ALBA TREES plc



Directors' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2015

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ALBA TREES PLC ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors R Shearer

C M Hyde D J Mackison G A Murray A G Wiseman

Secretary and Registrars S J F Hendry

MBM Commercial LLP

5th Floor

125 Princes Street

Edinburgh EH2 4AD

Company number 2188633

Registered office Regent House

316 Beulah Hill London SE19 3HF

Auditors Geoghegans

Chartered Accountants 6 St Colme Street

Edinburgh EH3 6AD

Business address Lower Winton

Gladsmuir East Lothian EH33 2AL

Bankers Bank of Scotland

The Mound Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

Solicitors DWF LLP

310 St Vincent Street

Glasgow G2 5QR

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STRATEGIC REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

The directors present the strategic report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2015.

Principal activities

The company produces high quality cell-grown plants for commercial forestry and new native woodland creation, as well as the landscape and conservation sectors. Other markets include corporate promotions, online sales and trade with other nurseries.

Review of the business

Financial Year 2014-15 has been another strong year for the company. In 2013-14, results were exceptional due to a large one-year contract and we were expecting a shrinkage in the market going into 2014-15. In fact sales exceeded budget, and the underlying trend is of growth within the UK Forest market.

As the forestry grants available through the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) came to an end during 2014-15, the market began to shrink and we anticipate a hiatus in new planting activity 2015-16. In addition it is expected that the new grant scheme in Scotland will start to favour new planting of commercial, rather than native pinewood species. We have been predicting this change for a number of years and have diversified away from native pinewoods to supply the increasing, but more price competitive commercial conifer new planting and much more stable restocking markets. This change has helped to protect the company from much of the impact of the new planting hiatus and we are still forecasting to remain profitable throughout this difficult period.

Risks

The Board reviews a number of performance indicators on a regular basis and one of the key elements of this is the strategic risk process. The Board debates key risks as part of the annual business planning process and reviews these and new risks periodically throughout the year. The Board's current view of the main risks and uncertainties faced by the company is as follows:

Weather

Adverse weather will always present an operational risk but we have mitigated the impact of this strategic risk by investing in our infrastructure.

Pest and Disease

Pests and diseases continue to have a high profile within UK forestry, although recent monitoring of progress suggests a sporadic progression of major pathogens throughout UK forests. There is a need to replant infected woodlands, but this will be spread over several years.

The company is considered to be at low risk of contracting disease on the nursery and these health credentials provide opportunity for increased sales into markets where disease is a high profile issue. Our policy of not importing trees from outside the UK has enhanced this reputation.

Climate Change

Allied to market concerns about pest and disease have been concerns about climate change and adapting our forests for future changes in the climate. This is likely to prompt some alterations in the species mix required towards those best grown using cell production methods in which we specialise.

STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

Forestry grant reform

The EU and UK devolved government co-funded grants which largely fund UK forestry are currently in transition to a new scheme and FY15-16 is considered to be a hiatus year between the two schemes. We have mitigated this drop in market demand by diversifying into areas of forestry which are less grant-reliant, such as conifer restocking.

75% of our forestry sales occur in Scotland, which reflects both the proportion of UK forestry planting occurring north of the border (64%) and a preference for using cell-grown trees on the very challenging sites found in the Highlands. It is likely that this market will contract slightly under the new funding scheme in favour of increased planting of commercial conifers, including an increased diversification of species. There is opportunity for the company to concentrate on supplying this increasing demand for diverse conifers because they are often difficult to establish and so require the quality plants in which the company specialises.

Planting levels within England are projected to return to current levels after the transition between funding schemes and it is likely this will continue to be predominantly native species.

There has been an increased interest in accessing non-government funding for woodland creation, such as funding form carbon offsetting schemes. As there are no agreed mechanisms by which this funding could be accessed at scale, the company has not included the impact of such schemes in short term forecasts. If such a mechanism were to be found it could provide greatly increased demand for forest plants in the medium to long term.

