

ANZSI Newsletter

 Newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Inc.
Volume 8 | number 3 | April 2012

ANZSI News April 2012



ANZSI Full Council

The March Council meeting (pictured below) brought all the Council members together. It was an opportunity to hear what Branches have planned for the year and to discuss Council matters with time for a relaxed chat over lunch.

IDPF and EPUB Indexes Working Group

One significant item discussed at the March Council meeting was the International Digital Publishing Forum and ANZSI's involvement with the EPUB Indexes Working Group. It was decided that ANZSI will join IDPF with Glenda Browne as the principal representative. ANZSI will also support the work of the EPUB Indexes Working Group and thanks

Glenda Browne for agreeing to lead this work. Full details of the Working Group and links to papers and Minutes can be found at <http://code.google.com/p/epub-revision/wiki/IndexesMainPage>. Glenda will keep members informed of the work of the IDPF and the Working Group in future issues of the Newsletter.

ANZSI papers and Minutes

Ever wondered about ANZSI papers and minutes? I remind members that they can view the Council papers and minutes on the website under ANZSI Documents www.anzsi.org/site/anzsi_docs.asp. Branch minutes can be viewed there as well.

2012 Survey

It is time again for the ANZSI survey of members. The previous survey was conducted five years ago (see ANZSI Newsletter, 2007, 3(10), 5-7) and the Society has grown and developed since then. We are now seeking input from all members on a range of issues. The results of the survey will help inform a possible new direction for the Society and provide a snapshot of our membership.

The survey has been created electronically in Google

Docs and will be emailed this month to all members and posted to those without email addresses. All responses are anonymous. Google Docs can provide some of the statistical analysis that will enhance processing.

Highlights of the results from the survey will be provided in the ANZSI Newsletter, with the full results being made available through the ANZSI website.

Please take this opportunity to have your opinions on ANZSI heard.

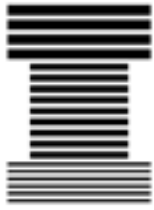
Registration

The survey includes a couple of questions on Registration. Over the past few years Council has been discussing various aspects of Registration and now we seek your opinions. We would like to know if you are Registered, and if so, have you found it of benefit? We would like more members to be Registered and are wondering if unregistered indexers will be seeking Registration and if not why not. There is a requirement that Registered indexers seek renewal after five years. We wonder if



From left to right Karen Gillen, Frances Patterson, Nikki Davis (at back), Julie Daymond-King, Max McMaster, Moira Brown, Michael Ramsden, Shirley Campbell, and Alan Eddy. Mary Russell took the photo and Margaret Findlay was absent.

(continued on page 2)



**Australian and New Zealand
Society of Indexers Inc.**

ANZSI 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 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>.

ACT Region Branch

**Indexing Annual Reports
Workshop**

Saturday 2 June

Canberra, 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

Presenter: Michael Harrington

Venue and cost to be notified
later

Enquiries: Sherrey Quinn:

<sherreyquinn@gmail.com>

(ANZSI News, continued from page 1)

members still feel this is important. There has also been discussion on changing the term Registration to Accreditation. Sherrey Quinn, the Chair of the Board of Assessors, has written articles in this issue to provide you with background information to assist you in completing these survey questions.

Following a request from the last survey Council investigated Registration for database indexers. This been put on hold mainly because of the complication of having different forms of Registration. For those working in this area I suggest you read the proposal. <www.anzsi.org/UserFiles/file/34-031%20Database%20Indexing%20Registration%20Feb%202010.pdf>. In the Survey we are wondering if database indexers would like us to pursue this further.

Recommended rate

Council has reviewed the recommended rate for indexing and left it at A\$65 and NZ\$65.

Quiet Achievers

Talking about feedback, we are receiving wonderful feedback on the Quiet Achievers in Indexing column, both as a way of promoting ANZSI members and for the personal stories and advice they give to indexers. Congratulations to those being recognised and thank you for taking the time to write your article. A special page has now been developed on the website <www.anzsi.org/site/quietachievers.asp>.

Twitter and Facebook

Thanks to Elizabeth Thomas and Glenda Browne, ANZSI now has a presence on Twitter and Facebook. The links have been placed on the ANZSI home page. *See* the article on the following page.

ASI Conference

I will be representing ANZSI at the American Society for Indexing Conference in San Diego next month. New Zealand member Lai Lam will be presenting a session on understanding Chinese, Japanese and Korean personal names and I will be joining international colleagues in a joint session on ethics in indexing. I am looking forward to meeting fellow indexers, discussing and learning about different aspects of indexing, as well as exploring a tiny bit of California for the first time. I'll report on the Conference in future issues of the Newsletter.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Nikki Davis on regaining her Registration, following a few years lapse in ANZSI membership while she was overseas.

Mary Russell

NSW and ACT Branches of ANZSI

invite members to participate in a weekend regional conference
on **Saturday and Sunday 28–29 July** at Peppers Craigieburn Bowral.

From pbooks to ebooks: Focusing on digital publishing

There will be no cost to members to attend this regional conference except for accommodation should members decide to stay at the conference venue. Accommodation has been reserved for single and twin/double rooms at \$179 and \$208 per room per night. Details of registering for accommodation together with the complete program will be available later on the ANZSI website.

