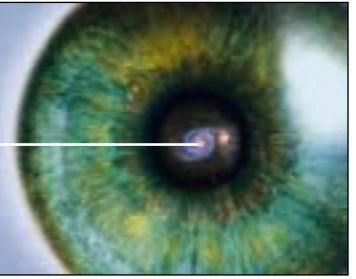


# Discover



APRIL – JUNE 2010

JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY

## ► Celebrating

40 years as the university  
for the tropics

## ► Mozzie busters

How school kids are helping  
to fight dengue

## ► Troubled turtles

Can marine turtles survive  
climate change?





**As we celebrate our 40th birthday this year we can reflect on the vision of those who pushed for our establishment; the pioneering spirit of those who created the University; and, the thousands of students, researchers, teachers, administrators and technicians who have made James Cook University what it is today.**

The road we have taken – with perhaps the odd detour – of being a university of and for the tropics was there in the parliamentary debates about a north Queensland university almost 50 years ago.

George Roberts, who is one of the true fathers of the University, identified the present site of the Townsville campus even before any work had commenced on the first home of the University College of Townsville in Pimlico.

*Sandra Harding*  
Sandra Harding Vice-Chancellor

Ken Back, who was to head the College and then the University for all but two of its first 25 years, was creating the Douglas campus while still having to expand the Pimlico site to accommodate the increasing number of students now able to access tertiary education at home rather than travel 1300 kilometres south to Brisbane or beyond.

Whether you are a present or past student, a current or former staff member, or a member of the northern Queensland community who have so wonderfully embraced James Cook University, I hope you will be able to join us at some time during our birthday celebrations.



## Cover

Climate change – one more threat facing the marine turtles of the Great Barrier Reef.  
Photograph © iStockphoto.com/ Josef Volavka



## Party time

4

It's 40 years since Queen Elizabeth II granted Royal Assent and signed the James Cook University Act, creating a university for the tropics.



## The Cairns Institute

6

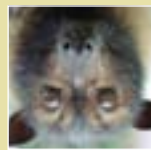
JCU's newest research centre will tackle the big challenges of life in the tropics: adaptation and change, poverty and health, inequality and justice.



## Caring on country

7

In Mt Isa an innovative education model has achieved results, dramatically increasing the number of Indigenous nursing students.



## Warts and all

8

Laws protect animals from cruelty and suffering, but if you're an unattractive, annoying and costly pest, the law cares less about your pain.



## Froned of palms

9

Dr John Dowe hasn't met a palm tree he doesn't like. And he's published a guide to every one of Australia's 60 species of palm flora, in 21 genera.



## Turtle trouble

10

The northern Great Barrier Reef is home to the world's largest population of green sea turtles. What can we do to help them survive climate change?



## Dengue busters

12

Queensland teachers can now take their students through a 12-lesson sequence about the Aedes aegypti mosquito, its behaviour, habitat and control.



## Tiger tourists

15

Tourism researchers have investigated what attracted the 14,000 Chinese tourists who visited far north Queensland to celebrate Chinese New Year.



## Giving ants no chance

17

Danielle Lisle majored in zoology and environmental science. Now she's hunting electric ants, assisted by a dog that has a good nose for bugs.



## In print

18

Torres Strait autonomy, an Australian version of an important nursing text and the story of WA's Pat Giles: new books by JCU staff and alumni.

### Volume 4 No 1

Discover James Cook University

Editor: Linden Woodward

Contributors: Roslyn Budd, Caroline Kaurila, Stewart McLean, Jo Meehan, Jim O'Brien, Narelle Reece, Andrew Rankin, Pinky Sibal, Romy Siegmann, Dominique Thiriet, Elizabeth Tuckett, Sue Wellwood.

Design: Laila Whiteing

Advertising enquiries: linden.woodward@jcu.edu.au

Online: www.jcu.edu.au/discover

ISSN: 1835-2456

CRICOS: 00117J

# An ultra-cool opportunity



Daniel Cocks.  
Photographer: Scott Radford-Chisholm © Newspix

**He's just 25, but postgraduate researcher Daniel Cocks has landed the opportunity of a lifetime – the chance to rub shoulders with Nobel Prize-winning scientists.**

In late June he will travel from Townsville to Germany for the Lindau meeting of Nobel Laureates – an annual meeting where different generations of scientists share knowledge and ideas.

Daniel was awarded a highly sought-after spot at the meeting for his research into the quantum physics of ultra-cold atoms.

"I'm still in shock, actually," he said. "I didn't think it would be possible that I would be part of something like this."

At the Lindau meetings Nobel Laureates give lectures on a variety of current scientific topics as well as future research.

"It's for scientists like me who are just beginning their careers and are expected to benefit from hearing the Nobel Prize winners talking about their careers," Daniel said.

Daniel is completing his PhD in atomic and molecular physics, dealing primarily with the influences of lasers on ultra-cold collisions of helium.

He said his research had potential applications for quantum computing, atom lasers, high precision atomic clocks and other rapidly expanding fields of research.

"Ultra-cold physics is an exciting, relatively new field. We deal with setups near absolute zero, or about minus 273C, ranging from thousandths to millionths of degrees above that temperature."

Daniel's supervisor, Professor Ian Whittingham of JCU's School of Engineering and Physical Sciences, said work on ultra-cold quantum gases was one of the most exciting and challenging frontier fields of physics and had been recognised with Nobel Prizes in 1997 and 2001.

**"This meeting is a wonderful opportunity for a promising young researcher to be inspired by the very best, to establish valuable contacts and to feel part of an international scientific community."** ①

## Booster shot for regional health

**The Federal Government will provide more than \$9 million to expand medical and health training facilities at Thursday Island, Mackay and Longreach.**



Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon and Professor Ian Wronski.

Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon announced JCU would receive \$2.5 million for a 20-bed student housing complex in Mackay and \$2.5 million for a new teaching and administration facility at Mackay Hospital.

A further \$2.1 million will be provided for student accommodation on Thursday Island, and another \$1.14 million for student accommodation at Longreach.

Professor Ian Wronski, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Medicine, Health and Molecular Sciences, said the funding would boost health care in those regions.

**"This is a very welcome expansion to our rural training programs in medicine and other health areas," he said. "It recognises our role in building Australia's health workforce in regional and remote areas.**

"Having state-of-the-art facilities as well as a comfortable place to live will go a long way to helping attract and retain medical and dental students in these regions."

A further \$1.1 million announced by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd will fund construction and fit-out of a new clinical training facility at Mackay's Mater Misericordiae Hospital, providing for 98 extra student clinical placements. ①

# Celebrating 40 years of a brighter future

**The story of James Cook University began almost 70 years ago when the Queensland Parliament gave the Senate of the University of Queensland the power to establish colleges outside Brisbane.**

Twenty years later they established the University College of Townsville and another ten years after that the College became the autonomous James Cook University.

Now JCU is celebrating its 40th birthday. It is Queensland's second oldest university and has acquired an international reputation for the work that emanates from its various campuses, study centres and research stations.

Another of its claims to fame was that the Queen, Prince Philip and



Students welcomed the Queen and Prince Philip to the campus in 1970.

Princess Anne, who were touring Australia as part of the celebrations of the bicentenary of James Cook's voyage of discovery, visited Townsville for the celebrations 40 years ago.

