

____ AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS ____
NEWSLETTER

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AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS
NEWSLETTER

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS

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Melbourne, Victoria 3001

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Ex Officio: Chairman, Panel of Assessors; Editor, *Newsletter*

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ANNUAL REPORT 1988

While total member numbers increased by only three to a 31 December 1988 figure of 185, the actual membership showed quite a lot of change. Forty-four new members joined, but 41 previous members were lost through resignations (13) and non-renewal of subscriptions (28) and a few members moved interstate.

Membership is spread thus:

	As at Jan.1988	New	Resigned	Non renewals	As at Dec.1988
ACT	15	2	1	0	17
NSW	38	18	1	2	50
NT	1	0	0	0	2
Qld	9	3	3	2	7
SA	5	3	0	1	7
Tas.	2	0	0	0	2
Vic.	106	18	8	23	94
WA	4	0	0	0	4
NZ	2	0	0	0	2
Total	182	44	13	28	185

In addition to copies sent to members, there are nine Australian and five overseas subscribers to the *Newsletter*, and exchange or complimentary copies are sent to eight Australian and seven overseas people or societies whose interests are related to ours.

The *Newsletter* has continued to be our most important means of communication and our special thanks are due to the Editor, Geraldine Suter. 1988 saw some lively correspondence in its columns. Much thought has been given by the Editor and the Committee to the format of the *Newsletter*. We hope the members of AusSI will enjoy the revamped issues planned for 1989. As the *Newsletter* is a major item of expenditure (and hence bites into your subscription), we have endeavoured to streamline its production processes. The Editor thanks the 1988 contributors, and again begs members to send items for the quarterly issues for 1989. A significant number of AusSI members subscribe to *The Indexer*, published twice yearly by the Society of Indexers.

The new yellow covered edition of *Indexers available* was published mid-year. The direct requests to the Society for indexers have dropped considerably since *Indexers available* was issued to publishers. Various suggestions and criticisms of the format and content have been received, and these will be taken into account in the preparation of the next edition. Stocks remain of the 1988 edition and newer members may obtain these from the Secretary for \$7.50; the price for non-members is \$10.00.

The publication of the Australian Government Publishing Service's *Style manual for authors*,

editors and publishers, 4th edn, appeared in September amidst great publicity over the chapter on non-sexist language. Our concern was Chapter 19, Indexing, prepared by George Levick. Within the constrictions of chapter space allowed, George made an excellent contribution and we thank him for all the time, effort and consultation in its preparation.

A highlight of the year was the award of the Society's Medal to Elmar Zalums for his excellent index to Manning Clark's, *History of Australia*, volume 6, published by Melbourne University Press. The presentation dinner took place at Graduate House, University of Melbourne, on 30 August 1988. Elmar gave an interesting account of the preparation of the index, with the assistance of his personal computer. An attractive Certificate of Commendation had been designed by CSIRO. This was accepted on behalf of the publisher, MUP, by Wendy Sutherland. Special thanks are due to John Arnold (State Library of Victoria) and Cheryl Schauder (RMIT) for all the work they did in the final judgment of the entries. Some very good indexes were submitted this year and seven books were shortlisted. Dianne Reilly also helped in the initial stages. We were disappointed in the response from publishers to our request for entries for the Australian Society of Indexers Medal. (John Arnold's fine report on the award was published in the *Newsletter* for September.)

The programme for 1988 began with the Annual General Meeting which was held on 9 March at a Japanese-style restaurant and the social occasion was much enjoyed. Our guest speaker, Liz Oley, kindly agreed to postpone her talk on database development to the meeting of 3 May, because of certain acoustic problems. Liz gave an excellent presentation at CSIRO.

On 25 June 1988 a successful Saturday workshop, 'New Horizons in Indexing', was held. It was a great pleasure to welcome amongst the 40 attendees, several interstate members. Over a tasty lunch on a wintry day between the morning and afternoon sessions, useful contacts were made, at Northbrook House, Malvern. Topics included indexing of genealogical materials; community information; an historical picture collection; legal indexing; Viatel; laser discs and pictorial information, and computerised databases. Sue Harvey, Max McMaster, Karen Borchardt and Joyce Korn were very helpful in planning the seminar, while John Simkin and Jennifer Pritchard greatly assisted on the day.

The final general meeting on 10 November was a round table discussion held at CSIRO. Attendance was somewhat disappointing but the quality of

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

As you will see from the 1988 statement of income and expenditure, the year ended with an operating deficit of \$599.88. While the Society remains in a reasonably sound financial position, it is not prudent to continue to operate at a loss.

One of the reasons for the present situation is that too many members do not renew subscriptions promptly and some do not renew at all.

