

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 March 1992



REPORT by the directors to the eighty-eighth Annual General Meeting of DC Thomson & Company Limited, to be held at 22 Meadowside, Dundee on 24 November 1992 at 12 noon.

The directors submit the audited accounts of the company and of the group for the year ended 31 March 1992.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The results for the year and transfer to reserves are set out in the profit and loss account on page 3.

The directors recommend that a final dividend of £3,330,000 be paid, which together with the interim dividend of £600,000 already paid, will make a total of £3,930,000 for the year.

ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the group are the printing and publishing of newspapers, magazines and books.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The recession in the UK continued to affect revenue from both sales and advertising.

All newspaper production has been transferred successfully to the new printing plants in Dundee and Glasgow. The present state of the property market is delaying sales of buildings no longer required.

It has become necessary to write off the value of redundant plant to the extent of £1,387,000. In addition the charge to depreciation has risen because of high expenditure on new plant and buildings.

Central Independent Television PLC, in which the company has a substantial shareholding, was relicenced by the Independent Television Commission in November 1991 and it has been decided to treat this as an associated undertaking in the group's accounts. The comparative figures for the year to 31 March 1991 have been restated to reflect this change in treatment.

FIXED ASSETS

Information relating to changes in fixed tangible assets is given in note 12 to these accounts.

In the opinion of the directors, the market value of the land and buildings is not less than the book value stated in the accounts.

DIRECTORS

The directors in office throughout the year were BH Thomson, DB Thomson, AF Thomson, AG Thomson and LM Thomson.

The directors' interests in the issued share capital of the company are shown in note 28 to these accounts.

In terms of the Articles of Association, Messrs AG and LM Thomson retire by rotation and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

EMPLOYEES

Information relating to employees is given in note 4 to these accounts.

It is the policy of the group to do everything possible to ensure the health and safety at work of all employees.

Careful attention is given to the employment of disabled persons where practicable, and to ensuring that they have full consideration in the development of their careers.

Good relations with employees are recognised as of first importance. Communication is maintained through departmental overseers and other seniors and by regular visits by management to all departments and by head office management to branch offices, when matters of interest concerning the business are discussed. The majority of employees are members of the Thomson-Leng Provident and Superannuation Funds.

EXPORTS

The value of exports from the United Kingdom was £2,518,630.

CHARITABLE AND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Most of the group's charitable contributions are made by charitable trusts the capital of which was privately contributed. In addition the group made charitable donations of £805. The group made no political contributions during the year.

AUDITORS

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG Peat Marwick as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

A McDougall Secretary

DUNDEE 27 October 1992

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 1992

	<u> Motes</u>	<u>1992</u> £'000	<u>1991</u> £'000
Turnover	2	86,556 =====	85,314 =====
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	3	21,124	27,307
Taxation	9	(3,430)	(6,629)
Profit afte: taxation		17,694	20,678
Extraordinary items	10	7,621	(6,287)
Profit for the financial year		25,315	14,391
Appropriations:			
Transfer to reserves Dividends paid and proposed	21 11	17,700 3,930	10,700 3,630
		21,630	14,330
Retained profit for the year		3,685 ====	61 =====

A statement of reserves is given in notes 21 and 22 to these accounts.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET At 31 March 1992

	<u>Notes</u>	£'000 19	<u>£'000</u>	<u>1991</u> £'000
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets Investments	12 13		98,988 32,823	85,834 34,317
			131,811	120,151
CURRENT ASSETS Stocks Debtors Investments Short-term deposits Cash at bank and in hand	14 15 16	12,522 16,639 12,928 60,445 188		14,035 14,743 23,522 40,578 198
		102,722		93,076
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	17	20,778		20,469
NET CURRENT ASSETS			81,944	72,607
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			213,755	192,758
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	18		(8,215)	(8,217)
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	19		(1,184)	(1,375)
			204,356	183,166
CAPITAL AND RESPRVES Called up share capital Capital reserve Keserve fund Staff benefit and pension reserve Stock reserve Profit and loss account Minority interest	20 21 21 21 21 21 22		6,000 1,214 123,215 21,912 8,700 43,305	6,000 1,214 105,515 21,912 8,700 39,825
			204,356	183,166

