



# The Greyfriars Gazette



NEWSLETTER No. 30

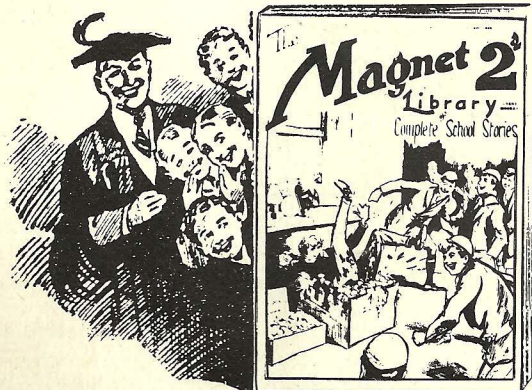
AUTUMN 1979

Issued to all full Subscribers to the Greyfriars Press programme  
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Greetings all Friars,

The number of requests for 'sub stories' that we have received from readers over the past few years has surprised us. The requests were duly filed and, as the quantity grew in size, we came to realise that something would have to be done. So we have done it! The month of September sees the first volume from the pens of some members of the Greyfriars' 'Second Eleven'. (It seemed a good title for the book, too!) The stories are drawn from the year 1925, a period when 'subs' proliferated, due no doubt to The Master being heavily engaged elsewhere. Short biographical notes on the authors of this collection are included in the volume.



## BOOK CLUB NEWS

The selections for the new Club programme have been firmed up to the end of the year. They are as follows:

August 1979:	THE FLOGGING JUDGE JEFFREYS
October 1979:	TOM REDWING'S TRIUMPH
December 1979:	BOB CHERRY - SWOT

The last-named title includes the Coker's Christmas Party series as an extra - delightfully appropriate for the Yuletide season.

We were most gratified to find our latest Club Catalogue greeted with universal approbation from Club Friars. All seemed to find the new selections 'grateful and comforting'. And - as has been pointed out on Page 19 of the Catalogue - these do not necessarily represent the totality of the third programme. Extra titles may well be inserted into the existing List. So look out for more pleasant surprises in the months ahead.

FROM



HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

27a Arterberry Road, Wimbledon London, S.W.20 Telephone 01-947 5482

incorporating THE GREYFRIARS PRESS

## ORDERING FORWARD AND BACK

Apart from our Bond customers, who know exactly where they stand regarding delivery dates, there are those who order back stock titles for immediate delivery — but sometimes confound this simple operation by including a FORWARD title on their order list.

This means that, if they have only paid postage for one parcel of books, the *whole* of their order is held up until the FORWARD TITLE is available.

And some customers, uncomprehendingly, then write in to demand to know why their order has not been serviced by same-day return post, as is our normal custom with back-stock titles.

Hope all is now clearly understood.

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Whilst on this subject, another point worth noting: the month of publication given in our seasonal catalogues usually means the *end* of the particular month in question rather than the beginning. Thus, a book announced for August publication — for example — is not likely to be available until the *end* of August : certainly not on August the First! Well worth remembering.



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### OVERSEAS PAYMENTS

All of our book prices are calculated at the lowest possible level — in U.K. currency. And all of our catalogue prices are quoted, and customers invoiced, in pounds sterling.

It follows that it is in pounds sterling that we prefer to be paid.

For overseas customers this usually presents no difficulty. Most International Banks have London offices on which sterling cheques can be drawn, and many of our far-flung Friars pay us this way. Others pay by International Money Order (obtainable through local post offices) *expressed in sterling*. So, if you can, please pay us in the currency — sterling — in which our books are listed on invoices or in our catalogue.

This is not to say that we will not accept payment in other currencies, but clearances and conversions take time, could delay delivery of your order, and certainly cost money. *If you are paying us in any currency other than sterling, please add £2.00 to the sterling total cost before conversion.* This averagely is what it costs here to convert and collect remittances in overseas currencies.

Our best recommendation is : remit in sterling to save time, trouble and money. Sterling advice!

## COMMENT

Friar Lawrence Peachey of Kingsdown Road, Leytonstone, London. writes :

"As a subscriber to the Greyfriars Press since its Museum Street, Bloomsbury days, and later, additionally, to the Greyfriars Book Club, I feel it is perhaps not too soon for me to write and express my congratulations to you and your organisation for bringing about what I personally consider to be the publishing achievement of the late twentieth century.

"When in those early days (now themselves somewhat far off) I was stunned to discover on sale in a Charing Cross Road bookshop a copy of Greyfriars Press Volume No. 3 (leading me hotly and successfully in pursuit of Nos 1 and 2), it seemed as though the way had been opened for a very old and recurring daydream of mine to come true. That daydream was, of course, to possess a copy of every Magnet from the first issue.

