Metaldyne International (UK) Ltd Annual report and accounts for the year ended 28th December 2003

Registered number: 3384705



Annual report and accounts for the year ended 28th December 2003

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Directors' report for the year ended 28 December 2003

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003.

Principal activities and business review

The principal activity comprises the manufacture and distribution of dampers and rubber products for automotive and industrial applications.

The results for the year, as shown on page 4, include exceptional items in relation to recharges to sister companies in Europe.

The directors expect that the current business activity will continue, focusing on the Heavy Duty markets.

Proposed dividend

The directors do not propose the payment of a dividend for the year (2002: Nil).

Directors and their interests

The directors who served during the year were:

Christopher M Reynier George P Thanopoulos Yves J R Gerard

Denis R L Bardou

(resigned 10 August 2004)

In the year under review there were no disclosable directors' interests recorded in the register of directors' interests maintained by this company.

Research and Development Activities

The company carries out research and development activities in respect of damper products for automotive and industrial applications.

Directors' report for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

Statement of directors' responsibilities

United Kingdom company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each 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 assume 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 United Kingdom 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.

Auditors

On 3 November 2003 PricewaterhouseCoopers resigned as auditors and the directors appointed KPMG LLP to fill the casual vacancy arising. A resolution to reappoint KPMG LLP as auditors to the company will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

By order of the Board

Christopher Reynier Director

13 October 2004



KPMG LLP

1 The Embankment Neville Street Leeds LS1 4DW United Kingdom

Report of the independent auditors to the members of Metaldyne International (UK) Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 21.

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 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

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and, as described on page 2, the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

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 to you 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.

Basis of audit 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 the company's affairs as at 28 December 2003 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors

WMG LLP

Profit and loss account for the year ended 28th December 2003

	Note	2003	2002
		£	£
Turnover		12,892,234	12,066,228
Cost of sales	3	(10,297,264)	(9,646,881)
Gross Profit	3	2,594,970	2,419,347
Distribution costs	3	(260,765)	(178,134)
Administrative expenses	3	(2,233,933)	(1,096,498)
Exceptional administrative income/(expenses)	6	1,493,991	(1,454,760)
Total administrative expenses		(739,942)	(2,551,258)
Operating Profit/(Loss)	3	1,594,263	(310,045)
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before interest		1,594,263	(310,045)
Interest receivable and similar income	7	799,829	28,649
Interest payable and similar charges	8	(62,587)	(18,242)
Other income		148,366	87,612
Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation		2,479,871	(212,026)
Taxation	9	1,453,948	_
Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities after taxation		3,933,819	(212,026)
Profit/(Loss) for the financial period	10	3,933,819	(212,026)

The company has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the profit and loss account above, and therefore no separate statement of recognised gains and losses has been presented.

A statement of movements in reserves and shareholders' funds is set out in notes 18 and 19.

Balance sheet as at 28th December 2003

	Notes	2003	2002
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	10	4,732,048	5,126,056
Tangible assets	11	1,787,816	2,190,261
		6,519,864	7,316,317
Current assets			
Stocks	12	1,309,160	810,397
Debtors	13	5,445,600	3,727,346
Cash at bank and in hand		1,719	194,804
		6,756,479	4,732,547
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(3,450,964)	(3,262,712)
Net current assets		3,305,515	1,469,835
Total assets less current liabilities		9,825,379	8,786,152
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(6,034,130)	(8,924,379)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	16	(23,723)	(28,066)
Net assets/(liabilities)		3,767,526	(166,293)
Capital and reserves			
Called up equity share capital	17	6,662,787	6,662,787
Share premium account	18	999,205	999,205
Profit and loss account	18	(3,894,466)	(7,828,285)
Shareholders' funds – equity.	19	3,767,526	(166,293)

The financial statements on pages 4 to 20 were approved by the board of directors on 3 October 2004 and were signed on its behalf by:

Christophe M Reynier Director

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Turnover

Turnover comprises the invoiced value of goods supplied by the company, exclusive of value added tax.

