

The Greyfriars Book Club



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



HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

27a Anteberry Road, Wimbledon
London, SW20

Incorporating THE GREYFRIARS PRESS publishers.

Notes:



HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

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The Græyfriars Book Club

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

Readers join the Club by completing the Interest Form which should be mailed back as soon as possible. A pro-forma invoice will be submitted as each volume becomes due for publication. Normally, at two monthly intervals.

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

The true purpose of your Interest Form is to enable us to gauge potential demand.

Note

In the present inflationary period of constantly escalating production costs, it is difficult to provide and adhere to firm prices for books whose publications may span a four year period into the future. 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.



THE GREYFRIARS PLOTTERS

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

100, 101, 102, 103, 104,

105, 106, 107

Titles of individual issues:

Magnet Minor

The Dandies of the Remove

The Disappearance of Wun Lung

The Greyfriars Athletes

The Greyfriars Fifteen

The Greyfriars Treasure

The Greyfriars Plot

The Cad of the Sixth



When Arthur Courtney was killed off by wartime editor John Nix Pentelow, some readers were of the strong opinion that the Sixth Form at Greyfriars was never the same again. After reading this powerful series featuring George Joseph Carberry of the Sixth, prefect and bully, and Ionides, the Greek dandy, who gradually disappeared from the scene, readers may be inclined to judge Frank Richards just as guilty for dropping two first-class characters! But then it was his privilege.

When Carberry was eventually expelled, Gerald Loder was appointed prefect in his place. But whether Loder is a better character than Carberry readers must judge for themselves.

THE REMOVAL OF HORACE COKER

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos :

144, 145, 146, 147, 148,
149, 150, 151

Titles of individual issues:

Billy Bunter's Minor
Coker's Catch
The Leader of the New School
The Schoolboy Traitor
Bunter's Bust-up
The Haunted Island
The Yankee Schoolboy
The Girls' School Challenge



In this unique Volume one reads of the arrival of Bunter Minor, Johnny Bull, and Fisher T. Fish at Greyfriars. Also contained in this fine collection is the famous story that tells of the promotion of the mighty Horace Coker to the Fifth Form.

Many readers may be unaware that Coker began his career in the Shell when, complete with tail coat, he was then – as now – the butt of the Form. His scholastic ability could never have earned him promotion, and this was only achieved by the persistence of his Aunt Judy who, complete with prodding umbrella, eventually persuaded Dr. Locke that her clever Horace should go up to the Fifth.

Perhaps, thought the Head, it would be no worse for Coker to be a fool in the Fifth than to be a fool in the Shell.



THE SCHOOLBOY SPECULATOR

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:
412, 413, 415, 416,
418, 419, 420



Titles of individual issues:

Hazeldene's Honour
The Schoolboy Speculator

The Colonel's Cup
Fought For and Won

Shielding a Scapegoat
Coker's Engagement
Flooring Fishy



In this volume of mainly single stories, Sydney James Snoop comes briefly to the fore when, in the opening tale, he tries to get Hazeldene discredited in order that he himself can play in goal and lose the match against Highcliffe, so to win a bet with Pensonby.

Fishy's traits are shown at their very worst in the single which follows when he tries to 'corner the market' in woollen goods, with the object of them selling them at a profit to charitable organisations sending comforts to the soldiers at the Front!

There is also the reappearance of Cecil Snaith, a blacksheep of the Remove, who teams up with Vernon Smith, whilst the great Horace Coker falls in love in a highly amusing interlude – though the lady in question does not reciprocate his affectional

The concluding tale once again shows Fisher T. Fish in a most unholy light, this time sending threatening letters to Mr. Quelch.

With America not yet in the War ('too proud to fight'), Frank Richards was undoubtedly reflecting the views of many people of the day.

