



Annual report & financial statements

for the year ended 31 December **2008**

Society of Genealogists

14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA.
Registered charity no. 233701. Company no. 115703. Limited by guarantee.

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Chairman's overview

This being my first year as Chairman I wish to begin by expressing my thanks to William Michael (Mike) Wood for the sterling work he put in during his tenure.

I was greatly honoured to have been elected Chairman of the Society, but I accepted with some trepidation! A look at the names of my predecessors confirmed that I had a lot to live up to. My resolve on becoming Chairman is to steer a steady course in these difficult times and to encourage members and non-members alike to discover and make use of the Society's rich resources and expanding facilities.

During the financial year, six months of which were under the previous chairman, much has been achieved.

The Open Access area opened in June and is run by our Community Officer whose salary is paid for by the City Bridge Trust. She is establishing good relations with local organisations and we hope that many of the individuals she helps will go on to become members of the Society.

Our lectures and courses continue to be popular and are generally well subscribed. The annual SoG Family History Show participated in the second, hugely successful Who do you think you are? LIVE show at Olympia. As well as our own stands, staff and volunteers ran the busy Ask the Experts area and gave numerous talks in the three SoG Workshop theatres.

Thanks must go to the Board of Enterprises, our publishing arm, for commissioning and publishing new titles and editions for the Society. Ideas for subjects not yet covered and contacts from prospective authors are always welcome. Our Retail Manager continues to improve and expand the bookshop.

Our website has become the well used, world-wide face of the Society with material being added on a regular basis thanks to our volunteer webmaster, staff and IT volunteers. The exclusive Members Area was launched in November and will gradually make the contents of the Library available to members in their own homes. We are hoping to add material on a regular basis, dependent of course on our progress in digitizing source material. There is much to do but we now have scanning equipment, which will enable us to better progress this work, provided we can find the volunteers to operate it!

As the world is now in the midst of a credit crunch, we of course are also affected. Our financial position for the year showed a deficit due in part to a slight increase in resignations and a reduction of donations. We must be prepared to tighten our belts in 2009. We have now appointed a fundraising assistant who has commenced several initiatives as detailed on page 10.

Finally at the end of my first year as chairman I must thank our staff and volunteers for all their hard work over the past year and for the help and advice given to me.

Colin Ernest Allen FSG

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Staff

Management team

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Chief Executive: | June Perrin |
| Librarian: | Sue Gibbons, BA (Hons), MCLIP |
| Genealogist: | Else Churchill, BA (Hons), Dip Lib |

Administration

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Finance Manager: | Dayo Akinrele, BA (Hons) (left May 2008) Tian Yeo from (April 2008) |
| Administrator: | Sheila Marshall, BA (Hons) |
| Membership Officer: | Jacki Ellis |
| Events Co-ordinator: | Lori Weinstein |
| General Assistant: (part time) | Joan Waddon (left January 2008) |

Library

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

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Community Officer | Ashley Young (from 30 June) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Fundraiser | Alisa O'Malley (from September 2008) |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|

Society of Genealogists Enterprises Limited

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Chief Executive: | June Perrin |
| Retail Manager: | Anthony Mortimer |
| Graphic Designer: | Graham Collett. |
| Accounting Assistant: (part time) | Catherine Martin |
| Saturday Assistant: | Catherine Martin |

Constitution & organisation

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.

The 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 their election but shall be eligible for re-election. The Trustees serving during the year 2007-2008 are listed on pages 4-5.

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 2007-2008 is given on page 6.

A Chief Executive officer is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day activities of the charity.

Reference and administrative details and advisors of the group.

Registered office: 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA.

Auditors: Kingston Smith LLP, 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.

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

Fergus Gillespie, MA, Chief Herald of Ireland

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

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

Directors and Trustees

Profiles of the Board of Trustees as at 31 December 2008

Colin Allen FSG, 68, member since 1988. Elected to the Board of Trustees in 2006. Previously a power station engineer for some 37 years before retirement in 1992. He is Vice-Chairman of the Kent Family History Society and Chairman of its Medway Branch. An active volunteer for the Society, he is currently overseeing the transcribing of the St. Andrew Holborn marriage registers 1576-1837 and St. Leonard Shoreditch burial registers. He was made a Fellow of the Society in 2002. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Peter Bailey, 72, member since 1967. Elected to the Board in 2004. Previously a managing director with responsibility for establishment and control of budgets and profitability. He is the Secretary for "Families in British India Society", previously having been its Membership Secretary, Meetings Organiser and Journal Editor. Currently lectures and writes articles on British Indian sources. *Attended 5 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

William Bortrick, 36, member since 2003, elected to the Board in July 2007. William is the Executive and Royal Editor of Burke's Peerage and Gentry. He was educated at the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge, where he served as a Member of the Council. He is a specialist in the genealogy of royal, aristocratic and historical families, and especially of the Royal Houses of Europe. *Attended 5 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Kathy Elam, 63, 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 she became a regular volunteer helping with counter work and also gives lectures for the Society. Elected to the Board in 2004. *Resigned June 2008.*

Dr Hugh Guilford, 66, member since 1991, elected to the Board in November 2007. He is a management consultant dealing with business strategy with a background as a chemist and is a member of the Monumental Brass Society. *Attended 5 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

John Hanson FSG, 61, member since 1993, elected to the Board in June 2007. A retired systems specialist. Lecturer on family history and also a member of the Guild of One-Name Studies. John works extensively on the SoG outreach programme attending many fairs across the country. He is one of the Society's IT volunteers and is largely responsible for preparing material for the Members' area of the SoG website. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Sue Hourizi, 71, member since 2000. Elected to the Board in 2005. Sue has been tracing her family history now for some 25 years. She is a retired secondary school head teacher, subsequently an interpreter for an educational consultancy, and has been a member of West Surrey, Somerset and Dorset and Bristol and Avon Family History Societies. *Resigned June 2008.*

Norman Meadows, 80, member since 1999. Elected to the Board in 2006. Norman retired from a career in marketing, media and PR. He has been a Managing Director of three organisations. He is marketing consultant to the Families in British India Society and currently sits on the Society's Education and Marketing Working Groups. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Tim Powys-Lybbe, 70, member since 1998, elected to the Board in June 2007. Tim was in the manufacturing industry for 35 years on the production side and is now running a small property company. He is the current practitioner in a family of genealogists of whom the first lived around 1750. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Roy Stockdill, 68, member since 1991. He is on the Executive Committees of the Guild of One-Name Studies and is Editor of the Journal of One-Name Studies. He is a former national newspaper journalist and writes for the genealogical press. Elected to the Board in 2002. *Term ended June 2008*

Geoffrey T Stone, 67, member since 1997, re-elected to the Board in June 2007. Formerly a Computer Projects Manager in the financial services industry. He is running three one-name studies and has organised the two Society e-mail lists since their inception. Geoffrey is also a trustee of the Halsted Trust. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Carole Thomas, ACIB, 57, member since 2006, elected to the Board as ex-officio Treasurer in July 2007. Carole worked in banking for 25 years and more recently as a bursar in schools and as Finance Director of another charity. As well as finance, Carole also has extensive experience in human resources. She has been tracing her family history for 20 years and has found relatives all over the world. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Ian Waller, 59, member since 1990, elected to the Board in 2004. A professional genealogist who also teaches family and local history at both basic and advanced levels at various adult education community colleges in Luton and Bedfordshire, the Society of Genealogists and other family history societies. He previously served on the committee of the Hertfordshire Family History Society and was the Editor of its quarterly journal for five years. He has recently written *My ancestor was an Agricultural Labourer* for the Society. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Diane Waters, 64, member since 1990, elected to the Board in 2006. Mrs Waters has been a member of the Education Committee and its predecessor, the Lectures Committee since 1999 and has brought her professional experience in the management, training and employment fields to a number of projects at the Society. She has been actively researching her family history since the late 1980s and is a member of several family history societies. She also runs a one-name study with a dedicated web site. *Attended 6 out of 6 Board of Trustees Meetings held since the last Annual Report.*

