

# YOUR VIRTUAL DISCOVERY VISIT – 59 TO THE HERITAGE STORIES OF ROTTNEST ISLAND



*Virtual Visits were initiated during the COVID-19 pandemic when Rottnest Island was closed to the public due to lockdown and quarantine from March to June 2020. Virtual Visits have continued to enable a further enjoyment of stories introduced at the Wadjemup Museum, the Chapman Archives or sites around the Island.  
Enjoy, reflect and share.*

## EXCELLENCE RECOGNISED - WADJEMUP MUSEUM

The Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA), formerly Museums Galleries Australia and Museums Australia, is the national professional organisation and peak council for museums and public art galleries in Australia, AMaGA uses the International Council of Museums (ICOM) Australia definition of Museum. ICOM for the purposes of membership, defines a museum as a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.

Annually AMaGA presents the Museums & Galleries National Awards, or MAGNAs. These awards recognise excellent work nationally in the categories of exhibition, public programs and sustainability projects. The MAGNAs are open to all Australian cultural collecting institutions who are members of Australian Museums and Galleries Association. All Indigenous Programs or Keeping Places are eligible. **Creative Spaces were the winner of a 2021 MAGNA award for a permanent gallery and exhibition fit out for the Wadjemup Museum on Rottnest.**



**wadjemup  
museum** | at the  
OLD MILL  
& HAY STORE

**MAGNA**  
MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES  
NATIONAL AWARDS 2021  
**WINNER**  
PERMANENT EXHIBITION OR GALLERY FITOUT



The Rottnest Island Authority (RIA) engaged *Creative Spaces* to update the existing displays in order to attract a younger audience and keep up-to-date with modern museum methods of storytelling. *Creative Spaces* designed and managed the refurbishment of the Museum in conjunction with a team of skilled consultants. New display furniture, exterior signage, a reception desk, multimedia interactives, theatrette, exhibition graphics and a Discovery Centre were designed to enhance visitor experiences and engage them with the outstanding cultural and environmental features of the Island. In addition, the entrance was relocated to invite in local foot traffic, unused decking was activated as a new events and casual seating space, and tiered seating was added for outdoor learning programs.



Exciting and well deserved as the MAGNA is, it is also important to remember the ongoing contribution of the daily roster of two RVGA guides who since 22 December 2020, have been welcoming and orienting visitors to the Wadjemup Museum. To date, in spite of COVID lockdowns, over 10,000 visitors have been logged through and engaged with the Wadjemup Museum and its stories.

[Wadjemup Museum on Rottnest Island | Creative Spaces](https://www.amaga.org.au/)

<https://www.amaga.org.au/>

<https://www.amaga.org.au/western-australia>

<https://armymuseumwa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/132-YOUR-VIRTUAL-VISIT-FERRY-TSS-ZEPHYR.pdf>

[https://wm.rvga.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Her\\_134\\_Millstone-technology.pdf](https://wm.rvga.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Her_134_Millstone-technology.pdf)

[https://wm.rvga.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Her\\_137-THE-ANCIENT-ART-OF-FLINTKNAPPING.pdf](https://wm.rvga.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Her_137-THE-ANCIENT-ART-OF-FLINTKNAPPING.pdf)

[https://wm.rvga.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Her\\_138-MAPPING-ROTTNEST.pdf](https://wm.rvga.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Her_138-MAPPING-ROTTNEST.pdf)

<https://www.alwayswadjemup.com/>

<https://fremantleshoppingnews.com.au/2021/02/18/places-i-love-wadjemup-museum-and-sculpture-at-wadjemup/>



Official opening of Wadjemup Museum on 22 December 2020  
(Illustrating the visibility power of yellow)



Contemporary art reflects the Island's past and present, and assists with perceptions of the Island's heritage and how it can evolve. Many of the selected works in the exhibition focus on the Island's natural environment, including animals which are both prehistoric and current. There are references to Aboriginal heritage dating back thousands of years, the Island's central role as a colonial prison, and World War 2 defence sites.