DUTTON-FORSHAW (LAND MACHINERY) LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES (REGISTERED NUMBER 447678)

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

30 SEPTEMBER 1997



REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

The Directors of Dutton-Forshaw (Land Machinery) Limited submit their Report together with the audited Accounts for the year ended 30 September 1997.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activity of the Group and the Company continues to consist of the distribution of agricultural, horticultural and forestry machinery and equipment. The Company trades via three agents, Watveare Limited, WestMac Limited and Land Mechanization Limited.

In the last quarter of this year the major franchise of the Watveare division has been transferred to a subsidiary of the Manufacturer in the UK and the Company has now been restructured to handle, economically and efficiently, a reduced level of turnover for the coming year.

It is expected that concentration on our present core business and the introduction of some new products will give us very satisfactory levels of business in 1997/98.

GROUP RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The Accounts for the year ended 30 September 1997 show an operating profit of £468,000 (1996 - £516,000) on turnover of £18,926,000 (1996 - £27,111,000). After crediting exceptional items of £8,000 (1996 - £12,000), charging interest costs of £61,000 (1996 - £176,000) and taxation of £Nil (1996 - £Nil) there is a profit for the financial year of £415,000 (1996 - £352,000).

A dividend of £1,750,000 (1996 - £150,000) was paid during the year of which £1,335,000 was transferred from reserves (1996 - transfer to reserves £202,000). Details of the movements in reserves are shown in the notes to the Accounts.

FIXED ASSETS

Details of the fixed assets and the changes which have taken place during the year are given in the notes to the Accounts.

DIRECTORATE

The present Board of the Company, is set out below. All directors served throughout the year, except where indicated otherwise.

JR Robinson (Chairman)
TP Baines (Managing Director)
D E Jones (appointed 7 July 1997)
A E Manning
S M Metcalfe
K A Tuck

In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, Messrs Robinson, Jones and Metcalfe retire at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and, being eligible, offer themselves for reelection.

Mr P W Carpenter, who served during the year, resigned on 30 April 1997 and Mr P J Flynn, who served during the year, resigned on 23 June 1997.

No Director had at any time during the year a material interest in any contract of significance in relation to the Company's business.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1997 (continued)

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

The following are the interests in the ultimate parent Company, all of which are beneficial, recorded in the Company's Register of Directors' Share and Debenture Interests.

Lonrho Pic	Ordinary shares of 25p each				
		1 October 1996		0 September 1997	
K A Tuck		16,094		11,175	
S M Metcalfe		-		7,450	
					
Lonrho Plc			Shares under optic		
	 -		Lapsed or	30 September	
	1 October 1996	Granted in year	exercised in year	1997	
K A Tuck	23,889	-	(11,175)	12,714	
S M Metcalfe	17,861	-	(7,450)	10,411	
		=			

Options are held pursuant to one or more of the share option schemes of Lonrho Plc and are over Ordinary shares of 25p each of that company.

Options are exercisable at prices of between 117.5p and 263.78p between 1997 and 2005.

No interests of any of the other Directors in the ultimate parent Company are disclosable to this Company.

No directors held any interests in the shares of this Company during the year.

POLICY ON PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

The Company complies with the CBI Code of Practice for the payment of creditors.

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT

Each Company has arrangements to regularly provide employees with information regarding the financial and economic factors affecting the performance of the Company and on matters of concern to them. Additionally, regular consultations take place with employees so that the views of employees can be taken into account in making decisions which are likely to affect their interests. The companies within the Group continue to encourage the involvement of employees in the Company's performance by promotion of the Lonrho Plc savings related share option scheme and encourages all eligible employees to participate therein.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS

The Group gives full and fair consideration to applications for employment received from disabled persons, having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities, and wherever possible the Group continues the employment of, and arranges for the appropriate training for, employees who become disabled persons while employed by the Group. Disabled employees are treated no differently from other employees as regards training, career development and promotion opportunities. This policy was operated by the Group throughout the year.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1997 (continued)

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE PREPARATION OF 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 and 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;
- 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 to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors have voluntarily decided to prepare Group accounts and are applying the same requirement regarding a true and fair view of the state of affairs, and of the profit or loss of the Group for that period, to the Group's accounts.

DIRECTORS' AND OFFICERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE

During the year the Group maintained Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance cover.

