
THE CANBERRA editor

Newsletter of the Canberra Society of Editors

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FROM THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE

Welcome back! We hope that you're launching into 2019 with energy and enthusiasm.

Your Committee broke with convention and held a meeting in January. This was so we could welcome and 'induct' our newly elected Committee members and deal with some matters that needed decision before our usual mid-February Committee date.

We welcomed three new members: Gina Dow (Public Officer) and Kate Horgan and Marilyn Harrington (General Committee). Sadly, our new Professional Development Coordinator, Silvana Moro, has had to withdraw for personal reasons, leaving Cathy Nicoll to carry on for the time being.

High on the priority list were decisions on:

- a tentative forward program of speakers and activities for 2019 monthly general meetings
- ideas for future professional development workshops
- acceptance of new CSE members.

New Committee members were also introduced to the IPEd/CSE relationship and were informed about Committee's decision to once again invite member feedback (in June 2019) on the prospect of winding up CSE and becoming a branch of the re-birthed unitary IPEd—an idea rejected by CSE members twice in the past (in 2015 and 2016).

Of the prevailing office-bearer vacancies, Committee appointed Gil Garçon as Vice-President, and agreed to advertise, via broadcast email and the newsletter, for a General Meetings Coordinator and Professional Development Coordinator.

Richa Carneiro Alphonso, our new newsletter editor, set out her plans for the future 2019 editions. In this endeavour, Richa will be assisted by a small editorial team comprising Alan Cummine and one of the several new CSE members who have nominated 'newsletter' as something they would like to help with.

Committee held its usual mid-month meetings in February and March. These

meetings have now been moved from the evening of the second Wednesday to the second Tuesday, to accommodate the weekly schedules of the new Committee members. Several outcomes from the February and March meetings are noteworthy.

- Geoff Dawson has agreed to stay on as the ACT Mentoring Coordinator until after the IPEd Conference.
- There has been no further communication with IPEd since December about the prospect of CSE's winding up and becoming an IPEd branch, although IPEd had previously indicated its intention to establish an ACT branch regardless of CSE's position. Committee regards this intention as premature in the light of our stated commitment to revisiting the question, but is unfazed by the prospect.
- CSE's financial position remains very sound, with substantial reserves, no significant liabilities, and a steady stream of new and renewing members. Committee will be considering ways to utilise some of these reserves to enhance the benefits to Society members.
- Plans were firmed up for the February panel session, which will have been held by the time this edition is published. A program of general meeting activities for the rest of the year will be published soon, taking account of ideas from members at the February panel discussion.
- Plans for the 7th edition of the Commonwealth Style Manual are

progressing, albeit slowly. CSE is collaborating with IPEd in its 'Style Manual Working Group', which is regularly communicating with the government's Digital Transformation Agency about the engagement of a writing and editing team for this new edition—the first since 2002. New Committee member, Marilyn Harrington, who co-wrote the Parliamentary Library Style Guide, will be added to the CSE subcommittee of Cathy Nicoll, Eris Harrison, Elizabeth Manning Murphy and Gil Garçon.

- Belconnen Arts Centre has been selected as the new venue for CSE professional development workshops.

Conference Subsidy

CSE will be repeating the 2017 subsidy initiative to help deserving CSE members attend the 2019 IPEd Biennial National Conference. A fund of \$3000 will be allocated for sharing among recipients, who must apply before 1 May. Details will be announced shortly.

Your Committee has 'hit the ground running' in 2019. As always, we welcome members' suggestions and participation in any Society activities, and we look forward to ensuring that the Society can continue to provide the services, companionship and professional support that you expect from your membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Linda Weber AE ELS Membership Secretary

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Almost all membership renewal notices are up to date. If you think you should have received a notice and haven't, feel free to send an email via the Society website www.editorscanberra.org.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to all our new members!

- Full:** Jessica Drummond, Benjamin Kooyman, Verity Jausnik, Melody Watson and Christina Zissis
- Associate:** Abby Rossiter
- Student:** Lachlan McGowan

FAREWELL

Charles Campbell MacKnight has retired from editing, and has resigned his membership of the Society. We wish him well in his retirement.

MEMBERS' AREA ON THE WEBSITE

Watch this space!

IPEd NATIONAL MENTORING PROGRAM

Ted Briggs AE tedbriggs@grapevine.com.au

Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE emmurphy.words@gmail.com

Joint National Coordinators

MENTORING AT THE CONFERENCE

The IPEd Melbourne Conference is in May, and the IPEd Mentoring Program will be there with a poster presentation that will run for the whole conference. Poster sessions are a new feature of the conference, and there will be guided tours when poster presenters can talk briefly about their topic. We are preparing material for the quick presentation as well as material for more leisurely discussion with delegates during all breaks.

Our poster will set out the main points we want to emphasise about the program. There will also be a video that will have more information about those main points plus a fun component (no, we're not telling—you'll have to go to Melbourne to find out). There will also be, in all the conference breaks, at least one national coordinator and one state coordinator ready to answer questions from delegates. We also hope to have a couple of former mentors and mentees ready to chat about the program and what they got out of it.

There will be a 'Please send me ...' sheet for delegates to ask for a variety of resources to be sent to them or explained—we'll send copies of our *Guidance Notes*, application forms for prospective mentors and mentees, and, best of all, we'll tell delegates about our Skype workshops where we really get down to tin tacks about mentoring.

But you don't have to wait until the conference to get involved in the program. Have you ever thought about improving your copyediting skills, or maybe setting up a freelance editing business from scratch, or perhaps branching out into a new skills area, e.g. editing fiction instead of non-fiction? We can find a mentor to guide you through many aspects of editing. Or perhaps you've been thinking about taking the IPEd Accreditation exam. There are mentors who specialise in guiding

candidates through the study they need to do for this exam—it takes some of the stress off the whole situation, particularly if it's been years since you sat through an exam. No topic is out of bounds in our Mentoring Program, so long as it is related to editing.

WHY BE A MENTOR?

Why not? Mentoring is very rewarding. Mentors get at least as much out of a mentorship as mentees do. Here are a couple of comments from two mentors we introduced in the December 2018 issue of *The Canberra editor*.

First, here is what Queensland state coordinator and experienced mentor Gail Tagarro has to say:

With my first mentee, it was heartening to see the editor making a commitment to her professional development goals. I too gained a lot from the partnership and found it especially helpful for future mentorships.

And here are some words of wisdom from Michèle Drouart, equally experienced mentor, who is the Western Australia state coordinator for the Mentoring Program:

It's wonderful to see how someone else grows and blossoms with the support of mentoring. But for me, the joys of mentoring are also in that opening up of the world of our profession, seeing how others function in it, or in their special corner of it.

So, have you registered for the conference yet? Do come and visit the Mentoring poster presentation, and have a fabulous time in Melbourne.

But don't wait for the conference: if you would like to share your skills or knowledge with someone who wants guidance, write to one of the national coordinators now. Ask for a Mentor Application Form and ask to join a Skype mentoring workshop—it's free!

MENTORING IN THE ACT

Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE emmurphy.words@gmail.com

Mentoring is alive and well in the ACT and nearby. Geoff Dawson, our current ACT coordinator, has agreed to stay in the role till the IPEd Conference, but afterwards we will be looking to replace him. It would be good to hear from you if you'd like to be the new ACT coordinator and help look after the program for CSE members and any other editors in the ACT. Just email me for details.

At present there are three ongoing mentorships in Canberra, with another couple in the pipeline.

Did you know that Ted Briggs AE and I (Joint National Coordinators) run free mentoring workshops by Skype for anyone interested in the program? We particularly like new mentors to attend, but anyone is welcome. They run for about 90 minutes, with a few minutes' pre-reading to set the scene. You'll find out what's different about mentoring from other forms of professional development, and discuss a few case studies. Again, just email me if you'd like to know more.

MEET YOUR 2018–2019 COMMITTEE



KATE POTTER,
PRESIDENT

Kate works in corporate communications in a government role. She is a keen reader of fiction and specialises in editing fantasy fiction.



ALAN CUMMINE,
SECRETARY

After patchy dilettante membership between 1994 and 2006, Alan rejoined CSE with serious intent in March 2012. Long experience in governance and senior management made him a target for the Committee, and within months he found himself on the IPEd Council and as CSE vice-president. He was president from 2013 to 2015, and has remained on the Committee since then. Alan gained his writing and editing experience through four decades of policy work in government, private and not-for-profit bodies. Now, through GoodWords Consulting, Alan offers the usual range of editing services, preferring government and corporate technical and policy reports, and learned journal articles.



GIL GARÇON,
VICE-PRESIDENT

Gil was editing a national administration periodical for Commonwealth public servants when he was invited to join the proposed CSE, and went to its first meeting in May 1991. Keen to attend, he sure joined. He's been a member ever since, with many years on the committee and as newsletter editor. Gil became president late in 2011 but severe damage from a head operation in January 2012 brought his presidency to a sudden end. Gil, a 1975 post-graduate in agricultural communication, is still editing, still not embarrassed about embarrassing.



GEOFF DAWSON AE,
TREASURER

Geoff had an 18-year career as a researcher, writer and editor of reports for parliamentary committees. In 2014, he retrained to focus on editing and now splits his time between freelancing and editing the Hansard proceedings of the parliament. His special interests are plain English writing and teaching grammar.



DR LINDA WEBER AE, ALS,
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Linda is an anaesthesiologist and scientific editor. She is Executive Editor of the *Australian Journal of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care*, and edits and proofreads postgraduate examinations for the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists.



CATHY NICOLL AE,
WEBSITE MANAGER AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR

Cathy is a freelance editor and writer. She has been with CSE since 1998. Since then, she has filled various roles, including Training Coordinator, Catering Officer, President, and Webminder. Currently, she is the Website Manager as well as the Professional Development Coordinator.



GINA DOW,
PUBLIC OFFICER

Gina has been a communications professional in the Australian Public Service for 20 years, largely as an editor in the arts, culture and heritage sector. She is a former editor of the Australian Government's *Arts and Culture* and *Living Heritage* magazines. She currently works as a historical researcher at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. She has an MA in Strategic Communications from UC and recently completed the Graduate Certificate in Professional Editing at Queens University, Canada. Gina is also a published poet.



NGAIRE KINNEAR,
ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS

Ngaire is a born-and-bred Canberran who has somehow managed never to work in the public service. She has a diverse work history in small business, in a major corporation, and most lately in the community mental health sector. She has always had a flair for the written word, and finally (at 47) realised that she wants to be an editor when she grows up. Ngaire joined the committee in October last year and has been enjoying getting to know CSE members and the committee. She's looking forward to her CSE involvement in 2019.



**RICHA CARNEIRO
ALPHONSO AE,**
NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Richa has over twelve years of writing, editing and publishing experience. After serving as senior editor/principal correspondent with some of the biggest media houses overseas, she moved to Australia in 2016. Now based in Canberra, she works as a full-time publishing editor. Richa has been a member of CSE since 2017. She is also a graphic designer and calligrapher specialising in bird flourishing.



ERIS JANE HARRISON AE,
GENERAL COMMITTEE

Eris is a freelance editor and writer. She has spent time in the public service and in the community sector, but she now loves the freedom of working from home or wherever she is in the world. Eris was most recently vice-president but is now serving as a committee member.



ELIZABETH MANNING MURPHY DE,
GENERAL COMMITTEE

Elizabeth is the author of many books for writers and editors, including *Effective Writing* and *Working Words*. She provides tips about grammar, writing and an exam study plan on her website: www.emwords.info. Elizabeth presents 'Grammar in a nutshell' workshops in person and online, nationally and overseas; and edits research theses and academic journal articles, specialising in helping non-native English writers. She is an Honorary Life Member of the Society and further contributes to the profession in the role of Joint National Coordinator of the IPEd National Mentoring Program.



KATE HORGAN,
GENERAL COMMITTEE

Kate has worked as a Hansard editor at the Parliament of Australia and held various roles in the Australian Public Service. She is currently working as part of a project reviewing and updating the library of publications of the Royal Australian Navy. Kate completed a PhD in English at the Australian National University, which explored the circulation of political songs and ballads in eighteenth-century Britain. Her current research focuses on songs in nineteenth-century Australia.



MARILYN HANNIGAN, GENERAL COMMITTEE

Marilyn worked at the Parliamentary Library as a researcher specialising in school and early childhood education. She also worked as an editor in the Library and, following completion of a postgraduate qualification, co-wrote the Parliamentary Library's style guide. She retired briefly but has been re-employed by the Library on a casual basis to carry out some of her former duties, including editing. She enjoys going to the gym and walking, especially with her dog.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

Eris Harrison AE, General Committee

FIRST MEETING OF 2019!

The new committee had met and done some planning for the year, but the year didn't feel like it had really begun until we got a chance to greet our members. The first general meeting of 2019 was well attended, with several new members and visitors joining us. Mary, Eris and Dallas catered for the hordes. A panel of five experienced members spoke about topics important to the profession and took questions.

Cathy Nicoll kicked off with a discussion on Professional Development (PD) and her plans for the website, which will have a members' section in the near future. PD is already underway for the year, but members were invited to review their own needs and suggest topics and speakers. Cathy also facilitated the panel and discussion process.

James Dixon spoke about the business of freelancing, covering topics like finding clients, quoting, methodologies of working, style guides and vital resources. James stressed the need for an ABN and for being listed on the CSE and IPEd websites. There was discussion about ways to keep track of your working hours; Cathy suggested an app called Toggle, which allows you to sign on and off easily.

