ANZSI Newsletter

ANZSI News

History of ANZSI

As ANZSI celebrates its 35th year, I am delighted to announce that John Simkin has agreed to prepare the history of ANZSI. John is in an excellent position to write the history as he has served on Council or Victorian Branch Committees, or both, continuously for all the 35 years. It is an outstanding achievement and his contribution to the Council/Committees will be missed. John is looking forward to travelling around to interview members and compiling the history.

The history will be funded by the Victorian Branch, which is appropriate as Victorian Branch is also 35 years old.

2011 Conference

Have you registered for the 2011 Conference? If not, why not? Can't make the whole Conference? Why not register for a day? Abstracts and biographical information have been loaded on the website.

Green Conference

The Victorian Branch have decided to make the 2011 Conference as Green as possible by reducing the amount of paper used. Presenters have been asked to submit copies of their papers and any documentation they would like attendees to have before the Conference. This will be placed on a data stick and put in satchels. If presenters want attendees to have copies during their session they will bring a few copies to share.

Conference optional dinners

On Sunday 11, Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 September there will be informal dinners at restaurants near the Conference venue in Brighton. To join in just be in the foyer of the Brighton Savoy at 6:30 pm. Partners and members not attending the Conference are welcome to join in. To see what is on offer and to get a rough idea of cost see the Google map available at <http://tinyurl.com/ANZSI2011Rest>.

ANZSI Annual General Meeting

If you would like your apologies recorded for the AGM please complete the form on the website <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=213>. There you will also find a proxy voting form. These need to be completed and returned by Wednesday 13 September.

Full colour version of Newsletter

Are you currently receiving the printed version of the ANZSI Newsletter? Did you know that if you subscribe to the email version you receive it in full colour!

Want to switch to the email version? Log in to the members area of the website and 'Update Your Details'. Scroll down to ANZSI Inclusions and tick 'Receive Newsletter by Email'. Now scroll down to 'Save Changes'.

ANZSI renewals

For many members renewals are due by the end of October. You will have received an email with a link to the secure credit card payment facility via the website. Alternatively you can print off the renewal form and pay by cheque.

For those new members who joined between January and June 2011, your membership is due for renewal by 1 March 2012, so you will receive a renewal email mid-December.
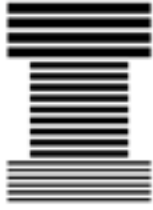
Mary Russell

NZ Branch AGM alert!

The New Zealand Branch will hold its Annual General Meeting in Wellington on Saturday, 29 October.

An indexing workshop using the SkyIndex program will run in the morning and the AGM in the afternoon.

Details will be sent soon to all Branch members.

Robin Briggs, President

NSW Branch: Annual General Meeting

Thursday 27 October 2011
6.30 pm (meeting); 7.00 pm (dinner)
Golden Cinnamon restaurant, first floor, above Cafe Kasturi,
767–69 George Street, Broadway
(about a block downhill from Central Station).
Cost: $30 per head banquet menu. Drinks supplied.
RSVP by Thursday 20 October to Frances Paterson at
<olivegroveindexing@bigpond.com> or (02) 4274 2600

At the AGM we will be electing President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members for the year.

Minor changes to the NSW Constitution are also proposed for adoption at the AGM.

Online versions of the nomination and proxy voting forms will soon be available at the ANZSI website:
<www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=225>

The NSW Branch Committee meets by teleconference once a month so if you would like to join the Committee from wherever you live, all you need is a telephone to overcome the tyranny of distance. New members will be very welcome.

The future of ebook indexing

The future of indexers will depend to a large extent on the role that indexes end up playing in ebooks. At this stage there is no guarantee that they will be considered a necessary tool, nor that they will be implemented effectively.

In recognition of this, ASI established a Digital Trends Task Force in early 2011. It is using a LinkedIn Group, <www.linkedin.com/groups/ASI-Digital-Trends-Task-Force-4005509>, to further its charge which is to:

- gather information about changes in digital publishing practices as they affect indexes;
- interface with leading digital publishing companies, digital eReader hardware and software suppliers, and industry partners to find solutions to ensure there are usable indexes in nonfiction digital book formats and eBooks;
- inform ASI members about digital trends in a timely manner, so that indexers can prepare for and participate in technology-driven and process changes.

If you have a LinkedIn account you can search for the group by name – ASI Digital Trends Task Force – and ask to join. If you don't have a LinkedIn account, you can apply for a free one at <www.linkedin.com>.

