Annual Report And Accounts

CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT

GROUP LIMITED

For the Year ended

31 December 1998



CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED DIRECTORS AND COMPANY INFORMATION

DIRECTORS

CHAIRMAN

John Wood

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Robert Walther

OTHER DIRECTORS

Malcolm Argent

Gillian Camm

(appointed 20 January 1998)

James Crosby

John Edwards

(appointed 20 January 1998)

Sir John Hoskyns

(resigned 23 April 1998)

Michael Moore

Ralph Quartano

(resigned 23 April 1998)

Russell Rees

(resigned 23 April 1998)

Louis Sherwood

Malachy Smith

(appointed 1 April 1998)

Roland Ward

SECRETARY

Susan Fogarty

PRINCIPAL PLACES OF BUSINESS

Principal/Registered Office

15 St James's Square

London SW1Y 4LQ Bristol Head Office

Bristol BS2 0JH

Clevedon Office Narrow Plain Tickenham Road

Clevedon BS21 6BD

APPOINTED ACTUARY

Adrian Saunders, FIA

AUDITOR

KPMG Audit Plc 8 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8BB

The Directors present their Report and the audited Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1998.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the Company was the transaction of long term insurance business and associated investment activities.

The Company is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and Investment Management Regulatory Organisation and is a member of the Association of British Insurers.

No significant events affecting the Company have occurred since 31 December 1998.

RESULT AND DIVIDEND

The result for the period is shown in the profit and loss account on page 10. No interim dividend was paid during the year (1997 nil) and the Directors recommend that no final dividend be paid (1997 nil).

FUNDS UNDER MANAGEMENT

Group funds under management amounted to £21.8 billion at 31 December 1998 (1997 £18.1 billion).

SUPPLIER PAYMENT POLICY

The Company's policy with regards to the payment of its suppliers is as follows:

- payment terms are agreed at the start of the relationship with the supplier;
- any changes in terms are fully discussed and agreed with the supplier;
- standard payment terms to suppliers of goods and services are thirty days after the invoice date, subject to the quality of goods and services and the accuracy of billing;
- non-standard payment terms apply where an alternative contract or agreement exists, whereby
 Clerical Medical Investment Group Limited agrees to meet all payments under that arrangement,
 subject to a satisfactory invoice or statement being received.
- The actual supplier payment period as at 31 December 1998 was 30 days.

EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

The average number of persons (including Executive Directors) employed by the Company and its subsidiaries in each week of 1998 was 2,311(1997 2,160) and the aggregate remuneration paid to them during the year was £59.4m (1997 £50.4m).

continued

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS

In line with the Group's Equal Opportunities policy, all requests for employment by disabled persons are given full and fair consideration based on suitability for the job, taking account of the aptitudes and abilities of the applicants. Disabled persons employed by the Group enjoy the same opportunities as their colleagues in respect of training, career development and general conditions of employment. Every effort is made to continue employment of persons who become disabled whilst employed by the Group and to provide specialised training in appropriate cases.

STAFF INVOLVEMENT

The Company operates a wide range of formal and informal procedures to ensure the provision of information to all its employees.

News and information relating to all of the Halifax Group is provided through Halifax Television News and the monthly in-house magazine - The Fax. In addition, Clerical Medical news is provided through Clerical Medical Television News and Clerical Medical 'Issues' published periodically on specific topics.

Regular discussion meetings take place including 'Teamtalks'. Teamtalks form the basis of a monthly team briefing process for all levels of staff. They begin with the Chief Executive and are designed to update staff on plans and progress. Feedback in the form of comments and questions is actively encouraged.

All staff are encouraged to participate in staff attitude surveys within both Clerical Medical Investment Group and the Halifax Group.

Day to day information is passed around the Company through a range of different communications, including bulletins, handbooks, computerised guides and notice boards.

CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION

The Group systematically consults the Independent Union of Halifax Staff on matters affecting staff.

Clerical Medical manages pay within a comprehensive set of guidelines which include reward for performance. Staff are eligible to take part in bonus arrangements which encourage involvement in ensuring the Company's success. All Clerical Medical staff were also invited to take part in the Halifax Sharesave Scheme.

Clerical Medical operates a performance management process which includes regular performance reviews. This process has been designed to support the delivery of business objectives and provides the opportunity for regular personal development planning and review.

continued

YEAR 2000 PROGRAMME

In 1997, Clerical Medical established a Group wide Programme with the objective of addressing the risks and uncertainties associated with the Year 2000 problem. The Programme scope includes hardware, software and every occurrence of data processing in bureau, third party, and bespoke software.

The rectification and testing of all business critical hardware, in-house developed software and software supplied by third parties has been completed. Procedures are in place to maintain compliance through to the year 2000 such that all new items and changes will be tested.

