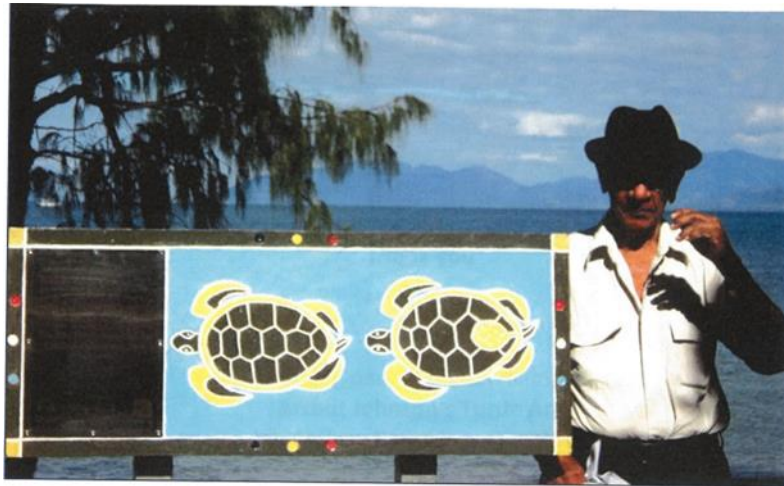


## Wulgurukaba Turtle Artwork restoration Geoffrey Bay Foreshore

In 2012 Geoffrey Bay Coastcare Group obtained funding from the Federal Government to hold an educational workshop on turtle nesting, and invite Wulgurukaba elder/artist Arthur Johnson to create a wooden artwork about turtles at Geoffrey Bay.



The artwork was a combination of carving and painting on solid wood by Arthur, and was completed, along with a metal plaque, to be mounted on Geoffrey Bay Foreshore at a ceremony attended by members of the Wulgurukaba Community, residents and visitors. After a few years, the paint began to peel and fade.



In 2019, along came a sign writer employed with Townsville City Council. He noticed the state of the artwork, and talked to Wulgurukaba elder, Lyle Johnson about restoring it. After some hesitation, the sign writer was given permission to bring Arthur's artwork back to life.



The completed restoration kept the carved lines clear and the colours of the turtles, the background and the surrounding frame were true to Arthur's originals.

We are all very grateful that Wulgurukaba artwork in Arcadia will be able to be seen by many in the future.