



Flinders
UNIVERSITY

IMPACT *of giving*

Thank you for supporting
education and research
at Flinders University

Laurilily Kouma is looking forward to becoming a paramedic thanks to the Stafford Wulff Opportunity Scholarship in Paramedic Science.

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YUNGGORENDI INPARRILA

SHIRLEY MATTHEWS BEQUEST

Honouring Kurna Country, Yunggorendi Inparrila is a newly designed outdoor gathering place for students, staff and visitors to Flinders University's Bedford Park campus.

Located on the significant hillside site, it is a place to meet and celebrate, to reflect and grieve, and to engage in circular learning to share knowledge.

'It's a place to bring together old ways of knowing, with new ways of knowing to create something more dynamic,' says Associate Professor Simone Tur, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) at Flinders University.

Yunggorendi Inparrila was made possible through the late Shirley Matthews' bequest to support Aboriginal education at the University. The Flinders graduate's donation highlights the importance of coming together to embrace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and ceremony.

Associate Professor Tur says, 'The support from Shirley Matthews has helped us to envision spaces that can bring us together to enact reconciliation in a living way.'

Photo by Linda Lowe

Acknowledgement of Country

Flinders University acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which its campuses are located, these are the Traditional Lands of the Arrernte, Dagoman, First Nations of the South East, First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee region, Jawoyn, Kurna, Larrakia, Ngadjuri, Ngarrindjeri, Ramindjeri, Warumungu, Wardaman and Yolngu people. We honour their Elders and Custodians past, present and emerging.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

As the world continues to change and adapt, Flinders University's commitment to delivering world-class education and research remains steadfast and we are buoyed by your support.

I would like to thank you for your continued commitment to our students and researchers for whom your support is invaluable.

Your generosity to the Matthew Flinders Scholarship Fund is helping students facing financial hardship to pay their rent and their bills and, importantly, to continue their studies. For many students under financial stress, scholarships are the difference between dropping out or completing their studies and graduating to pursue their career.

Your support for our research has a global reach. For example, an HIV study in Ethiopia aims to reduce the spread of HIV and improve treatments for those living with the infection – made possible through your donations to the Impact Seed Funding for Early Career Researchers.

With a footprint that expands to the Top End, we are grateful to our donors who recognise the need to advance health care throughout Australia's central corridor. The Connellan Airways Trust Diabetes Management and Education Scholarship will support two Northern Territory primary health care workers to undertake studies in diabetes management, to improve health outcomes in rural and remote communities.

Our volunteer community continues to grow, and I would like to thank the students who give their time to support other students through the Flinders Community Market, which has become especially important during the pandemic.

On behalf of the Flinders University community, I thank you for your generosity. Your commitment to supporting education and research at Flinders resonates throughout our community, and I know we will continue to see the positive impacts of your ongoing support well into the future.



Professor Colin J Stirling
President and Vice-Chancellor



What you supported in 2021

- 50% Matthew Flinders Scholarship
- 15% Medical Research
- 8% Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Scholarships
- 8% Arts Education & Research
- 7% Medical Education
- 4% Early Career Research
- 3% Other Scholarships
- 2% Rural & Remote Scholarships
- 2% Environmental Research
- 1% Other



CONTACT US

Advancement, Flinders University
+61 8 7221 8302 | giving@flinders.edu.au
flinders.edu.au/giving

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Critical support for our paramedic students

STAFFORD WULFF OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP IN PARAMEDIC SCIENCE

After a difficult start in life, paramedic student Laurlily Kouma is looking forward to a brighter future thanks to the Stafford Wulff Opportunity Scholarship in Paramedic Science at Flinders University.

By the age of 17, Laurlily Kouma had already tackled many more obstacles than her peers. She grew up in Whyalla with a stepdad who suffered from schizoaffective disorder, and her mother who experienced severe depression.

'We didn't have any family nearby and mental health is poorly supported in rural locations. This left me feeling isolated and my own mental health began to deteriorate,' says Laurlily.

To create a healthier environment during her year 12 studies, Laurlily made the difficult decision to move out of home, moving to Goolwa to live by herself.

