



Cook

his achievements
1758- 1779

James Cook put Australia's
eastern coast on the world's
maps 250 years ago

An exhibition at the
Royal Geographical Society of
S.A.

L2 South Morteck Wing
State Library of South Australia,
North Terrace Adelaide

*(because of the international
emergency with COVID-19 the May
viewing has been delayed until later in
2020)*

Captain James Cook 1728 - 1779



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Terra Australis/New Holland/New South Wales

Our island continent's western and northern shores were slowly mapped from about 1600, possibly earlier if Chinese records are creditable. These shores generally present some of the bleakest aspects of Australia's landscapes.

Prior, from around 50,000 years ago waves of human migration had traversed these regions, when the climate was wetter and more inviting.

The European powers in the 17th and 18th centuries were now searching for raw materials and trade opportunities as Europe's population changed from agrarian to industrial. These powers knew that whoever found access to the most of these material sources would be first to dominate world trade. Coupled with this search was the quest for scientific knowledge of the natural world as the Age of Enlightenment dawned.



World map of Nicolas Desliens, 1566. (Where was the southern continent?)

Collections RGSSA

What was that land generally known as Terra Australis to the south between the Indian and Pacific Oceans – was it just a series of islands, an isthmus or was it a part of another as yet undiscovered land? Britain one of the world powers climbing towards the acme of its development was to find out a bit more.

James Cook (1728-1779), navigator, was born on 27 October 1728 at Marton-in-Cleveland, Yorkshire, England, the son of a Scottish labourer and his Yorkshire wife. He grew up on a farm at Great Ayton, attending the village school, and at 17 was apprenticed to a shopkeeper at Staithes.

After eighteen months, with the consent of all concerned, he gave this up for a more enticing apprenticeship of three years under John Walker, a Quaker coal-shipper of Whitby. Here he made some headway with mathematics and navigation and served two years before the mast in the Baltic trade.

In 1755 Walker offered him a command, but instead Cook joined the navy on H.M.S. *Eagle* and within a month was master's mate. After two years on the Channel service, he was promoted master of the *Pembroke*, and in 1758 crossed the Atlantic in her and took part in the siege of Louisburg and the survey of the St Lawrence River that led to the capture of Quebec. Transferred to the *Northumberland*, he began surveying the coasts of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, in the winter months at Halifax reading solidly in his chosen subjects. (ADB)

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By 1765 Captain Cook's ship, the *Grenville*, and Joseph Banks' ship the *Niger*, were in the same waters in Canada in 1765/66, admiralty records indicate these ships frequently rendezvoused at night¹.

Banks, with Sir Thomas Adams, William Broughton Monkhouse, Hugh Palliser, James Cook and the Cartwright brothers were all in ships that spent the summer of 1766 patrolling and surveying the Newfoundland coast.

Banks' efforts in Canada, demonstrated how he honed his natural history cataloguing skills. Joseph Banks was very impressed with Cook's navigational and charting skills, evidenced from his time and charting records whilst in North America.

Subsequently Cook took some of Banks' natural history artefacts home from Newfoundland, however they had to be jettisoned at the Thames estuary as Cook's ship foundered. Banks made his way home soon after via Portugal.

So it falls into place that through reputation and acquaintanceship Joseph Banks negotiated and paid for a berth on the *Endeavour* as it made its way in 1768 to observe the Transit of Venus. Then to ultimately take possession for the British Crown and map New Zealand and then read the secret British Admiralty orders and to sail west! Cook was also ordered to take possession for the British Crown of this new land, if the indigent population was not farming or making use of the land.

1766

This Journal was written by Joseph Banks in 1766 describing his voyage to Newfoundland. At this time Banks was on the ship Niger and Cook was on the Grenville. Admiralty records indicate the ships frequently rendezvoused to exchange information and socialise.

This socialising no doubt brought Cook to Banks' mind as the Admiralty were planning the Transit of Venus activity and the southern seas explorations.

(RGSSA Collection)



¹ Lysaght, A. M. (Averil M.); *Joseph Banks in Newfoundland and Labrador, 1766 :Banks diary, manuscripts and collections*; Banks, Joseph Sir, 1743-1820. London 1971 **Call Number:** rg 500.9718 L993 b

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But while at Tahiti a senior sect Polynesian, Tupia recognised that the arrival of the English ship could provide him with extra status. Eventually he was persuaded to board the vessel with Cook and was very valuable acting as interpreter whilst Cook visited the islands, including New Zealand. Later another Polynesian, young Tayeto, joined Tupia on board.

