PREMIER LIME AND STONE COMPANY LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 31 DECEMBER 1993

Registered number 664770 England and Wales



SCRUTTON BLAND COLCHESTER

PREMIER LIME AND STONE COMPANY LIMITED

Directors

D L Colthorpe J W Moseley

Secretary

K D Gooday

Registered office

18 Sir Isaac's Walk

Colchester CO1 1JL

Registered number

664770 England and Wales

Auditors

Scrutton Bland

18 Sir Isaac's Walk

Colchester CO1 1JL

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 1993.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the holding company is that of quarrying for lime, stone and aggregates, and related trades.

Review of business and future developments

The profit and loss account for the year is set out on page 5.

The outlook for 1994 is not unreasonable given the current order book and the continuing level of civil engineering work. However, in the current economic climate the profitability for the year may again be difficult to maintain at the previous level.

Dividends

The directors recommend a final dividend of £45,000.

Directors

The directors in office during the year, and their interests in the company's share capital, were as follows:

share capital, were as lottows :	Ordinary shares of 10p each	
	At 31 December 1993 1992	
D L Colthorpe (Chairman) J W Moseley R S Blackwell (resigned 31 December 1993)	10,000 10,000	

Fixed assets

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The movements in fixed assets during the year are set out in note 9 to the financial statements.

Market value of land and buildings

In the opinion of the directors, the market value of the parent company's freehold land and buildings is in excess of their book value, but they do not feel that the expense of valuing them professionally is justifiable in view of the intention to continue to use them for the business. The subsidiary's market value of land and buildings held as fixed assets exceeds book value by £496,000.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Directors' interest in contracts

None of the directors had a material interest in any contract of significance to which this company or a subsidiary was a party during the financial year.

Employment policies

The company places considerable value on the involvement of its employees and has continued its previous practice of keeping them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on various factors affecting the performance of the company.

Employment of disabled persons

It is the policy of the company to give full and fair consideration to applications for employment made by disabled persons having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities. Where possible, arrangements are made for the continued employment of persons who have become disabled during service.

Auditors

Scrutton Bland have signified their willingness to continue in office as auditors, and a resolution re-appointing them will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

Signed by order of the board of directors

K D Gooday

Secretary

Approved by the board on 22 April 1994

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

Preparation of financial statements

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and company and of the profit or loss of the group and company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, 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 financial statements;
- * 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 24, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluations of certain fixed assets, and the accounting policies set out on pages 12 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3 the group's and company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements 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 financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's and company'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 financial statements 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 financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and company's affairs as at 31 December 1993 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

SCRUTTON BLAND

Scritton Slavel

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Colchester

22 April 1994

GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

	Note	£,000	£'000	1992 £'000
Turnover	2	,	16,251	16,526
Changes in stocks of finished goods and work in progress			12	(119)
Raw materials and consumables Other external charges		2,763 3,278	16,263	16.407 2.603 3.161
			6,041	5.764
			10,222	10,643
Staff costs Depreciation (net) Other operating charges	3	6,486 1,760 914		5,970 2,009 847
			9,160	8,826
Operating profit			1,062	1,817
Investment income	5		174	236
Trading profit			1,236	2,053
Interest payable	6		162	322
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2		1,074	1,731
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	7		379	574
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation			695	1,157
Minority interest			184	299
Dividends	8		511 45	858 240
Retained profit for the financial year			466	618
Undistributed profits - brought forward			2,665	2,047
Undistributed profits - carried forward			£ 3,131	£ 2,665

Continuing operations

None of the group companies' activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial years.

Recognised gains and losses

The group had no recognised gains and losses other than the profit for the year.

GROUP BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1993

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1. A.

Assets employed	Note	00013	000ع	1992 £'000
Fixed assets Tangible assets Investments	9 10		7,479 278	8,632 278
			7,757	8,910
Current assets Stock Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	11 12	400 1,771 2,199	1+151	415 1,729 3,134
		4,370		5,278
Creditors : amounts falling due within one year	13	5.134		8,462
Net current (liabilities)			(764)	(3,184)
Total assets less current liabilities			6,993	5,726
Creditors : amounts falling due after more than one year	14		1,274	544
			5,719	5,182
Provisions for liabilities and charges	15		764	765
Financed by :			£ 4,955	£ 4,417
Capital and reserves Called up share capital Capital reserve Profit and loss account Share premium Minority interest	16 17 18		110 300 3,131 89 3,630 1,325	110 300 2,665 89 3,164 1,253
			£ 4,955	£ 4,417

The financial statements were approved by the directors on 22 April 1994.

