

Offpress

February 2007

Newsletter of the Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc. www.editorsqld.com

Nick Earls — willkommen!

Wendy Abernethy reports on our February speaker from our new venue

An amusing anecdote about the Premier, an unfortunately shaped, blue glass award and giant smurfs began our entertaining evening with Nick Earls on Wednesday, 7 February at the German Club.

Nick talked about his experiences working with editors and publishers from other countries and having his works translated and Americanised.

His first book to be translated was *Zigzag Street*, and the ensuing emails from European readers bemused Nick. A Scandinavian law student found Brisbane 'exotic' with its houses up on stilts. German backpackers travelled to Australia to experience the Nick Earls Brisbane (particularly the regular order placed at Baan Thai in Milton by the novel's central character).

The novel was first translated into German, and Nick felt honoured at having his very own German word coined just for this translation: *Brustansatzgeschichte*. At a public reading of the German translation, Nick read a part he'd read many times before. In English it usually took seven minutes; in German it took eleven minutes despite much practice. The laughs were in the same places — a good sign — but there were more of them. Was it the translation, or the accent? Nick is still not sure.

His second novel to be translated to German was *Bachelor Kisses*. He knew he'd already captured the German publishers because of the delightful little spot-laminate kisses all over the cover of the book.

They don't go to that expense if they're not sure the book will sell.

It was a different situation, however, with the UK cover of *Bachelor Kisses*. A series of unfortunate events (thank you Lemony Snickett) meant that the book cover was published without Nick's approval. Off-the-record comments about the 'three towel test' were well publicised and saw the *Sydney Morning Herald* publish the book cover before the book was published. Nick's emails from overseas were all about the awful cover. In the UK, the *Mirror* called the cover 'criminally bad packaging'. The embarrassment of reading a book with such a cover led more than one correspondent to tell how they tore the cover off so they could read the book on the Tube without shame.

Nick has his UK publicist to thank for that debacle. With tales of doorknobs and oversized sofas, (un)healthy tans and annoying peacocks, he was beginning to wonder if she was the publicist for him.

He met her new assistant, Bridget, when launching *Perfect Skin*, and began to think he'd found the right publicist. She was educated, interested, asked the right questions, and seemed genuinely excited about the new book. She looked familiar, but Nick quickly dismissed that as the talk about the book progressed. He was disappointed to discover that Bridget didn't stay long — she was off to play the starring role in *Bridget Jones's Diary*.

'Bridget' was Renee Zellweger studying up for the role!

It seems the 'Americanisation' of his novels provides the most angst for Nick. In 2000, eight New York publishing people read the novel *Perfect Skin*, loved it and wanted to publish it ... their way. A few things bothered them, thinking of their American readership:

- Do we antipodeans really need to celebrate Christmas in summer?
- What is a pikelet?
- Could Indooroopilly be relocated to West End?
- Does the University of Queensland really need to be in St Lucia?

continues left column page 3

inside out

IPEd Assessors Forum	2
Training tempter	3
Another crazy nursery rhyme	3
PEEPS!	4
Conference 2007	4
Identity crisis or reinvention?	5
Committee report to members	6
March meeting details	8
Treasurer's report	8
Membership information	8

IPEd Assessors Forum:

First meeting, 2–3 December 2006, Melbourne

Participants

Canberra: Elizabeth Murphy,
Loma Snooks

New South Wales: Heather
Jamieson

Queensland: Paul Bennett

South Australia: Karen
Disney, Celia Jellett

Tasmania: Janice Bird

Victoria: Elizabeth Flann,
Beryl Hill, Susan Keogh, Janet
Mackenzie, Renée Otmar

Western Australia: Janet
Blagg

Observer: Robin Bennett,
chair, IPed Accreditation
Board

Each session of the inaugural IPed Assessors Forum had a note-taker, and Paul Bennett sewed the notes together. In his general notes Paul stated that the meeting was remarkable because just about everybody was of the same mind. No points caused serious argument. When there were different views, both sides were gracious in giving ground. The feared government-committee-type atmosphere didn't happen. It was even easy to make up the wording for editing competence, the accreditation certificate, and the name of the group. This all made the meeting refreshing and easy to handle, and nothing had to be held over.

