

# **BOOK WORM**

**NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY OF EDITORS (WA) INC.**

**May 2004**

## **From the Chair**

Well, here I am, once more in the Chair and happy to be here, even though Anne's great effort in the position over the past two years does present me with a hard act to follow.

The various roles undertaken by committee members are now taking shape. Chris Walker's responsibility for planning topics for our monthly meetings is well placed. His enthusiastic approach to this task is reflected in the initial stages of the program, which promises to offer stimulating meetings for our members. Michele Crawford will share with me the education and training role in the short term, developing it into something more permanent as the year progresses. In addition, Ceridwen Clocherty, our Vice President, will assist in updating the Society's web information.

I am sure the efforts of these committee members will be appreciated and supported by the membership.

The Constitution of the Society does allow for members to be co-opted to the committee, and we do need to form small working groups to assist in the decision-making and application of the various tasks — for example, supporting Chris with the program of meetings and events. There is also the perennial requirement for members who might be interested in presenting sessions for the Practical Editing course.

Your committee would like to know if you are interested in assisting with any aspects of committee work. Please contact me, [bdurston@uwa.edu.au](mailto:bdurston@uwa.edu.au) if you wish to support the Society in this way, or if you have any suggestions of how we might make this proposal more appealing to members.

Please keep in touch by attending as many meetings as possible. We look forward to your support.

*Betty Durston (President)*

## **Editorial**

As Betty mentions above, apart from her duties as our Vice-President, Ceri has graciously agreed to help update the Society's website. So, does your entry in the

members' section need updating? Or, like me, do you not even have an entry yet? Are there other sections of the site that you feel need reworking? Do you know of other sites that may be of interest to members, which could appear on the links page? Contact Ceri with your suggestions; together we can make our site a truly effective marketing tool.

My apologies to Anne Surma for failing to attribute to her the excellent review of Don Watson's book, *Death Sentence: the decay of public language* (published in the March Book Worm). It is being reproduced in the Canberra SOE newsletter and I'm sure others will want to follow suit.

*Tanya Marwood*

## **Forthcoming Meetings**

### **MAY MEETING:**

#### **Resources for Editors**

Where is the first place you look to find answers to thorny grammatical problems?

As an editor, what is the one reference book you could *not* do without?

Here's an opportunity to hear other members' answers to these questions. This meeting will be a 'show and tell' of members' most useful resources. Books, websites\*, e-mail groups, names of organisations — bring them, or details of them, along.

It would be particularly helpful if members could compile and bring *lists* of their most useful resources, for fellow members to take away. Start compiling now!

*\*Printing off pages from websites (where possible), may be the best way to 'show and tell' these electronic media.*

**When:** 7.30pm, Tuesday 4 May 2004

**Where:** Tresillian Community Centre, 21 Tyrell Street, Nedlands

*NB Cover charge of \$2.*

RSVP: 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2004

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## Report on April Meeting

The April meeting provided an opportunity to learn more about fellow members' past and present professional activities and to discuss issues relevant to the Society and the editing profession in general.

Chaired by current President, Betty Durston, the round-table approach (plus the excellent wines and cheeses) made for a genial atmosphere for current and prospective members. Attendees learned of current member activities, including voluntary work for a local MP and the recent completion of manuscripts — as both authors and editors. Jan Knight had on hand copies of a historical tour guide of the Goldfields, which she had recently completed editing. Interestingly, one other member present had also recently written an article on the Goldfields and a central figure in the Goldfields' history, May Vivienne.

Several new and prospective members from a variety of fields attended the meeting. Members were particularly engaged by the experiences recounted by a newspaper sub-editor.

Ideas were also canvassed for future meetings. Among these, the prospect of discussing rates and the delivery of training in various computer packages were raised. Ceri Clocherty informed members that she was overseeing the updating of the SOEWA website, which was met with wide approval.

*Chris Walker*

**Deadline for June 2004 Book Worm issue:** Tuesday 18 May 2004. All submissions gratefully accepted.

**Further 2004 Book Worm deadlines**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
July 2004	Tue 22 June
August 2004	Tue 20 July
September 2004	Tue 24 August

## Contacting SOEWA

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