



BECAUSE OF HER, We Can!



Veda Betts and Delise Sampson

Story by David Farlam

Veda Betts and granddaughter Delise Sampson. Veda was born somewhere near Eucla and later grew up at Koonibba Mission, she is an elder of the Wirangu and Kokotha tribes. Being older and married, Veda avoided being one of the stolen generation, she took in her youngest brother but unfortunately her other two brothers were taken away. This has caused Veda great grief and she has since supported her family whenever she can.

Veda was the first Aboriginal student to attend Ceduna Area School. As a young adult she played a role in a travelling play as the Aboriginal daughter of a family. Veda also worked in the South Australian Fishing Cooperative fish processors. She was also the first Aboriginal Woman to work at the Matthew Flinders Nursing home in Port Lincoln.

Today Veda is passionate about maintaining language and culture and she regularly attends schools to pass on her knowledge to students.

Veda has a message for young Aboriginal women “ I recon family, family is the main thing, honour their mother and father and love, love is the main thing, you hang on to that very very strong”

Veda is currently writing her life story with assistance from Delise and a grant from Weena Mooga (women together).Veda is also studying towards a Bachelor of Arts degree, Australian Society and Aboriginal Cultures, at University of South Australia.

NAIDOC Week



8-15 JULY 2018