'I rented a room and worked six days a week to support myself, so that I could focus on completing year 12.'

Despite the lack of support and immense financial pressures, Laurlily achieved an ATAR of 99.35 and was accepted into the Paramedic Science degree at Flinders University.

However, as Laurlily began her degree, she realised she needed to pay for her uniform, fitness testing, vaccinations and diagnostic equipment.

'I encountered so many obstacles growing up, and by the time I started my paramedic degree and realised the costs involved, I wasn't sure if this was an obstacle I could actually overcome,' she says.

The support she needed came from the Stafford Wulff Opportunity Scholarship in Paramedic Science, established by donations from Flinders graduates and fellow paramedics Stafford Wulff and Gabriel Hicks, who wanted to support new paramedic students with their essential study costs.

'I'm excited that, as donations to the Stafford Wulff Opportunity Scholarship grow, even more students starting the Paramedic Science degree will receive the support they need, when they need it most.' – Laurlily Kouma

'In three years, when I'm on the road as a paramedic and able to help people every day, I'll have the scholarship to thank for getting me there,' says Laurlily.

HELPING OUR FUTURE LEADERS

MATTHEW FLINDERS SCHOLARSHIP

Flinders University Master of Teaching student Kyriaki Tantalos is passionate about the role of teachers in the community and is looking forward to becoming a leader in education one day.

She says, 'I believe teaching is extremely important as it is the profession that teaches all of the other professions.'

'I have always wanted to be a teacher and I look forward to making an impact on all of the students I have in my care. I want to make a difference – just like good teachers have made for me.'

An external student, Kyriaki has struggled to keep up with the technology needed to do her studies completely online.

When she reached a point where she was unable to afford to upgrade her failing computer and continue her online studies, Kyriaki sought financial help through the Matthew Flinders Scholarship at Flinders University.

'Technology is an integral part of university life, so I am grateful the scholarship has enabled me to purchase a computer and I can continue writing my assignments.'

'The support has made me feel even more motivated to continue in my degree.'

To everyone who has donated to the Matthew Flinders Scholarship, Kyriaki says, 'I cannot thank the donors enough for this support.'

'It takes a special kind of person to donate their own money for the benefit of other people. I hope they realise how much each and every student appreciates the assistance.'

With renewed motivation, Kyriaki now plans to graduate in the middle of the year and go straight back to the classroom – working as a primary school teacher.

She also has her sights set on becoming a leader in education.

'My ultimate goal would be to get a position in leadership in a school, as a wellbeing leader, and eventually become a principal.'



'Technology is an integral part of university life, so I am grateful the scholarship has enabled me to purchase a computer and I can continue writing my assignments.'

– Kyriaki Tantalos



Pictured: Early career researcher Dr Hailay Gesesew

Improving HIV treatment across the world

IMPACT SEED FUNDING FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

The support for early career researchers through Flinders University's Impact Seed Funding will be felt worldwide through Dr Hailay Gesesew's HIV research study in Ethiopia.

In 2015, with the HIV epidemic continuing untamed in Ethiopia, Dr Hailay Gesesew came to Flinders University to study his PhD and access international expertise to help him devise better plans for improving HIV treatment in his homeland.

Now a researcher at Flinders University, Dr Gesesew is developing his critical work through a \$10,000 Impact Seed Funding for Early Career Researchers grant, which will fund a pilot study to establish HIV peer educators in Ethiopia.

HIV remains a significant public health problem in Africa. While almost 1.2% of northern Ethiopia's Tigray population was diagnosed with HIV in 2018, the UNAIDS 90-90-90 target set in 2014, to diagnose 90% of people living with HIV, has not been achieved.

Dr Gesesew says better testing solutions are needed.

'House-to-house testing is crucial to improving the detection rate of HIV and will also help stimulate treatment uptake, which is currently lagging,' says Dr Gesesew.

However, his call for swift action has been thwarted by the civil war raging in the Tigray region, a siege on network and banking services, and the impact of COVID-19 in areas with limited resources and fractured organisational support.

