Catalogue and Index

**Periodical of the Cataloguing and Indexing Group,
a Special Interest Group of CILIP, the Library and Information
Association**

Editorial   September 2018, Issue 192

Welcome to issue 192 of Catalogue and Index which is devoted to the topic of indexing. The term "indexing" can have different meanings, as indexing takes place in many different ways and formats. So, we are delighted that this issue gives a taste of the different ways indexing is used in various parts of the information professions. We have discussions about Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and FAST, which may be the ways many of us encounter indexing in everyday cataloguing life. However, the issue also contains articles about keywords in abstracting and indexing databases, subject indexing in repositories, and back-of-the-book indexing. We hear from those who do indexing and lead developments in indexing, as well as from those who research indexing. Above all, this issue shows the variety and vibrancy of indexes, indexing and indexers.

The issue starts with an article by Alan Danskin about subject indexing using FAST, including an analysis of how FAST is used at the British Library. Robert Kasenchak explores the topic of information discovery and retrieval through subject based classification and specialized language in repositories. Clare Playforth talks about using Library of Congress Classification to index theses in an institutional repository. Helen Bilton writes about indexing books, including the historical development of indexing and a discussion about how indexing is carried out in the present day. Paula Clarke Bain explores the use of humour in book indexes, analysing the jokes included in indexes for books about comedy. Rosemary Dear writes about the history and current-day activities of the Society of Indexers. Pilar Wyman describes the work and life of a book indexer, including the impact of technological changes to the indexing profession.

Contents

Liz Antell discusses ethical issues in LCSH, using a specific example of a race-related term to analyse the harm that is caused by not dealing with historical, unethical headings that still lurk in our catalogues. Lucile Deslignères outlines the creation of an index to organise resources on the website of the Language Centre at the University of Oxford, illustrating the challenges of categorising languages.   Lynne Bowker analyses the issues of language and translation of keywords, in the context of indexing resources in abstracting and indexing databases.

The final section includes a case study, conference report and a letter, all focussing generally on cataloguing and classification. Max Zanotti provides a report about a retrospective cataloguing project at Chatham House Library, which was compiled for his master's degree. Next, Lynn Thorn, winner of a CIG bursary to attend the CILIP conference in July, reports on this conference, including reference to cataloguing and indexing related themes. Finally, Natasha Aburrow-Jones writes a short response to an article in issue 191 of Catalogue and Index. We really welcome such responses, so if you have anything to say about any of this issue's articles, please write to the editors.

Karen F. Pierce: PierceKF@Cardiff.ac.uk

Deborah Lee: Deborah.Lee@courtauld.ac.uk