

# ANZSI NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, number 5, June 2007

## From the President

The month of May was a busy time for Council members and other ANZSI officers, with numerous ANZSI-related matters requiring attention, including a review of the recommended rate for indexers, discussion of the future incorporation of the Society, and the redevelopment of the Society's website. We hope that we will be able to announce the long-awaited launch of the new website in the very near future.

It is already that time of year when membership subscriptions need to be renewed. Please take a moment to check the notices in this issue regarding procedures for membership renewal and subscription to *The Indexer*.

*Karen Gillen*  
ANZSI President



## ALIA Fellowship for Sherrey Quinn



Long-time member of ANZSI, Sherrey Quinn, was made a Fellow of the Australian Library and Information Association at its AGM on 15 May.

The citation can be found at <http://www.alia.org.au/awards/fellowships/2007q.html>.

Our hearty congratulations to Sherrey for this, the latest in a series of professional recognitions she has received during her career in a wide range of information services.

## Indexers Available address changes

Members are reminded that address or email changes and *Indexers Available* updates can be done by you on the ANZSI website. You need to know your password. If you want to have your password resent, please contact the Membership Secretary at [memsec@aussi.org](mailto:memsec@aussi.org).

### **The Indexer, April 2007**

Apologies to subscribers for the late delivery of the April 2007 issue. It should reach you by the third week of June.

*Joanna McLachlan*

## Membership Renewal

Members are reminded that the ANZSI financial year is July-June so your membership subscriptions are now due. We no longer send out renewal notices by post. Instead members are sent a reminder email and directed to the membership renewal form on the website at [www.aussi.org/membership/index.html](http://www.aussi.org/membership/index.html).

This form can be downloaded, completed and returned with your renewal payment to the Treasurer at the address on the form. Only members without email or those with bounced emails will be posted a renewal form.

If you have any questions about the renewal process, please feel free to contact the Membership Secretary, Joanna McLachlan at [memsec@aussi.org](mailto:memsec@aussi.org).

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**Deadline for the July 2007 issue: 3 July.**

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### ISSN 1832-3855

This newsletter is published monthly 10 times per year, with combined issues for January/February and November/December. It is sent free to all members of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are those of the individual contributors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Society.

It is *your* newsletter, and we are totally dependent on contributions, both large and small, from members. Please contact the editor if you have any questions about the suitability of items for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit or abridge contributions.

Please send files via email in MS Word Rich Text Format or plain text (ASCII). Do not embed footnotes in Word files.

### Next deadline

**3 July for the July 2007 issue.**

### Graphics

Image files can be accepted in most common formats. Do not embed images in text files. Camera-ready art and photos can be scanned by the editor. Note that photos need to be clear, sharp and contrasty if they are to copy well in black and white.

### Advertising charges

Full page A\$175; half page A\$90; quarter page A\$35; full year 10 for the price of 8.

### Membership charges

A\$60 per year; A\$35 half year (Jan to June).  
Student member A\$35.  
Subscriptions to the Newsletter A\$45 p.a.

### The Indexer

*(international indexing journal)*

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## State Library of Victoria Map Collection visit

**O**n our April visit we were met by Judith Scurfield, Map Librarian, and ushered into a wonderful space, originally part of the old Melbourne Museum, used for the Map Collection, a part of the Rare Printed Collections.

The Map Collection holds over 100,000 maps, mainly focused on Victoria, but with an extensive range of other maps and associated books. The maps are arranged using the Boggs and Lewis classification scheme. This assigns a three digit number to the locality of the map, then a letter for the type of map and concludes with the date of the map. For example 000s are for planets, 100s world, 800s Australasia, 820s Victoria. The letters assigned give an indication of the various types of maps available: A is for general maps, B for geodesy, C physical geography, D biogeography, E human geography, F political, G economic and H military.

The State Library uses Voyager cataloguing software, but many of the maps still only have card entries and some are not yet catalogued. Judith highlighted a couple of projects they are undertaking.