'The situation with HIV is viewed as being of marginal importance in the light of these problems, when in truth it is in need of crucial attention,' says Dr Gesesew.

Receiving the Impact Seed Funding from the University has proved vital for Dr Gesesew's research and will enable him to run an HIV pilot survey across seven zones in Tigray.

'I cannot go home to Ethiopia at the moment, but through this funding I will be able to virtually teach others on the ground how to collect data and get them ready to run the new HIV care model, the teach-test-link-trace program.'

Through this program, peer educators counsel about HIV, perform home-based HIV testing through pinprick testing or OralQuick self-testing, link HIV positive patients to HIV care, and trace lost patients.

'This pilot program will tell me the true financial implications of how the teach-test-link-trace model can be rolled out for wider use.'

Dr Gesesew believes receiving the Impact Seed Funding underlines the value of his decision to study and develop his research expertise at Flinders University.

'I've been able to advance in ways that I could not in Ethiopia – access to better resources, benefitting from international expertise, and having a platform to elevate the Ethiopian problem to a global audience.'

Dr Gesesew is grateful to those who donate each year to support early career researchers through the Impact Seed Funding grant.

'The Impact Seed Funding for Early Career Researchers is helping me achieve my critical goal of improving HIV treatment across the world!' – Dr Hailay Gesesew

In 2021, nine early career researchers each received Impact Seed Funding of \$10,000, helping them to carve their unique research pathways, build international collaborations, and make new discoveries that can change lives throughout our community.

LIFE-CHANGING AUTISM RESEARCH

HAMISH RAMSAY AUTISM FUND

Early intervention autism research by Flinders University's Professor Robyn Young is changing the lives of hundreds of children and their families, thanks to the support of the Hamish Ramsay Autism Fund.

Unable to speak or communicate in any way, Marcus was diagnosed with severe Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at just two years of age.

'Marcus was completely locked in his own world. He did not speak, and he made no attempts to communicate with myself or others. He seemed very serious and fearful of the world,' says his mother, Ann Denham.

'It was like a pane of glass separated us – I could see him, but I couldn't reach him.'

Having constant meltdowns where his safety was at risk and with no concept of connection, he would run away unpredictably.

'Our home life was filled with uncertainty of what Marcus would do next, and I was fearful for what the future held for him,' says Ann.

Soon after being diagnosed with ASD by autism expert and Flinders University researcher Professor Robyn Young, Marcus began early intervention therapy using the SPECTRA program – which has proved life-changing for both Marcus and Ann.

The SPECTRA program, delivered as a published manual, is the result of 10 years of research at the Flinders University Early Intervention Research Program, led by Professor Young and financed by the Hamish Ramsay Autism Fund.

Established at the University in 2003 with a \$300,000 donation from Hamish Ramsay, the fund supports autism research at Flinders and has enabled more than 50 of Professor Young's world-leading autism research studies.

These studies relate to early detection and intervention, and interactions with the criminal judicial system – resulting in the publication of three books and 25 international journal articles.

'With the fund's support we created the SPECTRA program to target the behaviours our research had identified as pivotal in the development of typical behaviour – noting that the absence of these behaviours could affect the progression of autism, and impact development,' says Professor Young.

Pivotal behaviours identified by Professor Young's research include a lack of response to their name, poor joint attention, lack of gestures, poor functional play, lack of pretend play, lack of response to a smile, inability to shift from one task to another, and noise sensitivity.

'Intervening early to address behaviours that are lacking minimises the collateral damage these behaviours have on a child's development and their ability to interact in a complex world.'

– Professor Robyn Young

The ground-breaking SPECTRA program has now seen more than 300 children receive intensive early intervention support through regular therapy sessions at the University, as well as the creation of tools and activities designed for their families to use at home.

The SPECTRA manual is now being used by autism support organisations across Australia, and is also available to those who can't access therapy sessions because of distance or cost.

'SPECTRA changed everything for us,' says Ann, who learnt critical skills and adopted interventions through the family-focused program.



Pictured: Ann Denham and Marcus with their labrador Jet

'The little toddler who was once serious and distant has become a very confident, happy and talkative boy. He actively seeks interaction, can express his feelings and understands the feelings of others.'

