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Report of the Directors and

Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

for

BIB (Darlington) Limited

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Company Information for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

DIRECTORS:

M P Littleton

C D Carter P Atkinson B Jackson A S Keep

SECRETARY:

P Atkinson

REGISTERED OFFICE:

154 Northgate

Darlington Co. Durham DL1 1QU

REGISTERED NUMBER:

1600910 (England and Wales)

AUDITORS:

Clive Owen & Co Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors 140 Coniscliffe Road

Darlington Co. Durham DL3 7RT

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 October 2000.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of insurance broking and independent financial advisor.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The results for the year and financial position of the company are as shown in the annexed financial statements.

DIVIDENDS

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 31 October 2000.

DIRECTORS

The directors during the year under review were:

M P Littleton

C D Carter

P Atkinson

B Jackson

A S Keep

The beneficial interests of the directors holding office on 31 October 2000 in the issued share capital of the company were as follows:

	31.10.00	1.11.99
Ordinary £1 shares		
M P Littleton	4,000	4,000
C D Carter	3,000	3,000
P Atkinson	3,000	3,000
B Jackson	· -	· -
A S Keep	· -	_

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

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 company and of the profit or loss of the 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;
- 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 company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements 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.

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

AUDITORS

The auditors, Clive Owen & Co, will be proposed for re-appointment in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

P Atkinson - DIRECTOR

Dated: 26 February 2001

Report of the Auditors to the Shareholders of BIB (Darlington) Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages five to sixteen which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page ten.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page two the 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 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 company's affairs as at 31 October 2000 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Clive Owen & Co

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors

ame Over + Co

140 Coniscliffe Road Darlington

Co. Durham DL3 7RT

Dated: 26 February 2001

Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

		2000	1999
	Notes	£	£
TURNOVER		1,202,258	1,206,138
Administrative expenses		1,184,187	1,181,524
OPERATING PROFIT	3	18,071	24,614
Interest receivable and similar income		13,691 31,762	19,344 43,958
Interest payable and similar charges	4	94	2,096
PROFIT ON ORDINARY AC BEFORE TAXATION	TIVITIES	31,668	41,862
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	5,640	13,243
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCI AFTER TAXATION	IAL YEAR	26,028	28,619
Retained profit brought forward		137,585	108,966
RETAINED PROFIT CARRI	ED FORWARD	£163,613	£137,585

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the current and previous years.

TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the profits for the current and previous years.

Balance Sheet 31 October 2000

		200	00	199	9
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS:					
Intangible assets	6		-		2,228
Tangible assets	7		22,113		48,103
Investments	8		1,308		1,308
			23,421		51,639
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Debtors	9	817,593		511,050	
Cash at bank and in hand		336,090		412,571	
		1,153,683		923,621	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling					
due within one year	10	923,491		<u>797,675</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS:			230,192		125,946
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES:			253,613		177,585
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES:	11		80,000		30,000
AND CHARGES.	11		30,000		30,000
			£173,613		£147,585
CAPITAL AND RESERVES:					
Called up share capital	12		10,000		10,000
Profit and loss account			163,613		137,585
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS:	15		£173,613		£147,585

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

M P Lattleton - DIRECTOR

P Atkinson - DIRECTOR

Approved by the Board on 26 February 2001

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

		2000		1999)
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	1		(84,839)		166,480
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	2		13,597		17,248
Taxation			(12,678)		(22,766)
Capital expenditure	2		13,500		(2,100)
			(70,420)		158,862
Financing	2		(6,061)		(27,440)
(Decrease)/Increase in cash in the per	iod		£(76,481)		£131,422
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds	3				
(Decrease)/Increase in cash in the period Cash outflow		(76,481)		131,422	
from decrease in debt and lease financing		6,061		27,440	
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows			(70,420)		158,862
Movement in net funds in the period Net funds at 1 November			(70,420) 406,510		158,862 247,648
Net funds at 31 October			£336,090		£406,510

