Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2013



16/06/2014 **COMPANIES HOUSE** 

#173

# Wilkes-Lucas Limited **Company Information**

Directors

SC Upcott HJ Knowles

KF Slow

**Company Secretary** 

**HJ Knowles** 

Registered office

165 Fleet Street

London EC4A 2AE

Auditor

KPMG LLP

Statutory Auditor and Chartered Accountants

15 Canada Square

London E14 5GL

# Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

The directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2013

# Principal activity and review of the business

The Company is a holding company for investments in group undertakings, and its investing activities during the year are detailed in note 6. The Directors do not envisage any change to the business of the Company in the foreseeable future.

#### Results

The profit before tax for the year is £97,387,352 (2012 £89,892,268) The net assets for the year are £317,493,732 (2012 £220,106,381)

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The management of the business and the execution of the Company's strategy are subject to a number of risks. The key business risks and uncertainties affecting the Company are considered to relate to the following

#### Financial counterparty risk

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The treasury activities of the ultimate parent company, Cookson Group plc, are monitored and co-ordinated by a central Treasury department on behalf of the whole Cookson group This includes the risk of potential failure by counterparties holding cash deposits on behalf of Group companies

# Recoverability of intercompany receivables

Where amounts are due from group companies with net liabilities, letters of support are obtained to ensure that they will be able to meet their obligations as they fall due

Approved by the Board on 23 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by

KF Slow

Director

# Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013

#### **Directors of the Company**

The Directors who held office during the year were as follows

BR Elliston (resigned 31 March 2014)

RS Fell (resigned 21 March 2013)

RMH Malthouse (resigned 23 September 2013)

SA O'Hara (resigned 28 June 2013)

SC Upcott

HJ Knowles (appointed Director 23 September 2013)

KF Slow was appointed as Director after the year end, on 31 March 2014

#### Dividends

The Directors do not recommend payment of a final dividend (2012 £nil)

#### Political and charitable donations

During the year the Company made political donations of £nil (2012 £nil) and charitable donations of £nil (2012 £nil)

#### Disclosure of information to the auditor

The Directors who held office at the date of approval of this Directors' Report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and each Director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information

#### Reappointment of auditors

The auditors KPMG LLP are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006

Approved by the Board on 23 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by

KF Slow

Director

# Statement of Directors' Responsibilities in respect of the Directors' Report and the financial statements

The Directors are responsible for preparing the 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 period. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). 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 apply them consistently,
- · make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and
- 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 that 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 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.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Wilkes-Lucas Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Wilkes-Lucas Limited for the year ended 31 December 2013, set out on pages 6 to 14 The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK 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 auditor's 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 auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities in respect of the Directors' Report and the financial statements set out on page 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

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www frc org uk/auditscopeukprivate

# Opinion on the 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 December 2013 and of its profit for the year then ended,
- · have been properly prepared in accordance with UK 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 Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

#### 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

JJ Hall (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants 15 Canada Square London E14 5GL

23 May 2014

# Wilkes-Lucas Limited Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

	Note	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Impairment of fixed asset investments reversal	6 _	88,412	90,220
Operating profit	2	88,412	90,220
Other interest receivable and similar income	3	8,975	358
Interest payable and similar charges	4	<del>-</del>	(686)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		97,387	89,892
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	<u>-</u>	
Profit for the financial year	9 _	97,387	89,892

All activities relate to continuing operations

# Wilkes-Lucas Limited Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

	Note	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Profit for the financial year		97,387	89,892
Dividend in specie		-	202,691
Unrealised impairment of fixed asset investments charge	_		(168,909)
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year		97,387	123,674

# (Registration number: 00368205)

# Balance Sheet at 31 December 2013

	Note	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Fixed assets			
Investments	6 _	566,210	477,798
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		4	-
Creditors Amounts falling due within one year	7 _	(248,721)	(257,692)
Net current liabilities	_	(248,717)	(257,692)
Net assets	_	317,493	220,106
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	8	10	10
Profit and loss account	9 _	317,483	220,096
Shareholders' funds	10	317,493	220,106

Approved by the Board on 23 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by

KF Siow.

Director

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

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

#### Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, notwithstanding net current liabilities as shown on page 8, which the Directors believe to be appropriate for the following reason. The Company is dependent for its working capital on funds provided to it by Vesuvius plc, the Company's ultimate parent. Vesuvius plc has indicated that for at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements, it will continue to make available such funds as are needed by the Company. The Directors consider that this should enable the Company to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and to meet its liabilities as they fall due for payment.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The Company is exempt from the requirement of FRS 1 (Revised) to prepare a cash flow statement as its cash flows are included within the consolidated cash flow statement of Vesuvius plc

#### Exemption from preparing group accounts

The Company is exempt by virtue of \$400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements since the Company is itself a wholly-owned subsidiary of Vesuvius plc. These financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group

#### Fixed asset investments

Investments in subsidiary undertakings ('subsidiaries') are stated at cost, less any impairment in value

#### Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the result for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes

Deferred tax is recognised, without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 19

