

Registration number: 07842430

The Tolkien Estate Limited

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Critchleys Audit LLP
Statutory Auditor
Beaver House
23-38 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford
OX1 2EP



The Tolkien Estate Limited

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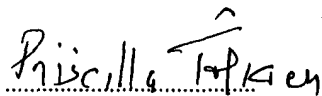
(Registration number: 07842430)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	4	473,975	721,268
Investments	5	<u>360</u>	<u>360</u>
		<u>474,335</u>	<u>721,628</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	6	4,847,549	3,885,082
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>11,654,195</u>	<u>14,153,685</u>
		16,501,744	18,038,767
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(2,163,937)</u>	<u>(1,764,428)</u>
Net current assets		<u>14,337,807</u>	<u>16,274,339</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		14,812,142	16,995,967
Provisions for liabilities	8	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,285,780)</u>
Net assets		<u>14,812,142</u>	<u>9,710,187</u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital		270,000	270,000
Share premium reserve		8,443,270	8,443,270
Profit and loss account		<u>6,098,872</u>	<u>996,917</u>
Total equity		<u>14,812,142</u>	<u>9,710,187</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and the option not to file the Profit and Loss Account has been taken.

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 4 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



P M A R Tolkien
Director

The Tolkien Estate Limited

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Share capital £	Share premium £	Profit and loss account £	Total £
At 1 January 2020	270,000	8,443,270	996,917	9,710,187
Profit for the year	-	-	9,151,955	9,151,955
Total comprehensive income	-	-	9,151,955	9,151,955
Dividends	-	-	(4,050,000)	(4,050,000)
At 31 December 2020	270,000	8,443,270	6,098,872	14,812,142

A further dividend totalling £2,430,000 was paid in January 2021.

The share premium reserve was converted to distributable reserves by resolution of the members in July 2021.

	Share capital £	Share premium £	Profit and loss account £	Total £
At 1 January 2019	270,000	14,106,983	5,064,625	19,441,608
Profit for the year	-	-	4,032,292	4,032,292
Total comprehensive income	-	-	4,032,292	4,032,292
Dividends	-	-	(8,100,000)	(8,100,000)
Adjustment due to reduction in net assets acquired as part of historic share issue (note 9)	-	(5,663,713)	-	(5,663,713)
At 31 December 2019	270,000	8,443,270	996,917	9,710,187

The notes on pages 3 to 6 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Tolkien Estate Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1 General information

The company is a private company limited by share capital, incorporated in England & Wales.

The address of its registered office is:

Prama House
267 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7HT

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1A - 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention except that as disclosed in the accounting policies certain items are shown at fair value.

Group accounts not prepared

The company is part of a small group. The company has taken advantage of the exemption and has not prepared group financial statements..

Audit report

The Independent Auditors' Report was unqualified. The name of the Senior Statutory Auditor who signed the audit report on 8 September 2021 was Robert Kirtland, who signed for and on behalf of Critchleys Audit LLP.

Revenue recognition

Turnover represents royalties and other trading income receivable in the year excluding value added tax. This includes an estimate of the amount earned up until the balance sheet date which is included in debtors.

Foreign currency transactions and balances

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded at the functional currency rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated into the respective functional currency of the entity at the rates prevailing on the reporting period date.

Tax

The tax expense for the period comprises current tax. Tax is recognised in profit or loss.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the company operates and generates taxable income.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Business combinations

Business combinations are accounted for using the purchase method. The consideration for each acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values at acquisition date of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the group in exchange for control of the acquired, plus any costs directly attributable to the business combination. When a business combination agreement provides for an adjustment to the cost of the combination contingent on future events, the group includes the estimated amount of that adjustment in the cost of the combination at the acquisition date if the adjustment is probable and can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets

Separately acquired copyrights are shown at historical cost.

Copyrights have a finite useful life and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their useful life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Copyrights	over 10 years

Investments

Investments in equity shares which are not publicly traded and where fair value cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Debtors

Debtors include amounts due for royalties and other income due at the year-end. Debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price.

Creditors

Creditors include obligations to pay for services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the company has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the company will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Share capital

Ordinary and preference shares are classified as equity. Equity instruments are measured at the fair value of the cash or other resources received or receivable, net of the direct costs of issuing the equity instruments.

Dividends

Dividend distribution to the company's shareholders is recognised as a liability in the financial statements in the reporting period in which the dividends are declared.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

3 Staff numbers

The company had no employees in either year.

4 Intangible assets

	Copyrights £	Total £
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2020	<u>2,472,925</u>	<u>2,472,925</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>2,472,925</u>	<u>2,472,925</u>
Amortisation		
At 1 January 2020	1,751,657	1,751,657
Amortisation charge	<u>247,293</u>	<u>247,293</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,998,950</u>	<u>1,998,950</u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2020	<u>473,975</u>	<u>473,975</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>721,268</u>	<u>721,268</u>

These consist of the copyrights to certain titles by J R R Tolkien. The cost above is the purchase consideration attributed to copyrights when the assets of The J R R Tolkien Estate Limited were sold to this company.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

5 Investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Investments in subsidiaries	<u>360</u>	<u>360</u>
Subsidiaries		£
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2020		<u>360</u>
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2020		<u>360</u>
At 31 December 2019		<u>360</u>

6 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	<u>4,847,549</u>	<u>3,885,082</u>
	<u>4,847,549</u>	<u>3,885,082</u>

7 Creditors

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Due within one year		
Trade creditors	2,766	-
Amounts owed to group undertakings	360	360
Other creditors	<u>2,160,811</u>	<u>1,764,068</u>
	<u>2,163,937</u>	<u>1,764,428</u>

8 Contingencies and provisions

In 2018 and earlier years it was reported that "The assets and liabilities of The J R R Tolkien 1967 Discretionary Settlement were transferred to this company on 30 November 2011. HMRC are enquiring into whether a substantial receipt by The J R R Tolkien 1967 Discretionary Settlement in 2009/2010 should have been taxed as income rather than capital (which could involve a substantial additional tax liability of up to £5.5m). The Settlement was advised by Leading Tax Counsel at the time that the receipt was capital in nature. The directors therefore maintain that the receipt was correctly returned and believe that no additional tax liability is due."

In July 2020 HMRC issued a closure notice for additional tax of £5,663,713 and interest of £1,622,067. The directors decided not to pursue the matter further so a provision for this amount was been reflected in the 2019 financial statements.