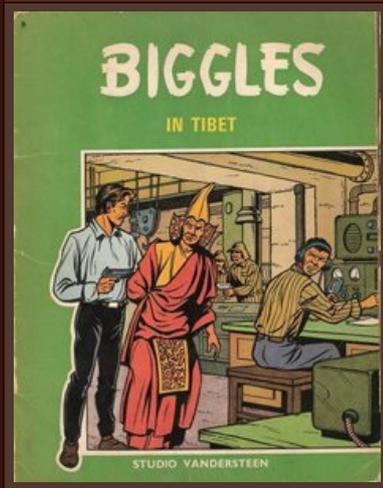




Biggles

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By Willy Vandersteen

## Biggles

Biggles is a Belgian comic book series, by Studio vandersteen inspired the author figure Captain James Bigglesworth from the books of William Earl Johns. Karel Verschuere took the character to work for his account. The albums were issued from 1965 and are recognisable by their green color. The series is separate from the recent series

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- Mato grosso
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- Orient express
- The return of Hawk
- The last convoy

## Biggles

"Biggles" (nickname for James Bigglesworth), a pilot and adventurer, is the title character and main hero of the **Biggles series** of youth-oriented adventure books written by W. E. Johns.

He first appeared in the story "The White Fokker", published in the first issue of *Popular Flying* magazine, in

## Archives

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1932. The first collection of Biggles stories, *The Camels are Coming*, was published that same year. The series was continued until the author's death in 1968, eventually spanning nearly a hundred volumes – including novels and short story collections – most, but not all, of the latter with a common setting and time frame.

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## Biggles And His Creator

Biggles first appears as a teenaged "scout" (fighter) pilot in the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) during World War I. He has joined the RFC in 1916 at the young age of 17, having conveniently "lost" his birth certificate. Biggles represents a particularly English hero, combining professionalism with a gentlemanly air. Under the stress of combat he develops from a "slightly hysterical" youth prone to practical jokes to a calm, confident, competent leader.<sup>[1]</sup> He is occasionally given "special" (secret) missions by the shadowy figure of Colonel (initially "Major") Raymond (Wing Commander or Air Commodore in later books), who is already involved with the intelligence side of operations. Biggles is accompanied by his cousin Algernon ('Algy') Lacey and his mechanic Flight Sergeant Smyth, who are to accompany Biggles on his adventures after the war; added to the team in 1935 is the teenager Ginger Hebblethwaite.

W.E. Johns was himself a First World War pilot, although his own career did not parallel that of Biggles particularly closely. The author's initial war service was with the infantry – fighting at Gallipoli and on the Macedonian front. He was commissioned, and seconded into the RFC in September 1917 and posted back to England for flight training, serving in England as a flying instructor until August 1918 when he transferred to the Western Front. On 16 September 1918 his De Havilland DH4 was shot down on a bombing raid. His observer, Lieutenant Amey, was killed (in two of the stories in *Biggles Learns to Fly* observers flying with Biggles are killed or badly wounded) but Johns survived to be taken prisoner of war.<sup>[1]</sup> Johns remained with the RAF until 1927, although his final rank was only Flying Officer (equivalent to Lieutenant in the RFC) rather than the "Captain" of his pen name.

While the purpose of the Biggles stories was to entertain adolescent boys, in the First World War Biggles stories Johns paid attention to historical detail and helped recreate the primitive days of early air combat — when pilots often died in their first combat and before devices such as respirators and parachutes had become practical. Various models on which the Biggles character might have been based have been suggested – including Cyril Lowe and Albert Ball – in fact Johns himself stated that the character was a composite of many individuals in the RFC (including himself) but does not represent a single person.<sup>[1]</sup>

The bulk of the Biggles books, however, are set post-World War I and after Johns' own flying career was over. Biggles has an unusually lengthy career, flying a number of aircraft representative of the history of British military aviation, from Sopwith Camels during World War I, Hawker Hurricanes and Supermarine Spitfires in World War II, right up to the Hawker Hunter jet fighter in a postwar adventure (*Biggles in the Terai*). In these later books geographic and historical accuracy is rather less evident, and the sometimes rather grim detail of the first stories is moderated, in deference to the increasing popularity of the Biggles books with a younger audience than the older adolescents at which they were initially targeted.

