
Next meeting

23 February
6 for 6:30 pm

Emeritus Faculty
Fellows Lane
Cottage, ANU

**Starting from
scratch**

Three of our eminent editors will share their experiences of starting an editing business and what they see as the main challenges facing freelance editors today.

Janet Salisbury, Virginia Wilton and Louise Forster are highly regarded editors who have been running their businesses for many years.

Janet will focus on changes in government procurement procedures.

Virginia will reflect on 15 years of experience of being in an editing business

Louise will discuss the personal qualities—especially resilience—that help a good editor run a successful business.

Be prepared to ask questions to get answers to some of the issues around being a freelance editor.

Newsletter of the Canberra Society of Editors

Volume 20 • Number 1 • February 2011

President's report



Welcome to 2011 everyone.

Our last meeting in 2010 was a wonderful dinner at The Brassey in November. Our guest speaker, Ian Meikle, gave a very entertaining talk about his

experiences as a journalist, editor, and now media proprietor. He also had a few tales about working for some other, better-known media personalities. Our very own Lindy Allen wrote a song for the society's singers (you didn't know we had a choir, did you!), and we all joined in to provide vocal backing.

Thanks to a brainstorming session at our October meeting, we have a long list of topics for training and speakers at the general meetings this year. As a result, our first training session for the year will be presented by Hilary Cadman – who is becoming the society's commentator on all things to do with software. If you have suggestions of your own for training, or topics you might want to have covered at a general meeting, then please get in touch.

We have some new committee members, too. Larissa will no longer be the Canberra Society of Editor's representative on the IPEd Accreditation Board. She has done an excellent job and we are grateful for all the work she has put in over the past few years.

We expect to announce Larissa's replacement in the next newsletter.

Following Shirley Aitcheson's retirement to the North Coast of New South Wales, Ara Nalbandian will take on the role of membership secretary. Hilary Cadman has taken over the task of preparing the newsletter for printing. Kerie is still the editor. If you have an article or even a letter to the editor, then please send it in to Kerie, who will handle the process from there.

IPEd will be running the next accreditation exam in May this year. If you are even thinking of sitting the exam, it is worth starting your preparation now. We will be running a workshop to help members intending to sit the exam if there is enough interest. Please contact me or Martin to let us know.

Finally, the next national conference for editors will be held in Sydney in September this year. I encourage everyone who can to attend. These are well worth the time, as they are one way to keep in touch with national trends in editing and learn more about editing in other parts of Australia.

Cathy Nicoll

We're now meeting at the ANU

Our meeting this month will be at the Emeritus Faculty, ANU, at **Fellows Lane Cottage**, Fellows Lane (off Fellows Road). See the map on the back page.

Training news

Courses planned for 2011

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Gil Garcon
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[1] Software aids to editing [2] Word 2007/10 clinic	Hilary Cadman	Saturday 19 March 12.30–4.30 Meetings Room, University House, ANU
Editing Essentials II	Cathy Nicoll	Friday 8 April 9.30–4.30
Editing fiction	Pamela Hewitt	May 9.30–4.30
Annual reports: Don't panic	Helen Lewis	June 9.30–4.30



Software aids to editing & Word 2007/10 clinic

We Word-besotted editors think we have progressed from our predecessors' blue pencil and editing marks in the margins—but have we made the transition to editing software tools? We should, before the clients do!

In this year's first seminar, Hilary Cadman will demonstrate and discuss the software tools she has written about during 2010 in *The Canberra editor*; software for management of references, style guides, speech recognition, and even for editing itself.

Hilary will also lead a Word 2007/2010 problem-solving workshop in which participants may submit their worst Word 2007/10 problems for diagnosis and remedy by their colleagues.

About the presenter, Hilary Cadman

Hilary Cadman BSc PhD started her working life as a scientist and academic, before retraining as a science communicator and editor. Hilary is the owner of Cadman Editing Services.

Course	Software aids to editing & Word 2007/10 clinic
Date and time:	Saturday 19 March 2011, 12.30–4.30
Location:	Meetings Room, University House, ANU
Cost	Members: \$65 Non-members: \$113 Includes afternoon tea
Bookings:	Martin Holmes Email: martin.holmes-forte@bigpond.com Ph: 6255 81420 Mob: 431 268 948 Bookings are finalised by payment of the course fee.
Payment:	Electronic funds transfer to: Canberra Society of Editors Community CPS Australia BSB 805 022 a/c 0342 3503 Please annotate your deposit with your name and 'Software aids'.