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Work (MMBW) made detailed plans (1890s–1950s) of Melbourne's suburbs. They are so detailed you can see the layout of the houses on the blocks, complete with verandahs and out buildings. Those researching their family's home can search for these maps on the library's catalogue using original street names, and view scans of many of the maps online.

Another ongoing project is cataloguing the large collection of auction maps, produced by real estate agents for the sale of blocks of land. The early maps provide an interesting insight into suburbs before the advent of railway lines and other major developments. Some of the maps had been pasted into large scrapbooks which have been unbound, resulting in a large double sided board with up to four maps attached, potentially covering very different areas. Since the maps were not necessarily arranged in any order, dating them can often be a challenge. Maps are catalogued with old

and modern street names, which further adds to the challenge.

Following the talk and tour of the map holdings, some of us had dinner with Judith Scurfield, so concluding a very enjoyable visit.

*Jenny Restarick,*

## News from NSW Branch

**A**NZSI NSW held a very pleasant informal lunch at Madeleine Davis' house in Blackheath. Fourteen adults and two children attended, with Membership Secretary Joanna MacLaughlin making the trip from Bathurst, and Geraldine Triffitt bringing greetings from Canberra. We hope to hold a similar event on the North Shore in about six months time.

Contact Lorraine Doyle (lorraine.doyle@thomson.com) to book for the Basic Book Indexing course on Saturday 23 and 30 June (details were in the May newsletter), and save Saturday 11 August for our indexing specialities seminar at the NSW Writers' Centre. We will have speakers on indexing biographies (Madeleine Davis), medical information (Mary Coe) and cookbooks (Tricia Waters), followed by time for questions. The Committee will be meeting before the seminar, so let us know if you have any ideas for discussion.

*Glenda Browne*

## Subscriptions to *The Indexer*

**T**he UK-based journal, *The Indexer*, currently published twice a year, will shortly be published on a quarterly basis. This will mean an increase in the annual subscription, although ANZSI members will continue to receive a substantial discount.

Details of the new schedule and price are not yet available, so the option to subscribe to *The Indexer* will not be included on ANZSI 2007–08 membership renewal forms.

If you wish to receive the journal you should subscribe directly to *The Indexer*. Subscription forms are available online at <http://www.theindexer.org>.

*Karen Gillen*

## ACT Region Branch conference feedback session

This session was well attended both by people who had been to the Melbourne conference and those who had not but wanted to hear some impressions of it. Geraldine Triffitt chaired the meeting.

Susan Elvey (Parliamentary Library) had gone to Max McMaster's newspaper and database indexing workshop, which gave a good overview with interesting discussions and practical exercises.

Sherrey Quinn (LibrariesAlive) went to Glenda Browne's web-indexing course, which included general information, navigation aids, samples using HTML Indexer, all easy to use, interesting and enjoyable. Sherrey thought it would be worth while asking Glenda to run the course again in Canberra.

Sandra Henderson (National Library) went to Frances Lennie's CINDEKX workshop. This was similar to the one Frances later conducted in Canberra, with useful tips and hints, keyboard short cuts, comparisons with Sky Index, and comparing the Macintosh and Windows versions.

The first keynote address was given by Geraldine Beare, the UK representative of the Society of Indexers. Lynn Farkas commented that her speech focussed too much on the past history of indexing, with no mention of its present and future problems. She contrasted this with two conferences she had attended in 2006, in England and Canada, where current problems were raised, e.g. outsourcing of indexing work to India, and its implications for locally trained indexers.

In the first parallel session, Eleanor Whelan went to the Database and Web-indexing session, chaired by Prue Deacon (ACT Dept of Health). The discussion was wide-ranging and informal without trying to reach consensus. The future of database indexing is changing, with many databases closing down, user behaviour changing, and the suggestion that metadata no longer works. There is the problem of dumbing down in education, and of students expecting to find all information on the Internet. Machine indexing is another threat to indexers' employment.

