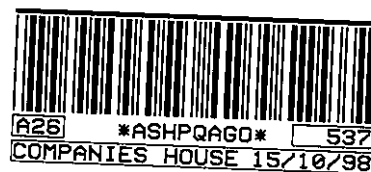


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The Yarmouth Mercury Limited

Report and Accounts

31 December 1997



The Yarmouth Mercury Limited

Registered No. 00081779

DIRECTORS

P M Strong
G H C Copeman

SECRETARY

J O Ellison

SOLICITORS

Eversheds
Holland Court
The Close
Norwich
NR1 4DX

REGISTERED OFFICE

Prospect House
Rouen Road
Norwich
NR1 1RE

The Yarmouth Mercury Limited

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 1997.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY AND REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The company did not trade during the year.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors who held office during the year were as follows :

P M Strong	appointed 6 November 1997
G H C Copeman	
R J Cortis	resigned 6 November 1997

Both directors are also directors of the holding company and have declared their interest in the shares of the holding company in that company's accounts.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

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 of the company for that period. 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 ;

prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors confirm that the accounts comply with the above requirements.

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 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.

AUDITORS

The company has complied with Section 250(1) of the Companies Act 1985 and accordingly auditors will not be appointed at the annual general meeting.

By order of the board


J O Ellison
Secretary

11-9-98.

The Yarmouth Mercury Limited

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 1997

	Notes	1997 £	1996 £
CURRENT ASSETS - amounts falling due in more than one year			
Due from parent undertaking		100	100
NET ASSETS		100	100
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	3	2,000	2,000
Profit and loss account		(1,900)	(1,900)
		100	100

The company has not traded during the year ended 31 December 1997.
It has therefore taken advantage of the exemption granted by Section 250(1)
of the Companies Act 1985 of not appointing auditors. Accordingly, no
auditors' report is attached to these accounts.

P.M.Strong

Director



11-9-97

The Yarmouth Mercury Limited

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

at 31 December 1997

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

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

2 PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

The company has not traded during the year and accordingly it has made neither a profit nor a loss. No profit and loss account has therefore been prepared.

3 SHARE CAPITAL

	Authorised ----->		Allotted, called up & fully paid	
	1997 No.	1996 No.	1997 £	1996 £
Ordinary shares of £1 each	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====

4 HOLDING COMPANY

The parent undertaking for which group accounts are drawn up and of which the company is a member is Eastern Counties Newspapers Group Limited, registered in England and Wales. Copies of that company's accounts can be obtained from The Registrar, Companies House, Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff.

The company has taken advantage of exemptions in respect of FRS8 on the grounds that it is a wholly owned subsidiary.