Renée Otmar noted that the assessors gathered in Melbourne to formalise the requirements for editors who wish to be accredited by IPed. Foremost in the minds of the assessors was the need to ensure that the requirements for accreditation would not be too onerous, time-consuming or costly: for applicants as well as for

the assessors administering the accreditation scheme on behalf of IPed. It soon became apparent to the assessors that the existing framework of requirements would be just that.

The Accreditation Board will be pleased to learn that the Assessors Forum was able to develop recommendations for a creative and fair solution, with several benefits for applicants and administrators of the accreditation scheme. Heather Jamieson, Karen Disney and Paul Bennett summarised the responses of the Assessors Forum to judging portfolios.

In short, the delegates felt that assessment by portfolio involves complex issues of transparency, consistency, procedure and costs, all of which need further consideration and resolution. The delegates suggested that accreditation by portfolio submission is a goal that needs to be moved towards more slowly, and proposed an initial basic accreditation step involving a nationwide test of copyediting and other essential skills. This would be followed later by accreditation of advanced editing skills by portfolio submission.

The proposal supported by most participants was to devise a test made up of a manuscript sample and short-answer questions. The test is not to replace the portfolio, but to prepare people for it later. We'll reconsider how the portfolio should be done when we have more experience of the basic accreditation we have proposed. The whole accreditation idea can only be improved by using a stepped system.

Life members *

Barbara Ker Wilson (2002)

Jan Whelan (2000)

Mary-Jane Bosch (2000)

John Collins (1993)

Laurie Muller (1993)

* year of award in brackets

Janet Mackenzie reported that a test had been ruled out by the Working Group because of problems expected with security, labour, remote sites and possible alienation of senior editors. The participants felt that this was not a good enough reason to stop discussing something most of us think we need.

The base-level accreditation test would test basic copyediting and other essential skills such as project definition and ability to identify defamation, permission and copyright issues. The test could be run simultaneously in various centres and online. Anxiety about the test could be allayed by putting a sample version, with answers, on the IPed website.

Karen Disney's points re 'jobs to do to prepare for a two-tiered accreditation process' included items such as:

- create dummy test and marking system (by the end of February)
- discuss and refine test and marking system, etc. (March–April)
- post test on website before national conference (to be advised; end of April)
- set and approve actual test and arrange with societies to hold test (May – end September)
- accredit first batch of editors by end of 2007.

The portfolio will be used for advanced level accreditation.

continues middle column page 7

continued from page 1

A most amusing issue, Nick pointed out, was their refusal to recognise that Australians use the metric system. Some way into the novel, the central character was three kilometres into his 5K run. Apparently Americans do run 5K, but they don't know how far 3K into it is! Nick met them half way with that one – the character was 'two miles into his 5K run'.

Nick reconciles these issues by saying that while human stories do travel, most stories happen in a place and to him it makes sense to ground the story in that place.

And just as we're used to importing a lot of stories from other countries, many other countries are pretty relaxed about importing things, working most of the specific references out one way or another, and living with those they can't.

(from Nick's website *Sunny Garden*: <http://www.nickearls.com/> viewed 11 February 2007)

Nick says there have been fewer changes with subsequent books, but is unsure why this is so. Is it dealing with different editors? Is it because American readers are becoming more familiar with Australian culture – a legacy of Steve Irwin? Either way, it is a comforting thing.

Perfect Skin also had a trouble-free translation into Italian. Its title, however, translated into a rather long phrase that took up half of the book cover and pretty much provided the blurb for the book all by itself. The story appealed to a prominent Italian actor who approached Nick to say he wanted to play the lead character whenever the book was made into film. The film is now due for production in the next few months (with that actor in the lead role) and Nick gets to go to a film premiere in Rome: an experience he never envisaged when he penned his first novel.