Please send expressions of interest if you wish to attend this conference to Sherrey Quinn at <sherreyquinn@gmail.com>.

ANZSI – social networking

ANZSI is now ‘out there’ in the web 2.0 world of social media! We aim, at least, to bring the users of these services to the ANZSI website, and to attract interest and publishing clients to our members – building connections, finding contacts and hopefully increasing ANZSI’s influence and presence.

Facebook

ANZSI’s facebook page is at <www.facebook.com/ANZSocietyIndexers>. From this page, anyone can click on the ‘Everyone (Top Posts)’ link to read comments posted on the ‘wall’. Importantly, it includes the link to the ANZSI website.

To add comments or to ‘like’ our page (as we encourage everyone to do), one has to be a member of facebook.

Membership is free, you just have to do your homework on creating a page, decide how much information you want to share, and ensure that your facebook settings, such as privacy, suit your preferences.

Once a member, you can post news or comments on ANZSI / indexing / indexers, read others’ comments – and comment upon their comments.

There is also an automatically generated page: <<https://www.facebook.com/pages/ANZSI/133758013333148>> on which, as a member, you can see comments posted by your facebook ‘friends’ where they have used the word ‘ANZSI’. As this is based on your account, page views will differ, but it makes ‘ANZSI’ comments findable, even if they have not been added to the *real* ANZSI page (URL at beginning of article).

Twitter

ANZSI’s twitter page is at <https://twitter.com/#!/ANZSI_indexers>. It works in a similar way to facebook in terms of a place to read and post news and comments, but messages have a limited length (140 characters) and so tend to be quite focused. There is also, for many though not all users, an immediacy to what is posted – as can be often seen where ‘breaking news’ (true or false) appears first on twitter.

Twitter is a little more open than facebook to those who are not members:

From a person’s page (all twitterers / ‘tweeps’ / ‘peeps’ are ‘people’ – names are shown as @tags), anyone can click on the links to see their tweets, who they are ‘following’ and who is ‘following’ them.

If you see other people who look interesting, clicking on the @tag will show you their profile and tweets.

Subject searching can be a hit and miss affair in twitter, as all #tags (hash tags are used to flag and link topics) are created by users, folksonomy-fashion. However, #indexing, #indexers, #index and #ANZSI will (mostly) be useful.

Searches by non-members have results sets limited to the last seven days.

Joining twitter is free and requires only basic information for your profile. You can also set your account to private, so you can only be ‘followed’ by those you approve.

As a member, you tweet under your own name/id and use @tags and #tags to connect to people and topics respectively. (Tweets under the ANZSI account can only be posted by administrator/s).

Work continues on how to optimise our use of these sites, and other social media.

We would ask that anyone posting messages bear in mind ANZSI policies on branding, communications and commercial/product endorsement, available in the members’ area of the ANZSI website.

Elisabeth Thomas

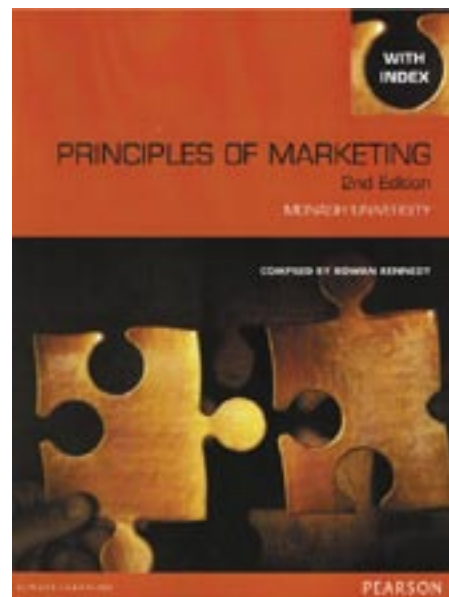
(twitter; <https://twitter.com/#!/Elisabeth_Words>)

Glenda Browne

(facebook; <www.facebook.com/glendabrowne>)

Elisabeth Thomas

Index featured to boost book sales



How often do you see ‘WITH INDEX’ in large letters on the front cover of a book? In an attempt to increase sales, the recently published custom edition of Kotler’s *Principles of Marketing* features just that.

On receiving a complimentary copy of this 419 page textbook that I had indexed, I complimented the editor for the front cover. She replied ‘we definitely hope that featuring “With Index” will make a significant difference to sales’.

The first edition of the textbook was published without an index, much to the annoyance of Marketing students, my daughter included.

So ... it turns out you may be able to judge a book by its cover after all.

Tricia Waters

Renewal of Registration: information paper

Prepared by Sherrey Quinn, Chair, Board of Assessors, 1 February 2012

Introduction

This paper has been prepared at the request of the ANZSI Council to address the following questions:

- A. Why was Renewal of Registration introduced?
- B. What were the pros and cons?
- C. What is the current process, and what are the pros and cons?
- D. What are alternative processes, and what are the pros and cons?

