ANZSI Newsletter

ANZSI News

I am just back from spending a month in London and representing ANZSI at the Society of Indexers Conference in Brighton, UK.

ICRIS Triennial meeting

The International Committee of Representatives of Indexing Societies (ICRIS) held its triennial meeting before the Society of Indexers Conference in Brighton. The photo below shows those present – back row: Maureen MacGlashan (SI), Mary Russell (ANZSI), Pilar Wyman (ASI), Jill Halliday (SI), Marlene Burger (ASAIB); front row: Elske Janssen (DNI, German Indexing Network), Ruth Pincoe (ISC/SCI), and Caroline Diepeveen (NIN, Netherlands Indexing Network).

At the meeting the International Agreement was reviewed and rearranged into a more logical order. The revised version is being ratified by the various Boards/Councils. Once it has been ratified it will be added to the web.
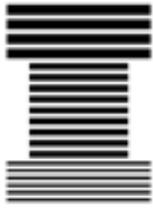
I have taken the International Coordinator baton over from Ruth Pincoe.

At the international session of the Conference I took the opportunity to formally thank Ruth, on ICRIS's behalf, for all her work over the many years she had devoted to ICRIS. I am very pleased to note she will be still keeping an eye on ICRIS and offering advice. Hopefully we will see her at Conferences in 2013.

I also thanked Jill Halliday, Society of Indexes, for her involvement with ICRIS over even more years, as she is stepping down. Jill has written a short history of the development of ICRIS which will be published in a future issue of *The Indexer*.

About the newsletter

The newsletter is published monthly 11 times a year, with combined issues for January and February. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the individual contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the society. For details about contributions and editorial matters, refer to the ANZSI website at <www.anzsi.org>.

Advertising rates

Full page: $200.00
Half page $100.00
Quarter page: $50.00.
These are all per issue – the former annual rate has been discontinued.

ANZSI contact information

ANZSI's general email address is:
    <ANZSIinfo@anzsi.org>.

    Further contact details in PDF format are available on the ANZSI website at <www.anzsi.org>.

The VIC meeting

Enjoy 'An afternoon with Frances Lennie' on Saturday 25 August at 2.00 pm in the Seminar Room, State Library of Victoria Conference Centre. Further information at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=258>. Bookings are required to enable us to cater for the afternoon.

Ray Price

ANZSI Annual General Meeting

Preliminary notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Inc will be held at 6.30 pm on Friday 19 October 2012, in the Whirrakee Restaurant, 17 View Point Road, Bendigo, Victoria.

Any members wishing to propose a resolution at the meeting must give prior notice of motion. A copy of the resolution to be moved, signed by a proposer and seconder, must be received by the Secretary at the address below no later than Friday 14 September 2012.

Office bearers and council members (other than the ex officio members) will be elected at the meeting. Nominations are therefore called for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and for five ordinary council members. A nomination form may be downloaded from the ANZSI website: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=271>. Nominations must be mailed to the Returning Officer at PO Box 5062, Glenferrie South, Vic 3122 to arrive no later than Friday 14 September 2012.

Michael J Ramsden, Secretary

(And don't forget Dragon Indexing around that date! See page 4.)

NSW Branch: AGM
Thursday 23 August 2012
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 August to Frances Paterson at
<olivegroveindexing@bigpond.com> or telephone (02) 4274 2600.
We will be electing President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members for the year.

Details are on the ANZSI website at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=272> and an online version of the nomination form is available by clicking the link on that page.

Max McMaster in Queensland

Queensland Branch meeting with Max McMaster
one of Australia's best-known indexers
Brisbane: Tuesday 28 August at 6.00 for 7.00 pm.
The Salisbury Hotel, 668 Toohey Road, Salisbury, Brisbane
(enter from Fairlawn St. or from behind McDonalds):
networking and dinner, and a chance to hear Max and have him answer your indexing questions.

Townsville: Dinner with Max McMaster
Wednesday 29 August – time and venue to be confirmed.
Max will be dining in a Townsville restaurant and would be happy to share his table and talk to anyone with questions about, or an interest in, indexing.
For further information and to express an interest contact Jean Dartnall: <jeandartnall@gmail.com>

The photo below right shows me presenting tokens of appreciation to both Ruth and Jill.

Access to International Newsletters

One of the main changes to the agreement is that all members of indexing societies will have access to other societies' newsletters. This doesn't apply to *The Indexer* or ASI's *Keywords*. To make this possible I have created a new webpage in the Members' area <www.anzsi.org/site/IntNewsletters.asp>. I suggest members have a look at the newsletters of the other societies as they often contain useful tips and hints on indexing.