Michael Williamson, 64, has been a member of the Society since 1970. Elected to the Board in 2002. A computer and management consultant, specialising in work for various voluntary organisations and charities. His main genealogical interests are in the Forest of Dean area of Gloucestershire and, generally, in the application of computers in genealogy. *Resigned 2009.*

William Michael Wood, F Inst SMM, 71, member of this Society since 1999 and member of several other family history societies. Mike has over 30 years' senior management experience in sales and marketing. Elected to the Executive Committee in 2002, Chairman of the Board from June 2003. *Term ended June 2008.*

Trustee recruitment, induction & training

The Society's Governing documents require all Trustees to have been a Member for one full year before being able to apply as a Trustee. This point was discussed at some length when the Governing Documents were changed. This condition was left standing; it was felt because of the unique nature of the Charity it is very important for Trustees to be able to relate to the field they are taking responsibility for. This does not preclude the Society from seeking expert external help when required but it does ensure the Trustees are able to do justice to the Members they serve.

Due to the One Year Membership condition recruitment takes place via the main instruments of communications with Members i.e. the *Genealogists' Magazine*, the website and on the notice boards in the Society. Applicants wishing to put themselves forward fill in a form to ensure they satisfy the criteria of Trustee along with a 200 word CV. Formal election takes place at the Annual General Meeting where all Members have a right to vote.

The Society accepts that it requires a good cross section of skills on its Board of Trustees to cover all the areas which the Charity encompasses. Previously this has been carried out informally but in 2006 attention was paid to formalising processes to ensure there are no major gaps and that all Trustees are aware of their responsibilities. Formal Interviews were held with all Trustees to assess their knowledge of the Society, the Charity Sector, the Companies sector (all Trustees are also Directors as the Society is a

Society of Genealogists Enterprises Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee) and to assess their skill sets. A checklist was produced of documents to be issued and discussed as well as a skills audit to be completed. New Job Profiles were agreed and issued for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Trustees and issued to all.

The outcome was positive and the Society has all the skill sets it requires; with an acknowledgement of professional help required in its continuing fundraising areas.

To assist ongoing awareness Trustees receive a monthly Governance Magazine along with any updates received from the Charity Commission etc. The Trustees employ a full-time Chief Executive whose job it is to ensure any arising issues are highlighted to the Trustees. Training is continual as needs arise.

A checklist has been produced to be used for new Trustees to ensure induction is carried out thoroughly on all areas of operations and to assess the new skill sets being added to the Society. The whole process is another useful tool to aid focusing on the well being of the Society.

Operations, Library & Education Committees

Membership of committees

Operations Committee: Colin Allen FSG (*ex-officio*), Else Churchill (Genealogist), Sue Gibbons (Librarian), June Perrin (Chairman & Chief Executive), Geoffrey Stone, Carole Thomas (*ex-officio*), Diane Waters and William Michael Wood FSG.

Library and Records Committee: Colin Allen FSG (*ex-officio*), Kathy Elam, Jeremy Goldsmith, John Hanson FSG (Chairman), Frank Hardy FSG, Sue Highley, David Horwill FSG, Susan Lumas FSG, Nicholas Newington-Irving FSG, Geoffrey Stone and William Michael Wood FSG

Education Committee: Colin Allen FSG (*ex-officio*), Peter Bailey (Chairman), William Borrick, Stella Colwell FSG, Michael Gandy (*ex-officio*), John Hanson FSG, Sue Hourizi, Dr Michael Isherwood, Roy Stockdill, Geoff Swinfield, Carole Thomas (*ex-officio*) Ian Waller and William Michael Wood FSG.

Directors of SoG Enterprises Limited

Norman Meadows, Nicholas Newington-Irving FSG, Nicholas Spence, Carole Thomas (*ex-officio*), Michael Williamson and William Michael Wood FSG (Chairman).

Company Secretary: June M Perrin

Strategic review

Present

In order to put the objectives for the year into context and have some form of measurement, a set of Key Performance Indicators were continued in 2008. The results are shown later in the Annual Report but the Trustees are happy that the Society is performing as well as it can in the current economic climate and will continue to do so.

This year a major plan was to carry out a strategic review of operations. A successful day was held in February 2008 and a small working group tasked to take the key items forward to produce a plan. Due to the illness of the main lead on the group this has taken a little longer than expected but the Society is very close to producing the draft. Once finalised by the Trustees this will be circulated to all major stakeholders and an operational business plan attached to ensure the strategy is followed through. In the current economic climate and to ensure the Society can continue to meet its aims and objectives income generation does have to feature highly.

In June the Society was able to open its new 'Open Access Area' at the front of the Society. Anyone is able to come in to the Society and use this area free of charge. It is computer based and the computers host all the main genealogical sites e.g. Ancestry, Documents Online, Findmypast, Origins and of course the Society's website. Some of the thinking behind this was to assist people unable to go to Kew, when the Family Record Centre closed, by offering an alternative place for computer look-ups. We have been able to facilitate this area by obtaining a grant from the City Bridge Trust for a three-year salary for a Community Officer. The Community Officer will not just facilitate this area but will work with local organisations to try to both bring people into the building and inspire an interest in family history.

The Society had been trying for nearly two years to appoint a Fundraiser. The competition from organisations for fundraisers is very fierce and this made it a hard task. On the third round of applicants we were finally able to appoint a fund-raising assistant who will work closely with the Chief Executive and the Fundraising Working Group in looking at a number of initiatives to raise income.

Digitisation continued to be a major feature of the year and the Society was delighted to be able to launch its new Members' Area on the website. This area hosts some niche data sets and the Society will continue to add to this area regularly. It will enable Members not able to visit the Library to gain access to our unique material.

In 2008 the Society has:

- ❖ Launched its new exciting 'Open Access Area'
- ❖ Launched a new Members Area on the website to host data remotely
- ❖ Appointed a fundraising assistant
- ❖ Continued the Operations Committee and under its auspices, kept control of its budgets and operations
- ❖ Continued the Education Programme, establishing links with external bodies and continued working with the National Trust.
- ❖ Held specific working groups to look at research, digitisation, and management software
- ❖ Continued to add to the vast array of resources in the Library
- ❖ Monitored its activities via its Key Performance Indicators

Future

The first objective of 2009 will be to balance the books. In previous years we were lucky enough to have large legacies and some money from the local developers (for loss of our light on completion of the construction project). This didn't happen in 2008 and although a surplus from previous years enabled us to withstand the loss it cannot continue in future years. The Society has to be on a sound financial footing to enable us to continue to meet our objectives.

We aim to have the Strategic Plan finished as quickly as possible to enable us to focus very clearly on how we can meet those objectives and at the same time keep income generation sufficient to cover costs.

Active fundraising will be initiated and a working group is already in full swing on a number of things, not least by applying for digitisation grants to free up some of our hidden treasures in the Library.

The Society will continue to prepare itself to embrace any opportunity to widen its delivery of genealogical knowledge and material.

Objects & aims of the Society

The objects and aims 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

The objectives we set ourselves for the year were to maintain membership numbers, to increase lecture delivery, to increase accessibility to material by increasing data on-line (including to start a new service of data access for Members), to increase the numbers of day visitors, to continue providing excellent customer service, to improve accessibility by ensuring prompt cataloguing of library material, to improve accessibility with the addition of a new area free for use by anyone and to create a Strategic Plan with income generation as its major component.

