

Bull Creek

This suburb was named after Lieutenant Henry Bull, R.N. On 19 April 1830, he was granted 120 hectares of land at Canning Location 26 near to the creek that was later to bear his name. Lieutenant Bull is said to have conducted a brewing business near the Canning River from about 1831-1837. One notable person reported that he enjoyed a glass of colonial beer brewed by Bull and sold for three shillings a gallon.

The earliest inns and hotels were located on river foreshores as transport in those days was primarily by water. The Leyson Arms at Bull's Creek (shortened to Bull Creek) was run by Sarah and William Higgins and was the first inn in Melville. It was advertised as having "good entertainment for man and horse at moderate charge." It was destroyed by fire in 1835.

The official name Bull Creek was adopted by the City of Melville in 1968. It is sometimes written incorrectly as one word, Bullcreek.

Prior to European settlement, the Wadjuk Beeliar people used the Bull Creek Wetlands as a summer source of food and fresh water. The wetlands consist of a chain of damp land and wetland reserves from Brockman Avenue to Leach Highway and contain several attractive species of native wildflowers. They also support birdlife including the Pacific Blue Duck and the Splendid Wren as well as several types of frogs, snakes and lizards.

Many of the streets in Bull Creek are named after early Melville landholders, for example Benningfield (1833) and Middleton (1835). Other streets commemorate Australian explorers, for example Dirk Hartog (1616) and Flinders (1801).

Bull Creek has numerous parks, including John Creaney Park named after a former State Manager of Hooker & Rex Estates who died tragically in an accident in 1973. John Creaney, along with Hooker Rex, were responsible for establishing the park when subdividing. It was previously used as a waste disposal site. Other reserves are named after former councillors such as Ron Carroll, who was the first Mayor of the City of Melville from 1962 – 1971 and Richard Lewis who served on Council from 1970 – 1984.

The suburb is serviced by Bull Creek Shopping Centre as well as several schools. It is also the venue for the Royal Australian Air Force Memorial retirement estate which was first developed in 1971. Land in the estate was set aside for the Aviation Heritage Museum which opened in 1979.

If you have any items, photographs, or historic information relating to the City of Melville or our suburbs please contact us.



melville discovery centre

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