

# HOME HILL NEWS

Greetings from the Home Hill Business Community - No. 58, July 2020

## Pipeline back on the agenda

EFFORTS to move forward with a major project, which would supply water to the area from Inkerman through to Bowen, will be on the agenda when the Bowen Pipeline Company (BPC) attempts to set up a meeting, possibly in July, with the new Burdekin Shire Council.

The previous Burdekin Council had favoured a different route to that proposed by the developing company, which BPC said would add a minimum of \$15 million in extra costs.

BPC Director, Sean Brown, who has been leading the way in negotiating and promoting the project said they had not contacted the Burdekin and Whitsunday Councils since the local government elections due to the pandemic and his own illness.

However, he said they intended to recommence discussions with the Burdekin Shire "to seek to reduce their engineer's angst about potential damage to their infrastructure during construction and the risks of water leakage from the low pressure pipeline during operations".

The project, which will provide significant economic benefits for Home Hill, will use an underground pipeline, which will be progressively developed from the Burdekin River through to Gumlu, Guthalungra and on to Bowen, will be approximately 105 km long, 3m wide and will service a 12km wide corridor along the route.

That route will follow the existing brownfield road reserves within the existing Bruce Highway, State railway corridors and private land

(minimising disruption to local landholders and the environment).

BPC have advised that KPMG assessed that the development of a secure, high quality and cost-effective water resource is the key to unlocking the economic potential of the Gumlu, Guthalungra, Home Hill and wider Bowen regions and support up to an additional 3000 full time equivalent jobs and increase annual horticultural production by \$293.0 M. "Construction will employ 140 people with a strong preference towards locally sourced personnel and businesses where possible," they advised.

BPC is majority owned by local Queensland growers, businesses and investors and their Advisory Board consists of Independent Chairman, Brent Finlay, (Chairman of the Commonwealth Future Drought Fund); Burdekin businessman and former councillor Ross Lewis, Director Kathryn Brown (Director, Bachelor of Business (QUT) and Certified Practising Accountant, Gillian Tomczak.

Director, Sean Brown said they would supply water all the way along the pipeline from about Inkerman (outside the Lower Burdekin Water Board area) south through to Bowen. He said new employees will need existing housing, shops and relaxation areas (Home Hill) - "they won't just live in tents." He said they would be able to be turning soil 15 to 18 months after the Council agreed to the alignment.

Continued on page 8

## Budget delivers with no increase

THE continuing economic impact of COVID-19 has resulted in the Burdekin Shire Council delivering its 2020-21 budget, with no rate increase and a "clear focus" on delivering and improving on essential services, while not placing any greater burden on ratepayers.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin announced there would also be a freeze on most utility charges as she indicated that, despite the 2020/21 budget discussions beginning prior to the pandemic being declared in Australia, Council had adapted quickly and ensured the final budget recognised the struggles faced by the community, while still funding new capital projects across key departments

"To achieve the zero per cent rate increase, Council will incur a modest deficit funded by money set aside in reserve funds; however, there will be no reduction in staff numbers," she said. "The Council's budget also includes a number of capital projects either fully or partial-

ly funded by Federal and State governments, including more than \$620,000 from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program and completion of a number

of Works for Queensland projects, including the \$120,000 for the installation of exercise equipment in Home Hill."

The council will continue its shire-wide bitumen reseal and footpath upgrades following a total of \$8,605,000 being allocated towards capital projects and maintenance of roads, bridges and footpaths. That funding, approved by council, is in addition to funding from the State and Federal Governments for continuing projects such as disaster recovery and resilience.

The Mayor said more than \$2.6 million of fund-



Mayor Lyn McLaughlin

ing would go towards the renewal and upgrade of rural roads such as Bapty Road. The budget advised that the council was taking measures to improve drainage across the shire, following two years of severe weather events, with \$1.39 million set to fund a number of drainage capital projects and the maintenance of existing infrastructure.