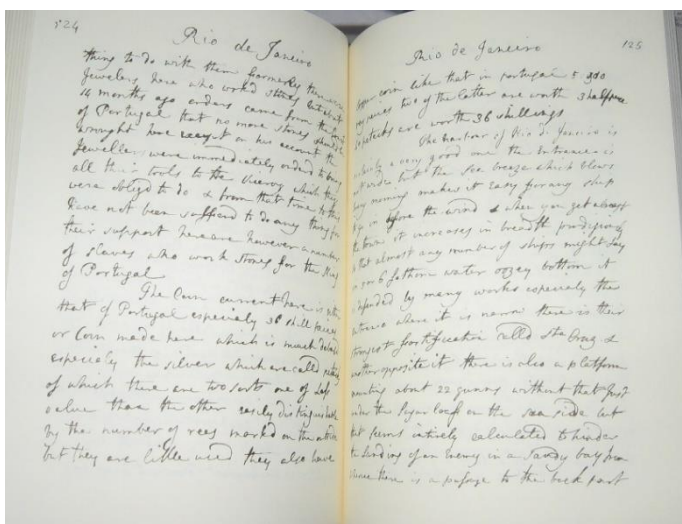
1769 (est)

Notes describing the recovery of diamonds in Brazil with annotated list of the accompanying eight drawings [manuscript]

Author: [Banks, Joseph, Sir, 1743-1820](#)
Call Number: MS 5c
(Joseph Banks' original drawings RGSSA Collections)



(Shown below is Banks Endeavour Journal where he talks about mining in Brazil (Mitchell Library)



Joseph Banks was born 13/2/1743, London; he died 19/6/1820, London.
Banks was a naturalist, botanist and patron of biology. He paid £10,000 to board the Endeavour with servants and dogs for the trip to Australia (Terra Australis). Banks discovered, among countless other botanical specimens, eucalyptus, acacia and banksia, the genus named after him. Some 80 species of plants now bear the name Banks. Banks was also the leading founder of the African Association. Banks always thought he was Cook's superior, which often lead to tensions on the voyage.

These diamond mining records were made as the Endeavour sailed via South America to Tahiti. They must have been made whilst Joseph Banks was on board.

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Terra Australis - At 6 p.m. on 19 April 1770 Lieutenant Hicks saw land, and a point at the south-east of the Australian mainland was named after him. Cook sailed north, seeking a harbour. On 29 April he landed at Stingray Bay, visiting and naming the bay Botany Bay and charting the coast seeking a place and where the *Endeavour's* fouled bottom could be scraped. At Botany Bay Banks and his naturalists collected such varied specimens, hence the name change.

1771

A journal of a voyage round the world, in His Majesty's ship Endeavour, in the years 1768, 1769, 1770, and 1771; : undertaken in pursuit of natural knowledge, at the desire of the Royal Society: containing all the various occurrences of the voyage, with descriptions of several new discovered countries in the southern hemisphere ... To which is added, a concise vocabulary of the language of Otahitee Voyage Endeavour in 1768-9, 70 & 71

Author: [Matra, James Mario, 1748?-1806.](#)
Call Number: rgsp 910.41 J86

RARE EDITION, [Repaired under to Society's *Adopt a Book* program by members Bill & Helen Stacey.]

This is the rare issue – first editions have a suppressed dedication leaf – of the first account of Cook's first voyage and of the discovery of New South Wales, published within three months of the *Endeavour's* return in 1771. It is of immense significance, as it contains the first printed account of the east coast of Australia. Its appearance predates the naming of Botany Bay, which is referred to as Sting-ray Bay, the name originally given to it by Cook. Anonymous and unauthorized, the publication preceded Hawkesworth's official account of the voyage by some two years. It was the first of numerous so-called 'surreptitious' accounts of Cook's voyages.

The dedication leaf, which was not included in this issue, but you can observe where it was, was printed separately from the text. Inserted by the publishers, Beckett and de Hondt, to give the publication an air of credibility and the false status of an authorized work, the dedication is to: The Right Honourable Lords of the Admiralty, and to Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander', with an instruction to the binder to 'Place this next the title'. The leaf was promptly removed following the threat of legal action by Banks and Solander, and as a result very few copies which retain the suppressed leaf have survived.

