

Society Publications

Complete Works of Kenneth Grahame

Almost everyone knows *The Wind in the Willows*, Kenneth Grahame's classic masterpiece. But Grahame also wrote a variety of other short stories, essays, poems and introductions to other authors' books which, although largely forgotten today, were well known in his day. Actually, he was already famous for writing *The Golden Age* and *Dream Days*, his two collections of short stories about a family of orphaned children, long before *The Wind in the Willows* was first published in 1908.

For many years his lesser-known works have been difficult to obtain and, for this reason, they have languished in undeserved obscurity. This is a great loss because Grahame wrote in a rich, entertaining style and, in many cases, with a great range of wit and humour. Although he had a relatively small output of published works, the versatility he shows within those works is particularly impressive.

For the first time ever, all of Grahame's published writings, with the exception of his private letters, have been collected by a team of members of the Kenneth Grahame Society and published together in a single volume. It is the Society's hope that the reader will enjoy reading many of the gems in this literary treasure trove and will appreciate Grahame's literary genius all the more.

The latest details about where these and other Kenneth Grahame Society publications can be purchased are on the Society's website. For further information contact us at:

admin@kennethgrahamesociety.net

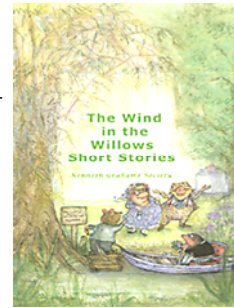
Complete Works
of Kenneth Grahame



Kenneth Grahame Society

The Wind in the Willows Short Stories

In 2008, the Kenneth Grahame Society organised a short-story competition to encourage writers to create sequels to Kenneth Grahame's classic novel, *The Wind in the Willows*. The Society received nearly one hundred entries, from which this collection of thirteen stories was selected for publication.



The published stories include prequels and counter texts, as well as sequels to *The Wind in the Willows*. Badger, Toad, Water Rat, Mole and a hoard of weasels, stoats and other characters come to life again in this collection of tales, reopening a door to Grahame's wonderful world of the river bank and the Wild Wood.

Forthcoming Publications

- *A Bibliography of the Works of Kenneth Grahame*
- *Mr Mole and His Mates*

Society Membership

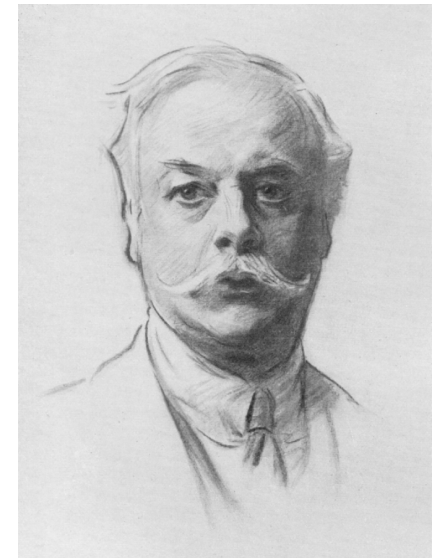
Currently, the Kenneth Grahame Society is funded through book sales and private donations, and there are no membership fees. It is hoped that this structure will continue for several more years at least.

Enthusiasts from all over the world are welcome to become members, so please join us in enjoying the fascinating world of this wonderful author. The membership form can be found at:

www.kennethgrahamesociety.net/join.htm

Honorary Member: Dr. Peter Green

Kenneth Grahame Society



*The literary society dedicated to the
author of *The Wind in the Willows**

www.kennethgrahamesociety.net



Kenneth Grahame



Kenneth Grahame was born in Edinburgh on 8th March 1859, but the family moved within a year to Argyll. Shortly after Kenneth's fifth birthday, his mother died from scarlet fever, and Kenneth, his sister and two brothers moved to

live with their grandmother in Cookham in Berkshire, beside the Thames. He started school at St Edward's in Oxford in 1868, where he achieved numerous academic and sporting accolades.

In 1879 Kenneth began work as a clerk at the Bank of England headquarters in London, rising, in 1898, to the position of company secretary.

In 1897, Kenneth met Elspeth Thompson, and in 1899 they married in Fowey. They had one son, Alastair, who was born in 1900. In 1924 the Grahames moved to Pangbourne, where, on July 6th 1932, Kenneth died and was buried in Oxford.

During his early years at the Bank, Kenneth began to write essays and other articles which were published in some of the literary magazines of the day. His breakthrough came with two collections of stories about a family of orphaned children, *The Golden Age* and *Dream Days*, published in 1895 and 1898 respectively.

In 1908 Kenneth completed his most celebrated work, *The Wind in the Willows*, the charming tales of Toad, Ratty, Mole and Badger, and the world of the river bank and the Wild Wood.

In the following twenty-four years, after publication of *The Wind in the Willows*, Kenneth wrote very little – just an occasional essay or introduction to a book.

The Kenneth Grahame Society

The Kenneth Grahame Society was founded in 2007, one year before the centenary year of *The Wind in the Willows*, and is understood to be the only (public) literary society world wide dedicated to Kenneth Grahame.

The Society is for readers, literature students, potential sequel writers, illustrators and everyone else who appreciates the works of Kenneth Grahame.

The aims of the Kenneth Grahame Society are:

- To encourage scholarly study and discussion of the works of Kenneth Grahame.
- To actively promote an expanded universe around *The Wind in the Willows*.
- To be a comprehensive and accurate resource (Body of Knowledge) on the life and works of Kenneth Grahame.

The Society meets once each year around the end of August or beginning of September for a weekend of Kenneth Grahame-related events and an Annual General Meeting. These are held at locations associated with Kenneth Grahame, such as Fowey, Oxford, London, Cookham, and so forth.

The Society places great emphasis on a global membership being able to collaborate online and remotely on numerous projects and activities. This includes:

- Collaboration on various publications, such as the recently published *Complete Works of Kenneth Grahame*.
- Collaboration on various projects, to catalogue information related to the life, locations and writings of Kenneth Grahame.
- And much more, details of which can be found at:

www.kennethgrahamesociety.net/thingstodo.htm

This tri-fold flyer can be downloaded from the Kenneth Grahame Society website. Please print and distribute copies of it to promote the Society.

Society Newsletter

The Society publishes a newsletter, *Riverbank News*, twice a year, normally in June and December. Digital copies of the newsletter are circulated (in PDF format) to all Kenneth Grahame Society members.



Issues of the newsletter typically contain articles on Kenneth Grahame-related locations and heritage, bibliographical publications, *The Wind in the Willows* exhibitions, illustrators and adaptations, old manuscripts, new publications, Society projects, literary criticism, academic papers and much more.

Contributions from members and other enthusiasts are always welcomed.

Society Website

Within a couple of years of its launch, the Kenneth Grahame Society website had over 100 pages of information related to Kenneth Grahame, and it is expected to double or treble that size within five years. It is a mine of information containing bibliographic listings of Grahame's works and associated literary criticism, extensive details on the illustrators of *The Wind in the Willows*, photographs of Kenneth Grahame's world, and a study section for analyses of the writings of Kenneth Grahame. It is found at: www.kennethgrahamesociety.net