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

1. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH (OUTFLOW)/INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2000	1999
	£	£
Operating profit	18,071	24,614
Depreciation charges	17,008	45,057
Profit on sale of fixed assets	(2,290)	(5,277)
Increase in provisions	30,000	30,000
Increase in debtors	(306,543)	(73,793)
Increase in creditors	<u> 158,915</u>	145,879
Net cash (outflow)/inflow		
from operating activities	(84,839)	166,480
from operating activities	(04,037)	100,400
ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FOR HEADINGS NETTED IN THE CAS	H FLOW STATE	EMENT
	2000	1999
	2000 £	1999 £
	*	2
Returns on investments and		
servicing of finance		
Interest received	13,691	19,344
Interest element of hire purchase	·	
or finance lease rentals payments	(94)	(2,096)
Net cash inflow		
for returns on investments and servicing of finance	<u>13,597</u>	<u>17,248</u>
Capital expenditure		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	_	(10,323)
Sale of tangible fixed assets	13,500	8,223
Sale of tanglole fixed assets	15,500	
Net cash inflow/(outflow)		
for capital expenditure	13,500	(2,100)
		
Financing	(6.061)	(07 440)
Loan repayments in year	<u>(6,061</u>)	<u>(27,440</u>)

2.

Net cash outflow from financing

(27,440)

(6,061)

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

3. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.11.99 £	Cash flow £	At 31.10.00 £
Net cash: Cash at bank and in hand	412,571	(76,481)	336,090
	412,571	<u>(76,481</u>)	336,090
Debt:			
Hire purchase or finance leases	(6,061)	6,061	
	(6,061)	6,061	
Total	406,510	(70,420)	336,090
Analysed in Balance Sheet			
Cash at bank and in hand Hire purchase or finance leases	412,571		336,090
within one year	(6,061)		
	406,510		336,090

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Turnover

Turnover represents commissions receivable in respect of policies incepted during the year. Provisions are made for clawback of commissions earned on an indemnity basis.

Goodwill

Goodwill, being the amount paid in connection with the acquisition of a business in 1997, is being written off evenly over its estimated useful life of three years.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful

Office equipment

- 10% - 33% on cost

Motor vehicles

- 25% on cost

Deferred taxation

Provision is made at current rates for taxation deferred in respect of all material timing differences except to the extent that, in the opinion of the directors, there is reasonable probability that the liability will not arise in the foreseeable future.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts or finance leases are capitalised in the balance sheet. Those held under hire purchase contracts are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Those held under finance leases are depreciated over their estimated useful lives or the lease term, whichever is the shorter.

The interest element of these obligations is charged to the profit and loss account over the relevant period. The capital element of the future payments is treated as a liability.

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. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the profit and loss account.

Investments

Investments are stated at cost less provision for any permanent diminution in value.

2. STAFF COSTS

	2000	1999
Wages and salaries	£ 649,172	636,441
Wages and salaries Other pension costs	48,184	33,089
	697,356	669,530

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

2. STAFF COSTS - continued

	The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:	2000	1999
		2000	1999
	Management Administration	5 <u>44</u>	5 <u>42</u>
		<u>49</u>	<u>47</u>
3.	OPERATING PROFIT		
	The operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	Other operating leases Depreciation - owned assets	2000 £ 72,752 14,780	1999 £ 72,568 4,342
	Depreciation - assets on hire purchase contracts or finance leases Profit on disposal of fixed assets Goodwill written off Auditors' remuneration	(2,290) 2,228 4,113	32,491 (5,277) 8,224 3,525
	Directors' emoluments Directors' pension contributions to money purchase schemes	109,666 	138,048
	The number of directors to whom retirement benefits were accruing was as follow	s:	
	Money purchase schemes	_5	_5
4.	INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES	2000	1999
	Hire purchase interest Finance lease interest	£ 94 — 94	£ 1,884 212 2,096
5.	TAXATION		
	The tax charge on the profit on ordinary activities for the year was as follows:	2000	1999
	UK corporation tax Prior year overprovision	£ 5,640 ————————————————————————————————————	£ 12,473 <u>770</u>
		5,640	13,243

UK corporation tax has been charged at 20% (1999 - 20.42%).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

6.	INTANGIBLE	FIXED	ASSETS
υ.	TITITION	1 1 12 2 1 1 1 2	AUGULIU

7.