Achievements & performance

Detailed descriptions of the different department's performance are made throughout this Annual Report. However, the Trustees recognise the need to have some Key Performance Indicators to assess the Society is achieving its objectives.

The following Key Performance Indicators were approved and instigated in 2006. An assessment is made each year on the continuing suitability of the Indicators and the Trustees monitor them on a monthly basis.

Key Performance Indicators:

| Department | Objective | 2007 | 2008 | Target | Variance |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Membership | To maintain numbers | 11,770 | 11,510 | 11,770 | -2.21% |
| Lectures | To achieve £17,250 | £22,328 | £19,121 | £17,250 | +10.85% |
| Lectures | To increase numbers monitored this year and will record next year | 1,600 | 1,800 | | |
| Data On-line | To add at least two sets per annum | 2 | 10 | 2 | +8 |
| Paid Day Visitors | To increase on 2007 | £11,356 | £11,224 | £11,500 | -2.4% |
| Society Research | To increase on 2007 | £1,546 | £1,609 | £1,700 | -5.35% |
| Customer Care | To achieve 90% satisfaction rate | 95.5% | 94.3% | 90% | +4.3% |
| Cataloguing 1 | To reduce the backlog on CD/Fiche and 'other' materials to 2006 | Mar 2005 | Nov 05 | Dec 2006 | -11 months |
| Cataloguing 2 | To ensure rest of material is catalogued within 3 months of receipt | Oct 2007 | Dec 2008 | Sep 2008 | +3 months |

The loss of 260 Members is disappointing but this is still a good achievement considering the national trend for falling numbers of people becoming members of a society.

As stated last year the Society knew the Saga courses were not being booked for 2008 so set a target commensurate with these events not happening. Therefore the results have been terrific and show a marked increase in our normal courses. We have now monitored numbers for the KPIs so in 2009 we will set objectives.

During 2008 the Members Area was launched and we hope we are now in a strong position to open up more data for people to access from home. The people involved did a great job in launching this area for us.

Paid day visitors have still not improved in 2008, this again goes with the trend for people wanting to access data from home on their computers. The library will always remain crucial to our objectives but time may well see less visits and more remote access.

Society research improved a little on the previous year and the research working group continues looking at ways to improve services. A new telephone advice service now operates regularly and the next task is to look at email advice and look-ups.

Customer Care surveys continued and useful feedback comes from them to enable us to improve services. All comments are passed on to relevant parties.

Our main cataloguing is going well and good progress has been made during the year, the area the Society had fallen down on was with both the CDs and non-urgent material. Although not quite reaching target due to a large backlog of CDs in that particular year it is still going well. The Society's extra volunteer devoted to cataloguing during the year was able to continue to help make inroads into the backlog.

The KPI's continue to add focus to our work and are a useful exercise.

The Library

Accessions

For a seventh year running the library budgets were held in maintenance mode, however, thanks largely to generous donations during the year (figures for 2007 in brackets for comparison), there were 2206 (2571) additions to the library. Of this total 231 (452) were transcripts or copies of church registers and 95 (223) 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 Society Family History Show, the Library made £1,473 (£1,230) 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. £7770.42 was given by Members for the purchase of specific or general acquisitions for the Library. Notable additions during 2008 - showing, where appropriate, the name of the donor - are given below:

Calendars of State Papers, Treasury books etc. D: National Army Museum
Berkshire burial index. 6th edition. CD-ROM
Allerdale (Cumberland) burial index 1813-37. D: N Newington-Irving
Carlisle Diocese marriage licence bonds 1775-1788. D: N Newington-Irving
Chester Diocese marriage licences index 1750-1779. CD-ROM. D: D Williams
Cornish parish registers. Microfilm. D: M E Runnalls
Dorset surname index to christenings, marriages and monumental inscriptions. CD-ROM
Durham bastardy records 1661-1895. Microfiche
Essex burials 1813-1865. D: Jack Baxter
Herefordshire marriage index 1538-1837. CD-ROM
Herefordshire monumental inscriptions. Version 4. CD-ROM
Rochdale, Lancashire parish registers. Microfilm. D: Halsted Trust
Leicestershire project index to parish registers. CD-ROM
Lincolnshire deanery christening and burial indexes. CD-ROM. D: Lincolnshire FHS
Lincolnshire apprentices and masters 1710-1810. CD-ROM. D: Lincolnshire FHS

Lincoln (city) cemeteries burial index 1856-1999. CD-ROM. Lincolnshire FHS
Lincolnshire inquests 1753-1880. CD-ROM. D: Lincolnshire FHS
Lincolnshire Death Duty index 1796-1821. CD-ROM. D: Lincolnshire FHS
Lincolnshire probate indexes. CD-ROM. D: Lincolnshire FHS
Norfolk parish registers and transcripts. D: D Moore, E Probert et al.
Nottinghamshire baptism and burial viewers. Version 3. CD-ROM
Nottinghamshire marriage viewer. Version 2. CD-ROM.
Oxfordshire parish register transcripts. CD-ROM. D: Oxfordshire FHS
Rutland parish registers (20 parishes). CD-ROM
Shropshire marriage index 1538-1837. CD-ROM
Somerset monumental inscriptions. D: Sir Mervyn Medlycott
Suffolk marriage index 1813-37. CD-ROM
Surrey baptism and marriage indexes to 1837. CD-ROM
Surrey burial index to 1840 or 1865. CD-ROM
Warwickshire parish registers. Microfilm. S: H Lumb
Worcestershire monumental inscriptions. CD-ROM
Yorkshire parish register transcripts (various)
Sheffield Cathedral, St. James, St. Jude and St. Paul parish registers. Microfiche. D: Dr J Shackleton and M Sita-Lumsden
Scottish census returns (mainly 1851). Microfilm. D: Lawson Edwards bequest
Hussey-Walsh MSS (at the library of, and donated by, the Irish Genealogical Research Society). CD-ROM
County Clare, Ireland 1901 census. CD-ROM. D: Society of Australian Genealogists
Central Bureau for Genealogy (Netherlands) manuscript document collection (some surnames E-F only). Microfilm. D: Cliff Webb
Passenger and immigration lists index. 2009 supplement (taking the number of names of immigrants to North America in the series to almost 5 million)
Early Australian electoral rolls: New South Wales 1903, Tasmania 1903, Western Australia 1901. CD-ROM. D E Probert
Family Tree Maker's World Family Tree project (almost 1000 European family trees). CD-ROM
Pedigree resource file, vol. 7 and index to vols. 1-135

During the year 8630 (8852) items on closed access were produced for library users by the staff and volunteers in the Lower Library and 600 (621) from the Middle Library. 188 (272) items were borrowed from the Library of which 96 (159) were copies of registers. Use of digital cameras and digital memory devices calculated from the number of copyright forms signed rose slightly from 132 in 2007 to 135 in 2008.

The Society is grateful to Ancestry.co.uk, Ancestry.com, Find my past, Family Relatives and the Origins Network for providing free access to their subscription sites from the Library's Internet suite. The Library now also subscribes to The National Archives Documents on-line website, providing Members with free access to PCC wills, WWI medal index cards, seamen's records, Death Duty registers 1796-1811 etc.

Binding and conservation

£101.04 (£79.19) was donated by members for conserving and binding existing stock which, together with £6,977 carried over from 2007 was used to bind 134 (177) items at a cost of £2,065 (£3,468). £5,013 was carried forward to 2009. 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 National Archives) and her team of volunteers. Similar work including indexing of wills was carried out by volunteers on the pre-1992 Document Collection.

