Newsletter of the **Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Inc.**

Volume 19 • Number 2 • April 2023

Council update

Council's meeting on 27 March 2023 dealt with regular reports from officials and some administrative matters.

It is encouraging to know that groups are meeting face-to-face again. The NSW Group notified us that they had met on 5 March for a social get-together and discussion of indexing and other matters.

The professional development program continued with an entertaining re-broadcast on 30 March (National Indexing Day) of Sam Leith's address on "Developments in publishing" from the 2022 Berlin conference. The Education Officer, Mary Coe, has scheduled a re-broadcast of an Indexing Society of Canada (ISC/SCI) conference session on 27 April and another session, from the Berlin conference, on 25 May. We've been pleased with the interest that members have shown by joining these Zoom sessions.

The Conference Working Group (Madeleine Davis, Karen Gillen, Mary Coe and Sharon Betridge) has been working hard (see the item included elsewhere in this issue). The conference is scheduled for Thursday 19 to Saturday 21 October 2023 at the Charles Sturt University Convention Centre, Wagga Wagga, NSW. Wagga Wagga is a regional city in the Riverina region and is accessible via road, rail, and air. The call for papers was distributed by email on 5 April. Please think about whether you have an interesting indexing topic that you can give a talk on, and let the committee know your ideas for conference content.

Nikki Davis has been our Membership Secretary since April 2019 and Council thanks her for the efficient and friendly way she has managed the membership joining/renewal processes, communication on membership matters with members and enquiries from would-be members. Nikki has decided to step down from the position at the end of her current term (June this year), so we are seeking nominations for Membership Secretary (see details later in this issue).

ANZSI, in the person of the ANZSI President and assisted by the ANZSI Secretary, hosted the April informal meeting of ICRIS by teleconference on 12 April. The meeting, attended by representatives of eight international indexing societies/networks, heard brief updates on each society, reports on National Indexing Day (Australia and UK), a report on *The Indexer*, and discussed the proposed ICRIS website. There were also interesting presentations from the Chinese Society of Indexers on new trends in indexing in China including digitisation of ancient documents.

Council is seeking an ICRIS international liaison officer (this is in addition to the ex-officio position of the President on ICRIS). Tracy Harwood has been our international liaison since November 2019 and has stepped down from the role this year. At its March meeting, Council expressed its gratitude for Tracy's contribution not just in this role but in other roles over the years. The ICRIS Liaison role includes monitoring the ICRIS email list and liaising with ANZSI Council on international matters raised by ICRIS. The term of appointment is for three years to coincide with its formal triennial meeting. ICRIS meets informally by Zoom twice a year, with some informal meetings held at international conferences.

For more information about ICRIS, its role and terms of reference and see https://www.theindexer.org/international/about-icris/. See also ICRIS minutes and diary at https://www.theindexer.org/international/icris-minutes/

Guidelines for the ANZSI John Simkin Medal Judging Panel were reviewed by Council. A call for nominations for the awards was distributed by email on 4 April and the notice is also published in this issue.

As usual, copy is required for future newsletters. Please send news, comment, photos, technical tips or any items of interest to Elisabeth Thomas, editor@anzsi.org. The newsletter is for all of us and we'd like to include a range of items of interest.

Sherrey Quinn, Secretary

ANZSI Membership for 2023-24

ANZSI membership subscriptions for 2023–2024 fall due on 1 July 2023. A renewal email will be sent to you in June, with a link to make a payment.

Renewing your membership ensures that you retain the benefits that you enjoy as an ANZSI member, including the *ANZSI Newsletter*, a discounted subscription rate for *The Indexer*, listing in Indexers Available, use of the ANZSI Library, opportunities for connecting with fellow indexers, and retention of your Accreditation status or access to ANZSI's Accreditation process.

Nikki Davis, Membership Secretary

ANZSI Library

The full list of holdings of both the Australian collection and the New Zealand collection can be viewed or downloaded from the members area on the ANZSI website.

