

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2005

Registered Charity No: 266383

FREDERICKS

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
418/420 Cranbrook Road
Gants Hill, Ilford
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THE WAGNER SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2005

Registered Charity No: 266383

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered charity no: 266383

Inland Revenue FICO ref: XN38219

Date of registration: 25 April 1975

Governing instrument: Constitution and Rules adopted 27 January 1975

Trustees and Honorary officers:

Chairman	M. Spence QC
Treasurer	R. Browne
Secretary	R. Black

Committee:

R. Allen
G. Griffiths
P. Hudson
I. Jones
G. Kahn
M. McIntosh
M. Murphy
M. Rivers
J. Rowe
S. Spitznagel
R. Wells

Registered and correspondence address: 14 Chatsworth Avenue
Haslemere
Surrey, GU27 1BA

Independent examiner: S.G. Duker FCA
Fredericks
Chartered Accountants
418-420 Cranbrook Road
Gants Hill, Ilford
Essex, IG2 6HT

Bankers: National Westminster Bank Plc
Millbank Branch
P.O. Box 2
27/28 Horseferry Road
London, SW1P 2AX

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

The Trustees present herewith their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2005.

The Society registered as a charity on 25 April 1975 under registration number 266383.

The Society is affiliated to the Richard Wagner Verband, the International Organisation of Wagner Societies.

Principal objectives

The principal objectives of the charity are as follows:-

- 1) To advance education in and appreciation of the life and work of Richard Wagner.
- 2) To promote and organise public performances anywhere in the world of the works of Richard Wagner by the Society from time to time and for special purposes include in its programmes suitable works by other composers.
- 3) To promote and organise other cultural and educational activities relevant to the study and appreciation of the music of Richard Wagner.

Policies adopted

To achieve the above policies the Society:-

1. Arranges meetings, events and study days to enable members to further their understanding and appreciation of the life and works of Richard Wagner. It also arranges events at which singers, directors, conductors etc. of Wagner productions talk about and discuss their work.
2. Publishes at regular intervals the magazine, Wagner News, which is distributed free of charge to members.
3. Provides financial help to fund the coaching of young singers of Wagner and provides a bursary to enable a young singer to visit Bayreuth each August.
4. In association with organisations such as The Mastersingers Company provides opportunities for young singers to perform Wagner in public and to take part in competitions.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

Review of activities for the year 2005

The events presented by the Society become better and better thanks to the work of our Programme Director, Jeremy Rowe, assisted by Gary Kahn. The year began in February with a talk by Wally Sutcliffe, who had received a Bursary from the Society to enable him to work at Bayreuth during the Festival. He was interviewed by Jeremy Rowe under the title "Getting started in the world of opera". At this event the ballot was held for the Bayreuth tickets. Then, Penelope Turning, who was a personal friend of Hans Hotter, gave a talk about him. In May a visiting fellow of Wolfson College, Cambridge, Johnathan Brown, gave a talk on the conductor Albert Coates. In June the Society supported the Chiddwickbury Arts Festival, near St. Albans in the performance of Parsifal Act II and the Wesendonk Lieder. A high-spot came in July when a large and appreciative audience filled the Linbury Studio Theatre at Covent Garden to hear Plácido Domingo interviewed by Tony Palmer. The chairman presented Plácido Domingo with the Reginald Goodall Memorial Award.

After a short break for the summer there were two events in September; an illustrated talk by Rodney Newton on the role of percussion in Wagner: "Wagner in the kitchen" and also the usual excellent Study Day by Ian Beresford Gleaves, on Siegfried. Later, thanks to The Mastersingers, there were open rehearsals of Siegfried Act III conducted by Anthony Legge which were followed subsequently by a staged performance in the Duke's Hall at the Royal Academy of Music. Another high-spot was the evening with Michael Portillo at the packed hall of Queen's College, Harley Street. In December we had the Society's Christmas Dinner with Jane Eaglen; and following Siegfried Act III the newly inaugurated Ralph Wells Award and the finals of the Bayreuth Bursary and entertainment at the piano by Richard Black and Tamriko Sakvarelidze.

That amounts to no less than twelve events. Recordings have been made of selected meetings and the CDs are available from the Programme Director.

Wagner was published once in 2005 and is now temporarily in abeyance, the editor Roger Allen having felt obliged to give it up. It is a very demanding job but there is an excellent candidate for mid-2007. Wagner News (editor Ian Beresford Gleaves assisted by Raymond Browne) was published six times and the Trustees express immense gratitude for their work. The Society web site (www.wagnersociety.org) has been developed by Ian Jones and contains full information about the Society and its activities. The Society has continued to provide financial help to pay coaching fees for young singers of Wagner. It also provided financial help towards the performance of Das Rheingold, the inaugural event of the Northern Wagner Orchestra in Leeds.

Membership

The number of members registered at the beginning and end of the year was as follows:-

	31.12.05	31.12.04
United Kingdom members	966	917
Overseas members	52	56
	-----	-----
	1,018	973
	=====	=====

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

Financial review and investment policy

The principal source of income was from membership subscriptions received and by various donations. Members of the executive committee and others, including professionals, give their time voluntarily to the charity and often bear some of the incidental postage, stationery and travelling expenditure personally.