THE PRINCE OF GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:
422, 423, 425, 428, 429,
431, 434, 435

Titles of individual issues:

His Highness

When Friends Fall Out

Micky Desmond's Luck

The Upper Hand
Coker's Conscript

The Hero of Greyfriars
Kicked out of School

Frank Nugent's Folly
Fighting to the Finish



Rattenstein was a German Prince who, showing peccable timing, arrived at Greyfriars in the middle of the First World War. Probably he was the most unpopular boy ever to enter the Remove, being arrogant and obnoxious in every possible way. Again, Frank Richards strongly reflected the feelings of the times. Rattenstein, needless to say, was eventually kicked out of school.

In the next issue, Micky Desmond can hardly believe his Irish luck when he finds a Sandwich Islands stamp worth £1,000 in his collection – or is it a fake?

Snoop's con-artist father is featured in the next pair of tales, followed by Bob Cherry saving Sir Hilton's niece from a train crash – while Bunter grabs the credit! With Frank Nugent foolishly lending the cricket funds to Snoop, the volume ends with Loder plotting against the Greyfriars First Eleven. Loder at his most 'Jokerish'!

THE FLOGGING JUDGE JEFFREYS

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

496, 497, 498, 501, 502, 503,
504, 505, 507, 508, 510, 511

Titles of individual issues:

Hurree Singh's Secret
Parted Pals

The Greyfriars Organiser

Judge Jeffreys

Getting Out of Hand

The Greyfriars Inquisition

The Barring-Out at Greyfriars
Victory

Personby's Pal

Coker the Rebel

An Old Boy at Greyfriars

Saving the Bounder



The famous 'Judge Jeffreys' series is the super attraction of this volume. This was the first time Frank Richards created an entire series around a school rebellion/barring out. And a very good one it was, too! The prototype of all other rebellion series of later years.

The volume also contains seven other highly entertaining stories in duos and singles drawn from the same period.



TOM REDWING'S TRIUMPH

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos :

517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522,

525, 526, 528, 530, 531, 532, 533

Titles of individual issues :

In Another's Place

Clavering of the Remora

The Whip Hand

A Very Gallant Gentleman

Danger Ahead

Tom Redwing's Resolve

Skinner the Spy

Bunter's Latest

Coker the Joker

Tom Redwing's Chance

Tom Redwing, Hero

Bunter to the Rescue

Tom Redwing's Win

SPECIAL EXTRA-LARGE COMPLETE SERIES
OF "MAGNET" (1918)



A FISHING BOY, TOM REDWING, AND
A BOY, BUNTER, ON THE WATER.

Many readers must have wondered why the reckless Bunder became such a firm friend of the steadfast and plucky Tom Redwing, the fisherman's son. Here is your chance to discover the reason in this gripping series describing the most unusual manner of Redwing's arrival at Greyfriars.

Also included in this Volume – and for the very first time in the Club history – is a substitute story. And what a controversial tale it is, too! Argument has waxed hot for over sixty years now as to whether John Nix Pentelow, wartime editor, was justified in having Arthur Courtney of the Greyfriars Sixth die in a fire, and Valance, another member of the same form, leave the school.

Now is the chance to make up your own mind, by reading this famous (or infamous) Magnet story.

THE SIXTH FORM REBELLION

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

729, 730, 737, 738, 739,
743, 744, 745, 748

Titles of individual issues:

Billy Bunter's Big Bargain
The Remove Rugger Team

Bunter's Bolt
Hunting Bunter
Bagging Bunter

When the Head Resigned
The Sixth Form Rebellion
The Greyfriars Barring Out

Bunter the Crook



The highlight of this volume is *The Sixth Form Rebellion* – but first – Bunter recklessly buys a Four Poster Bed at an auction in the opening story, followed by a really most unusual yarn in which Greyfriars plays rugby, instead of the usual soccer.

In the next trio of stories, Bunter runs away to escape just punishment, and turns up at St. Jim's and at Rockwood.

