# Section I ~ Details of Websites with Wodehouse Material of Interest Created by Dedicated Wodehouseans

#### Introduction

On 2nd October, 2021 a search on Google for 'P G Wodehouse' produced 7,430,000 entries. Even Bertie Wooster would have realised the implication ~ that not all would be useful sources of factual material concerning Wodehouse's life and work, or of accurate and relevant ancillary information.

In an attempt to provide members and readers with an initial guide to websites which may answer some of the questions which they are researching, in this Link we have selected a number of websites conceived, prepared and maintained by committed and respected Wodehouseans, and invite you to investigate their sites and the information provided, and will seek to update it at regular intervals.

If you visit these or other websites, as most of you will, and are impressed by the quality and content of the material you find, please e-mail the website editor at <a href="websiteeditor@pgwodehousesociety.org.uk">websiteeditor@pgwodehousesociety.org.uk</a> so we can consider adding the website reference in the next update.

**Section J**, which follows, is specifically designed to provide information about material held in collections belonging to Universities, Libraries and other Institutions which can make it available either on-line (which is becoming the 'norm') or for perusal at a personal booked visit.

#### Websites referred to in this section:

- <u>I a</u> ~ <u>www.Madameulalie.org</u>
- <u>I b</u> <u>https://wodehouse-society.nl/research-onderzoek/french-words-le-mot-</u> <u>Iuste</u>
- <u>Ic</u> ~ www.lithub.com/the~99~best~covers~of~the~year~of~p~g~wodehouse
- Id ~

https://www.dustjackets.com/advSearchResults.php?action=search&authorField=P+G+Wodehouse&orderBy=author&recordsLength=25&p=1

- <u>I e</u> ~ Two sites created by Tomas Prenkert
- If ~ Regarding Russia and India
  - Ifa Russia
  - Ifb India

## I a ~ www.Madameulalie.org

It can be convincingly argued that this site is the most useful single website of all. It has a proven track record and improves both the quantity and quality of its information every year.

## A Copyright Warning

The opening sentence on the Madameulalie website reads as follows:

THIS SITE is dedicated to the early writings of Sir Pelham Grenville Wodehouse. The Wodehouse material collected on this site was all copyrighted before 1926 and is available in the public domain in the United States. We are grateful to the Wodehouse Estate for their approval of our efforts in making these works available here. However, in many other countries, particularly the UK and Europe, the copyright of the Wodehouse Literary Estate will extend through to the year 2045. Users outside the USA should consider local copyright laws before downloading material from the site.

We must stress the importance of the last sentence. The fact that material can be downloaded from a website without payment does NOT mean that it can be reproduced in any work, especially one which is to be published, without considering the copyright position in all countries in which the resulting publication is likely to be made available.

## The Scope of Madameulalie

Of the nine subsections suggested in the horizontal list at the top of the website page, four are particularly relevant to researchers, and their contents will be described in turn in the words of the relevant website entry. More detail about the specific content can then be found in the sub-headings within each Entry.

#### i *Items by Publication* (<a href="http://www.madameulalie.org/PublicationsMenu.html">http://www.madameulalie.org/PublicationsMenu.html</a>)

Shown here is a list of 88 magazines and newspapers from which the site has stories, articles, and verses by Wodehouse, along with a few interviews with and articles about him. The list is alphabetical, with the country of publication given in parentheses. (Remember, this site only offers pre~1926 material, all of which is in the public domain in the United States.) Most of these links take you to a chronological listing of items from that periodical. If there is only one item from a publication, the link will take you to that item in a chronological list of magazine sole appearances. If, to the best of our knowledge, all of Wodehouse's pre~1926 contributions to a periodical have been included, the symbol  $\spadesuit$  follows the name in the list provided on the website.

### ii Items by Title (http://www.madameulalie.org/TitleMenu.html)

Essentially an alphabetical list of individual items in the Collection, but with the addition of a very few non-Wodehouse items, such as contemporary biographical sketches and reviews.

### iii Notes and lists (<a href="http://www.madameulalie.org/AltMenu.html">http://www.madameulalie.org/AltMenu.html</a>)

The title here rather understates the content of this section. You will find the following elements, but such is their complexity that you would need to go into the link to understand the extent and nature of their contents.:

#### Lists:

**Series Characters** 

Some sheet music with PGW lyrics

School stories on this site

Poems on this site

#### Notes:

<u>Annotations by members of the Yahoo! Blandings Group</u> which includes detailed notes concerning in excess of 40 books, a number which is increasing all the time.

<u>Biblical Annotations (Biblia Wodehousiana)</u> is an ongoing effort to inventory the biblical quotations and allusions in the whole works. It was started on 21st September 2003 by a Benedictine monk, Fr Rob Bovendeaard, a long-time and devout reader of Wodehouse's work.

#### Terry Mordue's Wodehouse Pages

<u>Neil Midkiff's Wodehouse Pages</u> provide details of the original UK and US magazine publications of Wodehouse's short stories and novels, and of the textual variations between the magazine and book versions.

