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### **Using the Barry Blake 'The Warrnambool Language' resource.**

#### **Summary:**

Barry Blake is a linguist and has worked for decades in Aboriginal languages in Australia. He is the only linguist to do an analysis of our Guditjmarra languages. Linguistics is a great tool for us to be able to look at our languages, how they are structured and help us to do the reconstruction that language revitalisation takes.

It is one of the tools we need but doesn't hold all answers in our language revitalisation journey. Our cultural knowledge and 'redreaming' or interpretation of these written records is ultimately the key to our language living back in our families and communities.

So when using these documents keep in mind that this is a tool in our tool box.

In this work Blake has done an initial linguistic analysis. He has searched and brought together all the historical records (at the time) together in one publication. He has looked at the words, sentences etc from a linguist perspective. He decided on his own spelling system for the purpose of making this publication and making it readable by having a consistent spelling. His spelling system can be one that a Language group might want to adopt or you want to use for the purpose of your song writing at this time until your language group has decided on its own specific spelling system, if the established Keerray Woorroong spelling system isn't used by your specific language group.

Blake has gotten all the available grammatical features of our language and explained them from the linguistics perspective. This is great for us as it gives us the building blocks to keep developing our languages. What he hasn't done is taken the liberty to develop our language any further he has left this work for us to continue.

So in using this Document for songwriting, you will be looking words up in the word lists. Some hints or advice for you to understand the lists and references a bit more easily (I hope 😊 )

Blake has set out two word lists - an **English to Guditj** word list and a **Guditj to English** wordlist.

In the English to Guditj word list you will see the word

Example: *in this example I have underlined and italicised some letters.*\*

These letters indicate which historical source the word has been taken from and how it was recorded by that person. You can see the diversity of spelling as each person recording heard the word or thought to spell it. There is a list of sources to reference as this indicates usually which dialect the word is possibly from

Further some of the words have word-ending or suffixes Attached which adds to the meaning ie yana ke or yana ki Would indicate the imperative that is telling the person To go, so Yana is the stem word the base from which we Make all the other words with walk or go in them Like going, walking, gone, etc.

### **go, go away**

**yana** yanmin r, yanakie n, yan d, di,  
yanan m, yan nung in 'be off' pf,  
yanan 'off' d, v,  
yannan di, yannakie 'must go' di,  
yannup tenanho 'go on foot' Y,  
yaninner Y, yannun T,  
yannergatun 'let him go' G,  
yannergatar 'let him go' Y,  
yannakiku 'go there' B,  
yanna-ga 'be off [to gins]' T,

yannikiku yamzikiku B,  
yannerkiiku, yannerkiihu Y, yannerkiku 'go off', 'be off' Y  
[yana widespread; see 'walk']  
**yanpa-** yan but er ar rer 'be off' z,  
[yan.burn.er.ar.er](#) 'be off' z  
**purpa-** puurpa gnin v, poor para jl  
[see 'walk'], [mung.er.by.in](#) pf, mo.ko.bine gr  
**pung(g)a** - punga jl