In the question and answer session that followed Nick's talk, he described the benefits of having his publications in the school market. Class sets of books in secondary schools are a definite long-term money earner, and having books set as texts for university English literature courses is an honour.

Author, 'touring anecdotalist', 'part-time do-gooder' and actor: it has been an amazing ride for Nick Earls, and we were lucky to share a little of the journey.

#####

Now for something a little different ... Brain Gym®

Brain Gym® is a program of physical activities that enhance learning ability. It is based on the science of kinesiology (body movement and its relationship to brain function) and develops the brain's neural pathways through movement.

The activities of Brain Gym® are easy and enjoyable and bring about rapid and often dramatic improvements in concentration, memory, reading, writing, organising, listening and physical coordination.

Information about this 'specifically designed for editors' introductory workshop will be available on the website as soon as details are confirmed.

Quotable quote

Consider what you think justice requires, and decide accordingly. But never give your reasons; for your judgement will probably be right, but your reasons will probably be wrong.

*Lord Mansfield (1705–93)
British judge and politician
(advice given to a new colonial governor)*

If scientists wrote nursery rhymes, how many could you solve?

Thanks to Helena Bond for supplying me with a lovely selection; I'll spread them out over a few issues.

*** Complications arose during an investigation of dietary influence: one researcher was unable to assimilate adipose tissue and another was unable to consume tissue consisting chiefly of muscle fiber. By reciprocal arrangement between the two researchers, total consumption of the viands under consideration was achieved, thus leaving the original container of the viands devoid of contents.**

*** Jack Sprat could eat no fat. His wife could eat no lean. And so betwixt the two of them they licked the platter clean.**

Totally weird and wonderful words

Check out this new book at <http://www.mantex.co.uk/reviews/mckean.htm>

Do you know what 'illecebrous', 'langsuir', and 'telematology' mean? No, I thought not. They are 'attractive', 'female vampire', and 'the study of peat bogs' respectively. Not many people know that. Or did you know that there's a term to describe 'having a palate like that of an emu'? (It's 'dromaeognathous', just in case someone asks.)

This is a collection of outrageously obscure words. Amaze your friends, or just laugh at the New Yorker-style cartoons.

Committee members 2007

Acting President, IPEd rep and SocEdsQ Committee Member

Robin Bennett
robinbennett4321@yahoo.com.au
T (work): 3259 4274

Vice President
vacant

Secretary
Siobhan Barter
M: 0423 154 111

Membership Secretary
vacant
membership@editorsqld.com

Treasurer
Rebecca Campny

Speaker Secretary
Les Savage
lmsavage@bigpond.net.au
M: 0409 552 920

Training Coordinator
Kerri Ullrich
kerriullrich@yahoo.com.au

Committee Member
Jennifer Beale

Web Site Officer
David Hill
davidmhill@ozemail.com.au

Newsletter Editor
Kim Manning
offpress@editorsqld.com

NB: This month it's mostly Goudy Old Style regular 11.5pt on 12pt leading.

Note: Copy deadline for the April 2007 issue of *Offpress* is Wednesday, 11 April 2007.

PEEPS!

Prelims

The Plain English Editors Promotion Society (PEEPS!, obviously) has just been established by a mixed bunch of interested individuals with the aim of pursuing the vigorous promotion of plain English (PE) usage in Australia.

The inaugural membership of PEEPS! are 'interested' for a variety of reasons — some of these aren't able to be expressed in plain English.

The players

John Sackville: academic, lecturer in editing and publishing studies at a 'boutique creative industries' institute.

Anita Rodham: former English teacher, now English advisor to the Curriculum Collective, the national body.

Shirley Weatherstone: well-respected senior editor, doyen of a leading fiction publisher.

Ellie Johns: also a former English teacher, now working in advertising.

