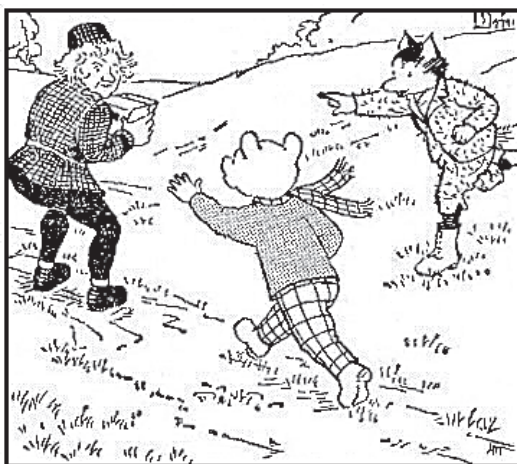
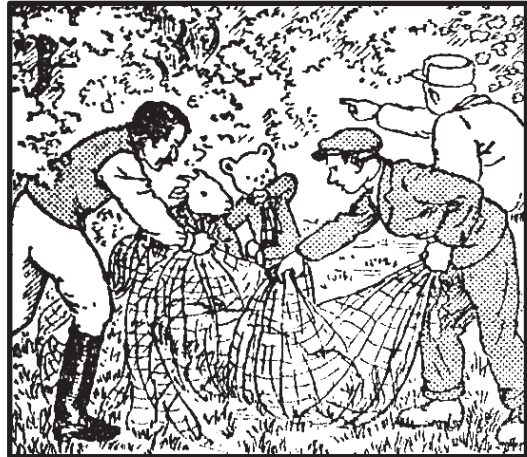


RUPERT

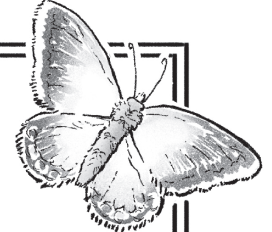
in the
Daily Express

Rupert and the Singing Dog



Rupert and the Camera

*Story numbering relates to the listing of stories in The Rupert Index
Stories selected and laid out by Pamela Stones
Story images for Singing Dog cleaned by Mike Ward
with special thanks to Rod Prescott for supplying the original newspaper images
Story images for the Camera cleaned by John Kobylecky*



Contents

Page 3 – Original artwork by Paul Ross-Dale

Page 4 – Rupert and the Singing Dog (P105)

Lucy Matthews is credited with the authorship of this story and also provided the illustrations. It appeared in the newspaper from 2nd April 1980 to 17th May 1980. It has never been reprinted in the newspaper, so this is its first airing since then.

Story: Rupert joins Billy Goat for a picnic and they come across a singing dog in the woods. The dog is then captured to become a circus performer. Mounting a rescue bid, the (usually wise) Owl isn't much assistance to the chums, but eventually with Rollo's help the dog is rescued and returned to his owner, Hern the hermit.

Page 13 – Rupert and the Camera (P123)

Another Lucy Matthews illustrated story. Written by James Henderson, this story ran in the paper from 27th December 1983 to 18th January 1984, and as with the Singing Dog story, this is its first reprinting.

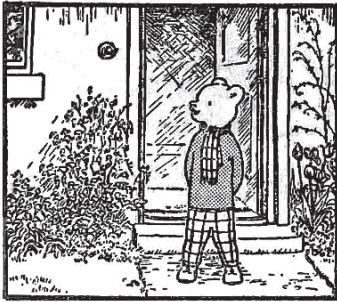


Story: Rupert comes across a number of his chums with half of their bodies missing – a result of the Fox brothers' mischief with a camera they had found. It turns out to be the Professor's camera so off go the chums to seek his help. The fix doesn't go entirely to plan but eventually the chums are restored to normal.

Paul
2024

Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

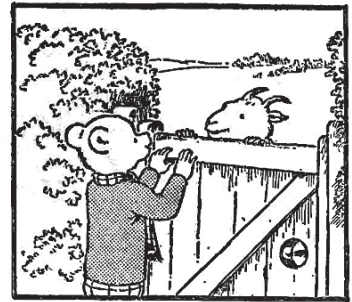


EPISODE 1

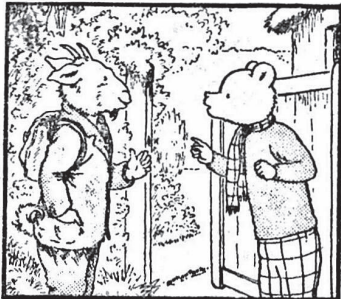
It is the first bright morning of Spring and Rupert is standing outside his front door enjoying the sunshine. "What a lovely day," he thinks. "I'd really like to do something special. I wonder . . ." And he starts thinking about the things he might do. Go

fishing in Nutwood Pond? Too early. Round up his pals for a game of football? Too ordinary. Fly his kite? Too calm. What shall I do?" Rupert murmurs to himself. Then — "Hey, Rupert!" Someone is calling his name. He looks up to see his friend Billy Goat looking over the gate.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 2

