

SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2005



Society of Genealogists
14 Charterhouse Buildings
Goswell Road
London EC1M 7BA

*Charity no. 233701
Company no. 115703 limited by guarantee*

CONTENTS

	Pages
Chairman's overview	1
Constitution and organisation of the Society	2
Objectives of the Society	2
Strategic review	3
Staff	4
Patron, President and Vice-Presidents	5
Board of Trustees	5
Operations, Library and Education sub-committees	7
SoG Enterprises	7
Fellows and awards	8
Volunteers	9
Membership	10
Premises	10
The Library	11
Communication	13
Electronic publishing	14
Publications	14
Lectures, courses and fairs	15
External liaison and media coverage	17
Finance	18

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

In our report for 2004 we commented on the improvement of the finances of our Society and it is with much pleasure that we are able to report that this has continued into 2005, as of course you will see from the actual audited accounts. We also received in the course of the year a number of significant legacies for which we are extremely grateful. Some of these were for specific purposes, and others were given to be used at the discretion of the trustees.

At last year's Annual General Meeting we put to the members a fully revised set of Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were accepted unanimously by the members present and were approved also by the Charity Commissioners, one change being that we now have a Board of Trustees rather than an Executive Committee. Other changes mean that we, as a Charity, now comply with all the current rules and regulations of the Charity Commissioners.

We have revisited the activities of the Committees and Working Parties as we commented on in our last report and where necessary we have made some adjustments and by their very nature we are now able to progress a number of activities much faster and more effectively, to the overall benefit of the Society.

Internet-based genealogy continues to grow at a rapid pace, and we have seen this ourselves through a much greater number of hits on the Society's website and increased use of the Society's Online Catalogue (SOGCAT). We have been looking closely at just how our Society can benefit from this and at the same time improve further membership benefits; results we hope will be seen later in 2006.

Membership numbers have remained steady but we do need to continue with membership recruitment, as it is essential for the continued success of the Society that we keep our membership numbers high. We also have to continue to recruit Volunteers to help us in a number of different ways, not just within the Society but in our outreach activities and in other projects that can be carried out at home.

I would like on behalf of the trustees to thank all our members for their support during 2005, our Volunteers and staff for the hard work put in during the year.

William Michael Wood

CONSTITUTION AND ORGANISATION OF THE SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION

The Society of Genealogists is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Charity number 233701. Company number 115703.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

For the purposes of charity law, a Board of Trustees (formerly known as the Executive Committee) are directors of and administer the charitable company. The Board consists of up to 16 members who receive no emoluments for their service. As set out in the Articles of Association, the trustees are elected by the charity's members, serving for a term of three years and for a maximum of two successive terms. These trustees have the power to appoint an honorary treasurer and an honorary solicitor, who ex-officio serve as members of the Board. No honorary solicitor has been appointed for many years. The trustees also have the power to elect any eligible member of the Society to the Board to fill any casual vacancy arising between one Annual General Meeting and the next; any person so elected shall retire at the AGM next following his election but shall be eligible for re-election. The trustees serving during the year 2005-2006 are listed on page 5.

COMMITTEES

The Board of Trustees appoints other Committees and Working Parties, as it considers expedient from time to time. There are currently three Committees: Operations, Library and Education. The Education Committee was formed in 2004 by a merger of the former Lectures and Publications Committees in line with the Society's business plan. A full list of members of committees for the year 2005-2006 is given on page 7.

A Director is employed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day activities of the charity.

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

The objects of the charity are to promote, encourage and foster the study, science and knowledge of genealogy. The Society's principal activities in achieving this aim continue to relate to education:

- maintains the foremost specialist library in the country
- provides a comprehensive programme of lectures, tutorials and courses
- publishes textbooks and indexes of genealogical material
- maintains co-operative relationships with allied organisations
- lobbies government and other relevant organisations on behalf of the genealogical community

STRATEGIC REVIEW

PRESENT

The Board of Trustees and Management team completed its second business plan to direct the future development of the Society in 2005. This exercise was not undertaken lightly and all relevant parties were consulted in the content of the new document. It is pleased to report that further progress has been made on implementing its content.

In 2005 the Society has:

- Continued the Operations Committee and under its effective control turned a deficit budget around
- Continued on its Education Programme via the Education Committee
- Focused the working groups connected to the Education Programme on the Business Plan Education remit
- Completed the Memorandum and Articles of Association review and had the changes approved at the AGM and lodged with the Charity Commission and Companies House. This was a major task for the Society and will ensure the Society remains within recommended governance guidelines.
- Enterprises have produced their first Business Plan and commenced focusing on its content.
- The spreading of the Membership Income, which commenced last year, is working well and all new Members now renew in the Annual Quarter in which they joined.
- The Library Catalogue is now available online everywhere (last year it was just available in the building) for all to access.
- External representation has continued and we have had an excellent presence in all the key issues which affected the genealogical community in 2005 as reported in our external liaison section

All these initiatives support the Business Plan and enable our aims and purposes to be carried out efficiently and smoothly. It has been another very busy year but thanks to the dedication of staff and volunteers real progress is being made to retain your Society as the leader in the field.

FUTURE

The Business Plan enables a focused approach to meeting our aims and mission as a Charity in the Genealogy field. The Society will continue to develop its Education Programmes to meet the growing needs of both newcomers and existing genealogists. The emphasis is increasingly turning to delivery over the internet and the Society is exploring these avenues to enable its education programme to be delivered to a much wider audience not confined to purely onsite delivery.

The same applies to Library resources. Whilst some unique material will never be deliverable online, it is appreciated that where this is possible a whole raft of people will be able to benefit who are presently unable to visit our Library in person. This is seen as one of the crucial areas of development of the Society in the immediate future. No one can predict where technology will take us over the next few years but the Society must be ready to embrace any opportunity to spread its knowledge and assist future generations of Genealogists.

STAFF

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Acting Director: June Perrin
Librarian: Sue Gibbons, BA (Hons), MCLIP
Genealogy Officer: Else Churchill, BA, Dip Lib

ADMINISTRATION

Finance Manager: Dayo Akinrele, BA (Hons)
Administrator: Sheila Marshall, BA (Hons)
Membership Officer: Jacki Ellis
Events Co-ordinator: David Walsh left in November 2004 and was replaced by Lorraine Hardman.
General Assistant (part time): Joan Waddon
General Assistant: Lori Weinstein
Saturday Assistant: Linda Melvin

LIBRARY

Deputy Librarian: Tim Lawrence, BA
Library Assistant: Claire Bullen, BA
Library Assistant: Nick Fogg, MA, Dip Lib
Cataloguer (part-time): Angela Thomson, BA, MCLIP

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Research Assistant: Matthew Gillespie, BA

SOCIETY OF GENENALOGISTS ENTERPRISES LIMITED

Acting Chief Executive: June Perrin
Graphic Designer: Rosie Miller left in November 2004 and was replaced by Fiona Lyall.
Accounting Assistant (part time): Catherine Martin
Saturday Assistant: Catherine Martin

GOVERNANCE

Patron

Prince Michael of Kent, GCVO

President

Patric Dickinson, LVO, MA, FSG, *Richmond Herald*

Vice-Presidents

The Right Rev. John Kingsmill Cavell, MA

President Boyd Packer, BS, MS, Ed D, *Quorum of the Twelve*

Dr Peter Spufford, MA, Ph D, Litt D, FR Hist S, FSA, FSG, FBA

Robin Blair, LVO, WS, *Lord Lyon King of Arms*

Fergus Gillespie, MA, *Chief Herald of Ireland*

Dr Elizabeth Hallam-Smith, FSA, FRSA, FR Hist S

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

Profiles of the Board of Trustees as at 31 December 2005

Peter Bailey, 69, member since 1967. Previously a managing director with responsibility for establishment and control of budgets and profitability. He is also the secretary for 'Families in British India Society', previously having been Membership Secretary, Meetings Organizer and Journal Editor. Currently lectures and writes articles on British Indian sources.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Chris Broomfield CEng, MIEE, 64, member since 1996. Researching family since 1992 including One-Name and One-Place Studies. Employed in the telecommunications industry for over 35 years on the development of computer communication networks for business. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2001.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

John Egan, 78, member since 1987. Now retired previously employed in journalism and later became the chief media spokesman for British Telecom. Editor of *The Irish Genealogist* and also a member of the Catholic Family History Society. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2003.