Gil Garçon addressed the basics of editing, including formatting. He stressed the importance of keeping the writer's voice in mind and listening with the reader's ear, as editors are the link between the two. There was lively discussion about languages, communication and whether being bilingual is an asset.

Ted Briggs explained the Mentoring Program, which was started by CSE and is now a national program run by IPEd. He talked about the program being an innovative model designed for short-term support in areas specified by the mentee. Ted informed the members that it does incur a one-off fee. He also spoke about accreditation, its importance to the profession of editing and the reason for the examination focus.

Alan Cummine outlined the newsletter process and urged members to submit articles, reports or chatty pieces that might be of interest to readers. He invited members to get in touch with the editor, Richa Carneiro Alphonso. Alan also explained CSE's email communication process and Ngaire Kinnear's current role of sending out occasional bulletins on behalf of the committee.

MACQUARIE DICTIONARY WORD OF THE YEAR 2018

Every year, Macquarie Dictionary reviews new words from the previous 12 months and decides on a single word that represents the year gone by.

COMMITTEE'S CHOICE

The Macquarie Dictionary Committee's Choice Word of the Year 2018 is *Me Too*. While the *Me Too movement* took off in 2017 with #MeToo, it has definitely maintained its momentum, and in 2018 it started to spread its linguistic wings beyond the hashtag and the name of the movement, answering an obvious need in the discourse surrounding this social upheaval. So, the fact that *Me Too* is now being used as a verb and as an adjective, combined with the undeniable significance of the movement, made the Committee's choice for Word of the Year 2018 a fairly straightforward decision.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Single-use is the word that people thought best represented 2018. *Single-use* stands out as a much needed coinage, which refers to the environmental impacts of an increasingly consumer-driven society.

THE SHORTLIST

The committee narrowed down the 75-word longlist to fifteen words.

ab crack *noun*

Colloquial a well-defined concave line on the body which runs vertically through the centre of the abdomen. [AB(DOMEN) + CRACK1 (def. 36), modelled on BUTT CRACK]

algorithmic bias *noun*

prejudice built into a computer algorithm which reflects the bias of the humans who carried out the programming and data selection which were used to create the algorithm.

BDE *noun*

Colloquial a sense of self-confidence, unaccompanied by arrogance or conceit. Also, big dick energy. [from the supposed self-assuredness possessed by a man with a large penis]

CRISPR *noun*

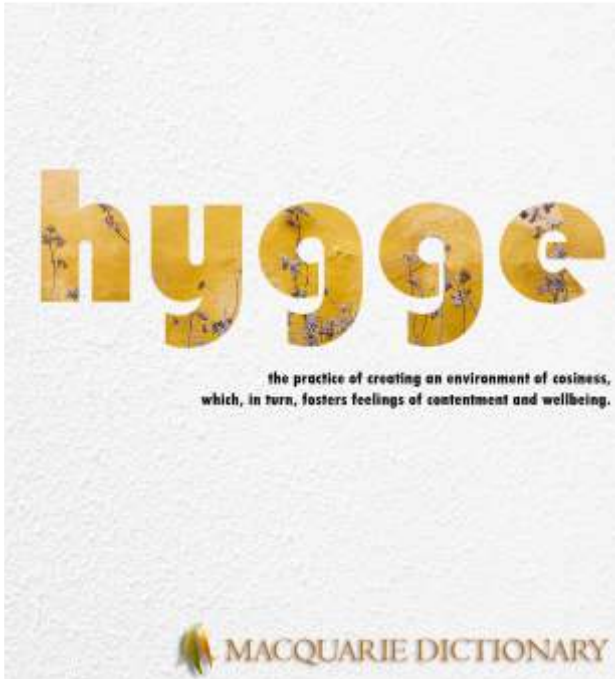
1. a section of genetic material containing repeated base sequences, found in genomes of bacteria and other microorganisms; an important component of the immune system.

2. Also, **CRISPR/Cas9**. a technology which enables editing of a genome by adding, removing, or altering a section of DNA sequence; potentially able to correct genetic defects, treat diseases, etc. – *adjective*

3. of or relating to such technology. [c(lusters of) r(egularly) i(nterspaced) s(hort) p(alindromic) r(epeats)]

dark kitchen *noun*

a commercial kitchen in which the food made is to fill orders placed through a food delivery app or website, the kitchen not being attached to a restaurant.



deepfake *noun*

a video of a computer-generated likeness of an individual, created using deep learning without the individual's knowledge, often for the purpose of misinformation, vindictiveness, or satire. Also, **deep fake**. [DEEP (LEARNING) + FAKE]

earthing *noun*

the practice of physically connecting to the earth in the form of bare skin contact, as by walking barefoot on grass, sand or soil, the contact thought to reset or stabilise the natural electrical currents of the body, and thus improve health. Also, **grounding**.

