

# Short Stories

## FRANK RICHARDS

8 August 1876 – 24 Dec 1961

**F**rank Richards was one of the most prolific children's authors of all time. Born Charles Hamilton, his first published work was a short story issued when he was just 17. His total output was estimated to be in excess of 75,000,000 words by the *Guinness Book of Records*, writing under 28 different pen names.



Richards's most famous fictional creation is undoubtedly Billy Bunter. The overweight tuck scoffer began life as a fairly minor character in the Greyfriars School stories printed in *Magnet*. Richards also created Tom Merry, who, along with all the boys at St Jim's, was a stalwart of *Gem* magazine until it was closed in 1939. Meanwhile Bunter and Co. survived *Magnet*'s closure through books, television, and the theatre. *With such a huge bibliography, we have chosen to concentrate on books by Frank Richards, but have also included a round-up of all the rarest magazines to feature his work.*

### FRANK RICHARDS UK BIBLIOGRAPHY

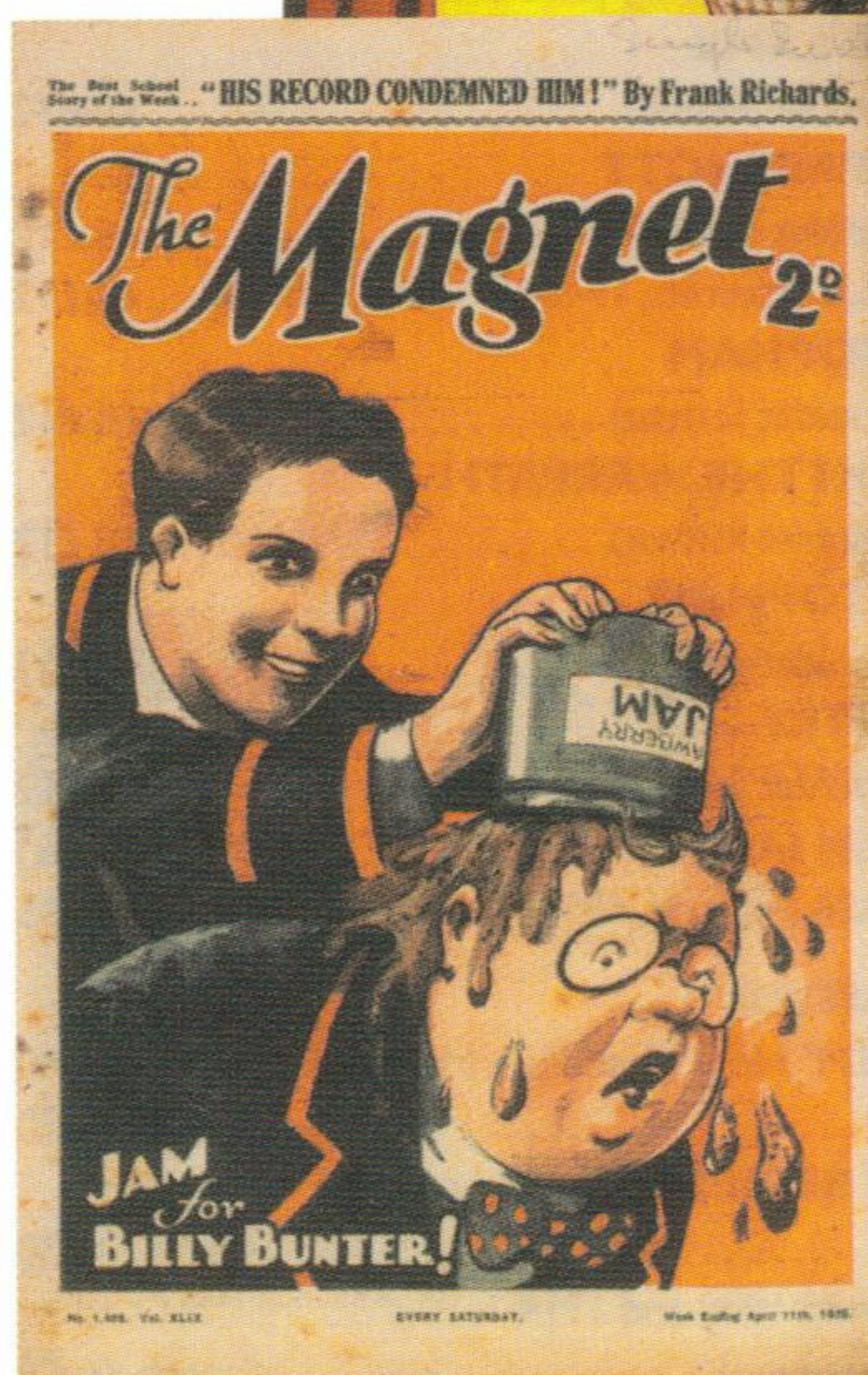
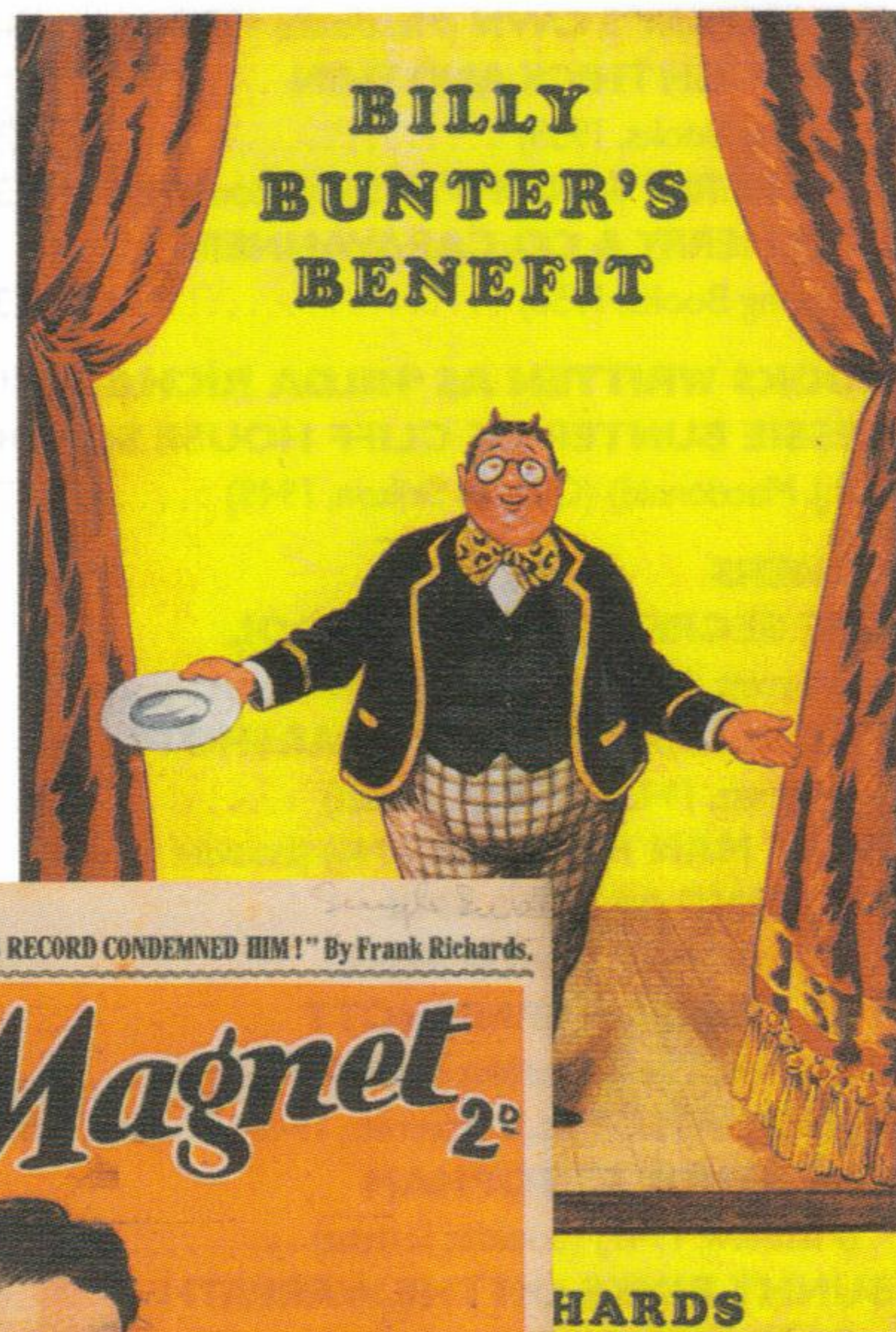
A guide to current values of first editions in VG condition without (and with) dustjackets

