



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

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From the President



Council matters

On 21 July, ANZSI held its first Council meeting following the restructure. The big difference is that branch presidents were not present. While we miss their expertise, a smaller Council does make it easier for all members to have a say in a reasonable length of time. The role of general committee members will be enhanced in the new structure.

Mary Coe has resigned as Membership Secretary, to enable her to focus on other ANZSI work. Thank you to Mary for her work on this year's renewals, and to Mei Yen Chua for now taking on this role.

Karen Gillen has been appointed to the Accreditation Committee. She will widen the expertise within the committee, and make it easier to spread the workload. Thanks to Karen for taking on this important role.

Selected archives from the Write | Edit | Index conference have been moved to the ANZSI website. They include blogs, photos and the program, and presenters' papers as they are becoming available <anzsi.org/publications/conference-papers/write-edit-index/>. Thanks to Denise Sutherland for moving these over.

Control of the CafePress site has been moved from the ACT Region Branch to Council. Keep this site in mind if you ever want to buy an index-themed gift <www.cafepress.com.au/indexing>. It includes t-shirts, mugs, tote bags and water bottles.

We advertised in the July newsletter for someone to be a backup to Denise Sutherland for work on the website. We are delighted that Sherrey Quinn has offered to take on this role.

We have had feedback that receipts for ANZSI payments don't print neatly, so we have approved the purchase of a plug-in that will enable members to print receipts in PDF format.

Annual General Meeting

Planning is underway for the Annual General Meeting, which will be held by teleconference at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, 20 October 2015. **See the agenda and the call for nominations on pages 3 and 4.** Think about whether you would like to stand for Council, or if there is someone you would like to nominate for an executive or committee position.

Please also consider joining the meeting — from the comfort of your own home! Attendance is by telephone call or Skype, for which there is no charge to attendees (if you use a mobile phone you should check for any charges imposed by your provider). The meeting will be recorded, and will be made available to members only after the meeting.

Restructure/Groups

Implementation of the restructure continues to occupy Council members, especially Michael Wyatt who is overseeing the transfer of funds, and Lindy Allen who is coordinating the emerging groups. For Michael this has meant dealing with banks in different states and two countries, including coping with lost paperwork and inconsistent advice. For Lindy this means receiving applications for new groups and liaising with group convenors, Council, the web manager and others. Thank you to both of them for their good work on this.

There is also extra work for the web manager — thanks to Ali Bell for updating the website.

We now have two regional groups and two special interest groups. Congratulations to the second regional group, Indexers SA, which has been formed by and for indexers in South Australia. They were just too small in the past to form a Branch, so the new structure should provide better opportunities for them to get together under the ANZSI banner.

We have also approved an Education group and a Conference Ideas group. Both of these are informal groups for the discussion of issues of common interest. They are one way in which Council can hear about the ideas of all ANZSI members. The groups have no tasks they are obliged to perform, and no decision-making power, but they are able to put suggestions to Council as a group if they wish. Decisions will then be made by committees (e.g., the Education Committee) and Council as a whole.

You will find invitations to join these groups elsewhere in the newsletter, and you can check the growing list of groups at <anzsi.org/about-us/groups/>. All groups are open to all ANZSI members.

Introductory indexing course in NSW

I presented a two-day introductory indexing course to a group of eight students in Sydney. Three were long-distance travellers — one each from Malaysia, Victoria, and regional NSW. Two of them were children of indexers! See the [report and photo](#) in this newsletter.

Thank you to Jon Jerney for helping me set up the data projector and the morning tea, and to Mary Coe for bringing ASI/Information Today books for display. Jon and a friend later explored the Thomas Keneally room in the building (Sydney Mechanics School of Arts), where they met ... Thomas Keneally! By a wonderful coincidence, Jon is currently indexing a book on the works of Keneally.

Glenda Browne

ANZSI Annual General Meeting

Call for nominations

Preliminary notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Inc. will be held by teleconference at 6.30 pm on **Tuesday, 20 October 2015**, hosted at 32A Ross Crescent, Blaxland, NSW.

Any members wishing to propose a resolution at the meeting must give prior notice of motion. A copy of the resolution to be moved, signed by a proposer and seconder, must be received by the secretary Kerry Anderson <poppyesmerelda@gmail.com>, no later than **Tuesday, 15 September 2015**.