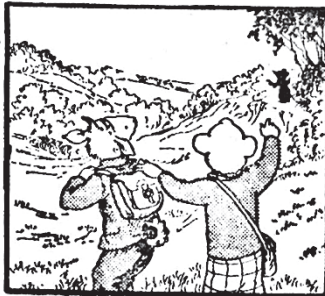
"Hello, Billy!" Rupert calls. "Have you come to play?" "Actually, I was wondering if you'd like to come with me," replies the little goat. "Why, where are you off to?" Rupert asks. "For a picnic," says Billy. Now Rupert notices that his pal has a haversack on his

back. "It's such a nice day," Billy goes on, "that my Granny made up this picnic meal for me." Rupert knows now how he wants to spend the day. "Of course I'd like to come!" he cries. "Just wait. I know that Mummy will make me some sandwiches." And not so many minutes later the chums are on their way.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 3

Happily discussing where they will have their picnic, Rupert and Billy amble towards the hilly part of Nutwood Common. Soon the village is far behind them. Suddenly Rupert catches sight of something and stops. "I say, Billy," he says, "there's someone

on that high ground there!" His chum turns to look. "I can see who it is," he says. "It's Rastus the Country Mouse. It looks as if he's listening to something." "Let's go and see!" cries Rupert. So the pals start up the slope but even when they are quite near him, the little mouse doesn't seem aware of them.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 4

Rastus turns to the pals. "Singing! From a long way off! Singing!" he repeats. Startled, Rupert and Billy strain their ears, but neither can hear anything. "Oh dear, it's going again," Rastus sighs. The chums are puzzled. "Have you heard it before then?" asks

Rupert. "Yes, I heard it for the first time the other day when I came up here to watch the circus arrive," says Rastus. "Circus!" The others exclaim. "Where?" Rastus laughs. "Why, over there, at Robin Down." And he points to where tents and caravans can be seen beyond the trees in the valley.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 5

Rupert and Billy are about to leave Rastus and go down to investigate the circus when they stop suddenly. On the breeze that has begun to blow they can hear a curious singing. It's not like anything they have ever heard. "That's it!" exclaims Rastus. The two chums listen for a moment

then Billy asks: "Haven't you been to find out what's making that sound?" The little mouse looks down. "N-no, I was scared," he admits. "Then we shall have a look," declares Billy. "Are you game, Rupert?" His pal nods and they start towards the singing sound.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 6

Billy and Rupert run down the hill towards the sound. "It's coming from the woods," pants Rupert. "Yes, and it's getting louder so we must be pretty close," Billy replies. The wood is thick with bushes but the pals force their way through them and crawl under them as

they make their way towards the sound. "We're almost there," whispers Billy. And certainly the sound is just ahead of them. The pals look at each other. Rupert nods and they push their way into a clearing. A big dog is standing in the middle of it. It is singing.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

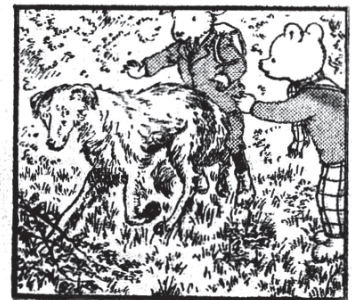


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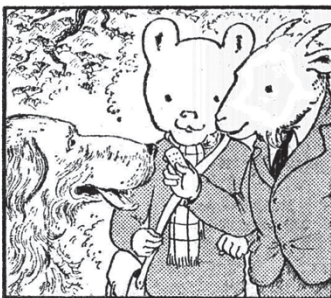
Rupert and Billy are so startled at the sight of the singing dog that they both gasp aloud. At once the dog stops singing and swings round in alarm. For a moment the pals and the dog stare at each other in astonishment. Then the dog bounds up and makes as if to flee.

"Don't run away!" Billy begins and Rupert adds gently, "Oh please, we didn't mean to frighten you." But the dog is still suspicious and keeps moving away whenever the pals approach. But it does not try to get away altogether and at last lets Rupert and Billy pat it.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

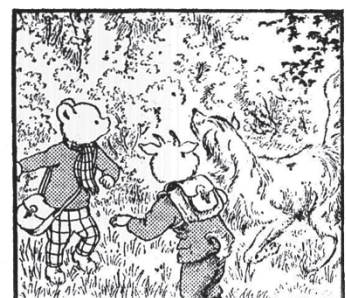


EPISODE 8

At last the dog settles down. "There you are," says Rupert. "We won't harm you." "Of course not," adds Billy. "We heard the singing and came to see who it was. Here, have a biscuit." And he produces one from his haversack. The big dog crunches up the biscuit, then to the

chums' amazement, says, "Thank you." "W-what a wonderful dog!" gasps Rupert. "Able to sing and talk!" Before he can say any more the dog speaks: "It is my job to sing summertime into the woods." But before it can go on there is a crashing in the nearby undergrowth.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 9

Rupert, Billy and the singing dog swing round in alarm at the crashing coming from the bushes. "W-what...?" Rupert is starting to say when the bushes part and a group of men break into the clearing. Two of them are rough-looking. The third man is dressed in riding boots with

white breeches and a coloured waistcoat. He seems to be the leader. At the sight of the men the dog starts as if to flee. But before it can move one of the men throws a net over it. The others bundle it up. Then the first man turns on the pals. "You two get out of here!"

