REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended

31 MARCH 2001

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COMPANY DIRECTORY

INCORPORATION NUMBER

2218928

DIRECTORS

A J Arkwright V A Cazalet B J Collins P I Espenhahn S C Farr P H R Gwyn

T N Heywood-Lonsdale

W O Lebus J S Pethick D Jago S Harrison M P Saunders

SECRETARY

A W Hibbert

REGISTERED OFFICE

113 Regents Park Road

London NW1 8UR

BANKERS

National Westminster Bank plc

Buckingham Branch

2 Market Hill Buckingham MK18 1JS

AUDITORS

Smith & Williamson Chartered Accountants No 1 Riding House Street

London W1A 3AS

SOLICITORS

Macfarlanes
10 Norwich Street

London EC4A 1BD

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report on the affairs of the group, together with the accounts and auditors' report for the year ended 31 March 2001.

Principal activities and business review

The principal activities of the group continue to be the importation and distribution of wine.

Turnover had increased by 8.1% from £19,868,873 to £21,473,085. The operating profit for the year was £73,084 (2000: £484,474), whilst the loss after taxation was £86,958 (2000: profit £250,564). The directors expect a return to profitability in the current financial year.

The directors do not recommend a final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2001 (2000: 8p).

Directors and their interests

The directors who served during the year and their interests in the shares of the company, are shown below:

	Ordinary shares of £1 each		
	Options (see note 15)	31 March 2001	31 March 2000
A J Arkwright	-	75,000	75,000
V A Cazalet	-	20,000	20,000
B J Collins	-	251,000	301,000
P I Espenhahn	-	-	-
S C Farr	-	212,429	158,807
PHR Gwyn	-	60,000	60,000
T N Heywood-Lonsdale	4,000	180,000	180,000
W O Lebus		56,000	40,000
J S Pethick	-	64,404	64,404
D Jago – appointed 20 June 2000	12,500	, -	, -
S Harrison – appointed 20 June 2000	10,000	_	_
M P Saunders	14,000	65,619	65,619

During the year ended 31 March 2001, Mr T N Heywood-Lonsdale had a non-beneficial interest as trustee in 1,800 ordinary shares. The increase in certain of the directors' shareholdings relates to the exercise of options and purchase of shares.

Fixed assets

The directors consider that the freehold land and buildings, which are included in the accounts at the book value of £900,000, had a market value in excess of £900,000 at 31 March 2001.

Share issue

On 22 May 2000, the company issued 16,000 new shares at £1 per share in satisfaction of the exercise of options under the company's share option scheme.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Charitable donations

During the year the company made charitable donations of £ 2,652 (2000: £Nil).

Auditors

A resolution to reappoint Smith & Williamson as auditors will be proposed at the next Annual General Meeting.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

A W Hibbert SECRETARY

113 Regents Park Road London NW1 8UR

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE 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 or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those accounts, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standard have been followed, subject to any material departure 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 for the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Smith & Williamson

Independent auditors' report to the shareholders of Bibendum Wine Limited

We have audited the accounts of Bibendum Wine Limited for the year ended 31 March 2001 on pages 7 to 20. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets and the accounting policies set out therein.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to audit the accounts in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the accounts give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the accounts, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if the information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations 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 the company's affairs as at 31 March 2001 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1982.

Smith & Williamson

Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditors

1 Riding House Street

London

W1A 3AS

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001

	Notes	2001 £	(As restated Note 23) 2000 £
Turnover	2	21,473,085	19,868,873
Cost of sales		(16,837,351)	(15,374,440)
Gross profit		4,635,734	4,494,443
Administrative expenses		(1,555,323)	(1,397,186)
Selling and distribution costs		(3,159,330)	(2,752,181)
Other operating income		152,003	139,408
Operating profit	3	73,084	484,474
Other interest receivable and similar income	4	2,515	6,315
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(155,140)	(131,101)
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation		(79,541)	359,688
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	7	(7,417)	(109,124)
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities after taxation		(86,958)	250,564
Dividend	8	(1,280)	(99,092)
Retained (loss)/profit for the year	16	(88,238)	151,472

All of the group's operations are classed as continuing. Other than the gains and losses included in the above profit and loss account, £94,974 has been recognised as a prior period adjustment.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEETS as at 31 MARCH 2001