Finally, the Sixth Form at Greyfriars probably thought of running away too – in the series dealing with James Camforth, a new Headmaster, who demanded not only the strictest discipline at the old school, but also the right to cane the mighty Sixth! The result was mutiny on a grand scale.



ST JIM'S FOREVER !

Martin Clifford

Gem Issue Nos :

729, 730, 731, 732,
743, 744, 745, 746, 747,
749, 750, 751



Titles of individual issues:

Rival Schools at War
Wacky Dang of Rylcombe
Grundy and the Grammar School
St. Jim's to the Rescue

The Mystery of Tom Merry
Held to Ransom
The Hand of the Unknown
Wildrake's Desperate Venture
Out of the Depths

The St. Jim's Teashop
The Story Seven
Raising the Wind



Most Gem enthusiasts would agree that the year 1922 was outstanding for consistently fine stories. From that vintage year we feature in this volume three of the best loved and most sought-after series Martin Clifford ever wrote.

The first is a sparkling run of four Gems, sometimes known to collectors as the 'Wacky Dang' series, relating to the undying rivalry between St. Jim's and the Grammar School.

Then, in a complete change of mood, we find ourselves in a dramatic kidnapping series, with Kit Wildrake, the Canadian junior, in a leading role. Rogue Rackstraw is the villain of the piece, and Inspector Fix of Scotland Yard also plays a vital part.

We conclude with a short series of three joyously entertaining stories telling of the hilarious attempts by the chums of St. Jim's to 'raise the wind'. This is Martin Clifford at his scintillating best!

DE VERE AND THE SILVER SCUD

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos :
749, 750, 751, 752, 753,
755, 756, 757, 758, 759

Titles of individual issues:

De Vere of the Remove
The Snob's Secret
In Borrowed Plumes
The Fall of Algernon
Bunter's Raffle
Mauly's Pal
The Mysterious Fox
The Schoolboy Yachtsman
The Mystery of the Silver Scud
The Terror Tracked Down



Snobbery sometimes played a large part in the Greyfriars scene before the nineteen-twenties, and there was no greater snob than Algernon De Vere of the Remove! Unfortunately for him, he was no son of the gentry, but the offspring of Timothy Perkins, a footman who had come into sudden riches.

Fortune didn't smile on Fisher T. Fish either in the single which follows, which tells of what happened when he tried to raffle a gramophone bought by Bunter on hire purchase, and on which the Fat Owl had failed to keep up the instalments.

Maulie is to the fore in the series which rounds off this highly entertaining volume. He acquires a yacht, 'The Silver Scud,' and there are thrills on every page when he is pursued by kidnapper Gideon Gaunt.

This series has been categorised as "Frank Richards finest mystery yarn".

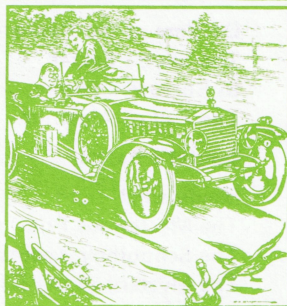
JIM LEE'S SECRET

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos :

779, 781, 782, 783, 784, 787,
763, 764, 765

Titles of individual issues :

The New Boy's Secret**The Schoolboy Hermit****Just Like Bunter****Straight as a Die****Friends at Last****Bunter's Latest****The Persecution of Mr. Prout****Fishy the Footballer****The Footballer's Foe**

Many Greyfriars fellows came not only from highly influential families, but from very rich ones as well. Little did they know that Jim Lee, the new boy in the Remove, was in fact the ward of Ulick Driver, a master crook!

Jim had been sent to Greyfriars to become friendly with wealthy scholars, angle invitations for weekends at palatial houses, and then pass useful information back to his guardian to assist him in burglary. Did the plan succeed? You will find out when you read this powerful series, with its gripping climax.



THE MYSTERY OF PENGARTH

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

806, 807, 808, 809, 810,
811, 812, 814

Titles of individual issues:

Lame Bunter

Maulverer Means Business

A Split in the Co.

