

# Blue Pencil

Newsletter of  
The Society  
of Editors  
(NSW) Inc.

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PO Box 254, Broadway NSW 2007

November 2005

## Editors of the *South China Morning Post*

*Robin Hutcheon began his career on the Sydney Morning Herald and later became editor of the China Mail and the South China Morning Post, the latter for 19 years. At our June meeting Robin recalled the colourful history of these Hong Kong newspapers, and their remarkable editors, during decades of dynamic change. Excerpts from the talk follow.*

The *South China Morning Post* had a succession of great editors almost from day one. Interestingly, we had a very strong input from Australia.

One of the founders of the newspaper in 1903 was a Chinese man born in Sydney in 1872 named Tse Tsan-tai. He and a man named Alfred Cunningham decided to start up an English-language newspaper that would represent the views of educated Chinese on the changes that were taking place in China at the time.

China was in a very difficult position and was under strong pressure to reform. It was completely surrounded by hostile imperialist powers—the Russians in the north and northwest, the British in India and Burma, the French in Indochina—and the Japanese in

the east. After the Russian Revolution Japan became a power in the Far East. The *South China Morning Post* formed at a pivotal time in Hong Kong's and China's history. Hong Kong was the

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**'The dynasty came to an end in 1911 and the *Morning Post* was there to report it.'**

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one place that things could be reported and said that could not be reported in any other part of China with the exception of newspapers in the treaty ports like Shanghai and Peking.

Hong Kong had the opportunity to report on all these big events that were taking place, in particular the crumbling

of the Chinese Empire. The dynasty came to an end in 1911 and the *Morning Post* was there to report it. Sun Yat-sen became the first republican president in China. Tse Tsan-tai was really the frontman for the rebels in Hong Kong. He succeeded in creating the ethos that the *Morning Post* would be an independent newspaper reporting on China and also covering local events.

In 1915 another Australian, Henry Ching, joined the *Morning Post*. His father was Charles Ching, a Chinese gold-digger who ended up in Mackay, Queensland, married an Englishwoman and had eight children. Henry Ching started off as a reporter and had a good primary education. In those days Australian kids rarely had

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Next meeting: Tuesday, 1 November 2005

### Jane Austen and crime

Jane Austen has her darker side. Duelling, poaching, gambling, imprisonment, adultery, elopement, theft and other crimes all have a place in her work and her world. This aspect of Jane Austen has been explored for the very first time by Susannah Fullerton in her new book, *Jane Austen and Crime*.

Born in Canada, Susannah Fullerton grew up in New Zealand, completed her postgraduate degree in Scotland and married a South African before settling in Sydney 16 years ago. Susannah is president of the Jane Austen Society of Australia—the biggest literary society in the country. Both in Australia and overseas Susannah has appeared on television, spoken on radio and lectured extensively on Jane Austen. Susannah has published many articles about Jane Austen's works and is the co-editor of *Jane Austen—Antipodean Views*.

Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. Drinks and light refreshments provided. \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members and those who don't RSVP; \$7 for holders of a current concession card.

**Please RSVP to 9294 4999 (voicemail) or <brhed@pnc.com.au> (email) by Friday, 28 October.**

**December meeting—The Christmas Party: Tuesday, 6 December 2005.**

a good education—few went on to do the intermediate and only the lucky ones went on to the leaving certificate and university. Ching was educated up to primary level and had a great vocabulary and a facility for words. He was an avid reader and read everything he could get his hands on. In his Anglo-Chinese home the lingua franca was English. Henry Ching became a newspaper journalist. When his mother and five of his siblings were murdered by a Sri Lankan worker, Henry Ching still covered the trial. His coverage included the young man's statement from the gallows. This was an impassioned speech explaining that he had been badly misled, was terribly sorry and had become religious in gaol; he asked for repentance. Ching reported all this for his newspaper. Ching's father, Charles, was knocked sideways by the murder. In 1915 Charles decided to return to his native village on the border between Hong Kong and China for his last years so Henry accompanied him on the journey to Hong Kong.

When Henry applied to the *Morning Post* it was a rather colonial paper but by 1922 he was appointed editor, to the newspaper's credit, and would be the editor until 1956. At that time the colony was dominated by big European firms and European gentlemen who liked to go to the club for lunch, have a snooze in the afternoon and take all the concessions.

