



May 2025, News

News from The Pond!



Hello, fellow Platypi!

Get your cup of coffee, tea or favourite beverage and enjoy this month's instalment.

Illustration by the Featured Member: Anna Fredriksson



Anna Fredriksson

Featured Member

Welcome to Illustrators Australia's new Secretary - Anna Fredriksson.

Anna Fredriksson is a Swedish-born illustrator and surface designer living on Ngarluma Country in Western Australia.

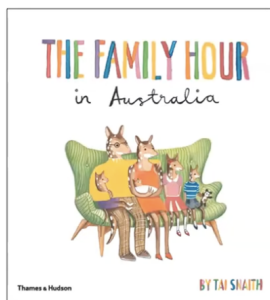
She used to work as an archaeologist and archaeological illustrator for years, but now she spends her days creating fun, whimsical illustrations, and quirky, colourful patterns. Her favourite thing to draw is people and capturing moments of everyday life.

Anna joined the Illustrators Australia committee to meet like-minded individuals, learn new things, and contribute wherever she can. She's excited to be on board as Secretary.

[See Anna's work here](#)

Our Guest Speakers

As part of our Membership Drive, we hosted 3 guest speakers. Our guest speaker/Illustrator talks are usually members only, but as part of our membership drive, we have made them available to all lovers of art and illustration. Also a special thanks to [Ari Chand](#) for hosting the talks.



TAI SNAITH

Tai Snaith is an award-winning illustrator, author, and artist based in Melbourne, Australia. Known for her whimsical and richly textured illustrations, she has written and illustrated 8 acclaimed picture books published by Thames and Hudson including *The Family Hour in Australia* and *Slow Down, World*, *Wonders under the Sun*, and most recently *Wonders Under the Moon: A collection of night-time creatures*.

Tai's work blends playful imagery with thoughtful themes, often inviting young readers to connect with nature, imagination, and emotional awareness. Alongside her publishing work, she brings her distinct illustrative voice to exhibitions and collaborations across art and design



Watch Tai

Guest speaker Tai Snaith. Learn more about [Tai here](#)



SAMI BAYLY

Sami is an international award winning author and illustrator who is based in Newcastle, Australia. She loves all things weird and wonderful and enjoys painting realistic flora and fauna with watercolor. Her favourite topics tend to be the ones most people like to avoid... such as 'ugly' animals, parasites, and more.

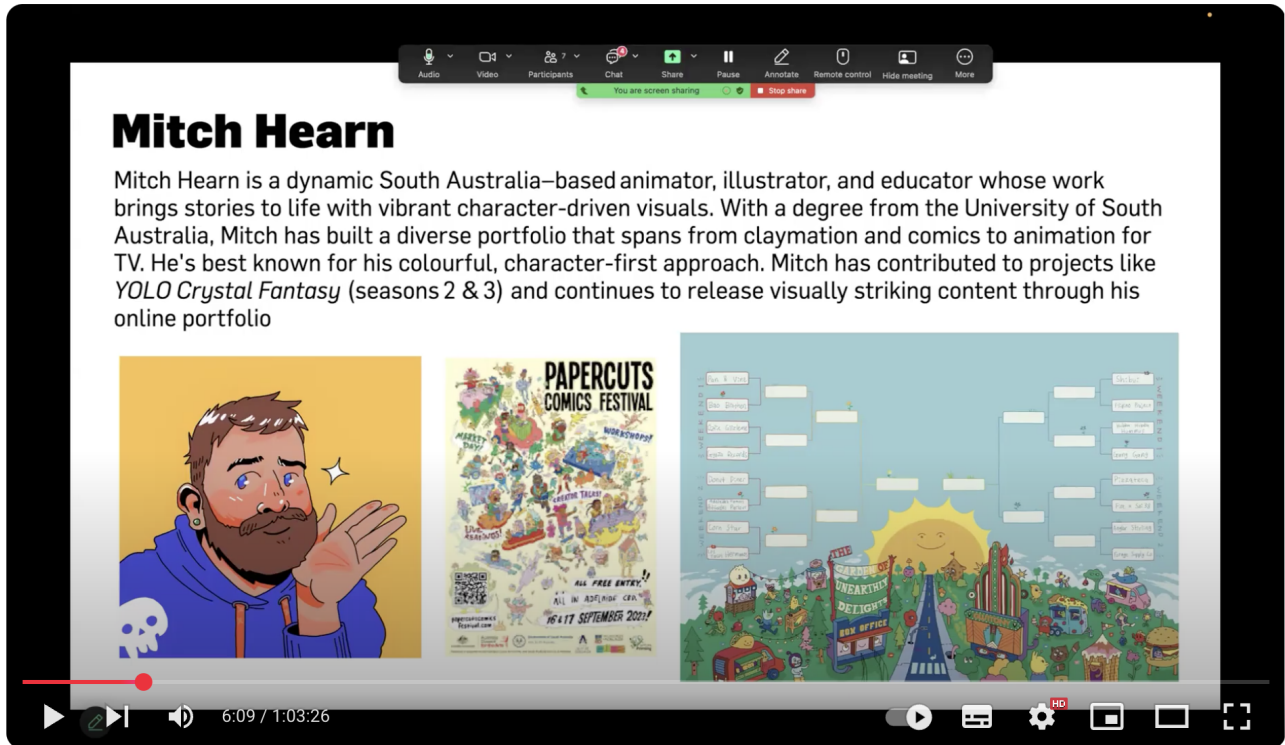
After studying at The University of Newcastle, Sami graduated in 2018 with a Bachelor of Natural History Illustration (Honours). In her final year, she was approached by publishers and gained her first book deal, which kick started her career in publishing.

