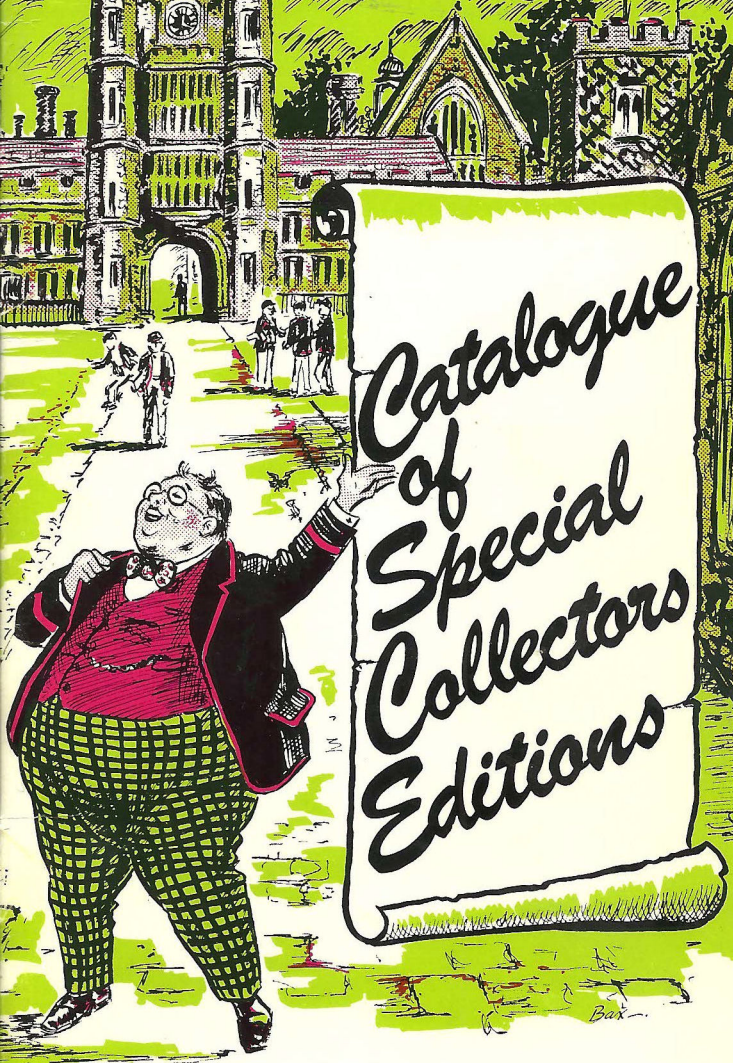


The Greyfriars Book Club



DE LUXE VOLUMES FOR THE DEDICATED COLLECTOR OF THE MOST RARE ASSEMBLAGE OF PRE-WAR WEEKLY MAGAZINES, OMNIUM GATHERUM IN FACSIMILE FORM... FROM

HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

27a Arterberry Road, Wimbledon
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incorporating THE GREYFRIARS PRESS publishers.





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The Greyfriars Book Club

The Greyfriars Book Club publications are strictly limited de luxe numbered editions of the rarest collections of pre-war AP papers, mainly Magnet, Gem &c. They are directed solely to the arcane minority of dedicated collectors.

Readers should indicate their requirements in the spaces provided on the Pledge Form and mail it back as soon as possible. The sequence of publication will be varied, depending on preponderance of subscriptions for each title. A pro-forma invoice will be submitted as each volume selected becomes due for publication. Normally, at two-monthly intervals.

Undertakings are in no way binding, and advance orders may be cancelled later, if desired.

Note

In the present inflationary period of constantly escalating production costs, it is difficult to provide and adhere to firm prices for books whose publication may span nearly a four-year period from 1976 to 1980. Accordingly, all prices projected into the future must be considered as provisional, though we will, of course, make every effort to keep our tariffs stable.



WILLIAM,
GEORGE,
BUNTER—

THE WORST BOY AT GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

THE FIRST WHARTON REBEL SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 879 to 888)

1924·25

How could Harry Wharton have possibly foreseen that because of a football match and a missed meeting with his Uncle — just off on a dangerous mission abroad — he would be almost totally ruined? A chain of misunderstandings, misadventures, recklessness, plus his own obstinate pride, eventually make him the worst boy at Greyfriars. As such, he loses his position as Head boy of the Remove, has a fight with Bob Cherry the new Captain, and is then finally expelled.



Noel Wood-Smith, chief sub-editor at the time, claimed that this series brought more letters from anxious readers about the change in Wharton, than he could ever remember from any previous story. Such was the impact it had on readers. Argument still rages as to whether this series was better than the second 'Downfall' series of 1932 (Howard Baker Vol. 6), and so here is an excellent chance to compare them. Original copies are almost impossible to obtain. A most powerful and dramatic series.

LODER FOR CAPTAIN

Frank Richards

No.2

LODER FOR CAPTAIN SERIES

(Magnet issue Nos 923 to 931)

1925

Gerald Loder, a prefect of the Greyfriars Sixth Form, was one of Frank Richards' most unpleasant characters. Bully, black sheep, blackguard and scoundrel, he was a tormentor of fags and was always looking for a chance to catch some junior in a petty misdemeanour, and then . . . his ashplant would be heavy in motion!



George Wingate, on the other hand, the popular Captain of Greyfriars, was the complete opposite in every way. He was a hero to almost everyone at the school, except of course, Loder! When the Bully of the Sixth schemed, through Wingate minor of the Third, to disgrace Wingate and force him to resign the captaincy, his ambition was realised. Loder was made Captain of Greyfriars. His dream had come true, for a time.

