

History Museum at Manchester from 6-21 August and to Rotherham from 6-18 September. Don't miss the chance of seeing this fascinating exhibition.

Hiring charges

- Hire of the Association's exhibition boards: £40

- Hire of exhibition material – laminated artefacts: £30

- Hire of exhibition material – laminated photographs: £30

- Hire of exhibition boards: £50

- Cost of reproducing photographs: £20 per photograph

Please note: if materials for exhibition purposes are required for more than two weeks, the cost will be greater.

In brief

The plaque at Montrose

The Secretary, Natalia Benjamin, was notified from different sources that the plaque that had been unveiled by Tom Borland at Mall Park House in Montrose was simply not there. It had vanished! After several months, it was finally found by the rubbish bins of the flats in Mall Park House and has now been firmly fixed to the wall by a friend of Tom's.

Wanted

- We have a nearly complete set of "Amistad" – the paper produced by the Basque Boys' Training Committee, but two numbers are missing: No.3 September/October 1940 and No.13 September 1941, as well as several covers. If anyone has these or knows where to find them, please contact the Secretary Natalia Benjamin on 01865 459744.

- Can anyone remember anything about Consuelito Carmona? She helped the *niños* learn the dances for their shows, especially in the north, and appeared herself in many of them. Again, if you have information, contact the Secretary.

Research

Five students, undergraduates from Bristol University, Newcastle University, the LSE and Sheffield University are currently working on aspects of the Spanish Civil War and the *niños*

for their final year dissertation. They have been helped by the Secretary in finding materials and have consulted the archives.

Erratum

Nobody noticed, but in Newsletter No.12, the picture we claimed to be Shornells (page 8) was in fact Hutton Hall! Below is a photograph of Shornells.

Tres poemas

Adiós

by Ramonchu, Amistad No 19, May/June 1942

Despedíanse los vascos
para irse en el *Habana*
hacia Inglaterra con rumbo
niños y niñas marchaban.

Despedíanse de sus padres
que muy tristes se quedaban
los suspiros les salían
y los ojos le lloraban.

Adiós decían los padres.
Adiós también al *Habana*.
Adiós dicen los amigos
Para los niños que marchan.

Pasan los Años

by Luisito, Amistad No 19, May/June 1942

Pasan los años
Cual ojas de un libro,
tristes por la guerra
que ellos han traído.
No son de verano,
ni de primavera,
ni de inviernos fríos,
que son todo uno
de sangre y de fuego,
cadáveres yertos
y de cementerios.
Esto trajo Franco
con brutal intento:
un segundo Hitler!
Pronto caerá muerto.
Pues los niños crecen
Para vengar esto.
Pasan los años

De sangre y de fuego.

Recuerdo

by Antonio Amistad No 9 April 1941

Cuando yo era pequeño
tuve amor de hogar,
pero no por mucho tiempo
pues lo tuve que dejar.

Por librarme de amargaduras
de lloros y descontentos,
tuve yo que refugiarme
en este país extranjero.

Dejé yo mi amado hogar,
dejé el amor maternal;
por librar mi triste vida
perdí la felicidad.

Un día, yo bien recuerdo
la despedida final:
padre, madre y los hermanos
todos querían llorar
pero por darme alegría
tuvieron que disimular
el llanto que les salía.

Por darme, pues, alegría,
sacrificáronse ellos;
por darme, pues, alegría,
la felicidad ha muerto.

Did you know?

Footballers

Two *niños vascos* Raimundo Pérez Lezana and Emilio Aldecoa Gómez each played football professionally in Britain for local clubs and league clubs (Coventry and Wolverhampton). They each played, at different times, for Athletic Bilbao and each represented Spain once in their careers. Lezana was a legendary Spanish goalkeeper and is considered a "revolutionary" player in that he introduced to Spanish football new techniques that he had picked up while he lived and played in England, techniques that included throwing the ball into play and moving out of your area to meet an aerial ball. Emilio Aldecoa went on to become coach and manager to Gerona and Real Valladolid.

Forthcoming events

IBMT commemoration

The annual IBMT ceremony at Jubilee Gardens will be held this year on 3 July. It honours the British and Irish International Brigaders and starts at 1pm. Tube: Waterloo.

Lecture

The second annual lecture of the Association will be given by Professor Paul Preston on Saturday



The Montrose plaque being reinstalled (left) and Shornells (right). See "In brief".