

ANZSI News April 2011



March Council meeting

The March Council meeting brought the entire Council together with all the branch Presidents in Melbourne for an extended Council meeting. The meeting was a success and it is planned to make this an annual event.

for one representative from each Society to attend their conference. This year Mary Coe will be the ANZSI Representative at the American Society for Indexing conference and Alan Walker will be the representative at the Indexing Society of Canada conference.

Mary Russell

Promotion

The ANZSI bookmark was developed to promote ANZSI. It has already been distributed widely, for example to Melbourne Writers' Festival, Writers Centre, SI, ASI, and ISC/SCI Conferences, Chinese and German indexing societies, inserted into an issue of Bookseller + Publisher journal, and placed in the satchels of 2009 Editors Conference and will be in their 2011 Conference.

Following on from the New Zealand initiative we have posted a bundle of ANZSI bookmarks to each member. All ANZSI members can assist in distributing the bookmarks. Why not send them to the editors or publishers you work for, leave some at your local library, book group or printer? If you would like to have more bookmarks to distribute, or have suggestions where they could go, please contact Max McMaster at <max.mcmaster@masterindexing.com>.

2013 Conference

It is with great delight that I can announce that the New Zealand Branch will be hosting the 2013 conference. So pencil in March 2013 and possibly Wellington into your diary and start dreaming of a work related break in New Zealand.

ASI and ISC/SCI Conferences

The International Agreement between indexing Societies means those hosting conferences pay the registration



ANZSI Council Meeting 10 March.

Back row L to R: Michael Ramsden, Frances Paterson, John Simkin, Max McMaster, Alan Eddy. Front L to R: Moira Brown, Robin Briggs, Shirley Campbell, Jane Purton.

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ANZSI and Branch Committee contacts, the former 'back page', will no longer appear in hard copy. Contacts are now available online at <www.anzsi.org/site/contacts.asp>.

Deadline for the May issue: Friday 29 April

Newsletter, Web Manager and Registration contacts

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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, .doc files or .rtf, but NOT .html or .pdf. And please, no images or footnotes embedded in Word files.

Next deadline

Friday 29 April for the May 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\$200; half page A\$100; quarter page A\$50.

Membership charges

A\$75 per year (NZ members A\$68) from 1 Jul 2010.

Institutional membership A\$100.

Subscriptions to the *Newsletter* A\$75 p.a.

The Indexer

(*international indexing journal*)

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To subscribe at the special rate for indexing society members, go to <www.theindexer.org> and click on the subscriptions link.

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Indexers Available

<www.anzsi.org/site/Indexers_available.asp>

News from Queensland Branch

Last month Queensland Branch visited the Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying and was treated to a fascinating tour of this amazing museum, which is housed in the Landcentre of the Department of Environment and Resource Management at Woolloongabba. Our hosts were the founding curator, Bill Kitson, and Senior Curator, Kaye Nardella. The photo below shows (L to R): Franz Pinz, Lesley Bryant, Bill Kitson and Moira Brown.



Although Bill is now retired, he still visits the Museum regularly and his amazing memory for detail and ability to spin a good yarn bring the challenges faced by Queensland's early surveyors to life, all illustrated by the exhibits in the museum.

In building up this museum from scratch, Bill spent over 20 years collecting biographical and subject clippings as well as photographs, artefacts, maps, and books. Compilation of the computer index for this collection is an ongoing task for Kaye Nardella who seems to have inherited Bill's enthusiasm for surveying and mapping. Many of the enquiries coming to Kaye relate to the history of properties and she is keen to assist wherever possible.

Lesley Bryant

NSW courses and cakes

NSW Branch is excited to be running four software courses (intro and advanced CINDEK and SKY Index) at a historic time for these two programs. CINDEK is celebrating its 25th birthday this year, and SKY Index has recently launched SKY Index version 7.0. These achievements will be celebrated with a birthday cake at each of the courses. Frances Lennie, the owner of CINDEK, is visiting from the US to present the CINDEK courses, while the SKY Index trainer will be local computer wiz Jon Jermey.