Society of Indexers Conference

The conference was held at the Mercure Hotel on the foreshore in Brighton, UK. Following the formal welcome the first session was the international session mentioned above, followed by drinks and dinner. At the

Mary Russell presenting Ruth Pincoe and Jill Halliday with tokens of appreciation

dinner I sat next to John Sutherland, Honorary President of Society of Indexers. He was keen to tell me he had been interviewed on the Monday by Phillip Adams, on ABC Radio National, about his recent book *The Lives of 294 Novelists: A History of Fiction*. The podcast is available at <www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/a-history-of-fiction/4114384>). As after-dinner speaker he spoke about 'Half a loaf indexes', expanding on his letter to the *Time Literary Supplement* bemoaning books with poor indexes and lack of indexing of footnotes or endnotes.

Indexing and hand-held devices

At the first session on the Friday Pilar Wyman spoke about her experience producing the index for the *Geriatrics at Your Fingertips* (GAYF) in print and electronic formats. Pilar has strong involvement with the editorial team with this title as she has been involved with it for many years. For the online versions she uses an XML editor developed for the publisher and guided us through the process with various screen shots. In the web version and app version (just released via iTunes) the search function leads straight to the index. For further information see Pilar's article in *The Indexer*, 2012, 30(1), 17–24. <www.theindexer.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=14&Itemid=67>.

Publishers' panel

Four publishers spoke about their respective organisation's current indexing practices. First up was Rohays Perry from Psychology Press, who works mostly with their journals. She estimated that journals are about 15 years ahead of books in their online presence. This should give indexers a chance to realise that the lessons learned from indexing journal collections are now starting to be required by books as publishers want to combine book indexes. So developing and using taxonomies skills will be in demand. She preferred to talk of 'curating', rather than 'index' information.

The next speaker was very brave and almost needed thick armour to protect him from audience reaction to his talk. Martin Woodhead of Woodhead Publishing pointed out that he is running a business and has to keep costs down. He found by outsourcing his indexing to a company in the Philippines he could save 75% of the cost of having an index professionally produced in the UK. Needless to say this sparked a reaction from the audience! He went on to explain that he is happy with the quality of the indexing and has received good feedback. When quizzed if he felt guilty at not employing UK indexers, he said 'no' as he had to focus on the cost. He went on to suggest UK indexers should focus on creativity and new technology. He also suggested they develop taxonomies and retain ownership, so can charge clients for its use.

Jason Hook from Ivy Press is a book packager producing illustrated gift books and reference books. He commissions indexes from professionals in the UK, to the great relief of the audience. One popular book he showed was *Beautiful Sheep* where a fashion photographer was used to take photos of various breeds of sheep. This has proved so successful there is now a whole series of *Beautiful* books with other animals and associated calendars and stationery items, such as cards.

Final speaker was Richard Padley from Semantico. He works with publishers to put their books and journals online. One of their major commissions was to put the *Grove Dictionary of Art* online. He spoke on how they use thesauri and taxonomies to help make search facilities work more efficiently, again stressing how indexers can assist in this area.

Archive indexing

Sleiman El Hajj highlighted the challenge of indexing the lifetime archival items of the work of Emile Bustani

(1907-1963). Sleiman has had to custom-index more than 38,000 originally typewritten (and sometimes handwritten) pages, now scanned and available in folders on 33 DVDs.

Wheatley Medal
There was no presentation of the Wheatley Medal this year. Instead highly commended certificates were presented to Moira Greenhalgh, Auriol Griffith-Jones and Gerard Hill for their respective indexes.

Betty Moys Prize
The late Betty Moys left a legacy to the Society to provide an annual prize for a new indexer. This currently takes the form of a prize of £500 for the best newly Accredited Indexer who has successfully completing the SI Training Course. This was presented at the Gala Dinner.

Endnotes and footnotes
With the generous build up by John Sutherland on indexing footnotes and endnotes, my workshop was full and we had a wonderful discussion on all the various notation options possible for indexing footnotes and endnotes.

Online indexes
Caroline Diepeveen, together with fellow indexers Pierke Bosschieter and Jacqueline Belder, won the Wheatley Medal for 2011 for their index to the five volumes of *The Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World*. In this session Caroline spoke about working with other indexers to produce an index and the work involved in converting it to an online version. Caroline had been given special access to show the online version to us. There are still a few issues with how the index is reached that need to be sorted out, as you need to hunt for the start of the index each time you search. In an online version the page numbers in a printed version are obviously converted to links. Here the links directed you to the appropriate place in the text, but the link was given the label of the section heading in the A-Z encyclopedia. So additional information was being provided to the user.