Sir Jimmy's Substitute

Bunter the Hunter

The House of Pengarth

The Secret of the Caves

Montague the Mysterious

GRAND NEW YEAR NUMBER!



READ "THESE" FIRST "THESE"

When Bunter used Mrs Kebble's marking ink to provide a "bruise" to deceive Mr. Quelch into thinking that he was lame, he also provided a story that has become something of a classic among singles.

Mauly raises £500 in the next issue to help a disabled ex-serviceman, whilst the next story records a split among the Famous Five.

Thrills are in store for the reader when Harry Wharton & Co. spend their summer holiday with Sir Jimmy Vivian at his haunted house in Cornwall. Leyton, Cardew and Clive of St. Jim's render assistance, and the Pengarth series is indeed one to remember.



MICK THE GIPSY

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

819, 820, 821, 822, 823,
828, 829, 830

Titles of individual issues:

Mick the Outcast**The Gipsy Schoolboy****Mick the Untameable****The Luck of the Gipsy****The Gipsy Millionaire****The Gipsy's Return****The Phantom of the Highlands****The Wraith of Lochmuir**

When Mick the Gipsy performed a valuable service for Sir Hilton Popper and, as a reward, asked to be allowed to attend Greyfriars, little did he dream what the near future would hold. He bore a remarkable likeness to Aubrey Angel, the black sheep of the Fourth, who plotted against him – even to the extent of having him kidnapped by fellow gipsies. Eventually it transpired that he was actually Aubrey Angel's younger brother who had been lost many years before.

The second half of this touching series finds Mick and his newly-found brother with the Famous Five at the Castle of Lochmuir in the Highlands, where they celebrated the festive season with only a ghost to keep them company!



THE BOUNDER'S FEUD

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

841, 843, 846, 853, 854,
855, 858, 859, 860

Titles of individual issues:

Fishy's Treasure

Pen's Pal

Too Clever of Skinner

Standing by their Pals

The Man Who Came Back

Treasure Trove

The Parting of the Ways

Sentenced by the Form

Vernon Smith's Feud



It is always interesting to read about 'old boys' of Greyfriars, especially those who had been expelled. One such old boy was Philip Blagden who, fallen on hard times, pleaded with Dr. Locke to give him a chance as the new cricket coach. Unfortunately, all Blagden really wanted to do was to search for buried treasure which he knew was hidden in the vaults.

Treasure of a different kind is described in Fishy's Treasure (No. 841), whilst Smithy falls out with Redwing in a final fine trio of stories.



BOB CHERRY – SWOT

Frank Richards

Magnet Issue Nos:

975, 976, 977, 978, 979,
981, 982, 983, 984

Titles of individual issues:

The Swot

The Ishmael of the Form

The Deserter

Nobody's Chum

Bob Cherry Wins Through

Coker on the Warpath

Missing From School

The Prisoner of the Bangalow

Coker's Christmas Party



Whilst Bob Cherry was easily the most popular boy at Greyfriars he was far from being the most brilliant scholar, and, dissatisfied with his son's progress in the Remore, his father told him that unless he won the Head's Latin prize he would have to leave the school . . .

Also appearing in this Volume is a Coker series. This time the mighty Horace is kidnapped, and the subsequent adventures of the Famous Five in effecting his rescue – together with a memorable Christmas at Holly House – all add up to splendid reading.

NEW TITLES from HOWARD BAKER



4th Greyfriars Book Club Catalogue

4 Year Plan

from January 1982 to January 1986

24 Magnet Volumes

(+ Extras : Gem volumes &c &c)



VOLUMES FOR THE DEDICATED COLLECTOR
OF THE MOST RARE ASSEMBLAGE OF PRE-WAR
MAGAZINES, OMNIUM GATHERUM



HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

27a Arterberry Rd., Wembley, London, NW20
Tel: 01-947 5482 Cable: Bakerbooks London



NOTES TO COLLECTORS

At the outset of this programme we have been able to maintain volumes in a tidy chronological order: each volume a collection of ten consecutive issues. Thus Issue Numbers 11 to 20 form one volume and Issue Numbers 21 to 30 form the next, and this arrangement has been adhered to as far as possible. However, this orderly array of sequential issues must occasionally be set aside, when we come up against series of issues which have already been published in earlier programmes. Issues Number 43 to 50 are an example. Then we have to leapfrog, and catch up on any overlooked oddments at a slightly later date. A study of *The Magnet Companion* – pages 10 to 18 – will elucidate.