Financial instruments

The company makes little use of financial instruments other than the operation of bank accounts and loans. The directors believe the company's exposure to price risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow risk is not material for the assessment of the value of assets, liabilities, the financial position and profit and loss of the company.

The Board measures the performance of the company through the review of a number of key performance indicators. These are discussed at Board meeting and are as follows:

- · Sales volume
- Unit price
- Labour cost and productivity
- · Credit control
- Cash flow

On behalf of the board

R Shearer Director

17 December 2015

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2015.

Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out on page 7.

Directors

The following directors have held office since 1 September 2014:

R Shearer

JRKGlen

(Resigned 26 June 2015)

C M Hyde

D J Mackison

(Appointed 23 October 2014)

G A Murray

A P Wiseman

In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, G A Murray retires by rotation but is not seeking reelection.

Taxation status

The company was not a close company within the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and this position has not changed since the end of the financial year.

Creditor payment policy

The company aims to pay all its suppliers within a reasonable period of their invoice being received and in any case within the supplier's own standard payment terms. The company has no formal policy relating to payment of creditors. On average, trade creditors at the year end represented 46 (2014 - 57) days' purchases.

Auditors

The auditors, Geoghegans, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

Statement of disclosure to auditors

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the directors have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

On behalf of the board

R Shearer Director

17 December 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALBA TREES PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Alba Trees plc for the year ended 31 August 2015 set out on pages 7 to 22. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on pages 3 - 4, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 August 2015 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Strategic Report and Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF ALBA TREES PLC

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Michael Crerar (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Geoghegans

17 December 2015

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

6 St Colme Street Edinburgh EH3 6AD

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

Tax on profit on ordinary activities

Profit for the year

2015 2014 **Notes** £ £ **Turnover** 2 3,906,992 4,441,756 Cost of sales (2,512,296)(2,712,244)**Gross profit** 1,394,696 1,729,512 Distribution costs (609,674) (595,807)Administrative expenses (202,074) (218,813) Operating profit 3 582,948 914,892 Other interest receivable and similar income 3,688 3,137 Interest payable and similar charges 5 (11,369)(17,387)Profit on ordinary activities before 575,267 taxation 900,642

The profit and loss account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

6

17

(125, 215)

450,052

(198,883)

701,759

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those passing through the profit and loss account.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2015

	2015		2015 2014		14
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		1,198,203		1,096,893
Investments	9		3,324		3,324
			1,201,527		1,100,217
Current assets					
Stocks	10	2,315,230		2,052,435	
Debtors	11	130,055		283,064	
Cash at bank and in hand		672,633		803,868	
		3,117,918		3,139,367	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(606,547)		(722,364)	
•					
Net current assets			2,511,371		2,417,003
Total assets less current liabilities			3,712,898		3,517,220
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13		(130,757)		(267,901)
Provisions for liabilities	14		(121,491)		(82,534)
·			3,460,650		3,166,785
			======		=====
Capital and reserves					,
Called up share capital	16		1,735,512		1,735,512
Profit and loss account	17		1,725,138		1,431,273
Shareholders' funds	18		3,460,650		3,166,785
			=====		

Approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 17 December 2015

R Shearer **Director**

Company Registration No. 2188633

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

	£	2015 £	£	2014 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities		700,182		1,022,805
Returns on investments and servicing of finance				
Interest received	3,688		3,137	
Interest paid	(11,369)		(17,387)	
Net cash outflow for returns on investments				
and servicing of finance		(7,681)		(14,250)
Taxation		(173,702)		(75,332)
Capital expenditure				
Payments to acquire tangible assets	(354,593)		(335,500)	
Receipts from sales of tangible assets	6,500		100	
Net cash outflow for capital expenditure		(348,093)		(335,400)
Equity dividends paid		(156,187)		(104,125)
Net cash inflow before management of liquid resources and financing	•	14,519		493,698
Financing				
New long term bank loan	-		200,000	
Repayment of long term bank loans	(125,504)		(114,588)	
Capital element of hire purchase contracts	(20,250)		(17,004)	
Net cash outflow from financing		(145,754)		(68,408)
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year		(131,235)		562,106

