LOCAL PUBLICATIONS (SAFFRON WALDEN) LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

Company No. 2814556



Darren Williams & Co Chartered Accountants

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors Mrs L Cordall

Mr D Cordall Mrs A Sewell Mr J Sewell

Secretary Mrs A Sewell

Company number 2814556

Registered office 10 Emson Close

Saffron Walden

Essex CB10 1HL

Accountants Darren Williams & Co Limited

32 Ashcombe Rochford Essex SS4 1SL

Bankers Barclays Bank Plc

12A Market Place Saffron Walden

Essex CB10 1HR

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

The directors present their report and the accounts for the company for the year ended 31st December 2000.

Principal activities

The company's principal activity during the year was that of a free local newspaper.

Directors and their interests

The directors who held office during the year and their beneficial interests in the company's issued share capital are given below:

Name of director	Share type	At 31st December 2000	At 1st January 2000
Mrs L Cordall	Ordinary Shares of £1 each	100	100
Mr D Cordall	Ordinary Shares of £1 each	-	-
Mrs A Sewell	Ordinary Shares of £1 each	25	25
Mr J Sewell	Ordinary Shares of £1 each	25	25

Statement of directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts 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 for that year. In preparing those accounts 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 accounts;

Prepare the accounts 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 enable them to ensure that the accounts 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' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

Small company exemptions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within part VII of the Companies Act 1985.

By order of the Board

Mr D Cordall, Director

10 Emson Close

Saffron Walden

Essex

CB10 1HL

29th October 2001

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS

ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF

LOCAL PUBLICATIONS (SAFFRON WALDEN) LIMITED

As described on the balance sheet you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2000, set out on pages 4 to 9, and you consider that the company is exempt from an audit and a report under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985. In accordance with your instructions, we have compiled these unaudited accounts in order to assist you to fulfil your statutory responsibilities, from the accounting records and information and explanations supplied to us.

Darren Williams & Co Limited

Chartered Accountants

32 Ashcombe Rochford

Essex SS4 1SL

Date: 29th October 2001

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

	Notes	2000 £	1999 £
Turnover	2	196,442	166,983
Cost of sales		(107,094)	(103,134)
Gross profit	_	89,348	63,849
Administrative expenses		(93,097)	(74,443)
Operating loss Interest receivable Interest payable and similar charges	3 4	(3,749) 74 (2,151)	(10,594) 79 (1,569)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(5,826)	(12,084)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities			_
Loss for the financial year		(5,826)	(12,084)
Retained loss/profit brought forward		(12,032)	52
Retained loss carried forward	<u> </u>	(17,858)	(12,032)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2000

	Notes		2000		1999
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	6		4,598		4,853
Tangible assets	7	_	7,381	-	7,647
			11,979		12,500
Current assets					
Debtors	8	24,772		16,039	
Cash at bank and in hand		6,864	-	6,538	
		31,636		22,577	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(43,362)	_	(38,853)	
Net current liabilities			(11,726)		(16,276)
Total assets less current liabilities		_	253		(3,776)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more					•
than one year	10	_	(17,961)	_	(8,106)
		· _	(17,708)	_	(11,882)
Capital and reserves		-		-	
Share capital	11		150		150
Profit and loss account	* *		(17,858)		(12,032)
Shareholders' funds		-	(17,708)	-	(11,882)

For the financial year ended 31st December 2000, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 249A(1) Companies Act 1985.

No notice has been deposited under Section 249B(2) Companies Act 1985.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985,

and preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its results for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 226 of the Companies Act 1985, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of this Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective March 2000)

These accounts were approved by the board on 29th October 2001 and signed on its behalf by:

for he adour.

Mrs L Cordall Director

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective March 2000).

The company has taken advantage of the exemptions in Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a small company.

Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of sales excluding value added tax and trade discounts.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write down the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of all tangible fixed assets, with the exception of freehold land, by reducing balance method over their expected useful lives:

Plant and machinery Motor vehicles 25% on net book value 25% on net book value

Goodwill

Goodwill, which represents the excess of cost of acquisitions of businesses over the value attributed to their net assets, is amortised through the profit and loss account by equal instalments over its estimated useful economic life of up to a maximum of 20 years. Goodwill previously eliminated against reserves has not been reinstated and will only be charged to the profit and loss account on the subsequent disposal of any business to which it related.

Deferred taxation

Provision is made for deferred taxation using the liability method to take account of timing differences between the incidence of income and expenditure for taxation and accounting purposes except to the extent that the directors consider that a liability to taxation is unlikely to crystallise.

Hire purchase and leased assets

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are capitalised in the balance sheet at their fair value and depreciated over their expected useful lives. The interest element of leasing payments represents a constant proportion of the capital balance outstanding and 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.

2 Turnover

The turnover was derived from the company's principal activity which was carried out wholly in the UK.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

3	Operating loss		
	The operating loss is stated after charging or crediting:	2000	1999
	Description of the Table Construction	£	£
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: -owned assets	1,617	1,424
	-assets held under finance leases and hire purchase	844	1,125
	Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	<u>255</u>	256
4	Interest Payable and Similar Charges	2000	1999
4	interest i ayable and Shimai Charges	£	£
	Interest payable includes:	~	
	On finance lease and hire purchase contracts		566
5	Directors' remuneration		
	2	2000	1999
		£	£
	Aggregate emoluments	11,244	6,867
6	Intangible fixed assets		
		Goodwill	Total
	Cost	£	£
	At 1st January 2000	5,109	5,109
	At 31st December 2000	5,109	5,109
	Amortisation		
	At 1st January 2000	256	256
	Provided during the year	255	255
	At 31st December 2000	511	511
	Net book value		
	At 31st December 2000	4,598	4,598
	At 31st December 1999	4,853	4,853

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

	Plant and machinery etc	Total
	£	£
Cost	•	
At 1st January 2000	18,777	18,777
Additions	2,195	2,195
At 31st December 2000	20,972	20,972
Depreciation		
At 1st January 2000	11,130	11,130
Charge for the year	2,461	2,461
At 31st December 2000	13,591	13,591
Net book value		
At 31st December 2000	7,381	7,381
At 31st December 1999	7,647	7,647
At 31st December 2000		

Assets held under finance leases originally cost £7,995 (1999: £7,995) and have a net book value of £2,531 (1999: £3,375). Depreciation charged for the year was £844 (1999: £1,125).

8	Debtors	2000	1999
		£	£
	Trade debtors	24,622	15,674
	Other debtors	· -	215
	Called up share capital not paid	150	150
		24,772	16,039
9	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2000	1999
		£	£
	Bank loans and overdrafts	10,138	3,211
	Obligations under hire purchase and finance lease	1,663	1,663
	Trade creditors	10,862	13,375
	Other creditors	20,324	19,534
	Directors' loans	375	1,070
		43,362	38,853

The bank loan and overdraft are secured by a fixed and floating charge over all of the company's assets.

'Other creditors' include £16,116 (1999: £17,370) in respect of taxation and social security.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2000

10	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2000	1999
		£	£
	Bank loans	17,521	5,887
	Obligations under hire purchase and finance lease	440	2,219
		17,961	8,106
		2000	1999
	Amounts included in creditors and payable after more than five years:		
		£	£
	Loans payable by instalments	19,032	, ·
11	Share capital	2000	1999
		£	£
	Authorised		
	10,000 Ordinary shares of £1.00 each	10,000	10,000
		10,000	10,000
	Allotted		
	150 Allotted, called up and fully paid ordinary shares of £1.00 each	150	150
		150	150