

IN THE NEWS

Looking back 100 years

The Law Pits Its Wits Against The Criminal Zigomar!

Barber's Electric Picture Palace 1911



The above picture of the building appeared in Barber's own publication 'From Workhouse to Lord Mayor' 1937 capturing the cinema in its early years. It is probably pre-1920 judging from the clothes of the people standing in the foreground.

Barber's Electric Picture Palace at Wolverton has just been opened (Monday 18th December 1911), by the proprietor, George H. Barber Esq. from Stoke-on-Trent, a pioneer cinema exhibitor.

The new French film Zigomar is currently being shown. Directed by Victorin-Hippolyte Jasset and starring Alexandre Arquilliere as the dastardly highwayman Zigomar, with Charles Krauss as the intrepid detective Nick Carter, this is a wonderful treat for the railway workers of Wolverton Works and their families.

The fine building is well-ventilated with ample exits and sprayed daily with Jeyes Fluid. It is similar to the architecture of the great Works itself, faces onto Stratford Road and is powered by its own gas generator. The films are screened against a fine white-painted wall.

The pianist Mr Oliver Thorneycroft accompanying this exciting drama is considered to be very talented. The cinema seats 650 including a balcony and adult admission is 3d & 9d.

Zigomar's triumph, or the extraordinary luck of an adventurer



Josette Andriot, Alexandre Arquilliere and Camille Bardou in Victorin Jasset's Zigomar Against Nick Carter.

Paris, 22 March Who said that Zigomar was dead and buried in the ruins after the release of the first title of the series in September 1911? The next episode in the adventures of the Master of Crime, the wicked Zigomar played by Alexandre Arquilliere, has just been released by the Eclair and Victorin Jasset film company. Zigomar against Nick Carter, with the King of detectives played by Henry Krauss, is a large cinematic novel in four parts. The first chapter, Zigomar Succeds, is being released today and is already in great demand by theater owners. Its success seems to be assured.

COMPLIMENTARY PASS for exhibiting bills

Barber's Picture Palace,
STRATFORD ROAD, WOLVERTON.

Proprietor: G. H. BARBER.
Assistant & Sales Manager: J. WOOD.

This ticket admits ONE on payment of 6d. to SEE, SEAT, OR to USE SEAT.

To obtain Complimentary Passes in Wolverton, Wolverhampton & Walsley, apply to the Proprietor, Barber's Picture Palace, Stratford Road, Wolverton, or to the Assistant & Sales Manager, J. WOOD, at the same address.

The Management reserves the right to refuse admission.

THE WOLVERTON EXPRESS, AUGUST 4, 1911

GOOD NEWS FOR WOLVERTON.

BARBER,

OF PICTURE FAME in the Staff-cliffe Picture, has secured a site in WOLVERTON for one of his Up-to-Date

ELECTRIC PICTURE PALACES.

Building Operations will be commenced at once and completed as early as possible.

PENNY STRATFORD.
A sad fatality occurred in London when a young Penny Stratford, named Arthur Green, 26, lost his life while swimming in the Serpentine. He was the son of the late Mr. T. Usher Green, who died about a year ago. The inquest was held on Friday, when a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned. The funeral took place at the Finsbury Street Church on Saturday. The young man was a member of the "Penny Stratford" Club.

longing for a much-needed rain. It has been difficult to plant any kind of winter greens, and more difficult to keep them alive, while apples and plums are dropping from the trees in large quantities, and the root crops are at a standstill. Harvest week however, is going on apace and the unusual sight of corn stacked in July has been common this year.

PICTURE PALACE.—During the last three weeks a splendid range of star pictures have been displayed before crowded houses, but these will be surpassed by a magnificent picture depicting the great Delhi Durbar, Coronation of their Majesties, King George V. and Queen Mary, March Past and Review, and Presentation of Colours, etc., which have been secured at a great expense by the management. This excellent film will be displayed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, January 11th, 12th, and 13th, and to ensure seating accommodation, seats should be booked in advance. A good range of pictures has been secured for the coming week, as follows: A great and thrilling picture of the Strike at Little Johnny Mine; a very funny comic, Dr. Brain, Police and Harvest's Wife; Hanch's New Barber; Veron of the Poppy; and Three Boys and a Woman's Wit; Hide for a Hide; Bill mends the Baby; and Child Crusoe.

The Wolverton Express, January 5th 1912

PICTURE PALACE.—An excellent program of pictures has been submitted during the past week, and the management have been very successful in securing a program equally as good for the coming week. The entertainments have been a success, and packed audiences have been in evidence each evening. The heating of the hall is now completed, and everything is of an up-to-date character. The star pictures for the coming week are: "Brand of Fear," and "Foreign Spy," which are of a thrilling character from beginning to end. Other pictures are: "When a Man's Married," "He did admire his book," "Foreign Spy," a great and thrilling picture, "Brewer's Warpath," a very fine comic; "On the War Path," a thrilling picture that will appeal to all classes; "Mansuet's Crusade," "Bill, the Press Messenger," "A Sailor's Love Letter," "Heat Wave," "Speedy," as "Telegraph Boy." Other particulars will be seen in our advertisement columns.

The Wolverton Express, December 29th 1911

The Palace stayed open as a cinema for 50 years but closed in 1961 when the then owner died. The Electric Picture Palace Centenary Project 1911 - 2011 is a local campaign to buy the building and recognise the heritage of cinema in Milton Keynes.