

The Greyfriars Stories

in the Popular

By
W.O.G. LOFTS

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Lists typed and compiled by
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When Eric Fayne wrote his most excellent article in the 1950 C.D. Annual entitled 'The Popular Popular' he mentioned the fact 'that it was probably the most remarkable periodical that ever appeared'. Having studied the whole run of this paper these last six months I could not agree with Eric more on this point.

Whatever the size of its circulation, the 'Popular' could not help but make money for the Amalgamated Press, the simple fact being that the majority of stories and illustrations had appeared in previous periodicals, and therefore the cost of producing such a publication was very low indeed.

I have been told on good authority, that it was originally intended to call the 'Penny Popular' the 'Penny Popular of Popular Stories' but it was thought that this title was too long winded - so just 'Penny Popular' it was named. When I interviewed Mr. C.M. Down last year he maintained that the Magnet's circulation was always larger than the 'Gem's' - but if this was so, why did they reprint the 'Gem' stories first in the 'Penny Popular' when the main object of the paper was to reproduce for the public the three most popular characters or sets of characters in the Amalgamated Press fiction for juveniles - Sexton Blake; Jack, Sam, & Pete and Tom Merry & Co.? Here is the first mystery in the most unusual paper ever to appear.

Although the 'Penny Popular' may have been popular with readers, it certainly was not with contributors, as hardly any work was required from them. The job of cutting, and rewriting the stories was the work of two sub-editors, William Stanton Hope and Arthur Aldcroft, both of whom are still alive, and I have corresponded with them quite recently. Charles Hamilton was paid the sum of £2. 2. 0. as an honorarium for every Greyfriars story published, though this was a very poor fee, taking into consideration the amount of money that the Amalgamated Press made out of his tales.

After a long close study of the reprinted stories of Greyfriars, I cannot help wondering how they could have been at all popular with readers. Drastically abridged, disjointed, and with often the best parts of Hamilton cut out, as a very keen reader of the 'Magnet' I found them unsatisfactory from every point of view. Indeed, many of the original chapters of 13 which had appeared in the 'Magnet' had somehow been cut down to 6! A classical example of this is P.P. (New Series) No. 114, which was taken from 'Magnet' No. 184 where Lord Mauleverer came to Greyfriars.

The 1st Series of the 'Penny Popular' Greyfriars stories, were very easy to find in the 'Magnet' as not only were many of the titles the same, but the stories followed in some form of sequence, but towards the end of the first series it became obvious to the editor that the Greyfriars stories were far from being popular with

readers, mainly because they had read them previously. There were it seems readers with either long memories of the stories, or else they had collections of back numbers, and something had to be done to keep these readers' interests alive. Confirmation of this was given in an issue of the 'Magnet' in 1919, when an announcement appeared as follows:

"Lots of people have refrained from buying the Penny Popular each week in the past, because they have already read the stories appearing therein. Entirely new and original stories will appear from next week"

Now it is perfectly true that the stories which did appear were new and original, but they were not written by Charles Hamilton. They were, with one exception, written by G.R. Samways who in the opinion of H.A. Hinton and C.M. Down was the best of the substitute writers at that period. The reason why Mr. Hamilton did not write the new stories is obvious, as he only wrote approximately 37 stories for the 'Magnet' in the period 1919/20, and he could not possibly be expected to keep a regular output going for the 'Penny Popular' when the 'Magnet' was lacking material from his clever pen.

H.A. Hinton the editor, suggested to Mr. Samways that it might be a good idea to have the Remove chums play the various counties at cricket, a theme which had proved very popular with readers of Sexton Blake in the 'Union Jack' and Jack, Sam & Pete in the 'Marvel', when these characters had visited various real life towns - to the great delight of the local readers. There has been much criticism of these stories, which featured Dennis Carr, by some collectors, and it is not my intention to try and alter their views. But the main thing which mattered was that the stories at least satisfied the juvenile readers at that time, as they ran for nearly two years.

With the starting of the Holiday Annual in 1920, 'Billy Bunter's Weekly', 'Greyfriars Herald', 'Tom Merry's Weekly' and many other contributions for the companion papers to write, Mr. Samways in time found it impossible to keep up this regular story for the 'Popular' each week and wrote his last story in No. 101, dated Xmas Day, 1920.