If you wish to borrow any items from the library, or have any queries about loan conditions for either collection, please contact the relevant library officer:

(Photograph: Karen Gillen)

Australia: Karen Gillen   New Zealand: Carol Dawber

Karen Gillen, Library Officer (Australia)

Call for nominations: ANZSI Indexing Awards and John Simkin Medal 2023

ANZSI invites publishers, booksellers, editors, librarians, indexers and interested persons to provide nominations for the John Simkin Medal 2023. Indexers are encouraged to submit their own work. The Medal award recognises an outstanding index to a book or periodical compiled in Australia or New Zealand. Highly Commended certificates may also be awarded to excellent indexes.

ANZSI Indexing Awards were instituted in 1985. The highest award, previously known as the ANZSI Medal, was renamed in 2014 in honour of John Simkin, one of the founding members of the Society. John promoted the ideals of indexes and indexing throughout his 40-year association with the Society, and the Medal acknowledges his contribution to indexing. Many Highly Commended certificates have also been awarded.

The criteria for the awards were reviewed in 2022 and are located at https://tinyurl.com/yxs5pbvs

Eligibility of published works

To be eligible for the 2023 awards, the book or periodical index must be commercially available and have an imprint date of 2020 or later. The index must have been compiled in Australia or New Zealand, although the text to which it refers may have been published elsewhere.

Eligibility of index

To attain the Medal an index must be of the highest calibre. The index must be entirely the indexer's own work. The index should be substantial in size, the subject matter complex, and the language, form and structure should demonstrate the indexer's expertise in serving the primary needs of the text and the reader. There are no restrictions on the subject matter of the book. The book may be in paper or electronic format.

Nomination process

Nominations are confidential and anonymous, in that nominees' names are known only to the Receiving Officer, not to the Judging Panel.

Nomination forms are available at https://www.anzsi.org/about-us/awards/the-john-simkin-medal/. A completed nomination form together with a print copy of the book, or a link to the electronic file of both book and index, is required. Print books will be returned after judging.

Nominations must be received no later than 5pm AEST, Friday 30 June 2023 at GPO Box 2069, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia or (in the case of digital books) by email to the Receiving Officer at receivingofficer@anzsi.org

Nominators who have posted books must advise the Receiving Officer by email that they have done so. All nominations received will be acknowledged by email to the nominator.

Shirley Campbell, Receiving Officer

Call for papers: ANZSI Conference 2023 - 'Making Connections'

We are pleased to inform you that plans for ANZSI's conference are coming along well.

ANZSI is now inviting proposals for papers or panel sessions for the conference later this year.

Proposals should include a brief biography and be no longer than 500 words.

Please send your ideas to the Chair of the Conference Committee, Sharon Betridge sbetridge@outlook.com, by **31 May 2023**.

Conference attendance will be in person. Although it will not be streamed, all sessions will be recorded for ANZSI members to download at a later date. Arrangements can also be made to stream speakers into the conference at individual sessions.

Dates (the important information): Thursday 19 to Saturday 21 October 2023 (add it to your calendars)

Location: Charles Sturt University Convention Centre, Wagga Wagga, NSW

Accommodation: a very wide range available, including the possibility of CSU accommodation

Travel: to Wagga Wagga by
Car – 3 hours from Canberra, 5 hours from Melbourne or Sydney
Plane – direct flights from Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney
Train – 4.5 hours from Canberra, 5 hours from Melbourne, 6.4 hour from Sydney

You might like to consider **sightseeing** before or after the conference:

In and around Wagga Wagga:
https://visitwagga.com
https://visitnsw.com/destinations/country-nsw/riverina/wineries-breweries-in-the-riverina
https://visitwagga.com/discover/seendo/trails/wiradjuritrail
https://canolatrail.com.au

0r other towns and attractions around the Riverina:
https://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/country-nsw/riverina

including these attractions in Junee (only a 30 minute drive away):
https://www.juneelicoriceandchocolate.com
https://www.montechristo.com.au
http://roundhousemuseum.com.au

Sharon Betridge, Chair, ANZSI Conference Committee

ANZSI Membership Secretary wanted!

Nikki Davis has been our Membership Secretary since April 2019 but is stepping down in June this year, so ANZSI is seeking a new Membership Secretary.