The books were highly successful, and were eventually translated into Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Flemish, German, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Development And Chronology

### Early Life

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According to stories in *The Boy Biggles* and *Biggles Goes to School*, James Bigglesworth was born in India in May 1899, the son of an administrator in the Indian Civil Service and his wife (née Lacey). James was the younger of two sons, Charles being the elder by five years. The young James had little contact with European culture, and commenced a lifelong affection for India, befriendng the local Indian boys, exploring the countryside and learning to speak fluent Hindi. He retained a lifetime gift for languages, and as an adult spoke French and German fluently, with a “fair command” of various other languages.

However, he did spend holidays in England, with an eccentric uncle and inventor who lived in ruraNorfolk.

He then attended Malton Hall School in Hertbury, England. His first encounter with an aircraft was with a Blériot that was forced to land on the school cricket ground.

## First World War

Biggles left school and initially joined the army as a subaltern in the Rifle Regiment in 1916. He transferred to the RFC and learned to fly in the summer of 1916, at No. 17 Flying Training School, which was at Settling, Norfolk, flying solo after two hours of instruction. He then attended No. 4 ‘School of Fighting’ in Frensham, Lincolnshire.<sup>[2]</sup>

Posted to France with just 15 hours solo, he first flew in combat in September 1916 with 169 Squadron, RFC, (commanded by Major Paynter). His observer was another youth named Mark Way, a New Zealander. Biggles began flying the F.E.2b “pusher”, and later the Bristol F2B. In late flymer 1917, he was transferred to 266 Squadron RFC, commanded by a Dubliner, Major Mullen. With 266 Squadron, Biggles flew the Sopwith Pup and the famed Sopwith Camel, developing a friendly rivalry with ‘Wilks’ (Captain Wilkinson) and the S.E.5’s of 287 squadron and forming a close friendship with his young cousin Algy (the Hon. Algernon Montgomery Lacey). A study of the short stories featuring his World War I exploits suggests that he claimed at least 32 kills, and was shot down or crash-landed eight times. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, and the Military Cross and bar.

## Between The Wars

After the Great War, Biggles’ adventures as a freelance charter pilot took him around the world in an unidentified amphibian named the “Vandal” (often illustrated on covers, anachronistically, as either a Supermarine Walrus or Supermarine Sea Otter). The nearest “real” aircraft that fits W E Johns description of the “Vandal”, is a Vickers Viking Mk 4. His partners in these adventures grew when he and Algy met young Ginger Hebblethwaite while foiling a possible German plot (post World War II editions of the book change this to a Russian plot) against Britain (in *The Black Peril*). Ginger brought the energy and daring of youth to these, and many of their later, adventures. Between the wars Biggles and his small team mix their own escapades with ventures on behalf of British Secret Service.

## Second World War

Biggles returned to service inWorld War II, initially with a Supermarine S6B type machine in theBaltic Sea and then to defy the Nazis and their allies inNorway.<sup>[3]</sup> He then took up his post as Commanding Officer of 666 Squadron, RAF, a Special Duties squadron that fought in the Battle of Britain before being sent around the world on specific assignments. Biggles, Algy, Smyth and Hebblethwaite are joined by a new companion, the monocle-wearing Lord Bertram ‘Bertie’ Lissie. The changed venue forced Johns to update his material with references to new flying slang and aeroplanes, unsuccessfully at first but later with more realism. Biggles’ new squadron includes a diverse cast, including the American ‘Tex’ O’Hara (from Texas), the Welshman ‘Taffy’ Hughes, the Cockney ‘Tug’ Carrington, the Oxford graduate Henry Harcourt and ‘Ferocity’ Ferris from the streets of Liverpool.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Special Air Police