It was then decided to start reprinting the old stories again, but this time with a difference, as the editorial policy was to try and make these newly rehashed stories as 'New' to the reader as possible. With different titles from those which had appeared in the 'Magnet' and often starting a story in the eighth or later chapters, these stories were not at all easy to trace, as apart from all this, instead of going in some sort of sequence which would have been easy to the researcher, the stories jumped about all over the place from 'Magnet' 605 back to 493 then on to 607, 610, and then 672. Many a weary hour I have spent searching through Vols of Magnets to try and trace a story which I knew would bear not much resemblance to its new appearance in the 'Popular'. I remember with some amusement reading a cricket story in the 'Popular' and then finding that its original form was about a football match.

In the list, stories written by other writers than Charles Hamilton, have the correct name of the author beside them. Regarding 'Magnet' No. 672 the double Xmas number for 1920, I should like to point out that this is a genuine story by Mr. Hamilton. Apart from the chief-sub-editor of the 'Magnet' confirming this, it also has been proved by official records to have been written by the genuine 'Frank Richards'. Readers who have a copy of this story can see this for themselves.

about this - by a perusal of 'Harry Wharton's Trust'.

So, in closing my foreword on the Greyfriars reprints in the 'Popular', although I would not recommend to any reader to collect the paper for the reprinted stories, I feel I could do no better, than to say that for a collector of all types of Charles Hamilton's stories, one could buy the 'Popular' alone for the really superb Rio Kid yarns. These were all original, and I must confess that I spent more time than I should have done, in reading many of them and they were to my mind easily the best stories to appear in the 'Popular'.

* * * * *

GREYFRIARS STORIES IN POPULAR 1ST SERIES

All stories are by Charles Hamilton unless otherwise stated

		<u>Magnet</u>	<u>Original</u>
222	6-1-17	The Making of Harry Wharton	1
223		The Taming of Harry Wharton	2
224		The Mystery of Greyfriars	3
225		Chums of Greyfriars	4
226		Aliens at Greyfriars	6
227		Rivals of the Remove	7
228		In Hiding	8
229		Harry Wharton's Sacrifice	12
230		A Jolly Half-holiday	13
231		The Greyfriars Ventriloquist	32
232		The Greyfriars Chinee	36/37
233		The Cheerful Chinee	38
234		The Lad from Lancashire	45
235		The New Sixth-former	49
236		Harry Wharton's Pluck	52
237		The Greyfriars Sailors	53
238		Harry Wharton's Recruits	56
239		Cut by the Form	58
240		Billy Bunter's Pupils	57
241		The School Dance	59
242		The Greyfriars Cricketers	60
243		The Rivals of Greyfriars	61
244		The Rival Scouts	65
245		Cornering the Culprit	71
246		The Invasion of Greyfriars	68
247		Marjorie's Peril	69
248		The Cliff House Party	70
249		The Greyfriars Photographer	72
250		The Greyfriars Caravan	73
251		The Greyfriars Camp	74
252		The Tenants of Study No. 13	75
253		Billy Bunter - Editor	76
254		The Greyfriars Bun Fight	77
255		Bunter the Boxer	81
256		The Mystery of the Crypt	82

257	Bunter the Bully		83
258	The Chum from New Zealand		86
259	Billy Bunter's Windfall	H.A. Hinton	87
260	The Lancashire Junior's Resolve		88
261	The Faddist Form-master		89
262	With Flying Colours		90
263	Bunter, the Detective		92
264	The Circus at Greyfriars		93
265	The Fifth at Greyfriars		91
266	The Smuggler's Cave		94
267	The French-master's Secret		95
268	The Greyfriars Carnival		96
269	Billy Bunter's Christmas Dream		95
270	Wingate's Secret		108
271	15-12-17 Bunter the Dandy		101
272	The Disappearance of Wun Lung		102
273	Bulstrode's Predicament		103
274	The Greyfriars Treasure		105
275	Nugent Minor		100
276	A Tough Handful		100
277	The Stolen Feed		104
278	The Greyfriars Fifteen		104
279	Led Astray		107
280	The Scapegrace of the Second		107
281	Linley's Luck		110
282	The Form Against Him		110
283	The Barring of Bunter		106
284	The Greyfriars Actors		106
285	The Remove to the Rescue		109
286	The 'First' at Greyfriars		112

A serial entitled "Harry Wharton's Schooldays" was published in numbers 19 to 23, and this was reprinted from Magnet No. 1.