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**'He used to send out thundering memos to the editor.'**

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Like any good Chinese person Henry Ching immediately got all his family into the operation. They were all valuable members of the team and worked very hard. It was the job of the editor to write editorials and Ching used to turn out a column of wit every day. To turn out one or two is pretty good but to turn out one every day...His editorial covering the liberation of Hong Kong in 1945 is really a work of great literary ability.

The *Morning Post* was in a profitable position despite the Depression and competition from the other English-language newspapers. Hong Kong even then was a centre of industry.

The *Morning Post* was owned by an American dentist, Dr Joseph Whittlesey Noble. He was a great big investor in Hong Kong. He owned shares in most of the companies and sat on their boards. Noble owned the paper completely. He used to send out thundering memos to the editor about how this was wrong and that was wrong, saying 'Can't the reporter write English properly?' and 'The proofreading is terrible!' However, Noble was a victim of World War II. He was interned and when he came out was so sick that he couldn't carry on. Noble sold the shares of the *Morning Post* to the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank.

In December 1941 the Japanese invasion began in Pearl Harbor. Hong Kong fought the Japanese for two weeks but the small garrison was overwhelmed and the colony fell on Christmas Day. The newspaper effectively stopped publishing for the war years. The Japanese decided to resurrect the newspaper under a new masthead and called it the *Hong Kong News*. This English-language paper virtually became the mouthpiece of the Japanese occupation government. They put out all their pronouncements and restrictions in the paper. With problems including the lack of power to run the generators, it eventually became a weekly. The paper was still going in 1945.

Henry Ching had a very bad occupation ordeal. He was imprisoned by the Japanese and badly treated but they finally released him. He made occasional visits to the *Morning Post* building—where a few staff kept an eye on everything to make sure it was intact. When the atomic bomb was dropped it was quite apparent to everybody that Hong Kong was about to be liberated and they prepared to re-open the newspaper. The Japanese let most of the European internees out of the internment camp about two weeks before the fleet came into Hong Kong so the paper was a going concern before the fleet's arrival. When the fleet's personnel came ashore they were greeted with a single-sheet galley proof turned out by the *Morning Post* with an official announcement that the fleet was entering! Full marks to Ching for the surprise, also to another Australian named Frederick Percy Franklin. He was the Managing

**NEW MEMBERS**

- Peter Gray
- John Mahony
- John Schache
- Malcolm Spence

Director at that time and instrumental in getting a generator working so that they could produce this announcement.

After this, the generator experienced problems. The story is that they had to rig up a line from the royal naval dockyards where there was a submarine with an electric generator. They ran the line up the street, for about a mile-and-a-half, and apparently this was how they started up the *Morning Post* in 1945. They found enough newsprint and the British authorities were keen to get the paper going along with other utilities. The newspaper also bought the *Hong Kong Telegraph* and the *China Mail* early in the post-war period.

When Noble sold the shares of the *Morning Post* the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank was very anxious to have the main shareholding. It didn't want another American bidder to move in. In 1945 the Americans didn't want the British colonial authorities to reoccupy Hong Kong. They wanted to get there first and land nationalist soldiers so that Hong Kong could be handed back to the nationalists. However, Mountbatten got wind of this and sent the fleet in very quickly. So Hong Kong remained a British colony from 1945 to 1947 and the bank thwarted American ownership of the newspaper.

I was born in Shanghai, China and had migrated with my family to Sydney in 1941. I began my journalism career on the *Sydney Morning Herald*, serving in Sydney, Canberra and London.

In those days, my dear (future) wife, Beatrice Greaves, was a chief court reporter reporting the War Crimes Trials that were held in Hong Kong. She had been a university student from 1939 to 1941 but couldn't finish her studies because Hong Kong was occupied. She went over to live in Macau temporarily. When I got to Hong Kong in 1953 Bea was still reporting at the courts.

My first job was to be assistant editor and finally the editor of the *China Mail*.

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*It's almost Jingle Bells season again!*

# Christmas Party!

*you are invited to*

## **Buon Gusto Italian Restaurant**

368 Abercrombie Street  
Chippendale NSW 2008

6.30 for 7.00 p.m.