After World War II Johns reinvents Biggles’ career again, with his former boss theAir Commodore Raymond hiring him as a “flying detective” for Scotland Yard. Biggles returns to his rooms in Mount Street, Mayfair, and assumes a role as head of the new Special Air Police division with Algy, Ginger and Bertie making up the flying squad. The group takes on criminals who have taken to the air, both at home in Britain and around the globe, as well as battling opponents behind the Iron Curtain.<sup>[1]</sup> The team fly a wide variety of machines, with Auster and Percival types doing much of the work.

Biggles’s greatest opponent is the German spy officer Erich von Stalhein.<sup>[1]</sup> They first meet in *Biggles Flies East*, when Biggles acts as a spy in the Middle East inWorld War I, where Biggles has some narrow escapes. Von Stalhein returns as an adversary in numerous other adventures. As the Cold War begins, Von Stalhein enters the services of the Communist bloc, until his former masters imprison him on the island of Sakhalin, from where Biggles helps him escape in*Biggles Buries a Hatchet*<sup>[4]</sup> After Von Stalhein settles in London, he and Biggles remain in touch. It is from Von Stalhein that Biggles learns that Janis (see “Females characters” below) survived World War II and was imprisoned in Czechoslovakia, from where Biggles rescues her and goes on to support her in England.<sup>[1]</sup>

Johns continued writing Biggles short stories and novels up until his death in 1968; in all, nearly 100 Biggles books were published.

A final unfinished novel *Biggles does some Homework*shows Biggles at last preparing to retire, and meeting his mixed-race replacement. The 12 chapters written were issued privately in 1997<sup>[5]</sup>

# Female Characters

In the Biggles stories, female characters appear infrequently. Despite brief affairs, Biggles and his chums remain steadfastly single. Biggles suffered a disappointment in World War I, when he fell in love with German spy Marie Janis in the short story *Affaire de Coeur* set in 1918. Rather than being considered asexual or a repressed homosexual, Biggles’ relationship with Janis suggests he is a romantic hero,

“tragically loyal to the only woman he ever really loved.”<sup>[1]</sup>

In *Biggles Falls to Return* (1943), Ginger falls in love with the sister of the French pilot who has flown Biggles into France on a secret mission, and at the end of the story Ginger gets to spend several weeks in her company while awaiting transport back to England. The young Ginger is also smitten by the beautiful Polynesian girl, Full Moon, in *Biggles in the South Seas* (1940).

There is a discussion of the issue of Biggles, sex and alcohol in *By Jove, Biggles: The Life of Captain W.E. Johns* (1981) by Peter Berresford Ellis and Piers Williams.

In the 1950s, a popular Australian radio version of Biggles was made under licence. Johns did not write the scripts and apparently ended the contract after receiving complaints from young readers that the storyline had made Biggles “go soft” by taking up a blonde female lover.

Another female character appears in the form of Worrals (Flight Officer Joan Worrals), eponymous heroine of a related series of books featuring this resourceful and “plucky” member of the WAAF. A further Johns creation, the commando Captain Lorrington “Gimlet” King, also features in a series of books that intersect with Biggles at times.

## Criticism And Controversies

### Time

Different Biggles books are set within a time period of over 50 years – this produces a number of credibility difficulties, especially for older readers.

Though Biggles and his friends age in the books, they do so much more slowly (and inconsistently) than appears historically credible. By some kind of chronological licence Biggles and his chums appear to age about one year in every four – at least from around 1925 onward.

Even within a bracket of stories set in the same time frame there are some chronological inconsistencies. Algy, for instance, seems to be younger than Biggles to a degree that is impossible, at least by the ordinary calendar. Biggles first meets Algy in *The Camels are Coming*, at the end of which the First World War ends. However, Algy also features throughout *Biggles in France*, so the whole of *Biggles in France* must be set during the second half of *The Camels are Coming*. It is doubtful whether a careful reading of the various World War I stories could result in a coherent sequence.

