Registrar of Companies

(7)

Averys of Bristol Limited

Directors' Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 December 1999

Company Registration No. 376920 (England and Wales)

MAPLYOT3C# OFFI

A12 COMPANIES HOUSE 16/08/00

Registrar or Companies

Company Information

Directors P J Fricke

F J Avery

Secretary P J Fricke

Company number 376920

Registered office Orchard House, Southfield Road

Nailsea Bristol BS19 1JD

Auditors BDO Stoy Hayward

8 Baker Street London

W1M 1DA

Contents

Directors' report	1
Auditors' report	3
Profit and loss account	4
Balance sheet	5
Notes to the accounts	6

Directors' Report Year ended 31 December 1999

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 1999.

Directors

The following directors have held office since 1 January 1999:

P J Fricke

F J Avery

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 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 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.

Principal activities and review of the business

The principal activity of the company continued to be that of a wholesale and retail wine merchant.

The business developed reasonably during the year and the directors consider the financial position at the year end to be satisfactory.

Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out on page 4.

The directors do not recommend payment of an ordinary dividend.

Year 2000

The company has addressed the year 2000 computer issue by taking the appropriate steps to update computer systems where necessary and believes that the company's business will not be adversely affected. Since the end of 1999, no problems have been experienced by the company. The board, however, is continuing to monitor the issue both internally and externally.

Directors' interests

The names of the present directors are given at the head of this report.

None of the directors had any beneficial interests in the shares of the company as defined by the Companies Act 1985.

Directors' Report Year ended 31 December 1999

Auditors

On 1st March 1999 the auditors, Moores Rowland, merged their practice with that of BDO Stoy Hayward and are now practising under that name.

On behalf of the board

P J Fricke

Director

2 March 2000

Auditors' Report To the Shareholders of Averys of Bristol Limited

We have audited the accounts on pages 4 to 12 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 6.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the directors' report the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of accounts. It is our responsibility as auditors to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts 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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, 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 that we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 1999 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors

Much Lan

- 3 -

Profit and Loss Account Year ended 31 December 1999

	Notes	1999 £	1998 £
Turnover	2	5,243,569	4,930,123
Cost of sales		(3,919,722)	(3,654,076)
Gross profit		1,323,847	1,276,047
Administrative expenses		(1,138,161)	(1,097,806)
Operating profit	3	185,686	178,241
Other interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar charges	4 5	744 (20,753)	1,887 (22,368)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		165,677	157,760
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	9	(150)	(585)
Profit for the year	16	165,527	157,175

The profit and loss account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those passing through the profit and loss account.

Balance Sheet As at 31 December 1999

	Notes	£	1999 £	£	1998 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		98,664		100,776
Investments	11		2,004		2,004
			100,668		102,780
Current assets					
Stocks	12	1,507,467		1,356,841	
Debtors	13	594,310		568,943	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,200		1,000	
		2,102,977		1,926,784	
Creditors: amounts falling due					
within one year	14	(1,373,928)		(1,365,374)	
Net current assets			729,049		561,410
Total assets less current liabilities			829,717		664,190
Capital and reserves		• •			
Called up share capital	15		1,500,000		1,500,000
Profit and loss account	16		(670,283)		(835,810)
Shareholders' funds - equity interests	17		829,717		664,190
• •					

The accounts were approved by the Board on 2 March 2000

P J Fricke
Director

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

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

1.2 Turnover

Turnover represents amounts receivable for goods and services net of VAT.

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings Leasehold

- over the period of the lease

Plant and machinery Fixtures, fittings & equipment - 25% - 25%

Motor vehicles

- 25%

1.4 Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible assets and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the profit and loss account so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.5 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

1.6 Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.7 Pensions

The pension costs charged in the accounts represent the contributions payable by the company during the year in accordance with SSAP 24.

1.8 Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at appropriate rates on all timing differences using the liability method only to the extent that, in the opinion of the directors, there is a reasonable probability that a liability or asset will crystallise in the foreseeable future.

1.9 Foreign currency translation

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

2 Turnover

The total turnover of the company for the year has been derived from its principal activity wholly undertaken in the United Kingdom.

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

3	Operating profit	1999 £	1998 £
	Operating profit is stated after charging:		*
	Depreciation of tangible assets	37,329	52,374
	Operating lease rentals	106,841	95,056
	Auditors' remuneration	6,000	4,000
4	Other interest receivable and similar income	1999 £	1998 £
	Other interest	744	1,887
5	Interest payable and similar charges	1999 £	199 8 £
	On bank loans and overdrafts	20,753	21,858
	Hire purchase interest		510
		20,753	22,368
6	Employees Number of employees The average monthly number of employees (including directors) during		
	the year was:		
		1999 Number	1998 Number
	Warehouse and distribution	5	5
	Selling and marketing	14	15
	Administration	9	<u> </u>
			29
	Employment costs		
	- ·	£	£
	Wages and salaries	440,696	483,084
	Social security costs	38,476	45,893
	Other pension costs	6,665	6,664
		485,837	535,641

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

7	Directors' emoluments	1999 £	1998 £
	Emoluments for qualifying services Company pension contributions to money purchase schemes	34,942 4,000	34,500 4,000
		38,942	38,500

The number of directors for whom retirement benefits are accruing under money purchase pension schemes amounted to 1 (1998-1).

