

Burdekin ART TRAIL




DISCOVER OUR REGION THROUGH A JOURNEY OF ART

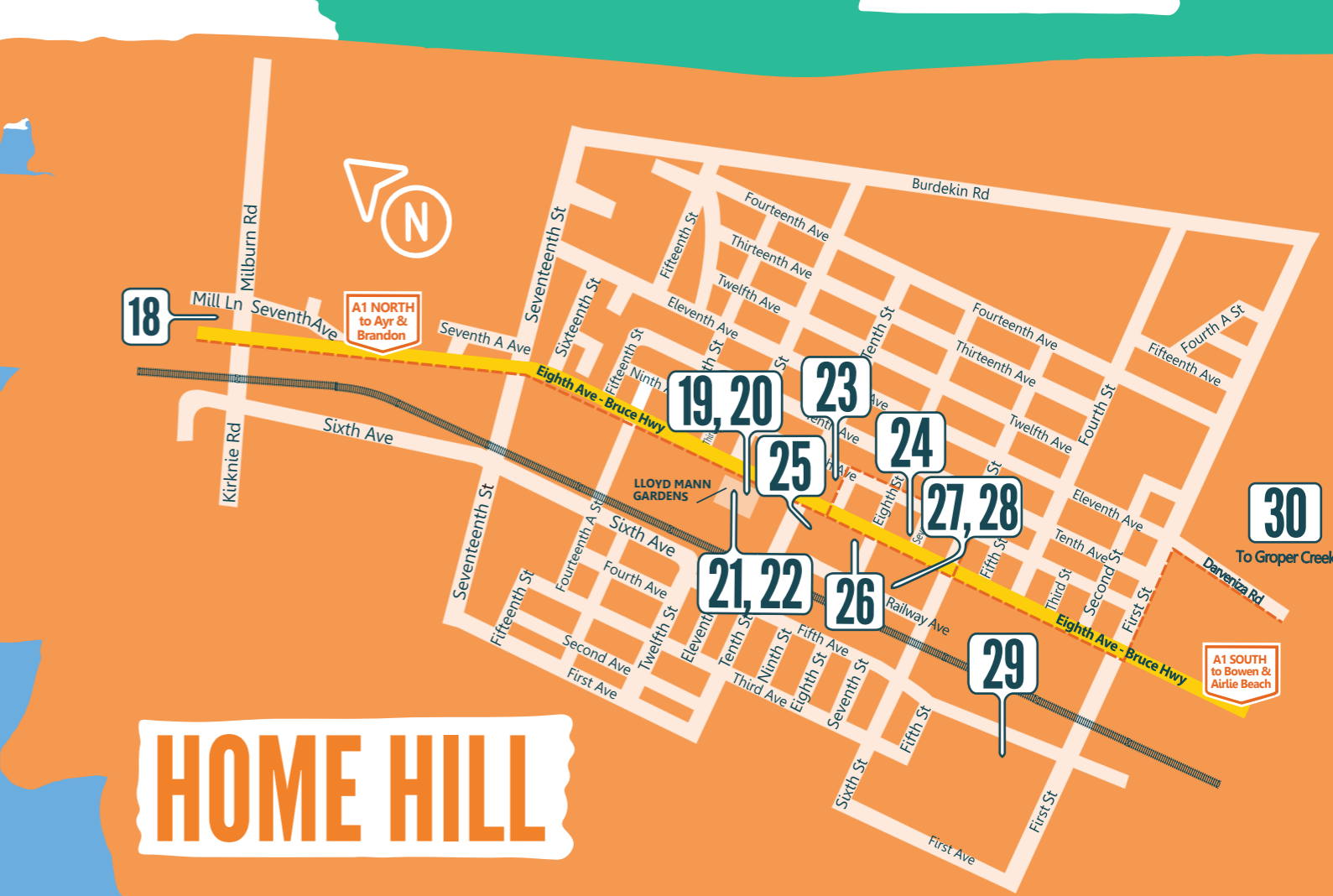