While the author succeeds reasonably well in chronicling developments in aviation technology, social and cultural changes are much more difficult. The cultural and social world of Biggles (whether that of the 1930s or some earlier period) does not persist completely unchanged through the whole series – for instance, in an early book, the evidence points to an English nobleman as the perpetrator, but Biggles can dismiss this out of hand as the gentry would never commit a crime; in a later novel, one of the gentry is the villain. Nonetheless, the social context of the books, viewed in chronological order, does become increasingly old-fashioned, even anachronistic, especially in those works set after World War II.

### Quaint Language

The Biggles books are also sometimes criticised for the author’s choice of vocabulary: which can appear quaint or ill-chosen to contemporary readers. Two notorious examples are “opine”, and “ejaculate”, used as variations for “said”. The first of these is still current, but rare, although it generally means to “hold an opinion” or “believe” rather than Johns’ usual sense of “to *express* an opinion”. To “ejaculate” in the Biggles books is merely a synonym for to “exclaim”. Biggles and his chums also employ a fair smattering of early twentieth century British slang – some of which is footnoted in reprint editions for the benefit of modern readers, as are examples of period service jargon.

It is of course a common fate of popular writing to date quickly – and in this W.E. Johns is far from unique.

### Racism

One feature of social change since the original publication of the Biggles’ books has been a considerable shift in attitudes to race and ethnicity. Since the 1960s a perception of Biggles as unacceptably racially prejudiced, especially considered as children’s literature, has gained prominence.

The Biggles character himself was brought up in India, speaks fluent Hindi, and has a number of Indian friends and colleagues. In *Biggles Goes to School*, on one occasion when ordered to write lines in Latin he remarks that he would rather do so in Hindi. On one occasion the adult Biggles asserts to Air Commodore Raymond that “while men are decent to me I try to be decent to them, regardless of race, colour, politics, creed or anything else”.<sup>[6]</sup>

Furthermore, while individually developed non-white characters are rather infrequent, when they do occur, they are usually “positive”, from the Oxford-educated Chinaman, Li Chi, in *Biggles Flies Again* and *Biggles Delivers the Goods* and the perky Polynesian girl, Full Moon, in *Biggles In The South Seas* to Alexander MacKay, a part-Native American (Red Indian) nicknamed “Minnie” who joins “the chums” as a valued colleague, and is in fact set to inherit Biggles’ job in *Biggles Does Some Homework*. It has been pointed out, however, that the positive characteristics of these characters tend to be such features as relatively light complexions, Western educations, and general usefulness to our (white) hero and his friends and allies.<sup>[7]</sup>

On the other hand, when Johns wishes to present an unpleasant “foreigner” he will quite often drop a gratuitous and offensive hint that the person involved is of mixed race. Non-whites taken *en masse* tend to be systematically demonised. With the evil “Chungs” of *Biggles Hits the Trail* and the sub-human “Aboriginals” of *Biggles in Australia*, in particular: Johns succumbs to the popular tendency, typical of his time, to apply unpleasant stereotyping to non-white opponents of his hero.<sup>[7]</sup> Another book, *Biggles in Borneo*, stereotypes Dayak headhunters as barely human “savages”, even though they are in fact Biggles’ allies against the Japanese. The specific books mentioned above would in fact find very few defenders,

although they are typical of a genre of fiction for young people that was once common.<sup>[7]</sup>

*Biggles Delivers the Goods* (published just three years after *Biggles in Borneo*) repeats the earlier work's basic plotline so closely that the later novel is clearly a revision of the earlier one. In both books Biggles establishes a secret airfield behind Japanese lines which is discovered and attacked by the Japanese before he can achieve his objectives. Algy is captured by the Japanese and threatened with execution by a brutal Japanese commandant, and rubber (as an important strategic material) figures largely. All ends well in both novels, as a massive air attack relieves the brave defenders of the airfield and defeats the Japanese. The protagonists are also closely paralleled in both novels, although in *Biggles Delivers the Goods* Li Chi (originally from a short story in *Biggles Flies Again*) reappears to take the place of a white character from the earlier version, and the headhunters, while still milked for “exotic colour” are much more sympathetically treated.