D L Colthorpe

J W Moseley

Directors

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1993

Assets employed	Note	£,000	£'000	1992 £'000
Fixed assets Tangible assets Investments	9 10		298 1,520 1,818	285 1,520 ——— 1,805
Current assets Stock Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	11 12	545 11 —————————————————————————————————		577 4
Creditors : amounts falling due within one year Net current assets	13	159	hor	320
Total assets less current liabilities			401 2,219	265 2,070
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		729	713
Provisions for liabilities and charges Financed by:	15		82 1,408	£ 1,275
Capital and reserves Called up share capital Capital reserve Profit and loss account Share premium	16 17 18		110 173 1.036 89 1,408	110 173 903 89 £ 1,275
			=====	

The financial statements were approved by the directors on 22 April 1994.

D L Colthorpe

J W Moseley

Directors

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STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED CAINS AND LOSSES YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

NOTE OF HISTORICAL COST PROFITS AND LOSSES

	Group		Company	
	1993 £	1992 £	1993 £	1992 £
Reported profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1,074	1,731	166	261
Difference between historical cost depreciation charge and the actual depreciation charge for the year calculated on the revalued amount	1	1	_	-
Historical cost profit on ordinary activities before taxation	£ 1,075	£ 1.732	£ 166	£ 261 ===
Retained profit on an unmodified historical cost basis	£ 467	£ 619	£ 133	£ 43 ==

CASH FLOW STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

	Note	£1000	£'000	1992 £'000
Operating activities				
Cash received from customers Cash payments to suppliers Cash paid to and on behalf of		15,194 (6,102)		16,506 (6,079)
employees Other cash payments		(6,342) (923)		(6,012) (819)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	1		1,827	3,596
Returns of investments and servicing of finance				
Interest received Interest paid		174 (155)		236 (246)
Interest element of finance lease rental payments		(33)		(20)
Dividends paid Dividends paid to minority interests		(209) (112)		(31) (67)
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance			(335)	(128)
Taxation				
Value added tax Corporation tax paid		181 (584)		(487) (776)
Tax paid			(403)	(1,263)
Investing activities				***************************************
Purchase of tangible fixed assets Sale of tangible fixed assets		(572) 1,107		(276) 339
Net cash outflow from investing activities		***************************************	535	63
Net cash inflow before financing			£ 1,624	£ 2,268
Financing				
Repayment of loans		2,096		1,663
Capital element of finance lease rentain payments	l.	449		102
Net cash outflow from financing	4, 5		2,545	1,765
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	2, 3		(921)	503
			£ 1,624	£ 2,268

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

1 Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities

	1993 £†000	1992 £'000
Operating profit	1,062	1.817
Depreciation (net)	1,760	2.009
Decrease in stocks	15	179
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(261)	675
(Decrease) in creditors	(749)	(1,084)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	£ 1,827	£ 3,596

2 Analysis of changes in cash and cash equivalents during the year

	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
Balance at 1 January Net cash (outflow)/inflow	3,109 (921)	2,606 503
Balance at 31 December	£ 2,188	£ 3.109

3 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents as shown in the balance sheet

	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	Change in year £'000	1992 £'000	1991 £'000	Change in year £'000
Cash at bank and in hand Bank overdrafts	2,199 (11)	3,13 ⁴ (25)	(935) 14	3,13 ⁴ (25)	2,648 (42)	486 17
3	2,188	£ 3,109	£ (921)	£ 3,109	£ 2,606	£ 503

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

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4 Analysis of changes in financing during the year

	1993		1	992
	Minority interest £'000	Loans and finance lease obligations £'000	Minority interest £'000	Loans and finance lease obligations £'000
Balance at 1 January Cash flows from fin noing	1,253	1,813 (2,545)	1,021	2,750 (1,765)
Inception of finance lease contracts	-	910	-	-
Inception of hire purchase agreements Cash flows from returns on investments and servicing	-	2,401	••	828
of finance Profit attributable to	(112)	-	(67)	-
minority interests	184	<u></u>	299	
Balance at 31 December	£ 1,325	£ 2,579	£ 1,253	£ 1,813

5 Major non-cash transactions

During the year the group entered into finance lease arrangements in respect of assets with a total capital value at the inception of the leases of £910,000 (1992: £Nil) and hire purchase agreements in respect of assets with a total capital value at the inception of the agreement of £2,401,000 (1992: £828,000).