Lynn Farkas attended the back-of-book indexing session, which dealt with specific problems such as the filing of prepositions, undifferentiated locators, popular names and standards. Also 'ethical dilemmas': if the index is of something abhorrent to you, you have the choice of not doing the work or distancing yourself from it.

The panel on indexing gardening and botany publications gave a behind the scenes look at 19th and early 20th century publishing, including Alex George on scientific names and Caroline Colton on indexing a wine collection. Susan Elvey reported this panel as witty and enjoyable.

Geraldine Triffitt then spoke on 'Compiling a bibliography in the digital age', including problems of copyright when you have to update a bibliography. AIATSIS held the copyright to the original Ozbib, so Geraldine had to re-check every item to find the property owner. Sherrey Quinn found this very valuable, having had problems with moral rights as an author.

The two concurrent education and training sessions were very helpful. Eleanor Whelan reported on the one on educational and training databases, mostly international,

usually with a hard copy backup. Learning Architecture was a different cluster of educational databases, many compiled by educational authorities. One result is how learning object metadata makes input available from various databases in a Web 2.0 context. Another new development is tag clouds, which Lynn sees as having implications for all of us in thesaurus construction, e.g. the National Library's Flicker project, where users can flick through a collection of photos, and add their own. This can tell you how other people use vocabulary.

The next parallel session was 'Data metallogenica', an image-based collection of core samples of minerals by AMIRA in Melbourne, a world-wide collection which has been preserved in Australia.

Tracy Harwood went to the 'Indexers' Roadshow', to get help and advice on editing and indexing for a project she is working on.. There were five experts: you formed a queue and chose your expert, perhaps more than one, as Tracy did, finding the advice very constructive.

Saturday began with Lynn Farkas, the ANZSI Mentoring Coordinator, discussing the mentoring scheme. The keynote speaker who followed was Professor Pam Peters, Dictionary Research Centre, Macquarie University. She spoke of the many changes in the English language, e.g. the changes between US and UK spelling, the spelling of such words as h(a)emoglobin, spelling of people of different age groups, e.g. for text messages.

Everyone had enjoyed the light-hearted expose of the OED, and the health and wellbeing session. The following concurrent sessions were a mixed bag, with Jon Jermy as always useful on databases of the future and how to access them. The paper from Iran was basic in detail, and with no rigour in the research. The seminar on business basics was a day-long presentation which should have been edited down for the appropriate timeframe.

Geraldine Triffitt spoke on the Public Records Office and the Koorie indexing names project. The speakers from the Office talked of the difficulties of indexing manuscripts, which might be faint, faded or poorly written. Sherrey Quinn had given a paper on general things of general interest, e.g. authorities, glossaries, thesauri, acronyms, Defence problems and similar topics. Shirley Campbell reported on the panel on indexing cooking and food, which was not well managed, allowing insufficient time for speakers.

Glenda Browne spoke about consensus-based indexing, having spoken at a previous conference about evidence-based indexing. There are problems however. Are we working to the same standards? Are we looking at things differently? Do we use different terminology? For example, what is an entry? The whole record, each line, each locator? In the US and the UK, indexers are paid by the entry, though that does not happen in Australia. Can we get a consensus on this? It was felt not...

This was the closing session. The meeting agreed that the conference was useful and that, as always, networking opportunities were the most useful part.

*Edyth Binkowski*

# ANZSI conference: 'Birds of a feather' sessions

## Database and Web Indexing

*Report by Prue Deacon and Kathy Simpson*

Participants in this session were from a range of sectors (education, parliamentary, health, university, freelance) and had experience with a range of indexing tasks (database indexing, metadata, cataloguing, directories, taxonomy, thesauri). The discussion was free flowing with many ideas raised but without trying to reach consensus. The session was chaired by Prue Deacon.