		Gro	опр	Com	pany
	Notes		(As restated	•	(As restated
		2001 £	Note 23) 2000 £	2001 £	Note 23) 2000 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9	1,259,360	1,412,794	359,360	512,794
Investments	10	160,500	110,500	1,060,504	1,010,504
		1,419,860	1,523,294	1,419,864	1,523,298
Current assets					- 1000
Stock	11	2,185,448	1,738,543	2,185,448	1,738,543
Debtors	12	4,341,297	4,996,092	4,341,297	4,996,092
		6,526,745	6,734,635	6,526,745	6,734,635
Creditors: amounts falling					
due within one year	13	(5,554,272)	(5,723,358)	(5,554,276)	(5,723,362)
Net current assets		972,473	1,011,277	972,469	1,011,273
Total assets less current liabilities		2,392,333	2,534,571	2,392,333	2,534,571
			,	, ,	•
Creditors: falling due after more than one year	14	(572,538)	(642,538)	(572,538)	(642,538)
Net assets		1,819,795	1,892,033	1,819,795	1,892,033
		-,,			
Capital and reserves	,				
Called up share capital	15	1,296,150	1,280,150	1,296,150	1,280,150
Revaluation reserve		200,000	200,000	-	<u>-</u>
Profit and loss account	16	323,645	411,883	523,645	611,883
Shareholders' funds	17	1,819,795	1,892,033	1,819,795	1,892,033

The accounts were approved by the Board of Directors on 6 June 2001 and were signed on behalf of the Board of Directors.

D Jago Director

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001

	Notes	2001 £	2000 £
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	19	532,540	(53,379)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance		-	
Interest received Interest paid		2,515 (155,140)	6,315 (132,663)
	_	(152,625)	(126,348)
Taxation			
Net tax paid		(122,918)	(4,387)
Capital expenditure	_	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets Increase in Employees' Share Option Plan		(51,903) (50,000)	(120,052)
		(101,903)	(120,052)
Cash flows before financing	_	155,094	(304,166)
Financing	_		
Share issue Repayment of bank loan Sale and Leaseback of Fixed Assets	_	16,000 (170,000) 23,037	110,000 (170,000)
		(130,963)	(60,000)
Equity dividend paid	-	(100,372)	-
Decrease in cash	20	(76,241)	(364,166)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001

1. Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

The principal accounting policies of the company and group, which remain unchanged from the previous year, are as follows:

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of land and buildings

Basis of consolidation

The group accounts consolidate the accounts of the company and all its subsidiaries made up to 31 March 2001. Goodwill arising on consolidation (representing the excess of the fair value of the consideration given over the fair value of the separable net assets acquired) is written off against reserves on acquisition.

No profit and loss account is presented for the company, as provided by S.230 of the Companies Act 1985. All the consolidated profit for the financial year attributable to the shareholders of Bibendum Wine Limited has been dealt with in the accounts of the parent company.

Tangible fixed assets

Land and buildings are shown at valuation as set out in note 9. Other fixed assets are shown at cost.

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Property improvements - 15% per annum
Office furniture and equipment - 15% per annum
Computer equipment - 33% per annum

No depreciation is provided on the freehold land and buildings. It is the group's policy to maintain its property in such condition that its value is not impaired by the passage of time. Such maintenance is charged to the profit and loss account. As a consequence, depreciation would not, in the opinion of the directors, be material and no provision has therefore been made.

Employee Share Ownership Plan

The company's accounts include the Bibendum Employee Benefit Trust. Share options exercisable into these shares will be granted to certain employees. The directors consider that the company has control of the shares held by the trust and bears their benefits and risks. Shares held by the trust are shown as 'own shares' within fixed asset investments. Amounts transferred which are awaiting investment in the company's shares are included in debtors. Administration expenses are charged to the profit and loss account as they accrue. The main features of the trust are detailed in note 10 to the accounts.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Deferred tax

Provision is made for deferred taxation, using the liability method, on all material timing differences to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallise.

Foreign currency

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the actual exchange rate on the date of the transaction or, where appropriate, at the rate of exchange of related forward foreign exchange contracts. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the year end or, where appropriate, at the rate of exchange of a related forward foreign exchange contract. Any gain or loss arising from a change in exchange rates subsequent to the date of the transaction is included as a foreign exchange gain or loss in the profit and loss account.

Turnover

Group turnover comprises the value of sales (excluding VAT) of goods and services in the normal course of business.

En primeur sales

Revenue in respect of en primeur sales is recognised when invoiced and the amount is payable by the customer. The cost of the goods to be delivered is included in cost of sales and creditors. In addition, payment has usually been made to the supplier before delivery of the goods. Payments on account have been recorded as a reduction in the related creditor.

Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for certain employees and its liability is limited to the company's element of monthly contributions. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable.

