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# IPEd.

To advance the  
profession of editing

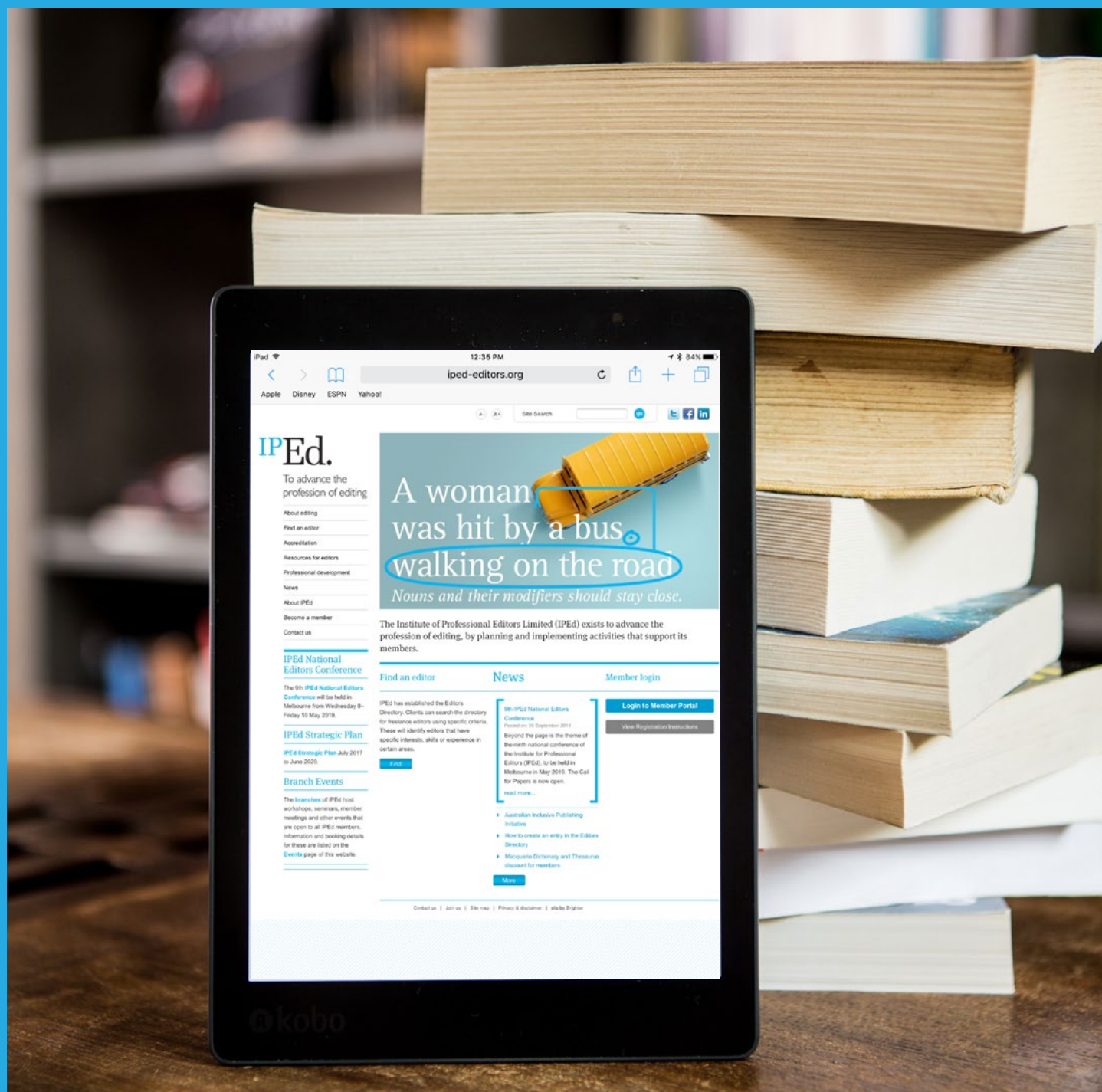


Annual Report 2017–2018

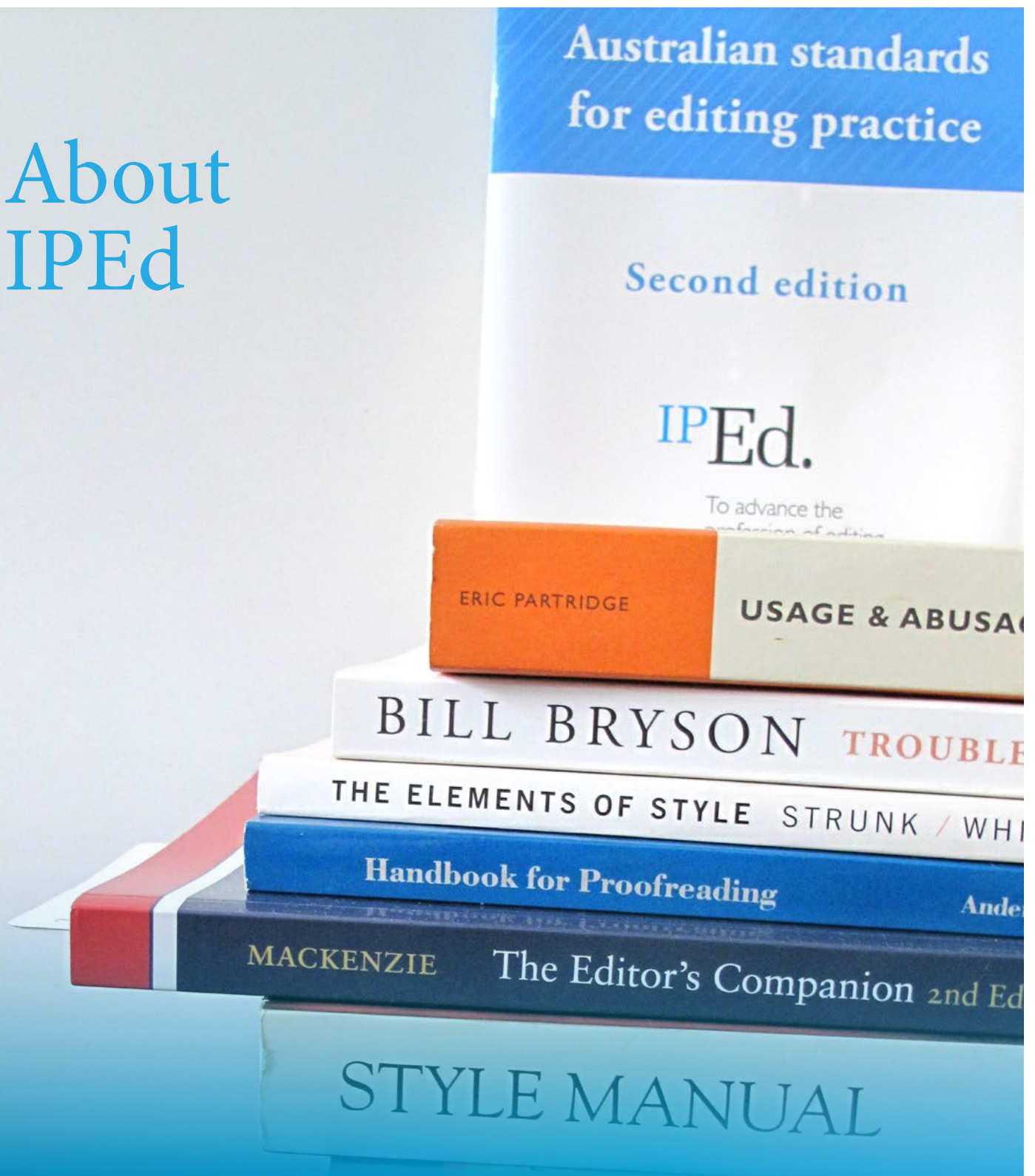
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# About IPEd



The Institute of Professional Editors (IPEd) is the Australia-based professional membership association for editors, with more than 1300 members. IPEd exists to advance the profession of editing, and to support and promote Australian

editors. We aim to develop a strong organisation that supports a thriving membership by offering professional development opportunities, valuable member benefits and advocacy for the profession.

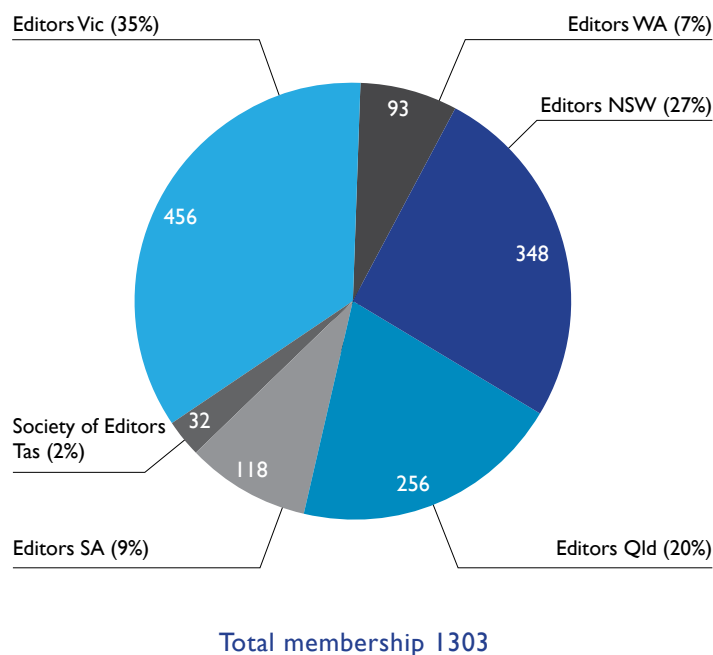
Our members play an important role in content development and publication. They work collaboratively with authors, writers and content creators to help them to get their message across with greater clarity, elegance and insight.

