

## Section G ~ A Potted Biography of P G Wodehouse, with Milestones

Date	Event
1877 February 3	Marriage of Plum's parents, Eleanor (née Deane) and Henry Ernest
1877 September 26	Birth of his eldest brother Philip Peveril
1879 May 11	Birth of his second brother Ernest Armine
1881 October 15	Birth of Pelham Grenville Wodehouse at 1 Vale Place, Guildford, Surrey
1885 May 23	Birth of Ethel Newton, the future Lady Wodehouse, in King's Lynn, Norfolk
1886	PGW attended Dame School in Croydon, Surrey
1889	PGW was transferred to Elizabeth College, in Guernsey
1891	PGW moved to Malvern House, a preparatory school in Kearsney, Kent
1892 May 30	Birth of his younger brother Richard Lancelot Deane
1894 to 1900	PGW attended Dulwich College
1900	Received his first payment for writing: from <i>Public School Magazine</i> for an article entitled <i>Some Aspects of Game-Captaincy</i>
1900 September	Started work at the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, London and took rooms in Markham Square, Chelsea
1901 June	Caught mumps
1901 July	First real short story published in <i>Public School Magazine</i> , entitled <i>The Prize Poem</i>
1901 August 16	First contribution to <i>Globe</i> newspaper
1902 September 9	Resigned from the Bank
1902 September 17	First article for <i>Punch</i> , entitled <i>An Unfinished Collection</i>
1902 September 19	First book published, <i>The Pothunters</i>
1902	Moved to Walpole Street, Chelsea
1903	Stayed at Emsworth House School, Hampshire
1903 August	Joined the <i>By the Way</i> column of <i>The Globe</i> on a permanent basis
1904 March 12	Leonora Rowley born in Nottingham
1904 April 16	First visit to the USA
1904 August 8	Appointed Editor of the <i>By The Way</i> column at the <i>Globe</i>
1904 December 10	First lyric – <i>Put Me In My Little Cell</i> – sung in Sergeant Brue at the Strand Theatre
1905 July	First contribution to the <i>Strand</i> , entitled <i>The Wire-Pullers</i>
1906 March 6	Employed by Seymour Hicks as the resident lyricist at the Aldwych Theatre, working on <i>The Beauty of Bath</i>
1906 March 19	First met Jerome Kern, also working on <i>The Beauty of Bath</i>
1906 August	First novel for adults, entitled <i>Love Among the Chickens</i> , published by George Newnes Ltd. There is confusion over the date, the second edition giving July as the date of the first printing and Newnes themselves claiming June. The first edition is silent on the matter
1907	Moved to the Hicks Theatre, still writing lyrics for Seymour Hicks
1907 December 6	Joined Gaiety Theatre as lyricist
1909	Second visit to USA, where he sold short stories to <i>Collier's</i> and <i>Cosmopolitan</i> , and from where he resigned his job at the <i>Globe</i>
1909 May 11	<i>Love Among the Chickens</i> published in USA
1911 August 24	First play, <i>A Gentleman of Leisure</i> , opened in New York

1913 April 8 First play in London, *Brother Alfred*, flopped

1914 January First substantial contribution to a musical production, *Nuts and Wine*, which also flopped in London

1914 August 2 Returned to New York

1914 August 3 Met Ethel Rowley, née Newton, an English widow, at a New York party

1914 September 30 Married Ethel Rowley at *The Little Church Round The Corner*, off Madison Square on East 29th Street, and inherited her daughter Leonora, now 10 years old

1915 March Appointed drama critic of *Vanity Fair*

1915 June 26 First appearance of Lord Emsworth and Blandings Castle in the serialisation of *Something New* (*Something Fresh* is UK title) in *Saturday Evening Post*

1915 September 18 Jeeves (and, possibly, Bertie Wooster) made a first appearance, in *Extricating Young Gussie*, published in *Saturday Evening Post*

1916 September 25 First Bolton, Wodehouse, Kern musical comedy, entitled *Miss Springtime* appeared in New York and was successful