The accounts on pages 3 to 22 were approved by the Board of Directors on 27 October 1992 and signed on its behalf by

BH Thomson

Director

DB Thomson

KAME Peat Id. wick

BALANCE SHEET At 31 March 1992

	<u>Notes</u>	£'000 <u>19</u>	9 <u>2</u> £'000	<u>1991</u> £'000
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets Investments, including subsidiary companies	12 13		98,141 28,892	84,461 28,013
			127,033	112,474
CURRENT ASSETS Stocks Debtors Investments Short-term deposits Cash at bank and in hand	14 15 16	12,522 16,306 12,928 45,921 64	,	14,035 14,261 23,522 30,607 74
		87,741		82,499
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	17	21,075		19,844
NET CURRENT ASSETS			66,666	62,655
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			193,699	175,129
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	18		(8,296)	(8,327)
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	19		(1,184)	(1,375)
			184,219	165,427
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Capital reserve Reserve fund Staff benefit and pension reserve Stock reserve Profit and loss account	20 21 21 21 21 21 22		6,000 1,214 122,592 21,912 8,700 23,801	6,000 1,214 104,892 21,912 8,700 22,709
			184,219	165,427

The accounts on pages 3 to 22 were approved by the Board of Directors on 27 October 1992 and signed on its behalf by

BH Thomson

Miranihaman

Director

B Thomson

Director

KBUB Feat Marwisk

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the year ended 31 March 1992

	Notes	1992 £000	1991 £000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	23	8,558	10,779
Returns on investments and servicing of finance			
Income from fixed asset investments Other interest receivable Dividends paid Dividend from associated undertaking		7,139 4,837 (3,630) 1,455	6,614 8,902 (3,330) 1,455
		9,801	13,641
Taxation			
Tax paid		(688)	(5,140)
Investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets Sale of tangible fixed assets Purchase of investments Sale of investments Minority investment in subsidiary		(19,603) 438 (2,994) 24,335 10 2,186	(46,265) 227 (2,637) 10,271 - (38,404)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	24	19,857	(19,124)

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

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

Consolidation

The consolidated accounts include the results of the company and all its subsidiaries; and also the group's share of earnings of its associated company. In accordance with Section 230 of the Companies Act 1985, a separate profit and loss account of DC Thomson & Company Limited is not presented.

Deferred Taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at the rates at which the liabilities are expected to arise in respect of short term timing differences and the excess of capital allowances over depreciation where such liabilities are expected to crystallise in the foreseeable future.

Depreciation

The cost of fixed tangible assets, except freehold land, is depreciated to estimated residual value by equal annual instalments over the following estimated useful economic lives:-

Freehold buildings - 50 years
Leasehold land and buildings - life of lease
Plant and equipment - 4 to 40 years

The cost of plant and equipment owned by the leasing subsidiary is fully depreciated on a straight line basis over the primary period of the relevant lease. Leases in force have primary periods of three to ten years.

Foreign Currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

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Government Grants

Government grants are credited to profit and loss over the period of the estimated useful economic lives of the assets to which they relate. The grants shown in the balance sheet consist of the total grants received and receivable to date less amounts so far credited to profits.

Investment Income

Investment income is dealt with on the basis of cash receipts in the year with, in the case of franked investment income, the addition of related tax credits.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Pension Costs

The group operates a defined benefit pension scheme covering all eligible employees. Payments to the scheme are charged against profits and are calculated with actuarial advice and represent a proper charge to cover the accruing liabilities on a continuing basis. Independent actuarial values of the scheme are made every three years.

Payments in respect of defined contribution schemes are charged against profits when due.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. In determining the cost of raw materials, consumables and goods for resale, the average purchase price is used. For work in progress and finished goods, cost is taken as production cost, which includes an appropriate proportion of overheads.

2 TURNOVER

Turnover represents amounts invoiced in respect of goods provided during the year excluding value added tax.