Later still in this programme, volumes of less than ten issues will be encountered. One reason for this will be the inclusion in some volumes of Double Numbers, which contained far more than the ordinary number of pages. Another reason – even further on into the programme – will be that by that date *The Magnet* had increased the quantity of pages in every issue by over fifty per cent.

Because of the relative ease of planning a straightforward *Magnet* programme and the overwhelming popularity of this story paper over all others, *Greyfriars* is given pride of place throughout the Catalogue. But *Gem* volumes and, perhaps, a few others will be included from time to time. For instance, the *St. Jim's Christmas Barring Out* (*Gem* Nos 776 to 784) will appear at the appropriate season.

The production of a Four Year Programme (awesome thought) renders it well nigh impossible to be precise about every detail of our future plans. But the main fare, in all its unparalleled richness, is hereby set before you.



1908

- (1) Magnet Nos. 11 to 20 : The Greyfriars Challenge (10)
- (2) Nos. 21 to 30 : The Famous Four
- (3) Nos. 31 to 40 : Greyfriars versus St. Jim's

1909

- (4) Nos. 51 to 60 : Harry Wharton's Recruits
- (5) Nos. 61 to 70 : The Greyfriars Picnic
- (6) Nos. 71 to 80 : Harry Wharton's Bank Holiday
- (7) Nos. 81 to 90 : Buster the Bully
- (8) Nos. 91 to 98 : (Including Two Double Numbers – The Greyfriars Christmas)

1910

- (9) Nos. 41 + 42 + 99 + Nos. 108 to 112 : The Remove to the Rescue
- (10) Nos. 113 to 116 + 126 + 127 + 128 : Harry Wharton's Peril
- (11) Nos. 129 to 135 : Captain Bob Cherry
- (12) Nos. 136 + 138 to 143 : Billy Baxter's Kick-Off

1911

- (13) Nos. 152 to 158 : John Bull Junior
- (14) Nos. 159 to 165 : Wiegate's Chum
- (15) Nos. 166 to 172 : The Fall of Harry Wharton
- (16) Nos. 173 + 174 + 175 + Nos. 185 to 188 : The King's Guest
- (17) Nos. 189 to 195 : The Outlaws of the School
- (18) Nos. 196 to 199 + Nos. 201 to 203 : The Expulsion of Harold Skinner

1912

- (19) Nos. 204 to 210 : The Duffer's Double
- (20) Nos. 211 to 217 : The Fight for the Captaincy
- (21) Nos. 218 to 224 : Harry Wharton's Windfall
- (22) Nos. 225 to 231 : The Remove Form's Feud
- (23) Nos. 232 to 237 : Spoofing the School
- (24) Nos. 238 to 244 : Coker Miner – Sixth Former (or The Form-master's Search)

(iv)



Additional to the Titles listed will be interspersed:



Gem Nos. 16 to 25
Gem Nos. 26 to 35 (including
'Floating School' series)
Gem Nos. 776 to 784 ('Christmas
Barring-Out' series)

also : 2nd Volume of Balboys Nos. 11 to 20
2nd Tiger Tim's Own Comic Collection



See Pages 34 and 35

THE FIRST BOYS' PAPER OMNIBUS

A unique collection of many of the best of boys' prewar magazines and story papers, spanning half a century. Chosen from titles such as:

Pluck, Triumph, Boy's Cinema, Marvel, Dreadnought, Young Britain, Dick Turpin, Boy's Magazine, Boy's Journal, Sports for Boys, Pioneer, Sports Budget, The Scout, Thriller.