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 10

Rupert is frightened. The men are rough and fierce looking. But he and Billy stand firm and the little goat declares angrily: "You can't just order us about!" "Oh, can't we?" growl the men. "N-no," quaver the pals. The two rough men look threatening but the man in the

riding boots breaks in. "No need for trouble," he says. "My friends here thought you were making off with our dog. You see, he has escaped from our circus near here." The dog starts to say something but the men hurriedly lift it up and make off with it slung between them and struggling.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

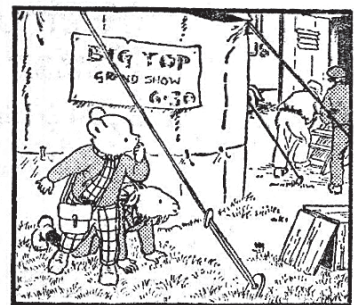


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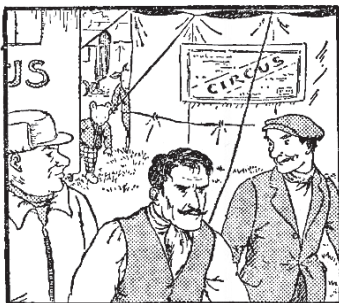
With Rupert in the lead, the pals hurry after the three men who have taken the singing dog. "We must be careful not to get too close to them," whispers Rupert. "Yes, but we must not lose sight of them either," Billy replies. The pals stay well back until the men

reach the circus. Then they close up so as not to lose them among the caravans and tents. At last the men stop at a caravan beside the big circus tent. Crouching out of sight, Billy and Rupert see the men unlock the caravan and bundle the dog into it. "Something very odd here," whispers Rupert.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

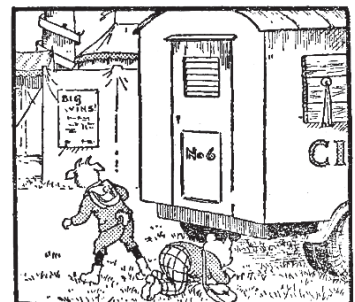


EPISODE 12

When they have bundled the singing dog into the caravan, the men lock the door and walk away. Rupert and Billy wait in hiding until the men are out of sight. "What are we going to do?" Billy asks. Rupert thinks for a moment. "Perhaps we should try to have a word with the dog and

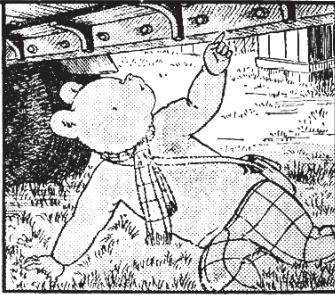
find out what he wants us to do," says Rupert. Billy agrees: "Right, I shall keep watch." So Rupert steals up to the caravan door and softly whispers, "Hello, can you hear me?" To his astonishment, a muffled reply comes from under the caravan. He kneels and peers underneath.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

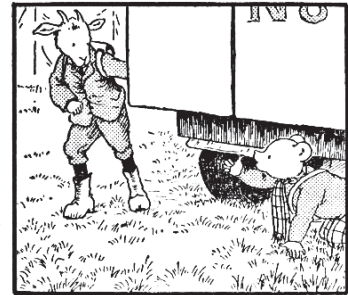


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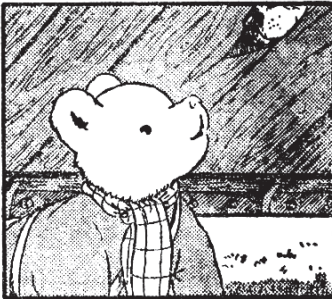
It is dark underneath the caravan and Rupert can't see where the sounds can be coming from. "I'm going to crawl under and have a look. You keep watch," he tells Billy and disappears between the wheels. "Can you hear me?" he whispers. The

answer comes from over his head. "Yes, there's a hole in the floor. Come close." "Just a moment," Rupert whispers back. "I'll check that it is still all clear." He pops his head out and calls quietly to Billy: "I'm just going to have a word with the dog." "Be quick!" Billy urges. "I'm scared."

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

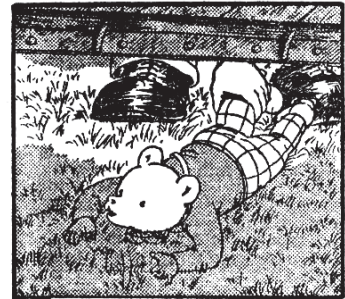


EPISODE 14

Rupert promises Billy to be as quick as he can and crawls back under the caravan. Once his eyes are used to the dim light he spots the hole in the floor and calls softly, "I'm back again." "Come close," the dog whispers. "Keep

your voice down." The little bear crawls up close to the hole. "How can we help?" he asks. "By getting a message to my master as quickly as ever you can." "But who is your master?" Rupert asks. The dog is starting to answer when a hand grabs Rupert's foot and, to his horror, he finds himself dragged into the open.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