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- BILLY BUNTER OF GREYFRIARS SCHOOL** (illus. by R.J. Macdonald) (Charles Skilton, 1947) . . . . . £15-£20 (£60-£80)
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- BILLY BUNTER'S BEANFEAST** (illus. by R.J. Macdonald) (Cassell, 1952) . . . . . £8-£10 (£40-£50)
- BILLY BUNTER'S BRAINWAVE** (illus. by R.J. Macdonald) (Cassell, 1953) . . . . . £8-£10 (£35-£45)
- BILLY BUNTER'S FIRST CASE** (illus. by R.J. Macdonald) (Cassell, 1953) . . . . . £8-£10 (£35-£45)
- BILLY BUNTER'S OWN** (annual) (Mandeville/Oxenhoath Press, [1953-61]) (some issued with wrappers, thus add 50%) each £10-£15
- BILLY BUNTER THE BOLD** (illus. by R.J. Macdonald) (Cassell, 1954) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
- BUNTER DOES HIS BEST** (illus. by R.J. Macdonald) (Cassell, 1954) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
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- LORD BILLY BUNTER** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1956) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
- THE BANISHING OF BILLY BUNTER** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1956) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
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- BUNTER COMES FOR CHRISTMAS** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1959) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
- BUNTER THE BAD LAD** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1960) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
- BUNTER KEEPS IT DARK** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1960) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£35)
- BILLY BUNTER'S TREASURE-HUNT** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1961) . . . . . £6-£8 (£25-£30)
- BILLY BUNTER AT BUTLINS** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1961) . . . . . £4-£6 (£20-£25)
- BILLY BUNTER AT BUTLINS** (Butlin's 'Beaver Club' edition; issued with TV tie-in dj) (Cassell, 1961) . . . . . £4-£6 (£10-£15)
- BUNTER THE VENTRILOQUIST** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1961) . . . . . £4-£6 (£25-£35)
- BUNTER THE CARAVANNER** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1962) . . . . . £4-£6 (£20-£25)
- BILLY BUNTER'S BODYGUARD** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1962) . . . . . £4-£6 (£20-£25)
- BIG CHIEF BUNTER** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1963) . . . . . £4-£6 (£20-£25)
- JUST LIKE BUNTER** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1963) . . . . . £4-£6 (£20-£25)
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- THANKS TO BUNTER** (illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1964) . . . . . £4-£6 (£20-£25)

- BUNTER THE SPORTSMAN**  
illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1965) ..... £4-£6 (£20-£25)
- BUNTER'S LAST FLING**  
(illus. by C.H. Chapman) (Cassell, 1965) ..... £4-£6 (£20-£25)
- BUNTER THE TOUGH GUY OF GREYFRIARS**  
(Armada paperbacks 1965) ..... £3-£4
- BUNTER AND THE PHANTOM OF THE TOWERS**  
(Armada paperbacks 1965) ..... £3-£4
- BUNTER'S HOLIDAY CRUISE**  
(Armada paperbacks 1965) ..... £3-£4
- BUNTER THE RACKETEER** (Armada paperbacks 1965). £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTERS HOLIDAY ANNUAL**  
(Odhams 1966) ..... £8-£10
- BEST OF MAGNET AND GEM**  
(Fleetway 1967) (large format card wraps) ..... £6-£8
- BILLY BUNTER'S BIG TOP** (Merlin paperback 1967).... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER AND THE MAN FROM SOUTH AMERICA** (Merlin paperback 1967)..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER AND THE SCHOOL REBELLION**  
(Merlin paperback 1967) ..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER AND THE SECRET ENEMY**  
(Merlin paperback 1967) ..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER AND THE CROOKED CAPTAIN**  
(Merlin paperback 1968) ..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER'S CONVICT** (Merlin paperback 1968).. £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER- SPORTSMAN**  
(Merlin paperback 1968) ..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER AND THE BANK ROBBER**  
(Merlin paperback 1968) ..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER'S BAD LUCK**  
(Armada paperbacks 1971) ..... £3-£4
- BILLY BUNTER'S BARGAIN** (Armada paperbacks 1971) £3-£4
- 'JACK' BOOKS**
- JACK OF ALL TRADES** (Mandeville, 1950) .. £6-£8 (£20-£30)
- JACK'S THE LAD** (Spring Books, 1957)..... £4-£6 (£15-£20)
- JACK OF THE CIRCUS** (Spring Books, 1957) £4-£6 (£15-£20)
- BOOKS WRITTEN AS 'MARTIN CLIFFORD'**
- THE SECRET OF THE STUDY**  
(Mandeville, 1949) ..... £4-£6 (£15-£18)
- TALBOT'S SECRET** (Mandeville, 1949)..... £4-£6 (£15-£18)
- TOM MERRY AND CO OF ST JIM'S**  
(Mandeville, 1949) ..... £4-£6 (£15-£18)
- TOM MERRY'S ANNUAL** (Mandeville, 1949).. £6-£7 (£12-£15)
- RALLYING ROUND GUSSY**  
(Mandeville, 1950) ..... £4-£6 (£15-£20)
- TOM MERRY'S OWN** (Mandeville 1950) ..... £5-£6 (£12-£15)
- THE SCAPEGRACE OF ST JIM'S**  
(Mandeville, 1951) ..... £4-£6 (£15-£18)
- THE NEW TOM MERRY'S OWN**  
(Mandeville 1951) ..... £5-£6 (£10-£15)
- THE RIVALS OF ROOKWOOD** (written under the pseudonym 'Owen Conquest') (Mandeville, 1951) ..... £3-£4 (£10-£15)
- TOM MERRY'S SECRET**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only)..... £4-£6
- TOM MERRY'S RIVAL** (Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) .. £4-£6
- THE MAN FROM THE PAST**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only)..... £3-£4
- WHO RAGGED RAILTON?**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only)..... £3-£4



