



Australian Society of Indexers NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

Hello,

This is your new *quidnunc* here. Don't let that "Q" word fool you. My compulsive Scrabble playing habits will not lead to a communique filled with bizzare, high-scoring words. Far from it!

There will be consecutions, sockdologers and ratiocinations. Not loquacity, enthymemes and speciousness. There might be an occasional @#\$%^&*! But definitely no zzzzzzzzzzzz..... Causeries and apercus will be most welcome.

Steve Sunter

WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU...

A few members still haven't paid their dues for 1992. Unless we receive your payment by April 24, this will be the last Newsletter you receive.

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER

The form for *Indexers Available 1992* was enclosed with the March issue of the Newsletter. Please dig it out from your files and return it ASAP. Don't miss out this year! Late forms cannot be guaranteed inclusion in the directory.

LEARNING THE ART

The ever-popular introductory book indexing course returns to Sydney next week. It starts on Wednesday, April 22 and ends May 27. Sessions are held each Wednesday evening 6pm to 9pm ...Be quick! Cost is \$265 for the six sessions. A four-day indexing workshop will also be held (possibly in June). Other courses to be held later in 1992 cover indexing technical work and computer-aided indexing. **Contact:** Maureen Henninger, School of Librarianship, UNSW (02) 697 3589

ANNUAL REPORT 1991: "Outgoing" President's Report

Max McMaster looks back at the changes and achievements of the past 12 months. This report is based on an address presented at the 1992 Annual General Meeting, held at Malvern on February 26. The address was presented by George Levick, due to Max's long-standing business commitments inter-state.

The report was well received by the meeting. It was heartily cheered (in between drinks).

The Australian Society of Indexers has undergone a metamorphosis during the past year. The changes have been both exciting and innovative; designed to assist both current and prospective members of AusSI. This annual report outlines some of the developments.

Membership: Membership increased from 188 at January 1, 1991, to 192 at December 31, 1991. This was a net gain of four which reversed the position in 1990 when a net 17 members were lost.

As in previous years, actual membership showed quite a lot of change: 37 members joined but 33 previous members were lost (10 through resignation, death or unnotified change of address and a further 23 through non-renewal of subscriptions.

Geographic distribution of members as at December 31, 1991 is:

ACT	15	TAS	2
NSW	55	VIC	96
NT	3	WA	3
QLD	9	SA	5
		NZ	4
		Total	192

The Newsletter also has nine Australian and five overseas subscribers and exchange or complimentary copies are sent to 10 Australian and overseas organisations with interests related to the Society, most of whom reciprocate with their own newsletters.

In 1991, 122 members took advantage of the reduced subscription price for *The Indexer* made available to members of affiliated societies by the Society of Indexers.

1991 AGM: The 1991 Annual General Meeting was held on February 27 at Spring Park Tea Rooms in Malvern. Nineteen members attended. A motion to form the Victorian Branch was carried. A motion proposing that members of the National Committee should fill the equivalent Victorian Branch positions was also carried.

Newsletter: Following a policy decision to change the Newsletter's frequency from quarterly to 11 issues per year, new Editor, Helen Kinniburgh had the daunting task of implementing the plan. The 11 issues to comprise two major ones carrying articles and reviews and nine short and simple keep up-to-date issues.

Under Helen's guidance "correspondents" were sought and found in a number of states: Queensland; New South Wales; Tasmania; Northern Territory; plus a correspondent in New Zealand. The correspondents have been magnificent in adding their local colour to the Newsletter, and to them a sincere thanks.

Our New South Wales Branch colleagues have also contributed many worthwhile items to the Newsletter based largely on their functions and courses they have held. Again, thanks - we couldn't do without you!

A special note of thanks to Kingsley Siebel for contributing the most items to the Newsletter.

A final thank you at this stage to the Victorian Branch for purchasing a Macintosh SE computer and appropriate software midway through the year. It has made production of Newsletters so much easier, and has allowed for greater flair in layout.

Indexers Available: Following many trials and tribulations with the typesetter, *Indexers Available 1990/91* finally materialised in June 1991. The wait was obviously well worthwhile: confirmed by positive comments received from publishers and editors. A special thanks to Isabelle Mentha, Ian Odgers and Helen Kinniburgh for their time and effort over the preparation of this publication.

AusSI Medal: The award of the Society's Medal is always a highlight. The Medal Dinner took place at Graduate House, University of Melbourne, on October 23 1991.

This year the panel consisted of Elizabeth Morrison as Chairman, and two stalwarts from previous panels in Cheryl Schauder and George Levick.

After much discussion and deliberation the 1991 Australian Society of Indexers' Medal was awarded to Geraldine Suter for her *Index to The Argus 1860* (Melbourne: Council of the State Library of Victoria, 1990).

Two other indexes were highly commended:

Dorothy Prescott, for her index to: *Geology of the Mineral Deposits of Australia and Papua New Guinea*, edited by F.E. Hughes (Parkville: Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 1990); 2 volumes.

Elmar Zalums, for his index to: *Gipps--La Trobe Correspondence 1839-1846*, edited by A.G.L. Shaw (Carlton: Melbourne University Press at the Miegunyah Press, 1989).

Well done to all! And many thanks to our judges for another superb effort.

Committee on Indexers' Training

Needs: The committee comprised: Connie Wilson (University of NSW); Allen Hall (University of Technology, Sydney), and Garry Cousins (President, AusSI NSW Branch).

The report from the Committee consists largely of two questionnaires: one for publishers; one for prospective and practising indexers.

The report has been presented to the AusSI National Executive. The Executive's response to the report is expected soon.

