

New Zealand / Aotearoa National Report 2020

Submitted by Rhys Thorn, President

NZ Executive board members

- Rhys Thorn (University of Otago) – President
- Phillippa McKeown-Green (University of Auckland) – Past President
- Elizabeth Smith (Massey University, Wellington) – Secretary.
- Phillippa McKeown-Green (University of Auckland) – Treasurer.
- Erika Arthur (National Library of New Zealand) – Committee member.
- Michael Brown (Alexander Turnbull Library/National Library of New Zealand) – Committee member.
- Amanda Mills (Hocken Collections, University of Otago) – Committee member.
- Marilyn Portman (Auckland City Libraries) – Committee member.

Branch committee meetings held during the year

- 18 June 2019
- 27 August 2019
- 22 October 2019
- 3 December 2019
- 4 February 2020
- 3 March 2020
- 28 April 2020
- 2 June 2020

Annual branch meetings

Friday 8 November 2019, from 9 am to 10.30 am. Held at the University of Otago, School of Performing Arts, Dunedin. 9 members in attendance.

Branch membership figures

Membership of IAML (NZ) Branch for 2020 is expected to be down again from 2019 due to the COVID-19 lockdown and the unknown impact that had on institutional budgets. We hope to retain a steady-state for individual membership.

Branch constitutional matters

At the AGM Paul Emsley resigned from his role on the committee. He was thanked for his service and we wish him well in his retirement. Rhys Thorn was elected President. Phillippa McKeown-Green was elected Treasurer. Elizabeth Smith was re-elected, Secretary. Erika Arthur from the National Library of New Zealand was elected to the executive committee.

Branch activities

2019 Conference

Dunedin was once again the destination for our annual conference. Hosted at the School of Performing Arts, we began on Thursday 7th November 2019 with two sessions looking at taonga pūoro (traditional musical instruments of the Māori people), firstly around research ethics and secondly the use of the instruments in New Zealand vocal music. The next day, delegates explored and played the instruments in a hands-on session. Keith McEwing repeated his talk on the Douglas Lilburn piano music finding aid (from IAML Krakow). Our excursion was to the Dunedin Town Hall where we had a behind the scenes tour of "Norma" given by the City Organist, including walking into the belly of the instrument. We ended the day with a fascinating hour where internationally renowned accompanist Professor Terence Dennis outlined his noted musical collaborations including his longstanding collaboration with soprano Kiri Te Kanawa.

The final day began with contemporary music with the story of the Dunedin band The Titans, and anecdotes from progressive rock. Conference report backs and library updates are scattered through the two days, which ended with the specialist music education of Scotland and how to safely teach singing to Trans* and Gender Queer students as they go through hormone therapy. A commemorative Pūrerehua (as pictured) was presented to all speakers for their contributions.

Branch projects

2020 Conference

Our 2020 conference will be held in Auckland in November. We are currently investigating holding a dual online and face-to-face conference. This will allow members and others from further afield to attend without the financial burden of travel expenses.

Branch publications

We currently facing the challenge of desktop publication delays for *Crescendo*. Keith McEwing continues to do an excellent job as the editor. We have recruited Billie McGuinness, a recent graduate for in Design from Massey University to help with the publishing side and hope to have volume 101/102 published, along with volume 103 and volume 100 pt.2 this year.

Social media activity

Our [Facebook page](#) continues quite successfully.

We continue using a social media platform to run our [conference registrations](#).

Advocacy

In 2019, the committee received acknowledgement of the submission to the National Archival and Library Institutions Ministerial group. We questioned the National Library of New Zealand's rationale for a vacant Music Research Librarian position. Included were examples of customer impacts. As a result of the submission, progress was made to re-establish the position, and it has now been advertised and filled.

The committee sent an email of support to the Wellington City Libraries, offering assistance with the supply of material after the Central Library was closed to the public when the building was deemed unsafe.

RILM contributions

Elizabeth Smith began 2019 as Chair of the small RILM committee. Paul Emsley resigned from the RILM committee. In 2020 Erika Arthur agreed to take over the role of Chair. Sixteen articles from *New Zealand Musician* have been indexed along with twenty-one monographs.