From the incoming President

Over the summer, there have been a number of changes to the membership and geographic location of the ANZSI Council.

In mid-December 2006 Jon Jermey resigned from the position of President and Susan Rintoul then resigned as Vice President. Under the terms of the ANZSI Constitution the remaining two members of the Executive – Margaret Findlay, Treasurer, and Laurelle Tunks, Secretary – invited Karen Gillen and Max McMaster, both from the Victorian Branch, to fill the casual vacancies of President and Vice President respectively. Karen and Max accepted these positions in late January 2007.

Subsequently, Laurelle Tunks resigned as Secretary to enable a Victorian member to be invited to serve in this position and to ensure all members of the Executive are based in Victoria. Anne Dowsley has accepted this position.

The Council now consists of the Executive as outlined above, five general councillors – Lynn Farkas and Tracy Harwood who were elected at the Annual General Meeting in 2006, Alan Eddy, Don Jordan and Catherine Tully who have been appointed by invitation, and ex-officio the Presidents of ANZSI Branches.

The former ACT-based ANZSI Committee laid a strong foundation for the on-going administration of the Society. The current Council is made up of a team of highly experienced, resourceful, capable and energetic people. I look forward to working with them to continue to develop and maintain a strong professional organisation in order that we might further promote and serve the interests of the members of our Society.

Karen Gillen
ANZSI President

There is still time to register for the ANZSI 2007 Conference and associated workshops, to be held in Melbourne, 15-17 March 2007

Registration forms were distributed with the ANZSI newsletter, November/December 2006, and are available on the ANZSI website, </www.aussi.org/conferences/2007>.

For details of papers and presenters on the Conference days, Friday, 16 and Saturday 17 March, see the Provisional Program on the ANZSI Conference website.

You can even attend one or two of the workshops to be held on Thursday, 15 March in Melbourne without registering for the conference itself. The five workshops offered are

1. **Web indexing** (Glenda Browne) half day – afternoon
2. **Newspapers/Magazine Indexing** (Max McMaster) full day
3. **Law Indexing** (Alan Walker), half day – morning
4. **Indexing Annual reports** (Michael Harrington) half day – afternoon
5. **Cindex Software** (Frances Lennie) half day – morning

Full details of workshops are also available on the ANZSI Conference website. Registrations for workshops can be made through the conference registration form or separately by email to the Conference Organising Committee, at <conference@aussi.org> or by post to ANZSI 2007 Conference, PO Box 4022, Auburn South Vic 3122.

Hurry to register and make your bookings as 15–17 March is only a month away.

Margaret Findlay, Karen Gillen, Max McMaster, Jenny Restarick, Mary Russell
ANZSI 2007 Conference Committee

The hallelujah detectives

(For reasons beyond our control, this newsletter is appearing a little late, but we print this invitation to show those of you who couldn't attend what you have missed! Jenny was fortunately able to contact the Branch by other means.)

Missing Persons work was one of the earliest Salvation Army social programs to develop. Established in London in 1885 as the Inquiry Department, by the end of 1885 there were offices in a number of overseas countries including Australia (Melbourne and Sydney). The 'hallelujah detectives', as they were called, searched for missing persons with a view to reuniting families. They also helped young women who were pregnant and unmarried to track down reluctant fathers and encourage them to support their children.

Today, with branches across Australia, the Family Tracing Service registers over 2,000 new searches each year, and between 75-80% of those are successfully closed. Drawing on links in 103 countries, the Service works internationally, restoring relationships across the world.

Come and listen to Lindsay Cox, Territorial Archivist, The Salvation Army who will talk about the history of the Army, the role of the Australian Southern Territory Archives & Museum, followed by a tour of the collection.

The collection includes:

- journals, letters, programs, magazines and newspaper clippings;
- photos, showing personnel and/or services;
- Salvation Army pins, badges and uniforms.

We will also view a 6-minute documentary made to celebrate the centenary of 'Soldiers of the Cross'. What may arguably be considered the world's first dedicated film studio was created by the Salvation Army at 69 Bourke St, Melbourne in a room that still stands preserved much as it was at the turn of the century.

When : Thursday 15 February at 5.00 pm.

Where: 69 Bourke St., Melbourne.

Gold coin donations would be gratefully received.

As is our usual practice, we invite all attendees to dine with us at a nearby mid-priced restaurant.

Numbers limited to 20

RSVP : Jenny Restarick by Monday, 12 February, ph/fax 03 9528 2539, <cliffres@connexus.net.au>.

