

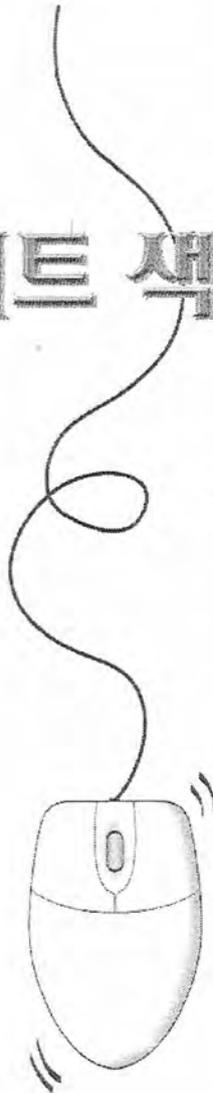
Australian Society of
Indexers Volume 26, Number 11, December 2002

Newsletter

웹사이트 색인작성

Glenda Browne
Jonathan Jerney

이 영 자 역



Our graphic comes from *Website Indexing* by Jonathan Jerney and Glenda Browne, recently published in Korea

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 도서출판 태 일 사

Noticeboard

Victorian Branch Annual General Meeting / Dinner 2003

The Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Branch will be held at Graduate House, 224 Leicester Street, Carlton on Tuesday 18 February 2003. Pre-dinner drinks and nibbles at 7 pm prior to commencement of a 3-course dinner at 7.30 pm.

Cost, including wines, soft drinks, fruit juices, tea/coffee, and three-course menu is \$35 for members and guests. Please let us know of any dietary considerations when you RSVP. Dress is smart casual.

During the evening there will be a brief AGM, consisting of the President's and Treasurer's report and the election of office bearers. A highlight of the evening will be the Indexers Medal Award announcement and our Guest Speaker Lynn Farkas.

RSVP to the Treasurer on (03) 9830 0494 or email annp@mydesk.net.au no later than Tuesday, 11 February 2003.

To nominate members for positions obtain a nomination form from the Secretary at vichbranch@aussi.org. Signed nominations must reach the Branch's postal address by 4 February 2003.

Letter to the editor

Just a correction for your *Some notes on journal indexing*. Although advertisers are normally indexed at the back of each journal issue this is not, thank heavens, the responsibility of the indexer. It may be one way of increasing work for indexers but not one I think we would jump at.

Deirdre Ward

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Attention all CINDEX Users

Frances Lennie will be offering an Advanced CINDEX workshop in Sydney on Friday 10 January 2003 from 9.30 am to approximately 12.30 pm. The workshop will be held in the Training Room, Law School Library, University of Sydney, Level 8, 173-175 Phillip Street, Sydney. The cost will be \$25.00. Please email Madeleine Davis mdavis@austlii.edu.au or ring 02 9514 3176 to indicate if you would like to attend. Frances will be demonstrating the more sophisticated and advanced aspects of the software and is also happy to provide a specific problem-solving forum as well. So, you can bring all your individual needs, queries and examples with you to discuss.

Frances established her company, Indexing Research, 16 years ago to develop and market its best-known product, CINDEX indexing software.

Maxus Australia

Formerly Triad Data Magic

On 20 November the Bagging Room at the CUB Malthouse in Melbourne was the venue for the launch of a new company: Triad Data Magic Pty Ltd became Maxus Australia Pty Ltd.

Founded in the 1970s as a library consultancy, Triad's sphere of activity has evolved from its original role as provider of personnel and services to libraries to become a supplier of Inmagic software for innovative library and information management. At the same time Triad has built

a reputation for strong customer focus with an emphasis on support services.

'Triad and the information world have changed so much in the last few years,' said Norma Tovey, who took over as managing director in 1996. 'We decided it was time for a new name and a new look. But our priorities are still to provide software and services that maximise our clients' information management potential - you can see where the name came from!'

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From the literature

Website Indexing — in Korean!

We have just received our copy of *Website Indexing* in Korean! It had been used in a library and information studies course in Korea, and was chosen by Lee Young-Ja as her retirement publication, to be given to students at her retirement ceremony. Korean is a beautiful script, and little bits of English pop up in the references and examples.

in Cite

November 2002

The 'Making News' section on page 31 reports that 100 000 books discarded by the State Library of Western Australia have been used to create a book maze. The artists said that the maze was like a physical representation of knowledge in an unstructured way. 'You could get lost in new knowledge, meet dead ends, turn back on yourself, or find surprising new paths,' one said. The story appeared in both the *Guardian Express* and *Fremantle Gazette* on 1 October 2002.

