

Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission**From: Yohann****Dated: 21 September 2024****Submission:**

I'm from Brittany (France), and I've called the Bunurong Lands where I live my home for the last 10 years, in Melbourne's western suburb of Altona. In Brittany, there has been attempts to erase the Breton language and culture for a long time, then from the mid 20th Century, a revival of them happened, starting with free traditional music events (fest noz and fest deiz), on week ends where Breton music and songs are performed to an audience who dance traditional dances, where anyone can attend.

At the same time community initiatives came to reality to create the first bilingual (French/Breton) school. Through music, live events and education, the people knowing of Breton culture and speaking Breton has increased. Another initiative was to add the Breton name of cities, towns and significant places in both French and Breton on road signages, making it part of the visual landscape to anyone.

I'm looking forward to the day where Melbourne will have "Naarm" underneath each of it signage, Altona as well and all other places across our State. I'm looking forward to the day when I'll be able to use the names of cities, towns and places in local languages. I'm looking forward to the day when we will all be proud of using local languages words in our everyday conversations.

To me, keeping culture alive goes with sharing it, encouraging people to discover, learn and use in a respectful manner, making it a shared heritage to be proud of. I hope that makes sense and that it may be relevant somehow. And I thank you for the work you're doing.

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