

SECRETARIAL NOTES

At our last AGM, during the General Assembly of 2004, a good turnout of members gathered at Greyfriars to hear an address by the Revd Alan Birss, Paisley Abbey, on aspects of worship today. Alan has now joined the exalted ranks of Honorary Presidents and the Revd Marion Dodd has taken over the Presidency of the Church Service Society. This was formally approved at the business meeting prior to the address, as was the promotion of the Revd David Mill to Vice-President. The Revd Dr Peter Donald agreed to serve another term as a member of Council. At the conclusion of hers, the Revd Anne Allison stood down from Council, as did the Revd Matthew Ross after his move to Brussels. Both were thanked in absentia for the contributions they had made to the Society. Mrs Rosemary Hall and the Revd Paul Middleton were both appointed to Council and thanked for their willingness to participate. After the AGM members stayed for an excellent supper.

In the best traditions of the early church, food often plays a part in the success of events organised by the Church Service Society! At our recent Study Day in Finnart St Paul's, Greenock, those present enjoyed a superb lunch on the premises. The theme of the day was worship incorporating different traditions, and our host, David Mill, spoke about the background of his own congregation before our main speaker, the Revd Gillean Maclean, referred helpfully to her experience previously as chaplain at Aberdeen University and minister in the Livingston Ecumenical Parish, and currently at St John's, Oxfangs. As with the previous year's Study Day in Stirling, when the Revd Dr Ian Gough and Mr Tom Maplesden spoke on the theme of funerals, all present agreed it had been a good and worthwhile day. It would be fine if some more members could make room in their diaries for this annual event, always a stimulating mix of worship, talk, discussion and food!

In the previous edition of the Record reference was made to the Council's proposal to establish a website, and the need first to find an 'Editor'. The Honorary Secretary has not been inundated with offers or suggestions, and it might be helpful at this stage to get some general feedback from members as to whether they think a website a good idea, and if they would make use of it? The position of 'Editor' is still available.