Jenny Restarick

Elizabeth Swan honoured

Elizabeth Swan, keynote speaker at the 2003 AusSI conference in Sydney, was awarded an ALIA Fellowship at the Information Online conference dinner on 31 January 2007. Elizabeth was a founding member of the LAA (later ALIA) Information Science section, and served on its committee continuously for 30 years. After many years as a special librarian she founded her own company, Information Edge.

In her acceptance speech she acknowledged many people who had contributed to her early career, including an impressive number of people who have been associated with AusSI/ANZSI in some way. She mentioned that Peter Judge, now our ANZSI Newsletter editor, was the one who asked her to set up the LAA Information Science Section in NSW in 1975 (he had earlier set up the National group in Canberra with Ian McCallum), and that Joyce Korn, later Gillespie, was an early inspiration urging her to join the LAA and to accept Peter's invitation.

Joyce was awarded Honorary Life Membership of AusSI in 1998 – you can read her reminiscences at <www.aussi.org/anl/2006/July06.pdf>. Alan Walker, convener of the first two Information Online conferences, in 1986 and 1987, was present at the dinner as a special guest.

Glenda Browne, with Elizabeth and Alan.

Vale William Anthony (Bill) Phippard

Members of the South Australian Society of Editors knew Bill Phippard as half of Seaview Press (with his wife Susan Rintoul): a loyal and regular attendee at meetings, workshops and social gatherings; a member and committee member always willing to take on a task when something had to be done; a fairly quiet person who, when he spoke, always said something worth listening to; and, in general, an all-round good bloke. Bill was Treasurer of the Society for a number of years and willingly ran a workshop on indexing as recently as this time last year.

And that last occasion provides a key to some of the other facets of Bill Phippard that may have been less well-known to some. It was critical that the workshop was organised around the 2005 Adelaide Test Match and the start of the season for his tennis group. Bill had a passionate interest in sport, played tennis regularly and rarely missed an international cricket match at Adelaide Oval.

At Bill's funeral, Adelaide friends learnt much more about the fascinating past of this quiet character in the floppy washing hat. Bill, or Tony, as he was known then, was the only student who ever managed to regularly take his dog to school at Canberra Grammar. He travelled across Australia and through South-East Asia long before it was popular or fashionable to do so. He worked as a 'journeyman accountant' before working at *The Canberra Times*, *The Australian*, and newspapers in the English Midlands, before returning to *The Canberra Times*.

In a heartfelt article published in *The Canberra Times* on the day of Bill's funeral, the editor Jack Waterford wrote of his old news editor colleague as ... 'a great and too-much unheralded ornament of this paper... [his] going is a reminder of the fact that a supposedly individual trade such as writing is a complex partnership in which the best parties do not get the credit they deserve'. Bill had 'judgment, sense, care and a certain derring-do, if one that lived within a framework adopted in a day when computers lacked the modern capacity for instant rearrangement, changes, the capacity to alter layouts, presentations and headlines in a matter of seconds, a great capacity to fix up the front, the middle and the end of a story by adapting it into a yarn, and a fabulous, but also reassuring way of laughing at himself or being the object of laughter'. Another former colleague spoke of Bill being the only boss for whom she had ever worked who unfailingly thanked everyone, warmly, at the end of the shift.

These were the skills that Bill brought to Adelaide when he came here with Susan, who had been librarian at *The Canberra Times*. Here they married, raised their family, and set up Seaview Press. At Seaview Press, Bill and Susan shared 'doing everything', from client contact, to editing, from typesetting to proofreading, from publicity to sales, and much more; the Press has given a public life to many a poet's and author's writings.

Bill was a first class indexer in many areas, with loyal clients who employed him for years. He was a member of ANZSI, regularly used by Wakefield Press, Penguin, the National Library of Australia and the Australian National Gallery for the tricky jobs. He was particularly pleased to be involved with the significant work done by the National Library in Aboriginal issues. Bill was a warm and genial host, an inventive cook, who was devoted to his daughters Jamie and Kate and to Susan, his partner in life and business. Numbers of our members have said they find it hard to think of Susan without Bill: theirs was a great partnership.

We will miss Bill, his reliable contributions, dependability and wry wit. The Society is the better for having had him as a member.

Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
15 February 5.00 pm	Vic Branch	Visit to Salvation Army	69 Bourke St Melbourne	RSVP to Jenny Restarick ph/fax +61 3 9528 2539 or <cliffres@connexus.net.au>
24 March 9.30–12.30	ACT Region Branch	Cindex Workshop	TBA	Eleanor Whelan ph +61 2 6257 7749 or <whelanek@bigpond.net.au>
30 April	Vic Branch	Introductory Indexing training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax +61 3 9500 8715 or <max.mcmaster@masterindexing.com>
1 May	Vic Branch	Intermediate Indexing Training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax +61 3 9500 8715 or <max.mcmaster@masterindexing.com>

National events

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
16–17 March 2007	Vic Branch	ANZSI Conference	Rydge's Riverwalk, Richmond, Melbourne	Margaret Findlay <conference@aussi.org>

Mentoring Matters

Welcome to what I hope will be a regular column in our newsletter, keeping members up to date on the Mentoring Program. As the inaugural Mentoring Coordinator, my role is to deal with the administrative aspects of this new, Society-wide scheme. Over the next few months, I will highlight various aspects of the scheme and report on its operation. For this first column, I'll present a brief overview of the Mentoring Program.

What is the Mentoring Program?

Many of you may know that, in the Australia/New Zealand region, there are no formal courses leading to tertiary qualifications in indexing. In the absence of such courses, ANZSI has instituted a mentoring program for our novice indexers. The program provides an advanced and personalised level of training, building on the basic workshops offered by the Society and by overseas indexing groups.

What are the benefits?

The scheme has a number of functions:

a) it provides novice indexers (mentees) with professional guidance and advice by qualified, experienced indexers (mentors) on a one-to-one basis;

b) it provides indexes to significant published works which lack indexes;

c) it makes these indexes accessible in appropriate formats.

How does the Program work?

The mentoring scheme is a Society-wide initiative, administered by a Mentoring Coordinator (Lynn Farkas), under the auspices of the ANZSI Education Committee. Mentees apply for admission to the Program, indicating their areas of indexing interest and choosing an approved work for indexing from our list of suggested works (or proposing a work themselves). They are matched to a mentor, drawn from our Society's list of Registered Indexers. Mentors provide guidance and advice to the mentees at various stages in their indexing of the work.

Mentoring is a personal process and all participants will approach it differently. Mentors and mentees decide how they will work together, within the following framework:

- Indexing will generally be completed within six months, with the ability to apply for an extension to twelve months for unusual circumstances.

- Mentors and mentees will agree on a series of contacts (usually 4-6) over the period, and mentees will be given feedback at an early stage and as soon as practicable after each contact.

- Mentors will monitor the structure and consistency of the index and advise on particular problems, but not become involved with intellectual content or do any indexing.

- Mentees are expected to produce indexes of acceptable basic quality, equivalent to commercial quality in all aspects except for utilising a longer time frame.

- A 'Mentoring Agreement', setting out the agreed method of operation for the mentoring process, will be prepared by the mentee and forwarded to the Society.

Indexes produced under the Mentoring Program will be made available in an appropriate format, for example by mounting the index on the Society's website, distributing it as a CD-ROM or in another electronic format, or publishing it in the ANZSI Index Series.

Is there a charge?

Participation by mentors and mentees is voluntary, although fees will be collected to compensate the mentors for their time. Mentees will be charged an application fee of A$250.00 per mentoring item. Once the mentee's proposal is accepted and a mentor assigned, this fee is non-refundable. Please note that all other associated expenses (eg any postage costs if print material is exchanged, costs of phone calls, etc) are the responsibility of the mentee.

There are no limits to the number of times an individual can be mentored; however each mentoring item will incur a new mentoring fee.

What are the criteria for admission to the Program?

- An applicant (mentee) must be a current financial member of ANZSI and must not be a Registered Indexer.

- Applicants should have completed a recognised indexing course (including both theoretical and practical aspects) or have indexing experience. Where required, the Education Committee will determine the suitability of the applicant's experience. Determinations of the Education Committee will be final.

- Applicants are expected to have read, or at least be very familiar with, one of the recognised indexing texts.

- Mentors of book indexes must be Registered Indexers. In cases where the skills of database indexing would be useful (for example in mentoring a journal compilation), an experienced database indexer who is not a Registered Indexer may be a mentor.

Will every eligible applicant be accepted?

Yes, but the timing of when you start your mentoring experience depends on the availability of an appropriately experienced indexer to act as a mentor. The Mentoring Program is a voluntary undertaking by our experienced indexers. The fee mentors receive is a token compensation for the time they will spend mentoring. Therefore, there may be times when our applications to the Program might exceed the number of mentors available (remember, we all have to make a living!). In general, applicants will be accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis, dependent on appropriate mentors being available.