IPEd notes January—February 2011

The IPEd Council extends best wishes for 2011 to all members of state and territory societies of editors. As you will see from the activities mentioned below, it will be a busy one for our profession, building on the progress made during 2010 in promoting and raising the profile of our profession at the national level.

Highlights of 2010 included:

- development and launch of a new, attractive, fully functional website
- production of a promotional flyer freely available to all members
- publication of the annual report and distribution of a printed version to key players in the publishing world
- revision of the guidelines for professional editing of research theses and their acceptance by the relevant academic authority
- launch of an IPEd Occasional Papers series to encourage research on topics of contemporary interest to editors.

A disappointment was that a submission by an IPEd-organised team to work towards development of a new edition of the Australian Government's Style Manual went no further than an expression-of-interest, the project now being in limbo. We can, nevertheless, take some pride in the high calibre of our submission.

Barbara Ramsden Award

IPEd's 2011 activities are already proceeding with the judging of the 2010 entries submitted by publishers for the Barbara Ramsden Award for excellence in editing, sponsored by IPEd and the Fellowship of Australian Writers (FAW). The award (details at writers.asn.au) is one of the National Literary Awards managed by FAW and recognises the author–editor partnership in the creation of a high-quality publication.

The IPEd-appointed judges for the 2010 award are Pamela Hewitt AE, a member of the Canberra Society of Editors and the Society of Editors (NSW) and Craig Munro, author, former publishing manager at the University of Queensland Press, and winner of the Barbara Ramsden Award in 1985. They are judging the following three fiction and four non-fiction works. The winner of the award will be announced at the National Literary Awards ceremony later in the year.

- *Night street*, by Kristel Thornell, publisher Allen & Unwin, editor Clara Finlay
- *The old school*, by P.M. Newton, publisher Penguin Viking, editor Jo Rosenberg
- *Utopian man*, by Lisa Lang, publisher Allen & Unwin, editor Ali Lavau

- *Singing saltwater country*, by John Bradley with Yanyuwa families, publisher Allen & Unwin, editor Jackie Yowell
- *One: living as one and loving it*, by Victoria Alexander, publisher Murdoch Books, editor Katrina O'Brien
- *Shoes for the Moscow Circus: scenes from a hidden world. From foundries and flagmakers to stonemasons and taxidermists*, by Leta Keens, publisher Pier 9 (Murdoch Books), editor Katrina O'Brien
- *Still life: inside the Antarctic huts of Scott and Shackleton*, by Jane Ussher (photography), Nigel Watson (essays), publisher Murdoch Books, editor Katrina O'Brien.

Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship

IPEd is now also a sponsor, with the Australian Publishers Association (APA) and Australian publishers, of the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship, which is assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council (Literature Board).

The 12-week fellowship, awarded biennially, allows the successful candidate to undertake a research project attached to the editorial department of one or more US publishing houses or literary agencies for up to 10 weeks. The fellow can gain knowledge and expertise in the largest book-publishing market in the English-speaking world. A further two weeks is allocated for professional development events and information-sharing opportunities on the fellow's return.

A call for applications for the 12th fellowship was made on 13 December 2010, with a closing date of Friday 25 March 2011. Interested editors should contact Dee Read, APA Industry Professional Development and Training Manager: phone 02 9281 9788, 0424 603 251; email dee.read@publishers.asn.au.

An exam year

IPEd will hold its third accreditation exam this year, on Saturday 21 May. Registrations will open in early February. Interested candidates can find information about the exam in the Accreditation exam article in this issue of *The Canberra editor* or visit the IPEd website.

A national conference year

All editors are invited to Sydney this year to participate in the fifth IPEd National Conference for Editors, organised on behalf of the national body by the Society of Editors (NSW). The conference will run from Wednesday 7 to Friday 9 September, with the first program item on Wednesday evening. Earlier on Wednesday, a program of pre-

IPEd notes (continued)

conference, professional workshops will be offered. A Style Council meeting will be held on Saturday 10 September.

A call for papers has been made and registrations will open in February. Keep an eye on the IPEd website for details.

Making training transportable

The IPEd Council, in association with the member societies, will be making a major effort this year to develop and implement a program where successful professional development events can be moved between venues on demand. The council has already catalogued courses and workshops run by the societies over the past two to three years, revealing rich resources that could, and should, be shared with editors across the country.

IPEd councillors, in conjunction with the state society committees, are currently seeking to identify the training topic or topics most in demand by members. If, for example, members of the Tasmanian society were most interested in training in 'proofing' PDF files and the best training in such had been offered in Queensland, IPEd would seek to facilitate the transport of that training between the states. So, if you have a need for training in a particular area, or indeed in several areas, let your committee or councillor know.

