# TO: THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE GLEARER COMPANY LIMITED

### CONSOLIDATED NINE MONTHS INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

Group Income Statements	Notes	GROUP (Unaudited) Three Months Jul - Sept, 2008 \$000's	GROUP* (Unaudited) Three Months Jul – Sept, 2007 \$000's	GROUP (Unaudited) Nine Months Jan - Sept, 2008 \$000's	GROUP (Unaudited) Nine Months Jan - Sept, 2007 \$000's	GROUP (Audited) Twelve Months Dec 31, 2007 \$000's
Revenue	4(a), (b)& 7	1,217,755	1,403,479	3,182,249	3,149,708	4,248,873
Cost of sales		( <u>717,486</u> )	( <u>863,871</u> )	( <u>1,734,248</u> )	( <u>1,812,750</u> )	( <u>2,488,752</u> )
Gross Profit		500,269	539,608	1,448,001	1,336,958	1,760,121
Other operating income/(expenses)		35,032	( <u>1,363</u> )	202,415	44,488	321,163
	4(c)	_535,301	538,245	<u>1,650,416</u>	<u>1,381,446</u>	<u>2,081,284</u>
Distribution costs		( 180,454)	( 166,130)	( 533,708)	( 459,418)	( 568,628)
Administrative expenses		( 156,797)	( 135,288)	( 511,346)	( 482,227)	( 786,671)
Other operating expenses		( 171,313)	( 150,801)	( 437,506)	( 369,962)	( 487,532)
Pension costs		( <u>89</u> )	( <u>93</u> )	( <u>257</u> )	( <u>257</u> )	( <u>1,957</u> )
D. C. C		(_508,653)	( <u>452,312</u> )	( <u>1,482,817</u> )	( <u>1,311,864</u> )	( <u>1,844,788</u> )
Profit from operations before employee benefit asset		26,648	85,933	167,599	69,582	236,496
Employee benefit asset	4(d)	16,250	37,59 <u>1</u>	48,750	112,773	<u>64,500</u>
Profit from operations after employee benefit asset	-()	42,898	123,524	216,349	182,355	300,996
Finance income		7,311	7,119	21,116	13,866	24,612
Finance cost		( <u>8,610</u> )	( 9,327)	( <u>21,634</u> )	( <u>20,508)</u>	(25,194)
Net finance cost		()	(	(518)	(6,642)	(582)
Impairment provision	5			( <u>60,000</u> )		(_201,406)
Subsidiaries in Administration/Liquidation						94,131
Profit before taxation	2	41,599	121,316	155,831	175,713	193,139
Taxation		(14,111)	(40,622)	( <u>48,619</u> )	(_58,573)	(94,935)
Profit for the period/year	3	27,488	80,694	107,212	117,140	98,204
Attributable to:						
Parent company stockholders		25,901	74,904	103,673	109,527	94,705
Minority interest		1,587	5,790	3,539	7,613	3,499
		<u>27,488</u>	80,694	<u>107,212</u>	<u>117,140</u>	<u>98,204</u>
Dealt with in the financial statements of:						
Parent company		( 26,684)	64,678	155,104	118,686	151,549
Subsidiary companies		<u>52,585</u>	10,226	(51,431)	(9,159)	(56,844)
Earnings per stock unit:		<u>25,901</u>	<u>74,904</u>	<u>103,673</u>	<u>109,527</u>	<u>94,705</u>
Based on stock units in issue	0	9 1 a	6.2¢	8.5¢	9.0¢	7.8¢
Dased on stock units in issue	8	2.1¢	0.2¢	0.3¢	9.0¢	7.0€

#### **Consolidated Balance Sheets**

	Notes	GROUP (Unaudited) Nine Months Sept 30, 2008 \$000's	GROUP (Unaudited) Nine Months Sept 30, 2007 \$000's	GROUP (Audited) Twelve Months Dec 31, 2007 \$000's
Assets				
Property, plant and equipment		843,072	819,761	833,240
Intangible assets		199,909	279,520	367,835
Employee benefit asset	4(d)	867,929	864,590	819,179
Long-term receivables	( )	=	688	1,788
Investment in associates		150	150	150
Investments		142,606	240,934	250,563
Deferred tax assets		6,728	7,332	<u>5,983</u>
Total non-current assets		<u>2,060,394</u>	<u>2,212,975</u>	2,278,738
Cash and cash equivalents		111,507	113,484	68,043
Trade and other receivables		749,129	694,748	752,523
Prepayments		55,368	57,806	34,250
Taxation recoverable		43,140	40,945	31,233
Inventories and goods in-transit		514,244	511,464	435,413
Securities purchased under agreements for resale		<u>170,965</u>	<u>139,671</u>	<u>75,534</u>
Total current assets		<u>1,644,353</u>	<u>1,558,118</u>	<u>1,396,996</u>
Total assets		<u>3,704,747</u>	<u>3,771,093</u>	<u>3,675,734</u>
Stockholders' equity				
Share capital		605,622	605,622	605,622
Reserves		<u>1,770,285</u>	<u>1,669,704</u>	1,791,689
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the parent company		2,375,907	2,275,326	2,397,311
Minority interest		30,710	31,285	<u>27,171</u>
Total equity		<u>2,406,617</u>	<u>2,306,611</u>	<u>2,424,482</u>
Liabilities				
Long-term liabilities		51,277	40,245	74,180
Employee benefit obligation		71,300	70,600	71,300
Deferred tax liabilities		<u>367,361</u>	<u>356,293</u>	388,274
Total non-current liabilities		489,938	467,138	533,754
Bank overdraft		92,789	50,479	66,337
Trade and other payables		665,932	914,180	597,781
Taxation		388	229	10,768
Current portion of long-term liabilities		20,110	18,054	25,305
Deferred income		<u>28,973</u>	14,402	<u>17,307</u>
Total current liabilities		808,192	997,344	<u>717,498</u>
Total liabilities		<u>1,298,130</u>	<u>1,464,482</u>	<u>1,251,252</u>
Total equity and liabilities		<u>3,704,747</u>	<u>3,771,093</u>	<u>3,675,734</u>
Stockholders' equity per ordinary stock unit	9	196.66¢	188.00¢	197.92¢