The Directors recognise that despite the progress made by this programme and the assessment of the risks, there are still uncertainties surrounding the Year 2000 problem. However, in the unlikely event of an internal Year 2000 fault remaining undetected or of a default by a third party, contingency plans are being prepared so that Clerical Medical will be able to restore its operations with the minimum of delay and with no significant adverse impact on customers.

The accumulated costs of the programme to 31 December 1998 amounted to £6.5m. A further budget of £1.3m has been established for maintaining and reconfirming compliance and for contingency planning during 1999.

DIRECTORS AND DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

The Directors who served during the year, together with the dates of appointments and resignations, were as follows:

Date of resignation

John Wood		
Robert Walther		
Malcolm Argent		
Gillian Camm	20 January 1998	
James Crosby		
John Edwards	20 January 1998	
Sir John Hoskyns		23 April 1998
Michael Moore		
Ralph Quartano		23 April 1998
Russell Rees		23 April 1998
Louis Sherwood		
Malachy Smith	1 April 1998	
Roland Ward		

Date of appointment

No Director had any beneficial interest in the share capital of the Company or any other Group undertaking other than the ultimate parent company, and no right to subscribe for such interests were granted other than for the ultimate parent company.

continued

DIRECTORS AND DIRECTORS' INTERESTS continued

The interest of the Directors in the shares of the ultimate parent company, Halifax plc, were as follows:

	Number of shares as at	Number of shares as at
	31 December 1998	31 December 1997
Malcoim Argent	1,243	1,243
James Crosby	408	400
Robert Walther	800	800
John Wood	1,672	1,646

The following Directors hold options in the shares of Halifax plc under the terms of the Halifax Sharesave Scheme:

Sharesave Scheme	Number of options as at 31 December 1998	Number of options as at 31 December 1997 (or at date of appointment if later)	Price at which option is exercisable	Date from which option is exercisable
Gillian Camm	1,681	1,681	£5-80	1 September 2000
James Crosby	2,974	2,974	£5-80	1 September 2002
John Edwards	1,681	1,681	£5-80	1 September 2000
Robert Walther	2,974	2,974	£5-80	1 September 2002
Roland Ward	1,681	1,681	£5-80	1 September 2000

These options are ordinarily exercisable within six months from the date stated above. No options were exercised or lapsed unexercised during the year.

AUDITOR

KPMG Audit Plc, having expressed its willingness to do so, will continue in office as auditor.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Pursuant to a Resolution passed by the members, the Company has elected to dispense with the holding of Annual General Meetings, of laying accounts before the Company in General Meeting and with the obligation to reappoint auditors annually.

By Order of the Board

Susan Fogarty

15 St James's Square

London SW1Y 4LQ

16 February 1999

CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE ACCOUNTS

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;
- 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 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.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR

TO THE MEMBERS OF CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 9 to 29.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditor

As described on page 7 the Company's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those financial 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 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 Company's affairs as at 31 December 1998 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG Audit Plc

Chartered Accountants

Kino Andulle

Registered Auditor

8 Salisbury Square London

EC4Y 8BB

16 February 1999

CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 December 1998

TECHNICAL ACCOUNT - LONG TERM BUSINESS

			Continuing	operations	Continuing	operations
			199	98	199	97
		Notes	£m	£m	£m	£m
Earned premiums	, net of reinsurance					
	- Gross premiums written	2	2,207.6		1,539.4	
	- Outward reinsurance premiums		(217.6)		(157.4)	
	- Net of reinsurance			1,990.0		1,382.0
Investment incom	e	4		830.4		822.4
Unrealised gains o	on investments			903.8		897.3
Other technical in	come, net of reinsurance	5		1.9		7.4
Total Income				3,726.1		3,109.1
Claims incurred						
Claims paid	- Gross amount		1,143.3		968.6	
•	- Reinsurers' share		(1.0)		(0.8)	
	- Net of reinsurance			1,142.3		967.8
Change in provision	on for claims					
- -	- Gross amount		(3.5)		2.9	
	- Reinsurers' share		_		_	
	- Net of reinsurance			(3.5)		2.9
Claims incurred, n	net of reinsurance	6		1,138.8		970.7
Change in other to	echnical provisions, net of reinsurance					
Long term busines	s provision					
	- Gross amount		2,106.5		1,364.9	
	- Reinsurers' share		(236.3)		(85.9)	
	- Net of reinsurance			1,870.2		1,279.0
Provision for linke	ed liabilities, net of reinsurance			129.9		63.0
Net operating exp	enses	8		112.7		133.3
Investment expens	ses and charges	9		56.5		52.5
Tax attributable to	o long term business	13		80.5		95.1
Transfers to the f	und for future appropriations	22		347.9		493.3
Total Expenditur	e			3,736.5		3,086.9
Balance on the te	chnical account - long term business			(10.4)		22.2

CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 December 1998

NON TECHNICAL ACCOUNT

Continuing operations

	Notes	1998 £m	1997 £m
Balance on the technical account - long term business		(10.4)	22.2
Tax attributable to the balance on the technical account		0.8	(6.6)
Shareholders' pre-tax profit arising from long term insurance business		(9.6)	15.6
Investment income		-	-
Operating Profit	~	(9.6)	15.6
Other charges, including value adjustments		-	-
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	-	(9.6)	15.6
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	13	(0.8)	6.6
Profit for the financial year	_	(10.4)	22.2
Dividends		-	-
Retained profit for the financial year		(10.4)	22.2

A statement of the movement on reserves is shown in Note 21 to the Accounts on page 26.

The Company had no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the period shown above. The inclusion of unrealised gains and losses to reflect the marking to market of investments is not deemed to be a departure from the unmodified historical cost basis of accounting, and a separate note of historical cost profits and losses is therefore unnecessary.

All of the above amounts are in respect of continuing operations

The notes on pages 13 to 29 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 1998

		1998		1997		
	Notes	£m	£m	£m	£m	
ASSETS						
Investments	14					
Land and buildings		1,094.2		1,009.1		
Investments in Group undertakings and participating interests		275.6		361.0		
Other financial investments		11,580.9		9,414.5		
			12,950.7		10,784.6	
Assets held to cover linked liabilities	16		1,052.4		922.5	
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions						
Long term business provision		1,442.0		1,205.7		
Claims outstanding		_		-		
			1,442.0		1,205.7	
Debtors						
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	17	14.7		13.2		
Other debtors	17	98.4		147.1		
			113.1		160.3	
Other assets						
Tangible assets	18	9.1		9.3		
Cash at bank and in hand		22.6		10.7		
			31.7		20.0	
Prepayments and accrued income						
Accrued interest and rent		14.5		11.4		
Deferred acquisition costs		181.2		147.8		
Other prepayments and accrued income	19	525.3		544.7		
		·· ·	721.0		703.9	
TOTAL ASSETS			16,310.9		13,797.0	

CLERICAL MEDICAL INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 1998

		19	98	1997	
	Notes	£m	£m	£m	£m
LIABILITIES					
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	20,21	70.0		70.0	
Profit and loss account	21	12.8		23.2	
General reserves	21	611.7		611.7	
Shareholder's funds attributable to equity interests			694.5		704.9
Fund for future appropriations	22		2,922.8		2,574.9
Technical provisions					
Long term business provision	23	11,437.8		9,331.3	
Claims outstanding		16.6		20.1	
			11,454.4		9,351.4
Technical provisions for linked liabilities	24		1,052.4		922.5
Provisions for other risks and charges	25		42.9		34.7
Creditors					
Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations	26	25.7		27.7	
Other creditors including taxation and social security	27	100.1		159.8	
			125.8		187.5
Accruals and deferred income			18.1		21.1
TOTAL LIABILITIES			16,310.9		13,797.0

These accounts were approved by the Board of Directors on 16 February 1999 and were signed on its behalf by:

J L Wood

Chairman

R P Walther

Chief Executive

The notes on pages 13 to 29 form part of these accounts.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the accounts.

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Sections 255 and 255A of, and Schedule 9A to, the Companies Act 1985. The accounts have also been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and have been drawn up under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investments, and comply with the revised Statement of Recommended Practice issued by the Association of British Insurers. The Group has adopted the modified statutory solvency basis for determining technical provisions.

Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are expressed in sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Revenue transactions and those relating to the acquisition and realisation of investments are converted at rates of exchange ruling at the time of the respective transactions.

Premiums

Premium income is accounted for on a cash basis in respect of single premium business and pensions business not subject to contractual regular premiums. For all other classes of business, premium income is accounted for in the year in which it is due for payment. Outward reinsurance premiums are accounted for when the gross premium is recognised.

Investment income

All income from listed stocks and shares is included in the accounts when the security becomes ex-dividend and is accounted for gross of the related tax credits. Other investment income, including rents, is accrued up to the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between net sales proceeds and the original cost.

In accordance with the ABI Statement of Recommended Practice, the investment return arising during the accounting period in relation to investments held within the Shareholders' Fund has been included in the long term business technical account. In 1997, this income with the associated tax charge was included in the Non Technical Account. The comparative numbers have been restated to reflect the amended treatment but there is no impact on profit before or after tax.

Unrealised gains and losses on investments

Unrealised gains and losses on investments represent the difference between the valuation of investments at the balance sheet date and their purchase price or, if they have previously been revalued, their valuation at the last balance sheet date.