Details for each of these courses are given in the 'Events' table on page 3.

Glenda Browne

Articles on indexing

Glenda Browne has had an article on indexing, with a focus on biographies, published in this quarter's issue of *Australian Author* (the journal of the Australian Society of Authors). She has put it on her website at:

'It's all in the index', *Australian Author* March 2011, pp. 13-15
<www.webindexing.biz/PDFs/AA_FEB2011_Indexing.pdf>

Indexing training in NSW



NSW Branch has completed another successful Introductory Book Indexing course. We had ten attendees, most from interstate and only one from the Sydney CBD. This reflects the fact that indexing is a job that can be done away from major cities, which is one reason many of us love it.

Following a long tradition, the course was held at Thomson Reuters, hosted by Lorraine Doyle. We are grateful to both TR and Lorraine for their generous hospitality. Lorraine quietly kept proceedings running smoothly over the two days. On the second day we lunched and completed part of our course at the Point Hotel, which has also proved to be a popular venue. Because networking is such an important part of indexing work, we feel that a half-hour chatting together socially is an important feature of the course.

A few students had a book or journal that they found very useful, except for the fact that it was unindexed. They asked about the value of sending indexes they have created for these works to the publisher, with a note saying that they found an index necessary to get full value from the publication. This is a good way of providing a sample to a publisher when seeking work, and is also important as a way of increasing the total amount of indexing work.

Thanks to all these students for their keen participation, and good luck for the future.

Glenda Browne

ANZSI and Branch events

Date and time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Tues 5 April 5.00–7.00 pm	ACT Region Branch	Visit Parliamentary Library	Parliament House	Contact Eleanor Whelan <eleanor.whelan@bigpond.com> or 6257 7749 by Saturday 2 April
Wed 6 April 6.00 pm	Vic Branch	The VIC	Kew Holy Trinity Anglican Church	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=190>
Thur 7 April (am)	NSW Branch	CINDEX introduction	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=177>
Thur 7 April (pm)	NSW Branch	CINDEX advanced	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=178>
Fri 8 April (am)	NSW Branch	SKY Index introduction	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=178>
Fri 8 April (pm)	NSW Branch	SKY Index advanced	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=180>
Mon 2 May	VIC Branch	Basic Indexing Part 1	Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Chadstone	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=183>
Tues 3 May	VIC Branch	Basic Indexing Part 2	Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Chadstone	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=184>
Wed 4 May (am)	VIC Branch	Embedded Indexing	Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Chadstone	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=185>
Wed 4 May (pm)	VIC Branch	Indexing Annual Reports	Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Chadstone	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=188>
Wed 4 May 6.00 pm	VIC Branch	The VIC Indexing wine	Kew Holy Trinity Anglican Church	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=192>
Thurs 5 May (am)	VIC Branch	Database Indexing	Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Chadstone	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=186>
Thurs 5 May (pm)	VIC Branch	Thesaurus construction	Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Chadstone	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=187>
(Wed 18 May) Sun 18 June (am and lunch)	NSW Branch	Intermediate practical book indexing	At your home, then Thomson Reuters, 100 Harris St, Pyrmont	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=181> This course is preceded by one month's work at home from 18 May
Mon to Wed 12–14 Sept	ANZSI	ANZSI Conference	Brighton Savoy, Brighton, Vic	Details at <www.anzsi.org/site/2011Conference.asp>

New Zealand Branch news

Nineteen people from a wide range of workplaces took part in courses-cum-workshops run by the New Zealand branch in Wellington on 26–27 February. The three courses, conducted by Mary Russell, the ANZSI president, covered database indexing, thesaurus construction and embedded indexing.

Participants included freelancers and people from libraries, tertiary institutions and government departments. Several travelled long distances – from Auckland, Whakatane and Christchurch.