- SKIMPOLE'S SNAPSHOT**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) ..... £3-£4
- TROUBLE FOR TRIMBLE**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) ..... £3-£4
- D'ARCY IN DANGER** (Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) .. £3-£4
- D'ARCY ON THE WARPATH**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) ..... £3-£4
- D'ARCY'S DISAPPEARANCE**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) ..... £3-£4
- D'ARCY THE REFORMER**  
(Hamilton, 1952 paperback only) ..... £3-£4
- D'ARCY'S DAY OFF** (Hamilton, 1952 paperback only).... £3-£4
- TOM MERRY'S OWN** (Mandeville 1952) ..... £5-£6 (£10-£15)
- TROUBLE FOR TOM MERRY**  
(Spring Books, 1953) ..... £3-£4 (£8-£12)
- DOWN AND OUT** (Spring Books, 1953) ..... £3-£4 (£8-£12)
- TOM MERRY'S OWN** (Mandeville 1953)..... £5-£6 (£10-£15)
- CARDEW'S CATCH** (Spring Books, 1954)..... £3-£4 (£8-£12)
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(Spring Books, 1954) ..... £3-£4 (£8-£12)

- TOM MERRY'S OWN** (Mandeville 1954) . . . . . £5-£6 (**£10-£15**)  
**THROUGH THICK AND THIN**  
(Spring Books, 1955) . . . . . £3-£4 (**£8-£12**)  
**TOM MERRY'S TRIUMPH** (Spring Books, 1956) . £3-£4 (**£8-£12**)  
**TOM MERRY & CO, CARAVANNERS**  
(Spring Books, 1956) . . . . . £3-£4 (**£7-£10**)

**BOOKS WRITTEN AS 'HILDA RICHARDS'**

- BESSIE BUNTER OF CLIFF HOUSE SCHOOL** (illus. by  
R.J. Macdonald) (Charles Skilton, 1949) . . . . . £15-£20 (**£60-£80**)

**OTHERS**

- THE SECRET OF THE SCHOOL**  
(Merrett, 1946) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**THE BLACK SHEEP OF SPARSHOTT**  
(Merrett, 1946) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**FIRST MAN IN** (Merrett, 1946) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**LOOKING AFTER LAMB**  
(Merrett, 1946) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**THE HERO OF SPARSHOTT**  
(Merrett, 1946) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**PLUCK WILL TELL** (Merrett, 1946) (booklet format) . . £8-£12  
**TOP STUDY AT TOPHAM**  
(Matthew, 1947) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**BUNNY BINKS ON THE WARPATH**  
(Matthew, 1947) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**THE DANDY OF TOPHAM**  
(Matthew, 1947) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**SENT TO COVENTRY**  
(Matthew, 1947) (booklet format) . . . . . £8-£12  
**THE LONE TEXAN** (Atlantic, 1954) . . . . . £15-£20 (**£25-£35**)  
**THE LONE TEXAN** (Atlantic, 1954) (paperback ed.) . . £10-£15

**RICHARDS RARITIES**

- 'HALFPENNY GEM'** No. 3 (first 'Tom Merry' Story) . . £30-£40  
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Issues published between 1915 and 1925 . . . . . each £6-£8  
Issues published between 1925 and 1931 . . . . . each £4-£6  
Issues published between 1931 and 1939  
(other than issues with W.E. Johns serial instalments) . . each £4-£6