<https://www.samibayly.com/>

5:53 / 1:13:13

Watch Sami

Guest speaker Sami Bayly. Find out more about [Sami here](#)



[Watch Mitch](#)

Guest speaker Mitch Hearn. Find out more about [Mitch here](#)

Industry Bites



Sketch and Scribe Fest

The **Sketch and Scribe Festival** is for children's illustrators and writers wanting to connect and learn from publishers and published experts. Events include workshops with publishers/illustrator expert in a Coaching Camp, in-person & online professional developmental days filled with publisher and expert panels, workshops, masterclasses and tech talks, writing competitions, illustrator exhibition, publisher/agent pitch sessions.

Pitch sessions on-line 1-19th September

In-person events 11-12 October – Jan Juc SLSC, Jan Juc VIC

On-line events 18-19th October plus recordings.

Tickets on sale **www.sketchandscribefest.com**

FIND OUT MORE



Our YouTube



Illustrators and Animators, share your work on our YouTube Channel

If you're an Illustrators Australia member, you can showcase your art, animations, and illustrations on our YouTube channel.

Send videos or links for download to our email, or directly to the committee member

Chris Murray, at chrismurrayillustrator@gmail.com.

Check out other members' work here: [Illustrators Australia - YouTube](#)

Join or Renew your Membership

Join a community of illustrators, artists and designers

- Showcase your portfolio and profile
- Participate in Illustrators Australia events and opportunities
- Connect with other illustrators, industry contacts and build community
- Become part of the leading illustrator organisation in Australia
- Contribute, advocate and create through involvement in the organisation and committee.

- Discounts on goods and services from industry partners

Member discounts from these business:



IMAGE
SCIENCE



M.E.S
Melbourne Etching Supplies

EASTEND
PICTURE FRAMING & ART



Omnus Framing
Est. 1978

Code Ice
P r i n t s



Member Benefits

Illustrators Australia is open to all Australian and New Zealand residents, or Australian and New Zealand illustrators working overseas. We welcome all types of illustration from traditional to digital and we'd love to have you!

[Benefits and memberships here](#)

Join Illustrators Australia

Thanks Platypi!

A big shout-out to everyone who helped with our Membership Drive!

Thanks to all Illustrators Australia members, new and old. We're all playing our part in raising the profile of illustration within Australia

and beyond.



Illustrators Australia



+61 478 080 200
office@illustratorsaustralia.com

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