The legitimacy of the narrative as a first-hand account has, in spite of its anonymity, never been challenged: its authorship has always been attributed to a member of Cook's expedition. However, Admiralty regulations decreed that all crew on the *Endeavour* surrender their journals at the end of the voyage, and forbade the publication of any voyage account until after publication of the official account – hence the

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need for the author's identity to remain concealed. Beaglehole² suggested that the American Loyalist, midshipman James Maria Magra (later Matra), was the probable author; this has since been convincingly corroborated by Frost in his analysis of the entire corpus of Magra's writing (see Frost, Alan. *The Precarious Life of James Mario Matra: Voyager with Cook, American Loyalist, Servant of Empire*. Melbourne, 1995). If this identification is, as is now generally accepted, correct, then Magra's deviousness in flouting the rules by not declaring the existence of his journal and his illicit release of it to the publishers for financial gain would surely have confirmed for Cook his own assessment of Magra as 'good for nothing'.

1787

A catalogue of the different specimens of cloth collected in the three voyages of Captain Cook, : to the Southern Hemisphere; with a particular account of the manner of the manufacturing the same in the various islands of the South seas; partly extracted from Mr. Anderson and Reinhold Forster, observations, and the verbal account of some of the most knowing of the navigators: with some anecdotes that happened to them among the natives

Author: [Shaw, Alexander.](#)

Call Number: rgsp 677.54 S534
Shaw Catalogue from the Collections RGSSA

Notes: Specimens of cloth bound in.
Quarter calf marbled boards; NUC; SRGS copy, Half calf, marbled paper boards.
Provenance (RGS copy): York Gate Library.

Summary: This catalogue contains 38 specimens of tapa, or bark, cloth. One piece (specimen 34) was unwound by a young girl from her body and given in gratitude to one of the officers as the redemption price for a little boy who had just before been exchanged by a native for a piece of old iron. --Terra cognita, 2008.

Cited: York Gate Library ; no. 2373



The 1787 catalogue of the different specimens of cloth collected in the three voyages of Captain Cook...published in London in 1787 contains eight letterpress pages of explanatory text followed by a promised 39 samples of tapa or barkcloth (our copy has just 37!). These were gathered from the Pacific islands during Captain Cook's voyages, probably mostly during his third voyage. Tapa is a cloth produced from the bark of trees, usually the paper mulberry tree. The cloth seems to have been most commonly used by Polynesian islanders

² **John Cawte Beaglehole** OM CMG (13 June 1901 – 10 October 1971) was a New Zealand historian whose greatest scholastic achievement was the editing of James Cook's three journals of exploration, together with the writing of an acclaimed biography of Cook, published posthumously.

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for clothing, bedding materials and for ceremonial purposes. Cook himself describes the process of manufacture in his journal of July 1769, written whilst in Tahiti:

'All their cloth is I believe made from the bark of trees . . . They let this plant grow till it is about six or eight feet high . . . after this they cut it down and lay it a certain time in water, this makes the bark strip easy off the outside of which is this then scraped off with a rough shell, after this is done it looks like long strips of raged linnen. These they lay together, by means of a fine paste made of some sort of a root . . . after it is thus put together it is beat out to its proper breadth and fineness upon a long square piece of wood with wooden beaters the cloth being kept wet all the time; the beaters are made of hard wood with four square sides . . . cut into grooves of different fineness this makes the Cloth look at first sight as if it was wove with threed; but I believe the principal use of the grooves is to facilitate the beating it out . . . The finest sort when bleached is very white and coms nearest to fine Cotton. Thick cloth especally fine is made by pasting two or more thickness's of thin cloth . . . together . . .