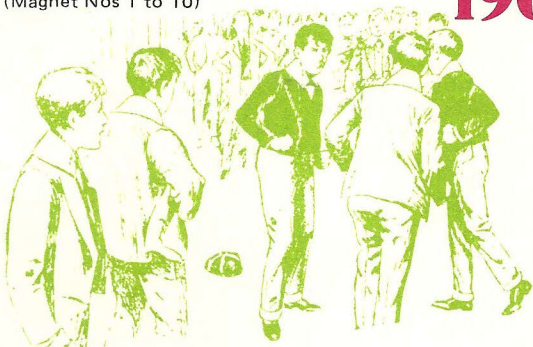
THE MAKING OF HARRY WHARTON

Frank Richards

THE FIRST TEN MAGNETS

(Magnet Nos 1 to 10)

1908



When Colonel James Wharton returned from India, he discovered that his ward and nephew Harry Wharton had run wild, and sent him to his old school of Greyfriars, to be disciplined. Future generations of Magnet readers were delighted that he did, for in succeeding years, whenever Frank Richards' subject was the proud, headstrong Captain of the Remove, his writing reached new heights.

It is also fascinating to be introduced to the very early Billy Bunter, Frank Nugent, Bob Cherry, Marjorie Hazeldene &c. Students of the illustrative side of the Magnet will be interested to know that the original artist was Hutton Mitchell, and officially and editorially the colour of the front cover was described as 'golden'. To collectors, it marks the beginning of the 'red' Magnet era.

HARRY WHARTON & CO. IN INDIA

Frank Richards

No.4

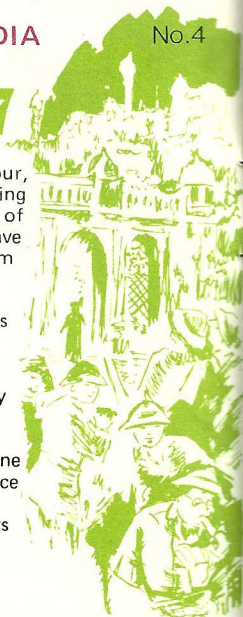
THE INDIA SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 960 to 970)

1927

Hurree Janset Ram Singh, Nabob of Bhanipur, but better known as 'Inky' had a most interesting history before coming to Greyfriars, as readers of THE WORLD OF FRANK RICHARDS will have learned. When several local attempts against him were made, Colonel Wharton took charge of a party out to Bhanipur. There, after many exciting adventures, an unscrupulous Uncle was defeated, and the Nabob's kingdom made safe again.

Loyal, cheerful, unselfish and generous. Inky always explained his weird knowledge of the English language thus: 'Before coming to this ludicrous country I studyfully worked under one of the best masters in India'. Here is your chance to meet his tutor, Mook Mookerjee, the Moonshee, and many other colourful characters described so vividly by Frank Richards in this part of the old British Empire.



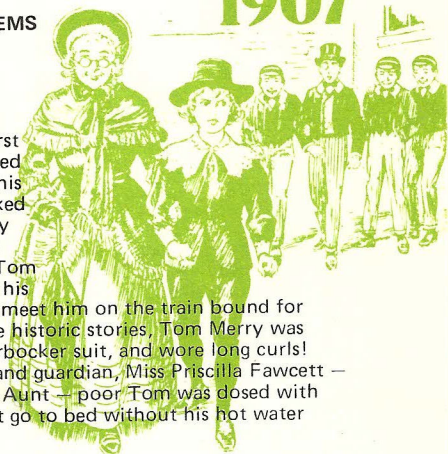
TOM MERRY'S SCHOOLDAYS

Martin Clifford

THE FIRST FIFTEEN GEMS

1907

When Percy Griffith, first editor of the **Gem**, launched the paper in 1907, it was his intention to make it a mixed school-and-adventure-story publication. The first two numbers were not about Tom Merry, who did not make his bow until No 3, when we meet him on the train bound for Clavinger College. In these historic stories, Tom Merry was dressed in a velvet knickerbocker suit, and wore long curls! Fussed over by his nurse and guardian, Miss Priscilla Fawcett — who looked like Charlie's Aunt — poor Tom was dosed with health pills, and could not go to bed without his hot water bottle.



However, Clavinger College did not last for long. When a rich seam of coal was discovered under the school, the boys moved to St. Jim's which had conveniently been transferred from the companion boys' paper **Pluck**.

The six adventure tales in this collection are of course an extra bonus to those who purchase this rare first 15 issues of the early history of Tom Merry of St. Jim's.

PAUL DALLAS AT GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

No.6

THE PAUL DALLAS SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 997 to 1004)

1927

Herbert Vernon Smith, better known as 'Smithy', was one of Frank Richards' greatest creations. The only son of a purse-proud millionaire, he was spoilt, selfish, cool, hard-headed and hard-hearted, and very adult for his years. He gradually reformed, became more likeable, and proved one of the best footballers and cricketers of the Remove. Of course, he slipped back into his old ways when it suited the plot of a story, and in the Paul Dallas collection one sees the Bounder of the Remove back to his black-sheep ways once more.



When Mr. Vernon Smith befriends an orphan and sends him to Greyfriars, Smithy is so overcome with jealousy in mistakenly assuming that Dallas is after his father's money and affections, that he stops at nothing to discredit the new boy. Undoubtedly, the Bounder at his most 'boulderish' in this really splendid series.