Her Majesty personally assented to the Act of the Queensland Parliament that created the University. It is believed to be the only time the monarch has personally assented to an Act of an Australian parliament and possibly the first time the ruling monarch

has signed an Act that has created a university on the campus of that university.

From its beginnings as a College at Pimlico with 140 students, JCU has had only seven Wardens or Vice-Chancellors. Just three of those – Ken Back, Ray Golding and Bernard Moulden – account for 44 years.

Professor Back led the institution for almost half of its life, from 1962 to 1986, first building the campus at Pimlico and then seeing through the transition to autonomy, the move to Douglas and the amalgamation with the Townsville College of Advanced Education in 1981.

Along with the University of Queensland's Vice-Chancellors John Story, Fred Schonell and Townsville community leader George Roberts, Professor Back is one of JCU's key founding fathers.

Since the beginning, JCU has been significantly different. No other university has been established so far from its capital city. Few regional universities have, from their inception, been dedicated to being both a teaching institution and a research-intensive one. Few have been created with a vision to tackle not only education and research in their own area, but also a determination to reach out to the whole tropical world.

**1961:** Three unfinished buildings on a new site in Pimlico. 140 students.

**1970:** Campus split between Pimlico and Douglas. 1211 students.

**2010:** Campuses in Cairns, Townsville and Singapore. Study centres in Mackay, Mt Isa, Thursday Island. More than 17,000 students.



In his new history of JCU, *Our Place in the Sun*, historian Peter Bell records that after interviewing four former Vice-Chancellors:

**When asked what their principal achievements had been, they all said much the same things ... they all believed they had engaged the University more closely with the community, that they had made good use of the University's environment to create new niche markets in tropical studies, and that they had improved the University's links with South East Asia and the Pacific region.**

Even in the early drafts of the Bill that would establish the University, its first function was to encourage and provide facilities for study and research both generally and in relation to subjects of special importance to the tropics.

In 2008, the University refreshed its Statement of Strategic Intent leading off with:

**Our intent – a brighter future for life in the tropics, world-wide.**

— Jim O'Brien



Miss University, 1969, danced with Ken Back, JCU's first Vice-Chancellor.

# Go the Saints

In a very Australian fashion, some remember 1970 not for its royal connections but rather for the sporting achievements.

Joe Baker, one of the first academic staff members appointed to University College, recalls:

**“1970 was probably the greatest year of sporting achievement for JCU. That was the first year that our rugby league club entered a team in the Townsville A-Grade competition. The University also fielded reserve grade and under 18 sides... and we won all three grand finals in 1970.”**

The teams were called ‘the Saints’ in tribute to the saintly image painted on the cliff face of Castle Hill.

Students from what was then University College initially painted a question mark on Castle Hill,

which was washed away by the rain, only to be reinstated. A team from the RAAF then painted it over with green camouflage paint as it was considered offensive to the citizens of Townsville.

The following year, students painted the Saint on Castle Hill and as historian Peter Bell records in his new history of the University it was washed off, defaced and painted over several times before being finally accepted as an iconic image of Townsville.

Peter Bell was commissioned by JCU to write a brief history of the University and *Our Place in the Sun* is being published as part of the birthday celebrations.

Photographs: University of Queensland Archives and JCU Archives. ①



Planning the Douglas campus, 1964



Students relaxing in the Duncragan common room in 1969



University College opened at Pimlico in 1961



# The Cairns Institute

## Tropical Australia's newest research centre, The Cairns Institute, is preparing for the next phase of its development – the construction of its \$25 million headquarters on the JCU Cairns campus.

The Institute focuses on advanced studies in the social sciences, humanities, law and business studies. It will provide leadership on issues of importance to people in the tropics worldwide, and particularly in northern Australia, the Pacific and Asia.

"The Cairns Institute is an exciting initiative, undertaking research, development and training activities," said its Foundation Director, Professor Hurriyet Babacan.

"Our mission is to enhance life in the tropics through research

excellence, building an evidence base for policy, service and program development to enhance quality of life in tropical Australia and overseas."

The Cairns Institute's key research streams are: people and societies and quality of life in the tropics; education for sustainability; social policy; regional economic development; and entrepreneurship and innovation.

The Institute has attracted significant state government, federal government and University support.

Established in 2008 with a commitment of \$5 million in federal funding and a \$10 million contribution in salaries and in-kind support from the University, the Cairns Institute was launched in 2009 in temporary quarters.

In November 2009 Prime Minister Kevin Rudd announced a \$19.5 million grant to the Institute.

"The grant will enable the University to build an iconic building to accommodate the Cairns Institute and deliver infrastructure that is

essential to its development," James Cook University Vice-Chancellor Professor Sandra Harding said.

"This will make the Cairns region an engine room for Australia's engagement with the tropical world," Professor Harding said.

The Cairns Institute has appointed leading national and international scholars including six Tropical Leaders, Visiting Scholars, and Senior Fellows and Fellows.

The Institute will embrace the expertise and intellectual resources of the University's schools of Arts and Social Sciences, Education, Law, Business, Creative Arts and Indigenous Australian Studies.

"While the 'hard sciences' are important, the big challenges are human challenges of adaptation and change, poverty and health, inequality and justice," Professor Harding said.

"That's what this Institute will focus on in a grounded way – not only world-class research, but world-changing practice.

### The Cairns Institute will integrate the expertise of JCU's Schools of:

- Arts and Social Sciences
- Education
- Law
- Business
- Creative Arts
- Indigenous Australian Studies



**"It will attract researchers, academics, policy specialists and other visitors either as consultants or to undertake further training; it will be a site and catalyst for innovation on issues associated with industries, economies, peoples and societies in the tropics."**

The construction of the \$25 million Institute building is expected to support 200 jobs and be finished in 2011.

[www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/)

# Nurses in bloom in Mount Isa



Nursing student Bryony Stewart, from Bedourie, with lecturer Helen Dries. Photographer: Roslyn Budd

**Like many regional centres, Mt Isa suffers from a shortage of nurses, and the problem is even more severe in the region's Aboriginal communities.**

**However, thanks to a locally developed Indigenous Nursing Program, the region can now look forward to a home-grown crop of nurses.**

First-year nursing enrolments at JCU's Mt Isa Centre for Rural and Remote Health are up from six to 26, an increase of more than 300 per cent.

The story behind that remarkable figure began in 2009, when a young Aboriginal woman approached Mt Isa's Gidgee Healing [the local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service] seeking information on training for Indigenous nurses.

"From that first enquiry, interest and responses grew. With support from our Board of Directors, Gidgee Healing took a leadership role and developed our Indigenous Nursing Program," Gidgee Healing CEO Bronwyn De Satge said.

"This is a first, and it will contribute

significantly to the Australian Government initiative of closing the life expectancy gap within a generation."

The students began their studies with a Certificate III course, Health Services Assistance, taught through Tropical North Queensland TAFE by local, Indigenous nurses.

**"The program provided direct social and emotional support, along with intensive, face-to-face teaching, because we knew the challenges facing Indigenous students in regional and remote areas," Ms De Satge said.**

Some students were initially doubtful that they could achieve University study, so the model allowed for a number of exit points – students could choose to end their studies with a Certificate III in Health Services Assistance, or they

could undertake further study, for a Diploma of Nursing or a Bachelor of Nursing Science.