Replica Endeavour at Port Adelaide

The making of Cloth is wholly the work of the women . . . common Colours are red, brow[n] and yellow with which they dye some pieces just as their fancy leads them' [sic]³



³ One of the strangest and most frustrating features of this catalogue is the fact that despite having a numbered list of the 39 samples supposedly contained, virtually no two copies of the catalogue are alike, with the samples themselves bound in various orders. In our copy the samples are even bound in backwards, with what is clearly the decorated front of the cloth facing the rear of the book! Quite why this has happened is unclear but perhaps it is something to do with the fact that books printed during the 18th century were commonly sold unbound with the purchaser organising the binding themselves. That is easy enough for the binder where pages are numbered and printed signatures are present; it would be quite another story with unnumbered cloth samples. Yet a large number of the surviving copies seem to be bound in similar marbled paper boards implying perhaps an 'edition binding' where copies are bound prior to sale. A recent census of Shaw's catalogue has identified 66 different surviving copies spread throughout the world⁷. Over and above the binding confusion these 66 copies also seem to fall into two distinct categories: while all bear identical letterpress printed pages one group, of which ours forms part, contains what are apparently the original tapa samples; however, a second group contains an entirely different selection of samples. Watermark evidence (of the paper guards between the samples) in this second group dates it to not before 1805-6. So what is going on here? It seems likely that a quantity of the original printed sheets remained unsold (perhaps after Shaw sold all of his extra tapa to Pennant!), these lay around unused until c. 1806 whereupon a new batch of tapa cloth became available. At this point a second (and arguably somewhat fraudulent, since the list certainly doesn't match the cloth!) issue was published. The 1806 date has been remarked upon since this is the date that a large sale of Cook and Pacific ethnographic items took place – that of Sir Ashton Lever. Just possibly, the Lever sale was the source for the tapa used in this c. 1806 second issue of Shaw's catalogue. It is interesting to note that one of the tapa samples found in this second issue of the work is apparently identical to the large tapa sample from Cook's third voyage acquired by Hunter prior to his death in 1783

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This book is one of 66 in the world still in existence - it seems each book is unique with its tapa content!

Tapa Cloth RGSSA collections



After a week they sailed again, making their second Landing at Bustard Bay and a third near Cape Townshend. Further north Cook found himself within the Barrier Reef amidst dangerous shoals. Sounding their way and often preceded by the long-boat, they crept north, making two more landings in search of water, but at 10 p.m. on 11 June the *Endeavour* struck a coral reef at high tide. Ballast, guns and decayed stores were jettisoned; then, two tides later she was hauled off with windlass and anchors, and after three days beached in the Endeavour River.

Repairs and gales delayed them for seven weeks but, after rounding and naming Cape York, on 22 August at Possession Island, Cook once more 'hoisted English Coulers' and took possession of the whole eastern coast, later adding the name, **New South Wales**, in his journal.

Sadly many of the crew including the Polynesians started dying in Batavia on the return voyage from that then tropical scourges, malaria and dysentery.

Cook's discoveries, apart from New South Wales, were not new, yet without a chronometer he had charted 5000 miles (8047 km) of coast with unusual accuracy. But he lamented his failure to find the southern continent and once back in London pleaded with the Admiralty for another opportunity to seek it. He was promoted commander and given charge of an expedition, himself in the *Resolution* and Tobias Furneaux captain of the *Adventure*. On this second voyage in 1772-75, Cook circumnavigated the world in high southern latitudes.

On his third voyage Cook, now post-captain and fellow of the Royal Society, visited Adventure Bay himself on 26 January 1777, on his way to New Zealand and Tahiti. He went on to explore the Pacific coasts of North America and Siberia. In November 1778 he was at

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the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii), where at Kealakekua (Karakakooa) Bay he was killed on 14 February 1779.



Mathematics (Geometry, Trigonometry and Algebra) were an important element in navigation along with, at the time, current technology. This technology was coupled with the 18th century's development of the spring loaded balance wheel and grasshopper escapement in portable clocks (chronometers) that ensured that longitude could be determined by time anywhere in the world.

(This is the same technology that is in the mechanical wrist watches worn today!)

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1679

The mariners magazine, : stor'd with these mathematical arts. The rudiments of navigation and geometry. The making and use of divers mathematical instruments. The doctrine of...

by: Sturmy, Samuel, 1633-1669.

Briggs, Henry, 1561-1630.

Staynred, Philip.

Call Number: rgsp 527 S936.2 c (In book box)

Pasted inside dated 1747 RGSSA collections

These mathematical works of geometry, trigonometry including logarithm tables would have been familiar to Cook as he undertook studies in navigation. He mastered the mathematics to such an extent that his charts and maps were very accurate and came to the attention of the British Admiralty. This book as a hand written worksheet dated 1747 with a "Table of equations showing the true length of every day of the seconds of time that the integral days are either longer or shorter than 24 hours." This variation of time manually calculated 273 years ago!