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

1	Reconciliation of operating profit to net cactivities	ash inflow from o	perating	2015	2014
				£	£
	Operating profit		•	582,948	914,892
	Depreciation of tangible assets			273,166	253,978
	Profit on disposal of tangible assets		•	(6,500)	(100)
	(Increase) in stocks			(262,795)	(54,093)
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors			153,009	(43,597)
	(Decrease) in creditors within one year			(39,646)	(48,275)
	Net cash inflow from operating activities			700,182	1,022,805
2	Analysis of net funds	1 September 2014	Cash flow ca	Other non- sh changes	31 August 2015
		£	£	£	£
	Net cash:				
	Cash at bank and in hand	803,868	(131,235)		672,633
	Bank deposits Debt:	-	-	•	-
	Hire purchase contracts	(44,129)	20,250	(19,883)	(43,762)
	Debts falling due within one year	(120,000)		-	(120,000)
	Debts falling due after one year	(235,412)	125,504	-	(109,908)
		(399,541)	145,754	(19,883)	(273,670)
	Net funds	404,327	14,519	(19,883)	398,963
3	Reconciliation of net cash flow to moveme	ent in net funds		2015	2014
				£	£
	(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year			(131,235)	562,106
	Cash outflow/(inflow) from decrease/(increase	e) in debt and leas	e financing	145,754	(68,408)
	Change in net debt resulting from cash flows			14,519	493,698
	New hire purchase contracts	•		(19,883)	-
	Movement in net funds in the year		•	(5,364)	493,698
	Opening net funds/(debt)			404,327	(89,371)
	Closing net funds			398,963	404,327

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Compliance with accounting standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings freehold Nil

Nursery development3 to 25 yearsTree growing containers3 to 15 yearsPlant and office equipment3 to 10 yearsMotor vehicles3 to 5 years

No depreciation is provided on land.

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 a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

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

1.5 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

1.6 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value in the ordinary course of business.

The cost of growing stock includes direct materials, direct wages and attributable overheads based on a normal level of activity.

1.7 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are charged to the profit and loss account in the year they are payable.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date, where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date.

A net deferred tax asset is regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits against which to recover carried forward tax losses and from which the future reversal of underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis.

1.9 Foreign currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are taken to profit and loss account.

Geographical market

Corporation tax and other services

Investment income

Bank interest

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

2 Turnover

Turnover is the amount attributable to the sale of plants, associated planting equipment and consultancy services and is stated net of value added tax. An analysis by geographical market is given below:

Turnover

3,525

11,925

2015

3,688

3,688

£

3,400

11,550

2014

3,137

3,137

£

		2015	2014
		£	£
	United Kingdom	3,860,660	4,429,137
	Other European Union Countries	46,332	12,619
		3,906,992	4,441,756
3	Operating profit	2015	2014
		£	£
	Operating profit is stated after charging:		
	Depreciation of tangible assets	273,166	253,978
	Operating lease rentals	10,000	10,000
	and after crediting:		
	Profit on disposal of tangible assets	(6,500)	(100) ======
	Auditors' remuneration		
	Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	8,400	8,150

	Interest payable	2015 £	2014 £
	On bank loans and overdrafts Hire purchase interest	8,963 2,406	14,054
•	Time purchase interest	2,406	3,333
		11,369	17,387
6	Taxation	2015	2014
	Parameter and a second as	£	. £
	Domestic current year tax U.K. corporation tax	34,503	66,314
	Adjustment for prior years	34,503	(18)
	Payment in respect of consortium relief	51,755	99,471
	Total current tax	86,258	165,767
	Deferred tax		
	Deferred tax charge current year	38,957	33,116
		125,215	198,883
	Factors affecting the tax charge for the year		
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	575,267 ======	900,642
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation multiplied by standard rate of UK		
	corporation tax of 20.58% (2014 - 21.00%)	118,390	189,135
	Effects of:		
	Non deductible expenses	299	598
	Depreciation add back	56,218	53,335
	Capital allowances Adjustments to previous periods	(87,315)	(85,951) 18
	Other tax adjustments	(1,334)	8,632
		(32,132)	(23,368)
	Current tax charge for the year	86,258	165,767
		=====	===
,	Dividends	2015	2014
		£	£
	Ordinary final paid	156,187	104,125