Toby Firth: up-and-coming editor who got his start as a typesetter/printer.

Rodg das Gupta: manager of a website construction company that specialises in sites for communication businesses.

Sophie Smith: media communications honours student and Shirley's niece.

The story begins (Episode 1) ...

John sat down at the table and called the first official PEEPS! meeting to order by calling out 'Anyone seen my pocket guide to best-ever long-winded verbiage?', which stopped the chatter. Shirley and Ellie both tsk tsk-ed John for his cheek. The five who had been standing soon weren't.

'Right then people, let's get to it', said John. He passed around an agenda for the meeting. This was the group's first 'official' meeting because the preceding meetings (two of them) had been so informal that they bore only the slightest resemblance to meetings — but they had been enough to get PEEPS! happening.

'What's the plan?', Toby asked.

There was some discussion for awhile around the heart of the matter (that is, how best to promote increased PE usage in this country) when, after a brief lull in the conversation, Sophie quietly stated, 'I think we need to do something shocking'. Silence reined around the table.

Next time: 'You want to do what?!'

Conference 2007 ... who says editors don't have fun?

Speakers to wow us at 'From Inspiration to Publication' will include:

- Nobel Laureate Peter Doherty
- ANZ Bank Chief Economist Saul Eslake
- Atlantic Magazine senior editor Yvonne Rolzhausen.

Plus! Presentations, panels and workshops, a public forum (town hall style), a reception at Government House (very grand and neo-Gothic), dinner in an art deco ballroom with an open fire (theme: 'Black & White is the New Read') and music by the fabulous String Chickens! Early bird registration has closed but don't let that stop you from registering at: <http://www.tas-editors.org.au/conference2007.htm>.

The conference is proudly sponsored by John Wiley & Sons.

Identity crisis or reinvention: who are we and who do we want to be?

Marilyn Dorman, Sharon Nevile and Jennifer Wright

Members of this society and readers of this newsletter have diverse professional roles, skills and abilities, but are we well prepared for the future? Do we have the generic skills, and the specific attributes to meet the rapid changes occurring in editing and publishing? What alignment is there between these and the *Australian Standards for Editing Practice*?

In 2005 these authors explored the diverse profiles of editing professionals with members at the August SocEdsQ meeting and later at the national conference in Melbourne in our workshop: Pathways, possibilities and professional practices.

In line with Tennyson's sentiment that '... words, like Nature, half reveal/And half conceal the Soul within' (In *Memorium AHH*, Prologue), we used a mind mapping® approach to investigate aspects of editors' professional pathways, knowledge and skills, reporting preliminary findings in the conference proceedings. We also 'mined' the texts of abstracts submitted for the Melbourne conference to gather descriptors from a wider cross-section of editing and publishing professionals for comparison with the workshop cohort, and to gain a deeper understanding of the ways in which editors see themselves.

At this year's national conference in Hobart we will present further analysis of information gathered during the mapping and associated activities, comparing self-descriptors offered by editors with current job descriptions and career profiles.

We will invite conference attendees to discuss whether or

not they identify with the profiles, and see those as viable for the future. Is there still a role for editors between the 'inspiration' stage, and the 'publication' stage: if so, what? To answer that, editors must be able to articulate what they currently do, what has informed their knowledge and skills base, and reflect on those issues to shape their professional profiles for the future.

Editors, no less than everyone else, must expect to change jobs, change tools, change work environments and be open to changing their attitudes and expectations towards what might be an editor's 'work'. Publishing practices are also changing: the most obvious manifestation of this being that we can no longer expect to work on paper for any part of some publications. And what we can bring to any publication process is changing: Robert Horn's 2001 paper (see note) may predict the death of the paragraph, but it also reveals possible paths for editors as content organisers and information managers.

So we must learn to use every opportunity to expand our knowledge.