GREYFRIARS STORIES PUBLISHED IN POPULAR 2ND SERIES

		<u>Magnet Original</u>
1	25-1-19 Billy Bunter's Postal Order	133
2	Bunter the Footballer	136
3	Poor Old Bunter	160
4	The Artful Dodger	163
5	The Bounder of Greyfriars	119
6	The Head's Secret	119
7	Bunter the Smoker	120
8	Educating the Bounder	120
9	Bunter the Line Merchant	121
10	Harry Wharton and Co's Feud	114
11	A Journey of Peril	114
12	The Juniors' Enemy	115
13	The Black Rock Mystery	115
14	Wun Lung's Minor	117

Magnet Original

15	Hop Hi's Triumph	117
16	The First Eleven	121
17	The Remove Eight	122

Newly written Substitute stories now follow up to 101

18	The Lads of Lancashire	All written by
19	Sportsmen of Surrey	G.R. Samways
20	School versus County	
21	Champions of Essex	
22	Hampshire Heroes	
23	Sons of the South	
24	Bob Cherry's Task	
25	The Rebels of Greyfriars	
26	Sussex by the Sea	
27	The Prefect's Plot	
28	The Captured Crew	
29	Dick Russell's Daring	
30	The Vanished Umpire	
31	The Friars in London	
32	The Cancelled Trip	Dennis Carr arrives at Greyfriars
33	At War with Greyfriars	
34	The Crossroads of Life	
35	The Path of Dishonour	
36	Dennis Carr's Folly	
37	Mark Linley's Sacrifice	
38	The Shadow of Expulsion	
39	Redeeming the Past	Dennis Carr leaves Greyfriars for convalescence
40	Wanted, a Leader	
41	Vernon Smith's Week	
42	Peter Todd's Progress	
43	Highcliffe's Defeat	
44	For One Week Only	
45	Wharton's Last Chance	
46	Dennis Carr's Return	Dennis Carr returns to Greyfriars
47	Rivals for the Captaincy	
48	The Greyfriars Election	Dennis Carr becomes Captain of the Remove
49	27-12-19	Dennis Carr, Captain
50		Down on his Luck
51		Dennis Carr's Farewell
52		An Uphill Fight
53		The Downfall of Dennis
54		For his Chums Honour
55		Brought to Book
56		The Return of the Wanderer
57		The Slacker of Greyfriars
58		Bunter the Bonesetter
59		The Greyfriars Musicians
60		A Goat for Sale
61		Billy Bunter's Prize

Written by W. Stanton-Hope

All written by
G.R. Samways

62	Ructions at Greyfriars
63	The Rebels of the Remove
64	The New Captain of Greyfriars
65	The School Against Him
66	The Great Rebellion
67	The Triumph of Justice
68	Hazeldene's Honour
69	The Best Man Wins
70	Dennis Carr's Venture
71	The Remove to the Rescue
72	Billy Bunter's Campaign
73	Banished from Greyfriars
74	Billy Bunter's Farewell
75	The Head's Pardon
76	Sportsman or Coward?
77	Clearing His Name
78	The Silent Schoolboy
79	Wibley's Winning Way
80	Under Canvas
81	The Rival Camps
82	Schoolboys and Scouts
83	Getting Quits with Greyfriars
84	Dennis Carr's Compact
85	The Schoolboy Champion
86	The Forbidden Match
87	The Wiles of Wibley
88	For Old Times Sake
89	Saved at the Finish
90	The Slackers Eleven
91	Sentenced by the Form
92	The Fighting Five
93	The Worst Form at Greyfriars
94	Bonfire Night at Greyfriars
95	The Boxing Boom at Greyfriars
96	Training for the Tournament
97	Rivals of the Ring
98	Battling for the Honours
99	His Word of Honour
100	Champion of the Third
101	25-12-20 Christmas at Bunter Court