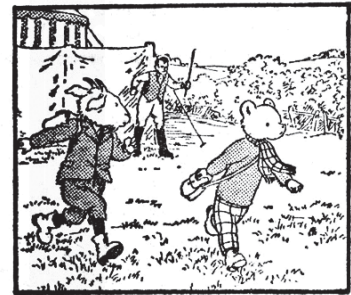


EPISODE 15

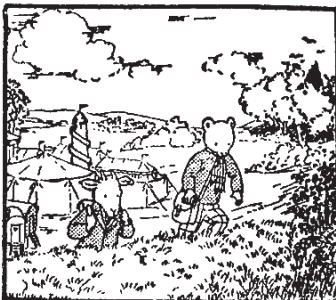
Rupert is dragged from under the caravan to find the three men who took away the singing dog. One of them is holding Billy. "Sorry, Rupert," says the little goat. "They pounced on me before I could . . ." "Be quiet!" snaps the

man in the riding boots. He glares at the pals. "I've a good mind to hand you over to the police," he says. "But I'll let you go this time. Only don't let me find you round here any more! Now be off!" The man who is holding the chums gives them a push and they stumble away out of the circus, glad to be free.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 16

Rupert and Billy do not stop running until they are clear of the circus. Then they start to climb towards the woods. When they reach the top of the hill they settle down to eat their lunch and talk about what to do next. "The dog told me to get a message to

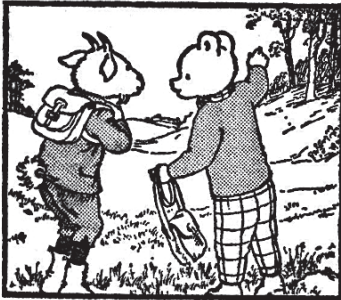
his master at once," says Rupert. "But that man caught me before the dog could say who his master is. I wonder who'd know." "My uncle, the Wise Old Goat would know, but that would take too long," Billy says. Rupert sits up suddenly. "I've just thought of someone who might help," he says.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 17

"The Owl!" says Rupert pointing to the trees. "He lives over there. He's wise and he'd know who the singing dog's master is." "Do you really think so?" asks Billy. "When I've seen him he's seemed half asleep." "That's because owls are night birds and are wide

awake only after dark," Rupert explains. "He knows everyone who has anything to do with the woods — and remember the dog said he was singing summer into the woods. Come on, let's ask Owl!" The pals hurry off and soon they are climbing into the branches of Owl's tree home.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

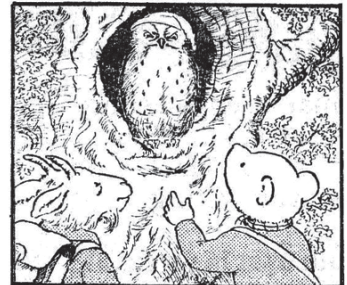


EPISODE 18

"Hello, Owl!" Rupert is sitting astride a branch outside the hole in a tree trunk which is the Owl's front door. He tries again: "Hello! I say, Owl, are you in?" But still there is no answer. "Are you there, Owl?" chorus the chums. "Where else

would I be at this time of day?" comes a grumpy voice from the hole. And out shuffles the sleepy figure of Owl, wearing a nightcap. "Now, what do you mean disturbing my day's sleep?" Owl demands crossly. Rupert apologises then goes on to tell about the singing dog and how it has been captured.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 19

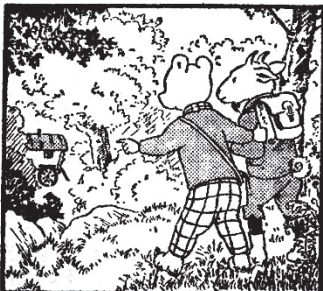
Owl listens in silence to Rupert's story then after a moment says, "A singing dog, eh? Then it's one of Hern's," and he turns as if to go into his house again. "But who is Hern?" begs Rupert. "Where does he live?" "Over there!" A tired wing points the

way and Owl disappears back to bed. The chums are left not much wiser. "What a huffy old soul," Billy says as they climb down from the tree. "I think he might have been a bit more help." When they reach the ground Rupert sighs and says, "I suppose we'd better just follow his direction and see what we can find."

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 20

"This is really rather silly," Billy says as he and Rupert press on in the direction Owl has pointed. "We don't even know who or what we are looking for." "We're bound to meet someone who knows where Hern is and who he is," Rupert says although he is feeling far from hope-

ful. Then just as the pals think their search is hopeless, they spy something they know well—the caravan home of their chum Rollo the gipsy boy and his old granny. They hurry down to it and find Rollo at the campfire. Straight away Rupert asks him if he knows of Hern. Their chum is suddenly serious.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 21

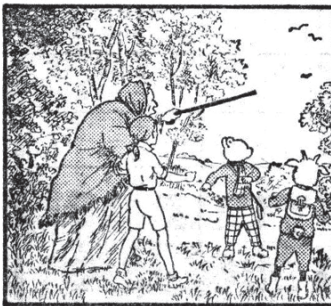
As soon as Rollo hears that Rupert and Billy are looking for Hern he grows serious. "I think you'd better talk to my granny," he says and he leads the pals across to the caravan. His granny is sitting on the steps preparing food. With a solemn face she listens to what Rollo

has to say about the chums' request. At last she speaks. "I am very old but Hern is much, much older. As old as the forest itself, is what some say. He is very powerful and very few people have ever seen him. He looks after all the forest animals, and he punishes whoever are cruel to those animals."