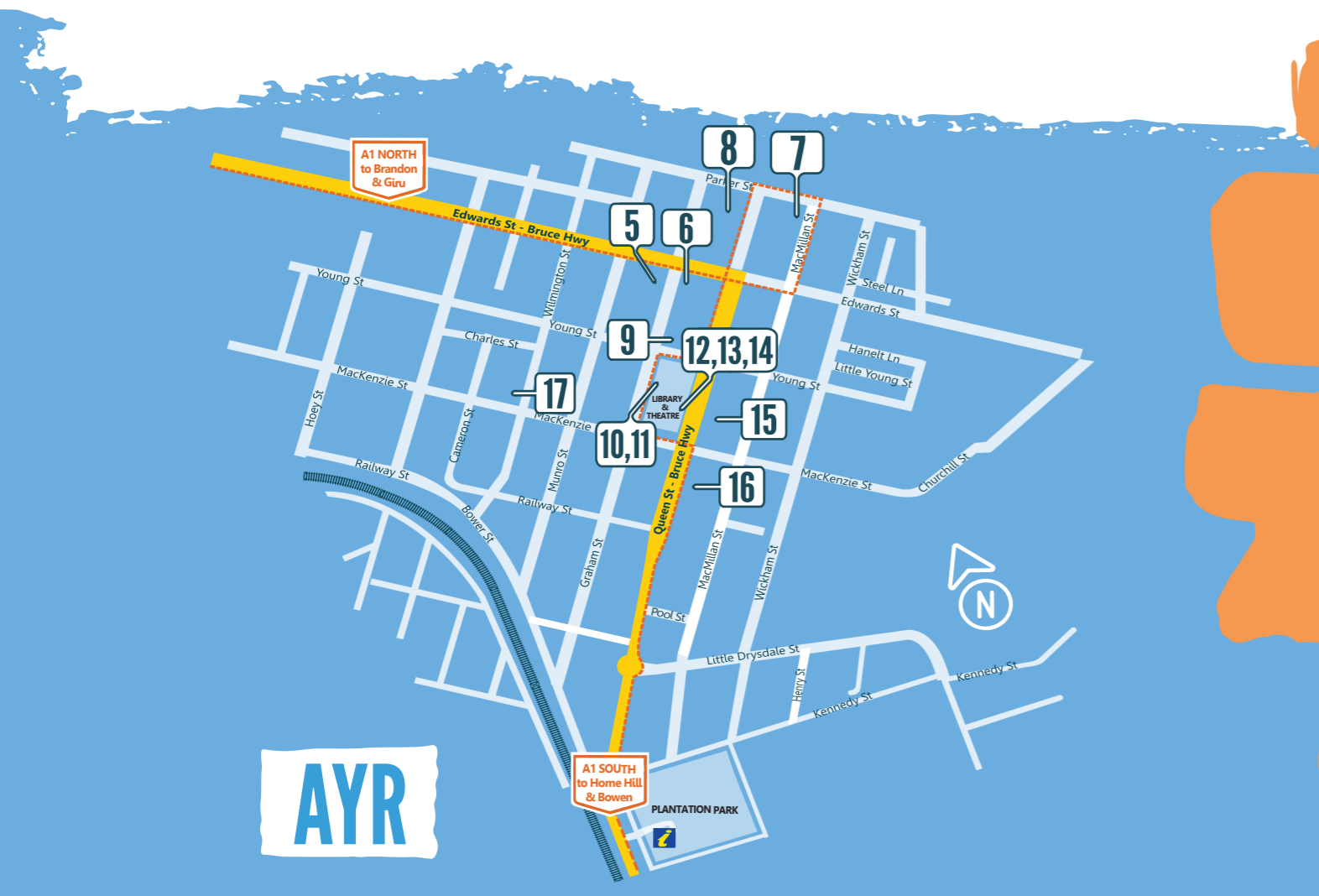
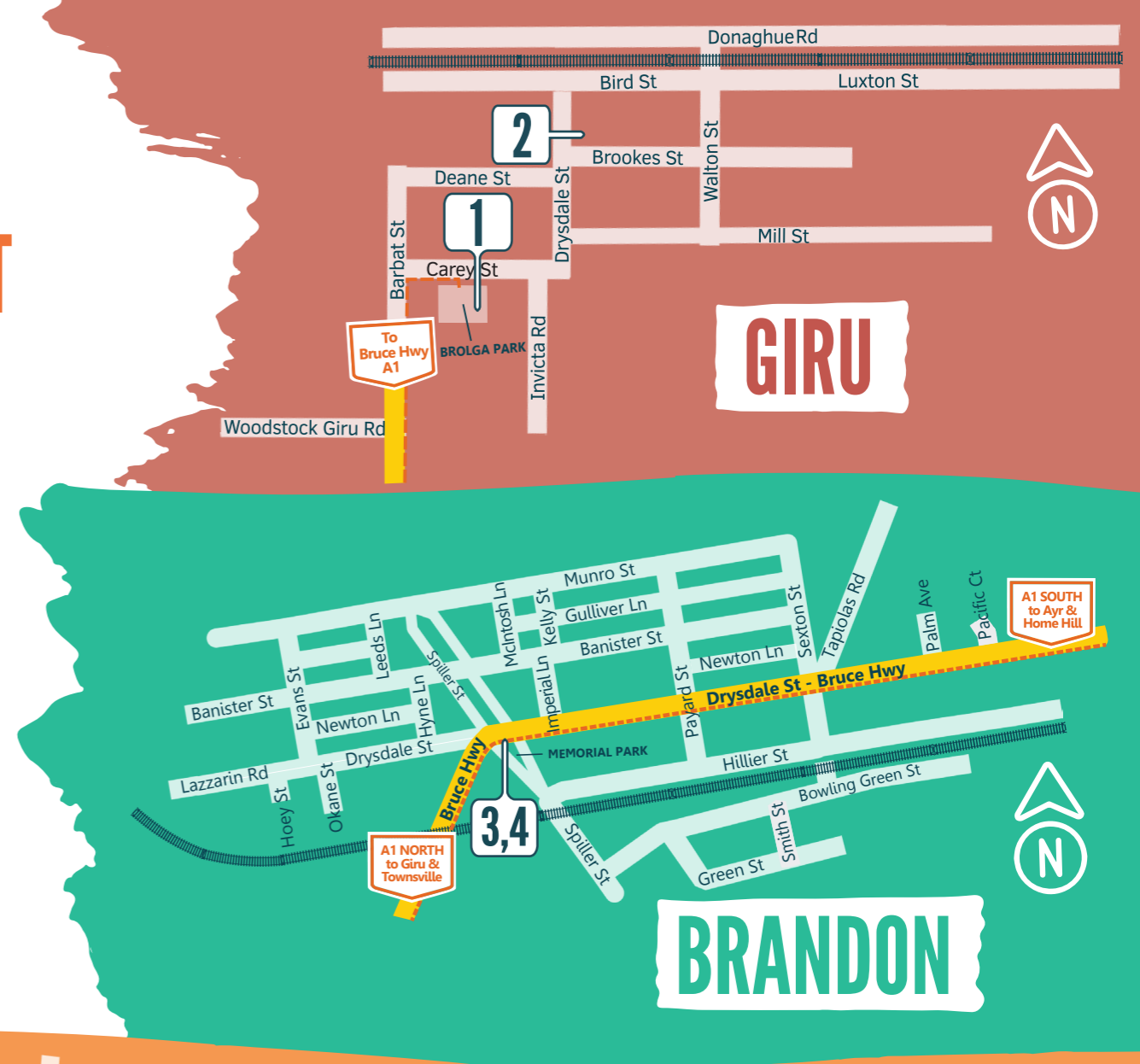
Following the Burdekin Art Trail will enable you to experience a truly unique collection of murals, sculptures and installations which depict stories of our region's culture and heritage.

