

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITED
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE
PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998



THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITED

DIRECTORS

R.A. Feetham
D.R.A. Lankester

SECRETARY

D.R.A. Lankester

REGISTERED OFFICE

Times House
16b Mill street
Oakham
Rutland

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
Broad Street
Stamford
Lincolnshire

AUDITORS

Whiting & Partners
Chartered Accountants
31 Priestgate
Peterborough
Cambs.
PE1 1JL

REGISTERED NUMBER

02193082

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITED
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE
PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998

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THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDDIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the period ended 31st December 1998.

Review of the Business

The principal activity of the company in the period was that of publishing the Rutland Times Newspaper.

On the 1st January 1999 the company's activities were taken over by the Parent Company.

Directors

The Directors of the company at the 31st December, 1998 are listed on the frontispiece.

The interests of the directors in the share capital of the company are shown in the notes to these accounts.

Close Company

The Company is a close company within the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Auditors

Whiting & Partners have indicated their willingness to continue in office. A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to re-appoint them and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Small company exemptions

Advantage has been taken in the preparation of this report of the special exemptions applicable to small companies.

Signed on behalf of the board of directors:



D.R.A. Lankester
Secretary

Approved by the Board: 10.5.99

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDSTATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial Period 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 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.

Directors have responsibility for ensuring that the Company will not be materially adversely affected by any failure of computer or other systems to cope with the Year 2000. In particular, they acknowledge responsibility for;

- analysing the impact of the year 2000 on the business;
- developing plans to mitigate the effects identified by the analysis;
- assessing the appropriateness of adopting the going concern basis in preparing the accounts, together with any disclosures needed to give a true and fair view;
- considering the need for disclosures in the Annual Report as a result of the requirements of UITF Abstract 20.

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDAUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES 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 6.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 2, 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

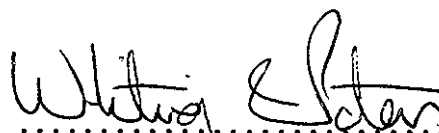
We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements 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 error or other irregularity. 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 31st December 1998 and of its loss for the period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

DATE.....10th May 1999....



WHITING & PARTNERS
REGISTERED AUDITORS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
31 PRIESTGATE
PETERBOROUGH
CAMBS.
PE1 1JL

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDPROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998

		<u>9 Months to</u> <u>31st December 1998</u>	<u>12 Months to</u> <u>31st March 1998</u>
	Note	£	£
Turnover (1998 Discontinued Operation)	2	368,992	463,739
Cost of sales		(130,015)	(170,302)
Gross profit		238,977	293,437
Net operating expenses			
Administrative expenses		(257,808)	(325,807)
Profit on Disposal of Tangible Fixed Assets		-	2,048
Operating loss-Discontinued Operations	3	(18,831)	(30,322)
Interest payable	4	(1,854)	(2,020)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(20,685)	(32,342)
Taxation		-	-
Loss on ordinary activities after taxation	12	£ (20,685)	£ (32,342)

All of the company's activities were discontinued on the 31st December 1998.

There are no recognised gains and losses in the two periods other than the loss for those periods.

The notes on pages 6 form part of these Accounts.

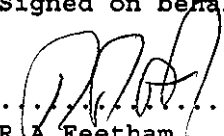
THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDBALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1998

		<u>31st December 1998</u>		<u>31st March 1998</u>	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	5	34,707		25,750	
Investment Property	6	7,500		7,500	
			42,207		33,250
Current assets					
Stocks	7	12,615		6,715	
Debtors	8	99,060		77,442	
Cash at bank and in hand		13,840		5,885	
		125,515		90,042	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(255,430)		(192,912)	
Net current liabilities			(129,915)		(102,870)
Total assets less current liabilities			(87,708)		(69,620)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	10		(2,597)		-
			£ (90,305)		£ (69,620)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	13		5,000		5,000
Profit and loss account			(95,305)		(74,620)
Total shareholders' funds	12		£ (90,305)		£ (69,620)

The notes on pages 6 form part of these Accounts.

In the preparation of the accounts advantage has been taken of special exemptions applicable to small companies under part 1 of Schedule 8 to the Companies Act 1985 on the grounds that, in the directors' opinion, the company qualifies as a small company and is entitled to make use of the special exemptions.

Signed on behalf of the board of directors on: 10th May 1999



 R.A. Feetham
 Chairman

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTSFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998**1 Accounting policies****a) Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost accounting rules.

b) Depreciation

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Motor Vehicles	- 25% reducing balance basis
Furniture/Equipments	- 10% reducing balance basis
Computer Equipment	- 15% reducing balance basis

c) Leases and hire purchase contracts

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts are capitalised in the Balance Sheet and are depreciated over their useful lives.

The interest element of the of the repayment is charged to the Profit and Loss Account over the period of the agreement.