IPEd operates an accreditation scheme that confers the postnominals AE (Accredited Editor) and DE (Distinguished Editor), the latter applying to those so nominated in order to develop and deliver the initial accreditation exam, held in 2008.

On 1 July 2018 we celebrated two years since IPEd transitioned to a direct-membership organisation, when six former state societies of editors became branches of IPEd. These branches are:

- Editors NSW
- Editors Queensland
- Editors South Australia
- Society of Editors (Tasmania)
- Editors Victoria
- Editors Western Australia

**Membership of IPEd at 30 June 2018 (financial members)**



### VISION

IPEd is the trusted voice of professional editors – shaping the future of communication.

### MISSION

Our mission is to advance the profession of editing.

### VALUES

We are:

- collaborative
- mutually supportive
- adaptable
- inclusive
- respectful
- principled
- committed to excellence.

We celebrate our contributions and success.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AND SERVICES

### ACCREDITATION SCHEME

The accreditation scheme allows editors to demonstrate their competence through an onscreen exam and ongoing professional development, and offers employers confidence in the skills of an editor they hire.

### AWARDS AND PRIZES

Editors can gain recognition for their work through IPeD awards such as the Rosanne Fitzgibbon Editorial Award and the annual IPeD Prize, or through the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship, co-sponsored by IPeD.

### BRANCH AND NATIONAL NEWSLETTERS

IPeD keeps members updated through a bi-monthly e-newsletter, *IPeD Notes*, and a quarterly CEO's Bulletin. Branches also distribute their own regular newsletters.

### CONFERENCE

The IPeD National Editors Conference is a biennial, three-day event hosted by a branch of IPeD.

### EDITING OPPORTUNITIES

Members are notified about permanent, contract and freelance editing opportunities.

### EDITORS DIRECTORY

Professional members of IPeD can list their contact details and services in the national Editors Directory, linked to the IPeD website.

### INSURANCE

Members have access to discounted rates for professional indemnity and public liability insurance.

### MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Members can access discounts on the following publications, online courses and events:

- *Australian Manual of Scientific Style*
- *Books+Publishing* magazine and *Weekly Book Newsletter*

- Editors Canada conferences, webinars and online courses
- *Effective Onscreen Editing*, 3rd Edition
- Macquarie Dictionary and Thesaurus Online
- PerfectIt
- Society for Editors and Proofreaders (SfEP) (UK) online courses and conferences
- *Writing for Science Journals: Tips, Tricks and a Learning Plan*

### NATIONAL BRANCH NETWORK

IPeD branches in all six states hold branch events that include guest speakers, panel discussions, professional development workshops and networking meetings.

### NATIONAL MENTORING PROGRAM

The National Mentoring Program helps participants, both mentees and mentors, improve their knowledge and skills in a two-way learning experience.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In addition to the workshops, meetings and events that branches hold, IPeD is developing a suite of online professional development options in the form of webinars and videoconferencing for meetings.

### RESOURCES

The member-only pages of the IPeD website give members exclusive access to online resources, book lists, articles and member discounts.

The Secret Editors Business Facebook group, established by Editors Victoria and now national, is open to all members of IPeD and the Canberra Society of Editors. It's a great resource for editors regardless of location, allowing members across the country and around the globe to speak with each other any time of the day or night, ask questions, confer on professional matters and generally catch up with their industry colleagues in a friendly and supportive environment.

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# Chair's report



This second year of IPEd's operation under the national structure has been one of review and consolidation, with councillors heavily involved in setting direction and policies to guide the organisation.

Council comprises six branch-nominated councillors and two non-executive members: the chairs of the Accreditation Board and the Mentoring Standing Committee.

During the year we finalised IPEd's three-year strategic plan, begun during a mammoth face-to-face Council meeting in May 2017 and launched at the eighth IPEd National Editors Conference in Brisbane in September. Council held a second face-to-face meeting during the conference, which included presentation of a marketing and communications plan commissioned in July. The conference also provided the platform for IPEd's first in-person AGM under the new structure, attended by around 110 members (including 70 Voting members in person and 8 online), with another 36 voting on resolutions electronically. The AGM and IPEd plenary session was also livestreamed.

During the first year's operation and in budgeting for the 2017–18 year we recognised unreserved donations from the former societies as a national development fund to be put towards costs such as strategic planning, systems training, and policies and procedures development.

We welcomed new councillors Owen Kavanagh for New South Wales (replacing Michael Wyatt AE), Susan Keogh DE for Victoria (replacing Dr Renée Otmar DE) and Rowena Austin AE


for Tasmania (the first for several years), joining Loene Doube AE for South Australia, Stephen White for Western Australia and myself for Queensland, as well as Desolie Page AE for the Accreditation Board and Ted Briggs AE for the Mentoring Standing Committee.

Until early 2017, IPEd had only two standing committees, the Accreditation Board (AB) and the Finance and Risk Management Committee (FRM); the mentoring program was formalised under a standing committee during the 2017–18 year.

With so much new work to be done under the strategic plan, a change of tack was required, and Council agreed to create more standing committees and working parties to lead the direction of several new initiatives, with input from branch members in touch with member needs and preferences. These groups inform the Council and ultimately feed into the operational side of IPEd – the staff. Below is a summary of the work of these groups, with more detail provided in following sections.

Terms of reference were drawn up for three new standing committees – two in operation during the year, for Professional Development (SCPD: Chair, Stephen White) and Academic Editing (SCAE: Chair, Dr Renée Otmar DE); the third, on Awards and Prizes, was convened in September. Terms of reference for a standing committee to assist with conference organisation and a working party to examine editorial pay rates are in train.

The work of the SCPD and SCAC has been greatly assisted by a grant from the Copyright Agency's Creative Development



Fund for the 2018 and 2019 calendar years, for which we are very grateful. This grant will fund the IPed Ambassadors Program to promote the value of editors to universities, writers centres, writers groups and festivals, as well as a series of national professional development webinars.

The Style Manual Steering Group (SMSG) is an IPed working party that began in May 2015, building on previous work by a number of members of the former societies of editors, to lobby the federal government to progress the long-awaited revision of the *Style manual's* sixth edition, published in 2002. The group was formalised in April 2017 (Rowena Austin AE taking over the chair from me in August 2018), when the government's work on the revised edition shifted to the Digital Transformation Agency (DTA).

As we finalised this annual report we were deeply saddened to learn of the untimely death of Janet Mackenzie DE. Janet had long been a passionate advocate for the editing profession, an Honorary Life Member of Editors Victoria and a member of the SMSG since 2015. Her vast contributions to IPed and to the profession over many years will be missed enormously. Vale Janet Mackenzie.

The Communications Working Party began during the year, to review branch and national communications and discuss consolidation of branch newsletters and websites under the national structure.

The FRM conducted a major review of finance policies and procedures from January to April 2017, with Finance Officer Katrina Potter.

The Accreditation Board (Chair: Desolie Page AE) put in a massive effort to organise the seventh accreditation exam, held in May.

IPed Company Secretary Connie Finestone and CEO Karen Lee, along with Council, reviewed the Constitution and By-laws, with an external review conducted by Associations Forum. The changes recommended are to be put to member vote at the 2018 AGM.

During the year, Council also approved a Code of Conduct and Confidentiality Agreement for IPed councillors, standing committees, working parties and branch committees.

I sincerely thank all members of IPed Council and its standing committees, working parties and branch committees, past and present, for their diligence and dedication. We all have big plans for IPed to thrive and offer exceptional service to its members, objectives that simply could not be achieved without the support of these hard-working IPed members.

On behalf of Council I also thank IPed's staff and contractors, several of whom are also IPed members, in striving to meet those expectations.

I feel truly honoured to have served as Chair of IPed Council for these past two and a half years.

**Kerry Davies AE**

Chair, IPed Council

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# CEO's message



Since IPeD launched its strategic plan in 2017, staff have focused on delivering on these four major areas of work in 2017–2018.

## 1. Build a strong organisation

- We have worked on diversifying our income streams, with a focus on sponsorship and an active membership-acquisition strategy.
- We have reviewed and improved our communication with members and branches, with twice-yearly meetings with branch presidents and Council, and the reboot of the Communications Working Party.
- We have worked on getting the team dynamics right, with a mix of national staff and contractors to deliver on key projects.
- We have strengthened IPeD's governance, with attention and focus on financials and the development of support for Council. A large project for IPeD this year has been the review of its Constitution and By-laws, which is still in progress. Proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws will be voted on by members at the 2018 AGM.

## 2. Support a thriving membership

- We have actively worked with branches to develop the membership-acquisition strategy, which was rolled out in late June. We have invited New Zealand editors to apply for membership, as well as those editors on a non-member list who have attended IPeD events or functions.
- We have strengthened our ties with international sister organisations and growing our membership benefits to ensure our members are the first to know about what's on and how to get involved.


- We have increased the profile of our members by actively promoting the Editors Directory (ED). We are so pleased to hear from members who have reached out to let us know how the ED has increased their business; for those of you who haven't, we'd love to hear from you on how we can improve.
- We met with the committee of the Canberra Society of Editors (CSE) in early February to discuss the next steps of establishing a Canberra branch. CSE is awaiting the outcomes of IPeD's constitutional review.

