

TEN POUND POM

Carole and her family left England in the 1960's. My own journey to Australia was much more recent and I drew very much on those personal memories to illustrate this book. Coincidentally Carole mentions the very town I used to live in – Market Harborough. I also put soil from my back garden into a little bottle...so it was with a very real lump in my throat that I drew some of these pictures. You can read [The](#)



[ABC](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-04/migration-book-a-trip-down-memory-lane-for-illustrator/9011614) interview <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-04/migration-book-a-trip-down-memory-lane-for-illustrator/9011614>

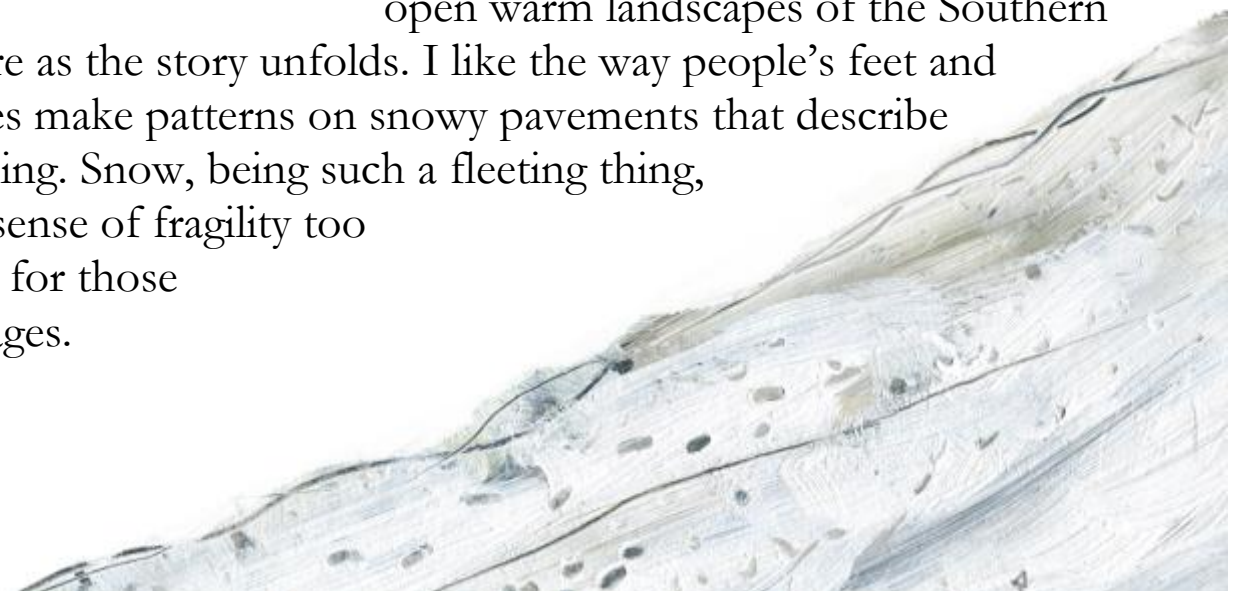


I used old photos in my ‘collaged colouring-in’, so the characters in this story are wearing clothes my family once wore. Can you find any of these patterns (left) in the book?



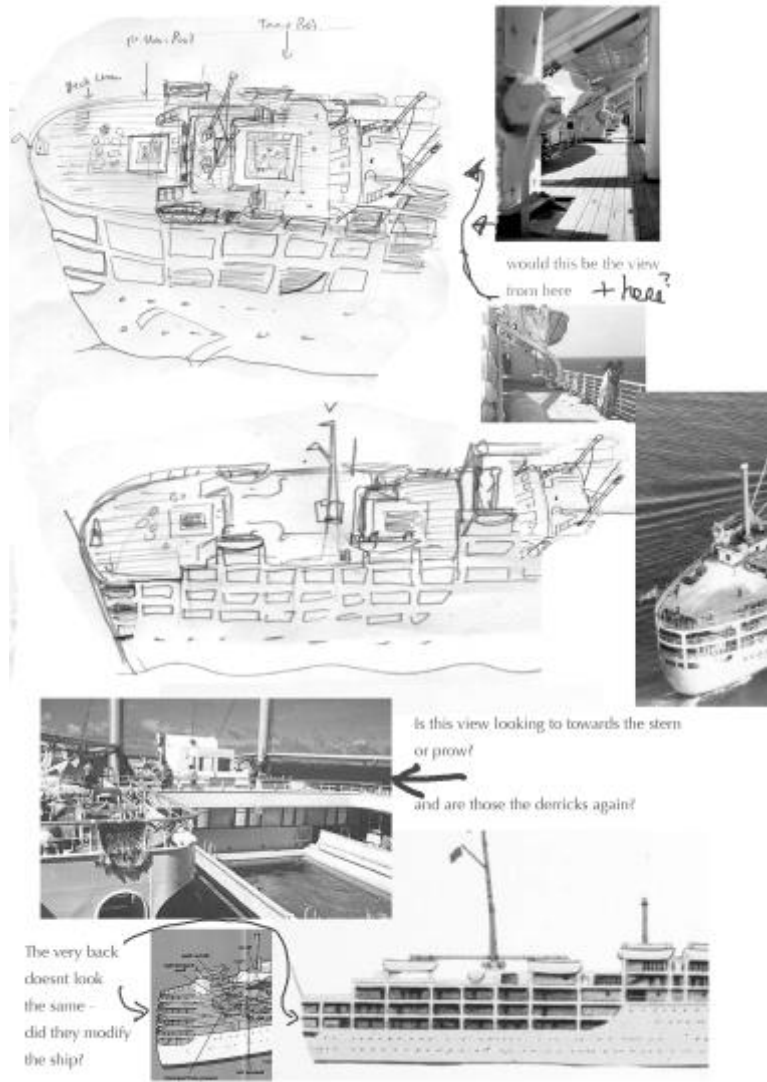
Ten Pound Pom is about travelling from dark to light so I made the early pages dull and wintry – in contrast to the open warm landscapes of the Southern

Hemisphere as the story unfolds. I like the way people’s feet and bicycle tyres make patterns on snowy pavements that describe a time passing. Snow, being such a fleeting thing, conveys a sense of fragility too – just right for those opening pages.



Non-fiction means that the illustrator can't just make all the pictures up. Luckily for me - one of my most favourite things is to go drawing in a museum. I spent a lot of time on historical research, especially trying to find out what The Arcadia, the cruise ship that Carole's family journeyed on, looked like. It was broken up for scrap years ago and the photographs that still exist never seemed to show the bits I wanted to illustrate... so I drew from plans and a model of a similar ship.

It was like putting a puzzle together and lots of fun and now I fancy myself as a naval architect... would you set sail in a ship I had designed?



I imagine that Carole kept in touch with her English school friend, her grandparents and the girl she met on the Arcadia ship by letter and so I made a few of these up to go on the 'imprint page'.

Look at my drawings and work out what she is telling them?

How about creating a few 'illustrated letters' of your own?

I hope you enjoy this book!