Attended four out of four possible Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report (John resigned in February 2006).

Kathy Elam, 60, member since 1996. Previously a Civil Servant working in a policy area of the Home Office with a wide experience of staff management. Kathy has been a keen Family Historian since 1988. Soon after joining the Society Kathy became a regular volunteer helping with cataloguing and counter work. More recently Kathy has begun lecturing.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

John Hanson FSG, 58, member since 1993. A retired systems specialist. Lecturer on family history and also a committee member of the Guild of One-Name Studies. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2000.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Frank Hardy FSG, 65, member since 1981. Railway Civil Engineer. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 1990 (Chairman 2002-3).

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Sharon Hintze, 61, member since 1998. Holder of diploma in genealogy. Director of Hyde Park Family History Centre for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Non-executive director of HSBC Holdings plc. Former COO Barilla Spa. Former senior vice president with Nestlé and Mars Incorporated. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2002.

Attended three out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Sue Hourizi, 68, member since 2000. Sue has been tracing family history now for some 25 years, she is a retired secondary head teacher, subsequently an interpreter for an Educational Consultancy, and has been a member of West Surrey, Somerset and Dorset, and Bristol & Avon Family History Societies. Sue is currently part of a study group about to publish the results of its first project.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Michael Jackson, 57, member since 2004 Mike is a founder Member and Chairman of www.ShapingTomorrow.com a unique web based futures, strategy and change management portal for corporate innovation and risk management. Mike was Chief Executive of Birmingham and Midshires Building Society between 1990 and 1998 and he was previously a Senior Vice President with the Bank of America which he joined in 1986. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2005.

Attended three out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Nicholas Newington-Irving FSG, MInstAM, 68, has been a member since 1970 and a Trustee since 2000. He has worked in the Library for nearly 20 years mainly producing guides. Since retirement he has indexed a large number of books. He is a retired RAF Officer and a former civil servant.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Roy Stockdill, 65, member since 1991. He is on the Executive Committees of the Guild of One-Name Studies and the Federation of Family History Societies, and is Editor of the Journal of One-Name Studies. He is a former national newspaper journalist. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2002.

Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Geoffrey T Stone, 64, member since 1997. Formerly a Computer Projects Manager in the Financial Services Industry. He is running three one-name studies and has organised the two Society email lists since their inception. Geoffrey is also a Trustee of the Halsted Trust. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2000. Society Treasurer since 2001.

Attended four out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Ian Waller, 56, member since 1990. A professional genealogist teaches both family and local history at both basic and advanced levels at various adult education community colleges in Luton and Bedfordshire, other family history societies and the Society of Genealogists. Previously served on the committee of the Hertfordshire Family History Society and was the editor of its quarterly journal for 5 years.

Attended three out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.

Michael Williamson, 61, member since 1970. Worked in computer software for over 35 years. He was co-opted to the Board of Trustees in 2002 and is currently Chairman of SOG Enterprises Ltd. *Attended three out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

William Michael Wood, FInstSMM, 68, member since 1999. Member also of several family history societies. Over 30 years' senior management experience in sales and marketing. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2002. (Current Chairman of the Board of Trustees) *Attended five out of five Board of Trustee Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Dr David Wright resigned in July 2005

Attended one out of one possible Board of Trustee Meeting held since the last Annual Report.

Note at the date of the signing of this report John Egan had resigned (February 2006)

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Chris Broomfield (Chairman), Else Churchill (Genealogy Officer), John Hanson FSG, Kathy Elam, Sue Gibbons (Librarian), June Perrin (Acting Director), Geoff Stone (ex-officio) and William Michael Wood (ex-officio).

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

John Addis-Smith FSG, Ros Dunning, Frank Hardy FSG (Chairman), Mark Herber, Sue Highley, David Horwill, Michael Isherwood, Sue Lumas (Vice-Chairman), Nicholas Newington-Irving FSG, Geoffrey Stone, Jim Willerton and William Michael Wood (ex-officio).

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Peter Bailey, John Egan, Kathy Elam, John Hanson, Sue Hourizi, Michael Isherwood, Geoffrey Stone (ex-officio), Geoff Swinfield (Vice-Chairman), Ian Waller (Chairman), Diane Waters and William Michael Wood (ex-officio).

DIRECTORS OF SOG ENTERPRISES

John Addis-Smith FSG

Michael Bunting

Stephen Hale FSG

John Hanson FSG

Geoffrey Stone

Michael Williamson, *Chairman*

Company Secretary June M Perrin

Registered Office 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA

Auditors Kingston Smith, Devonshire House, 60 Goswell Road, London EC1M 7AD

Bankers HSBC, 74 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7DA

Solicitors Field Fisher Waterhouse, 5 Vine Street, London EC3N 2AA

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

FELLOWS

The Articles of Association of the Society prescribes three “classes” of members. They are Ordinary Members, Fellows and Honorary Fellows. The constitution sets a maximum of 100 Fellows and just 10 Honorary Fellows. Those put forward for Fellowship must have been members for at least five consecutive years, but those proposed for Honorary Fellowship do not need to be members of the Society at the time of their nomination. Not fewer than six Fellows must propose candidates for either honour and a secret ballot is then held among all the Fellows. Successful nominees must secure a two-thirds majority. In weighing their vote, Fellows must judge whether those proposed for Fellowship have rendered “distinguished services to the Society or to genealogy” and whether they wish to honour those proposed for Honorary Fellowship for their “very distinguished services to genealogy”.

The election of three new Fellows was announced at the Annual General Meeting in 2005. Those so distinguished were Jean Cole, John Hanson and Pamela Palgrave.

At 31 December 2005 there were three Honorary Fellows.

Anthony Camp, MBE

Jeremy Gibson

Donald Whyte

There were eighty Fellows.