Cash flow statement

Under paragraph 5(a) of Financial Reporting Standard 1 (Revised 1996), the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement.

Goodwill

Goodwill arising (representing the excess of the fair value of the consideration given over the fair value of the separable net assets acquired) is capitalized. Positive goodwill is amortised to nil by equal annual instalments over its estimated useful life in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 10 "Goodwill and Intangible assets". Any excess of the aggregate of the fair value of the separable net assets acquired over the fair value of the consideration given (negative goodwill) is included within fixed assets and released to the profit and loss account in the periods in which the fair values of the non-monetary assets purchased on the same acquisition are recovered, whether through depreciation or sale.

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Work in progress and finished goods are based on material content and attributable production costs.

Deferred taxation

In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 19, deferred taxation has been recognised as an asset as transactions have occurred at the balance sheet date that give rise to a right to pay less taxation in the future. An asset is recognised if the transfer of economic benefits in the future is considered certain. Deferred tax assets recognised have not been discounted.

Research and development expenditure

Expenditure on research and development is written off against profits in the year in which it is incurred.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Leased assets

Assets acquired under finance leases and hire purchase agreements are capitalised in the balance sheet and depreciated over their useful lives. The capital elements of future obligations are included as liabilities on the balance sheet. The associated finance charge is charged in the profit and loss account so as to give a constant periodic rate of charge.

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded using the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction or, if hedged forward, at the rate of exchange under the related forward currency contract. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated using the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date or, where appropriate, at the rate of exchange in a related forward exchange contract. Any gains or losses on translation are included in the profit and loss account.

In accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No 20, exchange gains and losses on the retranslation of monetary items are taken to the profit and loss account for the year. To the extent that unrealised exchange profits arise on the retranslation of unsettled long term monetary items, this treatment represents a departure from the Companies Act 1985 requirement to take to the profit and loss account only profits realised at the balance sheet date. However, as noted in SSAP 20, exchange gains on unsettled transactions can be determined no less objectively than exchange losses and to defer the former whilst recognising the latter would both be illogical and inhibit fair measurement of the company's performance in the year. Therefore, the directors consider that recognition of such unrealised profits is necessary in order for the accounts to give a true and fair view. The effect of this departure is to increase profit before taxation by £788,116 (2002: £945,323) and decrease the value of long term loans by £788,116 (2002: £945,323).

Pension costs

The company operates a pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. Contributions to the scheme are charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the company.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation and amortisation is provided by the company to write off the cost less estimated residual value of tangible and intangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Depreciation

Freehold buildings	5%	per annum
Plant and equipment	10% - 25%	per annum
Fixtures and fittings	10%	per annum
Computer equipment	25% - 33%	per annum

Amortisation

Goodwill	5%	per annum
Patents and licenses	2.5% - 5%	per annum

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

2 Turnover

The turnover and pre-tax profit is attributable to the company's principal trading activity. In the opinion of the directors, further disclosures relating to turnover, profit before taxation and net assets would be seriously prejudicial to the interests of the company.

3 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

The Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging:

	2003	2002
	£	£
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	484,019	613,719
Depreciation of assets held under finance leases	21,950	51,319
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	394,008	394,008
Auditors' remuneration		
Audit fees	10,500	23,700
Operating lease expense - hire of plant and machinery	64,065	71,583
Foreign exchange (gain)/Loss	(788,116)	(945,323)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

4 Staff numbers and costs

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The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the period, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2003	2002
	Number	Number
Office staff	32	50
Manufacturing and construction	69	74
	101	124
The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:		
	2003	2002
	£	£
Wages and salaries	2,855,332	3,435,421
Social security costs	203,892	293,227
Other pension costs	195,843	261,058
	3,255,067	3,989,706
Directors' emoluments		
	2003	2002
	£	£
Emoluments:	_	
Management services	107,410	285,907
Compensation for loss of office	-	595,922
Company contributions to defined contribution schemes	7,729	18,031
	115,139	899,860

Retirement benefits are accruing to 3 (2002: 3) directors under defined benefit schemes.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

6 Exceptional income/charges

The exceptional income in 2003 relates to costs incurred by the company which have been recharged during the year to other group companies.