8 Transactions with directors

During the year, the company has traded in the ordinary course of business with Mr F J Avery. Sales amounted to £13,730 (1998 - £26,041).

9	Taxation	1999 £	1998 £
	U.K. current year taxation U.K. corporation tax at 30.25% (1998-31%)	225	585
	Prior years U.K. corporation tax	(75)	-
		150	585

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

10	Tangible fixed assets					
		Land and buildings Leasehold	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
	Cost					
	At 1 January 1999	42,123	117,222	111,043	118,219	388,607
	Additions	-	30,594	1,249	10,000	41,843
	Disposals	-	-	-	(21,543)	(21,543)
	At 31 December 1999	42,123	147,816	112,292	106,676	408,907
	Depreciation					
	At 1 January 1999	9,874	113,701	96,073	68,183	287,831
	On disposals	-	-	-	(14,919)	(14,919)
	Charge for the year	3,510	5,869	10,024	17,928	37,331
	At 31 December 1999	13,384	119,570	106,097	71,192	310,243
	Net book value	 _				
	At 31 December 1999	28,739	28,246	6,195	35,484	98,664
	At 31 December 1998	32,249	3,521	14,970	50,036	100,776

11 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments u	Shares in subsidiary indertakings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost At 1 January 1999 & at 31 December 1999	2,000	4	2,004
·			

In the opinion of the directors, the aggregate value of the company's investment in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the amount included in the balance sheet.

The company owns 100% of the issued share capital of Cabot Cellars Limited and New World Vintners Limited, both companies being incorporated in England and Wales and non-trading. The net assets of each of these companies is £2.

The company has an investment in Merchant Vintners Buying Group of 4.76% of its fully paid ordinary shares.

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

12	Stocks	1999 £	1998 £
	Finished goods and goods for resale	1,507,467	1,356,841

The directors consider that the replacement value of wines held for resale is not less than the cost.

13	Debtors	1999 £	1998 £
	Trade debtors	546,658	527,856
	Amounts owed by parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	9,320	<u>-</u>
	Other debtors	11,365	12,188
	Prepayments and accrued income	26,967	28,899
		594,310	568,943
14	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	1999 £	1998 £
	Bank loans and overdrafts	332,952	455,683
	Trade creditors	690,740	520,422
	Amounts owed to parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	-	11,335
	Corporation tax	48	256
	Other taxes and social security costs	251,604	270,255
	Other creditors	14,179	12,969
	Accruals and deferred income	84,405	94,454
•		1,373,928	1,365,374

The bank loan and overdraft is secured by a fixed and floating charge over the assets of the company. The bank has given a guarantee to HM Customs and Excise amounting to £203,000 with recourse to the company.

15	Share capital	1999 £	1998 £
	Authorised 1,500,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,500,000	1,500,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid 1,500,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,500,000	1,500,000

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

16 Statement of movements on profit and loss account

			£
	Balance at 1 January 1999 Retained profit for the year		(835,810) 165,527
	Balance at 31 December 1999		(670,283)
17	Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds	1999 £	1998 £
	Profit for the financial year Opening shareholders' funds	165,527 664,190	157,175 507,015
	Closing shareholders' funds	829,717	664,190

18 Contingent liabilities

The company has entered into an unlimited cross guarantee to secure the overdrafts of its immediate parent company. The total liability arising from this guarantee amounted to £817,091 at the balance sheet date.

19 Financial commitments

At 31 December 1999 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Land a	Land and buildings	
	1999	1998	
	£	£	
Expiry date:			
In over five years	28,750	28,750	

20 Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £6,665 (1998-£6,664). Contributions totalling £345 (1998-£Nil) were paid in advance to the fund at the year end and are included in prepayments.

Notes to the Accounts Year ended 31 December 1999

21 Control

The ultimate parent undertaking is Hallgarten Wines Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, and the ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is WIV Wien International GmbH, a company registered in Germany.

The company is included in the consolidated accorts of WIV Wein International GmbH, which are available from WIV Wein International GmbH, Rummelsheimer Str. 55452 Burg Layen, Bei Bingen Am Rhein, Germany. Transactions and balances between the group companies are not generally disclosed in the accounts of the subsidiary companies in accordance with the exemption given under Financial Reporting Standard No. 8 'Related Party Disclosures'.