When will the Program start?

ANZSI was fortunate to be able to call on the experience of Max McMaster (Vic Branch) and Tordis Flath (NZ Branch) who have coordinated their Branch programs for the past few years, in helping to develop this new scheme. As Mentoring Coordinator, I am currently in the process of merging the different Branch lists of suggested indexing items; finalising the various forms needed for the scheme (eg application forms, feedback and evaluation forms, etc), and recruiting mentors. We currently have a number of inquiries for the Program and hope

From the literature and other thoughts

Common Law *Festschriften*

Thanks to Lorraine Doyle for sending me information about the Index to Common Law *Festschriften* database: <www.library.auckland.ac.nz/databases/learn_database/public.asp?record=iclf>. This database was created to make the content of legal festschriften more accessible. A *Festschrift* is a published collection of essays written by several authors to honour a distinguished person or to mark a significant event.

Database creation was funded by the Law Foundation and undertaken by a team at the University of Auckland Library and Law School. The indexers were law librarians, while advisors included Justice Michael Kirby. Indexing terms were based on Library of Congress Subject Headings. In the search page, Guided Search means fielded search, while Advanced Search provides access to the thesaurus.

I find when reading about this project that the term 'Common lawyers' has the same problem as 'Special librarians' – there must be a better name for both of these groups. Read more about the project at:

<www.anzlhsejournal.auckland.ac.nz/Taggart.pdf>.

Society of Indexers re-launches website

The Society of Indexers (SI) has just re-launched its website <www.indexers.org.uk> to make it easier for anyone commissioning an indexer or contemplating indexing as a career to track down the relevant advice.

History of the book in Australia

I haven't seen them, but the two volumes on the history of the book in Australia published by the University of Queensland Press sound as if they will make interesting reading. Go to <www.uqp.uq.edu.au> and search for 'paper empires' to find more information.

Mentoring Matters *(continued from previous page)*

to 'kick off' the first group of mentees by the time of the ANZSI Conference in mid-March 2007. However, as with all new programs, we anticipate there will be some teething problems, so please bear with us!

How can I get more information?
The Society's *Policy on Mentoring* and our complete *Mentoring Procedures* will be mounted on the Website by the end of February. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact me (lfarkas@webone.com.au) for more detail about the role. If you are thinking of applying for the Mentoring Program, please contact me for more information and application forms. And keep watching this column for updates – remember, Mentoring Matters!

Lynn Farkas
ANZSI Mentoring Coordinator

John, Duke of Bedford. *A silver-plated spoon*. London: Reprint Society, 1959

p.33 '... and such details as I have of my father's early years come mainly from an autobiography that was published shortly before he died. It is a disconcerting document, full of the crankish theories and opinions which made him such a byword to his contemporaries. Not the least distressing aspect of it is that in the course of over 300 pages he does not mention my mother or myself once. We do not even figure in the index, although there is a single reference to his father-in-law and an anecdote concerning my younger brother at the age of two. I hope this story is not starting to sound like one long complaint, but surely there is a moral to be drawn from the pointless and introspective lives my parents and grandparents lived.'

An interesting life, but an odd comment that they were 'not even' in the index – of course, if they are not in the book they won't be in the index.

Offpress June 2006

Three educators of editors from Queensland recently visited the UK and explored the state of editing there. They found that editing is very much a cottage industry, with only senior people working in-house in many organisations. Short courses and distance courses in editing and publishing are run by the Publishing Training Centre <www.train4publishing.co.uk>, an educational charity based at Book House in London. A tutor at the Centre 'acknowledged resistance to training in editing in the UK, compared with countries like China and Russia where people are embracing it.'

They also mention software for paperless proofreading – you can see a demo at <www.paperlessproofs.com/demo.htm>. The draft ISO marks for copy preparation and proof correction have been made as 'alphabet-free as possible' because much editing is likely to be outsourced to India and China in the future.

Australian Author v. 38 no. 3 December 2006

p. 33 'Accessing eBooks' by Jon Jermey discusses free sources of ebooks, such as Project Gutenberg <www.gutenberg.org>, sites for self-publishing, such as Lulu <www.lulu.com> and the publication of ebooks by traditional publishers, including Random House and Macmillan. This issue also contains a number of articles about remuneration of authors – as indexers we are relatively lucky, because we usually get a lump sum payment for each job we do.

Electronic vs print newsletters

Two Australian societies of editors have replaced their print newsletter with electronic-only versions (except for financial members on request).