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 22

Rupert and Billy are awed by the old granny's solemn manner. But both feel they must go on and find Hern for the dog's sake. "Please can you tell us how to get to Hern," Rupert asks in a nervous voice. Rollo's granny heaves a sigh. "Any other time I

would refuse," she says. "But you know where one of his singing dogs is, so I shall tell you. Come with me." She rises and leads the way to a gap in the trees then points to a rocky hill. "There in a cave by a stream lives Hern." She hands the pals sprigs of rowan saying: "It will ensure Hern listens to you."

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

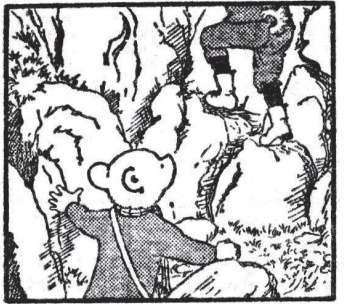


EPISODE 23

Rupert and Billy thank Rollo's grandmother, and with their rowan sprigs pinned to their clothes they stride out towards the rocky hill. As they go they wonder what sort of creature Hern can be. "He sounds really quite fearsome," Rupert says

nervously. "I'm sure we shall be all right," Billy says. "Otherwise Rollo's granny wouldn't have shown us the way." At last they reach the foot of the rocky hill. The trees and bushes are too dense to get through except where there is a very steep rocky path. "I'll lead the way," Billy says to Rupert's great relief.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 24

Billy who is very good at climbing scrambles on ahead, leaving Rupert to follow more slowly. "I wish I could climb like that," Rupert thinks as he pulls himself up the steep rocks. At the same time he is wondering what Hern is going to be like. The

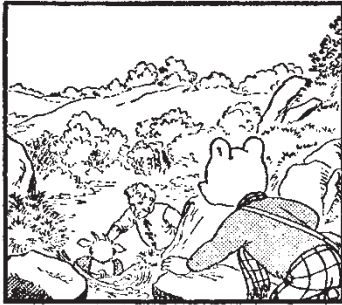
Gipsy Granny was very solemn when she spoke about Hern, he remembers. At that moment he hears Billy call: "I've found a stream. This must be the one Rollo's granny spoke of. Hern's cave must be . . . agh! Billy's words are cut short and Rupert is just in time to see him slip and go tumbling downhill.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 25

"He-e-elp!" Billy yells as he slithers out of Rupert's sight. "Hang on, Billy!" shouts the little bear as he pulls himself up to where his pal was standing when he slipped. To his relief he sees that Billy has stopped just a short way down the steep slope. Then he gasps and

draws back behind a rock when he sees the big bearded man who is helping Billy to his feet. "Who...?" he is beginning to ask himself when the man is joined by several large dogs. Just like the dog that is prisoner in the circus! The man must be Hern! Rupert holds up the rowan sprig and shouts.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 26

At Rupert's shout the man swings round. For a moment he looks really stern. Then he catches sight of Rupert's rowan and he stretches out his arms to help the little bear down to where he is standing. By this time Billy has got to his feet. "I'm alright," he says. "Just

a couple of bumps." The pals now turn to meet the gaze of the man. "Who," he says in a deep voice, "is it dares to call on Hern—and why?" He listens with a deepening frown to Rupert's tale of the singing dog's capture. At last he says: "You must help me. But first you must rest. Come!"

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 27

Hern leads the way to a cave near the stream. "Unless you knew where to look you'd never spot this cave," whispers Billy. Hern overhears him. "That is as it is meant to be," he says. "Very few people can say they have ever seen me." He points to a bed of

leaves and ferns in a corner of the cave and says simply: "Rest until sunset when I shall come again." Wondering what is in store for them, the pals snuggle down and are soon asleep. It is sunset when they wake to find that a meal of fruit and milk has been laid out for them. A dog guards the cave.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

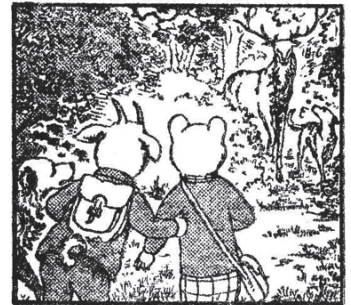


EPISODE 28

The dog which has been guarding the cave while Rupert and Billy finish their meal now rises. "I'm sure it wants us to follow it outside," says Rupert. And certainly the dog looks pleased when the pals rise and go with it. But there is nothing to be

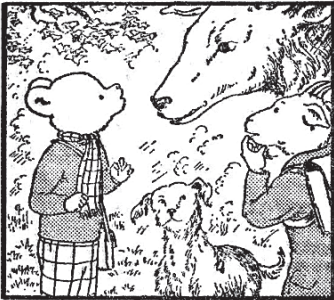
seen at first. "I wonder what Hern plans to do," Billy whispers. "Well, whatever it is, I wouldn't like to be those men who took his dog. Did you see how angry he looked when you told him about it?" Just then there is a rustling of bushes and the pals swing round to see a magnificent stag with one of Hern's dogs.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 29

Speechless with amazement, Rupert and Billy watch the great stag approach. Hern's dogs all seem to regard it with respect. Almost as if it were Hern himself, thinks Rupert. Then he and Billy almost jump out of their skins, for the stag speaks to them.