AUDITORS

A resolution for the re-appointment of auditors will be tabled at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Board

S M Metcalfe Secretary

Ivybridge, Devon 19 December 1997

Telephone: (01222) 376255 Telex: 884657 PRIWAT G Facsimile: (01222) 374124

Price Waterhouse



AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DUTTON-FORSHAW (LAND MACHINERY) LIMITED

We have audited the accounts on pages 5 to 20 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets and the accounting policies set out on pages 8 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3, the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of accounts. It is our responsibility 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 and Group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which 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 affairs of the Company and the Group as at 30 September 1997 and of the profit of the Group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PRICE WATERHOUSE
Chartered Accountants
and Registered Auditors

19 December 1997

CONSOLIDATED AND COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

	<u>Note</u>	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
TURNOVER	1	18,926	27,111
OPERATING PROFIT	2	468	516
EXCEPTIONAL ITEM	6	8	12
PROFIT BEFORE INTEREST AND TAXATION		476	528
Net interest payable	5	(61)	(176)
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION		415	352
Taxation	7		_
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		415	352
Dividends	8	<u>(1,750</u>)	<u>(150</u>)
PROFIT TRANSFERRED TO RESERVES	17	(1,335)	202

There is no material difference between the result as disclosed in the profit and loss account and the result on an unmodified historical cost basis. All items derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 8 to 20 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEETS AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

	<u>Note</u>		Group		Company
		1997	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1997</u>	<u> 1996</u>
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	689	1,246	689	1,246
Investments:					
Subsidiary undertakings	10			<u>313</u>	<u>313</u>
• -					
		689	1,246	1,002	1,559
		 			
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	11	2,116	4,128	2,116	4,128
Debtors	12	3,458	3,048	3,458	3,048
Cash at bank and in hand		<u> 1.398</u>	<u>2.940</u>	<u>1,398</u>	<u>2,940</u>
		<u>6.972</u>	<u>10.116</u>	6,972	<u> 10.116</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling				44	(= 000)
due within one year	13	<u>(4.626</u>)	<u>(7.073</u>)	<u>(4,939</u>)	<u>(7.386</u>)
			0.040	0.000	0.700
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,346	3,043	2,033	2,730
					
TOTAL ASSETS LESS		0.005	4.000	2.025	4 200
CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,035	4,289	3,035	4,289
CREDITORS: Amounts falling	4.4	(EEA)	(473)	(554)	(473)
due after more than one year	14	(554)	(413)	(554)	(473)
					
		2,481	3,816	2,481	3,816
		2,401	3,010	2,401	0,010
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
	16	30	30	30	30
Called up share capital	17	1	1	1	1
Revaluation reserve	17	2,450	3,785	<u>2,450</u>	<u>3,785</u>
Profit and loss account	17	<u></u>	0,700		<u></u>
		2,481	3,816	2,481	3,816
		۲,۳۵۱	0,010	<u>_,</u> -,-0 i	2,0.0
					

The notes on pages 8 to 20 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 19 December 1997 and signed on its behalf by:

TP BAINES DIRECTOR

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

<u>15</u>	352
15 ·	352
	415 415

RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

		Group		Company
	1997	1996	<u> 1997</u>	<u> 1996</u>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit for the financial year	415	352	415	352
Dividends	(1,750)	<u>(150</u>)	(1.750)	(150)
Net (decrease)/increase in shareholders' funds	(1,335)	202	(1,335)	202
Shareholders' funds at 1 October 1996	3,816	<u>3,614</u>	<u>3,816</u>	3.614
Shareholders' funds at 30 September 1997	2,481	3,816	2,481	3,816
				

The shareholders' funds are wholly attributable to equity shareholders.

The notes on pages 8 to 20 form part of these accounts.

STATEMENT ON ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Group accounts.

Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention adjusted by the revaluation of certain assets and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.

Consolidation of Group companies

The consolidated accounts comprise the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, which are all made up to 30 September 1997. The results of subsidiaries acquired during the year are included from the date of acquisition. The results of subsidiaries sold during the year are included up to the date of sale if those companies materially contributed to the results of the Group.

On the acquisition of a subsidiary, if the current value of property and other major assets (excluding current assets) differs materially from book value, such assets are revalued as appropriate to reflect more accurately their cost to the Group. Where the cost of acquisition differs from the adjusted value of net assets acquired, the goodwill or surplus is placed to reserves.

On the disposal of a subsidiary, the proceeds from disposal less the net assets attributable to the Group at the date of disposal together with any goodwill or surplus previously placed to reserves is shown as profit/loss on sale or termination of operations.

The principal subsidiaries are shown in Note 10.

Exchange rates

Foreign currency assets and liabilities are translated into sterling on the following basis:

- a) amounts covered by forward purchases of foreign currency or by currency exposure agreements with suppliers - at the rates obtained.
- b) amounts not covered by forward purchases of foreign currency at the rates ruling at 30 September.

All other adjustments due to fluctuations arising in the normal course of trade are included in profit before tax.

