

South Eastern Historical Association

The South Eastern Historical Association (SEHA) was established in 1965 and covers the south east suburbs of Melbourne, the Mornington Peninsula, the Bass Valley, Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp, Wonthaggi and Phillip Island. Or, the municipalities of the City of Kingston, City of Greater Dandenong, City of Casey, City of Frankston, Mornington Peninsula Shire, Cardinia Shire and Bass Coast Shire. Delegates from each group meet quarterly at various locations

Successful programs run by the Association include many Discovery Schools, the last one being held at Koo-Wee-Rup in 2010. The 2012 Discovery School will look at the history of the Hastings Tyabb area.

February 5th, 2012 | Category: [Uncategorized](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

SEHA 2012 Discovery School

The 2012 SEHA Discovery School is promising to be a great weekend for all concerned.

Bookings are now open for members of member societies, places are expected to fill fast for this exciting weekend on the 20th and 21st October. So make sure you don't miss out on a place.

Booking forms in Microsoft Word and Adobe pdf are available on the [2012 Discovery School page](#).

February 16th, 2012 | Category: [SEHA News](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Our Boys at the Front

I am sure everyone involved with the SEHA will join me in congratulating the Mornington & District Historical Society on their win in the "Best collaborative community work" category of the Victorian Community History Awards 2011.

Their entry "Our Boys at the Front" (book & DVD) gives an account of the Great War through local eyes and is based on the Peninsula Post's news, letters from the front, etc. From today's Souvenir Brochure "It is an excellent example of a local history that illustrates the interconnectedness of its community with dominating world events."

This a great resource for anyone

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October 20th, 2011 | Tags: [Mornington & District Historical Society](#) | Category: [SEHA News](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

The Discovery of The Koln

The German Cruiser Koln Source: Wikimedia Commons

Some time ago, a well known local gentleman came into the Old Post Office Museum, Mornington and asked if we had any information on the German Cruiser Koln that had anchored off Mornington in the mid 1930s. This gentleman told the story that as a young boy, he and a friend rowed out to the ship and a warning flare or similar was shot across the water at them.

As part of the team down at the museum who handles any enquiries or research questions, I endeavored to find the answers to

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August 27th, 2011 | Tags: [Koln](#) [Mornington & District Historical Society](#) | Category: [Ships/Shipping](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

The Serendipitous Nature of Historical Research

One of the things I love about history is the connections between people and places that just pop up when you least expect them. In my 'work life', I am the Local History Librarian at Casey Cardinia Library Corporation. Amongst my duties I maintain the local history blog <http://caseycardinialinkstoorpast.blogspot.com/>

I did a blog post on Captain Robert Gardiner, an early Berwick landowner, and found out that he had met Burke and Wills and was the great grandfather of Sir Robert Helpmann (1909-1986), the ballet dancer. It is these sorts of connections that make history so interesting. In fact, when I

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August 6th, 2011 | Tags: [Berwick](#) [Robert Melville Gardiner](#) | Category: [Family History](#) [Local History](#) | [5 comments](#)

Fisherman's Cottage Museum Complex, Tooradin



The February meeting of the SEHA was held at the Fisherman's Cottage Museum on the Foreshore at Tooradin. The Museum is operated by the Cranbourne Shire Historical Society. The curator and caretaker, Rosemary Mynard, gave guided tours of the Museum throughout the day. The Museum is housed in an old cottage, built c.1873. The builder was most likely Matthew Evans who was an early landowner in Tooradin. Evans owned most of the early town lots in Tooradin and donated land for the Anglican Church in 1890. The cottage is one of the earliest houses built in Tooradin and one of the

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August 5th, 2011 | Tags: [Cranbourne Shire Historical Society](#) [Fisherman's Cottage](#) [Tooradin](#) | Category: [Local History](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Mornington Park

The November SEHA meeting was held at Mornington. After the meeting Val Wilson and Frank Green from the Mornington Historical Society gave us a very informative tour of Mornington Park. Mornington Park was temporarily reserved as a park on November 24th, 1863 and permanently reserved as a 'place for promenade and recreation' on May 1st, 1874. It shows the foresight of the citizens of the town that they worked to have the Esplanade frontage permanently reserved for recreation.

In her history of Mornington (see details below) Leslie Moorhead has written an interesting account of Mornington Park, which is worth quoting

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The Methodist Church in Wonthaggi

This is an interesting account of the Methodist Church in Wonthaggi. I have taken it from A Century of Victorian Methodism by The Rev. C. Irving Benson. Published by Spectator Publishing in 1935.

Wonthaggi – Here we were the first Church on the coalfields. On the arrival of the first batch of miners, thirty-five in all, they were met by the Rev. Courtenay Thomas, who sensing the possibilities of the place, promptly secured a tent, which would accommodate 200 men and obtaining meanwhile a supply of red-gum planks for seats, was ready to begin operations. A Sunday School was opened

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The Wreck of the Speke

The guest speaker at the August meeting of the SEHA was Julie Box (nee Harris). The Harris family have lived on Phillip Island for over 100 years. Julie spoke on the wreck of the Speke at Phillip Island.

The Speke was an all steel ship of 310 feet, beam of 35 feet and weight of 2,712 tons and triple masted. She was built in 1891 at Carnarvon in Wales for a cost of 22,000 pounds. The wreck of the Speke was purchased for a mere 12 pounds after it went aground in 1906.

The Speke had come from Peru to

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July 25th, 2011 | Tags: [Phillip Island](#), [Phillip Island & District Historical Society](#), [shipwrecks](#), [The Speke](#) | Category: [Local History](#), [Ships/Shipping](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

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More good news for our hardworking committee. Our grant application to restore the grave of Dr. Vera Scantlebury Brown at the Pioneer **Cemetery** was ...**Friends of Cheltenham and Regional Cemeteries Inc. - Timeline ...**

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Directions



At a glance: southern metropolitan postal address

Transit: Cheltenham

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2012 AUSTRALIAN CEMETERY FRIENDS CALENDAR

It's time to submit your entries for the Australian Federation of Cemetery Friends Inc. Calendar for 2012. We are seeking input from all Australian Cemeteries this time. The theme is 'Angels'. So get your cameras out and take a photograph of your most interesting Angels at your cemetery and send them to:

**Australian Federation
of Cemetery Friends Inc,
PO Box 293, Kew, Vic, 3102.**

Entries close 30 July 2011.

The Federation has been busy trying to raise some funds to produce some pamphlets to help raise awareness of what people can do to clean their family graves, and also establish some Cemetery

Friends Groups. If you think your cemetery is in need of a "Friends" group or you already have one established send their details to us at the above address. We will be offering "Friends" groups the opportunity to sell these calendars and keep the profits for their own groups.