In recent years, unassuming spaces around our towns have been transformed into vibrant works of art by a number of renowned and emerging artists from across Australia.

The trail currently stretches across five towns and can commence from either Giru in the north or Home Hill towards the south. We invite you to spend a couple of hours exploring the Burdekin's continuously evolving collection of street art.


LEGEND

-  Artwork Location Marker
-  Recommended Trail
-  Visitor Information Centre






1 THE ONE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY
by Cameron Rushton, 2018
Brolga Park - Carey St, Giru
Cameron Rushton is a Townsville-based steel artist who specialises in portraying animals and sea creatures in a realistic style. *The one that didn't get away* is a sculpture that celebrates the sea-life and fishing of the Giru area. The semi-skeletal form of the fish tells that it didn't in fact get away. It is reminiscent of the large fish that are often seen hung from road signs in areas where fishing is popular and plentiful.




2 CROCODILE FISHING
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
Corner of Drysdale St and Brookes St, Giru
Located in the town of Giru along the Haughton River, this mural tells the story of a clever crocodile catching its prey by surprise. This local boat ramp stands out as a prime fishing location, particularly for sought-after catches like Barramundi and Grunter, attracting enthusiasts from far and wide. Be careful as the saltwater crocodile finds its home in the numerous mangroves, beaches, rivers and estuaries of the Burdekin region.



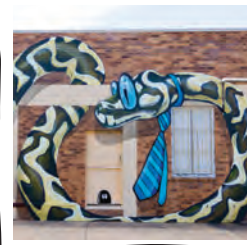
3 FIRST WORLD WAR SOLDIER
by Jane Hawkins, 2006
Memorial Park - Drysdale St, Brandon
Jane Hawkins is a local sculptor who has completed a number of major public sculpture commissions. In 2006, to celebrate the Delta Iron Works centenary year, the owners of the foundry commissioned a new memorial as a gift to the Brandon community. The bronze sculpture represents a World War I soldier carrying a replica of Brandon's captured German gun. The sculpture is displayed on the plinth of Brandon's 1924 World War I memorial, where the German gun was originally placed.



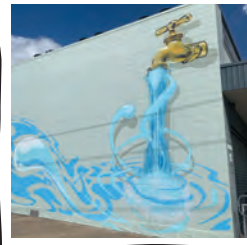
4 CAT AND MOUSE
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
Spiller Street Park Public Toilets, Brandon
This mural is a playful depiction of a cat chasing a mouse on a toilet roll. It was inspired by the conveniently located public toilet in Brandon which provides a toilet pitstop for many travellers on the road and on a roll.



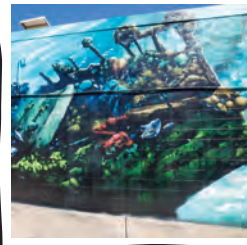
5 GOANNA
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
Side of Australian Worker's Union building - Edwards St, Ayr
Here you will find an ambitious Goanna, adorned with a backpack and bandana, ascending to a rooftop. This mural is inspired by the 'Lace Monitor', also known as the Tree Goanna, native to eastern Australia. As the second largest monitor in Australia, it can reach up to 2 metres in total length. Despite its substantial size and weight, the lace monitor showcases remarkable climbing abilities, covering extensive distances of up to 3km a day in search of food.



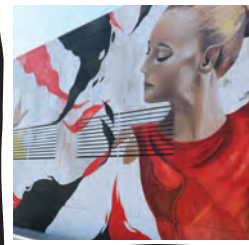
6 CARPET PYTHON
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
Side of Salvation Army Store - Graham St, Ayr
Native to mainland Australia, the Carpet Python, known for its camouflaged pattern, can often be seen climbing trees, traversing forest floors, roads and even taking residence in the roofs of houses. The tie on the snake pays homage to Tommy Tie, a well-known and charitable character in Ayr. Tommy Tie, along with his wife Ruby, managed 'Tommy Ties Convenience Store' for several decades serving as a local favourite amongst residents and soldiers during the war. The remnants of the 'TIE'S' sign can still be observed where the shop used to be.



