R A RACEY (GT YARMOUTH) LIMITED AND ITS SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 1996



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Company registration number:	1207510
Registered office:	Belton Lodge Belton Gt Yarmouth Norfolk
Directors:	R A Racey Mrs M R Racey C S Racey
Secretary:	Mrs M R Racey
Bankers:	National Westminster Bank plc
Solicitors:	Mears, Hobbs and Durrant
Auditors:	Grant Thornton

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their report together with financial statements for the period ended 31 December 1996.

#### Principal activities

The principal activity of the group is the wholesaling of pharmaceutical goods.

#### **Business review**

The group made a profit on ordinary activities after taxation of £289,389 (1995:£910,391). The directors propose the payment of a £53,040 dividend(1995:£53,040) and recommend that the balance of £236,349 be transferred to reserves.

#### **Directors**

The present membership of the Board is set out below.

The interest of the directors in the shares of the company at 31 December 1996 were as follows:

31 December 1996 and 1995 Shares of £1

	Ordinary	Preference
Mr R A Racey	135	348,800
Mrs M R Racey	135	161,200
Mr C S Racey	330	-

#### **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;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

#### **Directors responsibilities (continued)**

- 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, for safeguarding the assets of the company and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Fixed assets**

Movements in fixed assets are shown in note 8 to the financial statements.

#### Subsidiary companies

Details of subsidiary companies are set out in note 9 to the financial statements.

#### **Auditors**

Grant Thornton offer themselves for reappointment as auditors in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

R A Racey Director

27 October 1997

## REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF

### R A RACEY (GT YARMOUTH) LIMITED AND ITS SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 19 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on pages 4 and 5.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 1 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the 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 and group as at 31 December 1996 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

GRANT THORNTON
REGISTERED AUDITORS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

CARDIFF 27 October 1997

#### PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards except as noted below.

The principal accounting policies of the company have remained unchanged from the previous year and are set out below.

#### **BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION**

The group financial statements consolidate those of the company and of its subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31 December 1996. Profits or losses on intra-group transactions are eliminated in full.

#### **TURNOVER**

Turnover is the total amount receivable by the group for goods supplied and services provided, excluding VAT and trade discounts.

#### **DEPRECIATION**

Depreciation is calculated by straight line and reducing balance methods and aims to write off the cost or valuation less the estimated residual value of all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land over their expected useful economic lives.

The periods generally applicable are:

Leasehold property
Assets held under finance lease agreements
Fixtures, fittings and equipment
Motor Vehicles

Short leasehold property

Over the life of the lease

Over the primary period of the lease

15% reducing balance to 33 1/3% straight line

25% reducing balance

Over the period of the lease

It is the group's policy to maintain its freehold and long leasehold properties in a state of good repair. Because of this, such properties maintain residual disposal values, based on prices prevailing at the date of purchase or subsequent valuation, at least equal to their book values and accordingly no provision for depreciation made. Where there is a permanent dimunition in the value of a freehold or long leashold property or other tangible asset, a charge is made to the profit and loss account.

### **STOCK**

Stock and work in progress is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

#### **PENSION COSTS**

The group operates a defined contribution scheme providing benefits for employees additional to those from the state. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by that company to the fund in respect of the year where relevant.

#### PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **DEFERRED TAXATION**

Deferred tax is provided for using the tax rates estimated to arise when the timing differences reverse and is accounted for to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallise. Unprovided deferred tax is disclosed as a contingent liability.

#### **FINANCE AND OPERATING LEASES**

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are capitalised in the balance sheet and depreciation is provided accordingly. The capital element of future rentals is shown as a liability and the interest element of the rental obligation is charged to the profit and loss account over the period of the lease.

All other leases are regarded as operating leases and the payments made under them are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### **FOREIGN CURRENCY**

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange gains or losses arising are credited or charged to the profit and loss account.

# CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

Profit and loss account	Note	1996 £	1995 £
Turnover	1	33,178,553	29,277,483
Cost of sales		32,514,998	28,740,022
Gross profit		663,555	537,461
Net operating expenses		308,064	1,004,300
Operating profit/(loss)		355,491	(466,839)
Profit on sale of an operation		-	1,391,637
Other interest receivable and similar income	3	105,316	109,078
Interest payable and similar charges	2	37,008	35,745
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1	423,799	998,131
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	134,410	87,740
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	6	289,389	910,391
Dividends	7	53,040	53,040
Retained profit for the financial year	15	236,349	857,351

### Statement of total recognised gains and losses

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the financial year.

## **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 1996**

	Note	1996 £	1995 £
Fixed assets	8	124,400	105,322
Tangible assets		124,400	105,322
Current assets	10	713,457	755,978
Stock	11	5,452,203	5,150,093
Debtors  Cash at bank and in hand		964	7,011
		6,166,624	5,913,082
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(3,653,130)	(3,626,299)
Net current assets		2,513,494	2,286,783
Total assets less current liabilities		2,637,894	2,392,105
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(687,440)	(678,000)
Net assets	<u> </u>	1,950,454	1,714,105
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	14	510,600	510,600
Profit and loss account	15	1,439,854	1,203,505
	16	1,950,454	1,714,105
Equity shareholders' funds		1,387,414	1,151,065
Non-equity shareholders funds		563,040	563,040
,		1,950,454	1,714,105

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 27 October 1997.

R A Racey

Director

S Racev

Director

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## **COMPANY BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 1996**

	······································		
		1996	1995
Physics and a sector		3	£
Fixed assets	8	124,400	30,645
Tangible assets		124,400	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Investments	9	<u> </u>	510,000
		124,400	540,645
Current assets		T40 457	755 070
Stock	10	713,457	755,978
Debtors	11	5,452,203	5,359,174
Cash at bank and in hand		964	200
		6,166,624	6,115,352
Creditors: amounts falling due	12	(3,653,130)	(5,449,455)
within one year	··-	(0,000,100)	(0,110,100)
Net current assets		2,513,494	665,897
Total assets less current liabilities		2,637,894	1,206,542
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(687,440)	(678,000)
Net assets	_	1,950,454	528,542
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	14	510,600	510,600
Profit and loss account	15	1,439,854	17,942
	16	1,950,454	528,542
Equity shareholders' funds		1,387,414	(34,498)
Non-equity shareholders funds		563,040	563,040
1401 Fedulty Shareholders funds		1,950,454	528,542
The financial statements were approved by the Board of I	== Directors on		
R A Racey	D	irector	
C S Racey	D	irector	

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

	Note	1996 £	1995 £
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	19	60,211	(238,931)
Returns on investment and servicing			
of finance		(35,376)	(56,900)
Interest paid		(1,470)	(106,080)
Finance lease interest paid	<del></del>		
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance		(36,846)	(162,980)
Taxation		(00.005)	(83,358)
UK corporation tax paid	<del></del>	(29,285)	(83,330)
Investing activities			
Sale of tangible and intangible fixed assets	<del></del>		1,588,812
Net cash inflow from investing activities		-	1,588,812
Net cash (outflow)/inflow before financing		(5,920)	1,103,543
Financing		>	/dő 4dd)
Capital element of finance lease rental payments		(9,455)	(26,436)
Loans transferred to directors current accounts	<del></del>		(450,000)
Net cash outflow from financing	22 _	(9,455)	(476,436)
(Decrease)/increase in cash	04	(15,375)	627,107
and cash equivalents	21	(10,070)	<u> </u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

## 1 Turnover and profit on ordinary activities before taxation

All turnover arose from trading within the European Union.

Group turnover includes the following sales to a company in which the directors have an involvement

		1996	1995
	Stephar (UK) Limited =	10,473,363	8,211,317
	Profit on ordinary activities is stated after:	1996 £	1995 £
	Auditors' remuneration - audit fee	6,000	8,250 2,000
	other	272,456	989,464
	Staff costs	2,511	9,496
	Depreciation written off tangible fixed assets	6,772	-
	Depreciation written off assets held on finance leases  Adjustment on disposal of fixed assets		(113)
2	Interest payable and similar charges	1996	1995 £
		£	£
	On bank loans and overdrafts and other loans which:		
	are not repayable by instalments and due within 5 years	35,538	35,056
	are repayable by instalments and wholly due within 5 years	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	689
		37,008	35,745
3	Other interest receivable and similar income		
•	<b></b>	1996	1995
		£	£
	Management charge: Stephar (UK) Limited	80,000	90,000
	Rent receivable	17,355	19,078
	Sundry Income	7,961	
	Surface in	105,316	109,078
4	Directors and employees		
	Staff costs during the year were as follows:	4000	1995
		1996	
		2	2
	Wages and salaries	247,687	898,944
	Social security costs	24,769	89,277
	Other pension costs		1,243
		272,456	989,464

