

Application submitted for new pipeline route

WITH an application submitted by the Bowen Pipeline Company to the Burdekin Shire Council for the proposed project to construct a water pipeline from the Burdekin River near Home Hill to Bowen, the Home Hill Chamber of Commerce is maintaining its hopes that the project planning moves forward quickly to approvals in the near future.

The pipeline project, which will benefit communities in places where people live and shop including Home Hill, Inkerman, Gumlu, Guthalungra and Bowen, was announced more than two years ago, but has been held up until plans were submitted to Local Governments in the benefited areas.

The *Home Hill News* received advice in May, 2022 indicating that an application would be lodged with the Burdekin Shire Council “in the coming weeks” seeking their agreement to use certain parts of the road reserves for the pipeline alignment.

An application was *lodged* with the Burdekin Shire Council on August 3 and It is understood Council officers acknowledged receipt of the application on August 17, 2022.

The *Home Hill News* has regularly promoted the \$300 million project because of the importance to the Home Hill community of the benefits that would come from it.

Now that an application has been received, the Chamber will continue to urge the council to act quickly towards moving the project forward

on a new alignment, which starts at Barry Road (some 18km to the west of Home Hill) and heading east, then south-east until it reaches Wangaratta Creek (the boundary of Burdekin Shire and Whitsunday Regional Councils).

The new alignment will affect Kirknie Road (crossing); Rifle Range Road (extending along the road reserve); Heatley Road (crossing and extending along the road reserve); and Inkerman Station Road (crossing and extending along the road reserve).

With an election just past, the project has received support from both sides of parliament, Federal and State, while the LNP included an \$80 million grant towards construction into the Federal Budget. However, while the funding was announced, the Budget was not passed in parliament.

To obtain the \$5 million Commonwealth Grant for the Business Case and engineering design, the project needed to secure support from the State and Minister Glenn Butcher (State Minister for Water) and Minister Mark Furner (State Minister for Agriculture) both supported the grant application, while Minister Butcher met with growers and business owners in Gumlu to announce state support for the project. Strong support was also received from the Whitsunday Regional Council (Deputy Mayor Mike Brunner and Andrew Willcox, who is now the Federal Member for Dawson).

Chamber appreciation for cane cutting stalwarts

THE Home Hill Chamber of Commerce has presented Certificates of Appreciation to members of the Home Hill community who have maintained the cane fields in readiness for past Hand Cane Cutting Championships, as well as the staff of local community radio station, Sweet FM for their ongoing support for the Burdekin Community.

The presentations were made by the Chamber’s Vice President, Uli Liessmann at the start of the Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting held at the Home Hill Community Sports Club on August 17.

Certificates were initially presented to Doug Chappell and Chris Cannavan—and many other supporters—who contributed large amounts of their own time, money

and equipment over a number of years to ensure there was a ready crop of cane to be the centre piece of the “First Cane Fire of the Season”, which attracted large crowds of locals and visitors each year to the opening of the Sweet Days, Hot Nights Festival.

While the two men are no longer associated with the Festival, Mr Liessmann said Mr Chappell and Mr Cannavan “and a lot of others” had done the town proud in preparing for the Cane Cutting Championships with many hours of dedication, for which he thanked them both.

Mr Chappell said so many people had come along and done things towards supporting the event in what was a community effort, while Mr Cannavan had put his name to the cane which was sent to the mill for crushing.

Mr Cannavan also passed his thanks



Home Hill Chamber of Commerce Vice President, Uli Liessmann (left) presented Certificates of Appreciation to Chris Cannavan and Doug Chappell and to Sweet FM Manager, Charlie Scuderi.

on to the Chamber of Commerce for the recognition for their efforts.

Mr Liessmann also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Manager of Sweet FM, Charlie Scuderi who, he said, “lives there”, referring to the

many hours he puts into ensuring the community radio station continues to broadcast. Mr Scuderi, in response, thanked his dedicated band of volunteers for the good job they were doing for the radio station.

RUMOURS have been spreading throughout the Home Hill community of alleged plans by the Burdekin Shire Council to move the Sweet Days Hot Nights Festival—including the Cane Cutting Championships, which have been held in the former Home Hill Showgrounds in especially prepared cane fields for several years—to a new site off the Bruce Highway in Plantation Creek on the south side of the Ayr township. We were told by at least four people that the Council had purchased the site and was preparing it for a future move. However, we have not mentioned the “story” before this, because we had serious doubts that such a move would be possible, as we had been informed some time ago that cane growing had ceased on the subject parcel of land in the past because the groundwater level was so high that it had been impossible to put a plough into it without finding water. The fact that such a move was not happening was confirmed by Mayor Lyn McLaughlin at the recent Home Hill Chamber of Commerce annual meeting when, in answer to a question, she advised that the festival would return to the Home Hill Showgrounds in total next year. That is great news for Home Hill and for the many visitors who look forward to seeing the unique first cane fire in all its glory.