Library catalogue

Usage of the library catalogue (SOGCAT) via the Internet, has continued to grow and enables potential users of Library material, either in person or via our fee-paying search and copy service, to precisely identify items they are seeking. Also in the Library section of the website, the A-Z listings of the document collection and the birth briefs are viewed substantially usually as a result of Google searches for names.

Membership

Membership at the end of 2008 was 11,510 (11,770 – 2007). The fall of 210 Members is disappointing but not entirely

unexpected with both the economic downturn and a trend for newcomers to feel they can carry out their family history research entirely on a computer through commercial websites. This fall did not affect membership income, as older members drop off (on the reduced rates) new Members join at the current rates, which tends to compensate. However in 2009 we are very aware that the economic situation is worsening and we will be doing everything we can to encourage both retention of membership and new membership. We have had positive feedback on the data now available to members via the website and know some people who were contemplating resigning did not as a result of this initiative. We will add to it as much as possible over time.

Membership fees were not increased in 2008. Main membership is still £45 with a discount available if paying by direct debit. Day entry fees were not increased and remained at £4 for one hour, £10 for four hours and £18 for a day.

Fundraising

During 2008 we finally employed someone to specifically tackle fundraising, Alisa O'Malley started with us in September. We reconvened the Fundraising Working Group and have commenced a number of initiatives.

The Centenary Appeal is progressing well and donation forms will appear regularly in the magazine. Several Grant applications have been made, one of which has already been successful in raising funds for the fundraisers laptop. More significant applications are in the pipeline to help with our digitisation, cataloguing and core costs. A new Friends Scheme will be launched during 2009, anyone interested in hearing about the initiative can contact Alisa on fundraiser@sog.org.uk. A new legacy pack will also be available soon.

In addition to direct fundraising Alisa will be assisting on marketing, including Membership marketing schemes etc.

Publications

The Society was delighted to publish two new titles and produced a very welcome new edition of a popular title that was long out of print, bringing the Society's list of titles to 183. The Society was very sad to hear of the death of its author James Legon shortly after he produced the new edition of his work on Thames Watermen. A major redesign of the

Education, Lectures, Courses & Fairs

My Ancestors... covers now makes this a very attractive series for booksellers and readers. A large number of titles were printed with the new design and thanks go especially to the Society's Graphic Designer, Graham Collett, SoG Enterprises Retail Manager, Anthony Mortimer and to Publications Secretary, Janis Coatsworth, for their hard work. The Publications Working Party continues to commission new titles with a promising number of titles expected for 2009 including new works on Servants, Firemen, Shopkeepers and Bankrupts. Several existing titles are being revised for new editions. Roy Stockdill acts as commissioning editor for the *My Ancestors...* series. Sue Lumas continues to edit the first three volumes of the Society's National Index of Parish Registers, which are to be republished as the Society's guide to registers and as a tribute to their first editor Don Steele FSG who died this year. A subgroup of the working party started to prepare the forthcoming publication celebrating the Centenary Anniversary of the Society in 2011. Michael Gandy continues to edit the *Genealogists' Magazine*.

The relaunch of the bookshop last year and adding titles to its non-Society selection have increased turnover considerably. This has all been done in a controlled manner to ensure it is all carried out in a cost effective way. Anthony Mortimer the Retail Manager has made significant impact on sales and presentation.

New publications

My Ancestor was a Royal Marine by Ken Dival
London Livery Company apprentice registers, vol 48: Grocers Company Apprenticeships 1629-1800 by Cliff Webb

New editions

My Ancestor was in the British Army. 2nd edition, by Michael and Christopher Watts
My ancestors were Thames watermen. 2nd edition, by James Legon

Reprints With New Covers

My Ancestor was a Bastard by Ruth Paley
My Ancestor was a Coalminer by David Tonks
My Ancestor was Jewish by Anthony Joseph
My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman by Christopher Watts
My Ancestor was a Freemason by Pat Lewis

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

Education is a vital component of the Society's activities. The Education Committee has developed some teaching materials for adult education, and set in motion preparations for podcasts and distance learning which it is hoped will all be launched in 2009. The diary of events remains popular with income and attendance both up on last year and exceeding the Key Performance Indicator targets. Some 1800 attended events at the Society (1600 in 2007) and income reached over £19,000. This is despite the fact that this year saw no extra courses arranged for overseas visitors or heritage groups as in 2007. Plans are in hand to host another week long course for the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 2009. The Events Working Party continued to monitor progress of the diary. Over all however the events programme proved very popular garnering favourable evaluations and comments from attendees. Thanks go to Lori Weinstein. The Society's Events Co-ordinator for her hard work supported by the working party members John Hanson FSG, Alec Tritton and Else Churchill who have planned what we hope will be another popular programme for 2009.

The Second Marjorie Moore Memorial lecture was this year held in the Society's premises in February, with an entertaining talk on the English language and dialects by John Titford FSG.

As well as its normal open days, the Society hosted an orientation open day in May to welcome new members and those who joined the Society at the second Who do you think you are? LIVE show at Olympia on the spring bank holiday weekend. All the volunteers who manned the Ask the Experts area, the Society's own stall and the SoG workshops worked incredibly hard along with the staff to make this another very successful event which incorporated the Society's 15th Family History Show.

In addition to the Society's regular family history advice sessions held in the library on alternate Saturdays, volunteers extended the help and advice that the Society can give by establishing and manning a dedicated family history telephone helpline throughout the year; firstly on Saturdays and later in the year extending the service to Thursday evenings. Details are available through the Society's website.

Electronic publishing

Two new databases were added to the Society's electronic databases on the British Origins website. The first tranche of the index to St Andrew Holborn marriage registers for 1754-1812 and the index to burials for St Leonards Shoreditch 1813-1853 were uploaded to the Origins site. Further entries were added to the City of London apprentices database.

Society data from the GWR stockholders and Civil Service Evidences of Age remain popular on the Findmypast website and work has been undertaken throughout the year for the images of the associated documents to be scanned and placed on the site to accompany the index. In the mean time the Society provides a hard copy service. Work is progressing with other indexing projects to provide data for these ongoing partnerships.

The above data sets can be searched free of charge in the Society's library or by payment of a fee on the Internet. Members receive free access sessions from their homes once every calendar quarter to all SoG data on British Origins and a discount is available to members who subscribe or purchase vouchers to use the Findmypast website. Members receive discounts on the hard copy service associated with data from either site.

The Members' area

The Society is delighted that the first SoG data sets were launched in late November 2008 on the exclusive Society of Genealogists' Members' area of our website www.sog.org.uk. Access to data on this part of the site is only available to Members of the Society of Genealogists who can sign up from home to view the indexes and data. Non-members may carry out an initial search but to view information in full they will need to join the Society.

This part of our site is under development and will evolve to suit Members' needs. We will be adding data from our Library in the form of transcripts, indexes, PDFs of books and perhaps images. Plans for the future are to digitise as much of our material as possible for members to access from the comfort of their own home. We also hope to add education modules and podcasts with the aim of enhancing the Membership experience. The initial data sets to go on-line were selected to show some of the diverse, unusual and often-unique collections held in the Library and projects being indexed by Society volunteers. The first online data sets include amongst others:

- ❖ Wiltshire will beneficiaries
- ❖ Polish immigrants in England

❖ One-Name Studies

❖ Parish records

Quote: "The Members' area contains these records which miraculously contain the baptism of ... the person I have been seeking for many years".

Communication

The trend of previous years continues with usage increasing steadily. Improvements to the site using Search Engine Optimisation tools has been started. The web hosting service using a dedicated server has proved to be beneficial as there has been no change in the level of service and overall the cost is lower with increased usage.

