

MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY NOTICE BOARD

A LOCKDOWN FIND

Rene Marriott writes: "Like many of us during lockdown Allan and I have been busy re-assessing our slide collection. Our particular interest is our large collection of local history slides from our area of Sussex where we have lived all our lives. Over the years this has got slightly out of hand and so we started attacking this project to sort them out in earnest. Among these slides are several of Shoreham harbour taken in the 1890s which we use in shows local to that area. Whilst sorting these out, we were surprised to be contacted by a local Shoreham historian asking about the slides we hold of the area. Always willing to help with the archives of the harbour we sent him photos of the slides we have. One of them, although marked 'Shoreham Harbour', is a rather boring slide of a tug pulling a barge around the entrance. We were not even sure this was Shoreham as the harbour has changed so much over the years. However he showed great interest in this image as the tug in question was not a paddle tug but a more modern screw tug called (after Allan looked through his eye glass!!) *Hercules*. It appears this is the only known picture known of her and as such is not only unique but of great interest to the



archivists of the port of Shoreham. She was the first vessel built at Portsmouth in 1890 by the newly formed Vosper Thornycroft company, especially for Shoreham Port. She came into service in 1890 and was wrecked within the harbour in 1891!"

Let us know about your lockdown finds – Ed.

MAGIC LANTERN, BUNS AND ORANGES

Edgar Gibbs, who was brought up in Penderyn, a village in the Brecon Beacons National Park (now famous for its whisky) sent this snippet from its history group – a write-up of a village tea party at Christmas 1907.

"PENDERYN TEA PARTY – On Thursday last a tea party was given to the children attending the Parish Church Sunday School, at St. Cynog's Hall. A good muster turned up, and did justice to the good things provided. In addition to the tea, buns, oranges, and sweets were given to the children as they left for home. Miss Jenkins, The Rectory, and Mrs. Emily Lewis, Pontplanca, presided at the tables. After the tea was over a magic lantern entertainment was given by the Rector (Rev. L. Jenkins), the views consisting of the



Life of Joseph, Fire Brigade, Christmas at the Workhouse, John Gilpin [left], etc. There were also a number of movable slides, some of a humorous character, which greatly interested and amused the children. A very happy and enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of the 'National Anthem'. The promoters wish to tender their sincere thanks to Mrs. Jones, Penyreithin; Mrs. Mathews, Tanybryn, for subscribing towards the treat, and to Mr. and Mrs. Bray, Brecon Arms, for the sweets."

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER ...

At the beginning of February 2021 John Townsend spotted this wonderful toy lantern for sale. Sadly for John it was on German eBay and they would not post it to the UK. He had never before seen a lantern like this, in the form of a castle. If you have a lantern in some unusual form, do send us a picture and any information (editor@magiclantern.org.uk) so we can feature it in *TML*.



NEW LIGHT ON OLD MEDIA

Members who have 'opted in' will be aware of the recent issue of *New Light on Old Media*, the MLS's online publication highlighting items loosely connected to magic lanterns and related phenomena in a modern context. Monique Wezenberg has now joined Mary Borgo Ton in editing *NLOM* and they are hoping to produce more regular editions. This is an important publication for the MLS as it goes to anyone who requests it, members and non-members. Do send them any suggestions and contributions.

A HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR READERS

Gwen Sebus found this charming slide of the Easter Bunny in her collection to celebrate the season. It's safer to be outside ...



DIARY DATES

Please take these dates as a guide only

2021

17 April

Spring meeting of the Magic Lantern Society
Virtual online meeting via Zoom and YouTube

24 July

Summer meeting of the Magic Lantern Society
Roborough Studios, University of Exeter, Exeter

23 October

Autumn meeting of the Magic Lantern Society
Swedenborg Hall, London

2022

29 April to 1 May

Magic Lantern Society International Convention
Birmingham and Midland Institute, Birmingham

NEW MEMBERS

<i>Mike Allport</i>	Wooler, Northumberland, UK
<i>Alberto Cañada</i>	Pamplona, Spain
<i>Paul Escude</i>	North Fort Myers, Florida, USA
<i>Regina Feeney</i>	Freeport, New York, USA
<i>Nick Fielding</i>	Burcot, Oxfordshire, UK
<i>Arnim Friess</i>	Leamington Spa, UK
<i>Max Gammon</i>	London, UK
<i>Samuel Grosdemange</i>	Thionville, France
<i>John Howarth</i>	Whitby, UK
<i>Nicola Martin</i>	Burwell, Cambridgeshire, UK
<i>Larry Rakow</i>	Cleveland Heights, Ohio, USA
<i>Charles Schneider</i>	Grass Valley, California, USA
<i>Paul Shephard</i>	Edinburgh, UK
<i>Iain Smith</i>	Manchester, UK
<i>Samuel Soric</i>	Chicago, Illinois, USA
<i>Catherine Wadle</i>	Höfen an der Enz, Germany
<i>Anthony Wootten</i>	Winchester, UK