From the incoming President

Over the summer, there have been a number of changes to the membership and geographic location of the ANZSI Council.

In mid-December 2006 Jon Jermey resigned from the position of President and Susan Rintoul then resigned as Vice President. Under the terms of the ANZSI Constitution the remaining two members of the Executive – Margaret Findlay, Treasurer, and Laurelle Tunks, Secretary – invited Karen Gillen and Max McMaster, both from the Victorian Branch, to fill the casual vacancies of President and Vice President respectively. Karen and Max accepted these positions in late January 2007.

Subsequently, Laurelle Tunks resigned as Secretary to enable a Victorian member to be invited to serve in this position and to ensure all members of the Executive are based in Victoria. Anne Dowsley has accepted this position.

The Council now consists of the Executive as outlined above, five general councillors – Lynn Farkas and Tracy Harwood who were elected at the Annual General Meeting in 2006, Alan Eddy, Don Jordan and Catherine Tully who have been appointed by invitation, and ex-officio the Presidents of ANZSI Branches.

The former ACT-based ANZSI Committee laid a strong foundation for the on-going administration of the Society. The current Council is made up of a team of highly experienced, resourceful, capable and energetic people. I look forward to working with them to continue to develop and maintain a strong professional organisation in order that we might further promote and serve the interests of the members of our Society.

Karen Gillen
ANZSI President

There is still time to register for the ANZSI 2007 Conference and associated workshops, to be held in Melbourne, 15-17 March 2007

Registration forms were distributed with the ANZSI newsletter, November/December 2006, and are available on the ANZSI website, </www.aussi.org/conferences/2007>.

For details of papers and presenters on the Conference days, Friday, 16 and Saturday 17 March, see the Provisional Program on the ANZSI Conference website.

You can even attend one or two of the workshops to be held on Thursday, 15 March in Melbourne without registering for the conference itself. The five workshops offered are

    1. **Web indexing** (Glenda Browne) half day – afternoon
    2. **Newspapers/Magazine Indexing** (Max McMaster) full day
    3. **Law Indexing** (Alan Walker), half day – morning
    4. **Indexing Annual reports** (Michael Harrington) half day – afternoon
    5. **Cindex Software** (Frances Lennie) half day – morning

Full details of workshops are also available on the ANZSI Conference website. Registrations for workshops can be made through the conference registration form or separately by email to the Conference Organising Committee, at <conference@aussi.org> or by post to ANZSI 2007 Conference, PO Box 4022, Auburn South Vic 3122.

Hurry to register and make your bookings as 15–17 March is only a month away.

Margaret Findlay, Karen Gillen, Max McMaster, Jenny Restarick, Mary Russell
ANZSI 2007 Conference Committee

The hallelujah detectives

(For reasons beyond our control, this newsletter is appearing a little late, but we print this invitation to show those of you who couldn't attend what you have missed! Jenny was fortunately able to contact the Branch by other means.)

Missing Persons work was one of the earliest Salvation Army social programs to develop. Established in London in 1885 as the Inquiry Department, by the end of 1885 there were offices in a number of overseas countries including Australia (Melbourne and Sydney). The 'hallelujah detectives', as they were called, searched for missing persons with a view to reuniting families. They also helped young women who were pregnant and unmarried to track down reluctant fathers and encourage them to support their children.

Today, with branches across Australia, the Family Tracing Service registers over 2,000 new searches each year, and between 75-80% of those are successfully closed. Drawing on links in 103 countries, the Service works internationally, restoring relationships across the world.

Come and listen to Lindsay Cox, Territorial Archivist, The Salvation Army who will talk about the history of the Army, the role of the Australian Southern Territory Archives & Museum, followed by a tour of the collection.

The collection includes:

- journals, letters, programs, magazines and newspaper clippings;
- photos, showing personnel and/or services;
- Salvation Army pins, badges and uniforms.

We will also view a 6-minute documentary made to celebrate the centenary of 'Soldiers of the Cross'. What may arguably be considered the world's first dedicated film studio was created by the Salvation Army at 69 Bourke St, Melbourne in a room that still stands preserved much as it was at the turn of the century.

When : Thursday 15 February at 5.00 pm.

Where: 69 Bourke St., Melbourne.

Gold coin donations would be gratefully received.

As is our usual practice, we invite all attendees to dine with us at a nearby mid-priced restaurant.

Numbers limited to 20

RSVP : Jenny Restarick by Monday, 12 February, ph/fax ███████████
<███████████

Jenny Restarick

Elizabeth Swan honoured

Elizabeth Swan, keynote speaker at the 2003 AusSI conference in Sydney, was awarded an ALIA Fellowship at the Information Online conference dinner on 31 January 2007. Elizabeth was a founding member of the LAA (later ALIA) Information Science section, and served on its committee continuously for 30 years. After many years as a special librarian she founded her own company, Information Edge.

In her acceptance speech she acknowledged many people who had contributed to her early career, including an impressive number of people who have been associated with AusSI/ANZSI in some way. She mentioned that Peter Judge, now our ANZSI Newsletter editor, was the one who asked her to set up the LAA Information Science Section in NSW in 1975 (he had earlier set up the National group in Canberra with Ian McCallum), and that Joyce Korn, later Gillespie, was an early inspiration urging her to join the LAA and to accept Peter's invitation.

Joyce was awarded Honorary Life Membership of AusSI in 1998 – you can read her reminiscences at <www.aussi.org/anl/2006/July06.pdf>. Alan Walker, convener of the first two Information Online conferences, in 1986 and 1987, was present at the dinner as a special guest.

Glenda Browne, with Elizabeth and Alan.

Vale William Anthony (Bill) Phippard

Members of the South Australian Society of Editors knew Bill Phippard as half of Seaview Press (with his wife Susan Rintoul): a loyal and regular attendee at meetings, workshops and social gatherings; a member and committee member always willing to take on a task when something had to be done; a fairly quiet person who, when he spoke, always said something worth listening to; and, in general, an all-round good bloke. Bill was Treasurer of the Society for a number of years and willingly ran a workshop on indexing as recently as this time last year.

And that last occasion provides a key to some of the other facets of Bill Phippard that may have been less well-known to some. It was critical that the workshop was organised around the 2005 Adelaide Test Match and the start of the season for his tennis group. Bill had a passionate interest in sport, played tennis regularly and rarely missed an international cricket match at Adelaide Oval.

At Bill's funeral, Adelaide friends learnt much more about the fascinating past of this quiet character in the floppy washing hat. Bill, or Tony, as he was known then, was the only student who ever managed to regularly take his dog to school at Canberra Grammar. He travelled across Australia and through South-East Asia long before it was popular or fashionable to do so. He worked as a 'journeyman accountant' before working at *The Canberra Times*, *The Australian*, and newspapers in the English Midlands, before returning to *The Canberra Times*.

In a heartfelt article published in *The Canberra Times* on the day of Bill's funeral, the editor Jack Waterford wrote of his old news editor colleague as … 'a great and too-much unheralded ornament of this paper… [his] going is a reminder of the fact that a supposedly individual trade such as writing is a complex partnership in which the best parties do not get the credit they deserve'. Bill had 'judgment, sense, care and a certain derring-do, if one that lived within a framework adopted in a day when computers lacked the modern capacity for instant rearrangement, changes, the capacity to alter layouts, presentations and headlines in a matter of seconds, a great capacity to fix up the front, the middle and the end of a story by adapting it into a yarn, and a fabulous, but also reassuring way of laughing at himself or being the object of laughter'. Another former colleague spoke of Bill being the only boss for whom she had ever worked who unfailingly thanked everyone, warmly, at the end of the shift.

These were the skills that Bill brought to Adelaide when he came here with Susan, who had been librarian at *The Canberra Times*. Here they married, raised their family, and set up Seaview Press. At Seaview Press, Bill and Susan shared 'doing everything', from client contact, to editing, from typesetting to proofreading, from publicity to sales, and much more; the Press has given a public life to many a poet's and author's writings.

Bill was a first class indexer in many areas, with loyal clients who employed him for years. He was a member of ANZSI, regularly used by Wakefield Press, Penguin, the National Library of Australia and the Australian National Gallery for the tricky jobs. He was particularly pleased to be involved with the significant work done by the National Library in Aboriginal issues. Bill was a warm and genial host, an inventive cook, who was devoted to his daughters Jamie and Kate and to Susan, his partner in life and business. Numbers of our members have said they find it hard to think of Susan without Bill: theirs was a great partnership.

We will miss Bill, his reliable contributions, dependability and wry wit. The Society is the better for having had him as a member.

Reprinted by kind permission from the Nov–Dec 2006 issue of *the word*, the online newsletter of the South Australian Society of Editors.

Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
15 February 5.00 pm	Vic Branch	Visit to Salvation Army	69 Bourke St Melbourne	RSVP to Jenny Restarick ph/fax + ███████████
24 March 9.30–12.30	ACT Region Branch	Cindex Workshop	TBA	Eleanor Whelan ph + ██████████
30 April	Vic Branch	Introductory Indexing training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax + ███████████
1 May	Vic Branch	Intermediate Indexing Training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax + ███████████

National events

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
16–17 March 2007	Vic Branch	ANZSI Conference	Rydge's Riverwalk, Richmond, Melbourne	Margaret Findlay <conference@aussi.org>

Mentoring Matters

Welcome to what I hope will be a regular column in our newsletter, keeping members up to date on the Mentoring Program. As the inaugural Mentoring Coordinator, my role is to deal with the administrative aspects of this new, Society-wide scheme. Over the next few months, I will highlight various aspects of the scheme and report on its operation. For this first column, I'll present a brief overview of the Mentoring Program.

What is the Mentoring Program?
Many of you may know that, in the Australia/New Zealand region, there are no formal courses leading to tertiary qualifications in indexing. In the absence of such courses, ANZSI has instituted a mentoring program for our novice indexers. The program provides an advanced and personalised level of training, building on the basic workshops offered by the Society and by overseas indexing groups.

What are the benefits?
The scheme has a number of functions:

a) it provides novice indexers (mentees) with professional guidance and advice by qualified, experienced indexers (mentors) on a one-to-one basis;

b) it provides indexes to significant published works which lack indexes;

c) it makes these indexes accessible in appropriate formats.

How does the Program work?
The mentoring scheme is a Society-wide initiative, administered by a Mentoring Coordinator (Lynn Farkas), under the auspices of the ANZSI Education Committee. Mentees apply for admission to the Program, indicating their areas of indexing interest and choosing an approved work for indexing from our list of suggested works (or proposing a work themselves). They are matched to a mentor, drawn from our Society's list of Registered Indexers. Mentors provide guidance and advice to the mentees at various stages in their indexing of the work.

Mentoring is a personal process and all participants will approach it differently. Mentors and mentees decide how they will work together, within the following framework:

• Indexing will generally be completed within six months, with the ability to apply for an extension to twelve months for unusual circumstances.

• Mentors and mentees will agree on a series of contacts (usually 4-6) over the period, and mentees will be given feedback at an early stage and as soon as practicable after each contact.

• Mentors will monitor the structure and consistency of the index and advise on particular problems, but not become involved with intellectual content or do any indexing.

• Mentees are expected to produce indexes of acceptable basic quality, equivalent to commercial quality in all aspects except for utilising a longer time frame.

• A 'Mentoring Agreement', setting out the agreed method of operation for the mentoring process, will be prepared by the mentee and forwarded to the Society.

Indexes produced under the Mentoring Program will be made available in an appropriate format, for example by mounting the index on the Society's website, distributing it as a CD-ROM or in another electronic format, or publishing it in the ANZSI Index Series.

Is there a charge?
Participation by mentors and mentees is voluntary, although fees will be collected to compensate the mentors for their time. Mentees will be charged an application fee of A$250.00 per mentoring item. Once the mentee's proposal is accepted and a mentor assigned, this fee is non-refundable. Please note that all other associated expenses (eg any postage costs if print material is exchanged, costs of phone calls, etc) are the responsibility of the mentee.

There are no limits to the number of times an individual can be mentored; however each mentoring item will incur a new mentoring fee.

What are the criteria for admission to the Program?
• An applicant (mentee) must be a current financial member of ANZSI and must not be a Registered Indexer.

• Applicants should have completed a recognised indexing course (including both theoretical and practical aspects) or have indexing experience. Where required, the Education Committee will determine the suitability of the applicant's experience. Determinations of the Education Committee will be final.

• Applicants are expected to have read, or at least be very familiar with, one of the recognised indexing texts.

• Mentors of book indexes must be Registered Indexers. In cases where the skills of database indexing would be useful (for example in mentoring a journal compilation), an experienced database indexer who is not a Registered Indexer may be a mentor.

Will every eligible applicant be accepted?
Yes, but the timing of when you start your mentoring experience depends on the availability of an appropriately experienced indexer to act as a mentor. The Mentoring Program is a voluntary undertaking by our experienced indexers. The fee mentors receive is a token compensation for the time they will spend mentoring. Therefore, there may be times when our applications to the Program might exceed the number of mentors available (remember, we all have to make a living!). In general, applicants will be accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis, dependent on appropriate mentors being available.

When will the Program start?
ANZSI was fortunate to be able to call on the experience of Max McMaster (Vic Branch) and Tordis Flath (NZ Branch) who have coordinated their Branch programs for the past few years, in helping to develop this new scheme. As Mentoring Coordinator, I am currently in the process of merging the different Branch lists of suggested indexing items; finalising the various forms needed for the scheme (eg application forms, feedback and evaluation forms, etc), and recruiting mentors. We currently have a number of inquiries for the Program and hope

From the literature and other thoughts

Common Law *Festschriften*

Thanks to Lorraine Doyle for sending me information about the Index to Common Law *Festschriften* database: <www.library.auckland.ac.nz/databases/learn_database/public.asp?record=iclf>. This database was created to make the content of legal festschriften more accessible. A *Festschrift* is a published collection of essays written by several authors to honour a distinguished person or to mark a significant event.

Database creation was funded by the Law Foundation and undertaken by a team at the University of Auckland Library and Law School. The indexers were law librarians, while advisors included Justice Michael Kirby. Indexing terms were based on Library of Congress Subject Headings. In the search page, Guided Search means fielded search, while Advanced Search provides access to the thesaurus.

I find when reading about this project that the term 'Common lawyers' has the same problem as 'Special librarians' – there must be a better name for both of these groups. Read more about the project at:

<www.anzlhsejournal.auckland.ac.nz/Taggart.pdf>.

Society of Indexers re-launches website

The Society of Indexers (SI) has just re-launched its website <www.indexers.org.uk> to make it easier for anyone commissioning an indexer or contemplating indexing as a career to track down the relevant advice.

History of the book in Australia

I haven't seen them, but the two volumes on the history of the book in Australia published by the University of Queensland Press sound as if they will make interesting reading. Go to <www.uqp.uq.edu.au> and search for 'paper empires' to find more information.

Mentoring Matters *(continued from previous page)*

to 'kick off' the first group of mentees by the time of the ANZSI Conference in mid-March 2007. However, as with all new programs, we anticipate there will be some teething problems, so please bear with us!

How can I get more information?
The Society's *Policy on Mentoring* and our complete *Mentoring Procedures* will be mounted on the Website by the end of February. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact me (███████████████) for more detail about the role. If you are thinking of applying for the Mentoring Program, please contact me for more information and application forms. And keep watching this column for updates – remember, Mentoring Matters!

Lynn Farkas
ANZSI Mentoring Coordinator

John, Duke of Bedford. *A silver-plated spoon*. London: Reprint Society, 1959

p.33 '... and such details as I have of my father's early years come mainly from an autobiography that was published shortly before he died. It is a disconcerting document, full of the crankish theories and opinions which made him such a byword to his contemporaries. Not the least distressing aspect of it is that in the course of over 300 pages he does not mention my mother or myself once. We do not even figure in the index, although there is a single reference to his father-in-law and an anecdote concerning my younger brother at the age of two. I hope this story is not starting to sound like one long complaint, but surely there is a moral to be drawn from the pointless and introspective lives my parents and grandparents lived.'

An interesting life, but an odd comment that they were 'not even' in the index – of course, if they are not in the book they won't be in the index.

Offpress June 2006

Three educators of editors from Queensland recently visited the UK and explored the state of editing there. They found that editing is very much a cottage industry, with only senior people working in-house in many organisations. Short courses and distance courses in editing and publishing are run by the Publishing Training Centre <www.train4publishing.co.uk>, an educational charity based at Book House in London. A tutor at the Centre 'acknowledged resistance to training in editing in the UK, compared with countries like China and Russia where people are embracing it.'

They also mention software for paperless proofreading – you can see a demo at <www.paperlessproofs.com/demo.htm>. The draft ISO marks for copy preparation and proof correction have been made as 'alphabet-free as possible' because much editing is likely to be outsourced to India and China in the future.

Australian Author v. 38 no. 3 December 2006

p. 33 'Accessing eBooks' by Jon Jermey discusses free sources of ebooks, such as Project Gutenberg <www.gutenberg.org>, sites for self-publishing, such as Lulu <www.lulu.com> and the publication of ebooks by traditional publishers, including Random House and Macmillan. This issue also contains a number of articles about remuneration of authors – as indexers we are relatively lucky, because we usually get a lump sum payment for each job we do.

Electronic vs print newsletters

Two Australian societies of editors have replaced their print newsletter with electronic-only versions (except for financial members on request).

Offpress is at <www.editorsqld.com/join/newsletter.htm>, along with links to three flyers with examples of old newsletter content to commemorate the history of the society.

the word, the newsletter of the Society of Editors (Victoria) is at <www.socedvic.org/cms/public_php/newsletters.php>.

Key Words v. 14 no. 3 July–Sept 2006

'Member news' on p. 43 announces the publication of *Royals of England: a guide for readers, travelers, and genealogists* by Kathleen Spaltro and Noeline Bridge, published by iUniverse, 2005. It contains fifty family trees, and personal names and place names have been thoroughly indexed. Indexers who attended the 2001 Sydney conference may have met Noeline, who was then president of IASC. Kathleen is the editor of the ASI publication *Genealogy and indexing.*

HW Wilson Award for indexing pp. 86-89

The HW Wilson Award was awarded to Charlee Trantino for her index to *A skeleton key to Finnegan's Wake* by Campbell and Robinson (new edn., New World Library). Interestingly, until she won the award, Trantino worked in isolation in a farmhouse in the Endless Mountains of Pennsylvania, and had not met another indexer. She is also a romance writer under the name Savannah Russe. By a lucky coincidence, the award was presented on Bloomsday, which celebrates the work of James Joyce.

Attentional resources

These days, it is said that people have more information than they know what to do with. The problem for the people disseminating the information is to get people to pay attention to **their** message, rather than to all the other messages vying for attention.

But if attention is so valuable, how is it that half of the people in evening commuter trains in Sydney are reading the newspaper *mX*. It seems as if just by being free, and accessible with no effort (it is handed out at train stations) it has captured a huge proportion of the attention of peak hour train travellers. They should pack a book!

Australian Bookseller & Publisher December 2004 – January 2005, p. 15

AB&P asked freelance publishing industry workers what they did in their spare time. Two indexers replied:
'On my days off (what are they – for a freelance editor? It's better to say my hours off) I organise on behalf of the 2nd Clifton Hill Scout Group.' (Kerry Biram, freelance indexing and editorial consultant)

'Having removed myself to the outer metropolitan/country area I have taken to wandering in the Sherbrooke Forest in any time I can spare. I usually meet a rather sleepy and friendly wombat who lives on a clearing there.' (John Simkin, bibliographer and indexer)

Interactive cinema

UNSWorld (alumni magazine), November 2006, p.9, reports on research into interactive cinema. They say: 'In their most recent showcase creation ... [they] push the boundaries of the latest advances in automated video analysis, multi-media search and retrieval and high-density video streaming. In this immersive environment viewers can navigate a three dimensional library of tens of thousands of broadcast television clips, and freely assemble these "samples" into unexpected and emergent narrative sequences.' There's some scope for indexing here, I think.

They also discuss 'virtual heritage'. The hope is that by making virtual depictions of fragile tourist sites almost as good as the real thing (some say they can be better) they can help preserve the real thing. Museum Victoria is a partner in this work.

Indexes in cartoons

Lauren Barr sent Index-L (and is happy for me to reprint) a mention of Dan Wasserman's recent cartoon in the Boston Globe. Cartoons that feature indexes are rare, and apologies in advance to anyone who finds pokes at George W. Bush to be offensive. Picture President Bush at his desk, reading a copy of the 'Iraq Report.' He turns to the index and reads the G's:

—gaffes, 5,14,31-102
—gangsters, 6,8,24,72
—get out, 160
—give-up, 159
—goofs (see gaffes)

He turns to us and says, "Hey, they left out, 'good news'!"

Glenda Browne

New Zealand Branch has a new Acting President

Following the decision of Tordis Flath to step down from the role late last year, Jill Gallop will be the Acting President of the Branch. Jill will also continue to act as Secretary for the time being, but is hopeful that a volunteer will step forward very soon.

The Branch Committee would like to thank Tordis for her leadership, hard work, enthusiasm, and achievements over the period of her presidency and wish her well for the future.

Contact the Branch at: <nzbranch@aussi.org>

The SI conference

The Society of Indexers celebrates its anniversary at its Conference in London, 13-16 July 2007 and will offer one free place to a representative of ANZSI. The ANZSI Council will be calling for expressions of interest in our next newsletter.

Meanwhile you can find further information about the conference on the Society of Indexers website at

<www.indexers.org.uk/index.php?id=277>

Expressions of interest

Standards Australia is looking for an experienced technical editor/indexer to index a new 400-page edition of Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 3000:2007, Wiring Rules. The Canberra Society of Editors website at <www.editorscanberra.org/notices.htm> has more details, or contact <████████████████>.

Jeremy Fisher's speech at the NSW Branch birthday celebrations

The NSW Branch of ANZSI met last October to hold their AGM and also to celebrate the Australian Society's 30th birthday. The guest speakers were Jeremy Fisher, who was the first Indexers Medal winner, and Alan Walker. It was promised that Jeremy Fisher's talk would be reported at greater length in the next newsletter, and here it is...

I was delighted to receive an invitation from Jon Jermey to address this meeting and celebrate 30 years of the Society. I was even more delighted when I heard Alan Walker would also be speaking. I've known Alan almost from 1976. He's maintained his dedication to indexing, whereas I have been more of a dilettante and have wandered off into editing, publishing and writing.

But I still have an enormous interest in indexing and the way in which information can, and should, be organised and collated. As the first winner of the Indexing Medal, and someone closely involved with writing and publishing, Jon Jermey asked me if I would reflect on the situation for indexers in 1976 and changes in the intervening years.

In 1976 of course I wasn't indexing. I didn't begin any work in indexing until 1977, when I was working at the *Medical Journal of Australia*. Then, I was using a manual typewriter – no fancy electronics for lowly little indexer me – to type entries onto orange cards which I'd file into a wooden box.

At then end of each volume number – the Journal was published in two volumes a year, January to June and July to December — I'd sub-edit and condense the cards, then carry them down to the hot-metal typesetters downstairs. A day or two later I'd be proofing the pages of the index. I loved the way that the index, when bound with the issues of the Journal, came to form a complete book, easily accessible through my index.

Technology caught up when I was asked to index the *Australian Encyclopaedia*. We had to think about a publication without pages. We came up with a system that would work both in a traditional printed book and on the CD-ROMs we all expected would replace those books. Alas, it was both printed encyclopaedias and CD-ROMs that were doomed. The Internet was a much better way to present enormous collections of information.

Of course that wouldn't happen for a few more years. And then the editorial control on the quality of material has disappeared so that we have Wikipedia as an authoritative source, but some may argue whether that's progress. I'm always cautious when I see journalists using Wikipedia as their sole reference.

I like to think that professional authors, editors, publishers and indexers act as a form of quality control each in different ways verifying information for its eventual consumers. When the technology and the skills start working together we begin to see something awesome. I don't know how many of you here tonight are aware of the AustLit website. This is an ambitious attempt to create an electronic bibliographic database of Australian literature since 1788. It's by no means complete but it is already a far greater beast than anything ever achieved in print form. Of course, it requires the combined resources of 8 universities, but for students of Australian Literature it's bloody fantastic to have a resource like this on your desktop.

Other indexes I have had close relations with recently have been some compiled by the NLA. Everybody here would know APAIS and Medline and AGIS. A couple of years ago my role was to link the owners of the content behind the indexes to the index to create 'full text' versions of these indexes. This involves an understanding of copyright and the need to explore the highly complex world of rights management, but the full text version of APAIS is now functioning, as is a full-text Australian subset of Medline called Meditext as well as AGIS full text. They are not 100% what users would desire as not all the content can be accessed, but they are a long way from the print based indexes they once were.

Technology has transformed both the scope and the size of indexes and made them more a part of everyday life. Any person using Amazon or buying music online is actually using an index. Isn't that a development and a half!

Technology affects us all, even writers. I'd like to conclude with something not related to indexes at all, but related to writing. I'd like to read you a poem which was a winner in the junior section of the NT Writers Centre SMS poem competition. Contestants had to write a poem on the theme of steam using no more than 150 characters. (Jeremy then read a poem by Levi Beveridge.)

Jeremy Fisher

Statement by Jon Jermey

I resigned as ANZSI President on 14 December 2006 when it became clear to me that I was unwilling and unable to work within the complex system of rigid formal positions and responsibilities that currently characterises ANZSI administration.

I can no longer bring myself to believe that this system is appropriate or necessary for running an organisation as small as ANZSI, and although I have every admiration for people who can make it work, I will never be one of them. Nor do I believe that the member benefits which can be achieved under this structure are in any way commensurate with the amount of work required to maintain it.

With no faith left in the system, it seemed to me best to resign.

Jon Jermey

The Council thanks Jon for his contribution as President, and will consider the issues he raised during his brief tenure regarding the administration of ANZSI.

ANZSI and Branch Committee contacts

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Council members: Lynn Farkas, Tracy Harwood, Alan Eddy, Don Jordan and Catherine Tully

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WA contact

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New Zealand Branch

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President (acting): Jill Gallop
Phone: +

Secretary (acting): Jill Gallop
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Treasurer: Jenny Hart
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Committee members: S Brookes, G Coote

ANZSI NEWSLETTER

From the President

Since the publication of the last *ANZSI Newletter*, the new members of the ANZSI Council have been busy familiarising themselves with their roles and duties, and undertaking the various tasks involved in the administration of the Society. We are a mixed group with varying backgrounds, interests and experience (and, as such, are reasonably representative of the membership at large). Along with some well-known names are some relative newcomers, and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to each of the members of the Council.

PRESIDENT Karen Gillen is a freelance editor and indexer. She was formerly employed in research and/or teaching positions in various departments at the University of Queensland, Griffith University, Queensland University of Technology, and Deakin University. Karen has researched and published in the areas of Aboriginal history, anthropology, Australian politics and public policy, history and cultural heritage, Indigenous rights, learning skills and professional development. With a young child to raise, Karen opted to pursue what she imagined would be the less demanding life of a home-based fulltime freelance editor and indexer. As an indexer, she has worked primarily on compiling back-of-book indexes to arts and social science scholarly works and tertiary textbooks, however, she has also indexed colonial newspapers and professional journals. She has been a member of ANZSI since 1997, has served on the committee of the Victorian Branch since 2002, and is currently the Victorian Branch President. Karen also works in a voluntary capacity as the gardener at her son's primary school.

VICE-PRESIDENT Max McMaster has been a freelance indexer for the past 15 years working predominantly on back-of-book indexing, but delving into database indexing, journal indexing, newspaper indexing and web-indexing as well. He arrived at indexing after spending 19 years in the library and information fields, mainly involved with scientific disciplines in government organisations. He has more than 1450 indexes to his name. Max lectures on indexing to editing and publishing students at a number of universities, and runs indexing training courses for ANZSI, and other organisations throughout Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. He has held a range of ANZSI (AusSI) Executive

and Committee member positions over the past 19 years at both National and State Branch levels, and was Chairman of the Panel of Assessors of AusSI for 5 years. Max has been awarded the prestigious Australian Society of Indexers Medal for book indexing on three occasions. Outside of indexing, he is a Referee for Swimming Victoria.

SECRETARY Anne Dowsley is a librarian, and has worked in special school and public libraries. She has been an active member of the Victorian Branch of ANZSI since joining the Society three years ago. Although she lives on Phillip Island, she is a regular attendee at Victorian Branch events. Anne has completed introductory and intermediate indexing training courses with Max McMaster, and she has compiled two indexes under Max McMaster's supervision in the Society's mentoring program.

TREASURER Margaret Findlay first joined the Society in its early days and then rejoined in 1996 after organising the 1995 Conference in Marysville for the Victorian Branch. She also joined the Victorian Branch Committee and during the subsequent years held the positions of President, Vice-President and Treasurer as well as Conference Convener for the 1999, 2005 and the

WHAT'S INSIDE

Deadline for the April 2007 issue: 4 April

ANZSI Vic Branch visit the Salvation Army

Our visit to the Salvation Army in Bourke Street, Melbourne, on 15 February more than lived up to our expectations. Entering the museum, we were welcomed by Lindsay Cox, the Territorial Archivist responsible for the Australian Southern Territory Archives and Museum. The Southern Territory encompasses all States except New South Wales and Queensland.

We enjoyed a brief wander around the museum, then watched a six-minute documentary made to celebrate the centenary of 'Soldiers of the Cross', a film that blended motion-picture, lantern-slide, music and oratory, which premiered in 1900. The Salvation Amy was a pioneer in film making and created what may arguably be considered the world's first dedicated film studio at 69 Bourke Street, Melbourne, in a room that still looks much as it did at the turn of the century.

Lindsay Cox then guided us through the museum, pointing out the highlights and entertaining us with stories behind the items. The museum covers anything and everything to do with Salvation Army history from the 1880s to present day. There are bonnets worn by the women, displays of their War work, commemorative china and pens, details of hospital and social work, history of the Limelight Department's early films and lantern-slides, biographies of significant people, work done by Salvation Army outside Australia, and changes in music and music making. A packet of Arnott's SAO biscuits looked out of place until it was explained that SAO stands for Salvation Army Office.