The courses were widely publicised outside the branch and virtually half of the participants (nine) were non-members.

One of our committee members, Edith Hodgen, set up an online feedback system and the 15 responses were totally favourable. Mary's presentation style was praised. The responses also gave us indications of what people in the wider indexing area would like in future, such as training in website indexing, more advanced database indexing and the use of software in various fields.

On the Sunday afternoon after the courses, we had a branch meeting attended by 11 members and two guests – Mary Russell and Sally Harvey. Sally is a Society of Indexers member who spends part of each year in the UK and part in New Zealand and who attended the three workshops.

Members discussed and approved changes to the branch mentoring scheme's fees and timetable, and discussed promotion of the resulting indexes.

We also heard from a sub-committee which has been considering the prospects of hosting the 2013 ANZSI conference, and it was agreed that the New Zealand branch should offer to do so with assistance from the ANZSI council. The offer was accepted at the council meeting on 10 March.

The branch meeting also heard and responded to Mary's thoughts and questions on the aims of the society, and discussed the proposal for use of the Society of Indexers course. Sally Harvey gave a favourable description of it, though she also appreciated the more personal contact with other indexers over the weekend.

As branch president, I attended the full ANZSI council meeting in Melbourne on 10 March and found the journey worthwhile. It was also useful to meet the three other visiting branch presidents informally the previous evening and to discuss branch activities, etc, with them. I hope that becomes a regular part of what is to be an annual event.

Robin Briggs

In the photograph below you can see some of the participants (and tutor) in the Wellington courses on 26 February: from L to R: Parearau Nikora, Lai Lam, Nelly Bess, Edith Hodgen, Mary Russell, Elizabeth Fisher (standing), Mary Donald, Pam Strike and Sally Harvey.



The VIC visits 3MBS FM Classically Melbourne

The VIC (Victorian Indexers Club) visited 3 MBS FM classical music radio station on 2 March, in the idyllic surroundings of the Abbotsford Convent, located beside the Yarra River in close proximity to the city and the iconic Skipping Girl [Vinegar] neon sign.



The statue of the musical nuns in the foyer recalls the building's past and its present dedication.

3MBS 103.5 FM is Melbourne's own independent fine music station broadcasting 24 hours a day without the security of government funding. For 35 years Melbourne's music lovers have sustained 3MBS through annual contributions which supported it through its growth from grassroots to the respected broadcaster it is today.

This volunteer-based Melbourne icon reaches 200,000 listeners every week on 103.5 FM and on-line. Non-stop programs range from signature Concert hall programs to specialised programs presented by experts in early music, opera, musical theatre, organ and choral music, film, new music, jazz, brass and world music.

During the 1960s ABC Radio was playing a decreasing amount of classical music and so 3MBS was formed, its first transmission going on air on 1 July, 1975. Brian Cabena was the main promoter of the station and it was originally run out of his radio shop in Kew. In 2007 the station moved into the Convent precinct, and now occupies the old school complex, complete with a blackboard and teacher's platform in the Library. John Cleghorn (pictured at right), one of our tour guides for the visit, began his training in 2007, attending the 3MBS training courses.

There are 4 recording studios available and we entered the 'silence' area of one to watch John Collins do his live presentation of a 2 hour session. Some performances are pre-recorded, e.g. the 2.00 – 6.00 am time slot.

More than 200 volunteers and 8 paid staff keep the music playing, using CDs in the Betty Amsden Library to compile a program a fortnight ahead of its presentation. Availability of the CDs is checked again a week prior to the show by bundlers, and, if any are missing, substitutes are chosen which match perfectly the various characteristics of the original choices e.g. duration of performance; style; musicians/orchestras featured etc. so they can be slotted straight in. All this pre-programming and any necessary changes are tracked on the station's tailor-made software, developed by Ted Mason, a volunteer. Members were most impressed by this in-house software program, as they were shown examples of the programs and changes made.