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These financial statements consist of consolidated information relating to the company and its subsidiary companies. No profit and loss account is presented by the company, as permitted by the Companies Act 1985.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified by the revaluation of freehold land and buildings and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Turnover

Turnover is calculated on the basis of construction work performed during the year together with the invoiced value of the sales and services of other trading activities, net of value added tox.

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets

No depreciation is provided on freehold land. Depreciation of other fixed assets is provided as follows:

Freehold buildings

On a straight line basis over their estimated remaining economic lives with a maximum of 50 years.

Plant and machinery

On reducing balance or straight line methods at rates varying from 10 per cent to 50 per cent so as to write off the assets over their anticipated useful lives.

Investments

Investments in participating interests and other fixed assets investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Stocks and work in progress

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value in the course of normal trading. Work in progress is valued at cost plus profit estimated to have been earned at the balance sheet date, less foreseeable losses up to completion of the contracts and applicable payments on account. Cost includes appropriate overheads.

1 Accounting policies - (continued)

Leases and hire purchase contracts

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are capitalised in the Balance Sheet with an equivalent liability included under creditors.

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are depreciated over their useful lives. The interest element of the amounts payable is charged as an expense to the Profit and Loss Account and the capital element reduces the liability in the Balance Sheet.

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profit as incurred.

Pension scheme

The group has a defined contribution pension scheme. The cost of the contributions made by the company to the scheme are charged to the Profit and Loss Account as incurred.

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year. The charge also takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for accounting and taxation purposes. Provision is made for deferred taxation, to the extent that, in the opinion of the directors, there is reasonable probability that the liability will arise in the foreseeable future.

2 Turnover and profit before taxation on ordinary activities carried on in the United Kingdom

Group		Groun	profit
tu. 1993 £'000	rnover 1992 £'000	before t 1993 £'000	
£ 16,251	£ 16,526	£ 1,074	£ 1.731

3 Directors and emp	loyees
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The average weekly number of employees employed	1993 Number	1992 Number
by the group during the year was	280	249
	Gr £'000	oup guo
Staff costs include the following:		
Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	5.684 516 286	5,014 458 498
	£ 6.486	£ 5.970
Directors' remuneration The emoluments of the directors were as follows:		
For services as directors	£ 154 ===	£ 153
Compensation paid to a director	£ 93	£ -

The individual emoluments, excluding pension contributions and compensation for loss of office, of all the directors who served during the year fell into the following brackets:

	Number	Number
£0 - £ 5,000	1	1
£30,001 - £35,000	1	1
£85,001 - £90,000	1	1

The current chairman's emoluments were nil. The highest paid director earned £89.737 (1992: £88.375).

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NOTES TO THE PINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

4 Operating profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging/(crediting):

the charging/(crediting):		
	Gr	Oup
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
fixed aggets amounts written off	(286)	(139)
Directors' emoluments (note 3) Auditors' remuneration Hire of plant and machinery	2,046 154 21 1,276	2,148 153 17
The charge for depreciation includes £1,033,000 respect of assets acquired under hire purchase colleases.	*===	1,019 ====
respect of assets acquired under hire purchase colleges.	(1992 : £981,0 Ontracts and f	000) in inance

leases.

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5	Investment	income
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5 Investment income	unit	d irnance
Bank interest receivable	£'000	£*000
Other interest receivable	171 3	233 3
6 Interest payable	£ 174	£ 236
Bank loans and overdrafts and other loans repayable within 5 years - by instalments	£'000	£,000
- not by instalments	158 4	314 8
7 Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	£ 162 ===	£ 322
Deferred taxation Corporation tax	£,000	£'000
	380	13 561
8 Dividends	£ 379 ===	£ 574
Ordinary shares Paid - per 10p ordinary share (1992 : 2.81p per share) Proposed 4.1p per 10p ordinary share	£,000	£'000
Proposed 4.1p per 10p ordinary share Proposed 4.1p per 10p ordinary share	45	31 209
	£ 45	E 240

