



## **National report: United Kingdom and Ireland 2016**

### **Branch administrative and business matters**

#### **Executive Committee April 2015 - April 2016**

Officers. President: Peter Baxter (Surrey Performing Arts Library); Immediate Past President: Richard Chesser (British Library); President-Elect: Anna Wright (Royal Northern College of Music); General Secretary: Roy Stanley (Trinity College Dublin); Treasurer: Monika Pietras (Royal College of Music); Brio Editor: Katharine Hogg (to 2015) (Gerald Coke Handel Collection) & Martin Holmes (from 2015) (Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford); Newsletter & Blog Editor: Margaret Jones (University of Cambridge); Education Officer: Geoff Thomason (Royal Northern College of Music); Membership Secretary: Nick Barlow; Communications Officer: Peter Linnitt (Royal College of Music)

Elected members: Frances Allott (Kent History and Library Centre); Almut Boehme (National Library of Scotland); Claire Kidwell (Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance); Rupert Ridgewell (British Library), Ruth Walters (Westminster Music Library), Janet Waterhouse (University of Huddersfield).

IAML Board Member: Antony Gordon

Non-voting members. Minutes Secretary: Rebecca Nye (Royal Academy of Music); Music Libraries Trust Representative: Pamela Thompson

The Executive Committee met three times between April 2015 – March 2016 (June, October and January)

The Annual General Meeting, which was attended by the President and 31 members, was held on 2 April 2016, as part of the Branch's Annual Study Weekend, during which the following personnel changes took place:

Anna Wright succeeded Peter Baxter as President (the election for President-elect having taken place July - August 2015)

Richard Chesser retired as Immediate Past President

#### **Committees & Working Groups**

Following on the organisational review reported last year there have been some changes in the committee and working groups – the newly formed Communications, Public Relations and Publications Committee was renamed as Communications Committee; the Encore working group was formally dissolved and subsumed into the Documentation Committee; the remit of the Advocacy Working Group was taken up the Communications Committee; the Website Development Working Group was dissolved and the work picked up by a small steering group.

The Branch, therefore, has the following Committees and Working Groups:

Communications Committee (Chair, Peter Linnitt); Conference Committee (Chair, Frances Allott); Courses & Education Committee (Chair, Geoff Thomason); Documentation Committee (Chair: Rupert Ridgewell); Finance & Administration Committee (Chair: Anna Wright); Trade & Copyright Committee (Chair, Claire Kidwell)

C.B. Oldman Prize (Convenor: Charlotte Jones); E.T. Bryant Prize (Convenor: Helen Mason); IAML (UK & Irl) Excellence Award (Convenor: to be confirmed)

Webmaster: Antony Gordon

### **Constitution**

A number of changes to the Constitution were proposed by the Executive Committee and carried at the Annual General Meeting. The changes were minor and generally related to administrative procedures, including allowing for electronic communication, the option of electronic voting in ballots and ensuring that a formal ballot is always held for the election of the Branch President. The constitution may be viewed at <http://uk-irl.iaml.info/committees/constitution.html>

Although not a constitutional matter, during the year the Executive Committee took the decision to change the official abbreviation of the Branch name to IAML (UK & Irl).

### **Membership (as at December 2015)**

The UK and Ireland Branch has 188 members, of which 88 are institutional (40 national, 48 international) and 100 are personal (51 national, 49 international). This is a decrease of 9 in comparison with the previous year. The Branch also has 12 honorary members.

### **Branch activities**

#### **Advocacy**

The situation in public libraries in the UK has continued to be very serious with many local councils having to take difficult decisions about funding priorities. This has, of course, impacted on music libraries and the Branch has worked hard to support all those whose services are threatened. The fruitful collaboration with Making Music (the principal organisation for amateur choirs and orchestras in the UK) has continued as they can galvanise their members into action when a library or service is earmarked for closure or a significant cut.

