

# HOME HILL NEWS

Greetings from the Home Hill Business Community - No 62 November 2020

## Deviation the future for highway

THE future of the Bruce Highway through the Burdekin could lie in a deviation constructed west of the Shire and the present highway route, rather than duplication of the existing Burdekin Bridge.

North Queensland Senator Susan McDonald said after the presentation of the Federal Budget in early October, that the Budget had reaffirmed her long-held belief that the regions will drive Australia's post-Covid economic recovery.

"This Federal Budget will put more money in people's pockets, supercharge the business sector, improve health services, generate jobs and improve roads—all without increasing taxes and the regions

will be pivotal in generating the income we need to rebound strongly from Covid," she said.

"The regions will play a big part in this vision and I'm pleased to announce more than \$200 million for new road projects in North and North-West Queensland alone."

Among the projects Senator McDonald mentioned in her comments was the "upgrading the Burdekin River Bridge".

That comment from the Senator prompted *The Home Hill News* to point out that "it seems to be



Senator Susan McDonald

involving a lot more funds than is normally allocated to the annual maintenance program" and to ask the Senator if the upgrade was "just the normal maintenance program, as the Queensland State Government has also made reference to it leading into its election propaganda – or is it extra work being carried out?"

*The Home Hill News* also suggested that "It seems governments would be better off allocating the multi-millions to duplicating the bridge beside the existing crossing, which would make it so much easier for Burdekin residents and the many travellers who cross it on a daily basis".

Continued on Page 3—

## Boost to Home Hill medical services

MEDICAL treatment in the wider Home Hill community is being given a major boost as Dr Sarat Tata proceeds with an expansion project at his Home Hill Surgery in the town's Central Business District.

Dr Tata has taken over the two neighbouring shops to his existing premises that were, for many years, occupied as Ian Young's Pharmacy and more recently as a Hair Studio.

Construction is now well advanced on outfitting the two shops with new offices to accommodate an audiology service, with Sarah Logan, owner of Whitsunday Hearing, to be visiting at least two days a week at this stage, as well as Podiatry, Physiotherapy and Psychology Services.

After a lengthy search, Dr Tata has also been successful in gaining the services of a female doctor, Dr Dwija Karumanchi, who will commence at the Home Hill Surgery in January, 2021.

By coincidence, Dr Tata and his new colleague, who applied for the position, attended school together in India and she has been living in Brisbane for six years prior to applying for her new position in Home Hill.

"We went through medicine together and I

knew her very well," Dr Tata commented.

The new doctor, who has been in Australia for six years, is married and will be accompanied by her husband, who is a microbiologist and her three-year-old daughter when they move to Home Hill.

The layout of the expanded Home Hill Surgery will result in all five doctors being on one side of the medical complex and all ancillary services on the expanded side of the building.

That will mean the Pathology section will move

to the new side and the new female doctor will take over that area for her office.

Entry to the Surgery will remain in the same position and a new door will provide access to the offices for the new services.

Dr Tata said that, because of the increasing number of procedures they were undertaking at the surgery, they had now allocated Wednesdays solely for carrying out procedures. The expansion project is expected to be completed by the end of November.



Dr Sarat Tata with his wife, Pavani Ganapathi outside the shops, as work proceeds on construction that will provide expanded services through their Home Hill Surgery.

BY THE time the Home Hill community get to read this edition of *The Home Hill News*, the state elections will be well on the way to being finalised and the government for the next four years near to being decided. It will certainly be a relief to get away from the weeks of constant advertising of policies and criticism of what certain candidates and Parties plan to do for the state.

The biggest disappointment of the campaign would have to be the obvious stretching of truth that took place—surely the parties could get their message across on their own plans to make this state even better than they consider it to be at the present time without the obvious lies.

Some hopefuls consider scare campaigns are the answer to obtaining a seat in Parliament—they believe voters shouldn't see through their claims of what is ahead, based on what has happened in the past and suggesting what could be from an opposition party. Thankfully that it is all over and our nightly television programming becomes a bit more bearable—although the re-runs of re-runs probably works against us there as well.