Arthur Robinson's Bibliographic Errata and Addenda has been prepared by Arthur Robinson, a retired university librarian, who has long been searching out Wodehouse publications in previously unknown places, finding interviews or articles that quote Wodehouse, annotating and expanding the existing Wodehouse bibliographies, and noting the influence of W S Gilbert on Wodehouse. He compiles his work along with the discoveries of other members of the Wodehouse community into these lists:

Additions to the Wodehouse bibliographies

(http://www.madameulalie.org/arobinson/pgwaddendum.html)

Errors in the Wodehouse bibliographies

(http://www.madameulalie.org/arobinson/mcilvaineerrata.html)

Interviews or articles that quote Wodehouse

(http://www.madameulalie.org/arobinson/pgwinterviews.html)

W S Gilbert and P G Wodehouse

(http://www.madameulalie.org/arobinson/wodehousegilbert.html)

<u>Diego Seguí's Shakespeare Quotations and Allusions in Wodehouse</u>, which is introduced as follows:

In her introduction to her *Arden Dictionary of Shakespeare Quotations*, Jane Armstrong comments that: 'the works of P G Wodehouse are practically a dictionary in themselves'. What follows, in a way, is an attempt at putting together such a dictionary. *Shakespeare Quotations and Allusions* is a systematic collection of references of every kind to the works of William Shakespeare found in PGW's writings. Its main purpose is to serve as a source or reference tool for readers and scholars alike, whether they wish to obtain an overview of the wealth of references through hundreds of stories and essays, discover yet unsuspected allusions, appreciate how a familiar reference evolves through the decades, and generally delve into the rich and complex literary relationship between Wodehouse and his 'brother author' or 'brother-pen', as he once called the Swan of Avon.

#### Errata and Addenda to the Millennium Wodehouse Concordance

All Wodehouse scholars owe a tremendous debt to Tony Ring for his monumental expansion of Geoffrey Jaggard's uncompleted work into the Millennium Wodehouse Concordance, published in eight volumes between 1994 and 2001. More recent research has identified errors made by Jaggard which Tony failed to catch, and conclusions that have been superseded by a broader access to the canon of Wodehouse's fiction. As Tony is not planning a revised edition of the Concordance, Neil Midkiff has compiled these lists of updated information.

Many of the notes in these lists give birth and death dates and other biographical information about real-life persons mentioned in the stories. These are intended to supplement rather than replace the descriptive material in the Concordance.

Volume 1: Wodehouse in the Clubhouse

Volume 2: Wodehouse at the Anglers' Rest

Volume 3: Wodehouse Goes to School

Volume 4: Wodehouse Among the Chickens

Volume 5: Wodehouse at Blandings Castle

Volume 6: Wodehouse in Woostershire

Volume 7: Wodehouse with Old Friends

Volume 8: Wodehouse with New Friends

## Essays and Research Articles:

The Wodehouse/Robinson Collaboration - Article by John Dawson: March, 2011

Deconstructing The Globe By The Way Book ~ Article by John Dawson: June, 2013

The P G Wodehouse Globe Reclamation Project ~ Article by John Dawson: July/November 2013

Conan Doyle/Sherlock Holmes References in Early Wodehouse ~ *Bibliography by John Dawson: November/December 2013* 

O, Woman! Wodehouse, the Globe, and the Suffragettes ~ Article by John Dawson: November 2013/February 2014

Fred Patzel: Pavarotti of the Piglot ~ by David Landman

News Articles and Interviews with Wodehouse: (see also <u>Arthur Robinson's</u> <u>Interviews List</u>)

An English Master of Yankee Slang (anonymous interview/article) - The American Legion Weekly (US), October 24, 1919

'Top~Hole' English (article/interview) ~ The Argus (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia), 28 March 1925

Message to The P G Wodehouse Society (UK) readers: I'm sure you will all be relieved to know that we obtained the consent of the owner of the *Madameulalie* Website to include this extensive summary of its contents.

# Ib ~ https://wodehouse~society.nl/research~onderzoek/french~words~le~ mot~juste

This website is managed by the Dutch Wodehouse Society, and the Editors of its contents are Ole van Luyn, of the Dutch Society and Ken Clevenger of the US Society.

It consists of an alphabetical list of some hundreds of French words and expressions to be found in Wodehouse's work, with translations and references to the source of their use. The project to prepare such a list is continuing to receive new information, and suggestions should be sent to Ken Clevenger at <a href="mailto:pgwfrenchwords@gmail.com">pgwfrenchwords@gmail.com</a> or Ole van Luyn at <a href="mailto:luyn@casema.nl">luyn@casema.nl</a>.

#### Ic - www.lithub.com/the-99-best-covers-of-the-year-of-p-g-wodehouse

This website, within that of *The Literary Hub*, carries illustrations of 98 of the 99 covers which adorn the Everyman series of Wodehouse books in hardback. For some unexplained reason, it does not show the cover for *Mike at Wrykyn*, which was published in the same 2011, the same year as five other titles which are all included.