## 3. Deliver integrated professional development

- We delivered the first two of our professional development webinars, to support the accreditation exam in May this year. A third webinar is scheduled for November 2018, on style sheets. Feedback from both initial webinars was largely positive, which tells us that we've been able to deliver quality webinars that meet the needs of editors.
- The Standing Committee on Professional Development is working towards coordinating and delivering an annual online professional development program that caters for the diverse needs of editors.

## 4. Become the trusted voice of the profession

- Through our engagement with peak stakeholders, we were invited to be part of national initiatives that benefit the wider publishing sector, such as the Australian Inclusive Publishing Initiative, and the Parliamentary Friends of Australian Books and Writers. We were also invited to join initiatives that are



important to the editing profession, including joining the committee of the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship.

- Our friends, including the Australian Society of Authors and the Australian Publishers Association, are actively helping us to promote the ED to their members, which is simultaneously helping to increase our profile.

Among delivering on our work above, I particularly want to highlight some of our successes this year:

- Successful in securing funding from the Copyright Council to roll out a two-year Ambassadors Program to send editors out to universities, writers groups and writers festivals to talk to students and writers about the value editors bring to their work.
- Advocacy on the *Style manual*. The Style Manual Steering Group has been negotiating really well with the federal government's Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) to win member involvement in development of the seventh edition of the *Style manual*.
- Our accreditation program held its second onscreen exam, and we celebrated the accreditation scheme's 10th birthday while welcoming another 50 Accredited Editors (AEs), bringing the total number to 381 inclusive of Distinguished Editors (DEs). We are also pleased to report that the percentage of those renewing is increasing by the year, with 88% of those sitting in 2012 having renewed their accreditation last year.

There is still so much more that we want to achieve for IPED and our members in the coming year. I have embarked on a

listening tour of our branches to give me an opportunity to meet with and speak with members and branch committees. I have enjoyed talking with people about their thoughts and feedback, in addition to sharing news on how IPED is progressing. I look forward to making my way to your branch soon, and as always I am keen to hear about how we can work together.

**Karen Lee**  
CEO, IPED

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# Governance and management

IPEd is governed by a Council comprising one nominee from each branch. Councillors, who are directors of the company, serve two-year terms. Retiring councillors are eligible for re-election for a maximum of three consecutive terms. The role of Council is to manage the business and affairs of IPEd, as per the Constitution and the Corporations Act.

Councillors during the period covered by this report were:

- Michael Wyatt AE – New South Wales (resigned November 2018)
- Owen Kavanagh – New South Wales (appointed November 2017)
- Kerry Davies AE – Queensland
- Loene Doube AE – South Australia
- Rowena Austin AE – Tasmania (appointed March 2018)
- Dr Renée Otmar DE – Victoria (resigned February 2018)
- Susan Keogh DE – Victoria (appointed February 2018)
- Mary-Jo O'Rourke AE – Victoria (Alternate Director)
- Stephen White – Western Australia
- Anna Nicole Sweet (Maynard) AE – Western Australia (Alternate Director)

Council also had two non-executive councillors who served during the year representing key standing committees as follows:

- Desolie Page AE, Chair – Accreditation Board
- Ted Briggs AE, Co-Chair – Mentoring Committee

Kerry Davies continued as Council Chair for the year. Connie Finestone continued as Company Secretary for IPEd during the period.

Council was without a councillor from Tasmania until March 2018. Society of Editors (Tasmania) President Ann Hughes attended several Council meetings during that period as an observer.

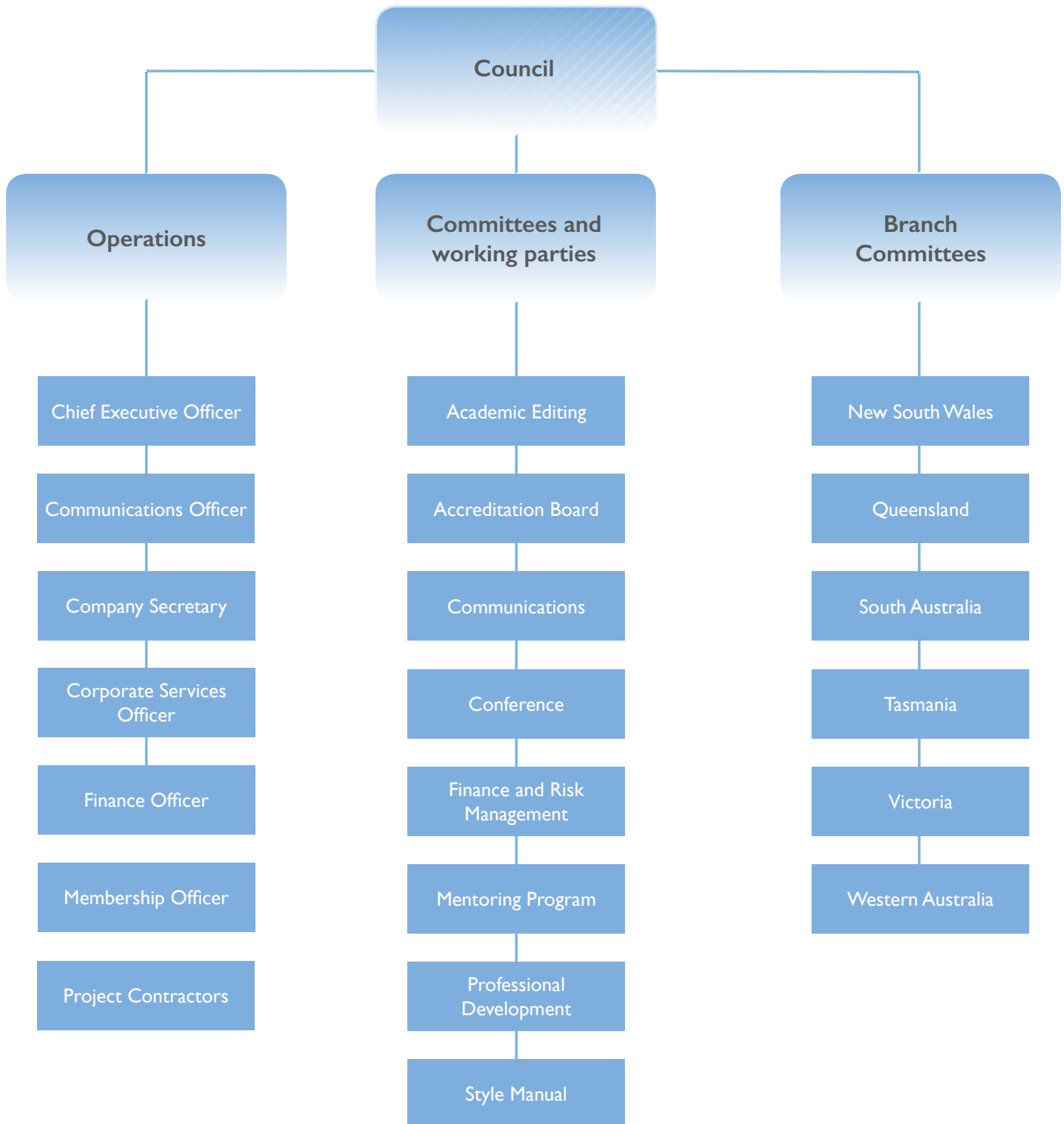
Standing Committees operating (and newly formed) during the year were:

- Finance and Risk Management Committee
- Accreditation Board
- Mentoring
- Professional Development – new
- Academic Editing – new
- Awards and Prizes – new

Working parties formed and operating during the year were:

- Style Manual Steering Group
- Communications Working Party – new

## Organisation chart





The second AGM of IPEd was held on 14 September 2017 at the Brisbane Conference. Attending in person were 70 eligible Voting members, with eight attending online and 36 postal and electronic votes received, making a total of 114 Voting members taking part. The AGM was followed by a member plenary session where the IPEd Chair and CEO presented the three-year strategic plan for IPEd and opened the floor for questions. Many thanks to all who attended or participated in the AGM.

A Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests procedure and register for IPEd volunteers was developed and rolled out during the year. The Finance and Risk Management Committee reviewed the IPEd finance policies and procedures, and IPEd Council commenced a formal review of the IPEd Transition Constitution, to better reflect the current operating structure of IPEd and best-practice corporate governance.

IPEd's volunteer workers were covered by its Association Liability, Voluntary Workers Personal Accident and Public Liability insurance policies.

### Finance and Risk Management

The Finance and Risk Management (FRM) Committee assists Council to fulfil its corporate governance and statutory responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, internal control, risk management and audit functions. Members of this committee at 30 June 2018 were Kerry Davies AE (Chair), Councillor Loene Doube AE, and IPEd's CEO and Company Secretary.

The financial year 2017–18 was the second year of operation under the new national structure. Operating and reporting systems established in the first year were in place and reporting to Council and branches was done on a monthly basis.

Some difficulties were experienced in changing the timing of recognition of GST resulting in the establishment of new procedures to ensure statutory requirements are met. Review of the correct way to record and manage branch reserves has also necessitated some changes to policy and manner of reporting.

Overall, income and expenditure from branch events (meetings and PD) and the 2018 accreditation exam were close to cost neutral, so IPEd relied on membership fees, Editors Directory fees, the national conference, Editors Victoria's unreserved donation and Copyright Agency funding for income. However, the FRM Committee was vigilant in overseeing the national finances and was satisfied that the organisation maintained a reasonable financial position.

Costs associated with the establishment of the new structure, policies, systems and processes continued to be identified as national development costs, to be expended against unreserved society donations, in order to use those finite funds appropriately in these first few years. These included some contractor, staff and recruitment costs, and strategic planning.