We then went up to the archives area. Filing cabinets, archive boxes, book shelves and compactors neatly organise all the various printed, photographic and audio-visual material. One room is filled with uniforms of every description, all catalogued using the computer package Lotus Notes. There are over half a million entries, many items with digital attachments and all searchable. The index to their journal *The War Cry* is included among the items, as are information and photographs of soldiers and buildings, CDs of band performances and early Salvation Army hospital records. Requests for information come from students, family historians and others requesting information or photographs of where they grew up.

Afterwards most of us adjourned to the restaurant next door to continue the discussion and conclude a very enjoyable evening. We thank Lindsay Cox for generously sharing his time and stories with us.

Mary Russell

ANZSI Medal 2007

The Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers' Medal is awarded annually for the most outstanding index to a book or periodical compiled in Australia or New Zealand. The index must be in print and must have been published within the past three years (i.e. 2005–07). It must have been compiled in Australia or New Zealand, even though the text to which it refers may have originated elsewhere. The index should be substantial in size; the subject matter should be complex; and the language, form and structure of the index should demonstrate the indexer's expertise, as well as serving the needs of the text and reader. The publisher of the winning index will be presented with a certificate recognising their promotion of work of outstanding quality. The judges may also make 'highly commended' awards.

Nominations, with bibliographical details and a copy of the book (which will be returned if requested) should be sent to the Returning Officer. Publishers, indexers and all interested people may nominate indexes, and indexers may nominate their own work.

Entries open mid-April and close on 6 July 2007. Awards will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in October. An entry form is available from Alan Eddy, the Returning Officer, Awards, PO Box 5062, Glenferrie South, Vic 3122. Tel (

From the literature and other thoughts

aliaINDEXERS – Indexing Hansard

On 16 February last Carolyn Kearney notified aliaINDEXERS that the Commonwealth Hansard indexes, which were stopped in 2004, were to be reinstated. She also forwarded an extract from the Senate Estimates Committee hearing on 12 February which had prompted that decision.

I have selected scattered parts of the lengthy discussion to give a feel for the tone of the discussion and the issues raised.

Senator FAULKNER – The index has been junked, hasn't it?

Ms PENFOLD – We are not doing the index any more if that is what you mean, Senator.

Ms PENFOLD – All the material incorporated in that is available on the internet, on the Parliament House website, and it is much more readily searchable as an electronic document.

Senator FAULKNER – That is a matter of opinion and it is one that I do not share.

Senator MURRAY – It also assumes that the users are all users of electronic networks. They are not.

Senator FAULKNER – The Library staff would like to see it continue. They are right; of course they are right. So would the users of these things.

Senator FAULKNER – So after 104 years of having an index to speeches and an index to subjects, someone decides to make this change without consulting any of the libraries or any of the users.

Ms LYNCH – I would hope that the human effort involved in producing the index would be reduced if we were to do it electronically.

Senator FAULKNER – Of course, for those who use it ... things are now basically useless – absolutely bloody useless ... This decision is a very bad one, and you can tell that by the reaction from within the Parliamentary Library itself. I do not care what was driving it; it is a very, very bad decision. Mr President, I hope that you will take some action to do something about it. The truth is that the online searches have grave weaknesses in them. I am sure you can confirm that, can't you, Ms Missingham? There are weaknesses in the online searches, which is why people use the actual index to *Hansard*.

Senator FAULKNER – Apart from there being no subject index [on ParlInfo, for online searches], there is a limit to the number of results that can be retrieved, the guided search facility does not always turn up results and ParlInfo is very resource heavy – it requires a good, fast computer, and if you do not have that it is a really painfully slow process ... What has driven it, which is savings, is simply not good enough. All we have now, literally, is the bound dailies – that is it.

Senator MURRAY – Mr President, I add the point that I suspect there is a legal and constitutional requirement that proceedings of parliament should be available to all citizens.

The NSW branch has written to Senator Faulkner and Ms Penfold in favour of the reinstatement, but against the use of automated indexing as a solution.

inCite v. 28 i. 1 Jan/Feb 2007

inCite notes on p. 22 that a group of stereotype-busting librarians went on a motorcycle tour from Springwood to Cootamundra, via Orange and Wagga. Riders included stereotype-busting indexer, Sherrey Quinn, and her partner Ian MacCallum. On the way they met up with the State Librarian and Tony Abbott.

Three-volume novels (3-deckers)

My great-great-aunt Alice wrote three Victorian novels, which I am collecting and reading. The only copy of her novel *The rector of Amesty* (using the pseudonym John Ryce, and incorrectly catalogued as 'Amnesty') that I could trace in Australia is held in the rare books library at Sydney University. It was bought as part of a set of triple-decker novels – of which the university has the best collection in the world.

This led me to reading about three-volume novels. This format suited the subscription libraries, as they could lend one book to three borrowers at a time, but it made individual purchases rare. It is an interesting example of the influence of publishing formats on the content and quality of novels. The genre was commemorated by Rudyard Kipling in his poem 'The Three-Decker', the second verse of which reads:

> Fair held the breeze behind us – 'twas warm with lovers' prayers.
> We'd stolen wills for ballast and a crew of missing heirs.
> They shipped as Able Bastards till the Wicked Nurse confessed,
> And they worked the old three-decker to the Islands of the Blest.

Glenda Browne

Correction

After reading last month's 'From the Literature', Tracy has written to point out that the Society of Editors' (SA) newsletter is titled *the word*, while the Society of Editors' (Victoria) newsletter is simply *Newsletter*. The Editor takes responsibility for the error and apologises for any confusion.

News from NSW Branch

NSW Branch members enjoyed a New Years celebratory lunch in Parramatta in February, taking the place of our traditional Christmas lunch.

We are planning a 2-day introductory indexing course for mid-year and an afternoon seminar on indexing specialties at the Writers' Centre in Rozelle in August. Details of these will be announced in the newsletter and on aliaINDEXERS when they have been finalised.

Glenda Browne

forthcoming 2007 ANZSI conferences. Professionally, Margaret managed the Cunningham Library at the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) for many years and, while in this position, directed the Australian Education Index (AEI) project, one of Australia's largest indexing services. Since leaving ACER in 2005, she has turned her hand to other forms of indexing – including 'back-of-book' – and finds these new ventures challenging and interesting. Her husband, Kevin Hughes, often attends ANZSI Victorian Branch professional and social activities. Angus and Molly, two wheaten cairn terriers, complete the family.

Alan Eddy is a freelance editor and back-of-book indexer, based in Melbourne. He has the following qualifications in forestry and forest science: Dip.For.(Cres.), B.Sc.F.(Melb.), M.F.(Calif.), and from 1949 worked as a field forester in several Victorian districts. Other positions he has held include: senior lecturer and Principal of the Victorian School of Forestry; Policy Coordinator, Forests Commission Victoria; forestry adviser to Board of Inquiry into the Timber Industry 1984-85; executive officer to Director, Lands and Forests Division, Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands (1986-89); and research officer for the Victorian Timber Industry Training Board (1990-93). Alan is a Fellow of the Institute of Foresters of Australia (1983), and he is also a member of the Executive (1975-89) and Chairman (1981-85) of the Australian Branch of the Institute of Wood Science. He was also book reviews editor and member of the editorial committee of *Australian Forestry* (1978-89). In addition to being on the ANZSI Council, he also serves on the ANZSI Victorian Branch Committee.

Lynn Farkas is director of Lynn Farkas Information Services, a Canberra-based company that specialises in the practical management of organisational knowledge. Her interests include thesaurus development for portal sites, knowledge management applications, information architecture and taxonomies, metadata and database indexing. She has indexed for most of the major bibliographic databases in Australia and created the MAIS (multicultural) and OMBIS (ombudsman's) databases in the 1990s. She has prepared thesauri in the fields of multiculturalism, museum objects, seniors issues, aviation, workplace relations and Maori culture, and information architectures for an irrigation portal and a website for government lawyers. Before founding her own company, Lynn worked as a special librarian, indexer and later as a teacher in library studies. She has conducted many professional development courses, including training for the National Library of Australia and the State Library of New South Wales. In 2001, Lynn presented workshops on metadata creation to librarians in Thailand and Malaysia, and gave seminars on knowledge management, mentoring, database indexing and subject gateways to the 'Online Information and Education Conference : Managing Knowledge in the Modern Library' conferences in Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur. Lynn is a past President of ANZSI, and is currently the Mentoring Coordinator for the Society.

Tracy Harwood, in a deliberate but not wholly-aware-of-the-consequences career move, left a mainstream job with the ACT Government Service in mid-2002 and joined The Australian National University as an editor with a small research group. She soon realised that she had all the necessary

Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
24 March 9.30–12.30	ACT Region Branch	Cindex Workshop	TBA	Eleanor Whelan ph +
30 April	Vic Branch	Introductory Indexing training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax +
1 May	Vic Branch	Intermediate Indexing Training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax +

National events

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
16–17 March 2007	Vic Branch	ANZSI Conference	Amora Riverwalk Hotel, Richmond, Melbourne	Margaret Findlay <conference@aussi.org>

attributes to be a good editor, joined the Canberra Society of Editors, and began to educate herself about editing. She soon developed an interest in indexing and, thinking that editing and indexing are complementary processes, joined AusSI. Tracy then joined a group project to index a mid-1920s Canberra newspaper. It was there that members of the ANZSI Committee (as it had become) recognised 'new blood' and invited her to join the committee as a regular member. Tracy has one published index: a multi-authored academic monograph about sweet potato in the Pacific. She has put together a number of small publications for the research group and is currently co-editing a large textbook on the agricultural economy of Papua New Guinea and will also index this work. In addition to a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Canberra and a diploma in editing from the Australian College of Journalism, Tracy has completed Max McMaster's introductory and intermediate indexing courses, and assorted short courses in both editing and indexing. Tracy loves editing and indexing and intends doing this kind of work for a long time.

Don Jordan's career has been mostly in civil engineering as a geotechnical engineer, working for local, state and federal government departments, private consulting firms, and in academia - latterly for 13 years as Senior Lecturer at Victoria University of Technology. He has been an active musician all his life, playing the trombone in many areas of music and also teaching Orff Schulwerk for a while at Melbourne University. A relative newcomer to indexing, he trained under Max McMaster and has created indexes for books on Australian history, contemporary music, general science, chemistry, psychology and on Vietnam and China. He has been a part of committees of all kinds, from primary school council to Jazz Action Society to local tourism, and looks forward to using his skills and enthusiasm for the benefit of ANZSI.

Catherine Tully has an Arts degree, is a trained teacher and librarian, and has worked in the private, public and not for profit sectors. She has worked as a stand-alone librarian in the legal arm of Arthur Anderson and as a volunteer researcher at Melbourne University in the School of Earth Sciences and the Computer Science Faculty on the VAST Project (Voices of Australian Science and Technology). Catherine joined the ANZSI Victorian Branch four years ago after completing indexing training courses, and is a member of the Victorian Branch Committee. Catherine considers that her membership of the Victorian Branch of ANZSI has been invaluable in adding to her store of knowledge as a librarian and indexer, and she has greatly enjoyed the opportunities it has provided to network, take part in professional development workshops, and to visit an array of different libraries. She also found attending and assisting at the 2005 ANZSI Conference, another very beneficial experience, and looks forward to participating in the upcoming 2007 Conference in Melbourne. Catherine pursued her interest in leisure and lifestyle by completing a qualification in Diversional Therapy last year. In 2007, her goal is to gain registration as an indexer.

Ex-Officio Members

President, ACT Region Branch Barry Howarth has been a member of the Society since 1994. He started back-of-book indexing as part of his work in the Economic History Department in the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University the year before. He became a more or less full-time freelance indexer in 2003 after retiring from the ANU. Barry served as a member of the ACT Region Branch Committee from 2002 to 2004 and a member of the former National Committee from 2003 to 2005 and is the current President of the ACT Region Branch.

President, NSW Branch Glenda Browne has been a freelance indexer of books, journals, online help, databases and websites since 1988. She also teaches indexing and related topics for a number of organisations. With Jon Jermey she has written the books *Website Indexing* (published by Auslib Press, 2nd edition, 2004, <www.webindexing.biz>) and *The Indexing Companion* (CUP 2007). Glenda is President of ANZSI NSW Branch, was editor of the *ANZSI Newlsetter* for three years, and currently writes the 'From the literature' section of the *ANZSI Newlsetter*.

President, New Zealand Branch Jill Gallop has been working as a freelance back-of-book indexer since 2001, mostly in the field of New Zealand legal information. She discovered back-of-book indexing when temporarily employed by a legal publisher during a year of study for a post-graduate qualification in library and information studies. On qualification, she worked as the company's in-house indexer for two years. Jill is interested in research into back-of-book indexing, and would like one day to be able to make some contribution to the literature. Potential research topics arising out of day-to-day practice include structural issues in the creation of legal indexes, for instance, the degree of double-posting of information necessary to satisfy users' information needs, and to what degree cross-referencing systems actually serve or frustrate users. She has been a member of ANZSI since 2004.

President, Victorian Branch Karen Gillen (see page 1).

Mentoring Matters

Last month we highlighted those aspects of the Mentoring Program that affected the prospective mentee. This month, we'll look at the other side of the equation – the mentor.

Can anyone be a mentor?

A mentor of a book index must be a current Registered Indexer of ANZSI. Registration is the Society's highest professional accolade and indicates that an indexer's work has attained an accepted standard of quality. This ensures that those who mentor novice indexers have both experience and expertise.

At the moment, ANZSI only offers Registration for book indexers, not for database, web or other indexers working in non-book fields. In cases where the skills of database or other indexing would be useful (for example in mentoring a journal compilation), an experienced database indexer may be invited to be a mentor by the Education Committee.

What does a mentor do?

Mentors undertake the following duties:

a) Discuss the indexing proposal with the mentee and ensure that the work chosen is appropriate
b) Schedule a series of contacts (usually 5-6) over a period of up to six months. Contacts can be by email, fax, phone, face-to-face or a combination of these
c) Monitor the structure and consistency of the index but not become involved with the intellectual content or do any indexing
d) Advise on particular problems, eg form of names
e) Give the mentee feedback at an early stage and as soon as practicable after each contact
f) Provide brief written reports to the Mentoring Coordinator on the progress of the mentee
g) Sign off the completed index as being to an acceptable standard
h) If an index does not attain an acceptable standard within a reasonable time frame, it is the responsibility of the mentor to inform the mentee and write to the Mentoring Coordinator, giving reasons. The Society reserves the right to then terminate the menteeship.
i) If an index does attain an acceptable standard, the mentor is responsible for sending the completed index to the Mentoring Coordinator so that it can be made available in the most appropriate format.

How will mentors be matched to mentees?

The Mentoring Coordinator keeps a record of prospective mentors, their physical location and their special areas of skill and interest. As much as possible, the Coordinator will try to match mentors and mentees who are in close proximity and share the same indexing interests. Mentors will always be informed of a proposed mentee and will have the option to accept the menteeship or not. Once accepted, a copy of the mentee's application form will be forwarded to the mentor as background information.

Do mentors have to follow a set method of operating?

Mentoring is a personal process and all participants will approach it differently. Mentors and mentees decide how they will work together, within the following framework:

- Indexing will generally be completed within six months, with the ability to apply for an extension to twelve months for unusual circumstances
- Mentors and mentees will agree on a series of contacts (usually 4–6) over the period. It is up to the two parties to decide the format these contacts will take
- Mentees will be given feedback at an early stage and as soon as practicable after each contact.
- At the completion of the mentoring, the mentor will check the index for accuracy, style, comprehensiveness and arrangement, using whatever standards were agreed to by the parties as appropriate to the project (e.g. ISO standard, Style Manual, Chicago Manual of Style etc)

A 'Mentoring Agreement' is to be drawn us by the mentee which states the basic arrangements made by the two parties. Copies of the agreement should be available to the mentor and the mentee throughout the program. This agreement should be revisited and if necessary revised periodically during the mentoring. The Mentoring Agreement should be attached to the mentor's final report to the Society.

What if a rush job comes in unexpectedly?

Mentors (and mentees) can vary the Mentoring Agreement to take workloads and life commitments into account. Your arrangements with your mentee are between the two of you, we only ask that the Society be kept informed of major changes of timing or direction. Flexibility for both parties is an important part of the mentoring program.

How much reporting does a mentor have to do?

Based on previous mentorings undertaken by Victorian Branch members, mentors should expect to spend about 5–6 hours in total over the course of the menteeship. This includes contacts with the mentee, time spent examining the work as it progresses and making suggestions and comments, and fulfilling the reporting obligations to the Society. First-time mentors might find it takes them slightly longer to 'settle in' to the process of mentoring, and should plan to commit up to 10 hours to mentoring.

Because the Mentoring Scheme is still fairly new, mentors will be asked to keep a record of the time they spend on the program and include this in their progress reports to the Mentoring Coordinator. This will give the Society, and prospective mentors, a basis for future planning.

Will mentors be paid?

Participation by mentors and mentees is voluntary, although fees will be collected to compensate the mentors for their time. Upon receipt of the mentor's final report, the Society will arrange a payment of A$225 to the mentor. This represents the application fee less A$25 to cover Society administrative costs.

(Mentoring matters, continued from page 6)

Can a mentor withdraw from a mentoring project?

We hope this situation never arises, but if circumstances make it impossible for a mentor to continue in their role, the mentor can initiate cessation of a project by informing the Mentoring Coordinator in writing of their reasons. If the mentor withdraws through no fault of the mentee, a replacement mentor will be provided.

Situations under which a mentoring project might be terminated include:

- mutual agreement between the mentor and mentee, regardless of reason.
- Voluntary withdrawal by the mentee, regardless of reason.
- Illness or major trauma for the mentor or mentee.
- Not completing the project within the extended (12 months) time limit, in the absence of exceptional circumstances.

How do I become a mentor?

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact the Mentoring Coordinator, Lynn Farkas at email <████████████████>. If you have a particular specialty (biography, legal material, various scientific works, etc) I will try to match you with a mentee in that field. And keep watching this column for updates – remember, Mentoring Matters!

Lynn Farkas
ANZSI Mentoring Coordinator

New indexing publication

Browne, Glenda and Jermey, Jonathan. *The Indexing Companion.* Melbourne: Cambridge University Press, 2007. $49.95, 978-0-521-68988-5, 240 pp.

This new book, *The Indexing Companion* by Glenda Browne and Jon Jermey, will be launched by Pam Peters at the ANZSI conference in Melbourne in March. It will be available at the launch at a 20% discount, with no postage costs. If you can't be at the launch but would like to purchase the book, you can contact Glenda and Jon at <webindexing@optusnet.com.au> for a 20% discount flyer (the postage is $9.90 for any number of copies).

The book starts with the place of indexing in the publishing environment, and looks at definitions and standards. Then there are discussions on planning indexes, analysing concepts, selecting terms, structuring indexes, and editing to ensure quality.

Book and database-style indexing are both discussed, including short sections on a wide range of specialised formats including library catalogues, handbooks, images, online help and websites. Dedicated indexing software, embedded indexing and other computer-related topics are presented. The final chapter looks at the future of indexing.

This book provides an Australian view on indexing, but is also applicable internationally, as so many of our rules are shared. Alternative approaches are discussed, rather than just one point of view. References are made to indexing in all countries with indexing societies, and a few others as well.

ANZSI NEWSLETTER

From the President

Last month, the Victorian Branch of ANZSI hosted the 2007 ANZSI Conference, *The Indexing Life.* The holding of regular conferences is an important function of the Society, and it is gratifying that so many delegates kindly took the trouble to communicate, either verbally or in writing, their positive experiences of the Conference.

On behalf of the ANZSI Council, and as Victorian Branch President, I would like to commend the Victorian Branch Committee, their Conference Committee, and in particular, Margaret Findlay, the Conference Convenor, for putting together such an interesting and enjoyable program, and for ensuring the financial success of the conference.

I would also like to offer my thanks to all presenters and delegates whose participation in the conference helped to make it such an enriching experience.

Karen Gillen, ANZSI President

The Indexing Life – an overview
Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Conference
15–17 March 2007, Amora Hotel, Melbourne, Australia

The theme of the recent conference, *The Indexing Life*, reflected the intention of the organisers to put together a program that touched upon as many aspects of 'the indexing life' as possible and provided professional development opportunities for those just starting out in the profession through to those with well-established careers. Accordingly, the conference provided delegates with a varied program of workshops, conference papers, 'birds of a feather' sessions, panel discussions, a comic reading, and an exercise session, as well as formal and informal social activities. The program catered for both database and web indexers and back-of-book indexers, and also provided plenty of opportunities for socialising and networking.

The Conference was attended by delegates from Australia and from a number of other countries. It was with great pleasure that we once again welcomed Geraldine Beare as the official representative of the UK Society of Indexers (SI), and Frances Lennie as the official representative of the American Society of Indexers (ASI). We were also very pleased to welcome the other international visitors to the conference: Kesaia Vilsoni from Fiji, Saeed Rezaei Sharifabadi from Iran, and Linda Chu from Hong Kong. Within Australia, in addition to those from Victoria, delegates came from the

Kathy Simpson and Catharine Tully at the registration desk

Book launch: *The Indexing Companion*

The Indexing Companion, by Glenda Browne and Jon Jermey, published by Cambridge University Press, was launched by Pam Peters at the ANZSI conference.

The tea room proved to be a cosy venue for the speeches, for browsing and buying this book (along with others from CUP and SI), and for enjoying afternoon tea with like-minded colleagues.

Pam Peters spoke about the book having breadth and depth, a range of international examples, and a lot of current references, many to freely-

Jon and Glenda at the book launch

available websites. She also said that the book was fun. One of the aims was to show indexing as a human activity, starting with the first quote from Seth Maislin saying that his biggest achievement has been convincing his mother-in-law that indexing is cool!

Pam also mentioned the analogy borrowed from author Sonya Hartnett, who used to write stories higgledy-piggledy as the ideas arrived, using the 'ride a wild pony approach', but who now structures things more carefully from the beginning, following her 'dressage' approach.

Glenda thanked the people who had been involved in the development of the book, which grew out of an interesting chain of events.

The starting point was Auslib Press, who published Jon and Glenda's first book, *Website indexing*. That book was added by Sue Woolley to a list of good books on indexing that was being circulated to editors. Susan Keogh saw the list, and suggested they publish with CUP. They contacted publisher Jill Henry, who sent their proposal to CUP in Melbourne and then Cambridge (where it was assessed by the 'Syndics').

Thanks were also due to the many staff at CUP who assisted at all stages of production, including Kate Indigo, who they met for the first time at the conference. Fundamental to the book were the indexers whose writings and discussions over the last 18 years stimulated their thinking and provided much of the content for the text.

The three anonymous readers who commented on the book proposal all made suggestions enhancing the final book. Suggestions included writing a section analysing the future of indexing, discussing both open system (collection) and closed system (book-style) indexing. Maureen MacGlashan, editor of *The Indexer,* later became 'unanonymous', and a quote from her final report is printed on the back cover.

Many thanks go to all those who contributed to the excitement of the launch – Pam Peters, for her thorough and positive appraisal, the conference committee for organising the event, CUP staff for running the stall and sponsoring the tea, and all the indexers who attended.

Glenda Browne

Browne, Glenda and Jermey, Jonathan.
The Indexing Companion.
Melbourne, Cambridge University Press, 2007.
$49.95. ISBN 978-0-521-68988-5, 240 p.

Conference social events and entertainment

Welcome Happy Hour - Thursday 15 March

Workshop participants, newly arrived conference delegates, Vic Branch members and partners celebrated the successful completion of Day One – the Workshop program, at a convivial 'meet and greet' function in the Tracks Bar of Amora Riverwalk.

For a healthy end to the day, a large party walked along Bridge Road to Café Bohème for dinner, ably organized by Catherine Tully, after which we ambled back to the hotel and so to bed.

Kesaia Vilsoni from Fiji and Dee McArthur

Conference Dinner - Friday 16 March

A good crowd of delegates and partners enjoyed a night of great camaraderie, fine dining and wining, together with an 'ice-breaker' table competition of 'name the logo/brand' plus enjoyable music from the Jazz Doctors band, with the inclusion of ANZSI Council member and trombonist, Don Jordan.

Don Jordan joins the Jazz Doctors

Walter Lee and Margaret Findlay

Break-Up Dinner - Saturday 17 March

At the end of the afternoon sessions, after paying the final accounts and saying farewell to many of our travelling visitors, a handful of Committee members, visitors and presenters crossed the road to dine together at the Bridge Hotel, to cement friendships and drink to the successful completion of yet another international indexing event.

Jenny Restarick

Tony Venn and Geraldine Beare

Frances Lennie

ACT, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Western Australia. The ANZSI Council sponsors the attendance of a member who resides in a location remote from the conference. This year's successful applicant for sponsorship was Alex George, from Perth, Western Australia. Alex's report of the conference appears on page 6 of this issue of the *Newsletter*. Of the 77 delegates who attended, 38 were self-employed or freelance indexers, while the others worked full- or part-time in organizations.

The Conference began with a number of optional workshops on Thursday 15 March. Max McMaster (Vic) presented a full-day workshop at Swinburne University of Technology on 'Newspaper and magazine indexing'. A couple of half-day workshops were also held at Swinburne, with Frances Lennie (US) leading a morning session on 'Cindex Software', and Glenda Browne (NSW) presenting an afternoon workshop on 'Web Indexing'. Another couple of half-day workshops were held at the Amora Hotel. Alan Walker (NSW) presented a morning session on 'Law Indexing', and Michael Harrington (ACT) held an afternoon workshop on 'Indexing Annual Reports'. Overall, the workshops were well attended, with Glenda Browne's workshop on 'Web Indexing' proving particularly popular.

Early on Thursday evening, a 'Welcome' Cocktail Hour was held in the Tracks Bar of the Amora Hotel. This was a great opportunity to catch up with old acquaintances and meet some newer ANZSI members and conference delegates. A number of delegates then strolled down Bridge Rd, Richmond, to a nearby restaurant, to enjoy an informal dinner hosted by ANZSI Victorian Branch Committee members.

On Friday morning, following the official opening of the conference, the first keynote address for the conference was presented by Geraldine Beare (a freelance indexer, and official representative of the UK Society of Indexers). In a fact-filled, witty and thought-provoking presentation, titled 'Indexing Past and Present: Whither the Future', Geraldine traced the evolution of indexing, from the Paleolithic to the present, and offered some predictions about the future of indexing. The final quote provided, from Eric Hoffer, is worth repeating here: '*In times of change, learners inherit the world, while the learned remain beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists.*'

During breaks throughout the conference, delegates were able to browse through the Trade Exhibition, order a range of Society of Indexers (SI) publications, or purchase items from the $5 table (book-stops, additional conference bags and badges, Proceedings of the 2005 ANZSI Conference, etc.).

Also on display at the conference were ANZSI Medal-Awarded Books, along with a list of Medal winners and those whose work had been highly commended. This is the first time that these books have been collected and displayed together, and delegates were able to browse through them and make their own assessments of the indexes they contained. A complete list of the titles of the books, and the medal winners will be included in the June issue of the *Newsletter*.

Following morning tea, there were concurrent 'Birds of a Feather' Sessions. Prue Deacon (ACT) chaired a session for database and web indexers, cataloguers, metadata creators and thesaurus developers, while Max McMaster (Vic) chaired a session on back of book indexing. Next on the program was a panel discussion, chaired by Alex George, on 'Indexing Gardening/Botany publications'. Panellists included Alex George (WA), Caroline Colton (NSW) and Roger Spencer (Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne). Detailed reports of this
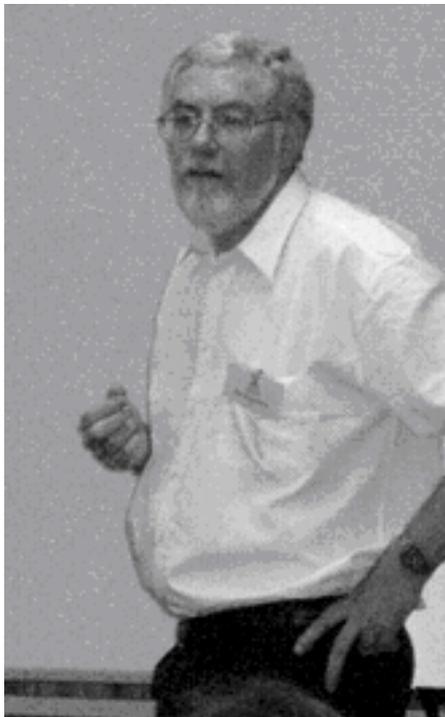
Max McMaster

Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
24 April	NSW Editors	Lunch	Firehouse Hotel, 86 Walker Street, North Sydney	All ANZSI members warmly invited. No need to RSVP.
30 April 1 May	Vic Branch Vic Branch	Introductory indexing training Intermediate indexing training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax +█████████ ████████████████
23 June 30 June	NSW Branch	Basic book indexing course	Thomson Legal & Regulatory, 100 Harris Street, Pyrmont	Lorraine Doyle <█████████████>
11 August	NSW Branch	Indexing specialties seminar	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Lorraine Doyle <█████████████>

panel discussion, and the preceding 'Birds of a Feather' sessions will be published in the May issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter*. In a parallel session, Prof. Wallace Kirsop (Centre for the Book, Monash University) presented a fascinating paper entitled 'Behind the scenes in publishing in nineteenth and early twentieth century Australia'.

After lunch, Geraldine Triffitt (ACT), presented a paper on 'Compiling a bibliography in the digital age', and Dennis Bryans (Vic) followed with a paper on 'Compiling and indexing a bibliography of theatre programmes'. In a parallel session, Jeanne MacKenzie (National Center for Vocational Education Research, Adelaide SA) gave a presentation on 'The VOCED database – from indexing to dissemination', and Pru Mitchell (Education, SA) presented a paper on 'Learning architectures: issues in indexing Australian education in a Web 2.0 world'.