Approx. ten papers will be selected for the first volume. Further details to be announced later.

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The Boys' Herald 1d
Healthy Paper for Manly Boys

a cataloguing of
the Club volumes already
published,
most of which
are still in print
and immediately
available
at time of
going to press.



Club Friars are advised
to watch
The Greyfriars
Gazette
for latest
stock situation.



THE WORST BOY AT GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

OUT OF
PRINT

THE FIRST WHARTON REBEL SERIES

(Magnum 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. Arguments 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

LODER FOR CAPTAIN SERIES

(Magnum Issue Nos 923 to 931)

1925

OUT OF
PRINT

Gerold 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 boys and was always looking for a chance to catch some junior in a petty misdemeanour, and then . . . his asphalt 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's 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



OUT OF
PRINT

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

THE INDIA SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 960 to 976)

1927

Hunsee Jamsat 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 studiously worked under one of the best masters in India'. Here is your chance to meet his tutor, Mook Mookerjee, the Moolashee, and many other colourful characters described so vividly by Frank Richards in this part of the old British Empire.



OUT OF
PRINT

TOM MERRY'S SCHOOLDAYS

Marion Clifford

THE FIRST FIFTEEN GEMS

When Percy Griffith, first editor of the *Gems*, 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 Clavering College. In these first two stories, Tom Merry was dressed in a velvet knickerbocker suit, and wore long curls! Fused over by his nurse and governess, Miss Emily 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, Clavering 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 *Fluck*.

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.

1907

OUT OF
PRINT

PAUL DALLAS AT GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

THE PAUL DALLAS SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 997 to 1004)

Herbert Vernon Smith, better known as 'Smithy', was one of Frank Richards' greatest creations. The only son of a pure-ground 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 Fens. 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 *Sounder* of the *Remorse* 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 *Sounder* at his most 'sounderish' in this really splendid series.

1927

OUT OF
PRINT



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 Souther getting on worsening terms with the Famous Five. The remaining two 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

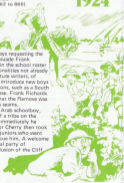
Frank Richards

THE SAHARA SERIES
(Magnet Issue Nos 882 to 889)

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 Removet was already bulging at its seams.

All ben Yusuf, an Arab schoolboy, had become Sheik of a tribe on the death of his father. Immediately he was kidnaped. 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 Removetes is the inclusion of the OIH House girls.



DICK THE PENMAN

Frank Richards

1932-3

THE VALENTINE SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos 1297 to 1307)

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 769 to 774 +1)

1922

The original 'red' covered Magnet has 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 in 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 Central, invites all the Famous Five, but particularly Berter, on an expedition to darkest Africa — the Congo — to find a hidden hoard of valuable ivory. Berter 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 'Piddle Jar'.



LEVISON'S RETURN

Frank Richards

THE ERNEST LEVISON SERIES

(Magnet Issue Nos. 793 to 799 +1)

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 revised 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 Tower, 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 ended up in the Greyfriars sanatorium seriously ill. And so Ernest rejoined his old school and Remove to be near his minor. However, Levison's mischievous past was not forgotten by his former cronies, and he had a very hard time through the plottings of Skinner and Fensworthy 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.



1923

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 'Barnes 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 Cursor Field'.)

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 Rockwood 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

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 Cassell's 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 skulduggery 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 60 & 60)

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 Lawson. And it introduces Donald Ogby, Mark Linley, Sidney James Swoop &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 Butler, of course.

1908-9



THE BOUNDER OF GREYFRIARS

Frank Richards

ARRIVAL OF VERNON SMITH AND OTHERS
(Magnet Nos. 117 to 126)

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 Smith's millionaire father.



