

Relationship

Biana	Father
Wiana	Mother
Gurung	Child or Baby
Babana	Brother
Djiramin	Sister
Durung	Son
Durunanang	Daughter
Makun	Sweetheart/Lover
Mullamang	Husband
Dyynamang	Wife
Dyín	Woman
Dyínoragan	Old Woman
Gamarada	Friend or ally

Colours
of the
Aboriginal Flag

Ngana Black

Mudyil Red

Yerakal Yellow

Place Names

Warran	Sydney Cove
Pannerong	Rose Bay
Kayemay	Manly Bay
Garangal	North Head
Wareamah	Cockatoo Island
Kamay	Botany Bay
Tubergule	Sydney Harbour
	East
Tarralbe	South Head
Burramatta	Parramatta
Cabacaba	Middle Head

Aboriginal Heritage Office



Museum and Keeping Place
39/135 Sailors Bay Road
Northbridge NSW 2063
(02)99499882
www.aboriginalheritage.org

Reference for Language: William Dawes
Notebooks/ Jakelin Troy The Sydney
Language



LANGUAGES

The Voice
of Aboriginal Peoples



Aboriginal Australia

The oldest continuous culture
in the world.

A vibrant culture with great diversity.

Over 500 Different Nations

Over 500 Different Languages

Language is part of what defines our
identity. Preservation of these
languages will ensure continuing cultural
identity and Aboriginal connection to
country.

Voices of the Past Speak Again

Laws preventing Aboriginal people from speaking their own languages are changing with attitudes. Aboriginal people can speak without fear of punishment. But still today a child's first language that would connect them to country and kin must take second place to English. Great initiatives are happening with children's language story books paving the way, and kids are coming to school to read them. There is a dream that Aboriginal languages will be heard loudly and understood by all.

Languages of New South Wales

In NSW alone we have too many languages to mention them all here. Recent research has thrown into contention many Sydney names for language groups. It is important to keep an open mind.

The Sydney Language

None of the early records of the language spoken in the Sydney Basin provide any indication that Aboriginal people gave their language a name or had a word for 'language'. Without any living speakers to turn to for advice, the only sources of information about the language are historical records. Both the terms *Eora* or *Iyora* and *Dharug* have been used by historians. Against all odds a great number of words have managed to survive in old wordlists written by colonists, who had direct contact with the language and the people who spoke it. Some of these words are in our everyday language: Warada is Waratah, Kaowi is Cooe. The words in this brochure come from this Sydney Language.

Natural Elements

Dagara Frost/Cold
 Walan Rain
 Badu Water
 Garrigarang Sea
 Minak Darkness
 Darraburra Daylight
 Duruga Falling Star
 Warrawal Milky Way
 Guwara High Wind
 Mungil Lightning
 Murrungal Thunder
 Yanada Moon
 Guwng Sun

Location Direction Time

Burruwa Above
 Gadi Below or under
 Yinun Down
 Dali To
 Yinbana This way
 Barruwa Near to
 Darimi Long time
 Yagoo(na) Today
 Walla Then