During the afternoon tea break, there was an official launch of *The Indexing Companion* by Glenda Browne and Jon Jermey (CUP 2007). Professor Pam Peters, from the Dictionary Research Centre at Macquarie University, gave a full and very positive review of the book. With the authors on hand to sign copies, many delegates took the opportunity to purchase the book.

Next on the program, Jennifer Gawne and Kathy Simpson (Vic) provided details of some of the more unusual jobs undertaken by indexers at Sensis Pty Ltd. They were followed by Kerry O'Sullivan (AMIRA, Melbourne), who gave a presentation on 'Data Metallogenica', an image-based mineral deposits database. In a parallel session, Max McMaster hosted the 'Indexers Road Show'. The expert panelists on hand to evaluate indexes supplied by delegates were: Michael Harrington (ACT); Max McMaster (Vic); Michael Ramsden (Vic); John Simkin (Vic); Alan Walker (NSW). A detailed report on this innovative session will be provided in the May issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter*.

The Conference Dinner was held on Friday night in the Atrium of the Amora Hotel. Jenny Restarick hosted the dinner, and the Jazz Doctors provided the background music to an entertaining and enjoyable social occasion.

The final day's program began with a presentation by Lynn Farkas, the ANZSI Mentoring Coordinator, on the 'New Look' Society-Wide Mentoring Scheme.

Following morning tea, Professor Pam Peters (Dictionary Research Centre, Macquarie University) presented the second keynote address: 'Language on the move'. Professor Peters used a series of examples of English borrowings from classical languages, for example the spelling of words like 'h(a)emoglobin' and plurals of words like 'retina', to show the ongoing process of assimilation that underlies the surface variation in the spelling of such words. Significantly, the variable forms of words have

Professor Pam Peters

some impact on the alphabetisation of words, and on indexing that looks beyond the spellings used in the author's text.

The next item on the program, and a wonderful complement to Professor Peters' presentation, was a comic reading by journalist Sharon Gray (columnist with *The Age* Newspaper) of an article by Richard Boston, published in the *Guardian* (16 April 1989), on how the 20-volume Oxford English Dictionary came into being.

In order to work up an appetite for lunch, the next item on the program was a health and fitness session presented by Jenny

Sharon Gray

Davrain. A few delegates demonstrated astonishing bursts of speed to escape from the room before the doors were locked. Those that remained were shown and encouraged to practice a range of stretch and relaxation exercises for sedentary workers involving tins of baked beans, bottles of tomato sauce, John Travolta impersonations, and a lot of laughter.

After lunch, it was back to business, with Renee Otmar (Vic) presenting a seminar on 'Business basics for freelance indexers: what to do before and after you hang up your shingle.' In a parallel session, Jon Jermey (NSW) gave a paper on 'The database in your future'; Andrew Pentecost (Maxus, Melbourne), gave a demonstration of database and thesaurus management software products in the construction of a database index; and Saeed Rezaei Sharifabadi (Alzahara University, Iran), gave a presentation on 'The feasibility of subject authority control of web-based Persian medical databases'.

Following afternoon tea, Shauna Hicks and Simon Flagg, from the Public Records Office, Victoria, gave a presentation on 'Indexing manuscripts and the Koorie Indexing Name Project'. Sherrey Quinn (ACT) then gave a paper on 'Managing language; some reflections on corporate glossaries'. In a parallel session, there was a panel discussion on 'Indexing

Conference report by Alex George, the ANZSI-sponsored delegate

I won't go into the presentations in detail, since abstracts are available of most and I believe that there will be some kind of publication, whether printed or electronic is yet to be decided. Of the workshops held on Thursday, I chose that by Frances Lennie on Cindex software, mainly because I'd seen the advertisements but knew nothing about it. From the session and informal discussions with Frances I gained an understanding of the system and its potential. While it is better applied to more complex indexing than the kind that I do, I gained useful hints for my work.

On both Friday and Saturday there were plenary and parallel sessions, the latter presenting papers on a wide range of topics but also meaning difficult decisions on which to attend. With apologies to those whose sessions I could not attend, what did I get from the papers?

From Geraldine Beare: a wonderful overview of the history of indexing, from cave art (yes, it can be seen as an index) to the present with its widening array of the kinds of indexes being produced as finding aids.

From Max McMaster: reminders of how to deal with both commonly met problems such as undifferentiated locators, what to do with Mc/Mac/M', with articles, and less common ones such as ethical matters (how do I treat a word that was acceptable when the work was first published but by the time of a reprint 50 years later is derogatory?; should I take that job when I disagree with the author's concepts?).

From Roger Spencer and Caroline Colton (my co-presenters in a panel discussion on indexing botanical and gardening works): mutual support in our particular field; caution in using plant names coined for commercial use.

From Geraldine Triffitt: on the compilation of a bibliography (which is, after all, a kind of index), emphasising the benefits of co-operation with authors while remaining alert to the moral rights of individuals.

From Dennis Bryans: an insight into a subject area foreign to me – theatre programs, their myriad forms, their changeability (even by the day) and the complexities of indexing people, performances, advertisers and slang.

From Kerry O'Sullivan: a masterly demonstration of building, indexing and using an international library of geological specimens (70 000+), with images, legends and a map-based finding aid for access via the World Wide Web.

From Jennifer Gawne and Kathy Simpson: a view of the indexing needs of the world of commerce (with particular emphasis on producing the Yellow and White Pages).

From Lynn Farkas: how the Society's mentoring scheme for training new indexers has been developed, how it will operate, and some challenges facing it (Glenda Browne's closing paper led to discussion of some issues that the Education Committee faces in the scheme).

From Pam Peters: a reminder (if we needed it!) of the fascination and joy (?) of words, their diverse origins, how they enter the language and their evolution in different countries.

From Sharon Gray: a 'performance poet' reading of a paper by Richard Boston on the creation of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, combining history and humour.

From Jonathan Jermey: the influence of the computer and database on our profession, our need to understand, and stay current with, developments.

From Andrew Pentecost: using Maxus as an example, a demonstration of building and managing a database index, and the use of thesaurus terms.

From Saeed Rezaei Sharifabadi: a fascinating look at the problems encountered in building a medical database for both national and international use in a country that does not have English as its first language, with adequate authority control.

From Shauna Hicks and Simon Flagg: an insight into Koorie records in Victoria, the problem of having archives split between the State and Commonwealth, the difficulties of using handwritten records that may be fragile, incomplete, almost illegible, inconsistent in spelling names etc.

From Sherrey Quinn: an insight into the problems of seeking standard use of terminology in a large, diverse organisation, the example being the Department of Defence which also deals with counterparts in other countries that may use the same terms but with different meanings.

From Glenda Browne: a challenging talk about 'consensus-based' indexing that highlighted the benefits that could come from agreement on principles and standards but, in the example of defining 'index entry', showed how difficult it could be in some areas.

It was appropriate to have the book *The Indexing Companion* by Glenda Browne and Jon Jermey (Cambridge University Press) launched by Pam Peters. Judging from the sales it will quickly become a standard reference for practising indexers.

The trade exhibition was confined to sales of publications from our Society, the Society of Indexers and Cambridge University Press. There was also a display of indexes that had been awarded medals over the past two decades.

There were two extra-curricular events, the conference dinner when the food, conversation and entertainment were excellent, and a 'health and well-being' session with practical exercises to demonstrate how we should look after our physical state in a relatively sedentary occupation.

Finding a catchy title for a conference can be difficult, but including *Life* in this one was highly appropriate as the program and the participants showed that our profession is indeed a living one – in the work itself, in the evolving technology and demands, and in our inter-relationships. So I came away with new knowledge and insights, a wider understanding, a wider circle of colleagues, better equipped to handle both the constants and the changes in the world of indexing.

Alex George
ANZSI's WA contact

cooking and food publications'. Panellists included: Tim White, Caroline Colton, Isabelle de Solier and Tricia Waters. A detailed report of this seesion will be published in the May issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter* The final paper of the conference was presented by Glenda Browne (NSW), on 'Consensus-based indexing: group development of indexing principles'.

In the closing session, Dee McArthur's name was drawn as the winner of the *Oxford Dictionary* generously donated as a

Tricia Walters, Caroline Colton and Isabelle de Solier

prize by Oxford University Press. We hope the rest of the delegates also left the conference feeling enriched by the opportunity to share and extend their knowledge.

Another benefit of the conference was that it attracted some publicity for the Society. During the conference, journalist Trevor Robbins interviewed Karen Gillen and Max McMaster for an article he is writing on indexing as a profession for the Careers lift-out section of the *Age* newspaper. The article is to appear in the 21 April 2007 edition of the paper.

After appearing as a guest presenter at the conference, Sharon Gray, a columnist at the *Age,* also approached ANZSI with a request to do an article on indexers and indexing. Sharon interviewed Jenny Restarick, Sherrey Quinn and Prof. Pam Peters, and her resulting column appeared in the *Age* in the 10 April 2007 edition.

Throughout the planning and organizing of the conference, the Conference Committee of the Victorian Branch reported regularly on its activities to the ANZSI Council (formerly Committee). Its reports will provide a valuable resource for future ANZSI conference planners. As part of its operations, the Conference Committee also compiled a Conference Checklist for use by conference organizers. The Conference Checklist is to be published later this year in the *Indexer.*

Finally, the Proceedings of the Conference will be produced as soon as possible, and details of its availability will be posted in the *ANZSI Newsletter*, and on the ANZSI website in the near future.

Karen Gillen, ANZSI President
Margaret Findlay, Conference Convenor

ANZSI ACT CINDEX Workshop

Nine people attended this workshop on the morning of 24 March, chaired by Frances Lennie, creator of CINDEX and mentor to many users of it over the years. She gave a workshop at the recent ANZSI conference, and, as five of the nine people had attended that conference, she used this session as a continuation, answering specific questions.

CINDEX will, for example, allow you to create a personal dictionary of names, ideal for Aboriginal names with variations in spelling, as an expert present pointed out. CINDEX can create multiple screens, say, in draft and final view, as well as groups of temporary entries, perhaps using different fonts for each group.

If you enter page numbers in full form, CINDEX will do the eliding. It will change the method of sorting and will show an unformatted view, all records uncompressed, or a summary view, main headings only. Frances stressed the importances of cross-references, of saving records and of making backups. Other more specific questions were also answered and demonstrated.

A brochure is available at <www.indexres.com> to explain how to get started with CINDEX.

Edyth Binkowski

From the President

Following on from last month's Newsletter, this issue contains further reports on the recent ANZSI Conference, *The Indexing Life*, held in Melbourne, 15–17 March 2007. For the benefit of those who could not attend the conference, and to refresh the memories of those who did, this issue includes summaries of the Panel Discussions on indexing gardening/horticulture texts and food/cookery books, and a report on the 'Indexers Roadshow'. Next month's Newsletter will include summaries of the 'Birds of a Feather' sessions on database and web indexing, and back-of-book indexing, and a complete list of medal awarded books, medal winners and those whose work was highly commended.

I'm pleased to report that the publicity generated by the conference has had some positive outcomes for the Society.

During the conference Max MacMaster and I were interviewed by Trevor Robbins for an article he was writing on indexing as a profession. This article was duly published in the 'Careers' lift-out section of the *Age* newspaper (28/04/07, p.25). It triggered an extraordinary degree of interest in indexing and also in indexing training (including the mentoring programme). As a result, we have scheduled additional workshops in Melbourne to accommodate the demand for training, and the Society has attracted a number of new members.

Karen Gillen, ANZSI President

Thoughts on the ANZSI Conference, 15–17 March 2007
by Pru Mitchell, Senior Information Officer, education.au

A question I have had to address both before and since the conference is, 'Why would a librarian who works in an online education information service attend and present at a conference for indexers?' In writing this report, I am looking to clarify the benefits of involvement both for *education.au* as well as personally. From the ANZSI Conference these benefits came in the form of **Connection, Promotion** and **Education**.

Connection

The opportunity to network with presenters and delegates, both in formal sessions and during breaks, provided plenty of avenues for promotion and education. Major discussion themes included usability and the need for greater research into and awareness of user search behaviour, where search patterns indicate fast, accurate results may not always be the user's goal. There was reference to some evidence that some users prefer optional answers, or popular answers to a 'correct' answer.

The difficulty of indexing both for intermediaries who are search experts and to accommodate self-service by end users was raised. The 'pointing finger' for me for the conference was the observation that the greater the distance from the user or 'the information discoverer', the more danger that indexing,

search functionality and cataloguing practice will be irrelevant.

A common theme amongst the web indexers present was the fact that in many cases organisations including government do not recognise the cost of metadata creation, or are not resourcing this activity. Discussion about the Australian government's portal strategy was one aspect of this. The explosion of audio and video formats was also raised and

Deadline for the June 2007 issue: 5 June.

From the Conference Convenor . . .
. . . and from some satisfied conference-goers

Margaret Findlay
Conference Convenor

On behalf of the Conference Committee of the Victorian Branch of ANZSI, I would like to thank all those who passed on their kind congratulations and generous praise regarding the recent conference. Reproduced below are some of the comments received by the Conference Committee.

'I just thought I would thank you and everyone concerned for a really excellent conference. Thank you so much for inviting me – I really enjoyed it – again! ... once again a good range of speakers, great venue and everyone so friendly and encouraging.'

Geraldine Beare

'Please pass through to the committee my compliments for a very well run conference. Most enjoyable and informative.'

Kerry Biram

'I think that the ANZSI Conference is the best run conference that I have had the privilege to attend. It was great. My thanks to all.'

Dennis Bryans

'Thanks for organising the workshops and the conference. The workshop afternoon was most informative to me, and I'm hoping to purchase the manual from Glenda Browne soon.'

Frederick Fong, Department of Infrastructure, Victoria

'I had a good experience – interesting papers, an opportunity to meet in person a number of people I had phone and email relationships with previously, and the pleasure of meeting new people from the indexing community as well. Congratulations on such a successful conference.'

Kate Indigo, Cambridge University Press

'I attended the recent ANZSI Conference and found it very useful and enjoyable. I would like to congratulate all who contributed to its organization and success.'

Helen Mann

'I enjoyed my limited time at the conference, especially getting a chance to see the famous Pam Peters in action. She's one of my heroes.'

Andrew Pentecost

'As one who has been to many indexers' conferences I consider this to be one of the best. The range and balance of papers and other activities was spot on. Your committee did its work admirably.'

John Simkin

'I had a wonderful time at the conference – a very well balanced program I thought, along with the social activities. It's great to catch up with kindred spirits again.'

Tricia Waters

Margaret Findlay, Conference Convenor

the question of who is going to index the thousands of podcasts being produced?

Connection with leaders in the field is another benefit of conference attendance, as is exposure to the latest publications. Pam Peters launched a new 'bible' or *Indexer's Companion* written by Glenda Browne and Jon Jermey, and was both eloquent and persuasive in her introduction to this important work.

Promotion

The opportunity to present a paper was a major benefit of the conference for my organisation. It enabled me to relate the work of *education.au* to a new audience with particular reference to information architecture and search, and to raise issues of the impact of social tagging and folksonomies on indexing. Our current work on the Schools Online Thesaurus (ScOT) was of immediate relevance in this context. The fact that we presented alongside a key search partner, Jean MacKenzie of the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) enabled us to reinforce the strong collaborative culture of *education.au*.

Education

It is interesting to learn from an allied discipline and to make links with prior knowledge. Geraldine Beare's opening keynote session, entitled 'Indexing Past and Future', provided an illustrated historical overview of indexing, information retrieval and search, from the hand symbols seen in cave and rock art to the machine indexing of today. The large proportion of publishers now outsourcing, particularly to India, is a significant issue which could well impact on web services in other areas. The fact that a search engine is an index was a point worth emphasising, and put the rest of the conference in context for me. The challenge of regularly tweaking search algorithms raised many questions which warrant further research.

Director of the Dictionary Research Centre at Macquarie University Pam Peters provided a keynote session entitled 'Language on the move'. This was based on research conducted around language innovation, variation and change. Some well chosen examples provided a fascinating insight into the process of how language evolves, who adopts various rules and spellings, and how quickly the process occurs. This was a timely session for those immersed in thesaurus work and struggling with currency and literary warrant issues.

I was challenged by presenters from concurrent sessions to investigate new software options for managing thesauri, to upgrade my database management skills and to investigate the search engine interface of some major Australian online services. A compulsory exercise session for sedentary workers complete with soup can weights was an interesting and energising session idea for a conference. As someone who is often involved in conference organisation, it was great to watch highly efficient conference organisers go calmly about their tasks, making it a very easy experience for participants and presenters.

So what are the two key things I take from this conference? An action point to research machine generated indexing, tagging and metadata, and a renewed resolution to centre attention on the two basic principles of usability and findability.

Pru Mitchell

Panel discussions 1: Indexing cooking and food publications

Organised by Jenny Restarick, this panel discussion was coordinated by Tim White, owner of the Books for Cooks bookshop in Fitzroy, with Tricia Waters and Caroline Colton, freelance indexers and Isabella de Solier, PhD candidate in Cultural Studies at the University of Melbourne.

Tim White gave a lengthy introduction to cookbooks. The earliest cookbooks were instructions about preparing food. Post World War II they became a biography or history of a region or a collection of recipes about a specific ingredient or technique. Cookbooks make up about eight per cent of non-fiction titles and less than four per cent of new titles. Over 20,000 cookbooks are published internationally, worth about $48 million. Germany is the biggest market.

Cookbooks are usually read as literature; readers are more often women and most prefer pictures. Even though Australian

Tricia Walters, Caroline Colton and Isabelle de Solier

kitchens are getting smaller and supermarkets control about 80 percent of all food, there is an increasing trend towards slow food.

Cookbooks are increasingly self-published and on specialised subjects, like food on the bone. There is an increasing trend towards hybridisation such as food and travel or food and crime fiction. A new area is translating popular cookbooks into English.

Tricia Waters talk began: 'I'd like to start with a scene from Anne Tyler's novel *The Accidental Tourist* featuring the Leary family – brothers Charles and Porter and their sister Rose. Porter was calling out to his wife from a list of things that had to be taken on holiday – "blanket, bottles, diaper bag, formula out of the fridge". Rose commented "I notice it's in alphabetical order. I do think alphabetising helps to sort things out a little". Rose

(continued overleaf)

had a kitchen that was so completely alphabetised, you'd find the allspice next to the ant poison.'

When indexing cookbooks Tricia always thinks of where she would look for that recipe. The first entry for the recipe should be the main ingredient, such as chicken, then the category such as desserts, then title. It may be appropriate to invert the title so main ingredient is first, particularly if, for example, it is 'Aunt Betty's rice pudding'. Don't bother with method of cooking process such as roast, unless it is unusual. Remember to highlight vegetarian and gluten free recipes.

There is an increasing trend for titles to be a long list of ingredients and to use non-English terms. Tricia concluded: 'Let's go back to Rose from *The Accidental Tourist* who grapples daily with the complexities of alphabetising food. Her brothers were helping her to unpack the shopping. 'Rose stood on a stepstool in front of a glass-fronted cupboard, accepting the groceries which her brothers, Charles and Porter handed up to her. 'Now I need the N's – anything starting with N?' she asked. 'How about these noodles?' Porter asked. 'N for noodles or would that be P for pasta?' 'It's E for elbow macaroni, Rose retorted, you might have passed those up earlier'.'

Carolyn Colton thought you couldn't have a session on cooking without a recipe. So she chose one from *Recipes for Aphrodite's*. Carolyn explained work she had done on a photographic database of cooking. The publisher thought it might be able to reuse some of its photographs, but later realised that the photographs themselves reflected the era they were from and couldn't really be reused.

Isabella de Solier had a completely different slant on the topic. For her PhD studies she has been studying 'foodies' or people who identify food as a leisure pursuit, not those in the food industry. Her particular interest is in food blogs. These are online personal journals or diaries. Blogs relating to food are very popular. It is estimated that there are at least 1200 food blogs. There is even an annual international food blog award. Food blogs are particularly popular among Asian women.

One of the blogs she demonstrated was *Grab Your Fork* <http://grabyourfork.blogspot.com>. This focuses on Sydney restaurant reviews. The blogger has grouped the personal reviews into where the restaurant is located within Sydney. The reviews are arranged alphabetically by restaurant and where there are two or more they are tagged with dates. Culinary events are also included in this blog, together with reviews of previous events attended.

Further hints on indexing cookbooks can be found at <www.culinaryindexing.org> and the information leaflet produced by the Society of Indexers <www.indexers.org.uk/index.php?id=126>.

Mary Russell

Panel discussions 2: Indexing gardening and botanical publications

This discussion was led by Alex George, Freelance Indexer from Perth, with Roger Spencer from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Melbourne and Caroline Colton, Freelance Indexer, Sydney.

Roger Spencer explained the different types of indexes used by botanists, including the *Plant Finder* lists of where to buy particular plants. He explained how detailed lists of plants can go to 7 or 8 levels of hierarchy. Another challenge is how to index plants by their growing habits so, for example, red flowering climbers suitable for a west wall can be identified.

The main focus of his paper was the impact marketing had on plant names. There is a growing shift away from botanical names to trademark names in garden centres. Since these are often owned by the provider of goods or services, they can not act as plant names. For example 'Kiwi fruit' is a trade mark for Chinese gooseberry. This, however, does not stop plants being bought and sold using their trademark name, particularly as they often look like common names. This can lead to up to seven different names for one plant. Roger is part of a project developing a standard typographical label for all these various names to be used by nurseries.

Caroline Colton explained the different styles of indexes used in a multivolume work on grevilleas compared to a general gardening book. The work on grevilleas would need to follow plant naming conventions and it may be appropriate to have a botanist check the index before forwarding to the publisher. Decisions would be needed on how to handle the trademark names such as 'Austraflora Copper Gold' versus 'Copper Gold'. Often a multivolume work has a combined index with volume number preceding page numbers.

In a general gardening book there is always the problem of how to index common names. This is particularly the case with names such as 'Daisy Buttons' that could refer to several different plants, and a consistent approach has to be agreed before indexing starts.
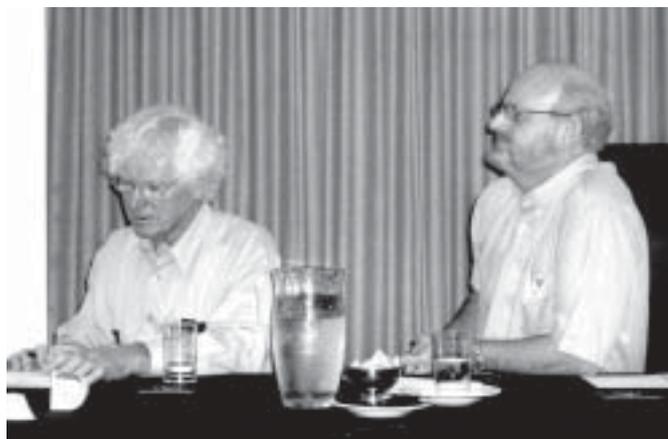
Alex George and Roger Spencer

The house style used by publishers can dictate how entries are arranged. For example:

Version 1	Version 2
Grevillea	*Grevillea*
G. biternata	*G. biternata*
G. robusta	*G.* 'Ivanhoe'
G. 'Ivanhoe'	*G.* 'Pink Pearl'
G. 'Pink Pearl'	*G. robusta*

It may be appropriate to list all subjects related to *Grevillea* after the list of specific species. For example:

> *Grevillea*
> *G. biternata*
> *G. robusta*
> *G.* 'Ivanhoe'
> *G.* 'Pink Pearl'
> for fire prone areas
> ground covers

There are several useful websites to assist with plant names, including the Australian Plant Name Index <www.anbg.gov.au/apni/index.html> and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (UK) electronic Plant Information Centre <www.kew.org/epic/index.htm>.

Mary Russell

Indexing Botanical and Horticultural Texts

Alex George had provided a very useful handout for the panel discussion reviewed above, explaining plant classification in simple terms. With his permission it is reproduced here.

Classification of plants

The ranks most commonly used in plant classification are:

> family, e.g. Myrtaceae
> genus, e.g. *Eucalyptus*
> species, e.g. *Eucalyptus caesia*
> subspecies or variety, e.g. *Eucalyptus caesia* subsp. *magna*

In the text, family names may be set in roman or italic. Genus and species/subspecies/variety names are usually in italic. Species/subspecies/variety names always have a lower case first letter. Plants are almost never indexed by species name alone (unlike some zoological texts).

Common (vernacular) names

Common names are of two kinds—general (e.g. wattle for all species of the genus *Acacia*) and specific i.e. used for a single species (e.g. Manna Wattle for *Acacia microbotrya*). They are always in roman. Use of capitals is optional for common names, unless a personal or place name is involved. I prefer lower case for general names and initial capitals for specific names. Examples: Elephant Ear Wattle (*Acacia dunnii*), Drummond's Wattle (*Acacia drummondii*), Cootamundra Wattle (*Acacia baileyana*).

Authorities of plant names

Each scientific name has what is called an authority. This is the name of the person who gave it that name, and in scientific and many other works it is cited immediately after the name, e.g. *Acacia baileyana* F.Mueller. Thousands of people have named plants and, to save space, their names are commonly abbreviated, according to an internationally accepted list (Brummitt & Powell, 1992). Thus F.Mueller is F.Muell., Robert Brown is R.Br. They are always in roman. If used in the text it is optional whether to include them with a plant name when indexed, but it can be useful for the reader to include them. They are not indexed as personal names.

Cultivar names

Cultivar names consist of a scientific name followed by another registered name. This is set in roman and enclosed in single quotation marks. It may be more than one word, and each has an upper case first letter unless linguistic custom determines otherwise. The abbreviations 'cv.' and 'var.' are not used with cultivar names.

Thus: *Banksia integrifolia* 'Roller Coaster'
or place the cultivar name as a subentry:

> *Banksia integrifolia*
> 'Roller Coaster'

The multiplication sign (x) is not used for a cultivar of hybrid origin. It may be part of a scientific name of a plant considered a hybrid but not a cultivar, e.g. *Thymus* x *citriodorus*. In such a case it should be included in the index entry.

Format

Generic names should set flush left and species indented without repeating the generic name. Species, subspecies and variety should be further indented. If there are varieties under a subspecies then indent again. e.g.

> *Dryandra*
> *fraseri*
> var. *ashbyi*
> var. *fraseri*
> *lindleyana*
> subsp. *agricola*
> subsp. *lindleyana*
> var. *lindleyana*
> var. *mellicula*
> subsp. *sylvestris*
> *shuttleworthiana*

Reverse entries are worth including for many common names but are never used for scientific names. It may also be worth having separate entries for the 'cultivar' part of the name of a cultivar, since the reader may remember only that part of it.

The Indexers Roadshow

The Indexers Roadshow, a deliberate play on words from the Antiques Roadshow, was a new initiative for the 2007 ANZSI Conference. Trainee or less experienced indexers were encouraged to bring along indexes they had compiled or were currently working on and have them evaluated by a team of experts. Five experts (Michael Harrington, Michael Ramsden, John Simkin, Alan Walker, and Max McMaster) were on hand to provide one-on-one feedback to the trainees.

Max McMaster

Around 10 trainees or less experienced indexers took advantage of the Indexers Roadshow to gain individual feedback on their particular indexes. Interestingly enough other trainees were delighted to 'sit in' on another indexer's one-on-one session to pick up valuable hints and ideas. Most trainees received around 20–25 minutes of individual attention, and this was about the right length of time. Anything less would have been a disservice.

A couple of the attendees commented that the constructive feedback they obtained through the Indexers Roadshow segment more than covered the registration fee for the conference.

It is strongly recommended that future conferences consider having a similar segment.

Max McMaster

Tracey Harwood and Alan Walker ◀

John Simkin and Dennis Bryans ▲

Tricia Waters and Michael Harrington ▶

(***Indexing Botanical and Horticultural Texts**, continued from page 5*)

Thus,
> *Banksia aculeata*
> *integrifolia* 'Roller Coaster'
> Banksia, Swordfish
> 'Roller Coaster'
> Swordfish Banksia

Include a running head if the entries for a genus flow over to another column or page.

In works that contain both scientific and common names you will sometimes see separate indexes to each kind, and even a third index to other subjects. I find this practice inconvenient and strongly recommend a combined index. Common and scientific names are readily distinguished by their typeface.

If there is an introductory chapter or chapters followed by a taxonomic or alphabetical treatment, index the former as well. For multi-volume works a combined index is well worthwhile.

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Brummitt, R.K. & Powell, C.E. (eds) (1992), *Authors of Plant Names*, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

McNeill, J., Barrie, F.R., Burdet, H.M., Demoulin, V., Hawkesworth, D.L., Marhold, K., Nicolson, D.H., Prado, J., Silva, P.C., Skog, J.E., Wiersema, J.H. & Turland, N.J. (eds) (2006), *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Vienna Code)*, Regnum Vegetabile vol. 146, A.R.G.Ganter Verlag, Ruggell. [advice on typeface is in pages viii, ix of the Preface]

Alex George, Perth

< ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮ >

Basic book indexing course in NSW – 23 and 30 June

ANZSI NSW will hold a Basic Book Indexing training course over two days on Saturday 23 June and Saturday 30 June. The course will run from 9.30 to 4.00 with a half-hour lunch. It will be held at Thomson Legal & Regulatory, 100 Harris Street, Pyrmont, Sydney. Parking is available onsite if you provide your registration number in advance. The building is near the John's Square tram station and bus stops on Harris St. Lunch and morning and afternoon tea are included in the cost, and workbooks will be provided.

Payment in advance is required. Cost is $520 for members, $600 for non-members (no GST involved). There is a 40% discount for long-distance travellers. You can get a half-year membership, but as the course finishes on the last day of the financial year, we will also accept membership for 2007/2008.