### IPEd financial statements

The audit of financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2018 has been completed and the statements are available from the Company Secretary and on the IPEd website. They will be presented at the AGM to be held on 31 October 2018.

### Income and expenditure

IPEd ended the year with an operating surplus of \$42,404 (2017 operating surplus \$109,930). The surpluses for the 2018 and 2017 financial years include branch reserved funds recognised as income (\$85,539 in 2018 and \$88,293 in 2017). Society

donations (unreserved) of \$60,000 were received during the year. Retained earnings at the end of 2016–17 was \$56,533, which, when the 2018 surplus was added and transfers to reserves were deducted, gave a total retained surplus at 30 June 2018 of \$20,212. National development cost (costs associated with development of IPEd in 2017–18) was \$61,985.

The 2017–18 Professional membership fee was \$180, Associate membership \$135, Student membership \$65, and Corporate membership at various fee levels depending on editorial staff numbers. There were also discounted subscriptions for concession holders and retired members. Membership fees received was lower than for 2016–17; however, member numbers are now increasing and beginning to be reflected in monthly reporting. IPEd reports on an accruals basis and any increase in member numbers is reflected in full in the accounts 12 months after the fee payment.

Council approved honoraria for 2017–18 of \$4000 to the IPEd Chair and \$600 to each of the other councillors in appreciation of the significant services they have provided during the financial year. The Accreditation Board and Council approved an honorarium of \$6000 to the Accreditation Board Chair.

### Balance sheet

The bank balance at 30 June 2018 was \$303,606 (2017: \$248,317).

At that date IPEd had receivables of \$6,432 (mainly being receivables through MemNet (the membership system) and expense prepayments of \$17,794. There were non-current assets of \$17,332 (accreditation exam database and onscreen exam development, and direct membership set-up). Total IPEd assets were \$345,430 (2017: \$363,627).

At financial year end, IPEd had liabilities of \$162,112 (2017: \$222,713), including deferred income of \$117,239. Society reserved funds (now shown in the equity section of the balance sheet) totalled \$163,106. Net assets were \$183,318 (2017: \$140,914).

### Budget for financial year 2018–19

The 2018–19 budget has been prepared and was approved by Council at its July meeting. This includes Council honoraria of \$9000. Honoraria to the Accreditation Board and other standing committees and working parties is estimated at a total of \$14,075, some offset by funding and other income.

Income has been estimated with a 15% increase in membership fees in January 2019, along with a 5% increase in member numbers. National development cost of \$61,823 has been identified. Projected conference income and new sponsorship income has also been included.

Branch budgets were submitted for the full financial year, but with allowance for a review at December 2018. Hence, some revision of the IPEd budget may be necessary in January 2019.

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# Communications

After a review of IPEd's marketing strategies by FineHaus consultant Nicki Hauser, a comprehensive report and marketing schedule was developed to engage members, branches and stakeholders. Among the initial steps towards fulfilling this were:

- a new, easier-to-read and dynamic email template for *IPEd Notes* and the *CEO Bulletin*, which continue to be distributed bi-monthly and quarterly respectively
- an expanded social media presence, now including an Instagram account, and more regular posting to and sharing from the Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts
- the establishment of the Communications Working Party (CWP), with representation from all branches, to discuss the transition to a single unified website and more cohesive communication between branches.

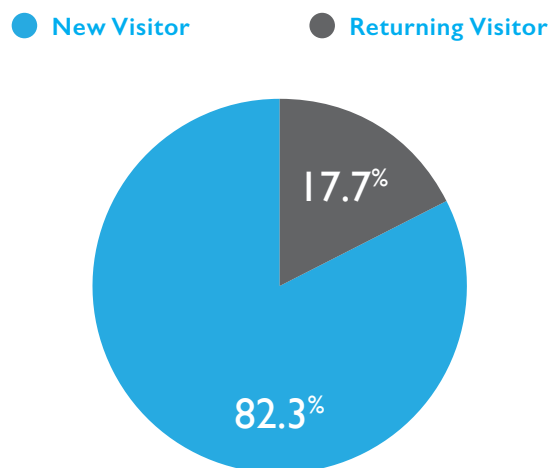
Additionally, the introduction of incentives (such as competitions for movie tickets or discount subscriptions) that are announced via the public social accounts but only open to members has helped to raise the visibility to non-members of the benefits of joining IPEd.

Work towards a much overdue new website continues, with quotes received from two sources and a grant application pending in February 2019 to cover costs of a new website, an improved Editors Directory and a stable, user-friendly solution for webinar hosting and presentation. The CWP has consensus on the need for IPEd to have a single public point of contact and the subsequent closure or archiving of the existing branch websites – provided the new global site accommodates mini-sites for each branch with no reduction in functionality. It is envisioned that a new site would retain the [iped-editors.org](http://iped-editors.org) domain with the branch mini-sites following a URL protocol similar to the following:

- [iped-editors.org/nsw](http://iped-editors.org/nsw)
- [iped-editors.org/qld](http://iped-editors.org/qld)
- [iped-editors.org/sa](http://iped-editors.org/sa)
- [iped-editors.org/tas](http://iped-editors.org/tas)
- [iped-editors.org/vic](http://iped-editors.org/vic)
- [iped-editors.org/wa](http://iped-editors.org/wa)

The need for the new website is greater than just consistent brand identity, however: having a useable and navigable mobile-friendly site is essential for IPEd's future.

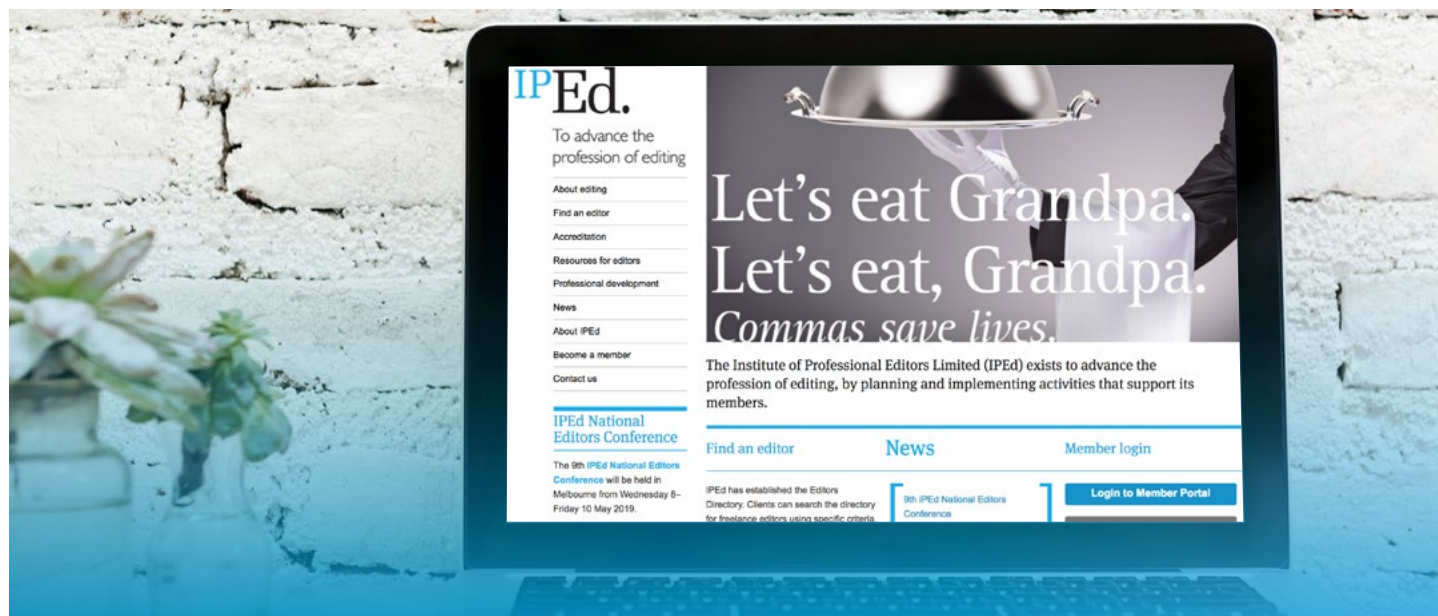
Despite its current limited functionality, the website's traffic continued to grow, albeit slightly, with users for the 2017–2018 financial year sitting at 35,100 (2016–2017: 33,644) and page views at 136,458 (2016–2017: 131,059). Further underscoring the urgent need for a new site, however, are the new versus returning visitor stats:



This suggests that more than three-quarters of our visitation comes from people new to IPEd – either potential clients for our members, potential members or potential editors. This offers us further evidence of the need for an improved website – with easier navigation, usability and mobile access, at the very least.

As mentioned above, IPEd now has four social media channels, which are open to both members and non-members. These are used to share IPEd activities and engage with existing members, and as a means of attracting new members. As at June 2018, IPEd had just over 900 Facebook followers, 1250 Twitter followers and 330 LinkedIn followers. The new Instagram account was on 60 followers.

# Activities for the Year



## Advocacy

Through our engagement with peak stakeholders, we were invited to be part of national initiatives that benefit the wider publishing sector, such as the Australian Inclusive Publishing Initiative and the Parliamentary Friends of Australian Books and Writers. We were also invited to join initiatives that are important to the editing profession, including joining the committee of the Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship.

In May and June, following member concern about several advertisements for unpaid editorial work and unethical internships, we drafted a policy on appropriate internships and placements within the industry, as well as a letter for use in instances where this policy is not being met, or where potentially exploitative conditions are being advertised. The letter was sent to the Fair Work Commission and the MEAA to register our concerns over such practices; the policy is now before Council for review.