"I know what you are thinking, little bear," it says. "And you are right. I am Hern! We must go among ordinary people. They must not see me as I really am." As the pals stare in wonder, Hern goes on: "Also in this guise I can carry you at great speed." And kneeling, he orders: "Now mount!"

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 30

Rupert and Billy climb nervously on to Hern's back. Both of them are trembling with excitement. "Be calm," Hern says quietly. "No harm will come to you." So Rupert takes a firm grip of the long rough hair on Hern's neck and Billy holds on to the little

bear's jersey. Then Hern rises to his feet and sets off with long smooth bounds that cover the ground as if he was flying. Night is beginning to fall and through the gathering darkness a glow appears in the sky. It grows brighter until they stop on a rise and see that it is from the circus.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 31

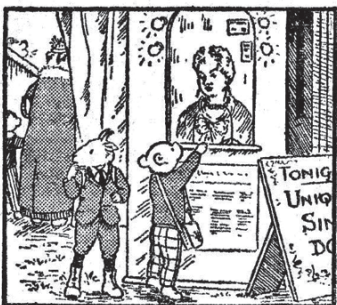
On the hill above the circus Hern halts then stoops to let the chums dismount. "Now show me where my singing dog is being held," he asks. "In a caravan near the big tent," says Rupert. "But I'm sure that they will take your dog into the big tent

for the circus performance, and that will be starting any time now." "Then you two must attend the performance and keep your eyes open while I and the other dogs look in the caravans," Hern orders. As the chums hurry down to the circus Billy has a thought: "I say, how are we going to pay for our tickets?"

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

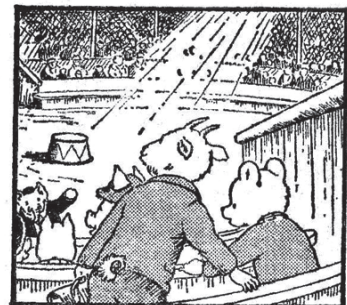


EPISODE 32

"I can pay for both our tickets," Rupert pants. "Luckily I've still got some of the money my Uncle Bruno gave me for a present." After the darkness the lights and bustle of the circus are bewildering. Crowds of people are already going into the big circus

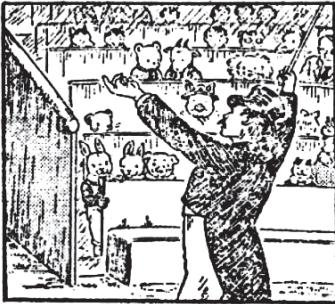
tent as the pals reach the pay box. Rupert has enough money for two of the cheap seats and they have to squeeze their way to one of the back rows. Several of their Nutwood chums are seated nearby: Podgy, Rosalie, Edward Trunk. "What are we going to do if the singing dog is brought in here?" Billy asks.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 33

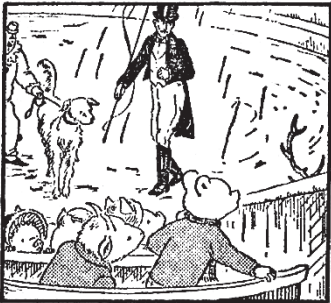
Suddenly there is a roll of drums and into the circus ring strides a splendid figure in top hat, scarlet coat and gleaming riding boots. It is the circus ring-master. "Ladies and gentlemen!" he bellows. "We welcome you to . . ." Rupert and Billy gasp. "It's

him!" exclaims the little bear as the man's voice drones on. "The leader of the men who took the singing dog!" By the time the pals start listening again the man is saying: "... a dog that really sings!" and the big man who was with him before, now dressed as a clown, is dragging in the dog!

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 34

The clapping dies away as more and more people see that the singing dog does not want to come into the ring. They are just beginning to mutter angrily when from outside comes the sound of barking and things being knocked over. Rupert and Billy get to

their feet and the singing dog pricks up its ears. It recognises the barking. The burly clown tugs at its lead and the ring-master looks towards the entrance in alarm. Then as Rupert and Billy peer over the barricade, Hern in his stag guise with his dogs bounds into the bright light heading for the ring-master.

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

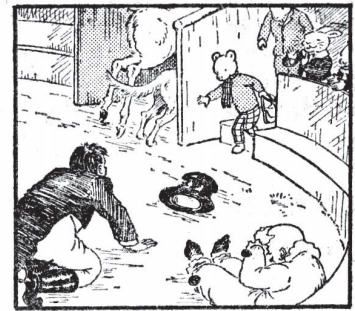


EPISODE 35

For a moment there is silence in the circus, then everyone starts to clap and cheer. Two of Hern's dogs jump up on the burly clown who is holding the singing dog and sends him sprawling. At the same time Hern takes care of the ring-master. A kick from his hind hooves lands

on the seat of the man's smart white breeches, lifting him into the air. Then Hern and all his dogs leave as rapidly as they came. The dazed ring-master, peering around, looks curiously at the chums. "At any moment he's going to remember who we are," says Rupert anxiously. "Let's go!"