The future of database indexing is changing with databases closing down. This may be for economic reasons or because of changes in user behaviour. It is possible that users expect to find all the information they need via a search engine. There was a suggestion that metadata does not work because people have lost interest in ensuring a high quality of metadata and not all search engines use it. Indexers should be at the forefront of technology changes and be proactive in suggesting ways to improve retrieval of information. Indexers could be more involved in intranets and Content Management Systems; in fact this could be the future of web indexing.

Particular issues raised in the session are summarised below:

- Once ceased, it is difficult to start a database again, especially to index the missed period retrospectively.
- It is difficult to find some important, but older, government publications – they tend to be hidden or even archived from agency websites. Some action was taken with the National Library Pandora project but the problem is not fully solved.
- Metadata was sold as being 'easy' – implementation in government has been inconsistent and inaccurate, making search results worse rather than better. There is a big demand for training in cataloguing but, although metadata was seen as an opportunity for cataloguers, the time may have passed. 'Metadata is a dead horse we are flogging.'
- Users often get good results from quick searches on Google or other full text search engines. Hence it can be hard to demonstrate the benefits of metadata or other indexing. But good metadata can lead to better search results.
- There is a whole generation of people coming up with different expectations. Undergraduates may be content with whatever they can find easily on the web. Postgraduates may be more discerning and understand other ways of getting information.
- One problem is that indexers are a long way away from the users and do not really know how they use indexes. For example, users will not look up a thesaurus and will try a quick search in preference to a harder but more accurate advanced search. They need information in a hurry but may waste time checking search results of little relevance. Indexers and cataloguers must save the time of users if their work is to be valued.
- The IT world will not come to indexers. Indexers need to be proactive and offer their skills to search engine developers. Web developers also make decisions without knowing what users want. Perhaps indexers need IT qualifications. Or perhaps they just need to make sure that indexing skills are seen as an essential part of system development.

- Indexers could also offer their skills to Content Management System designers and implementers. They should look at new trends such as organizing corporate intranets.

## Back of Book Indexing

*Report by Mary Russell*

At the recent ANZSI conference, Max McMaster chaired a back-of-book indexing 'Birds of a Feather' session. The major points discussed in the session are summarised below.

### 1. Prepositions and conjunctions

Max presented two versions of filing:

Version 1	Version 2
growth effect of deprivation emotional intellectual and mental retardation and puberty and reading reflexes and retarded sex differences in social species differences in spurt in and walking and writing growth of brain and nutrition growth charts	growth and mental retardation and puberty and reading and walking and writing effect of deprivation emotional intellectual reflexes and retarded sex differences in social species differences in spurt in growth charts growth of brain and nutrition

Version 1 was the most popular method of filing, except most agreed 'growth charts' should come before 'growth of brain'. Several people suggested leaving 'and' out. This would solve the filing problem, and 'and' was not necessary as the entries are pointers to appropriate page numbers. Others disagreed and said 'and' linked two nouns together. The use of '&' was not considered a useful alternative. It was suggested that 'sex differences in' could be reworded to 'differences in sexes'.

### 2. Medical consultation

Max presented two versions of filing:

Version 1	Version 2
medical consultation establish rapport explanation and education follow up history taking investigations physical and mental examination prescribing medications prevention referral	medical consultation step 1 – establish rapport step 2 – history taking step 3 – physical and mental examination step 4 – investigations step 5 – explanation and education step 6 – prescribing medications step 7 – referral step 8 – follow up step 9 – prevention

The examples had page numbers that spread over five pages, so the subheadings given in version 1 and version 2 were considered unnecessary. For the discussion the page numbers were ignored and the different styles were considered.

Version 1 was the most popular as it was thought that author would have explained the steps in logical order. Version 2 could be useful for procedure manuals where potential users may only be familiar with a couple of steps.

### 3. Undifferentiated locators

AS999 suggests 5–10 locators before the need to differentiate. This is an arbitrary figure. Does it relate to the audience and tolerance level? Perhaps a child would be 2–3 while an adult could be 9–10. Max suggests 6–8. While multiple undifferentiated locators can show laziness on the part of the indexer, Max had an example of 300 locators in *Australian weed control handbook* since each referred to a method of killing that particular weed. What is a passing reference is not something that can be easily answered.

