

Acknowledgements

This book has been developed from the course notes for Gamilaraay 1, which has been taught at the University of Sydney since 2006 and at The Australian National University more recently. These notes were titled *Garay Guwaala 1*.

The move to a published book is largely due to Grazia Scotellaro's vision of an online Gamilaraay course, to her encouragement and technical and administrative assistance. The staff at ANU Press and at the College of Arts and Social Sciences, ANU, have done much of the design and technical work for the book. ANU Press also provided a grant to cover the cost of production, particularly the recording of Gamilaraay.

There are many speakers on sound files in the text. More recent recordings are of Peter Swanton, Priscilla Strasek, Suellen Tighe, Tracey Cameron and Rhonda Smith. Earlier speakers include John Brown, Auntie Maureen Sulter, Nathan Blacklock and Rhonda Ashby. A few are of John Giacon.

John Hobson has had a major role in the development of *Garay Guwaala 1*. He and Giacon wrote the first version in 2004, for the Gamilaraay 1 course at the University of Sydney. He also strongly advocated for the course. Jane Simpson has been instrumental in Gamilaraay 1 being introduced and maintained at ANU.

Many suggestions made by students over the years have been incorporated in this edition. Geoff Hunt has carefully reviewed the text and also made many suggestions and corrections. James Grieve made incisive and helpful comments. Emily Hazlewood and Teresa Prowse, at ANU Press, skilfully, patiently and carefully produced the final version of the book.

The passion of Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay students, in particular, provides the motivation to continue working on the languages. A special thanks to those whose passion for the language has kept them involved and learning for many years, including Priscilla Strasek, who recently completed the ANU Gamilaraay 3 course, Tracey Cameron, who from 2020 will teach Gamilaraay 1 at the University of Sydney, and Suelyn Tighe.

This text is taken from *Wiidhaa: An Introduction to Gamilaraay*,
by John Giacon, published 2020 by ANU Press, The Australian
National University, Canberra, Australia.