Phonogram has appointed Paul Martin as head of dance with Wendy K as club promotions manager. Their duties will include dealing with releases on the Talkin’ Loud and Global Village labels.

Suzanne Catty is the new director of international marketing at Hollywood Records. Catty, formerly international marketing manager at Phonogram, will report to Hein van der Bee.

Radio One controller Johnny Beerling will be answering questions from the public at 5pm tonight (January 7) on the station’s Call The Controller programme.

Former MCA head of press Chrissie Cremore is now handling all media relations for Comic Relief. Red Nose Day is on March 15 and a single will be released to coincide.

The PRS is inviting applications from choirs, choral societies, orchestral and concert groups for its 1991 Enterprise Awards. The closing date for entries is April 2.

Record companies must come up with some new ideas for 1991, he says.

But on the whole, Christmas sales were good, even in those areas hit by blizzards in December.

Sales were particularly bright in the Midlands and the North where the recession hasn’t yet hit. Andy Milburn, manager of Shrewsbury’s Rainbow Records, says they were up on last year, as does Sandra Wickson, the owner of Circles in Rotherham.

Wickson claims sales picked up in the last three shopping days before Christmas Day as the seasonal boom began later than usual.

Despite reporting an increase in vinyl album sales over Christmas, it is CD and cassette sales which have contributed most to the Christmas boom, says Milburn. Andy McPherson, manager of Tracks Record Shop in Hertford, agrees.

But singles sales tailed off compared to 1989, adds McPherson. “Singles died on us in 1990,” he says. “There just weren’t enough good titles around.”