General course enquiries to Lorraine Doyle:

████████████████████████████████████

Course content enquiries to Glenda Browne:
+███████████████████████████████████

Bookings and payments to Sue Flaxman: +████████████
████████████

Payment can be made by cheque to ANZSI NSW or by direct deposit to account no. 2640 1017 0440 at the Commonwealth Bank Blaxland Branch – BSB 062-640. Applicants should ask for their name and 'ANZSI COURSE' to be put as the reference number (if the bank won't do this, just put a 4-digit number and let us know what it is. This allows us to track the deposits). Cheques should be posted to Sue Flaxman at 4 Loris St, East Bowral NSW 2567.

Course description:

This is a two day introduction to the principles of book indexing. It includes:

- Introduction to useful references
- Overview of the indexing context (working with editors) and processes (reading, highlighting, indexing, editing)
- Approaches to project planning, analysis of text, selection of indexable concepts, and indexing to the appropriate length
- Principles of indexing, including the wording of entries, and creation of cross-references

- Types of entries (subjects and names), elements of entries (headings, subheadings, locators)
- Names – special issues in the indexing of people, places, and organisations
- Alphabetical order, and other filing conventions
- Style of entries
- Editing entries

The course is presented using lecture format, class discussions and exercises, and take-home exercises.

Mountains lunch – 19 May

We have decided to have an informal indexers' get-together in the Blue Mountains. Indexers and others who live in or out of the Mountains are all welcome. If you decide to come, please RSVP to Madeleine Davis at <█████████████████>.

We are asking everyone to bring either a plate of food or a drink (soft or hard) – no peanuts or peanut products please (traces of nuts is OK). Take an extra coat as the days can get cold.

The lunch will be held at Madeleine Davis' house on Saturday 19 May at 12.00 for 12.30. Madeleine lives at ██████████████ Blackheath. Blackheath is approximately $1^{3}/_{4}$ hours from Sydney CBD and 10 mins from Katoomba.

Turn right off Evans Lookout Road (the first road on the outskirts of Blackheath coming from Katoomba). There is a house covered with murals on the corner – you cannot miss it. Then proceed down Evans Lookout Road until you pass the side of the golf course on your left. Jubilee Avenue is the next road to the left.

Trains to the mountains go about every hour, then you'd have a bit of a walk from the station.

Madeleine ph: +███████████████████████ (although it doesn't work very well up here)

If the weather is fine we can go sightseeing or walking afterwards.

Glenda Browne

Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Sat. 19 May 12.30 for 1.00 pm	NSW Branch	Mountains lunch for indexers and others Informal bring a plate	18 Jubilee Avenue, Blackheath	RSVP to Madeleine Davis <████████████████ +6█████████████
4 June 5 June	Vic Branch Vic Branch	Introductory indexing training Intermediate indexing training	Holmesglen TAFE	Max McMaster ph/fax ███████████████
23 June 30 June	NSW Branch	Basic book indexing course	Thomson Legal & Regulatory, 100 Harris Street, Pyrmont	Lorraine Doyle ████████████████>
11 August	NSW Branch	Indexing specialties seminar	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Lorraine Doyle ████████████

ANZSI NEWSLETTER

From the President

The month of May was a busy time for Council members and other ANZSI officers, with numerous ANZSI-related matters requiring attention. including a review of the recommended rate for indexers, discussion of the future incorporation of the Society, and the redevelopment of the Society's website. We hope that we will be able to announce the long-awaited launch of the new website in the very near future.

It is already that time of year when membership subscriptions need to be renewed. Please take a moment to check the notices in this issue regarding procedures for membership renewal and subscription to *The Indexer*.

Karen Gillen
ANZSI President

ALIA Fellowship for Sherrey Quinn

Long-time member of ANZSI, Sherrey Quinn, was made a Fellow of the Australian Library and Information Association at its AGM on 15 May.

The citation can be found at <http://www.alia.org.au/awards/fellowships/2007q.html>.

Our hearty congratulations to Sherrey for this, the latest in a series of professional recognitions she has received during her career in a wide range of information services.

Indexers Available address changes

Members are reminded that address or email changes and *Indexers Available* updates can be done by you on the ANZSI website. You need to know your password. If you want to have your password resent, please contact the Membership Secretary at <memsec@aussi.org>.

The Indexer, April 2007

Apologies to subscribers for the late delivery of the April 2007 issue. It should reach you by the third week of June.

Joanna McLachlan

Membership Renewal

Members are reminded that the ANZSI financial year is July-June so your membership subscriptions are now due. We no longer send out renewal notices by post. Instead members are sent a reminder email and directed to the membership renewal form on the website at <www.aussi.org/membership/index.html>.

This form can be downloaded, completed and returned with your renewal payment to the Treasurer at the address on the form. Only members without email or those with bounced emails will be posted a renewal form.

If you have any questions about the renewal process, please feel free to contact the Membership Secretary, Joanna McLachlan at <memsec@aussi.org>.

GPO Box 2069, Canberra ACT 2601

State Library of Victoria Map Collection visit

On our April visit we were met by Judith Scurfield, Map Librarian, and ushered into a wonderful space, originally part of the old Melbourne Museum, used for the Map Collection, a part of the Rare Printed Collections.

The Map Collection holds over 100,000 maps, mainly focused on Victoria, but with an extensive range of other maps and associated books. The maps are arranged using the Boggs and Lewis classification scheme. This assigns a three digit number to the locality of the map, then a letter for the type of map and concludes with the date of the map. For example 000s are for planets, 100s world, 800s Australasia, 820s Victoria. The letters assigned give an indication of the various types of maps available: A is for general maps, B for geodesy, C physical geography, D biogeography, E human geography, F political, G economic and H military.

The State Library uses Voyager cataloguing software, but many of the maps still only have card entries and some are not yet catalogued. Judith highlighted a couple of projects they are undertaking.

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Work (MMBW) made detailed plans (1890s–1950s) of Melbourne's suburbs. They are so detailed you can see the layout of the houses on the blocks, complete with verandahs and out buildings. Those researching their family's home can search for these maps on the library's catalogue using original street names, and view scans of many of the maps online.

Another ongoing project is cataloguing the large collection of auction maps, produced by real estate agents for the sale of blocks of land. The early maps provide an interesting insight into suburbs before the advent of railway lines and other major developments. Some of the maps had been pasted into large scrapbooks which have been unbound, resulting in a large double sided board with up to four maps attached, potentially covering very different areas. Since the maps were not necessarily arranged in any order, dating them can often be a challenge. Maps are catalogued with old and modern street names, which further adds to the challenge.

Following the talk and tour of the map holdings, some of us had dinner with Judith Scurfield, so concluding a very enjoyable visit.

Jenny Restarick,

News from NSW Branch

ANZSI NSW held a very pleasant informal lunch at Madeleine Davis' house in Blackheath. Fourteen adults and two children attended, with Membership Secretary Joanna MacLaughlin making the trip from Bathurst, and Geraldine Triffitt bringing greetings from Canberra. We hope to hold a similar event on the North Shore in about six months time.

Contact Lorraine Doyle (███████████████████) to book for the Basic Book Indexing course on Saturday 23 and 30 June (details were in the May newsletter), and save Saturday 11 August for our indexing specialities seminar at the NSW Writers' Centre. We will have speakers on indexing biographies (Madeleine Davis), medical information (Mary Coe) and cookbooks (Tricia Waters), followed by time for questions. The Committee will be meeting before the seminar, so let us know if you have any ideas for discussion.

Glenda Browne

Subscriptions to *The Indexer*

The UK-based journal, *The Indexer,* currently published twice a year, will shortly be published on a quarterly basis. This will mean an increase in the annual subscription, although ANZSI members will continue to receive a substantial discount.

Details of the new schedule and price are not yet available, so the option to subscribe to *The Indexer* will not be included on ANZSI 2007–08 membership renewal forms.

If you wish to receive the journal you should subscribe directly to *The Indexer*. Subscription forms are available online at <http://www.theindexer.org>.

Karen Gillen

ACT Region Branch conference feedback session

This session was well attended both by people who had been to the Melbourne conference and those who had not but wanted to hear some impressions of it. Geraldine Triffitt chaired the meeting.

Susan Elvey (Parliamentary Library) had gone to Max McMaster's newspaper and database indexing workshop, which gave a good overview with interesting discussions and practical exercises.

Sherrey Quinn (LibrariesAlive) went to Glenda Browne's web-indexing course, which included general information, navigation aids, samples using HTML Indexer, all easy to use, interesting and enjoyable. Sherrey thought it would be worth while asking Glenda to run the course again in Canberra.

Sandra Henderson (National Library) went to Frances Lennie's CINDEX workshop. This was similar to the one Frances later conducted in Canberra, with useful tips and hints, keyboard short cuts, comparisons with Sky Index, and comparing the Macintosh and Windows versions.

The first keynote address was given by Geraldine Beare, the UK representative of the Society of Indexers. Lynn Farkas commented that her speech focussed too much on the past history of indexing, with no mention of its present and future problems. She contrasted this with two conferences she had attended in 2006, in England and Canada, where current problems were raised, e.g. outsourcing of indexing work to India, and its implications for locally trained indexers.

In the first parallel session, Eleanor Whelan went to the Database and Web-indexing session, chaired by Prue Deacon (ACT Dept of Health). The discussion was wide-ranging and informal without trying to reach consensus. The future of database indexing is changing, with many databases closing down, user behaviour changing, and the suggestion that metadata no longer works. There is the problem of dumbing down in education, and of students expecting to find all information on the Internet. Machine indexing is another threat to indexers' employment.

Lynn Farkas attended the back-of-book indexing session, which dealt with specific problems such as the filing of prepositions, undifferentiated locators, popular names and standards. Also 'ethical dilemmas': if the index is of something abhorrent to you, you have the choice of not doing the work or distancing yourself from it.

The panel on indexing gardening and botany publications gave a behind the scenes look at 19th and early 20th century publishing, including Alex George on scientific names and Caroline Colton on indexing a wine collection. Susan Elvey reported this panel as witty and enjoyable.

Geraldine Triffitt then spoke on 'Compiling a bibliography in the digital age', including problems of copyright when you have to update a bibliography. AIATSIS held the copyright to the original Ozbib, so Geraldine had to re-check every item to find the property owner. Sherrey Quinn found this very valuable, having had problems with moral rights as an author.

The two concurrent education and training sessions were very helpful. Eleanor Whelan reported on the one on educational and training databases, mostly international,

usually with a hard copy backup. Learning Architecture was a different cluster of educational databases, many compiled by educational authorities. One result is how learning object metadata makes input available from various databases in a Web 2.0 context. Another new development is tag clouds, which Lynn sees as having implications for all of us in thesaurus construction, e.g. the National Library's Flicker project, where users can flick through a collection of photos, and add their own. This can tell you how other people use vocabulary.

The next parallel session was 'Data metallogenica', an image-based collection of core samples of minerals by AMIRA in Melbourne, a world-wide collection which has been preserved in Australia.

Tracy Harwood went to the 'Indexers' Roadshow', to get help and advice on editing and indexing for a project she is working on.. There were five experts: you formed a queue and chose your expert, perhaps more than one, as Tracy did, finding the advice very constructive.

Saturday began with Lynn Farkas, the ANZSI Mentoring Coordinator, discussing the mentoring scheme. The keynote speaker who followed was Professor Pam Peters, Dictionary Research Centre, Macquarie University. She spoke of the many changes in the English language, e.g. the changes between US and UK spelling, the spelling of such words as h(a)emoglobin, spelling of people of different age groups, e.g. for text messages.

Everyone had enjoyed the light-hearted expose of the OED, and the health and wellbeing session. The following concurrent sessions were a mixed bag, with Jon Jermey as always useful on databases of the future and how to access them. The paper from Iran was basic in detail, and with no rigour in the research. The seminar on business basics was a day-long presentation which should have been edited down for the appropriate timeframe.

Geraldine Triffitt spoke on the Public Records Office and the Koorie indexing names project. The speakers from the Office talked of the difficulties of indexing manuscripts, which might be faint, faded or poorly written. Sherrey Quinn had given a paper on general things of general interest, e.g. authorities, glossaries, thesauri, acronyms, Defence problems and similar topics. Shirley Campbell reported on the panel on indexing cooking and food, which was not well managed, allowing insufficient time for speakers.

Glenda Browne spoke about consensus-based indexing, having spoken at a previous conference about evidence-based indexing. There are problems however. Are we working to the same standards? Are we looking at things differently? Do we use different terminology? For example, what is an entry? The whole record, each line, each locator? In the US and the UK, indexers are paid by the entry, though that does not happen in Australia. Can we get a consensus on this? It was felt not...

This was the closing session. The meeting agreed that the conference was useful and that, as always, networking opportunities were the most useful part.

Edyth Binkowski

ANZSI conference: 'Birds of a feather' sessions

Database and Web Indexing
Report by Prue Deacon and Kathy Simpson

Participants in this session were from a range of sectors (education, parliamentary, health, university, freelance) and had experience with a range of indexing tasks (database indexing, metadata, cataloguing, directories, taxonomy, thesauri). The discussion was free flowing with many ideas raised but without trying to reach consensus. The session was chaired by Prue Deacon.

The future of database indexing is changing with databases closing down. This may be for economic reasons or because of changes in user behaviour. It is possible that users expect to find all the information they need via a search engine. There was a suggestion that metadata does not work because people have lost interest in ensuring a high quality of metadata and not all search engines use it. Indexers should be at the forefront of technology changes and be proactive in suggesting ways to improve retrieval of information. Indexers could be more involved in intranets and Content Management Systems; in fact this could be the future of web indexing.

Particular issues raised in the session are summarised below:

- Once ceased, it is difficult to start a database again, especially to index the missed period retrospectively.

- It is difficult to find some important, but older, government publications – they tend to be hidden or even archived from agency websites. Some action was taken with the National Library Pandora project but the problem is not fully solved.

- Metadata was sold as being 'easy' – implementation in government has been inconsistent and inaccurate, making search results worse rather than better. There is a big demand for training in cataloguing but, although metadata was seen as an opportunity for cataloguers, the time may have passed. 'Metadata is a dead horse we are flogging.'

- Users often get good results from quick searches on Google or other full text search engines. Hence it can be hard to demonstrate the benefits of metadata or other indexing. But good metadata can lead to better search results.

- There is a whole generation of people coming up with different expectations. Undergraduates may be content with whatever they can find easily on the web. Postgraduates may be more discerning and understand other ways of getting information.

- One problem is that indexers are a long way away from the users and do not really know how they use indexes. For example, users will not look up a thesaurus and will try a quick search in preference to a harder but more accurate advanced search. They need information in a hurry but may waste time checking search results of little relevance. Indexers and cataloguers must save the time of users if their work is to be valued.

- The IT world will not come to indexers. Indexers need to be proactive and offer their skills to search engine developers. Web developers also make decisions without knowing what users want. Perhaps indexers need IT qualifications. Or perhaps they just need to make sure that indexing skills are seen as an essential part of system development.

- Indexers could also offer their skills to Content Management System designers and implementers. They should look at new trends such as organizing corporate intranets.

Back of Book Indexing
Report by Mary Russell

At the recent ANZSI conference, Max McMaster chaired a back-of-book indexing 'Birds of a Feather' session. The major points discussed in the session are summarised below.

1. Prepositions and conjunctions
Max presented two versions of filing:

Version 1	Version 2
growth	growth
effect of deprivation	and mental retardation
emotional	and puberty
intellectual	and reading
and mental retardation	and walking
and puberty	and writing
and reading	effect of deprivation
reflexes and	emotional
retarded	intellectual
sex differences in	reflexes and
social	retarded
species differences in	sex differences in
spurt in	social
and walking	species differences in
and writing	spurt in
growth of brain	growth charts
and nutrition	growth of brain
growth charts	and nutrition

Version 1 was the most popular method of filing, except most agreed 'growth charts' should come before 'growth of brain'. Several people suggested leaving 'and' out. This would solve the filing problem, and 'and' was not necessary as the entries are pointers to appropriate page numbers. Others disagreed and said 'and' linked two nouns together. The use of '&' was not considered a useful alternative. It was suggested that 'sex differences in' could be reworded to 'differences in sexes'.

2. Medical consultation
Max presented two versions of filing:

Version 1	Version 2
medical consultation	medical consultation
establish rapport	step 1 – establish rapport
explanation and education	step 2 – history taking
follow up	step 3 – physical and mental
history taking	examination
investigations	step 4 – investigations
physical and mental	step 5 – explanation and
examination	education
prescribing medications	step 6 – prescribing
prevention	medications
referral	step 7 – referral
	step 8 – follow up
	step 9 – prevention

The examples had page numbers that spread over five pages, so the subheadings given in version 1 and version 2 were considered unnecessary. For the discussion the page numbers were ignored and the different styles were considered.

Version 1 was the most popular as it was thought that author would have explained the steps in logical order. Version 2 could be useful for procedure manuals where potential users may only be familiar with a couple of steps.

3. Undifferentiated locators

AS999 suggests 5–10 locators before the need to differentiate. This is an arbitrary figure. Does it relate to the audience and tolerance level? Perhaps a child would be 2–3 while an adult could be 9–10. Max suggests 6–8. While multiple undifferentiated locators can show laziness on the part of the indexer, Max had an example of 300 locators in *Australian weed control handbook* since each referred to a method of killing that particular weed. What is a passing reference is not something that can be easily answered.

4. Ethical dilemmas

- Indexing an 18th or 19th century book today that contains derogatory language such as Abos or Blacks. You can handle the situation by using the language of the text with *see/see also* links to politically correct terms. It may be appropriate to have a preliminary note explaining how the old terminology was handled.

- Sometimes words have to be removed from the index as not appropriate. Max gave the example of 'humpy' removed from the index of a book on aboriginal history although it was mentioned several times in the text. The word has other meanings and even with a qualifier it was not considered appropriate to list in the index. Under these circumstances you may need a 'sensitivity message' at the beginning of the text and/or index.

- The indexer finds the work offensive or is opposed to the author's views. Can you say 'No' to indexing this work? Yes. Always get a sample of the work before agreeing to index. You are a professional so try and distance self from the views given in the book. You may tone down the language or views in the index and ask that your name not be published as the indexer.

- If several indexers are working on the indexing of journals or newspapers, ask how indexers will handle the contentious articles. It is important to make sure all items are indexed in a similar way.

- Slabs of information in the book are wrong. What do you do? Alert the editor or publisher. It is never too late to change information in the text. You may save the publisher from severe embarrassment. If the author insists that the information stays the editor may introduce the section with 'the author believes...'.

5. Popular names

How do you index names such as Elvis Presley, Dalai Lama, Homer Simpson, Bugs Bunny and Mickey Mouse? It was agreed that it was essential to consider the audience, and that it may be appropriate to double post entries.

6. Prefix 'pre'

A book on health and sport had the following index entries:

> pre-game meal
> pregnancy
> prejudice
> pre-menstrual tension
> prescription drugs

It was suggested that 'pre-menstrual' could be spelt 'premenstrual', but it was 'pre-menstrual' in the text. Generally agreed that 'pre-menstrual tension' should come after 'pre-game meal'. While you could double post, the entries would be close together.

7. Mac and Mc filing

There is a feeling that Mac and Mc should be filed as if Mac. This agrees with the *White Page* and copes with MacRobinson and Macrobinson. You may need to alter the settings of some of the indexing software packages to cope with this. Care must be taken if you also have African names such as M'Tumbo.

8. *The Age*

Several options were given:

> *The Age*   (filed under A)
> *Age, The* this is the defacto standard
> *Age* (The)
> *Age* (Newspaper)

From the Literature and other thoughts
Indexers in the news

The aliaNEWS broadcast on 18 April, under the heading 'Sherrey's a jolly good Fellow', noted that Sherrey Quinn was to become ALIA's latest Fellow.

Sharon Gray, who read a humorous article on the Oxford English Dictionary at the March ANZSI conference, wrote a piece for *The Age* on 10 April about the conference. She noted Pam Peters' discussion on the use of data in the singular, Jenny Restarick's comments on the process of indexing, and Sherrey Quinn's observations on corporate glossaries and bureaucrat-speak. She also wrote that 'the Society has about 120 members but only about 10 earn their living as indexers.' I think she must have meant about 220 members, and I can count more than 10 people who are basically full-time indexers just in NSW.

Max McMaster and Karen Gillen were interviewed at the conference by Trevor Robbins for a piece titled 'J for job: look in the index' in the 'Education: My Career' section of *The Age* on 28 April. Karen said: 'I see indexing as a creative exercise, where you impose structure and logic on the contents of the book and provide a door for the reader to access information in the book.'

The *Blue Mountains Gazette Review* published an article on indexing, with a mention of the publication of *The Indexing Companion*. The journalist, Matthew Rufus, noticed *Historica* in the pile of books used as a foreground in the photo, and included a photo of its front matter noting 'Who says authors get all the glory? Jon and Glenda are credited in *Historica...*' So acknowledgement of the indexers got *Historica* a bit of publicity!

Glenda Browne

Registration Updated

In 2006 major changes were made to the operation of the Registration process following extensive discussion at the GAMES meeting held in Canberra in May. This meeting was attended by ANZSI Committee (now Council) members and all Branches of the Society were represented.

The changes were prompted by a number of factors, the most important being the strong belief that Registration should be a recognition of quality in indexing rather than a 'base' qualification, and the concern that the Society had no provision for ensuring that indexers, once granted Registration, maintained that quality over the years. Consequently, there has been a change in the duration of Registration from 'permanent' to five years. Currently registered indexers have all been contacted and invited to reapply for Registration. These applications for renewal of Registration will be processed and take effect from 1 July 2007.

Policy

ANZSI has developed a policy on Registration which is supported by procedures, criteria for Registration and guidelines for the operation of the Registration Committee, one of three major committees of the Society. The policy and its accompanying documents will be published on the new ANZSI website which will come into operation in the near future.

Background

ANZSI provides a Registration system for its back-of-book indexers. In the absence of formal courses leading to tertiary qualifications in indexing, the Society's Registration system acts as a credentialling standard for indexers who have demonstrated expertise and gained some experience in indexing. Registration performs a number of functions:

- It recognises the quality of an indexer's work as assessed by a panel of experienced indexers.
- It acknowledges the professionalism of an indexer through its requirement that only published indexes are reviewed. Having an index published attests to the indexer's ability to perform work under marketplace conditions, constraints and deadlines.
- It assures potential clients that a Registered Indexer has met established criteria for acceptable indexing.
- It assures potential clients that a Registered Indexer has current indexing experience, through the requirement that Registration be renewed at set periods.

The granting of Registration indicates a general level of competency, measured against accepted indexing practice and agreed criteria.

Assessment

Applicants for Registration are assessed on an index of their choice, by a committee of the Society. Currently only book indexing (including cumulative indexes to single journal titles) is assessed; however this policy does not preclude the granting of Registration for online or database indexers in future if suitable criteria are developed.

Applications are assessed against criteria established by the ANZSI Registration Committee and approved by the ANZSI Council. The assessment process is anonymous, in order to protect the applicant from favour or bias. Unsuccessful applicants may re-apply for Registration, but not within six months of the date of adjudication of their first application. Unsuccessful applications will not be taken into consideration when assessing the new application.

The Society does not guarantee the quality of an indexer's work through the granting of Registration, nor can it be held responsible for poor performance by an individual indexer.

Duration of Registration

Registration is granted for a period of five years. Registration can be renewed for successive five-year periods by providing evidence of continued work in indexing.

Standard acceptable evidence will normally be bibliographic details of two indexes published in the previous five years. Evidence equivalent to two published indexes (eg examples of web or database indexing) will be accepted at the discretion of the Registration Committee. In addition to the standard acceptable evidence, the Committee may request additional evidence at its discretion, or waive the requirement to submit evidence.

ANZSI reserves the right to evaluate any evidence submitted against the current Registration criteria, and to withhold renewal of Registration if the index does not meet the criteria. In such cases, full evaluation procedures for an initial Registration assessment will be applied.

ANZSI reserves the right to refuse renewal of Registration, or to remove a current Registered Indexer from the Register, in exceptional circumstances (eg unprofessional conduct or evidence of continued incompetence). Any such action would require unanimous recommendation by the Registration Committee and a unanimous acceptance by the ANZSI Council, and would be effective immediately.

Registration Committee

The committee will comprise:

a. Chairperson, who is also a member of the Panel of Assessors
b. Panel of Assessors
c. Receiving Officer who is not a member of the Panel of Assessors

The Panel of Assessors must consist of at least three members including the Chairperson of the Committee. Panel members must be Registered Indexers or experienced database indexers. Ideally, the Panel should have an uneven number of members in order to facilitate majority decisions. In cases where the Panel has an even number of members, the Chairperson will have the deciding vote.

Conclusion

At the time of writing about half the currently listed registered indexers have applied for renewal of Registration. All other registered indexers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible

as the Register of Indexers from 1 July 2007 will list only those members who have been granted renewal. Consequently only these members will be listed as 'Registered Indexers' on *Indexers Available.*

Any member who wishes to comment on or who has questions about the new policy is invited to contact me at <registration@aussi.org>.

Shirley Campbell
Receiving Officer (Registration)

Letter to the editor
Where was ANZSI?

Like others, I enjoyed the Victorian Branch conference. However I was under the impression that the conference was an ANZSI biennial conference. The Society's guidelines for conferences state 'The business of the Society (eg Council meetings, committee meetings, special general meetings or AGMs) is an integral part of a biennial conference.' There were no general meetings or international panels at which members could discuss issues relating to the whole Society or the indexing profession in general. The New Zealand Branch was not represented at the conference at all.

It is to be hoped that future conferences will provide opportunities for all members to express their views on matters relating to the Society and the directions it should take. The analysis of evaluation forms distributed at the end of a conference would be a useful tool for organisers of future conferences. Procedures for feedback from conferences are also covered in the conference guidelines.

Geraldine Triffitt
ACT Branch

Note by the ANZSI President

Regarding the Society's guidelines for conferences, the Victorian Branch agreed to host the 2007 ANZSI conference before the guidelines were drawn up. Furthermore, it was decided by the former ANZSI Committee that the guidelines should apply to conferences held post-2007.

Karen Gillen

DIY MARK II

Do we all index the same way? Of course not, so come along and prove it! The Victorian Branch of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers is planning a Mark II version of our very successful 'Do It Yourself' indexing project of 2004, which we encourage you to participate in, either as DIY indexers or commentators.

The plan is for interested members to all index the same publication which currently lacks an index, and then to hold a meeting where we can compare our finished indexes and hopefully learn from, or further train ourselves, in the noble art of indexing.

The publication we are planning to use for our second exercise is 'The historic homes of Colac and district' produced by members of the Colac and District Historical Society (CDHS) in 2006. At only 60 pages this is not a huge task, and indexers may complete all or a partial index. Holdings for this title can be found at the **National Library of Australia (ANL)** 3663788 Np 994.57 H673 and the **State Library of Victoria (VSL)** 1264401 LD

We have obtained a batch of copies from the CDHS, and they can be purchased from ANZSI for the cost of $10.00 each. Please send cheques or money orders to the Vic Branch address at our new PO Box 1006, Caulfield North, Vic. 3161.

A meeting to compare the submitted indexes will be held in September of this year, after which we shall compile a homogenous 'best effort' index to the publication which we shall present to the Colac & District Historical Society when we visit them in the spring.

As some of the properties listed in the booklet have been turned into 'Bed and Breakfast' accommodation, we are planning to make the visit to Colac a two-day event, staying overnight at one of the gracious old homes and visiting as many of the others as we can fit in over the duration of our stay. More details on that to follow.

For further details or expressions of interest in attending, please contact Jenny Restarick, telephone +61 3 9528 2539, email: <cliffres@connexus.net.au>.

Jenny Restarick

Calendar of forthcoming Branch activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
23 June and 30 June	NSW Branch	Basic book indexing course	Thomson Legal & Regulatory, 100 Harris Street, Pyrmont	Lorraine Doyle <█████████████
11 August	NSW Branch	Indexing specialties seminar	NSW Writers' Centre, Rozelle	Lorraine Doyle <████████████████████>

From the President

Karen Gillen, who had only been ANZSI President since January this year, has unfortunately been forced to resign from the position due to recent events in her personal life. Karen has also resigned as President of the Victorian Branch. We wish her well and hope to see her back within ANZSI at some time in the future.

As a result of these changes the Executive of the ANZSI Council has appointed me as President until the Society AGM, according to the ANZSI Constitution. The AGM will be held in September or October.

Although there has been a change of leadership the ANZSI Council will continue to work as a coordinated team on a range of projects for the benefit of all ANZSI members. Financial planning for the forthcoming financial year is well underway to ensure members funds are used in the most prudent manner, considering the range of projects in hand. For example, overseeing the Website Development has been a major priority. Members will be most impressed by the many new features which will enhance the useability and accessibility of the site, when it goes 'live' in the near future.

The Council is also vigorously investigating incorporation of ANZSI. We have learnt through legal advice that because we are an unincorporated society all ANZSI members, not just the Council or the Executive, could be liable in the event of a claim against the Society. So as you can see, effective governance of ANZSI is our highest priority.

In the previous issue of the Newsletter members will have noted an item about subscriptions to *The Indexer.* Although it was suggested that members subscribe directly, the mechanism to do so is not yet in place, so please hold off subscribing until the issue has been resolved. We will notify members of the new procedure shortly.

Max McMaster
ANZSI President

July is tax month . . .

IT'S NOT EASY PAYING TAXES BY COMPUTER...

THAT'S WHY THEY GIVE US MORE TIME TO PAY!

<www.monolivet.org/dotclear/images/ImpotsHumour.jpg>

WHAT'S INSIDE

Deadline for the August 2007 issue: 3 August.

ANZSI NSW event attendance sponsorship

ANZSI NSW Branch would like to encourage members to attend events run by related professional groups, to ensure that:
- we learn about other people's interests and priorities; and
- other professionals learn about indexers, indexing and the things that matter to us.

Amount sponsored

The Branch will offer sponsorship of up to $100 for attendance at an approved event. An additional allocation of $50 may be made for long-distance transport costs.