"Thanks to your extraordinary efforts, I am now well on the way to realising that desire, or at any rate as near to it as 'makes no odds'. I should, indeed, feel privileged if my personal thanks — for what they are worth — could be conveyed in a general way to all those in your Company who help in restoring life to these old papers which brought us so much happiness in their time; the copies of which brings us so much pleasure now that their time has itself gone forever.

"The efficiency and care with which the books are produced, packed and dispatched are a credit to your staff and are themselves reminiscent of times long gone!

"This letter has not intended to be a long one, nor to be over-sentimental, but it is a very much overdue expression of thanks to Howard Baker Press for making a not too old but definitely middle-aged past 'member' of the Remove feel that he has a few more terms and hols ahead at dear old Greyfriars."

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And Mr P. R. Morley, of 327 Tarring Road, Sussex, Worthing, says much the same in immaculate prose :

"Once again my compliments and many thanks for your impeccably efficient and imperturbable service and organisation where one can impetrate with ease."

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Friar C. Oliver, of 34 Belfield Avenue, Maybank, Newcastle, Staffs, certainly agrees :

"Your books, The Greyfriars Press volumes and The Greyfriars Book Club, have brought these splendid works of Charles Hamilton within easy reach of so many of us. The cost of original early Gem issues has always been way beyond my means, and in your splendidly produced books we have a lovely copy of the original, yet one which, indefinably, looks so much better in appearance. Your books combine the best of everything! I close with thanks again for pleasures received, and anticipation of those to come."

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And Doctor C. Monteilhet of 11 Rue du Falmand Rose, Limours, France, declares :

"Firstly, I must congratulate you on your first class service. I was absolutely amazed when my books arrived a few days after ordering them, and in the middle of a postal strike too! I am thrilled with the reproductions, please keep up the good work."



## FLOREAT GREYFRIARS



Doctor Peter D. McCall of Wokingham, Berks, advises:

"In the *Gazette* last year there was a query from the Rev. Singleton as to the precise wording of the Greyfriars School song on the record.

"I think I have managed to hear it correctly. It was extremely difficult and needed the talents of a classical scholar of Oxford! Unfortunately Mr Quelch was busy with his history.

"Apart from the second last line, we are fairly certain that we have it right. My translation is very free and is, I trust, what F. R. would have in mind for his original. Here it is:



*Floreat Greyfriars nulli secundus*  
 Long live Greyfriars, second to none  
*Quaeres qua ludus semper jucundus*  
 Seek always to be joyful, through games  
*Et tanto victores nescium magistri*  
 And by so much the victors masters, of the unknown.  
*Occulis nimis et classi electi*  
 So much looked up to, and indeed chosen by class  
 (lit. — very much to the eye)  
*Floreat veneat velum persuadeat*  
 Flourish, endure, truly prevail  
 ( even )  
*Floreat Greyfriars semper floreat*  
 Long live Greyfriars; flourish for ever.



### 'ORTHER — 'ORTHER!



Friar H. T. Milnes of Hecadech Cottage, Nether Broughton, Near Melton Mowbray, enquires:

"What is the true identity of Dicky Nugent, the 'orther' of the 'rib-tickling yarns' of Dr Birchmall of St. Sam's? I can find no clue in any of the reference books on Charles Hamilton's works that you have published. Was it a member or members of the Amalgamated Press staff or was it Charles Hamilton himself? Certainly, to my mind, the author merits some mention in any volume attempting to study the history of The Magnet. Likewise, who really edited The Greyfriars Herald from time to time?

W.O.G. Lofts replies:

"The stories of St. Sam's written by 'Dicky Nugent' were created by G. R. Samways who was Chief Sub editor of The Magnet, and who created The Greyfriars Herald in 1915. Nearly all the small pieces that appeared here were written by editorial staff. After Samways left the A.P., the pieces were written by William Catchpole from about 1926 to 1940."

Mr A. Fenner, of 111 The Avenue, Higham Park, London E4, asks:

"If you decide to publish some more sub stories, would you consider my list of titles? I began buying Magnet and Gem far back in 1918. Some years later, I gave all my copies away except for the few issues I name and these I have read over and over again, and still enjoy. This cannot just be nostalgia. They are really good stories.