John Addis-Smith

David Gardner

Peter Park

Colin Allen

Paul Gorry

Eric Probert

Mrs Norma Allum

Stephen Hale

Mrs Doris E Pullen

Michael Armstrong

John Hanson

Prof Brian Randell

Mrs Hilary Batha

Frank Hardy

Richard Ratcliffe

Dr Morris Bierbrier

John Harnden

Dr Colin Rogers

Paul Blake

David Hawgood

Alan Rolfe

John Blight

Ian Jeffery Hilder

John Rowlands

Brian Brooks

Cecil Humphery-Smith

Mrs Sheila Rowlands

Mrs Yvonne Jeanne Bunting

Kingsley Ireland

Malcolm Sainty

Michael Burchall

Keith Johnson

Dr Michael Siddons

Dr Barbara Carter, JP

Dr Anthony Joseph

Paul Floyd Smart

Dr Colin Chapman

Charles Kidd

Dr Peter Spufford

Mrs Isabelle Charlton

Miss Patricia Kirkland

David Squire

Peter Christian

J M Kitzmiller II

Don Steel

Dr W E Church

Frank Leeson

Miss Monnica Stevens

Peter Wilson Coldham

Brian Loomes

Hon Guy Strutt

Major R M Collins

Mrs Susan Lumas

Neville Taylor

Miss Stella Colwell

Sir Mervyn Medlycott, Bt

Rt Hon the Lord Teviot

Harold Culling

Mrs Marjorie Moore

Dr Neil Thompson

Alan Dell

Richard Moore

John Titford

Patric Dickinson

Mrs Joy Wade Moulton

Mrs Jean Tooke

Dr Andrea Duncan

Dick Mynott

Dr Chris Watts

F J Fone

Nicholas Newington-Irving

Cliff Webb

Brian Frith, MBE

Peter Nutt

Anthony Wilcox

Vic Gale

Derek Palgrave

James Willerton

Michael Gandy

Mrs Pamela Palgrave

We announce, with regret, the deaths of the following Fellows during 2005:

Elisabeth McDougall, MBE, BA, FSG, Hon FIHGS, member from 1976, elected to Fellowship in 1987, died 30 July 2005

Leslie William Lawson Edwards, FSG, FSA Scot, Librarian of the Society 1968-1990, elected to Fellowship in 1987, died 6 August 2005

Jean Cole, FSG, member from 1979, sadly died in the year of Fellowship being awarded.

Following 2004's successful talks, Fellows' talks were once again kindly arranged by David Hawgood and were well received.

AWARDS

The Board of Trustees is able to recognise the contribution of members, non-members and appropriate organisations through the award of a Certificate of Appreciation. HRH Prince Michael of Kent has graciously agreed that a special award may be made from time to time bearing his name. The Board acts on the advice of an Awards Panel consisting of not more than five Fellows - currently Morris Bierbrier, Michael Gandy, Frank Hardy and Richard Moore.

In 2005, the Prince Michael Award was not awarded; Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Chris Broomfield, John Hanson, Carole Powell and Graham Walter.

VOLUNTEERS

The Society continues to be indebted to the many members who volunteer their time to help out on the enquiry counters, work on archive and indexing projects, etc. They are too numerous to list here but we owe a special vote of thanks to those who act as co-ordinators and relieve your hard pressed staff of much additional work. They are Chris Broomfield, John Hanson and Graham Walter (IT support), Michael Bunting (outreach events), Kathy Elam (volunteer co-ordinator) and Sue Lumas (Special Collections volunteer archivist). Thanks also go to all those who work for the Society from home on transcription and indexing projects.

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

Work on the enormous Brooks-Davies Collection under the supervision of Dick Mynott, the indexing of the St. Andrew Holborn marriage registers under the leadership of Colin Allen and indexing of the Great Western Railway probate (stock transfer) registers managed by Frank Hardy was continued. A new project was started in 2005 to expand the existing index to the wills in the Document Collection led by Norma Ashworth. It is hoped that this will form the basis of a much larger British wills index. The results of these projects will, in time, be available in electronic form.

A co-operative project with the City of Westminster Archives Centre is being undertaken under the leadership of Tim Lawrence, Deputy Librarian. A card index to the names in the St Martin in the Fields Settlement Examination books 1708-95 and 1816-27 prepared by volunteers at the archive centre is being typed up by Society volunteers. The period 1750-75 is already available online at the City of Westminster website.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership at the end of 2005 was 12,055 (12,275 – 2004). The BBC series *Who Do You Think You Are?* continued to attract newcomers to Family History which has in turn given the Society a steady flow of new Members.

Day search fees for 2005 were increased to £4.00 for one hour, £10.00 for four hours and £18.00 for a day.

PREMISES

During 2005 we received notice of a large development, by St Bartholomew's Trust, which will surround the Society. The Society has lodged various objections, and negotiations with St Bartholomew's are ongoing. The building developers have agreed to mutual co-operation in ensuring minimum disruption to the Society but inevitably there will be noise and dust during the development phase.

On 7 July terrorists detonated several bombs in London, the nearest being just two stops away from the Society at Kings Cross station. By 2pm some transport was running again and it was decided to evacuate the building. The police were urging people not to make non-essential journeys back into the City, so the decision was made to remain closed until 10am on the following Tuesday. This incident did have some effect on the Society during the year in terms of day visitors and lecture attendees.

On 7 September the Honorary Treasurer, Librarian and Graphic Designer acquired a second-hand Bookeye scanner from Wales and were trained in its use. The scanner is to be used for digitisation and indexing projects.

THE LIBRARY

LIBRARY RULES

The Board of Trustees authorised a revision of the Society's rules. Two changes affecting library use are that books over 60 years old (formerly 100 years old) may no longer be borrowed by members and there is now a small fee of £2 for permission to use a digital camera in the library.

ACCESSIONS

For a fourth year running the library budgets were held in maintenance mode, however, thanks largely to generous donations during the year (figures for 2004 in brackets for comparison), there were 3,436 (3,774) additions to the library. Of this total 543 (2004: 1,146, 2003: 449) were transcripts or copies of church registers and 227 (218) were transcripts of monumental or tombstone inscriptions.

Thanks to John Titford who priced up the duplicate and unwanted stock from the Library and to staff and volunteers who sold them at the SoG Family History Show & in the Society's bookshop, the Library made £1,780 (£1,131) to add to its budget.

The Society is especially grateful for the generosity of family history societies and individuals who donate material to the Library or who "sponsor" the purchase of items by paying 50% or more of the cost. £11,312 (£5,127) was given by Members for the purchase of specific or general acquisitions for the Library. Notable additions during 2005 - showing, where appropriate, the name of the donor - are given below:

Reference works. D: House of Lords Library.

Crockford's clerical directory (20 vols. Between 1891 and 1941). Purchase.

Soldiers died in the Great War. 2nd edn. CD-ROM. Purchase.

WO 364 World War I soldiers (unburnt) documents, surnames A to Burch. Mf. D: PRO.

Royal Navy Lieutenants' passing certificates 1691-1902: List and Index Society, vols. 289-290. Purchase.

Calendars of Tudor and Stuart Assize Court cases for the Home Counties. Purchase.

Various parish registers. Mf. D: Pat & Ann Loveridge & A M Mennim.

Berkshire burial index. CD-ROM. Purchase.

Cambridgeshire baptism index 1813-37. CD-ROM. Purchase.

Cambridgeshire marriage index. CD-ROM. Purchase.

Cambridgeshire burial index 1813-37. CD-ROM. Purchase.

Cornwall registers. D: M E Runnalls.

West Kent probate index 1750-1858. CD-ROM. Review.

Lancashire parish registers & the Owen MSS. Mf. F Whitehead.

Lincolnshire parish registers. Mfc. D: A Sabey.

Northamptonshire marriage index 1700-1837. CD-ROM. Purchase.

