Sir Joseph Banks was a botanist that sailed on the Endeavour. He led a group of scientists to collect and record hundreds of plant and animal specimens during the voyage, including several species of ‘banksia’, which was named after him.

Banksia produces lots of nectar, making it an important part of the Australian ecosystem. Aboriginal Australians used the fresh flower cones to make sweet drinks; the dry cones as strainers and to transport fire; and the flower heads as fine paintbrushes.