Income received is utilised against the principal objectives and the running costs of the charity.

Total income during the year amounted to £36,684. Direct charitable expenditure amounted to £36,856. To the loss of £172 the charity's administration costs of £5,798 were added which leaves net outgoing resources for the year of £5,970.

The amount of £2,805 being a gain on investments held, was added to the funds leaving a loss of £3,165 to be carried forward. Funds brought forward from previous years totalled £49,343. Therefore total funds carried forward at 31 December 2005 totalled £46,178.

Full details of the financial results of the year are shown in the statement of financial activities on page 7.

There are no restrictions on the charity's power to invest. The investment strategy is set by the trustees and unrestricted funds are invested in an interest bearing 14 day notice account.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain funds at a level sufficient to finance not less than twelve months of unrestricted expenditure and that this level of reserves is held throughout the year.

Officers

The management committee comprises the honorary officers, executive committee and the chief executive officer. Those who served throughout the year were as follows:-

Honorary Officers:-

Chairman	:	M. Spence
Treasurer	:	R. Browne
Secretary	:	R. Black
Committee	:	R. Allen
		G. Griffiths
		P. Hudson
		I. Jones
		G. Kahn
		M. McIntosh
		M. Murphy
		M. Rivers
		J. Rowe
		S. Spitznagel
		R. Wells

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

The honorary officers are re-elected on an annual basis at the annual general meeting. Members of the committee are elected at the annual general meeting.

All officers and members retire at the annual general meeting and in accordance with the constitution are eligible to stand for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Risk management

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity may face on a regular basis and believe that maintaining reserves at current levels, combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Equal opportunities policy

Membership of the committee is open to any person from any background who is able to contribute to the running of the organisation or any special project undertaken by the charity and to all lovers of Wagner's Music.

No person is excluded from membership of the charity or the committee on the grounds of sex, race, colour, religion or disability.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees of the Wagner Society are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the movement of funds for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:-

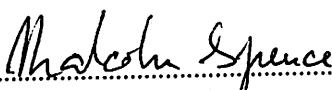
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue.


The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and for safeguarding its assets.

Independent examiner

Mr S.G. Duker being eligible offers himself for re-election at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:


M. Spence QC (Chairman)


R. Black (Secretary)

Dated: 24 April 2006

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE WAGNER SOCIETY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005**

6.

I report on the accounts of The Wagner Society for the year ended 31 December 2005 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the independent examiner

As described on page 5, you, the charity's trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under section 43 (3)(a) of the Act), follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act) and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

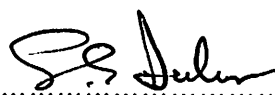
Basis of opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



S.G. Duker FCA

Fredericks
Chartered Accountants
418/420 Cranbrook Road
Gants Hill, Ilford
Essex, IG2 6HT

Dated: 27 April 2006

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2005 Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2004 Total funds £
Income and expenditure					
Incoming resources					
Members' subscriptions		17,681	-	17,681	16,956
Meetings and events	2	12,226	-	12,226	12,588
Investment income	3	1,391	-	1,391	1,330
Donations and gifts	4	686	2,500	3,186	8,271
Other income		291	-	291	610
Income tax recoverable		1,909	-	1,909	2,672
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total incoming resources		£34,184	£2,500	£36,684	£42,427
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Resources expended					
Direct charitable expenditure	5	36,856	-	36,856	32,146
Management and administration costs	6	5,798	-	5,798	3,864
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total resources expended		£42,654	£ -	£42,654	£36,010
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year					
		(8,470)	2,500	(5,970)	6,417
Other recognised gains and losses					
Unrealised gain on investments	10	2,805	-	2,805	2,641
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds		(5,665)	2,500	(3,165)	9,058
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2005		49,343	-	49,343	40,285
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2005		£43,678	£2,500	£46,178	£49,343
		=====	=====	=====	=====

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

	Notes	31 December 2005		31 December 2004	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	9		1		228
Investment	10		24,097		21,292
			-----		-----
			24,098		21,520
Current assets					
Stock	11	2,069		1,372	
Debtors	12	2,644		2,251	
Cash at bank	13	27,143		25,537	
		-----		-----	
		31,856		29,160	
Current liabilities					
Creditors and accruals	14	(9,776)		(1,337)	
		-----		-----	
Net current assets			22,080		27,823
			-----		-----
Net assets			£46,178		£49,343
			=====		=====
Represented by:					
Restricted funds	15		2,500		-
Unrestricted funds	16		43,678		49,343
			-----		-----
Total funds	17		£46,178		£49,343
			=====		=====

Approved by the trustees on 24 April 2006 and signed on their behalf by:

M. Spence
 M. Spence QC (Chairman)

R. Browne
 R. Browne (Treasurer)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

1. Accounting policies

a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective March 2000). In preparing the financial statements the charity follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2000) issued in October 2000 and SORP Update Bulletin 1 issued in December 2002.

b) Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:-

Equipment	25% on cost
-----------	-------------

c) Stocks

Stocks comprise opera tickets for resale.

d) Donations and investment income

Donations and investment income are accounted for when received.

e) Value added tax

Costs are inclusive of input value added tax not recoverable by the charity.

f) Taxation recoverable

Taxation recoverable is accounted for in the year in which it is receivable.

g) Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:-

Unrestricted funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when raised for particular restricted purposes.

