



## The world in pictures for historians and enthusiasts

In the days before electronic media and popular travel, *The Illustrated London News* offered a view of the world that most of its readers could only otherwise imagine.

With its debut in 1842, *The Illustrated London News* became the world's first fully illustrated weekly newspaper, marking a revolution in journalism and news reporting. The publication presented a vivid picture of British and world events – including news of war, disaster, ceremonies, the arts and science – with coverage ranging from the Great Fire of Hamburg to Queen Victoria's fancy dress ball at Buckingham Palace - both which feature in the first issue.

In *The Illustrated London News Historical Archive* Gale gives students and researchers unprecedented online access to the entire run of the *ILN* from its first publication on 14 May 1842 to its last in 2003. Each page has been digitally reproduced in full colour and the text of each article and caption is full-text searchable with hit-term highlighting and links to corresponding illustrations. The addition of article and illustration categories allows users to narrow searches and pinpoint results. Facsimiles of these articles and illustrations can be viewed, printed and saved either individually or in the context of the page in which they appear. Wherever possible Gale has included Special Numbers and presentation pieces published by the *ILN* for important events such as coronations or royal funerals.

Today, Gale brings more than 150 years of social, cultural and political history to modern researchers in easy, convenient digital format. Use this remarkable resource to support scholarly and enthusiast research in social history, fashion, theatre, media, literature, advertising, graphic design and politics, as well as those interested in genealogy.

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## Contributors

The popularity of the *ILN* attracted great artists and draughtsmen to cover wars, royal events, scientific invention, and exploration. In 1855 it launched the world's first colour supplement. Over the years the publication played host to distinguished contributors including Robert Louis Stevenson, Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy, Wilkie Collins, Rudyard Kipling, and Agatha Christie; and artists such as Melton Prior, William Heath Robinson, F Matania, Mabel Lucie Atwell and H.M. Bateman. The *ILN* was ground-breaking at launch and continued to push the boundaries of journalism throughout its history.

## Areas of interest

### Politics

At the forefront of the *ILN*'s reporting was political life through the 19th and 20th centuries. Fine illustrations chronicle the great statesmen of the Victorian era. In later years, the *ILN* documented major political players during the two world wars and the years in between.

### Travel

From the engravings of its early issues, the *ILN* strove to bring the world to its readership, reporting globally on people and places within the Empire and beyond.

### Social History

The *ILN* chronicled through pictures the development of domestic, industrial and political life over every strata of society including: servants, female suffrage, strikes, homes, crime leisure, emigration, and religion and food.

### War

The *ILN* provided invaluable war imagery across 160 years including the Crimean War, the American Civil War and the Boer War, the First World War and World War II.

### Science, Medicine and Progress

The *ILN* brought its readers engravings of the first letterbox in London and explanations of how an early light bulb might work. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries the *ILN* was a rich source of engravings, illustrations and photographs capturing developments in construction, transport, communications, healthcare and science.

## ILN Special Issues - Global Coverage

- French Revolution - 23 December 1848
- Queen's visit to Ireland: Queen Victoria - 11 August 1849
- Rome: Illustrated and Described - 4 May 1850
- Great Exhibition- 26 April 1851
- Oriental Travel - 29 November 1851
- Japan and the Russian war - 8 April 1854
- Napoleon: Visit to England - 28 April 1855
- Paris International Exhibition- 11 May 1867
- Imperial Coronation at Moscow - 9 June 1883
- Trouble in the Transvaal - 11 January 1896
- Alone in Unknown Africa - 24 October 1903
- Japanese Artists and the War - 26 March 1904
- Revolution in Portugal - 15 October 1910
- Imperial Russia: Her Power and Her Progress - 4 July 1914
- South Africa - 8 October 1927
- Everest Flight Photographs - 29 April 1933
- Netherlands - 10 September 1938
- Munich Crisis- 8 October 1938
- Royal Tour of Australia, New Zealand, Kenya and Ceylon - 9 February 1952
- Coronation Week: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II - 30 May 1953
- Royal Visit to Canada and to USA - 26 October 1957
- Wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer - August 1981
- Victory 45 - Summer 1994

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