

## Bateman

Named after the Bateman family who established their home 'Grasmere' at Bull's Creek. Built as a holiday retreat in 1886, it was also a farm, fruit and vegetable provider to the colony. Some of the streets were named after ships owned by J and W Bateman Ltd of Fremantle. The first subdivision in Bateman occurred in the early 1960s and the suburb was fully developed in the 1970s.



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Bateman borders on the Piney Lakes Reserve (see Winthrop) which was of great spiritual and cultural significance to the original custodians of the area. Many artefacts have been found in the region and it was the site of early disputes between Aboriginals and settlers, leading to a massacre of Aboriginal people in the area\* (\*Perth Gazette).

Because of the built up areas the natural history of the suburb has suffered although there is the usual birdlife and its close vicinity to Piney Lakes ensures a variety of breeds. Reserves such as the Bill Ellison and 'William Murray' Park are in recognition of former early councillors of the Melville Roads Board. George Welby, besides being a councillor from 1930 – 1937, was also a well-known vigneron in the Willagee area. His produce won awards at the Perth Royal Show.

Bateman was the locale of the Noalimba Reception Centre in Mandala Crescent. Noalimba is an Aboriginal word which means 'belonging to all'. It was built in 1968 costing \$1.55 million, with the purpose of providing temporary accommodation to migrants from England. Noalimba ceased to be a migrant reception centre in the early 1980s. Circa 1984, it was transferred to the Ministry for Sport and Recreation, vested in the Recreation Camps and Reserves Board and renamed *Noalimba Accommodation and Conference Centre*. Its function was to assist in the provision of sport and recreation. It continued to be a Recreation Camp and Conference Centre until 2002, when it closed.

Bateman Primary School was established in 1970 and offers LOTE, teaching Chinese (Mandarin) to students in Years 3 through to Year 7. The school has strong links to Huijia High School in Beijing, China and each year Chinese students have spent a term at Bateman Primary School on exchange visits.

Corpus Christi College located on Murdoch Drive was established in 1983 and was the first non-order owned Catholic Secondary College in the Archdiocese of Perth. 'Corpus Christi' which means the 'Body of Christ' is a co-educational college.