

# openbook

## Media Release



### Openbook summer published 1 December

1/12/2022

*Openbook* summer, published today, celebrates Sydney as a legendary party city, its coastal and inland waters as great places to swim and, as always, superb writing. The new issue includes:

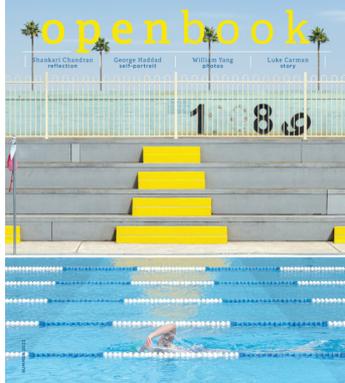
- Lisa Murray, City of Sydney historian and Library fellow, delves into the Tooheys archive
- Neha Kale's profile of novelist Michelle Cahill
- Luke Carman's short story, which merges James Joyce's *Dubliners* and a Bondi Junction car park
- George Haddad, novelist, reflects on the moments that formed him as a writer
- Shankari Chandran, author of two recent novels, reflects on the now-lost library that made her
- William Yang's first exhibition, *Sydneyphiles*, comes to life again in a piece by Sally Gray in time for the Library's exhibition for WorldPride23

"Summer *Openbook* delivers on what artist George Byrne's swimming pool on the cover promises," says editor Phillipa McGuinness. "It evokes the season, particularly in its glorious photo essay with beaches, ocean pools and waterholes, and is designed for holiday time when we have more hours to enjoy a beautiful glossy magazine full of great new essays, articles and stories."

Since it was launched two years and nine issues ago, *Openbook* has published essays, stories and poetry from some of Australia's best writers — Marcus Zusak, Sarah Holland-Batt, Malcolm Knox, Yves Rees, Robert Drewe, Inga Simpson, Rick Morton — profiles of some of our best novelists, artists and science writers — Emily Bitto, Cressida Campbell, Indira Naidoo, Jackson Ryan — alongside the work of leading contemporary photographers and illustrators.

According to State Librarian John Vallance: "We launched *Openbook* at the height of the pandemic to help our readers and visitors feel better connected to their Library, to help start conversations and to connect the Library with the wider community and beyond."

"We wanted to spotlight the collection more — to include writing and creative work from the extraordinarily talented Library staff, as well as commission articles by established and emerging writers, many of whom have used our collections and reading rooms for their own work."



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“While the magazine will continue to evolve, it sits comfortably with our values and our aim to nourish literary and artistic culture, as the State Library always has. *Openbook* does this in ways that are surprising and inspiring.”

Inside each quarterly issue are thought-provoking and insightful stories, plus regular book reviews, the quiz and a modern adaptation of an old recipe. Librarians and curators take readers behind the scenes to reveal weird and wonderful finds from the extraordinary collection and highlight new acquisitions and discoveries.

The latest summer edition of *Openbook* is available now: [sl.nsw.gov.au/openbook](http://sl.nsw.gov.au/openbook)

**\*\*\* Subscribe to *Openbook* or become a Friend of the Library by 19 December to be in the running to win an evening in the Library Bar for six people \*\*\***

**Copies of *Openbook* summer available on request.**

### MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Vanessa Bond, Media & Communications Manager, State Library of NSW  
9273 1566, 0411 259 898, [vanessa.bond@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vanessa.bond@sl.nsw.gov.au)