## Other “Suitability” Issues

The early Biggles stories and novels, especially those set in World War I, were apparently written mainly for older adolescents. Death is treated rather frequently and sometimes in quite a grim fashion, and other “adult themes” are also touched on – for instance, on at least one occasion Biggles sets out on a mission with “red mist”, inspired by the death of a comrade. The emotional strain of combat is also realistically described, as Biggles becomes a “highly-strung” fidgeting pale youth, lacking his usual sense of humour. In these stories, in particular, alcohol is mentioned occasionally and cigarettes are much in evidence.

The early World War I-based books were reprinted in the 1950s when the Biggles books had acquired a younger readership, and some bowdlerising took place to render them more suitable to young children. In the short story *The Balloonatics*,<sup>[8]</sup> republished in *Biggles of the Special Air Police*<sup>[9]</sup> this took the form of changing the prize for capturing a German observation balloon (a case of Scotch whisky) to a case of lemonade. The reprint also removes all references to drinking andswearing.<sup>[10]</sup>

The books contain no explicit sexual content, and traditional British values of bravery, honesty and fair play are stressed. Romantic storylines, which would have bored his younger readers and embarrassed the older ones<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup> were also omitted, with only the very occasional exception, such as in*Biggles Looks Back*,<sup>[11]</sup> where he and Von Stalhein rescue Marie Janis (with whom Biggles was briefly in love in an earlier story) from her prison in Bohemia.

## In Other Media

### Television

Main article: Biggles (TV series)

Biggles appeared in a TV series based on the books with Neville Whiting playing the title role. There were 44 B&W untitled episodes of 30 minutes, which were made by Granada and ran from 1 April till 9 September 1960. Biggles was a Detective Air Inspector attached to Scotland Yard. Helping him was Ginger (John Leyton) and Bertie (David Drummond) and they fought against villains like Von Stahlheim (Carl Duering).

### Films

Main article: Biggles: Adventures in Time

He was also featured in a 1986 feature film called*Biggles: Adventures in Time*, directed by John Hough with Neil Dickson in the title role. The film attempted to add appeal to the character by adding ascience fiction element, but it was a commercial and critical failure. Dickson reprised the character in all but name, in the Pet Shop Boys' feature film, *It Couldn't Happen Here*.

### Computer Games

In 1986, a Biggles computer game was released as a tie-in to movie*Biggles: Adventures in Time* by Mirrorsoft for the platforms Amstrad CPC, Commodore 64 and ZX Spectrum. It included levels based in 1917 and other levels set in modern-day London.<sup>[12]</sup>

### Comics

There have been many different versions of comics about Biggles published in different countries in Europe.

The first “annual” appeared in 1980<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup>

Some albums were released in 1990 featuring the Biggles team.<sup>[13]</sup> The titles are separate from the books though they cover the same war or after war investigation operations of Biggles.

In India, Euro Books published 14 titles of the Biggles Series along with compilations of the same in 2007.

### In Other W.E. Johns Books

Biggles, or members of his team, have appeared in the following Gimlet books

- King of the Commandos
- Gimlet Goes Again
- Gimlet Mops Up
- Gimlet Bores In

Air Commodore Raymond also appeared in W E Johns' “Steeley Books”

## Biggles In Popular Culture

The books are a common target for collectors, with some titles fetching high prices, especially the handful that were deleted before being reprinted into paperback. The rarest title, *Biggles and the Deep Blue Sea*, has been known to fetch \$1,000 on eBay.

Most of the Biggles books are out of print, but *Red Fox* (a Random House imprint) is reprinting many of the titles, with footnotes added to explain the slang and military terms.