7 LIQUID GOLD
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
Side of Woolworths - MacMillan St, Ayr
Liquid Gold draws inspiration from and represents the abundance of water in the Burdekin region, sourced from the Burdekin River, reserves from the Burdekin Falls Dam and the substantial underground aquifer situated 10 metres below the surface. Locally known as liquid gold, this precious water resource plays a vital role in enabling farmers to cultivate a variety of crops, including sugarcane, mangoes, melons, capsicums, zucchinis, tomatoes and many other small crops.



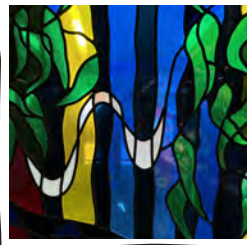
8 S.S. YONGALA
by Sofies, 2018
Side of Vinnies Store - 83 Queen St, Ayr
Following years of perfecting his craft as an aerosol artist, Sofies burst onto the scene over ten years ago with various sold-out exhibitions and collaborations with other artists. This mural is inspired by the world famous S.S. Yongala shipwreck and dive site located just off the Burdekin coastline. The diverse range of marine life including sharks, fish and moray eels are highlighted in Sofies signature use of bold colour and intricate detail.



9 BURDEKIN DANCERS
by Cam Scale, 2018
North facing side of Burdekin Theatre Company - Graham St, Ayr
Cam Scale is a Melbourne-based artist whose practice extends from large scale mural-work and graffiti to digital and canvas based art. Scale worked for 5 days on this creation which now brightens up the north facing side of the Burdekin Singers and Theatre Company building. The artwork pays homage to the Burdekin Singers and Theatre Company and their significance within the local performing arts scene.



10 THE PAINTING OF LIFE
by Mirka Mora, 1983
Inside Burdekin Library - Graham St, Ayr
The *Painting of Life*, by renowned artist Mirka Mora, is a must-see. It is the largest of Mirka Mora's works on permanent public display in Queensland. It measures 5.7 metres across, and 6.1 metres in height. Brightly coloured, her unique style is seen in the animals, birds, patterns and designs. Take a close look at all the sections of the mural to see some of the history and stories of the Burdekin area. You may even find a mythical creature or two.



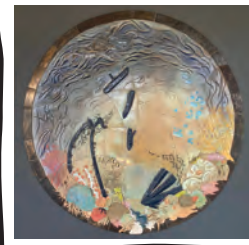
11 STAINED GLASS WINDOW
by Gary Burgess, 1983
Inside Burdekin Library - Graham St, Ayr
The Burdekin Library houses a beautiful floor to ceiling stained-glass window by North Queensland artist Gary Burgess. The work features a variety of nature scenes and motifs inspired by native fauna and flora. Burgess described his artwork as a series of stained-glass panels which give the impression of water flowing, falling and finally coming to a momentary rest in a quiet pool.



12 THE SCOTSMAN
by Jane Hawkins, 2018
Burdekin Theatre forecourt - 161 Queen St, Ayr
This life-size brass statue was commissioned in memory of the men and women who established and continue to support the Ayr and Lower Burdekin Caledonian Association for the past 110 years. The Association was founded in 1910 by Scottish immigrants passionate about keeping their traditions, customs and celebrations alive. It stands proudly on a large granite plinth in the Theatre forecourt. This statue was funded by the Lower Burdekin Caledonian Association.



13 LIVING LAGOON
by Stephen Walker, 1985
Burdekin Theatre forecourt - 161 Queen St, Ayr
Stephen Walker was a sculptor who was made a member of the Order of Australia in 1985. Four of his works are included in the National Heritage Register. Much of his work was inspired by Australian native fauna and flora. The granite and bronze sculptures in the Burdekin Theatre forecourt were unveiled in 1985. The sculptures pay tribute to wildlife in the region, while recognising the importance of water to the Burdekin community.