The role is:
- to manage the ANZSI website Membership Database, Membership List and Member Register
- to record new members, renewals and resignations
- to manage administrative aspects of membership details, including listings in the freelance directory Indexers Available. Note: members update their own Indexers Available (IA)
- to liaise with the ANZSI Council, group convenors and members on membership issues
- to provide brief reports on membership numbers to Council for each of its meetings (approximately 5 or 6 per year) and to the Secretary for the annual report. These reports follow a standard pattern.

The main activities take place in June and July when renewals are sent out and processed.

Duties are set-out in the Position Description at https://www.anzsi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Doc-45-044_Membership-Secretary-PD-2021.pdf

The PD contains a lot of detail but don't be intimidated by it! Procedures and systems are in place on the website to make the work as streamlined and straightforward as possible. We are a small society so the volume of work is not large.

It is a good networking opportunity because you get to know your indexing colleagues. Please contact the Secretary (secretary@anzsi.org) if you are interested in taking on this role. A comprehensive induction and hand-over will be available.

Sherrey Quinn, Secretary

Problems with names?

Ever had problems indexing names? What is the correct form? Which is the surname? First name? Should I reverse these? Correct titles? Other languages?

You might find these websites useful.
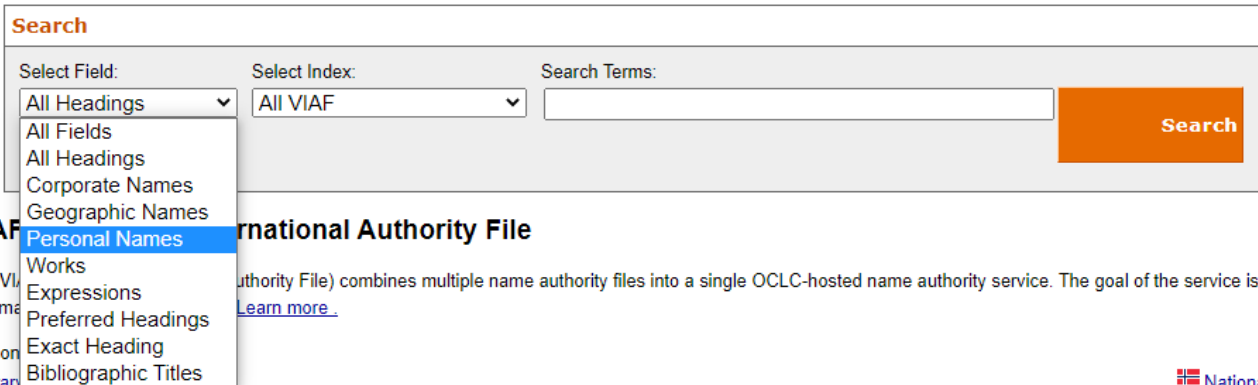
VIAF: The Virtual International Authority File

The VIAF® (Virtual International Authority File) (https://viaf.org) [established in 2003] combines multiple name authority files into a single OCLC-hosted name authority service. It connects authority data across cultures and languages to facilitate research. The goal of the service is to lower the cost and increase the utility of library authority files by matching and linking widely used authority files and making that information available on the Web.

The VIAF service provides libraries and library users with convenient access to the world's major name authority files. VIAF Contributors regularly supply authority data that VIAF matches, links, and groups. All descriptions for a given entity are merged into a cluster that brings together the different names for that entity. This service allows researchers to identify names, locations, works, and expressions while preserving regional preferences for language, spelling, and script.

The National Library of Australia (NLA) is one of 80+ contributing international institutions, organisations and national libraries.
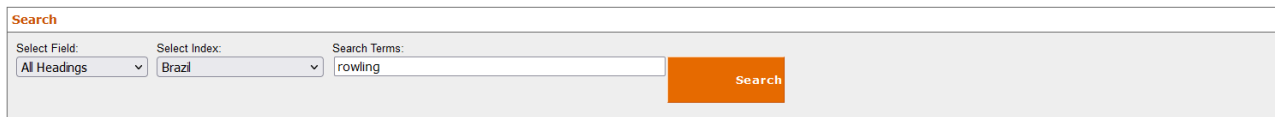

(Image: OCLC / VIAF)

(Image: OCLC / VIAF)

Search results show the variants and use flags to indicate the countries using the term/s.