Throughout the year, the IPed Style Manual Steering Group (SMSG) has been meeting and

corresponding with the federal government's Digital Transformation Agency (DTA), which is looking after the development of the seventh edition of the *Style manual: for authors, editors and printers*, to assist with the development process.

Part of the group's activity has been to collect feedback from editors using the *Style manual* to help guide DTA in the format and content of the revised edition. In May–June 2018, IPed distributed a survey to IPed and CSE members and other editors who use the *Style manual*, asking for feedback about how people use the manual and which parts need updating.

The survey asked people for relevant information about themselves, such as editorial qualifications and experience, their use of the *Style manual* in general as well as specific parts, and specific comments on *Style manual* content.

### National Conference

IPEd's 8th national conference was held 13–15 September 2017 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC). As this conference was also the first since IPEd's restructure, the organisers picked the theme of the conference to reflect the IPEd tagline, *To advance the profession of editing*.

The conference attracted 266 delegates over the three days, with 131 people attending workshops on the first day. The welcome reception was hosted at Rydges Rooftop on the first night, after the workshops. The space was beautiful, affording a stunning view over Brisbane at night with a string duo as accompanying music to welcome delegates.

After a Welcome to Country by Uncle Joe Kirk, IPEd Patron Roly Sussex officially opened the conference, followed by keynote speaker Sophie Cunningham. This kicked off an exciting two days of programming under three themes that were forward-looking: Building Alliances, Professional Development and Technology. On day two, IPEd's AGM and a plenary session with Council and CEO Karen Lee outlining IPEd's 2017–2020 Strategic Plan was live-streamed, as were several of the panel sessions throughout the conference.

The gala dinner was held in the ballroom of the BCEC. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the inaugural Rosanne Fitzgibbon Editorial Award (The Rosie), honouring the memory of Queensland Distinguished Editor Rosie Fitzgibbon. This was a very moving presentation, with members of Rosie's family attending. Chair Kerry Davies' speech provided the background and inspiration for the award. The award itself was presented by Rosie's sister Marion Halligan, who was one of the panel of three judges, along with Craig Munro and Leonie Tyle. The winner of the award, Jacqueline Blanchard, gave a delightful speech communicating her enthusiasm for the award itself and the role it will have in raising the profile of editors.

### Editors Directory

A review of the national Editors Directory was undertaken in July 2017. A survey was distributed to the existing 409 subscribers, with 167 subscribers (40 per cent) responding.

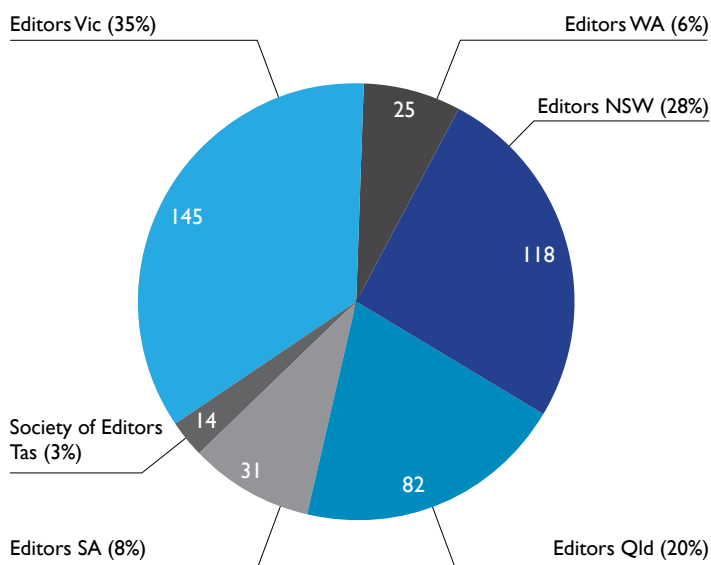
Of those who responded:

- 70 per cent have a complete entry in the directory
- just over 50 per cent were either very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the process
- almost 50 per cent have received enquiries from potential clients as a direct result of the directory
- approximately 75 per cent have (or had) entries in their branch directory or register
- approximately 50 per cent identified features of their branch register that they would have liked to see in the national directory
- more than 60 per cent of respondents use other online services to promote their businesses
- approximately 55 per cent provided other comments.

A suite of recommendations has been implemented as a result. IPEd will seek additional revenue to implement further enhancements in the near future. The full version of the report can be found on IPEd's website.

As of 30 June 2018, the ED had 415 active subscriptions:

Editors Directory subscriptions at 30 June 2018



## Accreditation

Accreditation helps editors gain recognition for their skills. Editors who pass the accreditation exam are certified by the IPEd Accreditation Board and can use the postnominal AE (for ‘accredited editor’).

Prospective employers and clients are starting to recognise that ‘AE’ is a reliable indicator of competence.

An immediate benefit of accreditation is the validation of editors’ competence by their peers. Being able to call yourself an Accredited Editor means you have passed a peer review that certifies your competence in applying the standards set out in *Australian standards for editing practice*.

There are now 353 Accredited Editors, including one in Hong Kong, one in Finland and two in New Zealand. There are also 28 Distinguished Editors (DEs) – these comprise a group of experienced and highly regarded editors appointed by the then societies of editors to develop the first accreditation exam, held in 2008.

Accreditation lasts five years, after which Accredited Editors must apply to have their accreditation renewed. To obtain renewal of accreditation, accredited editors are required to demonstrate that, over the five years since their accreditation, they have:

- been actively employed or involved in the editing profession
- undertaken a range of relevant professional development activities.

The Accreditation Board administers the national accreditation scheme for editors on behalf of IPEd. The board is made up of branch delegates. These delegates are experienced Accredited Editors appointed by their branch’s management committees. All branch delegates are answerable to both their own management committee and the board.

The Accreditation Board during the period of this report consisted of branch delegates:

- Ted Briggs AE (representing editors in and around ACT)
- Linda Nix AE – New South Wales
- Desolie Page AE – Queensland
- Jo Vabolis AE – South Australia
- Vicki Nelson AE – Tasmania
- Stephanie Heriot AE (until May 2018), Katie Lawry AE (from June 2018) – Victoria
- Anna Maynard AE – Western Australia

Chair: Desolie Page AE

The Accreditation Board met 12 times during the year, including in-person at the 2017 national conference, by teleconference and videoconference. Main activities of the Accreditation Board during 2017–18 were as follows:

- Held the seventh accreditation exam on 19 May 2018
  - + Onscreen, invigilated in six venues
  - + 88 candidates, 50 passes, pass rate 57%.
- Processed renewals of accreditation for 61 editors accredited in 2012
  - + 85% successfully renewed their accreditation.
- Initiated renewals of accreditation for 84 editors, renewed in 2013, accredited in 2008.
- Investigated and reported to Council concerning specialist accreditation and advanced accreditation, as agreed in the strategic plan.

### Awards and Prizes

In order to raise the profile of editing and editors, and recognise excellence in the field, IPEd supports several awards and prizes:

#### IPEd Prize

As part of IPEd's mission to support and foster research in editing and publishing (as part of its broader mission to enhance the profession), we sponsor an annual prize of \$250 for an essay or paper written as part of the requirements for a postgraduate degree in editing, publishing or another discipline that permits a focus on editing.

IPEd's Council reviewed the recommendations made by the 2017 IPEd Prize judging panel and agreed not to award the prize in this instance. Submissions for the 2018 IPEd Prize will be called for later in the year.

#### Rosanne Fitzgibbon Editorial Award

The winner of the inaugural Rosanne Fitzgibbon Editorial Award – The Rosie – was announced as Jacqueline Blanchard for her editorial work on *All Fall Down*, published by University of Queensland Press (UQP). Jacqueline expertly edited Matt Condon's 215,000-word original manuscript, reducing it by 50,000 words, to produce the third book in a non-fiction trilogy chronicling entrenched corruption in the Queensland Police Force from the 1950s.

The award recognises excellence in editing and was launched by IPEd in honour of Rosanne Fitzgibbon, a founding member of the then Society of Editors (Queensland) in 1990. Rosie, as she was known, was also a Distinguished Editor, as recognised by IPEd, and winner of the inaugural Beatrice Davis Fellowship in 1992.

'The Rosie is a vital step towards greater recognition of editors and the value they bring to the written word,' said IPEd Chair, Kerry Davies. 'It also seeks to recognise and champion the traits of a good editor: diplomacy, management skills, attention to detail, problem-solving skills, research and writing skills, and professionalism and ethics.'

Author Matt Condon has been quick to recognise the impact a good editor has had on his books: 'I have always believed in the benefits of a "tough" edit and learned very early on that good editors, without exception, improved my work. Jacqueline performed a complicated edit that required losing a lot of extraneous material. Her work was so seamless that I barely

recognised the cuts. To me, that's a great and dedicated editor; it's all in the alchemy of the hidden carpentry.'

IPEd CEO Karen Lee said, 'It goes to show why editors continue to play a key role despite the changing nature of communications. It shows how adaptable, innovative and vital the profession is.'

Judges for the award were Rosie's sister, author Marion Halligan, and two of her former colleagues, Craig Munro and Leonie Tyle.

Jacqueline was honoured to accept the award from Marion Halligan – an author she most admires: 'It is extremely validating to win an award that broadly recognises the unique skill-set that book editors bring to the projects they work on, and publicly acknowledges and rewards that contribution. In the Australian publishing industry it is often remarked that one of the hallmarks of a good edit, and therefore a good editor, is that their work is invisible on the page. The problem for those of us doing this invisible work is that it is hard to put a value on something you cannot see. For book editors, the Rosie is an opportunity to address this imbalance.'