THE Home Hill community is still not a winner, even with the election being all but over. As we mentioned last month, most party leaders believed a visit to Ayr would be taken as a visit to Home Hill and very few of the political parties felt they could see any votes in making their presence felt on our side of the Burdekin.

As a result, we had no chance to get our message across on what we need from a future state government—even though those party leaders had to pass through town with their media contingents to get to their next area of interest.

The LNP probably came the closest to giving our town anything, with their proposal to provide a footpath scrubber to help clean up Home Hill's Central Business District.

Unfortunately, the Burdekin Shire

## The finer points of Home Hill . .

AT LAST, it seems to be Home Hill's turn for some of our local government rates to be directed towards the town, as council has decided to ask the community to have its say on a draft master plan (now available) to link Watson's Green and Memorial Park (pictured).

With the draft including a new stage and youth activity hub at Watson's Green and a water feature, nature play space and the screening of the War Memorial in Memorial Park, it will provide more opportunity for the youth of the town to make use of a wider range of activities within the town itself.

The Home Hill Chamber of Commerce was told last week



of what was coming and the discussion raised points with regard to current usage, such as the future of the Burdekin Brass Band Hall and the former Choral Society Hall and the need for the provision for large amounts of parking on Watson's Green for when major events are held at the Burdekin Memorial Hall.

With increased numbers in the Band, it will be important for

their future home to be guaranteed in Home Hill. Many long-time residents who attended the Home Hill State Primary School will remember the annual Fancy Dress Ball being held in the park every year, before the many trees took over the free space. We would urge the community to take the time to inspect the master plan to ensure it meets the town's needs and requirements.

Council got in first and killed that idea before it could even get off the ground.

With the LNP offering \$2.5 million towards Ayr's \$7 million park, we thought council could have reduced some of the gold plating planned for that facility to allow say \$150,000 to go towards a truck to carry the sweeper and to pay a driver—surely that amount would not be missed in \$7 million—perhaps a couple less trees?

The current government had committed \$850,000 towards maintenance and refurbishment works at the Burdekin College of TAFE in Home Hill. However, that does not mean we are getting something new—it is just works that should have been carried out by the governments of the day over the past decade to keep it to the standard that the college should have been kept to in that time. As it is, the college has gone backwards and many people outside Home Hill would not even know a TAFE exists here. Money has been promised to football clubs in Ayr but that is of no benefit to our town.

No matter who is in government, Home Hill has missed out badly. If *The Home Hill News* had not asked a couple of questions last month, we would have been out of sight and out of mind!

WHILE the pressure is often directed towards the Burdekin Shire Council to do something about the cleanliness of our town, could we also call on the pride of our local business owners and operators to keep the footpaths outside their premis-

es in a clean and tidy condition.

Some frontages have not seen a broom or a hose for a long time—just how hard would it be for a staff member to spend 15 minutes sweeping and hosing the footpaths so at least they are presentable to our many visitors who make use of the Comfort Stop? It is hard to imagine local residents or visitors wanting to go into some of our businesses because of the filthy conditions that greet them on their way in. It would be the biggest turn-off to any potential shopper.

THIS is what we like to hear—A traveller, who stopped over in Home Hill in August, sent the following comments on their stay to the Chamber of Commerce – “Margy” wrote . . . “What a wonderful place to stop and rest. I wish more towns offered these facilities, as it brings revenue into these towns. We had only pulled up 5 minutes, then wandered up the street. Bought a cold beer at the pub, got groceries in IGA and bought hot chips for lunch at takeaway. What a great spot. Well done Home Hill.”

LOCAL residents should watch for Chamber of Commerce plans to host a regular car boot sale in the CBD to get people back into Home Hill's main street on a Saturday morning. With COVID restrictions, more planning has to take place but hopefully, it will come to fruition in the not-too-distant future? - DAVID JACKSON

# Highway deviation preferred over new bridge

**Continued from page 1—**  
That comment drew a response from a spokesman for Deputy Prime Minister, Michael McCormack in Canberra, who said the Burdekin Deviation was a long-term project planned rather than duplicating the bridge.