The Branch is submitting a response to the Libraries Taskforce consultation document "Libraries Deliver: Ambition for Public Libraries in England 2016-2021"

### **Annual Study Weekend**

The Annual Study Weekend took place 1 – 3 April 2016 at the University of Manchester (Chancellor's Hotel) and was much appreciated by the delegates. There was no overall theme but two key strands to emerge were Archives and Music in Manchester. The still relatively new pattern of Friday – Sunday means that the programme is very full and this year was no exception. There were two external visits: the Royal Northern College of Music, with an opportunity to visit the Library, see some of its archives, explore the Collection of Historic Musical Instruments, and hear a concert of violin and piano music, all of which was from the archives; and Manchester Central Library, including the renowned Henry Watson Music Library, giving delegates an opportunity to see the transformation of the library since its refurbishment. The remainder of the programme took place at the conference venue with news of Branch activities and general professional updates interspersed with: presentations on archives and special collections; effective library marketing strategies; copyright; and the participative quick-fire round in which delegates were able to attend four 15-minute sessions choosing from Dealing with Donations, Librarians as Teachers, Professional Networking, RDA, User Engagement, Using Volunteers. The AGM was part of the programme, together with the presentation of Branch awards. As ever, the Conference Committee did an excellent job in putting together an interesting and varied programme. In 2017 the Annual Study Weekend will be held at the University of Exeter, 7 – 9 April.

## **Awards and Prizes**

The E.T. Bryant Prize was not awarded this year.

The C. B. Oldman Prize (2015 - for a 2014 publication) for an outstanding work of music bibliography, music reference, or music librarianship by an author resident in the United Kingdom or Republic of Ireland was awarded to Graham Johnson for

Franz Schubert : the complete songs. (New Haven : Yale University Press, 2014). ISBN: 9780300112672

The IAML (UK & Irl) Excellence Awards for Music Libraries were instituted in 2010 and have been awarded every two years since then. The awards acknowledge activity in music libraries which demonstrates sustained good work and good practice with the potential to be adopted and adapted by others. The awards also recognise outstanding personal achievement by individuals.

This year 13 institutional libraries and three individuals received Excellence Awards. The list of winners may be seen at <http://uk-irl.iaml.info/awards/excellence.html> and many of the winners have written about their libraries on the IAML (UK & Irl) blog <https://iamlukirl.wordpress.com/2016/04/>

## **Copyright**

The Trade & Copyright Committee have spent part of the last year preparing FAQs relating to music copyright in both the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland and these are now available on the Branch website <http://uk-irl.iaml.info/resources/copyright.html>. The Committee has also been collecting feedback on the Music Publishers' Association Code of Fair Practice and will be using this in discussion with the MPA, following the publication of the latest version of the Code, to which the Branch is a signatory.

Other issues the committee has considered have included download cards which are sold with publications, including scores, on a "one purchaser, one user" model which is not suitable for library borrowing. This matter has been referred to the Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance (LACA). The Committee has also been working with the UK Intellectual Property Office on its copyright notice for live performance and guidance for diligent searching for orphan works (printed music).

Two members of the committee delivered a new course on Music Copyright in Libraries in February 2016 and it has been agreed that there will be regular session on copyright at the Annual Study Weekend.

## **Documentation**

The Committee has continued to focus on the development of the Encore! the online database of performance sets. <http://uk-irl.iaml.info/projects/encore.html> Work has been ongoing during the year to update and de-duplicate the database, which lists the sets holdings of 107 academic, public and national libraries. It is planned to convert the data to MARC21 within the next few months; meanwhile options for the future of Encore! are being considered in terms of sustainability, technical infrastructure, funding and possible interface with other similar projects.

The Branch Library is to be disbanded during the coming year as it has not been possible to find a new location for it. Any unique archival material will be incorporated into the Branch Archive and care will be taken to ensure that published items are donated to a suitable home.

Members of the Committee are also involved in the other major projects – Cecilia <http://www.cecilia-uk.org/> and the Concert Programmes Database

<http://www.concertprogrammes.org.uk/> both of which provide key databases for locating music collections and the materials they hold. An exciting new feature of both databases is a map showing locations of holding institutions and, for the Concert Programmes, concert venues. The creation of an initial 3,500 geo-spatial data records was made possible through work with the British Library's AHRC-funded Big Data History of Music project.