In 2005, the British television show *Doctor Who* created a Biggles-based character called Captain Jack, for the episode "The Empty Child".<sup>[14]</sup> The Captain had adopted the persona of an RAF volunteer, and had a friend called Algy, in tribute to Johns' creation.

*Biggles – The Authorised Biography* by John Pearson, published in 1978, added new and embellished elements to the character's history, including the ageing Biggles' (apparent) suicide in a vintage Spitfire circa 1970.

A4 format cartoon adventures in which the Biggles characters use a mix of vintage and modern aircraft were published in the 1980s.

The lyrics of the Jethro Tull song, "Thick As a Brick", has a line that mentions Biggles ("So, where the hell was Biggles when you needed him last Saturday?"). Additionally, Biggles is mentioned several times in the elaborate album cover, which is a parody of a local British newspaper, most significantly in a story entitled "Do Not See Me Rabbit".

In an episode of *Top Gear*, the "tame racing driver" known as The Stig was introduced with the line: "Let's hand the old crate over to our resident test pilot—Stiggles!". In a later episode, where Clarkson was driving and his two colleagues were flying, he referred to them as "Algy and Ginger".

*Biggles Recounts the Falklands War*, by D. Chauvin, M. Uderzo, B. Asso and J. Rideau appeared in 2007.

In 1983, the Australian Commonwealth government used RAAF aircraft to take surveillance photos of a then-controversial part of Tasmania, resulting in the Attorney-General Gareth Evans being memorably nicknamed "Biggles".

In the Terry Pratchett/Neil Gaiman novel *Good Omens*, Aziraphale collects a book titled *Biggles Goes to Mars*.

A number of Biggles characters appear in Kim Newman's alternate history novel *The Bloody Red Baron*. A large number of the characters are vampires and the Germans fight for Count Dracula in an alternate World War I.

In the Red Dwarf season 3 episode *Marooned*, Lister burns a book owned by Rimmer entitled *Biggles Learns to Fly* to stay warm while stranded on a hostile moon. Rimmer admits that the book is not art.

In the episode "The Queen's Birthday Present" from the British police drama series *The Thin Blue Line*, Inspector Fowler talks about the great authors he reads, including Sir Walter Scott and W.M. Thackeray. His partner, Sergeant Dawkins replies, "You haven't read any Walter Scott in years! Or any flipping Thackeray. You read Biggles books!"

In *Snakehead* by Anthony Horowitz, Major Yu provides Alex with some Biggles books, including *Biggles Investigates*.

## Parodies Of Biggles

### Monty Python's Flying Circus

Biggles was parodied in a series of skits on the 1970s British comedy television show *Monty Python's Flying Circus*, including one titled "Biggles Dictates a Letter"<sup>[15]</sup> In the sketch, Biggles behaves in a naive and overreactive manner about the sexual orientation of his fellow comrades, shooting Algy in the process.

Other Monty Python treatments of Biggles include:

- "Cardinal Biggles", complete with flying helmet and goggles, assists in the interrogations in the Spanish Inquisition sketch.
- Biggles appears as a woman's lover in the sketch "Strangers in the Night" accompanied by Algy.
- Two text stories, "Biggles Is Extremely Silly" and "Biggles and the Naughty Things", are included in *The Brand New Monty Python Bok*.
- The fictional title *Biggles Flies Undone* was mentioned at the end of "Biggles Dictates a Letter", but it was never produced.
- In the first *Comic Relief*, Michael Palin read the skit "Biggles Goes to See Bruce Springsteen".
- A customer in The Bookshop Sketch, found on *Monty Python's Contractual Obligation Album*, requests the fictitious "Biggles Combs his Hair".

### Biggles Over Baghdad

Biggles is spoofed by writer Reed de Buch in *Biggles Over Baghdad*,<sup>[16]</sup> an ongoing series of short stories, setting Biggles in contemporary Iraq and Iran – definitively not part of the Biggles canon.