In the early days, Smithy was arrogant, needy 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 Hog-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 Babover and Lord Maulverer, the death of Bulstrode's brother, Wharton's re-instatement to the form Captaincy, the expulsion of Vernon Smith and his return. Whee! All in one volume!

THE TOFF OF ST. JIM'S

Martin Clifford

1914

THE TALBOT SERIES plus extras
(Gem Nos. 304 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' after ego, Martin Clifford.

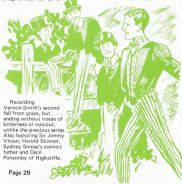
Also, the last of the Gems pre-war summer holiday series, including Lumley-Lumley, Bunter, Cousin Ethel, and a visit to Eastwood House.

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 Pansorby of Highdiddle.

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 Banner, the series involved Lord Mallesheret, Coker, Jack Drake, the odious Cecil Pensonby and his cronies.

Eventually, Harry Whitson & 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. 585 to 590)

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 top 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.

1927

THE TOAD OF THE REMOVE

Frank Richards

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. 1036, 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

LEVISON IN TROUBLE SERIES plus extras

(Gem Nos. 766 to 767)

1922



The year 1922 has been described by Sir A. Payne, 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 newsgot #1000 by Jim that the reformed Ernest Levison had been expelled from his previous school - for theft."

This historic series also features Ralph Redness 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 drama in Hollywood continued, with Lord Maulverer and Horace Coker coming briefly to the fore. Coker lands in dire trouble; his languid Lordship falls in love! And Harry Wharton gains 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 FR's 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.



1930

TATTERS OF THE REMOVE

Frank Richards

THE TATTERS SERIES

(Magnet Nos. 1195 to 1203)



When the debutante wail, Tatters the Tinker, becomes Cecil Chalmersley of the Remove, his rascally cousin Flackstrew schemes to get him expelled, and the result makes highly entertaining reading. Cecil Pensonby of Highcliffe and Cerna 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.

1931

Cumulative list of published and projected club titles

PUBLISHED

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GREYFRIARS BOOK CLUB

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| No. 1 | The Worst Boy at Greyfriars | } OUT OF
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| No. 4 | Harry Wharton & Co in India | |
| No. 5 | Tom Merry's Schooldays | } OUT OF
PRINT |
| No. 6 | Paul Dallas at Greyfriars | |
| No. 7 | The Greyfriars Crusaders | |
| No. 8 | The Shik of Greyfriars | |
| No. 9 | Dick the Farmer | |
| No. 10 | The First Ten Balleys | |
| No. 11 | The Treasure Hunters | |
| No. 12 | Harry Wharton & Co in Africa | |
| No. 13 | New Boys at Greyfriars | |
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| No. 15 | The Baser of Greyfriars | |
| No. 16 | Cook of the Walk | |
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| No. 18 | The Bounder of Greyfriars | |
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| No. 20 | Harry Wharton & Co in Hollywood | |
| No. 21 | The Greyfriars Film Stars | |
| No. 22 | The Schoolboy Caravanners | |
| No. 23 | The Taff of St. Jim's | |
| No. 24 | Fall of the Bounder | |
| No. 25 | Action at Greyfriars | |
| No. 26 | The Toad of the Remore | |
| No. 27 | The Flogging Judge Jeffreys | |
| No. 28 | Tom Redwing's Triumph | |
| No. 29 | Bob Cherry - Sweet | |
| No. 30 | The Greyfriars Plotters | |
| No. 31 | The Removal of Horace Coker | |
| No. 32 | St. Jim's Forever! | |
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| No. 35 | De Vere and the Silver Scud | |
| No. 36 | The Sixth Form Rebellion | |
| No. 37 | Jim Lee's Secret | |
| No. 38 | The Bounder's Feud | |
| No. 39 | The Schoolboy Spectators | |
| No. 40 | The First Boy's Paper Grandios | |





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The Fall of Harry Wharton
The King's Guest
The Outlaws of the School
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