

SECRETARIAL NOTES

The Society is pursuing with the Joint Liturgical Group the creation of an Ecumenical Calendar by which different branches of the Church may share in commemorating saints and pioneers in faith and service in all traditions. This was proposed, in an address at the annual meeting of 2022, by Society member the Revd Alan Falconer DD.

The Society's website, established in 2007 using a legacy from the Professor J K S Reid, is now due for an overhaul. Analysis has shown that it is well used round the world, with particular attention being paid to the Wode Psalter, used in concerts and in worship, and to the archive of the Society's long series of annual journals which began in 1928. Council members Peter Johnston and Conor Fegan are reviewing content and making proposals. Since its inception the site has been designed and maintained by Fiona Thomson and her company Yellow Tractor of Aberdeen. Fiona used to be the communications specialist in the former Office for Worship and Doctrine in the Offices of the Church of Scotland.

A study day is planned for the Spring of 2024 on the theme of Pilgrimage. Further details will be published in the website (www.churchservicesociety.org) and through the Society's e-letter *Versicle*.

Versicle continues to be circulated at least twice per annum. It is intended as a platform for discussion in the Society and among the many other friends who also receive copies. Members are particularly asked to look over the recent issue (Creationtide, September 2023) where comment was invited on several themes. Members are also encouraged to report events and developments in which they have been involved.

John Bell, our President, kindly agreed to stay in office for a further year, due to the interruptions caused by Lockdown in the first part of his term. He will give his Presidential Address at the AGM in 2024, which is to be held during the week of the General Assembly, on Tuesday 21st May. Details will be circulated later.

In December of 2022 the Society marked the passing of a former President (and also a president of Scottish Church Society), the Revd Alan Birss, for whom a rich memorial service was held in Paisley Abbey from which he had relatively recently retired after a long and distinguished ministry.

Scott McKenna