End of the newly written substitute stories

		<u>Magnet Original</u>
102	The Head's Secret	162
103	A Coward's Blow	169
104	Bulstrode Minor	178
105	The Tragedy at Greyfriars	178
106	Mark Linley's Temptation	180
107	The Great Mistake	180
108	Vernon-Smith's Dilemma	181
109	Saving the Head	181
110	The New Bully	182
111	Beaten at Last	182

Magnet Original

112	Dicky Nugent's Challenge	183
113	Inky Minor	183
114	Passing the Test	184
115	The Boy with a Secret	188
116	The Snob	188
117	At War with the Prefects	190
118	Holding their Own	190
119	The Remove Outlaws	190
120	Suspected	193
121	Their Honour at Stake	193
122	A Brother's Sacrifice	193
123	A Sixth Form Mystery	196
124	One Staunch Chum!	196
125	Rallying Round Wharton	196
126	The Remove Sailors	231
127	Sunken Gold	231
128	The Schoolboys' Victory	231
129	Who is the Thief?	233
130	The Mystery Removite	233
131	The Last of Gadsby	233
132	The Greyfriars Palmist	235
133	The Great Fish Puzzle	237
134	Up Against His Form Master	238
135	By Order of the Form	238
136	The Mystery of the Derelict	239
137	Their Unseen Enemy	239
138	A Night of Terror	239
139	Young Coker of the Sixth	241
140	Coker Comes Round	241
141	Trouble in the Family	245
142	The Bounder's Comedy	245
143	Nugent's Splendid Sacrifice	245
144	The Head's Guest	246
145	The Last Straw	246
146	One to the Bounder	248
147	The Ventriloquist's Victim	259
148	The Schoolboy Domestic	259
149	Forestalled	(260
150	Burned Out	E.S. Brooks (260
151	10-12-21 Forced to Resign	262
152	Rivals for the Captaincy	263
153	Coker's Short Reign	263
154	Saved from the Sea	264
155	The Boy Who Wanted the Sack	264
156	Whilst Greyfriars Slept	264
157	Coach or Crook?	266
158	Linley to the Rescue	266
159	Fags to Order	257
160	The Last of the Fag Agency	257
161	Vernon-Smith Declares War	250
162	The First Victim	250

163	Breaking up the Famous Five	251
164	Mark Linley Stands Firm.	252
165	Treachery or Chance?	252
166	Combining Against Wharton	253
167	A Victory at Last	253
168	The Expulsion of Harry Wharton	253
169	Fighting for His Chums	254
170	Bob Cherry's Barring Out	254
171	Exposed by His Father	254
172	Peter the Painter	275
173	£5 Reward	275
174	Loder Pays the Bill	275
175	The Bounder's Accusation	279
176	The Boy Who Couldn't Fight	279
177	Cleveland's Splendid Sacrifice	279
178	A Blow for Bob Cherry	281
179	Chums at Loggerheads	281
180	To Save His Enemy	281
181	The Form Master's Double	285
182	The Bounder on the Trail	285
183	Unmasked	285
184	The Five Heroes	280
185	Coker's Fund	280
186	The Schoolboy Players	280
187	Dealing with the Invaders	291
188	The Haunted Study	291
189	The Remove Wins	291
190	The Disappearance of Vernon Smith	298
191	Found and Lost	298
192	A Pardon Well Earned	298
193	The Remove in Luck	289
194	Too Good to Last	289
195	Mossoo the Hero	302
196	The Motor Bandits	304
197	The End of the Chase	304
198	A Mystery of the Moor	307
199	Trouble for Coker	307
200	Coker's Capture	307
201	25-10-22 In Lawless Hands	309
202	The Greyfriars Hold-up	309
203	For Life or Death	309
204	A Cad Bowled Out	311
205	An Appeal to Greyfriars	316
206	Forced to Fight	316
207	A Lesson for Snoop	315
208	Mauly's Treat	312
209	The Black Footballer	312
210	The Reward of Valour	317
211	The Kidnapping of Hop Hi	318
212	A Search for Hop Hi	318
213	The Masked Raiders	320
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Magnet Original