Nottinghamshire burials 1533-c.1906. CD-ROM. D: J Pollock.

Shrewsbury, Shropshire, parish registers. Mf. Purchase.

Somerset parish registers (158 parishes). Mfc. Purchase.

Warwick, Warwickshire, parish registers. Mf. Purchase.

Wiltshire wills beneficiaries index. 2nd collection. CD-ROM. Purchase.

St. David's Diocese wills 1672-90. CD-ROM. S: O Mundy.
Cardiganshire burial indexes. Mfc. D: Cardiganshire FHS.
Lawson Edwards bequest of books and a donation for the purchase of Scottish material.
Seamen's crew lists 1851 for vessels registered in Scotland. CD-ROM. D: L Hore & Reviews.
St. Andrew's University biographical register of graduates 1747-1897. D: N H Reid.
Caithness 1841 census indexes. D: F Hardy.
McKirby index to statutory death registers for Peeblesshire 1855-75. Mfc. Purchase.
Eleanor Kingston (nee Steele) Collection. MSS & Ts.

During the year 8,335 (9,080) items on closed access were produced for library users by the staff and volunteers in the Lower Library and 265 (293) items were borrowed from the Library of which 121 (160) were copies of registers.

BINDING AND CONSERVATION

£3,972 (£5,991) was donated by members (£2,500 by Pat and Ann Loveridge) for conserving and binding existing and new stock, which, together with £3,595 carried over from 2004 was used to bind 224 (138) items at a cost of £4,272 (£2,570). £3,295 was carried forward to 2006. NB. These figures include gift aid where appropriate.

Conservation work carried out during the year included the sorting of new and existing special collections into archival boxes and acid-free envelopes by Sue Lumas (formerly an archivist at the PRO) and her team of volunteers.

LIBRARY CATALOGUE

The library catalogue (SOGCAT) was made quietly available via the Internet on 21 July. We decided against any great fanfare or publicity as there was the worry that the server and our research department could be swamped by too great a demand. Since then usage has been steadily increasing and, in fact, research enquiries have become more focused with people asking for searches in specific sources found on the catalogue. Cataloguing of new material was halted temporarily from 5 August for four weeks due to re-indexing of the database.

COMMUNICATION

Use of the website www.sog.org.uk has followed trends experienced over the past few years. The level of use continues to grow and increased use is often related to the promotion of family history and genealogy in mainstream media. The upsurge noted last year during the broadcast by the BBC of the series *Who Do You Think You Are?* was repeated when series 2 was broadcast. The level of use generated by this and other related programmes continues into 2006.

We have been fortunate, yet again, to receive a donation from the Halsted Trust making it possible to increase the number of Internet access computers from 8 to 12. Researchers are able to access an increasing number of databases on 1837Online, Ancestry, and Origins Network, which the companies make available at no charge to the Society. The Internet access computers are extremely busy and plans were put in place to upgrade the Internet access pipe from 512kbit/s to 2Mbit/s (completed January 2006). With the aim of simplifying the management of the growing level of computing resources within the Society a number of staff computers have been upgraded. The upgrade plan will continue with the aim of all computers using Windows XP Professional by the end of 2006.

The objective to provide members access to the Library Catalogue (SOGCAT) at home was, after further investigation, abandoned in favour of providing open access from the Internet to SOGCAT. This was to minimize the level of access management that would have been needed to do the former. The Society is very grateful to about 20 members who assisted with the beta testing before the “soft” launch of SOGCAT on the Internet at the end of July. In particular the Society is indebted to David Hawgood FSG for writing the first issue of the SOGCAT Tutorial. The number of accesses to SOGCAT from July to December exceeded 25,000 (this data excludes access from the society’s premises to SOGCAT).

A plan to reduce the wear and tear and to increase security of research resources on CD-ROM in the Library collection came on-stream. The creation of SOGNET means that data on CD-ROMs can be accessed from 3 computers in the Library without the need to physically handle the media. It is planned to use this method of delivery whenever possible.

ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

The Society's partnership with Origins.net continues. Society indexes added to the British Origins website during 2005 were the Apprentices of Great Britain 1710-1774, Boyd's London burials 1538-c.1853 and the Trinity House Petitions index 1787-1854. Further names of City of London apprentices were also added during the year for the Fishmongers' and Vintners' Companies.

The above and other non-Society data sets can be accessed free of charge from within the Society's library or by payment of a fee on the Internet. Members have a free access session from their home once every quarter of the year to Society data sets. The Society of Genealogists provides "hard copy" printouts from some of the sources and these can be ordered from the site with a discount for members.

Further databases are being prepared for electronic publication in the near future.

During 2005 the Society entered into an agreement with Archive CD Books to publish the Phillimore Marriage Registers available in the Library on CD-Rom. The initial sales were very successful and thanks are also given to Phillimore Publishers for their part in ultimately allowing the material to be published under a royalty scheme.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society's publishing programme continues and now stands at 175 titles. A new edition of *First Steps in Family History* was edited by the Genealogy Officer and distributed to various outlets, including the QVC shopping channel in partnership with Law Packs publishers. Alan Rushton's volume on theatrical ancestors was produced as part of the Society's *My Ancestors ...* series. Both have received very favourable reviews. Another nine existing titles were reprinted. Roy Stockdill continues as series editor for *My Ancestors* series and Michael Gandy continues to edit the *Genealogists' Magazine*. After many years it was decided to cease publication of *Computers in Genealogy* and hearty thanks are given to Sean Brady who edited this item in its final years. A full list of new titles and reprints appears below:

NEW PUBLICATIONS

First Steps in Family History

My Ancestors Worked in the Theatre Alan Ruston

REPRINTS (some with minor revisions)

Examples of Handwriting W. S.B. Buck

My Ancestors were Manorial Tenants Peter Park

My Ancestors were Bastards Ruth Paley

My Ancestors were Methodists William Leary

My Ancestors were Quakers E. Milligan & M. Thomas

My Ancestors were Jewish Anthony Joseph

My Ancestors were Freemasons (2nd edition) Pat Lewis

My Ancestors were Londoners Cliff Webb

My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman Chris and Michael Watts

Tracing Births, Deaths and Marriages at Sea Chris Watts

These can be purchased from the Society or via our website.

LECTURES, COURSES AND FAIRS

The Society presented a wide variety of events within its education programme supported as usual by an excellent team of tutors and chairmen. The visits, lectures, tutorials, full and half day courses along with evening classes continue to appeal to genealogists whether they are just beginning their family history or are more experienced. Sadly the Society's Summer School Routes to Routes fell just at the time of the terrorist attacks on the London Underground and this clearly affected attendance with the final week having to be postponed. Thanks go to volunteers Kathy Elam and John Hanson FSG for assistance with the programme. 1,148 people attended events over the year (226 non-members, 922 members). A full list of events appears below.