The interactive wheel (partly shown at bottom right of image) shows the usage of preferred forms when you mouse over a term in the list on the left.

The results go on to list many more findings including alternate names, co-authors and assorted publication information.

National Library of Australia catalogue

The National Library of Australia catalogue search offers a Browse Alphabetically option, in which you can select to browse certain fields. Go to the NLA Catalogue search page https://catalogue.nla.gov.au and click the 'Browse alphabetically' tab. If you select Authors and type a starting point, you can you the list of author names, with see references to preferred form if there are several versions. Similarly, if you select Subject, you can browse subject terms.

Library of Congress

Using "Library of Congress Authorities", you can browse and view authority headings for Subject, Name, Title and Name/Title combinations.

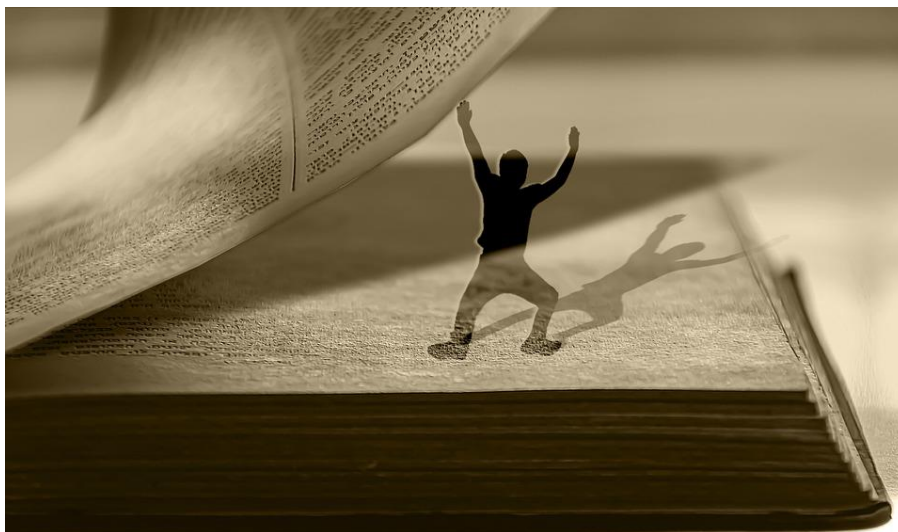Go to https://authorities.loc.gov/ and select "Search Authorities".

Further reading

British Library RDA NACO training programme notes

If you want to understand more about the development of authority lists, the British Library has training notes that can be used under Creative Commons at https://www.bl.uk/collection-metadata/training

Madeleine Davis, Sherrey Quinn and Elisabeth Thomas

Book reviews

Duncan, Dennis *Index, a history of the; a bookish adventure.* London: Allen Lane, 2021. 352 pp., $41.51, ISBN 9780241374238.

I'm sure most, if not all, indexers on the planet are aware of this very entertaining book, and many of them have read it and/or listened to Dennis Duncan's conference sessions or interviews, so I'm not going to describe it here.

The publisher's blurb is at **https://www.penguin.com.au/books/index-a-history-of-the-9780141989662**, Madeleine Davis reviewed it for the *Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association* September 2022, and Michele Combs for *The Indexer* December 2021.

Paula Clarke Bain, who indexed the book, wrote about the conference adventures of author and indexer in *The Indexer* September 2022.

There is a copy of the book in the ANZSI Library.

Zeng, Marcia Lei and Qin, Jian *Metadata*. 3rd edition. London: Facet Publishing, 2022, 613 p., ISBN 9781783305889 (pbk); Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman, 2022. 613 pp, ISBN 9780838948750 (pbk), ISBN 9780839937952 (PDF), ISBN 9780838937969 (ePUB). (Paperback $138 from Australian book sellers). The UK and the North American editions are identical in content and layout.

