



THE MUSIC LIBRARIES TRUST

SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN MUSIC LIBRARIES

Trustees' Report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023

THE MUSIC LIBRARIES TRUST

The Music Libraries Trust was established as The Ermuli Trust by a declaration of trust from 15 January 1982. The Trust was registered with the Charity Commission (registration number 284334) on 24 March 1982, as a charity whose purpose is to promote education and training in music librarianship.

Its name was changed to the present style by a supplemental deed of 23 November 1994.

Address	Jerwood Library of the Performing Arts Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance King Charles Court, Old Royal Naval College London SE10 9JF
Email	secretary@musiclibrariestrust.org
Trustees	Sally Groves MBE (Chair) Kathryn Adamson (Treasurer) Sarah Akroyd Richard Chesser (to 4 Nov 2022) Barbara Flynn (known as Eifler) Lewis Foreman Andrew Frampton (from 23 Jan 2023) Katharine Hogg Helen Mason (to 22 May 2023) Sarah Osborn (from 11 Nov 2022) Sandra Tuppen (from 16 Jan 2023) Bettina Varwig George Vass Nicholas Williams
Secretary	Lucy Rose
Bursaries Administrator	Richard Douglas (from 23 Jan 2023)
Patrons as of 30 Sep 2023	Julian Anderson CBE Michael Berkeley CBE [Baron Berkeley of Knighton] Ian Bostridge CBE Sian Edwards Dame Evelyn Glennie CH Gavin Henderson CBE Graham Johnson OBE Sir Nicholas Kenyon CBE Prof. Nicola LeFanu Prof. Julian Lloyd Webber OBE Judith Weir CBE John Williams KBE John Wilson

THE MUSIC LIBRARIES TRUST

Trustees' Report for the year ended 30 September 2023

Objectives of the Trust

The Trust provides support for the education and training of music librarians. It also encourages and supports research into music librarianship, music bibliography and related disciplines. Since 1982, the Trust has worked in conjunction with the International Association of Music Libraries (IAML) UK Branch (from 2002 UK & Ireland Branch) to provide a focus for the inception of new ideas and for the skills of music librarians to be re-evaluated in the context of new technologies and changing bibliographical techniques.

Activities during the period

Projects

A significant proportion of our funds are held in reserve for the Ian Ledsham international conference bursary so their use is restricted. As our remaining unrestricted funds are more limited, the Trust carefully evaluates any applications for project funding before awarding a grant.

Survey of music library users and staff

As mentioned in previous reports, the Trust commissioned a large-scale survey of music library users and staff in the UK and Ireland from Dr Michael Bonshor which took place in summer 2020. The executive summary results were published in December 2020 and can be accessed via the Music Libraries Trust website, www.musiclibrariestrust.org. A fuller article about the survey was published in *Brio* (58:1), Spring/Summer 2021. (*A survey of Music Library staff and Music Library users in the UK and Ireland: current concerns and potential developments* by Michael Bonshor).

An action group with membership including MLT, IAML and Making Music representatives has been working on further actions following on from the survey. In 2022 they completed a vision document titled *Music libraries in the UK: a vision for the future*, with an executive summary and a full vision. This can be downloaded via the MLT website: <https://www.musiclibrariestrust.org/news/2022/6/17/music-libraries-in-the-uk-a-vision-for-the-future>

We plan to secure continuing work to develop and support music libraries by starting a dialogue between the action group, the Arts Council (as the national body responsible for libraries) and the British Library. The aim is to establish a steering group with the Arts Council as convenor/facilitator. During 2023, positive contacts have been made with Luke Burton, the new Director of Libraries for Arts Council England. A survey of public libraries has been undertaken which was sent out via Libraries Connect. A blogpost about music libraries is planned and a request that Making Music members acknowledge public library sourced music materials in their programmes will be made.

Here is a summary of recommendations made by the report:

- Explore options for lobbying and funding for music libraries
- Increase access to appropriate musical training for music library staff

- Survey library users to evaluate their needs regarding printed stock, musical genres and repertoire, number of parts in sets, digital versions of music, and interlibrary loans
- Use survey outcomes to tailor purchasing, stock replenishment and service provision to the needs of the users
- More rigorous monitoring of the condition of printed stock
- Increase provision for repairs and replacements of physical stock
- Update and increase information that is available in online catalogues
- Circulate information about available services and resources, including updates about stock acquisitions
- Provide easily accessible sources of information about how to use the services and access the resources
- Increase technical support for users accessing online services and resources
- Organize outreach events to promote music library services
- Explore ways of integrating services and resources on a national basis

Recording of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor song

The Music Libraries Trust awarded a grant of £500 to Jonathan Frank who wished to undertake a professional recording of a Samuel Coleridge-Taylor song which had been newly discovered at the Royal College of Music Library. The recording was launched in tandem with a paper about the work by Jonathan at the IAML Congress in Cambridge. The recording is available via the Music Libraries Trust website.

