

CURRENT PUBLICATIONS OF P G WODEHOUSE WORK

In this section, we will try to bring news of new publications of books, audio recordings and film/TV material by P G Wodehouse which are available in the UK and which can be regarded as 'official' publications.

The nature of the publishing world today means that drastically different conditions apply to the availability of Wodehouse's work in different countries, along with the formats in which such material can be found. It is therefore impractical to try to present lists of work available from different publishers as this is ever-changing; all we can try to do is direct readers to the principal websites on which such material is listed.

Visitors should bear in mind that Wodehouse's fiction may be available in both paper and a variety of electronic formats, and may get the best results from exploring the sites mentioned or other sources to find out-of-print titles or historic formats (such as VHS videotapes or audio-cassette tapes).

Books

In the recent past, Wodehouse's fiction in the UK has been published by imprints owned by Random House.

Everyman has recently published the last of the 99 titles in its superb Everyman Wodehouse Collection, each of which is book with hard covers and a jacket in similar format with artwork by Andrzej Klimowski. Details may be found at:

<http://www.everymanslibrary.co.uk/wodehouse.aspx>

In addition, many titles are available in one or both of Arrow paperback and e-book formats.

<http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/static/Search?searchTerm=wodehouse&view=books> will take you to the present list of available titles and formats.

Apart from single novel and short story collections, this link lists a number of Omnibus issues (especially relating to Jeeves, Blandings, Golf and Clergy), and some anthologies with a range of Wodehouse stories from different character groups. Finally it includes books about Wodehouse and his work which were published within the Random House Group (such as *Wodehouse at the Wicket*, compiled by Murray Hedgcock; *P G Wodehouse: A Life in Letters*, by Sophie Ratcliffe; and *The Wit and Wisdom of P G Wodehouse*, compiled by Tony Ring.)

Audiobooks

Historically, Wodehouse was blessed by a superb series of audiobook recordings in the UK in each of the three different categories: **dramatisations**, **abridged readings**, and the gold standard – **unabridged readings**.

Most of the **dramatisations** which were made available were derived from the BBC radio series of the 1970s, starring Richard Briers as Bertie Wooster and Michael Hordern as Jeeves. BBC Audiobooks were taken over by Audiogo, which went into administration in 2013. **It may be possible to find some of their titles through judicious use of commercial websites. We are investigating whether these titles are being distributed by any company at present, and will amend this page to reflect our findings in due course.**

Most of the **abridged readings**, by Martin Jarvis, had been published by CSA Word, which was acquired by Canongate. The available titles, mainly but not exclusively, in the Blandings and Jeeves and Wooster series, can be found at:

<http://www.canongate.tv/catalogsearch/result/index/?limit=48&q=wodehouse>

These readings are available either as physical CDs or as Audio Downloads – see the symbols by the illustrations on the weblink above.

The gems of the audiobook world were in the **unabridged** recordings, mainly produced by the then independent company Chivers. The principal Wodehouse reader was Jonathan Cecil, who read about 30 titles. Chivers was first acquired by BBC Audiobooks, which in turn was bought by Audiogo, with the outcome mentioned above.

Audiogo's rights in the UK were acquired by Audible UK, an Amazon company, which has made available Audio Downloads (but not physical CDs) of many titles. The current list of titles available may be found at:

http://www.audible.co.uk/mt/pg_wodehouse/ref=amb link 162670847 1

Audible have entered into an arrangement with another distributor for physical CDs of these recordings, see:

Alternatively, but at very high cost, physical CDs may be imported from the USA, see:

http://www.blackstonelibrary.com/catalogsearch/result/?collection=&refinements=&q=wodehouse#prod_163804

This list includes a number of recordings made for the original American Blackstone company by the late Frederick Davidson. Mr Davidson was of English origin but had lived in the USA for some decades. His recordings were, to an English ear, slightly quirky as a generally standard English pronunciation was occasionally interrupted by a word or phrase with an extreme American pronunciation! Purchases from this list may have the costs and complications of taxes and duties on importation, apart from high postage.

DVDs

Wodehouse-related DVDs fall into two categories – those relating to TV series, and those relating to films in which Wodehouse had direct or indirect involvement.

