

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

SCOTT PEARSON

Get to know the Waikato-based illustrator of our vibrant new picture books *Lisa Carrington Chases a Champion* and *The Hunt for the Whistle: A Cleft Adventure* .



Hi, my name is Scott Pearson. I grew up in the mighty Waikato, and now I live in Hamilton with my lovely wife and four daughters.

Your favourite place to visit to relax?

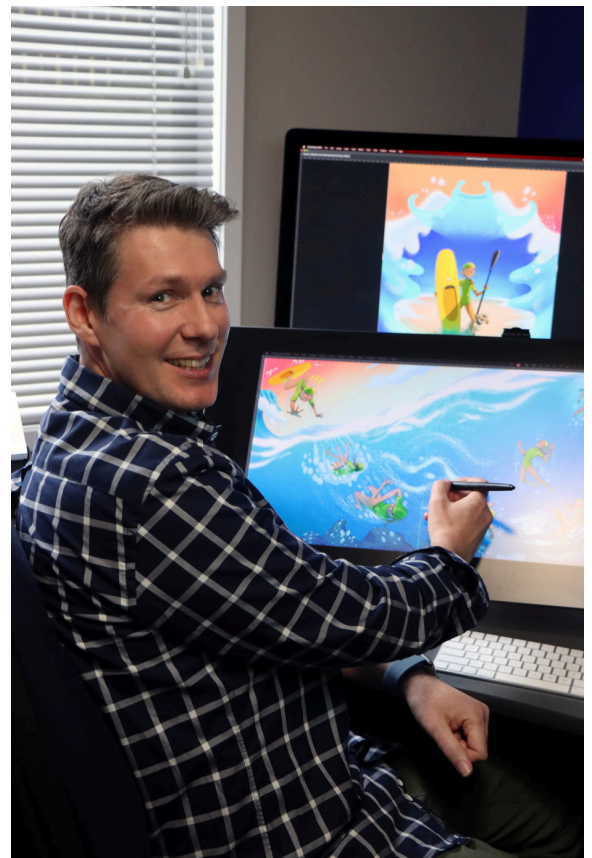
Probably the Coromandel area because of its beautiful scenery, tracks for exploring and white sandy beaches. A great place to spend time with my family.

Your favourite place to visit to have fun?

I guess my man cave doesn't count!?

Who would you invite to a BBQ and why? What drinks would you serve? What music would you play?

Leonardo da Vinci, because of his insatiable curiosity and boundless creativity. I'm sure he would make fascinating conversation! I hear he is keen on wine and listens to classical music.





What advice would you give your 16-year-old self?

Buy shares in Apple! Oh, and maybe say not to worry so much, things will work out just fine.

In regards to your illustration journey, what or who inspired you to draw?

There are far too many influences to mention, but I absolutely loved reading comic books such as *Asterix* and *Tintin* as a child. I had an awesome primary school library filled with these books and would spend ages studying every page in great detail.

The a-ha moment was when I was around 9 years old and my classmates kept asking me to draw stuff for them, that I realised I might be onto something.



What is your drawing routine like? Has it always been like that?

Daily! I treat it just like a regular job. I start at the beginning of the day and finish at the end, only usually it's hard to stop. I'm a workaholic but it's not a job when you love what you do!

It wasn't always that way though. I started freelancing occasionally while I was still studying for my Bachelor of Media Arts degree and that continued part-time for a few years before I decided to give it a go full-time.

When you are in the middle of drawing, how do you know when to stop?**When is the right time to end the story?**

I had a tutor tell me once that it's easy to overcook things. You have to think about what you need to include and what is a distraction or is unnecessary. You also have to consider how long each page should take – projects have deadlines!

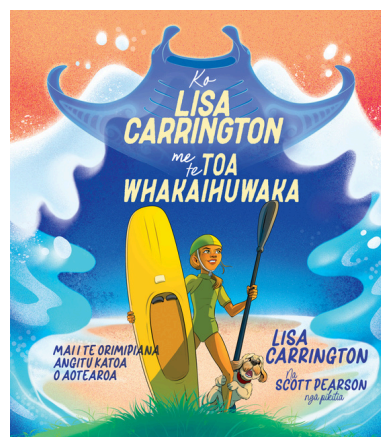
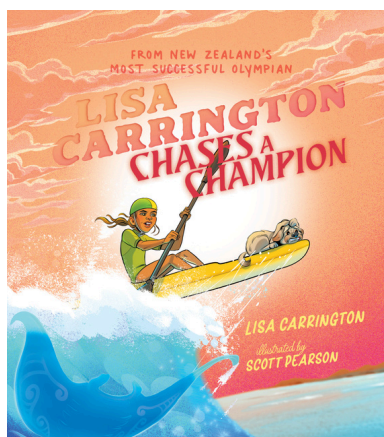
I find that if you step back and take a break, then look at it again with fresh eyes, you will have a better idea of whether it's finished or not.

What would you say to your 88-year-old self?

Glad you stuck around!



The Hunt for the Whistle: A Cleft Adventure and Te Wihara! Kimihia! Rapuhia!
by Huia Publishers.



Lisa Carrington Chases a Champion and Ko Lisa Carrington me te Toa Whakaihuwaka by Lisa Carrington.