If you spend up to $50, you get the amount you spend. If you spend $50 to $500, you get $50, and if you spend over $500 you get 10% up to a total of $100 (ie, anything between $50 and $100).

This program is on trial for one year only. Members will be eligible for funding once only within the financial year.

Eligibility

Eligibility will be assessed by the NSW Branch committee. Approval is likely to be granted for indexers to attend events organised by groups such as:

- editors;
- information architects, content managers, knowledge managers;
- technical communicators;
- writers and illustrators;
- librarians and information specialists.

Events such as lunches which are primarily social will be considered.

To be eligible to apply, people must have been members of ANZSI NSW on 1 July 2007 and must show evidence of indexing work or study. Out-of-state people who have put NSW as their branch are eligible.

Members must apply for funding before the event is held.

Obligations

Members who receive funding are required to write a report for the NSW Committee on the event, including any advice for further communication. Members are also asked to promote the Society during the event, as appropriate. This could include handing out brochures or cards and mentioning upcoming events.

Glenda Browne
President, NSW Branch

NSW Branch August event and news

ANZSI NSW will be holding a panel discussion on specialist indexing at the NSW Writers' Centre at Rozelle from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm on 11 August. The Writers' Centre website provides details of access by bus and light rail. Parking is available in the Sydney College of the Arts carpark about 100 metres to the front of the building.

Speakers will be Caroline Colton and Tricia Waters on food and wine indexing, Madeleine Davis on biography indexing and Mary Coe on medical indexing. The event will be free for ANZSI members and cost $15 for non-members. Afternoon tea will be provided. Inquiries to Lorraine Doyle, ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮ or <▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮>.

In June the NSW Branch ran a successful two-day book indexing course over two Saturdays. Many thanks to Lorraine Doyle for hosting and feeding us, and to Thomson Legal & Regulatory for kindly allowing us to use their facilities.

Glenda Browne

ASI – proposed new Special Interest Groups

At the American Society of Indexers (ASI) conference in Philadelphia some members began discussing the idea of starting two new special interest groups (SIGs), which ANZSI members are also eligible to join. The new SIGs would be distinguished by their functional area/method/market, rather than by their subject area: *Periodical & Database Indexing* and *Taxonomies & Controlled Vocabularies.*

1. Periodical & Database Indexing

There are many periodical indexers out there, both freelance and in-house, but many do not currently belong to our indexing societies perceiving the societies to be focused on back-of-the-book indexing, and we would like them to join us. While some freelancers index both books and periodicals, others get enough work in freelance periodical indexing alone. Periodical indexing includes both indexes created with back-of-the-book indexing software and indexes created in database systems. There is also database indexing work that is not limited to periodicals, but may include reference book articles, pamphlets, curriculum guides, etc.

2. Taxonomies & Controlled Vocabularies

Taxonomies is a field of growing interest, both within the indexer community and within the broader world of business information management. Half-day workshops on taxonomies were well attended at both the ISC/ASI Toronto and ASI Philadelphia conferences. There is freelance work for taxonomy creation, but those who request the services don't know where to look for freelance taxonomists. Taxonomy work, often for corporate content management, can be highly lucrative work.

Controlled vocabularies is the broader field and includes thesauri for periodical and database indexing, so this is also an area of interest among individuals in periodical and database publishing companies. A relatively new Taxonomy Community of Practice Yahoo group has been very active and successful, but most of its members are taxonomists or managers who oversee taxonomies developed and used internally within a company. The target of an indexing society SIG, on the other hand, would be people who create or edit taxonomies for external clients or audiences, either as freelancers/consultants or as in-house developers of taxonomies/controlled vocabularies for externally offered (sold) information sources.

For either SIG, members could be practising in the area full-time, part-time, on occasion, or merely be interested in working in the specialty.

The objectives/activities of the new SIGs would likely include:
- provide a discussion forum, facilitate contacts for peer reviews, network for work projects or jobs;
- collect resources, compile bibliographies, identify software tools, gather useful links, etc. to go on a SIG web site;
- promote standards of quality and further indexer education through arranging conference sessions (a.k.a. 'sponsoring' conference sessions), and arranging for articles to be published on the subject area in indexing society bulletins and elsewhere;
- raise awareness in the broader publishing/information services industry of each SIG's specialty as a professional field.

We would like to start off the new SIGs with discussion groups for each. If we find from the discussion groups that there is enough committed interest to sustain a regular SIG, the next step is to proceed with formally establishing the SIG. We would hope to achieve this by then end of the year in order to formally include the SIGs for the 2008 registration year. Minimal dues might be collected for each SIG to support the hosting of a web site, but not until after the start of the year.

If you are interested in joining one or both of these SIGs, please contact:
- Periodical & Database Indexing: Linda Dunn at < >
- Taxonomies & Controlled Vocabularies: Heather Hedden at < >

Because running a successful SIG takes more time and effort than a single person can usually contribute, please let the contact person know what you are willing to do. If you are interested in taking an active role (manager, co-manager, webmaster, member registrar/database administrator, treasurer), that would be especially appreciated.

Heather Hedden

Thought for the month . . .

A book without an index is like a mind without a memory.

Author forgotten (and probably unindexed)

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Medal Winners
Report by Max McMaster and John Simkin

Books containing ANZSI Medal-Awarded indexes, along with a list of Medal winners and those whose work had been highly commended, were on display at the recent ANZSI Conference in Melbourne. This was the first time these books have been collected together and displayed, and conference delegates were able to browse through them and make their own assessments of the indexes. A complete list of the titles of the books, medal winners and those who were highly commended is provided below. (Missing years indicate no competition or no award.)

Medal Winners

1985	Jeremy Fisher	*Australian encyclopaedia* 4th edition (Grolier Society of Australia, 1983)
1988	Elmar Zalums	*History of Australia: the old dead tree and the young tree green, 1816–1935, with an epilogue*, by Manning Clark (Melbourne University Press, 1987)
1989	Alan Walker	*The Penguin literary history of Australia*, by L. T. Hergenhan (Penguin Books, 1988)
1991	Geraldine Suter	*Index to the Argus, 1860* (Council of the State Library of Victoria, 1860)
1992	Max McMaster	*Infectious diseases in pregnancy and the newborn infant*, by G.L. Gilbert (Harwood Academic Publishers, 1991)
	Marjorie Price	*The law handbook, 1992* (Fitzroy Legal Service, 1992)
1993	Max McMaster	*Chemistry and biology of (1–3)-β-glucans*, by Bruce A. Stone and Adrienne E. Clark (La Trobe University Press, 1992)
1994	Barry Howarth	*Portrait of the family within the total economy*, by G.D. Snooks (University of Cambridge, 1994)
1996	Lynette Peel	*The Henty journals: a record of farming, whaling and shipping at Portland Bay, 1834–1839*, by Edward Henry, edited by Lynette Peel (Miegunyah Press, 1996)
2000	Max McMaster	*The Oxford companion to Aboriginal art and culture*, edited by Sylvia Kleinert and Margo Neale (Oxford University Press, 2000)
2003	Garry Cousins	*Fundamentals of pharmacology: a text for nurses and allied health professionals*, by Alan Galbraith, Shane Bullock and Elizabeth Manias 4th edition (Pearson Education, 2003)
2004	Tordis Flath	*Toss Woollaston: a life in letters*, edited by Jill Trevelyan (Te Papa Press, 2004)

Highly Commended

1985–88		category not used
1989	Michael Harrington	*Style manual for authors, editors and printers* 4th edition (Australian Government Publishing Service, 1988)
1990	Max McMaster	*Kimberlites and related rocks. 4th International Kimberlite Conference, Perth, 1986* (Blackwell Scientific, 1989) 2v.
	Elmar Zalums	*Australia's Commonwealth Parliament, 1901–1988: ten perspectives*, by G.S. Reid (Melbourne University Press, 1989)
1991	Dorothy Prescott	*Geology of the mineral deposits of Australia and Papua New Guinea*, edited by F.E. Hughes (Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 1990) 2v
	Elmar Zalums	*Gipps–La Trobe correspondence, 1839–1846*, edited by A.G.L. Shaw (Miegunyah Press, 1989)
1992	Josephine Cardale	*Insects of Australia: a textbook for students and research workers*, CSIRO, Division of Entomology 2nd edition (Melbourne University Press, 1991)
1993	Michael Cathcart	*Manning Clark's History of Australia*, abridged by Michael Cathcart (Melbourne University Press, 1993)
	Elmar Zalums	*The Cambridge history of Southeast Asia*, edited by Nicholas Tarling (Cambridge University Press, 1992)
1994	Patricia Holt	*A history of Hawthorn*, by Victoria M. Peel, Deborah R. Zion and Jane Yule (Melbourne University Press, 1993)
	Kingsley Siebel	*The laws of Australia, volume 5: Civil procedure* (Law Book Company, 1994)
	Geraldine Suter	*Australian criminal justice*, by Mark Findlay, Stephen Odgers and Stanley Yeo (Oxford University Press, 1994)
	Alan Walker	*Blackstone's Guide to Australian legal books, 1986–1990*, general editor, Paul K. Cooper (Blackstone Press, 1993)
	Alan Walker	*ASC digest*, by Alan Walker, Christine Skourleton, et al (Australian Securities Commission, 1994)
1995	Glenda Browne	*Pharmacology and drug information for nurses* (Harcourt Brace and Company, 1995)
	Pamela Johnstone	*Online currents*, volume 9, 1994 (Enterprise Information Management, 1995)
1997	Clodagh Jones	*The silence calling: Australians in Antarctica, 1947–97*, by Tim Bowden (Allen & Unwin, 1997)
	Max McMaster	*Exploring Central Australia: society, the environment and the 1894 Horn expedition*, edited by S.R. Morton and D.J. Mulvaney (Surrey Beatty & Sons, 1996)
	Dorothy Prescott	*A guide to maps of Australia in books published 1780–1830: an annotated cartobibliography*, compiled by T.M. Perry and Dorothy Prescott (National Library of Australia, 1996)
1998	Clodagh Jones	*The journal of Annie Baxter Dawbin, July 1838–May 1868*, edited by Lucy Frost (University of Queensland Press, 1997)
1999	Max McMaster	*Flora of Victoria, volume 4: Dicotyledons Cornaceae to Asteraceae*, editors, N.G. Walsh and T. J. Entwistle (Inkata Press, 1999)
2000	Madeleine Davis	*Frank Lowy: pushing the limits*, by Jill Margo (HarperCollins, 2000)
2001	Trevor Matthews	*Ecological pioneers: a social history of Australian ecological thought and action*, by Martin Mulligan and Stuart Hill (Cambridge University Press, 2001)
2002	no award	
2003	Garry Cousins	*Dark victory*, by David Marr and Marian Wilkinson (Allen & Unwin, 2003)
2004	Max McMaster	*Biology: an Australian focus*, by Pauline Ladiges, Barbara Evans, Robert Saint and Bruce Knox 3rd edition (McGraw Hill Australia, 2005)

ANZSI ACT Region Branch: 'Show and Tell' meeting

Eleven members came along to this meeting, held in June in the Friends' Room of the National Library, where people spoke about the projects on which they have been working.

Shirley Campbell started off with her account of compiling a cumulative index for the annual journal of the Lu Rees Archive, held at the University of Canberra, with the curator, Belle Alderman, helpfully and actively involved in the decision making. Shirley had undertaken to index volumes 13–28, but as earlier indexes were unsatisfactory, she undertook to revise them as well. Categories indexed included titles of books and articles, book reviews; omitted were visitors, donations, obituaries, and annual reports. A style guide has been created for use in future additions to the index, and for journals and conferences.

Prue Deacon reported on the Cochran Review Data Base, dealing with research in therapy. Some research projects do not have enough evidence and cannot be included. Because the data base was suspended at some stage, and has been re-started, about 3000 records have to be upgraded and 500–600 new records have to be created. Prue is also on the Conference Committee for the 10th Conference on Medical History to be held soon in Canberra.

Jean Norman was one of the few people who spoke about book indexing. She has just finished work on a two-volume book on political and economic development in Africa, with vol. 1 on generalisations and vol. 2 on individual countries, each by a different author. Each volume has its own index, so Jean had to use a variety of headings in different permutations for each volume. She used subject headings with countries as sub-headings for vol. 1, and countries with different subject sub-headings for vol. 2.

Rae Lorenz spoke for the firm Biblioanalysis, which she runs with Colleen Mock. A number of their earlier projects are now being run in-house, but they are still involved in the Australian Geoscience Literature Project. This fits in with the American Geoscience Literature data base. It has a comprehensive manual for its use, something that is very rare now.

Eleanor Whelan described herself as a freelance indexer. She has been working on the Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstracts, for which she gets input from various publications and organisations in Australia, though the managing body has changed several times over the years. Because of this, there is a backlog of three years of Australian periodical literature waiting to be indexed.

Edyth Binkowski described the indexing of Allan Martin's papers on Australian history and politics, *The 'Whig' view of Australian history and other essays.* Her method is to over-index, to be sure of not missing any useful term, then to edit back to whatever the index's requirements are. She recalled one occasion when the author of the text had queried the use of a term only once in the index, saying he was sure he had mentioned it more than once. Edyth had found two more uses of the term. Barry said he used this method sometimes, but found it hard to edit back.

Lynn Farkas described improving the information architecture for an irrigation industry water portal format. A marketing consultant had already worked on this, but the results were not satisfactory, and Lynn was called in as second consultant. She had handouts which showed the original poor information architecture, and others which showed her better organised arrangement of headings and sub-headings, e.g. management, with several levels of sub-headings, also trading, and technology. What she had done was to create better access points.

Philip Jackson, who works in APAIS, described the general maintenance problem of linkrots, as well as the retrospective indexing of APAIS. When this was published annually, it covered the current year, but now the data base is expected to be comprehensive.

Barry Howarth talked about working on Judith Wright's letters (two volumes) and on vols. 3–4 of Donald Friend's diaries, both of which needed more comprehensive indexing than the usual books. With the Friend volumes (each with its own index) the publisher wanted it to be as uncontroversial as possible, with mentions of persons but not relationships, places and topics which would not cause legal action. Barry followed what the indexer to vols. 1–2 had done. With the Judith Wright volumes, also each with its own index, he could work on them the way he wanted to.

There were some questions on problems facing indexers in general, particularly on maintaining objectivity. An indexer might interpret terms, but should show no bias. The question was also raised of how many pages one could index in an hour. All agreed that 5–7 pages, perhaps 7–10 pages, even 10–12 pages would be reasonable.

Edyth Binkowski

Don't let your daughter grow up to be President
by Jon Jermey

ANZSI has now had two Council Presidents in seven months. Before we politely press-gang another hapless victim into this toxic position, perhaps it is time to consider the whole apparatus of our higher-level administration. Why are Council jobs so stressful, and where are the outcomes for all this agony?

When I took the job of President in 2006 I was already aware that the job was a poisoned chalice – tedious, time-consuming and largely thankless. But that doesn't explain why it's also so stressful. Hard work can be exhilarating – if it produces results. Unfortunately, the ANZSI Council – and its predecessor, the National Committee – produce very few results. The stress of the President's job lies in the fact that the incumbent gradually comes to realise that nearly all their hard work is going to waste. The mountain is labouring mightily, to produce – what? Not even a mouse. More of a microbe, really.

Ask yourself; just what has the ANZSI Council/Committee achieved for members since, say, 2003? True, there are the regular ongoing services like registration and the Indexing Medal, but these are largely self-running, and certainly don't need weekly or even monthly intervention. Likewise the Conference Committee. Let's take those as read. What members' benefits have come out of the Council in the last four years?

Well, there's the redesign of the ANZSI website, now moving into its fourth year with nothing to show for it. We have a New Zealand branch which took a great deal of effort to set up and immediately flatlined when the prime mover could no longer spare the time for it. We have an automated members list and Indexers Available, done on my own initiative when, after two years, the National Committee had been unable to find someone to take over the existing system. And a good deal of time has been spent on making new Council guidelines, position statements and other regulations, so that ANZSI now has, by my estimate, at least one page of rules for every three members.

Older members who are familiar with the Council may feel no surprise that simple initiatives should take so long to carry out, but to our newer recruits these time periods must seem like a bizarre joke. Four years to set up a website, when most of them have set up their own in a matter of days or weeks! Six weeks to arrange a meeting, in a world of email and SMS messages! Our Council members collectively put in at least twenty hours a week on the job. Anyone hiring an indexer for that time would expect to see some pretty impressive results. Why doesn't ANZSI get results? Why does everything take so long? No wonder Presidents give up in despair.

One immediate cause of the delays can be found in the vast number of rules and regulations which make it extremely difficult to function at all, much less to achieve any changes. Here's a simple example: the President, as Chair of a Council meeting, is not allowed to propose motions. Why not? Who knows? The President is supposed to lead, but ANZSI Presidents must lead by stealth, joining with the Secretary in a kind of furtive double-act to get his or her ideas put forward. In this way a five-minute job turns into a three-hour email session. Multiply this rule by fifty or so, and we have a massively entangling web of bureaucracy. Administration requires checks and balances, they say: well, ANZSI has so effectively checked and balanced the President – and the other Council roles – that the incumbents can spend all their time simply meeting the administrative requirements of their position, and have none left over for actually *doing* anything.

I'm not criticising the system in general: no doubt it works well for organisations with thousands of members, and millions of dollars in assets. But ANZSI only has about 200 members, of whom forty or so are in any way active in the organisation. To try and sustain two levels of administration for 200 people is manifestly absurd.

Bureaucratic administration has another drawback: it attracts bureaucratic minds. Every Council draws a share of members who are more concerned with following formal rules than with actually achieving anything, and the current administrative structure permits them to have a field day. Cantankerous Councillors can tie down initiatives for weeks or months with nit-picking pettifoggery. Spending money, in particular, is regarded with deep suspicion, so that false economy assigns crucial jobs to volunteers, to be done piecemeal over months or years, rather than to paid professionals who could complete them in days or weeks.

The result is that genuine initiatives – and there are a few – move forward with agonising slowness. Money accumulates because it takes too much trouble to agree on how to spend it. Any decision that might ruffle the smallest feathers is postponed, debated at endless length and eventually sent off to a sub-committee for consignment to limbo. Since people who enjoy this kind of atmosphere are rare, when one of them is sick or absent there is no-one else to do their job, and progress grinds to a halt. Meanwhile endless paperwork creates the illusion of achievement. Like any bureaucracy with no real goals, the Council's main task has become making work for itself to do.

From my background on the Internet, where the prevailing philosophy is 'try it and see; fix the details later', I found this whole environment utterly frustrating. But it was also clear that to attempt reforms would take

more time and effort than I could be bothered to spare. By the time I resigned in December I had come to realise that I could achieve more for the world in five hours on the Web than in five years as ANZSI President. Now the Presidency has claimed another victim. What can we do?

The solution is not to change the Council membership. New recruits will bog down in the same bureaucratic quagmire. We must address the underlying problem; and the underlying problem is that the ANZSI Council has outlived its usefulness.

When the National Committee – as it was – was set up in the 1970s there was no Internet, no email, no fax machines, no websites. Interstate phone call costs were measured in dollars, and overseas mail took weeks to arrive. There was a rich and valuable role for the Committee to play in representing members, coordinating information, training and quality control at a national level. Copies of the Newsletter from that period are full of discussion, questions and debate. The Committee's job, in short, was to facilitate communication between indexers, and it did it well.

That was then; this is now. In 2007, most of us need facilitated communication like we need a hole in the head. Discussion of technical issues takes place on INDEX-L; socialising occurs in a dozen other newsgroups and mailing lists. The Newsletter is mostly a set-piece for Council propaganda, and the ANSZI website is a largely static collection of administrative bumf. The Branches run the conferences, hold parties, organise training, take

initiatives. Ongoing services like Conferences, registration, awards, Indexers Available and the website largely run themselves. The Council mostly rubber-stamps, hands out funds, or raises difficulties. Its elaborate structure is – quite simply – no longer necessary.

I propose, therefore, that we take this opportunity to cut membership fees, abolish the ANZSI Council, and replace it by a communal website and an ANZSI mailing list. Unlike the Council, these will cost almost nothing to run – in fact, we could set them up and maintain them at no extra cost via the interest on currently accumulated funds. The website will provide a forum for formal discussions, advice, rules and recommendations. The mailing list will substitute for the Newsletter and allow for informal chit-chat. Those few decisions that have wider implications can be taken by an ad hoc committee of Branch Presidents. Services like registration, if we decide to keep them, can be carried out by one Branch as a service to the others; or – better still – spun off and run as self-funding businesses that can then be opened up to the wider community.

Or we can go round and round, stressing increasingly reluctant Presidents and Council members, until we finally run out of candidates, probably sooner rather than later. What's it to be? You decide. After all, you're paying for it.

You can read this article and comment online at <http://ausindexerforum.blogspot.com/>.

Jon Jermey

From the President

Browsing through an early issue of the *Australian Society of Indexers Newsletter*, May 1986, I came across an article extracted from the *IASC Bulletin* of December 1984, by Peter Greig, entitled 'So you want to index?'. One of the topics he discussed was 'Is there a career in indexing?' This is a topic that is just as relevant some 23 years after it was written. Peter, quoting Hans Wellisch (a significant ASI member) pointed out that we now have 'an exponentially growing number of databases, both in printed and in electronic form, that need thorough indexing and abstracting'.

ANZSI has a large number of database indexers among its members showing that there is a career in database indexing, but they by-and-large have been shabbily treated by the Society. Registration of back-of-the-book indexers has been a major responsibility of ANZSI (formerly AusSI) since the early 1980's or possibly earlier. The question of registration for database indexers has been talked about on a number of occasions within the Society over the years, but has always ended up in the too-hard basket. This situation was very analogous to the concept of mentoring, which until a few years ago was seen as being too difficult or impossible. Mentoring now is recognised as having a significant role in the development of indexers, and is highly regarded not only by trainee indexers and the Society, but by organisations outside of indexing. The Institute of Professional Editors (the national body for the various state Society of Editors in Australia) considered the ANZSI mentoring model as a template for developing a mentoring scheme for editors.

Database indexers comprise around 30-35% of the ANZSI membership and so are a significant body within our Society. At the 2007 ANZSI Indexers Conference around 50% of the papers presented were on database indexing-related topics, so therefore, the database indexers themselves see this as an important issue. Registration for database indexers would certainly be a step in the right direction, and would very likely increase the number of database indexers wanting to join the Society.

The question of how registration for database indexers could be achieved is obviously the thorny question and I don't have a magic wand to come up with the answers. However, with very experienced database indexers like Sandra Henderson, Sherrey Quinn, Lynn Farkas, Margaret Findlay and many others within the Society, the problem should not be insurmountable. Let's have some input and see what can be achieved.

The other side of the database indexing debate is who wants registration for database indexers? Is the registration only wanted by the database indexers themselves to provide some personal satisfaction (not a bad thing in itself) or is it wanted by the database developers?

To answer this question I asked Suzie Davies, from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, the manager of the REEF database whether registration of database indexers is an important issue. Her reply was that when hiring database indexers it was important to know that the person had both the desired subject knowledge skills as well as having a recognised accredited standard and knowledge of the processes involved. Without registration (or accreditation) there was an increased risk that someone who was not qualified would do an unsatisfactory job. This particularly being the case, as most database indexing is done freelance with either electronic or hardcopy material away from the database producers' premises.

In many instances the database producer never physically meets the database indexer and relies on an electronic *cv*, and the results of their first batch of data entry. Having registration would provide a degree of reliability on the person you were employing.

Max McMaster, ANZSI President

ANZSI membership renewal reminder

Members are reminded that the ANZSI financial year is July–June so membership payments are now due. Those who have not renewed become unfinancial at the end of September.

We no longer send renewal notices by post. Instead we are directing you to the membership renewal form on the website at <www.aussi.org/membership/index.html>. This form can be downloaded, completed and returned with renewal payment to the Treasurer at the address indicated on the form. Only those members without email have been sent a printed renewal form.

If you have any questions about the renewal process please feel free to contact the Membership Secretary, Joanna McLachlan, at <memsec@aussi.org>.

Subscription to *The Indexer*

Arrangements for direct, on-line subscription to *The Indexer* are now in place, with a special introductory offer to ANZSI members of 5 issues (October 2007 – December 2008) for the price of 4: £26 (approx. A$62.00 or approx. NZ$69.00). To take advantage of this offer, subscriptions must be taken out by 15 September 2007. The subscription form can be found at *The Indexer* website, <www.theindexer.org> at 'subscriptions' and click on the 'ANZSI Subscription Offer' link.

Max McMaster

Newspaper and magazine indexing
Training course, 3 October

ANZSI Vic Branch will be conducting a newspaper and magazine indexing training course on Wednesday, 3 October 2007 at the Holmesglen Conference Centre.

This course is designed for indexers and library/information staff who are interested in learning how to index popular magazines and newspapers.

You will learn about what to index and what to leave out; the importance of photographs, drawings and cartoons, either as an adjunct to the text or in isolation; the role of subject headings; and the use of abstracts / summaries of newspaper items. You will set up a newspaper / magazine database.

For further details contact Max McMaster:
email: <████████████████████
████████████████>

ANZSI Victorian Branch

Walking and talking Melbourne's 20th century heritage
Thursday, 11 October

Starting and finishing point: corner of Nicholson Street and Albert Street, East Melbourne

Walkers should meet at 3.00 pm. in the foyer of the DSE Building – non-walkers should meet from 5.00 to 5.30 pm in the foyer. There are both short and longer versions of the walk, so depending upon the weather and our levels of fitness we can be either 'athletic' or lazy (heading for Mt Latte in the event of rain or weariness).

Check out the route at <www.heritage.vic.gov.au>, Walking Tour Map, and start training now!

The meeting will commence at 5.45 pm at Heritage Victoria on Level 7, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne, when Joanne Boyd, Assessments Coordinator, will talk about the role and work of Heritage Victoria and the Heritage Register; how they store and categorise the information about the various places on the register, including those we have visited and gazed upon in the walking tour, and those we might view during our visit to Colac later in the year.

After the meeting we plan to have dinner together at a local restaurant.

RSVP by 8 October to:
Jenny Restarick tel. ██████████
████████████████████████

Calendar of forthcoming activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Thurs, 30 Aug	NSW Soc Eds	Freelancers' lunch Details on p. 5	Exchange Hotels, Balmain	All ANZSI members invited
Tues.,11 Sep 6.00 pm	Vic Branch	DIY Index Mark II Details on p. 6	Kew Public Library	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy <██████████████████
Mon, 1 Oct 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Introductory indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Max McMaster <████████████████>
Tues, 2 Oct 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Intermediate indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Max McMaster <████████████████>
Wed, 3 Oct 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Newspaper / magazine indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Max McMaster <████████████████>
Thurs, 18 Oct 3.00 pm (walk) 5.30 pm (talk)	Vic Branch	Heritage walk and talk Details above	Heritage Victoria, East Melbourne	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy <██████████████
Wed, 24 Oct 7.00 pm	ANZSI & Vic Branch	AGM Dinner	Elsternwick Club	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy <██████████████
Mon, 29 Oct 6.00–9.00 pm	NSW Branch	AGM	Golden Cinnamon/ Cafe Kasturi, 767–69 George Street, Sydney	Lorraine Doyle <lorraine.doyle@thomson.com>
Fri, 16 Nov – Sun 18 Nov	Vic Branch	Visit to Colac and District		Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy <██████████████

From the literature and other thoughts

Citations

In 'on name dropping' (*The Weekend Australian Review* 3–4 March 2007, p. 2), Michael Wilding wrote of an 'extraordinary publishing story' he had heard, in which a scholarly book was published without an index to cited authors. He recommends the inclusion of name indexes to books so that scholars' work will be ranked more highly due to inclusion in citation indexes (which he calls a 'bizarre phenomenon'), and so that colleagues and reviewers can find references to themselves. He notes that 'Much like the FTSE and the Hang Seng and Nasdaq stock market indexes, the citation index records market value'.

Alan Walker's reply was printed two weeks later (*The Weekend Australian Review* 17-18 March 2007), fittingly, during the ANZSI conference. He wrote:

> Michael Wilding (Review, March 3-4) reports that a scholarly publisher refused to include the names of critics in an index. I know of two recent cases where respected Australian publishers deleted useful, detailed entries from indexes of biographies they published. Of course this didn't stop the reviewers from finding the information in the text; it only made it harder for them. But to me, as an indexer and reader, that defeats the whole purpose of a good index. Why do publishers make such decisions? Do publishers want something that looks like an index but is really a cheap relation? Or are they afraid that they'll index and be damned?
>
> *Alan Walker, Potts Point*

I recently received an email message from Jane Greenberg, who was pleased to have been cited in an article I wrote on faceted classification at <www.webindexing.biz/articles/FacetedClassification.htm>. She was mentioned not as an author in the field, however, but as an example of a value in a facet in the online proceedings of the DC-2002 Dublin Core conference (no longer on the web). She is, however, also an author, and has recently edited a book with Eva Mendez about the link between librarians/indexers/information organisers and the semantic web:

<www.catalogingandclassificationquarterly.com/ccq43nr3-4.html>.

I have also just noticed that the example of a wiki index, IAwiki, <iawiki.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?action=index>. we used in *Website Indexing* includes the name 'Mark Bernstein': I met Mark at the ozIA06 conference in Sydney last year.

Even if you don't browse citation indexes, there are always colleagues with eagle eyes to find the odd mention... Thanks to Dwight Walker for letting us know that *Website indexing* (Auslib Press, <www.webindexing.biz>) had been quoted on the IBM DeveloperWorks website. It took us the best part of half an hour to get logged on for free access to the site. The bit that was cited was our definition of 'ontology' – interesting, because this is not our special area of expertise. The concept is defined in so many ways, however, that perhaps it needed an outsider's view to digest the conflicting definitions and bring out the core concepts.

Glenda Browne

Write a letter!