The simplest way of checking whether DVDs of a particular film or TV series exist is to search the internet. Information at September 2015 suggests that copies of the following DVDs are available through the Amazon website, either directly or through one of their associated suppliers:

TV Series

Jeeves and Wooster – the Complete Collection*

Blandings – Series 1 and Series 2

Wodehouse Playhouse – the Complete Collection*

* Beware offers for single series or even single episodes which can cost as much as the entire collection.

A VHS tape was published of the BBC TV film *Heavy Weather*, with Richard Briers and Peter O'Toole, but no commercial DVD was ever offered.

Films

Brother Alfred

A Damsel in Distress

Thank You Jeeves/Step Lively Jeeves (only used copies offered)

The Girl on the Boat

Piccadilly Jim

By Jeeves

Anything Goes

Trésor Party (a French adaptation for the stage of *Money in the Bank*, a performance of which was recorded and presented on television French television)

CDs with P G WODEHOUSE LYRICS

There are too many of these to hope to be able to offer a comprehensive list. Very often, CDs of this sort will be released, and withdrawn after a few years, so that it will only be second-hand and remainder sites where they can be found. The information given below includes the Production Company's name and website where available, a reference number if possible, and a few descriptive words or other information.

The list is divided into five parts:

i Recordings relating to single shows with a majority of PGW lyrics

- ii Recordings relating to single shows where there are some PGW lyrics
- iii Recordings of a selection of songs all with PGW lyrics
- iv Recordings of a selection of songs with at least two PGW lyrics
- v Other recordings of significant PGW interest

i Recordings from single shows with a majority of PGW lyrics

The Cabaret Girl

- **2005 The Comic Opera Guild www.comicoperaguild.org/PAGES/RECORDINGS.html
- 2009 The Ohio Light Opera www.albanyrecords.com TROY 1103/04

Have a Heart

- **2005 The Comic Opera Guild www.comicoperaguild.org/PAGES/RECORDINGS.html

Leave It To Jane

- 1959 AEI-CD038 No website. This is a complete recording from the original mastertapes of the 1959 Broadway production
- 1991 DRG Records 15017XP Double album with original Cast Recordings of *Leave It To Jane* and *Oh, Kay!*, which has Ira Gershwin lyrics and a Bolton/Wodehouse libretto
- **2003 The Comic Opera Guild www.comicoperaguild.org/PAGES/RECORDINGS.html

Oh, Boy!

- **2005 The Comic Opera Guild www.comicoperaguild.org/PAGES/RECORDINGS.html

Oh, Lady, Lady!!

- **2005 The Comic Opera Guild www.comicoperaguild.org/PAGES/RECORDINGS.html

Sitting Pretty

- 1990 New World Records 80387-2 Double album
- ** Recordings marked with a double asterisk were made from live performances at the Jerome Kern Festival of the Comic Opera Guild, a not-for-profit organisation, in 2005. These have the advantage of incorporating much of the dialogue from the libretto of the show, but the commensurate disadvantage of using performers who are less than fully professional.

ii Recordings from single shows where there are some PGW lyrics

Kissing Time

- 2004 Paleophonics 82 Presentation of the original cast recordings from the Winter Garden production in London in May 1919

Sally

- **2005 The Comic Opera Guild www.comicoperaguild.org/PAGES/RECORDINGS.html

Showboat

There are numerous recordings of this show which include the PGW lyric *Bill*, which has probably been recorded hundreds of times including in *The Land Where The Good Songs Go* (below) sung by Lara Cazalet, and *The Glory of Helen Morgan* (below), sung by the original Broadway singer.

Till the Clouds Roll By (from the film, not a stage show)

- **2005 Prism Leisure PLATCD 1341

Very Good Eddie

- 1977 DRG Records CDRG 6100
- Incorporates four interpolated Wodehouse songs from the Broadway revival

iii Recordings of a selection of songs all with PGW lyrics

The Land Where The Good Songs Go Hal Cazalet & Sylvia McNair

2001 Harbinger Records HCD1901

This recording includes 16 PGW lyrics, including *Bill* and two from *Anything Goes* which were rewritten by PGW specifically for the show's original London production

www.harbingerrecords.com/land-where-good-songs-go/

In Our Little Paradise Maria Jette & Dan Chouinard

2011 Wolseley Recordings

www.mariajette.com
www.danchoinard.com

The Siren's Song

2014 Wolseley Recordings

www.mariajette.com
www.danchoinard.com

These two CDs have 18 and 21 new songs respectively, including lyrics which have probably never been recorded before.