I can't think of an appropriate example, so will use a generic one. Let's say there was an entry for Smith, John. In the print version you may have

> Smith, John 25, 260, 360–6

In looking at these entries you discover that the reference on page 25 relates to John Smith's friendship with Peter Brown and under the section on Peter Brown, the page 260 reference was about his work at Monash University under the Monash University heading and pages 360–6 was his main entry.

The online version of the entry becomes, with the replacement of page number by links:

> Smith, John <u>Brown, Peter</u>; <u>Monash University</u>; <u>Smith, John</u>

Millennium Seed Bank
John Dickie of the Millennium Seed Bank Partnership, gave a fascinating talk on the Millennium Seed Bank, which is the largest *ex situ* plant conservation project in the world <www.kew.org/science-conservation/save-seed-prosper/millennium-seed-bank/index.htm>. Unfortunately, time ran away and he was only able to touch on the indexing aspects of the project, but I enjoyed learning about the Seed Bank.

SI Publishing Technology Group
I have mentioned the work of the Publishing Technology Group and their wonderfully informative website (available to ANZSI members via <www.anzsi.org/site/ICRISlinks.asp>). This session sought feedback on the work of the group. One item that they agreed to follow up with was to make some or all of the information on the website publically available.

Walking tour
The conference concluded Friday lunchtime and I chose to do a walking tour of Brighton in the afternoon. The weather was kind and it didn't rain. The after-dinner speaker Geoffrey Mead on Thursday night had given us a wonderful kaleidoscopic view of Brighton. The walking tour gave me a chance to visit and see many of the locations he had discussed with additional information supplied by the tour leader.

SI Conference 2013
The next SI conference will be from 12 to 14 July 2013, at Wyboston Lakes, Wyboston, Bedfordshire <www.indexers.org.uk/index.php?id=233>.

Life is easier with an eIndex
In the blur before I left for London, Council put together an information sheet promoting ANZSI joining the International Digital Publishing Forum and the importance of indexing ebooks. The flyer is available on the website at <www.anzsi.org/site/ebooks.asp>, and is quoted on page 9 of this newsletter.

Mary Russell

Some more coming events
We seem to have overloaded our usual back-page Events table this month. Note also ...

NZ Branch AGM (Saturday 11 August, details on facing page)

ACT Region Branch book launch (Saturday 25 August, details on page 9)

The VIC – visit to ARRB (Wednesday 3 October, at 11.00 am, details in July Newsletter and at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=259>)

IDPF Indexes Working Group, and other ebook issues

Report 24 July 2012

The IDPF EPUB Indexes Working Group now meets weekly by telephone, with discussions continuing by email if required. We have made decisions about the four use cases proposed in the Charter document, ranking the individual components as must, should or nice. The last three of the use cases have been subsumed under the Chapter-like index use case as we decided that they will need no coding that is not available in the basic use case. We will, however, write implementation notes to suggest how these use cases will be implemented.

One feature that will probably be more important in ebooks than in print is 'group break navigation data', i.e. things like letter headings ('A', 'B', 'Aa-Am', 'A-F' and so on) that may be used to break up terms in an index. Many print indexes simply use a blank line or two to visually separate sections of an index, but in ebooks explicitly creating these groups will provide better navigation options, especially for blind users, who will be able to more quickly move to a section of the index that is of interest to them.

There is one interesting development that was not mentioned in the original charter document. When envisaging the ways in which people might start a search in a popup index by highlighting text in the document, we realised that inversion and abbreviation in indexes could mean that even if the words in the text describe an index entry, it would not be found in a character search. For example, if the user highlights 'Colonel Sellars' in the text, they will not retrieve 'Sellars, Colonel' in the index.

We therefore added the use case that 'Publisher can define alternate forms of terms to be found in the index.' This will be important for inversions and abbreviations (e.g. where the full name of an organisation may be used in the text and in main entries of the index, but an abbreviation is used in subentries). This will be extra work for indexers, but will offer opportunities for adding alternative access points that might not have fitted in a print index. They could also to some extent replace *see* cross references, but not for people browsing the index.

InDesign

Cheryl Landes wrote to the InDesign indexing mailing list: 'there's a link on Adobe's site where we can request feature enhancements and report bugs for Adobe products: <www.adobe.com/cfusion/mmform/index.cfm?name=wishform>. Each of us who uses InDesign for indexing should be reporting issues we find and recommendations for UI improvements through this form.' Jan Wright is also having discussions with Adobe about indexing issues.

Glenda Browne

NSW Indexing Course, a conference and a launch ...

The NSW Branch ran a successful Introductory Book Indexing course with nine participants – four from Sydney, one from Newcastle and four from the ACT, including a mother and daughter pair, whom I didn't know were related. It was also a pleasure to bump into one of the participants at a Health Libraries Australia event a few days later.

The Health Libraries professional development day was on the topic of systematic reviews. Systematic reviews are reviews in which evidence about a topic is identified, appraised for relevance and rigour, and summarised in a balanced manner according to predetermined criteria. The evidence is acquired through an exhaustive literature search.

The interesting thing for indexers about systematic reviews is that one of their major components is a literature review using indexed bibliographic databases such as Medline. Systematic review reports should publish the search strategies that were used, to ensure transparency. Many reviewers use librarians to define or refine their searches. Reviews also rely on grey literature such as theses and government reports, which may or may not be indexed. Powerpoints and audio files from the day are available at <hla2012.blogspot.com.au/2012/03/health-libraries-australia-hla.html>.

On the same day I went to the launch of the ClinicalKey information service from Elsevier. You can test drive the system or take a video tour at <www.clinicalkey.com/>. It uses a faceted scheme that allows you to limit searches by recency, type of information (e.g. patient education) and specialty. It has some of the problems of free text search, but it also has a useful structure linking related topics. For example, a search for 'oesoph' lets you choose anatomy terms, diseases, and procedures relating to the oesophagus, and also says 'You may also be interested in: Esophagus Disorders'. Selecting 'Esophagus' also retrieves 'Oesophagus'. It is interesting to see their approach.

Glenda Browne

New Zealand Branch AGM

New Zealand Branch AGM will be held on Saturday 11 August, at 1A, 524 Remuera Rd, Auckland, from midday, starting with lunch. Tordis will be travelling from Wellington and I hope there will be a good turnout of the local Branch members from Auckland. The meeting will comprise an election of officers (don't worry, you won't be nobbled!), reports and business arising from the subcommittees, and the Treasurer and President's reports. And anything else anyone wants to discuss ...

Julie Daymond-King

Indexing degustation

This month I was determined to avoid the subject of eBooks. I have lots of books loaded on to my iPad but cannot bring myself to read them. It is not cosy in bed. It is stiff and cold. However, electronics oozle in, through online newspapers, census indexes, and fiction indexes. But we start with something completely silly.

Designer books

It looks as if the book is to be rescued by the decorating community. The sale of books by the metre is 'trending' in the US, according to Suzanne Munshower. The spine is the thing, never mind the content, or for that matter, the index. Some like quality; London's Classic Rare Books provide leather-bound antique volumes starting from $2500 per metre. One can choose by subject, colour or language. A leather-bound first edition of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy costs $22,400. A few expensive books are a talking point, while the back bench, as it were, is made up of cheaper models.

Books are seen as 'comforting'. Wonder Book sells second-hand volumes. Its 'Books by the Foot' will provide any type of book, including 'Fairly Distressed' or 'Very Distressed Vintage Leather'. Are silverfish included? In the USA, Decorative Leather Books has 5000 'decorator clients' world-wide, 70% of whom are young married couples with children. Books 'add warmth', and 'are a lot better than Kindles on a shelf'. Weathered Words are small paperback 'Puddles' and hardback 'Thunder Bundles'. Believe it or not, these books have been torn apart, bound without spines or boards, then tied into bundles before being weathered. Destination? Coffee tables!

Life&Style. *The Saturday Age*. June 30, 2012, p. 17.

1940 US Census indexed by volunteers

On 2 April, 2012, NARA released the digital images of the 1940 United States Federal Census after a 72 year embargo. NARA is the National Archives and Records Administration, an independent agency that oversees management of federal government records including presidential libraries and historic collections. These census images will be uploaded and made available on <Archives.com>, <FindMyPast.com>, National Archives, ProQuest, and <FamilySearch.org>. Additionally, the entire 1940 census data will be indexed by a community of volunteers and made available for free. The free index of the census records and corresponding images will be available to the public in perpetuity. The call to arms was as follows:

1940 US Census Community Project needs volunteers from genealogical and historical societies to provide essential support to create a free searchable index of the 1940 US Federal Census. Societies and individuals can provide expert help to transcribe census records from the states where they live or have interest, creating an accurate, searchable index while at the same time generating excitement for society and volunteer activities.

Prospective volunteers are informed that

Indexing is a simple, and engaging, activity. You view an image of the historical record in one pane and enter what you see into a customized, labeled grid in another pane. If you see the name Robert in the image, you type it in the designated cell in the grid. The names, dates, places, and other information you enter will become part of the online search, opening up that record's information in ways that weren't possible before.

Volunteers were invited to get started now in three easy steps:

1. Download and install the FamilySearch indexing software. A video tutorial will show you how.
2. Create a FamilySearch account. A video tutorial will show you how.
3. Associate yourself with a Group (Society). Please be sure to associate yourself with a group (your society) when you first login. A video tutorial is available to assist you.

<https://the1940census.com/>

Multicultural newspapers now available online

According to an NLA media release dated 18 June 2012, foreign language newspapers relating to Australia's multicultural stories are now available online through the National Library of Australia's Trove discovery service. Under the library's Australian Newspaper Digitisation Program, selected German, Italian and Estonian community newspapers have been digitised. They include German newspapers *The Adelaider Deutsche Zeitung* (1851 and 1860-62), *Suedaustralische Zeitung/ Sud-Australische Zeitung* (1850-1851), *Sud-Australische Zeitung* (1860-1874), an Italian newspaper, *Il Giornale Italiano (The Italian Journal)* (1932-1940) and an Estonian newspaper, *Meie Kodu (Our Home* – 1949–1954).

Director of Digitisation and Photography at the National Library of Australia, Wan Wong, said these were the first non-English language newspapers to be delivered through Trove, the National Library's free discovery service.

'These newspapers reflect the diversity of the Australian community in its early years,' she said. 'They provide an alternative glimpse into our history, telling the migrant experience in their own language.'

The earliest newspapers are from Germany, dating back to May 1850. Although the main focus is on news from Germany, they also included market prices and advertisements for pills and ointments.

The first edition of the *Italian Journal,* created for the thousands of Italian workers who migrated to Australia, describes itself as 'non-political, non-partisan, non-sectarian but bright, breezy, newsy and fearless ….' Content ranged from headlines urging readers to rely on Mussolini to save world peace to recipes for fish with baked potatoes.

The Estonian paper, *Meie Kodu*, is still being published. It was stated in its first issue in 1949 that publication may have been an ambitious undertaking when there were only 3000 Estonians in the country at that time.

Selection of community language newspapers for this pilot digitisation project was based on whether the titles were microfilmed, their copyright status and on specific interest from local communities. Through the Library's newspaper digitisation project, 7 million pages, from a total of 270 newspapers are now available online through Trove at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

<www.nla.gov.au/media-releases/2012/06/18/
multicultural-newspapers-now-available-online>

Index for Mansfield Park

The compiler of the Opinion page in *SIdelights*, the Society of Indexers' newsletter, alerted me to an index to Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* which has been published online. Jacqueline May, who failed her indexing course, decided to index *Mansfield Park*, both for amusement and to assuage her sense of failure. She uploaded the index to the website 'Completelynovel', see

<http://www.completelynovel.com/books/an-index-
to-jane-austens-mansfield-park--1/read-online#>

I took a look and was charmed. The author admits that there is no analysis, and that it is supposed to be light-hearted. She apologises for inconsistent alphabetisation, long strings of locators, and 'Having an index entry which does not lead the reader to any more information. *In the case of this book the entry is the thing itself.*' (my italics). Here is a sample from the index

    Crawford, Mary

        London maxim, quotes 90

        Miss Price, does not understand 81

        only one for Edmund presentiments 80

        shuts out the church and sinks the clergyman 285

        spoilt, spoilt! 441

Jane Purton

Overdue subscription renewals

Members whose subscriptions would expire on 30 June 2012 were sent an automatic reminder email on 14 June 2012. This email contained an individualised payment link for online payment of each member's subscription renewal.

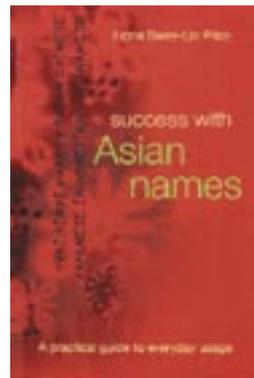Members can still renew their subscriptions by clicking on the link in that email.

Alternatively, members can download the membership form on the ANZSI website <www.anzsi.org/UserFiles/file/Membership%20July%2020 12%20-%20June%202013.pdf> to pay by cheque or money order.

Karen Gillen
Membership Secretary

Success with Asian Names!

Do you need to understand the cultural background of Asian colleagues and acquaintances? Are you indexing unfamiliar Asian names?

Success with Asian Names: a practical guide to everyday usage, by Fiona Swee-Lin Price, is a hands-on guide for anyone who works with people of Asian background. Names from China, Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Indian sub-continent are covered in this detailed 244-page reference guide.

'Especially helpful for indexers in discerning the meanings of … longer names, especially those containing words not immediately recognizable as given or family names; … a handy guide for indexers encountering a name used without reference to its origin; … of much value in the information provided about so many different Asian names; … The ten page index is skilfully constructed, detailed and user-friendly.' Noeline Bridge (*The Indexer*, June 2012)

Published by Allen and Unwin in Australia (ISBN 9781741148480) and Nicholas Brealey in UK and USA (ISBN 978-1-857883-78-7).

Copies are available from good booksellers in the US or UK or from the author at <tamagoconsulting@ internode.on.net>, at A$30 post paid.

ACT Region Branch joint meeting with Canberra Society of Editors

On 27 June we held a joint meeting with the Canberra Society of Editors, on the ANU campus. There was a good turnout, with over 30 people. The CSE provided a delicious supper, too!

Dr Tim Sherratt was our guest speaker. Tim is a digital historian, who has been developing online resources around archives, museums, and history since 1993. He is interested in developing new ways for people to analyse and access historical collections, and has developed some very innovative tools over the years.

Recently he has developed some APIs (application programming interfaces) which interact with the National Library's massive Trove information resource. These APIs are little programs that access Trove in certain ways, searching, sorting, and displaying information. Some of the APIs Tim demonstrated to us were:

The front page: A way to analyse the front page of newspapers from the late 1880s to 1954 (the current limit of the Trove newspaper archives, for reasons of copyright). It was interesting to see the exact date at which advertising was almost entirely dropped from the front page of *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and replaced with news! <http://dhistory.org/frontpages/>

QueryPic: A way of searching on the incidence of a word or phrase, through Australian and New Zealand newspapers. <http://wraggelabs.com/shed/querypic/>

He also has created some rather addictive games:

Headline Roulette: Can you guess the date of the newspaper headline? <http://wraggelabs.com/shed/headline-roulette/ >

The future of the past: a 'fridge magnet' game using frequently occurring words that are sourced from newspaper articles from Trove, that also mention the phrase 'the future':
<http://newspapers.wraggelabs.com/fotp/>

You can find out more about Tim's work at his sites WraggeLabs Emporium and Discontents: <http://wraggelabs.com/emporium/> <http://discontents.com.au/>

It was a very enjoyable evening. Not only did we have Tim's fascinating talk to entertain and inform us, but we were able to renew friendships — and make new ones — with our colleagues in the Canberra Society of Editors.

Denise Sutherland

Embedded Indexing

NSW **Branch** will offer an 'Introduction to Embedded Indexing' course, conducted by Jon Jermey, Mary Coe and Glenda Browne, on Tuesday 11 September from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm. It will be held in the Henry Lawson Room at the NSW Writers Centre, Rozelle.

You can find all the details of cost, bookings and course outline at
 <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=273>.

You will have to provide your own laptop with a USB slot, and you should be familiar with the basics of both word processing and indexing.

Jon Jermey will introduce students to LibreOfficeWriter and Mary Coe will demonstrate the use of CINDEX in embedded indexing projects and introduce a range of other useful tools. Glenda Browne will finish by leading a discussion on the use of embedded indexes in ebooks.

Dragon Indexing

Bendigo, Friday 19 – Sunday 21 October

To mark the Chinese Year of the Dragon, the Victorian Branch has organised an indexing seminar with an Asian flavour. The highlight will be sessions by Max McMaster on indexing numbers and indexing (or reindexing) a new edition of a book that already has an index, and by Fiona Swee-Lin Price, whose short session on indexing Asian names at the 2011 ANZSI Conference was such a success that we wanted MORE.

The seminar venue is Bendigo Golden Dragon Museum, and Bendigo is such an interesting place that we have decided to mix the indexing sessions with historical walks and tours around the city and to conclude with a Yum Cha lunch.

The cost is $190.00 (inc GST), which includes seminars, tours and dinner on the Friday night. Partners/friends are very welcome to join in the tours and the dinner on Friday night for $80.
For further details see <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=259>.

(And the ANZSI AGM is also in Bendigo on the evening of the 19th – see page 2.)

Life is easier with an eIndex

Searching for 'trade' in an ebook could give you a link to information on a 'trade publication' or 'trade' as an occupation or 'trade' as import/export. You might be lucky and find what you want immediately, but it is more likely you will have to wade through a range of irrelevant results to find the information you want. A well constructed eIndex will make this search easier.

Providing an index greatly enhances the capacity of readers to navigate through the ebook. This is particularly important with ebooks as readers can be restricted by not being able to flip through the pages as one can with a printed book.

A good index in an ebook will:
- provide an active link to the information;
- not simply reproduce every occurrence of the word, regardless of meaning;
- provide direct access to the information required;
- be created by a qualified indexer who can add value to the index, understands the different uses of the word 'trade' and who is focused on the concepts, not just the words that appear in the text;
- convey a sense of depth of the topic coverage;
- break down large concepts into useful subgroups;
- offer links to similar concepts or alternative terminology; and
- make life easier for the reader.

eIndexes can assist publisher sales with the inclusion of the index in preview chapters from publishers or through Amazon.

Hyperlinking an existing index can be easily done. There is no reason to leave the ebook index inactive or worse still remove it when producing an ebook.

The **International Digital Publishing Forum** board has approved a proposal to include **indexes** in the **EPUB standard**. The proposal includes ideas about improving the reader's experience by integrating index entries as part of search functionality and showing them in context so the user can follow threads of thought through the book. Access to the index should be as easy as access to the search function.

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers (ANZSI) has joined the International Digital Publishing Forum and is part of the Indexes Working Group to include indexes in the EPUB Standard.

Further Information:
ANZSI ebook webpage <www.anzsi.org/site/ebooks.asp>
IDPF Indexes Working Group <https://code.google.com/p/epub-revision/wiki/IndexesMainPage>

ANZSI Medal

The June issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter* called for nominations for this year's ANZSI Medal. You don't need to have indexed some multi-volume tome, or a book on a subject comprehensible only to a few academics – many winners have submitted indexes to tertiary texts, biographies, histories and letters.

Don't be afraid to nominate one of your own indexes! Also, browsing around your local bookshop, you may find an Australian or New Zealand title with an index that looks as though it could be a Medal contender. If so, complete the nomination form on the ANZSI website and send it to Alan Walker, Chairman of the Awards Committee. Closing date for nominations is 31 August.

Max McMaster

ACT Region Branch
Invitation to a Book Launch

You are invited to the launch of two books written by Canberra author and ACT Region Branch committee member, Denise Sutherland: *Solving Cryptic Crosswords For Dummies*, and a companion volume of crosswords, *Cryptic Crosswords For Dummies*.

At the Paperchain Bookshop, 34 Franklin Street, Manuka, on Saturday 25 August, at 3.00 pm.

Please RSVP to Paperchain by 20 August, either by phone: (02) 6295 6723
or email: <info@paperchainbookstore.com.au>
(they just need your name and the number of guests you'd like to bring).

Shirley Campbell

Quiet achievers in indexing – Tordis Flath

Who has been the greatest influence on your career?

Without a doubt – Max McMaster. He has always been a willing voice on the end of the phone ready to answer any questions I have, brainstorm and share his extensive knowledge of indexing and the society with me. He suggested I form a branch in New Zealand and came over to help me accomplish the task, has come over several times to run courses, and got me so enthusiastic about running a conference in New Zealand that, after finally finding some people willing to help me, I am now organising the next ANZSI conference in Wellington.

How did you come to an indexing career?

I was living in Brighton (UK) for a time during my OE and saw a job advertised in the newspaper for an indexer with knowledge of statistical medicine. I had studied mathematics, specifically statistics, at university and have always had in interest in medicine (at one time I considered becoming a doctor and later a homeopath). I had no idea what an indexer was but applied anyway.

That's how I met Richard Raper of Indexing Specialists in Hove who allowed me to go off on jaunts to Prague and Scotland but always had more work for me when I came back. I spent hours in his office learning about the British Standards, how Macrex works and the dynamics of indexing as well as indexing several books and helping on *Oxford History of England* and the *Works of Charles Darwin*. It helped that I had studied Computer Science at university as most people in those days were not computer literate so I was quickly able to learn Macrex.

What has been your greatest achievement?

Helping to found the New Zealand Branch and bringing New Zealand indexers together, winning the ANZSI Medal for the index to *Toss Woollaston: A Life in Letters* and organising the first ANZSI conference in New Zealand.

What has been your greatest challenge?

The stiff neck and shoulders I get when I index for too many hours at a time. I now limit myself to four to five hours of indexing a day, have a massage every fortnight, regularly see my chiropractor for a check up and have lots of hot bubble baths.

How do you achieve work-life balance?

I chose indexing as a career because I could work around the needs of my children and juggle various work. As well as indexing and mentoring new indexers, I also have a long-term proofreading contract with two to five reports coming in a week. I also make jewellery (including the piece that I'm wearing in the photograph) and enjoy printmaking in my studio which I sell and exhibit at various galleries/exhibitions. In addition I manage the administration and finance for my partner's building company. Juggling such a variety of work means I never get bored – I'm far too busy!

What do you like most about your work? What do you like least?

I like starting a new book – the excitement of what I call 'diving into a new world and creating a road map through it'. I try to take on work that I find interesting so each job is a bit of an adventure.

The bit I like least is editing the index, having to go back to the beginning and usually rereading the first few chapters and checking all my entries for consistency. If I am unsure of something when I first enter it, I put a question mark beside it. Then I can just check for question marks in the later chapters. I have heard of people who don't edit, presumably they do it as they go along, but I can only get a feel for the whole book once I have read it all.

I have usually had enough of the book by then. When I have come out the other end and get to write the invoice, I start smiling again and have a real sense of achievement having finished the index.

What advice would you give indexers just starting out?

Take a break after an hour or when you find your concentration going. If I can't be 'bothered' to go back and check something, it means I need a break. I have a cup of tea, hang out my washing or go and make my bed (both good for stretching your muscles). I always find that I am happy to check that entry when I get back and I feel refreshed again.

New members and beginning indexers often seem to feel that they have nothing to contribute to their branches due to their 'inexperience'. I always say 'get involved in your branch as it is the best way to learn more

and network with other indexers'. One of our current members came along to our AGM just after becoming a member and before she went on her first indexing course. She walked out of the AGM as a committee member and is now our branch librarian! She learnt heaps along the way and, I believe, never regretted it.

Make sure you read the newsletter and if you can *The Indexer*. There are always interesting articles in there and some are pitched at new indexers, ie, my first year of indexing, editing your index, my experience at such and such conference, how to get your indexing business started.

If you could dine with a famous historical figure, who would it be?

I found this question quite difficult as most of the famous people I would like to dine with are still alive, like Johnny Depp, the actor, and Helen Frankenthaler, a famous American printmaker who developed many abstract techniques in printmaking.

If I had to pick a famous historical figure then I would pick Georges Mathieu, an abstract painter who was born in 1921 in France. He coined the phrase 'lyrical abstraction', was one of the originators of the Paris school of expressive abstraction, and developed a technique of spontaneous, broad brushstrokes that became known as Tachism. He was very theatrical and spontaneous.

I studied him in an art history class where as well as writing about the artist we had chosen, we had to dress up as them and act how we thought they would be like. I had a great time in paint splattered jeans waving a bottle of red wine around, trying to pretend to be a French man!

If you were a letter of the alphabet, which letter would you be, and why?

It would have to be the letter T because at one time that was my nickname. T also stands for teasing, tantalising, tempting, tenacious and thrilling!

An indexing brainteaser

'Once there was a William Thring, who had a legitimate son Francis William, and an illegitimate son, Francis William, usually known as William Francis. The Francis William usually known as William Francis had one son, born William Francis but usually known as Francis William, who had in turn one son, Francis William. The last two Francis Williams were the two Frank Thrings who primarily concern us here, and the line stopped dead with Frank the son.'

Peter Fitzpatrick, *The Two Frank Thrings*, Monash University Publishing, Melbourne, 2012, p. 6.
Karen Gillen

ANZSI and Branch events

Date and time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Thurs 23 August	NSW Branch	AGM	above Cafe Kasturi, 767–69 Broadway	Details on page 2 and at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=272>
Sat 25 August	Vic Branch	An afternoon with Frances Lennie	Seminar Room State Library of Victoria	Details on page 3 and at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=258>
Tues 28 August	Qld Branch	General meeting: Max McMaster	Salisbury Hotel, Brisbane	Details on page 2 and at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=276>
Wed 29 August	Qld Branch	Dinner with Max McMaster	Townsville – time and place to be confirmed	Details on page 2 and at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=265>
Tues 11 Sept	NSW Branch	Embedded indexing course	NSW Writers Centre Rozelle	More on page 9 and details at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=273>
Fri 19 October 6.30 pm	ANZSI	AGM	Whirrakee Restaurant, View Point Rd, Bendigo	Details on page 2 and at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=271>
Fri–Sun 19–21 October	Vic Branch	Dragon Indexing	Bendigo, Golden Dragon Museum	Details on page 8 and at: <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=259>

(see also page 4)

Newsletter schedule

The next Newsletter will appear in September 2012.
The contribution deadline is Wednesday, 29 August.
The editor welcomes your contributions submitted by email to <peter.judge@bigpond.com.>

Postage
paid