"The feds have committed \$38.4m to that project, but it's still in the planning stage and a completion date is yet to be finalised. "The advice at present is that the project is not

going to happen in the short or medium term, so to extend the life of the existing bridge for some time, extra funding has been allocated to pay for major works on steel girders, painting and rust elimination that exceeds the normal maintenance routine," the spokesman said.

"These works have been budgeted at \$68.7m and represent a major commitment to ensuring the bridge's long-term viability."

It has since been reported that

among the many promises made in the lead-up to the Queensland State Election, the Premier, Labor's Anastacia Palaszczuk announced that her Party's plans included the funding of a transport link, which would include a large number of inland roads and highways stretching from Charters Towers to the Queensland State border, which would become a second Bruce Highway.

Such a "deviation" would take much of the heavy vehicle traffic passing through coastal towns

inland.

However, it would also mean that, without a second Burdekin Bridge adjacent to the present crossing, residents of the Burdekin and the many motorists using the coastal Bruce Highway would be left with the daily hold-ups caused by the bridge having to be closed by local wide loads, even with many being directed on to the western route. The LNP Opposition Leader, Deb Frecklington had promised to duplicate the coastal Bruce Highway all the way from Gympie to Cairns.

## More racing approved for Home Hill track

THE Burdekin Race Club has been granted another race meeting in November, to follow on to their increased program on the Home Hill track over the past five months.

With regular meetings held since June, following the COVID-forced cancellation of the Burdekin Growers Race Day in May, the club believed their last meeting of the year would be last Saturday's successful Derby Day.

However, they received late notice last week that they will race again on Saturday, November 14, giving local patrons another opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of quality racing.

Saturday's Derby Day featured the Justin Scott Memorial Benchmark 60 Handicap over 1830 metres, as well as the Country Cups Challenge Qualifier and the Queensland Country Stampede Qualifier Open Handicap over 1000 metres, along with two other races.

The day also saw the return of the Fashions on the Field for the first time since Covid-19 disrupted the year's racing program.

The Jason Scott Memorial was won by locally owned and Innisfail trained gelding, Yankee Tango (Kate Southam) in a blistering finish to just pip Tavi McBride (Trinity Bannon) on the line.

Molongle Magic (Emily Cass), owned by Gumlu grazier, Trevor Davies won the Queensland Country Stampede Qualifier, while the Country Cups Challenge Qualifier was won by Le Drama (Chelsea Jokic).



ABOVE—Jason Scott Memorial—Yankee Tango trainer, Stephen Potiris with Jockey Kate Southam as family members, Chantel Scott and Emily and Madalin Vassalini made the trophy presentation.



Despite poor recent form, locally owned and trained Keighley Sun raced away to a five-length win in the second race on the program.

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**GEORGE CHRISTENSEN MP**  
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### Students dig in to a future in agriculture



I HAVE seen first-hand that Home Hill State High students are outstanding in their field, both figuratively and literally! I joined the students for a tour of their newly developed agricultural plot recently and it was very impressive to see young people undertaking the practical work involved in taking produce from paddock to plate. Many of these students are from farming backgrounds, so skills in both the business and farming aspects of agriculture will be of great benefit. “The Dig Inn” plot has been growing a whole host of fruits and veggies, thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Morrison Liberal National Government’s Local Schools Community Fund, combined with assistance from the local agricultural industry. Congratulations to Home Hill State High School students on their productive agricultural plot—The Dig Inn—which is producing all sorts of fruits and vegetables along with skilled future farmers.

### Restoration group steams ahead

Congratulations to the members of the Burdekin Machinery Preservationists Inc., who have received a grant of \$4199 to equip themselves for upcoming restoration projects. Under the Stronger Communities Program, the group will be able to purchase IT equipment and other supplies and install a defibrillator at their shed in Brandon. I’m looking forward to seeing the outcome of their upcoming projects, which include the restoration of two tractors and a rail car. The shed on Spiller Street is open to visitors on Wednesdays and Fridays, so call in to meet a terrific bunch of blokes and view an impressive array of immaculately restored machinery. For more information on grants, visit [www.business.gov.au/Grants-and-Programs/Stronger-Communities-Programme](http://www.business.gov.au/Grants-and-Programs/Stronger-Communities-Programme).