### **Tuesday 6 December**

\$48 a head, including drinks

Celebrate the festive season with great food, wine and prizes!

The friendly Buon Gusto restaurant, the scene of our very successful freelancers' forum last year, is the location of the society's 2005 Christmas Party.

Party organisers have put together a great deal featuring a seafood menu. Just \$48 will secure you fine food and plenty of liquid Christmas cheer.

We welcome non-members.

**Booking is essential. Please RSVP by Friday, 2 December.**

**Numbers are limited so book early to guarantee your place at the 2005 Christmas Party.**

**See the enclosed booking form for more details or visit the society's website <[www.editorsnsw.com](http://www.editorsnsw.com)>.**

We relied on reporters of the *Morning Post* to come back at lunchtime and type out their stories so we could get out a second edition with some local news in it. Bea would be sitting at the typewriter typing a story and my previous editor would be bold enough to stand behind her and rip the page out of the typewriter as she finished it, take it away, sub it and send it down to be set.

We were all working on linotypes and everything that got into the paper was typed by Chinese linotype operators who recognised individual letters but couldn't read. They made up the paper with long metal strips of type that were just handed over and pasted on the form in the way that the subs had set down on their dummy. The operators were remarkably good at putting together a paper. One of the things I found that I could do, that I wouldn't dare do in an Australian paper, was to go down and manhandle the type myself. If I saw something out of place I would have no hesitation in shifting it. (If I did that here I would be rapped on the knuckles by the union and we would have a strike.) It saved a lot of time and explanation. I could get away with it there. Not too much harm was done and I wasn't trying to do anyone out of a job.

We had a press in those days that printed at the rate of 3000 copies an hour and if we printed from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. we could get about 5000 papers printed, dispatched and delivered in time for people going home from the office at 5.00 p.m., so that worked out quite well. The 3000 an hour print run was not so good for the morning paper, however, because that meant they had to start at midnight to get the paper out before 6.00 a.m. If there was a typhoon blowing, as frequently happened in Hong Kong, it made life even more miserable as the

papers were usually hand-assembled by Chinese ladies working in another part of town—in the open in an arcade. This continued until the 1970s in a place called Beaconsfield Arcade. They would collate these papers before sending them out to distributors. The early papers were taken out to the New Territories in time for breakfast the next morning and the late papers were issued to people in the central district.

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**'He wrote beautifully and he composed editorials in immaculate English—as only the Scots and the Irish can.'**

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I forgot to mention another very important thing that happened. I became so fond of a particular reporter at the newspaper who was feeding me with great stories and headlines that in the offices of the *China Mail* I finally got on one knee and said to her 'Beatrice, would you marry me?' She looked at me and said 'What's kept you?' Bea and I were happily married in 1957. It will be 50 years of marriage in 2007. We've had three children. Two of them are in the media and one of them in the law. Bea and I made a very happy twosome in the newspaper and she continued to write features.

In 1962 I moved over to the *Morning Post* and they introduced some very good Chinese editors on the *China Mail*. The *Morning Post* at that stage was 24 pages. During my time as deputy editor we frequently had situations where the editor would go off on home leave for six months as a time and it was my job to act as editor.

I remember well the time that Kennedy was assassinated. I went home after getting the paper to press at

midnight but at 1.00 a.m. the night editor phoned me and said 'Kennedy's been shot and may not live.' I said, 'The only thing we can do is to put a stop press in and I'll come around straight away and we'll remake page one. We re-wrote the front page and added a stock picture of Kennedy. There was no question of waiting for a photograph—that would have arrived a full 12 to 18 hours later. We had a very respectable story on the front page but unfortunately by the time we got going again it was about 3.00 a.m. On the strength of this we were able to persuade the management to buy a new press because printing at 3000 an hour was not good enough.

My editor, Alec Sturrock, was a Scot who had worked for Alistair Cooke and was one of the best editors at the *Morning Post*, apart from Henry Ching. He wrote beautifully and he composed editorials in immaculate English—as only the Scots and the Irish can. 1967 was one of the worst periods in Hong Kong's history—we had the Chinese Cultural Revolution spilling over and some very serious riots and bombings in Hong Kong. In November 1967 poor Alec passed away with a heart attack. I was deputy editor and, as they were in no position to appoint a new editor, the newspaper owners asked me to carry on. I carried on for the next 19 years and I don't think I ever did get a letter of appointment to formally confirm I was editor.