"Council has allocated \$1.02 million towards capital projects for the construction of new drainage across the shire, while \$370,000 will go towards maintaining existing infrastructure," Cr McLaughlin said.

The 2020-21 budget has also allocated \$200,000 for the continued relining of Burdekin sewers and rehabilitation of manholes and \$200,000 for technology upgrades to improve network reliability and operability. **Continued on page 3**

NOW that regional newspapers will not exist in hard copy form in the future, following the decision of News Corp to close all of its country newspapers, *The Home Hill News* will be one of the last of its type to continue to be presenting the much-needed local news to its readers.

The newsletter was started over five years ago to ensure the people of Home Hill and district continued to know what is happening around them and because it is under the name of the Chamber of Commerce, it allows the good graces of Wilmar Sugar to ensure it is printed monthly in colour.

The Chamber offers its ongoing appreciation to Wilmar for its support for our community, especially as they have agreed to lift the print run to ensure there are more copies available to be picked up at the offices of Home Hill Chamber of Commerce members in Home Hill, as well as at some tourist and backpacker places.

Any Chamber members who do not receive copies should advise the chamber immediately and any businesses who are not chamber members are urged to throw their support behind the organisation and join the Chamber.

FOLLOWING the call put out in the last edition of *The Home Hill News*, the Home Hill Chamber of Commerce has appointed a new secretary, after an extended period during the Coronavirus and before without the position being fully occupied.

After publicising the need for a new officer, long-time Home Hill resident, Terry Cross offered his services to the Chamber to fill the role.

Mr Cross has been involved in the local community for a long period of time, including many years working for the Burdekin Shire Council and with local organisations including the Burdekin Brass Band.

He will officially take up his new role on July 1, 2020.

While the Chamber's executive has been meeting regularly during the Coronavirus, the Home Hill Chamber

## The finer points of Home Hill . .

THE Burdekin Shire Council was obviously on the same wave length as *The Home Hill News* last month as we highlighted the fact that there was a genuine need for the Home Hill Comfort Stop to be opened to travellers. As the June edition hit the streets, the Council was also in the process of taking down all the barriers that were preventing use of the Stop and the ability of travellers to stop and stay overnight in Railway Avenue. Since then, those travellers who have

been able to take to the roads have been making use of the local facilities and, as they normally do, purchasing their requirements in the town, which adds to the economy of our community. With Groper Creek now filling up (as reported in Jetty Jottings inside this issue), all we need now is for the State Government to open the state borders (now approved) to allow all those grey nomads who regularly travel north in winter, to get back on the highways and stop over on their way north away from the southern winter. They will be faced with new signage (pictured) highlighting Council's requirements during their stay, but that will be the least of their worries.



is hoping to return to holding regular meetings on a monthly basis once the restrictions associated with bringing larger numbers of people together in the one place are lifted.

The annual meeting will take place at 5.30pm on Wednesday, August 19. Current and prospective members are urged to note the date in their diaries.

THE Burdekin Shire Council's first budget since the Local Government elections seems to have moved in the right direction, with the councillors' decision to maintain rates and charges at the same level as the previous year.

After all the upheaval caused by the Coronavirus and the fact that so many people have lost jobs, the last thing that ratepayers would have wanted was to see a substantial rise in general rates and unnecessary spending on projects that are of no benefit to many parts of the Shire.

There are some ratepayers outside Ayr who will probably find they are again on a "special general rate", over and above their land valuations, which would mean that others would have their rates benefit accordingly.

Home Hill does not gain too many budget mentions with regard to future projects, with drainage upgrades a necessity on the south side of the river, while the council continues to concentrate on the north side.

Still, with no rises in rates, local ratepayers could not expect much more for the year ahead.

ON THE other hand, the failure of the previous Council to support the proposed pipeline from the Burdekin River at Home Hill to Bowen continues to work against Home Hill and the town's economic recovery, especially after the repercussions of the Coronavirus.

Local residents will remember the meetings held last year to advise of the project and its many benefits to our town, prospective water users between Inkerman and Bowen and the Bowen District itself. There were concerns from the local community but the Company was able to offer answers to those queries.