*LEFT—Look out for upcoming restorations from the Burdekin Machinery Preservationists on the back of a successful \$4000 grant application.*

Authorised by Federal Member for Dawson George Christensen, 2/21 Milton St, Mackay Qld 4740. Phone 4944 0662. [www.georgechristensen.com.au](http://www.georgechristensen.com.au)

## Burdekin Region Mills

### Weekly Production Figures

Weeks 19 and 20—ending October 24, 2020

Cane crushed	This Week	Season to Date
Invicta	154,167	2,712,790
Pioneer	80,861	1,291,610
Kalamia	71,873	1,270,746
Inkerman	68,650	1,292,988
Burdekin	375,552	6,568,134

### CCS

Invicta	15.59	14.43
Pioneer	15.71	14.89
Kalamia	15.20	14.37
Inkerman	15.79	14.62
Burdekin	15.58	14.55

### Comments —

**WEEK 19—** THE Burdekin mills processed just over 330,000 tonnes for the week. Inkerman Mill’s throughput was restricted by the failure of the site’s main 10MW generator, following an external network event early on Monday morning. During the week, five portable generator units were installed at Inkerman Mill to supply power to the factory, some Inkerman cane was transferred to Invicta Mill for processing and the site’s 10MW generator was transported to Brisbane for repairs. Average weekly CCS dropped slightly to 15.62, which is still above budget. Season to date CCS is now up to 14.48 units. The highest CCS sample was 18.70 from a rake of Q183 third ratoon cane in the Invicta area. The Burdekin mills have now processed more than six million tonnes for the season to date.

**WEEK 20—**The Burdekin mills processed more than 375,000 tonnes for the week, which was above budget. Inkerman Mill’s throughput of 68,600 tonnes was a good result given the factory was powered by portable generators for much of the week. Inkerman had a planned stop on Friday so crews could do a caustic clean and reinstate the 10MW generator that had been damaged the previous week by an external power event. The factory has run well since crushing resumed on Friday afternoon. Average weekly CCS dropped slightly to 15.58, which is still well above budget. Season to date CCS increased to 14.55 units, which is now also above budget. The highest CCS sample was 18.35 from a rake of Q183 first ratoon cane in the Invicta area. With crushing due to wind up by the end of November, motorists are asked to approach all cane rail crossings with caution following recent incidents in the Burdekin and Herbert regions.

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

# Storm preparations, visitors and Rural Fire funds

with Jeanette Garvey



## Jetty Jottings

STORM preparations have commenced with meteorological predictions of La Nina weather patterns returning this season.

Groper Creek residents are accustomed to Burdekin River floods and the unprecedented flooding rains of February this year are still fresh in the minds of many.

By the time this edition is released, the State election will be done and dusted.

The Burdekin Shire Rivers Improvement Trust and relevant authorities have completed assessments of Mosquito Creek and the banks of Groper Creek, which were severely eroded and washed away earlier this year. Rehabilitation and bank stabilisation works need to be completed before the wet season arrives for the safety and protection of our community.

Hopefully there are no post-election hitches and this work commences in the coming month.



MEMBERS and supporters of the Burdekin Branch of the National Servicemen's Association of Australia gathered at Groper Creek for their monthly social outing. Pictured (above, from left) are Ernie and Bev Woods, Kevin Ypinazar, Dino and Mary Poli, Rose and Wayne Anderson, Nev and Myrtle Edwards and Joyce Burkitt.



A CONVOY of Tropical Coast Wanderers Caravan Club members recently converged on Groper Creek for their monthly outing.

The Townsville-based group has members spanning from Ingham through to Proserpine and all were pleased they accepted Home Hill Boat Club Commo-

dore and Secretary, Ross and Sylvia Chapman's invitation to visit Groper.