Profits on disposal of assets

Profits and losses on disposal of fixed assets arising from the ordinary activities of the Group are included in profit before tax as exceptional items.

Surpluses on revaluation of fixed assets, which have previously been taken to revaluation reserve, are transferred to the profit and loss reserve on disposal of the fixed asset.

STATEMENT ON ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Depreciation

The Group policy is to write off the book value of fixed assets evenly over their estimated remaining lives. Depreciation rates are determined in accordance with commercial practice for the industry concerned. The major fixed assets are depreciated as follows:

Freehold buildings 2% of cost

Plant and machinery 10% - 20% of cost Motor vehicles 25% of cost

Fixtures, fittings, tools and

equipment 10% - 33% of cost

No depreciation is provided on freehold land.

Pension costs

The company is a participating employer in the Dutton-Forshaw Group Pension Plan, a defined benefit pension scheme for all eligible employees, the assets of which are held in separate, trustee administered funds.

Independent actuaries prepare valuations of the scheme at least every three years and in accordance with their recommendations the Group makes contributions which are charged to profits on a systematic and rational basis over the expected remaining working life of the employees. Any differences between the actuarial valuation and the value of the Group's assets in the scheme are similarly charged or credited to profit before tax over the expected remaining working life of employees in the scheme.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax, whether United Kingdom or overseas, is calculated under the liability method and is only provided where it is anticipated to be payable within the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax which is not anticipated to be payable within the foreseeable future is included in contingent liabilities.

Leases

The cost of assets held under finance leases is capitalised within the appropriate tangible fixed asset heading and depreciation is provided in accordance with the Group's accounting policy for the category of asset concerned. The interest cost is charged over the term of the lease and the capital element of future lease payments is included in creditors.

The cost of operating leases is charged to profit before taxation as incurred.

STATEMENT ON ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Revaluation of fixed assets

It is Group policy for the Directors to review regularly the value of fixed assets taking account of the views of professional advisers and, where appropriate, incorporate changes into the Group accounts. Independent professional valuations are obtained before incorporating the results of any Directors' review which would reduce the balance sheet value of a tangible fixed asset below its original cost to the Group or which would result in a material increase in its balance sheet value.

Depreciation is charged to profit before taxation on the revised book value from the date of valuation. If the valuation is in excess of the net book value of the relevant asset the surplus is credited to revaluation reserve. A deficit on valuation of a particular asset when it is considered to have arisen from a permanent diminution in value, is charged to profit before tax to the extent that it is not covered by surpluses arising on prior valuations of that asset which have been previously credited to revaluation reserve.

Stock and work in progress

Stock and work in progress is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where relevant, cost includes an appropriate share of overheads.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 TURNOVER

Turnover represents sales of goods and services outside the Group net of discounts, allowances and value added tax.

The only activity of the Group is the distribution of agricultural, horticultural and forestry machinery and equipment.

There was no significant turnover from sales outside the UK.

2 OPERATING PROFIT

(a) Group operating profit

	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Turnover Cost of sales	18,926 <u>(14,336</u>)	27,111 <u>(21,933</u>)
Gross profit	4,590	5,178
Distribution costs Administration expenses Management charge	(2,676) (1,196) (250)	(2,880) (1,532) <u>(250</u>)
Operating profit	468	516
(b) Operating profit is stated after charging:		
	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Operating lease charges: Cars, plant and machinery Depreciation charge:	181	209
Owned tangible assets Finance leased tangible assets Auditors' remuneration:	146 21	161 24
Audit fees Non-audit fees	32 3	33 14
Reorganisation and redundancy costs	80	-

The profit on ordinary activities before taxation arises from the group's only activity of distributing agricultural, horticultural and forestry machinery and equipment in the United Kingdom.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

3 EMOLUMENTS OF DUTTON-FORSHAW (LAND MACHINERY) LIMITED DIRECTORS

	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Aggregate emoluments Compensation for loss of office Pension contributions	278 39 	318 - ,
	317	318
Highest paid director		
Aggregate emoluments Pension contributions	106 	111
	106	111
		
		<u>1997</u> £'000
Accrued pension of the highest paid director		51

Three Directors, including the highest paid director, exercised share options in Lonrho Plc during the year.

The number of directors who are members of the group pension scheme is 5 (1996: 7). No company contributions were paid in respect of the year on the recommendation of the Actuaries.

