# Captain James Cook R.N.  
**Crew Database**

First Voyage: Endeavour 1768 - 1771

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>William PECKOVER</th>
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**Personal Details:**
- He was born about 1747 in the village of Eye, Northamptonshire.
- He married Mary Bryant in 1781.

**Position on board:** A.B. Seaman

**Biographical Summary:**
Peckover joined the *Endeavour* on 25 July 1768. He was one of a handful of crew who served under Cook on all three voyages. After Cook’s voyages he served under Captain Bligh as gunner on the *Bounty* voyage. When the mutiny took place, he joined Bligh in the ship’s longboat.

A document in the Mitchell Library, Sydney records the following

> ‘William Peckover, late gunner of the *Irresistible*, superannuated, wishes to be made an established Tide waiter naming Preferable Commissioners – No 13 Lower Gun Alley, Wapping.’ (Mitchell Library, Banks Papers).

Joseph Banks presented his collection of ethnographic artefacts from Cook’s voyage to the British Museum, in 1778. William Peckover and carpenter James Cleveley, assisted Daniel Solander in identifying and labelling everything.

Banks Collection was displayed in the South Sea Room, which was opened to the public in August 1781.

**Sources:**
Beaglehole, The Voyage of the Endeavour 1768-1771
Thomas, Discoveries, the Voyages of Captain Cook (2003).
Chambers, Joseph Banks and the British Museum: the world of collecting, 1770-1830

This information sheet was produced by the Captain Cook Society to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook’s first voyage of exploration.
For further information visit: www.captaincookssociety.com