

## New Zealand, report 2004

## Branch report 2003-2004

In October 2003 the NZ Branch of IAML granted \$2000 to Dr Philip Norman to be used towards the index of a book he is writing about the 'father' of New Zealand music, Douglas Lilburn.

In November 2003, the national Executive held a planning meeting with Robyn Holmes of the National Library of Australia who is a member of the Organising Committee for the joint Conference of Australia and New Zealand Branches of IAML to be held in Canberra 12-15 September 2004. The Conference has the title *Music in a Digital World: directions, initiatives, collaborations*.

At the Branch AGM, Honorary Life Membership was granted to Jill Palmer who has worked tirelessly for the NZ Branch since it was established in 1974. This was bestowed as Jill announced her retirement, although subsequently this did not occur and we are delighted to have Jill, not as Treasurer, but as a very valued member of the Committee. Subsequent to the AGM we are very pleased to have Rose-Marie Tonk as Treasurer. Rose-Marie also has skills in desk top publishing and has agreed to prepare our Branch journal, *Crescendo* for publication. Crescendo editor, Lisa Allcott has just commenced maternity leave awaiting the birth of her first child. Dr Ruth Lightbourne from the National Library of New Zealand has agreed to be our guest editor for the August issue.

The 2003 Annual General Meeting and Conference itself was opened by Penny Carnaby, Chief Executive and National Librarian of the National Library of New Zealand. The election of officers produced the same result as the previous year, i.e. Joan Clayton (President) and Elizabeth Smith (Secretary). Jill Palmer remained as Treasurer until the end of the March 2004, after which date Rose-Marie Tonk was able to take up the position. The committee elected two new members, Barry Greenwood and Dorothy Motoi, both from Christchurch.

The annual conference in 2003 moved from its traditional pattern. Our dates coincided with the Australian/New Zealand Musicological Societies Conference which was being held at Victoria University, so we joined their programme from the afternoon of the second day, and over the weekend for those who were able to stay. For our IAML day we heard from Des Wilson a retired broadcaster present a paper entitled *A quest for understanding* which described his quest which involved attempts to track down the text of songs and arias which were not supplied by record companies - the paths down which his research took him was most interesting. Rose-Marie Tonk, a cataloguer at the National Library of New Zealand spoke about *Quirks and questions: music cataloguing oddities*. Roger Flury spoke about the *Music NZ* project, an online encyclopaedia about all aspects of music in NZ. Diana Cable, a professional arts administrator gave us an insight into the planning of an International Arts Festival. and The Mobil Song Quest, both of which she has administered for a number of years. Delegates were taken on a visit to the New Zealand Television Archive at Avalon, Lower Hutt.



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Projects for 2004 include some revisions to the Constitution; establishing Rules of Procedure; planning and promotion of the joint conference with Australia; planning our own AGM and Seminar on 5 November 2004; exploring the possibilities of putting Ross Harvey's *A bibliography of writings about New Zealand music published to the end of 1983* on-line and, as always, working towards increasing membership.

Joan Clayton
President, IAML (New Zealand)