Seminars; Workshops; Meetings:

Back-of-book indexing courses were conducted over six week periods in Sydney (through the University of NSW) and in Melbourne. Both courses were well attended. Many thanks to Michael Wyatt and Alan Walker for the Sydney course, and to my co-presenters: Rosemary Cotter, Josephine McGovern and George Levick for the Melbourne course.

The Victorian Branch of AusSI conducted a very successful "Databases and Database Design" workshop in conjunction with the Australian Database Development Association (ADDA).

The Victorian group had a very interesting evening with a presentation by Vesna Iskra on "Income Tax Deductions for Freelance Indexers", as well as a presentation from Kerry Herbstreit on "How to Prepare an Estimate for an Index".

The NSW Branch had successful meetings with presentations by Mary Turner on "Indexing databases on CD-

ROM" and by Elizabeth Moys on "Legal Vocabulary and the Indexer".

Assessment of Indexes for

Registration: Four indexes were submitted for assessment and all were successful. We thank Josephine McGovern and John Simkin for their important role as co-Chairmen of the Panel of Assessors.

Special Thanks: In thanking all the members of the Committee and our Editor, I specially thank the Secretary, Ian Odgers, and the Treasurer, Joyce Korn, who have guaranteed the continuity of our work.

To sum up, 1991 has been a most successful year for AusSI. Let's make sure 1992 and the years to come are even better.

Max McMaster,
President 1989-91

STIR AN INDEXER

Get out your stirring spoons, sharpen a few sticks and hone your razor wit. We are going to put some indexers on the spot. The Victorian Branch is holding one of their famous "panel meetings" in May. Controversial topics will be discussed on the night. Feel free to bring your own "curly" questions. Theme is "Stir an Indexer". The meeting will last approximately two hours. Any continuing disputes may be resolved later over dinner at a nearby restaurant.

The gathering will be held on Thursday, May 19 at the Committee Room, 3rd Flr, CSIRO Information Services Branch, 314 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Time: 5.30 for 6pm. Drinks and nibbles supplied.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT: January - December, 1991

Expenditure	\$	Income	\$
Membership - National		Memberships	3,680.00
Book Council	75.00	<i>The Indexer</i>	2,633.00
Newsletter expenses	3,496.23	Newsletter - sales	382.00
<i>The Indexer</i>	2,308.19	- advertisement	40.00
Registration expenses		Registration fees	240.00
& certificates	125.25	<i>Indexers Available</i>	100.00
Stationery	331.00	Index 4	283.00
Information brochure	102.00	AGM Dinner meeting	475.00
GPO Box rental	105.00	Medal Dinner	540.00
Phone book entry	80.00	Interest - Bank Account	101.46
Bank & Govt. charges	80.40	Interest - Bank of Melbourne	
Meeting expenses	63.50	- at call account	17.09
<i>Indexers Available</i>	2,487.30	- Fixed Term (1)	146.77
Index 4	57.22	- Fixed Term (2)	372.67
Hon. Secretary expenses	139.68	Interest - Capital Building Soc.	
Hon. Treasurer expenses	23.72	- Fixed Term	223.66
AGM Dinner	417.92		
NSW Branch advance	50.00		<u>9,234.65</u>
Vic. Branch establishment		Operating Loss for 1991	2,051.07
grant	500.00		
Medal & Medal Dinner	783.31		
Award Certificate	<u>60.00</u>		
	11,285.72		

Balance Sheet as at 31 Dec.1991

Cash in Bank 1 Jan. 1991	1,577.27
Bank of Melbourne	
- at call	284.90
- Fixed Term (1)	1,285.90
- Fixed Term (2)	2,610.87
Assets as at 1 Jan. 1991	7,979.91
plus Income	<u>9,234.65</u>
	17,214.56
less Expenditure	<u>11,285.72</u>

Assets as at 31 Dec. 1991 **5,928.84**

Assets as at 31 December 1991

Cash in Bank	1,633.24
Bank of Melbourne	
- at call	301.99
- Fixed Term (1)	1,000.00
- Fixed Term (2)	2,483.54
Capital Building Society	
- Fixed Term	<u>510.07</u>
	5,928.84

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members:

Mr R Bunnage
59 Albany Crescent
ASPENDALE, VIC 3195

Ms R Bird
24 Methven Street
BRUNSWICK EAST, VIC 3057

Ms E Gavin
5/47 Spray Street
ELWOOD, VIC 3184

Ms S Giblett
26A Robe Street
ST KILDA, VIC 3182

Mr R Hill
59/50 Roslyn Gardens
ELIZABETH BAY, NSW 2011

Mr E Whiting
6 Cypress Street
LEETON, NSW 2705

DEADLINE: MAY ISSUE
Contributions should reach the Editor at the address below by April 27, 1992. Contributions on 3.5" Mac disk (preferably Microsoft Word) will be especially appreciated.

EXPANDED ISSUES

Longer articles, book reviews, and other suitable pieces are wanted for the "expanded" June issue of the Newsletter. If you have an idea for an article, but would like to discuss it first, please telephone or write to the Editor .

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS: GPO BOX 1251L MELBOURNE, VIC 3001

This is the first full list of office bearers to appear since the 1992 elections.

President: Isabelle Mentha
(03) 418 7222

Vice Pres.: George Levick
(03) 418 7344

Secretary: Ian Odgers
(03) 418 7275

Treasurer: Joyce Korn
(03) 606 9610

Committee Members:

Max McMaster: (03) 418 7335
Cherryl Schauder: (03) 660 3059
Mary Long: (03) 846 0225
John Simkin: (03) 429 8817
Josephine McGovern: (03) 596 1555

Editor: Steve Sunter
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(02) 955 1525

Secretary: Christine Winning
(02) 793 0793

Asst. Secretary: Alan Walker
(02) 380 5875