The Rosie was awarded at the 8th IPEd National Editors Conference gala dinner on 14 September 2017, which was attended by Rosanne's three children, her partner Barry Holland, his daughter and her partner.

Submissions for the next Rosie Award will be called for in October 2018.

#### Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship

The Beatrice Davis Editorial Fellowship recognises and rewards the contribution of book editors to Australian writing and publishing. Applicants should have at least five years' editorial work experience in quality Australian fiction and non-fiction, in either adult or children's publishing.

Named in honour of one of Australia's finest literary editors, Beatrice Davis, this prestigious fellowship allows an editor to spend 12 weeks in the editorial department of a United States publishing house or houses.

It is sponsored by the Literature Fund of the Australia Council, the Australian Publishers Association, IPEd and the Australian publishing industry.

### Australian Inclusive Publishing Initiative

In November 2017, Editors NSW President Julie Ganner represented IPED at the second meeting of the Marrakesh Treaty Forum (now called the Australian Inclusive Publishing Initiative). The initiative was established to identify the key challenges in making published material accessible to the print disabled and to identify pathways to address those challenges. Its aim is to increase access to published material for people living with print disabilities in Australia.

Since the meeting, Julie has been working with members of the Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities to develop a set of guidelines for publishers on why and how to make their books suitable for conversion into accessible formats. As research, in August she visited the Royal Institute of Deaf and Blind Children's school and Alternative Format Publications unit at North Rocks in Sydney. The team showed her how they convert educational texts into tactile formats such as braille, tailored to their students' needs. They also demonstrated the problems they encounter with educational materials that have not been suitably developed, from inappropriate content to poorly tagged e-texts that cannot be scanned easily by an e-reader.

Once complete, the guidelines on accessible publishing will be made available as a free e-Pub and circulated to all areas of the publishing industry, including IPED members. In the meantime,

Julie has written a brief guide for editors on using the Microsoft Accessibility Checker tool, which is available in the member resources section of the IPED website.

### National Mentoring Program

The National Mentoring Program helps participants, both mentees and mentors, improve their knowledge and skills in a two-way learning experience. The program brings benefits to the editing profession by increasing members' skills. This in turn helps safeguard the reputation of the profession as a whole.

Since the inception of the program, some 60 mentorships have been conducted. At any one time, there are about 13 mentorships in progress. Two workshops for mentors were held during the year.

The Mentoring Standing Committee 2016 oversees development and administration of the National Mentoring Program. The committee consists of branch mentoring coordinators and is chaired by Ted Briggs AE, Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE and, since March 2018, Geoff Dawson AE (who was also the ACT coordinator).



Local coordinators were:

- Geoff Dawson AE – ACT
- Shannon Kelly – New South Wales
- Jennifer Nunn – Queensland (until February 2018)
- Gail Taggaro AE – Queensland (from February 2018)
- Adele Walker AE – South Australia
- Sheelagh Wegman AE – Tasmania
- Maryna Mews – Victoria
- Michèle Drouart AE – Western Australia (from February 2018)

The Committee met five times during 2017–18. It moved to quarterly meetings from the beginning of 2018.

### **IPed Standing Committee for Professional Development**

An IPed Standing Committee for Professional Development (PD) was established on 3 April 2017. Formation of this standing committee was recommended by the White Paper for Professional Development leading up to IPed's transition to the direct-membership structure. The standing committee comprises branch PD officers or other branch committee members with a particular interest in PD, and is chaired by IPed Councillor Stephen White (WA).

The standing committee's mandate is guided by Section 3 of the IPed three-year Strategic Plan. In this, the overarching objective is to establish an integrated national framework for professional development. At a more granular level, the committee's targets are to:

- develop a national PD framework with short-term and long-term initiatives as set out in the IPed Strategic Plan (2018–2020)
- improve equity of PD opportunities for IPed members regardless of location, financial means or other limiting factors
- support branch PD training programs and achieve greater parity between branch events in terms of breadth, depth and subject matter.

To achieve these aims, the committee has focused on expanding the register of PD resources for branches to draw on, setting up web-based training events (e.g. live and recorded webinars), and developing guidelines for the procurement, delivery and pricing of PD training nationally.

The committee is coordinating its program with those of the Standing Committee on Academic Editing and the Accreditation Board to ensure that members have PD opportunities that align with those areas of activity.

A pilot webinar schedule was planned for early 2018. As part of this schedule, two webinars were delivered: Preparing for the IPed Accreditation Exam, by Malini Devadas AE, and Tour of the Onscreen Accreditation Documents, by Ted Briggs AE. These were developed to provide prospective exam candidates with the opportunity to access exam preparation resources regardless of their physical location or time restraints, as part of IPed's ongoing commitment to developing more accessible options for members. Both were well attended and well received, providing an excellent starting point from which to go forward.

The standing committee remains deep in the work of creating the envisaged national PD framework. Challenges faced include setting up a suitable platform for PD resources, such as a user-friendly cloud-based system; delivering cost-effective PD events for members outside larger metropolitan centres; and meeting expectations for standards and opportunity across a diverse spectrum of professional interests.

The chair (Stephen White, WA) extends thanks to members of the committee for their ongoing commitment:

- John Cokley – Queensland
- Anne Cullinan – New South Wales
- John Liddle – Queensland
- Nicola Markus – South Australia
- Maryna Mews – Victoria
- Christina Ratcliffe – Victoria
- Alison Rogers – Queensland
- Danielle Vecchio – Victoria

The committee also thanks Nicole Mathers (IPed staff) for providing administrative support.

### **IPed Standing Committee on Academic Editing**

IPed Council instituted the Standing Committee on Academic Editing (SCAE) to develop a national program of activities

that support editors in academic publishing, and to review and report on the context and state of play in academic publishing for members of IPEd. The standing committee commenced in November 2017, with Dr Renée Otmar DE (Editors Victoria) as chair. The committee includes:

- Cassandra Ball AE – Victoria
- Charlotte Cottier AE – Queensland (member – Guidelines Pod)
- Davina Dadley-Moore – Victoria
- Rhonda Daniels AE – New South Wales (member – Guidelines Pod)
- Margaret Johnson – Tasmania
- Laurel Mackinnon – Queensland (facilitator – Guidelines Pod)
- Gershon Maller – Victoria (until March 2018)
- Valerie Mobley AE – South Australia (member – Guidelines Pod)
- Juliet Richters AE – New South Wales (facilitator – Scoping Pod)
- Ilsa Sharp – Western Australia (member – Guidelines Pod)
- Tina Thornton AE – South Australia (member – Scoping Pod; until March 2018)
- Rachel Wheeler AE – West Australia (member – Scoping Pod)

The SCAE plays a significant role in implementing IPEd's strategic plan, including leadership in articulating the role of the editor in academic writing and publication, consideration of the *Guidelines for Editing Research Theses* and their currency, and other matters of concern or interest for academic editors.

Current committee members are professional editors who specialise in providing editorial and related services to the academic and publishing sectors and who are also members of IPEd. Although members are drawn from branches to facilitate organisation-wide consultation, they are not appointed to represent their branches, and instead contribute to the overall interests and objectives of IPEd.

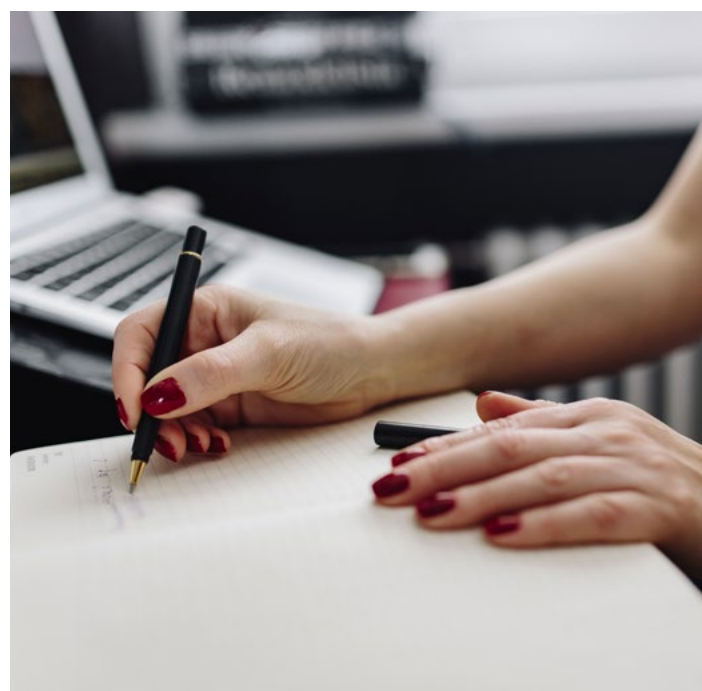
The objectives of the SCAE are:

- to develop and lead a program of activities that support career development for editors in academic editing, with short-term and long-term initiatives and activities designed to implement the priorities outlined in the IPEd Strategic Plan (July 2017).

First steps include:

- + reviewing and articulating the role/s of the editor in academic publishing
- + identifying pathways for career progression and liaising with the Standing Committee for Professional Development to ensure that the national professional development framework is aligned to facilitate this
- + drafting an options paper on the future of the *Guidelines for Editing Research Theses* for consideration by IPEd Council.
- to establish mutual understanding with universities and other stakeholders on the role of the editor in academic publishing
- to explore the desirability of an accreditation for academic specialisation and to liaise with the Accreditation Board regarding the establishment of such
- to explore the feasibility of producing a recommended rates card for academic editing.