This is the latest edition of a text first published in 2008 and updated in 2016. *Metadata* is a textbook for students and a resource for practitioners – particularly in the libraries, archives and museums (LAM) environment – providing detailed descriptions and explanations of metadata applications, standards and developments. There are 503 pages of text with the remaining 100 pages comprises a glossary, reference list (49 pages) and index (47 pages double-column layout). Two appendices ('Metadata Standards: Metadata Schemas, Application Profiles, and Registries' and 'Value Encoding Schemes and Content Standards') are online only.

Chapter one is an excellent introduction to the background, history, principles and types of metadata. Part I covers fundamentals: metadata vocabularies and creating metadata descriptions. Part II addresses metadata structures and semantics, including best practice guides and metadata schemas. Metadata services, and quality measurement and improvement are discussed in Part III; Part IV deals with metadata research and Part V presents metadata standards. There are lists of suggested readings and exercises for students and those who learn by doing; the readings and exercises are supported by the associated website (**http://metadataetc.org**)

The book is dense with information – not a narrative read but very useful to consult when you wish to learn about a specific metadata application or standard.

Reviews are published in the *Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association* December 2022 (by Mary Coe) and in *The Indexer* March 2023 (by Sherrey Quinn).

Alemu, Getaneh *The future of enriched, linked, open and filtered metadata: making sense of IFLA LRM, RDA, Linked Data and BIBFRAME*. London: Facet Publishing, 2022. 282 p., ISBN 9781783304929 (Paperback $135 from Australian book sellers).

This book about metadata applications is for data curators and information professionals who organise and manage digital resources for long-term discoverability and usability. It's a guide to creating accurate, consistent, complete, user-centred, and quality metadata that supports the user tasks of finding, identifying, selecting, obtaining, and exploring information resources. More generally, it is relevant to people who work in libraries, archives and museums, and is intended as a textbook for cataloguing and metadata modules in information courses. The first four chapters give an introduction to metadata, discuss metadata strategies and quality indicators, present cases illustrating uses of metadata, and set out metadata principles. After that chapters explain the types of metadata named in the title and the standards listed in the subtitle. There's a list of abbreviations, extensive reference list, and a brief index (5.5 page, two-column) which would be more useful if the many headings with numerous undifferentiated locators had had their subject matter analysed into heading/subheadings.

It is reviewed by Ian McCallum in the *Journal of the Australian Library and Information Association* March 2023.

Snow, Karen *A practical guide to Library of Congress Subject Headings*. London: Rowman and Littlefield, 2021. 179 p., ISBN 9781538143001. (Paperback $69.99 from Australian book sellers).

Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) is probably the best known and most widely used controlled vocabulary, being used by libraries world-wide. This short book (104 pages of front matter and 10 chapters; 65 pages of appendices, glossary and index) is an excellent overview of LCSH, explaining to the reader what LCSH is, how to use it and its subdivisions and its associated online tools to create subject heading strings. It contains lots of practice exercises, there's a useful glossary and a brief but adequate index.

The book is really useful for librarians/cataloguers/indexers using LCSH or learning how to do subject cataloguing with it. However, the short introductory chapter on the basic principles of subject analysis (7 pages) is relevant to anyone engaged in subject analysis. This section clearly explains *aboutness* as opposed to *is-ness* (what text is *about* rather than what it *is*), so back-of-book indexers may find it helpful background for subject analysis and the process of selecting or devising main headings/subheadings in book indexes.

Sherrey Quinn

People

New members

Welcome to new member Kate Heness, of NSW, who has joined the Society; and welcome back to Carolyn Page, of NSW, who has re-joined the Society.

Nikki Davis, Membership Secretary

NSW Indexers' lunch

On 5 March 2023, ANZSI's NSW Indexers Group held a lunch in Blaxland, hosted by Glenda Browne, Jenny Browne and Jon Jermey. The rain and the heatwaves took a break for a day, and it was temperate enough to enjoy the view of a Blue Mountains valley outside while we ate a tableful of treats. We chatted about travelling in Europe (including the international conference in Berlin last year), plans for future trips, and the upcoming ISC/SCI and ANZSI conferences. Other topics across the table included the trials, tribulations and temptations of technology, from automated indexing to virtual reality, and especially artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Thanks to everyone for their company and contributions.