It was a great privilege for me to stay on for 19 years and I'm grateful to the Australian reporters who came up and worked on the paper.

We had very good reporting staff and very good feature writers. We had an excellent racing section—the two things that keep Hong Kong going are racing and business and in my time we introduced a very good racing supplement and a very good business supplement. It was what Hong Kong people wanted. Chinese people who didn't read English would buy the *Morning Post* for the racing and business section because they could still read the figures.

They were great times not only for China but for Hong Kong itself. China was going through the Gang of Four

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## Call for contributions

Have you been to an interesting conference or event? We welcome your contributions to *Blue Pencil*.

We would like to publish your articles, book reviews or letters. Please email the editor at <cje\_editing@hotmail.com>.

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period immediately after the Cultural Revolution. China then started going in for a market economy and Hong Kong began preparing itself for the takeover. Secret negotiations with the British went on for a couple of years until it was agreed that sovereignty would be returned to China but there would be a 50-year extension with Hong Kong designated a special administrative region. Hong Kong would have certain privileges including an almost autonomous regime.

Before I left Hong Kong we had a circulation on Saturdays of 120,000. As the circulation increased the more the advertising rates went up so it was a very profitable business. The year I left the *Morning Post* was making HK\$ 450 million a year and paying a very nice dividend to shareholders as well. Times have changed but the paper is still managing to make a profit.

I was involved with the *Morning Post* until 1986. I left just before it was taken over by Rupert Murdoch. I had the unenviable task of choosing the next editor and eventually the person I chose, Philip Crawley, was offered the editorship. The newspaper went from strength to strength up until 1997 when Hong Kong was handed over to China.

After nearly 10 years the freedoms are still there. The street names have not been changed and demonstrations still happen in Hong Kong that could not in China. The Chinese are very tolerant indeed and they do not want to rock the boat too much. When the transition occurred the *Morning Post* was not interfered with in any way.

Murdoch kept the *Morning Post* for about five years but sold it when he found out he wasn't going to get Star Television. The newspaper today is still being produced in much the same way and is owned by a Malaysian-Chinese newspaper magnate. That is probably a better arrangement than in my day when it was owned by the bank.

That's my story of life on the *South China Morning Post*.

*Robin Hutcheon was a journalist for 40 years and an editor in one capacity or another for three-quarters of that time. He returned to Sydney in 1986 and has written many books including a history of the South China Morning Post.*

## **IPEd notes October 2005**

***News from the Institute of Professional Editors (formerly CASE)***

By the time you read this, the second national conference will have come and gone. As I write, the emails are flying among IPEd delegates and the Accreditation Board to prepare their presentations for the conference.

During the last few weeks the State and Territory societies have held workshops and discussions in response to the issues paper prepared by the National Organisation Working Group. The paper sets out the possible legal structures that a national organisation could adopt. Its reception has been generally favourable, but members have many questions they want answered before we go ahead. Two critical matters are the balance between the societies and the national body, and costs and sources of funds.

The formation of the national organisation will be further discussed in a plenary session at the conference. If you have not been able to attend the conference or your society's discussion, send comments and questions on the

issues paper to your society's IPEd delegate. All feedback will be taken into account as the outline is refined into a formal proposal, and of course no move will be made without the explicit approval of the membership.

Most of the members of the National Organisation Working Group have chosen to end their involvement at this point, so we are looking for volunteers to re-form the group and move things forward. People with legal knowledge and/or experience in the administration of similar organisations would be particularly welcome, but enthusiasm is a sufficient qualification. This is a chance to serve your profession at a crucial point in its evolution and to make friends with your peers and colleagues in other parts of the country. Contact your IPEd delegate, listed on the website at <[www.case-editors.org](http://www.case-editors.org)>.