14 YONGALA MEMORIAL
by Lesley Hawkins, 1994
Burdekin Theatre entrance - 161 Queen St, Ayr
This large ceramic wall sculpture is made of several tessellated glazed tiles pieced together. The sculpture pays tribute to the 122 people who lost their lives when the S.S. Yongala sunk off Cape Bowling Green in March, 1911. The artwork was created through a cooperative project between the Burdekin College of TAFE, Lower Burdekin Lions Club and Burdekin Shire Council.



15 BROLGA
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2020
Side of Pharmacist building - 178 Queen St, Ayr
The Burdekin region is home of the Brolga, a large bird with an extended neck and still-like legs. Renowned for their captivating dancing displays, Brolgas are among the largest flying birds in Australia, reaching heights of up to 1.4 metres. They are commonly found in wetlands, saltwater marshes and agricultural lands in north-east Queensland. This mural depicts a curious Brolga with glasses, peering down for something, perhaps looking for its next meal of insects.




16 GREEN TREE FROG ON SUNFLOWER
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
202 Queen St, Ayr
Sitting on a sunflower, this happy green tree frog with an umbrella is ready for some 'singin' in the rain'. You will often find these frogs hiding in the downpipes and tanks, which act as microphones to amplify their calls. During the wet season, they create a symphony of croaks that shape the soundscapes of the region.



17 AYR NATURE DISPLAY
by June Bosel, 2004
119 Wilmington St, Ayr
Allan Ey opened the Ayr Nature Display to the public in 1966. As the experience begins, marvel at the feature wall decorated with North Queensland rocks outside the entrance of the display. 9,400 slabs of North Queensland rock was cut with a lapidary saw to create this masterpiece.



18 HAND CANE CUTTER
by Matty George, 2021
Burdekin Diorama - Bruce Hwy, Home Hill
Carved from timber, the cane cutter sculpture serves as a tribute to the significant role the cane cutter played in the Burdekin's sugar industry and its impact on the local community. As part of the 2021 *Sweet Days Hot Nights Festival*, chainsaw artist Matty G created a lasting sculpture using his skills during and after the event, adding a unique artistic touch to the festival's celebrations. Admire the level of detail from the Burdekin River carved to flow between the cutters feet to the cane trash darkening his legs.



19 THAT IS THE QUESTION
by Uli Liessmann, 2017
Lloyd Mann Gardens - Bruce Hwy A1, Home Hill
Home Hill artist Uli Liessmann has had a number of solo art exhibitions in the Burdekin, Townsville and Sydney. His pieces have been sold throughout Australia and Europe. This piece is one of several sculptures on display at the Canefields Ephemera as part of the Home Hill Harvest Festival. Liessmann collaborated with local fabrication company Vass Engineering to construct this piece.



20 OPEN TO NEW IDEAS
by Uli Liessmann, 2018
Lloyd Mann Gardens - Bruce Hwy A1, Home Hill
This oversized pull ring sardine can is one of three thought-provoking public artworks created by Uli Liessmann. Constructed from welded sheet metal, the artwork was unveiled at the second Canefields Ephemera in 2018. Liessmann's creations have amused both locals and visitors to the region.




21 THE POINT IS...
by Uli Liessmann, 2019
Lloyd Mann Gardens - Bruce Hwy A1, Home Hill
This large sculpture of an arrow is one of a series of artworks unveiled at the Canefields Ephemera between 2017 and 2019. Home Hill artist Uli Liessmann said that the main purpose of this sculpture was to stimulate conversation that could lead to a variety of interpretations for this artwork. He also suggested that this series of artworks make a collective reference to the aspirations of the local community. "The point is, we want to achieve something."



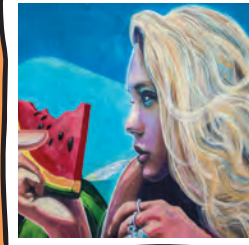
22 GATEWAY TO HOME HILL
by Uli Liessmann, 2023
Lloyd Mann Gardens - Bruce Hwy A1, Home Hill
Within Lloyd Mann Gardens, you will find a modern, vibrant archway along its pathway. Take a closer look to discover the diverse faces of the Burdekin community, each representing a unique connection to the region. *The Gateway to Home Hill* stands as a Canefields Ephemera project by the Home Hill Harvest Festival.