The exceptional operating item in the prior year of £1,454,760 (included in total administrative expenses) relates to the termination of certain Head office and R&D activities in 2002 for other group companies. Costs comprise redundancy and related costs.

7 Interest receivable and similar income

	2003	2002
	£	£
Bank interest	11,713	28,649
Exchange gain on retranslation of long term loan	788,116	-
	799,829	28,649

During the previous year the exchange gain on the retranslation of long term loans of £945,323 was included within administrative expenses.

8 Interest payable and similar charges

	2003	2002
	£	£
Hire purchase interest	2,448	18,242

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

9 Tax on profit on ordinary activities

(a) Analysis of charge in year

	2003	2002
	£	£
UK corporation tax		
Current tax on income for the year	•	-
Total current tax	-	-
Deferred tax (see note 13)	(1,453,948)	_
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	(1,453,948)	-

b) Factors affecting the tax charge in the year

	2003	2002
	£	£
Profit/(Loss) before tax	2,479,871	(212,026)
At standard rate of corporation tax 30% (2002: 30%)	743,961	(63,608)
Effect of:		
Movement on deferred tax	-	(18,467)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes (primarily non-qualifying depreciation)	128,944	129,764
Assets deferred for allowances in 2002	(1,695)	(47,689)
Utilisation of tax losses	(871,210)	-
Current tax (credit)/charge for the year (note 9a)	-	_

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

10 Intangible fixed assets

	Patents and licenses £	and	and	and	and	Total
		£	£			
Cost						
At 30 December 2002 and 28 December 2003	3,955,404	3,013,575	6,968,979			
Amortisation						
At 30 December 2002	1,249,727	593,196	1,842,923			
Charge for the period	232,668	161,340	394,008			
At 28 December 2003	1,482,395	754,536	2,236,931			
Net book value						
At 29 December 2003	2,473,009	2,259,039	4,732,048			
At 29 December 2002	2,705,677	2,420,379	5,126,056			

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment	Total £
Cost					
At 30 December 2002	650,000	4,109,091	91,465	1,011,224	5,861,780
Additions	-	195,985	-	44,080	240,064
Disposals	-	(162,427)	-	-	(162,427)
At 28 December 2003	650,000	4,142,649	91,465	1,055,304	5,939,417
Depreciation		-			
At 30 December 2002	141,094	2,580,862	50,644	898,919	3,671,519
Charge for the period	25,594	397,177	10,036	73,162	505,969
Disposals	-	(25,887)	-	.	(25,887)
At 28 December 2003	166,688	2,952,152	60,680	972,081	4,151,601
Net book value					
At 29 December 2002	508,906	1,528,229	40,821	112,305	2,190,261
At 28 December 2003	483,312	1,190,497	30,785	83,223	1,787,816

Included in computer equipment above are assets held under finance leases with a net book value of £18,291 (2002: £40,241) after charging depreciation of £21,950 (2002: £51,319) in the period.

12 Stocks

	2003	2002
	£	£
Raw materials and consumable stocks	854,818	433,595
Work in progress	50,354	22,864
Finished goods	403,988	353,938
	1,309,160	810,397