*Janet Mackenzie*  
*IPEd Liaison Officer*  
<[www.case-editors.org](http://www.case-editors.org)>

## **Conference notes**

**Having only just returned from Melbourne with a multitude of ideas and impressions from the National Editors Conference we will have to leave more detailed reports for future issues of *Blue Pencil*. The conference was superbly organised by the Society of Editors (Victoria) Inc. and a great credit to the hard-working members of the conference organising committee, including convenor Lan Wang and society president Liz Steele. Fascinating speakers and stimulating debate engaged editors from across the country and raised the profile of the profession (with some great coverage in the Melbourne newspapers).**

**The very successful Style Council 2005 conference organised by Pam Peters also presented interesting viewpoints and entertaining speakers. Please contact the committee if you were lucky enough to attend the National Editors Conference or Style Council 2005 and let us know which sessions you thought were especially useful.**

**For those who were unable to go, the next conference is not far away. Start planning to attend 'From Inspiration to Publication', the 2007 National Editors Conference on 9 to 12 May in Tasmania. The conference will be held at the Wrest Point Convention Centre, Hobart. See you there!**

## **Australian Society for Technical Communicators (NSW) Annual Conference, 28 to 29 October 2005**

The Annual Conference of the Australian Society for Technical Communicators (NSW) will be held at the Carlton Crest Hotel, just off Broadway near Central Station, Sydney.

Society of Editors members are invited to attend at the ASTC (NSW) members' discounts.

Program details and booking forms are available at <[www.astcsw.org.au](http://www.astcsw.org.au)>.

## **Freelancers do lunch, 28 October 2005**

Freelance editing is, for the most part, a solitary occupation and for some it can be a lonely one. The society recognises this and is keen to promote interaction between members. Meeting other editors is a good opportunity for discussing developments in the industry and the many issues which arise in our work. Meeting other editors also facilitates 'networking' which can be of lasting benefit to the individual member and to the society as a whole: as a professional group we benefit from referring work and contacts to each other.

Not all members are able to attend the monthly meetings, so the society has introduced regular lunchtime meetings—the Freelancers' Lunch.

The Freelancers' Lunch is a very informal affair: there is no agenda, no guest speaker and no need to reserve a place. You don't even have to eat—simply come along to the nominated venue when it suits you. The notional starting time of the lunches is noon but this arrangement really only exists to beat the city crowds to a table!

The next freelancers' lunch will be at Rossini Restaurant, Alfred Street, Circular Quay at 12 on Friday, 28 October. Rossini is licensed and mains cost about \$12 to \$14. There is no need to RSVP but if you require more information, phone Grant Bailey on 9760 1446. We hope to see you there.

## **Super and retirement free seminar, 26 and 27 October 2005**

Wondering how you will survive on \$476.30 from the Age Pension? Or want to know if it is worthwhile reviewing your superannuation contributions? It's never too late to plan for your retirement. Members of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance can attend the JUST SUPER 'Super & Retirement' free seminars in Sydney on 26 and 27 October. To register call 1800 033 014.

## **Proceedings of the ANZI conference 2005**

Proceedings of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers Conference, Engage, Enlighten, Enrich, held in Melbourne on 18 to 19 March, are available. For order form and details, see <[www.aussi.org/conferences/2005/ProceedingsOrderForm.htm](http://www.aussi.org/conferences/2005/ProceedingsOrderForm.htm)>.

## **Australian Society of Authors Forum on Indigenous Literacy, 11 November 2005**

The Australian Society of Authors (ASA) Forum on Indigenous Literacy, chaired by Jared Thomas (ASA Indigenous portfolio holder, author of *Sweet Guy*, IAD Press), will bring together indigenous authors, academics and literacy experts to discuss strategies to promote reading and improve the lives of indigenous children.

You are invited to come along to discuss ways in which authors can champion indigenous literacy around Australia. Speakers include Wendy Cowey, Resources Manager, National Accelerated Literacy Program; Jeff McMullen, Director, Fountain for Youth Trust; and author Nadia Wheatley.

This free event is open to all. It takes place on Friday 11 November 2005, from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. at the University of Technology, Sydney, Theatre 4.29. Light refreshments will be provided.

RSVP by Tuesday, 8 November to Cathy Perkins, phone 02 9318 0877 or email [cathy@asauthors.org](mailto:cathy@asauthors.org).