Jenny Browne

At lunch amid the trees:

(L-R) Anon. friend (cropped out), Glenda Browne, Jon Jermey (photoshopped in, as he was behind the camera 😉), Elisabeth Thomas, Madeleine Davis, Jenny Browne.

(Photograph courtesy of Glenda Browne/Jon Jermey)

Gallimaufry

Trove secures funding as federal government comes to rescue of National Library of Australia's digitised archive

… Funding for the country's largest digitised archive has been announced, after months of the National Library of Australia (NLA) calling for more financial support.

In its upcoming May budget, the federal government has promised $33 million over four years to the NLA. The NLA, which runs digital archive database Trove, will also be separately allocated funding of more than $9 million … the funding [is a] part of Revive, the government's National Cultural Policy …

"Trove is, in many ways, Australia's digital memory: It records and retains some of our most important stories, moments, challenges, controversies and successes in one accessible location," [Minister] Burke said.

"Whether you're using it to look up a bit of family history, or for academic research, Trove is an incredibly important part of our national cultural institutions."

In its statement, the government said it was cleaning up the "mess" left behind by the former government, and that the essential services – such as Trove – had been neglected in previous budgets …

Read the full story https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-04-03/funding-for-trove-announced-by-federal-government/102177488 By Georgia Roberts Mon 3 Apr 2023

Not-quite bright lights

Seen in a Sydney suburban newspaper. Perhaps the copywriter, or spellchecker, was lacking a bit of sparkle that day. 😐

(Photograph: Elisabeth Thomas)

What's in *The Indexer*?

The March issue of *The Indexer* is available.

Did you know that the electronic version of *The Indexer* is available to subscribers in the last week of the month <u>before</u> the month of publication? Get ahead with your reading by subscribing.

More info at https://www.theindexer.org

The Indexer
The International Journal of Indexing

**Volume 41.1
(March 2023)**

Editorial
Mary Coe

Articles

Making the unseen visible: the reading act
Karin McGuirk

Chop off their head(ing)s! An over-indexing peer review with a French Revolution theme
Ruth Martin | Joanna Penning

Indexing The Indexer, Part 4. Final report and recommendations
Mary Coe | Max McMaster | Ann Kingdom

Finding your first book-indexing job
Max McMaster

Conference Reports

'Continental Connections': a report on the Berlin international conference, 2022
Madelon Nanninga

The best of both worlds? Reflections on the first hybrid international indexing conference in Berlin
Ann Kingdom

The accidental indexer tourist in Berlin
Caroline Diepeveen

Forty Years Ago
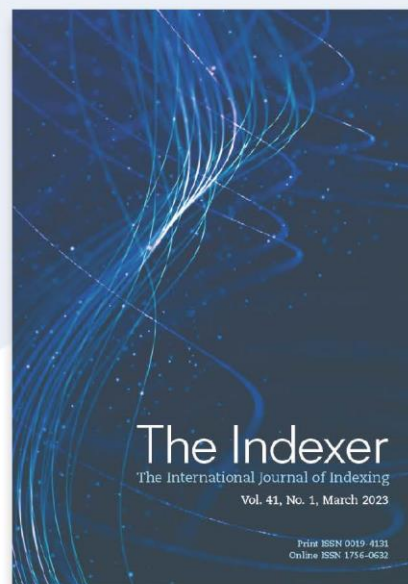*The Indexer forty years ago (April 1983)*
Hazel K. Bell

Accolades for indexers
Indexing Awards 2022
Mary Coe and Ann Kingdom

Indexes Reviewed
Christine Shuttleworth

The Indexer
The International Journal of Indexing
Vol. 41, No. 1, March 2023

Print ISSN 0019-4131
Online ISSN 1756-0632

Did you know that the indexes to the journal are available on *The Indexer* website?

Search for content by category or using the author, title, and subject indexes.

Visit www.theindexer.org/indexes/

You can also search for content in the journal via the LUP website or through Scopus.

www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/journal/index

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ANZSI events

For full details, follow a link (if included) or go directly to the [Events webpage](#).

Professional development: Brian Payne - Hacking yourself: think like a hacker to prevent cyber attacks.