"Initially, most of the students only wanted to commit to the Certificate III, but their confidence kept growing and by the end of their time at TAFE we were very pleased to find that many of them were keen to take on the degree program," JCU nursing lecturer Helen Dries said.

The students come from communities across Queensland's far northwest, including Bedourie, Mornington Island and Mt Isa. They all have very strong bonds to their communities and hope to work in the region.

"Indigenous students now make up around 75 per cent of our nursing classes," Mrs Dries said. "We're a small centre, so the increase in enrolments has really stretched everyone, but we're committed to making this work.

"The students are committed too. They know, as we do, what a difference it makes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to have their own people working in health services."

Mrs Dries said many of the students had not previously thought of themselves as potential university students.

"Many of them expected university study to be all too hard and they had a great fear of failure. This training model has helped make tertiary study a reachable goal."

Associate Professor David Lindsay, Head of the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition, hopes this model can be adapted to other centres.

"We would certainly like to take this to Thursday Island, where we currently have eight nursing students, and we're in discussions about funding to do that," he said.

**"A program that encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to train as nurses is a great investment." ①**

**More than 2,500 nurses have completed their undergraduate studies at JCU.**

 JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

40 YEARS 1970-2010

# Opinion: Warts and all



**Dominique Thiriet is a lecturer in JCU's School of Law, Townsville. She is a member of the Animals in the Wild Working Group which helps the Commonwealth implement its Australian Animal Welfare Strategy.**

“All Australian states and territories have laws to protect animals from cruelty and suffering. At first sight, these laws appear to provide protection for the welfare of all animals. The reality is not so reassuring.

Firstly, the definition of ‘animal’ has been drafted to exclude some animal species. Fish, for instance, are excluded in some jurisdictions, even though there is now clear evidence that they feel pain.

In addition, if a practice is conducted according to a recognised code of practice, it will generally be exempt from the cruelty provisions. The codes are developed by industry and merely legalise commonly used practices. They do little, if anything, to lift care standards.

Hence, codes of practice allow chickens, pigs, sheep and cattle to be castrated and/or mutilated without anaesthetic, to be kept in small barren cages all their lives without room to move, and to be transported in cramped conditions.

Such practices would not be allowed with domestic dogs or cats, but are perfectly legal for farm animals, despite their equal capacity to suffer. It is clear that profit is the main justification for allowing the codes to undermine the anti-cruelty laws.

The law also provides exemptions to the cruelty provisions for introduced animals. For instance, under the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001 (Qld), it is not an offence to kill a wild pig, a rabbit, a toad or any other introduced animal if it is done

‘in a way that causes the animal as little pain as is reasonable’.

For many people, whacking a toad with a cricket bat is a pretty reasonable way to dispatch it, even though many are not killed outright. However it would not be reasonable to do the same thing to a puppy or kitten. The less popular a species is, the more its pain and suffering are likely to be considered reasonable.

Finally, when a species is unpopular and economic considerations are also at stake, it gets worse.

For decades tens of thousands of flying foxes were legally electrocuted and shot in Queensland each year and the rate of injury was high. Neither electrocution nor shooting is a humane way to kill small animals.


In addition, thousands of juvenile bats starved to death back at the colonies when females were electrocuted or shot at night. But flying foxes are widely despised and humane alternatives (such as netting) can be costly.

The State Government has acknowledged that the electrocution and shooting of flying foxes is inhumane, not to mention a threat to these ecologically significant species, and has banned both as crop protection methods.

This has been a controversial decision, with the Opposition and sections of the fruit industry demanding the shooting ban be reversed. Shooting is still legal in New South Wales.

Animal protection laws are in dire need of reform. When deciding on the kinds of practices that can be allowed, legislators need to take into account the suffering these may cause to the animals concerned, based on scientific evidence of each species’ capacity to suffer.

These decisions should not rely solely on economic considerations or on the species’ popularity with the public.

**The law should apply equally to all animals – warts and all.”** 



# A lifetime of palm reading

Their majestic beauty and relaxing sway has entranced many, but no one has been more fascinated by the palm tree than Dr John Dowe.

**Dr Dowe's scientific career was born of art. His first studies were in illustration, although he was always a keen amateur botanist.**

"I was a botanical illustrator in the early 1970s. From that, I became a photographer, but my interest in plants and botany continued," he said.

However, it was not until he spent a year travelling through Asia in the late 1970s that he became captivated by palms.

"As an illustrator, I saw all these magnificent palms and I just thought 'wow'."

"Wow" led to an honours degree and then a doctorate on the Australian fan-palm genus *Livistona*.

Now a renowned botanist and Australia's foremost expert in palms, he is based at the University's Australian Centre for Tropical Freshwater Research in Townsville.

While palms are found in every state and territory in Australia, he says the most concentrated areas are in 'hot and wet' areas such as Queensland's Wet Tropics, the Top End of the Northern Territory and Cape York Peninsula.

"They thrive after fire or cyclones, due to the location and nature of their growing tip, which is exposed after such events."

Dr Dowe has focused on Australia's palm flora since the early 1990s. He was instrumental in the concept, philosophy and design of Townsville's Palmetum, serving as its collections manager for five years.

After 20 years of research, does he think there are any more Australian palms waiting to be discovered? "That's highly unlikely," he said.

"Australia has been very thoroughly explored, and palm trees are easy to see, unlike small plants such as moss. The 60 species [now documented] is all of them."

Dr Dowe's 20 years of expertise in native palms is distilled in a recently published, comprehensive guide to the species, titled *Australian Palms: Biogeography, Ecology and Systematics*.

The richly illustrated book covers every one of Australia's 60 species of palm flora, in 21 genera.

