



## Nuts and bolts of grammar and punctuation



James Hansen and Anne Surma will answer questions at October's networking meeting on grammar and punctuation, adding their knowledge and skills to tricky problems posed by members. If you have ever had a difficult text to edit or want to know why a certain rule applies to a particular text, if you hate seeing apostrophes put in the wrong places, or you don't know the best way to use a semicolon, come to this workshop. Even if you've been an editor or proofreader for years, we guarantee you'll learn something new!

### The presenters

**James Hansen** joined the society in its foundation year and is an honorary life member. He was a committee member for many years. Now retired, James has been a high school teacher (English and geography), educational media producer, equal employment opportunity officer (Education Department of Western Australia), editor, and lecturer in traditional English grammar (at the meeting, you can buy his little book *Take Charge! Using apostrophes and plurals correctly: an easy, friendly guide*). James has also published a couple of short stories.

**Dr Anne Surma** lectures at Murdoch University in the English and Creative Arts program. Anne has worked in private industry as an editor and writer and, more recently, as a workshop facilitator and consultant, advising on communication strategy and practice. Anne's research interests include public communication as ethical discourse and creative practice; corporate responsibility; and discursive approaches to dominant and marginalised narratives in public and organisational

stories. She has published chapters and refereed journal articles from her work, and her monograph, *Public and professional writing: ethics, imagination and rhetoric*, was published by Palgrave in 2005. Currently, Anne is under contract with Palgrave to produce her second monograph, *The power of professional writing: effecting social change in a global culture*. An editorial board member of two international journals, *Journal of Communication Management* and *Prism*, Anne also holds the honorary title of Distinguished Editor, conferred by the national organisation, the Institute of Professional Editors (IPEd).

For more details go to the Members' roundup on page 4.

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*Tools of the Trade and Cents and Sensibility will be back in the November issue of Bookworm!*

- **The next networking meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 October 2011. See page 3 for more details.**
- **Copy deadline for November issue is Tuesday 1 November 2011.**



## Crossing borders



Last month was all about the Sydney editors conference. We went, we saw, and for those of you who came to last month's networking session, we debriefed. Amanda, Cheryl, Marisa and I reviewed a few points of interest from sessions as diverse as MS assessment, running a freelance business, professional development in editing, and editing Indigenous writing. It was merely scratching the surface of what was available at the conference, of course. Keep checking the Society of Editors (NSW) Inc. website <<http://www.editorsnsw.com/>> as they'll be uploading the conference papers very soon. Carla, Marisa and I also presented our spiel to the other side of the country and wowed them with fabulous scenes of Perth and surrounds, enticing them to register in 2013. Even though it's not wildflower season in April, we managed to persuade them that we have lots to offer for registrants and their families. Calls of 'But it's so far away' were sidetracked by the temptations of warm weather, intellectual challenges, and Margaret River wines. Check out our presentation on our conference website <<http://www.editorswa.com/conference>>.

I'll also have been and come back from the Ubud Writers and Readers Festival <<http://www.ubudwritersfestival.com/>> when you read this. Apart from getting inspired, motivated and hearing from some 120 writers across the South-East Asian region, I'm doing a bit of promotion for our conference. Our conference flyers <<http://marisa.com.au/conference/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/flyerA5web.pdf>> will be available on tables at the three venues, and I'll be scouting for potential speakers and topic ideas around our theme of crossing borders. It's tough, but someone has to do it...

Members James and Anne have generously agreed to give us all a nice refresher on grammar and punctuation at our next session. Please come along and support the Society, as well as topping up your skills in this essential area. It will be a lively and interactive discussion, so come prepared with a few curly questions for the experts.

See you there!