Claims and surrenders

All claims and surrenders notified for the period are included in the accounts. Reinsurance recoveries are recognised in the period in which the claim is reported.

continued

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES continued

Commission

Commission payable is accounted for on the same basis as the corresponding premiums, except for commission payable under indemnity terms which is charged when paid.

Taxation

The charge or credit for taxation is based on the result for the year and is determined by reference to the rules applicable to the taxation of life assurance companies. Any balance on the Technical Account - Long Term Business carried forward into the Non Technical Account is grossed up at the effective rate of corporation tax applicable for the year.

Deferred taxation is calculated on a discounted basis and is provided at current rates of tax only in respect of liabilities which can reasonably be expected to arise in the foreseeable future.

Pension costs

Contributions to the Company's defined benefit pension scheme are determined using the attained age method. The scheme is valued every three years by a qualified actuary who is an employee of the Company. Pension costs are accounted for on the basis of charging the expected cost of providing pensions over the period during which the Company benefits from the employees' services. The effects of variations from regular cost are spread over the expected average remaining service lives of scheme members.

Investments

Investments, which include financial futures and options contracts entered into as part of the Group's overall risk management strategy, are shown in the balance sheet at market value or their equivalents as follows:

- (i) Properties are valued on the basis of open market value, account being taken of the cost of disposal. In all cases valuations are carried out by persons who are members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.
- (ii) Listed investments other than units in unit trusts are valued at last traded price or middle market price adjusted to include accrued interest. Units in unit trusts are valued at minimum bid price.
- (iii) All other investments are valued by the Directors at estimated open market values. In relation to Group companies held by the long term fund, the difference between the current value and the net assets consolidated has been included in the valuation of Group undertakings.

In accordance with SSAP 19, no depreciation or amortisation is provided in respect of freehold investment properties and leasehold investment properties with over 20 years to run as these properties are held for investment. In respect of owner-occupied property, the Directors consider that residual values are such that their depreciation is insignificant and is thus not provided. The requirement of the Companies Act 1985 is to depreciate all properties, but that requirement conflicts with the generally accepted principle set out in SSAP 19. The Directors consider it is necessary to adopt SSAP 19 in order for the accounts to give a true and fair view.

continued

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES continued

Deferred acquisition costs

For regular premium contracts where a series of future premiums is expected to be received, and single premium contracts where a series of future charges in respect of acquisition costs is expected to be received, only a proportion of the acquisition costs incurred in the year of sale are covered by the premium loadings received in that year. The balance, to the extent that it is recoverable out of future revenue margins, is deferred. Such deferred costs are disclosed as an asset in the balance sheet and amortised in accordance with a prudent estimate of the expected pattern of receipt of future revenue margins over the period during which the relevant contracts are expected to remain in force. For other single premium contracts, acquisition costs are covered by the premium loadings in the year of sale. There is, therefore, no deferral of costs on these contracts.

Tangible assets

The cost of tangible fixed assets is written off over their estimated useful lives in equal annual instalments. Provision is made for the diminution in value of any fixed asset where the reduction is expected to be permanent. The resulting net book value of the asset is written off over its remaining expected economic life. Computers and motor vehicles are depreciated over periods of up to five years. No charge is made in respect of properties owned and occupied by the Company.

Acquisitions

Acquisitions are accounted for in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards 6 and 7 ("Acquisitions and Mergers" and "Fair Values in Acquisition Accounting"). Any excess contribution arising as the difference between the fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired and the fair value of the contribution in respect of acquisitions before 1 January 1998, when FRS 10 "Goodwill and Intangible Assets was adopted, was written off immediately to reserves.

Technical provisions

- (i) The Company's long term business provision is determined by the Appointed Actuary following his annual valuation of the long term liabilities. The valuation is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 using the net premium method adjusted as follows:
 - (a) any resilience, close-down and certain other reserves required under the Insurance Companies Regulations are deducted from the mathematical reserves; and
 - (b) the Zillmer adjustment to make allowance in the valuation for margins in future premiums which will be used as a means of recovering the acquisition expenses is included.
 - Long term business provisions include the non unit liabilities in respect of unit linked business.
- (ii) The technical provisions for linked liabilities are determined by reference to the benefits under the contracts.