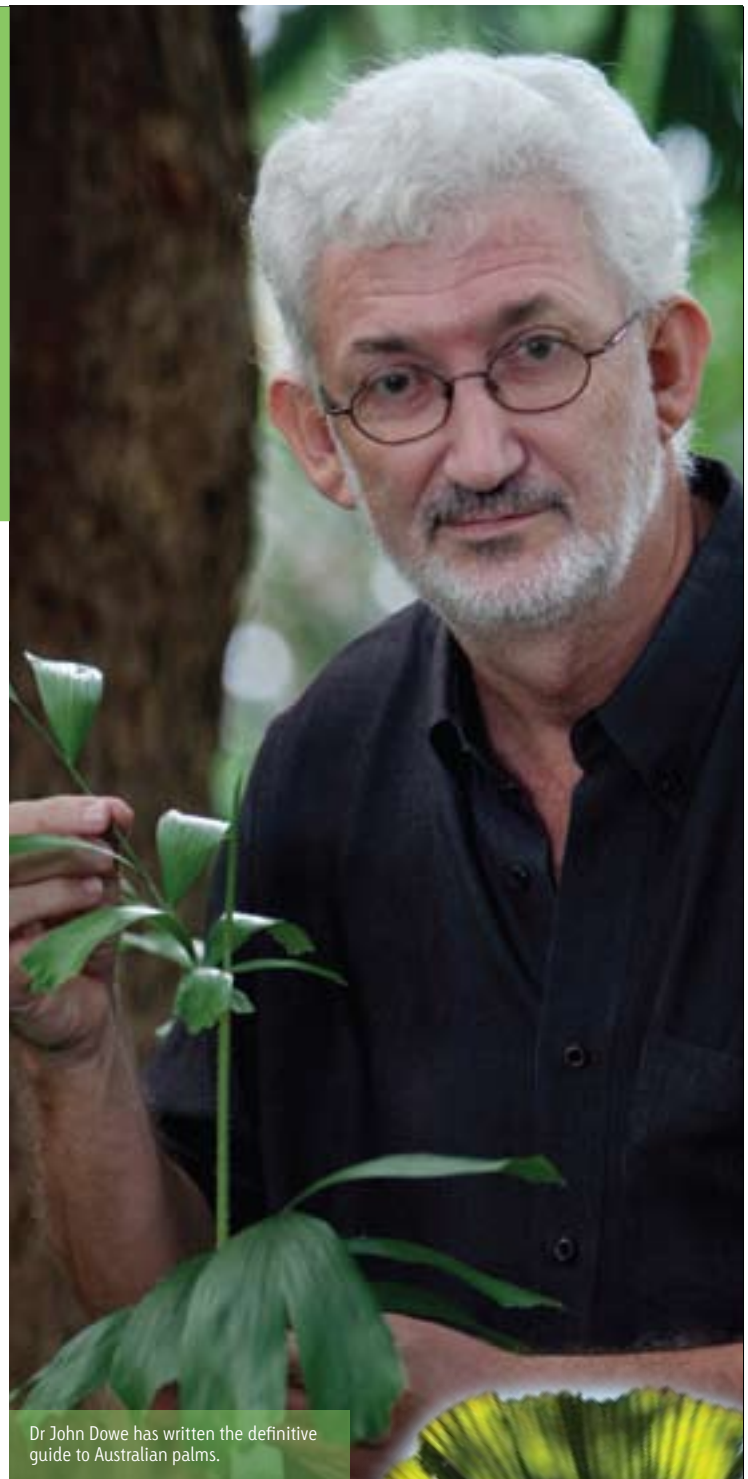
The botanical history of the palm is recounted, from the first sightings of palms on Australian shores by Captain James Cook and botanist Joseph Banks on *The Endeavour's* first voyage.

The book also includes information about the palms' botanical history, biogeography, phylogeny, ecology and conservation.

Fieldwork for the book included two "big loops" of the entire country, as well as about 20 shorter trips through north and far north Queensland.

Thanks to that early experience in photography, Dr Dowe has meticulously captured minute detail of each species. Hundreds of colour photographs bring to life the habit, leaf, flowers, fruit and unique characteristics of each species.

The book is destined to become the definitive guide to the subject: the last comprehensive book on Australian palms was written back in 1875, by German botanists Hermann Wendland and Oscar Drude.



Dr John Dowe has written the definitive guide to Australian palms.

"At the time only 26 Australian palm species had been discovered, so in light of all the recent advances in research into palms, a comprehensive assessment was overdue," Dr Dowe said.

— Caroline Kaurila 

 Australian Palms: Biogeography, Ecology and Systematics is published by CSIRO Publishing. [www.publish.csiro.au/nid/21/pid/6164.htm](http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/21/pid/6164.htm)

The Australian Centre for Tropical Freshwater Research was established at JCU in 1987 to promote water research, technology and information transfer. A leader in tropical ecological research and consultancy in Australia, it takes an interdisciplinary and holistic approach to environmental projects.

» [www.jcu.edu.au/actfr/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/actfr/)



Celebrating  
**40**  
YEARS  
1979-2019



© iStockphoto.com / Olga Khoroshunova

## Tough times for turtles

Nervous about climate change?  
Be glad you're not a marine turtle.

**“Marine turtles are reptiles, so they are heavily reliant on environmental temperature to maintain their body functions such as digestion, reproduction, and metabolism,” explained Mariana Fuentes, a postdoctoral researcher with JCU’s School of Earth and Environmental Sciences.**

Marine turtles lay their eggs in the sand – and the temperature of the sand determines the sex of the hatchlings. It also affects the development rate, health and success of incubated eggs.

**“Climate change is a big deal for these guys,”**  
Mariana said.

Generally, warmer sand temperatures produce female hatchlings, while cooler temperatures produce males.

“In addition to this, successful embryo development only occurs within a narrow thermal window of between 24 and 33°C,” Mariana said.

“Hotter sand decreases the incubation period of sea turtle eggs and affect the body size of hatchlings, reducing their fitness and lowering their survival rates as they cross the reef.”

Very little is known about the specific effects of climate change on marine turtle ecology and population sustainability.

In her doctoral thesis Mariana assessed the potential threats and effects of climate change on the northern Great Barrier Reef green turtle population, the largest green turtle population in the world.



Mariana Fuentes with a newly tagged juvenile green turtle at Milman Island.



A green sea turtle laying its eggs on Bramble Cay at sunrise.

**“In the short term, up to 2030, sea level rise will have the greatest impact. But in the longer term, by 2070, it’s sand temperature that will be the greater concern.”**

“So in the longer term a focus on mitigating the effects of rising sand temperatures might provide a greater return for our conservation investment.”

Mariana is assisted in her work by the Torres Strait Regional Authority’s Turtle and Dugong officers, and island residents.

Some Torres Strait Islanders have taken part in a training program, learning about turtle tagging, turtle carapace measurements, data recording and accuracy.

Mariana has developed an educational cartoon book that will be distributed to Torres Strait school children as part of the turtle and dugong officers’ environmental program.

— Jo Meehan 

Her research focused on this population’s main nesting sites, which include Mer Island and Bramble Cay in the Torres Strait, as well as Raine Island, Milman Island and Moulter Cay on the Great Barrier Reef.

**“My aim was to identify the effects of climate change on sea turtles, specifically through increased air, sea and sand temperatures and sea level changes,”**

Mariana said.

“The models developed for this study indicate that by 2070 the sex of hatchlings produced will skew towards females. We could also see a decrease of hatchling success and a loss of up to 34 per cent of available nesting areas across the rookeries I have studied.”

Marine turtles have survived changes in climate over millions of years, so Mariana has pursued more than the question of whether they can survive climate change. “It’s more a question of whether they can survive climate change in addition to the myriad of threats they face in oceans and on beaches worldwide.”

Working with an expert panel, Mariana has identified some management strategies to mitigate the impacts of rising temperatures. “These include changing the thermal gradient of the beach, relocating nests, and artificial incubation. The next step is to assess which of those are most feasible and cost-effective.”

For those who manage turtle nesting grounds, Mariana’s thesis includes a framework that can be used to assess how the nesting grounds will be affected by multiple climatic processes over time.



Training local assistants in turtle tagging and measuring on Bramble Cay in the Torres Strait.

# School's in for dengue busters



Regional Science Manager Adam Hooper is one of more than 8600 teachers to graduate from JCU.

A very large *Aedes aegypti* assists Adam Hooper in the classroom.



**The next generation of dengue experts is already in training, thanks to an innovative partnership between Queensland Health, Education Queensland, Cairns Regional Council and researchers at James Cook University.**

Using a kit developed in Cairns, Queensland schoolteachers can now incorporate dengue fever into their lesson plans.

The project was born during the severe outbreak of dengue fever in 2008-2009.