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land end buildings £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	Total. £*000
The Group			
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 1993 Additions at cost	651 -	21,254 1,725	21,905 1,725
	651	22,979	23,630
Disposals at cost	-	(3,336)	(3.336)
At 31 December 1993	651	19,643	20,294
Depreciation			
At 1 January 1993 On disposals Charge for the year At 31 December 1993	77 19 96	13,196 (2,504) 2,027 ————————————————————————————————————	13,273 (2,504) 2,046 12,815
Net book value			
At 31 December 1993	£ 555	£ 6,924	£ 7,479
At 31 December 1992	£ 574	£ 8,058	£ 8,632

Included above are the following amounts relating to assets acquired under hire purchase contracts and finance leases.

	Plant and machinery 1993 1992
Net book value : Hire purchase	£ 2.766 £ 2,719
Finance lease	£ 890 £ 202

£ 69

£ 59

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1993

Aggregate depreciation

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9	Tangible fixed assets - (continued)		
		1993 £'000	1992 £'000
	Group land and buildings		
	Cost or valuation at 31 December 1993 was made up as follows :		
	Valuation: 1973 1983	55 45	55 45
	Cost	551	551
		£ 651	£ 651
	The total value of land and buildings not depreciated	0.480	n 40n
	not depreciated	£ 182	£ 182
	If land and buildings had not been revalued they would have been included in the following amounts:		
	Historical cost	£ 565	£ 565

9	Tangible	fixed	assets	-	(continued)
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	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Plant and machinery etc £'000	Total £'000
The Company			
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 1993 Additions at cost Disposals at cost At 31 December 1993	136 - 136	515 83 (87) ————————————————————————————————————	651 83 (87)
Depreciation			
At 1 January 1993 On disposals Charge for the year At 31 December 1993	2 8 10	364 (70) 45 ———	366 (70) 53 349
Net book value			
At 31 December 1993	£ 126	£ 172	£ 298
At 31 December 1992	£ 134	£ 151	£ 285

Included above are the following amounts relating to assets acquired under hire purchase contracts.

	Plant and ma 1993 £'000	chinery 1992 £'000
Net book value	£ 78	£ 35

Aggregate depreciation

9	Tangible fixed assets - (continued)		
		1993 £'000	1992 £'000
	Company land and buildings		
	Cost or valuation at 31 December 1993 was made up as follows:		
	Valuation: 1983	45	45
	Cost	91	91
		£ 136	£ 136
	The total value of land and buildings not depreciated	£ 116	£ 116
	If land and buildings had not been revalued they would have been included in the following amounts:		
	Historical cost	£ 105	£ 105

10 Fixed asset investments

(a) Listed on recognised stock exchange:

		Con	pany	Group	
		1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
	Cost at beginning and				
	end of year Provision for losses in	107	107	107	107
	prior years	104	104	104	104
	Book and market value				*********
	at 31 December	3	3	3	3
(b)	Land				
	Mineral deposits: Cost at beginning of year		-	275	275
	Additions			_	-
	Cost at 31 December	-	_	275	275
(c)	Shares in subsidiary company				
	Cost at beginning and end of year	1,517	1,517	-	19 04
	Total book value at			************	
	31 December	£ 1,520	£ 1,520	£ 278	£ 278

For investments in subsidiary companies see note 21.

11 Stocks and work in progress

Company		Group	
1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
4	- 4	150 250	138 277
£ 4 ==	£ 4	£ 400	£ 415
	1993 £'000	1993 1992 £'000 £'000 - 4 4 £ 4 £ 4	1993 1992 1993 £'000 £'000 £'000 - 4 4 250 £ 4 £ 4 £ 400

There is no material difference between the book value of stocks and replacement cost.

