**Pitch Independent full program outline**

**Saturday July 28:**

**Optional Pitch Preparation Day,**

**University of New England, Arts Building, Lecture Theatre A3,** <https://studentvip.com.au/une/armidale/maps/47160/map>

**9.30 am—12.30 pm.**

Includes short advice presentations on all sorts of aspects of maximising your pitch opportunity, plus very useful practice pitch sessions in front of local publishing professionals who will give you feedback.

**August 3-4, Pitch Weekend**

**Friday 3 August, morning**

**Small Press and Independent Publishing Symposium**

UNE Arts Building, Lecture Theatre A3, <https://studentvip.com.au/une/armidale/maps/47160/map>

**9.00am to 12.30pm**

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| **From** | **To** | **Speaker or Activity** |
| 9.00 | 9.05 | Opening by Pitch Independent co-ordinators |
| 9.05 | 9.20 | Welcome to Country by Anaiwan elder Steve Widders *Falls Country* by Judith Wright, read by Catherine Wright |
| **PART I: Individual Presentations moderated by Pitch Independent co-ordinators** |
| 9.20 | 9.35 | *Current State of the Industry (Small Presses)*Michael Webster |
| 9.35 | 9.50 | *Engaging Indigenous Creators*Rachel Bin Salleh (Magabala Books)  |
| 9.50 | 10.10 | *The Role of The School Magazine in the Growth and Development of Australian Children's Literature*Alan Edwards (*The School Magazine*)  |
| 10.10 | 10.30 | *Running a Poetry Publishing Co-op*John Knight (Pitt Street Poetry)  |
| 10.30 | 10.45 | Questions from the audience for all four speakers |
| 10.45 | 11.05 | Morning tea break |
| **PART II: Conversation moderated by Michael Webster (SPN)** |
| 11.05 | 12.30 | Publishers respond to questions from moderators and audience about the significant and growing role of small press in Australian literary and publishing culture. |

**Friday 3 August, afternoon**

**Poetry Pitch Sessions**

**Oorala Lecture Theatre, UNE,** <http://study.une.edu.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1856/~/oorala-centre-location>

**2.00 pm to 5.00pm**

These sessions are for those who wish to pitch poetry **only**. Note however that two magazine publishers, Jonathan Green of Meanjin and Alan Edwards of The School Magazine, will be seeing poets as well as other writers on Saturday as they will not be present for the Friday afternoon session. If you want to see either of them, you will need to book a slot on Saturday.

Please wait in the common area outside the Oorala Lecture Theatre. You will then be called for your pitch. Each pitch slot goes for 10 minutes, one on one. Times will be strictly kept to. A bell will be rung when you have 3 minutes left, and again when the 10 minutes is up.

Lunch can be purchased at [Booloominbah Restaurant](http://booloominbah.com.au/) (<http://booloominbah.com.au>), which is a short walk from Oorala, or Café Life (<https://unelife.com.au/cafelife>) near the library on the UNE campus.

**Important guidelines:** Book publishers will be looking for proposals for collections (or anthologies), magazines for individual poems (but can be more than one poem of course—you can pitch a suite of poems). If pitching a collection, you should have a well-developed outline ready, and some sample material. If you already have a complete manuscript, let publishers know.

Do not bring entire manuscripts or expect publishers to read samples on the spot. See the pitch session as a conversation which will introduce the publisher to you and your work and if they are interested, they will want to follow it up and ask for your sample and/or manuscript to be sent to them later. You can of course also read a poem to them as long as it still allows you time to tell them about you as a poet.

It is a good idea to have a short written pitch proposal handy—no more than one page--which includes a/your name and contact details; b/a short outline of what you are pitching (eg a collection of poetry or several poems for a magazine) and c/your publication record if any, and any other relevant achievements such as awards. This can be given to the publisher at the end of your pitch to act as a memory aid: but *please note, it does not guarantee that you will hear back from them.*

**Publishers and editors participating in the Poetry Pitch:**

John Knight, Pitt St Poetry (book publisher) <https://pittstreetpoetry.com/poetae/>

Emily Stewart, poetry editor, Giramondo(book publisher) <https://giramondopublishing.com/>

Veronica Sumegi, Brandl and Schlesinger(book publisher) <http://www.brandl.com.au/>

Belinda Wheeler, editor, Antipodes (magazine) <https://digitalcommons.wayne.edu/antipodes/about.html>

Rachel Bin Salleh, Magabala Books(book publisher, indigenous creators) <https://www.magabala.com/>

**Friday 3 August, evening:**

**6pm to 7.30pm**

**Book Launch and Publisher Display**

**Reader’s Companion**

**149/151 Beardy St, Armidale** <http://www.readerscompanion.com.au/>

The New England Writers’ Centre, the University of New England and Reader’s Companion Bookshop invite you to join us for a launch of two new books, *Forest Family* and *Making the Familiar Fresh*, by local writers, as well as a display of books by visiting publishers. Light refreshments provided. No bookings required.