In recent issues of the newsletter we have published a couple of letters from ANZSI members who felt strongly about some aspects of the Society and wanted an opportunity to make their views known. This is great. It is your newsletter and you should be able to use it for constructive comment about your professional Society – both praise and criticism, where you believe that these are justified.

But why don't more of you do this? Is it that you are completely satisfied with everthing that is happening within ANZSI and its Branches? Or do you feel that anything you say will have no effect? Or is it that you just don't care? When you joined ANZSI – or AUSSI – you must have had expectations about what professional and personal benefits you might obtain from it. Have these been realised?

Write and tell us!

If you write, it will help to ensure that you get your letter into the next issue if you keep the length below 250 words. Check the publication deadlines, and make sure you are in good time. If you are paying compliments, give enough of your reasons to ensure that your readers will understand *who* is the lucky target and *what* they have done that is so special. If you have a grumble, say *why* and *how* as well as *what*.

But, do it!

Editor

Filing prepositions and conjunctions in subheadings
ANZSI conference example extended

In the June 2007 issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter* (pp.4-5), Mary Russell reported on the book indexing birds-of-a-feather session, in which Max McMaster had presented the group with two alternative approaches to filing an index extract in which a number of subheadings started with 'and'. In Version 1 'and' was ignored in filing, while in Version 2 it was taken into account.

Mary reported: "Version 1 was the most popular method of filing…Several people suggested leaving 'and' out. This would solve the filing problem, and 'and' was not necessary as the entries are pointers to appropriate page numbers. Others disagreed and said 'and' linked two nouns together..."

Last month I spoke about indexing at a meeting of the NSW Society of Editors, and took the opportunity to expand this example to include (see the top table) the suggested approach of

Version 1	Version 2	Version 3
growth	growth	growth
effect of deprivation	and mental retardation	effect of deprivation on
emotional	and puberty	emotional
intellectual	and reading	intellectual
and mental retardation	and walking	mental retardation and
and puberty	and writing	puberty and
and reading	effect of deprivation	reading and
reflexes and	emotional	reflexes and
retarded	intellectual	retarded
sex differences in	reflexes and	sex differences in
social	retarded	social
species differences in	sex differences in	species differences in
spurt in	social	spurts in
and walking	species differences in	walking and
and writing	spurt in	writing and

Version 1	Version 2	Version 3
storage	storage	storage
in bathrooms	in bathrooms	bathrooms
in bedrooms	in bedrooms	bedrooms
of disks and tapes	in home offices	disks and tapes
in home offices	in kitchens	home offices
in kitchens	in living areas	kitchens
in living areas	in small areas	living areas
in small areas	of disks and tapes	small areas
under stairs	of wine	under stairs
on walls	of wood for fires	walls
of wine	on walls	wine
of wood for fires	under stairs	wood for fires

In indexing classes that I teach I present the students with an index excerpt that has been structured and filed in these three ways.

In this second example (the lower table), the entries contain prepositions rather than 'and', and the prepositions are deleted rather than inverted in Version 3. The preference for Version 3 is less marked when using this sample, although it is usually still the preferred version, followed by Version 2. The prepositions provide more meaningful groupings than 'and' does, thus providing advantages to both Versions 2 and 3.

I had been using this example for a few years before I noticed that I had one remaining preposition in Version 3. Some students think we should be consistent and use 'stairs' as the subheading, a few suggest using 'stairs, under', but many think that the subheading 'under stairs' is necessary to remove confusion.

leaving 'and' out (although I inverted 'and', rather than omitting it). While people's preferences don't directly relate to best practice, they can give us insight into user's attitudes to index features. The editors much preferred Version 3.

Glenda Browne

Freelancers' lunch in Sydney

The next Society of Editors' freelancers' lunch will be held upstairs at the Exchange Hotel, corner of Beattie and Mullens streets, Balmain, at noon on Thursday, 30 August. Mains cost about $10 to $14.

Buses to Balmain leave stand B, behind the QVB, every 10 to 15 minutes. Hop on a 441 or 442 then alight outside the hotel. The invitation to lunch is cordially extended to indexers and other freelancers who work in the publishing industry. There is no need to RSVP. See you there!

Glenda

DIY mark II - stage 2

Do we all index the same way? Of course not, so come along and prove it! The Victorian Branch of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers (ANZSI) is planning a Mark II 2007 version of the very successful 'Do It Yourself' indexing project that we held in 2004, which we encourage you to participate in, either as DIY indexers or commentators.

The plan is for interested people to all index the same publication which currently lacks an index, and then to hold a meeting where we can compare our finished indexes and hopefully learn from, or further train ourselves, in the noble art of indexing. This is a great opportunity for anyone keen on having a try, as you can come along and see the many submitted entries displayed on the walls and hear comments and constructive advice from our most experienced members

The publication we are planning to use for our second exercise is *The historic homes of Colac and district*, produced by members of the Colac and District Historical Society (CDHS) in 2006. At only 60 pages this is not a huge task, and indexers may complete a full or a partial index. Holdings for this title can be found in the online catalogues of the National Library of Australia or our State Library of Victoria.

We have obtained a batch of copies from the CDHS, which can be purchased from ANZSI for the cost of $10.00 each. Please send cheques or money orders to the Vic Branch address at our new PO Box 1006, Caulfield North, Vic. 3161.

A meeting to compare the submitted indexes will be held on 11 September at the Phyllis Hore Room, Kew Library, corner of Cotham Rd and Civic Drive, Kew from 6.00 pm. As is our usual practice, all those attending are invited to share dinner at a medium-priced nearby restaurant.

Following this meeting, we shall compile a homogenous 'best effort' index to the publication which we shall present to the CDHS on Saturday, 17 November.

As some of the properties listed in the booklet have been turned into B&B accommodation, we are planning to make our trip to Colac a 2–3 day event, staying 1 or 2 nights at one of the gracious old homes or in cabins in caravan and camping parks and visiting as many of the other attractions in the Colac and Birregurra district as we can fit in over the duration of our stay. More details on that to follow, but keep the weekend of Friday 16 – Sunday 18 November free for this exciting outing. Day trippers will be very welcome, particularly for the Saturday afternoon tea get-together with our Colac colleagues for the formal handing over of the combined Index.

For further details or expressions of interest in attending, please contact :

Jenny Restarick

Tel. ████████

████████████████

Jenny Restarick

Indexers celebrate their new image

It's official – the Society of Indexers now exists! The Society was established in 1957 to raise awareness of– indexing and promote improved standards in all forms of indexing. It has just celebrated its 50th birthday with a splendid conference, 'Golden Retrievers', at Roehampton University in London, and is now a company limited by guarantee.

This 'rebirth' of the Society also coincided with the unveiling of a new logo. 'There was a lot of affection for our old logo', said Ann Kingdom, the SI's marketing director. 'But in the twenty-first century we felt it was high time to jettison the rather old-fashioned image created by those quill pens. We've gone for a simple typographic design, emphasizing the word 'indexers' and featuring a strapline ('information from A to Z'). We wanted to highlight the fact that indexers are basically in the business of making it easy to access information in whatever form it happens to be. And we hope that the strapline will also subliminally help to conjure up the idea of an index with its typical A to Z format.'

Further information about the Society can be found on its website, <www.indexers.org.uk>.

Vale Robert Hyslop, 1918–2007

Robert Hyslop was born in New South Wales in 1918. He grew up in Kurri Kurri, a mining town, spending holidays at his mother's family vineyard in the Hunter Valley. His family and community gave him a strong belief in the value of education and an appreciation of literature, art and music. He attended Maitland Boys High School from 1931 to 1935.

He joined the Commonwealth Public Service in the Department of Defence (Naval) in Sydney in 1936, then moved to Melbourne in 1941, continuing his long association with the Navy Department. He married Dorothy Fleming in 1946 and lived in Upper Fern Tree Gully at the foot of the Dandenong Ranges, where his two daughters, Gabrielle and Deirdre, were born.

The family spent 1958 in England where Robert attended the Joint Services Staff College before spending several months at the Admiralty. Back in Australia, the Hyslops moved to Canberra in 1959 and Robert was appointed Assistant Secretary, Department of the Navy.

He was a Public Service Fellow at the Australian National University (ANU) in 1968–69 and wrote his first book, *Australian naval administration 1900–1939* (1973). From 1970 to 1974 he was Deputy Secretary-General of the South East Asia Treaty Organisation (SEATO) in Bangkok and he later served as Secretary of the Royal Commission on Human Relationships, 1974–76. He concluded his career heading the Honours Secretariat in the Department of the Special Minister of State, retiring in 1981.
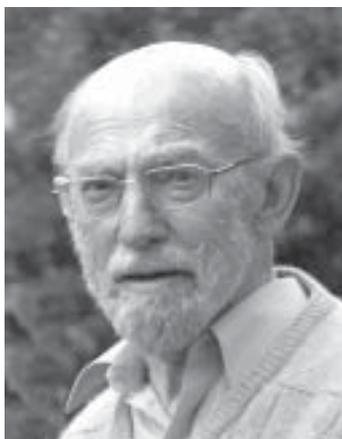
After his retirement he graduated with a Diploma of Art from the Canberra School of Art, majoring in sculpture. A Visiting Fellowship in the Department of Political Science, Research School of Social Sciences, ANU (1987–92) resulted in *Aye aye, Minister: Australian naval administration 1939–59* (1990), the sequel to his first book. Other books include *Dear you: a guide to forms of address* (1991); *Australian mandarins: perceptions of the role of departmental secretaries* (1994); *First encounter: communicating with institutions and organisations* (1994); and *A very civil servant: an Australian memoir* (1998). He has also published 17 articles, 14 entries for the *Australian dictionary of biography*, 43 book reviews for the *Canberra Historical Journal* and other periodicals, and 21 oral history interviews for the National Library and War Memorial.

He was a founder member of the Canberra Society of Editors and also a member of AusSI, now ANZSI, both of which he joined in 1992, working as a consultant editor and indexer. Robert served as a valued member of the AusSI National Committee 2002–04, and was equally valued as a member of the ACT Region Branch Committee 1993–2004. He was also a member of the AusSI Registration Panel 1999–2004. He passed away peacefully at the Canberra Hospital on 5 July.

ANZSI offers its sincere condolences to the family, who kindly prepared these biographical notes and provided the photograph. The list of Robert's publications is reproduced with permission from the National Library's website.

From the President

By now members should have received in the mail their 2007 ANZSI Council Membership Survey. If you have not received your survey please contact Mary Russell, <███████████████████>, who can send you a replacement. This survey is the first to be conducted by the ANZSI Council and the first survey of ANZSI members for more than seven or eight years.

The purpose of the survey is threefold:

- To up-date our knowledge of the fields of work in which our members are engaged and to determine how much indexing work they do;
- To give us feedback on the usefulness of services, facilities and activities currently available to members through the Society; and
- To let us know what else you would like the Society to do to help further your interests as a member and an indexer.

Remember, the closing date for the receipt of your survey is 30 September. Mary Russell, our resident statistician, is coordinating the survey, and she will analyse the data. Results and conclusions drawn from the survey will appear in a later issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter*.

One item which is being looked at by an ANZSI Council sub-committee is the issue of incorporation. This is an important issue for the Society, and even at this preliminary stage there have been some pertinent questions raised by Branches and members about the pros and cons of incorporation. In order to provide an authoritative legal perspective on this issue we have asked Professor Peter Zablud, Director of Notarial Studies, Sir Zelman Cowen Centre for Continuing Legal Practice, to provide the answers to the questions raised. We shall report his answers in full in the October issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter*, and expand on the implications for the Society.

Members are also reminded that annual general meetings and elections for office for 2007 for the ANZSI Council, ACT Region Branch, NSW Branch, Vic Branch and NZ Branch will be held next month. Some preliminary notices about the respective AGMs appear in this issue of the Newsletter. We would encourage all members who haven't been involved in the running of the Society previously to consider standing for election. Nobody expects a newcomer to take on any of the executive positions (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary) immediately. Just stand for a general committee position initially, and once you have learnt how your Branch operates, then at a later stage you might feel motivated to move to one of the executive positions.

Like in all fields of endeavour, the more you put in, the more you will get out.

Max McMaster, ANZSI President

No red dots! ● ● ● ● ○

Members who have not yet renewed will become unfinancial at the end of September.

Renewal forms can be found at <www.aussi.org/membership/index.html>. But don't expect to find a red dot on your newsletter – this year we are sending out email reminders instead.

Joanna McLachlan
Membership secretary

ANZSI Council and Vic Branch AGMs

This is a preliminary notice alerting members that the ANZSI Council and Vic Branch Annual General Meetings will be held on Wednesday, 24 October 2007 at the Elsternwick Club, 19 Sandham Street, Elsternwick at 7.00 pm. Meetings and dinner will be held in a private room at the club, $35 per head.

ANZSI Council elections 2007 nomination forms and appointment of proxy forms will be included with the October 2007 ANZSI Newsletter. The Newsletter will be distributed several days earlier than usual to ensure there is sufficient time (14 days minimum for nominations to be received) for members to submit nominations.

Any proposals to amend the Constitution should be sent to the Secretary, a minimum of 28 days before the date of the AGM.

NSW Branch workshop

Are indexers a staid and sober group? Well, the eleven who attended the workshop held at the Writers Centre at Rozelle on 11 August would say a resounding NO!

After excellent sessions on indexing biographies led by Madeleine Davies, medical indexing and all its intricacies led by our new member Mary Coe, and Trish Waters' contemplations on the items for consideration when indexing cookbooks, the final session was introduced by Caroline Colton.

One would expect to be decidedly brain dead by the end of such a wealth of information (and a sumptuous afternoon tea), but ... We were led through a fictitious meal menu and at each course we all contributed as to how we would identify each topic. Should we index eggs, scrambled or scrambled eggs? And the wines – by label, type, a separate listing altogether? Herbs – would they be a main ingredient or supplementary. Would you index by the name of the herb or the type of recipe with the herb as a subheading?

Each step was discussed (argued even) at some length according to who would be likely to use the cookbook (was it a young man or a well trained chef?) with some hilarious outcomes. Eventually we got to the end of the meal with our terms all nicely 'cooked'. We weren't sure what a publisher (or author) may have thought of it, but it was a great way to finish a highly successful and informative afternoon.

Lorraine Doyle

New Zealand Branch news

Wellington members gathered for drinks recently to meet Cambridge-based member Kathryn Mercer, who was in town to attend a cataloguing course. Three of our Branch members joined Kathryn and another cataloguer from her course.

Kathryn, who was the recipient of the inaugural Nielsen BookData Research Award, has just had the results of her survey and focus group examining retrospectively-produced book indexes in the Waikato published in the *New Zealand Library and Information Management Journal* – see: <www.lianza.org.nz/publications/journal/ files/NZLIMJ_Vol50_Iss2_April2007.pdf>

We discussed indexing training in NZ, identifying pictorial indexing (both photos and moving images) as an area of interest. We resolved to do a little research into who might have the expertise in New Zealand or Australia to be able to offer such specialised training.

We also turned our attention to the question of incorporation of the society in New Zealand. The local community law centre runs workshops on the incorporation process from time to time, and it would be valuable for the branch president to attend a workshop to find out about any issues that could arise for our branch if the society does decide to incorporate.

Two of our members discovered a common interest apart from indexing – they are both former bee-keepers – another activity that, with a bit of hard work and care, has a sweet result!

Jill Gallop

Wheatley medal 2007

It seems that many publishers still do not appreciate the value of a good index, to judge from the level of entries submitted this year for the Society of Indexers' Wheatley Medal for an Outstanding Index. After careful consideration, the judges felt that none of the indexes submitted were of sufficiently outstanding quality to merit awarding the Wheatley Medal this year. However, the panel felt that two indexes deserved commendation.

The judges considered that the index by John Bowman (Lecturer in Library and Information Studies at University College London) to the book he had also edited, *British librarianship and information work 2001–2005* (Ashgate, 2007), provided users with a useful and accessible tool. The handling of the numerous acronyms was especially appreciated.

The other commended publication, the *Index to the court books of the Stationers' Company 1679–1717*, compiled by Alison Shell and Alison Emblow (published by the Bibliographical Society and Oxford University Press in 2007) is a departure from a conventional index. Providing access to complex manuscript material, it is perhaps more in the nature of a concordance.

From an SI press release

Eat your words*

My reference shelves hold an eclectic mix of books. A recent addition is *Eat your words: a menu speller for foodies*. After a few introductory pages on spelling tips, the book is divided into two sections. In the first section there are 30 lists of words on a range of food subjects from Asian to Drinks to Sweet things to Vegetarian and special diets. Spelling variations and country of origin of words are given, together with alternative word endings, for example /ed or /ies.

The second section is an A–Z index of the words, with hints on pronunciation and references to appropriate subject list(s). This is as close as you get to the meanings of the words. For example, puri (poo ree) gives references to subject lists 3 and 17. Looking the lists up you learn puri is an Indian bread. Bugged by 'crossants' appearing in bakeries and cafés instead of croissants, the authors have illustrated the book with cross ants.

At 11x14 centimetres this little book would fit in an apron pocket ready for consultation while writing café menus or blackboard specials. For me it is a very useful reference to a multitude of words used by foodies.

Mary Russell

* Helen Lucas and Brenda Millott. *Eat your words: a menu speller for foodies*. Lambton: NSW, Futura Training, 2007 ($19.95).

Calendar of forthcoming activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Mon, 1 Oct 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Introductory indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Max McMaster <███████████████>
Tues, 2 Oct 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Intermediate indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Max McMaster <███████████████
Wed, 3 Oct 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Newspaper / magazine indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Max McMaster <███████████████>
Sat, 13 Oct 9.00 am – 5.00 pm	Soc Editors (Qld)	*Editing for the Web*. David Hill, (has 17 years in the industry)	Brisbane Girls Grammar School, Gregory Terrace, Brisbane	Kerri Ullrich at ████████████████ *also see* <www.editorsqld.com>, 'training'
Thurs, 18 Oct 3.00 pm (walk) 5.30 pm (talk)	Vic Branch	Heritage walk and talk (details in August newsletter)	Heritage Victoria, East Melbourne	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ████████████████
Wed, 24 Oct 7.00 pm	ANZSI & Vic Branch	AGM Dinner	Elsternwick Club	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ████████████████
Mon, 29 Oct 6.00–9.00 pm	NSW Branch	AGM	Golden Cinnamon/ Cafe Kasturi, 767–69 George Street, Sydney	Lorraine Doyle ███████████████>
Fri, 16 Nov – Sun 18 Nov	Vic Branch	Visit to Colac and District		Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ████████████████
23 November 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Web indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Course conducted by Glenda Browne. Further details from Max McMaster ███████████████>

From the literature and other thoughts

Aficionado indexes

Baseball indexes

Sue Nedrow wrote to Index-L about a project run by the Bibliography Committee of the Society for American Baseball Research, which aims to provide name and/or subject indexes to maximize the usefulness of many baseball books, especially those published during the first half of the 20th century. They note that the indexes become more valuable when the books are scheduled to be reprinted or revised (<www.baseballlibrary.com/baseballlibrary/sabr/tbi/>). They have prepared guidelines to ensure a certain amount of uniformity (Skip McAfee, 2001, <www.sabr.org/cmsFiles/Files/Guidelines_for_Indexing_a_Baseball_Book.pdf>).

RPG indexes

I have come across two indexers who specialise in indexing role-playing games (RPGs) such as Dungeons & Dragons. One ISC member with a BA Honours in History and Medieval Studies notes that she specialises in RPGs, and Lori Ann Curley has written about RPG indexes in *Games Quarterly Magazine* (issue #3, p. 73, <www.lorianncurley.com/GamesQuarterly.html>), making the suggestion that a usable index would increase sales.

Our son Bill contributed a few pieces to a book called *Koboldnomicon*. One of the reviews (bottom of the page at <www.rpg.net/reviews/archive/12/12344.phtml>) complained: 'There are a few things that annoyed me about the PDF. There are no bookmarks. There's no index.'

Family Search volunteer indexing project

Family Search is digitising their microform records, and asking volunteer indexers to extract the birth, marriage, and death information to create free searchable indexes online (legacynews.typepad.com/legacy_news/2007/04/familysearch_in.html>).

You can volunteer at <www.familysearchindexing.org/en/index.jsp>.

Family histories without indexes

My grandfather's cousin, Canon Christopher Perowne wrote a book called *A History of the Parish of Standon* (1967). One genealogy site (<www.hertfordshire-genealogy.co.uk/data/books/book0237-standon.htm>) notes:

> The book has 15 illustrations and a fold-out map – and no index... Like many such un-indexed local histories, trying to answer a specific question about a person or place which is not directly addressed by the headings is difficult.

And you gotta love Google: a search for 'Perowne Puckeridge' retrieves the information that garbage is collected in Perowne Way, Puckeridge, every Monday!

Wireframe as art

It's not exactly indexing, but Chiara Fox's artworks based on information architecture wireframes which she presented as a poster at the IA Summit 2007 show a true passion for her craft (<www.flickr.com/photos/cfox74/sets/72157600094962227/>).

Free-text failures

I am on the email list for AusTenders, as there has once been a request for tender for indexing services (but I remembered after I registered that a government contract would most likely require professional indemnity insurance so I didn't bother applying). They still keep me informed, however, with invitations to tender for projects such as 'Building Price Index Consultancy Services for work category General building construction'.

Searching for Index, NC

There can be few more frustrating searches than the one I have just attempted for the town of Index, North Carolina. Even using inverted commas didn't help much. Adding the word 'town' led me to the zipcode, which worked OK as a search term. It turned out that the second reason I'd been having difficulties was that there appears to be nothing much to know about the town of Index.

The Wikipedia disambiguation page for a search on 'Index' lists the town of Index in Snohomish County, Washington. It appears to be a bit better known, although its population in the 2000 Census was a mere 157 people.

Gilbert White, by Walter Johnston

R. Holt-White's *Life and Letters of Gilbert White.* 1901. John Murray, 1928. First Futura edition, 1981, p.12: 'With the gift of natural politeness there was associated that of gentle humour. ... I am still engaged in making an Index; an occupation fully as entertaining as that of darning stockings, though by no means so advantageous to society.' (R H-W, II, p. 175)

Online Currents restarted

Online Currents ceased publication at the end of 2005, but was restarted by Thomson Legal & Regulatory in September 2006, with Pamela Johnstone and Elizabeth Drynan as General Editors for the first year.

Articles have covered:
- Bluetooth computer networking – Jon Jermey, September 2006;
- analysis of ComLaw, the Commonwealth's Legislation Database – Margaret McAleese, October 2006;
- remote access to the electronic collection of the State Library of NSW – Elizabeth Drynan, November 2006;
- free article finding tools – Liz Edols, November 2006;
- review of the Information Online Conference 2007 – Paul Bentley, March 2007.

Glenda Browne

ANZSI ACT visit to the Australian War Memorial

Last month eleven members of ANZSI ACT enjoyed a visit to the C E W Bean Building at the back of the War Memorial, an area not normally open to the public. Four members of staff had kindly stayed back to explain their collection management system and access to it. The system is called MICA (Memorial Integrated Collection Access) and uses a program called MIMSY.XG v. 1.3. Some 225 staff have access to this, and there are 34 data entry staff. Ten collecting areas are represented: art, heraldry, technology, photographs, film, sound, private records, official records and non-collection items such as exhibition fitouts and heritage material. 635,591 records represent single items and entire collections, all documented to a minimum standard and with 300,000-odd records on-line.

There are three staff members in the Collection Information and Access Team, their role being to administer the system, provide documentation standards and user support. MIMSY is a relational database, with information arranged in tables, fields and records. It is sold by Willoughby Associates Ltd., Chicago, who offer regular support and assistance. There are two sections: 15 Activities and 12 Authorities. The latter are: events, facilities, media, objects, people, places, publications, sites, conflicts, thesaurus, with taxonomy and vessels not used. Activities included process activities such as acquisition, audit, entry, and item-specific activities containing information about the physical state of an object, e.g. condition, conservation, damage. One of the features of the system is its Views, of which there are 14, which control the way the screens look, and match the item being catalogued, eg., the Art View for paintings and drawings. Another feature is LinkLedger, a useful way to navigate through related views. The system allows for Fields types and controls, by text, date, number and checkbox field type. Validated fields can be checked against a pop-up list.

When accessioning items, there are four processes to be checked: people authority, entry authority, acquisition activity, objects authority. The donor is checked, also the depositor, who may be different. Sometimes restrictions are placed on access, but this is not encouraged. We learned how catalogue sheets are created, using a cataloguing manual and specific art terms. Titles can be a problem, if the artist has not supplied one, but an item can have multiple titles. The places authority uses contemporary names, e.g. Palestine during World War I, in an Anglicised version.

We were shown several different illustrated records, including part of a headdress worn by T E Lawrence, the legendary Lawrence of Arabia, donated by one of his friends. The Memorial concentrates on Australian material, but will collect donated items which are non-Australian. Artists' notes and research are often bought in conjunction with an item, or else similar institutions such as the National Gallery are consulted. The conservation section uses the catalogue to check on the condition of items of delicate or hazardous material.

The heraldry and technology section was then described to us. This section looks after weapons, machines, vehicles, uniforms and other objects. The description of an item is set in context, where it came from, its condition on arrival, noting if something is missing or broken. I had been wondering how they dealt with huge objects like planes, and the answer is that the plane is given an accession number, with other accession numbers given for all parts of it. There is a list of specific terms used for military heraldry and technology. Photos are taken before and after conservation, with the policy being to photograph everything. We were shown photos of G for George, a special case.

We then heard about the private records area. Official records are part of the archive, but private records are kept separate, often being donations, and requiring accession numbers and several descriptors, which may be required for exhibition labels as well as for a cataloguing record, kept in alphabetical order. The contents of the records are noted, including letters from other people, e.g. condolence letters written to a soldier's mother. The writer and any persons mentioned are listed. The catalogue tries to work out an informal method of mentioning all names and a description of the contents of each letter.

Each area has different sub-division policies, but the Memorial has a policy of putting in a title at the time a record is made. Attempts are made to link the conflicts, by conflict periods, time periods for part of the war, and other links. The database is on the Australian War Memorial website, and one can search on various terms, including unit served. The database has a thesaurus, using controlled language; each term must be justified and approved, e.g. insurgents, a new term. With racist terms, some censorship is used, and reference made in the record to racist remarks.

Several people had or knew of material that might be relevant to the Memorial, and were encouraged to make contact, so that anything relevant might be assessed and accepted. This was a most useful and interesting visit, providing us with a better understanding of how even the most unusual materials may be assessed and catalogued.

Edyth Binkowski

Editing and indexing government annual reports

Last April the presidents of the Australian Society of Indexers (ACT Region Branch) and the Canberra Society of Editors wrote to the Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C), Dr Peter Shergold. The letter, signed by Barry Howarth and Virginia Wilton, asked for the Secretary's help in addressing the problems that editors and indexers faced in seeking to provide the best possible service to government clients wrestling with the preparation of annual reports; it was based on concerns heard from many members of our societies over recent years. The committees of both societies had substantial input into the successive drafts of the letter.

The table below, attached to the letter, summarised the issues and their possible solutions.

Issues/concerns	Possible solutions
Lack of guidelines/advice for staff	* PM&C could produce guidelines to accompany the current requirements. These could include information on: how to organise contributions from within the department; who is responsible for various contents; developing and maintaining internal and external lines of communication; timetabling and approvals required; how to find and engage contract professionals; detailed requirements for editors and indexers re depth and style of work; and a checklist of key processes. * PM&C could explain the process/steps involved and produce a checklist/proposed timeline for annual report production. * APSC could offer training (outsourced initially, if necessary) that includes information not only on mandatory requirements but also on the production side of annual reports and the work of the contract professionals involved. * The annual report seminar run each year should be held earlier.
Lack of priority assigned to annual reports	* PM&C or the Australian Public Service Commission should send a note to all CEOs and annual report staff about the importance and role of annual reports. * CEOs need to take a personal interest and impress on all staff that the annual report is a vital, flagship product.
High turnover of staff	* Provide incentives (monetary or otherwise) for staff to do the job initially and to make it a 2 or 3 year contract. * Develop a networking forum for project managers/coordinators so they feel supported. * Make it a condition of the job to produce a 'learnings' report before leaving. * If there is satisfaction with an annual report, encourage project managers to use the same contract staff again – this will help address the issue of 'reinventing the wheel'.
Lack of understanding re lead time/timelines	* Explain to contributors the long lead time involved and the need to meet all deadlines throughout the process. * Encourage the project manager to get the process started early – before July – so that timelines can be met. * Explain that, because of the small pool of professional indexers available nationally, they must be engaged well ahead of time (this could also apply to other contract professionals).
Timelines developed but not adhered to	* Explain that if agreed timelines are not met, the whole process is at risk, including the editing, indexing, printing and tabling. * Advise corporate areas to organise photos/other images as early as possible so this doesn't hold things up.
Undue pressure on professionals and loss of income	* Explain to staff from the beginning that editors/indexers do several reports, so if timelines aren't met, the editing or indexing component may not get done. This puts the quality of the whole report at risk.

The Secretary replied that, while it would be inappropriate for PM&C to instruct other departments on their internal processes, he had sent a copy of the letter to each departmental secretary drawing attention to our concerns.

Recently, in my dealings with a large government department re the indexing of their annual report this year, they commented that they had received the letter forwarded by Dr Shergold. Consequently they decided to employ a professional indexer rather than have the index prepared in-house as was done last year.

Shirley Campbell

Nomination form – NSW Branch elections

We, the undersigned members of ANZSI NSW Branch, nominate the person named for the office indicated for the year following the Annual General Meeting for 2007.

Name of person nominated: ....

Office (please circle):
President / Vice-President / Secretary / Treasurer / Committee Member

Signature of nominator: ....

Signature of seconder: ....

Signature of nominee: ....

Nominations must reach:
Returning Officer, ANZSI NSW Branch, PO Box R598, Royal Exchange NSW 1225 by 12 October 2007.

