



LEWIS CARROLL

at the History of Science Museum, Oxford

**HISTORY
OF SCIENCE
MUSEUM**



WHO WAS LEWIS CARROLL?

- ▶ Lewis Carroll is best known as the author of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*
- ▶ He lived in Oxford and worked teaching mathematics at Christ Church college, Oxford University
- ▶ Although he wrote his books as Lewis Carroll, his real name was Charles Dodgson
- ▶ He was a very keen photographer and took thousands of pictures of landscapes, statues, paintings and animals, as well as people.



Photo of Alice Liddell, the inspiration for the Alice in the books, taken by Lewis Carroll

A PHOTO FROM OUR COLLECTION

- ▶ Lewis Carroll took this picture in 1863 of Annie Rogers and Mary Jackson
- ▶ They are pretending to be Queen Eleanor (Annie standing on the right) and her enemy, Fair Rosamund (Mary kneeling on the left)
- ▶ Queen Eleanor decided to kill her rival and is shown offering her the choice of dying by poison or by being stabbed with a knife.
- ▶ Annie Rogers grew up to champion the education of women and girls. She was offered a place at Oxford University but was not allowed to take her place when the university realised she was a woman.



Annie Rogers and Mary Jackson taken by Lewis Carroll , History of Science Museum, Oxford

LEWIS CARROLL'S PHOTOGRAPHY KIT

- ▶ Taking photographs could be a very complicated process in Victorian times
- ▶ It involved moving around a large camera as well as jars of chemicals, like the ones kept in this box
- ▶ This way of taking photographs was known as the 'wet collodion process'. Photographs had to be developed on the spot using chemicals.
- ▶ On the lid of the box are the initials, 'C.L.D', standing for Lewis Carroll's real name, Charles Lutwidge Dodgson.



Lewis Carroll's box of photographic chemicals from the History of Science Museum, Oxford

'WONDERLAND' MAGIC LANTERN SLIDES

- ▶ Before films, people enjoyed seeing stories retold in public using Magic Lantern slides. These would have been projected on to a large screen.
- ▶ These slides retell the story of Alice in Wonderland and are from our collection at the History of Science Museum.
- ▶ There are 24 glass slides in the set and they have been painted by hand. They were made in the early 1900s