## **Gleebooks and Jane Fonda, November 2005**

On Thursday, 10 November Jane Fonda, one of the 20th century's most high profile, yet private, personalities will speak about her book, *My Life So Far*. The talk will be at the Everest Theatre, The Seymour Centre and start at 6.00 p.m. sharp (\$15/\$12; Gleeclub and concession). Details are on the Gleebooks website. To book, phone The Seymour Centre (02) 9351 7940.

Other fascinating talks, discussions and launches will be held throughout October and November at Gleebooks (49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe). A few highlights are listed below. See the website <[www.gleebooks.com.au](http://www.gleebooks.com.au)> for more details, or phone Gleebooks on (02) 9660 2333.

On Monday, 31 October, Thomas Keneally will discuss his new book, *The Commonwealth of Thieves: The Sydney Experiment*. Keneally examines how a motley 'thief colony', exiled by England as incapable of civilised development, not only survived, but flourished into a sophisticated modern society (6.30 for 7.00 p.m.; \$9/\$6 concession).

On Wednesday, 2 November Ann Curthoys & John Docker will discuss their new book, *Is History Fiction?* Their work contributes to the passionate debates about History and Truth that are carried out not only within academic literature and university classrooms, but in newspapers, courtrooms, parliaments and everyday life (6.30 for 7.00 p.m.; free).

On Thursday, 3 November Luke Davies will launch *Classics: Books For Life* by Jane Gleeson-White. Mark Twain defined a literary classic as 'something that everybody wants to have read and nobody wants to read'. However, these books continue to exert a powerful influence on contemporary culture. Jane Gleeson-White writes about why the greatest works of literature matter and what they can give us today (6.00 for 6.30 p.m.; free).



## Responses to 'strong freelancer's market?'

When we last received responses to the question of 'Is there a strong freelancer's market at the moment' one person asked:

- (1) are the projects specialised or
- (2) are the publisher's looking for cost-reliable freelancers?

One of our original correspondents has sent the following reply.

'Definitely (1) is true because all the book publishing projects I was offered were complex four colour illustrated books, often spread-by-spread formats for which the editor would both concept develop and project manage (such as commissioning and guiding multiple authors). While I don't know if (2) was true, it is possible that editors are finding publishers' fees, particularly flat fees, too lean to live on as well as run their business. So perhaps publishers are getting knocked back on fees rather than availability. Too often they compare fees to a salary, failing to take into account all the overheads (such as running an office, IT management, accounting, banking, super), plus time off for leave, public holidays, down time, schedule gaps, marketing time, administration tasks and so on. They often seem surprised that a freelancer has to cover a vast amount of unbillable hours, yet they have to cover this themselves in their own business. It makes me wonder if freelance editors are moving away from the book publishing industry into other areas.'

These further insights certainly open up the discussion and we hope to receive more contributions for the next issue of *Blue Pencil*. In addition, we will soon be conducting a survey to help us put together a clearer picture of freelancing in New South Wales.

Society of Editors (NSW) Inc.

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<[www.editorsnsw.com](http://www.editorsnsw.com)>.

### **Blue Pencil**

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Your comments and contributions are welcome. Mail them to the Editor, *Blue Pencil*, Society of Editors (NSW) Inc., PO Box 254, Broadway NSW 2007, or email Catherine Etteridge at <[cje\\_editing@hotmail.com](mailto:cje_editing@hotmail.com)>.

### **Copy deadline for the December issue is Tuesday, 8 November 2005**

The views expressed in the articles and letters, or the material contained in any advertisement or insert, are those of individual authors, not of the Society of Editors (NSW) Inc.

### **Advertising rates**

Full page, \$150; half page, \$80 (horizontal only); one-third page, \$50 (vertical or horizontal); quarter page \$40 (horizontal only); one-sixth page, \$30 (half of one column). Inserts: \$75 per hundred for DL-sized or A4 pre-folded to DL size. Circulation: approximately 375. Please note that the committee reserves the right to decide whether advertisements are appropriate for this newsletter.

### **Membership**

Membership of the Society of Editors (NSW) Inc. is open to anyone working as an editor for publication (print or electronic documents) and anyone who supports the society's aims.