THE GREYFRIARS CRUSADERS

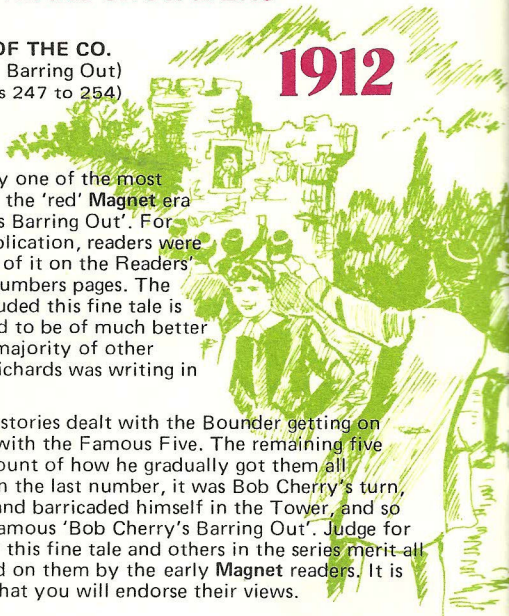
Frank Richards

THE SACKING OF THE CO.
(including Cherry Barring Out)
(Magnet Issue Nos 247 to 254)

1912

Unquestionably one of the most popular stories in the 'red' Magnet era was 'Bob Cherry's Barring Out'. For years after its publication, readers were requesting copies of it on the Readers' wants and back numbers pages. The series, which included this fine tale is generally accepted to be of much better quality than the majority of other material Frank Richards was writing in this period.

The first three stories dealt with the Bounder getting on worsening terms with the Famous Five. The remaining five issues give an account of how he gradually got them all expelled. When, in the last number, it was Bob Cherry's turn, he refused to go and barricaded himself in the Tower, and so this became the famous 'Bob Cherry's Barring Out'. Judge for yourself, whether this fine tale and others in the series merit all the praise lavished on them by the early Magnet readers. It is virtually certain that you will endorse their views.



THE SHEIK OF GREYFRIARS

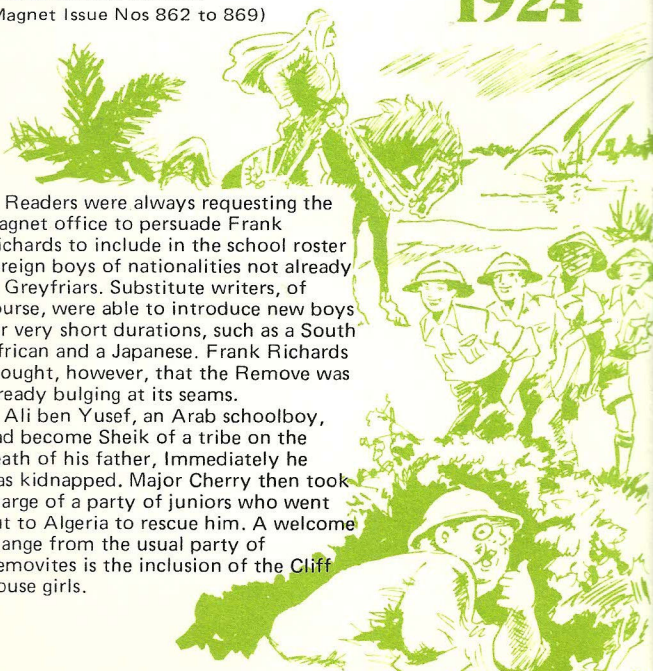
Frank Richards

THE SAHARA SERIES
(Magnet Issue Nos 862 to 869)

1924

Readers were always requesting the Magnet office to persuade Frank Richards to include in the school roster foreign boys of nationalities not already at Greyfriars. Substitute writers, of course, were able to introduce new boys for very short durations, such as a South African and a Japanese. Frank Richards thought, however, that the Remove was already bulging at its seams.

Ali ben Yusef, an Arab schoolboy, had become Sheik of a tribe on the death of his father. Immediately he was kidnapped. Major Cherry then took charge of a party of juniors who went out to Algeria to rescue him. A welcome change from the usual party of Removites is the inclusion of the Cliff House girls.



DICK THE PENMAN

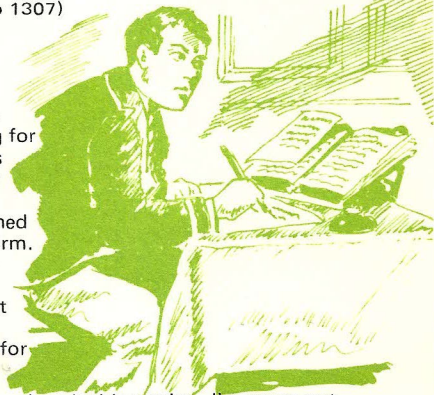
Frank Richards

THE VALENTINE SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 1297 to 1307)

1932-3

Wharton Lodge at the festive Christmas season is always an excellent setting for any new adventure such as that related in the popular 'Dick the Penman' series. James Valentine, a renowned forger, has decided to reform. Fleeing on his motor bike from former cronies, he encounters Mr Quelch, lost and weary, on his way to Wharton Lodge as a guest for the holidays.



Rendering him an extremely valuable service, Jim pours out his heart to the usually grim Form-Master, who decides to befriend him and sends him to Greyfriars at his own expense. At the school, Jim meets tremendous difficulties, not only from his old crook pals — but also from the suspicious Inspector Grimes! A really first class and extremely moving series, written by Frank Richards at the peak of his powers.