And just a year into the program Ann says, much to her surprise, Marcus began to speak.

'He turned to me and said, "I am happy".'

The program has enabled many Flinders University students to expand their skills and understanding of effective autism therapy, enhancing their training as therapists and leading to many students completing their PhDs in the area of autism – all with the continued support of the Hamish Ramsay Autism Fund.

'I feel most grateful and quite humble to know that my donation has been a great help with Flinders University's work on autism,' says Hamish, whose initial involvement with Flinders nearly 20 years ago came through having a granddaughter diagnosed with Rett's Syndrome, which has some similar aspects to autism.

'My granddaughter's situation made me realise what a very tough job carers for children with autism have. Also, that training for parents and carers, plus awareness for the general public and those in authority, is just as important as treatment for the child with autism.'

'Marcus' story is touching and encouraging, and I applaud the work of the team at Flinders. For those in a position to help, it is important to realise that many research projects and their incredible outcomes, such as this one, can only be realised because of private donations.'

'When Marcus was diagnosed, I had one wish – that one day I would know what his voice sounded like. The SPECTRA program has made this happen, and so much more. Robyn's program has changed our lives!' – Ann Denham

At seven years old, Marcus now enjoys attending school in a regular classroom setting and seeing his friends. He receives positive report cards and looks forward to completing his education.

'Marcus still has autism and will always have autism. What Robyn's research at Flinders University has given him is the ability to communicate and to become an active participant in society,' says Ann, who is eternally grateful to the Hamish Ramsay Autism Fund for providing the support for Professor Young's ground-breaking research.

'Because of this research funding Marcus now has the potential to fulfill an exciting future.'

PUSHING NEW GROUND IN THEATRE

ADELAIDE THEATRE & MORE SCHOLARSHIP FOR HONOURS IN PERFORMING ARTS

Thanks to the generous support of Adelaide Theatre & More Social Club, performing arts honours students at Flinders University are honing their skills and expanding their connections in the arts industry.

Since 1969, Adelaide Theatre & More Social Club has provided its members with social opportunities to see a diverse range of local stage performances and screenings.

In 2021 the group wanted to deepen their support for the arts, and so created the Adelaide Theatre & More Scholarships for Honours in Performing Arts at Flinders University.

Bachelor of Creative Arts (Honours) student Duncan Vecchiarelli grew up in Italy and Scotland, but since 2008 he has called Adelaide home.

He knew from the young age of three that he would pursue a career in the performing arts. After exploring options within his degree at Flinders, Duncan set his sights on becoming a performance writer and director.

During the pandemic restrictions Duncan found it incredibly difficult not being able to interact with fellow creatives to develop work. He struggled to stay motivated and focused on his goal of producing work.

With the support of the \$5,000 Adelaide Theatre & More Scholarship, Duncan was able to purchase a Zoom Pro License to host online rehearsals. He was also able to upgrade his webcam, microphone and software – enabling him to enhance the quality of recording live performances from home.

'I have also been able to use the scholarship funds to hire a cast of quality actors to help me realise a full production of the script I am writing as part of my degree,' says Duncan.

'Relearning how to reach out and interact with my peers online during this time has proved to be my greatest challenge, but one that was extremely rewarding to overcome.'

Grateful for the support during such a difficult time, especially for those in the arts industry, Duncan says, 'I would like to thank Adelaide Theatre & More for supporting emerging artists whose research and practical work is pushing new ground in the world of theatre and the arts.'

'I would like to thank Adelaide Theatre & More for supporting emerging artists whose research and practical work is pushing new ground in the world of theatre and the arts.' – Duncan Vecchiarelli

Bachelor of Creative Arts (Drama) honours student Rhys Stewart received the second 2021 Adelaide Theatre & More Scholarship, which has helped him to cultivate his acting skills and create meaningful connections in the performing arts industry.

With the aim of inspiring even more students to hone their skills, think big, and launch themselves into a career in the performing arts, two more Adelaide Theatre & More Scholarship for Honours in Performing Arts will be awarded this year.



