



The Plainsong and Medieval Music Society

Chair's report for the period 30 April 2009-13 March 2010

Conference

A fifth successful annual conference was held in Huddersfield, organized by Lisa Colton. A report by the Chairman was included in the October e-newsletter.

PMMS has given grants to "Off the Staves", a postgraduate conference at Bangor to be held in March 2010, and to a conference organized around the Wollaton Antiphonal at Nottingham that will take place in May 2010. PMMS will co-sponsor (with CUP) a drinks reception at the Med/Ren at RHUL in July 2010.

E-Newsletter

There have now been three e-newsletters, ably assembled and edited by Barbara Eichner: April and October 2009, and March 2010 (brought forward because of the earlier AGM date this year). These electronic communications function as a good way of keeping touch with members and relaying information that may be of interest to them. The number of members on the email distribution mailing list is growing, but the goal will be to reach a level as near as possible to 100% of members. The chairman would like to thank Barbara for her work on this.

Website

The website has now been handed over from Alistair Warwick (The Art of Music) to Matthew Cheung Salisbury. We chairman would like to thank Alistair for all his work in establishing and maintaining the site since its inception and offering very good value for money. However, now that we have a Council member with appropriate skills, bringing the site back in-house is designed to reduce costs further and also to allow faster updating.

The two newest music downloads have been added to the site.

Publications

Plainsong and Medieval Music continues to be circulated to all subscribing members of the Society. Members of the IMS group Cantus planus are now offered a discount on subscription to the Journal. Our thanks are due to the current editor, James Borders, as well as to Nicolas Bell, the reviews editor. The second issue of 2009 appeared (early) in September 2009. Thanks also go to the editor Helen Deeming who will step down as editor after the next issue. The chairman wishes to thank Helen for all her work on the journal. Following an open call for applications and discussion on the Editorial Board, Helen is to be replaced by Christian Leitmeir.

PMMS made a grant to enable the photography for a facsimile of the Bangor Pontifical.

All earlier volumes of PMMS are now also available to members in the CUP website, together which the complete run of JPPMS. An online version of the complete amalgamated chant bibliography is planned for the near future.

The RSCM publications department has continued to act as distributor for the Society.

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Membership

The Society currently has 84 members after several new members joined this year.

Council

The following have served as members of Council and executive trustees: Nicolas Bell, Lisa Colton (Conference), Barbara Eichner (Publicity and Membership), Elizabeth Eva Leach (Chairman), Christian Leitmeir (Treasurer), Owen Rees, Matthew Cheung-Salisbury, Thomas Schmidt-Beste (Secretary). John Caldwell, and Susan Rankin have served as Advisory Trustees.

No member of the Council received payment during the period and members of Council are to be thanked for their ongoing support of the Society.

The administration of the Society

Anna Burson has once again acted as administrator, and received an honorarium for this work. The Chairman would like to thank her for her ongoing commitment to the PMMS.

Finance

The new treasurer, Christian Leitmeir, presented a report and account for the calendar year 2008 at the Huddersfield conference in April. The accounts were additionally scrutinised and approved by the honorary independent examiner, Miss Alison Armstrong.

Elizabeth Eva Leach
Chair
13 March 2010