Nominations are therefore called for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and five ordinary Council members. A nomination form is available on the [ANZSI website](#).

Nominations must be emailed to <alan.walker@s054.aone.net.au>, or mailed to the Returning Officer at The Basement, 10 Rockwall Crescent, Potts Point NSW 2011, to arrive no later than **Tuesday, 15 September 2015**.

Web links

Introductory information:

anzsi.org/anzsi-annual-general-meeting/

Minutes from last year's AGM:

anzsi.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/AGM-Draft-Minutes-2-Oct-2014.pdf

Nomination form:

anzsi.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/elections-nomination-form.pdf

Teleconferencing

ANZSI members can join the teleconference by telephone or Skype. There are different numbers for Australia and New Zealand. Landline telephone calls and Skype connections are free. For mobile phones costs will depend on charges from your provider.

Please contact ANZSI Secretary Kerry Anderson <poppyesmerelda@gmail.com> to receive the phone number and login details. You will not be able to join the meeting without these.

Agenda

Meeting will be recorded.

1. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 2 October 2014 at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney.

2. Matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere in the agenda.

3. Annual Report

To receive and approve the Annual Report on the Society's activities in 2014–15.

The Annual Report will be made available before the AGM.

4. Treasurer's Report

To receive and approve an audited financial report from the Treasurer on the year 2014–15.

To approve the draft budget for the year 2015–16.

The report and draft budget will be tabled at the meeting.

5. Council for 2015–16

To receive a report from the Returning Officer on nominations for the following positions and, if necessary, to hold an election:

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Five council members

6. Any other business

Not requiring prior notice

Kerry Anderson

ANZSI Inc. Secretary

Finding our way at the Introduction to Indexing course

What do an author, a lawyer and an interior designer have in common? The desire to learn the art of indexing. A group of eight students from across NSW, Victoria and Malaysia attended the recent Introduction to Indexing course held in Sydney, in July.

We were in the capable hands of ANZSI President and indexing guru Glenda Browne. It quickly became apparent that what Glenda didn't know about indexing wasn't worth knowing.

An indexer needs to succinctly synthesise information and throw in a good dose of intuition. Glenda taught us to discriminate between the metatopic, key information and passing mentions of a subject. We learnt to use the natural language of the book, but also to consider alternative access points. Relationships between concepts were addressed through helpful cross-references and double entries.



From left to right, seated: Kate Gardner, Shah Saharudin, Celia Cavanagh-Downs, Katherine Webster, Bronwyn Nolan, Colleen O'Sullivan

From left to right, standing: Katie Levick, Hilary Mackenzie. Photographer: Glenda Browne

An indexer needs to be one step ahead of the reader, anticipating the way they are likely to search for information. Would a reader know that mountain climbers can suffer from *hypoxia*, or are they more likely to look up *oxygen, lack of*? We debated whether *stamping out insider trading* should be paired with *elimination* or *eradication*.

Former President of the ANZSI NSW Branch, Mary Coe, paid us a brief visit. Mary taught us the indexer's mantra — 'There are no rules, just context' — and this became apparent as we tackled various exercises.

The filing order of words was examined. If *101 Dalmatians* encountered the *Hundred Years War*, who would come out on top? Ampersands, initial articles and abbreviations were thrown into the mix, leading to a new-found appreciation of the complex world of filing.

At the end of the course we were given a poorly structured index — an example of what not to do. We laughed out loud, but secretly knew that this is what our indexes may have looked like if we hadn't done the course. It also highlighted the crucially important step of editing an index.

We all left the course a lot wiser as to importance of a good index, and the value of a good indexer. Glenda talked about 'the principle of safe arrival' — a concept that encapsulates the indexing profession's responsibility to deliver readers effortlessly to their desired destination.

For anyone considering embarking on indexing, the Introduction to Indexing course is highly recommended. A lot of territory was covered, but not so much as to be overwhelming. Regardless of our varied professional backgrounds, all the attendees felt adequately challenged, armed and inspired to start indexing.

Katherine Webster

Shop, Indexing

www.cafepress.com.au/indexing



Membership Renewal Reminder

Don't forget to renew your ANZSI membership,
if you haven't got around to it yet!

Group news

Indexers SA

Formed by and for indexers in South Australia, but the group is open to all members.