**Saturday August 4, Full Day**

**Pitch Sessions for**

**Fiction**

**Non-Fiction**

**Children’s literature**

**Illustration**

**plus extra Poetry magazine pitch slots(for Meanjin and The School Magazine only)**

**TOPS Room, Armidale Bowling Club,** <https://armidalebowl.com.au/>

**9.00 am to 4.00pm**

Note: These sessions are principally for writers of adult fiction and non-fiction as well as children’s literature and Young Adult literature, and also illustrators, whether for children or adults. However there are also slots available for poets with two magazines: Jonathan Green of Meanjin (adult poetry) and Alan Edwards of The School Magazine (children’s poetry). Both will also see writers in other genres, and Alan Edwards will also see illustrators.

Please wait downstairs at the Bowling Club until ten minutes before your session, at which time you should move to the waiting section upstairs in the TOPS Room. A Pitch Independent coordinator will be there to assist you. Each pitch slot is for 10 minutes, one on one. Times will be strictly kept to. A bell will be rung when you have 3 minutes left, and again when the 10 minutes is up.

Armidale Bowling Club is situated in the city centre, close to cafes, restaurants, pubs and supermarkets. The Club offers lunch and drinks options downstairs in the restaurant/bar area, but there are also many other options nearby.

**Important guidelines:** Book publishers will be looking for proposals for books, magazines for individual stories, essays or poems (but can be more than one of these of course). You should have a well-developed outline ready, and some sample material. If you have a complete manuscript, let publishers know.

See the pitch session as a conversation which will introduce the publisher to you and your work and if they are interested, they will want to follow it up. Do not bring entire manuscripts or expect publishers to read samples on the spot. However if you are pitching to a book publisher, do let them know if the work is completed or if you are just pitching a proposal plus sample material.

Illustrators should bring a portfolio or samples to show publishers and editors. If you are an author-illustrator pitching a picture book, it is advisable to also show a ‘dummy’ of the book or at least some sample pages. If you are however pitching your illustrative work for consideration generally, to illustrate other people’s work, or for cover art etc, your portfolio/samples are sufficient.

It is a good idea to have a short written pitch proposal handy—no more than one page--which includes a/your name and contact details; b/a short outline of the particular work or works you are pitching and c/your publication record if any, and any other relevant achievements such as awards. Illustrators may also include a small sample of work (no more than one page). This document can be given to the publisher at the end of your pitch to act as a memory aid: but *please note, it does not guarantee that you will hear back from them.*

**Publishers and editors participating in the General Pitch Sessions:**

**Book publishers**:

*Rachel Bin Salleh, Magabala Books*: <https://www.magabala.com/>

Poetry, fiction and non-fiction for adults, YA and children’s literature, by indigenous creators, both writers and illustrators.

*Linsay Knight, Walker Book*s: <https://www.walkerbooks.com.au/>

children’s and YA literature, and illustrators.

*Ruby Ashby-Orr, Affirm Press*: <https://affirmpress.com.au/> adult fiction and non-fiction, and Young Adult fiction.

*Peter Bishop, Peter Bishop Books*: <http://www.venturapress.com.au/blog/2017/4/19/peter-bishop-books>

adult literary fiction

*Jane Curry, Ventura Press*: <http://www.venturapress.com.au/>

mostly adult non-fiction, including memoir, biography, health and well-being etc, and some adult fiction

*Margrete Lamond, Dirt Lane Press*: <http://www.dirtlanepress.com/>

Provocative illustrated books for all ages—interested in writers and illustrators.

*Nick Tapper, Giramondo:* <https://giramondopublishing.com>:adult fiction and non-fiction. No poetry (poets should pitch to Emily Stewart, Giramondo poetry editor, on Friday)

*Veronica Sumegi, Brandl and Schlesinger*: <http://www.brandl.com.au/>

adult fiction and non-fiction (and poetry to be pitched on Friday only)

*Anna Solding, MidnightSun Publishing*: <https://midnightsunpublishing.com/about-us/>

adult literary fiction, YA and middle-grade fiction, picture books, illustrators.

**Magazine editors:**

*Belinda Wheeler, Antipodes*, magazine editor: short-form adult fiction and non-fiction (and poetry to be pitched on Friday only) <https://digitalcommons.wayne.edu/antipodes/about.html>

*Alan Edwards, The School Magazine* editor: children’s short fiction, short non-fiction, short plays, poetry, and illustration <http://theschoolmagazine.com.au/>

*Jonathan Green, Meanjin*, magazine editor: short-form adult fiction, non-fiction and poetry <https://meanjin.com.au/>