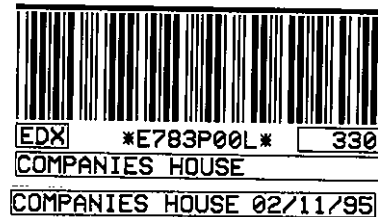


GROUP BALANCE SHEET

Ash & Lacy plc

Interim Report
1995



	30th June 1995 £000	1st July 1994 £000	30th December 1994 £000
Fixed assets	20,434	19,203	19,453
Current assets			
Stock	9,500	7,223	8,117
Debtors	18,359	15,772	15,931
Cash at bank and in hand	4,522	4,051	4,207
	32,381	27,046	28,255
Creditors - amounts falling due in less than one year	(24,915)	(19,468)	(21,292)
Net current assets	7,466	7,578	6,963
Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year	(1,263)	(1,282)	(711)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(92)	(561)	(76)
Net assets	26,545	24,938	25,629
Shareholders' funds	26,545	24,803	25,629
Minority interests	—	135	—
Net equity	26,545	24,938	25,629

The figures for the 52 weeks ended 30th December 1994 are an abridged version of the company's full accounts for that year which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies and on which the company's auditors gave an unqualified report. The figures for the 26 weeks ended 30th June 1995 and 1st July 1994 have not been audited.

Warrants in respect of the interim dividend will be posted on 17th November 1995 to members registered on 17th October 1995.

The interim report will be sent to shareholders on 6th October 1995 and made available to the public on that date at the registered office, Alma Street, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B66 2RP. Telephone: 0121-558 2171.

3-11-95
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	26 weeks ended		52 weeks ended	
	30th June	1st July	30th December	
	1995	1994	1994	
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Turnover	34,541	30,635	60,644	
Operating profit	2,904	2,087	4,698	
Other income	205	107	240	
Interest	(137)	(174)	(336)	
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2,972	2,020	4,602	
Taxation	906	661	1,497	
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	2,066	1,359	3,105	
Minority interests	—	7	7	
Profit for the period	2,066	1,366	3,112	
Dividends	962	658	1,687	
Retained profit	1,104	708	1,425	
Earnings per share	7.84p	5.20p	11.84p	
Dividend per share	2.60p	2.50p	6.40p	

The first half of 1995 has been one of marked success for your group. Turnover, profit, earnings and margins have all increased.

In May we made an offer to acquire the share capital of CI Group plc. This offer was accepted in July and therefore its figures and results are not included in this interim report. The business of absorbing companies within CI is proceeding as planned. At the time of our offer we stated that we believed that the acquisition would be earnings enhancing in the year to December 1996, the first full year of ownership. We have no reason to alter this belief.

Your directors have reviewed the dividend policy and have decided to increase the interim dividend to 2.6p per share.

In the meantime I take this opportunity to welcome those shareholders of CI Group who have become shareholders of Ash & Lacy into your group.



David Fletcher
Chairman

2nd October 1995