Date	Event	Lecturer
29-Jan	Using Family Historian (beginners)	John Hanson
29-Jan	Wills Workshop	John Titterton
3-Feb	Visit: Royal London Hospital Museum and Archives	
5-Feb	Genealogy on the Palm	Alec Tritton
5-Feb	Using Family Historian (practical with laptop)	John Hanson
16-Feb	Basic Britain: family history sources for Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire	Ian Waller
19-Feb	Insurance policies and their linkage to the records of Eighteenth Century East London	Derek Morris
23-Feb	Using British Origins	Else Churchill
26-Feb	Beginners Course	Geoff Swinfield and Audrey Collins
2-Mar	The Census: Online and on CD-ROM	John Hanson
9-Mar	Using the Society's Library	Sue Gibbons
10-Mar	Family History Skills Course: Beginners	Paul Blake, Else Churchill and Geoff Swinfield
12-Mar	Top Clan & Surname DNA Projects	Chris Pomery
16-Mar	Researching French Ancestry	Rosie Wileman
17-Mar	Visit: Ragged School Museum	
19-Mar	Further sources for Scottish Family History	David Webster
23-Mar	Using Family Tree Maker Software (beginners)	Helen Williams
30-Mar	Basic Britain: family history sources for Oxfordshire	Paul Gaskell
2-Apr	Personal Ancestral File	David Lumley
6-Apr	Family History from Objects	Hilda Kean
7-Apr	Visit: Essex County Record Office	
9-Apr	Property Day	Chris Pitt-Lewis, David Smith and Peter Park
13-Apr	Cramming for Genealogy Exams	Geoff Swinfield, Else Churchill
16-Apr	What you need to know about the Newspaper Library at Colindale	Audrey Collins
20-Apr	Pauperism, Poverty & the Allowance System	Ian Waller
23-Apr	What you need to know about Parish Registers	Ian Waller
27-Apr	Newest, Unusual and Exciting Websites for Genealogists	John Konvalinka
28-Apr	Visit: Florence Nightingale Museum and Crimean War Exhibition	
4-May	Researching Scandinavian Ancestry	Penny Christiansen
7-May	VE Day Anniversary Study Day	John Mills
11-May	LDS Online and on CD-ROM	Sharon Hintze
5-May	Visit to Fire Brigade	Kathy Elam
14-May	Births, Deaths and Marriages Online	John Hanson
18-May	Nineteenth-Century Membership Records of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers	David Squire
21-May	Grave Matters	Julian Litten, Janette Scarborough, Richard Smart and Jane Furlong
25-May	Using Family Tree Maker Software (practical with laptop)	Helen Williams
5-May	Visit: King's College London Archives	
1-Jun	Using the Society's Library Catalogue	Sue Gibbons
4-Jun	Beginners Course	Geoff Swinfield and Audrey Collins
8-Jun	Basic Britain: family history sources for the Diocese of Sarum (Berks, Dorset, Wilts)	Beryl and John Hurley
9-Jun	Visit Thomas Coram Foundling Museum	
15-Jun	Using the Society's Library	Sue Gibbons
16-Jun	Visit: National Army Museum	
18-Jun	Producing Your own Family History Website	Peter Christian
22-Jun	The Records of the Machine Breakers	Jill Chambers
23-Jun	Visit: House of Lords	Kathy Elam
25-Jun	Family History from Objects	Hilda Kean
29-Jun	Brewery Records	Ken Thomas
2-Jul	The Master Genealogist	Teresa Pask
6-Jul	Using Family Historian (beginners)	John Hanson
7-Jul	Visit: Society of Antiquaries	
13-Jul	Basic Britain: family history sources for Northumberland & Durham	Peter Bennett
14-Jul	Visit: Guildhall	Kathy Elam
16-Jul	The Census: Online and on CD-ROM	John Hanson
16-Jul	What you need to know about MH12 (Poor Law Commissioners Records)	Marjorie Moore
18-Jul	Routes to Roots	Else Churchill and Geoff Swinfield
31-Aug	Emigration of women to Australia: forced and voluntary	Noeline Kyle
3-Sep	Latin Workshop	Sue Palmer
7-Sep	Basic Britain: family history sources for Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire	Dominic Johnson

8-Sep	Family History Skills Course: Intermediate	Paul Blake, Else Churchill, Geoff Swinfield
10-Sep	Chancery Records	Michael Gandy
10-Sep	Tracing Living Relatives	Geoff Swinfield, Karen Bali
14-Sep	Using Family Historian (in-depth)	John Hanson
21-Sep	Soldiers' Discharge Documents (WO97)	Paul Blake
24-Sep	I'm Stuck	Geoff Swinfield
28-Sep	Basic Britain: family history sources for Norfolk & Suffolk	Sue Gibbons
30-Sep	Making the most of the Society's Library	Meryl Catty, Else Churchill & Sue Gibbons
1-Oct	What you need to know about Nonconformist Records	Michael Gandy
4-Oct	What you need to know about MH12 (Poor Law Commissioners Records)	Marjorie Moore
5-Oct	Researching Dutch Ancestry	Christopher Weir
6-Oct	Using Family Historian (practical with laptop)	John Hanson
8-Oct	Adoption and Fostering: records and practices 1850-1950	Louise Taylor
8-Oct	Using Family Tree Maker Software (practical with laptop)	Helen Williams
12-Oct	Researching Italian Ancestry	Elaine Collins
15-Oct	Researching Naval Ancestry	Peter Park, Ann Coats, Paul Blake and Bruno Pappalardo
19-Oct	Economic Growth & the Changing Male Occupational Structure of England 1750-1850	Leigh Shaw-Taylor and Tony Wrigley
20-Oct	Napoleonic Prisoners of War	Karen Selby, Peter Clark
22-Oct	Using Family Historian (beginners)	John Hanson
22-Oct	US Immigration and Civil Registration Online	Sharon Hintze
26-Oct	Caribbean Ancestry	Kathy Chater, Guy Grannum, Sharon Hintze
29-Oct	One-Name Study Day	Halsted Trust
2-Nov	Using the Society's Library Catalogue	Sue Gibbons
5-Nov	Gunpowder, Treason and Plot	Michael Gandy and History of Parliament
7-Nov	Genealogy for Librarians & Archivists	Else Churchill and Doreen Hopwood
8-Nov	First steps on family history SoG @ FRC	Else Churchill and Ian Waller
9-Nov	Another Four Indexes at the Society	Kathy Elam
10-Nov	Visit: The National Archives at Kew	Kathy Elam
12-Nov	Using Family Tree Maker Software (in-depth)	Helen Williams
16-Nov	Sources for Welsh Ancestry at the Society of Genealogists	Else Churchill
19-Nov	Theatrical Ancestry	Alan Ruston, Max Tyler
23-Nov	Using Roots Magic	John Hanson
26-Nov	What you need to know about Heraldry	Geoff Swinfield
30-Nov	My Ancestor was a Shopkeeper	Sue Gibbons
3-Dec	Introducing Palaeography	Hilary Marshall
5-Dec	Genealogy for Librarians & Archivists	Else Churchill
7-Dec	Using Family Tree Maker Software (beginners)	Helen Williams
10-Dec	Advanced Palaeography	Hilary Marshall

The twelfth Family History Show was held again at the Royal Horticultural Hall in Westminster on 30th April with a pre-show conference Taste of Family History occurring on the 29th April. Having listened to requests from exhibitors to curtail the show to a one-day event it was gratifying that the attendance was as high as ever. The lectures proved very popular and again thanks must go to our sponsors 1837online.com for helping to make this a successful event with free lecture streams. The volunteer help both on the day and in preparation for the event is much appreciated. Sadly this was the last show that Marjorie Moore assisted with before her untimely death. Her steadfast support for the show is truly appreciated.

