Directors' report and financial statements

For the year ended 28 February 1998

Registered number 2360172



Director's report and financial statements

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Directors' report

The directors submit their report and financial statements for the year ended 28 February 1998.

Principal activity

The company's principal activity is to undertake the merchandising operations relating to The Royal Shakespeare Theatre and its productions.

Business review

The company returned to profitability in the year despite a fall in turnover. The closure of the Barbican Theatre for 6 months in 1997 was the principal factor behind the lower sales. Improvements in margins and the continued control of administrative costs more than compensated for the effects of the reduction.

Future developments

It is anticiapted that the company will remain profitable in 1998/99.

Results and dividends

The operating profit for the year of £103 (loss 1997:£4,673) has been covenanted to The Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

The directors do not recomend the payment of a dividend (1997: £Nil).

Directors and directors' interests

The directors who held office during the year, are as follows:

W Weston

D Fletcher

J Pope

T Wolf

None of the directors have any beneficial interest in the shares of the company.

Directors' report (continued)

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 company's state of affairs at the end of the year and profit or loss for the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments 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 company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have a general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG as auditors of the company, is to be proposed at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

By order of the board

D Fletcher

Secretary

12 Novemeber 1998

Auditors' report to the members of RSCB Limited.

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 - 7.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 2, 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 accuracy 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 28 February 1998 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors

12 November 1998

Profit and loss account for the year ended 28 February 1998	Note	199 8 £	1997 £
Turnover - continuing operations Cost of sales	1	671,057	747,287
Gross profit		(414,213)	(487,631)
Selling and distribution costs Administrative expenses		(61,784) (194,957)	(60,911) (203,418)
Operating profit/(loss) - continuing operations	2	103	(4,673)
Gross amount covenanted to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre		(103)	-
Deficit funded by the Royal Shakespeare Theatre		-	4,673
Result for the financial year		•	-

There were no recognised gains or losses in the year and there has been no movement on total equity shareholders' funds.

Balance sheet as at 28 February 1998	Note	1998 £	1997 £
Current assets			
Stocks Debtors Cash at bank	4 5	234,274 9,883 148,894	203,059 62,983 28,222
		393,051	294,264
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(392,951)	(294,164)
Net current assets		100	100
Total assets less current liabilities		100	100
Capital and reserves			-
Called up share capital Profit and loss account	7	100 -	100
Total equity shareholders' funds		100	100

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 12 November 1998 and were signed on its behalf by:

D Fletcher

Director

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with applicable UK Accounting Standards on the basis of a going concern which assumes the continued support of the company's ultimate parent undertaking.

Turnover

Turnover represents sale of goods net of associated VAT.

Stocks

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

2	Operating profit		1998 £	1997 £
	Operating profit is stated after charging			
	- Auditors' remuneration:	audit fees non-audit fees	2,300 700	2,300 700

3 Staff numbers and costs

The company uses the services of staff emplyed by the Royal Shakespeare Theatre whose costs are recharged.

The directors received no remuneration in relation to their work for the company.

4 Stocks

	Finished goods and goods for resale	£234,274	£203,059
		* ***	
5	Debtors		
	Other debtors	£9,883	£62,983

Notes (continued)		1998 £	1997 £
6	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	Amounts owed to parent undertaking Other creditors	387,172 5,779	291,164 3,000
		£392,951	£294,164
7	Called up share capital		
	Authorised:		
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	£100	£100
	Issued and fully paid: Ordinary shares of £1 each		
		£100	£100

8 Ultimate parent undertaking

The company's ultimate parent undertaking is The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, a charity registered in England. Copies of the financial statements of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre may be obtained form the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, its principal place of business.