"There was a clear message from the community that they wanted to see more dengue education at schools," said Dr McNaughton, a medical anthropologist who works on the Eliminate Dengue project at JCU.

"We found ready support in Queensland Health and Cairns Regional Council, because children are great agents of change when it comes to public education."

While the university researchers had the latest in scientific and social science research at their fingertips, they needed expert advice on how to present that material to school students.

With assistance from Education Queensland, six local teachers were employed to turn the research into teaching materials that fit the existing curriculum.

The units are designed to be taught as part of the science curriculum, with links to other key learning areas including mathematics, English, environment, social studies, health, the arts and technology.

"With very little preparation or scientific background, teachers can take their students through a 12-lesson sequence about the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, its behaviour, its habitat and how to control its spread," said Joe Davis, Senior Medical Entomologist at Queensland Health.

The dengue units can be taught at different levels, making the program suitable for students at primary, middle and secondary levels.

"Younger students might enjoy constructing a paper model mozzie,



Port Douglas students (from left) Lauren Giles, Sena Fujiwara and Ellie Williams exploring the mosquito's lifecycle.

and learning about the mosquito's lifecycle, while older students will be learning about scientific classifications," said Adam Hooper, who helped adapt dengue research for use in schools and is now a Regional Manager, Science, for Education Queensland.

The kit includes advice for teachers and students on how to safely collect mosquito eggs, breed them, and observe and record their life cycle – before disposing of the insects prior to their emergence as adult mosquitoes.

In trials at three local state primary schools (Parramatta, Edge Hill and Port Douglas) students and teachers declared the dengue units a resounding success.

"Teachers were excited to be using materials based on what's not just the latest research, but research that's conducted in the region and relates to an issue of concern to the families of every student," Mr Hooper said. ①

➔ [www.eliminatedengue.com](http://www.eliminatedengue.com)

Photography: Sue Wellwood

# GALLERY



Richard Gillespie. Photographer Andrew Rankin



## Richard Gillespie

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT TECHNICAL OFFICER

**Artist, house builder, father and jack-of-all-trades, Richard Gillespie is the Facilities and Equipment Technical Officer at JCU's School of Creative Arts (SoCA).**

“Basically, I’m here to make sure things just happen.

We hold between eight to ten exhibitions each year in the eMerge Media Space. I’m on the gallery committee and install all the shows. Last year eMerge won a Townsville City Council arts award for Screengrab, a fully digital, new media show.

I was born in Sydney, where I completed a marketing degree, but never practised. I travelled abroad, and after hanging around art galleries for years I thought ‘I can do this’. So I returned to Sydney and obtained my Diploma of Art at the Alexander Mackie CAE.

I had my first one-man show in 1984, and two more in the late 1980s before I loaded up the van and headed north to the tropics.

The first thing I did when I arrived in Townsville was look up artists in the Yellow Pages. I got onto Ron McBurnie here at JCU, who linked me up with the local arts community.

With that group, I was instrumental in establishing Umbrella Studios as an artist-run space. When I heard a sculpture technician at the art school had resigned, I threw my hat in the ring. The rest, as they say, is history.

I love my work – the variety, and the people I work with. We’re a tight group of four who, with the Head of School, support the School’s academics. Last year we won the VC’s award for excellence in customer service.

My house might look like a junkyard to some. I collect interesting bits and pieces, particularly rusted metal, which make up my palette of the Australian vernacular.

I still create one-off art projects, perhaps a couple of times a year. Last month I used found objects to create an assemblage, *The Endeavour*. It’s now showing here as part of *Contemporary Dialogue: People and Place*.”

— Richard Gillespie spoke to Caroline Kaurila. ①

### Contemporary Dialogue:

*People and Place* is showing at the eMerge Media Space, JCU Townsville, until Friday 23 April.



## Straight to Canberra

**JCU research officers Roxanne Bainbridge and Cath Brown were among 50 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women from across the country invited to Oxfam’s Straight Talk Summit at Parliament House in Canberra in March.**

They met with leading women including the Minister for Indigenous Affairs Jenny Macklin, to discuss ways to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Governor-General Quentin Bryce AC also joined the Straight Talk participants on International

Women’s Day to hear the inspiring stories of Indigenous trailblazers Carol Martin, the Member for Kimberley and the first Aboriginal woman to be elected to an Australian Parliament, and Neita Scott, who has been involved with the Aboriginal land rights movement and issues concerning Aboriginal women for the past 30 years.

Roxanne and Cath agreed the summit was the perfect place to start a dialogue with a member of parliament and build an ongoing relationship.

“I want to help Aboriginal people draw from their own wellsprings of strength, so they can lead fulfilling lives,” Roxanne said. “There is so much richness in our culture. People can live healthily and forge a good life if they can recognise their own skills.”



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women jumped at the chance to meet women leaders in Canberra.

Cath said it was a good opportunity to discuss the Aboriginal education empowerment program she has been working on. “We’re looking at how intervention programs can empower communities to be involved in the planning and decision making that concerns them.” ①



Cath Brown [right] and Roxanne Bainbridge with Governor-General Quentin Bryce at the summit.



# A brighter future

The Fulbright Symposium will focus on sustainable development for the tropical world.

## Early bird registrations are now open for the Fulbright 60th Anniversary Symposium in Cairns in August.

Hosted by James Cook University, the Symposium is expected to attract about 200 leading thinkers from throughout Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific and the United States.

“James Cook University is recognised as a world leader in studies relating to the tropics and they are focused on creating a brighter future for the tropics world-wide,” said the Executive Director of the Australian-American Fulbright Commission, Dr Joe Hlubucek.

Dr Michael Birt, Executive Director of the Pacific Health Summit, and Dr Paul Zorner, CEO of Hawaii Bio Energy, are confirmed as keynote speakers, and Queensland’s Chief Scientist Paul Andrews has agreed to facilitate one of the four themes for the Symposium.

Within the overall theme of *Sustaining Societies in the Tropical World* and how the US and Australia can tackle poverty and health issues in the tropics, the 60th Anniversary Fulbright Symposium will focus

on four key areas – tropical health and medicine, environmental sustainability, economic and political development, and strengthening communities.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, and the US Ambassador to Australia, Jeffrey Bleich, have been invited to officially open the Symposium as Honorary Co-Chairs of the Australian-American Fulbright Commission.

The Symposium in Cairns will not have a traditional conference format, but rather be structured around several keynote presentations by high-profile experts, followed by facilitated discussion panels.

Each panel will focus on a particular critical issue within one of the four themes. Outcomes of each panel discussion will play a role in setting the agenda for governments and other organisations to improve the lives of people in the tropics.

**The Symposium will be held in Cairns on August 19 and 20.** ⓘ

▶ [www.jcu.edu.au/fulbrightsymposium/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/fulbrightsymposium/)



Professor Bette Willis with Alma Ridep-Morris who received her Master of Applied Science. Photographer: Scott Radford-Chisholm © Newspix

## Happy grads

**More than 1000 JCU students received their degrees in four different graduation ceremonies held in Townsville in March.**

The University also honoured Mackay’s Carmel Daveson, who was admitted to the award of Fellow of the University. The award recognised Mrs Daveson’s significant services to the North Queensland community and the University, as well as her significant contributions to the advancement of human wellbeing.

JCU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sandra Harding, congratulated all students on their achievements.