## List Of Biggles Books

- The Camels Are Coming* (1932)
- The Cruise of the Condor* (1933)
- Biggles of the Camel Squadron* (1934)
- Biggles Flies Again* (1934)
- Biggles Learns to Fly* (1935)
- The Black Peril* (1935)
- Biggles Flies East* (1935)

8. *Biggles Hits the Trail* (1935)
9. *Biggles in France* (1935)
10. *Biggles & Co* (1936)
11. *Biggles in Africa* (1936)
12. *Biggles – Air Commodore* (1937)
13. *Biggles Flies West* (1937)
14. *Biggles Flies South* (1938)
15. *Biggles Goes to War* (1938)
16. *The Rescue Flight* (1939)
17. *Biggles in Spain* (1939)
18. *Biggles Flies North* (1939)
19. *Biggles – Secret Agent* (1940)
20. *Biggles in the Baltic* (1940)
21. *Biggles in the South Seas* (1940)
22. *Biggles Defies the Swastika* (1941)
23. *Biggles Sees It Through* (1941)
24. *Spitfire Parade* (1941)
25. *Biggles in the Jungle* (1942)
26. *Biggles Sweeps the Desert* (1942)
27. *Biggles – Charter Pilot* (1943)
28. *Biggles in Borneo* (1943)
29. *Biggles Fails to Return* (1943)
30. *Biggles in the Orient* (1945)
31. *Biggles Delivers the Goods* (1946)
32. *Sergeant Bigglesworth CID* (1947)
33. *Biggles' Second Case* (1948)
34. *Biggles Hunts Big Game* (1948)
35. *Biggles Takes a Holiday* (1948)
36. *Biggles Breaks the Silence* (1949)
37. *Biggles Gets His Men* (1950)
38. *Another Job for Biggles* (1951)
39. *Biggles Goes to School* (1951)
40. *Biggles Works It Out* (1952)
41. *Biggles Takes the Case* (1952)
42. *Biggles Follows On* (1952)
43. *Biggles – Air Detective* (1952)
44. *Biggles and the Black Raider* (1953)
45. *Biggles in the Blue* (1953)
46. *Biggles in the Gobi* (1953)
47. *Biggles of the Special Air Police* (1953)
48. *Biggles Cuts It Fine* (1954)
49. *Biggles and the Pirate Treasure* (1954)
50. *Biggles Foreign Legionnaire* (1954)
51. *Biggles Pioneer Air Fighter* (1954)
52. *Biggles in Australia* (1955)
53. *Biggles' Chinese Puzzle* (1955)
54. *Biggles of 266* (1956)
55. *No Rest for Biggles* (1956)
56. *Biggles Takes Charge* (1956)
57. *Biggles Makes Ends Meet* (1957)
58. *Biggles of the Interpol* (1957)
59. *Biggles on the Home Front* (1957)
60. *Biggles Presses On* (1958)
61. *Biggles on Mystery Island* (1958)
62. *Biggles Buries a Hatchet* (1958)
63. *Biggles in Mexico* (1959)
64. *Biggles' Combined Operation* (1959)
65. *Biggles at the World's End* (1959)
66. *Biggles and the Leopards of Zinn* (1960)
67. *Biggles Goes Home* (1960)
68. *Biggles and the Poor Rich Boy* (1960)
69. *Biggles Forms a Syndicate* (1961)
70. *Biggles and the Missing Millionaire* (1961)
71. *Biggles Goes Alone* (1962)
72. *Orchids for Biggles* (1962)
73. *Biggles Sets a Trap* (1962)
74. *Biggles Takes It Rough* (1963)
75. *Biggles Takes a Hand* (1963)
76. *Biggles' Special Case* (1963)
77. *Biggles and the Plane That Disappeared* (1963)
78. *Biggles Flies to Work* (1963)
79. *Biggles and the Lost Sovereigns* (1964)
80. *Biggles and the Black Mask* (1964)
81. *Biggles Investigates* (1964)
82. *Biggles Looks Back* (1965)
83. *Biggles and the Plot That Failed* (1965)
84. *Biggles and the Blue Moon* (1965)
85. *Biggles Scores a Bull* (1965)