Cash flow statement

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 (revised 1996), the Company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

continued

Premiums

The value of premiums written was as follows:

	United	Kingdom		uropean nunity	Oth	er	To	tal
	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Life Insurance Business							- ,	
Participating contracts								
single premium	398.8	328.1	-	-	-	-	398.8	328.1
regular premium	179.0	228.7	-	-	7.6	7.3	186.6	236.0
Non participating contracts								
single premium	439.4	212.1	245.8	117.7	93.9	16.0	779.1	345.8
regular premium	28.5	6.4	37.9	28.9	6.0	11.1	72.4	46.4
Linked contracts								
single premium	96.7	84.2	-	-	-	_	96.7	84.2
regular premium	20.1	20.1					20.1	20.1
	1,162.5	879.6	283.7	146.6	107.5	34.4	1,553.7	1,060.6
Group Pensions Business								
Participating contracts								
single premium	7.8	10.3	-		-	_	7.8	10.3
regular premium	40.4	43.2	-	-	_	-	40.4	43.2
Non participating contracts								
single premium	3.4	5.1	-	-	_	_	3.4	5.1
regular premium	51.6	49.0	-	-	7.8	6.2	59.4	55.2
Linked contracts								
single premium	21.3	25.7	-	-	-	-	21.3	25.7
regular premium	_36.5	25.8		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	36.5	25.8_
	161.0	159.1	-	 -	7.8	6.2	168.8	165.3
Individual Pensions Business Participating contracts								
single premium	118.0	116.9	_	-	-	0.4	118.0	117.3
regular premium	117.1	77.4	-	-	6.4	5.2	123.5	82.6
Linked contracts								
single premium	198.8	97.2	-	-	-	-	198.8	97.2
regular premium	44.8_	16.4					44.8	16.4_
	478.7	307.9		<u></u>	6.4	5.6	485.1	313.5
Less: Reinsurance premiums	217.6	157.3	-	-	-	0.1	217.6	157.4
Total Net Premiums Written	1,584.6	1,189.3	283.7	146.6	121.7	46.1	1,990.0	1,382.0

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

continued

3 New Business Premiums

Single premiums and the annualised values of new regular premiums included in Note 2 are:

•	Single		Annualised	
	1998	<i>1997</i>	1998	1997
	£m	£m	£m	£m
United Kingdom				·
Life Insurance Business				
Participating contracts	398.8	328.1	2.4	1.2
Non participating contracts	439.4	212.1	3.0	3.5
Linked contracts	96.7	84.2	3.3	6.2
	934.9	624.4	8.7	6.2
Group Pensions Business				
Participating contracts	7.8	10.3	10.0	8.3
Non participating contracts	3.4	5.1	1.3	0.9
Linked contracts	_21.3	25.7_	12.6	9.3
	32.5	41.1	23.9	18.5
Individual Pensions Business				
Participating contracts	118.0	116.9	1.8	2.1
Linked contracts	198.8	97.2	12.4	_ 15.6
	316.8	214.1	14.2	17.7
Less: Reinsurance premiums	(222.1)	(130.2)	(14.9)	(14.2)
Total United Kingdom	1,062.1	749.4	31.9	28.2
Other European Community Life Insurance Business				
Non participating contracts	245.8	117.7	5.6	4.0
	245.8	117.7	5.6	4.0
Less: Reinsurance premiums	-	-	-	-
Total Other European Community	245.8	117.7	5.6	4.0

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

continued

3 New Business Premiums continued

	Single		Annualis	ed
,	1998	1997	1998	1997
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Other				
Life Insurance Business				
Non participating contracts	93.9	16.0	1.1	1.6
Individual Pensions Business				
Participating contracts		0.4		0.1
	93.9	16.4	1.1	1.7
Less: Reinsurance premiums		-	-	-
Total Other	93.9	16.4	1.1	1.7
Total Net New Business Premiums	1,401.8	883.5	38.6	33.9

In classifying new business premiums the basis of recognition adopted is as follows:

- (a) New recurrent single premium contracts are classified as regular where they are deemed likely to renew at or above the amount of initial premium. Incremental increases on existing policies are classified as new business premiums.
- (b) DSS rebates are classified as new single premiums.
- (c) Funds at retirement under individual pension contracts left with the Company and transfers from group to individual contracts are classified as new business single premiums and for accounting purposes are included in both claims incurred and as single premiums within gross premiums written.
- (d) Increments under existing group pension schemes are classified as new business premiums.

Where regular premiums are received other than annually the regular new business premiums are on an annualised basis.

continued

4 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Technical a long term b	
	1998	1997
	£m	£m
Income from participating interests	6.8	0.6
Income from land and buildings	77.9	51.3
income from other investments		
- listed	254.6	318.2
- other	209.4	131.2
	548.7	501.3
Net gains on the realisation of investments	281.7	321.1
	830.4	822.4

5 OTHER TECHNICAL INCOME

Other technical income consists of management fees. These fees are comprised mainly of fees received for the management of insurance funds.