Indexers have a subtle sense of humour

E. P. Sanders, the father of the 'New Perspective on Paul', in his *Paul and Palestinian Judaism*, has an index entry on

Truth, ultimate, 30, 32, 430.

So what? Well, it points you to three blank pages ...

(From <www.ivpress.com/blogs/addenda-errata/archives/2007/05/the_joy_of_indexing.php>)

From the President

Response from the members' mail survey has been extremely good with a return rate of 44% so far according to our statistician Mary Russell who is analysing the returns. Apart from the survey responses, members have been providing valuable comments about the Society overall and the Branches, both in areas in which we have done very well and in other areas in which we need to improve. Although we initially set a closing date for the return of survey forms as 30 September, if you have forgotten to return your form, please do so even at this late stage. All returns and comments from the newest member to the oldest are equally important, so don't think you have nothing to offer, you have.

Detailed analysis of the survey results will be provided in the November–December 2007 issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter*. Branches will also receive a more comprehensive breakdown of the data for their location.

This month is AGM time with elections for office for 2007/08 for the ANZSI Council, ACT Region Branch, NSW Branch, NZ Branch and Vic Branch. Details about the respective AGMs appear in this issue. For the ANZSI Council AGM two amendments to the Constitution have been proposed by the ACT Branch. Details of the proposed changes and an explanation about the changes have been included for the benefit of members. A proxy voting form is also included for those members who are unable to attend the AGM in

Melbourne on Wednesday, 24 October, from 6.30 pm at the Elsternwick Club. During the evening of the ANZSI Council AGM we shall be presenting the ANZSI Medal for 2007, so come along and see one of your colleagues honoured.

Moira Brown, our ANZSI contact in Queensland, wonders about setting up a Queensland Branch of the Society. At this stage she is only asking for an expression of interest, but there are more than enough Queensland indexers (22 in fact, and only ten are needed) to form a Branch. Our NSW Branch colleagues may be horrified, but for those members living in northern NSW having a Queensland Branch based in Brisbane might be more advantageous for getting to events and meetings. Members are, of course, entitled to join whichever Branch is most convenient for them.

This issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter* also includes the report from John Simkin on his impressions of the 2007 Society of Indexers Conference, held in Roehampton, UK in July this year. John also provides valuable insight into finding cheaper accommodation in London. John was ANZSI's official representative at the Conference this year.

Max McMaster, ANZSI President

An honourable mention for indexes

The Alexander Henderson Award is a prestigious award named for the author of *Australian Families* and *Pioneer Families of Victoria and the Riverina*. It is awarded each year by the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies to the author/s of the best family history published in Australia – and the judges consider that a comprehensive index is essential to a good family history.

The 33rd Alexander Henderson Award was won in 2007 by David Grey-Smith for *Boat People of the Empire*. The judges described it as 'a warm family history, very well written in a personal style. There are comprehensive references and notes associated with genealogical tables. The indexing was excellent.'

(Source: '33rd Alexander Henderson Award 2007'. *Genealogist* vol. 12, no. 3, Sept 2007, pp. 43-4.)

Mary Russell

ANZSI and Vic Branch AGMs

All members and friends of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers are cordially invited to the 2007 ANZSI Council Annual General Meeting with Vic Branch AGM and dinner to be held at the Elsternwick Club, 19 Sandham St, Elsternwick on Wednesday, 24 October, from 6.30 pm, to enjoy dinner and drinks and the company of your colleagues.

Cost $35.00 per head all inclusive. On-site or street parking. Public transport via trams and buses. RSVP by 18 October to Jenny Restarick ph/fax +61 3 9528 2539, or <cliffres@connexus.net.au>. Cheque or credit card payment options. Special dietary meals can be arranged with prior notice.

A Queensland Branch of ANZSI?

Hello from Brisbane. Our editor wants input, so here is a challenge to all Queensland Indexers. I am writing to ask for a show of interest/enthusiasm to form a 'Branch' in Queensland. Do Indexers in Queensland WANT a Branch in ANZSI? Do we NEED it? Will it BENEFIT us?

The Society of Editors (Qld) meets on the first Wednesday each month in Brisbane. To my knowledge, it is the only forum where editors and indexers can congregate. I had joined the Society of Editors to find some cameraderie, to network and to build friendships with experienced professionals who are working in the publishing industry, as I have only been associated with ANZSI and the Society of Editors for a short time. This meeting is an outing that I look forward to each month.

I would love to meet fellow indexers on a regular basis. Ten persons only are required to form a Branch. Meetings could be held monthly or bi-monthly. Guest speakers could entertain us. We could have our own training sessions. (Out-of-towners, please note that I have three beds with ensuite, to accommodate you.)

Please contact me by telephone on +61 7 3893 1252, mobile 0416 097 629, or by email at <brown5moira@yahoo.com.au> to express your interest (or to give reasons for you lack of enthusiasm...) re this idea of a Queensland Branch of ANZSI. Will 2008 be our first anniversary year?

Moira Brown
Qld contact for ANZSI

ACT Region Branch
Christmas in July dinner

On a chilly winter evening in July, 23 members and spouses gathered in the Gowrie Room of the Canberra Club for Christmas dinner and wonderful singing by the Canberra Men's Choir. The room had been decorated for us with small tables, with a red and white colour theme.

We had our main course first, roast turkey, pork and beef, with delicious roast vegetables. Then the Choir sang for about thirty minutes – Christmas carols, some well known, some quite unknown. Then we all enjoyed coffee, and our dessert, Christmas pudding, of course, with ice cream.

After that, the Choir sang its second bracket of songs, including the great Welsh hymn, *Cwm Rhondda*, and a lesser-known Welsh song, as well as some World War One songs. The Choir consists of about 20 men, plus their conductor, who is Austrian-born. They had some beautiful arrangements for the songs, and some beautiful voices to sing the solos.

We all had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and hope to see the Choir again.

Edyth Binkowski
ACT Region Branch

Society of Indexers conference, Roehampton, July 2007

This is the 7th or 8th conference of the Society of Indexers (SI) that I have attended. It marked the 50th anniversary of the founding of the society and was a return to the location of the 21st anniversary meeting of 1978.

Some of the Roehampton University buildings formerly belonged to a religious establishment. This was most evident in the dining hall which has a domed and beautifully painted ceiling. The receptions were held in a more modern part of the building which has a balcony with a spectacular view across Richmond Park.

I was not staying on campus but with Elizabeth Wallis, a former Chair of SI, at Kew. The SI conferences are distinguished by their generous provision for opportunities to mix informally at lunches, dinners, receptions, coffee breaks and in this case a visit to Kew Gardens or the National Archives, a quite challenging indexing-related quiz session and a banquet.

There were over 100 participants including representatives from Australia, Canada, Ireland, Netherlands, South Africa and United States as well as from all parts of the United Kingdom, even from the Isle of Skye.

My role as ANZSI representative included a contribution to the panel session on the history of indexing societies. Apart from giving an outline of the history of AusSI/ANZSI I mentioned the current proposal for an indexers' tour, which raised some interest. I had brief discussions with Caroline Diepeveen, the Dutch representative, and Helen Litton from Ireland. I expect we will call on their knowledge in planning the tour.

Of the sessions that I attended, two especially impressed me. One was Professor David Crystal's talk on 'Language and indexing', with particular reference to relevance. A thought-provoking presentation which, when published, will make rewarding reading. The other was the account given by Ian Crane, former Chair of SI, of his experience of alternative earnings options, with examples of how the skills of indexing can be extended. A very practical talk.

Calendar of forthcoming activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Thurs, 11 Oct 3.00 pm (walk) 5.30 pm (talk)	Vic Branch	Heritage walk and talk (details were in August newsletter)	Heritage Victoria, East Melbourne	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ▮▮▮▮▮
Sat, 13 Oct 9.00 am – 5.00 pm	Soc Editors (Qld)	*Editing for the Web.* Talk by David Hill (17 years in the industry)	Brisbane Girls Grammar School, Gregory Terrace, Brisbane	Kerri Ullrich at <training@editorsqld.com> or Moira Brown ph +▮▮▮▮ *also see* <www.editorsqld.com>, 'training'
Tues.16 Oct, 6.00 pm,	ACT Region Branch	AGM followed by dinner	The Canberra Club, 45 West Row, Canberra City	Eleanor Whelan e▮▮▮▮▮
Thurs 18 Oct 6.00–8.00 pm	NZ Branch	Local Publishers' Forum, Wellington. *So you want to be your own boss?* Talks on freelancing	Southern Cross Garden Bar & Restaurant, 39 Abel Smith St, Wellington	RSVP to Nancy Fithian ▮▮▮▮▮ > by 10 October. Entry by gold coin donation. Cash bar. Food provided.
Wed, 24 Oct 7.00 pm	ANZSI & Vic Branch	AGM Dinner	Elsternwick Club	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ▮▮▮▮▮
Mon, 29 Oct 6.00–9.00 pm	NSW Branch	AGM	Golden Cinnamon/ Cafe Kasturi, 767–69 George Street, Sydney	Lorraine Doyle <▮▮▮▮▮ >
Mon 29 Oct, 5.15–6.30 pm	NZ Branch	AGM	Level 4, 60 Ghuznee St, Wellington	Jill Gallop ▮▮▮▮▮ >
Fri, 16 Nov – Sun 18 Nov	Vic Branch	Visit to Colac and District	Various, in and around Colac	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy <▮▮▮▮▮ au>
23 November 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Web indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Course conducted by Glenda Browne. Further details from Max McMaster <▮▮▮▮▮ >

From the literature and other thoughts

First names first?

Generally-accepted indexing practices have changed over the last few decades, largely in response to sorting by computer, which led to the abandonment by many indexers of complicated filing rules.

There are still a few remaining areas where the principle of 'file it as it is, character by character, in the order it naturally comes in' is not yet the majority rule, although I predict that the trend is that way, and in 20 years time we will have adapted further. These areas include inversion of names and filing of numbers in numerical order rather than digit by digit.

It is a basic indexing principle that we write entries in direct order, e.g. 'hospital libraries' rather than 'libraries, hospital' (with the option to add a double entry or cross-reference from the inverted form). With personal names, however, we automatically invert the entry to put the surname first. One major imperative for this is the weight of tradition behind organisation of names in telephone directories, bibliographies, library catalogues, and so on. Another is the feeling that last names are somehow more permanent, important or good at distinguishing between different people than first names are. In addition, inversion of names means that (some) family members file together.

It has not always been this way. In writing about the *Bibliotheca Hispana*, Wheatley notes, 'The system upon which the authors' names are arranged is one that at first sight might seem to give cause for ridicule; for they appear in an alphabet of Christian names, but when we consider that the Spaniards and Portuguese stand alone among European nations in respect to the importance they pay to the Christian name, and remember further that authors and others are often alluded to by their Christian names alone, we shall see a valid reason for the plan. Another point that should not be forgotten is the number of Spanish authors who have belonged to religious orders, and are never known by their surnames. This arrangement, however, necessitates a full index of surnames, and Antonio has given one which was highly praised...'

Inversion of names also doesn't seem to come naturally to children. One correspondent to Index-L a few months ago noted that she was wondering about indexing multi-part surnames and had asked some children where they would look for the explorer Hernando de Soto in an index. They answered neither 'd' or 's' but 'h'! On a related note, many of my students say they would look for Queen Elizabeth under 'q' and for Harry Potter under 'h'. Being a fictional character that makes sense, except the same people say they would look for Hermione Granger (his fellow-student) under 'g'. When I ask them why, they say 'Harry Potter' has become like a brandname, but Hermione Granger remains, for them, the name of a person.

Modern trends in web-based indexes and pseudo-indexes are towards the use of direct order of names. For example, the automatically-generated indexes to wikis have names in direct order because people usually title pages with names in direct order. There are exceptions, however, as more bibliographically-oriented wikis such as the 'Golden Age of Detective Fiction' wiki (run by Jon Jermey) still title pages with names in inverted order.

The index to the Australian Government Culture and Recreation portal <www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/stories/alpha.htm>' contains the following entries:

'www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/donbradman/' Bradman, Don

'www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/brettwhiteley/' Brett Whiteley

'www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/bush/' Bush, Australian

'www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/music/bush/' Bush songs and music.

At first I thought they had inverted names inconsistently, but then I discovered that they had covered all bases and entered names in both direct and inverted order. This is one user-friendly approach, especially in the web arena where there is not one single standard.

Glenda's blog

Go to <www.webindexing.biz> and click on 'Glenda's blog' to see my new blog. I've started it with some pre-existing content, some of which is an expanded version of bits I've put in 'From the literature'. I hope to add to it fairly regularly, and to set up an RSS feed to make it easy for readers to get updates.

Open Publish conference

Powerpoint files from the Open Publish conference are available at <www.openpublish.com.au/presentations.html>. This is the second year I have been to the Open Publish conference. It provides an interesting collection of papers on the broad publishing environment. The keynote speech by Paul Jenson was of interest because it examined the future of publishing in a number of specific fields. He discussed his predictions within a change model. Other talks that stood out for me were 'Using business requirements for successful content management projects' by Peter Meyer from Elkera and 'Implementing a Learning Object Repository' by Alexander Roche.

The paper that was most new to me was one on 'Microformats – a more semantic web today' by John Allsopp of Westciv. He described the use of microformats to provide a standardised way of presenting structured information such as contact details on the web. It is an exciting step towards the semantic web, and one which can be implemented quickly and cheaply when compared to alternatives such as RDF (Resource Description Framework).

Glenda Browne

DIY indexing Mark II – comparisons and comments

Indexing for fun? You bet! The Victorian branch members, not wishing to rest on their laurels, have just undertaken their DIY Mark II indexing project. The subject this time was '*The Historic Homes of Colac and District*', a 60 page booklet produced by the Colac and District Historical Society.

There are two steps to the project. The first is to invite members to index the item, the results of which are converted into a 'super index' by John Simkin. The second step is to meet the relevant historical society members, present the index and spend time touring around the subject which could be a mine, museum or in this case, the historic houses of Colac. A visit to Colac has been planned for the weekend of 16–18 November.

About 15 ANZSI members and one representative from the Victorian Society of Editors gathered at the Kew Library on 11 September to enjoy snacks and drinks while commenting on the eight indexes pinned onto noticeboards. It was heartening to see that a couple of new members joined in for what was a wonderful way to gain feedback for their efforts.

Kerry Biram and John Simkin discuss the indexes

The exercise concluded with a formal discussion led by Max McMaster. Who would be the potential audience? Think of locals, tourists, descendents and students looking at social and historical factors. Two pages, one of which included one or more photographs were allotted to each house in the booklet.

A miserly index might only feature house names and owners plus a few notable features such as architectural styles. Others, more generously proportioned, included building materials, windows, fireplaces and multi-seated privies to name but a few. Considering that most houses featured bluestone (is this a brick?) it was a challenge to index without resorting to endless locators. Should houses be listed under locations in the interests of tourists? How to index 'The Hill'?

Sometimes photographs require interpretation, which also needs to be indexed. The urge to edit the manuscript was raised and discussed.

Jenny Restarick closed the meeting with plans for our impending Colac visit. Special thanks to Alan Eddy who arranged the venue and refreshments.

Jane Purton

DIY indexing Mark II – visiting the historic homes of Colac

Well, as Jane has told us, our comparison meeting has come and gone, with pegboards and whiteboard covered in print-outs of the various indexes submitted, some even flowing to the floor. Now comes the challenge of cooking up a 'perfect fit', which we shall present to the members of the Colac and District Historical Society on Saturday, 17 November.

We were delighted to receive index entries from members far and wide and invite all our entrants, together with those who have made greatly appreciated comments and all those who would like the opportunity of spending a weekend in Victoria's wonderful Western District, to join us there for a day or two.

Our plan includes visits to some of the historic homes listed in the book, plus other scenic attractions of the area as well as the official handing over of THE INDEX at a specially convened afternoon tea, where we hope to meet some of the nearby community who are interested in family and local history, and who might become members of ANZSI or spread the word about the value of indexing any publication.

We have a list of accommodation options ranging from on-site caravans through cabins to B & B establishments, motels and apartments. More information from Jenny Restarick on ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮

Jenny Restarick

(Society of Indexers conference 2007, concluded from page 3)

I was invited to sit in on *The Indexer* Editorial Board Meeting. The discussion centred on the problems raised by moving to a quarterly timetable and the logistics of distribution. Some questions seem still unresolved. I expect Glenda Browne, as a regular contributor and more in touch than I in this area, will be involved in these questions.

After the conference I hired a car and wandered. I had planned to visit 13 towns and cities but because there were heavy rains and some flooding I only visited two which

were south of the rain band – Ditchling in Sussex and Bath, with a brief stop in Salisbury on the way. Otherwise I spent two periods of about ten days in London staying in the Kings College Hall at Denmark Hill. I recommend college accommodation as an economical way to stay in this most expensive city. The tariff was £18.50 (about $46) for bed and breakfast.

John E. Simkin

Proposed amendments to the Constitution

The ACT Region Branch has forwarded to Council the amendments listed below to be voted on at the Society's Annual General Meeting on 24 October 2007. Members unable to attend the Annual General Meeting can vote by proxy, using the form below.

Resolution 1. That in Section 4, Register of Indexers, the words in italics be inserted.

The Society will establish a Register of Indexers recording those who have been assessed by peer review as meeting the Society's registration criteria. The inclusion of a member's name in the Register will entitle that member to be known as a Registered Indexer of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers so long as he/she remains a financial member of the Society *and satisfies such other conditions as are determined.*

Reason for amendment: Under the guidelines for registration adopted at the GAMES Meeting in Canberra in 2006 registration is now granted for a fixed period of time after which renewal of registration must be applied for.

This change was prompted by a number of factors, the most important being the strong belief that Registration should be a recognition of quality in indexing rather than a 'base' qualification, and the concern that the Society had no provision for ensuring that indexers, once granted Registration, maintain that quality over the years. Being a registered indexer implies a level of competency and the process of renewal of registration is a method of ascertaining that competency is being maintained.

The 'other conditions' in the wording of the amendment are spelled out in the guidelines which accompany the Constitution and will be published on the website. Any changes in the future to the guidelines will not necessitate a change to the Constitution.

Resolution 2. That in Section 6 Council Subsection (d) 'Executive' be replaced with 'Council'.

Casual vacancies in any of the offices will be filled by invitation of the *Council* and the persons filling such vacancies will hold office until the conclusion of the following Annual General Meeting.

Reason for amendment The ACT Region Branch believes that filling vacancies by invitation of the Council rather than of the Executive will result in a wider canvassing of possible candidates to fill casual vacancies.

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers
ANZSI COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2007
Appointment of a proxy

The Secretary (Proxy), Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers
PO Box 5062, Glenferrie South VIC 3122
Proxy forms to be returned by 23 October 2007

I < *name* > ....

of < *address* > ....
am a member of ANZSI and wish to make the following arrangements for voting at the AGM on 24 October 2007.

Please choose ONE option

[ ]   I appoint <*name* > .... to act as my proxy and to vote as they see fit
            OR
[ ]   I appoint the Chairman of the Meeting as my proxy to vote as they see fit [ ]
            OR
[ ]   I instruct the Chairman of the Meeting as my proxy to vote in the manner directed below [ ]

	For	Against	Abstain
Resolution 1	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Resolution 2	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

....
Signature   Date

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers

PO Box 5062 Glenferrie South VIC 3122 AUSTRALIA
email: <secretary@aussi.org>; website: <www.aussi.org>
(ABN 38 610 719 006)

ANZSI COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2007

Nomination form

We, the undersigned members of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers, nominate the person named below for the position indicated (please tick one only).

President [   ]   Vice-President [   ]   Secretary [   ]   Treasurer [   ]   Committee member [   ]

Name of person nominated ....

Name of nominator ....Signature..

Name of seconder ....Signature..

Signature of nominee ....

Nominations must reach **The Secretary (Nominations)** by Wednesday, 10 October 2007 at:
Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers, PO Box 5062, Glenferrie South VIC 3122
Please submit one form per nomination.

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers
Victorian Branch elections 2007
Nomination form

We, the undersigned members of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Victorian Branch, nominate the person named for the office indicated for the year following the 2007 Annual General Meeting:

Name of person nominated: ....

Office (please tick one only):

President [   ]   Vice-President [   ]   Secretary [   ]   Treasurer [   ]   Committee member [   ]

Signature of nominator: ....

Signature of seconder: ....

Signature of nominee: ....

Nominations must be returned by 12 October 2007 to:
Returning Officer, ANZSI Victorian Branch, PO Box 1006, Caulfield North VIC 3161

From the President

I am honoured to be elected to this position yet again. I wonder how many times one can or should be recycled!

I first held this office in 1983 and again in 1987 and 1996. In 1983 I gave an address in which I proposed a program for the Society that included the setting up of branches, an outline of a tertiary level course in indexing and an expansion of the criteria for professional accreditation. The highlight of my 1987 term was a visit to the United Kingdom, where Josephine McGovern, then Vice-President, and I spoke to a meeting of the Society of Indexers in London. We issued an invitation to the first conference of AusSI, which was then still eight years in the future.

In 1996 much time was given to liaison with the New South Wales members in anticipation of the national committee moving to Sydney in 1997. Most of these matters came to a satisfactory conclusion.

But the outstanding issues today are in the field of education and training of indexers and their accreditation within the profession. This is vital work for the Education Committee. A good result will change, enhance or even supersede some of the roles of the Registration Committee, the mentoring program and the various branch courses. The strength of indexing as a profession is that it is fundamental to all knowledge while its weakness is that it embraces an ever-widening range of media so that fascination with the media and their technical problems tends to obscure the message which is what indexing is really concerned with.

Indexers' Tour

On page 11 of this issue are details of this project, which has now reached the point where firm indications of interest are called for. The itinerary includes visits to several places of specific indexing interest such as the Mundaneum at Mons in Belgium and the cartoon archive at the University of Kent in Canterbury, as well as visits to places of tourist interest, e.g. the many chocolate shops of Brussels, and other 'in-between' places such as the bookshops of Hay-on-Wye.

The tour is open to all ANZSI members. The travel agent will arrange for us all to converge at a common location and then to travel on together. Since the tour will finish in Winchester in time for the Society of Indexers' Round Table conference I hope that many of the travellers will be able to stay on for that event and take part in the proceedings.

In my experience conferences of the Society of Indexers are jolly occasions with the right balance of serious considerations and light-hearted socialisation and friendly discussion.

Branches

By the time this newsletter arrives there will have been elections in all branches. The names of the new committees appear on the back page. Considering the area which our Society covers there is a challenge for the Council to keep in touch with what is happening, not only in the branches from which we receive committee minutes and reports of activities, but also in the places where there are no branches. It is only through contacts, formal and informal, in these areas that Council can find out if there are other places where branches should be formed.

Since this is the last newsletter for 2007 and we are entering the holiday season, let us wish each other a happy conclusion to what I trust has been a successful year for all of you.

John E. Simkin
President, ANZSI

WHAT'S INSIDE

Deadline for the Jan/Feb 2008 issue: 1 February

ANZSI AGM 2007

The ANZSI Annual General Meeting was held on 24 October with 20 people in attendance. The President read the minutes of last year's AGM, which were accepted. There were no matters arising from the Minutes. Max McMaster presented the 2006–07 President's report (see below) and Margaret Findlay the Treasurer's report (see page 4).

The 2007–08 ANZSI Council members were elected unopposed:

President:	John Simkin
Vice President:	vacant (no nominations)
Secretary:	Anne Dowsley
Treasurer:	Margaret Findlay
Members:	Alan Eddy, Max McMaster, Mary Russell, Kathy Simpson.

Branch Presidents, who were confirmed as ex-officio ANZSI Council members, will be announced after all branches have held their 2007 elections.

Constitution
The meeting voted on the two proposed amendments to the Constitution detailed in last month's Newsletter. Both resolutions were defeated. Details of the votes are:

Resolution 1: That in Section 4, Register of Indexers, the words in italics be inserted. *Votes for: 12. Votes against: 18.*

Resolution 2: That in Section 6 Council Subsection (d) 'Executive' be replaced with 'Council'. *Votes for: 15. Votes against: 16.*

ANZSI Medal 2007
John Simkin read the Awards Committee report on the 2007 Awards entrants and their entries and presented the 2007 Medal – the first ANZSI Medal – to Alan Walker for his index to *Voices of Islam in South-East Asia*, published by the Singapore Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. Kerry Biram and Tordis Flath received Commendations for their entries (see page 8).

ANZSI 2007 Membership Survey
Mary Russell presented a summary of the Membership Survey (see pages 5–7).

Anne Dowsley, Hon Sec ANZSI

Outgoing President's report to the ANZSI AGM 2007

The ANZSI Council has had a very disruptive 12 months with three changes of leadership. My thanks go to Jon Jermey and Karen Gillen for their stewardships though what has been a difficult time for the Society. I also would like to express my gratitude to the remaining Council members, and the new Council members who have come on board without whose guidance the whole Society may have faltered.

The ANZSI Conference held in March this year in Melbourne was a great success for the Society. With around 75 participants, and a diverse range of papers, sessions, workshops and social events it was well received by all who attended. Our thanks go to Vic Branch for their organisation of the Conference. We now look forward to the 2009 Conference.

The redevelopment of the ANZSI website has continued on during the past 12 months. Our thanks go to the Website Redevelopment Working Party (principally Lynn Farkas, Shirley Campbell and Geraldine Triffitt) who have been overseeing the work, and in more recent times to Kathy Simpson and Mary Russell who have been migrating content across to the new site. It is planned to have the new site go live in early January.

Mentoring this year took a great leap forward with the launch of the full-blown mentoring scheme covering the whole of Australia and New Zealand. Our thanks go

to Lynn Farkas, our mentoring coordinator, for moving the whole mentoring concept forward, and for the tricky task of pairing mentors with mentees. Lynn has just stood aside as mentoring coordinator and this role has now been taken on by Anne Dowsley.

The Registration Committee has been active with the introduction of the five-year re-registration for registered book indexers. This initiative has been introduced to ensure that competency in indexing is maintained. In fact, it is essential that we as a Society push for high standards in all fields of indexing, not just book indexing.

The ANZSI Council has been working on a couple of other items. The issue of incorporation for the Society is being investigated and this work is still ongoing. The recommended rate for indexers is also under investigation again. It is anticipated that the new recommended rate will be announced early in the new year.

The *ANZSI Newsletter* has continued to flourish under Peter Judge's editorship. As the major avenue of communication to members, either in hard copy or electronic form, the newsletter fulfils an extremely important role. The other major means of communication has been the website. Thanks go to Jon Jermey for keeping it up and running.

Another extremely important member who works behind the scenes is Joanna McLachlan, our membership secretary. Joanna keeps all our records intact and has worked closely with Jon Jermey on the members database, as part of the website redevelopment.

The negotiations with the Society of Indexers over direct subscriptions to *The Indexer* have been a major achievement of the Council during the year. With *The Indexer* changing to a quarterly publication and differences between the financial year operation of ANZSI membership and the calendar year operation of *The Indexer* it was more convenient all round to move to direct subscription. After our ANZSI initiative, ASI, our American counterpart, has gone down the same path with direct subscriptions to *The Indexer*.

Recently ANZSI conducted a detailed mail survey of all members. With around 50% return rate the results were outstanding. My thanks go to all members who responded. Results, general comments and ideas from the survey are presented in this issue of the *ANZSI Newsletter*, starting on page 5. Specific details will be sent to Branches. The incoming ANZSI Council will consider many of the ideas and suggestions over the coming months. My thanks go to Mary Russell for organising the survey and analysing the results.

The Medal Committee have also been active this year with their culmination being the presentation of the ANZSI Medal for 2007 (see page 8). This is the very first ANZSI Medal to be presented. All previous medals were under the old name of AusSI Medal. In fact it has been three years since the Medal was awarded, which indicates the extreme difficulty of creating an exemplary index.

I would like to finish by congratulating Glenda Browne on her winning of the recent Ig Nobel Award for Literature, for her essay on 'The'. Congratulations Glenda (see page 10). Indexers do make a difference!

Max McMaster, ANZSI President 2006–07

Calendar of forthcoming activities

Date & time	Organiser	Name of activity	Venue	Contact details
Fri, 16 Nov – Sun 18 Nov	Vic Branch	Visit to Colac and District	Various, in and around Colac	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ██████████
Fri, 23 Nov 9.00 am – 4.45 pm	Vic Branch	Web indexing workshop	Holmesglen Conference Centre	Course conducted by Glenda Browne. Further details from Max McMaster ██████████
Sun, 2 Dec 9.30–12.00	ACT Region Branch	Xmas BBQ Brunch	A leafy location TBA	Members will receive their invitation shortly.
Tues, 4 Dec from 7.00 pm	Vic Branch	End-of-year get-together	208 Kooyong Road, North Caulfield	Jenny Restarick/Alan Eddy ██████████
10 Mar 2008 6.00 pm for a 6.30 start	ANZSI Qld contact	Nuts & Bolts Indexing with Max McMaster	Details in Feb newsletter. but put the date in your diary now!	Moira Brown ██████████ ██████████

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers
Financial report for 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

INCOME

Jul 2005 – Jun 2006	ITEM	Jul 2006 – Jun 2007
$		
15,016.00	Membership	7,880.00
4,505.00	*The Indexer* subscriptions	2,110.00
	ANZSI Newsletter subscriptions	40.00
160.00	Registration fees	120.00
90.00	Advertisements in ANZSI Newsletter	
493.99	Bank and investment interests	560.31
	Web Redevelopment Project state/region contributions	8,332.48
	2005 Conference Profit – from Victorian Branch	541.67
$ 9,075.73	**TOTAL**	**$ 19,584.46**

EXPENDITURE

Jul 2005 – Jun 2006	ITEM		Jul 2006 – Jun 2007
$			$
5645.28	ANZSI Newsletter		
		Postage	*1,804.68*	
		Preparation	*1,916.90*	
		Printing	*1,927.37*	5,648.95
4,093.74	*The Indexer* subscriptions		2,847.43
1,620.00	Per Capita grants to Branches		1,655.00
200.00	Awards Medal – calligraphy, preparation		888.65
	Web Redevelopment Project		3,009.60
381.92	Web hosting		979.72
600.00	Honoraria (2005/2006)		300.00
874.82	Administration/sundries		652.37
1,100.00	Indexers Available – programming		
460.54	Bank fees / credit card facilities		498.67
703.05	Games Meeting/ AGM		1,709.56
500.00	Conference Sponsorships		1,785.00
	Education Committee		11.20
$ 16,179.35	**TOTAL**		**$ 19,986.15**

***NET CASH FLOW* for the period –$ 401.69**

ASSETS

30 Jun 2006	ASSET	30 June 2007
$		$
6,722.59	Westpac Cheque account	6,320.90
5,000.00	BT Financial	5,000.00
5,000.00	St George Bank	5,000.00
$ 16,722.59	**Total**	**$ 16,320.90**

Margaret Findlay, ANZSI Treasurer
30 September 2007

2007 ANZSI Council Survey – analysis by Mary Russell

Introduction

This is a report on the 2007 ANZSI Council Survey results. To keep the report as brief as possible, I have just included the percentage results for each question. Since the numbers of indexers registered, not registered or plan to apply was roughly one third each, for some questions I have looked at the results for each group, as they offer different responses.