EXTERNAL LIAISON AND MEDIA COVERAGE

The Society continues to be an active participant in the genealogical and historical community with representation on the Federation of Family History Societies, British Genealogical Record Users Committee, Family Record Centre User Group, Probate Users Group, TNA Online Projects Advisory Committee, Friends of the National Archives, and London Research Libraries in British History. The Genealogy Officer has been appointed in a personal capacity to the council of the Record Society and the Advisory Council on National Records and Archives.

In addition to representations through these bodies, the Society made formal responses to discussion papers and continues to lobby on behalf of its Members and the genealogical community as a whole. The Society attended a workshop in Birmingham to hear the General Register Office's proposals about Digitisation of Vital Events and the Society sits as part of the family history liaison meetings with the GRO to discuss the progress of this project. Consultation papers were received on Registration Modernisation (delivery of the local registration service in England and Wales). The Society participated in the future of the Federation of Family History Societies Think Tank weekend and responded to consultation sessions on behalf of both the National Archives and the Economic and Social Research Council Victorian Panel.

The Genealogy Officer and Librarian gave 15 lectures on the Society and its library to family history societies and other organisations around the country. The Librarian gave the Mountbatten Memorial Lecture for the Cambridge University Heraldic and Genealogical Society. The Genealogy Officer spoke at the Bristol FHS/FFHS conference in April and at the British Isles Genealogical Society of Ottawa conference in Ontario and for a local group in Peterborough, Ontario in September. Family history workshops were arranged for staff at the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. Staff attended the launches of the Bromley Archives online catalogue; Institute of Historic Research (Senate House) Helpers website; The National Archives Trafalgar database; the online 1851 census index; and the launch of Archives for London forum.

Open days for prospective members were held on 23 May and 24 October. Free Library tours and advice sessions were given on alternate Saturdays during the year. Thirty other groups were also given talks or tours of the library including four parties of librarians and archivists, Ancestors Magazine readers, groups from Alabama and Iowa and the Anglo-Belgium Society.

The Society continued a presence in both broadcast and print media with interviews and profiles appearing in *The Daily Mail*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *She Magazine*, Radio Scotland, BBC Radio Essex and other stations. Crews from the BBC 2 *Who Do You Think You Are* television series filmed in the library (but sadly the footage wasn't shown) as well as for a forthcoming programme provisionally entitled *My Famous Ancestors* to be screened on UK History in Spring 2006. The Genealogy Officer co-presented an introductory DVD *Discover Your Family History* for Evensaul Productions. Articles featuring the Society appeared in the genealogical press and the Genealogy Officer continues her column in *Your Family Tree* on behalf of the Society.

The Society continues to have a presence at many Family History Fairs across the UK thanks to the dedication of Michael Bunting, Jeanne Bunting FSG and John Hanson FSG. The emphasis at these events has moved from purely sales to offering advice and assistance.

FINANCE

The trustees are pleased to present the financial statements for the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2005.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities, 2000.

TREASURER'S REPORT

2005 has been another good year for the Society yielding a modest surplus for the second consecutive year. However, the general income and expenditure were fairly well balanced with the surplus coming from generous donations from members. The main legacies being £21,088.70 from the Arthur Henry Salisbury Will Trust, £10,000 from Miss Christine Loveridge and £6,500 from Mr LW Edwards and donations to the sum of £12,500 from Pat and Ann Loveridge. The Board of Trustees appreciates this generous support and hope that other members will remember the Society when writing their wills or making donations.

The Halsted Trust has donated four more PCs for use in the lower library, bringing the total to twelve. The timely gift is much appreciated and has eased the queues for this rapidly growing resource. The demand is so great for online access that a booking system had to be introduced.

The mobile bookshop attended some twelve fairs during the year but in common with many other vendors, we found a drop in sales. Future attendance, at the main fairs, is likely to concentrate more on Society publications.

Looking ahead, we will still need to pull in the reins with expenditure, but again we are not increasing the subscription.

INVESTMENT POWERS

Under the memorandum and articles of association, the charity has the power to make any investment, which the trustees see fit.

TRADING SUBSIDIARY

The charity's wholly owned trading subsidiary, Society of Genealogists Enterprises Limited, undertook its sixth year of operating the commercial trading activities of the Society. The subsidiary gift aids any profits to the charity, and these additional funds are generated to meet our charitable objectives.

Society of Genealogists Enterprises performance dropped during 2005; this had been anticipated. The good turnover publications had benefited from in the previous couple of years for the sale of census CD-Roms had neared the end of its life. The census indexes and images are now available online and there is less call for individuals to own sets of the images. In addition attendance has dropped at the Family History Shows, which is the main sales arena for non-Society Publications. Enterprises have been pro-active in looking at other ways to replace this lost income and work is currently taking place to offer more of our material online. However, the Society will not be giving up its publishing programme or sales, as its own 'My Ancestor' series is still proving to be popular and there will always be a market for some of the other publishers titles.

STRATEGIC REVIEW, RESERVES POLICY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

As mentioned on page 3, the Board of Trustees continued to make good progress with its previous Business Plan and produced a second one. The review of the Memorandum and Articles was completed and passed at the Annual General Meeting.

As part of the strategic review, the trustees continued the risk management strategy, which comprises :

- an annual review of the risks which the charity may face
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan, and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should any of those risks materialise.

This exercise as well as being beneficial also complies with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities, 2000, by which the Charity abides.

The trustees have forecast the level of free reserves (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, and designated and restricted funds) the charity will require to sustain its operations and make appropriate adjustments should there be a material reduction in the charity's income. The trustees consider that the most appropriate level of free reserves is a sum equivalent to six months of the charity's running costs estimated at £200,000, the current level is zero. It is the trustees' view that the balance of income and expenditure should be managed to increase the free reserves to the appropriate level.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

We have audited the group and parent charitable company financial statements (the "financial statements") of The Society of Genealogists for the year ended 31st December 2005, which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Charitable Company Balance Sheets, and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken for no purpose other than to draw to the attention of the charitable company's members those matters, which we are required to include in an auditor's report addressed to them. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company and charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND AUDITORS

The trustees' (who are also the directors of The Society of Genealogists. for the purposes of company law) responsibilities for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Trustees' Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charitable company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

BASIS OF AUDIT OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 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 judgments made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's and charitable 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, in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the group's and charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2005 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the group for the year then ended; and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Kingston Smith
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London
EC1M 7AD

May 2006

Society of Genealogists

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2005
(Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2005 £	2004 £
Incoming Resources					
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects:					
Membership income	2	419,916	-	419,916	432,327
Library income		8,426	-	8,426	2,753
Event income		59,395	-	59,395	72,524
Genealogy income		3,060	-	3,060	-
Other income		6,889	-	6,889	11,090
Book shop & magazine		118,169	-	118,169	238,147
Donations, legacies and similar income					
Legacies		32,339	6,905	39,244	157,856
Other donations received		14,046	15,284	29,330	41,148
Interest receivable		13,870	-	13,870	6,191
Total Incoming Resources		676,110	22,189	698,299	962,036
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising expenses	4	1,120	-	1,120	-
Charitable Expenditure					
Costs of activities in furtherance of the objects of the charity:					
Membership expenditure	4	98,893	-	98,893	30,941
Library expenditure	4	241,656	4,271	245,927	244,892
Event expenditure	4	73,425	-	73,425	48,309
Genealogy expenditure	4	27,335	-	27,335	-
Book shop & Magazine expenditure	4	171,628	-	171,628	233,800
Managing and administering the charity	4	35,245	-	35,245	219,970
Total Charitable Expenditure		649,302	4,271	653,573	777,912
Net Income for the year		26,808	17,918	44,726	184,124
Transfers between funds	12	7,567	(7,567)	-	-
Net movement in funds for the year		34,375	10,351	44,726	184,124
Fund balances carried forward at 1st January 2005		1,111,775	10,514	1,122,289	938,165
Fund balances carried forward at 31st December 2005		1,146,150	20,865	1,167,015	1,122,289

All gains and losses arising in the year are included in the Statement of Financial Activities and arise from continuing activities.