4 STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

The average number of persons employed by the Group during the year was as follows:

	<u>1997</u> Number	<u>1996</u> Number
	102	128
The accessor powell cost was as fallows:		
The aggregate payroll cost was as follows:	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs (Note 19)	1,900 152 <u>81</u>	2,228 161 58
	2,133	2,447

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5 NET INTEREST PAYABLE

5	NET INTEREST PAYABLE	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Bank interest receivable	(102)	(112)
	Interest payable: On overdrafts and other loans		
	repayable within five years On finance leases On bills of exchange	125 - - 38	[*] 226 1 61
	On bills of exchange	163	288
	Net interest payable	61	176
6	EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS		
		<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Profit on disposal of fixed assets	8	12
7	TAXATION	1997	1996
	Corporation tax at 33% (1996: 33%)	£'000	£'000 -

The charge for tax for the group has been increased and reduced by the following items:

- (1) Increased in respect of timing differences and disallowable items totalling £154,000 (1996: £107,000 increase).
- (2) Reduced in respect of group relief of £188,000 to be surrendered by other Lonrho Group companies for no consideration (1996: £459,000 reduction).

Exceptional items in 1997 have had no material impact on the current year tax charge.

8 DIVIDENDS PAID

DIVIDENDS PAID	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Dividends paid at £11.67 per share (1996 - £1 per share)	1,750	150

DUTTON-FORSHAW (LAND MACHINERY) LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and company			Motor vehicles, fixtures,	
	Freehold		fittings,	
	land and	Plant and	and <u>equipment</u>	_Total
Cost or valuation	<u>buildings</u> £'000	machinery £'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 October 1996	1,010	370	993	2,373
Additions	-	2	23	25
Disposals	<u>(425</u>)	(1)	<u>(55</u>)	<u>(481</u>)
At 30 September 1997	585	371	961	1,917
<u>Depreciation</u>	-			
At 1 October 1996	89	307	731	1,127
Disposals	(24)	(1)	(41)	(66)
Charge for the year	19	18	<u>130</u>	<u>167</u>
At 30 September 1997	84	324	820	1,228
Net book value				
At 30 September 1997	501	47	141	689
				
At 30 September 1996	921	63	262	1,246
				

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes £Nil (1996 - £24,000) in respect of assets held under finance leases.

In accordance with Group accounting policy no depreciation has been provided on freehold land, which at 30 September 1997 had a book value of £50,000 (1996 - £80,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

Assets shown below at valuation were valued by independent professional valuers in the year shown on the basis of open market value with vacant possession for existing use.

•	•			
Group and company				
Cost or valuation:	Freehold land and <u>buildings</u> £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	Motor vehicles fixtures, fittings and equipment £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
·				
1985 Valuation Cost	150 <u>435</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>961</u>	150 <u>1.767</u>
At 30 September 1997	5 85	371	961	1,917
Depreciation:		=		
1985 Valuation Cost	24 60	324	<u>820</u>	24
At 30 September 1997	84	324	820	1,228
Historical cost of revalued assets:	•			Freehold land and buildings
Cost Depreciation				134 (20)
Net historical book value at 30 September 1997				114
Cost Depreciation				647 (34)
Net historical book value at 30 September 1996				613

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

10 SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

Share	٤
£'00	C
24	,

Cost at 30 September 1997 and 30 September 1996

313

All investments in subsidiaries are carried in the books at their cost or fair value at acquisition, there having been no subsequent provisions made against the carrying value of investments.

The subsidiary undertakings of the company are:

Name of Company	<u>Activity</u>	Country of incorporation and operation	Class of shares held	<u>% held</u>
JF (GB) Limited	Agricultural machinery			
	distribution	England	Ordinary	100
Land Mechanization	Agricultural machinery		·	
Limited	distribution	Scotland	Ordinary	100
Watveare Limited	Agricultural machinery		,	
	distribution	England	Ordinary	100
Westmac Limited	Agricultural machinery	g	o. u.i. ici. y	100
	distribution	England	Ordinary	100
Shellglade Advertising			Oramiary	100
Limited	Advertising agency	England	Ordinon	100
	Advoiceding agency	Lilyiaitu	Ordinary	100

All subsidiary undertakings are directly owned by the company.

In the opinion of the Directors the aggregate value of the investment in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the amounts at which these assets are stated in the balance sheet.

