FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- for the year ended -

Company No: 2423039



STRAUGHANS

Chartered Accountants Suite 6, Coniston House, Town Centre, Washington, Tyne and Wear. NE38 7RN

DIRECTORS

us,

Mr C.A. Murphy Mr T.J. Ryan Mr P. Fieldhouse

SECRETARY

Mr T.J. Ryan

REGISTERED OFFICE

335 Benton Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne. NE7 7EE

AUDITORS

Straughans Chartered Accountants Suite 6, Coniston House, Town Centre, Washington, Tyne and Wear. NE38 7RN

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 30th June 1998 .

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activity of the company is that of retail pharmacists.

The directors consider the results for the year to be satisfactory.

YEAR 2000 ISSUE

Although our business uses a manual accounting system we could be affected by the systems used by our suppliers and customers. We have assessed the possibility of the year 2000 related failures in our significant suppliers, all of whom inform us that they are dealing with the problem.

It is impossible to guarantee that no year 2000 related problems will remain. However, the directors feel that the company will be able to deal properly with any failures that may occur.

DIVIDENDS

The directors have paid an interim dividend amounting to £20,000, and they do not recommend payment of a final dividend.

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors at the balance sheet date and their interests in the company at that date and at the beginning of the year (or on appointment if later), were as follows:

		Number of:	shares
	Class of share	1998	1997
Mr C.A. Murphy	Ordinary shares	333	333
Mr T.J. Ryan	Ordinary shares	333	333
Mr P. Fieldhouse	Ordinary shares	333	333

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 (Continued)

AUDITORS

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The auditors, Straughans, are willing to be reappointed in accordance with section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

By Order of the Board

Date: 20/1/99

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF CARACROWN LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 12 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements.

Respective responsibilities of the directors and auditors

As described in the Directors' Report 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 affairs of the company as at 30th June 1998 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Straughans Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Suite 6, Coniston House, Town Centre, Washington, Tyne and Wear. NE38 7RN

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Date: 22 1199

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PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1998

	Notes	1998 £	1997 £ as restated
TURNOVER		888,569	805,823
Cost of sales		(684,080)	(605,719)
GROSS PROFIT		204,489	200,104
Administrative expenses		(124,080)	(142,838)
OPERATUNG PROFIT	2	80,409	57,266
Interest payable	3	(13,131)	(13,301)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		67,278	43,965
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	(5,926)	(14,803)
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		61,352	29,162
Dividends	6	(20,000)	(20,000)
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	16	41,352	9,162

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial years.

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than those dealt with in the profit and loss account.

The notes on pages 6 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH JUNE 1998

		19	998	19	
	Notes	£	£	as re £	stated £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets Tangible assets	7 8		138,000 12,278		149,500 15,694
			150,278		165,194
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	9 10	59,661 136,591 5,135		57,691 112,391 4,696	
		201,387		174,778	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(237,240)		(232,433)	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES			(35,853)		(57,655)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			114,425		107,539
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	12		(97,187)		(131,653)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	14		(2)		(2)
			17 , 236		(24,116)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital Profit and loss account	15 16		999 16,237		999 (25,115)
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	17		17,236		(24,116)

The financial statements were approved by the board on .20. January 99 and signed on its behalf by

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Directors

The notes on pages 6 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1998

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

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

1.2 TURNOVER

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Turnover represents the total invoice value, excluding value added tax, of goods sold and services rendered during the year.

1.3 GOODWILL

The company's policy is to write off goodwill evenly over its estimated life of 20 years.

1.4 DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is provided using the following rates and bases to reduce by annual instalments the cost, less estimated residual value, of the tangible assets over their estimated useful lives:-

Leasehold property improvements
Fixtures and fittings
Office equipment

Straight line over the life of the lease 15% Reducing balance 33.5% Reducing balance

1.5 STOCKS

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

Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal.

1.6 DEFERRED TAXATION

Deferred taxation is provided where there is a reasonable probability of the amount becoming payable in the foreseeable future.

1.7 LEASING AND HIRE PURCHASE

Rentals payable under operating leases are taken to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

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	NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDE	D 30TH JUNE	1998
2.	OPERATING PROFIT	1998 £	199 7 £
	The operating profit is stated after charging:	~	~
	Depreciation Amortisation of goodwill Auditors' remuneration Operating lease rentals:	4,546 11,500 2,630	4,614 11,500 2,800
	Land and buildings	11,040	10,540
3.	INTEREST PAYABLE	1998 £	1997 £
	On bank loans and overdrafts	13,131	13,301
		13,131	13,301
4.	DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES Staff costs:	1998 £	1997 £
	Wages and salaries Social security costs	61,158 3,988	76,778 5,679
		65,146	82,457
	The average number of employees during the year was made up as follows:	Number	Number
	Directors Sales	2 8 ——	2 8 ——
		10 	10
	Directors' emoluments:	£	£
	Remuneration for management services	25,529	42,383

TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	1998 £	1997 £
The taxation charge comprises:		
U.K. corporation tax at 21% (1997 - 23%)	5,926	14,559
Adjustment in respect of prior years	5,926 -	14,559 244
	5,926	14,803
DIVIDENDS	1998 £	1997 £
Equity interests		~
Ordinary:- Interim dividend paid 30th June 1998	20,000	20,000
	20,000	20,000
INFANGIBLE ASSETS	•	Goodwill £
Cost		ح
At 1st July 1997 and At 30th June 1998		230,000
Amortisation		20 500
At 1st July 1997 Charge for year		80,500 11,500
At 30th June 1998		92,000
Net book value at 30th June 1998		138,000
Net book value at 30th June 1997		149,500

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1998

8. TANGIBLE ASSETS

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•		Land & buildings	Office equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Total
		£	£	£	£
	<u>Cost</u>				
	At 1st July 1997 Additions	20,056 -	1,687 1,130	21,477 -	43,220 1,130
	At 30th June 1998	20,056	2,817	21,477	44,350
	Depreciation				
	At 1st July 1997 Charge for year	12,502 3,126	1,525 54	13,499 1,366	27,526 4,546
	At 30th June 1998	15,628	1,579	14,865	32,072
	Net book value at 30th June 1998	4,428	1,238	6,612	12,278
	Net book value at 30th June 1997	7,554	162	7,978	15,694
				1998 £	1997 £
	Analysis of net book value of Short leasehold	f land and b	uildings:	4,428	7,554
9.	STOCKS			1998 £	1997 £
	Finished goods and goods for	resale		59,661	57,691
				59,661 ———	57,691
10.	DEBTORS			1998	1997 as restated
				£	£
	Trade debtors Other debtors Prepayments and accrued incom	ne.		127,396 8,712 483	105,622 6,252 517
	2 - 2				112,391

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1998

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	1998 £	1997 £
Bank loans and overdrafts Trade creditors Corporation tax Other taxes and social security costs Directors' current accounts Accruals and deferred income	98,702 77,195 5,926 1,516 49,610 4,291	90,764 66,411 14,559 3,998 30,420 26,281
	237,240	232,433
12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	1998 £	1997 £
Loans	97,187	131,653
	97,187	131,653
13. BORROWINGS	1998 £	1997 £
The company's borrowings are repayable as follows:		
In one year, or less or on demand Between one and two years Between two and five years In five years or more	98,702 39,372 53,453 4,362	90,764 36,966 71,511 23,176
	195,889	222,417

Details of security:

The bank loans are secured by an unscheduled mortgage debenture dated 3rd July 1990 and a legal mortgage dated 2nd July 1990 over 335 Benton Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Interest is charged on loans due in more than five years at 2% above the bank base rate.

Loans due in more than five years are repayable by instalments.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1998

14. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

Deferred tax is calculated at 21% (1997 - 23%) analysed over the following timing differences:

		Fully Provided	
		1998 £	1997 £
	On the excess of capital allowances over depreciation	2	2
		2	2
15.	SHARE CAPITAL	1998 £	1997 £
	Authorised		
	Equity interests:		
	10,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	10,000	10,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid		
	Equity interests:		
	999 Ordinary shares of £1 each	999	999
16.	PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	1998	1997
		£	£
	Retained profits at 1st July 1997 (as previously reported) Prior year adjustment	16,405 (41,520)	4,571 (38,848)
	Retained profits at 1st July 1997 (as restated)	(25,115)	(34,277)
	Retained profit for the year	41,352	9,162
	Retained profits at 30th June 1998	16,237	(25,115)

The prior year adjustment of £41,520 represents a change in the accounting treatment of advance payments received from the Pricing Prescription Authorities. All receipts are now to be treated on an earnings basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1998

17. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	1998 £	1997 £
Profit for the financial year Dividends	61,352 (20,000)	29,162 (20,000)
Shareholders' funds at 1st July 1997 Prior year adjustment	41,352 17,404 (41,520)	9,162 5,570 (38,848)
Shareholders' funds at 1st July 1997 as restated	(24,116)	(33,278)
Shareholders' funds at 30th June 1998	17,236	(24,116)
Represented by:-		
Equity interests	17,236	(24,116)
	17,236	(24,116)

18. REVENUE COMMITMENTS

The amounts payable in the next year in respect of operating leases are shown below, analysed according to the expiry date of the leases.

Land and buildings	1998 £	1997 £
Expiry date: Between one and	_	~
five years	11,040	11,040
	11,040	11,040

19. TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS

During the year the company paid £11,040(1997: £10,540) for the rent of property and £10,987(1997: £3,017) for locum fees to Mr C Murphy, a director of the company.