The purpose is to 'form the basis of providing members with background information' in relation to a question about renewal of Registration in the forthcoming survey of members (Council Minute 8.1.2.2 of October 2011).

This paper is concerned with the current Registration processes, which relate only to back-of-book indexing. The principles could be extended to database indexer Registration should this be implemented in future.

Background documents

The 'Policy on Registration' document (containing Registration policy, procedures and the Panel of Assessor's criteria checklist), the separate 'Registration Committee Guidelines', and the Application Forms for Registration and Registration Renewal are available in the members-only ANZSI Documents area of the website <www.anzsi.org/site/anzsi_docs.asp>.

A. Why was Renewal of Registration introduced?

The five-year Registration renewal process was an outcome of the GAMES (Guidelines, Archives and Mentoring for the Society) strategic planning meeting held in May 2006, and was ratified by the ANZSI National Committee on 8 October 2006.¹ Relevant policy documents were promulgated on the ANZSI website.

Renewal of Registration was introduced:

1. to encourage members to maintain their core skills and knowledge
2. to ensure that competency in indexing is maintained and to ensure that 'our Registration status continues to stand for good quality indexing'²
3. to be a component of the Society's 'push for high standards in all fields of indexing, not just book indexing'³
4. so that the Society can demonstrate to outsiders that it has a mechanism to ensure that members' skills are current and relevant
5. for consistency with the trend among other professional bodies for periodic refreshing of professional credentials
6. to encourage members to undertake continuing professional development.

Similar professional bodies and those in related fields, including the Society of Indexers, the Australian Library and Information Association and the Institute of Professional Editors, have professional development and accreditation schemes.

B. What were the pros and cons [of introduction of Renewal of Registration]?

The 'pros' are set out in Section A above.

The question of renewal of Registration was canvassed thoroughly at the GAMES meeting. No significant 'cons' were identified. It was agreed that the renewal process would apply to all Registered Indexers, not just to those Registered in future. Five years was agreed as an appropriate length of time for the renewal period, alternatives such as three years being considered so short as to unnecessarily increase the administrative work, and ten years being too long in a rapidly changing publishing and technological environment.

Information on the scheme was conveyed via the *Newsletter* to members, who thus had opportunities to comment.

'Renewal of Registration' policy and procedures were prepared as an outcome of the meeting and subsequently adopted by the then National Committee.

The intent was to have a simple system which was easy to implement and administer, and this was reflected in the process, which is discussed further in Section C.

C. What is the current process, and what are the pros and cons?

C1. Renewal process

The renewal process in 2007 asked Registered Indexers to provide bibliographic details of two published works or equivalent, such as examples of web or database indexing, as evidence of continued work in indexing during the previous five years.⁴ Members were not asked to submit an index for re-assessment, although ANZSI does reserve the right to request this.

The designation 'Registered Indexer of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers' may be used only as if the member is a financial member of the Society.

The first renewal process took place in 2007, with subsequent renewal to take place at five-yearly intervals. Thus the next Renewal process is due in 2012 for indexers whose Registration was renewed in 2007. The intention was that Indexers who have been registered since 2007 would be invited to renew at five-yearly intervals from first Registration – this process would see 'rolling' renewals from 2012.

In March 2007 there were 54 Registered Indexers. Renewal of Registration was sought by 45 members, with 44 being successful. The unsuccessful applicant nominated an unpublished index and was invited to nominate an alternative index but did not do so. Five members advised that they were no longer indexing and were not interested in renewing Registration. Four members did not respond to the correspondence.

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(Renewal of Registration, continued from previous page)

C2. Pros and cons

The pros for Renewal of Registration are set out in Section A and are still valid in 2012.

The Registration Committee Report to Council in October 2007 noted that 'with only two exceptions the feedback was favourable and members indicated that the process was credible and necessary'.

The two exceptions were long-term indexers. One, who had retired and no longer did much 'commercial or published' indexing and so did not meet the renewal criteria, reluctantly did not seek renewal. The other, whose Registration was renewed, nevertheless felt that the process should not have been retrospective for long-term active indexers, but should have applied to indexers who became registered after the introduction of the renewal process.

Subsequently, in 2010, a Council member expressed the view that it is inappropriate for the Society to refuse to renew Registration for a Life Member or any other experienced member on the grounds that he/she has not indexed for five years.⁵ This situation has not yet arisen, but the concern is addressed in Section D(i) below. The Council member also asked 'Can't members retire gracefully and still be called a Registered Indexer?'

The Registration Review of 2010 also pointed out that the current process does not give credit for important professional activities such as undertaking training oneself, training or mentoring others, attendance at conferences, and writing about indexing.

These concerns are addressed below, in Section D.

D. What are alternative processes, and what are the pros and cons?

Processes need to be simple, transparent and easy to understand and administer.

Addressing the 'cons' in C2, the following suggestions are made.

D1. Life Members

Honorary Life Membership is awarded to members in recognition of outstanding service to indexing and/or to the Society. Life Members have full membership rights and are deemed to be financial members without being required to pay membership fees.