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4	Directors and employees (continued)		
	The average number of employees during the year was 3	(1995: 15)	
	Remuneration in respect of directors was as follows:	1996 £	1995 £
	Management remuneration	247,687	770,836
	The emoluments of the directors, excluding pension contri	butions, were as follows:	
		1996 £	1995 £
	The Chairman (also the highest paid director)	153,651	488,580
	Other directors		
		1996 Number	1995 Number
	£50,001 to £55,000	1	1
	£70,001 to £55,000	1	-
	£255,001 to £260,000	-	1
5	Tax on profit on ordinary activities		
	The tax charge is based on the profit for the year and repr	resents:	
		1996 £	1995 £
	Corporation tax at 33% (1995: 25% to 33%)	134,410	116,965
	Deferred taxation	-	(29,225)
		134,410	<u>87,740</u>

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

### 6 Profit for the financial year

The company has taken advantage of Section 230 of the Companies Act 1985 and has not included its own profit and loss account in these financial statements. The group profit for the year before taxation includes £423,799 which is dealt with in the financial statements of the parent company.

## 7 Dividends

	1996	1995
	£	3
Preference dividend paid at 10.4p per share	<u>53,040</u>	<u>53,040</u>

### 8 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property	Leasehold property	Fixtures and fittings	Motor Vehicles	Total
The company	3	3	£	£	£
Cost At 1 January 1996 Additions	30,000	-	2,343	33,860	32,343 33,860
Transfer from group undertakings Transfer to related	57,081	11,001	26,405	20,816	115,303
undertaking		_	-	(20,816)	(20,816)
At 31 December 1996	87,081	11,001	28,748	33,860	160,690
Depreciation			4 009		1,698
At 1 January 1996 Charge	-	660	1,698 513	8,110	9,283
Transfer from group undertakings		4,401	22,246	14,125	40,772
Transfer to related undertaking	-			(15,463)	(15,463)
At 31 December 1996		5,061	24,457	6,772	36,290
Net Book Value					
At 31 December 1996	87,081	5,940	4,291	27,088	124,400
At 31 December 1995	30,000		- 645		30,645

The figures stated above include assets held under finance leases and similar hire purchase contracts. At 31 December 1996 their net book value amounted to £27,088 (1995:£Nil).

The gross amounts of land and buildings on which depreciation is being provided is as follows:

Long leasehold

Long leasehold

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

### 8 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property	Leasehold in property	Fixtures and fittings	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
The group					
Cost					
At 1 January 1996	87,081	11,001	28,748	20,816	147,646
Additions	-	-	-	33,860	33,860
Transfer to related undertaking	<u>-</u>	-		(20,816)	(20,816)
At 31 December 1996	87,081	11,001	28,748	33,860	160,690
Depreciation			00 -00	4 405	40.004
At 1 January 1996	-	4,401	23,798	14,125	42,324
Charge	<del></del>	660	659	8,110	9,429
Transfer to related undertaking	-	-	-	(15,463)	(15,463)
At 31 December 1996		5,061	24,457	6,772	36,290
			·= -		
Net Book Value					
At 31 December 1996	87,081	5,940	4,291	27,088	124,400
At 31 December 1995	87,081	6,600	4,950	6,691	105,322

The figures stated above include assets held under finance leases and similar hire purchase contracts. At 31 December 1996 their net book value amounted to £27,088 (1995:£Nil).

