

New Zealand, report 2001

President's Report, October 2001

The 18th AGM of the New Zealand Branch of IAML was held 19-20 October 2000 in Christchurch. The venue for day one was the Law Library seminar room at Canterbury University, and for day two, the School of Jazz, Christchurch Polytechnic. In the past, the one-day gathering had never allowed enough time for any extensive discussion amongst IAML colleagues, so the Executive decided that a two-day conference was in order. This coincided with the conference held by the New Zealand library association (LIANZA) and allowed us to invite one of their speakers, Elizabeth Faye Watson from Barbados, who has written bibliographies on the calypso of her homeland, to our conference. The two-day format was most successful and, apart from giving us the time needed to discuss issues of concern in depth, provided us with an opportunity to hear a wide range of speakers and to visit an interesting range of institutions. The Executive is currently planning the next conference, which will be held in Auckland, 18-19 October 2001.

Discussions at the conference resulted in the Executive being charged with a number of tasks for 2001 - a membership drive, a re-draft of the constitution and the offer of honorary membership to two exemplary contributors to New Zealand music.

The membership drive took place from February to May. A promotional brochure was designed and sent to all members of the committee for comment. Once ideas from committee members had been incorporated, the brochure was sent for printing in April (with costs kindly donated by Super Print). Potential members were identified by the Secretary and brochures were mailed to them. Although a lot of effort went into this we have yet to see a significant increase in membership, and we intend to follow up our initial contact with a letter in the hope of securing further members. Currently, personal memberships stand at 15 and institutional memberships at 11. In addition, four New Zealand and five overseas institutions subscribe to *Crescendo* (the NZ Branch bulletin) only.

A reconsideration of the branch constitution has been completed with participation, via e-mail, from all members of the committee. Many useful suggestions for possible changes were received and these have been incorporated into the existing document for approval at the AGM in October.

It was our great pleasure to offer honorary memberships to two exceptional participants in New Zealand's musical life-Dr Brian Pritchard and Professor Douglas Lilburn. Brian Pritchard has been involved in IAML (NZ) since its inception, holding a number of committee positions. As an academic he has been editor of the Canterbury Series of Bibliographies, Catalogues and Source Documents in Music and has conducted considerable research into the composer Antonio Caldara. Douglas Lilburn has been the pre-eminent 20th-century New Zealand composer and was seminal in bringing to New Zealand a sense of its own musical language. For our own part, the Lilburn Trust has assisted our association with the publication of *Crescendo*, for which we are very grateful. It was with great sadness that we heard of Douglas' passing in early June this



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)

year, at the age of 86. The August 2001 edition of *Crescendo* included a number of tributes to this most generous composer and benefactor.

Crescendo continues to appear three times a year, with responsibility for articles being shared between the three main areas of the country. This arrangement works well and provides an even spread of material from around New Zealand. We would like to acknowledge the Lilburn Trust, Blackwell's Music Library Services, the University of Auckland, the National Library of New Zealand and desktop publisher Andrew Allcott for their kind and generous support without them, publication of *Crescendo* would be considerably harder to achieve. We currently have a circulation of around 55 copies.

Our web page continues to be hosted by Christchurch City Library. We intend to establish a sub-committee with specific responsibility for the site, and will discuss the direction we wish to take with the web page at our AGM in October 2001. Also up for discussion in October is the issue of how to use the financial resources we are fortunate to have at our disposal.

The IAML(NZ) Branch continues to contribute to RILM, with abstracts being written by Ruth Lightbourne (National Library of New Zealand) and Marilyn Hayr (Auckland Public Library). Marilyn also provides the branch's submission to *Fontes artis musicae*.

In September the Ministry of Economic Developments produced a discussion paper on Digital Technology and the Copyright Act of 1994. Simon Hart, our copyright representative, decided that, rather than reinventing the wheel, it would be appropriate to support the LIANZA position on this issue.

We have made good progress on many issues because of the excellent teamwork and effort of our committee and co-opted members. I'd like to thank everyone for their support and hard work this year. We can all look forward to another year of interesting and challenging activities.

Lisa Allcott,
President, IAML (NZ Branch)