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Officials/ Committee Members would be elected for a three-year term, with the change being phased-in over three years. In March the Chairman, Sales Officer and one Committee Member will be elected for the increased period with the others following-on in 2012 and 2013. I have indicated that I do not wish to stand for another 3-years and although I have been asked to reconsider this decision I would be pleased in the meantime to hear from anyone who is interested in standing for any of these three posts.

I have gone on for far too long so, lastly, may I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy, prosperous and peaceful 2011. I am sure that we are all hoping that the rate for buying Swiss Francs improves next year!

## **JUST A SEC**

**David Stevenson**

Ian's decision to stand down from the Chair of the SRS is a great disappointment. He and I have had our disagreements in the past, at times quite profound ones, but the three years we have worked together have been great. He has been fun to work with, has chaired the meetings with skill and diplomacy and has lead us forward at a time when much of the world we inhabit, our relatively small world, the "The Transport Hobby" has gone backwards. Ian has always remained positive, the Committee and the membership owe him much. Thanks Ian.

So we are looking for a new Chairperson. If you are thinking about helping or volunteering, don't be shy in coming forward to stand for the Committee. Talk to us, talk to your local branch members and help us take the Society forward over the next three years.

A very Happy Christmas and New Year to you all, I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM in Derby in March.

## **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

**Martin Fisher writes...**

I am afraid we are all another year older and, unless you have already paid your SRS subscription for 2011 (in which case you should have received your new card by now), you will find a renewal form inside this magazine. As Ian explains the Society has faced increased costs over the last year and so we have had to increase all the subscriptions. The UK rate has risen by £1 to £16. The overseas rates have risen by £2 to £22 for the rest of Europe, and to £24 for outside Europe, because of the additional effects of postage & exchange rates. As before if they wish members may subscribe for 2-years simply by doubling the amount they pay, as explained on the form. In this event you will be sent the card for 2011 on payment and the card for 2012 will follow in November 2011. All subscription payments can now be made electronically by PayPal – details on the renewal form. As the Chairman notes above USA Members may still pay by US\$ cheque/check - but at a rate of \$50.00 per year.

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## **A request from Jim Easley, SRS USA Membership Coordinator**

To aid modeling of the St Niklaus station area I need photographs and information on architectural features of the building which is located on the south (toward Zermat) side of the station and across the tracks from the catenary switches.

Unfortunately, when we visited St Niklaus I took many photographs of the station, but did not give enough attention to the building next to the station, and I want to replicate it as accurately as I can. **Jim Easley** <jreasl@yahoo.com>