The gross amounts of land and buildings on which depreciation is being provided is as follows:  ${\bf \hat{\Sigma}}$ 

Long leasehold 11,001

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

9	Fixed asset investme	ents - company			
	Investments in subsid	iaries:		19	96 1995 £ £
	Cost at 1 January 199	96			
	R A Racey Limited			000.0	000 220,000
	1000 £1 ordinary sh			220,0	220,000
	R A Racey (Chemists 100 £1 ordinary sha			290,0	290,000
	100 Z1 Oldinary one	., 00			
	Cost at 31 December	1996		510,0	510,000
	Less:				
	Dividend paid by sub	sidiaries		(510,0	000) -
	Net book value				- 510,000
	Details of group comp	panies at the balanc	e sheet date ar	e as follows:	
			Class of		
	Name of company ar	nd type of business	<u>share</u>	<u>Holding</u>	<u>Year end</u>
	R A Racey (Chemists Wholesaler of phar April 1995 (Dormar	maceutical good to	Ordinary	100%	31 December 1996
	R A Racey Limited Wholesaler and op pharmacies to Apri	eration of communit I 1995 (Dormant)	y Ordinary	100%	31 December 1996
	Stocks				
10		Group		Company	100-
10		1996	1995	1996	1995
10			•	•	•
10		£	3	3	5

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

11	Debtors		The group	The	e company
		1996 £	1995 £	1996 £	1995 £
			_	_	
	Trade debtors	1,868,743	1,355,719	1,868,743	1,355,719
	Amounts owed by related companies	3,430,667	3,510,334	3,430,667	3,493,569
	Other taxes repayable	-	159,067	_	26,851
	Dividends receivable	-	-	-	360,000
	Corporation tax recoverable	152,793	123,035	152,793	123,035
	Other debtors		1,938		
		5,452,203	5,150,093	5,452,203	5,359,174

### 12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		The group	The company	
	1996	1995	1996	1995
	3	£	£	£
	0= 0= <b>=</b>	00.040	05 277	86,049
Bank loans and overdrafts	95,377	86,049	95,377	•
Trade creditors	2,530,367	2,534,373	2,530,367	2,534,373
Amounts owed to group				
undertakings	-	-	-	2,134,007
Amounts owed to related				
companies	49,776	123,676	49,776	59,482
Corporation tax payable	374,443	240,388	374,443	33
Other tax and social security				
costs	507,154	334,580	507,154	334,580
Directors' current accounts	62,509	256,879	62,509	256,879
Other creditors	10,846	13,834	10,846	12,832
Accruals	7,542	10,000	7,542	4,700
ACT payable	-	26,520	-	26,520
Finance leases and hire purchase	15,116	<del>-</del>	15,116	
_	3,653,130	3,626,299	3,653,130	5,449,455

The bank borrowings are secured on the assets of the group companies.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

## 13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

		The group	The company	
	1996	1995	1996	1995
	£	£	£	£
Finance leases and hire purchase Directors' current accounts	9,440	-	9,440	-
	678,000	678,000	678,000	678,000
	687,440	678,000	687,440	678,000

The finance leases fall due in one to two years.

The total amount of loans and overdrafts was as follows:

			The group	The	company
		1996	1995	1996	1995
	Falling due within one year	£	3	£	3
	Bank overdraft =	95,377	86,049	95,377	
14	Share capital			1996 £	1995 £
	Authorised Ordinary shares of £1 each	alala		25,000	25,000
	13% non-participating, non-redeem preference shares of £1 each	able	_	510,000	510,000
			=	535,000	535,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid Ordinary shares of £1 each	-	_	600	600
	13% non-participating, non-redeen preference shares of £1 each	nable preference	<del>9</del>	510,000	510,000
	·			510,600	510,600

Rights attaching to the 510,000  $\mathfrak{L}1$  preference shares are as follows:

The shares are denominated "13% cumulative, non-participating, non redeemable preference shares" conferring upon the holders thereof the following rights subject to the restrictions following:

i) the right to cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 13% per annum gross on the capital paid up thereon

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

- ii) the right in a winding up to a return on capital paid up thereon and any arrears of the said cumulative preferential dividend calculated down to the date of payment but to no further or other rights to share in surplus assets.
- iii) the right to attend and vote at general meetingsof the company, only in one of the following events:
  - if the said preferential dividend shall be in arrears for more than six months, and so that for this purpose only the same shall be deemed to fall due and be payable on 30 April and 31 October in each year; or
  - if any resolution or proposal in respect of such preference share is to be put or discussed and then only on such resolution or proposal.