### 4. Ethical dilemmas

- Indexing an 18th or 19th century book today that contains derogatory language such as Abos or Blacks. You can handle the situation by using the language of the text with *see/see also* links to politically correct terms. It may be appropriate to have a preliminary note explaining how the old terminology was handled.
- Sometimes words have to be removed from the index as not appropriate. Max gave the example of ‘humpy’ removed from the index of a book on aboriginal history although it was mentioned several times in the text. The word has other meanings and even with a qualifier it was not considered appropriate to list in the index. Under these circumstances you may need a ‘sensitivity message’ at the beginning of the text and/or index.
- The indexer finds the work offensive or is opposed to the author’s views. Can you say ‘No’ to indexing this work? Yes. Always get a sample of the work before agreeing to index. You are a professional so try and distance self from the views given in the book. You may tone down the language or views in the index and ask that your name not be published as the indexer.
- If several indexers are working on the indexing of journals or newspapers, ask how indexers will handle the contentious

articles. It is important to make sure all items are indexed in a similar way.

- Slabs of information in the book are wrong. What do you do? Alert the editor or publisher. It is never too late to change information in the text. You may save the publisher from severe embarrassment. If the author insists that the information stays the editor may introduce the section with ‘the author believes...’.

### 5. Popular names

How do you index names such as Elvis Presley, Dalai Lama, Homer Simpson, Bugs Bunny and Mickey Mouse? It was agreed that it was essential to consider the audience, and that it may be appropriate to double post entries.

### 6. Prefix ‘pre’

A book on health and sport had the following index entries:

pre-game meal  
pregnancy  
prejudice  
pre-menstrual tension  
prescription drugs

It was suggested that ‘pre-menstrual’ could be spelt ‘premenstrual’, but it was ‘pre-menstrual’ in the text. Generally agreed that ‘pre-menstrual tension’ should come after ‘pre-game meal’. While you could double post, the entries would be close together.

### 7. Mac and Mc filing

There is a feeling that Mac and Mc should be filed as if Mac. This agrees with the *White Page* and copes with MacRobinson and Macrobinson. You may need to alter the settings of some of the indexing software packages to cope with this. Care must be taken if you also have African names such as M’Tumbo.

### 8. The Age

Several options were given:

*The Age* (filed under A)  
*Age, The* this is the defacto standard  
*Age* (The)  
*Age* (Newspaper)

## From the Literature and other thoughts

### Indexers in the news

The aliaNEWS broadcast on 18 April, under the heading ‘Sherrey’s a jolly good Fellow’, noted that Sherrey Quinn was to become ALIA’s latest Fellow.

Sharon Gray, who read a humorous article on the Oxford English Dictionary at the March ANZSI conference, wrote a piece for *The Age* on 10 April about the conference. She noted Pam Peters’ discussion on the use of data in the singular, Jenny Restarick’s comments on the process of indexing, and Sherrey Quinn’s observations on corporate glossaries and bureaucrat-speak. She also wrote that ‘the Society has about 120 members but only about 10 earn their living as indexers.’ I think she must have meant about 220 members, and I can count more than 10 people who are basically full-time indexers just in NSW.

Max McMaster and Karen Gillen were interviewed at the conference by Trevor Robbins for a piece titled ‘J for job: look

in the index’ in the ‘Education: My Career’ section of *The Age* on 28 April. Karen said: ‘I see indexing as a creative exercise, where you impose structure and logic on the contents of the book and provide a door for the reader to access information in the book.’

The *Blue Mountains Gazette Review* published an article on indexing, with a mention of the publication of *The Indexing Companion*. The journalist, Matthew Rufus, noticed *Historica* in the pile of books used as a foreground in the photo, and included a photo of its front matter noting ‘Who says authors get all the glory? Jon and Glenda are credited in *Historica...*’ So acknowledgement of the indexers got *Historica* a bit of publicity!

