

# STUDENT STORY



## Matt

### **Qualification:**

Master of Professional Psychology Deakin University - 2021

### **Why did you choose your degree and what do you enjoy the most about it?**

After having a gap year working in a pub in London at 32, I realised I had a passion for mentoring. I completed a Certificate IV in youth work. I had an awesome teacher who said, Matt, you are good enough to do a bachelor. No one had ever told me that before. In 2016 I returned to study, enrolling in a bachelor's degree, and then Master of Professional Psychology at Deakin University.

### **How important is having the CUC in your local town to you and why?**

The academic community that CUC Bass Coast provides meant more to me than the fantastic physical space. The support the Centre staff provided was invaluable, the Learning Skills Advisor accountability buddy program was great, just knowing that someone was on this journey with me kept me motivated.

### **What advice would you give to other regional and rural people who are considering higher education?**

My message to others wishing to return to study is to scaffold their learning. Set yourself up for success by not biting off more than you can chew. It is essential to reach out for support, ask for help, and create networks. Basic admin and organisational skills are critical to managing your conflicting schedules.

**Matt is now a registered psychologist and is currently working at Headspace Wonthaggi.**