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Company Registration No. 02013228 (England and Wales)

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED
ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

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ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

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ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

The director presents his report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2008.

Principal activities and review of the business

The principal activity of the company continued to be that of publishing.

The company has maintained its gross profit margins and has had another profitable year. The turnover has increased and same trend is expected in next financial year.

Ashgate Publishing Limited's principal financial instruments comprise bank balances, bank overdrafts, investments, trade debtors and trade creditors. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds for the company's operations and to finance them.

Due to the nature of financial instruments used by the company there is no exposure to price risk other than with some of the investments it holds. The company's approach to managing other risks applicable to the financial instruments concerned is shown below:

In respect of bank balances the liquidity risk is managed by maintaining a balance between the continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of overdrafts at floating rates of interest. The company makes use of money market facilities where funds are available.

Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow risk by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits. A third party distributor is used to manage a large proportion of the company's sales.

Trade creditors liquidity risk is managed by ensuring sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

Ashgate Publishing Limited has an overseas subsidiary in the USA and has a number of overseas customers. It is therefore, subject to currency risk because of the movements in foreign exchange rates. It also holds investments in currencies other than sterling and therefore these investments are also at risk from exchange rate movements. This is managed by reviewing the exchange rate movements when investments are transferred into sterling and maintaining a balanced portfolio of investments.

The directors consider the year end position to be satisfactory.

Results and dividends

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

The director does not recommend payment of an ordinary dividend.

Future developments

The directors will continue to expand the business by sourcing more authors and by updating existing titles.

Director

The following director has held office since 1 July 2007:

N. A. E. Farrow

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

Charitable donations	2008 £	2007 £
During the year the company made the following payments:		
Charitable donations	<u>4,645</u>	<u>11,632</u>

Auditors

The auditors, Fisher Phillips, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Director's responsibilities

The director is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the director to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the director has elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to 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 director is 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 director is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable him to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. He is 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.

Statement of disclosure to auditors

So far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the director has taken all the necessary steps that he ought to have taken as director in order to make himself aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

By order of the board

X



X

D. P. Wise

Secretary

19 March 2009

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED UNDER SECTION 247B OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

We have examined the abbreviated accounts set out on pages 4 to 16, together with the financial statements of Ashgate Publishing Limited for the year ended 30 June 2008 prepared under section 226 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report is made solely to the company in accordance with Section 247B of the Companies Act 1985. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report on abbreviated accounts 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, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the director and auditors

The director is responsible for preparing the abbreviated accounts in accordance with section 246A of the Companies Act 1985. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion as to whether the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with section 246A(3) of the Act to the Registrar of Companies and whether the abbreviated accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with that provision and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2006/3 "The special auditor's report on abbreviated accounts in the United Kingdom" issued by the Auditing Practices Board. In accordance with that Bulletin we have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to confirm, by reference to the financial statements, that the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts and that the abbreviated accounts to be delivered are properly prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the company is entitled to deliver abbreviated accounts prepared in accordance with section 246A(3) of the Companies Act 1985, and the abbreviated accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with that provision.



Fisher Phillips

19 March 2009

**Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor**

Summit House
170 Finchley Road
London NW3 6BP

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

ABBREVIATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	Notes	2008 £	2007 £
Gross profit		5,447,852	5,054,135
Administrative expenses		(4,986,527)	(4,354,329)
Operating profit	2	461,325	699,806
Investment income	3	6,328	-
Other interest receivable and similar income		13,768	64,851
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		481,421	764,657
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	(113,383)	(117,096)
Profit for the year	14	368,038	647,561

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.

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

ABBREVIATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2008

	Notes	2008 £	£	2007 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6	549,710		596,587	
Investments	7	452,131		452,131	
			1,001,841		1,048,718
Current assets					
Stocks	8	1,508,353		1,599,262	
Debtors	9	8,032,709		7,837,637	
Investments	10	1,270,420		857,451	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,023,905		956,721	
		11,835,387		11,251,071	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(3,200,356)		(3,030,955)	
Net current assets			8,635,031		8,220,116
Total assets less current liabilities			9,636,872		9,268,834
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	13	1,701,000		1,701,000	
Profit and loss account	14	7,935,872		7,567,834	
Shareholders' funds	15	9,636,872		9,268,834	

These abbreviated accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to medium-sized companies.

Approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 19 March 2009


N. A. E. Farrow
Director

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	£	2008 £	£	2007 £
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		805,812		(850,080)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance				
Interest received	13,722		56,353	
Net cash inflow for returns on investments and servicing of finance		13,722		56,353
Taxation		(312,788)		69,674
Capital expenditure				
Payments to acquire tangible assets	(91,924)		(168,817)	
Receipts from sales of tangible assets	-		1,281,950	
Net cash (outflow)/inflow for capital expenditure		(91,924)		1,113,133
Equity dividends paid		-		(119,070)
Net cash inflow before management of liquid resources and financing		414,822		270,010
Management of liquid resources				
Current asset investments	(412,969)		(211,937)	
Bank deposits	145,257		306,840	
		(267,712)		94,903
Increase in cash in the year		147,110		364,913

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

1	Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	2008	2007
		£	£
	Operating profit	461,325	699,806
	Depreciation of tangible assets	138,801	150,995
	Profit on disposal of tangible assets	-	(657,278)
	Decrease in stocks	90,909	93,617
	Increase in debtors	(188,698)	(1,902,444)
	Increase in creditors within one year	303,475	765,224
	Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	805,812	(850,080)

2	Analysis of net funds	1 July 2007	Cash flow	Other non-cash changes	30 June 2008
		£	£	£	£
	Net cash:				
	Cash at bank and in hand	811,464	212,441	-	1,023,905
	Bank overdrafts	(343,200)	(65,331)	-	(408,531)
		<u>468,264</u>	<u>147,110</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>615,374</u>
	Liquid resources:				
	Current asset investments	857,451	412,969	-	1,270,420
	Bank deposits	145,257	(145,257)	-	-
		<u>1,002,708</u>	<u>267,712</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,270,420</u>
	Net funds	1,470,972	414,822	-	1,885,794

3	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds	2008	2007
		£	£
	Increase in cash in the year	147,110	364,913
	Cash (outflow)/inflow from (increase)/decrease in liquid resources	267,712	(94,903)
	Movement in net funds in the year	414,822	270,010
	Opening net funds	1,470,972	1,200,962
	Closing net funds	1,885,794	1,470,972

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Compliance with accounting standards

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), which have been applied consistently (except as otherwise stated).

1.3 Turnover

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

1.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land 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 Freehold	Over 50 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Various- Straight line over the life of the asset
Motor vehicles	Various-Straight line over the life of the asset

1.5 Investments

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

Current asset investments are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.6 Stock and work in progress

Stock and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after allowing for obsolete and slow-moving items. Cost includes all direct expenditure and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.7 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are charged to the profit and loss account in the year they are payable.

The regular cost of providing retirement pensions and related benefits is charged to the profit and loss account over employee's services lives on the basis of a constant percentage of earnings. Any difference between the charge to the profit and loss account and the contributions paid to the scheme is shown as an asset or liability in the balance sheet.

1.8 Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided in full in respect of taxation deferred by timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. The deferred tax balance has not been discounted.

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. All differences are taken to profit and loss account.

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Group accounts

The financial statements present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group. The company and its subsidiary undertaking comprise a medium-sized group. The company has therefore taken advantage of the exemptions provided by section 248 of the Companies Act 1985 not to prepare group accounts.

2 Operating profit	2008 £	2007 £
Operating profit is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible assets	138,801	150,995
Loss on foreign exchange transactions	34,067	32,793
Auditors' remuneration (including expenses and benefits in kind)	39,000	39,000
and after crediting:		
Profit on disposal of tangible assets	-	(657,278)

3 Investment income	2008 £	2007 £
Income from fixed asset investments	6,328	-
Bank interest	13,722	55,761
Other interest	46	9,090
	<u>20,096</u>	<u>64,851</u>

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

4	Taxation	2008 £	2007 £
	Domestic current year tax		
	U.K. corporation tax	113,383	112,788
	Adjustment for prior years	-	4,308
	Current tax charge	<u>113,383</u>	<u>117,096</u>
	Factors affecting the tax charge for the year		
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>481,421</u>	<u>764,657</u>
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation multiplied by standard rate of UK corporation tax of 29.50% (2007 - 30.00%)	<u>142,019</u>	<u>229,397</u>
	Effects of:		
	Non deductible expenses	1,549	2,732
	Depreciation add back	40,946	45,298
	Capital allowances	(39,018)	(40,050)
	Tax losses utilised	(32,113)	(22,300)
	Adjustments to previous periods	-	4,308
	Chargeable disposals	-	(88,925)
	Directors'/participants' remuneration adjustment	-	(13,364)
		<u>(28,636)</u>	<u>(112,301)</u>
	Current tax charge	<u>113,383</u>	<u>117,096</u>
5	Dividends	2008 £	2007 £
	Ordinary interim paid	<u>-</u>	<u>119,070</u>

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings Freehold £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 July 2007	413,353	817,480	159,898	1,390,731
Additions	-	69,515	22,409	91,924
At 30 June 2008	413,353	886,995	182,307	1,482,655
Depreciation				
At 1 July 2007	57,869	643,107	93,168	794,144
Charge for the year	8,267	105,893	24,641	138,801
At 30 June 2008	66,136	749,000	117,809	932,945
Net book value				
At 30 June 2008	347,217	137,995	64,498	549,710
At 30 June 2007	355,484	174,373	66,730	596,587