"When I bought them I knew nothing about sub stories, but I do believe that we all owe the sub writers a great debt for keeping The Magnet and The Gem going. My list is:

#### MAGNETS

- 527 A Bird of Passage — G. R. Samways
- 605 The Golden Clue — C.M. Down
- 606 Sports Day at Greyfriars — G.R. Samways
- 607 The Schoolboy Barber — C.M. Down

#### GEMS

- 619 The Lovelorn Grundy — J.N. Pentelow
- 620 A Christmas Adventure — G.R. Samways
- 623 The Mystery of the Mill — J.N. Pentelow
- 633 The Secret of the Castle — N. Wood Smith



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### CORRECTION

"Please allow me to draw attention to a factual error committed by Mr. Hamilton", writes Colin W. Campbell of Kittybrewster, Aberdeen, Scotland.

"In the volume The Greyfriars Mutiny he says that the rebellion under Dr Trumpington occurred in the reign of William IV, and, later, that this was in 1828. But William IV did not become King until 1830. I draw your attention to this so that, if you have the authority to do so, you can make the appropriate correction."



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### COMPLAINT

Mr E. Austyn-Prys, of 21 Fields Road, Tredegar, Gwent says:



"While it is gratifying to learn (from Newsletter 27) that we shall eventually be offered in full facsimile form those Magnets from which Schoolboys' Own Library — and its new edition, The Greyfriars Library — are culled, it does not seem right to offer Greyfriars Library volumes as part of the Greyfriars Bond selections, because this means that we shall eventually have duplicates of the same story: one edition in complete form and the other in a 'potted version.'"

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### PLEASURE

Whilst Friar A. M. Broderick, of 5 East 36th Street, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, has this to say:

"Received my copy of your new Library — Volume One: *Billy Bunter Gets the Boot*. Have found the size and printing smashing! In fact, the whole volume was ideal. As I own the thirty-eight volumes of the Billy Bunter Books published by Cassell, your new Library will fit into this part of my collection very well, and I will purchase as many volumes as you will publish in the future.

In another region of Canada, Friar Phil Harris, of 5542 Decelles Avenue, Apt. 4, Montreal, Quebec is warmly approving of the immediate future :

"What a feast, most Respected Abbot, you have lined up for us in the Autumn Catalogue. You really spoil us — and long may you flourish to do so. I nearly 'flipped' when I read the make-up of The Holiday Annual 1980. Three double Christmas Numbers, for 1915—1917 and 1920. If this was not enough to whet the appetites of all Friars we have a Christmas issue of Gem. But that Holiday Annual promises to be a real crackerjack. I can hardly wait. How you are going to top that one I fail to see!"

And, from Israel, Mr Emanuel J. Cohen, of 46 Jabotinsky Street, Rishon-Le-Zion, writes :

"I have been back in Israel for over a week and still dwell lovingly upon my recent visit to England with its numerous pleasant memories. I recall with special pleasure the two visits I made to your offices, your kind welcome and delightful conversation. Let me thank you again for allocating me so much of your valuable time. I hope the good Lord will make it possible for me to revisit England (which I regard as a second home) in the not too distant future, when I shall not fail to renew what I like to think of as a budding friendship.

"I know that your great achievement has received its due acclaim from numerous quarters, yet I cannot help reiterating my own gratitude for the many hours of unadulterated pleasure you have given me among others thereby. I feel you have been the most instrumental in reviving interest in the works of Frank Richards, and that, but for you, recognition of his great qualities as a writer might have been lost . . ."

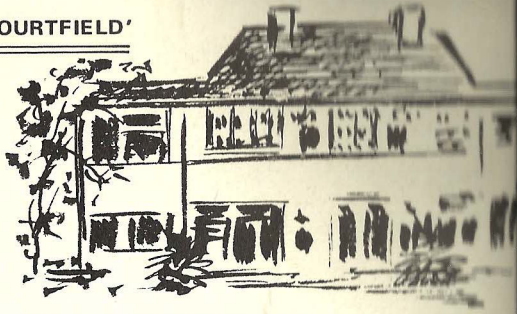
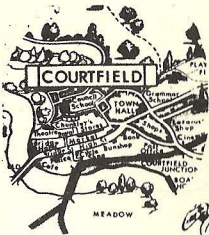


#### AN IRISH PROBLEM

Our many Irish Republic readers should note that the Irish pound (the Punt) is now a 'foreign currency' and no longer the equivalent of Sterling. At time of writing, for instance, it takes about eleven Irish Punts to make £10 Sterling. (Though, of course, this may fluctuate).

Therefore, please make the necessary adjustment when sending in your order and remittance. Also, add 60p for Bank Conversion charges. Your Bank can best advise you on the correct Irish currency equivalent to British Sterling.