Please start off by reading the Group Rules up on the right near the top of the page, and note that the group managers Jan Wright, Mary Harper and Dave Ream are always available to bounce ideas off of or to help troubleshoot any issues that come up. There are discussions going on Research, News, Education and Training, Textbooks, Volunteers Needed, Cindex, Macrex, Digital Book World, Specifications, PDF issues, Tools Development, NISO, Handhelds and Webinars, and there are already links to many useful resources.

This information was taken (with permission) largely from the LinkedIn site and an email sent by Jan Wright to Index-L. I am delighted and relieved that they have taken on this task, and hope that many ANZSI members will visit the site and contribute as appropriate.

Glenda Browne

Queensland Branch – *Indexing Challenge ONE: Biography*

Type: Online Indexing experience / training by Peer Review

Six weeks, using the free downloads from MACREX, CINDEX or SKY indexing software, or on MS Word

Dates of challenge: Saturday 10 September to Sunday 23 October

If you are keen to gain indexing skills, then join us for some online indexing practice on the biography of a flamboyant Australian political figure. Peer review training organised by Queensland Branch mentors Jean Dartnall and Mei Yen Chua.

What do you have to do?
You are asked to index the book within six weeks. You may use the free downloads from MACREX, CINDEX or SKY indexing software, or use MS Word. The book has 198 pages, including 17 pages of photographs.

Who can participate?
Indexing Challenge ONE: Biography is open to all ANZSI members (and non-members).
Please ask for assistance via email, if any queries arise. You will receive written feedback on your index. At the end, there will be suggestions for improvement and a general overall assessment; this is not a formal fail/pass type of assessment.

Cost A$75.00

How to Register?
To register for *Challenge ONE*, complete the application form details on the website at
<www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=223>
and return to Queensland Branch Secretary Beryl Macdonald <bayorst@bigpond.net.au>.
Please email details of payment also. The ebook will be sent to you by the starting date.

Where can I get help?
Email Jean Dartnall <jeandartnall@gmail.com>

Where do I submit my index?
Submit your completed index to Jean Dartnall <jeandartnall@gmail.com>

Happy Online indexing experience with ANZSI Queensland Branch!

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NOTE: If the advertised dates do not suit you, contact the Secretary Beryl Macdonald for alternative starting dates.

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ANZSI and Branch events

Date and time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Sat 10 Sept to Sun 23 Oct	Qld Branch	*Indexing Challenge ONE – Biography*	Online	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=223>
Mon to Wed 12–14 Sept	ANZSI	ANZSI Conference	Brighton Savoy, Brighton, Vic	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/2011Conference.asp>
Tues 27 Sept 6.00 for 7.00 pm	Qld Branch	Experiences of the ANZSI Conference	The Salisbury Hotel Brisbane	Details above and at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=224>
Wed 5 Oct	Vic Branch	AGM	Elsternwick Club	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=217>
Thurs 27 Oct 6.30 pm	NSW Branch	AGM	Golden Cinnamon Restaurant, Broadway	Details on page 2 and at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=225>
Sat 29 Oct	NZ Branch	AGM	Wellington	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=226>

Indexing degustation

Ebooks are still subject to a wide range of opinions. At one extreme are those who wallow in the romance of paper and ink, to whom a book is an affair of the heart. These people open pages to bury a nose into a book's private parts to inhale that heady scent. Others take a cold view and treat a book solely as a container of information or entertainment. In the middle are readers who love books but see that the ebook has its place in their lives. Then there is the economic aspect which is of concern to students and university libraries. Here I take a look at two aspects, the romantic and economic/practical.

Brought to book

There are always one or two journalists whose pieces are seized upon with pleasure and one of these is Michael Shmith who writes for *The Age*. He writes with wit and perspicacity and his article on August 20 entitled *Brought to book: why Kindle has failed to light my literary fire* is no exception.

Michael Shmith felt bound to buy a Kindle after his eighty-five year old mother started using one, an act to be compared with 'Beethoven taking up the electric guitar'. He was about to travel so he bought a Kindle and loaded it up with a variety of books. He made a pact with himself that he would read nothing but the Kindle while he was away, nor would he buy more than newspapers and magazines. It all went well for a couple of weeks until he happened upon an out-of-print book on fish cookery in a charity shop. As he said, that was the thin edge of the paperback. Within a week he had bought a dozen more and the Kindle languished at the bottom of the pile. Then he began an experiment. He obtained a copy of *Christine Falls* by Benjamin Black in both hard and Kindle copy and read alternate chapters in each on the flight home. And the outcome? The book won easily, for as he said, 'the seedy damp darkness of 1950s Dublin seemed more gloomily atmospheric' on the page than on the screen.