Offpress is at <www.editorsqld.com/join/newsletter.htm>, along with links to three flyers with examples of old newsletter content to commemorate the history of the society.

the word, the newsletter of the Society of Editors (Victoria) is at <www.socedvic.org/cms/public_php/newsletters.php>.

(continued overleaf)

Key Words v. 14 no. 3 July–Sept 2006

'Member news' on p. 43 announces the publication of *Royals of England: a guide for readers, travelers, and genealogists* by Kathleen Spaltro and Noeline Bridge, published by iUniverse, 2005. It contains fifty family trees, and personal names and place names have been thoroughly indexed. Indexers who attended the 2001 Sydney conference may have met Noeline, who was then president of IASC. Kathleen is the editor of the ASI publication *Genealogy and indexing.*

HW Wilson Award for indexing pp. 86-89

The HW Wilson Award was awarded to Charlee Trantino for her index to *A skeleton key to Finnegan's Wake* by Campbell and Robinson (new edn., New World Library). Interestingly, until she won the award, Trantino worked in isolation in a farmhouse in the Endless Mountains of Pennsylvania, and had not met another indexer. She is also a romance writer under the name Savannah Russe. By a lucky coincidence, the award was presented on Bloomsday, which celebrates the work of James Joyce.

Attentional resources

These days, it is said that people have more information than they know what to do with. The problem for the people disseminating the information is to get people to pay attention to **their** message, rather than to all the other messages vying for attention.

But if attention is so valuable, how is it that half of the people in evening commuter trains in Sydney are reading the newspaper *mX*. It seems as if just by being free, and accessible with no effort (it is handed out at train stations) it has captured a huge proportion of the attention of peak hour train travellers. They should pack a book!

Australian Bookseller & Publisher December 2004 – January 2005, p. 15

AB&P asked freelance publishing industry workers what they did in their spare time. Two indexers replied:
'On my days off (what are they – for a freelance editor? It's better to say my hours off) I organise on behalf of the 2nd Clifton Hill Scout Group.' (Kerry Biram, freelance indexing and editorial consultant)

'Having removed myself to the outer metropolitan/country area I have taken to wandering in the Sherbrooke Forest in any time I can spare. I usually meet a rather sleepy and friendly wombat who lives on a clearing there.' (John Simkin, bibliographer and indexer)

Interactive cinema

UNSWorld (alumni magazine), November 2006, p.9, reports on research into interactive cinema. They say: 'In their most recent showcase creation ... [they] push the boundaries of the latest advances in automated video analysis, multi-media search and retrieval and high-density video streaming. In this immersive environment viewers can navigate a three dimensional library of tens of thousands of broadcast television clips, and freely assemble these "samples" into unexpected and emergent narrative sequences.' There's some scope for indexing here, I think.

They also discuss 'virtual heritage'. The hope is that by making virtual depictions of fragile tourist sites almost as good as the real thing (some say they can be better) they can help preserve the real thing. Museum Victoria is a partner in this work.

Indexes in cartoons

Lauren Barr sent Index-L (and is happy for me to reprint) a mention of Dan Wasserman's recent cartoon in the Boston Globe. Cartoons that feature indexes are rare, and apologies in advance to anyone who finds pokes at George W. Bush to be offensive. Picture President Bush at his desk, reading a copy of the 'Iraq Report.' He turns to the index and reads the G's:

—gaffes, 5,14,31-102
—gangsters, 6,8,24,72
—get out, 160
—give-up, 159
—goofs (see gaffes)

He turns to us and says, "Hey, they left out, 'good news'!"

Glenda Browne

New Zealand Branch has a new Acting President

Following the decision of Tordis Flath to step down from the role late last year, Jill Gallop will be the Acting President of the Branch. Jill will also continue to act as Secretary for the time being, but is hopeful that a volunteer will step forward very soon.

The Branch Committee would like to thank Tordis for her leadership, hard work, enthusiasm, and achievements over the period of her presidency and wish her well for the future.

Contact the Branch at: <nzbranch@aussi.org>

The SI conference

The Society of Indexers celebrates its anniversary at its Conference in London, 13-16 July 2007 and will offer one free place to a representative of ANZSI. The ANZSI Council will be calling for expressions of interest in our next newsletter.