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RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG



EPISODE 36

Rupert and Billy keep running until they are clear of the circus. "We got away just in time!" pants Rupert. "I could see that at any moment the ringmaster was going to remember who we were." "And I don't think he was in a very good temper!" Billy

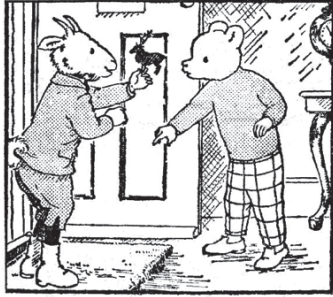
laughs. Just then the chums hear the drumming of hooves and on the skyline they see the dark shapes of a stag and a pack of dogs. They are making for the distant woods. Rupert's Daddy is just setting out to look for him when the little bear turns up. At supper he tells about his adventure.

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Rupert and the Singing Dog

RUPERT AND THE SINGING DOG

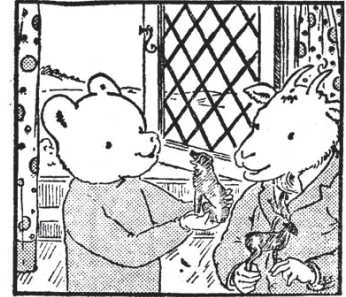


EPISODE 37

Rupert is just finishing breakfast next day when there is a knock at the front door. A very excited Billy is on the doorstep. "Just look at this, Rupert!" he cries, holding up a beautiful wood carving of a stag. "It was on my windowsill when I got up!" "It must be a present from

Hern!" suggests Rupert. "Then surely there must be one for you as well," Billy says. "Come on, let's look now!" And sure enough, on Rupert's windowsill is a carving. But not of a stag. "I say, it's the singing dog!" Rupert laughs.

*Another Adventure
on Monday
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THE END

Rupert and the Camera

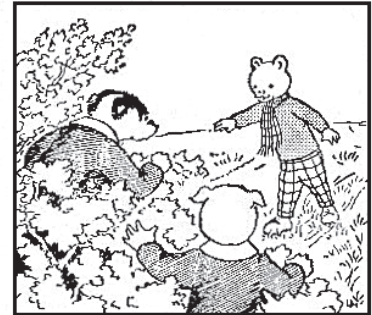
RUPERT AND THE CAMERA



EPISODE 1

"Pssst! Rupert!" Bingo's voice hails Rupert as he passes a clump of bushes on the common. But it is not the clever pup's head that pops up from behind the bushes. It is Bill Badger's to be followed a moment later by Algy Pug's. "Bill! Algy!" cries Rupert. "I'm positive it was Bingo's voice I heard just now." "Well, yes it was," Bill says uncomfortably, making no effort to come out from behind the bushes. "Where is he then?" Rupert asks. "He's here," Bill replies. And Algy who also stays where he is behind the bush, adds: "Sort of. . ."

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RUPERT AND THE CAMERA



EPISODE 2

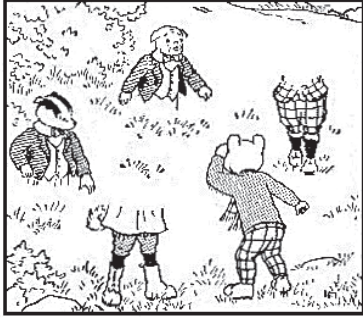
"Just what are you two up to?" Rupert demands of Bill and Algy who are still looking rather unhappily over the bushes at him. As he speaks he makes as if to go behind the bushes where the pair are standing. "No, stay there!" they yell together, and plainly they are alarmed. "What is all this about?" cries Rupert. For a long moment there is silence, then a voice hisses: "Go on, tell him!" It is Podgy Pig. "Right," says Bill, "we're coming out. Just get ready for a surprise." But it is more like a shock than a surprise poor Rupert gets.

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Rupert and the Camera

RUPERT AND THE CAMERA



EPISODE 3

No wonder Rupert is shocked. What comes out from behind the bushes is enough to astound anyone . . . the top halves of Bill and Algy and the lower halves of Bingo and Podgy. "What on earth has happened?" gasps Rupert when he gets his breath back. Everyone talks at once but at last Bingo is allowed to speak for them. From somewhere above his trousers his voice says: "We were chatting on the edge of the woods when suddenly this happened. . . ." "We think we heard a sort of click," chimes in Podgy's voice.