6 CLAIMS INCURRED

	1998	1997
	£m	£m
Deaths	38.1	35.0
Maturities	387.1	297.9
Life and annuity surrenders	83.4	55.5
Unit linked	478.0	434.8
Pension contracts	43.1	25.9
Managed funds	-	-
Annuity payments	109.1	121.6
	1,138.8	970.7

continued

7 STAFF SUPERANNUATION FUND

The Company operates a defined benefit pension scheme which is funded by the payment of contributions to a separately administered trust fund. For the purposes of SSAP 24, the most recent actuarial valuation was conducted as at 1 January 1997 and used the following main assumptions:

Investment return	9.0% per annum
Salary increases	7.0% per annum
Future pensions increases	5.0% per annum

The valuation showed that the market value of the scheme's assets at that date amounted to £230.7m and the actuarial value of those assets represented 166% overall of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for assumed future increases in earnings and pensions.

Members' contributions to the fund commenced on 1 January 1998 at the rate of 2% of pensionable earnings.

Employer's contributions to the fund have currently been suspended. This decision will be reviewed when the next valuation as at 1 January 2000 is available. The surplus is being spread over the expected remaining service lives of current employees by a straight line apportionment.

8 NET OPERATING EXPENSES

	1998	<i>1997</i>
	£m	£m
Acquisition costs	91.3	99.7
Change in deferred acquisition costs	(33.4)	3.3
Administrative expenses	54.8	30.3
	112.7	133.3
Net administrative expenses above include the following amounts:		
	1998	<i>1997</i>
	£m	£m
Auditor's remuneration (including VAT) paid to the auditor and associated firms:		
Remuneration for audit services	0.2	0.2
Remuneration for non-audit services	0.3	0.1
	0.5	0.3

continued

9 INVESTMENT EXPENSES AND CHARGES

	1998 £m	1997 £m
Investment management expenses	14.9	12.9
Interest on Pension Contract business	37.2	35.4
Other Interest	4.4	4.2
	56.5	52.5

10 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

Directors' emoluments for the year amounted to £903,100 (1997 £670,200). The total emoluments of the highest paid Director were £262,600 (1997 £225,700). He is a member of the Clerical Medical Staff Superannuation Fund (a defined benefit scheme). The accrued pension which would be payable on his attaining normal retirement age if he had left the Company's service at the end of the financial year would be £89,100 (1997 £78,500), and his accrued lump sum would be £244,093 (1997 £217,700). Retirement benefits under the Clerical Medical Staff Superannuation Fund were accruing to 5 Directors as at 31 December 1998 (6 Directors as at 31 December 1997).

11 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company recharges the Clerical Medical Staff Superannuation Fund with the costs of administration borne by the Company. The total amount recharged in the year was £ 541,292 (1997 £496,218).

At 31 December 1998, certain related parties (defined as Directors/Principal Officers and their spouses) held insurance policies and other investments managed by the Group and sold on terms available to all employees.

continued

1998

850

1997

753

12 EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

Operations

13

The average number of employees, including Executive Directors, during the year was as follows:

Operations 1.6.1			420	155
Marketing and Sales			428	413
Other			762	676
				·
			2,040	1,842
Employee costs for the above were as follows:				
			1998	1997
			£m	£m
			LIII	Lin
Wassa and calculat			51.0	44.4
Wages and salaries			51.9	44.4
Social security costs			4.3	5.1
Other costs			0.3	-
				
			56.2	49.5
TAXATION				
The charge/(credit) for taxation comprises:				
	Technical a	ccount	Non tech	hnical
	long term b	usiness	ассоі	
	0			
	1998	1997	1998	1997
	£m	£m	£m	£m
	2111	20112	2	2,116
UK Corporation tax	64.0	59.6	0.8	(6.6)
Less: Double taxation relief	(2.0)	(0.9)	0.8	(0.0)
Less. Double taxation felici	62.0	58.7	0.8	(6.6)
	62.0	20.1	0.8	(0.0)
	15.0			
Tax on franked investment income	17.3	24.4	-	-
Overseas taxation	3.3	2.5	-	-
Deferred taxation	8.2	11.2		
	90.8	96.8	0.8	(6.6)
Less: Prior year adjustment	(10.3)	(1.7)	-	-
	80.5	95.1	0.8	(6.6)
			- 	
The charge for deferred taxation is in respect of:				
			1998	1997
			1998 £m	1997 £m
			1998 £m	1997 £m
Deemed disposal of unit trusts and offshore funds				

continued

14 INVESTMENTS

(a) Land and buildings:

	Freehold £m	Long Leasehold £m	Short Leasehold £m	Total £m
Valuation At 31 December 1998 At 31 December 1997	788.6 725.1	232.3 219.2	73.3 64.8	1,094.2 1,009.1
Cost At 31 December 1998 At 31 December 1997	703.2 683.5	208.7 210.8	65.4 63.7	977.3 958.0

The properties valued by external valuers totalled £1,080.0m (1997 £339.0m) representing 99% (1997 34%) of the above properties. Included in the above figures are land and buildings owned and occupied by the Company at 31 December 1998 of £39.7m (1997 £34.4m). Notional rent of £2.7m (1998 £2.2m), based on market rentals, was charged to net operating expenses and included in investment income.