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NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

3 PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

101111111111111111111111111111111111111	EROKE 1	AXATION		
	<u>Notes</u>		<u>1992</u> £000	<u>1991</u> £000
Turnover			86,556	85,314
Increase in stock of finished goods and work in progress Regional Development Grants Raw materials and consumables		92 191 (20,409)	00,335,	446 232
Other external charges		(581)		(20,576) (763)
			(20,707)	(20,661)
Staff costs			65,849	64,653
Depreciation Other operating charges	4 12		(37,888) (5,044) (17,343)	(36,628) (4,787) (16,220)
Tracling profit before exceptional items			5,574	7,018
Share of profits of associated undertaking Income from fixed asset investments	6		4,694	3,702
Other interest receivable	ž		10,004 5,089	9,276 9,311
Profit before exceptional items Exceptional items	8		25,361 4,237	29,307 2,000
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation			21,124	27,307
Trading profit is stated after charging: Auditors' remuneration			a====	2====
and after crediting:			48 ====	43 ==
Gain on sale of fixed tangible assets Net income from rents			347 68	143
			~==	47 ===

4 EMPLOYEES

	The average weekly number of employees during the year was	<u>1992</u> Number	<u>1991</u> Number
		2,353 ====	2,481 ====
	Employee costs during the year (including directors remuneration) amounted to:-	£'000	£'000
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs (Note 27)	35,827 2,579 (518)	33,919 2,343 366
		37,888	36,628
5	DIRECTURS' EMOLUMENTS		
	Management remuneration Pension scheme contributions	348 54	317 47
		402	364 ===

The emoluments, excluding pension contributions, of the chairman and highest paid director amounted to £74,286 (1991 - £68,086).

All directors received emoluments, excluding pension contributions, in the following ranges:-

	<u>1992</u> Number	<u>1991</u> Number
£60,001 - £65,000	-	3
£65,001 - £70,000	3	2
£70,001 - £75,000	2	-
	==	

6	INCOME FROM FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS		
		<u>1992</u> £'000	<u>1991</u> £'000
	Listed Unlisted	9,938 66	9,149 127
7	OTHER INTEREST RECEIVABLE	10,004	9,276
,	•		
	Income from listed UK government securitities Income from short-term deposits and other sources	1,015 4,074	1,054 8,257
		5,089 ====	9,311
8	EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS Severance payments Loss on scrapping of fixed tangible assets	2,850 1,387	2,000
		4,237 ====	2,000
9	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
	UK corporation tax at 33% (1991 - 34%) Transfer (from)/to deferred tax Tax on franked investment income Unrelieved overseas tax Attributable tax of associated undertaking	(1,434) (2) 2,766 48 1,831	1,051 2,805 2,570 20 1,445
	Adjustment for previous years	3,209	7,891
	Corporation tax Deferred tax	298	(544) (333)
	Higher rate taxation	(77)	(385)
		3,430 ====	6,629

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

10	EXTEAORDINARY ITEMS	£000	£000
	Extraordinary credit: Gain on disposal of investments	9,774	1,869
	Extraordinary charges: Provision against unlisted investments	(271)	(4,365)
	Loss arising in subsidiary Attributable extraordinary items of associated undertaking	(1,992)	(354) (4,912)
	Extraordinary profit/(loss)	7,511	(7,762)
	Taxation: Current - corporation tax deferred tax	(429)	418 (292)
	Prior year - corporation tax deferred tax Attributable to associated undertaking	- - 539	9 (40) 1,380
		7,621 ====	(6,287)
11	DIVIDENDS	<u>1992</u> £'000	<u>1991</u> £'000
	Ordinary shares - interim of 10p paid (1991 - 10p)	600	600
	- proposed final of 55.5p per share (1991 - 50.5p)	3,330	3,030
		3,930	3,630

12 FIXED TANGIBLE ASSETS

Group	Freehold property £'000	Plant and equipment £'000	Assets in course of construction £'000	Total £'000
Cost At 31 March 1991 Additions Disposals Revaluation of land Transfers	39,256 5,006 (82) (50)	60,640 8,493 (15,128) - 41,643	44,844 6,227 (41,643)	144,740 19,726 (15,210) (50)
At 31 March 1992	44,130	95,648	9,428	149,206
Depreciation At 31 March 1991 Charge for year Disposals	10,006 681 (59)	48,900 4,363 (13,673)	- - -	58,906 5,044 (13,732)
At 31 March 1992	10,628	39,590		50,218
Net book value				
At 31 March 1992	33,502	56,058 ====	9,428 =====	98,958 ====
At 31 March 1991	29,250 =====	11,740	44,844 =====	85,834 =====