CDs are donated to 3MBS, as the station has a very small budget and has a policy of playing Australian composers for 5 % of the total musical output, with 20 % of music played by Australian performers.

On Tuesdays from 1.30 to 2.30 pm, in the program Live@the Convent, university students perform live in the studios and can rent the premises to record their own CDs etc. Melbourne-based concerts are recorded by staff and volunteers and then used in forthcoming programs with copies kept in the Library.

Our special thanks go to John Cleghorn, program producer and presenter, and Ingrid Austin, bundler, who gave us access to recording studios, the fabulous library of wall to wall CDs, and a personal performance of a Mozart Symposia in D Major (by Ingrid) in the Performance Studio named in honour of Marigold Southey.



If you are interested in subscribing to *On Air*, the 3 MBS monthly program guide, check out their website at <www.3mbs.org.au>.

Needless to say we also all enjoyed lunching at the Convent Bakery and talking and walking through the beautiful gardens and historic buildings.

Jenny Restarick

Indexing Indaba



Unlocking UK census information

Ancestry.co.uk has just celebrated the 2011 UK census day on 27 March by offering free access to all of its census indexes for a 24-hour period. The first 'snapshot' of the nation was held in 1801, recording only a minimal amount of information, but after 1841 when the census included names for the first time, these records became particularly valuable for genealogical research.

Recently released for the very first time, are the 1851 census records for the Manchester region. Several years ago, whilst in storage, the census returns for this area were damaged by flood water. They would in addition go on to develop considerable mould damage. Many believed that the records of the thousands of people included in these census returns would be impossible to retrieve and as such they were known as the 'lost souls'. Undeterred by the challenge, Ancestry.co.uk's systems architect, Jack Rees, built a digital restoration camera with an extended spectral range that used infrared and ultraviolet light to enable the inks of the recorded material to be distinguished from the damaged pages.

<www.ancestry.co.uk/census_collections?o_iid=47459&o_lid=47459>

Regions out in the cold

Some disheartening news is the severe curtailing of the activities of the Collections Australia Network (CAN), as a result of recent funding cuts. For almost a decade Sydney's Powerhouse Museum, with combined state and federal funding of less than \$400 000, managed CAN which played a valuable role in enabling small regional museums and historical societies to list the contents of their collections in one centralised database. While stored information can still be accessed and news items posted, no new information about collections can be added.

Kylie Winkworth, a heritage consultant, is particularly concerned that stories of bush events and characters will be lost. She says, 'Many stories held in regional collections are not well represented in state and national collections, such as mining, pastoral life, water, women's and labour history, forestry and agriculture.'

CAN's demise is indicative though of broader concerns in the cultural heritage sector. The site's funding dried up after a Cultural Ministers Council review recommended that CAN be attached to the Collections Council, which was subsequently disbanded not long after. Now it appears that the Cultural Ministers Council may go the

same way, having been earmarked for abolition at the end of the financial year by a recent review of the Council of Australian Governments.

Tim Hart, a deputy director of Museum Victoria has pointed out on the Museum 3 online forum: 'If CMC is disbanded the last formal lines of contact for state-based organisations to Canberra will have been severed.'

A lot of eyes are on Simon Crean in his role as Minister for the Arts as well as Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government. In an interview with *Inquirer* he said that at the CMC's final meeting in early May, a structure for future state and federal co-operation will be discussed.

'I hope . . . Crean and his new department have a plan to fill the void created by closing so many cultural online assets in such a short time,' Tim Hart adds.

In Simon Crean's view, he sees 'this as an opportunity with the introduction of high-speed broadband to connect our valuable cultural collections and make them available to more Australians.'

<www.theaustralian.com.au/news/arts/regional-museum-web-unravels/story-e6frg8n6-1226023752570>

Lost diggers

More heartening, is the news of an extraordinary discovery made by a team from Channel 7 in early February. Rumours of a secret collection of photographs led them to the attic of a dilapidated farmhouse in the small town of Vignacourt two hours drive north of Paris. In it they found more than 3000 glass plate negatives of pictures taken almost one hundred years ago by farmers Antoinette and Louis Thullier. As Australian and other allied soldiers passed through the town, the Thulliers captured thousands of wonderful, informal images of them.

