

### **'Not just a donor, but also a friend'**

The winners of Jennie Thomas scholarships don't just receive financial support to pursue their dreams - they also get a friend for life.

Jennie's philosophy is to go through life with a warm hand and a warm heart - and one of her hugs. Jennie follows the careers of each and every one of her scholarship recipients.

Past scholarship winners Alexia Sinclair and Linsey Gosper know all too well the generosity of Jennie Thomas. They both won Jennie's Travelling Art Scholarship while they were studying fine art at the University. Jennie selected the artists, both photographers, from auditions and has followed their careers with interest.

According to Linsey the scholarship from Jennie allowed her to buy a round the world ticket which took her to the USA, the UK, Spain, Morocco and France.

"Words cannot describe the amazing adventure that took place. Not only did I grow and gain confidence as any traveller would, but I also had the opportunity to see some of the world's most brilliant galleries and artworks which greatly informed my own practice and has given me incredible inspiration for my own work."

Sean Phillipson is another one of Jennie's scholarship recipients. Sean used his \$2,000 scholarship from Jennie to assist with his studies of how marine communities in Swansea Channel are affected by dredging and sand movements.

Jennie said she got to go to university through winning a scholarship sponsored by the Government, which are no longer offered today. She wanted to give that opportunity to other young people.

"I've retired and now it's time to hand the baton on to you," she said. "I'm so proud of you all, congratulations - you are part of the family now."

*\* Alexia Sinclair, scholarship recipient*

