

In conversation with

Jeremy Bingham

Jeremy is a warm and friendly Junior Researcher at SACEMA. A native of Cape Town, he holds an MSc in Mathematical Sciences at Stellenbosch University. He loves spending time in nature, connecting with his fellow humans, and expressing himself creatively.



**"I see both sides like Chanel."
-Frank Ocean**

Why epidemiological modelling and analysis?

There's an intellectual side and a practical side to epidemiological modelling which combine to make it a field which fascinates me and motivates me. The most difficult aspect of an epidemic to get a handle on is human behaviour, which is endlessly interesting, even when it often isn't explicitly the primary focus of our work. On top of this, our work can provide insights that inform improved public health decision making, with genuine positive impacts on the lives of people, and this motivates and inspires me!

You are an avid surfer. What about the ocean draws you into its waves?

The ocean is a mystical and powerful teacher. The immensity of the ocean, its beauty, and its raw power all draw me in. Perhaps the most special aspect of waves, aside from the indescribable beauty of harnessing and being immersed in the ocean's power when riding a wave, is the fact that the beautiful moment which a surfer seeks happens regardless of whether you're there or not. There's a specific point in space and time where you have to be - just the right spot, at just the right second - to meet the wave, that is uniquely special about surfing.

If you could surf anywhere in the world, where and why?

There are endless incredible waves – some of my favourite spots are Seal Point, Outer Kom, and St Mikes on the south coast.