How better to do so than to look at what we already have to offer and to build on our talents and expertise. Many of us became editors by learning on the job. Many more are now emerging from an array of undergraduate and postgraduate courses. We all bring 'other lives' to our professional selves.

The mapping exercises we held at the 2005 conference are one way for each of us to reflect on what we have done (and who we are, professionally) and

hopefully to reveal where we might go from here – either through filling perceived 'gaps' or revealing forgotten talents that complement other aspects of our training and may lead us in new directions.

Certainly, training in all its possible forms provides us with pathways to future employment – or perhaps removes obstacles from the possibility of some forms of employment. A clear understanding of the value we offer to any 'publication' is equally important, as is the ability to 'sell' that value in terms that potential employers will understand.

Sometimes – perhaps increasingly frequently – we will work outside the traditional publishing environment. Many of us may never darken its doors! We are challenged to reinvent ourselves in many spheres, and rightly so. There are many other claimants to the title 'editor', and most are better known than we are. So do we insist on the title (and the misunderstandings it engenders)? Do we take on our competition for the title or do we 'sell' our talents rather than the label we may have held for longest, but have held least well? Is the label we have held so dear now an obstacle to the employment possibilities opening up before us ... or a pathway to future glory?

Please share your thoughts with us in the hope that our pooled resources will reveal both pathways and possibilities for a challenging and rewarding future.

Note: Horn, R.E. 2001, 'What kinds of writing have a future?', www.stanfords.edu/~rhorn/a/recent/SpchSIGDOC.html.

Report to members — 7 February 2007

Acting President, IPEd Accreditation Board delegate and Chair (Robin Bennett)

IPEd Interim Council

The council met in Adelaide on 3–4 February. It has made significant progress towards completing directions for the draft constitution of IPEd. All societies will be asked to vote on the proposed model (a public company limited by guarantee) by 1 May.

Accreditation Board

Thirteen of the distinguished editors appointed by Australian societies of editors to assess applications for accreditation met in Melbourne in December. They unanimously recommended a drastic revision to the accreditation model, a two-stage model in which the first level of accreditation would require applicants to pass a test (basically a copyediting test including some questions relating to project management and to legal aspects such as copyright).

The more advanced level, for editors with five to ten years' experience, would involve preparation of a portfolio, as under the existing model. The proposal is that the first group of editors will be accredited at Level 1 by the end of the year.

National editors conference

Registration is now open for the Institute of Professional Editors National Conference to be held at Wrest Point Convention Centre, Hobart, from 9–12 May. The theme of the conference is 'From inspiration to publication'. This conference will focus on three strands: science and education editing, public sector and corporate editing, and general fiction and

non-fiction editing.

Keynote speakers will be Nobel Prize winner Prof. Peter Doherty, Yvonne Rolzhausen, a senior editor at the Atlantic magazine, and Saul Eslake, the ANZ Bank's Chief Economist and chair of the Tasmanian Arts Advisory Board. Conference activities will include workshops, a joint Institute/Style Council forum open to the public and a cocktail reception hosted by the Governor.

Full early bird registration (before 1 March) costs \$385; full registration after that date will cost \$435. Potential delegates also have the choice of single-day attendance. Anyone interested in attending can find additional information through the website of the Society of Editors (Tasmania) Inc.

Style Council conference

The Style Council conference will follow on 12 May. Details and registration will soon be available at <http://www.ling.mq.edu.au/style>.

Secretary (Siobhan Barter)

Happy New Year everyone! Reprinting the Freelance Register will be high on my agenda in the first part of this year. We will be in touch soon with new templates for everyone to update their details.

Speaker Secretary (Les Savage)

The Committee is meeting on Sunday 11 February to discuss the results from the members' survey that were gathered at the end of 2006; and to plan for the year ahead. We could continue to encourage people to put forward their thoughts about our meetings and activities.

Training (Kerri Ullrich)

On 24 February, Peter Storer will be presenting the workshop Project Management. Plans are also underway for workshops later this year. Details will be posted on the website and an email will be sent to members when all is confirmed.