iv Recordings of a selection of songs with at least two PGW lyrics

The First Rose of Summer: Jerome Kern 1912-1928

2004 Music Box Recordings 04003

Life Upon The Wicked Stage

2002 LML CD-202

www.LMLmusic.com

The Girl I Knew

Lorna Dallas

1997 Harbinger Records HCD1501

I Got Love

Rebecca Luker

2013 PS Classics PS-1312

www.psclassics.com

Sure Thing

Sylvia McNair

1994 Philips 442 129-2

Broadway Through the Gramophone Volume III 1914-1920

2000 Pavilion Records Ltd Gems 0084

v Other recordings of PGW interest

Oh, Kay!

1993 Nonesuch 7559-79361-2

Reconstruction of the original 1926 show.

1998 Sony Classical SK 60703

Anything Goes

There are many recordings of this ubiquitous show, of which three recent cast recordings were each very good and convey the flavour of the show to which Wodehouse made an uncertain contribution after he and Bolton had written the original libretto.

1989 London Cast Recording

First Night Records

ORCRD 6038

2003 National Theatre Cast

First Night Records

CAST CD90

2011 Roundabout Theatre Company (NY)

Ghostlight Records

8-4452

By Jeeves

There are at least four recordings of this show, based on the original Scarborough production; the first London production; the revised London production; and the American production (recorded in 2001).

The Recordings were made by Really Useful Group and distributed by Polydor (the UK recordings) and Universal Classics Group (USA).

Reference numbers are:

Polydor: 531 723-2; 31453 7184 2; 533 187-2

Universal: 314 589 309-2

Nice Work If You Can Get It

2012 New York Cast Recording Shout Factory 826663-13740

This was a new show based on *Oh, Kay!* and incorporating many Gershwin songs from other sources.

The Glory of Helen Morgan

1998 MCI Presents MPMCD 003

A CD with 23 songs including her original rendition of *Bill*.

Books About Wodehouse and His Work

Introduction

It is very difficult to judge how much information to provide in relation to works about Wodehouse's life and work. There have been many full Biographies, and a number of books concentrating on a specific aspect of his life. There have been fairly comprehensive Bibliographies, and extensive publications of research into his manner of writing and his characters. Other books of interest have included selections of his quotations, and examples of his uncollected work with contextual commentary.

Some of the publications were updated in second editions, and it is evidently sensible to list only the later version. Other important reference works have appeared from several different publishers and in different formats. In general, the details of the book will relate to the first edition but readers are recommended to check with internet sources as to the existence of later editions which may be easier to obtain.

A number of perfectly interesting books have been published in the past, and are now out of print but their contents have in effect been incorporated specifically or indirectly in more fully researched later works. An editorial axe has therefore been wielded in a number of cases to reduce the extent of this section without reducing its practical value.

ISBN numbers have been provided where known. Books which have been privately published may still be available from the author, and relevant e-mail addresses are included at the end.

Full Biographies

1974 P G Wodehouse: Portrait of a David Jasen Mason & Lipscomb
Master

The original authorised biography of PGW. This edition was published in the USA; the UK edition from Garnstone Press was published in the following year.

1982 P G Wodehouse – the Authorised Frances Donaldson Weidenfeld &
Biography Nicholson

The paperback version published by Futura in 1983 reflected a number of minor factual and other corrections made by the author. Unfortunately, both of the later printings, by Allison & Busby (in 1992) and Prion Books (2001) reverted to the incorrect unamended text.

1983 P G Wodehouse: A Literary Benny Green OUP 0-19-281390-0
Biography

1992 P G Wodehouse - Man and Myth Barry Phelps Heineman 0-09-471620-X

2004 P G Wodehouse – A Life Robert McCrum Penguin Viking 0-141-00048-1

The most extensively researched and highly recommended Biography.

Studies relating to a specialised aspect of his life and work

1979 The Theatre of P G Wodehouse David Jasen B T Batsford 0 7134 1584 3

Brief details on most PGW-related productions on New York and London stages.