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

13 Debtors

	2003	2002
	£	£
Trade debtors	730,253	1,444,832
Amounts owed by group undertakings-Trade	489,239	771,549
Amounts owed by group undertakings-Bridging Loan	2,350,000	1,317,000
Other debtors	459	3,054
Deferred taxation	1,453,948	-
VAT recoverable	337,227	116,971
Prepayments and accrued income	84,474	73,940
	5,445,600	3,727,346
Deferred tax		
The amounts of deferred taxation for timing differences are as follows:		
	2003	2002
	Provided Asset	Unprovided Asset
	£	£
Accelerated capital allowances	(66,109)	(73,981)
Short term timing differences	(46,394)	(57,027)
Losses	(1,341,445)	(2,188,150)
Deferred tax asset (notes 9,13)	(1,453,948)	(2,319,158)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2003	2002
	£	£
Bank loans and overdraft	252,831	129,731
Trade creditors	1,941,681	1,248,564
Amounts owed under finance leases	11,420	37,486
Amounts owed to group undertakings	332,575	258,937
Other taxes and social security	63,445	82,604
Other creditors	643,111	1,301,763
Accruals and deferred income	205,901	203,627
	3,450,964	3,262,712

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

2003	2002
£	£
6,034,130	8,912,959
-	11,420
6,034,130	8,924,379
	6,034,130 -

With effect from 1 January 2002 all loan agreements relating to amounts owed to group undertakings above were amended such that no interest would be repayable under the loan agreements, and that the repayment date of the loan agreements would be extended until 1 January 2015. Prior to this these amounts were interest bearing at 6.5% to 6.7% and were not subject to fixed repayment terms.

16 Provisions for liabilities and charges

2003
£
28,066
(4,343)
23,723

The above provisions include liabilities in respect of employment related and other operational costs.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

17 Called up equity share capital

		2003	2002
		£	£
Authorised			
Ordinary shares of £1 each		7,000,000	7,000,000
Allotted, issued, called up and fully paid			
Ordinary shares of £1 each		6,662,787	6,662,787
3 Reserves	Share premium account	Profit and loss account	Tota
	£	£	£
At 30 December 2002	999,205	(7,828,285)	(6,829,080
Retained profit for the year	-	3,933,819	3,933,819
At 28 December 2003	999,205	(3,894,466)	(2,895,261

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

19 Reconciliation of shareholders' funds

	2003	2002
	£	£
Opening shareholders' funds	(166,293)	45,733
Profit/(loss) for the financial period	3,933,819	(212,026)
Closing shareholders' funds	3,767,526	(166,293)

20 Commitments

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2003	2002
	Other	Other
	£	£
Operating leases which expire:		
- within one year	7,939	5,091
- in the second to fifth years inclusive	47,722	50,568
	55,661	55,659

There were nil capital commitments as at the year-end (2002: £nil).

21 Pension arrangements

The company has continued to account for pensions in accordance with SSAP 24 and the disclosures given in (a) below are those required by that standard. Financial Reporting Standard 17 'Retirement benefits' was issued in November 2000 and was originally not mandatory for the company until the year ended 31 December 2003. The Accounting Standards Board subsequently postponed mandatory full adoption until 23 June 2005. However, prior to this date, phased transition disclosures are required. These disclosures, to the extent they are not given in (a) are set out in (b) below.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

a) As explained in the accounting policies set out on pages 6 and 7, the company operates a funded pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay, contributions being charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the costs of pensions over employees' working lives with the company. The contributions are determined by an independent qualified actuary on the basis of triennial valuations using the projected unit method. The most recent valuation was at 1 April 2002. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return on investments and the rates of increase in salaries and pensions. It was assumed that the investment returns would be 6-6.5% per annum, that salary increases would average 3.5% per annum and that present and future pensions would increase at the rate of 3% per annum. The pension cost for the company was £261,058 (2001: £330,892). The most recent actuarial valuation showed that the market value of the scheme's assets was £7.5 million and that the actuarial value of those assets represented 106% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. Contributions amounting to £35,167 (2001: £38,784) payable to the fund are included in creditors.

b) Financial reporting standard 17

The company is also required to report on the pension fund under Financial Reporting Standard 17, for information only. The results of the actuarial valuation at 1 April 2002 were projected to 28 December 2003 and then recalculated based upon the following assumptions:

		2003	2002	
Valuation method	Projected Unit		Projected Unit	
Discount rate		5.4%	5.5%	
Inflation rate		2.9%	2.3%	
Pensions increase		2.9%	2.3%	
Salary increases	3.4%		3.3%	
	At 28 December	er 2003	At 29 Decembe	r 2002
	Expected long-	Value	Expected long-	Value
	term return on assets	£000	term return on assets	£000
Equities	7.00 % pa	5,748	7.0% pa	4,530
Bonds	5.10 % pa	1,954	4.9% pa	1,906
Cash/Other	4.00 % pa	84	4.5% pa	74
Total market value of assets		7,786		6,510
Present value of Scheme liabilities		(9,578)		(8,102)
Deficit in the Scheme	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(1,792)		(1,592)
Related deferred tax asset		538		478
Net pension liability		(1,254)		(1,114)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

21 Pension arrangements (continued)

If the above amounts had been recognised in the financial statements, the company's net assets and profit and loss reserve at 29 December 2003 would be as follows:

	28 December 2003 £'000	29 December 2002 £'000
Net assets/(liabilities) excluding pension liability	3,768	(166)
Pension liability	(1,254)	(1,114)
Net liabilities including pension liability	2,514	(1,280)
Profit and loss reserve excluding pension liability	(3,894)	(7,828)
Pension liability	(1,254)	(1,114)
Profit and loss reserve	(5,148)	(8,942)

The following amounts would have been recognised in the performance statements in the year for 29 December 2002 under the requirements of FRS 17.

Analysis of amount charged to operating profit

	28 December 2003	29 December 2002
	£,000	£'000
Current service cost	256	285
Analysis of amount credited to other financial income	28 December 2003	29 December 2002

	28 December 2003	29 December 2002
	£'000	£'000
Expected return on pension scheme assets	415	517
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	(448)	(481)
Net Return	(33)	36

Analysis of amount recognized in the Statement of Total Recognized Gains and Losses (STRGL)

	28 December 2003	29 December 2002
	£,000	£'000
Actual return less expected return on pension scheme assets	839	(1,605)
Experience gains and losses arising on the scheme liabilities	17	1,110
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of the scheme liabilities	(971)	(313)
Actuarial loss recognised in STRGL.	(115)	(808)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

21 Pension arrangements (continued)

	28 December 2003	29 December 2002
	£'000	£'000
Deficit in scheme at beginning of the year	(1,592)	(782)
Current service cost	(256)	(285)
Contributions	204	247
Other finance income	(33)	36
Actuarial loss	(115)	(808)
Deficit in scheme at end of year	(1,792)	(1,592)

History of e	experience (Gains	and Losses
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	28 December 2003	29 December 2002
	£'000	£'000
Difference between the expected and actual return on scheme assets:		
Amount (£'000)	839	(1,605)
% of scheme assets	10.8	24.7
Experience gains and losses on scheme liabilities:		
Amount (£'000)	17	1,110
% of the present value of the scheme liabilities	0.2	13.7
Total amount recognised in statement of total recognised gains and losses:		
Amount (£'000)	(115)	(808)
% of the present value of the schemes liabilities	1.2	10.0

22 Related party transactions

As a wholly owned subsidiary of Metaldyne International Finance BV (formerly Simpson International Finance BV), the company, under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard 8 – Related Party Disclosures, has not disclosed transactions with other group companies.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 28th December 2003 (continued)

23 Ultimate parent undertaking

Metaldyne Corporation which is registered in the USA, is the ultimate parent undertaking of Metaldyne International (UK) Ltd.

The immediate parent undertaking of the company is Metaldyne International Finance BV (formerly Simpson International Finance BV) which is incorporated and registered in the Netherlands.

Copies of the accounts for Metaldyne Corporation may be obtained from 131 Parkinson Lane, Halifax, HX1 3RD.