A more detailed report, containing the specific suggestions and comments, has gone to Council. Separate reports, on the results for each Branch, will go to Branch presidents soon.

I have started with the profile of a typical respondent. This gives you a good overview of the results. If you want the numbers read on as I have lots to share with you.

A big thank you to all the members who took the time to respond to this survey. I believe the results give us a wonderful understanding of the members, the work they do, what they plan to do in the future, and what they expect from the Society.

A typical respondent

Let's see how a typical respondent might appear:

They are a Victorian or NSW freelance indexer, in their 50s, who typically spends 2–3 days a week back of book indexing, with a smattering of journal or database indexing and the odd annual report. They are busy on their non-indexing days. They might do a bit of library work or perhaps some editing or proofreading. They find it is worth using an indexing software package.

If they are listed on *Indexers Available* they have found it has provided them with work and they try to keep their entry up to date. If they are a registered indexer they are not very keen to participate in the mentoring scheme as a mentor. While they would be happy to receive the *ANZSI Newsletter* via email, they can't be bothered with any email lists. They have been a member of the Society for less than 7 years and feel their expectations have been fully met.

They attended at least one type of ANZSI function during the past year and look forward to attending local events in the future, especially a seminar or panel discussion on an indexing-related topic. They are very keen to improve their skills and plan to attend several courses during 2008–09, but are not very keen to travel to the course. They are curious about registration for database indexers, but tentative about an overseas study tour. They enjoy the *ANZSI Newsletter*, but would like to see more practical tips and discussion, as well as details of interesting or unusual indexing projects. They are happy to provide suggestions for improvements.

Number of responses

Overall, there was a 52% response rate, which is a very good return. The table below shows that there is a representative sample from all states and Branches:

State or country	No. sent	Returned	% by state	% of total
ACT	45	21	47%	17%
NSW	56	27	48%	22%
NT	2	1	50%	1%
QLD	22	12	45%	10%
SA	7	3	43%	2%
TAS	4	3	75%	2%
VIC	68	36	53%	30%
WA	2	2	100%	2%
NZ	28	16	57%	13%
Totals	**234**	**121**	**52%**	**100%**

1. Registered indexers

About 33% of respondents are registered indexers. About 37% are not registered and about 29% plan to be registered.

2. Registration as a database indexer

About 37% of respondents are interested in registration as a database indexer. About 53% said no and 9% didn't respond. Of those expressing interest about 28% are registered indexers, 56% plan to be registered indexers and 30% are not registered indexers.

3. Mentoring scheme

Of those planning to become registered indexers, 31% have participated in the mentoring scheme and 72% would like to participate. Of those not registered, 11% have participated in mentoring and 33% would like to participate. Of the registered indexers, 23% have participated in the mentoring scheme as a mentor, about 10% have participated in a mentoring scheme as a mentee and 38% would like to participate as a mentor.

4. Type of indexer

About 56% indicated they are a freelance indexer; about 21% considered themselves trainee indexers; about 17% are employed by organisations; about 7% are volunteer indexers and 7% have retired. Of the registered indexers 79% are freelancers, 10% are employed by organisations, 3% are volunteers, 8% have retired and 3% consider themselves trainees. Of those not registered 25% are trainees, 27% are freelancers, 27% are employed by organisations, 9% volunteers and 11% retired. Of those planning to register 38% are trainees, 75% are freelancers, 13% employed by organisations and 6% volunteers.

5. Average number of days spent indexing

Of the 58% who indicated the time spent indexing the average number of days was 2.2 per week. About 34% spend one day or less a week indexing. About 17% spend 2 days a week, 19% spend three days, 11% spend 4 days, 10% spend 5 days and 6% spend more than 5 days a week indexing. About 18% do not index. About 6% indicated they found it difficult to calculate the average number of

days and 18% didn't respond to the question. A couple added a note that they do a little bit of indexing each day. Registered indexers spend about 2.8 days a week indexing, while those not registered spend about 2.4 days a week and those who plan to apply to be registered spend about 1.8 days a week indexing.

6. Other work if not full-time indexing

About 75% indicated they undertook some form of 'other work'. About 25% did not respond to this question. The most popular form of 'other work' is library work (30%), followed by editing (25%) and proofreading (21%). The next popular responses were thesaurus/taxonomy (7%), website design / updating (6%) and archive work (3%). About 28% indicated some form of specific other forms of work. These ranged from teaching or training (6%), writing or author (4%) and research (3%), to a couple of responses for bibliography, project management, record management, consulting, information specialist, computer training, secretarial work, database consulting, carer, and management. Other responses included landscaping, share trader, artist and accountant. While one (37%) or two (38%) types of other work was common, some did three (12%) or four (11%) and a few did five (3%) types of other work.

7. Type of indexing done

About 61% of respondent have done back of book indexing in the past year. About 19% have done journal indexing and 19% have done database indexing and 17% have indexed annual reports. Other indexing done include website (11%), newspapers (8%), embedded MS Word (6%), pictures/images (4%) and genealogy (4%). About 3% indicated they did other types of indexing and this included loose-leaf reports (3%) and CD & online version of a book. While most (47%) just do one type of indexing, 17% do two types and 11% do three types of indexing. There are a number (10%) that indicated they did more than 4 different types of indexing. Of the registered indexers 72% do back of book indexing, 28% index annual reports, 26% index journals, 18% do database indexing, 15% index websites, 13% do embedded MS Word indexing, and 5% index newspapers. Of the indexers not registered 43% do back of book indexing, 23% do database indexing, 14% index journals, 9% index newspapers, 9% index websites, 5% do genealogy indexing, 2% index pictures/images and 2% index annual reports. Of those planning to apply for registration 81% do back of book indexing, 22% index annual reports, 19% index journals, 16% do database indexing, 9% index newspapers, 9% index pictures/images, 6% genealogy indexing, 6% embedded MS Word indexing and 6% index websites.

8. Software packages

One of the three indexing software packages are being used by 57% of respondent. The most popular indexing software package is CINDEX (31%), followed by Sky Index (13%) and Macrex (13%). MS Word is also popular with 19% of respondents. Some of these also use indexing software packages. About 13% use other packages including DB/Textworks (8%), and MS Access (3%). Other packages with one or two respondents include MS Excel, internal company software, Voyager, and Framemaker. Registered indexers use CINDEX (36%), SKY Index (21%) and Macrex (10%), as well as MS Word (23%), DBTextworks (5%), MS Access (3%) and HTML Indexer (3%). Those indexers not registered use CINDEX (23%), SKY Index (9%) and Macrex (5%), followed by MS Word (19%), DBTextworks (14%) and MS Access (5%). Those indexers who plan to apply for registration use CINDEX (38%), Macrex (28%) and SKY Index (9%), as well as MS Word (19%) and DBTextworks (3%).

9. Indexers Available

About 48% are listed on Indexers Available and about 48% are not. Of those listed 67% have found it provided work, 21% have not received work and 9% don't know. About 59% have updated their entry in the last year. About 36% haven't updated their entry, with a couple of respondents mentioning their entry didn't need updating. Only 2% didn't know how to update their entry. Of those not listed the most popular reason was lack of experience (20%). Some (11%) are in other employment so aren't listed, while 5% said they weren't registered. There were 3% that didn't know they could. About 85% of the registered indexers are listed in Indexers Available. About 18% of those not registered are listed on Indexers Available. About 41% of those planning to apply for registration are listed on Indexers Available.

10. Training courses during 2008–09

About 73% are interested in attending some form of course during 2008–09, with about 27% not responding to this question. The popular training courses are database indexing (27%), using CINDEX (27%), A-Z website indexing (26%), annual report indexing (22%), editing (21%), thesaurus/taxonomy creation (19%), journal indexing (18%), website creation (17%), metadata creation (15%), embedded MS Word indexing (15%), legal indexing (15%) and using Sky Index (14%). Other courses of interest were running a business (11%), using Macrex (10%), financial/tax management (9%), project management (8%) and grammar (5%). Respondents are keen to attend more than one course. Only 17% picked one course, 17% two, 18% three, 11% four, 17% five and 16% more than 6 courses.

11. Travel interstate to attend a training course

About 33% said they would be prepared to travel to attend a course. About 58% said they would not travel to attend a training course.

12. Interest in an overseas indexing study tour

About 23% said they would be interested in an overseas indexing study tour, with another 4% saying 'maybe'. About 68% said they were not interested.

13. Would you be happy to receive ANZSI Newsletter via email?

About 63% would be happy to receive the *ANZSI Newsletter* via email and about 32% don't want it via email. Another 5% say yes, but comment they would prefer to receive a paper copy.

14. Newsletter

About 71% of respondents commented on the ANZSI Newsletter. Responses have been grouped in general categories to give an overview. Of those who responded: 19% said they were happy with the Newsletter and read it all; 51% would like to see, what is variously described as, practical hints and tips; 27% would like to see experiences of indexers to different indexing problems and challengers; 20% like the event write ups; 10% specifically mentioned enjoying Glenda Browne's 'From the Literature' column; 8% want software review articles; 8% would like more biographical information (or 'newsy bits') about specific members and their careers in indexing; 7% books on indexing or book reviews; 6% mention articles on different types of indexing; 5% mention the Calender of events as being useful; 5% mention a section on reviews of indexes in books, similar to *The Indexer*; 5% would like guidance on indexing opportunities and how to obtain work. There were other specific suggestions that are being considered by Council.

15. Indexing email lists

About 33% belong to an indexing email list. About 32% wrote 'none' and 32% didn't respond to this question. About 3% wrote they were not aware of the lists. The most popular are ALIAIndexers (27%) and Index-L (15%). The next most popular email lists are SKY Index Users (3%) and Web Indexing SIG (3%). There were only one or two respondents for other email lists. ANZSI Vic Branch email was mentioned by 3%, even though it is not an email list as such. About 70% of those belonging to an email list only belong to one list. About 20% belonged to two lists, 3% belonged to three lists and 13% belonged to more than three lists. About 46% of registered indexers belong to at least one email list, with 33% belonging to ALIAIndexers and 23% to Index-L. About 32% of indexers not registered belong to at least on email list, with 25% belonging to ALIAIndexers and 14% to Index-L. Of those who plan to apply for registration 31% belong to at least one email list, with 25% belonging to ALIAIndexers and 9% to Index-L.

16. Events attended in past year

About 59% indicated they attended an ANZSI event in the past year. About 6% said they attended no event and 35% didn't respond to the question. Of those who attended an event 44% attended a local ANZSI branch event, 27% attended the 2007 Conference, 22% attended a local ANZSI Branch workshop and 13% attended a 2007 Conference training workshop. About 42% indicated they attended one type of event, 29% attended two types, 17% three types and 3% attend all four types of events. A couple of respondents indicated that there were no local ANZSI branch events for them to attend.

17. Local Branch events you would like to attend

About 82% indicated they would attend a local ANZSI event. A seminar / panel discussion on indexing-related topic is the most popular form of meeting (74%), followed by informal meal (50%) and library / archive visit with talk (47%) and seminar on non-indexing-related topic (28%). About 17% indicated they would attend one sort of meeting, 29% indicated two, 17% indicated three sorts and 24% selected all types of events. About 18% did not respond to this question.

18. Length of membership

About 41% of respondents have been members for 1–3 years, 17% for 4–6 years, 13% for 7–10 years and 29% for more than 10 years.

19. Age group

Respondents are on average in their 50s. About 6% of respondents are ages 30–39, 25% are 40–49, 32% are 50–59, 27% are 60–69 and 7% are 70 or over. Only 4% did not respond to this question.

20. Expectations of Society

About 47% of respondents feel their expectations of the Society have been fully met; about 41% feel their expectation have been partly met; about 4% feel their expectations of the Society have not been met at all. About 8% did not respond to this question.

21. Improvements or changes

About 48% had suggestions for improvements. These are being reviewed by Council.

22. Comments

About 36% had further comments.

NSW Branch social lunch on the North Shore
Saturday 1 March 2008, 12:00 for 12:30pm

All members are invited to an informal lunch at Tricia Waters' place, 20 Karoo Ave, East Lindfield. Please bring a plate of food or drinks. RSVP to Tricia <████████████████████████████

If coming by public transport there is a government bus (Route 207) which departs from the City (Wynyard Park, York St, Bus stop L). Alight at the Crana Ave bus stop for a short walk to Karoo Ave. Or catch a train to Lindfield, go to the east side of the station, i.e. turn left at the top of the stairs in the opposite direction to the Pacific Hwy and then catch a Shorelink bus (Route 558) which leaves at 11.55 am from Lindfield Ave just down from Tryon Rd outside the Anglican Church. Alight at Crana Ave for a short walk to Karoo Ave.

If you would like a swim, bring your cossie for a dip in the pool !

Tricia Waters

Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Medal, 2007

There were ten entries for the 2007 ANZSI Medal competition, six from Australia and four from New Zealand. Two of the Australian entries were indexes to extensive runs of periodicals. One New Zealand entry was a 120 page separately published index, with an introduction, to William Morley's *History of Methodism in New Zealand*, 1900.

Almost all entries were 'substantial in size'. Several of the works indexed did not have the complexity of subject matter which would allow the indexers to demonstrate their range of expertise. However, within this limitation there was much good work.

The judges wished to commend two indexes apart from the winner:

A life of J. C. Beaglehole, New Zealand scholar, by Tim Beaglehole. Victoria University Press, 2006. Indexer: Tordis Flath.

This accurate index suffers from the number of levels of sub-heading under J. C. Beaglehole (up to four in some places). This leaves readers, despite the use of the running head, not being sure where they are in the index. One judge suggested that it may have been better, in the interest of user-friendliness, to have made the concept sub-headings, such as articles, books, broadcasts, lectures, etc. into main headings to reduce the number of levels. Despite this criticism of style, this is a very good piece of work.

Paper empires: a history of the book in Australia, 1946-2005, edited by Craig Munro and Robyn Sheahan-Bright. University of Queensland Press, 2006, Indexer, Kerry Biram

Here the indexer was faced with the problem of deciding how much to index as there were so many names of persons and organisations mentioned. The balance which she struck shows a mature approach to the job. Some readers may find the work itself somewhat disappointing as it covers a very busy fifty years and is a product of a project which has been in progress for a considerable time. However it is a starting point for study which can be pursued through Austlit and the many relevant archival collections. In complementing this role the index does its job well.

One index was outstanding and has been awarded the ANZSI Medal for 2007. It is:

Voices of Islam in Southeast Asia: a contemporary source-book, compiled by Greg Fealy and Virginia Hooker. Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2006. Indexer: Alan Walker.

This book has been included in *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Title List for 2006. It is in two parts. Part I has overviews of the role of Islam in eight countries of the region. Part II contains six chapters of extracts from primary sources under Personal expressions of faith, Sharia, Islam, state and governance, Gender and the family, Jihad, and Interactions.

The book illustrates the diversity and complexity of the Muslim communities in the region. As such it presented a challenge for the indexer, in understanding the material, in maintaining accuracy in the analysis and description of the subjects, and in creating, in 48 pages, an inviting index. The result is logical in structure and easy to use. All essential cross references are included and the 16 pages of illustrations have been indexed. In fact all that could and should be covered has been covered in this excellent piece of work.

The judges are pleased to award the 2007 ANZSI Medal to the indexer, Alan Walker, together with certificates to the indexer and the publisher, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

Ann Bentley (Librarian)
Pam Jonas (Editor)
Max McMaster (Indexer)
John Simkin (Chairman)

Alan Walker (left) receiving his award from John Simkin

Welcome in the festive season!

All members of ANZSI Victorian Branch, their partners and friends, are invited to a get-together with the Committee at the end of another enjoyable year of conference, excursions, interesting speakers and projects.

At: *208 Kooyong Road, North Caulfield*
When: *Tuesday, 4 December, from 7.00 pm*
BYO: *Soft drink, beer and a plate to share*
Dress: *Casual*
RSVP: *Monday 3 December to Jenny Restarick*
Phone: *+*

Victoria Branch afoot!

Heritage walking tour of Melbourne and visit to Heritage Victoria, 11 October

History revisited the Heritage Walking Tour in more ways than one as light rain began to fall just before the start of our walk – a rare sight in Melbourne recently. Led by Jenny Restarick, an enthusiastic group of eight members shook the cobwebs off their umbrellas and set off from the modern DSE building on the corner of Nicholson and Albert Streets, following the route mapped out by Heritage Victoria (<www.heritage.vic.gov.au/page.asp?ID=212>).

Heading down La Trobe Street, we passed the charming Royal Society of Victoria building complete with the old weather station in the Royal Society Gardens, which has been in continuous operation since 1908.

Our first stop was Russell Street Police Headquarters, 'a rare, surviving example of an early stepped geometric New York or Los Angeles style skyscraper'. Then down Swanston Street, with many old buildings, taking a slight detour into Curtin House, which once housed the Genealogical Society.

From there we continued to the Melbourne Town Hall, taking advantage of the free tea and coffee on offer in honour of Seniors Week. On the way, we stopped to admire the more avant-garde architecture of the new Melbourne City Council offices, claimed to be 'Australia's greenest and healthiest purpose built office building'. It cost over $50 million to build, but the environmentally friendly aspects of the building are an example for future heritage.

The tea and coffee at Melbourne Town Hall – itself a wonderful architectural site – revived us and we emerged to admire the Manchester Unity (MU) building and Capitol House opposite. Some lovely old buildings adjoining the Capitol were not on the official walk, but are certainly worthy of notice. The MU building was the tallest in Melbourne when it was completed in 1932 and it was the first building to have escalators. It is another prime example of interwar architecture, now home predominantly to jewellers.

Next door to the MU building, Capitol House was designed by Walter Burley Griffin. Completed in 1924 – another interwar period building – it still retains many of its original features. It was innovative in its time because it combined offices, shops and a cinema in a single building. The Capitol Cinema is still in operation today.

For the sturdy tramper, the Heritage Walk then heads further down past Flinders Street Railway Station, and includes the National Gallery and Sydney Myer Music Bowl among other sites. But, after all the excitement, we climbed on the tram to be transported back to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) building to meet with Frances O'Neill from Heritage Victoria.

Heritage Victoria is part of the DSE. Frances is the Senior Historian and Manager of Assessments. She gave us an overview of the organisation and explained how places and objects are added to the Victorian Heritage Register.

Anyone can nominate a potential addition to the Register including, but not limited to, buildings, gardens, structures, trees, shipwrecks, archaeological sites, objects or historical precincts. The criteria for assessment are the historical, architectural, cultural and/ or scientific significance of the place or object.

When a nomination is received, Heritage Victoria undertakes research to determine the significance of the nomination and the Executive Director recommends a decision to the Heritage Council. The decision is then advertised in the *Herald-Sun* to allow time for objections. The Heritage Council then decides on the recommendation and the nomination is added to the Register. A tribunal is available for disputed decisions.

Work of Heritage Victoria must conform to the *Heritage Act 1995*. In the 1980s, there was a stronger emphasis on places and buildings, but since that time more diverse places and artefacts have been included such as shipwrecks, landscapes, bridges, tram sheds and tracks. Churches have always represented a major part of the Heritage Register not only for their religious importance, but for the social and community role they played.

Frances mentioned the work relating to transportation. An audit of the Register content revealed a dominance of train-related items, but very few for the car. As a result, the first car park in Melbourne was assessed and even two drive-in cinemas (Coburg and Dromana) were nominated.

The Heritage Register is available online for searching and some fascinating queries from the ANZSI group demonstrated the variety of its contents. The database containing the information is called HERMES and has extensive coverage with many local governments adding their collections to a combined catalogue. Searches by subject categories (further divided into subcategories) as well as personal names, places, streets, or suburbs are possible. Images are attached to many of the records as Heritage Victoria staff take photographs of each place they assess.

We were also treated to images of the historic railway precinct at Taradale and Spargo's Hut, an old miner's hut in the Alpine Shire. Global Positioning System (GPS) is used to record the exact location of Register entries and they are mapped on MapInfo to simplify the process of informing local councils of an addition to the Register in their area.

Heritage Victoria is aware of the constraints that can attach to a heritage listing for properties in particular. The organisation is realistic and recognises that strict enforcement of rigid regulations could mean that properties would be abandoned and fall into disrepair. Heritage Victoria's aim is to preserve. They even make grants available to assist with preservation of heritage listed sites.

Frances described Melbourne as one of the world's great examples of a Victorian city. After our heritage walk and our Heritage Victoria visit, we all agreed. It's our heritage.

Jenny Restarick

ANZSI NSW President's Report 2006–07

This has been a successful year for ANZSI NSW, coordinated by our cohesive committee of four: Lorraine Doyle, Sue Flaxman, Tricia Waters, and myself. We met electronically most of the time, although we also managed two face-to-face meetings before other events. Thank you to the committee for the time and energy they have put into ANZSI this year.

We continued our training program, with another two-day session graciously hosted by Lorraine Doyle at Thomson Legal & Regulatory. We are grateful to her and to Thomson's for access to their facilities.

We also had a number of very enjoyable meetings – a New Year's lunch in Parramatta, a social lunch at Madeleine Davis's house in Blackheath (which brought visitors from Bathurst and Canberra) and an afternoon seminar on indexing specialities at the NSW Writer's Centre in Rozelle. The seminar included presentations by Madeleine Davis on indexing biographies, Mary Coe (a new member, previously resident in the US) on medical indexing, including Medline and long-distance indexing, Tricia Waters on cookbooks, and Caroline Colton on food and wine. As Lorraine pointed out in her newsletter report, we had lots of fun. Oh, and yes, we all learnt something.

We plan similar events next year – another social lunch, more courses, and a combined legal indexing course (morning) and legal indexing panel discussion (afternoon).

A new offering from the Branch this year is the opportunity to apply for sponsorship to attend events presented by related groups such as editors. We have introduced this with the aim of encouraging cross-fertilisation with different professionals, and hoping that contacts by some of our members can spread useful information to all of our members. We've had no applicants yet – but you can be the first.

ACT Region and NSW members have held preliminary discussions about hosting a joint conference in Wollongong in 2009. Final decisions will be made by incoming committees, as they will be the ones who have to see the project through.

One of the roles of ANZSI Branch Presidents is to represent NSW on the ANZSI Council. One of our challenges in this area is working out how best to communicate with members from three states and two countries. Council has been examining electronic communication options including teleconferencing, and we in NSW hope that the introduction of something along these lines will increase the sharing of ideas between Council members.

Glenda Browne

Congratulations to Glenda Browne on her Ig Nobel Prize for Literature

On 4 October 2007 (Glenda writes), I was awarded the Ig Nobel Prize for Literature, for an article I had written for *The Indexer* in 2001 on the contradictions that arise when alphabetising index entries that start with 'The'.

The Ig Nobels are a spoof on the real Nobel Prizes, and are awarded for research that makes people **laugh**, and then **think**. Ten awards are given each year from a pool of about 7000 nominations. This is probably the most prestigious spoof award in the world!

The award was presented at a ceremony at the Sanders Theatre, Harvard University. This is a beautiful old wooden theatre, enhanced by the occasional paper aeroplane jetting across the room.

The winners are a small part of the proceedings, speaking for only one minute each. They are backed up by a specially-written opera on the theme of the night ('chickens' this year!) and various speeches. These included one that contained nothing but the word chicken, well-supported with figures, graphs and a bibliography. There is also a welcome speech which consists solely of the words 'Welcome Welcome', and

The Ig Nobel line-up – Glenda sporting her 'THE'!

speeches where speakers describe their work in 24 seconds, then again, for laypeople, in seven words.

Of course I had to index the chicken Ig Nobels. All of the subheadings under 'chicken' and 'egg' referred to real Ig Nobel awards. The final entry says 'The chicken or the egg, which came first'. This perennial problem is also addressed in the two cross-references. The award is a wooden stand with a rubber chicken and plastic egg. Probably more valuable is the certificate signed by founder Marc Abrahams and five real Nobel Laureates.

I have written about the Igs on my website <www.webindexing.biz/joomla/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=458&Itemid=69>, with links to the two speeches I gave, and extracts from some of the media reports. Two of these are of particular interest: a list of discussions about 'The' on Language Log (one pointing out that it should not be written as 'the Language Log'), and a comment in a newspaper from the Philippines on problems with filing of names starting with Maria, especially as these are traditionally abbreviated as Ma.

Glenda Browne

The Creative Editor: publishing at the National Library of Australia

Susan Hall, Publications Manager at the National Library of Australia (NLA), was our speaker at the recent ACT Region Branch AGM. She desribed the recent changes in publishing and editing at the NLA. The Library's collections serve many purposes: to contribute to the understanding of Australian history and culture, to promote the knowledge and use of Library resources and to support scholarship.

A wide range of material is published: corporate and trade publications, the monthly magazine, books, cards, wrapping paper and more, all available in the Library's shop and online. The goal is to make publications and collections accessible to wider audiences – a proactive, creative approach

Susan described some of the books produced when the children's list started in 2006. She passed around a copy of *Guess Who?*, a guide to Australian animals for small children, and described the Australian Backyard Astronomy series, where the manuscript had been written and edited to present authoritative content in a fresh and attractive way, to appeal to adults and children.

She also mentioned the Australian Life Series, inspired by the booming interest in life stories. The series, intended for general readers and secondary and tertiary students covers people such as Alan Moorehead and Kylie Tennant who have made significant contributions to Australia. The series has implications for the staff concerned – they will need a greater knowledge of the collections, time to find the relevant stories, and a greater understanding of what people want to read.

The NLA uses a stable of freelance indexers, with subject specialists used where necessary. Five to seven days are allowed for an index, which may involve authors, editors, and indexers.

In conclusion, Susan said that the NLA offers writers opportunities and support, plans to create and shape books stressing the importance of design and usability, and makes the collections accessible to wider audiences, while maintaining high research and production quality. This was a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting talk.

Edyth Binkowski

Indexers tour to Europe 2008

Are you interested in joining the Indexers Tour to Europe to be held in June-July 2008? ANZSI Vic Branch has planned a tour to Europe which is open to all ANZSI members and their partners, friends, etc. The tour will cover four countries – Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland and England and consists of a balance between professional indexing/library activities and tourist activities.

The tour will commence in **Amsterdam** on 23 June 2008 and will conclude at the beginning of the **Society of Indexers Conference** in **Winchester** on 11 July 2008. It is hoped that a considerable contingent of ANZSI members will attend the SI Conference. Travel to and from Europe will be with Malaysian Airlines. We will be using a driver and coach to travel around the various countries, with the exception of a flight between Brussels and Dublin, and a ferry ride between Rosslare (Ireland) and Pembroke (Wales). Accommodation is in 3-star or better hotels throughout, including breakfast daily.

We will be meeting with members of the Netherlands Indexing Network, representatives of the Ireland Branch of SI, and SI members in the UK.

A brief outline of some of the places we have planned to visit follows – there is also leisure time scheduled throughout the tour.

Netherlands – Leiden University (16th and 17th century indexes); De Valk Windmill Museum (Leiden); The Hague Peace Palace; The Abbey (12th century) in Middelberg; Delta (Zeider Zee) Engineering Project; Delft pottery.

Belgium – Peter Paul Rubens house and museum (Antwerp) and Plantin Moretus Museum (printing museum – Antwerp); Belgian Centre for Comic Strip Art (for Tintin fans, in Brussels); chocolate factory visit (Brussels); Mundaneum (amazing library at Mons), as well as a War Cemetery at Mons; Brugge (Bruges, a beautiful city).

Ireland – Trinity College (Book of Kells)— Dublin, and National Library of Ireland (Dublin); Birr (indexing colleague); Lakes of Killarney and Ring of Kerry; Blarney Castle; Cork, Waterford Crystal (Waterford).

England – Hay-on-Wye (bookshops); Bath, Sissinghurst (castle gardens); Canterbury, University of Kent (cartoon indexing); Southampton (Ordnance Survey); Winchester.

The **return date** is open.

Costing is based on a minimum of 15 adults travelling together: two adults sharing a room: A$7240 each; one person in a single room: A$8495.

All travel arrangements are being handled by Harvey World Travel, Carnegie. A colour brochure with the full itinerary will be available very shortly. If you would like to receive a brochure please contact Max McMaster in the first instance at <▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮> with your name and address and I will arrange for HWT to send the brochure to you.

A stopover in Kuala Lumpur is also possible if desired.

Max McMaster

Brisbane – Nuts & Bolts of indexing!
Monday, 10 March 2008, at 6.00 for 6.30 pm

Queensland indexers, editors, librarians, archivists, teachers, authors and technical communicators are invited to a free session, where you will be able to ask Max McMaster all your questions about indexing and then join Max for dinner and discussion afterwards. Entry is FREE!

The venue in Brisbane will be advised in the next newsletter.

Contact : Moira Brown ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
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