

NANNETTE SHAW

Nannette Shaw is a Tyereelore Elder and Trawoolway woman who also has ties to the Bunurong people of Victoria. She is a traditional kelp worker, basket weaver and shell stringer following the traditions of her ancestors.

Nannette creates traditional Bull Kelp vessels in the same way the ancestral women of Tasmania have done for thousands of years.

Artist Statement

Kelp is a very important part of who I am. I can weave a basket and string shells, but working with kelp centres me, it connects me where I need to be. It connects me to Country, Culture, and my Ancestral Women.

When I taught myself how to make the water carriers the same way as they were in 1851, I sensed that I was being guided by those Old Women to make sure I got it right.

As a person who suffers from depression, Kelp is my lifeline and my sanity because when I work with it I go to another place where I feel safe and secure in the knowledge that my Ancestral Women are watching over me, keeping me safe.

It strengthens my Spirit and my Soul.

- Nannette Shaw, February 2022