

**INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED**  
(Registered Number: 1370287)

**DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**27 DECEMBER 1996**



# **INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**52 WEEKS ENDED 27 DECEMBER 1996**

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The directors submit their report and the accounts of the company for the 52 weeks ended 27 December 1996.

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

### **REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS**

The company acts as a holding company. Its subsidiary and associated undertakings are engaged in newspaper publishing activities. The company did not trade during the 52 week period under review.

### **DIVIDENDS**

The directors do not recommend payment of a dividend (1995: £Nil).

**INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**52 WEEKS ENDED 27 DECEMBER 1996**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT (Continued)**

**FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

Fixed asset investments are summarised in note 5 to the accounts. There have been no changes during the current year.

**DIRECTORS**

The directors who held office during the year were:

L P Healy  
B M A Hopkins  
J J Parkinson

The interests of the directors in the ultimate holding company are disclosed in that company's accounts. None of the directors had any beneficial interest in the shares of the company during the year.

A J Round was appointed director and company secretary on 1 May 1997.

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Price Waterhouse, have expressed their willingness to be reappointed.

By order of the Board



**A J Round**  
**Company Secretary**

26 June 1997

**AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 6 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 5.

**Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors**

As described on page 1 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

**Basis of opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

**Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 27 December 1996 and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

*Price Waterhouse*

PRICE WATERHOUSE  
Chartered Accountants  
and Registered Auditors

Southwark Towers  
32 London Bridge Street  
London SE1 9SY

26 June 1997


**INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 27 DECEMBER 1996**

	Note	27 December 1996	29 December 1995
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	5	6,462,409	6,462,409
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>(6,004,401)</u>	<u>(6,004,401)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>(6,004,401)</u>	<u>(6,004,401)</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>458,008</u>	<u>458,008</u>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
Share capital	7	1,000	1,000
Profit and loss account		<u>457,008</u>	<u>457,008</u>
<b>EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>		<u>458,008</u>	<u>458,008</u>

Approved by the Board on 26 June 1997



A J Round - Director

The notes on pages 5 and 6 form part of these accounts.

# INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 27 DECEMBER 1996

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a) Historical Cost Convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

#### b) Fixed Asset Investments

Investments are valued at cost in the accounts, less provision for any permanent diminution in value.

#### c) Financial year

The financial year ends on the last Friday nearest 31 December. Periodically, this results in a fifty three week year.

### 2 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

During the current and preceding financial period, the company did not trade and received no income and incurred no expenditure. Consequently the company has not presented a profit and loss account, a statement of total recognised gains and losses, or a reconciliation of movements on shareholders funds.

### 3 OPERATING PROFIT

Auditors remuneration was borne by the parent company.

### 4 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

No director received any emoluments in respect of services to the company during the year (1995 : £Nil). The company had no employees during the year (1995: Nil).

### 5 INVESTMENTS

	Shares in subsidiary undertakings £	Shares in associated undertakings £	Total £
At 29 December 1995 - cost	3,329,909	3,132,500	6,462,409
Additions/(disposals)	-	-	-
At 27 December 1996 - cost	3,329,909	3,132,500	6,462,409

Shares in subsidiary undertakings comprise 100% (1995: 100%) of the ordinary share capital of Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited.

## INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS (PUBLISHING) LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 27 DECEMBER 1996

#### 5 INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Shares in associated undertakings comprise 41.8% (1995: 41.8%) of the ordinary share capital of Capital Newspapers Limited.

Both Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited and Capital Newspapers Limited are engaged in the newspaper industry and are incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England.

Independent Newspapers (Publishing) Limited, is not required to prepare group accounts as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Independent Newspapers Plc, a company incorporated in the Republic of Ireland.

In the opinion of the directors the value of investments in subsidiary and associated undertakings are not less than the amount at which the investments are stated in the balance sheet.

#### 6 CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)

	1996 £	1995 £
Amounts owed to parent undertakings	<u>6,004,401</u>	<u>6,004,401</u>

The advances are non-interest bearing and unsecured.

#### 7 CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	1996 £	1995 £
Authorised, allotted and called up share capital 1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

#### 8 CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The company is exempt from producing a cash flow statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 as it is wholly owned by a parent undertaking established under the law of a member state of the European Community. The parent undertaking prepares consolidated financial statements, including a consolidated cash flow statement, which includes all subsidiary undertakings. These financial statements are drawn up in accordance with companies legislation promulgated within the Republic of Ireland.

#### 9 ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company is a 100% owned subsidiary of Independent Newspapers Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England. The ultimate holding company is Independent Newspapers Plc, a company incorporated in the Republic of Ireland.

As permitted by paragraph 3(c) of FRS8 - Related Party Disclosures, transactions with other entities in the group are not disclosed.

The only accounts produced which include the results of the company are those of Independent Newspapers Plc. A copy of these accounts can be obtained from 1/2 Upper Hatch Street, Dublin 2.