With Cooks' voyages its chief importance for Australian discovery was in February and March 1773 when the *Adventure*, parted from the *Resolution* by fog and gales, made for the south coast of Van Diemen's Land. Here Captain Tobias Furneaux on the *Adventure* renamed Adventure Bay on Bruny Island, sailed round Tasman Peninsula and up the east coast to Flinders Island, but through bad weather failed to reach Point Hicks before proceeding to rendezvous with Captain James Cook on the *Resolution* in New Zealand.

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1788

[The life of Captain James Cook](#)

[Kippis's life of Capt. Cook](#)

by: Kippis, Andrew, 1725-1795.

Call Number: rgsp 910.92 C771.K b

Andrew Kippis wrote one of the earliest accounts of the life of Captain Cook. The publication was very popular and the Society has three separate and different formats (book sizes). One of the books, the smallest, was owned in 1883 by Thomas Gill the State's Under Treasurer.

These volumes were dedicated to the King George II and Queen Charlotte. Kippis documented and published in the 18th century the lives of notable British men and women.

1778

[An account of the voyages undertaken by the order of His present Majesty, for making discoveries in the southern hemisphere, and successively performed by Commodore Byron, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret, and Captain Cook, in the Dolphin, the Swallow, and the Endeavour : drawn up from the journals which were kept by the several commanders and from the papers of Joseph Banks, Esq.](#)

Author: [Hawkesworth, John, 1715?-1773.](#)
[Cook, James, 1728-1779.](#)
[Carteret, Philip, d. 1796.](#)
[Byron, John, 1723-1786.](#)
[Wallis, Samuel, 1728-1795.](#)
[Banks, Joseph, Sir, 1743-1820.](#)

Call Number: rgsp 910.45 H392 c

Hawkesworth was certainly self-educated. In 1744, he succeeded Samuel Johnson as compiler of the parliamentary debates for the Gentleman's Magazine. On account of what was regarded as his powerful defence of morality and religion, Hawkesworth was rewarded by the archbishop of Canterbury with the degree of LL.D. He was commissioned by the Admiralty to edit *Captain James Cook's papers relative to his first voyage*. For this work, *An Account of the Voyages undertaken ... for making discoveries in the Southern Hemisphere and performed by Commodore Byrone John Byron, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret and Captain Cook (from 1702 to 1771) drawn up from the Journals ...* (3 vols, 1773) Hawkesworth is said to have received from the publishers the sum of £6,000.

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1768-71

Captain Cook's journal during his first voyage round the world made in H.M. Bark "Endeavour", 1768-71 : a literal transcription of the original mss. : with notes and introduction

Author: [Cook, James, 1728-1779.](#)
[Wharton, W. J. L. \(William James Lloyd\), Sir, 1843-1905.](#)
Call Number: rgsp 910.41 C771 c

Limited edition of 50 copies. Printed on large paper and a few bound in the wood from Cook's tree on Clapham Common. It seems as though 18 like copies are held in Australia, ACT 2, Tas 2, NSW 4, SA 4, Vic 4, and WA 2.

There was a tree on Clapham Common known by tradition as 'Captain Cook's Tree'. There were also adjacent oak trees referred to as 'Captain Cook's Trees', but there is also no proof that he planted them in memory of his three sons. However, his widow Elizabeth lived in Clapham High Street from 1788 until her death in 1835. (City of London - Lambeth Archives: Ref: IV/188/4/CA 077)

As for the great tree I confess that it seems to me too old to have been brought here by Captain Cook at any time of his life, though, as I have said, trees evidently grow much faster than I once supposed; and Captain Cook, although his widow died so recently, was born in 1728. Mr. Cooper, of the Wandsworth Road, who is now about ninety years old, informs me that when he first came to Clapham, in 1790, the seat tree was about as big round as his body — I forgot to ask him though whether he meant his body as it was then or as it is now — and that it formed one of an avenue between the two rows of which he used to hear the Clapham fair was formerly held. (Henry Whitehead Curate of Clapham April 1859 - Public Lecture)

1784

A voyage towards the South Pole, and round the world : performed in His Majesty's ships the Resolution and Adventure, in the years 1772, 1773, 1774 and 1775

Author: [Cook, James, 1728-1779.](#)
[Furneaux, Tobias, 1735-1781.](#)
Call Number: rgsp 910.41 C771