SERIOUS car accidents in our own area and throughout the state are a growing concern to the state government and to emergency services as an increasing number of lives are being lost through, in many cases, the negligence of drivers who seem to always be in a hurry to get to their destinations. Any trip on roads of any quality on any day reveals just

The finer points of Home Hill . .

THE members of the Home Hill Tennis Association have again shown that when a major fundraising event is held in our town, the community comes out in force to support it, including many visitors from other areas to add to the numbers. The Rally for a Cure attracted many teams of varying numbers who put in twelve hours of playing their favourite sport to raise funds to find a cure for brain cancer. We don't usually have the space in our pages to use too many photos on the one subject but on this occasion, our readers will notice three similar pictures (including the one adjacent) depicting Kate Casswell and medical supporters. The event came about with the sad loss of Kate's husband, Col, who had succumbed to the disease after playing an important part in the Burdekin community, which was recognised with the presentation of a Burdekin Shire Australia Day award prior to his death. Congratulations go to Kate and her team for their efforts in raising over \$22,000 (with more coming in) to-

how easy it is for so called “accidents” to happen because of the chances taken by drivers who need to save a second here and a minute there. Anyone who has been involved in an accident of any type will be well aware of the consequences when injuries and fatalities occur, with other members of affected families having to live with the results for the rest of their lives. How do you save drivers from themselves when they continue to take the chances that are clearly visible on our roads and highways at all hours of every day. Many complain that Government action is only “revenue raising” but if drivers are caught breaking the law and the evidence is there, there should be no argument when opening the wallet to pay the fines. Who would be a police officer these days when they have to tell a family that they have lost a loved one. More installations are coming to catch offenders around the state, while our state government could also ease the pain somewhat by distributing the dollar more evenly to improve the standard of our northern roads compared to what is offered in the south-east of the state, where roads that are being replaced seem to be far better than those we have to put up with in the north!



Kate Casswell with Townsville Hospital Cancer Ward supporters, JJ Jarrod (left) and Dr Michael Collins.

wards finding a cure for the terrible disease that is taking far too many lives around our nation.

RATEPAYERS in the Home Hill community should take note that time is fast running out to pay the annual rates bill before extra fees start adding up on top of the initial payment. In the past, payments made on time meant a discount, but now, all it means is that there will be a penalty amount of interest added on for the longer the payment is overdue. Otherwise, the promoted 2.5 per cent increase will grow on top of the extras such as sewerage, water, garbage and other fees that council comes up with such as a “\$30 Aquatic Facilities Separate charge”. Make sure you pay by Monday, September 5 to avoid any unwanted extras.

ANOTHER reminder to readers of *The Home Hill News* who wish to continue receiving their copy from the end of the year, when printing of hard copies are reduced, that you need to go to the Home Hill Chamber of Commerce website NOW to register your email address. Check our back page to see the information required—Please do not put off doing it, because we want to ensure all those who pick up a hard copy at the beginning of each month are able to continue reading the news of the Home Hill district when the change is made.—
DAVID JACKSON

Festival on the way with six Queen entrants



ALIX LECKENBY is 23 years old and graduated from Ayr State High School in 2016. She has since returned as a HPE and Business teacher, while also taking on the role as Sports Coordinator. Alix has entered the Harvest Festival because she sees the value in community groups working together raising money for charity and to step outside her comfort zone and build new skills. She is excited to be representing the Burdekin Netball Association, where she has been a member and player for over 15 years. Alix would also love to give something back to the club that has invested so much time into her netball journey. Her main hobbies include netball, coaching, fishing and any type of fitness activities. Throughout this experience, Alix hopes to work on her self-confidence, while also having fun and building positive relationships with others throughout the community. She is looking forward to sharing this opportunity with the other Harvest Festival Queens.



HOLLY ALFORD has grown up in the Home Hill community since she was around three years old. She is 18 years of age and graduated from Burdekin Catholic High School in 2021. Holly has been working at Northern Insurance Solutions since March and is currently learning about insurance. She coaches an Under sevens soccer team and likes to go camping and adventuring to find waterfalls. Holly has chosen to be the Harvest Festival Queen entrant for the Crown Hotel. Throughout this journey, she hopes to achieve life-long friendships, build confidence in herself and participate in all the Harvest Festival events.

AIYANA ROBINSON is representing Get Fit Home Hill for the 2022 Harvest Festival. She is 19 years of age and has been living in the Burdekin for 10 years now. She loves the spirit of the town and loves to engage wherever she can. This is why she has decided to be a Harvest Festival Queen entrant. Aiyana graduated from Home Hill State High School in 2020 and is now working in childcare and studying a Bachelor of Paramedic Science at CQ University. When she is not working or studying, she is adventuring or spending time with friends and family. She is honoured to be representing Get Fit Home Hill and is looking forward to meeting new friends and attending all the Harvest Festival events.