“This weekend is indeed a significant moment in the lives of all students and I congratulate them on their achievements and wish them all the very best in their future careers,” she said.

“The University graduation ceremony is particularly significant

this year because we are both delighted and proud to be celebrating 40 years of James Cook University.

“That’s 40 years of producing our very own graduates. I’m advised more than 35,000 students have graduated in that time, many of whom have gone on to remain in north Queensland to live and work.

“In that regard, James Cook University undoubtedly remains a major contributor to the workforce of the region, and one of the engines in its continuing economic growth and prosperity.”

Further JCU graduation ceremonies will be held in Cairns (on Saturday 17 April) and in Singapore (on Saturday 29 May). ⓘ

# Animal ER



## Is your parrot poorly, or your labrador looking less than sprightly?

Help is at hand for Townsville pets at JCU's Veterinary Emergency Centre and Hospital.

During the day the Hospital operates as a referral centre for local vets dealing with technically challenging cases.

"We have specialists in medicine and surgery who can help out with complex cases," Veterinary Practices director Dr Margaret Reilly said. "At the same time it's a chance for our final-year students to see some difficult or unusual cases."

The Centre also provides an after-hours emergency clinic.


"If a Townsville pet owner calls their local vet after hours they're referred to the emergency clinic, which has veterinary staff on-site as well as students on their clinical rotations," Dr Reilly said.

"The students rotate through the areas of emergency care, medicine and surgery. It's all excellent first-hand experience."

Student Mary-Lou Doolan, whose night shifts have included an emergency caesarian and a suspected case of leptospirosis, said she had also learnt about the importance of good communication.

"Bringing in a beloved pet that's fighting for its life is highly stressful, and that can make it more difficult for us to get all the information we need to treat the animal."

Dr Reilly said business after-hours had been brisk. "We tend to see quite a few car accident victims and we've also treated some gastrointestinal emergencies – dogs that have twisted their stomachs.

"We've had some diabetic patients and just recently we assisted with a dog having a difficult birth." 

## Natural attractions for New Year

**Tourism researchers have found that far north Queensland's natural environment was the key attraction for the approximately 14,000 Chinese tourists who visited the region to celebrate Chinese New Year in 2010.**

"When we asked them to rank the most important motives for their visit, the Great Barrier Reef was top of the list," said Jonathan Sibtain, a senior researcher at JCU's Centre for Tourism and Hospitality Management.

"Visiting the reef was followed closely by having free time to relax and enjoy, visiting a famous natural environment, and seeing unusual animals."

JCU researchers surveyed just over 200 of the Chinese New Year visitors, who arrived on 14 charter flights and with various tour groups.

The Chinese-language survey focused on travel patterns, motivations and satisfaction levels.

"We found these visitors were highly educated and primarily interested in a family visit to a natural and relaxing destination," Mr Sibtain said. "Although the visitors were relatively young, this is definitely not an adventure tourism market."

Those surveyed tended to be well educated: 43% had bachelor degrees and 23% had postgraduate qualifications.

On a scale of 1 to 10 [10 being highly satisfactory] on average respondents rated their visit to the region at 8.3.

"This is all highly useful information in terms of marketing Cairns as a destination for Chinese travellers and designing products and visitor experiences that will interest them," said Professor Bruce Prideaux, Director of the Centre for Tourism and Hospitality Management.

A second element of the survey investigated Chinese visitors' perceptions of issues relating to climate change.

"We expect to see climate change emerging as an increasingly important factor in tourism over the coming decade," Professor Prideaux said.



Chinese New Year visitors came to Cairns to relax with family.

"It's important that we start building a picture of how the impacts of climate change could affect destination choice."

When asked if they would return to the region, even if the Great Barrier Reef were severely affected by coral bleaching, 42% said they would revisit, 28% said they would not and 30% were unsure.

Just over one third said that in the future they would expect to travel less by plane, almost 60% expected

to pay some sort of carbon tax and 70% thought they would probably choose destinations with smaller carbon footprints.

The research was funded by the Australian Government's \$40M Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility, which is implemented in northern Queensland by the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre. 



Singing along at JCU Singapore's carnival

## Children's carnival

Each year JCU Singapore holds a children's carnival as part of its commitment to assisting less privileged children.

The carnival is a day of fun that raises funds for two local centres, Child @ St 11 and Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centre.

Around 200 children from the two centres attended the most recent carnival, along with their guardians, local residents, JCU staff, students and alumni, as well as members of the Sembawang Baptist Church,

**"The entertainment included live performances by the students, who are encouraged to share their talents and help others,"** said Dr Dale Anderson, CEO of JCU Singapore. **"Helping those families and young children in need is one way of giving back to the community."** ①

## Staff hanging

They usually devote their time to helping others realize their creative vision, but the talented staff in the School of Creative Arts are showing off their own work in an exhibition in Townsville.

Contemporary Dialogue: People and Place includes video, assemblage, painting, drawing, photo-imaging, digital art and sound.

It will be on show at the eMerge Media Space in the School of Creative Arts complex until Friday 23 April.

"Considering their busy work lives it's an impressive achievement that the staff have created these

fabulous works," said eMerge's Elly Murrell.

The exhibitors, who work on JCU's Cairns and Townsville campuses, include Steven Campbell, Richard Gillespie, Mitch Goodwin, Jak Henson, Anne Lord, Ron McBurnie, Alison McDonald, Angela Meyer, Jill O'Sullivan, Robert Preston, Lucy Prior and Russell Rankin.

The exhibition is part of JCU's 40th Anniversary celebrations and was officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sandra Harding. ①

▶ [www.jcu.edu.au/soca/gallery](http://www.jcu.edu.au/soca/gallery)



Allison Paley (left) and Rebecca Lawton celebrated the launch of Contemporary Dialogue: People and Place

## Launching the Boathouse

Local community leaders attended the official launch in March of the newest and oldest building on JCU's Cairns campus.

The Boathouse, the centrepiece of the new \$3.6m student precinct, incorporates significant sections of the former Cairns Yacht Club building.

"The iconic Yacht Club building has had many lives, but it has always been a social centre. The Boathouse will continue that tradition," said JCU Vice-Chancellor Professor Sandra Harding, who officially opened the Boathouse with Mr Warner Ferguson, Commodore of the Cairns Yacht Club.

The clubhouse was originally constructed in the 1920s after a cyclone destroyed the Yacht Club's previous home. A significant section was relocated to the campus in late 2008 when the



Playwright Angela Murphy and Councillor Diane Forsyth at the launch of the Boathouse.

building faced demolition as part of the redevelopment of the Cairns waterfront.

"I'm sure anyone who has followed its story will be impressed by what our architect and builders have achieved with the elements of the building we received – the silky oak trusses and columns, and the beautiful Johnstone River hardwood floor," Professor Harding said.

A history wall illustrates the building's past as a sporting club, dance hall and social centre, as well as the protests that marked its removal from the Cairns waterfront.

The precinct includes a refectory, Student Association headquarters, the campus bookshop, a café, a bar, a stage and a 300-seat amphitheatre. A bridge connects the precinct to the JCU library. ①



# An entomologist's best friend

After completing a science degree majoring in zoology and environmental science, and an honours thesis on an insect pest species, Danielle Lisle expected her career might involve animals – but she wasn't expecting that one of her closest colleagues would turn out to be a labrador.