Goodwill

The company has taken advantage of the transitional provision of FRS10 Goodwill and intangible assets. Goodwill relating to acquisitions in prior years is written off directly to profit and loss reserves. Goodwill has been eliminated as a matter of accounting policy and will be charged in the profit and loss account on subsequent disposal of the business to which it relates.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

2	Turnover	2001 £	2000 £
	United Kingdom Rest of World	20,530,610 942,475	19,130,555 738,318
		21,473,085	19,868,873
3	Operating profit Operating profit is stated after charging:	£	£
	Depreciation Operating leases Auditors' remuneration Loss on disposal of fixed assets	180,443 70,482 18,000 1,857	185,995 40,413 18,000 57,944
4	Other interest receivable and similar income	£	£
	Bank interest receivable	2,515	6,315
5	Interest payable and similar charges	£	£
	On convertible unsecured loan stock 2003 On bank loans On bank overdraft	29,254 65,843 60,043	29,254 51,656 50,191
		155,140	131,101
6	Information regarding directors and employees Employee costs during the year amounted to:	£	£
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Pension costs	2,337,344 242,416 90,684	1,861,774 189,449 71,736
		2,670,444	2,122,959
		Way at	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

6 Information regarding directors and employees (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the group was as follows:

		2001	2000
	Selling and distribution Administration	54 13	55 11
		67	66
	Directors' remuneration Directors' remuneration was paid in respect of directors as follows:		
		£	£
	Aggregate emoluments (including pension contributions) Company pension contributions to money purchase schemes	560,891 48,969	446,433 36,787
	The remuneration of the highest paid director was as follows:	£	£
	Aggregate emoluments (excluding pension contributions) Company pension contributions to money purchase schemes	120,567 12,000	112,504 11,000
7	Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities		(As restated Note 23)
		£	£
	United Vinadom Comparation to for the year at 21 50/ (2000)		
	United Kingdom Corporation tax for the year at 31.5% (2000 32%)	8,680	119,904
	Over provision in respect of prior years	(1,263)	(10,780)
		7,417	109,124
8	Dividend	£	£
	Final dividend payable in respect of the year ended 31 March 2000	1,280	99,092
	=		1

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

9 Tangible fixed assets

GROUP	Total	Freehold land and buildings	Property improve- ments	Office furniture and equipment	Computer equipment
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2000 Additions Disposals	2,022,394 51,903 (28,712)	900,000	494,698 - -	263,841	363,855 51,903 (28,712)
At 31 March 2001	2,045,585	900,000	494,698	263,841	387,046
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2000 Charge for the year Disposals	609,600 180,443 (3,818)	- - -	269,095 64,964 -	147,673 22,418	192,832 93,061 (3,818)
At 31 March 2001	786,225	_	334,059	170,091	282,075
Net book value	-				
At 31 March 2001	1,259,360	900,000	160,639	93,750	104,971
At 31 March 2000	1,412,794	900,000	225,603	116,168	171,023

The directors consider the freehold land and buildings to have a market value in excess of £900,000 as at 31 March 2001. The cost to the group as at 31 March 2001 was £700,000 (2000: £700,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

9 Tangible fixed assets (continued) **Property** Office improvefurniture ments and Computer **COMPANY** Total equipment equipment £ Cost At 1 April 2000 1,122,394 494,698 263,841 363,855 Additions 51,903 51,903 Disposals (28,712)(28,712)At 31 March 2001 494,698 387,046 1,145,585 263,841 Depreciation At 1 April 2000 609,600 269,095 192,832 147,673 Charge for the year 180,443 64,964 22,418 93,061 Disposals (3,818)(3,818)At 31 March 2001 170,091 786,225 334,059 282,075 Net book value At 31 March 2001 359,360 160,639 93,750 104,971 At 31 March 2000 225,603 116,168 512,794 171,023 10 Investments held as fixed assets Group 2001 2000 £ £ Own shares held by Bibendum Employee Benefit Trust 160,500 110,500 Company 2001 2000 £ Shares in subsidiaries at cost 707,675 707,675 363,792 Loan to a subsidiary 363,792 Provision against loan (171,463)(171,463)Own shares held by Bibendum Employees Benefit Trust 160,500 110,500

1,060,504

1,010,504

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

10 Investments held as fixed assets (continued)

The company's subsidiaries are as follows:

Mixbury Trading Company Limited

The Yorkshire Fine Wine Company Limited

H Youdell and Company Limited

All subsidiaries are dormant, are incorporated in England and are wholly owned by the company.

The Bibendum Employee Benefit Trust was set up to purchase shares in the company, and with the agreement of the Board, share options exercisable into these shares will be granted to certain employees. The Trust is currently funded by cash contributions from the company.

The Bibendum Employee Benefit Trust owns 57,250 shares (2000: 41,500 shares). 49,500 shares (2000: 35,500 shares) were held under option to directors and employees.