He agrees that while 'Kindleism' has many advantages; speed, portability and capacity etc., he thinks there is something 'not quite right' about reading from the screen. He says that he is of 'the generation that, while embracing technology, doesn't have to sleep with it to qualify the relationship.' He writes his articles on the computer but always prints them first for correction with a pencil before handing them in.

The trade-off with electronic readers, he writes, is to 'sacrifice literary tactility' for something without charm or feeling. Part of the joy of reading a book is contained within its weight and bulk, the smell and sound of turning the page. A book rekindles memories; its provenance, whether bought or a gift, where it was read etc. A book is a thing of the senses which cannot be said of a Kindle.

The Age August 20, 2011. Page 25.

E-textbooks for students

Anyone who has been a higher education student knows how much a list of textbooks costs. One can either bite the bullet and purchase them all or join the bunfight in the library and miss out on vital texts. But there is another option, the e-textbook. In July, Amazon announced that textbooks would be available for rent to students in the US, saving them up to 80 per cent of the cost of a hard copy.

Students would be allowed to make notes and mark pages in the e-textbooks. However, the costs of the e-readers, the usefulness of the soft copy and the problems raised by using the texts in university examinations are matters of concern and have slowed down the adoption of the ebooks by students.

La Trobe University law student Andrew Smith says printed textbooks usually cost him about $1200 a year, and are quickly superseded. However, he says he isn't sure ebooks and rental schemes are the answer. The idea seemed viable but would probably be impractical.

'*You have the additional cost of having to purchase a Kindle or some kind of ebook reader, which I don't have and I don't have the money to purchase either.*'

'*A lot of my subjects have open book exams where a textbook is needed for reference to cases and legislation and under exam conditions electronic devices are not permitted.*'

'*I'd still need to have a hard copy to have the relevant sections available to reference in exams so I'd have to double up.*'

Amazon has not said if the rental scheme would be exported, but Australian universities are taking a close interest in the technology. Universities, however, would need to ensure that e-texts could be used in the way hard copy is. which means they would have to be allowed into exams. A policy would need to be developed in order to deny access to the internet whilst in the examination halls.

Professor David Spencer of La Trobe University says e-textbooks have many advantages, and already publishers are offering authors the choice of publishing electronically. And he says universities are bound to adopt new technologies to reflect students' interest. Course materials need to be presented in new ways to retain a student's attention.

As yet, most students do not own iPads and Kindles and the majority are struggling with the cost of the old technology.

Jesse Marshall, national president of the National Union of Students, says that the cost of e-readers could cancel out the benefit of cheaper ebooks and that they should not be a substitute for hard copy which most students preferred.

Monash University librarian Cathrine Harboe-Ree says ebooks make up a large part of university collections, but that e-textbooks are far less common.

'*In the library now we have about 366,000 ebooks [but] the move into e-textbooks has been a lot slower than the move into making other books available electronically.*'

Ten years ago, the Monash library was buying 15,000 print journals and 60,000 books a year. It now subscribes to 100,000 e-journals and 6000 print subscriptions, and buys 40,000 books.

Ms Harboe-Ree says e-publishing offers many benefits for universities and students, and key to the widespread uptake of e-textbooks would be the possibility of accessing them across various platforms. These include the e-textbook rental schemes if they are cheaper and able to be used on devices they have.

Ms Harboe-Ree says the local e-textbook market is marred by a lack of consistency in the way publishers choose to distribute them. Some e-textbooks may be licensed only for use online and not for download; others may allow students a temporary download, or a permanent download. In some cases publishers allow the ebook to be downloaded to another device, sometimes they allow no more than 10 per cent. Students are able to look at the e-textbooks at home but not download while others allow downloading but the material self-destructs after a few days.

Ms Harboe-Ree says most students still prefer to borrow a traditional book.

'*[Ebooks are] a very common part of our environment now but I'm not sure that its exactly the same thing [as having a hard copy] . . . if you've got to read the book cover to cover some of our users say they'd rather read it in print,*" she says. "*Not everybody wants to spend all day on the computer and then all night on the computer as well.*'

La Trobe student Andrew Smith agrees.