With the Bowen Pipeline Company preparing to set up a meeting with the new Burdekin Council in the not-too-distant future, it is to be hoped that all local councillors take the time to consider all the information that the company have collated over a long period of time, so that they can make a considered decision that will be of major benefit to Home Hill and the Burdekin as a whole.

There will be no costs on the council for the project apart from the use of council land and it will be better value than spending \$7 million of ratepayers money on a water park.

- DAVID JACKSON

# Council budget focus on improving essential services

Continued from page 1

The Mayor announced that \$30,000 had been allocated towards the repair, stabilisation and maintenance of Wunjunga and Alvdunal systems, with a further \$45,000 earmarked to procure landfill lids and litter fences at waste facilities.

As well, the council has illegal dumping firmly in its lens, with \$40,000 in grant funding

allocated for the installation of solar cameras in hotspot areas, complementing the State-funded illegal Dumping Partnerships Program in collaboration with neighbouring councils.

As part of the program, the council will also employ a dedicated illegal dumping compliance officer.

The 2020-21 budget also includes the installation and rollout of smart water meters across

the Shire, with \$200,000 allocated to the program, which will allow water meters to be read remotely.

The replacement program will be rolled out over eight years, beginning with several hundred units installed early this financial year.

Council Cultural Venues and libraries will continue to see a range of upgrades and improvements over the next 12 months.

## Brighter CBD with new 'The Vault' façade

THE Home Hill Choral Society is officially housed in their new building in the Central Business District of Home Hill, after completely cleaning out the remainder of their property in their former building adjacent to the Burdekin Memorial Hall in Ninth Avenue.

The former home of the Society, which was originally occupied by the members of the Home Hill Branch of the Queensland Country Women's Association, is now empty, with a large amount of costumes, props and other items used in productions presented by the organisation moved to their new home, which was previously the Home Hill Community Bank of the Bendigo Bank.

Society President, Robert Antoniazzi said that after more than 33 years, the Choral Society had completely left the Hall in Ninth Avenue and the building had been given back to the Council.

"It was an emotional farewell for many members, as the hall holds

fond memories for us all," he said.

"The future is now at 'The Vault', with many additions since we took it over."

The most visible of the new additions is the new façade, which Mr Antoniazzi said certainly improved the look and added to the main street look.

"We have also added solar panels, which naturally will save on electricity.' The Choral Society has also added "Angel Wings" at the entrance, which were completed recently by a professional artist, so that visitors to 'The Vault' can have their photo taken with them.

The Society members are now preparing for the 'Sights and sounds of Arabia' to come alive in their next production of *Harem Scarem*.

The community will be invited in the future to come and meet some of the characters of the production, such as King Ahmed Kar Salami, the Soothsayer, Princess Charity Hope (the eunuch), Clarence of Arabia, Ali Baba and, of course, The Genie - along with all the assorted crew.



Former Choral Society President, Erin Brennan (left) with her successor, Robert Antoniazzi outside the upgraded façade of their new home at "The Vault".

The Choral Society is hoping to put the production before the public "before the end of the year".

Mr Antoniazzi also announced that the Society was successful in obtaining a grant from Pacific Hydro for \$4037, which was being used for the façade of 'The Vault'.

"This will certainly brighten up Eighth Avenue and add to the appearance of the Vault," he said.

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## July opening for roundabout

RESIDENTS of the south side of the Burdekin Shire, who bypass the Bruce Highway through Ayr and Brandon on their travels north, could have access to the upgraded Five-ways Road roundabout and Sheepstation Creek culvert (pictured) within the next couple of weeks, with the project due to be completed by mid-July, 2020, according to the council. Motorists have been reminded to avoid travelling along Five-ways Road at the present time, with Council crews and local contractors continuing works on the new roundabout and culvert restoration, after earlier wet weather had delayed completion.

Burdekin Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said due to the earlier inundations, the height of the water table had led to a longer road

closure.

