

Registered Number: 02961529

Usborne Trading Limited

Annual Report
&
Financial Statements

30 September 2014

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Usborne Trading Limited

Strategic Report

For the year ended 30 September 2014

The directors present their strategic report for the year ended 30 September 2014.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the company is the trading of agricultural products. Turnover can vary from year to year according to market conditions.

Review of the business, risks and uncertainties

There have been no significant changes in the circumstances of the company, and in this context the directors are satisfied with the level of net income achieved by the company during the year and with the prospects for the year in progress.

Results and key performance indicators

The audited financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2014 are set out on pages 5 to 13.

The pre-tax profit for the year is £70,857 (2013: £59,110).

The performance of the company is monitored by reference to the following key performance indicators:

- turnover
- operating profits
- profit before tax

By order of the board



R B Copus
Director

25 March 2015

Usborne Trading Limited
Directors' Report
For the year ended 30 September 2014

Results and dividend

The full results for the year are shown on page 5. No dividend is proposed (2013:£nil)

Financial instruments and risks

Details regarding the risks associated with the company's financial instruments are included in note 13. The company is also subject to risks associated with variations in the demand for and market prices of agricultural products. The company seeks to mitigate such risks by monitoring the variations and adjusting its trading activities accordingly.

Directors

The directors of the company have been as follows during the year and up to the date of this report.

R B Copus

D B Thompson

Directors' Statement of Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the strategic report, the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 these 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 a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

Statement of disclosure to Auditor

(a) So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and

(b) The directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

By order of the board



R B Copus

Director

25 March 2015

Usborne Trading Limited

Independent auditors report

To the members of Usborne Trading Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Usborne Trading Limited on pages 5 to 13 for the year ended 30 September 2014. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters that we are required to state to them in an auditor's report 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 and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Statement of Responsibilities set out on page 2, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30 September 2014 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Strategic Report and Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Usborne Trading Limited

Independent auditors report

To the members of Usborne Trading Limited (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Baker Tilly UK Audit LLP

Nick Davies (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
Baker Tilly UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

26/3/2015

Usborne Trading Limited

Profit and Loss Account

For the year ended 30 September 2014

	Notes	2014 £	2013 £
Turnover	1	1,127,401	28,020
Cost of sales		(1,100,162)	-
Gross profit		<u>27,239</u>	<u>28,020</u>
Administrative costs	2	(58,208)	(69,157)
Operating loss		<u>(30,969)</u>	<u>(41,137)</u>
Interest	3	101,826	100,247
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	4	<u>70,857</u>	<u>59,110</u>
Tax on ordinary activities	6	(15,583)	(13,884)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation and retained profit for the financial year		<u><u>55,274</u></u>	<u><u>45,226</u></u>

All results arose out of continuing operations.

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the results above, and therefore no separate statement of total gains and losses has been presented.

There are no movements on reserves other than the retained profit stated above (see note 11).

The historical cost profits and losses were the same as those disclosed above and therefore no separate statement of historical cost profits and losses has been presented.

Usborne Trading Limited

Balance Sheet at 30 September 2014

	Notes	2014 £	2013 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	8	3,249,294	3,194,143
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(2,595)	(2,718)
Net current assets		<u>3,246,699</u>	<u>3,191,425</u>
Net assets		<u>3,246,699</u>	<u>3,191,425</u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	10	500,001	500,001
Share premium account		500,000	500,000
Profit and loss account	11	2,246,698	2,191,424
Shareholders' funds	12	<u>3,246,699</u>	<u>3,191,425</u>

Company Registration No. 02961529

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 25 March 2015 and were signed on its behalf by:



R B Copus
Director

Usborne Trading Limited

Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

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

Under FRS 1 the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that a parent undertaking includes the company in its own published consolidated financial statements. In addition, advantage has been taken of the exemption available under FRS 8 not to disclose details of transactions with Thompson Investments (London) Limited or its subsidiary undertakings as the consolidated financial statements of Thompson Investments (London) Limited, in which the company is included, are publicly available.

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

Depreciation

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets is calculated by reference to cost at rates calculated to write down the relevant assets to estimated residual value over their expected useful lives, taking into account normal commercial and technical obsolescence. The annual rates are:

Office equipment	20% - 33.33%
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Turnover

Turnover represents the value, net of Value Added Tax, of goods sold to customers.

Foreign currencies

Currency transactions during the year are converted at actual rates of exchange. Currency balances at the year end have been converted to Sterling at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences arising on conversion are taken to the profit and loss account.

Pension costs

The company participates in a group defined benefit pension scheme and certain employees are members of the scheme. The method of accounting for such schemes is governed by FRS 17. FRS 17 lays down rules for the calculation and disclosure of the assets and liabilities of the entire scheme, and further details are provided in the consolidated financial statements of Thompson Investments (London) Limited, which are available from the Registrar of Companies. In view of the fact that the company is only one of a number of participating companies, however, it is not practicable to identify the company's share of the scheme assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis. In accordance with FRS 17 the company therefore accounts for its membership of the scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme, and the pension charge for the year is equal to the contributions paid (see note 5). Contribution rates are based on actuarial advice.

