,810
Prepayments and accrued income	51,758	66,532
Deferred tax asset (see note 14)	-	36,672
	<u>1,034,938</u>	<u>1,313,788</u>

**12. Creditors:
Amounts falling due within one year**

	2005 £	2004 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	80,993	561,834
Trade creditors	930,784	1,055,722
Corporation tax	-	26,705
Social security and other taxes	49,930	40,433
Other creditors	16,381	14,604
Accruals and deferred income	258,157	323,368
	<u>1,336,245</u>	<u>2,022,666</u>

**13. Creditors:
Amounts falling due after more than one year**

	2005 £	2004 £
Bank loans	752,837	838,011
Accruals and deferred income	52,014	54,844
	<u>804,851</u>	<u>892,855</u>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2005 £	2004 £
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	44,411	123,123
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	449,869	138,572
Over five years		
Bank loans	258,557	576,316

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

Notes to the abbreviated accounts For the year ended 31 January 2005

13. Creditors:

Amounts falling due after more than one year (continued)

Creditors include amounts not wholly repayable within 5 years as follows:

	2005 £	2004 £
Repayable by instalments	258,557	276,316
Repayable other than by instalments	40,694	343,524
	<u>299,251</u>	<u>619,840</u>

The company obtained two bank loans during the year from HSBC Bank plc. The first amounting to £300,000 is a five year interest only loan with full repayment being due in 2009, unless the option to extend this is taken up by the company. The second loan amounting to £535,000 is being repaid by equal installments over 10 years. Both loans bear interest at normal market rates. These are secured by fixed and floating charges on all the assets, land and buildings owned by the company.

14. Deferred taxation

	2005 £	2004 £
At 1 February 2004	(36,672)	(74,529)
Charge for the year	90,672	37,857
	<u>54,000</u>	<u>(36,672)</u>

The deferred tax provision/(asset) is made up as follows:

	2005 £	2004 £
Accelerated capital allowances	158,000	146,660
Tax losses carried forward	(104,000)	(183,332)
	<u>54,000</u>	<u>(36,672)</u>

15. Share capital

	2005 £	2004 £
Authorised		
25,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
8,800 Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>8,800</u>	<u>8,800</u>

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Notes to the abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

16. Reserves

Profit and loss account	£
At 1 February 2004	1,987,598
Profit retained for the year	363,110
	<hr/>
At 31 January 2005	2,350,708
	<hr/>

17. Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds

	2005 £	2004 £
Profit for the year	407,110	236,069
Dividends	(44,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	363,110	236,069
Opening shareholders' funds	1,996,398	1,760,329
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing shareholders' funds	2,359,508	1,996,398
	<hr/>	<hr/>

18. Capital commitments

At 31 January 2005 the company had capital commitments as follows:

	2005 £	2004 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	4,500	131,852
	<hr/>	<hr/>

19. Pension commitments

At 31 January 2005 the company had commitments to pay pension contributions amounting to £8,658 (2004: £8,010).

20. Operating lease commitments

At 31 January 2005 the company had annual commitments under non-cancelable operating leases as follows:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2005 £	2004 £	2005 £	2004 £
Expiry date:				
Within 1 year	-	-	4,842	6,770
Between 2 and 5 years	-	-	121,609	46,201
After more than 5 years	1,000	2,200	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

St Nicholas Court Farms Limited

**Notes to the abbreviated accounts
For the year ended 31 January 2005**

21. Related party transactions

The company sold and purchased goods and services in the normal course of business to and from J & M Tapp (Wagtail) Partnership to the value of £221,682 and £188,391 respectively, all at local commercial rates (2004: £278,497 and £253,967). As at the year end, the balance owing from the J & M Tapp (Wagtail) Partnership was £12,324 (2004: £125,852).

J R S Tapp and M J G Tapp are directors of this company and are partners in the J & M Tapp (Wagtail) Partnership.

The company also sold and purchased goods and services in the normal course of business to and from J & M Tapp (Shuart) Partnership to the value of £146,436 and £90,286 respectively, all at local commercial rates (2004: £126,328 and £77,381). As at the year end, the balance owing from the J & M Tapp (Shuart) Partnership was £11,224 (2004: £63,725).

M J G Tapp is a director of this company and is also a partner in the J & M Tapp (Shuart) Partnership.

The company also sold and purchased goods and services in the normal course of business to and from A & J Pace Partnership to the value of £73,053 and £125,291 respectively, all at local commercial rates (2004: £72,239 and £41,607). As at the year end, the balance owing from the A & J Pace Partnership was £72,327 (2004: £108,651).

Mrs A R Pace, a partner in the A & J Pace Partnership, is a shareholder of the company and daughter of J R S Tapp who is a director of this company.

The company also sold goods in the normal course of business to Hatfeild Farms to the value of £21,864 at local commercial rates (2004: £20,458). As at the year end, the balance owing from the Hatfeild Farms was £2,799 (2004: £Nil).

J H Tapp, a director of the company is also a partner in Hatfeild Farms.