11 STOCKS

	Group	Group and Company	
	<u>1997</u>	<u> 1996</u>	
	£'000	£'000	
Goods for resale	2,116	4,128	

In the opinion of the directors the estimated net replacement cost of stocks is not materially different from the above figures.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

12 DEBTORS

		Group		Company
	<u> 1997</u>	<u> 1996</u>	1997	1996
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors Amounts owed by parent, fellow subsidiary	1,812	2,950	1,812	2,950
and associated undertakings	5	1	5	· 1
Other debtors	1,588	-	1,588	_
Prepayments and accrued income	53	<u>97</u>	<u>53</u>	97
	3,458	3,048	3,458	3,048

13 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	 	Group		Company
	<u> 1997</u>	<u> 1996</u>	<u> 1997</u>	1996
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdrafts (unsecured)	-	516	_	516
Trade creditors	2,256	3,096	2,256	3,096
Bills of exchange	591	1,167	591	1,167
Amounts due to parent and fellow subsidiary		•		.,
undertakings	16	13	16	13
Amounts due to subsidiary undertakings	_	-	313	313
Indirect tax and social security liabilities	43	250	43	250
Accruals	1.720	<u>2.031</u>	1,720	2.031
	4,626	7,073	4,939	7,386

14 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group and Company	
	<u>1997</u> <u>19</u>	
	£'000	£'000
Pension provision (Note 18)	554	473

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

15 PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES - DEFERRED TAXATION

No provision has been made for deferred taxation at 30 September 1997 (1996 - £Nil).

The full potential asset for deferred taxation at 33% (1996 - 33%) can be analysed as follows:

	Estimated total contingent asset	<u>Group</u> <u>1997</u> £'000	and Company . 1996 £'000
	Fixed assets	78	156
	Other timing differences	<u>(183</u>)	<u>(156</u>)
		(105)	-
			
16	CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL		
		_1997	<u>1996</u>
		£'000	£'000
	Authorised:		
	150,000 ordinary shares of 20p each	30	30
	Issued:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	150,000 ordinary shares of 20p each, fully paid	30	30
			-
17	RESERVES		
			and Company
		Revaluation	Profit & loss
		<u>reserve</u> £'000	a <u>ccount</u>
		2.000	£'000
	At 1 October 1996	1	3,785
	Loss for the year	_	<u>(1.335</u>)
	At 30 September 1997	1	2,450

Cumulative goodwill written off against the group profit and loss account on the acquisition of subsidiaries since 1 October 1990 amounts to £885,000.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

18 PENSION COSTS

The Group is a participating employer in the Dutton-Forshaw Group Pension Plan, a defined benefit pension scheme for all eligible employees, the assets of which are held in separate, trustee administered, funds.

The pension cost is assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries using the projected unit method. The latest actuarial valuation of the scheme was at 1 October 1994. The principal actuarial assumptions adopted in that valuation were that the annual rate of return on investments would be 1.5% higher than the annual increase in total pensionable remuneration and 3.5% higher than the annual increase in present and future pensions in payment. The market value of the assets, £29,362,000 was sufficient to cover 127% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in pensionable remuneration. The actuarial surplus is being spread over the average remaining service lives of the current employees.

On the recommendation of the actuaries, company contributions to the scheme continue to be suspended. The position will be reviewed again after the next actuarial valuation as at October 1997. The total pension cost for the Group was £81,000 (1996 - £58,000) and a provision of £554,000 (1996 - £473,000) is included under creditors being the difference between the pension cost, calculated in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No.24, and the amount funded.

19 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	1997 £'000	Group and Company 1996 £'000
Contracted for but not yet provided Authorised by Directors but not contracted for	<u> </u>	2
	-	2

20 OPERATING LEASES

The annual commitments of the Group under operating leases were as set out below:

Operating leases which expire:	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Within one year Between one and five years	54 21	60 52
	75	112

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

21 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Agreement with Humberclyde Finance Limited in respect of customer financing facility Letter of set off to Lloyds Bank plc in respect of Dutton-Forshaw Machinery Limited and subsidiaries	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	-	102
	3,449	4,256
	3,449	4,358

The customer financing facility referred to is in respect of a single contract, which terminated in September 1997.

Dutton-Forshaw (Land Machinery) Limited and its subsidiaries have given guarantees in respect of a Group VAT scheme which is in the ordinary course of business and on which no liability is expected to arise.

22 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company is exempt from disclosing transactions with fellow group companies, under Financial Reporting Standard Number 8 - "Related Party Transactions" as it is a 100% subsidiary of a group whose accounts are publicly available.

23 IMMEDIATE AND ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKINGS

The immediate parent undertaking and the parent of the smallest group to consolidate these accounts, is Dutton-Forshaw Machinery Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales. Copies of the accounts of Dutton-Forshaw Machinery Limited may be obtained from Berkeley Square House, Berkeley Square, London.

The ultimate parent undertaking and the parent undertaking of the largest group to consolidate these accounts is Lonrho Plc, a company incorporated in England and Wales. Copies of the group accounts of Lonrho Plc may be obtained from 4 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7DL.

On 17 December 1997 the ultimate parent undertaking of the group changed to Tanel Limited.