#### Id ~

https://www.dustjackets.com/advSearchResults.php?action=search&authorField=P+G+Wodehouse&orderBy=author&recordsLength=25&p=1

This is simply a sales site offering facsimile dust jackets. You don't have to buy ~ there are dozens of examples for you to look at, and naturally they change from time to time.

Note that the site is based in the USA, and that their postage cost to different locations varies accordingly, from \$ 4 for the first jacket sent within the US to \$ 10 for the first sent overseas. It is important to note that each jacket is clearly identified as a facsimile, with 'Facsimile Dust Jackets L. L. C.' printed on the front flap.

The Wodehouse Society has mixed feelings about the concept of commercial facsimile jackets, simply because they create, often inadvertently, potential opportunities for fraud in later transactions involving the sale of a first edition book with one of the covers. Members who buy any of these covers are advised to ensure that if they use them for a book in their collection, they make certain that on a future disposal, the facsimile jacket cannot be mistaken for a real one.

## I e ~ Two sites created by Tomas Prenkert

Tomas Prenkert is a member of the Swedish Wodehouse Society and has built two websites which together contain a considerable amount of information in Swedish and English, and which have made a number of papers available to members of his Society and the wider community over the years.

#### I e a ~ www.wodehousebibliografier.n.nu

This was started as a service to Swedish Wodehouse fans to give information about Wodehouse texts published in Swedish press, magazines and daily newspapers. Later, additional information was provided describing:

- i in a subsidiary folder (http://www.wodehousebibliografier.n.nu/bocker) a bibliography of all the different editions of his books in Swedish, not just first editions. It includes pictures of their front covers.
- ii collections in Swedish where he is represented together with other authors;
- iii information about Wodehouse's appearances in Swedish theatres; and
- iv Swedish movies based on Wodehouse-books.

A second site provides some information in English, and there are many international visitors.

## I e b ~ <a href="http://wodehouseforskning.weebly.com/">http://wodehouseforskning.weebly.com/</a>

This contains articles submitted by Swedish researchers of all levels as well as Tomas's own work. Most of the articles are in Swedish but there are quite a few in English.

The following elements may be of particular interest:

Tomas's articles (all in Swedish) about different Swedish translations of, for instance, expressions such as 'Lord love a duck';

Ye Olde Plum News, a monthly issue in English which represents collections of quotes and 'news items' on a common theme. (As examples of the topics covered, two of those in 2021 were 'Sweden in PGW texts' and 'Plum and some Philosophers'.) These are not meant to be exhaustive texts but may offer ideas for further research projects.

Articles on individual topics for example, include one describing ten versions of the story of *A Damsel in Distress*, and another discussing whether Lord Emsworth was an evil-doer.

## If - Regarding Russia and India

One of the Society's objectives is to assist members with research into connections which may exist between Wodehouse and their particular interest. In presenting references to two projects which have produced such a result, we wonder whether other readers might be inspired to create a research project on topics they have not previously considered.

#### Ifa ~ Russia

Between 2006 and 2008, Masha Lebedeva, one of our Russian members, produced a series of articles about Wodehouse's references to things, places and people related to that country. These were published in the following issues of *Wooster Sauce*:

Issue	Date	Pages	Title
38	June 2006	2~3	P G Wodehouse's Russian Salad
39	September 2006	6~7	Wodehouse and Chekhov
40	December 2006	26~27	Wodehouse and Other Russian Literature
41	March 2007	4~5	The Pre-Wodehousean History of Russia
42	June 2007	18-19	Wodehouse and Contemporary Russian History: Part 1
43	September 2007	6~7	Wodehouse and the Bolshevists: Part 1
44	December 2007	10~11	Wodehouse and the Bolshevists, Part 2: The Atmosphere of Spy Hysteria
45	March 2008	8~9	Wodehouse's Interpretation of the Russian Spirit
46	June 2008	2	Pursuing the Wolves

A summary of the references to Russia in Wodehouse's texts appeared in the contemporary issues of *By The Way*:

Issue	Date	Title	
28	June 2006	Wodehouse's Russian References:	Culture
31	June 2007	Wodehouse's Russian References:	History
34	June 2008	Wodehouse's Russian References:	History and Spirit

You can read the digitised version of all these items by clicking the relevant issue number <u>here</u>.

## Ifb - India

More than a decade later, Indian member Ashok Bhatia was inspired to prepare an extensive review of Wodehouse's references to the things, places and people of India. See <a href="https://ashokbhatia.wordpress.com/2021/08/31/the-indian-curry-dished-out-by-p-g-wodehouse">https://ashokbhatia.wordpress.com/2021/08/31/the-indian-curry-dished-out-by-p-g-wodehouse</a>

In addition, he has been blogging on various Wodehouse-related themes for the past several years at <a href="https://www.ashokbhatia.wordpress.com">www.ashokbhatia.wordpress.com</a>, under the category 'What ho!'.