HARRY WHARTON & CO. IN AFRICA

Frank Richards

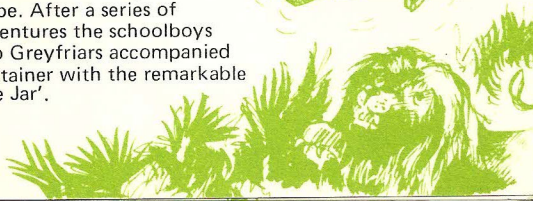
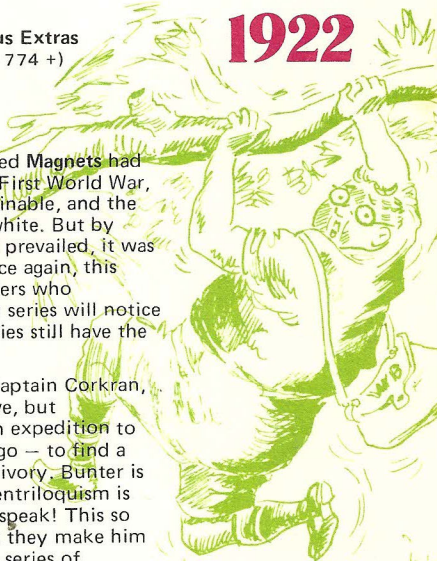
THE CONGO SERIES plus Extras

(Magnet Issue Nos 768 to 774 +)

1922

The original 'red' covered Magnets had been dropped during the First World War, when the dye was unobtainable, and the covers became blue and white. But by 1922, when normal times prevailed, it was decided to give colour once again, this time an orange tint. Readers who purchase this fine holiday series will notice that the opening two stories still have the war-time colour.

Bob Cherry's cousin, Captain Corkran, invites all the Famous Five, but particularly Bunter, on an expedition to darkest Africa — the Congo — to find a hidden hoard of valuable ivory. Bunter is specially needed, as his ventriloquism is required to make an idol speak! This so impresses the natives that they make him chief of the tribe. After a series of hair-raising adventures the schoolboys return safely to Greyfriars accompanied by a faithful retainer with the remarkable name of 'Pickle Jar'.



LEVISON'S RETURN

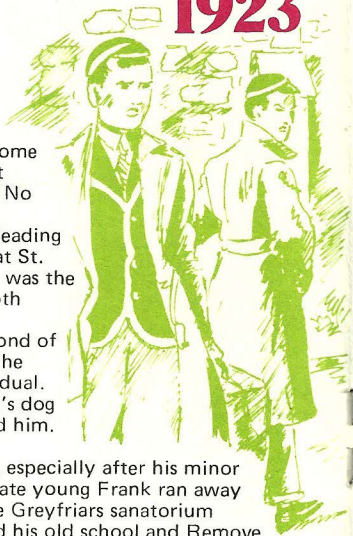
Frank Richards

1923

THE ERNEST LEVISON SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos. 793 to 799 +)

Frank Richards must have had some misgivings when he expelled Ernest Levison from Greyfriars in **Magnet** No 46, for during his short stay in the Remove he had been an excellent leading character. So later he revived him at St. Jim's, with the result that Levison was the only character ever to appear at both schools as a pupil. Mean, sulky, resentful, spiteful, full of malice, fond of drinking, gambling and smoking — he really was a most unpleasant individual. He even tried to poison the St. Jim's dog Towser, because the canine disliked him.



But Levison gradually reformed, especially after his minor Frank joined St. Jim's. At a later date young Frank ran away from St. Jim's and landed up in the Greyfriars sanatorium seriously ill. And so Ernest rejoined his old school and Remove to be near his minor. However, Levison's murky past was not forgotten by his former cronies, and he had a very hard time through the plottings of Skinner and Ponsonby to discredit him. Judge for yourself the tremendously powerful grip that Levison has on you. The **Magnet** readers' loss was undoubtedly the **Gem** readers' gain.

THE FIRST TEN BULLSEYE



1931

The Bullseye was an unusual, now much sought-after paper that ran for 183 issues in the early thirties. Dark blue cover, containing creepy, eerie, chilling, ghostly and bloodcurdling stories. Its editor was Fred Cordwell, who also ran **Film Fun** and the **Kinema Comic**. The exciting anonymous tales mainly featured adult characters, often eccentric or mad millionaires (some for, others against, society) attired in formal dress, complete with spats.

Easily the most famous series reprinted here is 'The House of Thrills', whose author has now been identified as Alfred Edgar, who as 'Barre Lyndon' wrote two internationally famous plays, 'The Man from Half-Moon Street', and 'The Amazing Dr. Clitterhouse'. (Edgar also wrote a later series, 'The Phantom of Cursitor Fields'.)

The **Bullseye** illustrations were every bit as sensational as the stories, Principal artists were the small Irishman, J. Louis Smyth, and the contrasting huge former boxer G. W. Wakefield — better known for his Rookwood and Laurel & Hardy illustrations in **Boys Friend** and **Film Fun**.

The **Bullseye** slogan was 'hitting the target every time', and collectors will certainly score with this volume.

THE TREASURE HUNTERS

Frank Richards

1927

THE FIRST SOUTH SEAS SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 1017 to 1026)



The Magnet editor, C. M. Down, was always searching for new ideas for his series and when A.P. took over Cassells' famous boys' paper **Chums** in early 1927 he found at least one excellent answer. As **Chums** was noted for its exciting pirate and buried treasure tales, why not have Frank Richards write such a holiday series, situated in the South Seas? Thus we find Tom Redwing along with his friends, in search of Black Peter's buried treasure. Looking after Mr. Vernon Smith's large party was his rascally valet Soames, who after much skullduggery and excitement disappeared — to reappear in later stories. The trip was a success, and with Tom Redwing's financial troubles resolved, he was able to return to Greyfriars, his future assured.