23 PARTY TIME
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2019
Home Hill Backpackers - Ninth St, Home Hill
The various animated and vibrant characters depicted in this party-themed mural is a compliment to the fun and joyful atmosphere of festivals and events celebrated by the Burdekin Community. This crowd of cartoon faces sitting adjacent to the local park, also serves as a new feature decoration overlooking the street where the annual Home Hill Harvest Festival is celebrated.



24 WALLABY & THE SUGARCANE MAN
by Nicky Bidju Pryor, 2017
Corner of Seventh St and Bruce Hwy A1, Home Hill
Nicky Bidju Pryor is a Townsville-based indigenous artist who channels his creativity into producing unique artwork that represents his culture. *The Wallaby and the Sugarcane Man* are a humorous nod to the Burdekin region's agricultural history and depicts a wallaby chasing a sugarcane man. Wallabies actually love to snack on sugarcane.



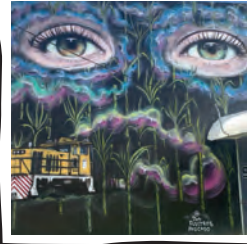
25 HOME GROWN
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2019
North facing side of 126 Eighth Ave, Home Hill
The mural, inspired by the Burdekin's thriving horticulture industry, portrays a variety of locally grown produce including watermelon, pumpkin, eggplant, mango, rockmelon, corn and capsicum. The Burdekin's popularity among travelling backpackers as a work destination is due to the region's agricultural diversity.




26 SWEET DAYS HOT NIGHTS
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2019
South side of Get Fit Home Hill building - Eighth Ave, Home Hill
Inspired by the beginning of the sugarcane harvesting season, this artwork depicts the first stage before harvest with a farmer setting alight a sugarcane crop to burn off the dry leaves. Also featured is a large sculpture made out of sugarcane holding a traditional cane knife. This 5.5 metre high sculpture of steel and straw was lit at the 2019 *Sweet Days Hot Nights Festival*.




27 THE COUNTRY SUNSET
by Nicky Bidju Pryor, 2017
South side of Queensland Country Bank - Eighth Ave, Home Hill
This bold mural combines local indigenous motifs with the warm, vivid hues of a sunset in the Burdekin. Nicky Bidju Pryor's artwork is designed to bridge modern and traditional cultures. The bright colours that he uses in his body of work create a vibrancy that brings a contemporary feel to traditional themes.



28 BURDEKIN SNOW
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2019
South facing wall of Home Hill Comfort Stop - Eighth Ave, Home Hill
Inspired by the Burdekin sugarcane industry, this eye-catching mural features a colourful trail of smoke weaving amongst floating sugarcane stalks and trailing behind an iconic cane train locomotive. The burning of sugarcane crops during the harvest season often results in ash floating throughout the town, most commonly titled by the locals as the Burdekin Snow.



29 CANECUTTERS MEMORIAL
by Dr Farvardin Daliri OAM, 2016
Gudjuda Reference Group, Showgrounds - Sixth Ave, Home Hill
Completed in May 2016, the two Hand Cane Cutter sculptures represent the multicultural history of the Australian sugarcane industry. The local Gudjuda Reference Group Aboriginal Corporation's indigenous artists were mentored by Dr Farvardin Daliri OAM in designing, constructing and painting the sculptures. The sculptures are 3.5 metres high and 20 tonnes heavy, and are made from steel and cement.



30 GROPER CREEK
by Jon Electros Avocado, 2021
Groper Creek Public Toilet Block - Groper Creek
The Rainbow Lorikeet holds the line while the Queensland Groper connects the call. This mural is inspired by the popular fishing community of Groper Creek and its iconic beauty. With its houses on stilts, this fishing community is always ready for a flood, fishing adventure and a good yarn. The mural features a selection of the area's diverse wildlife, including the Rainbow Lorikeet, Queensland Groper, Barramundi, Pelican, Egret, Frog Mouth Owl and Mud Crab.