

# The P G Wodehouse Society (UK)

Information Sheet Number 1  
Revision 2

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## Books by P G Wodehouse

The purpose of this information sheet is to provide an authoritative list of the books written by P G Wodehouse. There is no agreement amongst commentators or *aficionados* as to how many he wrote, for the reasons explained below, and The P G Wodehouse Society (UK) does not express a view on this matter.

Reasons why there can be many legitimate views as to the number of his books include:

- 1 Several books, particularly collections of short stories, which were published in the United States differed from the nearest equivalent collection in the United Kingdom.
- 2 Some books have joint authorship with another person.
- 3 When referring to his output of fiction, it is necessary to exclude autobiographical and similar work, and collections of essays.
- 4 A decision has to be made on whether to include collections of stories first published in book form after Wodehouse's death.
- 5 A decision has to be made on whether to include the unfinished novel *Sunset at Blandings*.
- 6 A decision has to be made on whether to include individual short stories published in book form for individual or promotional reasons.
- 7 Different approaches can be taken to the problems caused by the books making up *Mike*, *The Prince and Betty* and *Psmith, Journalist*.
- 8 The recent discovery of a serialised novelette based on *The Prince and Betty*, and a novelette version of *A Gentleman of Leisure*.

To enable those interested to make their own informed decisions, this information sheet divides P G Wodehouse's books into titles of different descriptions, gives the equivalent American title in brackets where different, and identifies whether the UK or the US edition was published first.

The code followed in all the lists is:

**Bold type where the UK printing came first.**

*Italic type indicates simultaneous publication.*

Ordinary type where the US printing came first.

## NOVELS PUBLISHED DURING WODEHOUSE'S LIFETIME (69)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1902	1902	<b>The Pothunters</b>	
1903	1903	<b>A Prefect's Uncle</b>	
1904	1923	<b>The Gold Bat</b>	
1905	1922	<b>The Head of Kay's</b>	
1906	1909	<b>Love Among the Chickens</b>	1
1907	1907	<b>The White Feather</b>	

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1909		<b>The Swoop</b>	2
1909	1910	<b>Mike</b>	3
1910	1910	<b>Psmith in the City</b>	
1910	1910	A Gentleman of Leisure (The Intrusion of Jimmy)	
	1912	The Prince and Betty (US version)	4
1912		<b>The Prince and Betty (UK version)</b>	4
1913	1914	<b>The Little Nugget</b>	
1915	1915	Something Fresh (Something New)	5
1915	1915	<b>Psmith, Journalist</b>	4
1917	1916	Uneasy Money	
1918	1917	Piccadilly Jim	
1919	1919	A Damsel in Distress	
1920	1919	The Coming of Bill (Their Mutual Child)	
1921	1920	Jill the Reckless (The Little Warrior)	
1922	1922	The Girl on the Boat (Three Men and a Maid)	
1922	1923	<b>The Adventures of Sally (Mostly Sally)</b>	
1923	1924	<b>Leave it to Psmith</b>	
1924	1925	<b>Bill the Conqueror</b>	
1925	1925	<b>Sam the Sudden (Sam in the Suburbs)</b>	
1927	1927	<b>The Small Bachelor</b>	
1928	1928	<b>Money for Nothing</b>	
1929	1929	Summer Lightning (Fish Preferred)	
1931	1931	Big Money	
1931	1931	If I Were You	
1932		<b>Doctor Sally</b>	6
1932	1932	<i>Hot Water</i>	
1933	1933	Heavy Weather	
1934	1934	<b>Thank You, Jeeves</b>	
1934	1934	<b>Right Ho, Jeeves (Brinkley Manor)</b>	
1935	1936	<b>The Luck of the Bodkins</b>	7
1936	1936	<b>Laughing Gas</b>	
1938	1937	Summer Moonshine	
1938	1938	<i>The Code of the Woosters</i>	
1939	1939	Uncle Fred in the Springtime	8
1940	1940	<b>Quick Service</b>	
1946	1942	Money in the Bank	
1947	1946	Joy in the Morning	
1947	1947	Full Moon	