Projects list

The Trust maintains a list of suggestions for potential research projects, and appreciates the input and suggestions made by the IAML (UK & Irl) Documentation Committee in this process. The list can be accessed on the Trust's website (www.musiclibrariestrust.org/projectideas/).

Trustees and Officers

In common with many organisations and sectors, we have seen significant changes in personnel this year.

We bid a fond farewell to several trustees and officers, some of whom have given many years of service to the Trust. We are very grateful for the time and efforts they have given. Departed Trustees/officers are Richard Chesser and Helen Mason (Minutes Secretary).

In turn we have welcomed several new trustees and officers. Our new Trustees are Andrew Frampton, Sarah Osborn, Sandra Tuppen and we welcome Richard Douglas as our new Bursaries Administrator.

We continue to seek representation from the Republic of Ireland.

Trustees and officers aim to meet once a year in person in London and otherwise meet online, to make it easier for trustees from around the UK and Ireland to participate in meetings.

Patrons

There were no changes to patrons this year.

Bursaries for the professional development of individual music librarians

MLT and IAML (UK & Irl) are exploring ways to diversify the profile of people receiving bursaries for events and education. This includes considering support for those working in public libraries, and people of Black or Global Majority heritage.

Ian Ledsham Bursary Fund

The Ian Ledsham Bursary Fund, a joint initiative between the Trust and IAML (UK & Irl) and now administered by MLT, awards a bursary to support an individual's attendance at the annual IAML international congress.

In 2023, the IAML international congress took place in Cambridge, UK. The trust offered an increased number of bursaries to this event to enable more UK and Ireland-based music library staff to attend and participate in the event.

The trust was very pleased to be able to award five bursaries, to the following recipients:

- David Buckley (Guildhall School of Music and Drama)
- Richard Douglas (Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance)
- Suzanne Griffiths (Lincoln Central Library)
- Douglas Knight (University College London)
- John Wagstaff

IAML (UK & Irl) Annual Study Weekend (ASW)

As the IAML International Congress in 2023 was held in Cambridge, there was no ASW this year. The trust intends to resume offering Annual Study Weekend bursaries for the Leeds ASW in 2024.

E.T. Bryant Prize

The E.T. Bryant Prize (£300) is awarded jointly by the Music Libraries Trust and IAML (UK & Irl). It is awarded for a significant contribution to the literature of music information fields; namely, those professions found within libraries, museums, archives and records management. Award applications are welcome from any of the following: Library and Information Science students (or group of students), current or recent postgraduate researchers, and music information professionals who are in the first five years of their career employment.

In spring 2023 the prize was awarded to Dr Andrew Frampton, for his MA dissertation in Library and Information Studies, UCL 2022, *The bibliographic treatment of historic music collections: case studies from Oxford and Berlin*.

Fundraising

A reminder that the Trust has an account with easyfundraising to enable supporters to raise money for the charity while online shopping at no extra cost. Supporters can register for free at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/musiclibrariestrust/> then raise funds by starting their shopping via the easyfundraising site, installing a reminder add-on on their web browser, or using the easyfundraising mobile app.

Financial summary

In its financial year ending 30 September 2023, the Trust's gross receipts were £3,722.26 and its gross expenditure was £4,881.66. At the year end funds totalled £32,558.45.



Sally Groves (Chair)



Kathryn Adamson (Treasurer)

The Music Libraries Trust

Balance Sheet

MUSIC LIBRARIES TRUST RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS		
	01.10.22 - 30.09.23	01.10.21 - 30.09.22
Receipts		
Donations	£ 78.00	£ 78.00
Ian Ledsham Bursary Fund	£ 3,500.00	
Grants		
Deposit Interest	£ 144.26	£ 14.41
HMRC Gift Aid Refund		
	£ 3,722.26	£ 92.41
Deduct: Payments		
Awards	£ 1,725.00	
Bursaries	£ 2,974.40	
Printing, postage stationery, advertising, website	£ 182.26	£ 84.11
Travel		
Bank charge		£ 23.00
	£ 4,881.66	£ 107.11
Receipts less payments	-£ 1,159.40	-£ 14.70
Accumulated funds at the beginning of the year	£ 33,717.85	£ 33,732.55
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	£ 32,558.45	£ 33,717.85
Represented by		
Deposit Account (Saffron Building Society)	£ 31,697.57	£ 33,103.31
Current Account (Natwest)	£ 860.88	£ 614.54
Total	£ 32,558.45	£ 33,717.85