Over 123GBytes of information was down-loaded during 2008, Tuesday remains the busiest day and Saturday consistently has the lowest volume of use. The usage peaked in May coinciding with the Family History Show as part of Who do you think you are? LIVE. The home page with over 180,000 hits has successfully promoted lectures and events throughout the year using eye catching images to provide a link to more detailed information as well as providing a portal to news, library collections and new on-line sources. At the end of November the Members area, details of the content of which are covered elsewhere, was successfully integrated into the web site.

During 2008 the Australasian, United States and West Indies resources pages on the web site were re-written to remove details now available in up-to-date form on the on-line catalogue, SOGCAT, but also to highlight country-wide guides and indexes.

The Surnames and families page was augmented by the addition of indexes of surnames represented in our Surname Document and Pedigree Rolls Collections and this has proved to be very popular prompting visits by many Members and non-members alike.

The Members' e-mail mailing list has increased in activity considerably during the last year and concentrated mainly on genealogical questions and advice. A few regulars have answered a wide range of questions. A slow but steady stream of new members has raised the membership to 450. The list represents the knowledge and opinions of members and is not an official line of communication with the staff or officers of the Society.

The News list is still very quiet, consisting mainly of reminders about forthcoming lectures and courses. Membership of this list, which is open to non-Society members, has picked up again this year to about 950 members. The News list is used for the Society to make announcements, either about the Society or of general interest to genealogists, it is not designed for open discussion.

Details about how to subscribe are near the back of the *Genealogists Magazine*.

External liaison & media coverage

The Society continues to play a leading role in the genealogical community. It convenes the British Genealogical Record Users Committee; liaises with the General Register Office on matters relating to certificates and with the Court Service on matters relating to post 1858 wills. The Society works closely with The National Archives as part of its Online Users' Advisory Panel, the TNA's Research in Archives Online Tutorial Steering Group, The Friends of TNA and the TNA User Forum. The Society is a member of Archives for London and of the Committee of London Research Libraries in History. The Genealogist serves on the Advisory Council on National Archives and Records and the council of the British Records Association.

The Society responded to Government consultations on the 30-year rule and Ministry of Defence transfer of historic armed forces personnel records to TNA. Staff participated in meetings with ONS to discuss the Society hosting a full set of the fiche indexes to civil registration for England and Wales. Sadly, ONS subsequently withdrew the offer claiming that it was because of the Society's links with commercial data providers. The Chief Executive and Librarian met with a representative of the British Library's proposed Digital Research Centre to discuss matters of mutual interest.

The Genealogist and Librarian gave lectures and talks on the Society, its library and on other subjects to various local groups around the country and at the Family Record Centre in preparation for its closure and at The National Archives after relocation of the Family Record Centre to Kew. The Genealogist's talk given at TNA about using the Society's Library was published as a TNA podcast. The Genealogist spoke

at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston and at the Toronto Branch of the Ontario Family History Society.

The Society provided video and textual family history content for the Tiscali website and has contributed extensively to the family history section of the BBC website in conjunction with the BBC Who do you think you are? TV series. The Genealogist and other Society authors appeared on the BBC Radio 4 Tracing your roots series. She presented talks on behalf of the Society at the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain conference; at the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management conference and at the Retirement Show in Olympia. The Society and its authors were present at the Institute of Historical Research seminar on Clergy biographical resources.

Outreach activities were devised for community groups at the Peel Centre and for the Peabody Trust. The SoG Enterprises Bookshop and the advice team attended the London Maze (London's local history fair), several family history fairs around the country and also various family history related events at National Trust properties. Thanks go to all the volunteers who attended these events and contributed to publicising the Society, especially Michael Bunting FSG, Jeanne Bunting FSG, John Hanson FSG, Richard Moore FSG and Graham Walker.

Open Days were held for prospective members in February and August. Free library tours and advice sessions continued on alternate Saturdays along with the new telephone advice service described elsewhere. Twenty six visiting groups were given tours of, or orientation lectures on, the Society including the Alberta Genealogical Society, the Canadian Women's Club and Jan Gow's group from New Zealand. The Society was also pleased to welcome staff visiting from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and the Australian Society of Genealogists.

Articles featuring the Society and its Library appeared in the genealogical press and the Genealogist continues to write a column in *Your Family Tree* on behalf of the Society.

The Library welcomed three work experience students over the course of the year, two of whom were library school students who worked on the Society's entries on the British Library's English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC) of pre-1800 printed books.

Open Access area

A significant development at the Society saw the opening of the Society of Genealogists' Open Access Area next to Reception and the appointment of Ashley Young as the Society's Community Officer. This was made possible by a grant, to be awarded over a three year period by The City of London Corporation's City Bridge Trust. The Community Officer's role is to work in the local community, encouraging participation in family history and volunteering in family history related projects. The grant has enabled the Society to open its *free* family history access area where anyone who needs guidance to start researching their family can come and get some help with using online census and GRO indexes. This supplements in part the gap in resources for family historians in central London brought about by the closure of the Family Record Centre. The Society can also run "silver surfer" computer sessions giving skills and support in using computers and the Internet.

The Society of Genealogists recognises that its local community is a very multi-cultural one and tailors its services to a wide audience, being a highly popular resource for people of all ages and backgrounds to research their ancestry with the assistance of in-house experts. The grant will enable the Society to develop learning materials and guidance for what we see as the new generation of family historians in our community who will need help in tracing their families. Having had the taster sessions in the open access area new family historians can go on to make use of the other treasures within the SoG's library and the remarkable collections we hold.

The Trust itself is of great historical interest. City Bridge is the largest, independent grant making trust in London following an Act of Parliament in 1995 which allowed surplus monies from an ancient trust (originally set up to maintain the five London bridges crossing the Thames into the City) to be spent for the benefit of Londoners, through charitable grant making. The Trust's £620 million fund was built up over 900 years, originating from ancient taxes imposed on London Bridge. The Trust has awarded over £200 million to London's charities and community groups in the last twelve years to help the lives of disabled people, children, young people and older people in London communities, as well as supporting environmental projects and the voluntary and community sector.

The Society is very proud that the Trust felt we had something special to offer the community.

Premises

The St. Bartholomew's Hospital development on two sides of the Society's premises was drawing to its final phase by the end of 2008

The Society's building was closed to staff and volunteers on two Mondays in February and March to allow for re-decoration of the ground floor public areas. Also in February a minor refurbishment was undertaken to create a new office for the Membership Officer on the top floor whilst releasing the Membership area for the new Open Access Area mentioned above.

In September 2008 all staff received Fire Marshal training and now make regular daily checks of the building. Two members of staff trained in First Aid. Health and Safety and Fire Safety Risk Assessments were undertaken and thanks go to Frank Hardy for his assistance.

Fellowship & 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. Candidates for either honour must be proposed by not fewer than five Fellows 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 two new Fellows, Beryl Schumer and retiring Chairman, William Michael Wood, were announced at the Annual General Meeting in 2008.

At 31 December 2008 there were three Honorary Fellows. Anthony Camp, MBE, Jeremy Gibson, Donald Whyte.