“Council crews and local contractors are doing a fantastic job and are working with the Lower Burdekin Water Board to ensure the culvert restoration is completed as promptly as possible,” she said.

“As is always the case with seasonal wet weather, the completion date for the works has had to be pushed back slightly and both are now expected to finish in mid-July.”

The mayor said it was important for the safety of staff and contractors working on the project, as well as road users, that the area is avoided until construction is complete.

“Crews are working quickly on both the roundabout and culvert restoration and I look forward to seeing them completed safely,” she said.

## Burdekin Region Mills

### Weekly Production Figures

Weeks 1 to 3—ending June 27, 2020

Cane crushed	This Week	Season to Date
Invicta	152,212	272,442
Pioneer	79,915	124,099
Kalamia	68,246	142,862
Inkerman	69,541	127,988
Burdekin	369,914	667,391
<b>CCS</b>		
Invicta	12.00	11.95
Pioneer	12.72	12.54
Kalamia	12.99	12.63
Inkerman	13.03	12.70
Burdekin	12.53	12.35

### Comments —

WITH Crushing operations commencing at Invicta Mill on June 10 and at Kalamia Mill on June 12, total throughput of just under 65,000 tonnes was achieved for the first week. Invicta and Kalamia mills both started very well, however throughput was restricted due to reduced cane

Inkerman Mill started on June 15 followed by Pioneer Mill on June 16.

All four Burdekin mills are now crushing and total throughput of just over 230,000 tonnes was achieved for the first week.

Consistency of crushing operations improved in week 3, as ground conditions continue to dry out. Some harvesting contractors are still reporting wet paddocks are affecting their output.

Total throughput of just under 370,000 tonnes was achieved for the week, even with extended stops at Inkerman and Kalamia to carry out necessary repairs.

The highest CCS sample was 16.00 from a rake of KQ240 plant cane recorded in the Inkerman area.

Cane trains are now operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, around our cane rail network. Please be patient at rail crossings. Wait until the train is clear of the crossing and the lights have stopped flashing before proceeding. Report any flashing light issues through the 1800 number displayed on the poles at those crossings. Parents and carers are asked to remind children about the dangers of playing near railway lines during these school holidays.

**John Tait,**  
Cane Supply Manager,  
Burdekin Region

Crushing time is on again

# Use your train brain



-  Stay alert
-  Obey the signs
-  Always give way to cane trains




# Upgrade for fish filleting as visitors increasing

(With Jeanette Garvey)

GROPER Creek's community fish filleting benches are being upgraded, thanks to Pacific Hydro's 2020 Haughton Sustainable Communities Fund.

Home Hill Boat Club members were ecstatic to receive the news that their grant application had been successful, along with 11 other Burdekin organisations.

Numerous Burdekin River flood events have damaged the two community fish filleting areas, which are now being refurbished with stainless steel tops for the benefit of local and visiting fishermen and women.

These areas provide valuable communal mental stress relief to those enjoying the sporting and social aspects of Groper Creek. Usually over a coldie at the end of a day's fishing, visitors and locals swap tips and stories whilst the hungry pelicans eagerly await the morsels.



## Jetty Jottings

THE public amenities block at Groper Creek is currently undergoing a much-needed facelift. Painting is currently in progress so members of the public are advised that unisex facilities may be operating whilst works are in progress.



Warren Coe filleting flathead at one of the Groper Creek community benches which will soon be upgraded, thanks to grant funding.

CARAVANNERS have hit the road again in Queensland. The last couple of weeks has seen Groper Creek's visitor numbers increase significantly.

What was a 90 per cent vacancy rate during COVID lock-down has gradually reversed to 90 per cent occupancy. Those who "endured" lock-down at Groper Creek have started to move on and new travellers are arriving to experience our piece of paradise.



