

SECRETARIAL NOTES

Thirty-six members and friends of the Church Service Society attended the Annual General Meeting in Greyfriars Kirk on 25th May 2006. After handing over to incoming President, the Revd David Mill, the Revd Marion Dodd proved herself our 'outgoing' President in more ways than one, delivering a fascinating and stimulating Presidential Address entitled 'Communicating the Word' with her characteristic creativity, imagination and enthusiasm. We are indebted to Marion for her distinctive contribution to the Society during her term of office, and wish David well as he follows in her footsteps. We're grateful, too, that the Revd Douglas Galbraith was willing to succeed David as Vice-President. Our Honorary Treasurer, the Revd Jennifer Macrae, has been busy getting to grips with the accounts, which showed a reasonable increase in subscriptions and donations. There is still, however, a number of members whose subscription would appear to have lapsed for one reason or another – please check if you come into this category and get in touch with Jennifer to rectify the situation. Many thanks.

Our other annual event, the Study Day, took place at the smart new Scottish Storytelling Centre on Edinburgh's Royal Mile early in October. The Director, Dr Donald Smith, led on the theme 'Faith, Creativity and Worship' and a lively discussion ensued. Those present also enjoyed a tour of the newly refurbished complex, formerly known to many as the Netherbow. The day concluded with the celebration of Holy Communion down the road at Canongate Kirk.

We now look forward to the next AGM on Thursday 24th May, at 5.30pm in Greyfriars' Kirk, when Professor John Hume, whose latest book, *Scotland's Best Churches*, is reviewed in this issue, will consider factors influencing proposals for alterations to church buildings in an address entitled 'New technologies, new ways'.

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Tom Davidson Kelly, a former President of the Society, was Minister of Govan Old Parish Church from 1989 to 2002 when he took early retirement on health grounds.

William Johnstone taught in the University of Aberdeen from 1962 to 2001, from 1980 as Professor of Hebrew and Semitic Languages.

Henry R. Sefton, a former President of the Society, lectured in Church History in the University of Aberdeen for twenty years and was Master of Christ's College from 1983 to 1993.