

Sydney Parkinson (c. 1745-1771)



Parkinson was born in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Skilled in **botanical drawing**, he worked with botanist Sir Joseph Banks in London before joining him and Dr Daniel Solander on James Cook's *Endeavour* as a botanical draughtsman, on a circumnavigation of the globe.

During the voyage, he made at least 1,300 drawings and paintings. Parkinson was the first European to draw eucalypts. On the return voyage, he died after picking up dysentery and malaria in Batavia.



Banksia serrata

Banks' 'Florilegium'

During the first part of the voyage Parkinson had time to complete drawings in full watercolours, either in situ or aboard later in the voyage. The watercolours made by Sydney Parkinson and engraved by several engravers under the patronage of Banks, were never published.

They passed to the Natural History Museum and were eventually published by them in the **1980s** in full colour, using the original engraving plates.

Each print is inscribed with specimen name, location, artist names and date.



Crateva religiosa