Filling 20 van sites, the Wanderers enjoyed bird watching, walking through the parklands, fishing, a unique skittle-type game of "klop" (pictured below), fun quizzes, wine tasting and pot-luck dinner—and vowing to return.

A BIG "THANKS" to all those big drinkers who have contributed to the Groper Creek Rural Fire Brigade this year via the Containers for Change scheme.

Visitors and locals place their 10 cent refundables in the designated bins, which are collected weekly by North Queensland Green Solutions, providing local jobs and funds for our brigade. It's a win/win situation for our environment and brigade . . . and there has been no shortage of volunteers only too willing to bend their elbows and contribute to the brigade's cause.

BARRAMUNDI is currently off limits from November 1, 2020 to February 1, 2021. Some cracker barras were caught at Groper Creek this year, including this 110cm fish (right) snared by visiting female angler, Priscilla Davis.

The fish was Priscilla's first "metrey", assisted by proud husband, Bob.



Crushing time is on again

## Use your train brain

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

wilmar

# Fun and laughter at Choral Society's "Eastern Romp"

FUN and laughter will be in abundance as the Home Hill Choral Society presents an Eastern romp of mischief and madness at the end of November.

Patrons can hitch a ride on a magic carpet for the production of "Harem Scarem", which will take place over seven performances at the Society's home at The Vault in Home Hill's Central Business District..

Join in the "Whoas" of the wailing soothsayer . . . Listen to the whines of Queen Itchymutt . . . Hear Clarence of Arabia blowing his own trumpet, because the Eunuch can't . . . Find out why King Ahmed Kar is so security con-

scious; . . . why the Eunuch is called Hope and if Clarence gets his evil way with the virginal Princess Charity (Charity by name but chaste by nature) . . . Will the dreaded Curse of Arabia bring about the kingdom's downfall or will the bungling Genie save the day? And the question on everyone's lips .... why the camel's hump....?

Advance tickets are \$35 per person (including supper and entertainment) and limited seating is available with Covid seating applying for all seven performances.

Performances will take place at 7.30pm on Friday and Saturday, November 20 and 21; Friday and Saturday, November 27 and 28; and Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5; with a matinee performance at 1.30pm on Sunday, November 29.

**The Home Hill Chamber of Commerce**  
acknowledges and appreciates the  
support of  
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with the printing of  
*The Home Hill News*

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An aerial view of the Mount Inkerman Nature Trail.

## Nature trail improvements

WORKS have commenced on stage two of the iconic Mount Inkerman Nature Trail, which will link the existing trail to a parking area on Mount Inkerman Road.

The new works commenced on Monday, October 19 on the next stage of the trail, which has become a favourite for local and visiting exercise and adventure lovers since its development, as it provides a safe walking alternative to the existing road.

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said stage two would not only link the trail to a grassed parking area, but will also include maintenance of the existing trail ahead of the wet season.

"The Mount Inkerman Nature Trail is one of our Shire's most popular attractions, so ensuring it continues to be stable and safe will form an integral part of stage two," she said.

"To allow for maintenance and stabilisation works, the existing Nature Trail will be temporarily closed to the public until early December, weather permitting.

"This will ensure residents are kept safe as works are completed, at which time there will be two stable Nature Trail routes to enjoy."

Cr McLaughlin said Mount Inkerman Road would remain open for those who still wished to walk to the summit.

However, she urged pedestrians to watch for cars and reminded drivers to be aware that there may be more road users over the coming months.

# Community consultation on parks master plan

THE Home Hill community will have four weeks to inspect and make comments on a draft master plan, which is planned to link Watson's Green and Memorial Park in Home Hill.

The plan was approved for community and stakeholder consultation at a Burdekin Shire Council meeting held at the end of October.

The draft includes a new stage and youth activity hub at Watson's Green, as well as a water feature, nature play space and screening of the War Memorial in Memorial Park.