The net income for the year of the charity is £41,050.

The notes on pages 24 to 30 form part of the financial statements.

Society of Genealogists

Balance Sheets as at 31st December 2005

	Note	Group		Charity	
		2005 £	2004 £	2005 £	2004 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	6	985,250	1,000,111	986,319	999,634
Investments	7	-	-	20,000	20,000
		<u>985,250</u>	<u>1,000,111</u>	<u>1,006,319</u>	<u>1,019,634</u>
Current Assets					
Stock of goods for resale		31,893	27,648	-	-
Debtors	8	41,006	47,437	48,745	57,565
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>195,187</u>	<u>130,884</u>	<u>175,858</u>	<u>110,985</u>
		268,086	205,969	224,603	168,550
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(86,321)</u>	<u>(83,791)</u>	<u>(67,947)</u>	<u>(66,259)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>181,765</u>	<u>122,178</u>	<u>156,656</u>	<u>102,291</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>1,167,015</u>	<u>1,122,289</u>	<u>1,162,975</u>	<u>1,121,925</u>
Summary of Funds					
Restricted funds	10	20,865	10,514	20,865	10,514
Unrestricted funds	11	<u>1,146,150</u>	<u>1,111,775</u>	<u>1,142,110</u>	<u>1,111,411</u>
Total Funds		<u>1,167,015</u>	<u>1,122,289</u>	<u>1,162,975</u>	<u>1,121,925</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on

.....
William Michael Wood Chairman of the Board of Trustees

.....
Geoffrey Stone Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 24 to 30 form part of the financial statements.

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (2000) (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", other applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 1985. The charity has availed itself of the special provisions of the Companies Act and adapted the format of the financial statements to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

Group Financial Statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly-owned trading subsidiary, Society of Genealogists Enterprises Limited. The charity has taken advantage of the exemption available under s230 of the Companies Act 1985 and not included a separate Income and Expenditure account for the charity.

Incoming Resources

Income is recognised in the period in which the charitable group is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Donations and legacies

Donations are accounted for gross when receivable, so long as they are capable of financial measurement.

Grants

Grants receivable are recognised when there is reasonable assurance of their receipt, whether capital or revenue in nature. Grants are not recognised until the conditions for their receipt have been complied with.

Resources Expenses and Basis of Allocation of Cost

Expenditure is included when incurred. Wherever possible costs are allocated directly to activities. Costs common to a number of activities are allocated on a basis appropriate to the cost, this includes proportion of space occupied or of time spent. This has been refined in the current year. The trustees do not consider restatement of prior year figures on a comparable basis, to be an appropriate use of resources.

Cost of Managing and Administering the Charity

These represent costs attributable to the strategic management of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Depreciation

No depreciation is provided on freehold land or on books, manuscripts, and typescripts, since it is the Society's practice to maintain these in a continual state of sound repair and any depreciation involved would not be material. Provision will be made should any permanent diminution in the value of these documents occur. Other fixed assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Freehold building	2% straight line per annum
Leasehold property	over the life of the 5 year lease
Plant and machinery	5% straight line per annum
Furniture, fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% or 25% on book value per annum
Microfilm	10% on book value per annum

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs charged to the SOFA represent the amount of the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is included in Charitable Expenditure within Managing and Administering the Charity.

Operating Leases

Rental applicable to operating leases, where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remains with lessor, are charged to the SOFA on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Stocks

Stocks of publications and other items for sale are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after providing for slow moving items.

Investments

The investments are stated at the market price.

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

Taxation

The Society is a registered charity and avails itself of the exemptions available under the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Fund Accounting

The Unrestricted Fund consists of funds to be used for the purposes of the Charity at its discretion. Designated Funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The Restricted Fund consists of funds to be used for specific purposes determined by the donor.

2. Membership Fees	2005	2004
	£	£
These comprise:		
Subscriptions	412,236	425,713
Entrance fees and lost cards	<u>7,680</u>	<u>6,614</u>
	<u><u>419,916</u></u>	<u><u>432,327</u></u>

3. Staff Costs	2005	2004
	£	£
Wages and salaries	303,072	273,609
Social security cost	28,816	25,589
Pension cost	<u>16,026</u>	<u>18,191</u>
	<u><u>347,914</u></u>	<u><u>317,389</u></u>

The average number of employees during the year was made up as follows:

	2005	2004
	Number	Number
Direct charitable activities	11	11
Managing and administering the charity	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u><u>15</u></u>	<u><u>15</u></u>

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

4. Resources expended

	Direct Staff Costs £	Direct Other Costs £	Support Costs £	2005 Total £	2004 Total £
Costs of generating funds					
Fundraising expenditure	-	1,120	-	1,120	-
Costs of activities in furtherance of the objects of the charity:					
Membership expenditure	46,889	26,474	25,530	98,893	30,941
Library expenditure	121,963	29,996	93,969	245,928	244,892
Event expenditure	23,168	34,901	15,355	73,424	48,309
Genealogy expenditure	27,335	-	-	27,335	-
Magazine expenditure	73,150	84,990	13,488	171,628	233,800
Managing and administering the charity	-	19,875	15,370	35,245	219,970
	<u>292,505</u>	<u>197,356</u>	<u>163,712</u>	<u>653,573</u>	<u>777,912</u>
Support costs include:	Staff Costs £	Depreciation £	Premises Costs £	Administration Costs £	2005 Total £
Costs of activities in furtherance of the objects of the charity:					
Membership expenditure	13,040	2,922	2,940	6,628	25,530
Library expenditure	19,394	33,931	37,496	3,148	93,969
Event expenditure	6,723	2,562	2,941	3,129	15,355
Genealogy expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Magazine expenditure	6,711	2,473	735	3,569	13,488
Managing and administering the charity	9,541	544	-	5,285	15,370
	<u>55,409</u>	<u>42,432</u>	<u>44,112</u>	<u>21,759</u>	<u>163,712</u>

As noted in the accounting policies the allocation of costs to activities has been refined in the year and meaningful comparatives are not readily available for the revised format.

Included within the direct costs for managing and administering the charity are:

	2005 £	2004 £
Audit fees	4,500	4,000
Professional fees	10,517	3,799
Annual report and meeting	<u>3,091</u>	<u>1,893</u>

5. Trustees expenses

The directors of the company, being the members of the Board of Trustees, received no emoluments during the year (2004: Nil). However, travel expenses to the amount of £1,767 (2004: £3,424) were reimbursed to 8 (2004: 11) Trustee members for travel to Society related activities.

No director or employee has emoluments in excess of £50,000.