Happy editing

*Robin*

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# Members' roundup

## Grammar and punctuation

Date: Tuesday 18 October 2011  
Venue: Tom Dadour Community Centre  
363 Bagot Road, Subiaco  
Time: 7.30 – 8.30 pm  
Cost: Members \$5; non-members \$10  
RSVP: 13 October to Robin Barnes

*Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.*



At our October networking meeting, members James Hansen and Anne Surma, will present a workshop on grammar and punctuation. James and Anne have asked for questions, howlers, confusing words/concepts/punctuation to get to them before the meeting. Please send all your questions relating

to grammar or punctuation to Mary <[elgar@westnet.com.au](mailto:elgar@westnet.com.au)> as soon as possible and she will forward them (unedited!) to James and Anne prior to the meeting. We look forward to receiving lots of questions so we can have some lively debate!



James Hansen



Anne Surma

Did you know that America celebrates National Punctuation Day on 24 September? Below is a quiz they set for participants:

**Write one paragraph, maximum of three sentences, using these 13 punctuation marks: apostrophe, brackets, colon, comma, dash, ellipsis, exclamation point, hyphen, parentheses, period, question mark, quotation mark, and semicolon. You may use a punctuation mark more than once.**

Bring your paragraph to October's meeting for James and Anne to judge. There may even be a prize!

Join now!

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twitter

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## Other news

At our September meeting, we had a majority vote to increase the membership fees to \$80 for full members and \$60 for concessional members. Thank you to those members who were at the meeting and gave their endorsement of this increase, and to those members who emailed their responses. Our membership fees include the \$25 IPEd fee.

### New members

The Society would like to welcome new members Lisette Kaleveld, Sonja Porter and Carina Tan-Van Baren.

## Events calendar 2011

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER
18 October	Grammar and punctuation	James Hansen and Anne Surma
15 November	Graphic novels	Panel
December	Christmas party	Dinner

### **IPEd.** Position vacant IPEd web minder

The Institute of Professional Editors Limited (IPEd) seeks a part-time web minder to join its team of voluntary workers. The website is at <<http://iped-editors.org/>>. It is estimated that fulfilling the role will require, on average, between 2 and 5 hours per week.

IPEd would like you to:

- upload information to the website as requested by IPEd's company secretary, councillors, committees and member societies of editors
- identify material of value and interest to editors and add this to the website
- update the website as required and archive out-of-date information
- maintain the website's members' database.

The person we are looking for will:

- have experience with website content management systems
- be an editor and a member of an Australian society of editors
- support IPEd's objectives.

Applications should be sent to

<[info@iped-editors.org](mailto:info@iped-editors.org)>

by the closing date of *Friday 11 November*.

The Institute of Professional Editors Limited (IPEd) exists to advance the profession of editing, by planning and implementing an accreditation scheme and other nationally focused activities that support Australian societies of editors and their members, and editors in general.

# Conference update

## 6th IPEd National Editors Conference

The conference in 2013 is less than 18 months away and we are well into the organising phase. While we are not ready to open up the registration process just yet, there are still a few ways you can help out.

1. Register your intent to attend or keep up to date by signing up for the conference newsletter <<http://editorswa.com/conference/>>.
2. Sponsor the conference. A sponsorship brochure is on the website and if you require further information, you can contact Robin Barnes at <[sponsorship@editorswa.com](mailto:sponsorship@editorswa.com)>.
3. Submit an abstract for a paper. The deadline is 20 March 2012. Details are up on the website <<http://editorswa.com/conference/>>.
4. Spread the word. We are on Twitter (#IPEdCon2013, @EditorsWA), or share the details straight from our Facebook Page or put the link to the conference website in your email signature.

5. Email your suggestions and comments to me at <[convenor@editorswa.com](mailto:convenor@editorswa.com)>.

We want to make this conference the best one yet so please support us!

