



*Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)*

*International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)*

*Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)*

## **Australia, report 2015**

**Annual national conference “Underscoring: Supporting Music Communities” (1-3 October 2014, Melbourne).**

Australian members and colleagues gathered together in Melbourne for our annual conference, hosted by the University of Melbourne, and organised in collaboration with Monash University. The program focused on how we support our diverse music communities, including perspectives by a variety of library sectors, music organisations, and music scholars.

A new initiative for this conference was to break out to two concurrent streams – music scholars sharing their research journeys and research processes; and ‘Getting to Know the Score: Basic Music Reference for Non-specialists’. The ‘Getting to Know the Score’ session attracted a number of library technicians who had not worked with music before, and will be working with music collections under new structural arrangements at a number of university libraries.

The remainder of the conference featured librarians and archivists sharing innovative music delivery services and projects. Julia Mitford (Australian Institute of Music) explored new contemporary music streaming models; Lynne Carmichael (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) shared her ‘Legacy Recorded Music Project’ capturing Australian recordings currently not publically available or discoverable. The State Library of Victoria, The University of Melbourne, and Victorian Music Library demonstrated how they manage their volunteering programs. Nikki White (National Library of Australia) guided us through best practices in RDA cataloguing. Laurel Dingle (State Library of Queensland) outlined the ‘Queensland Memory’ project’s crowd-sourcing community history initiative ‘Queensland band culture’. Nathan



*Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)*

*International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)*

*Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)*

Connors (Creative Technologies Activator, Melbourne Library Service) showcased its 'Libraries as community hubs' initiative of supporting music communities with technology skills and facilities.

Each conference day included tours: Day 1 – the Grainger Museum and Louise Hanson-Dyer Music Library Rare Collections; Day 2 – the Sound Library of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Library; Day 3 – the State Library of Victoria (SLV) music collection and its Quarantine and Conservation facilities, showcasing its impressive 'preservation housing and treatment of physical formats program.

**Looking ahead: Annual national conference “Portals and pathways: building music connections” (1-2 October 2015, Sydney).**

Sydney members are currently preparing for the national conference to be held in October. As a prelude to the conference, they held a networking evening on 23rd April to give library professionals who work in some way with music collections and services an opportunity to meet with each other for informal discussion. It was a lively event attended by fourteen people, including two from Newcastle University, which is over 100 miles away. There were apologies from many others who indicated interest in attending such meetings in the future. Hopefully they will feel encouraged to attend the conference and ultimately join our organisation.

### **Membership and Member Updates**

Australian membership in 2015 stands at 20 personal members and 21 institutional members. The Australian executive committee members are: President – Linda Papa (The University of Western Australia); Vice Presidents – Jacqueline Waylen (Monash University) and Allison Fyfe; Secretary – Sarah



*Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)*

*International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)*

*Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)*

Evans (University of Queensland); Treasurer – Denise Tobin (The University of Adelaide); and Communications Officer – Lisa Mackie (National Library of Australia). The executive committee is extremely grateful to Past President Julia Child (née Mitford) and Past Treasurer Erin Gallant for their three years of invaluable work for the branch.

Member movements: The Queensland Conservatorium now has a new Music Librarian, Ryan Weymouth, who recently replaced the much revered Olga Lipsky who is now able to spend much enjoyable time accompanying for a variety of performers and performing groups from the Conservatorium and elsewhere. Many IAMLites will know Olga from her attendance at several international conferences.

### **Communication and web presence**

We are in the process of reviewing ways to improve the functionality of our website, particularly member access. Our monthly newsletter subscriber base is steadily growing, as well as our Twitter profile, both of which are expertly maintained by our Communication Officer, Lisa Mackie.

### **Of concern**

The Victorian Music Library, a not-for-profit music resource centre (with a collection of over 100,000 pieces of sheet music), was forced to pack its collection into storage on 10 February 2015. Managed entirely by volunteers, their lending service is suspended until they find a new home.



*Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)*

*International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)*

*Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)*

## **Collections**

The State Library of Queensland has recently acquired the Colin Brumby Collection, which comprises the complete works of this prolific and high profile Queensland composer, as well as programmes, flyers, awards, letters, photos etc.

The National Library of Australia (NLA) Music Team has made good progress cataloguing last year's large collection manuscript music from the Australian Music Centre

[\(http://www.australianmusiccentre.com.au/\)](http://www.australianmusiccentre.com.au/). The Australian Music Centre archive

<http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6533988>) offers an important insight into the musical culture of Australia in the 20th century and will no doubt offer future researchers a wealth of musical gems.

Monash University purchased a collection of early twentieth century Indian sound recordings (1903-1950s) and is in the process of being catalogued: Early 20th Century Indian Music Collection

<http://tiny.cc/Early20thcIndianMusicColl>).

University of Melbourne, Louise Hanson-Dyer Music Library (Parkville campus), received the John Hopkins collection of printed and manuscript orchestral scores. Many have Hopkins' markings, while others were gifts to him from eastern bloc countries.

## **Projects**

At the State Library of Queensland, most attention is currently on World War 1, where a major exhibition has just opened celebrating the personal experiences of Queensland soldiers and their families during the war. The exhibition includes some interesting World War 1 music including recruiting songs and other patriotic music.



*Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)*

*International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)*

*Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)*

The University of Melbourne's *Australian Musical News* digitising project is now complete.

The University of Queensland is encouraging music academics to upload their non-traditional research outputs to the University's repository, eSpace, including scores.

The University of Adelaide Library is undergoing a review to consider the future needs of its core clientele. A set of recommendations is due later in the year. In the meantime, the Elder Music Library has begun a weeding project to cull superfluous copies of many book and score titles that were acquired as a result of several institutional mergers over the past 30 years.

Academic libraries are continuing to develop information literacy activities and e-resources to embed in the online learning environment. For example, Box Hill Institute Library broke new ground when the Music Subject Librarian, Mark Soares, was invited to be part of the teaching complement of the online Masters of International Music Business Course. All information resources and services were embedded in the institute's online teaching platform, MOODLE, augmenting the librarian's pedagogic role in this subject.

The Australian Music Centre (AMC) has completed the major part of its Digitisation Project. Funded through a grant from the Australian Federal Government Department of Education and Training, the Centre's 2013-2015 digitisation project set a goal of completing the digitisation of a major part of the Centre's library collection of scores and audio, as well as the AMC's publications and photo archive. The project target was to add 13,000 new digital objects to the Centre's existing digital collection. This goal was more than reached. The project makes available an extensive range of Australian music resources for study and performance. While the project has now been officially completed, new materials will progressively be added.

*Linda Papa*  
*President, IAML (Australia)*