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1948	1948	<i>Spring Fever</i>	
1948	1948	<b>Uncle Dynamite</b>	
1949	1949	<b>The Mating Season</b>	
1951	1951	<b>The Old Reliable</b>	
1952	1952	<b>Barmy in Wonderland (Angel Cake)</b>	9
1952	1952	<i>Figs Have Wings</i>	
1953	1954	<b>Ring for Jeeves (The Return of Jeeves)</b>	
1954	1954	<b>Jeeves and the Feudal Spirit (Bertie Wooster Sees It Through)</b>	
1956	1959	<b>French Leave</b>	
1957	1957	<b>Something Fishy (The Butler Did It)</b>	
1958	1958	<b>Cocktail Time</b>	
1960	1960	<i>Jeeves in the Offing (How Right you Are, Jeeves)</i>	
1961	1961	<i>Ice in the Bedroom (The Ice in the Bedroom)</i>	
1962	1961	<i>Service with a Smile</i>	
1963	1963	<i>Stiff Upper Lip, Jeeves</i>	
1964	1964	<i>Frozen Assets (Biffen's Millions)</i>	
1965	1964	<i>Galahad at Blandings (The Brinkmanship of Galahad Threepwood)</i>	
1967	1967	<i>Company for Henry (The Purloined Paperweight)</i>	
1968	1968	<i>Do Butlers Burgle Banks?</i>	
1969	1970	<b>A Pelican at Blandings (No Nudes is Good Nudes)</b>	
1970	1971	<b>The Girl in Blue</b>	
1971	1971	<i>Much Obligated, Jeeves (Jeeves and the Tie That Binds)</i>	
1972	1973	<b>Pearls, Girls and Monty Bodkin (The Plot that Thickened)</b>	
1973	1974	<b>Bachelors Anonymous</b>	
1974	1975	<b>Aunts Aren't Gentlemen (The Catnappers)</b>	

## NOTES

- 1 Revised in a new edition in 1921. The changes, other than the exclusion of a report of Jeremy Garnet's wedding, were not extensive and do not justify it being regarded as a separate novel.
- 2 Only published in the US posthumously in an anthology, *The Swoop and other Stories*, which appeared in 1979.
- 3 *Mike* was the book publication of two serials from *The Captain*, entitled *Jackson Junior* and *The Lost Lambs*. Each was subsequently published separately in book form in both the UK and the US:  
*Jackson Junior* as *Mike at Wrykyn* (1953)  
*The Lost Lambs* as *Enter Psmith* (1935) and *Mike and Psmith* (1953)
- 4 *The Prince and Betty* and *Psmith, Journalist* can cause a great deal of confusion, particularly as *Psmith, Journalist*, which appeared as a serial in 1909, was not published in book form until 1915. The UK version of *The Prince and Betty* also appeared in serial form, in 1912, in both the UK and the US, though each had different texts, and the US version was serialised later. The US book version combined parts of both books and changed the names of some of the characters so

that, for example, Psmith was renamed Smith. Because it appeared before either of the UK books, some commentators have been misled into supposing it was written first. It was not, but it is sufficiently different from the others to be regarded as a separate novel, indispensable to any complete collection.

- 5 *Something New*, the US title, has an added scene of about 20 pages taken straight from the second part of *Mike*. It is probably not sufficiently different to be regarded as a wholly new story but collectors should be aware of its importance. They should also be aware that later (1972) American paperbacks used the UK text.
- 6 *Doctor Sally* only appeared in the US (under the title *The Medicine Girl*) as a constituent part of the short story collection *The Crime Wave at Blandings*.
- 7 *The Luck of the Bodkins* was completely rewritten for serialisation in the US, and the US book followed that text. The original text was used for the UK book and they probably should be regarded as two separate stories, though with substantial similarities.
- 8 *Uncle Fred in the Springtime* appeared first, in emaciated form, in *The Saturday Evening Post* after its editor had requested simplification of the plot and the removal of two characters. The original text was retained for the book.
- 9 This book was adapted from and its second half incorporates much dialogue from *The Butter and Egg Man* by George S Kaufman, to whom Wodehouse paid half his royalties.