1919 June 7 First Oldest Member story, *A Woman is Only a Woman*, published in *Saturday Evening Post*

1923 April First *Ukridge* short story, *Ukridge's Dog College*, appeared in *Cosmopolitan*

1926 PGW elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature

1926 July First Mr Mulliner story, entitled *The Truth About George*, appeared in the *Strand*

1927 April 1 Took lease of 17 Norfolk Street (now Dunraven Street) in London

1929 May 27 Death of PGW's father Ernest

1930 June 1 Started first contract with MGM in Hollywood

1931 June 7 Interview with a reporter from the Los Angeles Times published, which caused a furor in Hollywood as PGW complained about being paid so much for doing so little

1932 December 12 Leonora married Peter Cazalet

1933 August First instalment of the first Jeeves and Bertie Wooster novel, *Thank You Jeeves*, published in the *Strand*

1934 January 19 Successfully challenged in court the UK Inland Revenue's attempts to claim more income tax on his earnings

1934 March 31 Birth of Leonora and Peter Cazalet's daughter, Sheran

1934 June Settled in Le Touquet

1935 June 3 Bought Low Wood in Le Touquet

1936 April 26 Birth of Leonora and Peter Cazalet's son, Edward

1936 June 26 Awarded medallion by International Mark Twain Society

1936 October 9 Death of PGW's brother Armine

1936 October 10 Started second contract with MGM in Hollywood

1937 November 4 Returned to Le Touquet

1939 June 21 Invested as D Litt at Oxford University

1939 July 8 Visited Dulwich College for last time, writing a report on a cricket match against St Paul's which was published in *The Alleynian*

1940 May 21 PGW, Ethel and animals tried to leave Le Touquet in the light of the German advance, but their car twice broke down

1940 July 21 Start of PGW internment by Germans in camps successively at Loos Prison (Lille), Liege, Huy and Tost (Upper Silesia)

1941 February 17	Death of PGW's mother Eleanor
1941 June 21	PGW released from internment and taken to Berlin
1941 June 26	PGW made the first of five radio broadcasts for fans in neutral USA
1941 July 15	Cassandra's radio broadcast of a vituperative attack on PGW, the BBC only allowing it on the direction of Duff Cooper
1943 September 11	PGW transferred to Paris
1944 May 16	Death of PGW's step-daughter Leonora in a London hospital
1947 April 27	PGW and Ethel arrived in US on <i>SS America</i>
1948 September 2	PGW used the pseudonym Stephen Powys for a play jointly written with Guy Bolton which was successful in London
1949 June	PGW's challenge to the US tax authorities ended in the Supreme Court with some decisions going in his favour and others against
1952 March	Ethel bought a house in Basket Neck Lane, Remsenburg, Long Island, New York, close to Guy Bolton's home
1953 July 15	PGW resumed contributing fortnightly articles to <i>Punch</i>
1955 May 1	They gave up their New York apartment
1955 December 16	PGW became an American citizen
1960 January 27	PGW elected to the <i>Punch</i> table
1961 July 15	BBC broadcast <i>An Act of Homage and Reparation</i> by Evelyn Waugh
1965 May 27	BBC TV series <i>The World of Wooster</i> commenced
1967 February 16	BBC TV series <i>Blandings Castle</i> commenced
1967 November	P G Wodehouse Animal Shelter opened in Remsenburg
1974 November	PGW's last complete novel, entitled <i>Aunts Aren't Gentlemen</i> , published in the UK and immediately topped the list of best-sellers
1975 January 1	PGW knighted by Queen Elizabeth II, his wife Ethel taking the title Lady Wodehouse
1975 February 14	PGW died in hospital
1977 October 15	Formal opening of the PGW Memorial Corner of the Dulwich College Library
1978 September 19	<i>Sunset at Blandings</i> , a partially completed book, published posthumously with notes by Richard Usborne
1984 October 8	Lady Wodehouse died
2019 September 20	A Memorial Stone in memory of P G Wodehouse was dedicated at Westminster Abbey. See the report in <i>Wooster Sauce</i> , issue 92, December 2019 for details