Registered number: 2863410

DUNHILL TOBACCO OF LONDON LIMITED

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997



DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors submit their Report and the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 1997.

Principal activity and results

The Company is actively engaged in developing the use of the Dunhill brand name on tobacco products, including licensing other Rothmans International Group companies to market tobacco products under the Dunhill trade mark.

The results for the year are set out in the profit and loss account on page 3.

Dividends

During the year the Company declared dividends totalling £8,000,000 (1996 : £7,000,000).

Directors

The directors of the Company during the year ended 31 March 1997 were:

E L Brooks

GR Thomas

E N Wingfield

P J Holmes

(appointed 18 July 1996)

T D R Peacock (resigned 18 July 1996)

Directors' interests

The interests of Mr E L Brooks and his immediate family in the shares of the Company, its parent company or its fellow subsidiaries as shown in the Register of Directors' Shareholdings kept pursuant to Section 325 of the Companies Act 1985, are disclosed in the accounts of Rothmans International Limited.

No other director or their immediate families had any notifiable interests in the shares, or in any options to subscribe for shares, in the capital of the company, its parent companies or its fellow subsidiaries.

Auditors

An elective resolution has been passed that, in accordance with Section 379A and 386 of the Companies Act 1985 (as amended), the Company would dispense with the obligation under Section 384 of the Act to appoint auditors annually.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

General Meetings

Elective resolutions have been passed in accordance with Section 379A of the Companies Act 1985 (as amended) to dispense with the laying of accounts before the Company in General Meeting (pursuant to Section 252 of the Act) and to dispense with the holding of the Annual General Meeting (pursuant to Section 366A of the Act).

On behalf of the Board

For and on behalf of Risecretaries Limited Secretary

5 September 1997

Registered Office

1a St. James's Street London SW1A 1EF

Registered Number: 2863410

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 1997

	Notes	1997 £'000	1996
Tumover			£'000
	2	14,687	13,049
Administrative expenses		(2,316)	(941)
			
Operating profit	3	12,371	12,108
Net investment income	4	310	563
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		12,681	12,671
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	5	(4,185)	(4,183)
	_		(4, 103)
Profit for the financial year attributable to sha	reholders	8,496	8,488
Dividends	6	(9.000)	
	O .	(8,000)	(7,000)
Retained profit	11	496	1 400
	• •	700	1,488
			·

The results above all relate to continuing activities of the company.

There were no recognised gains and losses other than the profit for the financial year.

BALANCE SHEET As at 31 March 1997

		19	1997		1996	
	Notes	£,000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Fixed assets						
Licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets	7		100,000		100,000	
Similar rights and assets	,		100,000		100,000	
Current assets						
Debtors	8	5,529		5,127		
Creditors: amounts falling due						
within one year	9	(3,205)		(3,299)		
•						
Net current assets			2,324		1,828	
Het Current assets						
					404.000	
Total assets less current liabilities	į	ı	102,324		101,828	
						
Capital and reserves						
Called up share capital	10		1		1	
Reserves Share premium account	11	99,999		99,999		
Profit and loss account	11	2,324		1,828		
			102,323		101,827	
			.02,020			
			102,324		101,828	

Approved by the Board of Directors on 5 September 1997 and signed on its behalf by:

E L Brooks, Director

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 31 March 1997

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared on historical cost accounting principles and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom. Information relating to significant accounting policies is set out below.

(a) Turnover

Turnover represents income related to the sale of Dunhill tobacco products.

(b) Investment income

Income from investments is included in the profit and loss account on an accruals basis.

(c) Licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets

Licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets are stated at cost, less any amounts provided for permanent diminution in value. No annual amortisation is charged in respect of these assets except where the end of the useful economic lives of the assets can be foreseen. The useful economic lives and the carrying value are reviewed annually and any amortisation or provision for permanent diminution in value charged in the profit and loss account.

(d) Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Any exchange differences, including those arising from currency conversions in the usual course of trading, are included in the profit and loss account.

(e) Taxation

Provision is made in each accounting period for all taxation expected to be payable in respect of profits earned to the end of the period.