12 FIXED TANGIBLE ASSETS (continued)

Company	Freehold <u>property</u> £'000	Plant and equipment £'000	Assets in course of construction £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
Cost At 31 March 1991 Additions Disposals Transfers	38,683 5,006 (59)	50,586 8,439 (11,365) 41,643	44,844 6,227 (41,643)	134,113 19,672 (11,424)
At 31 March 1992	43,630	89,303	9,428	142,361
Depreciation At 31 March 1991 Charge for year Disposals	9,991 673 (36)	39,661 3,857 (9,926)	- - -	49,652 4,530 (9,962)
At 31 March 1992	10,628	33,592		44,220
Net book value At 31 March 1992	33,002	55,711	9,428 ====	98,141
At 31 March 1991	28,692 ====	10,925	44,844 =====	84,461 =====

The cost of freehold property includes the cost of land, a significant part of which is not separately identifiable and is depreciated.

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

13 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	<u>La rd</u> £'000	<u>Listed</u> <u>Associated</u> <u>Undertaking</u> £'000	Unlisted £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
Group				
At 31 March 1991 Additions Disposals Provisions Movement in year	16,050 2,611 (2,883)	11,104 - - (250)	7,163 383 (1,084) (271)	34,317 2,994 (3,967) (271) (250)
At 31 March 1992	15,778	10,854	6,191	32,823
Interest in listed associated und	lertaking			
At 31 March 1991 Dividend Share of profit before taxation Share of tax Share of extraordinary item Share of reserve movements			(1,455) 4,694 (1,831) (1,453) (205)	11,104
			***************************************	(250)
At 31 March 1992				10,854

13 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Other companies

Company Shares	Subsidiary companies <u>unlisted</u> £'000	Listed £'000	Listed associated undertaking £'000	Unlisted £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
Cost less provisions At 31 March 1991 Additions Disposals Provisions	921 10 - (21)	11,602 2,208 (817)	6,011 - -	6,961 233 (1,032)	25,495 2,451 (1,849)
At 31 March 1992 Loans less provisions	910	12,993	6,011	(271) 5,891 ====	(292) 25,805 =====
At 31 March 1991 Additions Repayments Provisions	2,518 633 (64)	- - -	• • •	- - -	2,518 633 (64)
At 31 March 1992 Total	3,087	-		•	3,087
At 31 March 1992 At 31 March 1991	3,997 ===== 3,439 ====	12,993 ===== 11,602 =====	6,011 ===== 6,011 =====	5,891 ==== 6,961 ====	28,892 ===== 28,013 =====

Accumulated provision against cost of unlisted investments is £9,413,000 (1991 - £9,142,000) for the group and £11,296 000 (1991 - £11,004,000) for the company.

13 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

	1992		1	<u>991</u>
Valuation	<u>Group</u>	Company	Group	Company
	£'()00	£'000	£'000	£'000
At market value - Fully listed	286,703 =====	232,811	249,441	192,758
Quoted on Unlisted Securities Market (included in unlisted investments)	810	810	484	449
	===	====	====	====
At directors valuation -	8,412	8,112	8,800	8,650
Unlisted	====	====	====	=====
Potential tax liability if sold at this value	57,915	48,245	49,124	38,382
	====	=====	=====	====

The principal companies in which the company's interest is more than 10% are as follows:-

	Country of registration or incorporation	Principal activity	Class and percentage of shares held
Subsidiary companies John Leng & Company Limited	Scotland	Investment Company	100% Ordinary £1 shares
Meadowside Leasing Limited	Scotland	Plant Leasing	100% Ordinary £1 shares
Scots Magazine Limited	Scotland	Dormant	100% Ordinary £1 shares
Taytel Limited	Scotland	Publisher	100% Redeemable £1 shares
Opera Now	England	Publisher	80.02 % Ordinary 10p shares
Wendy Promotions	England	Merchandising	50% Ordinary £1 shares
Unlisted companies Starstream Limited	England	Satellite Television Programming	18.77% Ordinary £1 shares

The directors do not consider that the unlisted investment noted above constitutes an "associated undertaking". The directors consider that the group's share of earnings and book value of net assets is not material to the Consolidated Accounts.

