

## Notes to the consolidated financial statements

### 24 Share capital and share premium

	Ordinary share capital £m	Share premium £m	Total £m
At 1 April 2007	122	403	525
Proceeds from issuance of ordinary shares	–	1	1
Share buy backs	(8)	–	(8)
At 31 March 2008	114	404	518
Proceeds from issuance of ordinary shares	1	–	1
<b>At 31 March 2009</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>519</b>

Ordinary shares carry the right to participate in dividends and each share entitles the holder to one vote on matters requiring shareholder approval.

### Authorised equity share capital

	31 March	
	2009 £m	2008 £m
790,424,000 ordinary shares of 25p each (2008 – 790,424,000)	<b>198</b>	198

### Allotted, called up and fully paid equity share capital

	31 March 2009		31 March 2008	
	Shares	£m	Shares	£m
At 1 April	<b>459 910 466</b>	<b>114</b>	489 824 398	122
Allotted under share option schemes	<b>102 335</b>	<b>1</b>	413 068	–
Market purchases	–	–	(30 327 000)	(8)
At 31 March	<b>460 012 801</b>	<b>115</b>	459 910 466	114

### Treasury shares and shares held in ESOP trust

As at 31 March 2009, the Group held 1,328,502 shares (2008 – 2,755,073 shares) in Treasury.

During the year 1,426,571 shares (2008 – 544,927 shares) were released from Treasury to satisfy share options exercised.

The shares held in Treasury at 31 March 2009 represent 0.3% (2008 – 0.6%) of the Parent Company's share capital at the year end, and have a nominal value of £0.3 million (2008 – £0.6 million).

As at 31 March 2009, the Group held 1,840,801 shares (2008 – 2,044,493 shares) in an ESOP trust.

### Analysis of ordinary shareholders

	31 March 2009			
	Number of holdings	%	Total	%
Up to 500 shares of 25p each	<b>5 543</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>1 514 432</b>	<b>0.3</b>
501 – 1 000	<b>4 636</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>3 677 803</b>	<b>0.8</b>
1 001 – 1 500	<b>2 313</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>2 915 386</b>	<b>0.6</b>
1 501 – 2 000	<b>1 605</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>2 916 127</b>	<b>0.6</b>
2 001 – 5 000	<b>2 578</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>8 106 257</b>	<b>1.8</b>
5 001 – 10 000	<b>608</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4 333 768</b>	<b>0.9</b>
10 001 – 200 000	<b>687</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>34 381 119</b>	<b>7.5</b>
200 001 – 500 000	<b>112</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>36 609 064</b>	<b>8.0</b>
Above 500 000	<b>100</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>365 558 845</b>	<b>79.5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 182</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>460 012 801</b>	<b>100.0</b>