Convenor: Jane Oliver

Contact: janeoliver@ozemail.com.au

Education Special Interest Group

This group will operate virtually, through an email forum.

It is an informal means to discuss issues related to the education of indexing. Topics could include training courses, seminars, webinars, tutoring (mentoring), accreditation/assessing, publications, and conference organisation when one has an education focus. **More info on page 9.**

Convenor: Glenda Browne

Contact: glendabrowne@gmail.com

ANZSI Conference Ideas Group

This group provides a forum to discuss ideas for mini/regional/national conferences and seminars. While it is acknowledged that some members advocate biennial national conferences and others do not, the aim of the group is to keep the conversation going. The group will make recommendations to ANZSI Council, including for updating the ANZSI conference policy document, and on a possible biennial national conference.

Convenor: Terri Mackenzie

Contact: terrienne@bigpond.com

THE INDEXER

The International Journal of Indexing

June issue now out, with articles including:

- Joan Dearnley on indexing art books
- Katherine Bode and Carol Hetherington on indexing serialized novels in old Australian newspapers
- Carol Reed on communication with authors
- Simon Rowberry on indexing as hypertext

Subscribe online

ANZSI members 4 issues £35 (approx. A\$68)
(Pay using a credit/debit card or a PayPal account)

<http://tinyurl.com/subscribe-online>

Email: subscriptions@theindexer.org

Essential reading for anyone interested in promoting the cause of analytical indexing in the digital age

www.theindexer.org

Digital Book (DB)/Book Expo America (BEA) 2015 trip report

On behalf of ASI, I attended these overlapping events that took place in New York during the last week of May. As ASI's representative to the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF), my primary purpose was to continue shepherding the Indexes Specification (during the Digital Book (DB) conference). My secondary purpose was to proselytise for indexes in ebooks to the publishers at both DB and Book Expo America (BEA) events. Also, to learn what's new in the industry, and make contacts helpful to promoting the first two goals.

First, I am extremely pleased to report that at their pre-conference meeting, the IDPF Board approved the Indexes Specification to Recommended Status which means that it now goes to the IDPF membership for a vote. This is the culmination of several years of work, and is a real achievement for ASI to accomplish as a player in the industry. My thanks to the ASI Board for having the vision to support joining the IDPF and to Michele Combs for co-chairing the Indexes Working Group (IWG) with me. ANZSI also joined the IDPF, and thanks to Glenda Browne for her participation in the IWG as well.

Of course the work doesn't end; the next phase is to get publishers to want to use Indexes Specification and to get reading system developers to implement functionality based on it.

Hence, the other goals of coming to New York. As usual, the sessions were mostly of moderate interest to the goals, but getting to corral the presenters and promote indexes to other industry leaders was invaluable. For instance, I was able to make contacts with the CEO at Macmillan Education in charge of the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) publications; an editor at *Publishers Weekly*; and Vice-President of Product Development of VitalSource, a reading system developer, among others. Frankly, they all seem to be supporters of indexes but haven't known what to do about the state of indexes in ebooks. They are heartened and supportive to find a focal point (ASI & IDPF) for this activity. Now that the foundation (the Specification) has been all but laid, it will bear fruit over the next year or two through adoption by publishers and Reading System developers.

One side note is that ebook sales seem to have plateaued at 20%. No one is sure why, what it means, or where it will go next. However, 90% of ebooks are fiction, so this isn't affecting indexes. There are large efforts afoot to get educational publishing to produce ebooks, such as IDPF's EDUPUB Working Group. Other non-fiction is likely to follow as EPUB3 finally makes headway into the technology used by publishers.

Dave Ream (ASI)

First published in *Key Words* — Vol. 23, No. 7, July 2015, p.84.

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Education Special Interest Group

ANZSI Council has approved the creation of an Education Special Interest Group, and we invite all ANZSI members to join us.

The group aims to encourage informal discussion about issues related to indexing education. We envisage that discussions would cover topics such as ANZSI training courses, seminars, webinars and mentoring, extending into accreditation/assessing, publications and conference organisation when they have an education focus.

The group has started a mailing list, through which issues will be discussed and information shared. It is not expected at this stage that the group will meet face-to-face or pursue specific activities, although the focus may change over time.