(b) Investments in Group undertakings and participating interests:

	Grou	p Undertaking	S	Part	icipating Interes	sts	
	Ordinary			Ordinary	Other		
	Shares	Loans	Total	Shares	Investments	Total	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Valuation							
At 31 December 1998	129.5	19.7	149.2	120.3	6.1	126.4	275.6
At 31 December 1997	223.0	5.0	228.0	127.9	5.1	133.0	361.0
Cost							
At 31 December 1998	118.4	19.7	138.1	69.6	5.2	74.8	212.9
At 31 December 1997	193.7	5.0	198.7	106.0	5.0	111.0	309.7
(c) Other financial investments:							
				Valuation	Cost	Valuation	Cost
				1998	1998	1997	1997
				£m	£m	£m	£m
Shares and other variable yield securiti	es and units in t	ınit trusts		6,344.5	4,392.0	5,203,6	4,417.8
Debt securities and other fixed income				3,044.1	2,629.2	2,281.6	2,210.8
Loans secured by mortgages				1.2	1.2	1.5	1.5
Other loans				21.6	22.5	23.1	23.6
Deposits with credit institutions				2,169.5	2,134.2	1,904.7	1,905.6
				11,580.9	9,179.1	9,414.5	8,559.3
Included in the valuations shown in (b)	and (c) above a	are the followin	ng listed inve	stments:			
			Group	Undertakings			
				Participating 1	Other	Total	Total
				Interests	Investments		20.00
				1998	1998	1998	1997
				£m	£m	£m	£m
Shares and other variable yield securiti	es and units in t	init trusts		101.0	6,283.6	6,384.6	5,182.8
Debt securities and other fixed income	securities			-	3,036.8	3,036.8	2,209.9

At the balance sheet date certain of the Company's investments were on loan to market makers under a stock lending scheme authorised by the Bank of England.

continued

15 GROUP UNDERTAKINGS AND PARTICIPATING INTERESTS

Particulars of the Company's principal Group undertakings and participating interests are shown below. Other holdings in Group undertakings and participating interests are not considered to be material.

	Country of			
	Incorporation or	Nature of		%
	Registration	Business		Held
Group Undertakings				
Clerical Medical Managed Funds Limited	England	Life Insurance	*	100.0
Clerical Medical Unit Trust Managers Limited	England	Unit Trust Management	*	100.0
CMI Financial Management Services Limited	Isle of Man	Financial Services	*	100.0
CMI Financial Services Limited	England	Financial Services		100.0
CMI Insurance Company Limited	Isle of Man	Life Insurance		100.0
Universe, The CMI Global Network Fund	Luxembourg	Open-Ended Investment Company		87.9
Participating Interests				
Brixton Estate plc	England	Investment Company		22.0
Lands Improvement Group plc	England	Investment Company		48.1
Pharos SA	Luxembourg	Investment Company		27.1

^{*} These subsidiary undertakings are direct subsidiaries of the Company.

16 ASSETS HELD TO COVER LINKED LIABILITIES

		1998 £m	1997 £m
	At valuation	1,052.4	922.5
	At cost	863.1	859.1
17	DEBTORS ARISING OUT OF DIRECT INSURANCE OPERATIONS		
		1998 £m	1997 £m
	Amounts receivable from policyholders	6.8	10.2
	Amounts receivable from intermediaries Reinsurance debtors	7.9	3.0
		14.7	13.2

continued

17 DEBTORS continued

Other debtors comprise:

•	1998 £m	1997 £m
Tax recoverable	4.1	3.7
Outstanding interest, dividends and rents	35.5	20.8
Amount receivable from Group undertakings	3.7	17.8
Other	55.1	104.8
	98.4	147.1

18 TANGIBLE ASSETS

The net book value of tangible assets is comprised as follows:

	Motor	Computer	Office	<i>T</i> 1
	Vehicles	Equipment	Equipment	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Cost				
At 1 January 1998	8.1	59.9	9.8	77.8
Additions	0.2	3.9	1.5	5.6
Disposals	(1.7)		<u> </u>	(1.7)
At 31 December 1998	6.6	63.8	11.3	81.7
Depreciation				
At 1 January 1998	5.7	54.9	7.9	68.5
Charge for year	0.8	3.7	0.7	5.2
Disposals	(1.1)		<u> </u>	(1.1)
At 31 December 1998	5.4	58.6	8.6	72.6
Net book value at 31 December 1998	1.2_	5.2	2.7_	9.1
Net book value at 31 December 1997	2.4	5.0	1.9	9.3

At 31 December 1998 total assets held under finance leases were £0.1m (1997 £0.4m).

