MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY **NOTICE BOARD**

IN THE POST

Pat and Ray Gilbert came across this postcard dated 20 March 1930 from Tom Hughes 'The Rag-Time Fotografer' from Wigan. He is writing to Mr J. R. Davies in Warrington and says: "Dear Jack, I will send my Lantern to you by mail in the morning (Friday) addressed to YMCA so please inquire if it has landed. I will be at the YMCA at 6 to 6:30 on Saturday. Until then cheers, Tom Hughes". He seems to have great faith in the Post Office!







TRADE CARD

Wilhelm Widenmann came across this very charming trading card from the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company – the originator of beef stock cubes. The company was named after Justus von Liebig, the 19th century German organic chemist who developed a process for the production of beef extract. The card dates from around 1895.

AUSTRALIAN MAGIC LANTERN CONFERENCE

Dr Martyn Jolly has let us know about a conference – the Magic Lantern in Australia and the World – at the Australian National University, 4-6 September this year. It takes a multi-disciplinary approach to exploring the lasting impact of the magic lantern on visual culture. "Historians are just discovering its powerful presence in entertainment, education, science, religion, politics and advertising. Galleries, libraries, archives and museums are uncovering untouched caches of slides in their collections. And artists and performers are rekindling the 'magic' of the technology." The Australian Research Council Discovery Project Heritage in the Limelight: The Magic Lantern in Australia and the World is organising the conference in partnership with the National Film and Sound Archive. To find out more about the project go to: http://soa.anu.edu.au/heritage-limelight (see also page 11).

PHANTASMAGORIA IN BOSTON

Anyone likely to be near Boston USA between now and the end of May should visit the Museum of Fine Arts. The current *Phantasmagoria* exhibition is based on the Richard Balzer Collection and runs until 28 May in the Henry and Lois Foster Gallery. More information at: www.mfa.org/exhibitions/phantasmagoria (see page 7). This was Dick's final project and his wife Patti took over to make sure it was delivered to his high standards.



INTRODUCTION NEEDED!

Can someone introduce me to Dr John Scally, the head of the National Library of Scotland? I have just read the 'Rarebooks recent purchases' section of his National Librarian and Chief Executive's Report for 2017, and found the following: "The life and work of David Livingstone missionary and explorer, London, [1913?]. This is a set of 40 glass lantern slides and an accompanying booklet to be used during the showing of the slides, presumably for younger audiences." Why do I want to meet him? Well, the Wayfarer's Bookshop in Canada sold him this fairly-common Primus lithographic-transfer set for US\$1,500, or about £1,100, and I've got a few other 'Junior Lecturer' sets I'll happily let him have for a similar price...

MISSING LANTERN

A stage version of *Fanny and Alexander* (Ingmar Bergman's classic late film from 1982) is currently running at the Old Vic, London until 14 April. But where is the magic lantern show? An 'Alexander' and lantern appear in the programme – but nothing on stage.



PANORAMA CONFERENCE

The International Panorama Council is holding its 27th conference in Istanbul, Turkey, on the theme of *Memory and the Panorama*. The venue is the Panorama 1453 History Museum and the event will take place 19–21 September.

OVERHEARD AT THE AGM

Alexia Lazou overheard the following in the marketplace at the AGM in January. She suggests it might fit in an MLS 'Add Vice' column! An MLS member was kindly enquiring for help with a problem on behalf of another member: "He's got a screw sticking out of his flasher and it keeps falling out ..." Rest assured the identity of the gentleman in question shall not ever be revealed by *The Magic Lantern*!

THE TIME MACHINE

The programme about HG Wells' *The Time Machine* should be appearing later this year on BBC4. Jeremy Brooker told us about this, and his contribution to it, at our summer meeting in Deal (see *The Magic Lantern* issue 12). Well worth looking out for.

DIARY DATES

Please take these dates as a guide only and confirm before travelling

2018

Until 28 May

Phantasmagoria exhibition
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA

20-22 April

2018 Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada

Victoria BC, Canada

28 April

Spring meeting of the Magic Lantern Society Swedenborg House, London

28 July

Summer meeting of the Magic Lantern Society Lacey Green Millennium Hall, Lacey Green, Bucks

4-6 September

Conference: The Magic Lantern in Australia and the World

Canberra, Australia

19-21 September

IPC Conference: *Memory and the Panorama*Panorama 1453 History Museum, Istanbul, Turkey

NEW MEMBERS

Janet SparkeTonbridge, EnglandMelissa FerrariVal Verde, California, USANational Science and

Media MuseumBradford, UKHope UKLondon, UKElla RaviliousLondon, UKTristram PowellLondon, UKClemence SchultzeOxford, UK

Else Flim Laren, The Netherlands