AIMEE GIBSON is 21 years of age and is representing the Home Hill Rotary Club. She graduated from Home Hill State High School and works full-time at Julie's Pharmacy and as a casual night-filler at Woolworths. Aimee took on this amazing once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to make life-long friends and memories and to be part of something incredible. She likes catching up with family and friends, going on adventures and seeing new places. Aimee also likes spending time at Cape Upstart as well as fishing and cooking. She hopes to raise as much money as possible to donate to a local charity.



HOLLY DA CORTE has lived in the Burdekin her entire life. She is 19 years old and in 2020 graduated from Ayr State High School. Holly currently works at Regis Aged Care where she fulfils the role of an Assistant Nurse. She was asked by the Lions Club to be their Harvest Festival Queen entrant. Throughout the next few months, Holly hopes to build life-long relationships with the other Queen entrants. She is glad to have the opportunity to be out and about in the community participating in so many exciting events.



STACEY DORMAN is 24 years old and originates from Young, NSW, where her family is involved in trucking and farming. After graduating from Young High School, she studied a Bachelor of Agriculture at University of New England before becoming an Agronomist. Stacey moved to the Burdekin in 2021 to join the team at AGnVET Rural. She was delighted to find that she could participate in her favourite past time - tennis! Being a member of the Home Hill Tennis Association has been a great way to build new friendships and get to know the Burdekin community. When Stacey is not swinging a racquet, she enjoys the outdoors and spending time with family and friends. She joined the Harvest Festival as an ambassador for the Home Hill Tennis Association. Stacey sees this opportunity as a great way to build her skills in presenting and speaking to a much bigger audience. Throughout the Harvest Festival Queen experience, Stacey aims to raise the profile of tennis in the Burdekin through friendship, community involvement and fun!

All Harvest Festival Queen photos provided by courtesy of Saskia Vollema-Creek



Race into 2022 and 2023 with these events

Monday, September 19, 2022	Burdekin Race Club AGM
Saturday, October 29, 2022	Scotty's Memorial Derby Day including Ladies Day
Saturday, February 18, 2023	Racing in Home Hill
Saturday, April 01, 2023	Racing in Home Hill
Saturday, May 20, 2023	Burdekin Growers Race Day returns with racing, fashions and a feast of fun

Tennis teams accept challenge to “Rally for a Cure”

A TOTAL of 16 teams took up the challenge from members of the Home Hill Tennis Association to “Rally for a Cure” with locals and visitors alike turning out to play continuously at the Home Hill tennis complex for 12 consecutive hours from 10am to 10pm on Saturday, August 13 to raise funds towards finding a cure for brain cancer.

With teams varying in numbers from six to twelve or more, their efforts resulted in large amounts of money being raised towards the work of the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation, the leading organisation for brain cancer research, advocacy and awareness in Australia.

Those teams included one from Tennis Queensland and another from the Gold Coast while the Cancer Ward of the Townsville University Hospital staff were also

amongst the numbers supporting the event.

The day featured a variety of activities including raffles for valuable prizes and an innovative game called “Pickle Ball”, which is tennis played on a half court, as the participants remembered a former Home Hill Tennis Life Member, Tennis Queensland Board member and Burdekin Shire Citizen of the Year, Col Casswell who lost his battle with the disease last year.

The fundraising was led by Col’s wife, Kate, who revealed that towards the end of August, their efforts had reached a total of \$22,000 with more money still coming in. There was a challenge from Thomas Clive if he raised \$1000, with Kate Casswell saying she believed his total had reached \$3000;



Playing their part in the Rally for a Cure Challenge were (from left) Liam Cannavan of Home Hill, Ryan Taylor of Townsville, Ben Perna of Home Hill and Jarrod Sexton of Millaroo.

\$7600 came from auctions and raffles of memorabilia from International tennis players such as Ash Barty and Rafael Nadal and \$2000 from the Groper Creek Rural Fire Brigade (Read more about the

donation in Jetty Jottings on Page 5).

With most of the prizes on the day donated, Kate Casswell said 100 per cent of the money raised on the day would be going to the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation.



Players competing in Pickle Ball, which is played regularly in Home Hill Tennis fixtures on a half court setup.

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Weeks 09 and 10 —ending August 29, 2022

Cane crushed	This Week	Season to Date
Invicta	167,580	1,321,266
Pioneer	73,786	508,554
Kalamia	75,717	540,610
Inkerman	86,314	619,160
Burdekin	403,397	2,989,590
CCS		
Invicta	14.8	13.84
Pioneer	14.67	13.59
Kalamia	13.84	13.07
Inkerman	14.04	13.16
Burdekin	14.43	13.52

Comments —

Week 10—Another good crushing week in the Burdekin saw just over 400,000 tonnes crushed. This brings the season-to-date total to just under 2.2M tonnes or approximately 27% of the forecast crop. The average weekly CCS was 13.5, which is still below budget, however continued dry weather is seeing a gradual progression back towards budget. The highest CCS sample was 17.1 from a rake of Q183-P in the Mulgrave productivity zone. Please approach all level crossings with caution and always give way to cane trains.