86. *Biggles in the Terai* (1966)
87. *Biggles and the Gun Runners* (1966)
88. *Biggles Sorts It Out* (1967)
89. *Biggles and the Dark Intruder* (1967)
90. *Biggles and the Penitent Thief* (1967)
91. *Biggles and the Deep Blue Sea* (1967)
92. *The Boy Biggles* (1968)
93. *Biggles in the Underworld* (1968)
94. *Biggles and the Little Green God* (1969)
95. *Biggles and the Noble Lord* (1969)
96. *Biggles Sees Too Much* (1970)
97. *Biggles Does Some Homework* (1997)
98. *Biggles Air Ace: The Uncollected Stories* (1999)

- *Comrades in Arms* (1968) included one Biggles story, plus stories of Gimlet and Worrals – other creations of Johns
- Pearson, J (1978). *Biggles: The Authorized Biography*. Hamlyn.

Johns died while still writing *Biggles Does Some Homework* Although never completed, it was released as a strictly limited edition of 300 copies in paperback.<sup>[5]</sup> A further limited print run of 300 hardback copies have been printed in 2007 by Norman Wright publishing.

## Notes And References

1. <sup>^</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> <sup>c</sup> <sup>d</sup> <sup>e</sup> <sup>f</sup> <sup>g</sup> <sup>h</sup> <sup>i</sup> Butts, D (2000). "Biggles – Hero of the Air". In Watkins, T; Jones, D.*A Necessary Fantasy?: The Heroic Figure in Children's Popular Culture*. New York: Garland Publishing. pp. 137–152. ISBN 0-8153-1844-8.
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12. <sup>^</sup> Biggles – MobyGames
13. <sup>^</sup> Miklo & Lombard Biggles Comic Albums
14. <sup>^</sup> "Doctor Who: The Empty Child". TV.com. 2005. <http://www.tv.com/doctor-who-2005/the-empty-child-1/episode/407900/summary.html>.
15. <sup>^</sup> Biggles: dictates a letter
16. <sup>^</sup> Biggles: Biggles Over Baghdad

## External Links

- The Biggles Information Web Site
- Biggles Online: Bibliographic data and information site
- James 'Biggles' Bigglesworth (film character) at the Internet Movie Database
- The International Biggles Association Web Site
- website for Captain W E Johns, Biggles, and his other works

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This book brings together 100 manga artists and asks each one to offer 10 practical tips for the manga enthusiast on techniques, sources of inspiration, and the best way to build their portfolios. Detailed photographs, 1,000 in total, taken by the artists themselves serve to illustrate each of these 1,000 tips. Loaded with finished artwork and creative inspiration, this book will help fantasy artists develop their concepts in innovative and original directions. Includes the principles of anatomy and detailed sections for reproducing fur, feathers, scales and bones. Features techniques applicable in traditional drawing and painting media as well as digital. Comic Book Style Art Comic Books Art Comic Art Undercut Hairstyles Pixie Hairstyles Pixie Cut Lovers Art Catwoman Fashion Art. Comic Book Hairspiration: 14 styles to show your stylist this fall! Bacon Library. Literary Design. COMIC BOOK ARTIST goes AH-HA! as we feature, at long last, the Adam Hughes Art Issue! Featuring a long, comprehensive interview discussing his entire career, the artist also opens his art vaults and shares his rarities in the huge CBA Gallery sec. Shop of Adam Hughes Wonder Woman reading to Kingdom Come by Ross and Waid. Comic Book Crafts Old Comic Books Comic Book Pages Diy Bookmarks Bookmark Craft Homemade Bookmarks Custom Bookmarks Teen Library Library Books. Make Comic Book Bookmarks.