

WEAVING AND YARNING THE NGARRINDJERI WAY

a one day workshop – 9 June 2019

Fifteen Club members gathered at the South Australian Museum Armoury to learn Ngarrindjeri weaving using traditional methods and materials. The day was led by Ngarrindjeri elder and master weaver Auntie Ellen Trevorrow, and supported by Jelina Haines who has spent over 20 years working with the Ngarrindjeri community. The participants soon became absorbed in this fascinating and complex craft, making small baskets and mats. A quiet buzz descended on the Armoury space as people chatted, networked, sought guidance and concentrated on their weaving.

The workshop also included a tour of the Aboriginal gallery led by Auntie Ellen and SA Museum Cadet Rebecca Richards. They helped interpret photos and items deepening the understanding of the importance of woven items in the lives of the Ngarrindjeri, past and present. Participants also enjoyed a range of delicious foods throughout the day featuring a variety of Australian native foods.



The Weaving and Yarning the Ngarrindjeri Way workshop represents a new direction for the Waterhouse Club, although the Museum itself has a long association with Ngarrindjeri weaving. Auntie Ellen herself learned to weave at a Museum event at the Coorong under tutelage of Auntie Doreen Kartinyeri in the early 1980s. It felt a circle was joined at the workshop bringing in past weaving elders to the museum space with current and future weaving elders too.

Event Co-ordinator: Rose Dow