**'THE MAGNET'**

- Number 1 . . . . . £200-£300  
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Number 2 . . . . . £40-£60  
Number 3 . . . . . £30-£40  
Issues published between 1908 and 1915  
(red covers; excluding double numbers) . . . . . each £6-£8  
Double numbers published between 1908 and 1915 . . each £15-£20  
Issues published between 1915 and 1922  
(in blue and white covers) . . . . . each £6-£8  
Issues published between 1922 and 1926  
(in blue and orange covers) . . . . . each £6-£8  
Issues published between 1927 and 1933  
(in blue and orange covers) . . . . . each £8-£12  
Issues published between 1934 and 1937  
(in blue and orange covers) . . . . . each £6-£8

Issues published between 1937 and 1940

- (in salmon-coloured covers) . . . . . each £4-£6  
Final number (1,683) . . . . . £8-£12

**'BOYS' FRIEND LIBRARY': FIRST SERIES**

- Number 30: 'Tom Merry and Co' . . . . . £20-£30  
Number 38: 'Tom Merry's Conquest' . . . . . £20-£30  
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Number 276: 'Through Thick and Thin' . . . . . £15-£20  
Number 288: 'The Boy Without a Name' . . . . . £20-£30  
Number 328: 'Rivals and Chums' . . . . . £20-£30  
Number 367: 'Cousin Ethel's Schooldays' . . . . . £15-£20  
Number 383: 'After Lights Out' . . . . . £15-£20  
Number 417: 'Frank Richards' Schooldays' . . . . . £10-£15

**'BOYS' FRIEND LIBRARY': NEW SERIES**

- 'Rio Kid' issues (all under the 'Ralph Redway' byline) . . . each £8-£12  
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(all under the 'Charles Hamilton' byline) . . . . . each £8-£12

**'THE GREYFRIARS HOLIDAY ANNUAL'**

- (note: issues retaining their tissue wrappers sell for 25%-35% more)  
1920 issue (published September 1919) . . . . . £30-£40  
1921-1928 issues . . . . . each £30-£40  
1929-1940 issues . . . . . each £20-£30  
1941 (final issue) . . . . . £30-£40

**'BOYS' FRIEND WEEKLY'**

- (issues with 'Rookwood' stories by Owen Conquest)  
Number 715 (first 'Rookwood' issue) . . . . . £15-£20  
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**'GREYFRIARS HERALD': FIRST SERIES (1915)**

- Number 1 . . . . . £30-£40  
Numbers 2-18 . . . . . each £4-£6

**'SCHOOL FRIEND': FIRST SERIES**

- (1919 issues written by Charles Hamilton as 'Hilda Richards')  
Number 1 . . . . . £60-£80  
Numbers 2-6 . . . . . each £10-£15

**'SCHOOLBOYS' OWN LIBRARY'**

- Number 1: 'The Greyfriars Players' . . . . . £30-£40  
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Greyfriars, St Jim's and Rookwood) . . . . . each £8-£12  
Numbers 167-411 (96-page issues featuring  
Rookwood and Cedar Creek) . . . . . each £8-£12  
Numbers 167-411 (96-page issues featuring  
Greyfriars and St Jim's) . . . . . each £4-£6

**'DETECTIVE SERIES'**

- Numbers 1-4 (booklet format) Merrett 1945/6 . . . . . each £12-£15

**'ROMANCE SERIES'**

- Numbers 1-4 (booklet format under the name 'Winston Cardew')  
Merrett 1945/6 . . . . . each £12-£15

**'HEADLAND HOUSE' SERIES**

- Numbers 1-3 (Merrett, 1946) . . . . . each £8-£12

**'MASCOT SCHOOLBOYS' SERIES**

- Numbers 1-4 (Matthews, 1949) . . . . . each £8-£12

**'MASCOT SCHOOLGIRLS' SERIES**

- Numbers 1-4 (Matthews, 1949) . . . . . each £8-£12

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- CHUMS OF LYNWOOD** (Shields, [1940s]) . . . . . £10-£15  
**FOURTH FORM AT LYNWOOD**  
(J.B. Publications, [1940s]) . . . . . £10-£15  
McLouchlin, Maurice (adapter): **BILLY BUNTER'S MYSTERY**  
**CHRISTMAS** (play) (Samuel French, 1959) . . . . . £20-£30