Deferred taxation, arising from timing differences between the recognition of certain items of income and expenditure for accounting and taxation purposes is accounted for to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallise.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 31 March 1997

2. Turnover	2.	Turnover	
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The analysis of turnover by	v geographical	l destination was	as follows:
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	1997	1996
	£'000	£'000
Europe	3,678	3,550
Americas	762	671
Asia	9,088	7,713
Pacific	670	578
Southern Africa	489	537
Turnover	14,687	13,049
	** ***	

3. Operating profit

The operating profit for the year is stated after charging:

The operating promiter the year is example after exampling.	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
Auditors' remuneration	5	5

The Company had no employees during the year (1996: nil) other than the directors, but has the services of other Group employees. The directors did not receive any emoluments during the year (1996: nil) in respect of their services as directors of the Company.

4.	Net investment income	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
	Interest receivable from Group undertakings	310	563
5.	Taxation on profit on ordinary activities	1997	1996
		£'000	£'000
	United Kingdom corporation tax at 33%	4,185	4,183
	Less: relief for overseas taxation	(987)	(889)
		3,198	3,294
	Overseas taxation	987	889
		4,185	4,183
			

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 31 March 1997

			
5.	Dividends	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
	Interim dividends	8,000	7,000
	Intangible fixed assets		
	Intangible fixed assets represents Dunhill tobacco trad- cost.	e marks and licer	nces, stated
•	Debtors	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
	Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	5,529	5,127
•	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
	Corporate taxation Accruals and deferred income	3,199 6	3,293 6
		3,205	3,299
0.	Share capital		
	At 31 March 1997 and 31 March 1996 the share capita follows:	al of the Company	
	Authorised 10,000,000 Ordinary shares of 1p each		£ 100,000
			£
	Allotted, called up and fully paid 100,000 Ordinary share of 1p each		1,000

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ended 31 March 1997

11.	Reserves	Share	Profit	
		premium	and loss	
		account	account	Total
		£,000	£'000	£'000
	At 1 April 1996	99,999	1,828	101,827
	Retained profit for the year	-	496	496
				
	At 31 March 1997	99,999	2,324	102,323
				<u> </u>
12.	Reconciliation of movements in shareh	olders' funds	1997	1996
			£'000	£'000
	Profit for the financial year		8,496	8,488
	Dividends		(8,000)	(7,000)
			• 	
			496	1,488
	Opening shareholders' funds		101,828	100,340
	Closing shareholders' funds		102,324	101,828

13. Related party transactions

No transactions are disclosed due to the Company being a 100% subsidiary of Rothmans Group Holdings B.V..

14. Parent companies and controlling parties

The directors regard Compagnie Financière Richemont AG, a listed company incorporated in Switzerland, to be the ultimate parent company; shares representing 50% of the voting rights of that company are held by Compagnie Financière Rupert which, for the purposes of Financial Reporting Standard 8, is regarded by the directors as the ultimate controlling party. The directors consider that the Company is controlled, for operational purposes, by Rothmans International B.V.. At 31 March 1997 the Company's immediate parent company for which group accounts were drawn up was Rothmans Group Holdings B.V., a company incorporated in The Netherlands. Copies of the group accounts of Compagnie Financière Richemont AG are available from The Secretary, Rigistrasse 2, CH-6300 Zug, Switzerland.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The following statement, which should be read in conjunction with the auditors' statement of auditors' responsibilities set out on the next page, is made with a view to distinguishing for shareholders the respective responsibilities of the directors and of the auditors in relation to the financial statements.

The directors are required by the Companies Act 1985 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss for the financial year.

The directors consider that in preparing the financial statements on pages 3 to 8 the Company has used appropriate accounting policies, consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, and that all accounting standards which they consider to be applicable have been followed. The directors are required to use a going concern basis in preparing the financial statements unless this is inappropriate.

The directors have responsibility for ensuring that the Company keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985.

The directors have 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' REPORT

To the members of Dunhill Tobacco of London Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 3 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors.

As described on page 9 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 at 31 March 1997 and of the profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Coopers & Lybrand

Chartered Accountants and

Registered Auditors

London

5 September 1997