## GROUP STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

#### Period ended September 30, 2008

	Share Capital \$000's	Capital reserves \$000's	Fair value reserves \$000's	Reserve for own shares \$000's	Retained profits \$000's	Parent company equity \$000's	Minority interest \$000's	Total equity \$000's
Balances at December 31, 2006	605,622	493,132	77,877	(169,506)	1,220,471	2,227,596	23,672	2,251,268
Net profit for the period	-	-	-	-	109,527	109,527	7,613	117,140
Change in fair value of investments	-	-	( 8,391)	-	-	( 8,391)	-	( 8,391)
Dividends paid (gross)	-	-	-	-	( 84,787)	( 84,787)	-	( 84,787)
Own shares acquired by the Gleaner Company Limited Employee Investment Trust	-	-	-	24,354	-	24,354	-	24,354
Currency translation difference on foreign subsidiaries		7,027				7,027		7,027
Balances at September 30, 2007	<u>605,622</u>	500,159	69,486	( <u>145,152</u> )	<u>1,245,211</u>	<u>2,275,326</u>	<u>31,285</u>	<u>2,306,611</u>
Balances at December 31, 2007	605,622	598,868	107,665	(150,375)	1,235,531	2,397,311	27,171	2,424,482
Net profit for the period	-	-	-	-	103,673	103,673	3,539	107,212
Change in fair value of investments	-	-	( 81,016)	-	-	( 81,016)	-	( 81,016)
Dividends paid (gross)	-	-	-	-	( 42,394)	( 42,394)	-	( 42,394)
Own shares acquired by the Gleaner Company Limited Employee Investment Trust	-	-	-	( 46,892)	-	( 46,892)	-	( 46,892)
Currency translation difference on foreign subsidiaries		45,225				45,225		45,225
Balances at September 30, 2008	605,622	644,093	26,649	( <u>197,267</u> )	<u>1,296,810</u>	<u>2,375,907</u>	30,710	2,406,617

# CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 (UNAUDITED)

	GROUP (Unaudited) Nine Months Sept. 30, 2008 \$000's	GROUP (Unaudited) Nine Months Sept. 30, 2007 \$000's	GROUP (Audited) Twelve Months Dec 31, 2007 \$000's
Cash Flow from operating activities			
Net profit attributable to stockholders	103,673	109,527	94,705
Adjustment for non-cash items	65,706	( 39,723)	117,818
Change in working capital	169,379 ( <u>109,475</u> )	69,804 <u>116,631</u>	212,523 ( <u>108,388</u> )
Net cash generated by operating activities	59,904	186,435	104,135
Net cash provided/(used) in investing activities Net cash used in financing activities	29,504 ( <u>72,396</u> )	( 55,381) ( <u>88,489</u> )	( 99,661) ( <u>23,208</u> )
Increase /(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	17,012	42,565	( 18,734)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period/year	<u>1,706</u>	<u>20,440</u>	20,440
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period/year	<u>18,718</u>	<u>63,005</u>	<u>1,706</u>
Comprised of:			
Cash and cash equivalents	111,507	113,484	68,043
Bank overdraft	( <u>92,789</u> )	( 50,479)	( <u>66,337</u> )
	<u> 18,718</u>	<u>63,005</u>	<u>1,706</u>

#### Notes to the Interim Financial Report

We hereby present the Report of the Group for the nine months ended September 30, 2008.

#### 1. Segment Reporting

Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's business. The primary format for the business segments is based on the Group's reporting structure.

Segment results, assets and liabilities include items directly attributable to a segment as well as those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis. Unallocated items comprise mainly income-earning assets and revenue.

Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the period to acquire segment assets that are expected to be used for more than one period.