The group is for all members, including students, new indexers, experienced indexers and those with a training role. It is an opportunity to put forward ideas of training that you would find useful, and suggestions for the delivery methods we could use.

This group has no decision-making role, but will feed ideas to the Education Committee.

The convenor is Glenda Browne, and other founder members are Lindy Allen and Jon Jermey.

If you would like to join, please email Glenda Browne at <glendabrowne@gmail.com>.



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Etcetera

In an article published earlier this year in the *Washington Post* entitled ‘Why digital natives prefer reading in print. Yes, you read that right,’ Michael Rosenwald explains that despite publishers’ attempts to transform their textbook businesses to digital, and despite educational institutions touting the benefits of ditching print texts in favour of online versions, students are displaying a tenacious preference for studying with a hard copy book in their hands.

This aligns with data showing that millennials are the group least likely to prefer reading fiction on a digital reader. A study from the Pew Research Center found 18–29 year olds are currently the age group most likely to be using the library.

Universities promote digital textbooks because the cost is much lower than for print books but, the writer argues, they are overlooking important factors that cause students to prefer print texts. These include:



- Readers tend to skim text on screens or read less carefully than they do with print texts, which makes absorbing the material more difficult.
- Students tend to remember the location of information by its position in the book and by the text layout, or, as one student said, by the dirty smudge on the corner of one page. Digital texts make it difficult to build a mind map that can help students return to information after a first pass.
- Reading very long or highly complex texts is much more difficult with a digital textbook, as referring to different sections is tricky. With some textbooks running to hundreds of pages, students feel the disadvantage of lugging heavy texts around is outweighed by the advantage of being able to flick through them.
- Students reading texts online — or on devices also used for that purpose — are subject to the distractions of internet connection that can make study time much less efficient and effective. Tumblr can turn a quick break into a three-hour lapse all too easily.
- Second-hand and rented texts have the benefit of marginal notes from previous users. Students report preferring used print texts that have been scribbled on, ahead of pristine print or digital copies.

Rosenwald says that ‘digital native’ students prefer to use digital books in class where search functions make finding material instant and easy. Unfortunately, he doesn’t list indexes as a benefit of print textbooks. This seems a significant oversight. Surely the index and glossary of any text are a student’s best friends. It’s disappointing the value of indexes missed out on a mention here.

If you’d like to read the article for yourself, you can find it at this link: <tinyurl.com/nff2ekt>.

Columnist Wanted

As this will be my last column for the ANZSI Newsletter, we’re looking for someone to fill this spot. If you’d be interested in writing a short column every other issue of the newsletter, please contact Denise Sutherland on <denise@sutherland-studios.com.au>.

ANZSI events

Meetings

Saturday, 8 August

Victoria: Annual General Meeting & High Tea

2:30–4:30 pm, Langham Hotel, Southbank

Bookings for the high tea have now closed.

Tuesday, 18 August

ACT Region: Annual General Meeting & Dinner

6:15–9 pm, Hotel Realm, Barton

After a brief AGM, we will discuss plans for future groups and activities, over a convivial dinner.

Dinner is \$52.50 per person. RSVP to **Sherrey Quinn** by **10 August**.

Tuesday, 25 August

Queensland: Annual General Meeting

6:30–8:30 pm, Woolloongabba Ward Office, 2/63 Annerley Road, Woolloongabba

Tuesday, 1 September

Melbourne Indexers: Corporate bodies

6–7:30 pm, The Old Op Shop, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Kew

Company names, organisations and even military groups can pose a challenge to indexers. Michael Ramsden will lead a discussion on how to index the different types of corporate bodies.

Tuesday, 1 September

ANZSI Council: September meeting

6:30–8 pm, via teleconference. For Council members only. If you have any matters you would like to raise with Council, please raise them with a Council member before this date.

Other events

Editors Victoria Training Courses, August 2015

ANZSI members are eligible to attend these events at the member's rate.