Contracts

In the ordinary course of business the company on occasion enters into contracts for the future delivery of agricultural products. In accordance with accepted practice, contracts in respect of futures commitments in the ordinary course of business are valued, on a contract by contract basis, at the market prices ruling on the balance sheet date. The policy on futures may on occasion represent a departure from normal statutory requirements and cause unrealised gains to be reflected in the financial statements, but the directors consider the policy to be necessary in order for the financial statements to show a true and fair view. This departure had no material effect on the company result after tax in either the current or the previous year.

Usborne Trading Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2014

1 Turnover

Turnover comprised sales within the European Union, materially all of which is within the UK.

2 Administrative costs

	2014	2013
	£	£
Employment costs (see note 5)	45,855	56,412
Depreciation	-	-
Other operating charges	12,353	12,745
	<u>58,208</u>	<u>69,157</u>
	=====	=====

3 Interest

	2014	2013
	£	£
Interest receivable from fellow group undertakings	101,826	100,247
	<u>101,826</u>	<u>100,247</u>
	=====	=====

4 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

	2014	2013
	£	£
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after Charging:		
Auditors' remuneration - audit	2,200	2,500
	<u>2,200</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	=====	=====

5 Employees

	2014	2013
	Number	Number
The average number of persons employed was:		
Directors	2	2
Administration	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	=====	=====

Usborne Trading Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2014

5 Employees (continued)

Costs incurred in respect of these employees were:

	2014	2013
	£	£
Wages and salaries	42,659	42,906
Social security costs	3,196	3,512
Pension costs – defined benefit scheme (see page 7):	-	9,994
	<u>45,855</u>	<u>56,412</u>
	=====	=====

6 Taxation

	2014	2013
	£	£
Current taxation - UK corporation tax charge for the year	15,583	13,884
	=====	=====

The standard rate of tax for the year, based on the UK average rate of corporation tax, is 22% (2013: 23.5%). The actual tax charge for the current and the previous year differs from the standard rate for the reasons set out in the following reconciliation:

	2014	2013
	£	£
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	70,857	59,110
	=====	=====
Tax on ordinary activities at standard rate	15,588	13,891
<i>Factors affecting the charge for the period:</i>		
Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	(5)	(7)
	<u>15,583</u>	<u>13,884</u>
	=====	=====
Total actual amount of current tax		

Usborne Trading Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements Year ended 30 September 2014

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 October 2013	860
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 30 September 2014	<u>860</u>
Depreciation:	
At 1 October 2013	860
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
At 30 September 2014	<u>860</u>
Net book value	
30 September 2014	<u>-</u>
30 September 2013	<u>-</u>

8 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2014 £	2013 £
Trade debtors	4,602	-
Prepayments and accrued income	373	1,550
Amounts due from fellow group undertakings	3,244,319	3,192,593
	<u>3,249,294</u>	<u>3,194,143</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2014 £	2013 £
Accruals and deferred income	2,595	2,718
	<u>2,595</u>	<u>2,718</u>

Usborne Trading Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 30 September 2014

10 Share Capital

	2014	2013
	£	£
Authorised 5,000,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each	5,000,000	5,000,000
	=====	=====
Called up, allotted and fully paid: 500,001 Ordinary shares of £1 each	500,001	500,001
	=====	=====

11 Profit and Loss Account

	2014	2013
	£	£
Opening balance	2,191,424	2,146,198
Retained profit for the year	55,274	45,226
	=====	=====
Closing balance	2,246,698	2,191,424
	=====	=====

12 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	2014	2013
	£	£
Retained profit for the financial year	55,274	45,226
Opening shareholders' funds	3,191,425	3,146,199
	=====	=====
Closing shareholders' funds	3,246,699	3,191,425
	=====	=====

13 Financial instruments

The company's principal financial instruments comprise bank balances, balances with group companies, trade debtors and trade creditors. The main purpose of these instruments is to finance the company's operations and to provide investment income.

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 loan accounts with group companies at floating rates of interest. The company is exposed to interest rate risk in that fluctuations in market rates of interest impact upon the level of interest income and expense. 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. Trade creditor liquidity risk is managed by ensuring that sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

14 Parent company and controlling parties

Usborne Trading Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Usborne plc, a company incorporated in England and Wales. The ultimate parent company is Thompson Investments (London) Limited which is registered in England and Wales. Thompson Investments (London) Limited is ultimately controlled by Mr and Mrs D.B. Thompson, and was so in the previous period. The only group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by Thompson Investments (London) Limited, and the consolidated financial statements of this company are available to the public and may be obtained from the Registrar of Companies.