#### 15 Reserves

Reserves	The group Profit and loss account £	The company Profit and loss account £
Balance at 1 January 1996 Dividends received from:	1,203,505	17,942
-R A Racey (Chemists) Limited	-	2,779
-R A Racey Limited	-	1,182,784
Profit for year	236,349	236,349
At 31 December 1996	1,439,854	1,439,854

### 16 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	The group		The company		
	1996	1995	1996	1995	
	£	£	£	£	
Profit for the financial year	289,389	801,313	289,389	1,047	
Dividends	(53,040)	(53,040)	1,132,523	(53,040)	
Balance at 1 January 1996	1,714,105	965,832	528,542	580,535	
Balance at 31 December 1996	1,950,454	1,714,105	1,950,454	528,542	

### 17 Contingent liabilities

The company has entered a cross guarantee in respect of Stephar (UK) Limited and its subsidiary Howard and Palmer Limited. At 31 December 1996 this amounted to £3,904,142 (1995: £5,842,999)

#### 18 Capital commitments

The company had no capital commitments at 31 December 1996 or 31 December 1995.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Net cash inflow/(outflow) from	ii operaniig aasi			4005
				1996 £	1995 £
					(400,000)
	Operating profit/(loss)			355,491	(466,839)
	Depreciation			9,283	9,496
	Decrease/ (increase) in stocks			42,521	(123,686)
	Increase in debtors			(299,828)	(141,348)
	(Increase) / decrease in credito	ors		(47,256)	483,446
	•		<u>-</u>	60,211	(238,931)
20	Changes in cash and cash e	quivalents			Ohamaa in tha
LU	<b>5.1.4.1.3</b>			1995	Change in the year
			1996	1995 £	£
			3	L	_
	a i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		964	7,011	(6,047)
	Cash at bank and in hand Overdrafts	_	(95,377)	(86,049)	(9,328)
			(94,413)	(79,038)	(15,375)
21	Analysis of changes in cash	ı and cash equi	valents	1996	1995
				( <del>7</del> 0.000)	(706,145)
	At 1 January 1996			(79,038)	627,107
	Net cash (outflow) / inflow			(15,375)	627,107
	At 31 December 1996		<del>-</del>	(94,413)	(79,038)
		ncina durina th	e year		Loans,and
22	Analysis of changes in fina				finance leases
22	Analysis of changes in fina				finance leases
22	Analysis of changes in fina		Share capital	1996	finance leases
22	Analysis of changes in fina			1996 £	
22		1996 £	Share capital 1995 £		1995 £
22	At 1 January 1996	1996	Share capital 1995		1995
22	At 1 January 1996 Cash outflow from	1996 £	Share capital 1995 £		<b>1995</b> £ 476,436
22	At 1 January 1996 Cash outflow from financing	1996 £	Share capital 1995 £		<b>1995</b> £ 476,436
22	At 1 January 1996 Cash outflow from financing Inception of Finance	1996 £	Share capital 1995 £	£ - (9,455)	<b>1995</b> £ 476,436
22	At 1 January 1996 Cash outflow from financing Inception of Finance leases	1996 £	Share capital 1995 £		<b>1995</b> £ 476,436
22	At 1 January 1996 Cash outflow from financing Inception of Finance leases Transferred to directors	1996 £	Share capital 1995 £	£ - (9,455)	1995 £ 476,436 (26,436)
22	At 1 January 1996 Cash outflow from financing Inception of Finance leases	1996 £	Share capital 1995 £	£ - (9,455)	1995 £

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

### 23 Transactions involving directors

During the year:

- i) the company paid interest of £29,376 to R A Racey, a director of the company, in respect of a loan made by him to the company. The transaction is on an arms length basis.
- ii) sales of £10,473,363 have been made in the ordinary course of business to Stephar (UK) Limited, a company in which the directors have an interest.
- iii) purchases of £5,585,000 have been made in the ordinary course of business from Howard and Palmer Limited, a company in which the directors have an interest.
- iv) trading balances are shown in notes 11 and 12.