



— AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS —
NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

A mad indexers' tea party? The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, 27 February at the Spring Park Tea Room in Malvern. A "quaintly olde-worlde ambience..." suggested the Society of Editors, noting our choice of venue in their February Newsletter. Indeed, the Spring Park Tea Room had just that, and the setting helped make an extremely pleasant evening of the meeting and dinner. While it was my first AusSI AGM, other Society members commented that it was the most enjoyable they had attended for several years.

Nineteen members were present on the night, which saw the election of office bearers; the presentation of the Annual Report by President, Max McMaster; and of the Annual Financial Report, prepared by Treasurer, Joyce Korn. Further details of AGM business are below, and both reports will appear in full in the April issue of the Newsletter. Which reminds me...

The first 'expanded' issue of the Newsletter is now planned for April, and should materialise shortly after the Easter holiday. The expanded issue will include longer articles, and members' contributions are wanted. While items on technical subjects are welcome, 'scholarly' articles should be forwarded to The Indexer.

I should mention again that the Newsletter is seeking regular correspondents in each

State. Thus far, we have two in Queensland, and expressions of interest from New South Wales. Correspondents, bless them, are eligible for reimbursement of mailing and other expenses, and might get to take the President out to lunch during his interstate visits.

The belated 1990-91 edition of Indexers Available is in the final stages of production. We must apologise for its lateness, however, there have been unavoidable delays. Free copies (normally priced at \$10.00) should be on their way to each member very soon.

Thanks to all who responded to the new style Newsletter with suggestions and encouragement. It was also good to receive a letter from Canada. Peter Grieg, former Liaison Officer for the Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada, had many suggestions, and congratulated AusSI on its efforts to promote greater self-awareness among Australian indexers.

Please continue to write in - your input is appreciated.

Helen Kinniburgh

AGM: FORMATION OF VICTORIAN BRANCH AND ELECTION

A Victorian Branch of the Australian Society of Indexers was formed at the Annual General Meeting of 27 February, 1991, with 26 members voting for the motion and 1 against (7 votes were by proxy). A motion proposing that members of the National Committee should fill

the equivalent Victorian Branch positions was also carried.

The following officers were elected:

President: Max McMaster
Vice-President: George Levick
Treasurer: Joyce Korn
Secretary: Ian Odgers
Committee: Rosemary Cotter
Josephine McGovern
Isabelle Mentha

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members:

Ms G Brie
PO Box 288
Kempsey NSW 2440

Ms R Lawrence
89 Eglinton Street
Moonee Ponds VIC 3039

Ms S Pilcer
45 Probert Street
Camperdown NSW 2050

Ms C Wood
3/150 Helen Street
Morwell VIC 3840

NEW REGISTERED INDEXER

The Society congratulates Mr Roger Malot, who recently qualified as a Registered Indexer.

ELIZABETH WALLIS: VISIT TO MELBOURNE

While in Australia, Elizabeth Wallis, Registrar and Chair of the Society of Indexers (UK), addressed the NSW Branch of the Society on the criteria for the registration of indexers in the UK. She also 'touched down' in Melbourne, as Committee Member Josephine McGovern writes:

Elizabeth's plans to spend a week in Melbourne were

changed and she only managed two nights before flying back to London on 21 December 1990. However, the visit was a busy time and she did manage to fulfill her ambitions to ride on a Melbourne tram to visit the National Gallery and the Royal Botanic Gardens.

With the aid of some chauffeuring from John Simkin and myself, Elizabeth and her travelling companion viewed Melbourne from the West Gate Bridge, lunched at Parliament House, had dinner in South Yarra and finally enjoyed the Australian, lively performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream in the Botanic Gardens. The evening was balmy and the performance energetic and enjoyable.

Josephine McGovern

MEMBERS' FORUM

(The indexers' agony column?)
Several AusSI members have suggested that the Newsletter should provide an information exchange or technical forum on indexing. We therefore invite readers to send in their queries, problems and comments on any aspect of indexing. In the absence of an all-knowing agony aunt, the Editor hopes that those members with appropriate expertise will respond.

Our first query comes from a NSW member:

Personal names and Australian honours

BS 3700 suggests (at 5.3.1.3) that where personal names include a title of nobility, the entry should be under the surname...followed by...titles. Australia has no nobility but we have both English honours (Knights and Dames) and Australian honours.

Knights and Dames, and certain professional persons receive mention in both Australia and England: eg. Baxter, Sir Philip; Sutherland, Dame Joan; Blow, Dr Joe; Wolff, Prof. Mary, etc.

Sir Philip Baxter is a KBE, but the latter honour is not mentioned in an index because the honorific 'Sir' is sufficient, I presume; but what about a plain 'Mr' who receives the Order of Australia? For example, how would Rabbi Raymond Apple, AM (Senior Minister of the Great Synagogue) be indexed?

Generally, are Australian honours recognised or ignored in an index, and what is the reason for either?

VALE: PATRICK LEEHY

One of AusSI's most supportive members in Melbourne, Patrick Leehy, passed away on 23 February 1991. Patrick always turned up to AusSI meetings, seminars and dinners and in his gentle way often provided wise and perceptive comments. He had an easy familiarity with computers and their associated jargon. He loved words and was by nature meticulous.

His indexing skills were utilised by a leading Australian mining journal and in some prestigious legal texts. In fact, one of his legal indexes was submitted to the panel judging the 1990 Australian Society of Indexers' Medal.

Born and educated in Sydney, Patrick came to Victoria as a RAAF recruit in 1941 and married another Sydneysider, Mary. They would have celebrated their golden wedding anniversary this year.

After war service in Darwin and the Pacific, Patrick took on a post-war career in the Department of Civil Aviation

and travelled within Australia and overseas in the course of his work. He also reached the rank of Major in the Army Reserve.

As a mature-age student he studied Arts at La Trobe University and both delighted and startled his philosophy lecturers with his way with words. His B.A. in 1979 was followed by a Master of Education from La Trobe University. Patrick is survived by his wife Mary and four sons and daughters to whom he has left the legacy of love of words and song.

Josephine McGovern

And in such indexes, although small pricks to their subsequent volumes, there is seen the baby figure of the giant mass of things to come at large.

Shakespeare, Troilus and Cressida, Act 1, Scene 3

TENTATIVE TIMETABLE: 1991 MEETINGS AND EVENTS

General Meeting: Thurs 18 April
Database Seminar: Wed 19 June
Indexing Course: 4-6 weeks
July/August
Medal Dinner: Tues 24 September
General Meeting/Forum: Mon 25
November

DEADLINE - APRIL ISSUE

Contributions should reach the Editor at the address below by 28 March 1991.

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Membership of the Society is open to persons and institutions engaged in indexing or interested in promoting the objects of the Society. The annual subscription, due on 1 January each year, is \$20; a half-yearly subscription for entry after 1 July is \$10. All material appearing in the Newsletter is subject to copyright but may be reproduced for non-commercial purposes, provided that appropriate acknowledgement is made. This publication is indexed and abstracted by the Australian Clearing House for Library and Information Science for Australian education index and Library and information science abstracts.