Life Members are usually very experienced, long-serving indexers, and they are few in number. It is suggested that an additional courtesy is added to their 'rights', that is that they be exempt from the Registration Renewal process. This is easily accomplished by amending the Registration Policy and Procedures document (suggested wording is presented in the Summary below).

The 'pros' of this approach are obvious and I can't think of any objections to extending an additional courtesy to Life Members.

D2. 'Why can't a member retire gracefully and still be called a Registered Indexer?'

One of the only two negative responses to the 2007 Registration process was from an indexer who had retired, no longer did much 'commercial or published' indexing and so did not meet the renewal criteria and reluctantly did not seek renewal.

An alternative approach in which a Registered Indexer not meeting the renewal criteria might style himself or herself 'ANZSI Registered Indexer, xxxx to yyyy' was apparently rejected by Council during the 2007 renewal process. ('xxxx' is year of Registration and 'yyyy' is the year of the renewal process in which the criteria were not satisfied).

However, this decision could be reversed, so that Council agreed to its use, in response to requests by retired financial members. It is estimated that the number of members in this category would be extremely small.

Only financial members of ANZSI (and Life Members if the provisions suggested above are adopted) are entitled to use the 'Registered Indexer' style. Former members (those who are not financial) are not permitted to do so.

D3. Indexing activity and alternative contributions

Applicants for renewal of Registration are asked to provide bibliographic details of two published works as evidence of continued indexing work during the previous five years. They may instead provide evidence equivalent to two published indexes (for example, examples of web or database indexing); this will be accepted at the discretion of the Registration Committee (now Board of Assessors).

Professional activities such as attending training courses, participating in Society conferences and meetings, training or mentoring others, and writing about indexing in the Newsletter, journals and on websites are all indicators of ongoing interest and engagement in indexing. Longer-term indexers are particularly likely to be engaged in training, mentoring and writing.

It is suggested that evidence of such activities be accepted at the discretion of the Board of Assessors. This can be accomplished by amending paragraph 5 of the Renewal of Registration Procedures (suggested wording is presented below), and revising the Renewal of Registration form to include these options.

The process is sufficiently simple to be easy to manage. The number of renewing applicants is likely to be around 50 (based on current numbers), most of whom are likely to satisfy the criterion of 'two indexes published in the previous five years', judging from the 2007 results. The Board of Assessors is not likely to find it onerous or time-consuming to evaluate applications which require 'acceptance at the discretion of the Board'.

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(Renewal of Registration, continued from previous page)

The 'pros' of this approach are that evidence of ongoing interest and active engagement in indexing are recognised in the credentialing process.

The 'cons' are that the list of requirements may look slightly more complicated than they actually are, nevertheless they are not onerous for either applicant or the Board of Assessors.

Summary of proposed actions

1. Life Members to be exempt from the renewal process (Section D1). The following text is suggested for addition to the Renewal of Registration Procedures (in the 'Registration Procedures' appended to the 'Policy on Registration' document):

Life members who are Registered Members of ANZSI are exempt from the requirement to participate in the Renewal of Registration process, and may retain their Registered Indexer status.

2. On individual member request and at Council's discretion, allow retired but financial Registered Indexers to use the style 'Registered Indexer, xxxx to yyyy' (Section D2).

3. For Renewal of Registration, accept additional evidence of professional activities in indexing (Section D3). The following text is suggested to replace paragraph 5 of the Renewal of Registration Procedures:

Such evidence will normally be:

- a) bibliographic details of two indexes published in the previous five years OR
- b) evidence equivalent to two published indexes (for example, examples of website or database indexing) OR
- c) evidence of completion of at least one:

- i. indexing training course offered under the auspices of ANZSI, OR
 - ii. an indexing-related training course offered by another organisation, OR
- d) evidence of attendance at:
- i. at least one ANZSI conference or seminar or other indexing-related conference or seminar (of at least one-day duration), OR
 - ii. at least three ANZSI meetings of other types, OR
- e) bibliographic details of at least two published papers, presentations or articles on indexing or related topics, OR
- f) evidence of training, mentoring, tutoring or coaching activities performed.

Evidence in categories (b) to (f) must relate to activities completed in the previous five years. Evidence in categories (b) to (f) (or combinations of parts of categories (b) to (f), such as attendance at one ANZSI meeting and one published paper) will be accepted at the discretion of the Board of Assessors.

4. Amend explanations on the website, any other relevant policy documents and application forms accordingly.

Conclusion

The forthcoming survey of members will include a question seeking members' views on renewal of Registration.

This paper is an information paper which summarises the current process of Renewal of Registration, presents the pros and cons for renewal, and suggests some alternative approaches and amendments to the current policy and procedures.

Sherrey Quinn

Footnotes

¹ The GAMES Meeting was attended by all members of the then National Committee, all Branch presidents (ACT, NSW, NZ and Vic) and senior members of the Society. The meeting developed ANZSI's policy framework, which was subsequently adopted at the National Committee meeting of 8 October 2006. Reports on the GAMES meeting appeared in the *ANZSI newsletter* vol 2, no 6, July 2006 (p. 7) and no 7, August 2006 (p. 1 & 3).