215	The Bounder's Flight		323
216	The Chase Across the Sea		323
217	Looking After Wingate		314
218	Proof Positive		322
219	Wibley's Wonderful Wheeze		322
220	The Boxer's Double		324
221	The Fighting Master		324
222	The Greyfriars Cricketers		325
223	The Holiday Spoilers		326
224	Bolsover's Impersonation		326
225	Fishy Corners Tuck		328
326	Sir 'Arry of Greyfriars		329
227	In Another's Name		329
228	The Wrong Sort		330
229	Sacked		330
230	Billy Bunter's Cousin		333
231	The Big Bunter Mystery		333
232	The Kidnapper's Mistake		331
233	The Missing Master		331
234	Harry Wharton and Co. in France		332
235	Hazeldene's Foolishness		332
236	Smithy's Rough Luck		334
237	Outwitting a Rascal		334
238	Lord Fish of Greyfriars		337
239	For His Brother's Sake		339
240	The Missing Funds		339
241	Ponsonby's Plot		344
242	Squiff Makes Things Hum		344
243	Pursued Across the Seas		345
244	Ferrers Locke at Greyfriars		345
245	Damages to Pay		346
246	The Stony Five		346
247	The Black Removites		354
248	Coker the Prefect		355
249	Coker's Reign of Terror		355
250	Waking up Mauly	E.S. Brooks	347
251	3-11-23 Mauly, Swot	E.S. Brooks	347
252	Skinner Comes a Cropper		360
253	The Sneak's Escape		360
254	Captain Bunter's Team		362
255	The Cup for the Remove		362
256	Bunter the Champion		364
257	The Hero of the Remove		364
258	Down in the Depths		367
259	The Bounder Makes Good		367
260	Uncle Johnny Bull		368
261	Off to Australia		368
262	Saved from the Flames		370
263	Billy Bunter's Wealth		371
264	In the Coiners' Hands		371
265	Loder's Treachery	E.S. Brooks	377
266	Saved from Disgrace	E.S. Brooks	377

267	The Remove Acrobats		378
268	Bowling out a Rascal	G.R. Samways	361
269	Cut Adrift		363
270	A Fellow With a Past		310
271	One of the Best		310
272	April Fools Day	E.S. Brooks	321
273	Alonzo Makes Things Hum		319
274	Checkmating the Swindlers		380
275	The Burglary at Highcliffe		380
276	A Scare for the Famous Five		382
277	The Remove's Great Win		382
278	A Callous Customer	E.S. Brooks	388
279	The Secret of the Pump	E.S. Brooks	388
280	Loder's Little Mistake		399
281	Coker and the Bullies		399
282	By Order of the Form	G.R. Samways	394
283	The Great Boxing Final	G.R. Samways	394
284	The Enemy at the Gate		395
285	A Hot Time		395
286	Poor Old Mauly		386
287	The Rival Authors		398
288	Bunter's Special Prize		398
289	Billy Bunter's Benefit		396
290	A Cad's Scheme		393
291	Rescuing the Cricketers		393
292	The Revenge that Failed	- Believed original story - written by W. Stanton Hope	
293	Ferrers Locke's Ward		403
294	A Rogue Revealed		403
295	A Reckless Resolve	G.R. Samways	405
296	The Football Tourists	G.R. Samways	405
297	The Upper Hand		412
298	Rough on Hobson		416
299	Colonel Wharton's Cup		416
300	Mr. Quelch's Quandary		407
301	The Bounder's Vain Sacrifice		418
302	Fishy's Fishy Venture		404
303	Micky Desmond's Luck		425
304	Wingate's Resolve		428
305	A Bid for the Captaincy		428
306	The Hero of Greyfriars		431
307	Billy Bunter's Reward		431
308	Frank Nugent's Folly		434
309	Coker's Infatuation		419
310	Coker's Fiancee		419
311	Rake's Rebels		408
312	Flooring Fishy		420
313	The Bounder's Lone Hand		442
314	Chums Divided		446
315	True to His Chum		446
316	The Rival Captains		459