Formerly the constitution allowed these unfinancial members to be one year in arrears and thus to receive four issues of the *Newsletter* at no cost to themselves, but at quite a cost to the Society.

I moved a motion at the recent AGM to amend the constitution to reduce the time allowed for subscriptions to be paid from one year to six months in arrears before members will be deemed to have resigned. This motion was carried.

If you have not paid your subscription, please send your cheque as soon as possible.

Joyce Korn
Treasurer

INDEXING COURSES

Two one-day indexing courses have been organised by the Society in conjunction with RMIT. One course is designed for new indexers, the other for advanced indexers.

Both courses will be held at RMIT.

New indexers – Saturday 1 July 1989

Advanced indexers – Saturday 19 August 1989

The cost of each course is \$100 for Society members, and \$120 for non-members. A discount will be offered for attendance at both courses – members \$175; non-members \$200.

Bookings are not being taken at this stage, however members wishing to record a registration of interest can do so by writing to the Secretary, Australian Society of Indexers, GPO Box 1251L, Melbourne, 3001. Full program details and official registration forms for both courses will be mailed out in mid-May.

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS MEDAL

The Australian Society of Indexers Medal is again being offered for an outstanding index to a book or periodical compiled and first published in Australia.

To be eligible for the award, the index must be in print and must have been first published in Australia in 1988. It must have been compiled in Australia even though the text to which it refers may have originated outside Australia.

All members of the Society are invited to nominate indexes which meet the above criteria, and which they consider worthy of consideration. Don't be bashful, you can nominate your own index!

Recommendations with bibliographical details should be sent to the Secretary, Australian Society of Indexers, GPO Box 1251L, Melbourne, Victoria 3001 as soon as possible, but no later than Monday 31 July, 1989.

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members:

Miss J. Beard	44 Willarong Road North, Caringbah NSW 2229
Ms J. Belisle	4/15 Maverston Street, Burwood Vic. 3125
Ms G. Browne	79 Winbourne Road, Hazelbrook NSW 2779
Ms P. Convery	12A/22 Allison Road, Elsternwick Vic. 3185
Dr P. Gorman	18 Findon Avenue, North Caulfield Vic. 3161
Mr F. Hutchinson	PO Box 218, Carlton South Vic. 3053
Ms M. Hyland	69 Shumack Street, Weetangera ACT 2614
Ms M. Lim	26 Yarralumla Drive, Carlingford NSW 2118
Mr J. Russell	14 Inskip Street, Rocklea Qld 4105
Mr N. Towart	857 Pittwater Road, Collaroy NSW 2097
Ms I. Trahn	38 Wisdom Road, Greenwich NSW 2065

NEXT MEETING: Ann Hall on Macrex

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Wednesday 12 April at 6.00 for 6.30 p.m., CSIRO, 3rd floor, 314 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

Our guest speaker is Ann Hall from Scotland who will talk about using Macrex for back-of-book indexing. Ann, a registered indexer with the Society of Indexers (UK), is very experienced in the use of Macrex and will provide a particularly interesting talk on its major features and applications.

The meeting will also include a brief demonstration of Macrex on an IBM compatible system and a panel discussion/question-answer session by Ann and two Society members who are using Macrex in their work.

Afterwards, members will be going to dinner at a nearby restaurant, so come along and join us.

SUGGESTED INDEX FOR ENRIGHT'S LEGAL RESEARCH AND INTERPRETATION

(Reproduced from Australian Law Librarians' Group Newsletter no.89, November-December 1988. Only the first page of the full index is included here.)

In a book review of Enright, C. *Legal research and interpretation*, St Leonards, NSW, College of Law, 1988, (1988) No 86 ALLG Newsletter 102-104, one of the points made was the lack of an index. In October 1988 both Lorraine Doyle (Butterworths) and Colin Fong (without knowledge of the other enrolling) enrolled for a book indexing course conducted by the University of New South Wales School of Librarianship and Australian Society of Indexers. Attendance was expected from 6.00 p.m. to 9.00p.m. for six evenings. As an extra curricular activity it was decided to have a go at indexing Enright's book and here is the result. References are to page numbers with chapter and appendix numbers also indicated.

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NEWSLETTER - JUNE ISSUE

We welcome contributions to the *Newsletter*. If you have any material you feel would be suitable for inclusion, please send it to the Editor, Australian Society of Indexers, GPO Box 1251L, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, by Monday 25 June 1989.

Advertisements for publication in the *Newsletter* are now being accepted at the following rates:

1/2 inch block	\$5
1 inch block	\$10

To place an advertisement please forward text and appropriate cheque to:

The Editor
Australian Society of Indexers
GPO Box 1251L
Melbourne Victoria 3001

Closing date for next issue

25 June 1989