

BSkyB Comedy Limited

Annual Report and Accounts
for the year ended 30 June 2004

Registered number: 3079609



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Directors and Officers

For the year ended 30 June 2004

Directors

BSkyB Comedy Limited's ("the Company's") present Directors and those who served during the year are as follows:

D J Darroch	(appointed 31 August 2004)
J R Murdoch	(appointed 4 November 2003)
A F E Ball	(resigned 4 November 2003)
M D Stewart	(resigned 4 August 2004)

Company Secretary

D J Gormley

Registered office

Grant Way
Isleworth
Middlesex
TW7 5QD

Auditors

Deloitte & Touche LLP
London

Directors' Report

The Directors present their Annual Report on the affairs of the Company, together with the Accounts and Auditors' Report, for the year to 30 June 2004.

Principal activity, business review and future developments

The Company's principal activity is to act as a holding company. The Company has a 25% interest in Paramount UK ("PUK"), a joint venture partnership whose principal activity is the broadcasting of two general entertainment television channels called 'Paramount Comedy 1' and 'Paramount Comedy 2' to multi-channel subscribers. The Directors expect these activities to continue for the foreseeable future.

Results for the year

The audited accounts for the ended 30 June 2004 are set out on pages 5 to 11. The profit after taxation for the financial year was £2,496,000 (2003: profit of £2,963,000). The Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year ended 30 June 2004 (2003: nil).

Directors and their interests

The Directors who served during the year are shown on page 1.

M D Stewart and J R Murdoch were also directors of the Company's ultimate parent undertaking, British Sky Broadcasting plc ("BSkyB"), as at 30 June 2004. The interests of these Directors in the share capital of BSkyB are disclosed in the Report on Directors Remuneration in BSkyB's 2004 Annual Report and Accounts, which are publicly available (see note 12).

At 30 June 2004, the BSkyB Employee Share Ownership Plan ("ESOP") was interested in 4,747,515 BSkyB Ordinary Shares in which the Directors who are employees are deemed to be interested by virtue of section 324 of the Companies Act 1985.

Except as disclosed in this report and in BSkyB's 2004 Annual Report and Accounts, no other Director held any interest in the share capital, including options, of the Company or any other member of BSkyB and its subsidiaries (the "Group"), during the year.

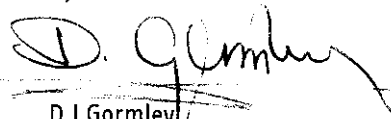
During the year ended 30 June 2004 the BSkyB share price traded within the range of £5.85 to £7.76 per share. The middle-market closing price on the last working day of the financial year was £6.22 per share.

Auditors

The Company has passed elective resolutions to dispense with the need to hold an Annual General Meeting and to reappoint auditors annually.

Grant Way
Isleworth
Middlesex
TW7 5QD

By order of the Board,


D J Gormley
Company Secretary
15 April 2005

Directors' responsibilities

United Kingdom 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 as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

After making enquiries, the Directors have formed a judgement, at the time of approving the financial statements, that there is reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

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; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 1985. They are also responsible for the system of internal control, for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Auditors' Report

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of BSKyB Comedy Limited:

We have audited the financial statements of BSKyB Comedy Ltd Limited for the year ended 30 June 2004 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes 1 to 12. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This Report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities, the Company's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant United Kingdom legal and regulatory requirements and Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, 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 information specified by law regarding Directors' remuneration and transactions with the Company is not disclosed.

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

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 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 the affairs of the Company as at 30 June 2004 and of the profit of the Company for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Deloitte & Touche LLP
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

London

15 April 2005

15 April 2005

Profit and loss account
For the year ended 30 June 2004

	Notes	2004 £000	2003 £000
Share of joint venture's operating results	2	2,496	2,963
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	3	2,496	2,963
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	-	-
Retained profit for the financial year	9	2,496	2,963

Details of movements on reserves are shown in note 9.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this profit and loss account.

All results relate to continuing operations.

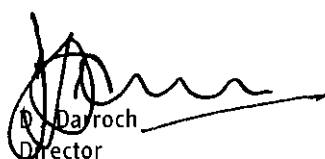
There were no recognised gains or losses in either year other than those included within the profit and loss account.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2004

	Notes	2004 £000	2003 £000
Fixed assets			
Investment in joint ventures	5	2,197	3,326
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	6	975	-
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	-	(2,650)
Net current assets (liabilities)		975	(2,650)
Total assets less current liabilities		3,172	676
Net assets		3,172	676
Capital and reserves – equity			
Called-up share capital	8	-	-
Profit and loss account	9	3,172	676
Total shareholders' funds	9	3,172	676

Signed on behalf of the Board


 D. Darroch
 Director

15 April 2005

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

Notes to accounts

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. All of these have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom financial reporting and accounting standards.