² Farkas, Lynn 2006, 'From the President', *ANZSI Newsletter*, vol 2, no 7, August 2006, p. 1 & 3

³ McMaster, Max 2007, 'Outgoing President's report to the ANZSI AGM 2007', *ANZSI Newsletter*, vol 3, no 10, November/December 2007, p. 2-3

⁴ Application for Renewal of Registration form: <www.anzsi.org/UserFiles/file/Registration%20renewal%20form.pdf>

⁵ This was one of the terms of reference for the *Registration Process and Procedures Review and Report*, prepared for Council in September 2010.

“Registered/accredited Indexer’ nomenclature: information paper

Prepared by Sherrey Quinn, Chair, Board of Assessors, 1 February 2012

Introduction

The ANZSI 'Registration' process is a credentialing standard for indexers who have demonstrated expertise and gained some experience in indexing. Registration performs the following 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 [in the event that the renewal process continues].*

The granting of Registration indicates a general level of competency, measured against accepted indexing practice and agreed criteria.¹

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(‘Registered/accredited Indexer’, continued from previous page)

Financial members of ANZSI whose work has been assessed as meeting the published Registration criteria are entitled to use the style ‘Registered Indexer of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers’.

The terms ‘Registration’ and ‘Registered Indexer’ date from the early years of ANZSI (then the Australian Society of Indexers) and were modelled on the UK Society of Indexers scheme for providing writers, editors and publishers with a list of people competent in indexing.²

New nomenclature

For some years the prospect of changing the name of the credentialing process from ‘Registration’ to something more meaningful has been discussed without resolution.

It is generally agreed within ANZSI that the term ‘Registration’ is not well-understood outside the Society. The term does not have connotations of credentials, assessment or ‘demonstrated competence’. Indeed, it can be interpreted as being no more than a list of members.

Other professional bodies have credentialing schemes. For example, the Institute of Professional Editors has an accreditation scheme which entitles those who have passed the Institute’s exams to style themselves ‘Accredited Editor’ and use the post-nominal ‘AE’.

The Australian Library and Information Association, which has a qualifications-based membership structure, also has a Professional Development (PD) program, optional for professional members. Those attaining the requisite number of PD points over a rolling three-year period are entitled to call themselves ‘Certified Practitioners’ and use the post-nominal ‘CP’.

Unlike ‘Registered Indexer’, both ‘Accredited Editor’ and ‘Certified Practitioner’ imply that the holder has satisfied an assessment process. Alternatives suggested for ANZSI include similar terms such as ‘Accredited Indexer’, ‘Certified Indexer’ or ‘Certified Practitioner’.

Council minute 8.1.3 of October 2011 noted that ‘It was suggested that Accredited Indexer would be a better term than Registered Indexer’ and that ‘It was agreed that, in the forthcoming survey of members, a question should be included to canvass members’ views on nomenclature’.

Proposed action

I support use of the term Accredited Indexer – it is a better one than ‘Registered Indexer’. It means what it says, and will easily be understood by those outside our society to whom indexing qualifications and standards should matter – authors, editors and publishers.

I suggest that the survey question asks members if they agree to changing ‘Registered Indexer’ to ‘Accredited Indexer’ and if not, to suggest an alternative. Based on the results, Council can then make a decision which will resolve this issue. If the term ‘Accredited Indexer’ is accepted, then the ‘Registration’ process can be termed ‘Accreditation’ process, and the policy and procedures amended accordingly.

Sherrey Quinn

Footnotes

¹ Extract from Policy on Registration: <www.anzsi.org/site/anzsi_docs.asp>.

² For further detail see the document Registration Process and Procedures Review and Report, prepared for the ANZSI Council in September 2010.

The 2013 conference in NZ – what do you want?

Conference 2013 are going great guns organising your next conference. We are currently creating the program and need some feedback from you.

Advanced workshops

We are considering including three advanced indexing workshops in the conference and need to know if you would like to attend one or more of the three. The workshops would be (1) Cindex, (2) Macrex, and (3) SkyIndex. If you are interested, email me at the address below. Insufficient interest will mean we won’t include the workshop, so you need to let us know now. We also welcome other ideas for conference workshops.

Conference sessions

We welcome your thoughts about (1) a specific session, panel discussion or roundtable you would like to see at the conference; and (2) what you liked or disliked about the content of previous ANZSI conferences. At this stage we are not putting out a call for papers. So please email me your thoughts.

Practical/Intermediate Indexing Course

The NSW branch runs a practical, intermediate level course that involves the indexing of a short book with support through an online mailing list and individualised feedback from the tutor. The course finishes with an optional face-to-face session. The NSW branch could run this course a month before the conference and finish with their face-to-face session at the conference. Would you be interested in attending this course if offered close to the conference?