Tota	Motor vehicles	Plant and office equipment	Tree growing containers	Nursery evelopment	Land and buildings d freehold	•
	£	£	£	£	£	
						Cost
2,403,09	175,276	326,461	949,793	928,716	22,851	At 1 September 2014
374,47	26,250	29,789	122,153	196,284	-	Additions
(70,46	(15,283)	-	(46,880)	(8,300)	-	Disposals
2,707,11	186,243	356,250	1,025,066	1,116,700	22,851	At 31 August 2015
					 -	Depreciation
1,306,20	142,640	171,516	404,630	587,418	-	At 1 September 2014
(70,46	(15,283)	_	(46,880)	(8,300)	-	On disposals
273,16	18,596	81,114	111,645	61,811	-	Charge for the year
1,508,90	145,953	252,630	469,395	640,929	-	At 31 August 2015
						Net book value
1,198,20	40,290	103,620	555,671	475,771	22,851	At 31 August 2015
1,096,89	32,635	545,163	154,946	341,298	22,851	At 31 August 2014
===		====	=======================================			_

	Plant and office equipment
Made a decide of	£
Net book values	
At 31 August 2015	52,536
	
At 31 August 2014	48,563
	•
Depreciation charge for the year	
At 31 August 2015	15,910
·	
At 31 August 2014	8,730
	======

9	Fixed asset investments		
			Unlisted investments £
	Cost		~
	At 1 September 2014 & at 31 August 2015		3,324
	Net book value At 31 August 2015		3,324
	At 31 August 2014		3,324
		•	
10	Stocks	2015	2014
		£	£
	Own stock	1,895,284	1,668,001
	Raw materials and work in progress	210,978	279,479
	Resale stock	208,968	104,955
		2,315,230	2,052,435
			
11	Debtors	2015	2014
		£	£
	Trade debtors	83,206	221,474
	Amounts owed by parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	315	303
	Other debtors	44,663	59,091
	Prepayments and accrued income	1,871	2,196
		130,055	283,064

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

12	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2015	2014
		£	£
	Bank loans and overdrafts	120,000	120,000
	Net obligations under hire purchase contracts	22,913	11,640
	Trade creditors	280,761	312,530
	Amounts owed to parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	51,755	121,309
	Corporation tax	985	40,713
	Other taxes and social security costs	18,880	22,086
	Other creditors	11,084	9,249
	Accruals and deferred income	100,169	84,837
	•		700.004
		606,547	722,364

Bank of Scotland PLC holds a standard security over Lower Winton, Hopefield, Gladsmuir, and bank loans and overdrafts are secured by a debenture over the whole assets of the company.

13	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2015 £	2014 £
	Bank loans	109,908	235,412
	Net obligations under hire purchase contracts	20,849	32,489
		130,757	267,901
	Analysis of loans		
	Wholly repayable within five years	229,908	355,412
		229,908	355,412
	Included in current liabilities	(120,000)	(120,000)
		109,908	235,412
		====	===
	Loan maturity analysis		
	In more than one year but not more than two years	109,908	120,000
	In more than two years but not more than five years	-	115,412
	Interest is charged at 2.5% over the base rate in respect of the bank loans propLC amounting to £229,908 repayable over 2 years.	ovided by Bank o	of Scotland
	Net obligations under hire purchase contracts		•
	Repayable within one year	25,239	13,966
	Repayable between one and five years	25,007	38,973
		50,246	52,939
	Finance charges and interest allocated to future accounting periods	(6,484)	(8,810)
		43,762	44,129
	Included in liabilities falling due within one year	(22,913)	(11,640)
		20,849	32,489
		==	=