Pictured: Duncan Vecchiarelli performing in Grimmer

Vital health care in the outback

CONNELLAN AIRWAYS TRUST DIABETES MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

With a mission to support people in the outback, Connellan Airways Trust is giving remote primary health care workers the support they need to upskill in diabetes care management.

Providing an air service to Alice Springs between 1939 and 1980, Connellan Airways has played a vital role in breaking down the isolation of people in the central corridor of Australia.

Today, Connellan Airways Trust continues this mission of supporting people in the outback by providing education, health, employment and social opportunities, and has created the Connellan Airways Trust Diabetes Management and Education Scholarship at Flinders University.

With diabetes a considerable health issue for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, more support is needed to provide appropriate care. However, there is a major shortage of primary health care workers in central Australia who have advanced skills and knowledge in diabetes care.

'Having appropriately educated and qualified clinicians is significant to improving health outcomes for the rural and remote Australian population,' says Jessica Hackett, Executive Officer of Connellan Airways Trust.

This year the Connellan Airways Trust Diabetes Management and Education Scholarship will support two primary health care workers in the Northern Territory to undertake the Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Management at Flinders University.

'The postgraduate diabetes management and education program provides students with the contemporary knowledge and skills required to care for clients with diabetes effectively,' says Professor James Smith, Deputy Dean of Rural and Remote Health – NT at Flinders University.

'In addition, it equips primary health care professionals with the skills to contribute to research in this area.'

'We look forward to working with Flinders University to provide vital health care to the Northern Territory communities.' – Jessica Hackett

Through the support of Connellan Airways Trust, the scholarship will enable members of the remote primary health care sector to upskill, while retaining current staff and students within outback Australia.

'By increasing the expertise in diabetes care and management in regional Australia, this funding will have long-term benefits of improving patient care and ultimately saving lives in the community,' says Jessica Hackett.



Pictured: Jared Merritt with his daughter Evelyn

Support for a brighter future

MEDISERVE INDIGENOUS NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Without the assistance of the Mediserve Indigenous Nursing Scholarship, 30-year-old Jared Merritt admits he would have struggled to complete the nursing degree that has now set him on his career path as a nurse.

As one of few Aboriginal and male students studying the Bachelor of Nursing (Preregistration) at Flinders University, Jared found it challenging to persevere at times, but the scholarship support he received in 2020 enabled him to endure and thrive in his studies.

'It did a lot to boost my confidence,' says Jared from the Larrakia nation in the Northern Territory. 'Quite a few times I felt like quitting because I was getting overwhelmed. I had my young daughter to support and rent to pay, so I had a lot more responsibilities than most of the younger nursing students.'

'Getting the scholarship gave me a huge boost – not only financially, but also psychologically. It gave me a push in the right direction.'

– Jared Merritt

Mediserve is a national nursing agency that has provided staff for health facilities around Australia for 20 years. Recognising the shortage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and healthcare workers, the organisation created the Indigenous Nursing Scholarship

at Flinders University to help bolster the number of these graduates.

'We believe it's incredibly important to support Aboriginal nurses to deliver culturally safe care to further community wellbeing,' says Anzir Annes, Chief Financial Officer of Mediserve.

'We are so pleased the scholarship could provide Jared with the support he needed to complete his degree, and now be working in the community providing care as a nurse.'

Jared received the scholarship in the second year of his nursing degree, and this helped to reinforce his decision to pursue a nursing career as a mature-age student.

'I'd tried quite a few jobs that weren't right – service jobs, cleaning – and had started studying IT, but I didn't like being stuck in an office cubicle in front of a screen. I realised that I wanted a more meaningful career, and that I wanted to help people – and nursing has been the right fit'

Having finished his nursing degree at the end of 2021, Jared is now working in a public hospital across a range of wards, providing him with well-rounded experience for his nursing future.

'After years of study it's exciting to now be launching my nursing career,' says Jared. 'Once I get more experience, I'd really like to get involved in mentoring to help others through their degree.'

