



## OBITUARY

### **MARGERY EDWARDS (1929–2024)**

Margery was the eighth child in the family of nine children born to Amy and John Dinning in the Glenrowan district of North Central Victoria (Australia). The Dinning Family were well established early farming settlers from Northern Ireland. Until the late 1940s the Dinning property totally relied on horse power to successfully run their large farm and provide all the necessary transport.

During World War II, with many of her brothers away in the army, Margery was involved in the farm work, later leaving to follow her sister as a nurse. During the 1950s she met a school teacher working in the Glenrowan district, marrying Ian in 1955.

Margery and Ian Edwards have been long-standing members of the Magic Lantern Society, who have presented recreations of typical period lantern shows in the UK, USA, New Zealand and interstate in Australia, using their inherited collection of historic lantern slides (The Rev. Percy Edwards Visual Archive, est. 1898). Margery, a skilled lace maker and author, dressed in period costume and always provided the accompanying music for their shows. Her musical contributions using her 'Hohner' Harmonica created the warm ambience which complemented the visuals on the screen during these events, and helped to make these shows memorable for the attending audiences.

Before her death on 11 September, Margery and Ian donated their complete family magic lantern slide collection to the Australian National Film and Sound Archive, where because of its scope, comprehensive catalogue and significant provenance, it is being preserved as an integrated unit.

*John Hyett*