



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)

## United Kingdom & Ireland, report 2005

The Branch has had another busy year, with several changes of personnel. I would like to thank Peter Baxter who stood down as Secretary in June last year. His patience, diplomacy and organisational skills made my first year as President seem very easy indeed. He is succeeded by Geoff Thomason who, fortunately, is possessed of the same skills, so my three years of office might prove easier than anticipated.

We were delighted to welcome back Chris Banks to the Executive Committee; she has some very exciting developments with the Hofmeister project to report. We were sorry to say not goodbye, but au revoir, to John Wagstaff after many years service on the Documentation and other committees. Alison Hall has returned to her homeland from Canada and we were very pleased when she volunteered to edit our Newsletter.

Earlier this year I felt very privileged to represent the Branch at a reception at Buckingham Palace, hosted by the Queen and Prince Philip to celebrate British music.

In contrast, this year has been marked by an increase in the loss of professional posts in music libraries across several sectors. The Branch has fought back with a number of articles published in the librarianship press and letters to the national press. We were also concerned that the recently introduced government Public Library Standards might prove responsible for further diminishing the music resources available to the public; and we have concentrated our efforts in responding to government reports on libraries. Our next task is to keep the momentum going by arranging meetings with government ministers and generally raising the profile of music libraries.

Finally I would like to thank all those delegates who have expressed their concern and sympathy in response to the bombings in London last week. I can report that Londoners have responded to the bombs in typical fashion by maintaining business as usual.

*Kathryn Adamson  
President, IAML(UK and Ireland)*