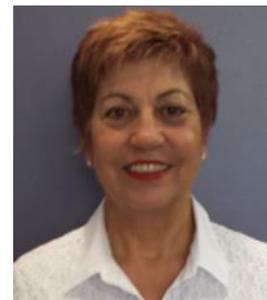
Mayor Lyn McLaughlin said adoption of the draft master plan demonstrated Council's continued strategic planning to create multi-purpose recreational spaces for all ages across the Shire.

"The Watson's Green and Memorial Park Home Hill Draft Master Plan has been developed by Ross Planning Pty Ltd in discussion

with Council and community stakeholders," she said in reminding residents that the draft is not finalised and will open for community and stakeholder consultation shortly.

"The community consultation is an invaluable step to ensure feedback is received from as many individuals and community groups as possible. I encourage everyone to look over the draft and be prepared to have your say."

Community consultation will be open for four weeks, before the master plan will be further workshopped by Council and the consultant based on feedback received.



Mayor Lyn McLaughlin

## Uli Liessmann comments . .

*Uli Liessmann reports on local issues*



A SMALL observation — wondering do we want tourist/Grey Nomads to stop in Home Hill after noticing the many yellow lines in Railway Avenue (right).



THE Sweet FM committee at its monthly meeting worked through a large agenda, which was accepted by the committee with a lot of positive conclusions. One of discussions was on improving the broadcasting quality with training available to new and old broadcasters, which will be put into action ASAP. Should you have any old radios or record players or any other items that pertain to radios, that are no longer needed or wanted, Sweet FM would be happy to take them off your hands to add to its collection of LP records before all is lost. This will later become a small static display for public viewing.

I READ with great interest about accountability and integrity amendment act 2020 for Local Government reforms, for improved transparency in Council. Government now requires for more transparent meeting agendas and fewer matters allowed to be discussed in closed meetings—and about time.

Over two terms, I asked for a Hansard reporting—that is to say, everything is recorded, what is said in meetings and by whom. I was always howled down and always the excuse was, who is going to pay for it? But there was always money available for feasibility studies, big or small.

WHILE calling for faith in the Shire and talking about a proposed water park, how about repairing the forecourt at the Comfort Stop, which has been four years on the table for repair.

WITH disbelief, I read council will accept \$2.5 million from Dale Last MP for a water park, should the LNP achieve State government. But council will not accept a footpath sweeper worth approximately \$50k from the same source. Obviously clean footpaths throughout the Shire are just not a priority or on the agenda.

TALKING about water, what has happened to the new water storage facilities next to the water tower in Home Hill (pictured)? This work was to have been started early this year? As always, there are probably more pressing water jobs on the north side.



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

- ULI LIESSMANN

# Up-to-date equipment for snake bites

A LOCAL first aid instructor has urged farmers and anyone who goes bush for any purpose to ensure they have up-to-date equipment on hand in case they are confronted with snake bites.

With snake bites becoming more common, retired paramedic Frances Chappell has urged local residents to ensure they have on hand a new type of bandage that has a series of rectangles up the centre of the expandable material—which turns to squares as soon as the bandages are fitted at the right tension.

Previously, 15cm wide crepe bandages were recommended to treat bites.

Mrs Chappell said the new bandages had been around for years and all they had to do was slow

down the muscle tension.

“They were about \$30 a bandage, but I believe they are between \$7 and \$10,” she said.

The new bandages are available at the two Home Hill Pharmacies.

The retired Paramedic said she was getting nothing out of providing the information . . . “I have grandkids who love the bush and they know the difference between the bandages and they keep them on their four-wheelers. If I can save a life, it has been worth it.”

Mrs Chappell can provide first aid training, including advice on snake bites, as an instructor through her employer, All About First Aid (phone 0400 819 652).



First aid instructor, Frances Chappell displays a new snake bite bandage, with rectangles that turn to squares when applied at the right tension.

## 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 9.30am to 1pm Tuesdays, 10am to 5pm each day from Wednesday to Friday and 10am 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 at the **Home Hill Community Sports Club Inc.** (4782 1185) which offers roll-up bowls Thursdays and Sundays at 12.30pm with an open bar.

**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)**