A SENSE OF PRIDE & IDENTITY THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

FLINDERS COMMUNITY MARKET FOR STUDENTS



In times of need, the strength of community spirit at Flinders University is strong – including its volunteers who ensure students have access to affordable and nutritious food through a weekly community market.

The Flinders Community Market was launched in 2018 to provide students with access to free fruit and vegetables, along with a range of low-cost pantry items. Initiated by the University's Oasis Student Wellbeing Centre and Flinders University Student Association, the markets are held each Thursday during term.

Sarah Harding, Community Development Officer of Flinders Oasis Student Wellbeing Centre, says the onset of COVID-19 restrictions saw student demand for the market increase, especially among international students and those residing on campus.

'Good nutrition is central to students performing at their best,' says Sarah. 'Beyond helping students to eat well, the market also gives them a sense of connection and community.'

Each week, the market is supported by eight enthusiastic student volunteers who help set up, facilitate, serve and pack away the market.

Xueqing (Mel) Wang, a third-year Bachelor of Social Work student from China, volunteers at the market and is pleased to be part of a service that provides fellow students with basic needs and essential nutrition. She has also benefitted both personally and professionally from the opportunity to volunteer at the markets.

'Volunteer experiences enhance my knowledge and skills of social work' – Xueqing (Mel) Wang

'I chose to study a social work degree because the core values encourage me to fight for equality and to support vulnerable individuals and groups. Volunteering connects directly to this.'

'At the markets I most enjoy seeing the smiles on students' faces. My self-confidence has increased by interacting with so many diverse people, and the role of volunteer has brought me a great sense of pride and identity.'

Updates on when the market is open during term can be found on the Oasis Facebook page.

Pictured: Xueqing (Mel) Wang with Sarah Harding



Discovery of the world's largest group of tiger sharks

NEISER FOUNDATION

Image: Getty

Over several years, the Neiser Foundation has provided funding to a Flinders University shark ecology research team, leading to the discovery of the world's largest group of adult tiger sharks off Norfolk Island.

Tracking tiger sharks in the pristine Pacific waters off remote Norfolk Island has led to an extraordinary opportunity for a Flinders University team to lead crucial and ground-breaking shark ecology research.

'We were astonished to find probably the largest aggregation of adult tiger sharks in the world,' says Flinders University's Professor Charlie Huveneers, Director of the Marine and Coastal Research Consortium and Research Leader of the Southern Shark Ecology Group.

This incredible tiger shark population has provided a wealth of research opportunities, made possible by ongoing funding from the Neiser Foundation and the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta, United States.

The third year of intensive research activity at Norfolk Island, which took place this February, was supported by a \$40,000 grant – part of more than \$250,000 that the Neiser Foundation has committed to the Flinders University research team.

The support is the result of a long-term relationship with the Foundation, which began in 2009 when founder Jens Neiser was impressed by a public lecture Professor Huveneers delivered on shark ecology research.

The opportunity for this research to expand on the limited knowledge of tiger sharks resonated with Mr Neiser and won his support.

'Our Foundation focuses on supporting research into the endangered apex predators of our world, like saltwater crocodiles, white sharks and tiger sharks.' – Jens Neiser

While it started small, the study has now grown into an international multi-university research endeavour, and financial support from grants and donations has enabled this work to flourish.

'We first went to Norfolk Island to examine the impact of microplastics on the tiger shark population and expected minimal effects in an untouched part of the Pacific, but we found much more,' says Professor Huveneers.

'The island has its own waste disposal problems, including offal from culling old cattle from its extensive livestock population, which might explain the large population of enormous, well-fed sharks, as most of the sharks we've tagged are over four metres in length!'

Research trips to Norfolk Island have seen the Flinders researchers apply acoustic tags and satellite tags to monitor shark movement, and collect swabs, muscle and blood samples to study the shark's diet and microbiome.

'Our focus on tiger sharks now informs the wider knowledge of sharks, which are highly vulnerable to the impact of people.' – Professor Charlie Huveneers

Professor Huveneers is grateful for the financial support from the Neiser Foundation to further shark ecology research. He says, 'Jens Neiser and his Foundation have supported us for many years now, and have been essential to the development of my research program and to the research projects of many Flinders students.'