## ACTIVITIES AT 'COURTFIELD'



Robert Acraman, able organiser of the London Friars Club, writes to report further highly successful meetings and away trips. Schools visited and toured have included Harrow, Eton and Charterhouse. The Charterhouse visits took in both the old school at Smithfield and the new school at Godalming. These two tours were arranged by an Old Boy of Charterhouse and keen Friar, Peter McCall.

The meetings at 'Courtfield' continue to attract large attendance of Friars.

For details, intending members should write to Robert Acraman, 'Courtfield', 49 Kingsend, Ruislip, Middlesex, or telephone 71-31025

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## ... AND ELSEWHERE

Autumn meetings begin with a gathering at the home of Maurice Hall at Walton-on-Thames on the afternoon of August 19th. Telephone Walton-on-Thames 24848.

And at the home of Sylvia Marie Haynes, at 35 Mildmay Park, London N1 on the afternoon of September 30th. Telephone 01-359 - 9622.

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## SALES AND WANTS

**FOR SALE:** Vol. 19, The Greyfriars Hikers, £15 . Vol. 24, The Kidnapped Schoolboys, £15 . Vol. 25, Billy Bunter in China, £12 . Vol. 39, The Ghost of Polpelly, £10. Apply to: Mr A. J. Tidmarsh, 12 Bury Grove, Morden, Surrey. Or telephone 01-648 - 0619.

**FOR SALE:** Magnets - various - first class condition. Write for details to: Mr G. C. Dalley, 4 Fieldview, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

**FOR SALE:** Greyfriars Holiday Annual 1938. Offers, please. to Miss M. Stirland, 5 Mill Lane, Hathwaite, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

**FOR SALE:** Vol. 15, Calling Mr Quelch, £7 . Vol. 17, Black Sheep of Greyfriars, £10 . Vol. 19, Greyfriars Hikers, £10 . Vol. 21, Tyrant of Greyfriars, £15 . Vol. 22, Billy Bunter's Christmas, £10 . Vol. 23, Joker of Greyfriars, £10 . Vol. 24, The Kidnapped Schoolboys, £7 . Vol. 25, Billy Bunter in China, £8 . Vol. 27, Shadow Over Harry Wharton, £8 . Vol. 29, Mystery at Moat House, £10 . Vol. 37, Billy Bunter's Lucky Day, £8 . Vol. 38, Bunter Tells the Truth, £8 . Vol. 39, The Ghost of Polpelly, £10 . Club Edition No. 4, Harry Wharton and Co. in India, £20. Apply to: Mrs E. M. Evans, 35 St. Non Avenue, Carmarthen, Dyffed, SA31 3DL.



# The Greyfriars Gazette



## SALES AND WANTS

( Continued from Page 7 )

**WANTED:** Vol. 21, The Tyrant of Greyfriars; Vol. 22, Billy Bunter's Christmas; Vol. 23, The Jokers of Greyfriars.. Offers, please, to Mr R. W. Tucker, 239 Bricknell Avenue, Hull, North Humberside.

**WANTED:** Mr J. F. de Freitas of 648 Stud Road, Scoresby, Victoria, Australia 3179, would like to purchase original Magnets 435, 498, 871. Also Union Jacks 894, 898, 949, 954, 981, 1025, 1396. Exchanges available if desired.

**WANTED:** Greyfriars Holiday Annual 1974. Offers, please, to Mr M. Wakeland, 6 Alexandra Avenue, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts NG17 4BU.

**WANTED:** Vol. 23, The Joker of Greyfriars. Offers, please, to Mr Colin Bagley, 2 Hickling House, Southwark Park Road, London SE16 2ER.

**WANTED:** Club Vol. No 3: The Making of Harry Wharton, will pay £30 . Club Vol. No 2: Loder for Captain, will pay £20 . Magnet Vol. No 22: Billy Bunter's Christmas, will pay £12 . Offers, please, to Mr Emmanuel Cohen, 46 Jabotinsky Street, Rishon-le-Zion, Israel.

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Insertion under Sales and Wants are free of charge to all Friars. Whenever possible, please write your advertisement, as succinctly as possible, on a postcard.

Due to anticipated work pressure in the Autumn months ahead, this is likely to be the last Gazette until the Christmas issue, which should be published in late November.



Hoping you enjoy the reading programme set before you for Autumn, and with All Best Wishes,

Sincerely,  
Your Publisher

*Howard Baker*



HOWARD BAKER PRESS LIMITED

27a Arterberry Road, Wimbledon London, S.W.20