Captain Tobias Furneaux (21 August 1735 - 18 September 1781) was an English navigator and Royal Navy officer, who accompanied James Cook on his second voyage of exploration. He was one of the first men to circumnavigate the world in both directions, and later commanded a British vessel during the American Revolutionary War. In November 1771, Furneaux was given command of HMS *Adventure*, which

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accompanied James Cook (in *Resolution*) on his second voyage. On this expedition Furneaux was twice separated from his leader (8 February 1773 to 19 May 1773; and 22 October 1773 to 14 July 1774, the date of his return to England). On the former occasion he explored a great part of the south and east coasts of Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania), and made the earliest British chart of the same. Unfortunately he mapped several place names incorrectly

1784

A voyage to the Pacific Ocean : Undertaken by the command of His Majesty, for making discoveries in the Northern Hemisphere. Performed under the direction of Captains Cook, Clerke and Gore, in His Majesty's Ships the Resolution and Discovery; in the years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780 ...

Cook's voyages

Plates to Cook's voyage Volume I

By James Cook and James King, published 1784

Call Number: rgsp 910.41 C771 d rgsp 910.41 C771 d (Plates) rgsp 910.41 C771 c

These images are probably created from first hand accounts of those who were with Cook. There is no doubt that anthropologically the Tahitian and New Zealand cultures were those that most impressed Cook and his crew at that time.

1776-80

A voyage to the Pacific Ocean : undertaken by the command of His Majesty, for making discoveries in the Northern Hemisphere. To determine the position and extent of the west side of North America; its distance from Asia; and the practicability of a northern passage to Europe. Performed under the direction of Captains Cook, Clerke and Gore, in his Majesty's ships the Resolution and Discovery, in the years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779 and 1780

Author: [Cook, James, 1728-1779.](#)

[King, James, 1750-1784.](#)

Call Number: rgsp 910.45 C771

Captain **James King** FRS (1750 - 16 November 1784) was an officer of the Royal Navy. He served under James Cook on his last voyage around the world, specialising in taking important astronomical readings

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using a sextant. After Cook died he helped lead the ships on the remainder of their course, also completing Cook's account of the voyage. He continued his career in the Navy, reaching the rank of post-captain, commanding several ships and serving in the American War of Independence.

King joined HMS *Resolution* as second lieutenant, sharing the duties of astronomer with Cook, taking astronomical observations on board by sextant and with Larcum Kendal's timekeeper K1, to establish the *Resolution's* position at sea and on shore by sextant or by astronomical quadrant to establish the geographical position of salient points during the course of Cook's surveys.^[3] Thus King's geographical positions were an important contribution to the accuracy of the various surveys carried out during the voyage and his use of the early chronometers helped prove their use at sea for calculation of Longitude. .

Following the death of Cook, King remained in the *Resolution* but on the death of Charles Clerke, Cook's successor, King was appointed to command HMS *Discovery*, the *Resolution's* consort, remaining in her for the rest of the voyage.



Banks' Florilegium is a collection of copperplate engravings of plants collected by Sir Joseph Banks and Daniel Solander while they accompanied Captain James Cook on his voyage around the world between 1768 and 1771. They collected plants in Madeira, Brazil, Tierra del Fuego, the Society Islands, New Zealand, Australia and Java. During this voyage, Banks and Solander collected nearly 30,000 dried specimens, eventually leading to the description of 110 new genera and 1300 new species, which increased the known flora of the world by 25 per cent.

Banks' and Solander's specimens were studied aboard the *Endeavour* by the botanical illustrator Sydney Parkinson. He made 674 detailed drawings of each specimen with notes on their colour, and completed 269 watercolour illustrations before dying of dysentery after the *Endeavour* left Batavia.

Banksia serrata

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When they returned to London in 1771, Banks employed five artists to create watercolours of all of Parkinson's drawings, and 18 engravers to create 743 copperplate line engravings from the completed watercolours at a considerable cost. The engraving work stalled in 1784, and the *Florilegium* was not printed in Banks' lifetime. On his death in 1820 he bequeathed the plates to the British Museum.