11	Stock	Group and	(As restated
		2001 £	Note 23) 2000 £
	Goods held for resale	2,185,448	1,738,543
12	Debtors	2001 £	2000 £
	Trade debtors Corporation tax recoverable Prepayments and accrued income	4,156,503 38,416 146,378	4,839,038 28,216 128,838
		4,341,297	4,996,092

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		Group		Company	
			(As restated Note 23)		(As restated Note 23)
		2001	2000	2001	2000
		£	£	£	£
	Current portion of bank loan				
	(note 14)	70,000	170,000	70,000	170,000
	Bank overdraft	478,198	401,957	478,198	401,957
	Trade creditors	4,459,852	4,349,140	4,459,852	4,349,140
	Corporation tax Other creditors including	-	106,564	-	106,564
	taxation and social security Accruals and deferred	152,712	220,728	152,716	220,732
	income	393,510	375,877	393,510	375,877
	Dividend payable		99,092		99,092
		5,554,272	5,723,358	5,554,276	5,723,362
14	Creditors: Amounts falling du	ne after more than	n one year	Group and 2001 £	Company 2000 £
	Bank loans			280,000	350,000
	Convertible unsecured loan sto	ock 2003		292,538	292,538
				572,538	642,538
	The bank loans are repayable a due in less than one year (note			70,000	170,000
	due between one and two year			70,000	170,000
	due between two and five year	S		210,000	180,000
	due in over one year (as above)		280,000	350,000
		٠		350,000	520,000

£350,000 is repayable in equal quarterly instalments up to 2006. Interest is charged on the loan at a fixed rate of 9%. The loan is secured by way of a fixed and floating charge over the assets of the group and by an unlimited guarantee from the subsidiary Mixbury Trading Company Limited

The 10% convertible unsecured loan stock is redeemable on 25 May 2003 and the amount payable on redemption is £292,538. The stock is convertible into 292,538 ordinary £1 shares which will rank equal in all respects to the existing ordinary share capital. Conversion is at the option of the holder at any date prior to redemption date.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

Called up share capital	2001 £	2000 £
Authorised	æ.	æ.
Ordinary shares of £1 each Cumulative redeemable 2% £1 preference shares	1,500,000 110,000	1,500,000 110,000
	1,610,000	1,610,000
Allotted and fully paid Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,296,150	1,280,150

Options on shares have been issued under the Executive Share Option Scheme and the Bibendum Employee Share Option Scheme 1995 as follows:

Date of issue	Number of shares	Price	Earliest date	Latest date
16.03.1998	19,500	£3.03	16.03.2001	16.03.2005
14.09.2000	30,000	£3.19	14.09.2003	13.09.2007

The share option schemes are open to directors and employees.

16	Profit and loss account	Group £	Company £
	At 31 March 2000 Prior year adjustment (Note 23)	506,857 (94,974)	706,857 (94,974)
	As restated	411,883	611,883
	Loss for the financial year	(88,238)	(88,238)
	At 31 March 2001	323,645	523,645

Cumulative goodwill written off to group reserves amounts to £371,463 (2000 £371,463).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

17	Reconciliation of movements in shareholder's funds	Group and Company	
		2001	2000
		£	£
	(Loss)/profit for the financial year	(86,958)	250,564
	Share capital issued in the year	16,000	110,000
	Dividends	(1,280)	(99,092)
	Net (reduction)/addition to shareholders' funds	(72,238)	261,472
	Opening shareholders' funds	1,892,033	1,630,561
	Closing shareholders' funds	1,819,795	1,892,033

18 Guarantees and other financial commitments

At the balance sheet date, the company had entered into forward foreign exchange contracts with a value amounting to £5,100,997 (2000: £4,112,459).

19	Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	2001 £	2000 £
	Operating profit	73,084	484,474
	Depreciation charge	180,443	185,995
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,857	57,944
	Increase in stock	(446,905)	(481,692)
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	664,996	(799,822)
	Increase in creditors	59,065	499,722
	Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	532,540	(53,379)
20	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	£	£
	Decrease in cash in the period	(76,241)	(364,166)
	Cash outflow from loans	170,000	170,000
	Change in net debt	93,759	(194,166)
		,	(', '')
	Net debt at 1 April 2000	(1,214,495)	(1,020,329)
	Net debt at 31 March 2001	(1,120,736)	(1,214,495)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 MARCH 2001 (continued)

21 Analysis of changes in net debt during the year

	At 1 April 2000 £	Cash flows	Other changes £	At 31 March 2001 £
Cash at bank Debt due within one year Debt due after one year	(401,957) (170,000) (642,538)	(76,241) 170,000	(70,000) 70,000	(478,198) (70,000) (572,538)
	(1,214,495)	93,759	-	(1,120,736)

22 Operating leases

Bibendum Wine Limited holds motor vehicles and computer equipment on non-cancellable operating leases. The annual net commitments under these leases are as follows:

	2001 £	2000 £
Leases expiring:		
Within one year Between two and five years	3,000 73,417	42,747
	76,417	42,747

23 Prior year adjustment

A series of systems errors in the prior year resulted in stock being overstated by £142,070. This error was detected and corrected in the current year. Accordingly the comparatives have been restated by £94,974, being the charge net of corporation tax.