As part of Biosecurity Queensland's electric ant eradication program Danielle and Ofira the sniffer dog are on the trail of the tiny invaders from South America.

When Ofira sniffs out electric ants, or *Wasmannia auropunctata*, she scratches the ground to signal her discovery. Her reward for success is a play with her favourite toy.

"Once Ofira has located the ants for us, we can bait that area," Danielle said. "Thanks to her, we're able to target our efforts."

This is Danielle's first job after completing her studies.

"I started out by doing volunteer work on another ant species when I was a student. I knew I wanted to work in biosecurity, so I volunteered for the experience.

"That turned into part-time work while I was finishing my degree, and then this job came up just as

I was finishing my thesis. I really recommend volunteer work while you're studying – it opens doors."


Despite being very small, electric ants pack a powerful punch. Their bites can cause persistent pain and severe allergic reactions. They can even blind domestic cats and dogs.

They are an agricultural pest and an environmental concern because they can cause declines in invertebrates and small vertebrates, as well as competing with other ant species.

"This is the perfect job for me because I find insects fascinating, and I like working on something that benefits the environment," Danielle said.

And what's it like working with a dog?

"Sometimes she finds something really disgusting and tries to eat it, and I have to get it off her. That would be the downside!

"She's a beautiful dog, and one of my tasks is to remind people that she's a working dog. We prefer they don't pat her while she's working, because we need her to focus on what she's trained to do." 

 [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)



Danielle Lisle and Ofira at work. Photographer: David Anthony.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd visited JCU's School of Dentistry recently to see the progress on the School's new building. Second-year students [from left] Anna McBean, Stuart Craig and Casey Walsh showed Mr Rudd around the anatomy lab.



## Creative newshounds

JCNN, the work of students in JCU's new Bachelor of Multimedia program, is coming to a computer screen near you.

The digital media platform is the result of a collaboration between the discipline of Journalism and the School of Creative Arts.


Dr Lindsay Simpson, Head of Journalism, said JCNN would introduce journalism students to digital media skills, as well as providing them with a portfolio when they graduated.

"The media landscape is changing rapidly, so graduates are no longer being asked to specialise in one area of journalism, such as radio, television or print," Dr Simpson said.

"Now, they are expected to write across media and have skills in all three areas," she said.

"What's exciting about our new degree is that we've collaborated with the School of Creative Arts, which delivers other creative skills such as web design, photography and graphic design – all good tools for the job-ready graduate."

The site's editor, Kylie Davis, said JCNN offered a range of stories to satisfy those with an appetite for all new forms of media.

"From up-to-the-minute hard news and interviews with inspiring personalities, to the latest on what's happening in the entertainment world, JCNN has it covered." 

 [www.jcu.edu.au/jcnn](http://www.jcu.edu.au/jcnn)



## Island autonomy

*Throwing off the Cloak* opens a window onto the Torres Strait Islands peoples' struggles for control over their own lives, and recognition of their identities and aspirations.

JCU alumnus Elizabeth Osborne has sought to foreground the peoples' views throughout as she explores the debates centring on their struggle to recover their rights to their land, sea and resources.

In 1992, the Mabo Land Case boosted aspirations for independence: they would become equals with white Australians in a 'reformed constitution and social community' by 2001. They knew control of not only the islands but also the sea and its resources was vital for an economic base to sustain self-reliance.

However, after Mabo, island leaders continued to struggle for recognition of their land rights with governments and an alien, complex legal system.

A form of governance to manage their own inherited territory, acceptable to governments and the people, has not been easy to find. Timing may be elusive but in 2009 the 'flame of autonomy' has been re-ignited.

Dr Osborne's previous book *Torres Strait Islander Women* and the Pacific War was published in 1997 by Aboriginal Studies Press.

**Throwing off the Cloak**  
By Elizabeth Osborne  
Aboriginal Studies Press  
ISBN 9780855756628

## Fundamentally Australian

Australian nursing students now have a local version of the *Fundamentals of Nursing* thanks to some great teamwork by Australian nursing academics, including JCU's School of Nursing.

Led by coordinating authors Nikki Harvey and Tanya Park, a team of JCU writers set about 'Australianising' 12 chapters of the US textbook.

The result of their work, and that of others around the country, is a three-volume set with Australian case studies, research articles and illustrations.

"Kozier and Erb's *Fundamentals of Nursing* is an excellent textbook, and we hope that in Australianising the text we have made it more relevant for our students," said Clinical Director Tanya Park.

"We wanted them to be able to recognise and identify with the stories and images in their text book."

Producing the first Australian edition required a great deal of attention to detail. It includes, for example, the appropriate measurements, codes of conduct, drug names and immunisation schedules.

## On parking and leadership

'Give a woman an inch and she'll park a car in it,' was a favourite expression of Pat Giles, a woman dedicated to improving the lives of the disadvantaged.

A midwife and mother of five, she cut her political teeth as a grassroots activist, feminist campaigner and trade unionist before becoming a Labor Senator in the Hawke and Keating governments.

JCU graduate Dr Lekkie Hopkins and co-author Lynne Roarty tell the story of this unsung hero – a woman whose determination never faltered and whose work ethic astonished many.



Tanya Park (left) and Nikki Harvey have helped adapt a nursing classic. Photographer: Andrew Rankin

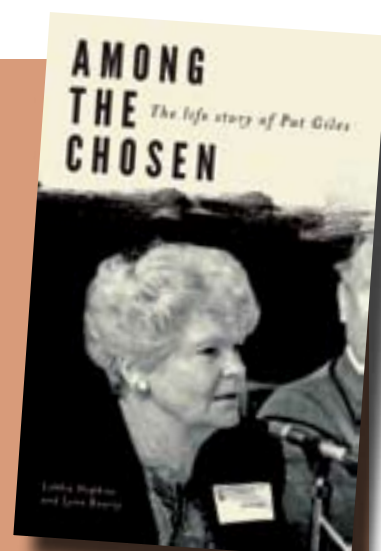
"We have included a significant amount of material on Indigenous health which is integrated throughout the text. We were also pleased to see Aboriginal artwork used on the covers of the books," said Director of Undergraduate Studies, Nikki Harvey.

The Australian edition has been a great success. "The publishers have told us that it's already captured half

the Australian market, which is an excellent result," Ms Harvey said.

Students receive a PIN with the textbook, allowing them access to online resources.

**Fundamentals of Nursing**  
Pearson  
ISBN: 9781442518490



- Pat Giles was the first woman to be elected to the Western Australian Trades and Labor Council. She chaired the first women's committee of the Australian Council of Trades and represented Australia at the United Nations General Assembly.

- She helped draft the National Women's Health Strategy with Jenny Macklin and Susan Ryan.

- In her five decades of public life she was involved in campaigns and policy development that made a real difference to the disadvantaged here and in developing countries.

- In the book's foreword former Victorian Premier Joan Kirner and former Western Australian MP Dr Cheryl Davenport describe Pat Giles as someone who made you think 'I would like to be a leader like her.'

- **Among the Chosen**
- By Lekkie Hopkins and Lynne Roarty
- Fremantle Press
- ISBN 9781921696 022

### Launch of celebrations

**Details:** Showcasing JCU's achievements over 40 years and recognising the outstanding contributions of past and present staff and students.