NEW BOYS AT GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

THE NEW ARRIVALS

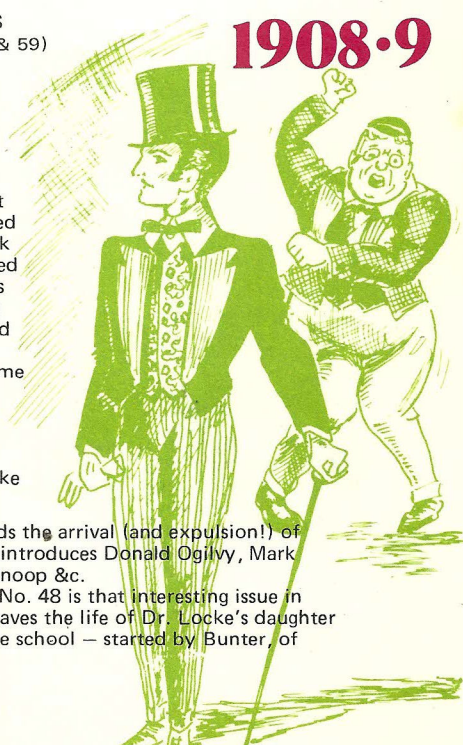
(Magnet Nos 43 to 50 & 59)

One of Frank Richards' most interesting character studies in the pre-First World War 'red' Magnet era was the sophisticated and unscrupulous Greek senior, Ionides — scented dandy of the Greyfriars Sixth. Stories featuring him were always packed with both drama and humour, though for some unexplained reason he was dropped from the saga during the first decade. Here is an excellent chance to make his acquaintance.

The series also records the arrival (and expulsion!) of Ernest Levison. And it introduces Donald Ogilvy, Mark Linley, Sidney James Snoop &c.

In addition, Magnet No. 48 is that interesting issue in which Harry Wharton saves the life of Dr. Locke's daughter Molly, from a fire at the school — started by Bunter, of course.

1908-9

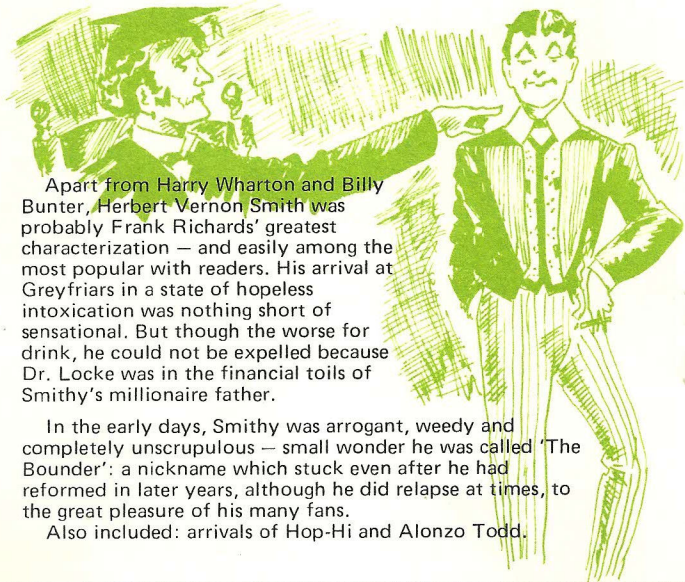


THE BOUNDER OF GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

ARRIVAL OF VERNON SMITH AND OTHERS
(Magnet Nos. 117 to 125)

1910



Apart from Harry Wharton and Billy Bunter, Herbert Vernon Smith was probably Frank Richards' greatest characterization — and easily among the most popular with readers. His arrival at Greyfriars in a state of hopeless intoxication was nothing short of sensational. But though the worse for drink, he could not be expelled because Dr. Locke was in the financial toils of Smithy's millionaire father.

In the early days, Smithy was arrogant, weedy and completely unscrupulous — small wonder he was called 'The Bounder': a nickname which stuck even after he had reformed in later years, although he did relapse at times, to the great pleasure of his many fans.

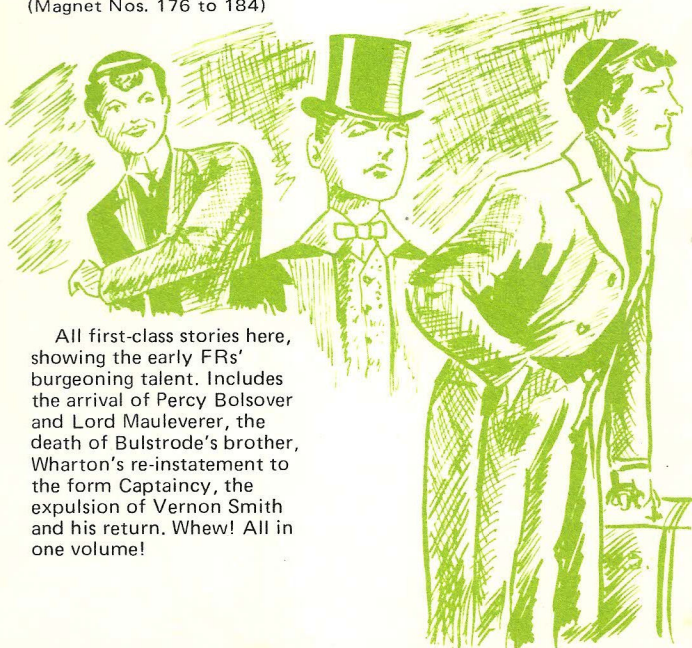
Also included: arrivals of Hop-Hi and Alonzo Todd.