With the Channel 7 team was Australian War Memorial historian and First World War expert, Peter Burness. He says that nearly two thirds of the young men that passed through were killed or wounded, and that for many, these would most likely have been the last photographs taken of them. Their value is clear with Ashley Ekins, Head of Military History at the Australian War Memorial, rating this as one of the most important discoveries from the First World War. He is hoping that funding can be found to do conservation work on the negatives.

It appears that this collection was almost lost as the Thullier's descendant Henriette Crognier had no idea of its significance and was about to sell the property. On being told of its importance, she responded with, 'Pour les Australiens!' and immediately donated 500 negatives to the people of Australia.

continued on next page

Indexing Indaba, continued from previous page

Documenting the collection has now begun, with identifying the lost diggers being the first challenge. A photo gallery can be viewed on Channel 7's website, as well as on Facebook.

<www.smh.com.au/world/diggers-at-play-frozen-in-time-20110226-1b97y.html>

The indignity of indexing

Joel Berson recently threw a good 'author as indexer' story into the pot on index-l.

'Discussing the ordeals a non-fiction author (in this case, an historian) undergoes to get a book published, J. H. Hexter writes: 'And then comes the crowning indignity, when sick to death of his own best effort, he drains the nauseating dregs of historical scholarship; he has to read the damn thing again and prepare an index.' *Doing History* (Indiana University Press, 1971), pp. 93-94.'

Odd spot

Sophia Loren is fairly quiet these days, but she has written the foreword to Evita Bezuidenhout's new cookbook *Evita's Kossie Sikelela*, published by Umuzi-Random House. (Evita, if you are scratching your head, is the alter-ego of South African political satirist Pieter-Dirk Uys.) The scrumptious recipes mingle with Evita's inimitable commentary on South African life, as well as a heap of delightful illustrations. The index is a simple affair with recipes grouped under headings that range from the broad 'appetisers and snacks', to the very narrow 'beans'. Nonetheless it works, even if it is rather unusually referred to as the 'Register'.

Nikki Davis

ACT Region Branch

invites you to join them at the 'House on the hill' on Tuesday 5 April, 5.00-7.00 pm.



Find out what goes on behind the scenes in the Parliamentary Library.

It is important to RSVP, so please contact Eleanor Whelan

<eleanor.whelan@bigpond.com> or 02 6257 7749.

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Basic indexing, embedded indexing, indexing annual reports, database indexing and thesaurus construction

What a mixture! These are all courses being offered by the Victorian Branch 2–5 May.

- Basic indexing is the usual part 1 and part 2 courses.
- Heard about embedded indexing and wondered how you do it in MS Word? Well this is your chance to get a taste of in a half day course. You will also learn the tricks and tips to make it a bit easier.
- End of June is the end of the financial year and annual reports start to be compiled and, hopefully, indexed. This half day course will give you the training needed to prepare you for the 'annual report indexing season'.
- You have a large collection of say postcards and wonder how you would set up a database to index them and make them available to researchers. The database indexing course will give you ideas on how to set up a database and how to index items and illustrations.
- In setting up your database of postcards you need terms to consistently describe them. Thesaurus construction course will introduce you to thesauri and give you the basics to creating one to meet your needs.

Full details are given at <www.anzsi.org/site/victoria.asp>

Indexing Nursery Rhymes (Part 2)



In last month's *ANZSI Newsletter*, just as a bit of fun, we suggested you index the nursery rhyme *Tea with the Queen*.

Here is the index compiled by the attendees at the VIC meeting. Your index may differ markedly from the one the VIC members came up with in both terminology and page selection but, as has been mentioned on previous occasions, 'we all index differently and there is no single definitive solution'.

Max McMaster

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