**Date:** Tuesday 20 April

**Time:** 5.30pm for 6.00pm

**Location:** Sir George Kneipp Auditorium and School of Creative Arts auditorium, JCU Townsville

**Admission:** By invitation

**Contact:** Stephanie Hunter, tel 07 4781 6259 or email stephanie.hunter@jcu.edu.au

### Caught on camera

**Details:** A photographic history celebrating 50 years of University in northern Queensland.

**Date:** 21 April – 12 May

**Time:** Library opening hours

**Location:** Eddie Koiki Mabo Library, JCU Townsville

**Admission:** Free

**Contact:** Bronwyn McBurnie, tel 07 4781 5002 or email bronwyn.mcburnie@jcu.edu.au

### Day trip to Orpheus Island

**Details:** Learn about the Orpheus Island Research Station.

**Date:** Thursday 22 April and Friday 23 April

**Time:** Depart Townsville 5.45 am

**Location:** Orpheus Island Research Station

**Admission:** \$60, bookings essential.

**Contact:** Kiara Liessmann, tel 07 4781 6847 or email kiara.liessmann@jcu.edu.au

### JCU tours and briefings

**Details:** Find out more about current research and teaching at JCU.

**Date:** Thursday 22 April

**Time:** Departures from 2.00pm to 3.30pm

**Location:** Leave from the School of Creative Arts marquee.

**Admission:** Free, bookings essential

**Contact:** For more information contact Lorna Hempstead, tel 07 4781 4303 or email: lorna.hempstead@jcu.edu.au

### Reunions

**Details:** Meet former student colleagues and past and present staff.

**Date:** Thursday 22 April

**Time:** 5.00pm

**Location:** Various locations around campus.

**Admission:** Free, bookings essential.

**Contact:** For more information contact Lorna Hempstead, tel: 07 4781 4303 or email: lorna.hempstead@jcu.edu.au

### AIMS Tour

**Details:** A guided tour of the Australian Institute of Marine Science at Cape Ferguson, south of Townsville. Transport will be provided.

**Date:** Friday 23 April

**Time:** 8.45am

**Location:** Meet at the School of Creative Arts Marquee

**Admission:** Free, bookings essential.

**Contact:** Kiara Liessmann, tel 07 4781 6847 or email kiara.liessmann@jcu.edu.au

### Gala toga party, Townsville

**Details:** Wear your very best sheet to a glammed-up version of the traditional University toga party.

**Date:** Friday 23 April

**Time:** 7.30pm until late

**Location:** School of Creative Arts

**Admission:** \$100, bookings essential.

**Contact:** Kiara Liessmann, tel 07 4781 6847 or email kiara.liessmann@jcu.edu.au

### University Halls BBQ Reunion

**Details:** A re-union of University College former residents, particularly those from 1970–1973

**Date:** Saturday, 24 April

**Time:** 5.00pm

**Location:** University Halls grounds

**Admission:** \$30.00, bookings essential.

**Contact:** Viv Sonntag, tel 07 4042 1850 or email viv.sonntag@jcu.edu.au

➔ For details on these and other 40th Anniversary celebrations, please visit [www.jcu.edu.au/forty](http://www.jcu.edu.au/forty)

## The calendar

### Exhibition, Cairns

**Details:** *UnCommon Destinations: New Drawing.* An exhibition by JCU alumnus Margaret Genever with John Eaton and Carly Scoufos.

**Date:** Until Saturday 5 June

**Location:** KickArts Contemporary Arts

**Admission:** free

**Contact:** [www.kickarts.org.au](http://www.kickarts.org.au)

### Graduation, Cairns

**Details:** Faculty of Arts, Education and Social Sciences; Faculty of Science and Engineering.

**Date:** Saturday 17 April

**Time:** 10.30am

**Location:** Cairns Convention Centre

**Contact:** [www.jcu.edu.au/graduation/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/graduation/)

### Graduation, Cairns

**Details:** Faculty of Law, Business and the Creative Arts; Faculty of Medicine, Health and Molecular Sciences.

**Date:** Saturday 17 April

**Time:** 3.00pm

**Location:** Cairns Convention Centre

**Contact:** [www.jcu.edu.au/graduation/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/graduation/)

### Public lecture, Cairns

**Details:** Professor Steve Turton on the likely effects of climate change on Australian native forests and plantations.

**Date:** Monday 19 April

**Time:** 5.30pm

**Location:** Crowther Lecture Theatre, JCU Cairns

**Admission:** free

**Contact:** 07 4042 1456

### Jo Wales Psychology Seminar

**Details:** Associate Professor Jennifer Boldero examines Australians' attitudes to culturally similar and dissimilar migrants.

**Date:** Friday 30 April

**Time:** 4.00pm

**Location:** Room A21.002, JCU Cairns. Video linked to the Padua Lecture Theatre, JCU Townsville

**Admission:** free

**Contact:** Rochelle Doherty, tel: 07 4781 4182 or e-mail: rochelle.doherty@jcu.edu.au

### Jo Wales Psychology Seminar

**Details:** Professor Virginia Slaughter on becoming a body expert.

**Date:** Friday 14 May

**Time:** 4.00pm

**Location:** Padua Lecture Theatre,

JCU Townsville. Video linked to room A21.002, JCU Cairns.

**Admission:** free

**Contact:** Rochelle Doherty, tel: 07 4781 4182 or e-mail: rochelle.doherty@jcu.edu.au

### Public lecture, Cairns

**Details:** Professor Bill Laurance. *Islands of Survival?* Threats and long-term changes in the world's tropical protected areas.

**Date:** Monday 17 May

**Time:** 5.30pm

**Location:** Crowther Lecture Theatre, JCU Cairns

**Admission:** free.

**Contact:** 07 4042 1456

### ATFI Seminar

**Details:** The edible and medicinal plants of the Guugu Yimidhirr people.

**Date:** Thursday 27 May

**Time:** 3.30 – 4.30pm

**Location:** Room E2.113A, JCU Cairns.

**Admission:** free.

**Contact:** 07 4059 5008

### Exhibition, Townsville

**Details:** Showcasing the very best of students' creations from semester 1 this year.

**Date:** 4 June – 30 July

**Time:** 8:30am – 4:30pm, Mon – Fri

**Location:** eMerge Media Space, JCU Townsville

**Admission:** free.

**Contact:** [www.jcu.edu.au/soca/gallery/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/soca/gallery/)

### Public lecture, Cairns

**Details:** Professor Peter Griggs discusses the farmers, engineers and chemists who changed the Australian sugar industry.

**Date:** Monday 21 June

**Time:** 5.30pm

**Location:** Crowther Lecture Theatre JCU Cairns

**Admission:** free.

**Contact:** 07 4042 1456

# Research in the *Tropics*



Orpheus Island is in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in the Palm group of islands. James Cook University has a research station, set within a 2-hectare site surrounded by the Orpheus Island National Park. With a recent \$4 million upgrade, the research station offers outstanding teaching facilities and access to a spectacular and diverse natural site for our students.

This is just one example of excellence in research infrastructure at JCU.

For more information about research at JCU  
visit [www.jcu.edu.au/research](http://www.jcu.edu.au/research)



Celebrating  
**40**  
YEARS  
1970~2010