*Marisa Wikramanayake*

**Editing across borders**  
6th IPEd NATIONAL EDITORS CONFERENCE, PERTH 2013

**Sponsorship**

**Bronze level benefits (\$1500)**  
- Inclusion on website's sponsor web page  
- Inclusion on FB pages for Society and conference  
- Inclusion in conference program  
- Inclusion of merchandise in attendee bags

**Silver level benefits (\$3000)**  
(Bronze level sponsor benefits + those listed below)  
- Exhibition rights during the conference

**Gold level benefits (\$5000)**  
(Silver level sponsor benefits + those listed below)  
- Inclusion as sponsor in monthly newsletter  
- Inclusion in media coverage and an conference program cover  
- Banner/signage promotion at major plenary sessions and live social media coverage  
- Complimentary full two-day conference pass for one person

**Platinum level benefits (\$7000)**  
(Gold level sponsor benefits + those listed below)  
- Banner ads on website (three month rotation)  
- Complimentary full two-day conference passes for two additional people

**The Society of Editors (WA)**  
The Society of Editors (WA) Inc. is Western Australia's professional organisation for editors, proofreaders and other professionals in the publishing and written communications industries. Founded in 1982 and incorporated in 2000, the Society is governed by a constitution and guided by national policy documents prepared by the Institute of Professional Editors. The Society is run by a committee elected by its members according to the constitution.

**The IPEd National Editors Conference**  
The Institute of Professional Editors holds a national conference every two years and in April 2013, the Society of Editors (WA) will host it in Perth.  
Between 200 to 300 professionals working in the editing and publishing industry attend the two to three day conference. They represent large publishers, distributors and small business and freelancers from across Australia.

**Exposure**  
Website views: 1500 per month for two years  
Newsletter: 400 per month for two years  
Conference attendees: 200-300  
Facebook page: 101 with a reach of 10,000  
Twitter: 700 + impressions per tweet

For more information: Robin Barnes ([sponsorship@editorswa.com](mailto:sponsorship@editorswa.com))  
<http://editorswa.com/conference>

## 5th IPEd National Editors Conference

SoEWA committee members, Amanda, Cheryl, Marisa and Robin, briefed attendees at the September networking meeting on a few points of interest gathered at the 5th IPEd National Editors Conference held in Sydney in September. They provided information from sessions as diverse as MS assessment, running a freelance business, professional development in editing, and editing Indigenous writing.



# Spotlight on the editor



From an early age, Danielle Costley knew she wanted to work with words – in whatever way, shape or form. Having completed a Journalism Degree in Western Australia, Danielle moved to the east coast to work as a script writer for television on ‘Home and Away’, as well as on

a series of telemovies for children.

But the lure of the print medium was too strong, resulting in her leaving behind a career in television to pursue her childhood dream of working as a journalist.

Danielle spent several years’ working as a national business and wine journalist, before moving back to her hometown, Perth, where she was offered the role of managing editor on a monthly business magazine.

She then went on to work as an editor on a homes and living magazine, as well as with the Rural Press Group on a number of publications.

During this time, Danielle co-authored *Western Australia – The Quest for Excellence*, a business book profiling emerging and established companies in WA. She has since written a children’s novel, *The Golden Orb*, which was chosen for selection in the Premier’s Summer Reading Challenge, a government initiative designed to encourage school children to read and improve literacy levels in WA. This fantasy adventure, targeted at 8–12 year olds, received favourable reviews nationally and has since been published as an e-book.

Currently, Danielle is working as an editor on various corporate publications, as well as a wine journalist for an international publication. She is happily living in Margaret River with her young family, where she can pursue her passion for the wine industry, while also completing a Graduate Diploma in Editing (Publishing) from Australian College QED.

## A trivial bit of fun ... *riddle me this*

1. What word becomes a palindrome when viewed upside down and backwards?
2. Pronounced as one letter but written with three, only two different letters are used to make me. I’m double, I’m single, I’m black, blue, and grey. I’m read from both ends and the same either way.
3. What word, when written in capital letters, is the same forwards, backwards and upside down?
4. What call for help, when written in capital or lower case, is the same forwards, backwards and upside down?

Answers will be printed in the November issue of *Bookworm*.



DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY OR A SUGGESTION FOR THE DESIGN OF BOOKWORM?

Contact Bec with your articles or ideas | [becsthecatswhiskers@gmail.com](mailto:becsthecatswhiskers@gmail.com)

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Society of Editors (WA) Inc.

Say what you mean—hire an editor



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