Glenda Browne

## Registration Updated

In 2006 major changes were made to the operation of the Registration process following extensive discussion at the GAMES meeting held in Canberra in May. This meeting was attended by ANZSI Committee (now Council) members and all Branches of the Society were represented.

The changes were prompted by a number of factors, the most important being the strong belief that Registration should be a recognition of quality in indexing rather than a 'base' qualification, and the concern that the Society had no provision for ensuring that indexers, once granted Registration, maintained that quality over the years. Consequently, there has been a change in the duration of Registration from 'permanent' to five years. Currently registered indexers have all been contacted and invited to reapply for Registration. These applications for renewal of Registration will be processed and take effect from 1 July 2007.

### Policy

ANZSI has developed a policy on Registration which is supported by procedures, criteria for Registration and guidelines for the operation of the Registration Committee, one of three major committees of the Society. The policy and its accompanying documents will be published on the new ANZSI website which will come into operation in the near future.

### Background

ANZSI provides a Registration system for its back-of-book indexers. In the absence of formal courses leading to tertiary qualifications in indexing, the Society's Registration system acts as a credentialing standard for indexers who have demonstrated expertise and gained some experience in indexing. Registration performs a number of functions:

- It recognises the quality of an indexer's work as assessed by a panel of experienced indexers.
- It acknowledges the professionalism of an indexer through its requirement that only published indexes are reviewed. Having an index published attests to the indexer's ability to perform work under marketplace conditions, constraints and deadlines.
- It assures potential clients that a Registered Indexer has met established criteria for acceptable indexing.
- It assures potential clients that a Registered Indexer has current indexing experience, through the requirement that Registration be renewed at set periods.

The granting of Registration indicates a general level of competency, measured against accepted indexing practice and agreed criteria.

### Assessment

Applicants for Registration are assessed on an index of their choice, by a committee of the Society. Currently only book indexing (including cumulative indexes to single journal titles) is assessed; however this policy does not preclude the granting of Registration for online or database indexers in future if suitable criteria are developed.

Applications are assessed against criteria established by the ANZSI Registration Committee and approved by the ANZSI Council. The assessment process is anonymous, in order to protect the applicant from favour or bias. Unsuccessful applicants may re-apply for Registration, but not within six months of the date of adjudication of their first application. Unsuccessful applications will not be taken into consideration when assessing the new application.

The Society does not guarantee the quality of an indexer's work through the granting of Registration, nor can it be held responsible for poor performance by an individual indexer.

### Duration of Registration

Registration is granted for a period of five years. Registration can be renewed for successive five-year periods by providing evidence of continued work in indexing.

Standard acceptable evidence will normally be bibliographic details of two indexes published in the previous five years. Evidence equivalent to two published indexes (eg examples of web or database indexing) will be accepted at the discretion of the Registration Committee. In addition to the standard acceptable evidence, the Committee may request additional evidence at its discretion, or waive the requirement to submit evidence.

ANZSI reserves the right to evaluate any evidence submitted against the current Registration criteria, and to withhold renewal of Registration if the index does not meet the criteria. In such cases, full evaluation procedures for an initial Registration assessment will be applied.

ANZSI reserves the right to refuse renewal of Registration, or to remove a current Registered Indexer from the Register, in exceptional circumstances (eg unprofessional conduct or evidence of continued incompetence). Any such action would require unanimous recommendation by the Registration Committee and a unanimous acceptance by the ANZSI Council, and would be effective immediately.

### Registration Committee

The committee will comprise:

- a. Chairperson, who is also a member of the Panel of Assessors
- b. Panel of Assessors
- c. Receiving Officer who is not a member of the Panel of Assessors

The Panel of Assessors must consist of at least three members including the Chairperson of the Committee. Panel members must be Registered Indexers or experienced database indexers. Ideally, the Panel should have an uneven number of members in order to facilitate majority decisions. In cases where the Panel has an even number of members, the Chairperson will have the deciding vote.