Membership

Welcome to the people who have joined us since the last meeting: Fallon Smith, Glenys Higgs, Denise Hansford, Barbara Wilson, Meg Vann, and Brooke Pickering.

Web (David Hill)

Elements of the web site continue to be updated.

Newsletter Editor (Kim Manning)

The text under the 'Newsletter' menu on the website has been updated to be newly encouraging – check it out!

Treasurer (Rebecca Campny)/Retiring Treasurer (Lisa Wharton)

This month's income of \$7,335.76 (for the period 1 November 2006 to 31 January 2007) was more than expenditure \$6,489.36. Please refer to the table on p. 8 for more details, as well as the 'Notes' on p. 7.

We are very pleased to report that Rebecca Campny was appointed as the Society's new treasurer at the January management committee meeting. After successful training courses and a once-in-a-decade opportunity (the 2003 Conference) the Society has a healthy bank balance – don't spend it all in one place!

Notes

Brisbane Writers Festival 2006

- Four members presented a workshop at the Brisbane Writers Festival (16 Sept. 2006).

- They agreed to split the \$300 payment from BWF with any left over amount being a donation to the society.

\$300: less \$100 SA, \$50 RH, \$50 JB, \$50 RB, \$23.90 printing = \$26.10 donation.

Catering refund for Nov. 06 Indexing course

- The registration forms for the Indexing courses included lunch.

- The venue decided it could not provide lunch, and as we did not have another supplier we had to refund the \$10 charge for catering.

- Only those who paid by cheque required the refund as credit card payments could be reduced by the \$10 amount before being processed.

Seminar expenses — payment reversal

- An incorrect credit card number was provided by one participant.

- In December the bank reversed the payment amount of \$420.

- The proper card number and amount were processed in December.

Quotable quote

Two may talk together under the same roof for many years, yet never really meet; and two others at first speech are old friends.

*Mary Catherwood
(1847–1901) US writer*

continued from page 4

It was agreed at the forum to refer to the existing *Australian Standards for Editing Practice* (the Standards) as the revised version is a draft that has not been agreed upon. Janice Bird's notes on which Standards would be measurable in the test reveal that 32 Standards (including A3, B2.2, C1.4, D1–5 and E1.3) could be used.

Renée Otmar emphasised the importance of all assessors being briefed and trained in the assessment process, and a marking system was discussed (for example, consider having discretionary marks for initiative and losing marks for missing things).

It was decided that there would be no grading system, just pass or fail, competent or not.

Most people agreed that it could be conducted once a year on the same day in every capital city. (Later in the meeting, it was suggested that tests at six-monthly intervals would be more helpful to candidates, especially in the

early stages when there would be a large number wishing to apply.) The possibility of email or web-based testing was discussed, considering people in remote areas or those who had difficulty reaching a venue for other reasons.

Discussion regarding 'where to from here' led to 'As we're not doing portfolios to start with, we'll have more time and can do more tests than portfolios in a given time', and 'Let's just start with the material we have, and see what happens'. Worthy sentiments.

Arrangements for the new assessors' group included:

- The name of the group is the Assessors Forum, and there's no s-pos.
- It works on consensus.
- It is subordinate to the Accreditation Board.
- There's one rep (Renée Otmar), who goes to the Accreditation Board, and one secretary (Paul Bennett).
- Share secretariat with IPEd, Accreditation Board.
- A website forum will be established.

The accreditation certificate would probably be worded as follows:



March information exchange

Would you like more opportunity to network with fellow editors and find out what they're doing? Do you want to learn what's going on in editing and publishing in Australia? You can do both at the society's next general meeting on 7 March.

Enjoy the company at the German Club, 416 Vulture Street, East Brisbane (it's opposite the 'Gabba) and bring yourself up to date with the latest developments and opportunities available to Australian editors, including:

- the national editors conference (Hobart, 9–12 May)
- Style Council 2007
- the BELS exam for science editors
- accreditation
- the Queensland Writers Centre
- the Beatrice Davis Fellowship.