Magnet Original

317		Bravo Bunter		460	
318		The Schoolboy Speculator		465	
319		Mauly's Titled Relation		471	
320		The Schoolboy Baronet		471	
321		Bunter the Viscount		474	
322		Detective Coker		473	
323		Loder's Little Lesson		475	
324		In Borrowed Plumes		410	
325		The Masher's Reward		410	
326		Up Against a Bully		485	
327		Out of Bounds		485	
328		A Split in the Co.		496	
329		Bob Cherry's Brainwave		497	
330		Smithy the Peacemaker		497	
331		Bunter's Banknote		462	
332		Rallying Round Bunter		462	
333		Mossoo the Sportsman		438	
334		Monsieur Wibley		438	
335		The Bounder's Guest		453	
336		The Shadow of Expulsion		453	
337		Mauleverer's Detective		457	
338		Bravo the Caterpillar		457	
339		The Lure of the Limelight	J.N. Pentelow	449	
340		The Wanderer's Return	J.N. Pentelow	449	
341		The Funk		470	
342		Wrongly Accused		470	
343		Ponsonby's Pupil		507	
344		A Fag's Temptation		507	
345		Coker the Rebel		508	
346		Coker's Barring Out		508	
347		Skinner's Shady Scheme		510	
348		In His Brother's Place		510	
349		A Shadow of the Past		511	
350		Saving the Bounder		511	
351	10-10-25	Trouble in the Fifth	G.R. Samways	529	
352		The Iron Hand	G.R. Samways	529	
353		Bunter's Reformation		541	
354		Bunter's Recovery		541	
355		The New Boy of the Fourth		546	
356		Birds of a Feather		547	
357		Aubrey Angel's Friend		547	
358		Breaking Bounds		547	
359		Sir Jimmy's Enemy		548	
360		The Boy who wasn't Wanted		548	
361		Coker's Latest		561	
362		The Bounder's Chum		553	
363		Foiled at the Finish		553	
364		The White Feather		554	
365		The Broken Bond		554	
366		Rough on Redwing		555	
367		A Blow for the Bounder		556	

368		Through Thick and Thin		556
369		Coker Tries It On		551
370		Too Big for His Boots		551
371		Hoskins' Musical Masterpiece		558
372		The Schoolboy Detectives		558
373		"Nap" of the Remove		586
374		Missing		586
375		Sent to Coventry		587
376		Looking for Dupont		587
377		Bunter the Speculator		568
378		Bunter the Welsher		568
379		Billy Bunter's Double		569
380		Billy Bunter's Experiment		570
381		The Other Bunter		570
382		Wally of the Remove		571
383		Billy Bunter, Creditor		571
384		A Dog with a Bad Name		572
385		Snoop's Folly		579
386		Wally Bunter's Wheeze		579
387		A Friend in Need		582
388		The Return of the Native		585
389		The Treasure of the Ruins		589
390		Bunter's Family Plate		589
391		Peter Todd's Peril		590
392		Catching a Cracksman		590
393		Bunter the Speculator		643
394		Raising the Wind		643
395		Harry Wharton's Good Turn		617
396		Riding the High Horse		617
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398		Chumming with Loder		649
399		Barred		651
400		Billy Bunter's Bluff		651
401	2-10-26	The Funk		563
402		The Worm Turns		563
403		Hoskins' Wedding March		580
404		Horace Coker's Latest		597
405		Trouble for the Great Horace		597
406		The Schoolboy Treasure-Seekers	G.R. Samways	605
407		A Traitor to His School		463
408		Bowled Out		463
409		Fishy the Barber	F.G. Cook	607
410		The Injustice of Mr. Quelch	F.G. Cook	610
411		The Mutiny in the Remove	F.G. Cook	610
412		The Sealed Packet	Charles Hamilton	672
413		Harry Wharton's Triumph	Charles Hamilton	672
414		All for Bunter's Sake		682
415		Slim Bunter		682
416		Against the Law	J.N. Pentelow	686
417		Marooned	J.N. Pentelow	686
418		Billy Bunter's Latest		689

Magnet Original

419		The Spoofer of the Remove	689
420		Heading for Trouble	693
421		The Four Impostors	693
422		Bunter the Poet	G.R. Samways 711
423		Billy Bunter's Luck	G.R. Samways 711
424		Rivals of the River	F.G. Cook 685
425		William Wibley's Wheeze	F.G. Cook 685
426		Artful Bunter	715
427		Bowling out Bunter	715
428		The Slacker's Awakening	G.R. Samways 718
429		Bunter's Bargain	729
430		Billy Bunter's Bedstead	729
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