	Year ended 31 December 2005			2004
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
2. Income				
Meetings and events				
Takings	12,226	-	12,226	11,986
Bayreuth Bursary – donations and ticket sales	-	-	-	602
	-----	---	-----	-----
	£12,226	£ -	£12,226	£12,588
	=====	==	=====	=====
3. Investment income				
Dividends received	1,026	-	1,026	993
Interest received	365	-	365	337
	-----	---	-----	-----
	£ 1,391	£ -	£ 1,391	£ 1,330
	=====	==	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2005			2004
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
4. Donations					
Ralph Wells – Prize fund for Bayreuth Bursary 2006	15	-	2,500	2,500	-
Other donations		686	-	686	8,271
		----- £686 =====	----- £2,500 =====	----- £3,186 =====	----- £8,271 =====
Direct charitable expenditure					
Meetings and events		13,886	-	13,886	17,330
Bayreuth Bursary	7	3,158	-	3,158	1,982
Donations and gifts		2,217	-	2,127	496
Magazine production and postage		11,773	-	11,773	10,718
Coaching		2,460	-	2,460	1,620
European congress		862	-	862	-
Ralph Wells prize		2,500	-	2,500	-
		----- £36,856 =====	----- £ - =====	----- £36,856 =====	----- £32,146 =====
6. Management and administration costs					
Sundry, printing, stationery and advertising		3,061	-	3,061	1,906
Miscellaneous expenses		1,613	-	1,613	1,075
Bank charges		517	-	517	428
Binders		380	-	380	-
Depreciation of equipment		227	-	227	455
		----- £ 5,798 =====	----- £ - =====	----- £ 5,798 =====	----- £ 3,864 =====
7. Bayreuth Bursary Expenditure					
Auditioning, final and advertising		2,511	-	2,511	1,309
Contribution to Richard Wagner Stipendienstiftung		229	-	229	239
Expenses of Bursary winner to visit Bayreuth		418	-	418	434
		----- £ 3,158 =====	----- £ - =====	----- £ 3,158 =====	----- £ 1,982 =====
8. Management committee remuneration					
No management committee officers received any remuneration during the year ended 31 December 2005.					

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Library	Equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
Balance at 1 January 2005 and 31 December 2005	1	1,819	1,820
	==	=====	=====
Depreciation			
Balance at 1 January 2005	-	1,592	1,592
Charge for year	-	227	227
	---	-----	-----
Balance at 31 December 2005	-	1,819	1,819
	---	-----	-----
Net book value at 31 December 2005	£ 1	£ -	£ 1
	==	=====	=====
Net book value at 31 December 2004	£ 1	£ 227	£ 228
	==	=====	=====

	Year ended 31 December 2005			2004
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
10. Investment				
1,739 Charifund income units:-				
Market value at 31 December 2005 (1,385.68p per share)	24,097	-	24,097	21,292
Market value at 31 December 2004	21,292	-	21,292	18,651
	-----	---	-----	-----
Unrealised gain on investment 31 December 2005	£ 2,805	£ -	£ 2,805	£2,641
	=====	==	=====	=====
11. Stocks				
Stocks comprise opera tickets for resale.				
12. Debtors and prepayments				
Prepayments	2,644	-	2,644	2,251
	-----	---	-----	-----
	£2,644	£ -	£2,644	£2,251
	=====	==	=====	=====
13. Cash at bank and in hand				
Deposit account	14,432	2,500	16,932	21,586
Current account	10,211	-	10,211	3,951
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£27,143	£2,500	£27,143	£25,537
	=====	=====	=====	=====
14. Creditors				
Subscriptions received in advance	7,770	-	7,770	1,337
Accrued expenses	470	-	470	-
Other creditors	1,536	-	1,536	-
	-----	---	-----	-----
	£9,776	£ -	£ 9,776	£ 1,337
	=====	==	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

15. Restricted funds

	Balance 01.01.05	Movement in resources		Balance 31.12.05
	£	Incoming	Outgoing	£
The Ralph Wells prize fund	£ -	£ 2,500	£ -	£ 2,500
	==	=====	==	=====

Funds received from Ralph Wells during the year totalling £2,500 are to be used to provide prizes for a singing competition to be held during 2006.

16.

	Balance 01.01.05	Movement in resources		Balance 31.12.05
	£	Incoming	Outgoing	£
Unrestricted funds	£49,343	£36,989	£42,654	£43,678
	=====	=====	=====	=====

The unrestricted funds are utilised for the purpose of funding the activities and management costs of the charity.

17. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Tangible fixed assets	Net assets	Total 31.12.05	Total 31.12.04
	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds				
Revenue funds:-				
Ralph Wells prize fund	-	2,500	2,500	-
Unrestricted funds	1	43,677	43,678	49,343
	--	-----	-----	-----
	£1	£46,177	£46,178	£49,343
	=	=====	=====	=====