#### \*The main business segments of the group comprise:

	<u>M</u> <b>2008</b>	<u>Media</u> 2008 2007		Books and <u>Stationery</u> 2008 2007		<u>Other</u> 2008 2007		<u>Fotal</u> 2007
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	<u>2008</u> \$000's	\$000's
Turnover	<u>2,518,945</u>	<u>2,363,577</u>	<u>655,072</u>	<u>764,890</u>	<u>8,052</u>	<u>21,241</u>	3,182,069	3,149,708
Profit/(loss) from operations	189,294	124,145	27,888	61,157	( 833)	( 2,947)	216,349	182,355
Net finance cost	-	-	-	-	-	-	( 518)	( 6,642)
Impairment provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	(60,000)	
Profit before taxation	-	-	-	-	-	-	155,831	175,713
Taxation	-	-	-	-	-	-	(48,619)	(58,573)
Profit after taxation	-	-	-	-	-	_	107,212	117,140
Minority interest	-	-	-	-	-	_	(3,539)	(7,613)
Profit attributable to Stockholders of parent company	-	-	-	-	-	-	103,673	<u>109,527</u>
Segment assets	3,012,949	<u>2,898,415</u>	612,729	<u>772,171</u>	<u>79,069</u>	100,507	3,704,747	<u>3,771,093</u>
Segment liabilities	550,438	<u>554,363</u> *	<u>289,042</u>	<u>458,240</u>	<u>19,989</u>	24,986	<u>859,469</u>	1,037,589*
Capital expenditure	25,592	44,363	6,238	4,141			31,830	48,504
Depreciation and amortisation	60,516	<u>44,481</u>	6,377	6,433	3,675	3,720	70,568	<u>54,634</u>

<sup>\*</sup>Restated to conform to 2008 presentation

#### Notes to the Interim Financial Report (cont'd)

- 2. Group Financial Accounts for the nine months ended September 30, 2008; show, a profit before taxation of approximately \$162M (2007: \$176M).
- 3. The Group Profit, after taxation and minority interest, for the nine months of 2008 was approximately \$113M compared with a profit of approximately \$117M for the same period last year.
- 4. In comparing the financial statements for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008, with those of previous year, the following should be noted: -
  - (a) Revenue increased by approximately \$32M or 1% for the period. Cost of sales remained approximately the same as last year because of improved productivity.
  - (b) Revenue for the quarter ended 2008 September 30 was below owing to:
    - i. A reduction in income from the contract received by Sangster's Book Stores Limited under the Ministry of Education's Secondary School Textbook Project \$9M (2007 \$173M).
    - ii. Lower Jamaican revenue from the UK subsidiary, the result of the revaluation of the Jamaican Dollar against the Pound.

In analysing the revenue for the period, it is to be noted that the revenue without those generated by the Secondary School Textbook Project income would have been increased by 7%.

- (c) Other operating income of \$202M (2007: \$44M) includes profit on sale of Lascelles DeMercado shares to Angostura.
- (d) Employee benefit asset of \$49M (2007: \$112.8M) represents a portion of the surplus in the pension scheme which, in accordance with IAS 19, has been credited to the group income statements. The surplus is, however, not realised profit as it represents future economic benefits to be derived from the reduction in the company's contribution to the pension scheme (See also Balance Sheet item of approximately \$868M (2007: \$865M).
- 5. Provision was made for impairment losses in respect of our U.K. investment.
- 6. The Group Financial Statements for the six months ended September 30, 2008, include the Company's twelve (2007: thirteen) subsidiaries Associated Enterprise Limited, Popular Printers Limited, Sangster's Book Stores Limited, The Book Shop Limited, The Gleaner Online Limited, Selectco Publications Limited, Independent Radio Company Limited, Creek Investment Limited and overseas subsidiaries, The Gleaner Company (U.S.A.) Limited, The Gleaner Company (Canada) Incorporated, GV Media Group Limited (formerly the Gleaner Company (UK) Limited), and The Voice Group.
- 7. Revenue represents sales by the Group before commission payable but excluding returns.
- 8. The calculations of earnings per stock unit are arrived at by dividing profit after taxation attributable to parent company stockholders by 1,211,243,827 stock units that is the number of stock units in issue at the end of the period/year.
- 9. The calculations of stockholders' equity per ordinary stock unit for 2008 and 2007 are arrived at by dividing capital and reserves by 1,211,243,827 stock units.

#### Notes to the Interim Financial Report (Cont'd)

#### **Dividend and Stock Prices**

For 2008, your directors approved the payment of a 1st Interim Ordinary Dividend of 3.5 cents per stock unit payable to stockholders on record at March 20, 2008. Payment was made on April 5, 2008.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim Ordinary Dividend of 3.5 cents per stock unit was paid on October 10, 2008 to stockholders on record at September 30, 2008.

The Company's stock unit price on the Jamaica Stock Exchange at September 30, 2008 was \$2.05; the opening price at January 1, 2008 was \$4.30.

#### **Libel Cases**

The Company's lawyers advised that they are of the opinion that the provision made in the Company's accounts is a reasonable provision for the purpose of covering all reasonable and probable judgements and costs for existing libel actions against the Company.

On behalf of the Board

Hon. O. F. Clarke, O.J.

Chairman and Managing Director

C. R. Bourne

**Company Secretary** 

November 21, 2008