Meanwhile you can find further information about the conference on the Society of Indexers website at

<www.indexers.org.uk/index.php?id=277>

Expressions of interest

Standards Australia is looking for an experienced technical editor/indexer to index a new 400-page edition of Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 3000:2007, Wiring Rules. The Canberra Society of Editors website at <www.editorscanberra.org/notices.htm> has more details, or contact <jill.wilson@standards.org.au>.

Jeremy Fisher's speech at the NSW Branch birthday celebrations

The NSW Branch of ANZSI met last October to hold their AGM and also to celebrate the Australian Society's 30th birthday. The guest speakers were Jeremy Fisher, who was the first Indexers Medal winner, and Alan Walker. It was promised that Jeremy Fisher's talk would be reported at greater length in the next newsletter, and here it is...

I was delighted to receive an invitation from Jon Jermey to address this meeting and celebrate 30 years of the Society. I was even more delighted when I heard Alan Walker would also be speaking. I've known Alan almost from 1976. He's maintained his dedication to indexing, whereas I have been more of a dilettante and have wandered off into editing, publishing and writing.

But I still have an enormous interest in indexing and the way in which information can, and should, be organised and collated. As the first winner of the Indexing Medal, and someone closely involved with writing and publishing, Jon Jermey asked me if I would reflect on the situation for indexers in 1976 and changes in the intervening years.

In 1976 of course I wasn't indexing. I didn't begin any work in indexing until 1977, when I was working at the *Medical Journal of Australia*. Then, I was using a manual typewriter – no fancy electronics for lowly little indexer me – to type entries onto orange cards which I'd file into a wooden box.

At then end of each volume number – the Journal was published in two volumes a year, January to June and July to December — I'd sub-edit and condense the cards, then carry them down to the hot-metal typesetters downstairs. A day or two later I'd be proofing the pages of the index. I loved the way that the index, when bound with the issues of the Journal, came to form a complete book, easily accessible through my index.

Technology caught up when I was asked to index the *Australian Encyclopaedia*. We had to think about a publication without pages. We came up with a system that would work both in a traditional printed book and on the CD-ROMs we all expected would replace those books. Alas, it was both printed encyclopaedias and CD-ROMs that were doomed. The Internet was a much better way to present enormous collections of information.

Of course that wouldn't happen for a few more years. And then the editorial control on the quality of material has disappeared so that we have Wikipedia as an authoritative source, but some may argue whether that's progress. I'm always cautious when I see journalists using Wikipedia as their sole reference.

I like to think that professional authors, editors, publishers and indexers act as a form of quality control each in different ways verifying information for its eventual consumers. When the technology and the skills start working together we begin to see something awesome. I don't know how many of you here tonight are aware of the AustLit website. This is an ambitious attempt to create an electronic bibliographic database of Australian literature since 1788. It's by no means complete but it is already a far greater beast than anything ever achieved in print form. Of course, it requires the combined resources of 8 universities, but for students of Australian Literature it's bloody fantastic to have a resource like this on your desktop.

Other indexes I have had close relations with recently have been some compiled by the NLA. Everybody here would know APAIS and Medline and AGIS. A couple of years ago my role was to link the owners of the content behind the indexes to the index to create 'full text' versions of these indexes. This involves an understanding of copyright and the need to explore the highly complex world of rights management, but the full text version of APAIS is now functioning, as is a full-text Australian subset of Medline called Meditext as well as AGIS full text. They are not 100% what users would desire as not all the content can be accessed, but they are a long way from the print based indexes they once were.

Technology has transformed both the scope and the size of indexes and made them more a part of everyday life. Any person using Amazon or buying music online is actually using an index. Isn't that a development and a half!

Technology affects us all, even writers. I'd like to conclude with something not related to indexes at all, but related to writing. I'd like to read you a poem which was a winner in the junior section of the NT Writers Centre SMS poem competition. Contestants had to write a poem on the theme of steam using no more than 150 characters. (Jeremy then read a poem by Levi Beveridge.)

Jeremy Fisher

Statement by Jon Jermey

I resigned as ANZSI President on 14 December 2006 when it became clear to me that I was unwilling and unable to work within the complex system of rigid formal positions and responsibilities that currently characterises ANZSI administration.

I can no longer bring myself to believe that this system is appropriate or necessary for running an organisation as small as ANZSI, and although I have every admiration for people who can make it work, I will never be one of them. Nor do I believe that the member benefits which can be achieved under this structure are in any way commensurate with the amount of work required to maintain it.

With no faith left in the system, it seemed to me best to resign.

Jon Jermey

The Council thanks Jon for his contribution as President, and will consider the issues he raised during his brief tenure regarding the administration of ANZSI.

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