1987 In Search of Blandings N T P Murphy Penguin 0-14-010299-X

Highly original research into the factual origins behind much of PGW's oeuvre.

1981 Wodehouse at War Iain Sproat Milner 0 907681 00 X

First unemotional study of the facts behind PGW's wartime experience.

1990 Yours, Plum Frances Donaldson Hutchinson 0-09-174639-6

Other than PGW's own *Performing Flea*, this was the first published book of his letters. Relatively few are annotated with contextual comment. They are organised in chapters by recipient.

1992 Wooster Proposes, Jeeves Disposes Kristin Thompson Heineman 0-87008-139-X

Study of the Jeeves and Wooster series.

1993 Bolton and Wodehouse and Kern Lee Davis Heineman 0-87008-145-4

Study of the professional relationship between the three originators of the new style of American musical comedy.

1995 You Simply Hit Them with an Axe Tony Ring Porpoise 1-870304-22-5

Study of the tax problems facing a successful international author – and how he coped.

2004 The Complete Lyrics of P G Wodehouse Barry Day. Scarecrow 0-8108-4994-1

Comprehensive listing of PGW's several hundred lyrics.

2004 Emsworth's Plum Linda Newell Havant Borough Council

A brief look at PGW's connections with Emsworth.

2006 P G Wodehouse and Hollywood Brian Taves McFarland & Co 0-7864-2288-2

A detailed analysis and listing of PGW work on film and television.

2009 P G Wodehouse: the Unknown Years Baroness Reinhild von Bodenhausen Stamford Lake 978-955-658-176-8

A personal recollection of the time PGW spent at Degenershausen in Germany during the War.

2009 Bobbles & Plum Paul R Spiring MX Publishing 978-1-90431-258-1

Information about four playlets to which PGW made a contribution.

2009 Three London Walks Norman Murphy Popgood & Groolley

Annotated description of three walks round London visiting locations of Wodehousean interest.

2011 P G Wodehouse A Life in Letters Sophie Ratcliffe Hutchinson 978-0-091-79634-1

A fully annotated collection of letters by PGW to a variety of correspondents, presented in chronological order. It is more comprehensive than the earlier book of letters compiled by Frances Donaldson (1990).

2012 Second Row, Grand Circle Tony Ring Harebrain Publishing

A comprehensive analysis of PGW's work in the non-musical theatre in both the USA and the UK

2013 The Real Jeeves Brian Halford Pitch 978-1-90917-862-5

A biography of Percy Jeeves, the Warwickshire cricketer from whom PGW derived the name 'Jeeves' for Bertie Wooster's valet.

2013 A Wodehouse Handbook: 1 The World of Wodehouse (Revised Edition) Norman Murphy Sybertooth, Inc 978-1-927592-00-7

2013 A Wodehouse Handbook: 2 The Words of Wodehouse (Revised Edition) Norman Murphy Sybertooth, Inc 978-1-927592-01-4

Two volumes by Wodehouse's most experienced and original researcher, updated from the original 2006 edition, whose origin can be traced back to *In Search of Blandings* (above, 1987).

2014 What Goes Around, Comes Around Tony Ring Harebrain Publishing

A collection of 100 verses published under PGW's name in various magazines and other sources.

2014 P G Wodehouse – Gentleman der Literatur Martin Breit Römerhof Verlag 978-3-905894-20-2

A biography in German including the results of researches into remaining German wartime records.

- | | | | | |
|------|---|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2015 | P G Wodehouse in the Globe
Newspaper Vol 1 – <i>Day By Day</i> | John Dawson | GRP Publishers | 978-1-9432-9005-5 |
| 2015 | P G Wodehouse in the Globe
Newspaper Vol 2 – 200 Verses | Tony Ring | GRP Publishers | 978-1-9432-9006-2 |

The results of a study of PGW's time as Editor of the *By The Way* column on *The Globe and Traveller*, a London daily evening paper between 1904 and 1908. Arrangements are in progress by the publisher to make the book available to readers in the UK and Europe at a more reasonable shipping cost.

- | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--|
| 2015 | Wodehouse's School Days | Jan Piggott | Dulwich College | |
|------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--|
- A description of life for PGW at Dulwich

Bibliographical Studies

General

- | | | | | |
|------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1976 | Wodehouse at Work to the End | Richard Usborne | Barrie & Jenkins | 0 214 20211 9 |
|------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
- Extended version of Usborne's original study of PGW's vast oeuvre.