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

14	Provisions for liabilities		
			Deferred tax liability £
	Balance at 1 September 2014 Profit and loss account		82,534 38,957
	Balance at 31 August 2015		121,491
	The deferred tax liability is made up as follows:		
		2015 £	2014 £
	Accelerated capital allowances	121,491	82,534
15	Pension costs		
	Defined Contribution	2015 £	2014 £
	Contributions payable by the company for the year	19,923	21,918
16	Share capital	2015 £	2014 £
	Allotted, called up and fully paid		
	200 'A' Ordinary shares of 50p each 1,735,412 Ordinary shares of £1 each	100 1,735,412	100 1,735,412
		1,735,512	1,735,512

The 'A' ordinary shares confer in total 0.1% of voting rights, dividend rights and rights to the distribution of surplus assets on a winding up of the company, pro rata to their respective holdings of 'A' ordinary shares. The balance of 99.9% of such rights are conferred to the holders of the ordinary shares pro rata to the respective holdings in the ordinary shares.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

17	Statement of movements on profit and loss account		Profit and loss account £
	Balance at 1 September 2014 Profit for the year Dividends paid Balance at 31 August 2015		1,431,273 450,052 (156,187)
18	Reconciliation of movements in Shareholders' funds	2015	2014
	Profit for the financial year Dividends	£ 450,052 (156,187)	701,759 (104,125)
	Net addition to shareholders' funds Opening Shareholders' funds	293,865 3,166,785	597,634 2,569,151
	Closing Shareholders' funds	3,460,650	3,166,785

19 Financial commitments

At 31 August 2015 the company was committed to making the following payments under non-cancellable operating leases in the year to 31 August 2016:

		Land and buildings	
		2015	2014
		£	£
	Operating leases which expire:		
	In over five years	10,000	10,000
20	Capital commitments	2015 £	2014 £
	At 31 August 2015 the company had capital commitments as follows:	•	_
	Contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	-	30,100 =======

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

21	Directors' remuneration	2015	2015 2014	
		£	£	
	Remuneration for qualifying services	161,859	158,990	
	Company pension contributions to defined contribution schemes	10,389	10,090	
	Sums paid to third parties for directors' services	20,000	12,000	
		192,248	181,080	
		 `		

The number of directors for whom retirement benefits are accruing under defined contribution schemes amounted to 2 (2014 - 2).

Non executive directors fees of £20,000 (2014 - £20,000) were agreed during the year. These comprised £12,000 (2014 - £12,000) in respect of the provision of services by J R K Glen and A Wiseman, which was invoiced by The Buccleuch Estates Limited, and £8,000 (2014 - £8,000) in respect of C M Hyde which was invoiced by him personally.

22 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees (including executive directors but excluding contract labour) during the year was:

, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	2015 Number	2014 Number
Executive directors	2	2
Production and sales	24	25
Administration	1	2
	27	29
Employment costs	=====	======
	£	£
Wages and salaries	633,289	679,816
Social security costs	51,834	57,531
Other pension costs	19,923	21,918
	705,046	759,265
Contract labour	681,936	762,291
	1,386,982	1,521,556
		======

23 Control

In the directors' opinion, the company's parent company and controlling party is The Buccleuch Estates Limited, a company registered in Scotland.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

24 Related party relationships and transactions

The Buccleuch Estates Limited provided professional services during the year to a value of £51,958 (2014 - £49,503). At 31 August 2015 the balance due to The Buccleuch Estates Limited was £nil (2014 - £121,309).

The company also supplied trees, tree shelters and stakes to Buccleuch Woodlands Limited and The Buccleuch Estates Limited at normal market prices to the value of £211,876 (2014 - £298,462) and £660 (2014 - £660) respectively. At 31 August 2015 the balance due from Buccleuch Woodlands Limited was £315 (2014 - £303).

Amounts in respect of consortium relief for corporation tax claimed from The Buccleuch Estates Limited amounted to £51,755 (2014 - £99,471).