## **Education**

The Courses and Education Committee successfully ran several courses again during the year. The RDA for music cataloguing course was so popular that it was run a second time later in 2015 and, as reported elsewhere, the Music Copyright in Libraries course was run for the first time in February 2016. It, too, was oversubscribed and there are discussions about repeating it.

The Committee also organised the specialist seminars for Academic and Public Music Libraries which took place in April in the afternoon immediately preceding the start of the Annual Study Weekend.

The Academic Music Libraries seminar which was attended by 21 people had 5 presentations:

Research on users' format preferences in the environment of the 'hybrid library' (Megan Dyson, Leeds College of Music)

Surveys of user satisfaction (Anna Wright, Royal Northern College of Music)

Research Training at the British Library (Richard Chesser)

Innovative inductions (Geoff Thomason, Royal Northern College of Music)

Initiatives to perform the music in collections (Karen McAulay, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland)

and an excellent summary may be found at

<https://iamlukirl.wordpress.com/2016/04/05/a-whistle-stop-tour-of-the-als-phew/>

The Public Music Libraries seminar was attended by 26 people and the programme included:

Public music library news, with an update on recent developments

Performance sets – services for the future? With a focus on the new Nottinghamshire Performing Arts Library Service for music and drama sets

<https://secure.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/PerformingArtsLibrary/>

Online music resources – what's available in the public library sector? This included presentations from 3 suppliers about their online resources

## **The Music Libraries Trust**

The Music Libraries Trust was able to award bursaries to five people to attend the 2016 Annual Study Weekend, three of whom were first time attendees. This was thanks to generous sponsorship from the Trust itself, Cramer Music, Oxford University Press and the Staypar Trust. Reports by the sponsored delegates will be published in the IAML (UK & Irl) Newsletter.

The Trust also awarded a bursary from the Ian Ledsham Bursary Fund which enabled Colin Coleman to attend the 2015 International Congress in New York. His report is in the October 2015 edition of the Branch Newsletter.

The Trust has a new website <http://musiclibrariestrust.squarespace.com/> with revised navigation and the ability to update more easily.

## Publications

Two editions of *Brio* were published in 2015, both edited by Katharine Hogg who has now stepped down as Editor and is replaced by Martin Holmes.

Vol.52, No.1 (Spring/Summer)

- Obituary: Tony Lynes, 3 October 1929 – 12 October 2014 (Roger Taylor)
- Oxford's Weston Library: a new home for the Bodleian's music library (Martin Holmes) Putting all your ages in one basket: library catalogues for the twenty-first century (Claire Marsh)
- Melodists: the Melodists' Club lingers on – from 277 words to obscurity in 131 years and seven editions (Oliver B. Pollak)
- Book reviews

Vol.52, No.2 (Autumn/Winter)

- Obituary: Oliver "Tim" Neighbour, 1923 – 2015 (Richard Chesser)
- "No encores" The Royal Dublin Society Concert Archive recitals in retrospect (Triona O'Hanlon)
- A brief history of the Royal College of Organists' Library and Archive (Andrew McCrea)
- (This paper was presented at IAML (UK & Ireland) Annual Study Weekend 2015)
- David and Goliath: how to be a small library in a big digital world (Katharine Hogg)
- (Based on a paper given at the IAML / IMS Congress, New York, 2015)
- Exhibition review
- Book reviews

The Newsletter was published three times in 2015 and is available on the Branch website. <http://uk-irl.iaml.info/publications/newsletters.html> Content includes articles on various subjects relating to collections; copyright updates; reports on activities in libraries; news of people, reports from the Annual Study Weekend and the International Congress.

## Social Media and Website

The Branch has commissioned a new website which is due for delivery over the summer of 2016. Use of Drupal will improve the ability for editing the content and the new design will update the appearance. It is planned to have a members' only area with specific content.

Margaret Jones, Newsletter editor, has also taken on responsibility for the Branch's blog <https://iamlukirl.wordpress.com/> and Twitter account @IAML\_UK\_IRL and is developing their use to promote music libraries and the activities of the Branch.

Anna Wright

President, IAML (UK & Ireland)