There were 83 Fellows:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| John Addis-Smith | Charles Kidd |
| Colin Allen | Miss Patricia Kirkland |
| Mrs Norma Allum | J M Kitzmiller II |
| Michael Armstrong | Frank Leeson |
| Mrs Hilary Batha | Brian Loomes |
| Dr Morris Bierbrier | Mrs Susan Lumas |
| Paul Blake | Sir Mervyn Medlycott, Bt |
| Brian Brooks | Richard Moore |
| Christopher Broomfield | Mrs Joy Wade Moulton |
| Robert Michael Bunting | Nicholas Newington-Irving |
| Mrs Yvonne Jean Bunting | Peter Nutt |
| Michael Burchall | Derek Palgrave |
| Dr Colin Chapman | Mrs Pamela Palgrave |
| Peter Christian | Peter Park |
| Dr W E Church | Eric Probert |
| Peter Wilson Coldham | Mrs Doris E Pullen |
| Major R M Collins | Prof Brian Randell |
| Miss Stella Colwell | Richard Ratcliffe |
| Harold Culling | Dr Colin Rogers |
| Alan Dell | John Rowlands |
| Patric Dickinson | Mrs Sheila Rowlands |
| Dr Andrea Duncan | Malcolm Sainty |
| Vic Gale | Beryl Schumer |
| Michael Gandy | Dr Michael Siddons |
| David Gardner | Paul Floyd Smart |
| Paul Gorry | Dr Peter Spufford |
| Stephen Hale | David Squire |
| John Hanson | Miss Monnica Stevens |
| Frank Hardy | Neville Taylor |
| John Harnden | Dr Stephen Taylor |
| Duncan Wilson Harrington | Rt Hon the Lord Teviot |
| David Hawgood | Dr Neil Thompson |
| Mark David Herber | John Titford |
| Ian Jeffery Hilder | Mrs Jean Tooke |
| David Mervyn Horwill | Dr Chris Watts |
| Cecil Humphery-Smith | Cliff Webb |
| Kingsley Ireland | Anthony Wilcox |
| Keith Johnson | James Willerton |
| Dr Anthony Joseph | William Michael Wood |

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

John Fone FSG, Member from 1976.
 Brian Frith FSG, Member from 1939.
 Don Steel FSG, Member from 1948.
 Guy Strutt FSG, Member from 1942.

Following 2007's successful talk, Fellows' talks were kindly arranged 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. In 2008, the Prince Michael Award was not awarded. Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Eve Perry and William Michael Wood.

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 etc. and relieve your hard pressed staff of much additional work. They are Chris Broomfield (webmaster), John Hanson and Chris Broomfield (IT support), Michael Bunting (outreach events), Sue Lumas (Special Collections volunteer archivist) and the co-ordinators of the Society indexing projects listed below. Thanks also go to all those who work for the Society from home on transcription and indexing projects.

Volunteer projects

Many Members came forward to volunteer on various digitisation projects as a result of John Hanson's article *Digitise or Die!* in the Magazine. Our thanks go to all those who volunteered - more are always welcome.

Work continued on the indexing of the St. Andrew Holborn marriage registers and St. Leonards Shoreditch burial registers under the leadership of Colin Allen, the indexing of the Great Western Railway probate (stock transfer) registers managed by Frank Hardy, the Document Collection Wills Index led by Norma Ashworth and the Business Index coordinated by David Lewis until November and Peter Darvill thereafter.

The results of these projects will, in time, be made available in electronic form.

A team of volunteers working under the direction of Dr Geoff Swinfield are working on a joint genetic/genealogy research project with Moorfields Eye Hospital to identify the possible hereditary nature of a particular form of glaucoma. In order to do this, they need to trace the descendants of one extended family. The identification of living descendants, some of whom may also have this condition, will assist them in extending their knowledge of the genetic nature of the disease.

Finance

The Trustees are pleased to present the financial summary for the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2008.

Treasurer's Report

The Society is sad to report that a deficit has occurred at the end of the financial year. This was not unexpected, as reported last year and previous years we have only escaped deficits due to extra legacy or developers payments (for loss of light on completion of surrounding developments). The Society was able to sustain the loss in 2008 from reserves but obviously cannot continue to do so. In setting the 2009 budgets everything was looked at carefully and unfortunately the only area where reduction was possible was salary expenditure. More will be reported in 2009 and at the Annual General Meeting but Members can be assured the Society will do all it can to secure its financial position to meet its future objectives.

With the appointment of a fundraising assistant initiatives have been commenced to create new income streams and we will all work hard in this area. The new Strategic Plan will also concentrate on increasing income whilst achieving our objectives.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the many donors for their generous donations totalling £42,309 which includes £15,000 from the City Bridge Trust in 2008. This was a combination of general donations and donations into our newly created Centenary appeal. We very much appreciate this generous support as it enables us to continue our valuable work. We are hoping some of our valued supporters will join the new 'Friends' scheme we will be launching in the near future.

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 ninth 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.

During the year the trading subsidiary continued to perform well. The income from its data online dropped mainly due to one commercial hosting site but this will be bolstered in 2009 with more data being hosted by a new company. The new commercial hosting company was added in 2008 and a good return was made on just two data sets (Great Western Railway and Civil Service Evidence of Age) more data will be added to this site in 2009. The bookshop Retail Manager continued to improve sales of both Society and non-Society titles in 2008. The final gift aid to the Charity will be £37,300, which is of significant help to the Charity.

Strategic review, reserves policy & risk management

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, 2005, by which the Charity abides. Many of the risks identified are standard risks such as financial and property loss which can be covered by insurance. However key risks identified were intellectual property theft and the erosion of the value of our assets by the continual growth of material online. The Society is addressing this seriously and has set up a vital Digitisation Working Group to deal with it. Another key risk is that of a reduction of income under the current economic climate and this also is being dealt with under the Strategic Plan and the fundraising initiatives. In addition expenditure has been looked at to minimise outgoings.

The Trustees have forecast the level of free reserves (that is those funds not tied up in fixed assets, and designated and restricted funds) which 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 £365,390, the current level is £15,033. It is the Trustees' view that the balance of income and expenditure

should be managed to increase the level of free reserves to the appropriate level.

There is a shortfall due to income not covering expenditure therefore free reserves have fallen. A fundraiser has been appointed and efficiency savings are to be introduced to address this situation.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- ❖ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ❖ make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ❖ state whether applicable UK 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 Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements of the charity comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Public Benefits

We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general Guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Audit information

So far as each of the Trustees at the time the Trustees' report is approved is aware:

- a) there is no relevant information of which the auditors are unaware; and
- b) they have taken all relevant steps they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 28 April 2009 and signed on its behalf by:

Colin Allen, FSG, Chairman

26 May 2009

Carole Thomas, Treasurer

26 May 2009

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 2008 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 responsibilities of the trustees (who are also the directors of The Society of Genealogists, for the purposes of company law) 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 whether, in our opinion, the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements. In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, 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 judgements 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 2008 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the group for the
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and
- the information provided in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements.

Devonshire House
60 Goswell Road
London EC1M 7AD
Date:

Kingston Smith LLP
Chartered Accountants
and Registered Auditors

Society of Genealogists
Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31st December 2008