Membership runs for a calendar year. 2005 fees are \$65 for new members (\$40 if joining after 30 June) and \$60 for renewals.

To obtain a membership application form, phone (02) 9294 4999 or write to PO Box 254, Broadway NSW 2007. You can also download an application form from the society's website at <[www.editorsnsw.com](http://www.editorsnsw.com)>.c.

### **Listing in the *Editorial Services Directory***

The society's *Editorial Services Directory* is available online at <[www.editorsnsw.com/esd/](http://www.editorsnsw.com/esd/)>. New listings and updates can be added quarterly as follows:

- online only: July (deadline 30 June); October (deadline 30 September)
  - print and online: January (deadline 31 December); April (deadline 31 March).
- The cost is \$40 per year (\$20 for new listings received from April to September) in addition to the fee for membership of the society. New listings should be submitted using a template available from Cathy Gray at <[cgray@mpx.com.au](mailto:cgray@mpx.com.au)>.

### **Committee meetings**

All members are welcome to attend the society's committee meetings, generally held on the second Tuesday of each month. Please contact a committee member for details if you wish to attend the next meeting.

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## Professional development

**Structural editing**

**Date:** Saturday, 29 October 2005

**Presenters:** Pamela Hewitt and Shelley Kenigsberg

**Venue:** City Tattersalls Club, 198 Pitt Street, Sydney

**Cost:** \$195 members, \$250 non-members (lunch included).

Structural editing is a jigsaw puzzle with more than one solution. This workshop presents practical techniques to develop the logic and flow of a text—whether the manuscript is fiction or non-fiction.

**InDesign**

**Date:** Friday, 10 February 2006

**Presenter:** Alpha Computer Consultants

**Venue:** Level 3, 123 Clarence Street, Sydney

**Cost:** \$300, lunch not included.

**Course includes:** course notes, certificate, twelve months help desk (via email to reinforce the learning) and repeat any public course within six months for free (conditions apply). Each student will have a workstation.

**MS Word: advanced editing skills**

**Date:** TBA

**Presenter:** Bruce Howarth

**Venue:** TBA

**Cost:** \$195 for members, \$240 for non-members.

In this workshop, we will look at advanced find and replace, positioning graphics and fields and will introduce macros. Each topic will be discussed, and participants will then have time to work through examples. Each participant will have a computer.

**Effective writing: structure, style, and the power of plain English**

**Date:** TBA

**Presenter:** Pauline Waugh

**Writing and editing for the creative industries**

**Date:** TBA

**Presenter:** Ginny Lowndes

**Regional members** living more than 200 km from Sydney will receive a 40 per cent discount on the cost of the society's workshops.

**Cancellation and refunds**

The society will refund 100 per cent of the fee if you cancel four or more working days before the workshop, and 50 per cent if you cancel one to three days before. However, please note that there can be no refund if you cancel on the day of the workshop.

For more information about the society's workshops, please email Pauline Waugh at paulinewaugh@ozemail.com.au.

**Copy deadline for the December issue of *Blue Pencil*:**

**Tuesday, 8 November 2005**

# Christmas Party!

*you are invited to*

## Buon Gusto Italian Restaurant

Address: 368 Abercrombie Street  
Chippendale NSW 2008  
Time: 6.30 for 7.00 p.m.

### Tuesday, 6 December 2005

Cost: \$48 a head, including drinks

Celebrate the festive season with great food, wine and prizes!

We welcome non-members.

**Booking is essential. Please RSVP by Friday 2 December.**

I would like to attend the Christmas party

Name:.....

Email address:.....

Phone: (W)..... (H).....

Cheque/money order enclosed for \$.....

Please charge \$.....to my credit card  Bankcard  MasterCard  Visa

Credit card number:.....Expiry date:.....

Name on credit card:.....

Cardholder's signature:.....

Pay on the night (but you must book beforehand):

**Please return to Society of Editors (NSW), PO Box 254, Broadway NSW 2007.**

**Enquiries to Bruce Howarth: (02) 4731 5406 or brhed@pnc.com.au.**

**If you are using a credit card to book, you may phone (02) 9660 0335  
or fax (02) 9660 9375 your booking to the society's treasurer, Janice Beavan.**