

# Christine Bruce

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Advanced  
Professional  
Member

## PROFILE

A talented editor with more than 20 years' experience, and freelance since 2005, I have an in-depth understanding of the full publishing process, from the earliest manuscript stages to published product. I have an excellent eye for detail and am able to work to a high level of accuracy. My organisational skills are exceptional and I am accustomed to working independently and to deadlines, accommodating changes to the agreed schedule or brief where necessary, and often juggling more than one project. I work constructively with colleagues in various different roles (including authors, designers and typesetters) from various walks of life (for example, teachers, fellow freelancers, and company employees) to produce quality content that meets the brief and engages the audience.

## FREELANCE EXPERIENCE

### AREAS OF INTEREST

I began my editorial career working on the Maths list at Hodder Murray, and I continue to work on Maths titles, but as a freelance I have been able to branch out into other areas of interest, which brings a broader perspective to all my work.

#### Educational and children's publishing

I have always been interested in both language and education. Education is important, and educational resources can play a large part in ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential. I have worked on a wide range of titles for all age groups, including but not limited to highly illustrated early years workbooks; textbooks and other resources for Key Stages 1–3, GCSE and A-level; and practice exam papers and digital products. In 2016 I took part in two one-week workshops providing training in development editing as part of a major educational reform project in central Asia.

But education is not just about textbooks – it's also about learning through play and activities and through stories, which allow us both to recognise ourselves and to explore experiences and points of view other than our own. My specialist subjects are **Maths** (up to and including GCSE) and **English** (Literature and Language), and I also enjoy working on **early years** products, **verbal and non-verbal reasoning** titles, and **children's novels, anthologies and accompanying resources**.

#### Linguistics

In 2021–2022 I completed an MA in English Language and Linguistics: I graduated with Distinction and won the Joan Beal prize for 'exceptional work' in English Language and Linguistics at the MA level. Following this, I am keen to work on more **English Language and Linguistics textbooks**, as well as **academic papers**.

#### Hobbies

Hobbies are a way of bringing balance to our lives – for example, they allow us to continue to learn, to exercise our creativity or to get close to nature. I love **walking** and **the outdoors**, as well as all sorts of **crafts**, in particular **bookbinding, book art** and **paper art**.

### SERVICES

I offer the following services, and can also carry out specialised tasks, such as mapping checks, on request.

- Project management
- Content/structural/development editing
- Copy-editing
- Proofreading
- Answer-checking
- Checking digital functionality

### CLIENTS

My clients include Cambridge University Press, the Educational Company of Ireland, Hachette UK, Haremi, Just Content, Oxford University Press, Pearson and Scholastic.

## OTHER ROLES

As a freelance, I am used to working independently, but I also enjoy being part of a team, and have held several other roles alongside my freelance work.

### 2013–2017: The Chartered Institute of Editing and Proofreading

I joined the Chartered Institute of Editing and Proofreading (CIEP, then the Society for Editors and Proofreaders) in 2006, and became an **Advanced Professional Member** in 2008. For four years I also served on the CIEP Council. As **Conference Director** I project managed three very successful residential conferences, offering a wide range of workshops, seminars, lectures and networking events to around 140 delegates. This involved dealing with questions from members, liaising with the CIEP's own office staff, venue staff and a small team of volunteers, and booking and briefing speakers and session leaders, as well as preparing documents such as marketing copy, information for delegates and feedback surveys.

In my fourth year I served as **Standards Director**, dealing with complaints against members and updating the complaints procedure and code of practice; I was also part of a group focusing on the future direction of the Society, in particular its bid to achieve Chartered status (successful in 2019). Throughout all four years, I participated in Council meetings and online discussions on a wide range of topics. Both of these directorial roles required strong organisational and communication skills, as well as a high level of motivation and commitment.

### 2011–2013: Brighton Friends' Meeting House

As part-time **Relief Warden** at Brighton Friends' Meeting House, I dealt with enquiries about bookings and from visitors to the building, and set up and cleared meeting rooms before and after bookings.

## IN-HOUSE EXPERIENCE: EDITOR AT HODDER MURRAY

I joined the Maths list at Hodder and Stoughton Educational (later Hodder Murray) as **Editorial Assistant** in November 2000. I was promoted to **Desk Editor** in July 2001 and to **Senior Desk Editor** in October 2002.

I worked on both series and stand-alone titles, managing a range of student books, teacher resources and revision guides from manuscript to finished product. I had full involvement in all stages of the process: in particular, I worked closely with Design on the development of page designs and covers and the commissioning of artworks, and liaised with Production over schedules and the placing of projects with typesetters. I also worked with freelance editors, as well as carrying out some editing and proofreading in-house, to ensure the content was accurate, engaging and appropriate for the target age and ability range.

## ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Whilst at university I worked as a **temporary secretary** in the offices of companies including an estate agents, a train company and the temping agency itself. I also had a voluntary role as **Secretary and Editor for the Education Special Interest Group within Mensa**, which involved dealing with member enquiries and editing and designing a newsletter every two months. In my final year I undertook **work experience at Specialist Publications (UK) Ltd**, which gave me a valuable insight into the processes involved in magazine publishing.

## TRAINING COURSES

As well as attending several CIEP annual conferences, I have completed the following training courses.

- Copy-editing Skills (Publishing Training Centre)
- Editing Illustrated Books (PTC)
- Book Production for Editors (PTC)
- New Product Development (PTC)
- On-screen Editing 1 (CIEP)
- In-house Corbis training
- In-house copyright training

## EDUCATION

**2021–2022** MA in English Language and Linguistics (**Distinction**) from the University of Sheffield

**1996–2000** BA in English Literature (2.1) from the University of Bristol

**1996** A-Levels: English Literature (A), Latin (A), Mathematics (A)

**1994** GCSEs: 7 'A\*'s, 3 'A's

AS-Level: General Studies (A) GCSE: Ancient Greek (A\*)