Just so you know who is your society's IPEd Councillor, they are: Ted Briggs (Canberra), Pam Peters (NSW), Robin Bennett (Qld), Rosemary Luke (SA), Elizabeth Spiegel (Tas.), Rosemary Noble (Vic.), Anne Surma (WA).

Ed Highley, Secretary



Thinking about words: 400 years of the King James Bible

In the beginning was the word...John 1,1

There has been a lot of publicity recently about this very significant anniversary. Michael Quinion, in his emagazine *World Wide Words* for 20 November, first drew my attention to it with the review of a new book by our language guru David Crystal (who is already author, co-author, or editor of over 100 other books!). His latest book, simply called *Begat*, looks at the language of this 'authorised version' of the bible as a source of our common quotations.

Quinion notes that although Crystal discusses 257 of these quotations, in most cases they are not, strictly speaking, *quotations* but idioms based on allusions. Quinion instances phrases such as 'the salt of the earth', 'a man after our own heart', 'let there be light', 'two-edged sword', 'how are the mighty fallen', 'rod of iron', 'wheels within wheels', 'get thee behind me, Satan', 'new wine in old bottles', 'a voice crying in the wilderness', 'a fly in the ointment'. Such phrases have long become part of the language, obscuring their biblical origins. But that number of familiar phrases – 257 – is greater than any other source including Shakespeare. Only 18 of these retain the exact form found in the King James Bible (the KJV)—for the rest, you must go back to an earlier translation of biblical texts or to an earlier English idiom that the compilers of the KJV incorporated into their translations.

This raises the question of how the KJV came into being. When James I arrived from Scotland in 1603 to succeed Elizabeth, he found the established church in disarray—the Conformists were happy with the existing state of things, but the Puritans wanted change. They appealed to the new king to sort matters out and James convened a conference in January 1604 to determine things amiss in the Church. The conference ended without actually determining very much, but with the suggestion that a new English version of the bible might replace the version then in use (the 'Bishops Bible'), which was known to have many errors.

Work was delegated to 47 scholars grouped into six 'companies' (two at Oxford, two at Cambridge and two at Westminster). The King set the terms of reference, with instructions that wherever possible they should retain the existing wording, without changing the names of personages and places, to preserve language that would be familiar to congregations. Work eventually began in 1607, each group working on a different section of the Bible. At the end the sections were brought together, edited into a whole and sent to the printer in 1610; it was published the following year—still with some errors. Although generally known as 'The Authorised Version', the term used by the printer was 'Appointed to be read in churches'—neither phrase has any known legality. Nonetheless the KJV set

Thinking about words (continued)

standards of English that transformed our language forever. The image below is the title page of the first edition.

But if we go back further, where did it all really start? The earliest written bible records, in proto-Hebrew, are from around 500 BCE, reporting oral tradition and folk memories that go back a further thousand years or more. Scholars have identified at least three intertwined strands: a 'J' series using the name Jahweh (YHWH) for God and focusing on events in the southern kingdom of Judah; an 'E' series using Elohim and emphasising the northern kingdom of Israel; and a 'P' series emphasising the role of the priests.

These different strands have resulted in more than 30 stories being told at least twice. For example, in Genesis 1 God (Elohim) manages the Creation day by day, culminating in man and woman on the sixth day, but in Gen. 2 Jahveh first makes the Garden of Eden after he creates the earth, then man and the other animals, and only later does Adam lose a rib which becomes Eve. In Gen. 7, 2 Noah takes seven pairs of clean animals into the ark (this is from the P version, to allow for priestly sacrifices) and one pair of each of the rest, but in Gen. 7, 15 only one pair of 'all flesh'.

The J, E and P strands were brought together, and in due course other manuscripts were added to these, making up the 39 books of the Hebrew bible. Between 300 and 123 BCE they were translated into Greek, the *lingua franca* of the time. Legend has it that the Egyptian Pharaoh Ptolemy II set 72 Hebrew scholars to work on this translation, for the great library of Alexandria. Their translation became known as the Septuagint, from the Latin *septuaginta*, 'seventy'. Times changed, the *lingua franca* became Latin, and in 382 CE Pope Damasus I commissioned St Jerome to develop a Latin version of the Pentateuch. Jerome went on to translate or revise the entire Hebrew bible, producing a version from mainly Hebrew sources that later became known as the Vulgate (*versio vulgata*, the 'commonly used version'). It became the definitive and officially promulgated Latin version of the Bible in the Roman Catholic Church and the foundation of all subsequent translations.