Offpress

Newsletter of the Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc October 2002

Members at a society meeting discussed whether sessions on indexing should be included in the upcoming national editors' conference (18-19 July 2003). *Offpress* (p. 3) notes that 'Michael Kuter suggested that publishers expect editors to be able to assess indexers and therefore it is important to have at least a one-hour session on indexing.' Agreed, especially as editors also have to commission indexes, and may be consulted about, or wish to offer directions on, length, material to be included or excluded, style, and so on.

Ancestor

Quarterly Journal of the Genealogical Society of Victoria Inc Vol. 26, No.2, June 2002

Genies on the web (p. 33) by Irene Fullarton gives ideas of websites you can use to find famous and infamous ancestors. These include the Black Sheep Index at www.lightage.demon.co.uk and a list of people who sold their wives at www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/wife.htm.

Genealogical societies do an enormous amount of indexing, and checking of indexes, so any indexing newbies looking for experience could consider contacting their local gene society. The number for Victorian volunteers is 03 9830 5019.

In the Q&A section (p. 39) someone writes that the man she is researching had a loss of memory, so she assumed someone would have taken out a Power of Attorney over him. Jenny Carter replied that the Registrar General's office has an index of Powers of Attorney which have been acted on for the transmission of land. We always complain about the lack of indexes in lots of areas, but in the genealogical field it's amazing what sort of things *have* been indexed.

IASC/SCAD Bulletin

Vol. 24, No. 3, Autumn 2002

The President, Elizabeth Bell, announced that 'the electronic distribution of the newsletter has been well received by the membership and sponsors, with only a handful of members requiring a printed copy.'

This issue focuses on indexing productivity, with tips about macros, word processing, and voice recognition.

It was good to read Noeline Bridge's report on the SI conference in Cheltenham, and to remember the good times. There are photos of many

of the overseas delegates (including John Simkin and Tricia Waters) and a reminiscence of the big box of raspberries Jon brought to our table when he and the kids picked me up on the last day. We had thoroughly enjoyed picking fresh berries on canal paths except for the unfortunate freak of nature that meant that stinging nettles and raspberries peaked at the same time, in the same locations. But fortunate, too, that dock, which relieves the pain of stings, also grows near the stinging nettles.

Ryerson College is offering an online Certificate in Publishing, available around the world ce-online.ryerson.ca. The first two subjects to be offered are Copy Editing for Books, Journals and Reports, and Overview of Publishing I. The report (p. 19) is by Stephanie Fysh, an IASC/SCAD member and one of the authors of the Copy Editing course, and Rosemary Shipton.

Wilder, Thornton The Woman of Andros Penguin, 1930

Page 6: 'Simo was more tired than usual: whereas the law of moderation teaches us that the mind cannot be employed for more than three hours daily over merchandise and numerals without soiling, he had that day spent five hours in argument and traffic.' I often say that I like indexing so much that I would do it even if I didn't get paid. But I wouldn't do it so much, and I wouldn't do it to deadlines. A limit of three hours work a day seems ideal.

Morgan, Janet Agatha Christie A Biography Fontana/Collins, 1985

Agatha Christie also thought much of leisure, listing it as one of the few advantages of the nineteenth over the

twentieth century. (Of course the housemaids and other servants, who enabled her leisure, saw little of it themselves). She also lived an unfettered life, going abroad as she pleased, leaving her daughter Rosalind with family or friends. Hers was a doubly interesting life, as her husband was an archaeologist, and she spent much time working with him in the Middle East. It was a somewhat more peaceful time there, although King Feisal of Iraq was murdered soon after they had met him.

Agatha was a great hoarder, which I guess made life both easier and harder for her biographer, who had a wealth of material, but must have spent ages working through documents such as the family account books, held way back to Agatha's father's time. She also kept all the books in which she noted and developed ideas for stories. Her biography (p. 317) notes: 'There are more than thirty of these books, of all shapes and sizes. They cannot be indexed, though Agatha made a brave try late in life, because the notes for several stories are frequently intertwined, a single idea being developed in different ways, dropped and taken up again, or combined with others.' This suggests to me that they couldn't be Table-of-Contents-ed, but could be indexed. Still, you'd need to know her stories extremely well to pick out the spots where the ideas started.

