



# The Greyfriars Gazette



NEWSLETTER No. 19

EASTER 1976

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Dear Friars,

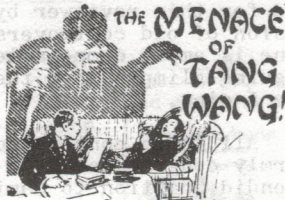
We arrive at the half way mark in our Spring catalogue with no firm programme yet mapped out for the Autumn List. Clearly, there will be the sequel to the Brazil series -- Putnam van Duck, to be entitled GUNMEN AT GREYFRIARS. And, of course, a GHA 1977. Perhaps the Popper Island Rebellion collection, and later, the Cruise of the Firefly for Christmas. But all has yet to be firmed. However, be assured, the new catalogue will be published by May at the latest.

### PRICES

It may be that prices will have to rise again by 60 pence, to £4.50 per volume. But if so there will be some concrete compensation: in such circumstances we will not feel bound to restrict each volume to a maximum of eight issues. Nine, or even ten issue volumes, will be possibilities.

### SPECIALS

After the fashion of the Greyfriars Double (the elusive volume no. 18!) we are producing the entire China series in one special collectors' edition, eleven sections, to be listed as volume 25(A). Title, GREYFRIARS CHUMS IN CHINA.



Also, as companion, the Kidnapped Schoolboys series, five sections, (1354-1358). Title, THE MYSTERIOUS MR KRANTZ. Each volume will be a limited run of one hundred copies only. Price £6.50 each. Publication: late March.

FROM



HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

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incorporating THE GREYFRIARS PRESS publishers

Cables: Bakerbook London.

## GOING O/P

Friars who have still to complete their collections should be advised that the following titles will soon be out-of-print:

Bunter Tells the Truth  
Greyfriars Holiday Annual 1976  
Tom Merry's Holiday

Note: Tyrant of Greyfriars has just gone O/P.

### THE GREYFRIARS CHARACTERS

reviewed by Q.



ROBERT OGILVY

Books from the Museum Press of Maidstone, Kent are always worthwhile and this latest publication is no exception: THE GREYFRIARS CHARACTERS, John Wernham and Mary Cadogan, price £2.50 (by post £3). As the title suggests this volume deals first with the Greyfriars characters, by John Wernham, based on the famous '14 - '18 wartime editor John Nix Pentlow's Greyfriars Gallery that appeared in the Magnet some sixty years ago.

The middle section by Mary Cadogan, which deals with Cliff House, is a fascinating tour de force and Mary deserves the highest praise for tackling a difficult subject with such skill and aplomb. Probably the most novel and original piece is reserved for the end pages where that accomplished writer on Hamiltonian affairs, Roger Jenkins, gives an account of an interview with Miss Edith Hood -- Charles Hamilton's housekeeper for forty years. Perhaps Mr Jenkins' contribution is slightly marred for this reviewer by the inclusion of old controversial echoes, but one is amply compensated by his intriguing glimpse into the Hamilton ménage à cinq.



All three contributors are to be warmly congratulated on producing a splendid addition to Hamilton lore.

-Quidnunc



CONTACTS

The following readers would like to hear from five columns! Reviewers included Dame Rebecca West, Margaret Drabble and Lady Antonia Fraser. A most scholarly work written with wit and acumen. Highly recommended.

THOSE SUB WRITERS

Letters anent the tortured subject of the substitute authors indicates cautious approval.

Miss Doris Peckett of Merton Park, London SW19 writes: "I am inclined to agree with Friar Bealus of Winchmore Hill, London, regarding 'substitute authors'. I for one did not notice any marked difference in those I read as a youngster."

P.D. Hancock of Edinburgh writes, "I am interested in Friar Bealus' letter in the Christmas Gazette regarding the 'subs'. Why not a volume: THE BEST OF THE SUBSTITUTE STORIES"?

EASTER READING

We hope you enjoy particularly our Easter title BILLY BUNTER'S HAIR RAID, the last holiday series ever penned for the Magnet by Frank Richards. It has always been a firm favourite with your publisher who remembers how it wrote finis to an epoch. Truly, 1940 was a year to remember, in more ways than one.



It only remains to wish you all a happy Easter and many pleasant hours of your favourite reading.

Your sincere friend,

The Publisher



## CONTACTS

The following readers would like to hear from fellow Friars in their particular localities:

Mr A Gelder, Dolphin Cottage, 12 Manor Road,  
Wallington, Surrey

Mr Raymond Mackley, 5 Church Street, Wymeswold,  
Leics LE12 6TX

Mr A Beale, 119 Warren Crescent, Christchurch 2,  
New Zealand.

## BOOK CLUB NEWS

In May we plan to issue The Sacking of the Co series of 1912, Magnet nos 247 to 254 under the title THE GREYFRIARS CRUSADERS. In July, probably the Sahara series.

In addition to the original twelve volumes already announced, we are currently adding a further nine collections to the list. They will include several series from the pre first World War period. A new expanded Club catalogue is in preparation and will be mailed out shortly to all Members.

Whereas some of our 400 limited edition Club volumes are 'slow movers', others have sold fast. The result is that late arrivals to the Club scene may be unable to obtain some of the volumes of their choice. Accordingly we propose to increase several of our future Club editions to 500 copies per title. To those new members who may not be able to acquire particular titles among these much sought-after collections, we extend our sincere regrets.

## THAT GIRL ANGELA

YOU'RE A BRICK, ANGELA by Mary Cadogan and Patricia Craig, referred to in our last Gazette, has now been published (Gollancz, £6.50), and what a super-abundance of fascinating information it contains. Described by its publishers as "a new look at girls' fiction from 1839 to 1975" it is actually very much more than that. Its 397 pages are packed with data and commentary on every aspect of the genre. Notices in the national press have been extensive and appreciative. In the Sunday Telegraph the review spread across

