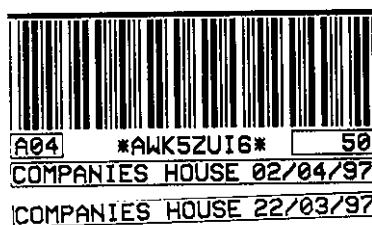


**Nelson Preserving Company Limited**

**Directors' report and financial statements**

**14 September 1996**

Registered number      390229



# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Directors' report and financial statements

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Page</i>
Directors' report	1-2
Statement of directors' responsibilities	3
Auditors' report	4
Profit and loss account	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes	7-10

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the 52 week period ended 14 September 1996.

### Principal activity

The principal activity is the holding of shares in companies in the food industry and in investment companies.

### Business review and future developments

During the period the main activity of the company remained unchanged and the directors anticipate that any future developments would be related to this activity.

As disclosed in note 6, the company transferred certain investments during the period to another group company at net book value.

### Trading results, dividends and transfer to reserves

The profit and loss account for the period is set out on page 5. Profit on ordinary activities after taxation amounted to £563,969 (1995: £1,065,189) which has been transferred to reserves. The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (1995: £Nil).

### Fixed assets

Changes in fixed asset investments are shown in note 6.

### Directors and directors' interests

The directors who held office during the period were as follows:

PE Patchett  
P Telford

Notification of an interest in, or right to subscribe for, the shares in this company and shares in or debentures of other group companies by the directors is not required because at the end of the period they were also directors of a company of which this company is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking.

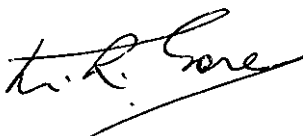
# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

Directors' report *(continued)*

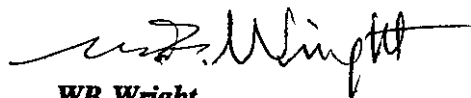
## Directors and directors' interests *(continued)*

No director had at any time during the period any material interest in a contract with the company, other than service contracts.

By order of the board



**MR Gore**



**WB Wright**

*Joint Secretaries*

Weston Centre  
Bowater House  
68 Knightsbridge  
London  
SW1X 7LR

15 October 1996

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Statement of directors' responsibilities

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 safeguard the assets of the company and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



PO Box 695  
8 Salisbury Square  
London  
EC4Y 8BB

## Auditors' report to the members of Nelson Preserving Company Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 10.

### *Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors*

As described on page 3 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those 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 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 14 September 1996 and of its profit for the 52 week period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

**KPMG**  
*Chartered Accountants*  
*Registered Auditors*

15 October 1996

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Profit and loss account

for the period ended 14 September 1996

	<i>Note</i>	52 week period ended 14 September 1996 £	52 week period ended 16 September 1995 £
Income from fixed asset investments	4	781,896	1,072,630
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>		<b>781,896</b>	<b>1,072,630</b>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	(217,927)	(7,441)
<b>Retained profit for the financial period</b>		<b>563,969</b>	<b>1,065,189</b>
Retained profit brought forward		2,088,981	1,023,792
<b>Retained profit carried forward</b>		<b>2,652,950</b>	<b>2,088,981</b>

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the period and the previous period.

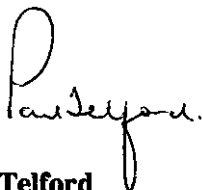
There is no material difference between the company's results as reported and on an historical cost basis. Accordingly no note of historical cost profits and losses has been prepared.

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

Balance sheet  
at 14 September 1996

	Note	14 September 1996		16 September 1995	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Investments	6		2	13,186,787	
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	2,874,821		-	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	<u>(218,773)</u>		<u>(11,094,706)</u>	
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>			<u>2,656,048</u>	<u>(11,094,706)</u>	
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>2,656,050</u>	<u>2,092,081</u>	
<b>Capital and reserves</b>					
Called up share capital	9		3,100	3,100	
Profit and loss account			<u>2,652,950</u>	<u>2,088,981</u>	
			<u>2,656,050</u>	<u>2,092,081</u>	

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on <sup>Sociale</sup> 1996 and were signed on its behalf by:



**P Telford**  
Director



# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

### 1 Accounting reference date

The accounting reference date of the company is the Saturday nearest to 15 September. Accordingly, these financial statements have been prepared for the 52 week period ended 14 September 1996.

### 2 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.

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking. A group cash flow statement is included in the financial statements of ABF Investments plc.

#### *Income from fixed asset investments*

Dividend income is recognised on a cash receipts basis.

### 3 Directors' emoluments and auditors' remuneration

The directors have received no emoluments in respect of their services as directors of the company for the current or the previous period.

In the current and the previous period the auditors' remuneration was borne by the holding company.

### 4 Income from fixed asset investments

	52 week period ended 14 September 1996 £	52 week period ended 16 September 1995 £
Income from shares in group undertakings	<u>781,896</u>	<u>1,072,630</u>

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Notes (continued)

### 5 Tax on profit on ordinary activities

	52 week period ended 14 September 1996 £	52 week period ended 16 September 1995 £
Corporation tax @ 33%	277,776	524,645
Double tax relief	(59,849)	(517,204)
	<u>217,927</u>	<u>7,441</u>

### 6 Fixed asset investments

	Group undertakings £
<b>Shares</b>	
<i>Cost</i>	
At beginning of period	13,186,787
Disposed during period	<u>(13,186,785)</u>
At end of period	<u>2</u>

There are no investments in which the company's interest is more than 10%.

In the opinion of the directors the investments in and amounts due from, the company's subsidiary undertakings are worth at least the amounts at which they are stated in the balance sheet.

### 7 Debtors

	14 September 1996 £	16 September 1995 £
Amounts due from group undertakings:		
Parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	<u>2,874,821</u>	<u>-</u>

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

## Notes (continued)

### 8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	14 September 1996	16 September 1995
	£	£
Amounts owed to group undertakings:		
Parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings	-	11,086,456
Other creditors including taxation and social security	218,773	8,250
	<u>218,773</u>	<u>11,094,706</u>

### 9 Called up share capital

	14 September 1996		16 September 1995	
	Number	£	Number	£
<i>Authorised</i>				
Ordinary shares of £1 each	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
6% cumulative preference shares of £1 each	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<i>Allotted, called up and fully paid</i>				
Ordinary shares of £1 each	100	100	100	100
6% cumulative preference shares of £1 each	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	<u>3,100</u>	<u>3,100</u>	<u>3,100</u>	<u>3,100</u>

The preference shares confer the right to a fixed cumulative dividend at the rate of 5% per annum on the paid up capital. In the event of a winding up the holders are entitled to repayment of capital, together with any dividend arrears accrued to the date of the commencement of the winding up, in priority to the ordinary shares but do not confer any further right to participate in profits or assets.

The preference shares do not confer the right to receive notice of, or to attend or vote at, any General Meeting unless the dividend due is two years or more in arrears, or the business of the meeting includes the consideration of a resolution varying any of the rights attached to its preference shares.

# Nelson Preserving Company Limited

Notes (continued)

## 10 Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds

	14 September 1996 £	16 September 1995 £
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	563,969	1,065,189
Dividends	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net addition to shareholders' funds	563,969	1,065,189
Opening shareholders' funds	2,092,081	1,026,892
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing shareholders' funds	2,656,050	2,092,081
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## 11 Holding company

The ultimate holding company is Wittington Investments Limited which is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England.

The largest group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by Wittington Investments Limited. The smallest group in which they are consolidated is that headed by ABF Investments plc, which is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England.