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

7 Fixed asset investments

	Shares in participating interests £	Shares in group undertakings £	Loans to group undertakings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 July 2007 & at 30 June 2008	205,020	200,244	46,867	452,131
Net book value				
At 30 June 2008	205,020	200,244	46,867	452,131
At 30 June 2007	205,020	200,244	46,867	452,131

Holdings of more than 20%

The company holds more than 20% of the share capital of the following companies:

Company	Country of registration or incorporation	Class	Shares held %
Subsidiary undertakings			
Gower Publishing Limited	England	Ordinary	99.00
Hiveview Limited	England	Ordinary	100.00
Dartmouth Publishing Limited	England	Ordinary	20.00
Ashgate Publishing Company Inc.	USA	Ordinary	100.00

The aggregate amount of capital and reserves and the results of these undertakings for the last relevant financial year were as follows:

		Capital and reserves 2008 £	Profit/(loss) for the year 2008 £
	Principal activity		
Gower Publishing Limited	Publishing	107,921	(102,688)
Hiveview Limited	Property Investment	69,256	(2,734)
Dartmouth Publishing Limited	Publishing	2,722,908	155,050
Ashgate Publishing Company Inc.	Publishing	(93,575)	(30,789)

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

8	Stocks and work in progress	2008 £	2007 £
	Work in progress	169,883	147,739
	Finished goods and goods for resale	1,338,470	1,451,523
		<u>1,508,353</u>	<u>1,599,262</u>

9	Debtors	2008 £	2007 £
	Trade debtors	3,712,572	3,594,330
	Amounts owed by subsidiary undertakings	714,648	573,459
	Other debtors	3,406,409	3,463,784
	Prepayments and accrued income	199,080	206,064
		<u>8,032,709</u>	<u>7,837,637</u>

10	Current asset investments	2008 £	2007 £
	Listed investments	<u>1,270,420</u>	<u>857,451</u>
	Market valuation of listed investments	<u>1,469,016</u>	<u>1,196,971</u>

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2008 £	2007 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	408,531	343,200
Trade creditors	1,331,399	1,367,491
Amounts owed to subsidiary undertakings	171,660	39,664
Corporation tax	(86,617)	112,788
Other taxes and social security costs	119,165	146,914
Director's current accounts	737	-
Other creditors	833,591	671,236
Accruals and deferred income	421,890	349,662
	<u>3,200,356</u>	<u>3,030,955</u>

The bank overdraft is secured by a fixed and floating charge over the company's assets.

12 Pension and other post-retirement benefit commitments

Defined contribution

	2008 £	2007 £
Contributions payable by the company for the year	<u>162,465</u>	<u>143,001</u>

13 Share capital

	2008 £	2007 £
Authorised		
5,000,000 Ordinary of £1 each	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
1,701,000 Ordinary of £1 each	<u>1,701,000</u>	<u>1,701,000</u>

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

14 Statement of movements on profit and loss account

	Profit and loss account £
Balance at 1 July 2007	7,567,834
Profit for the year	368,038
Balance at 30 June 2008	<u>7,935,872</u>

15 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	2008 £	2007 £
Profit for the financial year	368,038	647,561
Dividends	-	(119,070)
Net addition to shareholders' funds	<u>368,038</u>	<u>528,491</u>
Opening shareholders' funds	9,268,834	8,740,343
Closing shareholders' funds	<u>9,636,872</u>	<u>9,268,834</u>

16 Director's emoluments

	2008 £	2007 £
Emoluments for qualifying services	<u>62,000</u>	<u>102,050</u>

17 Transactions with directors

The following directors had interest free loans during the year. The movement on these loans are as follows:

	Amount outstanding		Maximum
	2008	2007	in year
	£	£	£
Director's current account (debit bal)	<u>-</u>	<u>137,463</u>	<u>137,463</u>

The overdrawn loan account was repaid on the 17 July 2007. Interest has been charged at the rate of 8% per annum from the commencement of the loan on 13 June 2007.

ASHGATE PUBLISHING LIMITED

NOTES TO THE ABBREVIATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

18 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees (including directors) during the year was:

	2008 Number	2007 Number
Marketing	30	29
Production	12	10
Administration	22	22
Editorial	55	54
Distribution	7	7
	<u>126</u>	<u>122</u>

Employment costs

	2008 £	2007 £
Wages and salaries	2,208,730	2,449,200
Social security costs	328,048	328,267
Other pension costs	162,465	143,001
	<u>2,699,243</u>	<u>2,920,468</u>

19 Auditors' Ethical Standards

In common with many businesses of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

20 Ultimate parent company

The company is controlled by Mr N.A.E. Farrow and his family, who together own 100% of the issued share capital.