The 27 books that now comprise the New Testament were mainly written (in Greek) between the late 40s and 150 CE, Paul's epistles being the earliest. Mark, Luke and Matthew are known as the 'synoptic' gospels (i.e. with a common

vision), thought to have been derived from a common earlier manuscript now lost. John is the last to appear, independently of the first three, sometimes apparently contradicting them (thus, John refers to Jesus' ministry lasting three years, compared with one year in the synoptic gospels; the reference in John 1, 45 to Joseph as Jesus' father is seen by some as a denial of the virgin birth).

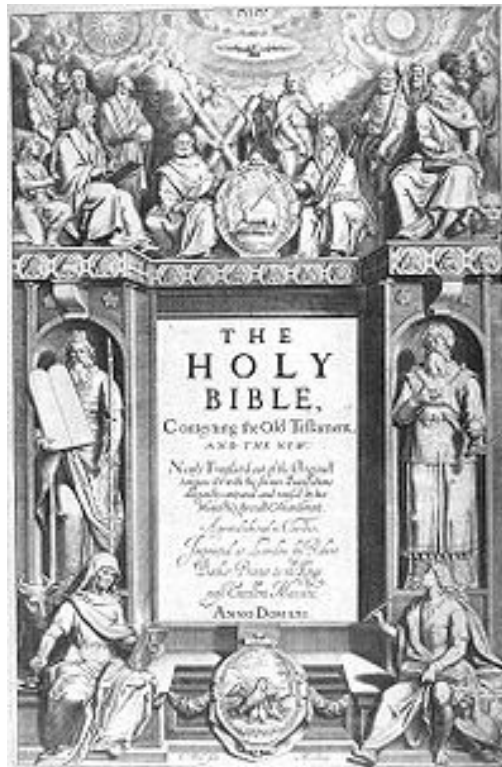
The first complete translation of the bible from the Vulgate into English was due to John Wycliffe and two associates around 1380. For this defiance of Catholic insistence on the Latin version and his 'heretical' ideas on church reform he was expelled from Oxford University and, after his death, his bones were dug up, burned and scattered in the river. William Tyndale printed a New Testament in English in 1526, translating this and about half the Old Testament directly from the Hebrew and Greek. Too soon! He was hounded by the Catholic Church, and when they caught up with him ten years later he was strangled at the stake and his body burnt.

Tyndale's work was carried on by Miles Coverdale, who published the first complete English translation of the bible (all 80 books—OT, NT and Apocrypha) in 1535. Henry VIII, no papist, had this edition chained to the pulpit of every church in the land, to make it available for public use. Next came the 'Geneva Bible' in 1560, which added numbered verses for the first time. It also had many other study aids, but included controversial marginal notes with a Calvinist bias, making it anathema to the established Church of England. The latter

countered with the 'Bishops Bible', omitting the offending notes. The public preferred the Geneva Bible for home use, and it went through 150 reprints—three times as many as the officially sanctioned Bishops' Bible. Moreover, the latter was known to have many errors, and so in 1604 James convened ...

Peter Judge

Sources: *Eternal: A History of the Middle Eastern Monotheistic Religions* 3rd Edition, Chris Strakosch at <<http://eternalbooklet.com/doc/Mono5Sept10.pdf>>. Bible translations are discussed in <www.greatsite.com/timeline-english-bible-history/index.html>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_translations_of_the_Bible> and other websites.



November dinner news

“The Editor’s Rag”

Words by Lindy Allen

Sung, more or less, to the tune of
“The Vatican Rag” by Tom Lehrer

First you switch on your machine
Then you focus on the screen
Shake your head at what you’re seein’
Hyper ventilate, ventilate, ventilate

Now you rearrange the words
To fix the sentence that’s absurd
Next you fiddle with the verbs
And – conjugate, conjugate, conjugate

What a fine vocabu-lary
How big is your diction-ary
Our pedantry is legen-dary
Doing the editor’s, doing the editor’s, doing the editor’s
rag—Oi!

Can you guess the real intent
Just what it was the author meant
With prose that’s dense like wet cement
So – punctuate, punctuate, punctuate

Change the place of prepositions
Check the work for plagiarisms
Try not to have those paroxysms
Press delete, press delete, press delete

Ems and ens confuse the nation
Not to mention hyphenation
Good thing that we’re here to save ‘em

Doing the editor’s, doing the editor’s, doing the editor’s
rag—Oi!