The committee continues to work towards these objectives and thanks all committee members for contributing their time, knowledge and wisdom to this important initiative.



### Style Manual Steering Group

The IPEd Style Manual Steering Group (SMSG) aims to ensure that the seventh edition of the *Style manual*, being developed by the federal government's Digital Transformation Agency (DTA), retains the manual's status as Australia's most authoritative style guide and meets the needs of editors in Australia.

The steering group comprises:

- Rowena Austin AE – Tasmania (Chair from August 2018)
- Kerry Davies AE – Queensland (Chair until August 2018)
- Ruth Davies AE – Queensland
- Geoff Dawson AE – Canberra Society of Editors (until August 2018)
- Julie Ganner AE – New South Wales
- Janet Mackenzie DE – Victoria (until August 2018)
- Ilsa Sharp – Western Australia
- Kathie Stove DE – South Australia.

Janet Mackenzie stepped down due to ill health in August. In September we were greatly shocked to receive news of her death. Her contributions to this group, her wisdom and insightfulness, were greatly valued and will be sorely missed.

The steering group had a productive year, liaising closely with the DTA. Following a 20 February stakeholder information session hosted by DTA, the steering group developed a comprehensive survey to collect feedback from IPEd and Canberra Society of Editors (CSE) members and other users of the *Style manual* about how they use the *Style manual* and which parts need updating. The survey asked them for relevant information about themselves, such as editorial qualifications and experience; their use of the *Style manual* in general, and also about specific parts; and specific comments on *Style manual* content.

Many thanks to members Annie Ellis and Wendy Monaghan AE for providing the initial template for the survey, to Juliet Richters AE for reviewing the final survey, to steering group member Ruth Davies AE for analysing the survey results and compiling them into a concise report for DTA, and to the editors who took the time to respond.

The survey opened in mid-May and concluded on 30 June, receiving 322 responses. The SMSG believes that this data will complement DTA's existing research. It may also inform IPEd's consultative role as the development process unfolds.

The SMSG continues to work with DTA, flagging issues of concern to editors and offering advice and input where required.

### Communications Working Party

In January, IPEd convened an informal Communications Working Party (CWP) to review branch and national communications and discuss consolidation of branch newsletters and websites. The group comprised newsletter and website officers from all branches, including:

- Melanie Sheridan – IPEd Communication Officer
- Elisabeth Thomas – NSW
- Julia Sudull – Queensland
- Illona Wallace – South Australia
- Ruth Garvey Kennedy – South Australia
- Elizabeth Spiegel – Tasmania
- Margie Beilharz – Victoria
- Liz Green – Western Australia

The CWP used communications tool Slack and emails to discuss the issues, and quickly reached consensus on the need for transition to a single website. Consensus on the newsletters was less forthcoming, with a primary objection including the size of a combined newsletter, both for readers and for the person producing it. Agreement was reached on the need for consistent branding, however. It was proposed that in future we consider producing *IPEd Notes* as a resource for national information and articles of interest to all editors – shared from a central pool of content produced by branch newsletters, possibly saved in a new IPEd blog – with branches to keep their own newsletters, but with more of a local focus. All newsletters should use the same template.

The CWP has also been discussing the establishment of a blog, but still has a few questions to iron out with Council and management.

Other topics addressed by the CWP during the year include:

- a unified IPEd style guide
- book reviews and other content across branches
- sharing branch event images for social media (specifically Instagram).

# Branch Reports



2018 is the 40th year of Editors NSW as a membership association for editors. The predecessor organisation, the Society of Editors NSW (Inc.) – initially named The Editors – was formed in 1978 by seven Sydney editors, with an interim committee and IPed Honorary Life Member Barbara Ker Wilson as president. Following its first meeting, 70 editors became members of the new society, a number that has now grown to over 350, with members living in New Zealand, Singapore, the UK and Switzerland as well as throughout New South Wales.



Being part of an association like ours is not just about the services we receive for our dollars. Becoming and remaining a member of IPed is also a contribution that each of us makes to support each other, and our profession more broadly. The more of us there are, the easier it will be for us to cast off the underappreciated, ‘invisible menders’ role we have been saddled with in the past. To ensure our future as a profession in the face of rapid global change, we must continue to press for the recognition professional editors deserve.

Towards that end, Editors NSW has had a busy and productive year. We held nine professional development workshops on a wide range of topics, as well as eight monthly meetings, all the presentations from which were then published in our newsletter, *Blue Pencil*, for members who were unable to attend. The branch also hosted two social dinners and helped organise six editors’ lunches.

In addition, we subsidised eight members to attend the 2017 IPed conference in Brisbane, all of whom then contributed newsletter articles or presentations on the conference for the benefit of those who could not attend. We also published 11 editions of *Blue Pencil* and regularly posted information on online social platforms. The branch supported mentor–mentee relationships through the national mentoring program and oversaw 22 candidates sitting the national accreditation exam. Editors NSW also represented IPed at the second Marrakesh Treaty Forum on accessible publishing – now the Australian Inclusive Publishing Initiative (AIPI) – in November 2017.

For all this invaluable work we owe a big thankyou to our wonderful committee members, without whom our range of activities would not be possible:

- Vice President, Zoë Hale
- Branch Secretary, Sally Asnicar
- Budget Officer Russell, Noakes

- Newsletter Editor, Elisabeth Thomas
- Workshop Planner, Lilla Wendoloski AE
- Meetings Coordinators, Teresa Llewellyn-Evans (until October 2017) and Caroline Birch AE
- Mentoring Coordinator and Social Media Coordinator, Shannon Tyler-Kelly
- IPed Councillors, Michael Wyatt AE (until November 2017) and Owen Kavanagh
- Accreditation Board Delegate, Linda Nix AE
- and outgoing Website Coordinator, Adam Raffel.

Our appreciation also to our indispensable Office Manager Susie Pilkington; Honorary Life Member Robin Appleton, who proofreads *Blue Pencil*, regularly takes registrations at member meetings and is always on hand with advice; and exam invigilators Katrina Gibson AE (Lead) and Vicki Snowdon AE, for overseeing the IPed accreditation exam in Sydney this year.

Editors NSW was also pleased to announce Pam Peters’ honorary life membership at the August AGM. Pam’s many contributions include:

- society president for four years
- Distinguished Editor
- involvement in development and review of IPed Prize criteria
- regular presenter at New South Wales workshops and IPed conferences
- work on revision of *Australian standards for editing practice*
- part of writing team for the current edition of the *Style manual*.

We extend our sincere thanks to Pam for the considerable contribution she has made to promote the profession of editing.

**Julie Ganner AE**  
President, Editors NSW



A lot has happened at Editors Queensland over the last year. As of 30 June we had 256 active financial members. Editors Queensland also made a small profit this year of \$1200.



The Editors Queensland management committee has comprised a core group of:

- myself and Ruth Davies AE switching President and Vice President hats
- Kerry Davies AE as Budget Officer and IPed Councillor (in addition to the many hats she wears at a national level)
- Glenine Hamlyn AE as Web Editor; she also stepped into the Executive member role
- Charlotte Cottier AE as Secretary
- Julia Sudull as both *Offpress* Editor and Web Admin, with proofreading support from Josephine Brown AE
- Patrice Shaw and Tamyka Bell have looked after our social media
- and I have also been in the Events Coordinator role.

In addition, Jeni Lewington, Jenny Mathers and Annette Seargeant have all served in the Training Coordinator role; Fiona McKean provided events support; Desolie Page AE has been our Accreditation Board delegate and the Accreditation Board chair; Belinda Pollard AE has been our Affiliate Liaison; Alix Kwan has organised some freelance get-togethers; Robin Bennett AE and Maggy Saldais have looked after catering at our monthly member meetings; Gail Taggarro AE has been Queensland's mentoring coordinator following on from Jenny Nunn; and Lisa Hill has coordinated the Sunshine Coast group.

On top of that, most of the management committee members were also conference committee members, with Ruth as Conference Convener. I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of Editors Queensland and IPed this year.

The national IPed conference was held in Brisbane in September 2017. The conference was a huge success with delegates from across the country, three streams of presentations, and five professional development workshops.

In October our guest speaker, biologist Tim Low, talked about surviving as a writer, and the process of writing and publishing his books. We also had a freelance lunch, and at our end-of-year

dinner in November we were joined by local musicians Mark Cryle and Richard Evans.

We started the new year with a picnic at New Farm Park, followed soon after by our first member meeting of the year with Robert Whyte and Anne Jones from ToadShow. In February, Kerry Davies AE, Desolie Page AE and Helena Bond AE held an accreditation exam workshop. Our March presenter was physiotherapist Sebastian Macleod, who gave us an informative and practical demonstration including some stretches to do when you're sitting at a desk all day. We also held another freelance lunch.

In April we had a member networking dinner and in May we were thrilled to have linguist Felicity Meakins as our guest speaker. Felicity and two of her collaborators, Serena and Violet from Kalkaringi, talked about working on bilingual books about their community.

Megan Harris spoke at our June meeting on starting out as an editing graduate, and Kerry Davies AE held a popular workshop on managing a freelance editing business. In July's member meeting, Ross Clark shared his experience as a poetry editor and as a poet, with practical exercises offering a brilliant insight into the challenges of editing poetry.

At the July committee meeting we approved honoraria for committee members totalling \$3450 for services during 2017–18. The honoraria are a small way to recognise and appreciate committee members for their time and commitment to Editors Queensland. Congratulations also to the nine Editors Queensland members who can now call themselves Accredited Editors, having passed the 2018 exam.