LITTLE known fact that *The Hobart Mercury* was being produced at Groper Creek whilst newly appointed Digital Editor, Cas Garvey waited on clearance to travel to Tasmania. Driving from Townsville through four states in May during the peak of COVID lock-down, surprisingly the only time Cas was stopped was disembarking the Spirit of Tasmania. Renowned cartoonist, Harry Bruce captured Cas's legendary journey just prior to her leaving the *Townsville Bulletin*.

A WARNING to boaties to be croc-wise as some large salties have been spotted out sunning themselves in our Burdekin River system. One 5m big fella (pictured) frequents the Double Barrell area of Groper Creek.



## August date set for Burdekin Show holiday

RESIDENTS of the Home Hill community will have a public holiday on Friday, August 14, following the decision of the Burdekin Shire Council to move the district's show holiday from the previously gazetted date of Wednesday, June 24.

With the 2020 Show having been cancelled, the Council had received correspondence from the State

Government advising of an opportunity to change their show holidays to Friday, August 14 – the date set aside for the public holiday for the Brisbane Exhibition.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said that while residents would have to wait a little longer for the public holiday, the option to enjoy a long weekend appealed to everyone.

She said that as the Brisbane Ekka public holiday had been moved to Friday, August 14, other local government areas were invited to shift their holiday to the same date in order to provide residents with a long weekend and the opportunity to enjoy attractions state-wide.

A recent joint meeting of the executives of the Home Hill and Ayr Cham-

bers of Commerce had favoured shifting the date to Melbourne Cup Day, but the Burdekin had already made a decision on a new holiday date.

Home Hill had success in the past with the show day holiday on Melbourne Cup Day until the town's show was taken away from it. Cr McLaughlin said she was sure everyone would love a day off, no matter when it was.



Trainer Ricky Gudge (centre) with newly licensed strappers, Ron Scott (left) with Keighley Sun and Jeremy Caspanello (right) with Rebel Lake.

# More dates approved for Burdekin Racing

AFTER several months of no racing at the Burdekin Race Club's Home Hill track, including substantial financial losses following the cancellation of the Burdekin Growers Race Day in May, the local race club is coming back into action with a vengeance with five meetings approved on the track in five months.

The Burdekin Race Club was advised at its June meeting that Queensland Racing had approved extra race meetings on the Home Hill track this year on June 27 (it went ahead with no patrons), July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 31, while in 2021, meetings have been scheduled to take place on January 23, April 10 and the return of the biggest meeting of the year, The Burdekin Growers Race Day on May 22.

The Club was quick to accept the offer of the race meetings following the loss of several earlier this year, which will ensure owners and trainers can find suitable races for their horses.

Some other regional clubs did not take up the offer of more race meetings on their tracks.

Unfortunately, the initial race meetings will be without patrons because of the COVID-19 pandemic, with only officials, club committee members and trainers allowed to attend with their nominated horses.

However, it is to be hoped that future meetings will include a return to normality with all patrons allowed to attend.

The boost to local racing comes as the club now has a local trainer operating out of the track's stables, as Burdekin Club President, Ricky Gudge returns to training that he once undertook both locally and in Mount Isa many years ago.

He is working in conjunction with two new local owners, Ron Scott and Jeremy Caspanello, who have recently gained new strappers licences and are assisting Mr Gudge with the training of their two new horses, Keighley Sun and Rebel Lake.

Keighley Sun was brought up from New South Wales and has raced three times at the Cluden track in Townsville, while Rebel Lake was purchased from Victoria and had his first run at Cluden recently.

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The Home Hill Chamber of Commerce acknowledges and appreciates the support of Wilmar Sugar's Inkerman Mill with the printing of the *Home Hill News*.

## Uli Liessmann comments . .

*Uli Liessmann reports on local issues*



### Make Home Hill your Home!

DON'T you just love getting this message on your phone—"your call is important to us".

Had a bad experience a couple of weeks ago, got a letter in regard to some work that was to be done in the township of Home Hill.

The letter stated, should I need more information in regard to this work I was to call this number, which I did and after a lot of toing and froing, I got to the person whose name was on the letter.

