New Zealand, report 2010

Our annual conference began at Massey University Library, in Wellington on Thursday 6th Nov 2009 with sessions ranging across the School Music Curriculum, copyright issues, Toscanini, a short diversion into Baroque dance, and back to a New Zealand perspective on early music publishing and jazz education.

On the 2nd day we moved to the Wellington cathedral for a session about music therapy training, the AGM, and then visits to hear the bells at Old St Paul’s, and find out about the history and current practise of bell ringing. We finished with a visit to the Radio NZ premises.

A lot of the discussion at the AGM was about our journal *Crescendo* which continues to be a good promotional tool for our organisation, as well as one of the few outlets for serious writing about music in New Zealand. The Lilburn Trust, which provides welcome extra funding for our publishing venture, has been pushing us to ramp up *Crescendo* and we have been working on some strategies. Thanks are due to the editor and publisher for keeping publishing on track meanwhile.

Work carries on with RILM indexing. Under Roger Flury’s quiet prodding as chair the committee of Marilyn Portman, Roger Flury, Elizabeth Smith and Phillippa McKeown-Green have submitted 36 abstracts so far in 2009-2010.

Of particular importance this year has been the result of review of the National Library Music Services. Following strong public support for retaining all of the current music resources, the National Library finally announced on the 18th June 2009 that it was retaining all its current collections, including ‘obsolete’ formats, retaining current staff and service arrangements, but tightening up its donations policy. As the new building planning is taking place we are yet to see if all of this will happen as promised.

Other developments have included the planning of a seminar for librarians and music teachers, to take place in Wellington on June 25th 2010. The aim is to show how to get access to music resources, physical and online when you don’t have a music library of your own. A session about accessing free online scores and recordings was also presented to 30 public librarians at a seminar in Whitianga on May 2nd 2010.

IAML NZ was called upon to June 2010 to meet with Trade and economic development staff. To discuss a proposed Free Trade Agreement between NZ, Australia and the USA, (called the TPP) which might have implications for music copyright. We asked that our current copyright laws not be changed – we feel they fairly balance the rights of library users and content creators. We may need to make contact with IAML national groups in Europe and the USA to make concerted representations.
Membership of IAML (NZ) Branch for 2010 was 18 international members (institutional and individual) + 12 local members.

*Phillippa McKeown-Green*
*President, IAML(NZ)*