The Company maintains a 52-53 week fiscal year ending on the Sunday nearest to 30 June in each year. In fiscal 2004, this date was 27 June 2004, this being a 52 week year (2003: 29 June 2003, 52 week year).

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing consolidated accounts afforded by section 228 of the Companies Act 1985, because it is a wholly owned subsidiary of BSkyB which prepares consolidated accounts which are publicly available. The Company is also, on this basis, exempt from the requirement of FRS 1 (Revised) to present a cash flow statement.

b) Investments

The investment in PUK is stated at the Company's share of the partnership's underlying net assets, with the Company's share of PUK's operating result and tax being shown in the profit and loss account.

The results and financial position of NGC are included on a consolidated basis in the financial statements of BSkyB, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales.

c) Taxation

Corporation tax payable is provided at current rates on all taxable profits. Losses are generally surrendered between companies in the Group for no consideration.

d) Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date, where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date.

A net deferred tax asset is regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits against which to recover carried forward tax losses and from which the future reversal of underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis.

Notes to accounts (continued)

2. Share of results of Paramount UK

This represents the Company's share of the operating profit and tax charge of its investment in PUK, a UK partnership (see note 5).

3. Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

There were no staff costs during the year or the preceding year as the Company had no employees (2003: nil). Services were provided by employees of other companies within the Group, with no charge being made for their services (2003: nil). The Directors did not receive any remuneration during the year or the preceding year in respect of their services to the Company (2003: nil).

Amounts paid to the auditors for audit services were borne by another Group undertaking in both the current and prior years. No amounts for other services have been paid to the auditors. (2003: nil).

4. Taxation

a) Analysis of tax charge in year

The tax charge for the year is nil (2003: nil).

b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year

	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2,496	2,963
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2003 - 30%)	749	889
Effects of:		
Non-taxable amounts written back against fixed asset investments	(749)	(889)
Share of taxable profits of partnership in which the Company is a partner	749	889
Group relief received for nil consideration	(749)	(889)
Current tax charge for the year	-	-

Notes to accounts (continued)

5. Investment in Paramount UK

This represents the Company's 25% investment in Paramount UK, a UK partnership whose principal place of business and registered office is Paramount UK, 180 Oxford Street, London, W1D 1DS.

	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Cost and funding		
Beginning of year	2,650	5,550
Loans repaid by Paramount UK	(2,650)	(2,900)
End of year	-	2,650
Movement in share of underlying assets		
Beginning of year	676	(2,287)
Share of results of Paramount UK	2,496	2,963
Distribution to partners	(975)	-
End of year	2,197	676
Net book value		
Beginning of year	3,326	3,263
End of year	2,197	3,326

6. Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Amounts owed by parent undertaking	975	-

Amounts owed by the parent undertaking are non-interest bearing and payable on demand.

7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2004	2003
	£000	£000
Amounts due to parent undertaking	-	2,650

Notes to accounts (continued)

8. Called-up share capital

	2004	2003
	£	£
<i>Authorised</i>		
100 ordinary shares of £1 each	100	100
<i>Allotted, called up and fully-paid</i>		
2 ordinary shares of £1 each	2	2

9. Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds and reserves

The movement on shareholder's funds includes all movements on reserves.

	Share capital	Profit and loss account	Total shareholder's funds
	£000	£000	£000
As at 1 July 2003	-	676	676
Profit for the financial year	-	2,496	2,496
As at 30 June 2004	-	3,172	3,172

10. Contingent liabilities

The Company has contingent liabilities by virtue of its being a partner in the PUK partnership. The Directors do not expect any material loss to arise from these contingent liabilities.

11. Transactions with related parties

The Group, including the Company, conducts business transactions on a normal commercial basis with, and receives a number of services from, shareholder companies or members of their groups and associated undertakings. These transactions are described in the consolidated accounts of BSKyB.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption given by Financial Reporting Standard 8 "Related Party Disclosures" not to provide further details of transactions with fellow group undertakings and other related parties as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of BSKyB. The consolidated accounts of the Group are publicly available.

Notes to accounts (continued)

12. Ultimate parent undertaking

The Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary undertaking of Sky Ventures Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales. The only group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by BSkyB, the Company's ultimate parent undertaking.

The consolidated accounts of this Group are available to the public and may be obtained from the Company Secretary, British Sky Broadcasting Group plc, Grant Way, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 5QD.