Introduction to Copyediting

Saturday, 15 August (bookings close 10 August)

Most people imagine book editors as their scariest English teacher, armed with a red pen, only too ready to find fault with a hapless author's work. While finding and correcting spelling and grammatical errors is part of what editors do, it is only part of the picture. Introduction to Copyediting is a hard-copy course that will fill in the blanks for you. Presented by Susan Keogh at CAE, Lt Flinders St, Melbourne.

www.editorsvictoria.org/component/content/article?id=651

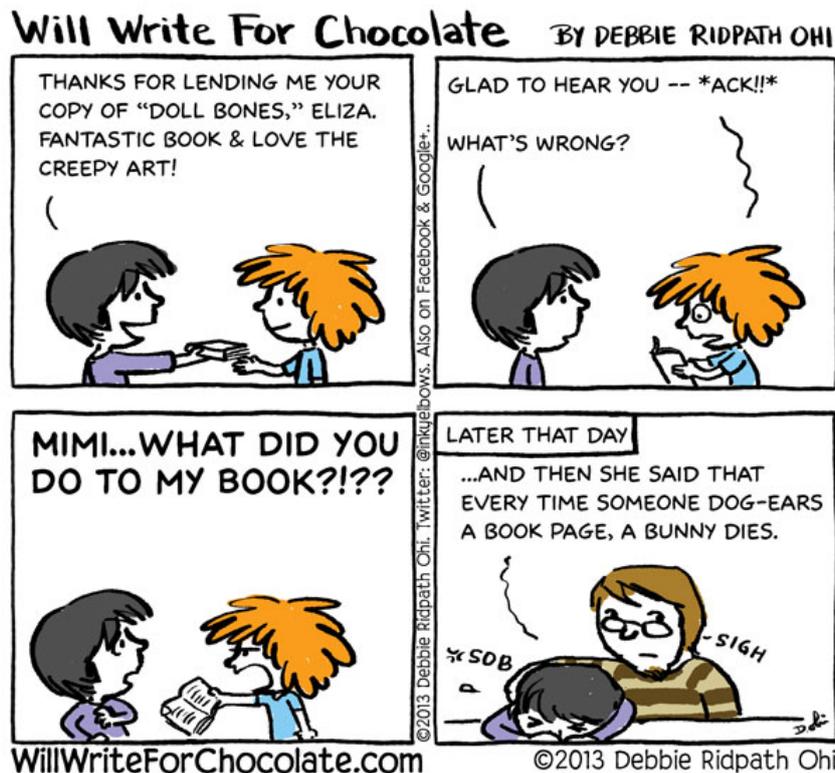
Introduction to Structural Editing

Saturday, 29 August (bookings close 17 August)

Structural editing tends to be one of those hazy concepts that is often referred to but rarely explained, leaving new editors understandably frustrated as they seek to gain structural editing skills. This hard-copy workshop will give you the opportunity to get to grips with the nuts and bolts of structural editing, with examples drawn from trade non-fiction and educational books.

www.editorsvictoria.org/component/content/article?id=652

Never Lend a Book to a Friend Unless You're Prepared for the Consequences



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Contact information

ANZSI's general email: ANZSIinfo@anzsi.org

ANZSI Council

President: **Glenda Browne**

Vice-President: **Lindy Allen**

Secretary: **Kerry Anderson**

Treasurer: **Michael Wyatt**

Council members: **Judy Richter, Terri Mackenzie, Elisabeth Thomas** and **Mei Yen Chua**

Branch and regional contacts

Branch and regional contacts for ANZSI Inc. are being restructured, with the dissolution of branches and their replacement by informal regional and special interest groups. Branches and their presidents no longer officially exist. In the transition period, however, branch officials are playing an important role in closing branch accounts, and in running the final AGM for the branch. For this reason, we have kept their contact details in this newsletter. Regional contacts have been kept in the list for people interested in exploring options for regional groups in their area.

When a group has been formed that overlaps the area once covered by a branch or regional contact, we have removed their details from this list. Please consult the [ANZSI website](#) for details of new regional groups.

ACT Region: **Denise Sutherland**

New South Wales: **Mary Coe**

New Zealand: **Julie Daymond-King**

Northern Territory: **Frieda Evans**

Queensland: **Jane Douglas**

North Queensland: **Jean Dartnall**

Tasmania: **Christopher Brennan**

Western Australia: **Shelley Campbell**

Newsletter

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About the Newsletter

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

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

Schedule

The next Newsletter will appear in September 2015. The contribution deadline is **Monday 24 August**. **Please note the earlier date this time.**

Please send contributions by email to the editor, Denise Sutherland, at

denise@sutherland-studios.com.au.

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