### Conclusion

At the time of writing about half the currently listed registered indexers have applied for renewal of Registration. All other registered indexers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible

*(concluded on next page)*

*(Registration updated continued from previous page)*

as the Register of Indexers from 1 July 2007 will list only those members who have been granted renewal. Consequently only these members will be listed as 'Registered Indexers' on *Indexers Available*.

Any member who wishes to comment on or who has questions about the new policy is invited to contact me at <registration@aussi.org>.

*Shirley Campbell  
Receiving Officer (Registration)*

## Letter to the editor

### Where was ANZSI?

Like others, I enjoyed the Victorian Branch conference. However I was under the impression that the conference was an ANZSI biennial conference. The Society's guidelines for conferences state 'The business of the Society (eg Council meetings, committee meetings, special general meetings or AGMs) is an integral part of a biennial conference.' There were no general meetings or international panels at which members could discuss issues relating to the whole Society or the indexing profession in general. The New Zealand Branch was not represented at the conference at all.

It is to be hoped that future conferences will provide opportunities for all members to express their views on matters relating to the Society and the directions it should take. The analysis of evaluation forms distributed at the end of a conference would be a useful tool for organisers of future conferences. Procedures for feedback from conferences are also covered in the conference guidelines.

*Geraldine Triffitt  
ACT Branch*

### Note by the ANZSI President

Regarding the Society's guidelines for conferences, the Victorian Branch agreed to host the 2007 ANZSI conference before the guidelines were drawn up. Furthermore, it was decided by the former ANZSI Committee that the guidelines should apply to conferences held post-2007.

*Karen Gillen*

## DIY MARK II

Do we all index the same way? Of course not, so come along and prove it! The Victorian Branch of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers is planning a Mark II version of our very successful 'Do It Yourself' indexing project of 2004, which we encourage you to participate in, either as DIY indexers or commentators.

The plan is for interested members to all index the same publication which currently lacks an index, and then to hold a meeting where we can compare our finished indexes and hopefully learn from, or further train ourselves, in the noble art of indexing.

The publication we are planning to use for our second exercise is 'The historic homes of Colac and district' produced by members of the Colac and District Historical Society (CDHS) in 2006. At only 60 pages this is not a huge task, and indexers may complete all or a partial index. Holdings for this title can be found at the **National Library of Australia (ANL)** 3663788 Np 994.57 H673 and the **State Library of Victoria (VSL)** 1264401 LD

We have obtained a batch of copies from the CDHS, and they can be purchased from ANZSI for the cost of \$10.00 each. Please send cheques or money orders to the Vic Branch address at our new PO Box 1006, Caulfield North, Vic. 3161.

A meeting to compare the submitted indexes will be held in September of this year, after which we shall compile a homogenous 'best effort' index to the publication which we shall present to the Colac & District Historical Society when we visit them in the spring.

As some of the properties listed in the booklet have been turned into 'Bed and Breakfast' accommodation, we are planning to make the visit to Colac a two-day event, staying overnight at one of the gracious old homes and visiting as many of the others as we can fit in over the duration of our stay. More details on that to follow.

For further details or expressions of interest in attending, please contact Jenny Restarick, telephone +61 3 9528 2539, email: <cliffres@connexus.net.au>.

*Jenny Restarick*



## Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
23 June and 30 June	NSW Branch	Basic book indexing course	Thomson Legal & Regulatory, 100 Harris Street, Pyrmont	Lorraine Doyle <lorraine.doyle@thomson.com>
11 August	NSW Branch	Indexing specialties seminar	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Lorraine Doyle <lorraine.doyle@thomson.com>

# ANZSI and Branch Committee contacts

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**Council members:** Lynn Farkas, Tracy Harwood, Alan Eddy, Don Jordan and Catherine Tully

**Branch Presidents** (ex officio): Glenda Browne, Jill Gallop, Barry Howarth

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