Investment in associated undertaking

The company holds 19.1% of the ordinary 50p shares of Central Independent Television plc, a company registered in England and providing a television broadcasting service. The associated undertaking is accounted for on an equity basis for the year to the previous 31 December. The comparative figures for the year to 31 March 1991 have been restated to reflect this change in treatment.

14 STOCKS

Group and	l Company
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• •	<u>1992</u> £'000	<u>1991</u> £'000
Raw materials and consumables Work in progress Finished goods and goods for resale	7,433 2,822 2,267	9,038 2,656 2,341
	12,522 ====	14,035

Estimated replacement costs exceed the above values by £220,000 (1991 - £350,000).

15 DEBTORS

		<u> 1992</u>			<u> 1991</u>	
	Due	Due		Due	Due	
	within	outwith		within	outwith	
	one'	one		one	one	
	year	<u>year</u>	<u>Total</u>	year	year	<u>Total</u>
Canana	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Group Trade debtors	10,832		10.022	10.000		10.600
			10,832	10,609		10,609
Other debtors	2,608	1,236	3,844	1,566	1,149	2,715
Prepayments and accrued	1.040					
income	1,963	-	1,963	1,034	385	1,419
						
	15,403	1,236	16,639	13,209	1,534	14,743
	=====	====	=====	=====	====	=====
Company						
Trade debtors	10,714	-	10,714	10,439	_	10,439
Other debtors	2,514	1,236	3,750	1,294	1,149	2,443
Prepayments and accrued						•
income	1,842	-	1,842	994	385	1,379
						,
	15,070	1,236	16,306	12 727	1,534	14 261
	=====	الانترا 	10,500	12,727	1,354	14,261
			=	====	====	=====

16 CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group and Company	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
Cost	£,000	£'000
Listed	12,928	23,522
Valuation	======	32 <u>-12</u>
Market value of listed investments	16,044 ====	28,685
Potential tax liability if sold at this value	NIL ===	NIL

17 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	19	<u>992</u>	199	
	<u>Group</u> £'()()()	Company £'000	Group £'000	Compan £'000
Trade creditors Corporation tax Group relief	938 5,269	717 5,020 450	831 6,779	521 6,210 450
Other taxes and social security Other creditors	2,278 8,363	2,278 8,680	925 8,304	918 8,115
Interim dividend paid since date of balance sheet Proposed final dividend	600 3,330	600 3,330	600 3,030	600 3,030
	20,778	21,075	20,469	19,844
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIE	S AND CHAR	GES		
Deferred taxation:		Accelerated capital allowances	Other timing differences	<u>Total</u>
As provided Group		000'3	£,000	£'000
At 31March 1991		8,954	(737)	8,217
Transfer to/(from) profit and loss account		188	(190)	(2
At 31 March 1992		9,142	(927) ===	8,215
Company				
At 31 March 1991		8,954	(627)	8,327
Transfer from profit and loss account		-	(31)	(31
At 31 March 1992		8,954	(658)	8,296
On full deferrat basis		**===	===	====
Group				
At 31 March 1992		11,957	(658) ===	11,299
At 31 March 199}		8,954 ====	(737) ===	8,217 ====
Company			— — — —	
At 31 March 1992		12,145 =====	(927) ===	11,218
At 31 March 1991		8,954	(627)	8,327

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NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

19	ACCRUALS AND DEFERRE	D INCO	ME					
	Group and Company Government grants					<u>Gro</u> £'00		Company £'000
	At 31 March 1991 Credited to operating profit						375 191	1,375 191
	At 31 March 1992					-	184	1,184
20	CALLED UP SHARE CAPIT	•	<u>orised</u>		Allotted	, called	up and full	v paid
		1992 £'000	1991 £'000		<u>1992</u> o	£'000		991 £'000
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	6,000 =====	6,000	6,000	•	6,000	6,000,00	0 6,000
21	RESERVES							
			<u>Capital</u> C'000	<u>F</u> :	serve und 000	Bene <u>Pen</u>	aff fit and I <u>sion</u> J00	Stock £'000
	Group At 31 March 1991 Transfer from profit and	-	1,214	105	,51 <i>5</i>		912	8,700
	loss account				,700 ——		<u>-</u>	-
	At 31 March 1992		1,214		,215 ===		912 ===	8,700 ====
	Company							
	At 31 March 1991 Transfer from profit and loss account		1,214		,892 ,700	21,	912	8,700
	At 31 March 1992		1,214		,592 ===		912 ===	९,700 ====
22	PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOU	INT						
				<u>Gro</u> 992 000	<u>up</u> 199 £00		<u>Comp</u> 1992 £000	any 1991 £000
	Retained profits at beginning of as previously reported Prior year adjustment	of year	34,	732 093	31,94 7,82	.1 :	22,709	21,687
	- as restated Retained profit for the year Share of associated undertakin	ng.		825 685	39,76	4 3 1	22,709 1,092	21,687 1,022
	reserve movements	'&	(205)		-	-	-
				305 ===	39,82 =====		23,801	22,709