Week 11—The Burdekin mills processed more than 400,000 tonnes of cane for the third consecutive week. This brings the season total to just under 3M tonnes, or approximately 37 per cent of the total forecast crop. The average weekly CCS was 14.43 and continues to rise with the prolonged dry period. The highest CCS sample was 17.8 from a rake of Q240- 3R in the Stockham Rd productivity district. Wilmar's Burdekin employees have been visiting schools in the district in conjunction with the North Queensland Cowboys Adopt A School program to talk to students about cane train safety.

John Tait,
Cane Supply Manager,
Burdekin Region


wilmar

Craft Spectacular returns with the Christmas spirit

AFTER a two-year break caused by the COVID Pandemic, the annual Burdekin Uniting Church Christmas Craft Spectacular will be back in existence in December, 2022 - and bigger and better than ever.

The revived Craft Spectacular will take place at the Burdekin Memorial Hall on Saturday, December 3, 2022 from 9am to 2pm, with an entry fee of \$10 per person, while group bookings of 10 or more will be \$12 each, which includes morning tea.

School aged children will have free entry.

The day will include four \$100 draws as well as a huge array of stalls and demonstrations to keep the crowd entertained.

The program will include a Children's Treasure Hunt, with each participating child receiving a prize.

A dining room will be open, while a High Tea trolley will be operating during the day and a cake stall will also be in operation.

Adults and children have been encouraged to get creative and enter the Craft

Spectacular competition to hand make a Christmas decoration at home.

The competition has an entry fee of two dollars and the decorations will be judged by the public with a gold coin donation.

Funds raised will be donated to the Lower Burdekin St. Andrews Meals on Wheels and the most popular en-

try will receive a prize. Entries must be submitted by 8am on the day of the event, or they can be left at the Home Hill Newsagency prior to the day of the Spectacular in December.

Any enquiries relevant to the Craft Spectacular should be directed to Judy Berryman by phoning 0428 877 883.


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Fortnightly visits to
Home Hill and Ayr

Home Hill and the Foley Shield

HOME HILL was admitted to the Foley Shield Rugby League competition in 1949, as part of a newly created "central zone" that also included Herbert River and Charters Towers. Despite a good season in 1949, Home Hill officials, players and supporters were buoyed by the signing of 1948 Kangaroo international forward, Duncan Hall for the 1950 season.

The Home Hill club competition included a wealth of talent that wore the Home Hill representative colours, including Cecil 'Basher' Oats, Ron Berryman, Les Williamson, Alan Wilkie, Ron Edwards, Gordon Stockdale, the Parravicini brothers (Ted, Joe and Bill), Angelo Tapiolas and many more who were all part of the 1950 Home Hill representative campaign.

With Duncan Hall leading the team, Home Hill accounted for Herbert River 13 - 2 in their first representative match.

However, in the return match, Duncan Hall was unable to play due to a poisoned leg and Herbert River accounted for Home Hill 31 - 10.

Home Hill then defeated Charters Towers, which resulted in Herbert River and Home Hill being on equal points.

In a tough play-off, Herbert River defeated Home Hill 18 - 7. Herbert River then played Ayr, who were winners of the southern zone. Ayr defeated Herbert River 46 - 13 to win, with

the Jack Horrigan-led Ayr team going on to defeat Cairns 23 - 15 in the 1950 Foley Shield final.

While playing for Home Hill, Duncan Hall represented North Queensland, when on June 22, 1950, a strong Great Britain team defeated NQ 39 - 15.

Duncan Hall returned south in 1951 and linked with the Newtown Club in Toowoomba and captained the winning Toowoomba representative team in the Bulimba Cup.

Season 1952 saw Hall selected for his second Kangaroo tour of England and France and he became a household name after the third test at Bradford when - "After 52 minutes of mayhem, Australia's vice-captain, Duncan Hall became the first Australian sent off in a test match in England".

¹ Duncan Hall sat out the 1953 season to recover from injuries and over the next three seasons captained Brisbane Wests to a Grand Final and two Preliminary Finals. Duncan Hall retired in 1957 and then coached Brisbane Wests in the 1958 season. He was appointed co-manager of the 1977 Australian World Cup team and the first Queensland State of Origin team in 1980.