Photos of the original plates at the British Museum

1768-71

Illustrations of Australian plants collected in 1770 during Captain Cook's voyage round the world in H.M.S. Endeavour

Botany of Cook's first voyage

Illustrations of the botany of Captain Cook's voyage round the world in H.M.S. Endeavour in 1768-71 : Australian plants

Author: [Banks, Joseph Sir, 1743-1820.](#)
[Solander, Daniel Charles, 1733-1782.](#)
[Britten, James, 1846-1924.](#)
Call Number: rga 581.994 B218 d (pt.1-2)

Printed from original plates at British Museum in 1909 in black and white.

Daniel Carlsson Solander or **Daniel Charles Solander** (19 February 1733 – 13 May 1782) was a Swedish naturalist and an apostle of Carl Linnaeus. Solander was the first university-educated scientist to set foot on Australian soil.

In 1768, Solander gained leave of absence from the British Museum and with his assistant Herman Spöring accompanied Joseph Banks on James Cook's first voyage to the Pacific Ocean aboard the *Endeavour*.

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They were the botanists who inspired the name *Botanist Bay* (which later became Botany Bay) for the first landing place of Cook's expedition in Australia. Solander helped make and describe an important collection of Australian plants while the Endeavour was beached at the site of present-day Cooktown for nearly seven weeks, after being damaged on the Great Barrier Reef. These collections later formed the basis of Banks' Florilegium.

Solander's return to Britain with Cook and Banks made him the first Swede to circle the globe.

On their return in 1771 Solander resumed his duties at the British Museum but also collaborated with Banks on the Florilegium. Solander died at Banks' home in Soho Square of a stroke, aged 49, on 13 May 1782.

James Britten (3 May 1846 – 8 October 1924) was an English botanist. Born in Chelsea, London, he moved to High Wycombe in 1865 to begin a medical career. However he became increasingly interested in botany, and began writing papers on the subject. In 1871, he joined the Department of Botany at the British Museum and remained in this position until his retirement in 1909. In 1879, he succeeded Henry Trimen as editor of the *Journal of Botany, British and Foreign*. He would hold the editorship for around 45 years.

Hibbertia banksii



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The model of HMB Endeavour is kindly on loan from Society member Dr Roger Cross.



(The model shows the Flag of England, the Union Jack is the National Flag of the United Kingdom, the pennant denotes a newly commissioned ship and the White Ensign denotes the British Navy)

On 10 June 1770, HMB *Endeavour* under the command of Captain James Cook was sailing north along the east coast of Australia. At 11 pm, it struck a reef and started taking in water. Desperate to lighten the ship, the crew heaved nearly 48 tonnes of material over the side, including ballast and cannons. Twenty-three hours later, at the next high tide, the *Endeavour* pulled free.

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A large piece of coral had jammed in the hole which saved the ship from sinking – the hull was feathered⁴ and six weeks were spent repairing the ship at what became known as Endeavour River in Queensland.

Endeavour's ballast and cannons were found, encased in coral, on the ocean floor off Queensland in 1969.

*The Captain's
accommodation taken
over by Joseph Banks
on the Endeavour*



⁴ A way to keep a ship afloat was to position a canvas sling impregnated with pitch tar and oakum around the outside of the ship, covering the damage like a large slung bandage. This was a delicate operation, involving the careful placement of ropes and fabric, and often using improvised booms or cranes created from the masts and spars.

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*Endeavour's
Pantry/kitchen*

This image and that of the Captain's cabin was taken on board the Endeavour full scale replica

History



Australia

Name: HMS *Endeavour*

Owner: HM Bark Endeavour Foundation (1991–2005); [Australian National Maritime Museum](#) (2005–present)

Laid down: October 1988

Launched: 9 December 1993

Completed: 16 April 1994

Homeport: Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney

Identification: [IMO number: 8644967](#); [MMSI number: 503094000](#)

Callsign: VNJC

Status: Active as of 2012

Notes: Replica of the original [HMS Endeavour](#)

General characteristics

Type: [Bark](#), museum ship

Length: 43.6 m (143 ft), bowsprit to stern

Beam: 9.28 m (30.4 ft)

Height: 28 m (92 ft) mainmast

Draught: 3.4 m (11 ft)

Propulsion: Auxiliary: 2 × Caterpillar 3046 B diesels: 404 hp (301 kW)

Sail plan: 3 Masted Ship

25 [duradon](#) (impregnated sail made from canvas and spun polyester) sails

Sail area: 1,461 to 1,511 square metres (15,730 to 16,260 sq ft)

Cook his achievements 1758- 1779

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