**Report and Financial Statements** 

31 December 2007

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14/08/2008 COMPANIES HOUSE 19

Registered No 4258155

# **DIRECTORS**

J A Fry A D Jeakings J O Ellison

# **SECRETARY**

J O Ellison

# **AUDITORS**

Ernst & Young LLP Compass House 80 Newmarket Road Cambridge CB5 8DZ

### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Prospect House Rouen Road Norwich NR1 1RE

# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2007

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY AND REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Archant Limited

The company's principal activity is to own a portfolio of newspaper titles (and their associated magazines). The company has licensed Archant Regional Limited, the company's immediate parent company, to publish those titles for periods not exceeding twenty years.

On 9 February 2007, the Company acquired the titles Agenda and Property Plus for £1,185,000 following the group's acquisition of Life Publishing Limited On the same day, the company granted a trade mark licence to Archant Regional Limited allowing it to publish those titles

Subject to the above, there have not been any significant changes in the company's principal activity in the year under review. The directors are not aware, at the date of this report, of any likely major changes in the company's activity in the next year.

The balance sheet on page 7 of the financial statements shows that the company's financial position at the year end is, subject to the company's dividend policy, in both net assets and cash terms, consistent with the preceding year. Details of amounts owed by the ultimate parent company are shown on the face of the Balance Sheet.

There are no significant events since the balance sheet date requiring disclosure in these financial statements

### **RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS**

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £726,822 (2006 £574,558) An interim dividend of £1,640,000 (2006 £119,900) has been paid. The directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend.

### **DIRECTORS**

The directors who held office during the year were as follows

J O Ellison J A Fry

A D Jeakings

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors are responsible for preparing this report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

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, and
- 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 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 AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

The directors who were members of the board at the time of approving this report are listed on page 2 Having made enquiries of fellow directors and of the company's auditors, each of these directors confirm that

- to the best of their knowledge and belief, there is no information relevant to the preparation of this report of which the company's auditors are unaware and
- they have taken all the steps a director might reasonably be expected to have taken to be aware of relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information

#### **AUDITORS**

Ernst & Young LLP are deemed re-appointed as the company's auditor in accordance with section 487(2) Companies Act 2006

By order of the board

J O Ellison Secretary

21 July 2008

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ARCHANT HERTFORDSHIRE LIMITED

We have audited the company's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2007 which compase the Profit and Loss Account, 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

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland)

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 whether in our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, 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 other transactions is not disclosed

We read the directors' report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it

### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 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 judgments 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, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2007 and of its profit for the year then ended,
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985, and

the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements

Ernst & Young L\
Registered Audito

Cambridge

21 July 2008

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

	Note	2007 £	2006 £
TURNOVER Royalties receivable under trademark licences		47,307	-
Operating costs		(391,611)	(337,298)
OPERATING LOSS	2	(344,304)	(337,298)
Interest receivable	3	1,550,453	1,302,652
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	•	1,206,149	965,354
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	(479,327)	(390,796)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION	8	726,822	574,558

All revenue and expenses included in the profit and loss account relate to continuing operations

The profit for the financial year includes all recognised gains and losses in the year

There is no difference between the profits calculated on an historical cost basis and those presented above

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements

# **BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2007**

	Notes	2007 £	2006 £
INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS Newspaper titles	6	7,202,051	6,408,662
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors - Inter company balances			
falling due in less than one year falling due in more than one year		1 23,518,543	1 23,951,578
CURRENT LIABILITIES Corporation tax payable		(479,328)	(390,796)
NET ASSETS		30,241,267	29,969,445
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	7	1,000	100
Share premium account Profit and loss account	8 8	27,130,001 3,110,266	25,945,901 4,023,444
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	8	30,241,267	29,969,445

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 21 July 2008 and are signed on their behalf by

A D Jeakings Director

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and are drawn up in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

#### (b) Intangible fixed assets

The company's newspaper titles, and their associated magazine titles, have been acquired from fellow subsidiary companies and are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation

Newspaper titles and their associated magazine titles are amortised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives, subject to a maximum of 20 years

The carrying value of newspaper titles and their associated magazine titles is reviewed for impairment at the end of the first full year following acquisition and in other periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable

2	OPERATING LOSS	2007 £	2006 £
	Operating loss is stated after charging	L	
	Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	391,611	337,298
3	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	2007 £	2006 £
	Interest on inter company loan	1,550,453	1,302,652
4	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2007 £	2006 £
	UK corporation tax Current Prior year	479,328 (1)	390,796 -
		479,327	390,796

### Factors affecting the tax charge

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The tax assessed is higher than the profit on ordinary activities for the year multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2006 - 30%). The differences are reconciled below

Profit on ordinary activities before tax	1,206,149	965,354
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2006 - 30%)	361,845	289,606
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	117,483	101,189
Current tax	479,328	390,796
DIVIDENDS	2007 £	2006 £
Interim dividend paid	1,640,000	119,900

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

6	INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	2007 £	2006 £
	Newspaper titles at cost At 1 January	6,745,960	6,745,960
	Titles acquired from fellow subsidiary	1,185,000	-
	At 31 December	7,930,960	6,745,960
	Amortisation At 1 January Amortisation in the year	337,298 391,611	- 337,298
	At 31 December	728,909	337,298
	Net book values At 31 December	7,202,051	6,408,662
7	SHARE CAPITAL	2007 £	2006 £
	Authorised 1,000 (2006 100) ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	100
	Allotted, called up and fully paid 1,000 (2006 100) ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	100

# 8 RECONCILIATION OF SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS AND MOVEMENTS ON RESERVES

	Share capital £	Share premium account £	Profit and loss account £	Total shareholders' funds £
At 31 December 2005	100	25,945,901	3,568,786	29,514,787
Profit for the year	•	-	574,558	574,558
Dividends paid	-	-	(119,900)	(119,900)
At 31 December 2006	100	25,945,901	4,023,444	29,969,445
Share capital issued	900	1,184,100	-	1,185,000
Profit for the year	-		726,822	726,822
Dividends paid	-	-	(1,640,000)	(1,640,000)
At 31 December 2007	1,000	27,130,001	3,110,266	30,241,267

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

#### 9 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

Certain of the companies in the Group have provided a cross guarantee in relation to the revolving credit facilities with The Royal Bank of Scotland plc Details of the overdraft facility are contained in the Archant Limited group financial statements

#### 10 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Advantage has been taken of the exemption in paragraph 3 of FRS 8 "Related Party Disclosures" not to disclose transactions with entities that are part of the Archant Limited group and its associates

#### 11 STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The Company has taken advantage of the dispensation under FRS 1 Section 8 (c) not to publish a cash flow statement. The cash flow statement of the Group is published in the financial statements of Archant Limited.

### 12 ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

At 31 December 2007, the parent undertaking for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the company was a member was Archant Limited, registered in England and Wales Copies of that company's financial statements can be obtained from The Registrar, Companies House, Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff