

Newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Inc.

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From the President



ANZSI has many projects moving ahead successfully at this time, dependent on specialist skills and strong commitment. This activity is supported by the hard work of Council, and I am constantly grateful for the talent and cooperation of all its members. We have a great team.

Our ongoing work is for the biennial conference in Canberra, a revamped Indexers Available, a redeveloped website, and a restructure proposal. In addition, with the ICRIS triennial meeting approaching, we are looking into the content and wording of the International Committee of Representatives of Indexing Societies (ICRIS) International Agreement.

Council matters

Recent Council discussions and actions include the following.

Approval was given for a name change from Board of Assessors to Accreditation Committee.

The Promotions and Publicity committee has invited nominations for the ANZSI Medal in various publications.

Council has confirmed its six-weekly meeting schedule (the next meeting will be held on the 17 March). We will hold the AGM on 20th October, a week after the final meeting of this Council, to avoid the long gap that otherwise occurs when the AGM replaces a general meeting.

The logo for accredited indexers has been well received. Feedback included 'Many thanks! Really like the design and great to have all those format options', and 'How wonderful! Will put to use immediately'.

Alan Walker will be the ANZSI representative at the Indexing Society of Canada/Société Canadienne d'indexation conference. No expressions of interest were received for the ASAIB and ASI conferences. If you are planning to attend one of these, please contact me as soon as possible (glendabrowne@gmail.com).

Thanks to all who provided feedback to the Website WP for its user survey and card sort experiment. This feedback is being used in the development of the information architecture of the site. The content has also been assessed and some pages will be updated. PDFs of all newsletter issues for a year, and all available papers from each conference, are being combined so that only one search is required. A blog will be included on the site. The coding of the website will allow optimal use on all devices, including PCs, tablets and mobile phones.

Proposed ANZSI restructure

The Restructure Working Party presented Council with a revised document containing a number of recommendations. Council held a special meeting to consider this document. It suggested some changes, and approved a list of recommendations to be put to the members at the Special General Meeting (SGM) in May 2015 at the conference in Canberra. The entire revised document including the recommendations will be provided to members before the SGM.

The Restructure Working Party is now working on simple regulations regarding the functioning of regional and interest groups.

Meanwhile, all members can think and talk with colleagues about the groups they might be interested in forming if the restructure is approved. The core requirement in the proposal is three people wishing to form a group (more details to come).

ICRIS

This year ICRIS will hold its Triennial meeting at the SI conference in York in September. The meeting will be hosted by ANZSI, with Mary Russell in the Chair as ICRIS Coordinator. The main purpose of the meeting is to update the International Agreement if needed. The agreement is at www.theindexer.org/icris/agreement.htm.

Membership Secretary

Karen Gillen has resigned from her position as Membership Secretary, and from her associated role on the Website Redevelopment Working Party. Membership Secretary is one of the essential jobs that keep ANZSI running effectively, and Karen has ably filled the role for many years. ANZSI Council and I thank Karen for her dedicated service. I am especially grateful that Karen decided to stay in the role last year, when we had so many other changes happening.

Mary Coe has been appointed as the new Membership Secretary, and will broaden her role on the Website Redevelopment Working Party to specifically include consideration of membership issues. Many thanks

to Mary for adding this to her other ANZSI responsibilities. For membership queries in the future, please contact Mary Coe at coe.mary@gmail.com.

Indexing 'The' and 'A'

I rarely go to Twitter, but by chance today following two links from a tweet of interest took me to comments on the indexing of 'The', including an extract from a poem by J. H. Prynne based on lines starting with 'The' and 'A'.

Cookbook indexing — what makes a main ingredient

I was interested in the report last month on the Victorian Branch cookbook indexing activity, and their discussion of what made a main ingredient. This is probably the most important decision in cookbook indexing.

My guidelines are to index as main entries:

- ingredients named in the title this works well for long, descriptive titles but has to be supplemented when titles don't list ingredients (e.g. for hummus or gazpacho).
- ingredients essential to the nature of the food this means eggs would be indexed in recipes for quiche and meringue, but not for butter cake. While eggs are essential to the butter cake recipe, they are not fundamental to its character.
- ingredients you have to go to the shops to get this works for peripheral ingredients, but not so well for staples like pasta that warrant indexing even if they are always on hand. Staples perhaps need to make up a larger proportion of the recipe to warrant inclusion. Thus I wouldn't index garlic in spaghetti bolognaise, but I would in 'Caramelised garlic tart with an almond flour base'. In these cases the ingredient will usually, but not always, be in the title (e.g. it is not in the title 'Sopa de ajo', which is garlic soup).
- ingredients that only feature once, or rarely, in the work. I'd rather omit an entry for tomatoes, e.g., than ones for farro or freekeh.
- ingredients that make up the bulk of the recipe. For example, in 'Roast vegetables with rosemary' when eight vegetables are listed, I may only be able to index the top four (assuming space and money limitations). When choosing by bulk, photos are sometimes helpful for picking out the star ingredients.
- ingredients intrinsic to the cooking method, e.g., fish cooked in salt (but perhaps not Christmas pudding cooked in a flour dough crust?).

Like all indexing decisions, the context will affect the decision. For example, in a cookbook for students I might just index 'salad leaves' (plus references), while in a salad cookbook I would have entries for endive, rocket, radicchio and so on. Similarly, in a bread cookbook, for completeness I'd include entries for white flour, along with those for more specialised ingredients such as rye flour.

A separate question is which categories to include. These are often transferable (with slight variations) between different indexes, so the more you index, the quicker you get.

Database indexing has different requirements, and may provide clearer definition of the quantities needed for different ingredients to warrant inclusion (e.g. www.eatyourbooks.com).

My most enjoyable cookbook indexing project was for *The Ig Nobel Cookbook, volume 1* (Corky White and Gus Rancatore). It includes recipes for 'Elemental (Liquid-Nitrogen) Ice Cream' and 'Delicious Cake with Cream from Contented, Named Cows' (as cows with names give better milk). Here my main criterion for inclusion was 'is it entertaining?' I also tried to gather ideas, so if a term existed, I was more likely to include a second recipe at that term.

Glenda Browne

John Simkin Medal 2015 — Reminder

ANZSI invites nominations for the inaugural John Simkin Medal — an award recognising an outstanding index to a book compiled in Australia or New Zealand.

To attain the award, indexes must be of the highest calibre. The index should be substantial in size, the subject matter complex, and the language, form and structure should demonstrate the indexer's expertise in serving the primary needs of the text and the reader. There are no restrictions on the subject matter of the book.

The book may be in either paper or electronic format.

To be eligible for the award, the book must be commercially available and have an imprint date of 2012 or later. The index must have been compiled in Australia or New Zealand, although the text to which it refers may have been published elsewhere.

Publishers, booksellers, editors, librarians, indexers and interested persons are all invited to provide nominations. Indexers are encouraged to submit their own work.

The winning indexer will receive the John Simkin Medal and a framed certificate. The publisher will receive a framed certificate.

Applications

A completed nomination form together with a hard copy of the book or a link to the electronic file of both book and index is required. Hard copy books will be returned after judging. Nomination forms are available at www.anzsi.org/UserFiles/file/John-Simkin-Medal-nomination-form-2015.pdf.

Dates

Applications must be received no later than Friday, 20 March 2015 at the address on the nomination form. Presentation of the inaugural John Simkin Medal will be made to the winner at Write | Edit | Index: A national conference for editors, indexers, and publishing professionals, Canberra, 6–9 May 2015.

Max McMaster
Medal Chair, ANZSI Awards Committee

Council bios — Elisabeth Thomas

Greetings,

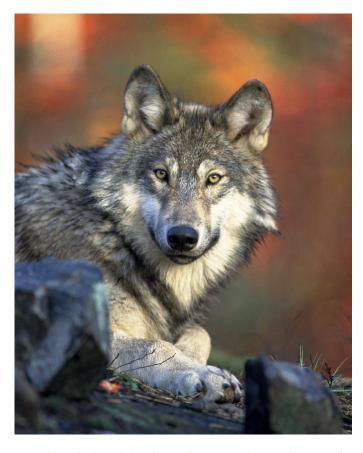
Having been asked to write a profile piece for the Newsletter, as a new member of Council, I beseech you, gentle reader, to read kindly as such creations are so often a challenge.

A long time ago, in a galaxy quite like this one, a young bibliophile ended up in library school (strange that). An early subject was 'Resources 1B' (I think that was the imaginative name) taught by a certain Alan Walker. The indexing bug probably bit then, but during and after university, a more general work and library life became the way of things. I set forth into public libraries and into the construction and civil engineering sector, both here in Oz, plus, as so many do, for a few years in the UK.

Indexing, in one form or another, was never far away, of course, whether keeping extensive competitive intelligence media files or setting up records management systems.

Some years rolled by...

Meanwhile the major career, as a law librarian, had set in; yet I kept on with the extra interests, including one holiday in Melbourne spent refreshing my skills taking in an introductory course with Max McMaster.



However I had, due to circumstance and necessity, gone to 'the dark side'. Editing became the pedantry of choice, as I was involved in creating (and re-creating) a great deal of documentation; and I also came to be editor of a number of internal e-newsletters — with enviable subscriber figures in the thousands!

Over these years I was helping to 'keep the country running': yes, my many moons as a law librarian was mostly spent at the Australian Taxation Office {sounds of the usual 'gasp', 'aargh' and 'urk'... and my oft-required disclaimer: 'I know nothing about tax, I only work[ed] there!' LOL}. I continued to do the life-long learning thing including Glenda Browne's basic indexing course, a few of the specialty indexing courses run by ANZSI Vic branch as well as a selection of proofreading and editing courses with the Society of Editors NSW and Sydney University Continuing Education.

Moving on — in more ways than one! In 2010 there was a somewhat unexpected parting of the ways between myself and the government (one of those restructures), and I thought I would finally have some significant time to get on with the 'sideline' interests (instead of squeezing them in on weekends and evenings: ahh, the life of the freelancer). Instead I was headhunted into the education sector but

fortunately into a part-time role — a nice change! Not much later and I find myself in a permanent spot in TAFE at the Design Centre Enmore. From law library to art library — hmmm, quite the switch but certainly fun.

During the meanwhile, I had completed the Macleay College Diploma of Book Editing and Publishing. It was an interesting and practical course with some excellent tutelage from Meryl Potter AE and guest/section teachers, including (no surprise) Glenda Browne for indexing and renowned journalist Richard Walsh for industry history and commissioning.

I'd also taken the opportunity during this time to set up my business (Literary Wolf Indexing and Editing) so my different selves could at least (try to) keep themselves organised.

That kind of covers the library life and the beginnings of the move into freelancing, so now a quick look (if you, dear reader, have not yet nodded off) at the fun of finding committees to be on in all that spare time, that I, and so many of us have (not).



It all began innocently enough when it was the turn of the NSW group of the (now) Australian Law Librarians' Association to take on the 'rostered' two-year stint to produce the Association's journal: the Australian Law Librarian. Yours truly spent many evenings from 2001 to 2003 proofing and copyediting by hand — great practice for marking up. A few years later I went for something different and worked on the ALLA conference organising committee.

Two years later I had recovered sufficiently to join the ANZSI committee for the 2009 biennial conference — lots of work, good company and coffee kept things going. Luckily for me, I had some of the easier jobs and, together with the hard work of others, saw a well-received event. I've been on the ANZSI NSW committee since 2009, becoming secretary in 2013. So, just to top things off, I also joined ANZSI Council at the last (2014) AGM.

And that brings you, dear reader, up to date with (some of) the adventures of a librarian venturing (even) further inside the books.

Elisabeth Thomas

write edit index

Conference news

Closing date

The closing date for registrations for the conference, workshops, and the conference dinner is **Tuesday**, **31 March.** Don't miss out!

If you've already registered, you can add and change things in your booking by signing in to the **Delegate Zone**, using the Access Key you were sent on registration. Then you can use the 'edit' buttons to the side of items, as needed.

Sponsorship of an ANZSI member

The Conference Committee has secured sponsorship for registration and the conference dinner (total value \$575) for one member of ANZSI to attend the joint national editors and indexers conference in Canberra, 6–9 May 2015.

Applicants for this sponsorship should indicate in a written statement what benefit attendance at the conference could give them.

The Conference Committee will determine the recipient of the sponsorship. The recipient must be a member of ANZSI. Other criteria taken into consideration may include that applicants:

- have not attended a previous ANZSI conference
- live remotely and do not have easy direct contact with other ANZSI members
- can show evidence of practical indexing work or study.

Following the conference, the successful applicant is required to provide a written report to the Conference Committee, which will subsequently be published in the *ANZSI Newsletter*.

Expressions of interest from any ANZSI member for such a sponsorship should be forwarded to the **Conference Committee** by **20 March 2015**.

The conference committee

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Regional news

January/February meeting of The Victorian Indexing Club

Back in 2010, the Pacific Northwest Chapter of ASI produced a booklet entitled *My First* (*Real*) *Indexing Job*, featuring twenty stories about its members. This inspired members of The Victorian Indexing Club to reminisce about and share 'my first paid' stories at the January/February meeting.

While beginning indexers might be encouraged to start with easier projects, it's not always assured that these will come their way. This factor, along with some eagerness to secure that first job, no doubt was a big contributor to what seemed to be a very common experience among those present, that of having jumped straight into the deep end.

Our discussion began with Ray Price's *The Malayan Philatelist, journal of the Malaya Study Group. Index to Volumes 1–45 1959 – 2004.* Unlike the three percent or so of pages at the back of a book that most of us associate with our first job, Ray's sizeable index comes in a beautiful volume of its own. The publisher, the Malaya Study Group, had attempted to find an indexer to update an index to v.1–20, which he had started to prepare as an exercise while still a librarianship student. In addition, they wanted to produce an index to v.21–40, but had been unable to find anyone to undertake the task. Ray was approached about the job while attending the Group's annual meeting in London in 2004. Considering his connection to Malaysia and his extensive philatelic knowledge, this match of indexer and indexing project could not have been more perfect.

Fans of the British Seven Up television series will be familiar with the male voice-over's opening lines that include the Jesuit saying: 'Give me the child until he seven, and I will give you the man'. This immediately sprang to mind when Max McMaster took us back to his indexing career in its youth and revealed the title of his first paid index — Inhibin-non-steroidal Regulation of Follicle Stimulating Hormone Secretion edited by Henry Burger et al. (Raven). Not surprisingly, our familiarity with the topic was wanting, so Max explained that inhibin is the active component in the male contraceptive pill. Contraceptive pills and Jesuits probably don't belong in the same sentence, but going back to the Catholic order's theory, Max's first job clearly was an indication of the exceptional future successes he would enjoy as his career matured.

My own first paid job (besides a few I'd done as an in-house employee) was for an index to a substantial and dense history of the South African Women's Auxiliary Naval Service from 1943 to 1949. With a cast of hundreds, I knew that I was in for a big job, but I had a spring in my step because I had just tossed out my shoebox and index cards, and acquired a custom-written indexing program. I survived potential pitfalls such as military titles, but I did come a cropper with my technology. In short, it was 1986 and I was working with a 720k floppy disc loaded with xywrite, my indexing program, and an ever-growing index file. When the impending disaster eventuated, there was a late-night emergency dash to a friend with an IT business and a spare computer with a 10 megabyte hard drive. It got me over that hump, after which I resolved my problems with the purchase of a seriously impressive 20 megabyte hard drive. But all this stress was long forgotten by the time the book had rolled off the press and I headed down to the naval base located in a pretty seaside town for my first book launch, and a very elegant one at that.

Terri Mackenzie faced an unusual dilemma with her first paid job, an index to a book on animals. It was some months before she actually did get paid as the author and the publisher wrangled over, and then finally resolved, who was responsible for paying the indexer.

Karen Gillen's first foray into indexing highlights the fact that experience in the fields of library and information science or publishing are not the only assets that can be brought to a career in indexing. While

she had no formal training in indexing, and certainly no indexing software, Karen's background in the social sciences meant that she had a thorough knowledge of the subject matter when she set out to index an academic work on the politics of identity, edited by her then partner. This circumvented a loss of royalties to pay someone else to do the index, and Karen thought that indexing would be a useful skill to develop for her own academic career as well. She started out using index cards, but then abandoned that process in favour of simply listing all the index entries directly into a Word document. While she found the process pretty tedious, she enjoyed the intellectual challenge of selecting terms and structuring the index. Little did she know that this would ultimately lead to her changing careers to become a full-time freelance indexer!

Like many beginning indexers, Mary Russell had done a few book indexes as a volunteer for family and friends before landing her first paid job. While completing her Master's, she got a job with Shell Australia to index 30 years of their internal monthly journal. Mary did this while working in-house a few days a week over the Christmas period. Because Shell was often asked to date petrol pumps, she also had to index photos of them separately. So if you're one of those people with a keen eye for spotting items from the wrong period in films, don't look at the petrol pumps too much — Mary's index will have played a role in averting a lot of errors!

Newer member Sharon Lapkin, who is currently doing the Berkeley course, has yet to take on her first paid indexing commission. But her considerable experience as an editor and exposure to our stories of how to wing it should ensure that it isn't too long before, like the rest of us, she takes the plunge!

Nikki Davis Victorian Branch President

A defining moment

My eyes fell upon *index* in the latest edition of the *Macquarie Dictionary* when looking for something else. The first definition given is:

1. a detailed alphabetical key to names, places, and topics in a book with reference to their page number, etc., in the book.

One of ANZSI's aims is to: raise awareness of the value of indexers, indexing and indexes.

So, isn't it time for ANZSI to lobby the lexicographers to update/broaden the meaning from being limited to books? While indexing standards and textbooks can help, our definition will have to be brief to be successful. Suggestions to lindyjallen@gmail.com.

Lindy Allen

ANZSI Vice-President

I just checked — my Oxford Dictionary defines index as:

1 (in a book or set of books) an alphabetical list of names, subjects, etc. with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned.

It does look like these dictionary entries could do with some updating! (Ed.)

Zakuski

Welcome to another tasty morsel

Over the summer break I have been doing quite a bit of interesting reading. I have noticed of late that there are many writers who use libraries as a metaphor in their books. Some are books for adults, while others cater for the young at heart. There is one book that I cannot tell you about, because all will be revealed if you attend the inaugural League of Evil Indexers and Evil Editors Extravaganza at the next ANZSI



conference in May in the ACT, and then a review of that book will occur after the conference.

SHADOW of the WIND A popular masterpiece, an instant classic Doily Tolograph CARLOS RUIZ ZAFÓN Read by JAMES WILBY

The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafón

This book, which is set in Barcelona, is about a young boy who visits with his father The Cemetery of Forgotten Books — a secret place where out-of print books are kept. The boy, Daniel, is asked to choose one book and guard it with his life. The story revolves around Daniel becoming rather obsessed about the author Julian Carax who wrote *The Shadow of the Wind*, and the adventures that take place. Daniel's father works in the book trade, and even tells his son that in the publishing business 'you can't even trust the index!' There is much humour

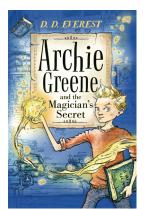
and I found this book quite enjoyable. Great scope for a future movie.

Escape from Mr Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein

This book reminds me a bit of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, but instead of being set in a factory it is set in a library. Mr Lemoncello is an inventor who has built a new library in the city of Alexandriaville, Ohio. To celebrate the library's opening, a dozen twelve-year-olds spend the evening in the library before its official opening. The library is set up as a game board, and the children are its pieces. They have to find a way of getting out of the library which is different to how they entered it, by means of cool gadgetry, technology and old-fashioned library concepts such as the Dewey Decimal system. It is quite educational, and it would teach youngsters how a library works in a very interesting and entertaining way.



Archie Green and the Magician's Secret by D. D. Everest



Archie Green is a bored and lonely boy who longs for adventure, whose life gets transformed when he receives a mysterious old book on his twelfth birthday. From there his adventures begin, where he is caught up in a parallel universe of enchanted whispering books and magical librarians. Together, with his cousins, he sets out to find who he can trust, as well as solve a mystery. Even indexes are used in helping to solve the mystery.

These books really show what a great way to use the publishing industry, libraries and indexes in an entertaining way.

Whither the ebook?

Finally, I was very pleased to see a letter in *The Age* from a country librarian, who wrote about a recent survey from their participants. One grade 6 boy wrote 'I like coming to the library because you can get the book straight away and you don't have to wait for it to download.' *The Age*, Thursday, 22 January 2015.

Terri Mackenzie

Elinor Lindheimer Pravda

Elinor Lindheimer Pravda, past president of the American Society for Indexing, passed away on 18 February 2015 after a long illness and complications following heart surgery. During the 1990s, Elinor was an active member of ASI's Golden Gate (Northern California) chapter. She was president of ASI in 1995.

Elinor gave of herself and her expertise freely, and was a mentor to many of today's indexers. She wrote articles for *Key Words* and some of the ASI books of that era, and was a frequent presenter at ASI workshops. An entire generation of indexers is indebted to her for her help in their early years as indexers.



Janet Perlman
American Society for Indexing

THE INDEXER

The International Journal of Indexing

March issue now out, with articles including:

- Brian Stewart, deputy director of the Art Gallery of Western Australia, on indexing image collections
- Glenda Browne, ANZSI President, on ANZSI restructuring

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ANZSI events

Upcoming Council meetings

17 March

28 April

7 May — Special General Meeting, at the conference

Regional meetings

Vic: Wed, 4 March, 1 Iam

Art indexing, at the home of Joyce McGrath. Joyce will talk about an indexing project with the Victorian Artists Society. Details at www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=371. RSVP via the web site is essential for this meeting.

Vic: Wed, 11 March, 10.30am

Vic Branch committee meeting. Details from the Branch Secretary.

Qld: Tues, 24 March, 6.30 for 7pm (rescheduled event)

The guest speaker for the Qld Branch's March meeting will be Denise Sutherland. She will talk about her 'Self-Employed Life'. In addition to being President of the ANZSI ACT Region Branch and editor of this newsletter, Denise is an author, indexer, editor, graphic designer, and puzzle writer. Denise is the author of multiple books including *Solving Cryptic Crosswords For Dummies*, and *A Guide for Adults with Hip Dysplasia*. Denise will be addressing the meeting via Skype.

The meeting will be held at Moira Brown's home on **Tuesday, 24 March from 6.30pm**. Please contact **Jane Douglas** for further details. We look forward to seeing you there!

Vic: Wed, I April, 6pm for 6.30pm

The VIC. Electronic indexing using PagePlus. Ray Price will demonstrate PagePlus page layout software and introduce the indexing module which can be used for standard print layouts and various ePub layouts. Venue: Old Op Shop, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Kew.'

Training

ACT region: Annual Report Indexing workshop

Saturday, 18 April (rescheduled). To be held at Denise Sutherland's home in Fisher, ACT. 9am to 3.30pm. \$90 for members, \$100 for non-members. Please contact Denise on denise@sutherland-studios. com.au if you're interested in attending.

NSW: Introductory Indexing course

Friday and Saturday, 24 and 25 July, 9.30am to 4.30pm. Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact Glenda Browne. Details at www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=386.

Contact information

ANZSI's general email: ANZSIinfo@anzsi.org

ANZSI Council

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Vice-President: Lindy Allen

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Treasurer: Michael Wyatt

Council members: Judy Richter, Terri Mackenzie,

Elisabeth Thomas and Mei Yen Chua

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New South Wales: President, Mary Coe

New Zealand: President, Julie Daymond-King

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Queensland: President, Jane Douglas

North Queensland: Contact, Jean Dartnall

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Newsletter

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About the Newsletter

The Newsletter is published monthly 11 times a year, with combined issues for January and February.

Opinions and statements expressed in the Newsletter are those of the individual contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the society.

Schedule

The next Newsletter will appear in April 2015. The contribution deadline is **Friday**, **27 March**.

Please send contributions by email to the editor Denise Sutherland at anzsi.editor@gmail.com or denise@sutherland-studios.com.au.

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