In a career that included 22 tests and 24 matches for Queensland, it was only fitting that in February, 2008, Duncan Hall would be named in the Australian Rugby League team of the century. Duncan Hall passed away on



The 1950 Home Hill Senior Representative Team (Back Row) Nein Haller, Ron Edwards, Jeff Colls, Jim Cordner, Gordon Stockdale, Cecil 'Basher' Oats, Duncan Hall (captain/coach) Ted Parravicini, Reg Berryman; (Middle row) Angelo Tapiolas, Gordon Farrelly, Bill Parravicini. (Front row) Les Williamson, Alan Wilkie, Gordon Hall, Lance Madigan.

January 18, 2011.

Bob Shoyer was 20 years of age in 1950 and remembers Duncan Hall playing for Home Hill - "In 1950, Duncan Hall came to Home Hill and Home Hill went to Ingham to play. A lot of players were talking about some big forward that Herbert River had and Hall said 'don't worry about him'.

When the game started, in the first scrum, Hall flattened him and turned to the Home Hill blokes and said, 'there you are, he's no worry now'. John Ahern who came from the 'up river' side was another player that people used to say could have played for Australia". ²

Ian Collins and Alan Whiticker, 100 years of Rugby League Vol 1 1908-1966. New Holland Publishers, 2007 p 218

Chamber officers re-elected

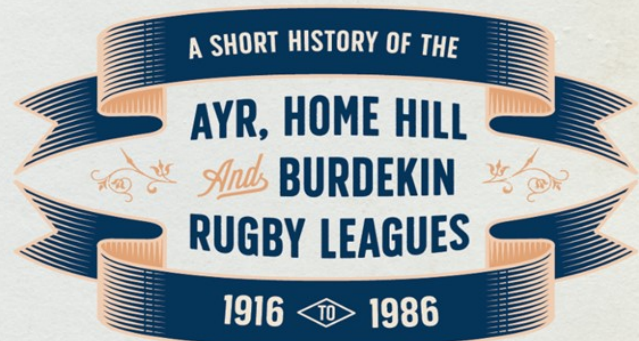
THE Home Hill Chamber of Commerce has re-elected the same executive officers to lead it into the 2022-23 year at its annual general meeting held on Wednesday, August 17, 2022.

The elections resulted in David Jackson being returned as President, with Uli Liessmann as Vice President and John Clarke as Treasurer.

Terry Cross remains in the position of honorary secretary, although he has indicated that he will be relinquishing the position later this year, resulting in the Chamber having to look for a new officer in the coming months.

The executive is also on the lookout for another member to fill a vacant position left by the resignation of Erin Brennan during the past year and the preference is for another female voice to join the committee.

OFFICIAL BOOK LAUNCH



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Opportunity is knocking at Choral Society Vault

MEMBERS of the Home Hill Choral Society will be returning to the stage at "The Vault" in Eighth Avenue for their next production, "Opportunity Knocks" – a Play written by Judith Prior.

The Society has gained a positive reputation from their past performances, as patrons have travelled from near and far to enjoy the humorous presentations. There will be six performances presented across two weekends and the \$35 entry price includes the show and light refreshments, while drinks will also be on sale.

To whet our readers' appetites, the play is a comedy in two acts set in a charity run opportunity shop. Upstairs, over the shop (off stage) live two younger women, Madge and Carol who are exotic dancers at the Pink Pussy by night, while during the day, they run a very successful phone sex business, which the Opp Shop staff believes is simple tele-marketing. The dissimilar values and attitudes of the two very different lots of tenants, upstairs and downstairs, and the stream of weird and wonderful customers coming and going through the Opp Shop create some very funny situations. It sounds just too good for prospective Choral Society patrons to miss!



Cheryl Platt (left) and Erin Brennan ensure their costumes are right for their parts in "Opportunity Knocks"

"Opportunity Knocks" will be performed on Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1 at 7.30pm each night and at 1.30pm on Sunday, October 2.

The show will then return to the stage on Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8 at 7.30pm each night and again on Sunday, October 9 at 1.30pm.

Tickets at \$35 each may be obtained by contacting Erin Brennan on 0428 822 091 – bookings are essential and Eftpos is available.

The show is rated M for mature audiences.

Intruders target RSL

THE Home Hill Sub-Branch of the RSL was recently targeted by overnight intruders into their storage room adjacent to the Burdekin Brass



Band Hall in the Home Hill Park. RSL Sub-Branch secretary Allan Petersen with the cupboard which was ransacked by intruders

When the Sub-Branch moved out of the former Home Hill RSL Club building on the corner of Eleventh Avenue and Tenth Street, their minimal possessions were moved into the brick room on the side of the Brass Band building.

With little of significance to be stolen, the Home Hill RSL members were surprised to see two locks on the building had been broken off, allowing the offenders to enter, where they broke into cupboards and scattered stationery.

Sub-Branch secretary, Allan Petersen said the building held service memorabilia, which was of little use to anyone else.