- | | | | | |
|------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1981 | P G Wodehouse: A Centenary
Celebration | James Heineman;
Donald Bensen | Oxford University
Press | 0-19-520357-7 |
|------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|

Centenary prestige publication with many interesting essays and the first draft of what became the focal point of McIlvaine's *Bibliography* (1990).

- | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1981 | A Wodehouse Companion | Richard Usborne | Elm Tree Books | 0-241-89955-9 |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|

A useful brief description of the plot of each Wodehouse book and short study of a number of major characters.

- | | | | | |
|------|--|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1986 | A Bibliography and Reader's
Guide to the First Editions of P G
Wodehouse | David Jasen | Greenhill Books | 0-947898-18-2 |
|------|--|-------------|-----------------|---------------|

Lists each of the characters appearing in each short story and novel.

- | | | | | |
|------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1989 | Who's Who in Wodehouse | Dan Garrison | International
Polygonics | 1-55882-054-X |
|------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|

Essentially an alphabetical listing of speaking characters in any of PGW's books, with brief comments where appropriate.

- | | | | | |
|------|---|------------------|----------|---------------|
| 1990 | P G Wodehouse - A
Comprehensive Bibliography | Eileen McIlvaine | Heineman | 0-87008-125-X |
|------|---|------------------|----------|---------------|

Regarded as the Bible when it was published, it remains invaluable and by far the best published source of information about books published up to 1990, but the plethora of new editions – and new translations and books about Wodehouse and his work – means that it is no longer as comprehensive as it once was.

- | | | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1994-
2001 | The Millennium Wodehouse
Concordance – 8 Volumes | Tony Ring and
Geoffrey Jaggard | Porpoise | Various titles and
ISBNs |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|

A detailed analysis of every character, active and passive, in PGW's fiction, including name variations in US editions and in the original magazine publications. It incorporates much of the analysis prepared by the late Geoffrey Jaggard for his two books *Wooster's World* and *Blandings the Blest*

Other Works with a factual background

- | | | | | |
|------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1981 | Thank You, Wodehouse | J H C Morris & A D
MacIntyre | Weidenfeld &
Nicholson | 0 297 78001 8 |
|------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|

Speculative essays by two Oxford professors about aspects of PGW's oeuvre.

- | | | | | |
|------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1991 | After Hours with P G Wodehouse | Richard Usborne | Constable | 0-09-174712-0 |
|------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|

Essays about a variety of Wodehouse-related subjects from a respected Wodehousean.

- | | | | | |
|------|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 2015 | The P G Wodehouse Miscellany | Norman Murphy | The History Press | 978-0-7509-5964-3 |
|------|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|

An introduction to the world and work of PGW aimed at those who have not read any of that work.

Tribute to Wodehouse

In 2013, Hutchinson published a tribute to PGW written in the form of a new Jeeves and Wooster novel

2013 Jeeves and the Wedding Bells Sebastian Faulks St Martin's Press 978-1-25004-759-5

It is extremely rare for the Wodehouse Estate to grant permission for the use of PGW's characters in new fiction.

Book of Quotations

The only book of PGW quotations presently in print is

2008 The Wit and Wisdom of P G Wodehouse Tony Ring Hutchinson 978-0-099-52224-9

Other Works

The extent of this list shows just how the nature of Wodehouse's writing has attracted attention over the years. A number of the earliest publications about his life and work, the information in which has largely been superseded by later and much more extensive research, have been excluded partly for that reason and partly because they have long been out of print.

There have also been a number of personal appreciations of Wodehouse's work which may centre on different aspects but which again offer little if any new information. These, also have been excluded. On the other hand, the final two works listed represent imaginative interpretations of two recurring themes in PGW's Blandings books:

1991 Lord Emsworth's Annotated Whiffle James Hogg Michael Joseph 0-7181-3476-1
1995 The Reminiscences of Galahad Threepwood N T P Murphy Porpoise Books 1-870304-23-3

Enquiries

For enquiries about books by Norman Murphy, contact him at ntpmurphy@btinternet.com

For enquiries about books by Tony Ring, contact him at ring.tony@yahoo.co.uk