'*Call me old-fashioned, but I really like having a hard copy of my textbook so that I can put post-it notes in there and write and scribble notes on pages. So I think it's good to have the original form.*'

<www.theage.com.au/technology/technology-news/ a-textbook-case-for-digital-learning-20110815-1iujw. html#ixzz1VAPIb223>
Jane Purton

Society of Indexers Conference 2012

'An Indexing Olympiad: International Perspectives'

11 to 13 July 2012

Ramada Hotel, 149 Kings Road, Brighton, BN1 2PP

Call for Papers

Abstract submission deadline: 30 November 2011
Final paper submission deadline: 15 June 2012

The Society of Indexers was founded in 1957 and works to promote indexing, the quality of indexes and the profession of indexing. Further details are here <www.indexers.org.uk/index.php?id=1>. Following our successful conferences in Middelburg, The Netherlands (2010), and in Keele (2011), we invite papers for our 2012 conference in Brighton.

Papers are invited for presentation to a plenary (full conference) session. The theme of the conference is international perspectives on indexing and we would welcome papers on this theme or other relevant topics. For example, we would be interested in papers on the impact of globalisation, the internet, publishers' outsourcing, working transnationally or social networks and indexing.

Please submit your abstract to the Secretary of the 2012 Brighton Conference Committee at <2012conference@indexers.org.uk> by 30 November 2011.

Great book, pity about the index

Members and guests at the meeting of The VIC in August swapped observations about the frustrations of poorly or unindexed books, and speculated on their effects on the usefulness of a book to its readers, and also sales of the book. A tome, *J. A. Lyons — The 'Tame Tasmanian'* : *Appeasement and Rearmament in Australia, 1932–39*, by David S. Bird, was published in 2008 by Australian Scholarly Publishing Pty Ltd, with a RRP of $39.95.

It happened that Ian Forster and I had selected the same book, and we both spoke to the meeting about the perfunctory index to an important book. The author's painstaking scholarship and labours over many years had resulted in a book structured like this –

Preface	xi-xii
Introduction	1–35
Chapters 1 to 7	37-331
Epilogue	332-347
Appendices	349-353
Select Bibliography	354-368
Notes	369-424
Index	425-431

The run-on index comprises six and a half pages in two columns, with 11 to 14 page numbers across each column, The number of lines per column is 54 to 57.

Dr Bird observes that he focused largely on the biographical form for his account as a means of throwing light on the Far East and Pacific regions during these turbulent years. Accordingly, names of persons claim very many of the entries in the index. Disconcertingly, undifferentiated strings of page numbers following a heading are, in many instances, very long. For example, estimates are:

Appeasement, Australia, 320 page references, with seven subheadings; Neville Chamberlain, 550; Department of External Affairs, 60; W M Hughes, 95; Benito Mussolini, 55; R G Menzies, 80, with two subheadings; Japan, 550, with one subheading.

Surprisingly, *passim* occurs in about half a dozen places, referring either to all of Chapter 5 (Chapter 5: *annus mirabilis* – The Imperial Conference and its Aftermath, May 1936 – December 1937), or all of Chapter 6 (Chapter 6: *annus horribilis* – The Climax of Appeasement, January – September 1938).

The absence of page ranges in this index points to use of word processor concordance software. The dearth of page ranges suggests no input from an experienced indexer. The entries for an official of the Foreign Office are:

Cadogan, Sir Alexander, 180,184,185,186,197

A reading of these pages reveals that these could be replaced with 180,184-6,197.

Again the tally in the following string could be halved:

Dodds, James, 74,75,76,77,80,81,84,186,74-5,76-7,80-1,186

The Department of External Affairs is treated thus:

External Affairs, Department of, 23,34,42,44,46,48,64,71,76,86,95, 107,111,112,113,114,120,125,129,131,133,134,135,136,139,141,144, 151,165,168,169,170,171,172,182,184,185,197,217,221,225,228,235, 236,241,246,257,275,276,283,284,308,320,328,329,331.

By plodding through these page numbers, one comes up with a tentative list of subheadings which might be useful if one were interested in rescuing the published index:

Department of External Affairs
appeasement of Germany	217-18,221,234-5
commercial policies	165
diplomatic inoffensiveness supported	49
excluded from policymaking	64,76,86,113,131,135-6
German colonies	144-45
Imperial Conference of 1937:171	
Italy, sanctions proposed	129,133
Japan, trade relations	120,228
League of Nations Covenant	168-9
Manchukuo (Manchuria)	45-6,48
press opinion surveyed	182
Singapore strategy	225
standing with Lyons	34,86,94-5,111,172,241
status as department	23,44,125,134,151
Yampi iron-ore warning	228

But, comparing these subheadings with various entries in the published index one quickly gains a feeling of wading, uninvited, in a weedy swamp, shortly before sunset.