HODL /'hɒdl/ (say 'hodl) *verb* (t)

Colloquial to keep (cryptocurrency) instead of trading or selling. Also, **hodl**. [humorous use of a misspelling of HOLD 1 which appeared in a 2013 online forum post] – **HODLer**, *noun*

incel /'ɪnsɛl/ (say 'insel) *noun*

a man who believes that he is entitled to have sex with women but is not attractive to them, often because of his sexist attitudes and crass behaviour, and who blames his situation on society at large, particularly feminism. [IN(VOLUNTARY) + CEL(IBATE)]

intimacy coordinator *noun*

a person appointed in a film, television or stage production to supervise and sometimes choreograph scenes containing nudity or sexual activity, the role intended to protect the actor or actors involved, especially from sexual harassment. Also, **intimacy director**.

VAR *noun*

Soccer 1. a person who reviews video footage of an on-field incident that resulted in a referee decision, the review being passed back to the referee who holds ultimate responsibility for maintaining or reversing their initial decision.

2. the system and its technology used in such a review: *to replay footage from the VAR*.

vertical farming *noun*

the practice of farming food in vertically inclined layers or stacked structures, such as indoors or along the sides of buildings, designed to reduce the water and space demands of traditional agriculture. – **vertical farm**, *noun* – **vertical farmer**, *noun*

The more adventurous can [click here](#) to peruse all 75 words in the longlist.

In case you missed the 2017 word, here's a reminder. **Milkshake duck**: a term that describes the simultaneous desire to bring someone down and the hope that they won't be brought down. There is a hint of tall poppy syndrome in there, which was a uniquely Australian trait, but has been amplified through the internet and become universalised.



– *Original list.*

*Reproduced with permission of Macquarie Dictionary
macquariedictionary.com.au*



Source: Ether of Internet

COMICAL COLLECTIONS

Proofreading is a dying art, wouldn't you say?

Alan Cummine, Secretary

These headlines made it to print!

Man kills self before shooting wife and daughter
What he does in the shadows ...

Something went wrong in jet crash, expert says
Really? Ya think?

Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers
Now that's taking things a bit far.

Panda mating fails; veterinarian takes over
What a guy!

Miners refuse to work after death
Good-for-nothing, lazy so-and-sos ...

Juvenile Court to try shooting defendant
See if that works any better than a trial by adults!

War dims hope for peace
Who would've thunk it!

If strike isn't settled quickly, it may last a while
No! Really?

Cold wave linked to temperatures
What a cool observation.

Enfield (London) couple slain; Police suspect homicide
They may be onto something!

Red tape holds up new bridges
Who would've known bureaucracy was that adhesive?

Man struck by lightning faces battery charge
He probably IS the battery charge!

Astronaut takes blame for gas in spacecraft
Must be all the beans he ate.

Kids make nutritious snacks
Do they taste like chicken?

Local high school dropouts cut in half
Chainsaw massacre alert!

Tornado rips through cemetery; hundreds dead
You read that right.



YOUR COMMITTEE 2019

President	Kate Potter
Vice-President	Gil Garçon
Secretary	Alan Cummine
Treasurer	Geoff Dawson
Membership Secretary	Linda Weber
Public Officer	Gina Dow
Professional Development Coordinator	Cathy Nicholl
General Meetings Coordinator	TBA
Newsletter Editor	Richa Carneiro Alphonso
Website Manager	Cathy Nicoll
Online Communications	Ngairé Kinnear
ACT Mentoring Coordinator	Geoff Dawson
Immediate Past President	Johann Idriss
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Elizabeth Manning Murphy
	Eris Harrison
	Kate Horgan
	Marilyn Hannigan
NON-COMMITTEE POSITIONS	
Newsletter Assistant	TBA
Catering Coordinator	Mary Webb

Submit your enquiries by using the online form on the 'Contact us' page of the CSE website.

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THE CANBERRA SOCIETY OF EDITORS' NEWSLETTER

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SCHEDULE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

The next edition of *The Canberra editor* will appear in June 2019. The copy deadline for that issue is 15 May. Send your contributions by email to newsletter@editorscanberra.org. All articles must be in <.doc> format.

ADVERTISING RATES

The Canberra editor is available from www.editorscanberra.org. Regular features include reports on the general meetings, professional development, mentoring news, interesting and relevant articles, and much more.

Costs (subject to review) and specifications

\$40	1 col.	w 54 x h 273 mm
\$60	1/2 page	w 180 x h 140 mm
\$120	1 page	w 178 x h 273 mm

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