Many thanks in advance for your feedback and kind regards,

Tordis Flath
<tordis@paradise.net.nz>

Indexing degustation



This column seems to spruik nothing but digital guff these days; it is difficult to find anything exciting to report in the realm of paper. Even the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* has thrown out the hard copy for the soft. In March, after 244 years, the *Encyclopaedia* will only be available electronically. Sales of the print edition

have dropped from 120,000 in 1990 to 40,000 in 1996 and 8,000 since 2009. Its chief competitor, Wikipedia, holds 3,890,000 English articles, compared with the EB's 65,000. Then there is the price difference. The EB print edition cost \$1,395, iPad \$1.99 per month, and \$70 per annum for an online subscription. Wikipedia is free. As for contributors, the EB has 4,000 including 110 Nobel Prize winners and 5 US presidents, while Wikipedia boasts 751,426 who could be Uncle Tom Cobley and all. A triumph for social media.

<http://mashable.com/2012/03/16/encyclopedia-britannica-wikipedia-infographic/>.

Digital revolution in the classroom

Articles on the creep of digital books into the classroom assail us by the week. Jonathan Wolff, a professor of philosophy at University College London, writes that although the ebook is here, he is not certain that it is here to stay. And why not? Ebooks have not yet met the needs of academic users; the lack of page numbers for a start. The reader relies on footnotes and an index but 'electronically they are still a chore'. Ebooks are admirable if a reader starts at the beginning and reads to the end; a bit of holiday fun. Ebook publishers need to look at a few improvements, such as page numbers and the pricing model. Book purchasers should be able to buy all their books in both electronic and hard copy, at a discount. There may be the problem of electronic and paper lovers pairing up but why not; there could even be 'a combined matching and dating site. But even so, what is wrong with spreading a little bit of happiness?' Jonathan writes that as the academic user was an afterthought for word-processor designers, so is the small market for academic ebooks. If publishers do not sort it out someone else will as was done in the music industry. Apparently, unauthorised free downloads of academic texts are already taking place.

Wolff, J. (2012, March 13). 'Digital revolution edging its way into the classroom', *The Age*, 14.

Kindle and the Index

James Lamb has written an interesting article in *Sidelights* about Kindle and the lack of indexes. In the policy for creating back matter, Amazon states 'Back matter consists of the last pages in your book which provides additional information the reader should know about, such as Bibliographies, Appendices, Notes or Glossaries... Indexes are not recommended at this time.' Indexes were

excluded initially but now publishers may include the index as it appears in the hard copy, albeit with the advice to use the search facility to get from the index entry to the relevant passage. There is also the hyperlink method which creates a jump from part of the text to another. However, one of the problems is that readers can change font sizes, line spacing, words per line etc. so that one printed page may cover many Kindle pages. This makes for a very time-consuming read as the user could be scouring ten or more pages for the elusive index term. In early 2011 Amazon introduced 'Real Page Numbers' to Kindle which meant that it is possible to 'press Menu, enter '137' and press 'page', and be taken to the text position in the Kindle which matches the top of page 137 in the physical printed book, assuming one exists.' This is better than the hyperlink method because it is quicker and requires no special linking from the publisher so that indexed books from the back catalogue may be put online. However, there is still the problem of page sizes. The only solution is to link the index locator directly to the character position in the text. This can be recorded using embedded or XML indexing, requiring extra work. James Lamb demonstrates that it can be done; he has, for the Society of Indexers, formatted for the Kindle their book, *Occasional Paper 5, Indexing Children's Books* complete with a hyperlinked index (available from www.jalamb.com/downloads.html or Kindle store at <https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/b005hinlem>).

The last problem is how the user gets to the index. The Contents is accessed via the Go To menu but the index is not there because the Kindle does not support indexes. A simple software change, according to James, is all that is needed to make usable indexes possible.

Lamb, J. (2012). 'Kindle and the index', *Sidelights*, no. 1 Spring, 7-8

Digital Book Index

This is a website which claims to be a 'Meta-index' for most major eBook sites, along with countless small specialised sites. Digital Book Index provides links to more than 165,000 full-text digital books from more than 1800 publishers, universities and private sites. More than 140,000 of these titles are available free. iPad, Kindle and Nook are supported. The user can perform a variety of searches; Simple & Advanced, Author/Title, Subjects, and Publishers. I did a simple search for 'bookbinding' and retrieved 25 titles, published between 1886 and 2004. The results are listed in a table, the fields being author, title, edition, format, price and publisher. Apart from one title available by subscription, they were free. The format field is linked to the full-text, and the formats can be graphic, graphic html, graphic text, html, PDF Kindle EPub, graphic or PDF, etc. For example: Davenport, Cyril James H, 1848-1941 Royal English Bookbindings, 1896 Lond., Graphic, Free, CMU-Posner.

(continued at foot of next page)

News from Queensland

At our March meeting, Queensland Branch members and other industry colleagues enjoyed a special insight into the publishing world, seen through the eyes of our Branch member Sue McQuay (pictured).



Sue and her husband Ian McQuay spoke with great enthusiasm about their work in the Philippines with SIL Philippines, part of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, an international faith-based organization engaged in Bible translation in 70 countries. Sue was originally a librarian and Ian a printer. Now, after 20 years in the Philippines, they are engaged in publishing. SIL produces a wide range of works, including small multi-lingual phrase books, dictionaries and grammars, and an academic journal *Studies in Philippine Language and Culture*.