COCK OF THE WALK

Frank Richards

1911

NEW ARRIVALS, EXPULSION AND TRAGEDY SERIES
(Magnet Nos. 176 to 184)



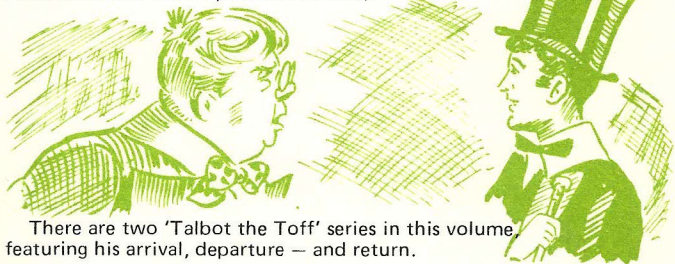
All first-class stories here, showing the early FRs' burgeoning talent. Includes the arrival of Percy Bolsover and Lord Mauleverer, the death of Bulstrode's brother, Wharton's re-instatement to the form Captaincy, the expulsion of Vernon Smith and his return. Whew! All in one volume!

THE TOFF OF ST. JIM'S

Martin Clifford

1914

THE TALBOT SERIES plus extras
(Gem Nos. 334 to 341 plus 351 to 353)



There are two 'Talbot the Toff' series in this volume featuring his arrival, departure – and return.

Talbot was one of the most popular and well-remembered St. Jim's characters ever created by Martin Clifford. This collection from the blue Gem period amply demonstrates why!

Essential to any serious student of the writing/plotting development of FRs' alter ego, Martin Clifford.

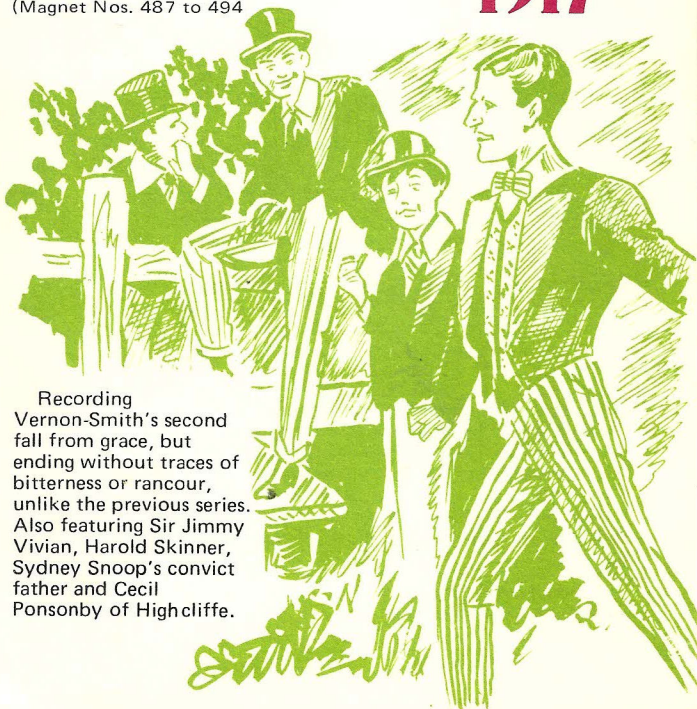
Also, the last of the Gem pre-war summer holiday series, including Lumley-Lumley, Bunter, Cousin Ethel, and a visit to Eastwood House.

FALL OF THE BOUNDER

Frank Richards

FALL OF SMITHY SERIES plus extras
(Magnet Nos. 487 to 494)

1917



Recording Vernon-Smith's second fall from grace, but ending without traces of bitterness or rancour, unlike the previous series. Also featuring Sir Jimmy Vivian, Harold Skinner, Sydney Snoop's convict father and Cecil Ponsonby of Highcliffe.

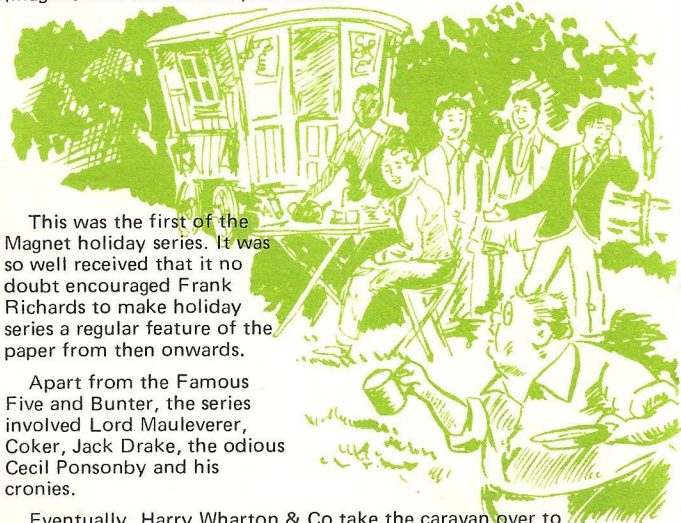
THE SCHOOLBOY CARAVANNERS

Frank Richards

THE CARAVANNING SERIES

(Magnet Nos. 704 to 709 plus extras

1921



This was the first of the Magnet holiday series. It was so well received that it no doubt encouraged Frank Richards to make holiday series a regular feature of the paper from then onwards.

Apart from the Famous Five and Bunter, the series involved Lord Mauleverer, Coker, Jack Drake, the odious Cecil Ponsonby and his cronies.

Eventually, Harry Wharton & Co take the caravan over to France where the series ends in highly dramatic style.

