



International Association
of Music Libraries, Archives
and Documentation Centres

United Kingdom and Ireland

Submitted by Katharine Hogg – President

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- Anna Pensaert – Cambridge University Libraries.
- Rupert Ridgewell – The British Library.
- Kate Eaton – Guildhall School of Music and Drama

Board meetings held during the year

Executive Committee meetings were held in October 2020, January and May 2021.

Annual branch meetings

The Annual general Meeting was held virtually on April 13 2021, attended by 65 members.

Branch membership figures

Membership categories 2021 (2020, 2019, 2018 in brackets)

- Institutional National 32 (36, 36, 41)
- Institutional International 29 (35, 36, 38)

Total Institutional 61 (71, 72, 79)

- Personal National:
 - Full 21 (31, 21, 28)
 - Retired 13 (13, 15, 19)

- Student 1 (1, 9, 5)
- Unemployed 1 (0, 0, 1)
- Personal International:
 - Full 21 (20, 25, 31)
 - Honorary 10 (10, 11, 13)
 - Retired 4 (7, 7, 7)
 - Student 0 (0, 0, 3)
 - Unemployed 1 (0, 0, 0)

Total Personal 72 (72, 88, 107)

Deaths of notable members

Sandrey Date, music librarian at Bournemouth Library for many years, died in April 2020. His obituary was published in [The Guardian newspaper](#) and in the Branch journal *Brio*.

Branch constitutional matters

Several minor changes to the Branch's constitution were approved at the AGM in April 2021, relating to eligibility for Executive Committee membership, and for consistency and currency. A review of the current honorary membership arrangements is currently in progress.

Branch activities

The annual study weekend took place virtually over 3 days in April 2021. A training day for Academic Librarians took place virtually in November 2020. The Branch contributed to the planned revision of the music librarianship modules at Aberystwyth University, and collaborated with the Music Libraries Trust in a series of webinars following the [survey commissioned by the Trust](#) on Music library users and staff.

The Branch has submitted a bid to host the international congress in 2023, and has convened a working group to prepare for this. It has also commissioned a new work for the event, which also celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Branch.

Branch projects

The Encore21 national database of performance sets supported by the Branch is moving to a new web-based platform during 2021. The Branch's strategic plan was published in 2020 and is available on the [Branch website](#).

Branch publications

The [Branch blog](#) has been active throughout the year covering a diverse range of libraries and events. The Branch journal *Brio* is published in print twice a year.

Branch website

<https://iaml-uk-irl.org/>

A new website is currently under construction.

Link to Branch annual report

<https://iaml-uk-irl.org/sites/default/files/files/annual2020.pdf>

Social media activity

The [Branch Twitter account](#) has recently been reactivated. There are currently 736 followers (from 672 last year), and we reached 3,410 people in April 2021 (3,500 in April 2020), rising to 4,290 people in May 2021.

The [Branch blog](#) has 69 followers (from 63 last year), and had 577 visitors in 2020 (from 1448 in 2019); this fall in part due to less activity due to the pandemic. Although an Instagram account was initiated before the pandemic, the past year has not been conducive to its growth. The Branch email list (details [here](#)) had 266 posts, considerably lower than previous years due to the limited activities possible in the pandemic.

Branch educational activity

Annual study weekend in Spring 2020 was cancelled at short notice due to the pandemic, but in 2021 with more notice of possible disruption it was held virtually with much increased attendance; also a virtual meeting/training day for Academic Librarians had record attendance.

Branch scholarships, grants, bursaries, awards

The C.B. Oldman prize is an annual award for an outstanding work of music bibliography, music reference or music librarianship by an author (or joint authors) resident in the UK or the Republic of Ireland.

The 2020 prize was not awarded as the judging panel were unable to access the shortlisted titles due to the pandemic; it will be awarded next year.

The E.T. Bryant Prize is awarded jointly with the Music Libraries Trust, to a student of Library and Information Science, or to a librarian in his or her first five years in music librarianship. The 2020 prize was awarded to Keith Munro for a dissertation (MSc, University of Strathclyde) entitled 'Can you feel it? An exploration of the information behaviour of DJs'.

National copyright issues

Following earlier negotiations, a trial Higher Education Printed Music Licence was launched by Printed Music Libraries Limited in August 2020. It was felt that take-up of the licence had been affected by the pandemic, and it was thus agreed to extend the trial by a further year from August 2021.

RILM and RISM contributions

After a gap in reporting of several years, the British Library has provided the RILM database with UK dissertation and monograph titles for the years 2018 to 2020.

A new RISM UK catalogue interface was launched in October 2020, as part of a project funded by Royal Holloway, University of London. This is a subset of the international RISM Online Catalogue of Musical Sources, and is hosted by RISM Switzerland. As part of the same project, researchers identified music sources in UK county records offices; further research on these sources is planned.

Fontes Artis Musicae

Colin Coleman is the reviews editor for Europe for *Fontes Artis Musicae*.

Additional comments

The pandemic disrupted our annual study weekends but the move to virtual meetings reached new and old members who cannot attend in-person events. The Executive Committee moved to online meetings and has decided to continue with alternate virtual and in-person meetings, saving travel expenses and ensuring higher attendance at virtual meetings where members do not have to spend time travelling, while ensuring some face-to-face contact to maintain personal relationships.