The depreciation charge in respect of assets held under finance leases amounted to £0.1m (1997 £0.3m).

continued

19 OTHER PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME

Other prepayments and accrued income include £511.7m (1997 £539.3m), being the value of in-force policies transferred from Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society, less accumulated amortisation.

20 CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	1998 £m	1997 £m
Authorised: 150,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	150.0	150.0
Allotted, called up and fully paid: 70,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	70.0	70.0

1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS ON SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	Share capital £m	Profit and loss account £m	General reserves £m	Total £m
At 1 January 1997	70.0	1.0	611.7	682.7
Profit for the financial period	-	22.2	-	22.2
At 31 December 1997	70.0	23.2	611.7	704.9
Profit for the financial period	-	(10.4)	•	(10.4)
At 31 December 1998	70.0	12.8	611.7	694.5

Distributable reserves at 31 December 1998 were £624.5m (1997 £634.9m).

continued

22 FUND FOR FUTURE APPROPRIATIONS

The fund for future appropriations comprises all funds which have yet to be allocated to policyholders or shareholders.

	1998 £m	1997 £m
At 1 January 1998	2,574.9	2,061.6
Transfer from the Technical Account - Long Term Business	347.9	493.3
Transfer from Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society	-	20.0
At 31 December 1998	2,922.8	2,574.9

23 LONG TERM BUSINESS PROVISION

The principal assumptions used in calculating the long term business provisions were as follows:

Class of business	Mortality	Interest (%)
Without Profit Life	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	3.35
With Profit Life - regular	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	2.00
- single	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	2.00
Without Profit Pensions	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	4.25
With Profit Pensions Regular	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	2.25
With Profit Pensions Single	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	2.00
Personal Pension Contract Regular	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	2.25
Personal Pension Contract Single	A67/70 (x-3) Ult*	2.00
Life Annuities in Payment	a (90) Ult (x-8)	3.75
Pensions Annuities in Payment	90% PMA80/PFA80 (C=2020)	3.75

^{*} An allowance has been made for additional mortality due to AIDS.

Explicit provision is made for vested bonuses. No such provision is made for future reversionary or terminal bonuses.

A provision of £35.0m (1997 £30.0m) to cover direct and indirect costs arising from the pensions review is included in the Long Term Business Provision.

24 TECHNICAL PROVISIONS FOR LINKED LIABILITIES

The technical provisions in respect of linked business are equal to the value of the assets to which the contracts are linked.

continued

25 PROVISIONS FOR OTHER RISKS AND CHARGES

The balance of £42.9m (1997 £34.7m) is comprised of deferred tax on the deemed disposal of unit trusts and offshore funds.

The potential liability for deferred taxation not provided is as follows:

	1998 £m	1997 £m
Unrealised appreciation of invested assets	123.8	106.4
Other items		
Excess of interest receivable over interest payable	0.7	0.5
Difference between tax allowances and depreciation	3.8	2.1
Deferred acquisition costs	3.0	2.0
Miscellaneous	0.5	0.5
	131.8	111.5
26 CREDITORS ARISING OUT OF DIRECT INSURANCE OPERATIONS		
	1998	1997
	£m	£m
Amounts owed to trustees of pension funds (including accrued interest),		
policyholders, intermediaries and other insurers	24.3	25.6
Reinsurance creditors	1.4	2.1
	25.7	27.7
27 OTHER CREDITORS INCLUDING TAXATION AND SOCIAL SECURITY		
	1998	1997
	£m	£m
Inter fund loans	23.0	51.3
Outstanding purchases of investments	6.6	46.6
Amounts payable to Group undertakings	23.5	5.6
Accounts payable	-	3.1
Taxation payable	37.3	46.0
Other	9.7	7.2
	100.1	159.8

continued

28 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The estimated capital expenditure on investments and equipment for which no provision has been made in the accounts is as follows:

	1998 · £m	1997 £m
Amount contracted Liability on partly paid stocks and shares	102.0 7.3	25.1 4.9
Liability of party paid stocks and shares	,.5	4.7

29 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

	1998	<i>1997</i>
	£m	£m
Uncalled capital on certain investments	26.7	29.1
Underwriting liabilities on certain investments		0.5

30 ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Clerical Medical Investment Group (Holdings) Limited. The ultimate parent company is Halifax plc, which is registered in England and Wales. Copies of the accounts of Halifax plc may be obtained from Trinity Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 2RG.

The smallest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is Clerical Medical Investment Group (Holdings) Limited. The largest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is Halifax plc.