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Locals caring for locals



Patronal Service for St Helen's 98th birthday

SAINT Helen's Anglican Church in Home Hill (pictured) celebrated 98 years of existence on Sunday, August 28, with a Patronal Church Service attended by Bishop Keith Joseph of Townsville.

Each year, the Churches celebrate the special occasion by hosting a Patronal Church Service on the day and the Service was conducted by Bishop Keith Joseph, assisted by Burdekin Parish Priest, Reverend Karen Allen.

As it is an important day in the life of the Church, All Saints Parishioners from Ayr attended the Service, in place of their normal Service that morning, as well as a large following from the Solomon Islander Community. A morning tea was enjoyed after the Service concluded. St Helen's Anglican Church has a long history and it is regarded as "a great achievement that a group of the original pioneer



settlers came together and from their upbringing in England decided that an Anglican Church was needed in their new community". From that beginning, they were able to organise to have the land where the Church is today and it is believed that the first Church was a Tent, until they were able to build

the first Church.

That building was used regularly each week, until in 1977, a decision was made to replace the existing church with a new church, which was completed in 1977.

After 98 years, the Parishioners of St. Helen's met on Sunday, August 28, for the Saint Helen's Patronal Service to celebrate the Day and think of those early settlers who were moved by their belief to have a Church in Home Hill.

Ephemera the first major Festival event

THE Home Hill Harvest Festival is on its way in 2022 as the six Festival Queen entrants are busily fundraising for their respective organisations, while one of the first major events of the Festival period, the annual Canefields Ephemera, will open up to the public on Sunday, September 11 in Lloyd Mann Gardens in Eighth Avenue.

Under the guidance of Home Hill businessman and artist, Uli Liessmann, the ten entrants in the Ephemera (including two from Townsville) will be constructing their artistic pieces in Lloyd Mann Gardens in the first two weeks of September, leading into the opening from 3pm for a 3.30pm start on

September 11.

The general public is more than welcome to attend the opening and inspect the entries in what will be the first of many. The Harvest Festival is in the process of building and erecting a new large modern installation in Lloyd Mann Gardens to complement the other installations that already exist in the park.

With help from the Burdekin Shire Council, Burdekin Library, Hydro Pacific, Home Hill Chamber and Sweet FM, this installation will be called "The Gate Way to Home Hill" and is a purpose-built aluminium structure dedicated to the past and present.

The structure will be covered in vinyl sheeting and will be featured with old and new photos, including art works for added colour, to be featured in a collage format of Home Hill residents.

With that in mind, the Festival is looking for past and present photos of Home Hill people who have lived here or are still living here. Those photos will be copied onto the vinyl sheeting and then affixed to the aluminium structure. In its fifth year, the Canefields Ephemera is Home Hill's sculpture festival and it is hoped to make it an iconic photogenic installation which will tell some of the stories of the past.

It is a much loved and anticipated

annual event, which has continued to grow over the years to its current standing as an outdoor sculpture exhibition, which is sure to impress local and state artists exhibiting works.

The eight-week display brings together the community to celebrate local artists. The Ephemera artwork is meant to be short-lived and enjoyed by visitors day and night while it is on display. The Open Prize \$1500, while the runner-up receives \$500 and the People's Choice winner



An entry from a previous Canefields Ephemera

HOME HILL NEWS Advertising Rates	(From September, 2022)	Member's Price	Non-Member's Price
	One-eighth of a Page	\$25.00	\$30.00
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Half Page	\$100.00	\$110.00	
Full Page	\$150.00	\$160.00	
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Playground upgrade, holiday fishing and a valuable donation

With JEANETTE GARVEY

THE HOME HILL Boat Club has welcomed the Burdekin Shire Council's 2022/23 Budget allocation of \$95,000 towards the Groper Creek Playground Equipment Renewal Project. Commodore Ross Chapman said the club

had been liaising closely with Council with regards to the upgrade and approval had also been provided for the installation of solar panels to provide additional shade to the park. "The Groper Creek Playground receives a serious workout from locals and visitors all year round – it has also received various assaults from the weather elements over the years," Mr Chapman said. "We understand that tenders are being called and the work will be undertaken as soon as practical." According to Club records, the first playground was erected at Groper Creek 70 years ago (in

1952). This upgrade will ensure the creek-side park will continue to provide enjoyment for generations to come

HOLIDAYING

with his grandparents at Groper Creek, 13-year-old Cooper Coulter certainly had fun honing his fishing skills. The New South Wales (but staunch Queensland NRL supporter) landed

his best 53cm Grunter (left) whilst creek fishing with a fresh prawn bait

THE lad's grandfather, Cyril, had caught a 65cm Barramundi when the water temperatures started to warm up and Cooper was keen to take bragging rights. Cooper's persistence prevailed when he managed to snare a 70cm Barra (left) whilst flicking his favourite lure not far down from the boat ramp.