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total 2008 £ | 2007 £ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Incoming Resources | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Legacies | | 5,910 | - | 5,910 | 26,628 |
| Grants and donations received | | 24,539 | 22,770 | 47,309 | 27,359 |
| Interest receivable | | 26,782 | - | 26,782 | 27,239 |
| Incoming resources from charitable activities | | | | | |
| Membership income | 2 | 414,306 | - | 414,306 | 408,352 |
| Library income | | 10,268 | - | 10,268 | 8,758 |
| Event income | | 45,884 | - | 45,884 | 79,393 |
| Genealogy income | | 3,809 | - | 3,809 | 3,245 |
| Other income from charitable activities | | 3,585 | - | 3,585 | 3,320 |
| Magazine | | 8,924 | - | 8,924 | 12,882 |
| Book shop | | 117,979 | - | 117,979 | 99,952 |
| Other income - compensation received | | - | - | - | 78,500 |
| Total Incoming Resources | | <u>661,985</u> | <u>22,770</u> | <u>684,755</u> | <u>775,628</u> |
| Resources Expended | | | | | |
| Charitable Activities | | | | | |
| Membership expenditure | 4 | 115,445 | - | 115,445 | 116,066 |
| Library expenditure | 4 | 290,642 | 17,434 | 308,075 | 286,400 |
| Event expenditure | 4 | 101,920 | - | 101,920 | 141,778 |
| Genealogy expenditure | 4 | 24,063 | - | 24,063 | 22,344 |
| Bookshop, magazine & publications expenditure | 4 | 153,424 | - | 153,424 | 139,823 |
| Fundraising costs | | 9,772 | - | 9,772 | - |
| Governance | 4 | 35,515 | - | 35,515 | 33,524 |
| Total Resources Expended | | <u>730,779</u> | <u>17,434</u> | <u>748,213</u> | <u>739,935</u> |
| Net Incoming / (outgoing) resources for the year before transfers | | (68,794) | 5,336 | (63,458) | 35,693 |
| Transfers between funds | 11a | 8,451 | (8,451) | - | - |
| | | (60,343) | (3,115) | (63,458) | 35,693 |
| Fund balances brought forward at 1st January 2008 | | <u>1,280,037</u> | <u>28,652</u> | <u>1,308,689</u> | <u>1,272,996</u> |
| Fund balances carried forward at 31st December 2008 | | <u>1,219,694</u> | <u>25,537</u> | <u>1,245,231</u> | <u>1,308,689</u> |

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

The net outgoing resources of the charity, for the year is £63,498.

The notes on pages 21 to 27 form part of the financial statements.

Society of Genealogists
Balance Sheets as at 31st December 2008

| | Note | Group | | Charity | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | 2008 £ | 2007 £ | 2008 £ | 2007 £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 6 | 935,525 | 953,528 | 936,659 | 954,645 |
| Investments | 7 | - | - | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| | | <u>935,525</u> | <u>953,528</u> | <u>956,659</u> | <u>974,645</u> |
| Current Assets | | | | | |
| Stock of goods for resale | | 31,203 | 29,436 | - | - |
| Debtors | 8 | 45,003 | 53,424 | 92,847 | 81,261 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | <u>356,328</u> | <u>394,571</u> | <u>310,799</u> | <u>353,786</u> |
| | | 432,534 | 477,431 | 403,646 | 435,047 |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 9 | <u>(122,828)</u> | <u>(122,270)</u> | <u>(119,398)</u> | <u>(105,287)</u> |
| Net Current Assets | | <u>309,706</u> | <u>355,161</u> | <u>284,248</u> | <u>329,760</u> |
| Total Assets less Current Liabilities | | <u><u>1,245,231</u></u> | <u><u>1,308,689</u></u> | <u><u>1,240,907</u></u> | <u><u>1,304,405</u></u> |
| Summary of Funds | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 10 | 25,537 | 28,652 | 25,538 | 35,620 |
| Unrestricted funds | 11 | <u>1,219,694</u> | <u>1,280,037</u> | <u>1,215,369</u> | <u>1,268,785</u> |
| Total Funds | | <u><u>1,245,231</u></u> | <u><u>1,308,689</u></u> | <u><u>1,240,907</u></u> | <u><u>1,304,405</u></u> |

The financial statements were approved, and authorised for distribution by the Board of Trustees on

.....
Colin Allen, FSG

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

.....
Carole Thomas

Treasurer

The notes on pages 21 to 27 form part of the financial statements.

Society of Genealogists

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2008

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 (2005) (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. The Society recognises legacies when there is adequate certainty and reliability of receipt and their value can be accurately measured.

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.

Governance costs

These represent costs attributable to the strategic direction 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 |
| Library retrospective catalogue project | over the life of the project |

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.

Society of Genealogists
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2008 (Continued)

1 Accounting Policies (Continued)

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is included in Resources Expended within administration costs.

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 investment in the subsidiary is stated at cost.

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 | 2008 | 2007 |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| These comprise: | | |
| Subscriptions | 408,747 | 402,487 |
| Entrance fees and lost cards | 5,559 | 5,865 |
| | <u>414,306</u> | <u>408,352</u> |

| 3 Staff Costs | 2008 | 2007 |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 369,594 | 332,388 |
| Social security cost | 35,634 | 32,165 |
| Pension cost | 20,109 | 19,950 |
| | <u>425,336</u> | <u>384,503</u> |

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

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Number | Number |
| Direct charitable activities | 11 | 10 |
| Fundraising | 1 | - |
| Governance | 4 | 4 |
| | <u>16</u> | <u>14</u> |

Society of Genealogists
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2008 (Continued)

4 Resources expended

| | Direct Staff Costs £ | Direct Other Costs £ | Support Costs £ | 2,008 Total £ | 2,007 Total £ |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Charitable activities | | | | | |
| Membership expenditure | 48,736 | 30,895 | 35,814 | 115,445 | 116,066 |
| Library expenditure | 134,397 | 55,709 | 117,969 | 308,075 | 286,400 |
| Event expenditure | 44,387 | 21,469 | 36,064 | 101,920 | 141,778 |
| Genealogy expenditure | 24,000 | 63 | - | 24,063 | 22,344 |
| Bookshop, magazine & publications expenditure | 63,492 | 73,319 | 16,613 | 153,424 | 139,823 |
| Fundraising costs | 8,201 | 1,571 | - | 9,772 | - |
| Governance | - | 9,256 | 26,258 | 35,515 | 33,524 |
| 31 December 2008 | <u>323,213</u> | <u>192,283</u> | <u>232,718</u> | <u>748,214</u> | <u>739,935</u> |
| 31 December 2007 | <u>300,423</u> | <u>207,798</u> | <u>231,714</u> | | <u>739,935</u> |

Support costs include:

| | Staff Costs £ | Depreciation £ | Premises Costs £ | Administration Costs £ | 2008 Total £ | 2007 Total £ |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Charitable activities | | | | | | |
| Membership expenditure | 21,863 | 2,416 | 4,226 | 7,309 | 35,814 | 36,751 |
| Library expenditure | 27,687 | 32,224 | 56,344 | 1,713 | 117,969 | 121,750 |
| Event expenditure | 26,044 | 2,416 | 4,226 | 3,378 | 36,064 | 35,201 |
| Bookshop, magazine & publications expenditure | 10,435 | 806 | 1,409 | 3,963 | 16,613 | 16,526 |
| Governance | 16,095 | 137 | 4,226 | 5,801 | 26,258 | 21,486 |
| 31 December 2008 | <u>102,124</u> | <u>37,999</u> | <u>70,430</u> | <u>22,164</u> | <u>232,718</u> | <u>231,714</u> |
| 31 December 2007 | <u>84,081</u> | <u>40,529</u> | <u>68,487</u> | <u>38,617</u> | | <u>231,714</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:

| | 2008 £ | 2007 £ |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration - current year | 5,975 | 5,670 |
| Auditors' remuneration - non-audit services | 1,505 | 751 |
| Annual report and meeting | <u>2,993</u> | <u>3,275</u> |

5 Trustees expenses

The directors of the company, being the members of the Executive Committee, received no emoluments during the year (2007: Nil). However, travel expenses to the amount of £4,597 (2007: £2,342) were reimbursed to 11 (2007: 7) Committee members for travel to Society related activities.

No employee had emoluments in excess of £60,000 in the year (2007: none).