The person was quite friendly. When I referred to the letter that I had received, I was told they were in no position to answer my question, but promised to get back to me after consulting with someone higher up on the food chain.

Guess what? After three weeks, I'm still hanging! My point is that sheer ignorance and bad manners are no excuse.

I'm asking why send the letter in the first place, if they were not prepared to address some simple questions?

Is this just done to stuff up my day or is this done to fill in their day?

What they are saying — Go away, we are too busy, your problem or question is just not important enough and it seems the top end of these business/ organisations are just too busy to answer some lowly question, which they requested in the first place.

While I'm on the band wagon about service, I left a message and then a text on their phone and, hoping for a response, which I will never receive or maybe if and when they are good and ready and then it will be too late.

A sensible and easy fix would be a simple reply within a reasonable time frame—gee is this asking too much?

Bad manners, when it comes from the people in management are not good.

To contact me, please phone (mobile) 0439 822 064 or go to [www.uliliessmann.com.au](http://www.uliliessmann.com.au) .

ULI LIESSMANN



## Another business re-opens

ANOTHER Home Hill business is opening up to the public after a forced break through the Coronavirus and the flooding of the home occupation premises during heavy rains in January.

The craft room at Lynn & Mike's Place was flooded "in that lovely little storm cell that hit at the end of the month of January," Lynn Stinten advised, "and of course, I had to close, then Covid hit everyone".

Lyn said all repairs and a lot of upgrading has been undertaken "and I am now ready to open on Monday, naturally following Covid restrictions with sanitizing etc". "My usual set up is for someone to call for a booking for classes or do some shopping, just so I can make sure I am here and not in the middle of a class," she commented.

"It is as simple as calling/texting my mobile 0418 783 799. I am now selling not just doing classes."

The crafting studio offers a variety of paper crafts, cards, scrapbooking and albums, jewellery, tree of life pendants, earrings, wire wrapped pendants and wire bonsai trees.

Any Home Hill and district business that is reopening after an enforced break during the Coronavirus Pandemic should send all details to [ddjacko@bigpond.com](mailto:ddjacko@bigpond.com) so that the information can be published in the pages of *The Home Hill News*.

Copies of the Home Hill News can be obtained from Home Hill Newsagency, Liessmann & Sons, Brennan's Tyres and from the office of most members of the Home Hill Chamber of Commerce.

Home Hill Chamber of Commerce  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
"The Vault", Eighth Avenue, Home Hill  
**Wednesday, August 19, 2020**  
Commencing at 5.30pm

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# Pipeline project to go back to new council

Continued from Page 1

All the land required for the pipeline alignment and the pump stations has been secured through private agreements with landholders and the State, excluding the Burdekin Shire Council (BSC).

Mr Brown said that since August 2018, BPC has been ready to lodge its applications with the Commonwealth and the State and BPC environmental teams have walked and assessed the pipeline alignment on at least two occasions. To date, BSC has declined to agree to the alignment proposed by BPC along Fifth and Sixth Avenues, Home Hill and BPC sees no benefit in lodging applications with the Commonwealth and State governments if the Project did not have local council support. BPC has not lodged the applications due to the considerable financial risk should BSC refuse to permit BPC to use the council-controlled road reserves post Commonwealth and State approvals. BPC is a private company with multiple local investors and lodging the applications will

require expenditure of \$750,000 for application fees/consultants.

BPC said the primary aim of the project is to deliver water at a cost that growers can afford. BPC has sought to develop a straight alignment (105km underground) to reduce construction costs and to minimise the number of landholders it has to reach agreement with. BPC has assessed a total of seven alignments running to the west of, through and to the east of Home Hill, including three suggested by the BSC and the pipeline alignment along Fifth and Sixth Avenues is the optimal alignment for a large number of reasons.

BPC said BSC had concerns the pipe installed under the footpath of Fifth and Sixth Avenues may leak during operations. However, the company said they intend to utilise the latest high-density polyethylene pipe (HDPE) constructed on site in the Home Hill vicinity.