SEPTEMBER school holidays are always a popular time for families to enjoy the last of our magnificent weather before Summer kicks in. Holiday bookings are solid with only minimal spaces available in the park as grey nomads chase the last of the Barramundi season and sunshine.

The last couple of months has seen a variety of interstate tourists (mainly New South Wales and Victorians) and there has also been a return of international visitors out experiencing our Burdekin front yard. Huts are normally full of families over the school holiday period, so it is timely to remind motorists to SLOW DOWN in the 10kph shared zone, which is enforced for the safety of locals and visitors.

PREDICTIONS of severe Summer drenchings by the Bureau of Meteorology has Queensland on La Nina watch and NOW is the time to get prepared. Assess your flood risk, develop your flood plan and make safe and sensible decisions. Now is also the time to check and update your cyclone and evacuation kits, stock your pantry and give your generator a run. If you are new to the area, it is also important to talk to your neighbours and familiarise yourself with potential risks. It's also the time to clean up around your homes and dump items appropriately. Those driving into the Groper Creek Reserve may have noticed the new "no dumping" signs to hopefully prevent illegal dumping. Our Council dumps are accepting all domestic waste, including non-degassed fridges and freezers free of charge – so there is simply no excuse for illegal dumping and heavy penalties apply. The Groper Creek Rural Fire Brigade recently conducted a hazard reduction burn of accumulated garden waste to reduce fuel loads in the event of bush fire.

FUNDS raised via State of Origin barbecues and the collection of recyclable cans throughout the caravan park and community enabled the Groper Creek Rural Fire Brigade to recently contribute \$2000



towards the Home Hill Tennis Club's Rally For A Cure. Groper Creek's First Officer Dan Garvey (pictured) presented the cheque to Kate Casswell, who said the club's event surpassed all expectations, both fundraising and participation wise, with over \$22,500 donated to the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation. REMINDER: The Annual General Meeting of the Home Hill Boat Club will take place on Wednesday, September 7 at Groper Creek, commencing at 5.30pm. All financial members are encouraged to attend.



BELOW: It was fantastic to join the Home Hill Tennis Association for their "Rally for a Cure" recently. It is a fantastic event raising funds for a worthwhile cause.



Pictured at the Tennis were (from left) Callan Sunderland, Dale Last MP, Kate Casswell and Townsville Hospital Cancer Ward representatives, Dr Michael Collins and Nurse 'JJ' Jarrott.

Parliament Update

Normal sittings of Parliament returned for the first time in August since the budget and estimates process was completed.

Obviously, the impact youth crime is continuing to have on multiple Queensland communities was front and centre and unfortunately, it is becoming clear from recent incidents that even our small towns are not immune.

This week, a Bill to increase the age of criminal responsibility was, thankfully, defeated in Parliament. The Bill was put forward by the Greens and would have seen the minimum age that a child can be prosecuted for crime raised from 10 years old to 14 years old. No-one wants to see juveniles in detention, but we simply cannot ignore the fact that today, there are people who will wake up to find their house has been broken into or their car stolen by juvenile offenders. We cannot ignore the fact that many of these young offenders, despite the claims of the Greens, know the law better than most.

Home Hill should be top of the list for a Premier tour

Following a fly-by stop-in of the Burdekin recently to cut the ribbon on the Haughton River Floodplain project, it was surprising to hear the Premier tell Parliament last week that she is planning to return to the area soon.

I would hope that she would be allocating time to visit Home Hill and in particular, the hospital, where we are still waiting for additional staff in the renal dialysis service, the underutilised TAFE, or the main street, where the camber of the road continues to be incredibly dangerous, particularly for elderly residents.

I know that groups like the Home Hill Chamber of Commerce would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Premier to discuss issues concerning the CBD and future of the town.

Artisan Markets expanding

THE Burdekin Artisan Community Association will further expand its monthly Car Boot and Market stalls in September by adding a section for people wanting to sell fashions. The Association made a successful move to Sunday in August, which attracted several more stalls in their "Fabric Destash" section.

The car boot and destash areas will continue this month, along with the opportunity for anyone wishing to downsize their fashion collection to take the opportunity to join in. The markets will take place from 8am to 12 noon on Sunday, September 11 in the area under the big trees in front of Ashworths Rock Shop on the Bruce Highway through Home Hill. Book a space by phoning Desley (0497 356 355) or Sandi (0427 821 065). Free tea or coffee is available to stall holders during the morning.

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Uli Liessmann comments . .

A PERFECT day on August 18 for the Vietnam Veterans Long Tan Remembrance Day 11am parade. The service was led by President Richard Kelly at the Deep Creek reserve with a good crowd was in attendance, followed by light refreshments.

THE top of the list would be the start of the Home Hill Harvest Festival, with the erection of some very good installations for the Ephemera in Lloyd Mann Gardens. Go and have a preview of the art work as it is being installed over the next two weeks.