Sue as an editor has had a sharp learning curve to bring so many wonderful publications to people who would otherwise be unaware of their own language and culture. Ian's computer knowledge is extensive and he has produced excellent computer programs for online publications for this Filipino market.

Their contribution to building literacy is obviously important in a country where people often need to speak five languages. Sue's talk included insights into the politics of language when visitors from the big city arrive, and into the differences between dialect and language.

On 12 months leave, Sue has joined ANZSI to learn indexing, being convinced of the need for indexes in many of her publications.

Des Stephens and Moira Brown

(Indexing degustation, continued from previous page)

See over

I was amused to note that one of the titles was *Occupations for Philadelphia girls: Bookbinding*, published by the Consumers' League of Eastern Pennsylvania in 1914. I imagined the pamphlet would have covered hobbies for the gently-reared but no, it was targeting girls who needed a job.

Some users' comments: 'Why not just do a Google search instead of looking here? This is more direct, indexes collections specifically, and won't throw out red herrings.' Memphis Univ School Library.

'...an astonishing number of electronic books...from an equally astonishing number of sources ... impressive. Very impressive...'
Lindsay Periera, REDIFF.COM (INDIA) Pick of the Weekend <www.digitalbookindex.org/search001a.htm>.

Jane Purton

Simplicity

Power

Elegance

Flexibility

Sophistication


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SIMPLE installation, begin adding entries in 3 easy steps. No formatting pre-sets necessary.

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Quiet Achievers in indexing – Clodagh Jones

Who has been the greatest influence on my career?

Definitely my husband Roy (*pictured with Clodagh on the next page*). During the early days of our marriage Roy was writing a book on fish migration, to be published by Edward Arnold. There was no way we could afford an indexer. Our method of indexing is described in the ANZSI August 2011 Newsletter, page one. The tools of our trade included 26 jam jars (there are occasionally entries under the letter X), five-by-three-inch paper slips, several B pencils, good erasers, rubber bands, toggles (treasury tags) and a laboratory dissecting tray to hold the above. Once completed, the index was typed using an Olivetti portable typewriter. There was no delete key, so no margin of error allowed.

During the 50 years of our marriage I have followed my husband to the various places of his work. I've always been able to find work as an indexer provided a reliable telephone and mail service was available. Many indexes compiled and 23 years later we moved from one hemisphere to another, Roy encouraged me to carry on with the indexing and helped by providing me with editors and publishers of scientific books. I'd left a fulltime job, children, a large house and garden, several pets and millions of honey bees in nine beehives, so I was in need of something to do in Tasmania.

Four days before Roy died last year, he was asleep in a chair. He was in the last stages of dementia and I was sitting quietly next to him, reading a book. He turned to me and enquired 'Has the book got an index?'. He hadn't spoken to me for days, I had no idea he still knew me.

How did I come to an indexing career.

Life as a part-time freelance indexer really only began when I came to Australia in 1984 when my children were in the process of leaving home. I'd been working in a College of Further Education in England and in coming to Australia I'd given up a rewarding and interesting teaching post. I was delighted to discover there was a thriving indexing society in Melbourne. Meeting indexers in Australia was just the opportunity that was needed. I made friends with Victorian indexers, attended meetings and conferences, and took part in a four day indexing workshop. Suddenly life down-under had a purpose. I acquired a computer and printer and set about advertising my skills. (There were no computer outlets in Hobart at that time).

What do I see as my greatest achievement?

One of the fun of indexing books is that each book presents a different set of challenges. Having a science degree I've tended to concentrate on scientific texts but later became

interested in biographies and Tasmanian history. Colonial diaries present many challenges and when finished one has a real sense of achievement in that one has made available so much historical information by compiling user friendly indexes. My first achievement was compiling an index to *The Journal of Annie Dawbin 1858-1868*, edited by Lucy Frost. The problem with diaries is that one is often unsure where,



what or to whom the author is referring. Settler families had many children and in spite of biographical notes, I had to construct family trees to make sure I could enter the correct person. Annie introduced me to several Melbourne families and the social climate of the times. Another challenge I encountered was indexing the second edition of the Tasmanian journals and papers of George Augustus Robinson, some 1000 pages in length, small type and no illustrations! The biggest challenge was to persuade the trustees of the first editor's estate that the index to the first edition was not user-friendly as it had four and sometimes five levels of entries.

The librarians assure me that my up-to-date index is user friendly, I am pleased to have achieved this.

How do I try to achieve work-life balance?

As I've only ever worked part time as an indexer, achieving such a balance has been not been of importance. In Australia proceeds from my indexing work have enabled me to accumulate a travel fund that has allowed me to travel world wide. By chance I even met an editor in Hanoi Airport who wanted a science indexer, although this encounter did not eventuate in a contract.

When working to a deadline my husband took over most of the domestic chores: washing up, washing, ironing, shopping and cooking. This allowed me to work unhindered, and I believe I compiled better indexes than if I'd had to look after young children and complete household chores as well. When indexing I tend to work for many hours a day and do not feel relaxed until the work is complete. Once finished, I attend to household affairs and the terminal moraine of paper on my desk. Then I relax until the next book.

What do I like most of my work as an indexer?

And what do I like the least?