On foreign words put circumflexes
Don’t stop ‘til you’ve reached perfection
Now undo auto-corrections
By Microsoft, Microsoft, Microsoft!

Unsplit those infinitives
Then make plain the English please
Now modify the adjectives
And hyphenate, hyphenate, hyphenate

Is that noun a participle?
This grammar thing, it aint so simple
Now I really need a tippie
Doing the editor’s, doing the editor’s, doing the editor’s
rag—Oi!



Choir leaders—Helen Topor, Roger Nicoll, Ted Briggs and Lindy Allen



Guest speaker Ian Meikle



Liz Philips and
Natalie Maddelana

Damaris Wilson and
Kerie Newell



Hilary Cadman and
Margaret Millard



First call for papers—

National Editors Conference 2011

Sydney 8–9 September 2011

'**New Horizons for Editing and Publishing**' is the theme for this year's national editing conference. It is a broad, flexible theme that encompasses trends, innovations and new markets across all genre of editing, and includes both traditional and electronic publishing. Three streams will cover different areas of publishing: trade (fiction and nonfiction); academic, education and technical; government and corporate.

Papers are for 25–30 minute sessions.

Closing date for submitting abstracts is 10 February 2011.

Download the submission form for abstracts (300 words) from our conference website

<www.editorsnsw.com/conference2011.htm>.

The conference committee will notify applicants as to whether their proposal has been accepted on 24 February 2011. Full accepted papers are due 7 August 2011. Papers will be considered for inclusion in the conference proceedings, which will be published electronically.

The conference will celebrate the art of editing and the profession of editor. We especially encourage senior in-house editors to submit papers for the conference.

For further information about the conference please go to the NSW Society of Editors website at www.editorsnsw.com/conference2011.htm.

Accreditation exam in May

The third IPEd accreditation exam will be held on Saturday 21 May 2011. Like the 2008 and 2009 exams, this will be a pen (or pencil) and paper exam.

Registrations for the exam open on Tuesday 1 February and close on 21 April.

The exam costs \$530 (with no GST applicable) for financial members of societies of editors and \$680 for non-members or those who are not financial at the close of registrations. Early-bird discounts are available until 1 March.

All registrations must be made on the application form and accompanied by the relevant fee. Exam fees are tax deductible.

The fee has been calculated as the minimum required to cover exam costs in 2011. It is based on a target number of applicants, and in the unlikely event that this target is not reached, the Accreditation Board will postpone the exam until 2012. There is no limit placed on the number of candidates who may sit the exam: all candidates who register and pay the fee will be accommodated.

A second sample exam will be placed on the IPEd website by 28 February. The sample exams are very good indicators of what you can expect in May, and trialling them will help you decide whether you are ready for the real thing. It is not recommended that you attempt the exam unless you have at least three years' full-time editing experience. All societies of editors will be organising pre-exam activities to help prepare candidates.

To obtain further information, contact your Accreditation Board delegate or consult the guidelines for candidates and FAQs on the IPEd website.

The Australian Book Review Sidney Myer Fund Editorial Internship

Australian Book Review—at the outset of its 50th year—seeks applications for an Editorial Intern to help edit and produce the magazine.

This is a unique opportunity for recent graduates seeking an entrée into publishing. The internship—worth \$20,000 and supported by the Sidney Myer Fund—is currently the only intensive, paid editorial training program of its kind in Australian publishing. It reflects ABR's long-standing commitment to fostering new editorial talent and extends the magazine's established volunteer intern program widely regarded as a 'finishing school' for editing and publishing graduates.

Applications (maximum five pages, including CV) are due by Friday 18 February 2011. Complete details are available at <<http://www.australianbookreview.com.au/internships/sidney-myer-fund-internship>>.

For further information, contact Peter Rose, editor, Australian Book Review at <editor@australianbookreview.com.au> or phone (03) 9429 6700.

Don't forget: we have moved

Our monthly meetings will be held at the Emeritus Faculty of the Australian National University, in the Fellows Lane Building.

The Fellows Lane Cottage is a small cottage overlooking a rather pretty stretch of Sullivans Creek.

You can get there by turning into Fellows Road from Sullivans Creek Road (which runs along Sullivans Creek) or Garran Road (in front of University House)

This map (see right) should help you find it.



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The Canberra editor

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Newsletter schedule

The next newsletter will appear in March 2011 and for that issue the copy deadline is 26 February.

The editor welcomes contributions by email to: <kerie1@optusnet.com.au>.

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