HAVE you ever used the Burdekin Library? Great staff and most helpful and they cannot do enough to help, I give you all 10 out of 10 and thanks for the great service.

JUST wondering—the budget mentions Watson Green and Memorial Park \$280,000 upgrade which is great. Community Parks upgrades \$137,500—where will this be spent is all a bit vague. I would have thought these two items would go under one heading and one costing, but what do I know. Home Hill street furniture upgrade, how many seats and bins can we expect? A lot of questions and waiting for a response—fat chance of that happening and what is the timeline on this project, this year? next year?

THE Park in Eighth Avenue (next to the police station) known as Lloyd Mann Gardens would have to be one of the better parks in the Shire if not the best, thanks to the council staff who look after it. When looking to the west and the railway line, this vista is an eye



sore and takes away from the overall ambience of the park. Would it be possible for council to plant a screen of some sort along this fence line (pictured) which will improve the park even more. So now do I hear it costs money?

AND so does a water park (sorry Aquatic Facilities) fund by State



Businessman and Home Hill Chamber of Commerce Vice President, Uli Liessmann reports on local issues of interest in the Home Hill district

and Federal Grant Funding of \$2,323,520.

THE Ayr Industrial Estate is \$6,660,000, still waiting to hear about one for Home Hill, I know of people wanting to go there—that is in Home Hill only.

NOW we have another separate charge of \$30—how did Council come up with this figure? This an unnecessary cost in a worsening economy. Will this be a one-of charge or will the rate payer have to bear this cost every year? There is a lot of talk and a lot of unhappy ratepayers . . . maybe Council should get out there and inquire about the thoughts on this matter. I have not read anywhere what Council's intentions are, so much for council transparency? I would have thought that council would have had the common decency and take this extra separate charge to the public for consultation instead of running rough-shod over the ratepayers. As though we don't pay enough as it is. It is just a sorry state of affairs and what a disappointment.

ON another matter, the general rate as stated was 2.5 per cent and I understand this, but I've had to pay an extra \$191.70, which includes \$30 and this is what I object to in the strongest terms. This equates to approximately a 6 per cent increase and, of course, there is a variable in water consumption, which charges in this equation.

I AM led to believe that an interested party is keen to establish a Funeral Home and a crematorium in Home Hill. I am also told that this interested party has approached a councillor and or council. Yes, this could be another business for this side of the river, so what are your thoughts?

ANOTHER positive for Home Hill—there could be a Real Estate office opening in Home Hill, so let see where all this leads to.

COUNCIL works update as of August 25—North side 2 jobs; South side 0 jobs; Giru 1 job; Clare 2. Council upcoming work—North side 1, South side 3 jobs.

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

- ULI LIESSMANN





Pastoral Care

Available at Home Hill parish office.

Father Manoj and/or Father Daniel will be available at St Colman's Parish office every Wednesday from 10 am to 12 pm. The office at the back of the church will be open for Home Hill parishioners to visit with Father Manoj and/or Father Daniel who can offer spiritual guidance, share prayers, hear confessions, or discuss concerns or to have a meal with members of the Home Hill Community from first week of July. Please feel free to drop in and share time with our parish priests. Let us rejoice in the Lord as this opportunity will bring us more life and blessings into our lives.

How to sign up for Home Hill News—

1. Using your browser go to the Chamber's website at: <https://homehillchamber.com.au/>
2. Click on the "Register for Home Hill News" button;
3. Then you will see a section to fill out your details;
4. Enter your Email Address, First Name and Last Name then click on SUBSCRIBE
5. You may need to allow a pop-up to be displayed
6. You may need to Tick I'm not a robot and click SUBSCRIBE again
7. Then you will see a section with "Subscription confirmed";
8. Click Continue to our Website to return to the Chamber's website.
9. We will send you a notification when the next Home Hill News is published.

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

170 Arts on the Avenue—The Burdekin Artisan Community Association Inc. invites you to inspect their display of various arts and craft forms at the Ashworths Rock Shop complex each day from 10am to 5pm Tuesday to Friday and 9.30am 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 am. Contact Secretary (4782 2368) or President (4783 5529).

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 Club** (phone 0467 566 448) — 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.

Burdekin Friendship Club—Fortnightly, on Mondays from 9.30am to 11.30am at St Helen's Anglican Church Hall, Cnr Fourteenth Street and Tenth Avenue, Home Hill. \$7 per person. Light entertainment and fellowship. Morning Tea provided. Phone Esme 4782 1766.

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 Friends and Neighbours Craft Group—meets every Wednesday from 9am to 11.30am at the Home Hill Community Sports Club, Ninth Avenue, Home Hill for general craft activities and cooking tips. Cost is \$3 with morning tea. Phone 0427 804 129 for more information

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 on the first three Saturday nights of each month;

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 or secretary@homehillchamber.com