#### NOVELS PUBLISHED POSTHUMOUSLY (4)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1977	1978	<b>Sunset at Blandings</b>	1
1997		<b>The Luck Stone</b>	2
2003		<b>A Prince for Hire</b>	3
	2004	<b>The Gem Collector</b>	4

#### NOTES

- 1 Incomplete at Wodehouse's death. The extant text was published with annotations by Richard Usborne.
- 2 This book appeared in serial form in *Chums* in 1908-1909 but not in book form until 1997.
- 3 This novel was a comprehensive rewrite (in 1931) of the American version of *The Prince and Betty*. It appeared only in an American magazine, in five instalments.
- 4 This is a novelette version of *A Gentleman of Leisure* which appeared first in *Ainslee's magazine* in December 1909. It has never been officially approved for book publication but in 2004 a US publisher produced it in book form as it is in public domain in the USA. It is still fully protected by copyright restrictions in the UK, the rest of Europe and many other countries.

## SHORT STORY COLLECTIONS PUBLISHED DURING WODEHOUSE'S LIFETIME (19)

In this section, titles are listed when they represent the first book appearance of the constituent stories. Omnibus collections or anthologies of previously published material are not shown. American editions which differ by more than one story from the UK equivalent are identified by an asterisk.

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1903	1903	Tales of St Austin's	
1914		The Man Upstairs	
1917	1933	The Man with Two Left Feet	*
1919		My Man Jeeves	
1922	1924	The Clicking of Cuthbert (Golf without Tears)	
1924	1925	Ukridge (He Rather Enjoyed It)	
1925	1927	Carry On, Jeeves	
1926	1927	The Heart of a Goof (Divots)	
1927	1928	Meet Mr Mulliner	
1929	1930	Mr Mulliner Speaking	
1930	1930	Very Good, Jeeves	
1933	1933	Mulliner Nights	
1935	1935	Blandings Castle and Elsewhere (Blandings Castle)	
1936	1936	Young Men in Spats	*
1937	1937	Lord Emsworth and Others (Crime Wave at Blandings)	*
1940	1940	Eggs, Beans and Crumpets	*
1950	1951	Nothing Serious	
1959	1959	A Few Quick Ones	
1966	1967	Plum Pie	1

### NOTES

- 1 The American version excludes various extracts from *Punch* which appear as links between chapters in the UK edition.

## EPISODIC NOVELS PUBLISHED DURING WODEHOUSE'S LIFETIME (2)

The following two books are in reality collections of short stories which were reordered, given new introductions and/or endings, and published in a format resembling a novel.

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>	
1921	1921	Indiscretions of Archie
1923	1923	The Inimitable Jeeves (Jeeves)

## CHILDREN'S BOOKS (1)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>	
1904	1904	William Tell Told Again

## SHORT STORY COLLECTIONS PUBLISHED IN BOOK FORM FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER WODEHOUSE'S DEATH (3)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
	1983	The Uncollected Wodehouse	1
1993		Plum Stones	
1997		Tales of Wrykyn and Elsewhere	

### NOTES

- 1 This includes a number examples of early journalism which cannot be described as stories.

## AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL (3)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1953		Performing Flea (with William Townend)	1
1954	1953	Bring on the Girls (with Guy Bolton)	2
1957	1956	Over Seventy (America, I Like You)	3
	1962	Author! Author!	1

### NOTES

- 1 *Performing Flea* was partly rewritten, and PGW's notes adding information concerning various letters were added in the American edition.
- 2 Many of the anecdotes in the US edition did not appear in the UK, and vice-versa.
- 3 Both based largely on essays written in the past but the two editions have their differences.

## ESSAYS, JOURNALISM and POETRY (3)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1908	1985	Globe By The Way Book (with Herbert Westbrook)	
1932		Louder and Funnier	
1990		The Parrot and Other Poems	1

### NOTES

- 1 This includes a number of poems in the series entitled *The Parrot*, which appeared in *The Daily Express* in 1903 and may not have been written by Wodehouse.

## ACKNOWLEDGED JOINT AUTHORSHIP: FICTION (2)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
1907	1980	Not George Washington (with Herbert Westbrook)	
1991		A Man of Means (with C H Bovill)	

## SINGLE SHORT STORIES PUBLISHED DURING WODEHOUSE'S LIFETIME (3)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Title</i>	<i>Note</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>US</i>		
	1931	Homeopathic Treatment	1
1933		The Great Sermon Handicap	
	1939	Dudley is Back to Normal	2

### NOTES

- 1 Published for publicity purposes by the American magazine *Boy's Life*.
- 2 Published by PGW's regular publisher, Doubleday, for US copyright reasons..