Lesson: do not spend time patching an unserviceable index. Scrap it, and start afresh with clear ideas of the needs of the expected readership. *Australian Book Review* said in a note on the book in October 2008, 'Readers, however, should be warned of its unsatisfactory index'. We may well sigh for an author whose expectations for a usable index were, perhaps, thwarted by a publisher's accountant or an editor who was not seized with the importance of a good index to a major work of scholarship.

Alan Eddy

Sorting in CINDEX™
Tips and techniques from Indexing Research

There are two basic sorting conventions employed in indexing: word-by-word and letter-by-letter. Different authorities (e.g. International Standards Organization and *Chicago Manual of Style*) as well as individual publisher style guidelines, place varying spins on these two conventions. CINDEX provides a selection of protocols as well as customizable "Exceptions."

The default setting for sorting is a "Simple" sort in which each character is sorted according to its computer (ASCII) value. This means that any main heading that begins with a quotation mark will float to the top of the index. Other characters that have a special significance, such as < > and { }, for hiding and forcing placement during sorting will also be evaluated according to their character value – in this case at the end of the index. All other headings beginning with alpha characters will file where you expect to see them.

So, to have entries beginning with quotation marks or special characters (as mentioned above) file in their correct places, you need to select one of the sort protocols at:

Tools Menu/Sort/Alphabetizing Rule

(Sorting in CINDEX, continued from previous page)

Sorting the index entries by their locators is often necessary as well as useful – use the A→Z and 1→9 icons on the index tool bar to switch easily between the basic alphabetic sort and the page sort. Uses for a *page order sort* include checking entries against page proof, revising an existing index, providing the client with an easy way to locate entries if there will be last-minute movement of text and they need to make page corrections in your finished index.

Remember that when sorting by locator CINDEX will only sort by the first locator entered in the page field of any record. For example, a page field containing the locators "12, 45, 78" will only appear among the other entries sorted at 12, so you will need to *expand* the index (*see* Tools Menu/Expand). This will then show the entry in three positions: at 12, 45, and 78.

The opposite of sorted is *unsorted* and CINDEX can display the index in this manner too. In most cases this will reflect the order in which you write and add entries to the index. If you are importing an index from another compiled source (e.g. conversion of a previously published index) the unsorted order will mimic the order of the original. To change to unsorted order go to the View Menu and click on "Sorted." This removes the check mark and "unsorts" the index. The word "Unsorted" will appear in the status bar at the bottom of the index. To further confirm that the index is indeed unsorted vs. sorted, you can choose to display the number assigned to each record by going to View Menu and selecting "Show Numbers"*. Please note you will only see the numbers when you are in Draft View.

An unsorted view of the index can be useful for reviewing your thought processes during the compilation of the index, and finding aberrant records (disconnected or broken entries) after importing an index from an outside source.

CINDEX also sorts subheadings under any heading term by ignoring leading prepositions or conjunctions. The list of the default subheading prefixes is at:

Sort Menu/Ignore Subheading Prefixes

This list can be edited as you wish. For example, if you want CINDEX to sort *on* (rather than ignore) the subheading prefixes then simply highlight the whole list and press the delete key to remove them.

And, did you know that CINDEX is able to arrange the whole index according to the content of any subheading level? Useful when you want to ensure complete consistency of wording of subheadings.

Lastly, when you make a group (temporary or otherwise) as the result of a Find, you can sort the group quite differently from the sort in effect for the index as a whole. Just use the tool bar icons.

* All menu selections on the Windows® version of the program have keyboard shortcuts (the Mac® version of the program has fewer). If you find yourself using the mouse repeatedly for the same function, stop, look, and learn its keyboard equivalent. It will save you time and energy.

Frances Lennie

ANZSI Conference 2011
Indexing *see* Change, Brighton, Victoria

ANZSI Newsletter

Newsletter schedule

The next Newsletter will appear in October 2011.
The submission deadline is Wednesday, 28 September.
The editor welcomes contributions submitted by email to <peter.judge@bigpond.com.>

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Postage
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