SECRETARIAL NOTES

The election of the Revd David Todd BEM as President of the Society at the **Annual Meeting** in May this year was the culmination of a growing co-operation between the Society and the Liturgy Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church. David's roots, however, are already deep in the Society in that his father, Dr Stewart Todd, formerly of St Machar's Cathedral, was one of our most active and distinguished leaders in recent years. At the same meeting, Iain May (recently graduated DMin) was re-elected Treasurer, and a new Secretary found in Elspeth McKay. Andrea Fraser, of the Forthview group of churches, was elected a member of Council. Retiring President John L Bell gave an address on 'The Life in Liturgy' which, at once entertaining and challenging, drew particularly on his wide experience of the music of the Church (printed in this issue).

The **Study Day** of 2024 took the theme of Pilgrimage, acknowledging the growing number of pilgrim routes being developed as well as the call of the General Assembly of 2017 (brought by Richard Frazer, one of our members) to congregations on such routes to offer hospitality and to learn from pilgrims and travellers. It took place in October at St Drostan's Markinch, on the Fife Pilgrim Way, where an active project continues to be developed. Main speakers were Dr Bess Rhodes of the University of St Andrews and Dr Conor Fegan, local parish minister. In the afternoon, under the title of 'Conversations on the Way', groups met with Ian Bradley, Felicity Burrows, Richard Frazer, Lorraine Orr, and Wendy Lloyd where different aspects of the theme were explored. The 30 participants were offered a 'pilgrim lunch' and guided tours of the 12th century church building.

In addition to its regular programme and publications, the Society has received invitations to enter into **partnerships** with other bodies in tasks which overlap with its interests, such as the 375th anniversary next year of the Scottish Psalter, a survey by the University of St Andrews on church music, a possible ecumenical Calendar, and the opportunities residing in the ancient churches of the land. Faced with rebuilding its website, the Society is also reviewing its aims and tasks in the face of current changes and developments in the life of the Church.

This is the last issue of the ***Record*** edited by David Scott, who took up the task at volume 56 and has now given us four issues. David brought a fresh approach to the journal, principally through his ability to persuade a goodly number of members of the Society to write from their special interests and experience. These shorter papers made for a breadth of interest and engagement which illuminated other aspects of the central theme of liturgy and worship and suggested approaches that could be applied in other situations. Associated recently has been Rev Dr Conor Fegan who is to succeed David as editor from the issue of 2025.

Members are reminded that **subscriptions** are due as each annual meeting approaches. In 2025 the annual meeting is likely to be on Tuesday 20th May.