Funded by the Foundation, the \$40,000 Norfolk 2022 project involved six Flinders University researchers travelling to the island – including Professor Huveneers, project co-leader Dr Lauren Meyer, Professor Liz Dinsdale and Dr Mike Doane, with PhD candidates Chole Roberts and Tom Clarke. Several honours and PhD students will also use and analyse the data collected.

Understanding the importance of tiger shark research, Mr Neiser says, 'We are delighted to have supported Charlie and his team over the years to shed more light on the biology and behavioural patterns of the diminishing populations of marine apex predators!'



Pictured: Professor Charlie Huveneers

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*The Donor Honour Roll recognises those who donated to Flinders University between 1 January and 31 December 2021.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES INFORM THE FUTURE

JIM MAIN BEQUEST

Our knowledge and understanding of history continues to grow thanks to a generous bequest from one of Flinders University's most ardent historians.

Having studied at Oxford, Mr Jim Main was a Reader in History at Flinders University from its foundation in 1966, specialising in Australian history and 18th and 19th century British history.

When he died in 1984, Mr Main left the Flinders University Library a generous \$700,000 bequest in his will.

Guided by the spirit of Mr Main's life's work, this financial support now provides students, staff, alumni and researchers with access to more than 100 subject materials in archaeology, drama, scientific explorations and more. The resources range from microfilm and books, to digital assets.

'Through the generosity of Jim Main's bequest we have been able to purchase historical items, as well as enriching our collection with new digital resources such as eBooks,' says Flinders University Associate Librarian Liz Walkley Hall.

This includes the addition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices and historical perspectives published in recent years, such as an Australian Indigenous collection containing 841 eBook titles.

'With online resources providing increased access, students and researchers can engage with this content in new and exciting ways,' says Liz.

An earlier item purchased through the Jim Main bequest includes *The Australian Sketchbook*, pictured below, by Samuel Thomas Gill (1818-1880), published in 1865 by Hamel & Ferguson in Melbourne.

'The book includes 25 chromolithographs providing rare insights into early colonial life in Australia, including Aboriginal ceremony,' says Liz. 'At nearly 150 years old, it is extraordinary to have this sketchbook in the Library.'

'Jim Main's bequest has provided the Flinders community with phenomenal assets that will support research and education into the future.'



Donated engravings depict beauty and precision

A magnificent set of five 19th century hand-coloured engravings of Pacific marine species by French scientific illustrators was recently donated to Flinders University Museum of Art (FUMA) by Flinders graduate Alex Wakulenko.

Struck by the beauty and precision of the engravings, Alex – who is a keen diver – purchased the works in the 1980s. Appreciating their value as both artistic and historical documents, he recently decided to donate them to the FUMA collection.

'The French presence in the South West Pacific is an important story that we don't hear much about,' says Alex. 'Showing these beautiful engravings may help remedy this in a very visual way.'

Poissons, plate 11 from Atlas Zoology, in Voyage de la corvette l'Astrolabe: execute par ordre du roi, pendant les années 1826-1827-1828-1829, M Massard (active 1833), engraver, A Duménil (active 1833), printer, after Antoine-Germain Bevalet (1779-1850), published 1833-34 by J Tastu, Paris, hand-coloured engraving printed in coloured inks on paper, 40.2 x 26.5 cm (plate), 50.5 x 33.1 cm (sheet). Gift of Alex Wakulenko, Collection of Flinders University Museum of Art 5946.



Opening 2024

HEALTH & MEDICAL RESEARCH BUILDING



Flinders University is continuing its investment into the global knowledge economy through the development of a flagship Health and Medical Research Building at Flinders Village, Bedford Park, South Australia.

Located alongside Flinders Medical Centre and Flinders Private Hospital, the building is designed to provide a unique interface between research, education, clinical expertise, and community.

Importantly, it will improve community health outcomes, provide a boost to South Australia's economy and build Adelaide's international reputation as a BioMed City.

The future of health and medical research is here, at Flinders.

[Flinders.edu.au/hmrb](https://flinders.edu.au/hmrb)



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