Society of Genealogists
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2008 (Continued)

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 2008 | 932,715 | 58,651 | 170,415 | 318,488 | 145,764 | 1,626,033 |
| Additions | - | - | 3,754 | 10,965 | 4,697 | 19,415 |
| At 31st December 2008 | <u>932,715</u> | <u>58,651</u> | <u>174,169</u> | <u>329,453</u> | <u>150,461</u> | <u>1,645,449</u> |
| Depreciation | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2008 | 252,630 | 58,419 | - | 262,180 | 99,276 | 672,505 |
| Charge for the year | 18,660 | 185 | - | 13,454 | 5,119 | 37,418 |
| At 31st December 2008 | <u>271,290</u> | <u>58,604</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>275,634</u> | <u>104,395</u> | <u>709,923</u> |
| Net Book Value | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 2008 | <u>661,425</u> | <u>47</u> | <u>174,169</u> | <u>53,818</u> | <u>46,066</u> | <u>935,525</u> |
| At 31st December 2007 | <u>680,085</u> | <u>232</u> | <u>170,415</u> | <u>56,308</u> | <u>46,488</u> | <u>953,528</u> |
| Charity | | | | | | |
| Charity | Freehold Land and Buildings £ | Plant and Machinery £ | Books, Manuscripts & Typescripts £ | Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings £ | Microforms £ | Total £ |
| Cost or Valuation | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2008 | 932,715 | 52,154 | 171,596 | 318,488 | 145,764 | 1,620,717 |
| Additions | - | - | 3,754 | 10,965 | 4,697 | 19,416 |
| At 31st December 2008 | <u>932,715</u> | <u>52,154</u> | <u>175,350</u> | <u>329,453</u> | <u>150,461</u> | <u>1,640,133</u> |
| Depreciation | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2008 | 252,630 | 51,986 | - | 262,180 | 99,276 | 666,072 |
| Charge for the year | 18,660 | 168 | - | 13,455 | 5,119 | 37,401 |
| At 31st December 2008 | <u>271,290</u> | <u>52,154</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>275,635</u> | <u>104,395</u> | <u>703,473</u> |
| Net Book Value | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 2008 | <u>661,425</u> | <u>(0)</u> | <u>175,350</u> | <u>53,818</u> | <u>46,066</u> | <u>936,659</u> |
| At 31st December 2007 | <u>680,085</u> | <u>168</u> | <u>171,596</u> | <u>56,308</u> | <u>46,488</u> | <u>954,645</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 land, no depreciation is provided on this amount. The insured value of books, manuscripts, typescripts, microform, plant and machinery, fixtures and fittings is £2,571,975.

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 2008 (Continued)

7 Investments

At 31st December 2008, 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:

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Turnover | 191,903 | 177,834 |
| Donation | - | 900 |
| Interest receivable | 495 | 766 |
| | <u>192,398</u> | <u>179,500</u> |
| Total income | | |
| Cost of sales | 59,692 | 45,070 |
| Distribution cost | 1,091 | 5,066 |
| Administrative expenses | 94,275 | 85,841 |
| Donation to Society | 37,300 | 43,422 |
| | <u>192,358</u> | <u>179,399</u> |
| Total expenditure | | |
| Net income from trading | <u>40</u> | <u>101</u> |

At 31st December 2008, the aggregate amount of this company's assets, liabilities, share capital and reserves was:

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | 47 | 64 |
| Current assets | 104,590 | 85,809 |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | (79,129) | (60,405) |
| | <u>25,508</u> | <u>25,468</u> |
| This represented | | |
| Share capital | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Reserves | 5,508 | 5,468 |
| | <u>25,508</u> | <u>25,468</u> |

The remuneration of the auditors of the subsidiary was £3,210 (2007: £3,052)

8 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

| | Group | | Charity | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Trade debtors | 12,322 | 16,343 | 1,405 | 1,114 |
| Amount owed by subsidiary undertakings | - | - | 59,450 | 43,422 |
| Other debtors | 8,145 | 11,071 | 8,145 | 11,071 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 24,536 | 26,010 | 23,847 | 25,654 |
| | <u>45,003</u> | <u>53,424</u> | <u>92,847</u> | <u>81,261</u> |

Society of Genealogists
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2008 (Continued)

9 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

| | Group | | Charity | |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Trade creditors | 40,435 | 47,391 | 32,460 | 37,226 |
| Amounts due to subsidiary | - | - | 16,250 | - |
| Taxation and social security | 12,247 | 10,847 | 9,640 | 8,118 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 70,146 | 64,032 | 61,048 | 59,943 |
| | <u>122,828</u> | <u>122,270</u> | <u>119,398</u> | <u>105,287</u> |

9a Deferred Income

| | Group | | Charity | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Deferred Income brought forward | 54,612 | 25,936 | 53,573 | 25,571 |
| Released to income in the year | (54,612) | (25,936) | (53,573) | (25,571) |
| Income deferred in the year | 54,299 | 54,612 | 53,548 | 53,573 |
| Deferred Income carried forward | <u>54,299</u> | <u>54,612</u> | <u>53,548</u> | <u>53,573</u> |

10 Restricted Funds

Group and charity

| | Brought Forward | Incoming Resources | Resources Expended | Transfers | Carried Forward |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fellows Fund | 226 | - | - | - | 226 |
| Library Funds | 21,449 | 7,669 | (5,369) | (8,451) | 15,299 |
| Binding Funds | 6,977 | 101 | (2,065) | - | 5,013 |
| City Bridge Trust | - | 15,000 | (10,000) | - | 5,000 |
| | <u>28,652</u> | <u>22,770</u> | <u>(17,434)</u> | <u>(8,451)</u> | <u>25,538</u> |

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 transfer to unrestricted funds represents capital expenditure incurred in the year.

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

The City Bridge Trust Fund is a specific grant for the salary of a Community Officer

Society of Genealogists
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2008 (Continued)

11 Unrestricted Funds

| | Brought Forward | Incoming Resources | Resources Expended | Transfers | Carried Forward |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unrestricted charitable funds | | | | | |
| Designated development fund | 262,875 | 10,000 | (17,210) | - | 255,665 |
| General funds | 1,012,878 | 524,588 | (582,616) | 8,451 | 963,301 |
| Total unrestricted charitable funds | 1,275,753 | 534,588 | (599,825) | 8,451 | 1,218,967 |
| Non charitable funds (Subsidiary)* | 4,284 | 127,397 | (130,954) | - | 727 |
| | <u>1,280,037</u> | <u>661,985</u> | <u>(730,779)</u> | <u>8,451</u> | <u>1,219,693</u> |

The Development Fund has been established by the Trustees with funds from a major legacy and donation and will be

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

11a Transfers

A transfer took place of £8,451 representing items bought from the Library Fund that are not stated in the SOFA due to their purchase being capitalised.

12 Allocation of Group Net Assets

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

| | Tangible Fixed Assets | Net Current Assets | Fund Balance |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Restricted Funds | - | 25,537 | 25,537 |
| Unrestricted Funds | | | |
| Designated Fund | - | 255,665 | 255,665 |
| General Fund | 935,478 | 27,823 | 963,301 |
| Non charitable funds (Subsidiary) | 47 | 680 | 727 |
| | <u>935,525</u> | <u>309,706</u> | <u>1,245,231</u> |

13 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.

14 Commitments under Operating Leases

At 31st December 2008 the group has an annual commitment under non-cancellable operating leases of land and buildings of £8,500 (2007 - £8,500).

15 Related Party Transactions in the year

John Hanson (Trustee) has professional relationships with Findmypast.com and the Halsted Trust. He played no part in decisions made by them to contribute to the Society

Geoff Stone (Trustee) also has a professional relationship with the Halsted Trust and he too played no part in their contribution to the Society of £750, which was awarded as a grant for specific lectures.

John Hanson (Trustee) and Ian Waller (Trustee) received fees for lectures in their professional capacity

Ian Waller received authors royalties in his professional capacity.

Prior permission by the Charity Commission has been given for Trustees to receive lecture fees and any authors royalties.

Hugh Guilford (Trustee) acted as a consultant in the year but no remuneration was paid for his services.