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to income as incurred.

d) Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value a basis consistent with previous years.

e) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at the current tax rate on differences arising from the inclusion of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in the financial statements.

f) Cash Flow Statement

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption provided by Financial Reporting Standard 1 and has not prepared a Cash Flow Statement for the year.

2 Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced amount of goods sold and services provided in the United Kingdom, stated net of value added tax.

The turnover and pre-tax loss is attributable to the principal activity.

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTSFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998

3 Operating loss

	<u>31st December 1998</u>	<u>31st March 1998</u>
	£	£
Operating loss is stated after charging		
Auditors' remuneration	4,286	5,175
Depreciation	4,291	4,654
	<hr/>	<hr/>

4 Interest payable

	£	£
Hire Purchase Interest	386	905
Bank Interest	1,468	1,115
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 1,854	£ 2,020
	<hr/>	<hr/>

5 Tangible fixed assets

	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>		<u>Office</u>		<u>Computer</u>	<u>Furniture</u>	
	<u>Bought Under</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>and</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Hire Purchase</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Fittings</u>	
Cost	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1st April 1998	-	5,450	35,803	7,054	48,307		
Additions	5,974	-	8,204	-	14,178		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
31st December 1998	£ 5,974	£ 5,450	£ 44,007	£ 7,054	£ 62,485		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation							
1st April 1998	-	5,450	14,258	2,849	22,557		
Charge for Period	996	-	3,909	316	5,221		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
31st December 1998	£ 996	£ 5,450	£ 18,167	£ 3,165	£ 27,778		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book amount							
31st December 1998	£ 4,978	£ -	£ 25,840	£ 3,889	£ 34,707		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
1st April 1998	£ -	£ -	£ 21,545	£ 4,205	£ 33,250		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

6 Fixed asset investments

Investment property which relates to a time share property is shown at cost and has not been professionally revalued.

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTSFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998

7 Stocks

	<u>31st December 1998</u>	<u>31st March 1998</u>
	£	£
Goods for Resale	4,351	6,715
Work In Progress	8,264	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 12,615	£ 6,715
	<hr/>	<hr/>

8 Debtors

	<u>31st December 1998</u>	<u>31st March 1998</u>
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Debtors	59,114	69,934
Other Debtors	6,364	7,508
Local Publications Limited (Related Party)	33,582	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 99,060	£ 77,442
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	£	£
Bank Overdrafts	33,964	18,289
Trade Creditors	56,807	69,156
Obligations Under		
Hire Purchase Contracts	1,833	-
Other Taxation and Social Security	27,460	28,136
Other Creditors	15,774	5,464
Ashwell Associates Limited (Parent Company)	107,621	61,007
Local Publications Limited (Related Party)	-	1,539
Directors Loan Account	11,971	9,321
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 255,430	£ 192,912
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	£	£
Hire Purchase Contracts		
Due Within Five Years	£ 2,597	£ -
	<hr/>	<hr/>

11 Deferred taxation

No provision for deferred taxation is necessary.

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTSFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998

12 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	<u>31st December 1998</u>	<u>31st March 1998</u>
	£	£
Loss for the financial Period	(20,685)	(32,342)
Net subtraction from shareholders' funds	(20,685)	(32,342)
Opening shareholders' funds	(69,620)	(37,278)
Closing shareholders' funds	£ (90,305)	£ (69,620)

13 Called up share capital

	<u>No.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Authorised Ordinary Shares of £1 each	10,000	10,000
	£	£
Allotted called up and fully paid Ordinary Shares of £1 each	5,000	5,000

The Directors interests in the Share Capital of the company were as follows:

	<u>31st December 1998</u>	<u>31st March 1998</u>
	<u>Ordinary Shares</u>	<u>Ordinary Shares</u>
R.A. Feetham	-	-
D.R.A. Lankester	-	-

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTSFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998**14 Other Commitments**

At 31st December, 1998 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Leased Office Accomodation

	£
Within One Year	8,000
Between Two and Five Years	6,000
	<hr/>
	£ 14,000

Motor Vehicles

Within One Year	6,175
Between Two and Five Years	4,419
	<hr/>
	£ 10,594

Office Equipment

Within One Year	479
Between Two and Five Years	359
	<hr/>
	£ 838

15 Transactions With Directors

During the period no director was materially interested in any contract with the Company. The balance owing to Mr. R.A. Feetham, a director, for loans provided to the Company is shown in Note 9.

16 Holding Company

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ashwell Associates Limited a company registered in England and Wales.

THE NEW RUTLAND TIMES LIMITEDNOTES TO THE ACCOUNTSFOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1998**17 Related Parties**

Transactions with the holding company in respect of management charges payable amounted to £15,000. Details of the indebtedness is shown in Note 9 to the accounts.

The Company made net sales of £7,919 on behalf of Local Publications Limited, it also made recharges of expenses at cost throughout the period. Details of the indebtedness of Local Publications Limited, a company also wholly owned by the holding company is shown in Note 8 to the accounts.

18 Going Concern

The Directors are of the opinion that the Company will continue as a going concern on the basis that support will be available from the Holding Company.