Interestingly, Agatha, her publisher and her agent lost track of her publications (many books, many formats, many languages, many countries) and were grateful for the professional work done in Gordon Ramsey's bibliography, which they used for reference (p. 350). And, if you've ever had a bad experience with the tax office, feel pity for Agatha. At times she was liable to pay more in tax than she had received in a given year, as the US government had withheld money which the UK government wished to tax her on. Some decisions took years to be finalised, as the cases (for example one by PG Wodehouse) made their way through to the High Court. And although comfortably off, high tax rates ensured that she never became really rich.

The biography is indexed pretty well as far as people and places go. Agatha is indexed as 'Christie, Dame Agatha (née Miller)', with not even a reference from 'Mallowan, Agatha', the name she used for most of her life.

(Her secretary would annotate letters with the initials 'AC' or 'AM' to tell Agatha which name to sign).

Index - L Honorifics in indexes

A recent discussion on Index-L addressed the issue of honorifics in indexes, starting with a request for the correct form for Elisabeth Murdoch (first a Lady through her husband, then a Dame in her own right). My personal feeling is that honorifics are usually unnecessary, as the point of an index is to guide the user to relevant material in the text in the briefest possible format. I can see that they could be useful when there might be confusion about which person is being referred to (eg there are two Elisabeth Murdochs in that family), or, perhaps, when they are required by a specific user group (in another discussion on military titles, someone felt that these would be expected by military readers, although some other correspondents felt they were unnecessary).

It was pointed out that an honorific is a more integral part of a person's name than a military title, but I don't feel this makes its inclusion imperative. My middle name is Michelle, but I would never expect it to be included in an index entry, although it is surely more integral to me than 'Dame' is to Agatha Christie. I also find entries such as 'Christie, Dame Agatha, born, 8' a bit silly, as it is the person who became a Dame who was born, not the Dame herself. So in attempting to give the perfect correct entry for the end of her life, you end up with one that doesn't fit well for the beginning. And perhaps some of my feeling stems from an anti-labelling view that being a Dame, or a Sir or a Lady doesn't really matter much. (See also *Key Words* section below)

ASAIB Newsletter No. 14, March 2002

Page 4 notes the availability of Version 41 of the Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography, which lists over 1550 articles, books and other printed and electronic sources on electronic publishing. It is available in HTML, PDF and Word 2000 formats. The HTML format info.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepb.html is interactive and includes sections not available in the other formats. Topics relevant to indexers include case studies and metadata. An article about the bibliography has been published in

The Journal of Electronic Publishing at www.press.umich.edu/jep/07-02/bailey.html.

Germany and other European countries are often berated for not making indexes, so on pages 6-7 it was good to read praise of the indexes to the 2200 page biography of Thomas Mann, by Klaus Harpprecht. The book includes a quotation index (178 pages), a bibliography, an index to the oeuvre of Thomas Mann and a name index ('which reads like a Who's Who of the Western intelligentsia and the artistic world of the first half of the twentieth century'). The index compilers were Michael Habel and Christian Schwan.

The newsletter concludes with a list of publications (pp. 12-14), which is also available on their website. Some of the articles reflect the different environment South Africans work in, with tempting topics such as 'Documenting our fossil heritage' and 'Indexing the process of democratisation in South Africa'.

Key Words

Vol. 10, No. 5,
September/October 2002

Soon after the Index-L discussion on honorifics in indexes I read Noeline Bridge's article 'Indexing personal names, an introduction' (pp. 122-125) — an excellent overview of the issues related to names in indexes. She talks about the development of names over time (particularly the introduction of surnames), and six types of name problems (entry order, length, inclusion of one-word names, distinguishing between similar names, handling changes in name, and choosing which spelling to use).

She also makes the general points that the decisions in closed (e.g. book) and open (e.g. database) indexing will often be different. For example in book indexing, the indexer will usually derive the name from the content of the book. Finally, the style of writing of the book may influence the style and presentation within the index. With respect to the discussion on honorifics in the Index-L section above, these guidelines might suggest that when the book uses the honorifics consistently they have a place in the index, but that if the book doesn't mention the honorific it is not necessary (and is, in fact, inappropriate) for the indexer to seek it out.

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Copy should be sent to the editor by the fourth Friday of each month for publication in the middle of the next month. We are delighted to receive contributions, both large and small, from members. Please contact us if you have any questions about suitable items for publication. The editor reserves the right to cut and edit material. If greater than one A4 page, please send files on a disk or via email in Rich Text Format, Word for Windows, or plain text (ASCII). Do not embed footnotes in Word files.

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