27 April 2023

4.30 – 5.30 pm (AEDT), Zoom videoconference

A replay, for ANZSI members, of the session from the 2022 Indexing Society of Canada / Société canadienne d'indexation (ISC/SCI) conference. It is not necessarily related to indexing, but it is very useful information and well presented.

ANZSI Council meeting

1 May 2023

5.00 – 7.00 pm (AEDT), Zoom videoconference

Professional development: Walter Greulich – Embedded indexing in Word

25 May 2023

4.30 – 5.30 pm (AEDT), Zoom videoconference

The first in a series of sessions, for ANZSI members, from the 'Continental Connections' International indexing conference held in Berlin in 2022.

ANZSI Council meeting

12 June 2023

5.00 – 7.00 pm (AEDT), Zoom videoconference

ANZSI Council meeting

24 July 2023

5.00 – 7.00 pm (AEST), Zoom videoconference

Other events

American Society for Indexing (ASI) Annual Conference 2023

28–29 April 2023, online

https://www.asindexing.org/conference-2023

11th IPEd Conference 2023

2-5 and 8-9 May 2023, online

'Futureproofing the editing profession'

https://www.iped-editors.org/iped-conferences/futureproofing-the-editing-profession/

ALIA Information Online 2023

17-18 May 2023, online

'Shaping the future world'

https://www.alia.org.au/EventDetail?EventKey=IO23

Indexing Society of Canada / Société canadienne d'indexation (ISC/SCI) Conference 2023 : Congrès 2023

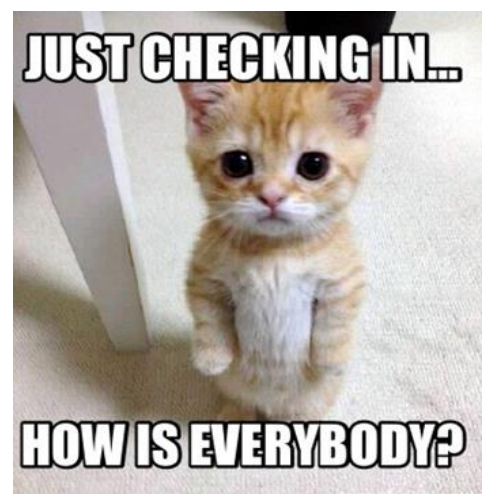9-10 June 2023, St John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada

'See also Newfoundland'

https://conference.indexers.ca/

21st International Conference on Books, Publishing and Libraries 2023

30 June 2023, Paris, France and online

https://informationmediumsociety.com/2023-conference

Contact information

General email: info@anzsi.org

F   ANZSocietyIndexers

    @ANZSI_indexers

ANZSI Council 2022-23

President: Madeleine Davis

Vice-president: Shirley Campbell
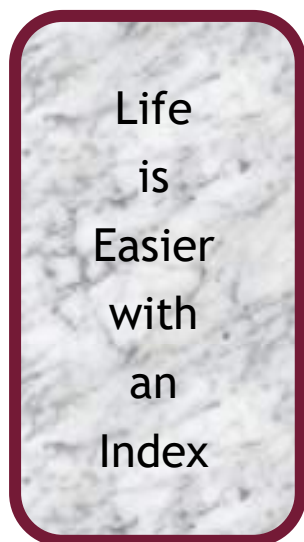
Secretary: Sherrey Quinn

Treasurer: Michael Wyatt

Council members: Elisabeth Thomas, Marnie Hannagan and Sharon Betridge.

Group and regional contacts

Please consult the ANZSI website for details of regional and interest groups, and contacts.

Life

is

Easier

with

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Index

ANZSI
newsletter

Newsletter

Published by the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Inc.

GPO Box 2069, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

ISSN 1832-3855

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Editor: Elisabeth Thomas

Submissions may be edited for clarity, space and uniformity of style. Selection of content is at the discretion of the Editor / ANZSI Council.

Open the PDF with Adobe Acrobat Reader for best reading/printing view.

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Schedule

The *ANZSI Newsletter* is published six times a year - in February, April, June, August, October and December.

Contribution deadline: second Friday of the month of publication.

Please email contributions to the editor, Elisabeth Thomas, at editor@anzsi.org.

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