Directors' Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 September 1997

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Company Information

Directors

E Appleby QC

R A Barratt QC

The Hon M J Beloff QC

D R P Mole QC D B W Ouseley QC

Secretary

DRP Mole

Company Number

1511340

Registered Office

4/5 Grays Inn Square

Grays Inn London WC1R 5AY

Auditors

R Shah & Co

1 East Passage

London EC1A 7LP

Business Address

4/5 Grays Inn Square

Grays Inn London WC1R 5AY

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc

P O Box 159 332 High Holborn

London WC1V 7PS

Contents

	Page
Directors' Report	1 - 2
Auditors' Report	3
Profit and Loss Account	4
Balance Sheet	5
Notes to the Financial Statements	6 - 10

Directors' Report for the year ended 30 September 1997

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 1997.

Principal Activity

The principal activity of the company is to provide a management, secretarial, clerical, accounting and library service for the members of the chambers.

Directors and their Interests

The directors who served during the year and their interests in the company are as stated below:

	Ordinary shares	
	1997	1996
E Appleby QC	2	2
R A Barratt QC	1	1
The Hon M J Beloff QC	2	2
DRP Mole QC	2	2
D B W Ouseley QC	2	2

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 the affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that year. In preparing these the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and 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.

Auditors

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution proposing that R Shah & Co be reappointed as auditors of the company will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

This report is prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

Directors' Report for the year ended 30 September 1997

19 October

This report was approved by the Board on 6-October 1998 and signed on its behalf by

E Appleby QC

Righell Mylety

190 May 1998

Director

Auditors' Report to the Shareholders of GRAYS INN SQUARE CHAMBERS LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 10 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 6.

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 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 30 September 1997 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

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R Shah & Co

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor

1 East Passage London EC1A 7LP

zo Oitober 6 October 1998

Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30 September 1997

		1997	1996
	Notes	£	£
Turnover	2	1,150,502	1,156,364
Administrative expenses		(1,180,320)	(1,105,549)
Operating (loss)/profit	3	(29,818)	50,815
Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable	4	30	3 (4,756)
and similar charges	4	(4,089)	
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation		(33,877)	46,062
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	6	6,520	(7,547)
(Loss)/retained profit for the y	vear ear	(27,357)	38,515
Retained profit brought forward		248,939	210,424
Retained profit carried forwa	rd	221,582	248,939

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 1997

		199	97	199	6
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	7		357,855		386,092
Current Assets					
Debtors	8	183,717		114,549	
Cash at bank and in hand		192		98,987	
		183,909		213,536	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(301,371)		(290,035)	
Net Current Liabilities			(117,462)		(76,499)
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			240,393		309,593
Creditors: amounts falling due			(40.770)		((0.502)
after more than one year	10		(18,750)		(60,593)
Net Assets			221,643		249,000
Capital and Reserves					
Called up share capital	11		61		61
Profit and loss account			221,582		248,939
Shareholders' Funds			221,643		249,000

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 6 October 1998 and signed on its behalf by

E Appleby QC

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Director

19 October 1998

The notes on pages 6 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 1997

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Turnover

Turnover represents the total fees receivable from members of the chambers, excluding value added tax.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold properties

Straight Line over the life of the lease

Fixtures, fittings

and equipment

20% Straight Line

Law Library

2% Straight Line

1.4 Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible assets and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. 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 constant periodic rates of charge on the net obligations outstanding in each period.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.5 Pensions

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contribution payable by the company during the year.

2. Turnover

The total turnover of the company for the year has been derived from its principal activity wholly undertaken in the UK.

3.	Operating (loss)/profit	1997 £	1996 £
	Operating (loss)/profit is stated after charging:		
	Depreciation of tangible assets	68,490	53,313
	Auditors' remuneration	2,155	2,405

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 1997

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4.	Interest payable and similar charges	1997 £	1996 £
	On loans and overdrafts	2,804	3,504
	Hire purchase interest	1,285	1,252
		4,089	4,756

5. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of the staff. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £11,850 (1996 - £9,667).

6.	Taxation	1997 £	1996 £
	UK current year taxation		
	UK Corporation Tax at 25% (1996 - 25%)	(2,683)	7,547
	Prior years		
	UK Corporation Tax	(3,837)	-
		(6,520)	7,547

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 1997

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7.	Tangible fixed assets	Short leasehold property	Fixtures, fittings equipment	Law library	Total
		£	£	£	£
	Cost				
	At 1 October 1996	147,582	132,221	270,026	549,829
	Additions	-	6,969	33,284	40,253
	At 30 September 1997	147,582	139,190	303,310	590,082
	Depreciation				
	At 1 October 1996	69,450	60,601	33,686	163,737
	Charge for the year	34,725	27,699	6,066	68,490
	At 30 September 1997	104,175	88,300	39,752	232,227
	Net book values				
	At 30 September 1997	43,407	50,890	263,558	357,855
	At 30 September 1996	78,132	71,620	236,340	386,092

Included above are assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts as follows:

		19	97	19	96
	Asset description	Net book value £	Depreciation charge	Net book value £	Depreciation charge £
	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	8,295	4,146	12,441	4,146
8.	Debtors			1997 £	1996 £
	Trade debtors Other debtors Prepayments and accrued income			107,573 2,683 73,461 183,717	18,661

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 1997

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9.	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	1997 £	1996 £
	Bank overdraft	29,570	-
	Bank loan	37,500	37,500
	Net obligations under finance leases	7. 600	0.700
	and hire purchase contracts	5,629	8,790
	Trade creditors	24,264	17,336
	Corporation tax	11,219	16,053
	Other taxes and social security costs Other creditors	55,219 137,970	72,386 137,970
	Chief creditors	301,371	290,035
10.	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	1997 £	1996 £
	Bank loan	18,750	56,250
	Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	-	4,343
		18,750	60,593
11.	Share capital	1997	1996
11.	Shui e capital	£	£
	Authorised		
	100 Ordinary shares of £1 each	100	100
	Allotted, called up and fully paid		
	61 Ordinary shares of £1 each	61	61

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 1997

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12.	Financial commitments		
	At 30 September 1997 the company had annual commitments us as follows:	nder non-cancellable oper	ating leases
		1997	1996
		£	£
	Expiry date:		
	Between one and five years	284,704	298,924
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