The meeting will be held in the Members Lounge; entry is \$5. You can arrive at any time from 6 pm; the less informal part of the evening will begin at 7 pm.

You should enter via the front gate off Vulture Street and turn right once in the foyer and then left into the Members Lounge at the end of the corridor. If you have trouble negotiating steps, there is a ramp from the car park. A selection of German food will be available from 6 pm (priced from around \$10 up to \$18 or so) and these may be eaten in the Members Lounge, so you can eat while you chat (or chat while you eat). Drinks are available in the adjoining bar.

The February meeting showed that this venue would be a warm ambient place for us, so please do join us each month if you can.

Web wandering

Catnabbit — the site for quirky news about our feline friends.
<http://catnabbit.com/top-ten-national-security/>

Published by the Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc., PO Box 1524, Toowong Qld 4066.

Disclaimer: The views expressed by individuals as published in **Offpress** are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc.

Your news and views

We welcome any contributions to our monthly newsletter. Copy deadline is one week after the general meeting. Please send articles, letters, book reviews, details of interesting web sites, anecdotes, snippets and quotes to the editor at offpress@editorsqld.com.

Treasurer's report 7 February 2007

(for period 01/11/2006 – 31/01/2007)

Income	\$
Bank interest	613.26
Freelance register	50.00
Meals	495.00
Members' subscriptions	407.50
Seminar receipts (Indexing workshop)	5700.00
Seminar catering refund (see note)	70.00
Total income	<u>7,335.76</u>

Expenditure	
Advertising and promotion (see note)	273.90
Bank charges	220.64
Entertainment (Nov. '06 meeting)	247.50
IPEd expenses	1100.98
Meals	789.50
Membership sub adjustment (overpay refund)	17.50
Postage	75.00
Printing and stationery	30.00
Prizes and awards	10.00
Seminar expenses (including repay \$420)	3278.60
Speaker fees and expenses	362.34
Website (hosting 09/11/06–08/03/07)	83.40
Total expenditure	<u>6,489.36</u>

Surplus for period (Income over Expenditure)	<u>846.40</u>
--	----------------------

Funds on hand at 31 January 2007	
Cheque account (less unpres. cheques)	6,776.07
Investment account (incl. tax to be paid)	51,859.86
Petty cash	205.96
Total	<u>58,841.89</u>

Lisa Wharton, Retiring Treasurer

Membership information

The Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc. came into being in 1990 with the object of promoting the exchange of ideas and the dissemination of information on matters of professional interest in the publishing industry, and to help in establishing and maintaining high standards of editing and publishing. Since that time, the Society has grown from a gleam in the collective eye of a few editors to a professional association of some standing. It has been involved in the development of the Diploma of Editing (Publishing) at TAFE, and the former Graduate Diploma of Publishing and Editing at Griffith University.

The Society holds training workshops and seminars for its members, and is responsible for producing the Register of Freelance Publishing Services (updated every few years, and containing entries for editors, designers, illustrators, layout experts and so on).

There are three levels of membership:

- Full membership: open only to people professionally

engaged in editing and publishing; the membership application must contain details of the applicant's experience and the names of publishing companies and organisations worked for. Annual fee: \$45

- Associate membership: open to anyone interested in the activities of the Society; there are no voting rights, and associate members are not eligible for election to Management Committee positions. Annual fee: \$35
- Student membership: open only to full-time students who cite their student ID number; there are no voting rights, and student members are not eligible for election to Management Committee positions. Annual fee: \$20

People who live more than 50 km from the Brisbane GPO pay half-fees. Application for membership is assessed by the Management Committee, and applicants informed.

Visit the web site or contact the Membership Secretary for an

application form;

web site: www.editorsqld.com; e-mail: membership@editorsqld.com (please include your postal address).