#### Foreign currency

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

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

continued

# 2 Operating profit

Other than the Directors, the Company had no employees during the year (2012 nil) The Directors received remuneration of £nil (2012 £nil) in respect of services to the Company during the year An allocated audit fee was borne by the ultimate parent undertaking, Vesuvius plc, of £4,000 (2012 £4,000)

# 3 Other interest receivable and similar income

	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Interest receivable from group undertakings Foreign exchange gains	413 8,562	358
roleigh exchange gams	8,975	358
4 Interest payable and similar charges		
	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Foreign exchange losses		686
	-	686

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

continued

#### 5 Taxation

Tax on profit on ordinary activities		
	2013	2012
	£ 000	£ 000
Total tax on profit on ordinary activities		

#### Factors affecting current tax charge for the year

Tax on profit on ordinary activities for the year is lower than (2012 lower than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 23 25% (2012 24 5%)

The differences are reconciled below

	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	97,387	89,892
Corporation tax at standard rate	22,642	22,024
Income not chargeable for tax purposes	(20,555)	(22,104)
Losses (claimed from) / surrendered to group	(2,087)	80
Total current tax		

#### Factors that may affect future tax charges

The unrecognised deferred tax asset is approximately £19,162,830 (2012 £24,026,831) in respect of non-trading deficits. If circumstances change in the future resulting in the recoverability of the deferred tax asset becoming more certain, the asset will be recognised. This will only be the case if there is persuasive and reliable evidence suggesting that suitable taxable profits will be generated in the future.

From 1 April 2013, the UK corporation tax rate reduced to 23% from 24% Further corporate tax rate reductions to 21% from 1 April 2014 and 20% from 1 April 2015 were substantively enacted on 2 July 2013

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

continued

#### 6 Investments held as fixed assets

	Investments in subsidiary undertakings £ 000
Cost	
At 1 January 2013	768,683
At 31 December 2013	768,683
Provision for impairment	
At 1 January 2013	290,885
Impairment reversal	(88,412)
At 31 December 2013	202,473
Net book value	
At 31 December 2013	566,210
At 31 December 2012	477,798

#### Details of undertakings

The principal subsidiaries of Wilkes-Lucas Limited and the countries in which they are incorporated are as follows

Cookson Ceramics Ltd, England and Wales

\*\* Vesuvius Americas Holdings, Inc , USA

\*\* Vesuvius Crucible Company, USA

- \* Cookson America, Inc , USA
- \*\* Vesuvius U S A Corporation, USA

Where marked with an asterisk (\*), the ordinary capital of the above companies was owned by Wilkes-Lucas Limited and a subsidiary, and where marked with double asterisks (\*\*), the companies were owned by a Wilkes-Lucas Limited subsidiary, at 31 December 2013 All of the above are wholly-owned, unless otherwise stated

Following a reassessment of the expected future profit contributions from its investments in subsidiary undertakings, the Company has reversed an impairment loss of £88,412,756. The total recoverable amount of its investments in subsidiaries was measured by reference to the value in use of the investments, using risk-adjusted pre-tax discount rates that ranged between 11.7% and 13.7%

#### 7 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
Amounts owed to group undertakings	248,721	257,692

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

# continued

# 8 Share capital

	3	201	2
No	£ 000	No.	£ 000
204,903,702	10	204,903,702	10
			Profit and loss account £ 000
			220,096
			97,387
			317,483
lers' funds			
		2013 £ 000	2012 £ 000
mpany		97,387	89,892
		-	165,996
		-	202,691
ments charge			(168,909)
		97,387	289,670
		220,106	(69,564)
		317,493	220,106
	No 204,903,702	204,903,702 10  ders' funds	No £ 000 No.  204,903,702 10 204,903,702  Rers' funds  2013 £ 000  Impany 97,387  ments charge 97,387  220,106

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

continued

The new share capital allotted in 2012 of £165,995,772 relates to the allotment of 2 ordinary shares, being consideration for the acquisition of an investment in subsidiary

The dividends in specie received in the prior year of £202,690,468 was received on distribution of an investment from subsidiaries, all of which was recognised as non-distributable reserves. The unrealised impairment relating to this transaction was also recognised in non-distributable reserves. Subsequently, qualifying consideration was received, and as such these reserves became distributable

Also in the prior year, a capital reduction was performed reducing the nominal value of issued share capital (note 8) by £204,893,702 and simultaneously cancelling the entire £382,179,725 share premium account and transferring both to the profit and loss account, becoming distributable. The net impact on shareholders' funds in 2012 being nil

#### 11 Related party transactions

As the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Vesuvius plc, the Company has taken advantage of the exemption contained in FRS 8 and has therefore not disclosed transactions or balances with entities which form part of the Vesuvius plc group

#### 12 Immediate parent undertaking

The immediate parent undertaking is Cookson Investments Limited

The Company's ultimate controlling party was Cookson Group plc On 17 December 2012 the new holding company of Cookson group became Vesuvius plc, registered in England and Wales, which heads the largest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated. The financial statements of Vesuvius plc are available to the public and may be obtained from the Company Secretary, Vesuvius plc, 165 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AE

No other group financial statements include the results of the Company