23 RECONCILIATION OF TRADING PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	<u> 1992</u>	<u> 1991</u>
	£000	£000
Trading profit	5,574	7,018
Exceptional item - severance payments made	(2,102)	(1,276)
Extraordinary item	•	(354)
Depreciation	5,044	4,826
Gain on sale of fixed assets	(347)	(143)
Amertisation of Regional Development Grants	(191)	(232)
Decrease in stock	1,513	1,838
Increase in debtors	(1,631)	(599)
Increase in creditors	698	(299)
		
Net cash inflow from operating activities	8,558	10,779
	======	=====

24 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Short term deposits	Cash at bank and in hand	Total
	£000	£000	£000
At 1 April 1990	59,502	398	59,900
Movement of year	(18,924)	(200)	(19,124)
At 31 March 1991	40,578	198	40,776
Movement of year	19,867	(10)	19,857
			-
At 31 March 1992	60,445	188	60,633
	====	===	=====

25 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Company has guaranteed payments in favour of Customs and Excise in respect of raw materials imports and other materials the maximum liability under which would be £4,717,000 (1991 - £717,000).

26 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	<u>1992</u> £'000	<u>1991</u> £'000
Group and Company		- 000
Contracted for but not provided	5,471	15,166
	=====	====
Authorised but not contracted for	8,059	3,892
	====	====

27 PENSION COMMITMENTS

The group operates both defined benefit and defined contribution pension schemes covering the majority of employees with assets held in separate, trustee administered funds.

The pension credit for the year was £570,300 (1991 - charge of £263,000) after a reduction of £4,082,000 (1991 - £2,910,000) in respect of the amortisation of existing surpluses over 13 years, the expected average remaining working lifetime of current employees.

Independent valuations are carried out by a qualified actuary every three years using the Projected Unit Credit Method.

The latest actuarial assessment was on 31 March 1991, when the overall level of funding was assessed at 139% of the accruing liabilities. The main assumptions used were a rate of interest of 8.5% per annum, salary increases at the rate of 7% per annum and post retirement pension increases of 5% per annum on the excess over the guaranteed minimum pension and 3% per annum on the post 1988 guaranteed minimum pension. The market value of assets in the scheme at that date was £168,611,000.

A prepayment of £1,218,300 (1991 - £648,000) included in debtors is the cumulative excess of contributions paid over funding requirements.

In addition, contributions of £52,000 (1991 - £103,000) were paid in respect of defined contribution schemes.

28 DIRECTORS INTEREST IN SHARE CAPITAL

The directors who held office during the year had the following interests in the £1 ordinary shares of the company:-

	31 March 1992	31 March 1991
Beneficial interest:-		
BH Thomson DB Thomson AF Thomson AG Thomson LM Thomson	33,272 49,000 64,252 47,752 65,300	43,272 49,000 62,852 61,292 65,300
As trustees without beneficial interest:-		
BIT Thomson DB Thomson AF Thomson	228,577 532,597 312,094	193,302 532,597 386,497
As joint trustees without beneficial interest:-		
BH Thomson) DB Thomson)	448,213	448,213
BH Thomson) DB Thomson) AF Thomson)	246,785	246,785
AG Thomson) LM Thomson)	216,953	216,953

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS, KPMG Peat Marwick to the members of DC Thomson & Company Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 3 to 22 in accordance with Auditing Standards.

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and the group at 31 March 1992 and of the profit and cash flows of the group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG Peat Marwick

Read that returning

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors

DUNDEE

27 October 1992

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