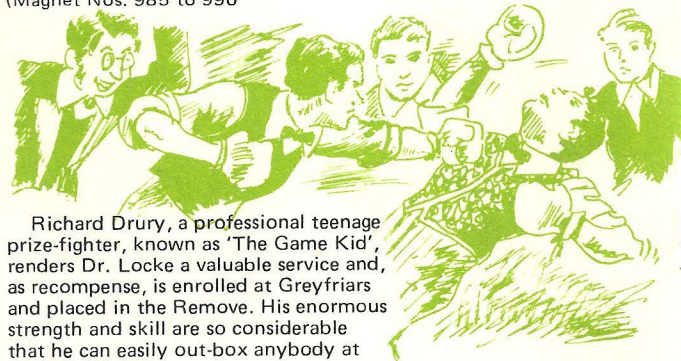
THE BOXER OF GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

THE GAME KID SERIES

(Magnet Nos. 985 to 990

1927



Richard Drury, a professional teenage prize-fighter, known as 'The Game Kid', renders Dr. Locke a valuable service and, as recompense, is enrolled at Greyfriars and placed in the Remove. His enormous strength and skill are so considerable that he can easily out-box anybody at the school. Due to various unfortunate circumstances, he is shunned by the Form and takes up with Cedric Hilton, the fop of the Fifth, who becomes his idol. But eventually he discovers that his hero has feet of clay, is a coward and black sheep. Becoming completely disillusioned, he leaves the school and returns once more to the boxing ring.

An extremely powerful series packed with explosive punches in more ways than one.

THE TOAD OF THE REMOVE

Frank Richards

1927

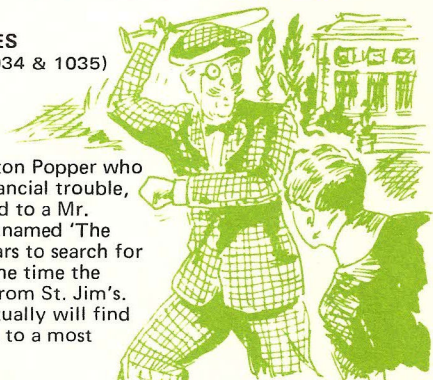
EDGAR BRIGHT SERIES

(Magnet Nos. 1028 to 1034 & 1035)

This time, it is Sir Hilton Popper who finds himself in deep financial trouble, his lands being mortgaged to a Mr. Bright. Bright's son, nicknamed 'The Toad', arrives at Greyfriars to search for a missing will. At the same time the Levison brothers arrive from St. Jim's. Suspense over who eventually will find the Will brings this series to a most dramatic climax.

Included in this excellent volume is Magnet No. 1030, a substitute story by Stanley Austin, reputed to be among the best of the 'ghost' writers in the Magnet and Gem. (During a life dogged with tragedy, he is said to have written his stories between dusk and dawn, other time being devoted to looking after a motherless family.)

The 'Toad' series also records the return of Tom Redwing to the school. A 'single', No. 1035, The Prefect's Secret, shows Gerald Loder in his most unholy light.



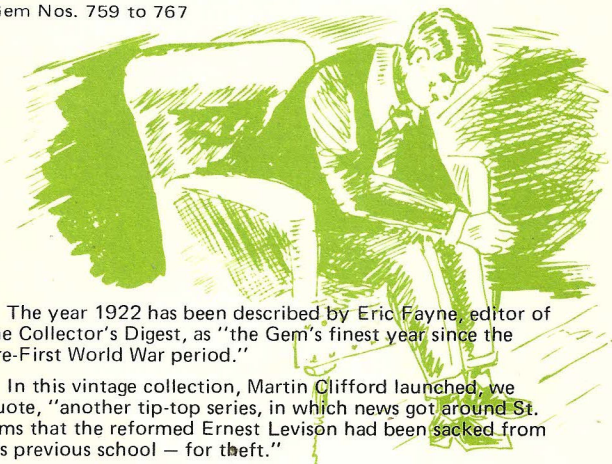
THE OUTCAST OF THE SCHOOL

Martin Clifford

1922

LEVISON IN TROUBLE SERIES plus extras

(Gem Nos. 759 to 767)



The year 1922 has been described by Eric Fayne, editor of the Collector's Digest, as "the Gem's finest year since the pre-First World War period."

In this vintage collection, Martin Clifford launched, we quote, "another tip-top series, in which news got around St. Jims that the reformed Ernest Levison had been sacked from his previous school — for theft."

This historic series also features Ralph Reckness Cardew in a major supporting role, and Doris Levison.

Also, for good measure, a single story, Tricky Trimble, plus a splendid couplet: Trouble for Tompkins and Tompkins on Trial.

HARRY WHARTON & CO. IN HOLLYWOOD

Frank Richards

HOLLYWOOD SERIES, Part One

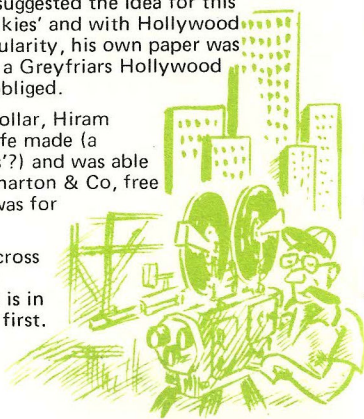
(Magnet Nos 1092 to 1099)

1929

The editor of the popular BOYS' CINEMA — a keen Magnet fan — is believed to have suggested the idea for this series. With the coming of the 'talkies' and with Hollywood approaching the zenith of its popularity, his own paper was experiencing a boom; so why not a Greyfriars Hollywood series too? Frank Richards duly obliged.