I love the variety of the books I have indexed and the interest of learning so much. I love the challenge each book presents. I enjoy meeting the authors although this is not always possible. Living in Hobart and meeting scientists involved with Antarctica has been most rewarding.

I've had the opportunity to compile indexes for many books on Antarctica, and these have widened my horizons

(continued on next page)

(Clodagh Jones, continued from previous page)

considerably. I dislike working to deadlines, although once started I tend to forge ahead increasing my speed. I dislike having to sort out scientific names and lists, often having to check spellings as well as taxonomic details. I find books with sentences or lists of words in some languages tedious. For example Indonesian or Maori words take a lot of time to check and enter.

My advice to indexers just starting out.

You need uninterrupted time, be able to work alone and with concentration for long periods and to cope with deadlines. You will need some proofreading and editing skills, I recommend the Australian *Style Manual* for reference. Learn how to correctly quote for an index and be prepared to deal with some editors and authors who know nothing about indexing. Diplomacy is a useful asset in this situation. Enjoy your work. It is fascinating and interesting.



If I could dine out with a famous historic figure, who would it be?

There are so many. Currently very topical, I'd like to dine with Charles Dickens. I am intrigued by his ability to depict social conditions in England and the way he produced very clever caricatures of people from all strata of society. He was a great judge of humanity. Dickens was a member of a gentleman's club so he could introduce me to other members of his club. I nearly always read Dickens when I'm sick. But if dining with Dickens in London in the nineteenth century, I'm not sure whether I could cope with the fume and fogs.

What letter of the alphabet would I choose?

The letter C. It stands for caring, compassion, calm, communication, capability, children, connection, conscience, curiosity and creativity. Indexing is a curious and creative occupation and is absolutely necessary for communication.

Envoi

Your Editor had frequent contact in CSIRO with Clodagh's husband, Dr Roy Harden Jones. When looking for some information about Roy he came across this poem, written by Roy in 2007 when in respite care, which he found very moving. He publishes it here with Clodagh's permission.

The Old Wall

With my new glasses I can see
What goes on behind the tree.
The tree so great, old and tall
Now completely dwarfs the older wall.
Poor wall, ruined by thick and twisting roots
Reminds me of my inner self
Part ruined by age and self neglect
My mortar gone with some bricks cracked
And others into fragments going or gone.
Both wall and I do need more care
With love and mortar and some support
To maintain our structures sound and strong.
If not we will both be found:
Lying in pieces on the ground.

Copyright 2007 Dr Roy Harden Jones

News from NZ Branch

A very full weekend's events in Wellington saw a good number of members able to take up the various sessions: training, forum discussion, networking and planning, with the invaluable help of Glenda Browne to update us on many topics. We loved having her here and think she enjoyed herself too. It is good that she is representing us all at the International Digital Publishing Forum. We were also able to welcome our newest member, Deirdre Hambleton, who is shortly taking herself over to the other side of the Tasman for training.

We met as a Branch to make some decisions about this year, and also next year's Conference. March also saw our contract with The Knowledge Basket (TKB) signed to license the indexes that we publish as a Branch. Our mentoring coordinator, Susan Brookes, will be forwarding the mentored indexes from 2011 as the first clutch in an occasional series, to be included in the New Zealand Index online. The idea of a 'knowledge basket' comes from Maori myth.

TKB has been New Zealand's premier news and information archive since 1994 and is a partnership between consumers and suppliers of information. Publishers have a cooperative relationship with TKB and share any revenue received, while the costs for converting, maintaining and archiving their material are met entirely by TKB. We do not expect to make heaps, but the quarterly statement will provide information on the number of successful searches undertaken in libraries around the country.

Julie Daymond-King

Branch events

Date and time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Tues 24 April 6 for 7.00 pm	Qld Branch	4th birthday celebrations	Salisbury Hotel, Brisbane	Details at: < www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=254 >
Wed 2 May 6.00 pm	Vic Branch	The VIC: 'Feedback from the ASI conf.'	Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall, Kew	Details at: < www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=246 >
Sat 2 June 9.00 – 3.00 pm	ACT Region Branch	Indexing Annual Reports workshop	Canberra tba	Details at: < www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=252 >
28–29 July	NSW & ACT Branches	From pbooks to ebooks – digital publishing	Peppers Craigieburn Bowral	Details at: < www.anzsi.org/site/calendar_details.asp?id=253 >

IN THIS ISSUE

ANZSI News	1
ANZSI Newsletter	2
ACT Branch indexing annual reports workshop	2
NSW/ACT pbooks to ebooks conference	2
ANZSI social networking	3
Indexing featured to boost book sales	3
Renewal of registration – information paper	4
'Registration' and 'Registered Indexer' nomenclature	6
The 2013 conference in NZ – what do you want?	7
Indexing degustation	8
News from Queensland Branch	9
Quiet achievers in indexing – Clodagh Jones	10
News from NZ Branch	11
ANZSI and Branch events	12
The <i>ANZSI Newsletter</i> and its schedule	12

ANZSI Newsletter

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The editor welcomes your contributions submitted by
email to <peter.judge@bigpond.com>



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