



*all yours*

# Indigenous Language Wordlists

## Brisbane Animal Words

There are several neighbouring languages in the Greater Brisbane area; these were closely related with many shared words. As Aboriginal languages are oral languages that have been written only since European settlement there may be variations in spelling and/or pronunciation across the region due to dialectical differences.

**Yugara** is the name of the language spoken in the Brisbane area west to Ipswich and the Lockyer Valley.

**Turubul** is the name of the language spoken in the Brisbane area north to the Sunshine Coast.

**Yugambah** is the name of the language spoken between the Logan and Tweed Rivers and west to Beaudesert and Rathdowney.

**Yugarabul** is the name of the language spoken in Brisbane area south-west towards Ipswich and Boonah.

Some of these words may still be used in South-East Queensland communities.

**Note:** The following list should be seen as a guide - check with local language speakers as to the preferred local pronunciation.

English	Yugara	Yugarabul	Yugambah	Turubul
Bird (Generic, any bird)	Juwanbin	Juwahnduwan	Noangbil	Juwahnduwan
Carpet Snake	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul	Kabul
Crow	Wawal	Wagan	Wagahn	Wowa
Dingo/Wild Dog	Mirri	Mirri	Ngurun	Mirri
Eagle	Juwehrr	Juwehrr	Mibunn	Dibbil
Emu	Nguyi	Ngurun	Murun	Nguyi
Fish (Generic, any fish)	Jawan	Guyurr	Jalumm	Kuyur
Horse <sup>1</sup>	Yarraman	Yarraman	Yarraman	Yarraman
Kangaroo	Barrar	Burrar	Muni	Gurooman
Koala	Dumbirri	Marrambi	Borobi	Dumbirri
Pelican	Bulualum	Bulualum	Chungarra	Bulualum
Possum	Kubbi	Kubbi	Guran	Kubbi
Shark	Powai	Powai	Bowai	Powai
Snake (Black)	Bui	Bui	Jomgwong	Tumgu
Sugar Glider	Chibur	Chibur	Jiburr	Chibur
Wallaby	Garril	Garril	Karil	Garril

<sup>1</sup> *Yarraman* is a universal/'borrowed' word for horse – it originates from the South Coast of New South Wales.

## Sources and Further Reading

State Library has items in the collections relating to the languages of the Greater Brisbane Area. Words listed above were sourced from several historical and linguistic texts within the State Library Collections, including the following items.

Allan, J. and Lane, J. (2001) *The language of the Wangerriburra and neighbouring groups in the Yugambeh region*. Kombumerri Aboriginal Corporation for Culture: Beenleigh. **P 499.15 all**

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Eipper, C. (2007) *German Mission to the Aborigines at Moreton Bay, 1841*. Archive CD Books. **QCFS 266.02343094 2007**

Hardcastle, T.W. (1930) 'A Vocabulary of the language of the Aborigines of the Boonah District'. **VF 499.15 har**

Holmer, N. (1983) *Linguistic Survey of South-Eastern Queensland*. Australian National University: Canberra. **J 499.15 HOL**

Kite, S. and Wurm, S. (2004) *The Duungidjawa language of southeast Queensland: grammar, texts and vocabulary*. Pacific Linguistics 553. Pacific Linguistics: Canberra. **J 499.15 KIT**

Meston, A. (undated) Archibald Meston Papers Undated. **OM64-17**

Ridley, W. (1866) *Kamilaroi, Dippil and Turrabul: languages spoken by Australian Aborigines*. Government Printer: Sydney. **RBJ 499.15 rid**

Watson, F. J. (1944) "Vocabularies of four representative tribes of South Eastern Queensland"; supplement to the *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (Queensland)*, No. 34, Vol XLVIII. **REFJ 499.15 wat**

## Further Details

For more information on Brisbane languages: Yugambeh Museum, Language and Heritage Research Centre serves as the Indigenous Language Centre for Southern Queensland; visit Yugambeh Museum's website: [www.yugambeh.com](http://www.yugambeh.com)

## State Library of Queensland

For further information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages at the State Library of Queensland, please contact:

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**SLQ Indigenous Languages Webpages:** [www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/languages](http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/languages)

**SLQ Indigenous Languages Blog:** <http://blogs.slq.qld.gov.au/ilq/>

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This initiative, as part of State Library of Queensland's Indigenous Language Project is supported by funding from the Indigenous Languages Support Program (ILS) from the Australian Government's Attorney-General's Department, Ministry for the Arts.