

May 13th, 1949.

ROSE LAWN,  
KINGSCATE-ON-SEA,  
KENT.

Dear Mr. Norman,

Very many thanks for a very pleasant letter. I am sorry to say that there is no chance of the old papers ever reappearing. But I am now writing about a new school called "Felgate" which will appear in a periodical, and that, I hope, may to some extent take the place of Gem and Magnet.

Yes, Billy Bunter is still going strong. Present-day circumstances make it possible to carry on the Magnet and Gem series only in book form. The Greyfriars books are published by Charles Skilton, Ltd, 50, Alexandra Road, London, S.W. 19., and the St. Jim's books by Mandeville Publications, 26, Manchester Square, London, W. 1.

Many, many thanks for your kind wishes. By God's blessing I enjoy health which is, I think, very unusual in a man of my age, and I am as happy in my work as when I wrote my first story in 1890. At that distant date I never dreamed that

I should still be writing<sup>in</sup> in my eighth decade: but even if it were not necessary for my livelihood, I should still write for pleasure--I just can't help it!

Thank you once more for a very kind and encouraging letter,

Yours very sincerely,

*Frank Richards*