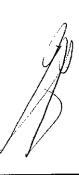
ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1996





ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R M Entwistle FCIB (Chairman)
A M Hedderwick (Managing Director)
I J Hunter
J A R Jakobi FCA (Non-Executive)
T R H Kimber (Non-Executive)
H J Morgan

SECRETARY W J Stanworth CA

AUDITORS

Coopers & Lybrand PO Box 90 Erskine House 68-73 Queen Street Edinburgh EH2 4NH

REGISTERED OFFICE

22 Charlotte Square Edinburgh EH2 4DF Telephone: 0131 225 8484 Fax: 0131 220 2357

Telex: 72182 Registered No: 102144

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 30 September 1996.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The profit for the period after providing for taxation was £233,000. The directors recommend that no dividend be paid.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The company's business is that of providing investment management services. The directors aim to maintain the management policies which have resulted in the high quality of service received by clients.

DIRECTORS

The names of the directors of the company are shown on page 1, all of whom have served the full year.

Mr Pearson retired as a director on 31 August 1996.

The interests of the directors in the capital of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc were:

Ordinary shares of 25p each

	At 30 September 1996	At 1 October 1995
R M Entwistle H J Morgan	2,234 790	1,445

Options to subscribe for ordinary shares of 25p each

	At 1 October 1995	Granted in period	Exercised in period	At 30 September 1996
R M Entwistle	2,005	-		2,005
A M Hedderwick	2,913	825	-	3,738
I J Hunter	415	330	-	745
H J Morgan	1,894	-	-	1,894

Mr Entwistle and Mrs Hunter who held office as directors at 30 September 1996 will retire by rotation and, being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election at the Annual General Meeting on 16 December 1996.

SHARE CAPITAL

There were no changes in the share capital of the company during the year under review.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. Resolutions to re-appoint them and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Roard

W J Stanworth (

Secretary

22 Charlotte Square EDINBURGH EH2 4DF

18 November 1996

ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss for that period. In preparing those accounts, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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.

The directors confirm that these accounts comply with the aforementioned requirements.

By order of the Board

W J Stanworth CA, Secretary, 18 November 1996

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

We have audited the accounts on pages 4 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described above the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts 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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the company, 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 accounts 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 accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company as at 30 September 1996 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

COOPERS & LYBRAND

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND REGISTERED AUDITORS

Edinburgh

18 November 1996

ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR TO 30 SEPTEMBER 1996

Year to 30 September 1995 £000		Notes	£000
1,575	Turnover	2	1,921
(1,455)	Administrative expenses	3	(1,574)
120	Profit on ordinary activities before tax		347
_(40)	Tax on ordinary activities	5	<u>(114)</u>
80	Retained profit	6	233

No gains or losses have been recognised in the accounts other than those set out in the profit and loss account above.

There is no difference between the profit on ordinary activities before tax and the retained profit for the period stated above, and their historical cost equivalents. All the results of the company relate to continuing operations.

ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1996

30 September 1995 £000		Notes	£000
	Current assets		
590	Cash at fellow subsidiary		911
453 1,043	Debtors	7	$\frac{865}{1,776}$
<u>373</u>	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	873
<u>670</u>	Total assets less current liabilities		903
	Equity Shareholders' Funds	10	
100	Called up share capital	9	100
_570	Profit and loss account	6	_803
<u>670</u>			_903

R M Entwistle, Director

A M Hedderwick, Director

18 November 1996

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and under the historical cost convention.

b. Pensions

The group operates a defined benefits scheme. Contributions to this scheme are charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the costs of the pension over the employees' estimated average working lives with the company. These are determined by independent qualified actuaries on the basis of triennial valuations using the projected unit credit method. The scheme is a funded scheme.

All contracts of employment for employees are held with a fellow subsidiary company, and details of the pension scheme are disclosed in the accounts of Adam & Company plc.

c. Cash flow statement

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc is the ultimate parent of the company and the cash flows are included in the consolidated group cash flow statement of that company. Consequently the company is exempt under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard number 1 from publishing a cash flow statement.

d. Related party disclosures

The company is exempt under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard number 8 from reporting transactions with group entities by virtue of the fact that the company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adam & Company Group plc, which is itself a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. The ultimate controlling party is The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc whose consolidated accounts are publicly available.

		Year to 30 September 1996 £000	Year to 30 September 1995 £000
2.	TURNOVER Investment management fees, commission and other income	<u>1,921</u>	<u>1,575</u>
3.	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES Administrative expenses include: - auditors' remuneration - audit services - pension scheme costs	4 34	3 41

The average number of persons charged to Adam & Company Investment Management Limited was 13 (1995 - 11) and their aggregate remuneration for the year amounted to £485,666 (1995 - £465,350).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

4. **DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS**

		Year to 30 September 1996 £	Year to 30 September 1995 £
	Non-executive directors' fees Pension contributions Other emoluments	15,000 24,620 <u>221,650</u> <u>261,270</u>	13,000 22,700 <u>207,320</u> <u>243,020</u>
	Emoluments of the Chairman	-	-
	Emoluments of the highest paid director excluding pension contributions	94,730	91,910
	The directors' emoluments, excluding pension contributions, for	ell into the following bands:	
		Year to 30 September 1996	Year to 30 September 1995
	£ $nil - £ 5,000$ £ $5,001 - £ 10,000$ £ $55,001 - £ 60,000$ £ $60,001 - £ 65,000$ £ $90,001 - £ 95,000$	3 1 - 2 1	3 1 2 - 1
		1996 £000	1995 £000
5.	TAX ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES Corporation tax at 33% (1995 - 33%)	114	<u>40</u>
			Profit and loss account £000
6.	RESERVES At 1 October 1995 Retention for the period At 30 September 1996		570 233 803
		1996 £000	1995 £000
7.	DEBTORS Amounts falling due within one year		
	Due from fellow subsidiaries	<u>865</u>	<u>453</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

				1996 £000	1995 £000
8.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one Due to parent company	e year		<u>873</u>	<u>373</u>
9.	SHARE CAPITAL	Shares	1996 £000	Shares	1995 £000
	Authorised:				
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	100,000	<u>100</u>	100,000	<u>100</u>
	Allotted, called up and fully paid:				
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	100,000	<u>100</u>	100,000	<u>100</u>
				1996 £000	1995 £000
10.	RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS Profit attributable to members of the company Opening equity shareholders' funds Closing equity shareholders' funds			233 670 903	80 590 670

11. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adam & Company Group plc which is registered in Scotland. The ultimate parent company is The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc which is registered in Scotland. The report and accounts of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc are available at 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

12. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts were approved by the Board of directors on 18 November 1996.

ADAM & COMPANY INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Adam & Company Investment Management Limited will be held at 22 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh on 16 December 1996 at 10.10am for the following purpose:

To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following Ordinary Resolutions:

- 1. That the report and accounts for the period to 30 September 1996 be approved.
- 2. That Mr Entwistle who retires in accordance with the Articles of Association be re-elected a director.
- 3. That Mrs Hunter who retires in accordance with the Articles of Association be re-elected a director.
- 4. That Coopers & Lybrand be re-appointed as auditors and that the directors be authorised to fix their remuneration.

By order of the Board

W J Stanworth CA

Secretary

18 November 1996

Registered Office 22 Charlotte Square EDINBURGH EH2 4DF