"The pipe has a 100-year life span and the BPC pipe will be low to medium pressure – less than the pressure of a kitchen tap."

## Places to see, things to do in the Home Hill district

**170 Arts on the Avenue**—The Burdekin Artisans Community invite you to inspect their display of various arts and craft forms at the Ashworths Rock Shop complex from 10am to 5pm each day from Wednesday to Friday and 10.00am to 1pm Saturday.

**Beachmount/Wunjunga**—Visitors can move off the Bruce Highway south of Home Hill to spend time at the community's beaches—Beachmount and the community of Wunjunga. Travel east off the highway south of Inkerman across gravel roads until meeting the sea in the vicinity of Funny Dunny Park where tourists can enjoy a stay in pleasant surroundings.

**Burdekin River and the Burdekin bridge** - part of the Bruce Highway plus Home Hill Lions Club Diorama at southern end of bridge, which features five new panels detailing the pioneering sugar industry work of John Drysdale and the town's early history;

**Burdekin National Servicemen's Association** meets at the Home Hill Community Sports Club on the first Sunday of each month from February to December, starting at 9.30 am. Contact Secretary (4782 2368) or President (4783 5529).

**Burdekin Toastmasters** hold their dinner meetings at The Crown Hotel on the first and third Thursday of each month.

**Card making, scrapbooking, album making and assorted jewellery classes** at Lynn and Mike's Craft Studio, Home Hill. Phone 0418 783 799 for details of how to participate.

**Charlie's Hill World War II site**, about seven kilometres south of Home Hill – former radar station during the second world war—Old igloos and gun emplacement still in place;

**For the sports man and woman** - Join in the friendly atmosphere at the **Home Hill Golf Course** (4782 1632—amongst the cane fields on Iona Road), at the excellent **Home Hill Tennis complex** in the centre of the Home Hill Race Track; or the **Home Hill Community Sports Club Inc.** (4782 1185) which offers multi sports including Bowls, Soccer, Pin Ball Gaming and Pool.

**Groper Creek** - worth a look as it is a unique small village —one of the many creeks in the Burdekin Delta allowing access to the numerous fishing areas throughout the district—very popular with visitors who return each year to enjoy our climate over several months;

**Home Hill Swimming Pool** (Eleventh Avenue) is open throughout the summer months—5.30am to 7pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 5.30am to 6pm Wednesday; 10am to 6pm Sunday.

**Home Hill Service Clubs**—The **Home Hill Lions Club** meets at the Crown Hotel on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The **Home Hill Rotary Club** meets at their Club House (58 Thirteenth Avenue, Home Hill) on the first Tuesday of each month and at the Malpass Hotel, Home Hill at 6.30pm on each other Tuesday night of the month. Visitors are welcome at both clubs.

**Mount Inkerman**—approximately 12km south of Home Hill, near the township of Inkerman. Access to the top is via a narrow road, which is not suitable for caravans and a "Nature Trail" for walkers. The narrow road has been widened in sections and a number of new safety barriers installed. Recommend visiting as there are outstanding views of the surroundings such as cane and other farms.

**Old Time Dancing** at the St Helen's Anglican Church Hall, Tenth Avenue, Home Hill every Saturday evening;

**Pioneer Avenue Plaques** – learn about the history of many of the pioneers of Home Hill and the Burdekin District by reading the plaques situated along the western side of the ti-trees in Home Hill's main street

**Sing Along with the Home Hill Choral Society** — every Wednesday evening at the "The Vault" - the Choral Society Hall in Eighth Avenue—from 7pm to 8.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join in.

**The Big Canecutters**—Visit the former Home Hill Showgrounds (southern end of town across the railway line) to see the representation of the former canecutters that cut the Burdekin district's sugar cane crop before the advent of mechanical cane harvesting.

**Comments on our town or services would be appreciated, Email [ddjacko@bigpond.com](mailto:ddjacko@bigpond.com) or [secretary@homehillchamber.com](mailto:secretary@homehillchamber.com)**