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

Group	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Plant and Machinery £	Books, Manuscripts & Typescripts £	Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings £	Microforms £	Total £
Cost or Valuation						
At 1st January 2005	932,715	58,651	153,629	272,533	130,242	1,547,770
Additions	-	-	5,006	18,153	4,412	27,571
At 31st December 2005	<u>932,715</u>	<u>58,651</u>	<u>158,635</u>	<u>290,686</u>	<u>134,654</u>	<u>1,575,341</u>
Depreciation						
At 1st January 2005	196,655	49,009	-	217,810	84,185	547,659
Charge for the year	18,655	4,154	-	14,575	5,048	42,432
At 31st December 2005	<u>215,310</u>	<u>53,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>232,385</u>	<u>89,233</u>	<u>590,091</u>
Net Book Value						
At 31st December 2005	<u>717,405</u>	<u>5,488</u>	<u>158,635</u>	<u>58,301</u>	<u>45,421</u>	<u>985,250</u>
At 31st December 2004	<u>736,060</u>	<u>9,642</u>	<u>153,629</u>	<u>54,723</u>	<u>46,057</u>	<u>1,000,111</u>
Charity						
	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Plant and Machinery £	Books, Manuscripts & Typescripts £	Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings £	Microforms £	Total £
Cost or Valuation						
At 1st January 2005	932,715	52,154	154,810	272,533	130,242	1,542,454
Additions	-	-	5,006	18,153	4,412	27,571
At 31st December 2005	<u>932,715</u>	<u>52,154</u>	<u>159,816</u>	<u>290,686</u>	<u>134,654</u>	<u>1,570,025</u>
Depreciation						
At 1st January 2005	196,655	44,170	-	217,810	84,185	542,820
Charge for the year	18,655	2,608	-	14,575	5,048	40,886
At 31st December 2005	<u>215,310</u>	<u>46,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>232,385</u>	<u>89,233</u>	<u>583,706</u>
Net Book Value						
At 31st December 2005	<u>717,405</u>	<u>5,376</u>	<u>159,816</u>	<u>58,301</u>	<u>45,421</u>	<u>986,319</u>
At 31st December 2004	<u>754,715</u>	<u>10,592</u>	<u>145,307</u>	<u>61,336</u>	<u>48,458</u>	<u>1,020,408</u>

The valuation of books, manuscripts and typescripts is a 1952 professional valuation amounting to £8,195. Additions since then have been included at cost. The freehold land and buildings were purchased in 1984 and based upon advice from a professional surveyor, £40,000 was ascribed to the cost of the freehold, no depreciation is provided on this amount. The insured value of books, manuscripts, typescripts, microform, plant and machinery, fixtures and fittings is £2,461,500.

The majority of fixed assets of the society are used for direct charitable activities. The assets used for non-charitable activities are of immaterial value and therefore have not been disclosed separately in the financial statements.

The freehold property is the subject of a legal charge dated 12th October 2001 in respect of all bank borrowings. Currently there are no such borrowings.

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

7. Investments

At 31st December 2005, the charity owned all of the issued ordinary share capital, consisting of 20 ordinary shares of £1,000 each, of the Society of Genealogists Enterprises Limited, a company registered in the UK, which operates the trading activities of the group.

The trading results of the subsidiary company are set out as follows:

	2005	2004
	£	£
Turnover	182,781	238,147
Donation	600	-
Interest receivable	623	500
Total income	<u>184,004</u>	<u>238,647</u>
Cost of sales	67,341	100,053
Distribution cost	6,714	13,860
Administrative expenses	88,455	91,496
Donation to Society	<u>17,818</u>	<u>29,388</u>
Total expenditure	<u>180,328</u>	<u>234,797</u>
Net income from trading	<u>3,676</u>	<u>3,850</u>

At 31st December 2005, the aggregate amount of this company's assets, liabilities, share capital and reserves was:

	2005	2004
	£	£
Fixed assets	112	1,658
Current assets	61,304	66,810
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(36,192)</u>	<u>(46,920)</u>
	<u>25,224</u>	<u>21,548</u>
This represented		
Share capital	20,000	20,000
Reserves	<u>5,224</u>	<u>1,548</u>
	<u>25,224</u>	<u>21,548</u>

The remuneration of the auditors of the subsidiary was £2,500

8. Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2005	2004	2005	2004
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	10,055	16,261	1,352	662
Amount owed to subsidiary undertakings	-	-	17,818	29,388
Other debtors	8,663	7,715	7,287	4,054
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>22,288</u>	<u>23,461</u>	<u>22,288</u>	<u>23,461</u>
	<u>41,006</u>	<u>47,437</u>	<u>48,745</u>	<u>57,565</u>

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

9. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	2005	2004	2005	2004
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	2,941	1,312	2,941	1,312
Trade creditors	22,846	20,310	8,957	19,353
Taxation and social security	8,591	12,277	7,412	11,539
Accruals and deferred income	51,943	49,892	48,637	34,055
	<u>86,321</u>	<u>83,791</u>	<u>67,947</u>	<u>66,259</u>

At the year end there was an amount of £ 2,350 included in creditors relating to pensions of employees (2004: £3,633).

10. Restricted Funds

	Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Interfund Transfers	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Fellows Fund	226	-	-	-	226
Library Funds	6,871	18,217	-	(7,567)	17,521
Binding Funds	3,417	3,972	(4,271)	-	3,118
	<u>10,514</u>	<u>22,189</u>	<u>(4,271)</u>	<u>(7,567)</u>	<u>20,865</u>

(note 12)

The Fellows Fund is to be used by the Fellows for any purpose deemed appropriate.

The Library Funds are to be used specifically for library purchases.

The Binding Funds are to be used towards the cost of binding records

11. Unrestricted Funds

	Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Interfund Transfers	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted charitable funds					
Designated development fund	162,875	-	-	-	162,875
General funds	948,536	556,718	(530,397)	4,378	979,235
Total unrestricted charitable funds	1,111,411	556,718	(530,397)	4,378	1,142,110
Non charitable funds (Subsidiary)*	364	119,392	(118,905)	3,189	4,040
	<u>1,111,775</u>	<u>676,110</u>	<u>(649,302)</u>	<u>7,567</u>	<u>1,146,150</u>

(note 12)

The Development Fund has been established by the Trustees with funds from a major legacy and donation and will be used for projects that are not achievable from regular funding.

*Non charitable funds include an adjustment to eliminate the profit element on the sale of books to the Charity which have been capitalised.

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2005

12. Transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds			Total	
	Designated Funds	General Funds	Subsidiary Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds released on purchase of fixed assets	-	7,567	-	7,567	(7,567)
Transactions with Subsidiary	-	(3,189)	3,189	-	-
	-	4,378	3,189	7,567	(7,567)

13. Allocation of Group Net Assets

The group's net assets belong to the various funds as follows:

	Investments/ Share Capital	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Fund Balance
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds	-	-	20,865	20,865
Unrestricted Funds				
Designated Fund	-	-	162,875	162,875
General Fund	20,000	985,138	(25,903)	979,235
Non charitable funds (Subsidiary)	(20,000)	112	23,928	4,040
	-	985,250	181,765	1,167,015

14. Status of the Society

The Society is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The liability of members is limited to £2 each.

15. Commitments under Operating Leases

At 31st December 2005 the group had an annual commitment under non-cancellable operating leases of land and buildings of £8,500 (2004 - £8,500).