

MBHS NEWS

Brought to you by Mission Beach Historical Society

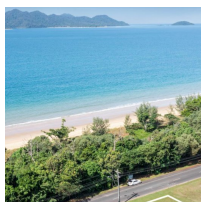
VOL. 2, ISSUE 2

JUNE 2022

Top stories in this newsletter



New website



Reid Road



The Cohen Sisters



Historical Societies

New website: Funded by CHART & implemented by One Fish Technology



The new website content and design began in April, 2022, funded by the **Culture, Heritage and Regional Tourism (CHART)** program. Matt from **One Fish Technology**, South Mission Beach, has been able to assist with the design, and structure the website.

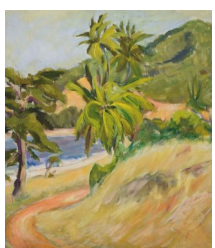
A small group will provide feedback and it will be ready for launch in late June. The official launch will be in July 2022, date to be announced.

Reid Road, Wongaling Beach



Reid Road is a long road along the beach-front of Wongaling Beach. It is named after The Reid family. Captain Reid of the Torres Strait Pilot Service took up a block at the junction of North and South Mission Beach Roads, circa 1912. The property was worked by two of his cousins, David and Rob Reid, as banana plantations. David Reid died and is buried there.

The Cohen Sisters



The Cohen sisters, as they were commonly referred to, were two of several female artists who lived on the islands off the coast of Mission Beach, more particularly Timana Island. Circa mid-19th Century. Valerie and Yvonne's painting styles were similar but different, according to art experts. Their island paintings had a dreamy quality about them, whereas their paintings of the cane fields around Tully had a strong Indigenous cultural presence.

To find out more go to:

To The Islands – Art Gallery Exhibition, Townsville

[https://issuu.com/percpin/docs/](https://issuu.com/percpin/docs/to_the_islands_final_for_issu)

[to_the_islands_final_for_issu](https://issuu.com/percpin/docs/to_the_islands_final_for_issu)

and the

Cairns Art Gallery

Historical Societies Meeting



Every three months the historical societies of Innisfail, El Arish, Mission Beach, and Cardwell meet up to exchange ideas, let each other know what projects they are working on, network, and socialize. The meeting was held on the 9/03/2022, in El Arish hosted by Marie Carman and was well attended with representatives from all societies. The informative networking event took place at the El Arish Tavern, as the museum was too small for the group.

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Top stories



Incorporation



Heritage Festival 2022



Sydney Harris—
headstone



MBHS—About Us

Incorporation—progress report



Mission Beach Historical Society is now working towards being incorporated. A constitution / model rules are being drawn up with all the necessary administrative documents.

We are aiming to have this completed and ready for the new financial year, 2022.

We are grateful to ROTARY, Mission Beach for their funding and support.

Heritage Festival 2022



Mission Beach Historical Society members explored some of the Cassowary Coast Heritage at the 'Recollections – Open mic' event at the Tully library on the 29/04. They shared their recollections of past events, places and people of this region with 4 enthusiastic presenters.

On the 6/05, a few Mission Beach Historical Society members joined the 'Traversing Trove' event at the Wongaling library and discovered the amazing collections from Australian libraries, universities, museums, galleries and archives.

Sydney Harris—headstone



Sydney Harris, returned servicemen (WWI), purchased beachfront agricultural land at Clump Point to start a coconut plantation. He was killed in a fire accident while clearing his farmland in 1921. Harris' gravesite was initially on the west side of what is known as Porter Promenade today, opposite the Community Hall. Council moved the headstone to the other side of the road later and then shifted it again to the current location in a peaceful corner of the Norm Byrnes Arboretum. The headstone needed to be cleaned. MBHS approached the **Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville**, for advice and **Sue Vallis**, object conservator, visited the site on the 19th of May 2022.

Mission Beach Historical Society—About Us

The **Mission Beach Historical Society** is a friendly group of amateur historians. We are putting together stories of our local people, industries and events. We also collect photographs, family histories and newspaper articles.

Interested? Like to volunteer some time? Become a member?

Contact

Facebook: Mission Beach Historical Society. **Like us** and subscribe.

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Today's events are tomorrow's history