12 Debtors

	Company		Gı	Group	
Amounts falling due within one year:	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	
Trade debtors Taxation	115	81 40	1,660	1,350 40	
Prepayments and accrued income	17	6	71	55	
Dividend receivable	210	336	-	-	
Other debtors Amounts owed by subsidiary		100	40	284	
company	203	14	-	_	
	£ 545	£ 577	£ 1,771	£ 1.729	

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Company		Gr	oup
	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
Trade creditors	23	20	2,501	3,412
Hire purchase and finance leases	33	18	1,334	1,273
Advance corporation tax	-	5	-	5
Corporation tax	_		256	487
Other taxation and social			•	,
security payable	7	Ц	696	182
Other creditors	_	_	24	2,563
Accruals and deferred income	51	64	267	306
Bank overdraft	_	_	11	25
Proposed dividend	45	209	45	209
	C 150	9 220	0 5 404	
	£ 159	£ 320	£ 5,134	£ 8,462
	===	===	=====	=====

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

Co	mpany	Gro	oup
1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
29	13	1,272	540
700	700		-
-	· -	2	4
******	*****	·	***************************************
£ 729	£ 713	£ 1,274	£ 544
	1993 £'000 : 29 700	£1000 £1000 : 29 13 700 700 - £729 £713	1993 1992 1993 £'000 £'000 : 29 13 1,272 700 700 2 £ 729 £ 713 £ 1,274

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15 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Provision for re-instatement and doublehandling

The planning permission granted to the company requires that the quarry be reinstated to its previous condition once the reserves of stone are exhausted. The directors also consider that a provision for doublehandling i.e. the costs of moving overburden and spoil which increase with the years as the quarry's reserves are depleted, should be made. During the year, the provision was not increased:

	ndo not increased :				
	Co	mpany	(Group	
	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	
At 1 January and 31 December	£ 51	£ 51 ==	£ 51	£ 51	
Deferred taxation account				==	
At 1 January Profit and loss account - charge/(credit) for year	31	31	714	701	
	-	-	(1)	13	
At 31 December	£ 31 ==	£ 31	£ 713	£ 714	
Total provisions for liabilities and charges included in the financial statements Potential amounts of deferred tax are as follows:	£ 82 ==	£ 82 ==	£ 764 ===	£ 765 ===	
Provided above Plant and other timing differences Capital gains rolled over	13 18 	13 18 	695 18 713	696 18 714	
Not provided above Revaluations of properties included with fixed assets Capital gains rolled over	9 - £ 40 ==	9 - 40	21 10 £ 744 ===	21 10 £ 745	

16	Called up share capital	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
	Authorised: 5,000,000 ordinary shares of 10p each	£ 500	£ 500
	Allotted, issued and fully paid: 1,099,000 ordinary shares of 10p each	£ 110	£ 110
17	Capital reserves		

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	Сощ	oany	Group	
	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
Surplus arising from revaluation of freehold land and buildings				
in 1983	31	31	31	31
Arising from the acquisition of a former subsidiary	88	88	88	88
Realised after tax profit on sale of land in November 1983	54	54	54	54 122
Reserve arising on consolidation	••	-	127	127
	£ 173 ===	£ 173	£ 300	£ 300

18 Profit and loss account

	Company		Gr	Group	
	1993	1992	1993	1992	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
At 1 January	903	860	2,665	2,047	
Retained profit for the year	133	43	466	618	
At 31 December	£ 1,036	£ 903	£ 3,131	£ 2,665	

19 Reconciliation of movements on shareholders' funds

	Company		Gr	Group	
	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	
Profit for the financial year					
after taxation	178	283	511	858	
Dividends	(45)	(240)	(45)	(240)	
	133	43	466	618	
Shareholders' funds at 1 January	1,275	1,232	3,164	2,546	
		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			
Shareholders' funds at					
31 December	£ 1,408	£ 1,275	£ 3,630	£ 3,164	

20 Pension commitments and contingencies

The group operates defined contribution pension schemes. The assets of the schemes are held separately in independently administered funds. The pension cost charge for the year was £286,270 (1992: £498,353). Contributions prepaid at 31 December 1993 of £2,118 (1992: £2,118) are included in prepayments and outstanding contributions of £4,000 (1992: £4,000) are included in accruals.

The company has provided guarantees in respect of contracts undertaken by by the subsidiary company, and in respect of finance facilities.

The subsidiary company has guaranteed banking facilities for one of its subsidiary companies.

Capital commitments

At 31 December there were capital commitments as follows:

	Company		Group	
	1993 £'000	1992 £'000	1993 £'000	1992 £'000
Authorised and contracted for	£	£ -	£ 966	£ -
Authorised but not contracted for	£ -	£ –	£ -	£ –

21 Subsidiary company

The share capital of the following subsidiary company is owned by the company:

C A Blackwell (Contracts) Limited 168,000 £1 ordinary shares (representing 75% ownership)

Registered in England and Wales Engineering and earth moving contractors