			Goodwill
			£
COST:			
At 1 November 1999			24.672
and 31 October 2000			24,672
AMORTISATION:			
At 1 November 1999			22,444
Charge for year			2,228
At 31 October 2000			24,672
NET BOOK VALUE:			
At 31 October 2000			
At 31 October 1999			2,228
TANCIDI E EIVED ACCETO			
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Office	Motor	
	equipment	vehicles	Totals
			
	£	£	£
COST:	101 455	67.007	240.444
At 1 November 1999 Disposals	181,457	67,987 (67,987)	249,444 (67,987)
Disposais		(07,587)	(07,787)
At 31 October 2000	181,457	-	181,457
DEPRECIATION:			
At 1 November 1999	152,826	48,515	201,341
Charge for year	6,518	8,262	14,780
Eliminated on disposals	<u></u>	(56,777)	(56,777)
At 31 October 2000	159,344		159,344
NET BOOK VALUE:			
At 31 October 2000	22,113	-	22,113
At 31 October 1999	28,631	19,472	48,103

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

8.

Fixed assets, included in the above, which are held under hire purchase contracts or finance leases are as follows:

	Office equipment	Motor vehicles	Totals
	£	£	£
COST: At 1 November 1999 Transferred to ownership	46,500 (46,500)	69,137 (69,137)	115,637 (115,637)
At 31 October 2000			
DEPRECIATION: At 1 November 1999 Transferred to ownership	42,679 (42,679)	35,457 (35,457)	78,136 (78,136)
At 31 October 2000			
NET BOOK VALUE: At 31 October 2000			<u> </u>
At 31 October 1999	3,821	33,680	37,501
FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS			
COST:			£
At 1 November 1999 and 31 October 2000			1,308
NET BOOK VALUE: At 31 October 2000			1,308
At 31 October 1999			1,308
		2000 £	1999 £
Unlisted investments		1,308	1,308

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

9. **DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING**DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		2000	1999
		£	£
		~	~
	Trade debtors	568,480	473,087
	Other debtors	750	3,075
	Prepayments & accrued income	10,801	24,303
	Directors' loan account	2,000	24,303
	Due from related undertakings	235,562	10.505
	Due from related undertaknigs	255,502	10,585
		817,593	511,050
10.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING		
	DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		2000	1999
		£	£
	Trade creditors - insurance	841,575	702,931
	Trade creditors - others	12,709	17,594
	Hire purchase obligations	-	6,061
	Taxation and social security	27,621	25,468
	Corporation tax	5,640	12,678
	Accruals & deferred income	35,946	32,943
	Activals & deserred income		32,943
		923,491	797,675
11.	PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES		
		2000	1999
		£	£
	Compensation provision	80,000	30,000
			Other
			Provision
			£
	Balance at 1 November 1999		
			30,000
	Transfer from profit		50,000
	and loss account		50,000
	Balance at 31 October 2000		80,000
			

The provision represents an amount provided in respect of potential claims arising from a review of pension transactions as required by the Financial Services Authority.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

12. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	Authorised:				
	Number:	Class:	Nominal value:	2000 £	1999 £
	21,000	Ordinary	£1	21,000	21,000
	Allotted, issue	ed and fully paid:			
	Number:	Class:	Nominal value:	2000 £	1999 £
	10,000	Ordinary	£1	10,000	10,000
13.	CAPITAL C	OMMITMENTS			
				2000 £	1999 £
	Contracted bu	it not provided for in the		~	~
	financial state			<u>=</u>	<u>-</u>

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases in respect of motor vehicles and office equipment are as follows:-

	2000	199 9
Expiry date		
Within one year	£6,554	£34,356
Within one to two years	£29,547	£14,283
Within two to five years	£48,403	-
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		

14. TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS

The following loans to directors subsisted during the year:

	2000 £	1999 £
B Jackson		
Balance outstanding at start of year	-	-
Balance outstanding at end of year	2,000	-
Maximum balance outstanding during year	2,000	

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The company trades on a regular basis with BIB Underwriters Limited on an insurance broker/underwriter relationship, at arm's length. The balance due to BIB Underwriters Limited, included in insurance creditors, at 31 October 2000 was £113,435. The company also rents part of the premises owned by BIB Underwriters Limited, the rental charge in the year being £27,000. There was also a loan outstanding from this company at 31 October 2000 of £235,562. BIB Underwriters Limited is controlled by the shareholders of BIB (Darlington) Limited.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2000

15. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	2000 £	1999 £
Profit for the financial year	<u>26,028</u>	28,619
Net addition to shareholders' funds Opening shareholders' funds	26,028 147,585	28,619 118,966
Closing shareholders' funds	173,613	147,585
Equity interests	173,613	147,585