Always chasing the almighty dollar, Hiram K. Fish wanted a film of school life made (a precursor to 'Goodbye, Mr. Chips'?) and was able to obtain the services of Harry Wharton & Co, free of charge, on the pretext that it was for 'educational purposes'.

Follow Harry Wharton & Co across the North American continent to Hollywood. This extra-long series is in two volumes, of which this is the first.



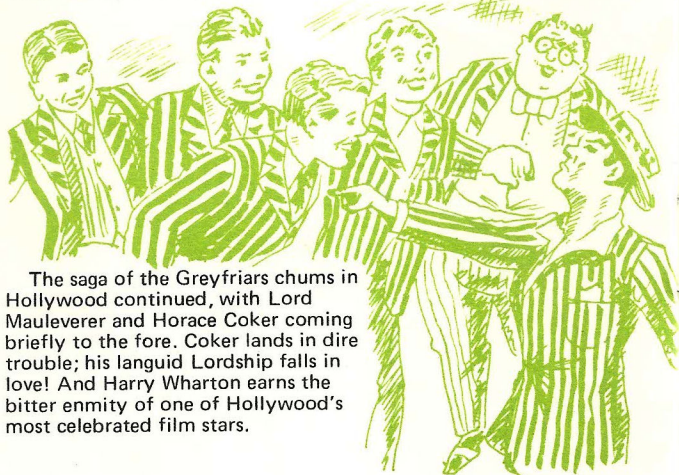
THE GREYFRIARS FILM STARS

Frank Richards

HOLLYWOOD SERIES, Part Two

(Magnet Nos. 1100 to 1107)

1929



The saga of the Greyfriars chums in Hollywood continued, with Lord Mauleverer and Horace Coker coming briefly to the fore. Coker lands in dire trouble; his languid Lordship falls in love! And Harry Wharton earns the bitter enmity of one of Hollywood's most celebrated film stars.

Altogether an interesting series, not considered Frank Richards' best. But no evaluation, or comprehensive collection of FRs' work would be possible, or complete, without it. Essential to the dedicated collector.

ACTION AT GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

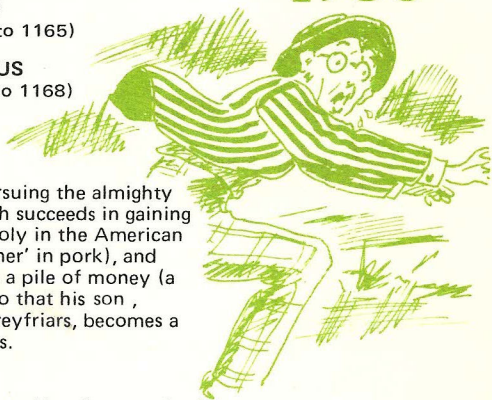
FISH KIDNAPPING

(Magnet Nos. 1161 to 1165)

POP OF THE CIRCUS

(Magnet Nos. 1166 to 1168)

Still doggedly pursuing the almighty dollar, Hiram K. Fish succeeds in gaining a temporary monopoly in the American pork market (a 'corner' in pork), and consequently makes a pile of money (a 'killing'). So much so that his son, Fisher T. Fish, at Greyfriars, becomes a target for kidnapers.



This series is followed by three stories featuring Sir Hilton Popper's nephew. With a circus in the vicinity of Greyfriars, there is plenty of fun and excitement in store for the chums of the Remove.

TATTERS OF THE REMOVE

Frank Richards

THE TATTERS SERIES

(Magnet Nos. 1195 to 1203)

1931



When the destitute waif, Tatters the Tinker, becomes Cecil Cholmondeley of the Remove, his rascally cousin Rackstraw schemes to get him expelled, and the result makes highly entertaining reading. Cecil Ponsonby of Highcliffe and Carne of the Greyfriars Sixth are also involved in the 'plot that fails'.

The year 1931 is an extremely rare period for original Magnets. Indeed, most remaining originals from this period are literally in tatters! So here is the opportunity to obtain this rare volume of Frank Richards' writing from the Golden Age.

Cumulative list of published and projected club titles

PUBLISHED

Available now at £10 each

GREYFRIARS BOOK CLUB

- No. 1 The Worst Boy at Greyfriars
- No. 2 Loder for Captain
- No. 3 The Making of Harry Wharton
- No. 4 Harry Wharton & Co in India
- No. 5 Tom Merry's Schooldays
- No. 6 Paul Dallas at Greyfriars
- No. 7 The Greyfriars Crusaders
- No. 8 The Sheik of Greyfriars
- No. 9 Dick the Penman





TO BE PUBLISHED

at bi-monthly intervals from AUTUMN '76 . . .

Provisional Price £12 each

Sequence will be varied

- 12 Harry Wharton & Co in Africa ✓
- 14 Levison's Return ✓
- 10 The First Ten Bullseye
- 11 The Treasure Hunters ✓
- 13 New Boys at Greyfriars ✓ ✓
- 19 The Bounder of Greyfriars ✓
- 16 Cock of the Walk ✓
- 23 The Toff of St. Jim's
- 24 Fall of the Bounder FEB ✓
- 22 The Schoolboy Caravanners ✓
- 15 The Boxer of Greyfriars ✓
- 16 The Toad of the Remove ✓ JUN
- 17 The Outcast of the School
- 20 Harry Wharton & Co in Hollywood
- 21 The Greyfriars Film Stars
- 25 Action at Greyfriars APR ✓
- 19 Tatters of the Remove ✓

Published at bi-monthly intervals.
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