The Queensland branch of IPed extends its thanks and gratitude to the ongoing commitment of their committee members and volunteers.

**Christine Atkinson**

President, Editors Queensland



Editors South Australia (Editors SA) has had a productive year providing support to practising editors and promoting the highest standards of editing. Editors SA provides regular opportunities for its members to meet one another, develop their editing (and related) skills and keep up to date with new technologies.



Highlights of the past year have included:

- going modern with a name change from the old Society of Editors (SA) to Editors South Australia
- using a portion of reserved funds to support members to attend the 2017 national conference; awarding a \$1000 bursary to an emerging editor (Alice Healy) and one to an Accredited Editor (Jo Vabolis); and subsidising members who attended the conference to the amount of \$250 each.

The South Australian branch of IPed also enjoyed fully booked workshops and well-attended member meetings. In addition to these events, we also held an occasional lunch in September last year, and a breakfast on the first day of Adelaide Writers Week.

Our membership is stable at about 120. Each year we lose a few members and gain some new ones. This year we have quite a number of early-career editors as new Associate members – an encouraging sign for the future. Most people who do not renew their membership are either moving away or retiring.

Editors SA also welcomed new Accredited Editors and Professional Members after the 2018 accreditation exam (successful passing of the accreditation exam provides automatic eligibility for Professional membership). This is no small achievement and the branch extends its hearty congratulations on this milestone.

A significant achievement that merits mention is that, while Editors SA is a small branch of IPed, it has one or more active contributing members on all IPed national standing committees. We also benefit enormously from effective, self-motivated

subcommittees that contribute to most tasks and all activity planning. This lightens the workload of the committee as a whole and makes the life of the president much easier.

Our members are able to benefit from the hard work of the committee and the fact that it has a low turnover, with most members willing to contribute for a number of years. This provides committee members with a valuable opportunity to build their expertise and experience in a range of areas. Two comments that are noteworthy came from outgoing committee members who stated: 'I have enjoyed my time on the committee and I would like to thank you all for the learning opportunities and the experience I have gained' and 'I will miss the camaraderie of the committee'.

A warm thank you goes to the Editors SA committee – John Liddle AE, Jo Vabolis AE, Valerie Mobley AE, Adele Anderson AE, Deb Coleman-George, Jane Oliver and Ruth Kennedy – for their generosity and commitment to the ongoing support of our members and the editing profession at large.

### **Loene Doube AE**

President, Editors SA



As a branch of IPed, the Society of Editors (Tasmania) works to help establish and maintain high standards of editing, promote the exchange of ideas and information on professional matters, provide opportunities for professional development and raise government, industry and commercial awareness of the benefits of professional writing and editing.



We have recently resolved to be known as Editors Tasmania, consistent with the other branches of IPed. Transition to the new name is currently in progress.

The Tasmania branch has presented a range of activities over the past year, starting the financial year appropriately with a presentation from the ATO about editors and tax. We held our mid-winter book talk where editors joined colleagues for an afternoon's networking and chat about books – those they had edited and those they'd read – in the State Cinema's cosy café. We also held a stimulating session sharing feedback from the Brisbane national conference.

We wound up 2017 with the return of the Great SocEds Quiz. Long-standing member Philip Blake was the raffish MC for a fiendishly tricky quiz devised by the wizardly Michael Cooke. Merridy Pugh delighted us with the back-story to her self-published (and beautifully edited) *Pig Tails: the First-Ever Guinea Pig Novel*, and shared other publications she has edited or illustrated.

In June, Dr Greg Lehman presented 'Writing with and about Aboriginal people: a conversation'. Greg is co-curator, with Tony Bonyhady, of the exhibition *The National Picture: the Art of Tasmania's Black War* at the National Gallery of Australia. It is now touring Australia. Greg responded to a range of questions posed by those attending. He didn't offer any easy answers but provided attendees with a great deal to think about.

The Society of Editors (Tasmania) looks forward to bringing more opportunities like this to its members over the next 12 months.

A key highlight of the past year has been welcoming two new Accredited Editors. Members Gordon Campbell and Liz Charpleix flew to the mainland to undertake the exam and passed – a 100% success rate for the Tasmanian candidates! The branch extends its heartiest congratulations to Gordon and Liz.

While the Tasmanian branch of IPed is small in physical numbers, it's worth noting that Tasmania contributes to a range of IPed initiatives, including having members on the Accreditation Board (Vicki Nelson AE and formerly Elizabeth Spiegel AE), IPed Mentoring Program (Sheelagh Wegman AE) and the Academic Editing Working Group (Margaret Johnson).

A warm thank you to all committee, and other, members for their commitment to the branch and the profession of editing.

### Ann Hughes

President, Editors Tasmania



Despite not having a president for part of the year, Editors Victoria has had a productive 12 months, providing a wide range of resources, networking and professional development opportunities for its members.



As Vice-President, Mary-Jo O'Rourke AE kept branch activities afloat by chairing the committee meetings, dealing with important correspondence and providing support as needed to the executive committee and the subcommittees. The executive committee worked hard this year on reviewing the IPed Constitution and By-laws so the branch could put forward recommendations as part of the national constitutional review process.

Editors Victoria is also proud to have a range of active participants across IPed's various committees, providing valuable input and support to the broader objectives of the national body. There were a number of key highlights over the past year, including numerous workshops, training sessions and member meetings.

Most recently, Brisbane-based IPed CEO Karen Lee attended the Editors Victoria branch AGM. The evening was an ideal opportunity for members and the executive committee to meet with Karen and to hear how IPed is working to further the interests of its members. Karen addressed how IPed is meeting each of the objectives of the Strategic Plan July 2017 to June 2020. Editors Victoria look forward to welcoming Karen back to Melbourne at the Ninth IPed National Editors Conference next year.

'Beyond the page' is the theme of the conference, to be held at the Pullman Melbourne on the Park in May 2019. Editors Victoria is delighted to be presenting this exciting opportunity for editors and other publishing professionals, researchers, students and associates to connect, learn and celebrate best practice in editing and publishing. Congratulations and thanks go to the members-at-large who have been active contributors in developing the bid to host the conference in Melbourne.

Congratulations also to the 13 branch members who can now proudly call themselves Accredited Editors after successfully passing the 2018 exam. Thank you to all the members who were a part of the exam process, assisting in the successful invigilation of the exam held at the Melbourne site.

At the AGM, there were a number of outgoing and incoming committee members. A sincere thank you goes to Dr Renée Otmar DE (outgoing president and ongoing conference convenor), Mary-Jo O'Rourke AE (outgoing vice-president), Sally McInnes AE and Stephanie Heriot AE for their tireless work in supporting the operations of the branch and representing Editors Victoria at large. Thank you also to the entire executive committee for their dedication, hard work, leadership and support, and to the subcommittees. In the words of Renée, we couldn't do all this great work without you. New committee members are warmly welcomed. The contribution of their experience and skill will be vital to the ongoing success of IPed's largest branch.

**Susan Keogh DE**

President, Editors Victoria



Editors Western Australia (Editors WA) extends a warm thank you for the support of dedicated committee members and other members who have provided us with professionally delivered events over the past 12 months. Thank you also to members at large for your forbearance as we've tried to reinvigorate the branch.



We've had some excellent branch events since this time last year. The February meeting to discuss thesis editing, and the March meeting on genres of editing, organised by Michèle Drouart AE, stand out as model collaborations between committee, experts in the subjects, and editors' minds generally.

There have been some challenges in replicating this: one is that it's difficult to find motivated organisers for branch activities; the other is the lack of a home for meetings – our regular meeting venue at The Warehouse café in Shenton Park fell through late in 2017 when the café closed. Editors WA has not yet been able to reach a consensus on a suitable alternative.

There is an active need to put in place longer term plans that would lend our branch stability, consistency and purpose. The committee has approved the appointment of a general meeting coordinator to provide support in overseeing the calendar of meetings, and help keep meetings on track. Specifics of meeting organisation will still be undertaken either by the committee or by other branch members, but the meeting coordinator will provide support and advice, and continuity of experience through the calendar year.

In December 2017 Stephen White offered to succeed Cheryl Bettridge AE as president, and maintained his commitments as IPEd Councillor for Western Australia and chair of the IPEd Standing Committee for Professional Development (SCPD). Despite Stephen's concerns about whether he would be able to successfully juggle the three roles there were some positive outcomes. Among them the visit by IPEd's CEO, Karen Lee, in April for an open and frank discussion about the benefits of IPEd membership.

The Western Australian committee continues to progress through a number of role changes. I am currently interim president after Stephen stepped down. *Bookworm* editor Martika O'Brien, website coordinator Liz Green, Accreditation Board delegate Anna Maynard AE and budget officer Robert Green have all moved on from their roles. Fortunately, Catherine Macdonald AE, a branch member in Albany, has picked up the task of compiling and editing *Bookworm*, and I thank Catherine very much for that.

Western Australia is a large state, and Perth is a very spread-out city; perhaps this is part of the issue. Hopefully our recent foray into videoconferencing – as a way of enabling members living on the periphery or in more remote areas to take part in events – will help to bridge that gap. The Editors WA branch of IPEd has great strengths and its members represent a pool of exceptional talent and resourcefulness.

As individuals, as editing professionals, and as members of an Australia-wide organisation with growing influence among our partner professions, we owe it to ourselves and to each other to support a vibrant, diverse and thriving community of editors in Western Australia.

### Ilsa Sharp

Interim President,  
Editors WA



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The company has engaged the audit services of the chartered accountancy firm:  
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During the period of this report, the company banked with Bankwest Australia.



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