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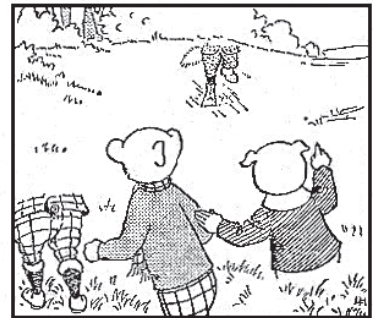
RUPERT AND THE CAMERA



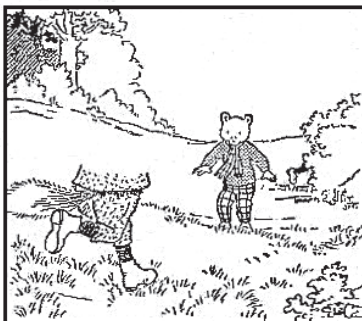
EPISODE 4

Once Rupert knows that his pals feel all right although only half of each of them can be seen, he says: "Well, you can't go home looking like that. . . ." "We know that," interrupts Algy. "The question is, what are we to do?" Rupert thinks for a moment. "First, let's have a look at where this happened. Perhaps we'll find something that helps." So off goes the very odd-looking band towards the woods. But before they get there they are stopped by howls of woe and from the trees dashes a pair of legs, headed straight for them.

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RUPERT AND THE CAMERA



EPISODE 5

At the first howl, and long before the pair of legs gets anywhere near them, Rupert's chums have leapt behind a nearby bush, leaving Rupert to deal with the newcomer. "Ooooh, help me, Rupert!" pleads the wailing voice from above the legs which are dancing about in dismay. "Why, it's one of the Fox brothers!" exclaims Rupert. "B-but which one are you and how did this happen?" "I'm Ferdie," bleats the voice. "But don't stand here asking silly questions. Do something!" Before Rupert can reply he hears another wail coming from the woods.

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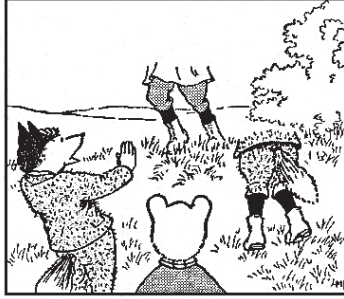


Rupert and the Camera

Rupert and the camera—6



The new wailing coming from the woods sounds very like the wailing coming from the invisible half of Ferdie in front of Rupert. So Rupert is not terribly surprised when from the trees rushes the other Fox brother Freddy. "He did this to me!" howls Ferdie. "He made my top half disappear. . . ." "No I



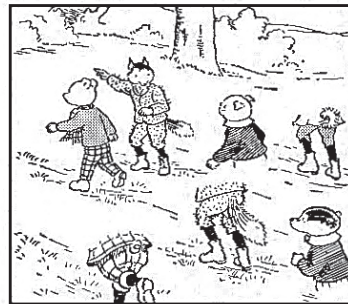
didn't!" yells his brother. "All I did was take his photograph . . . eek!" He stops with a screech for he has just seen Bingo's legs bound from behind the bush. "Did you photograph me and my pals as well?" Bingo demands in a very stern voice.

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Rupert and the Camera—7



"You *did* photograph us, didn't you?" demands Bingo sternly. As he speaks the other three half-visible chums come out from behind the bush. Freddy's eyes pop. "Oh, dear, I didn't know . . . I meant no harm," he quavers. "What sort of camera did you use?" asks Rupert. "I didn't even know you



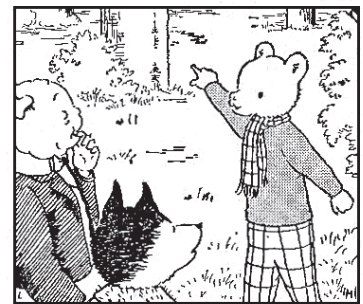
had one," chimes in Algy. "W-we sort of found this one," Freddy mutters. "And where is it now?" Rupert asks. "I dropped it when I ran after Ferdie," Freddy replies. "We must find it," declares Rupert. "Lead the way, Freddy." And off goes the odd procession.

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Rupert and the Camera—8



Rupert explains why he thinks it is important that they should find the camera Freddy used: "It, as it seems, it made you *disappear*, it may give a clue about how to make you *reappear*." Freddy calls a halt in a clearing, "It was about here I dropped the camera,"



he says. But although they search all around, even under bushes and in rabbit holes, they find no trace of the camera. "Then there is only one thing for it," Rupert declares. "We must go straight to Dr Lion and see if he can do anything for you. Come on!"

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Rupert and the Camera

Rupert and the Camera—9

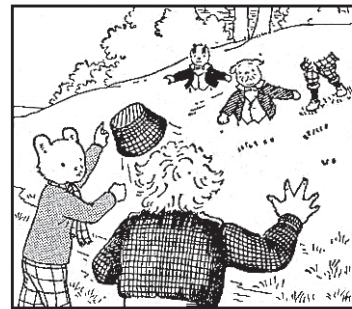
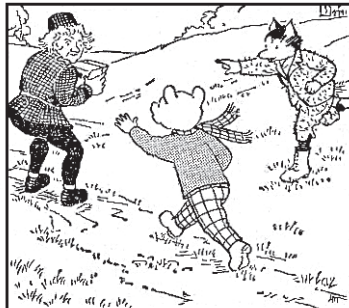


"I'll go first," says Rupert. "Then I can warn you to hide if we come across anyone on our way to Dr. Lion. I don't mean to be rude, but you could give them an awful fright." So off they set for Nutwood with Rupert leading and trying to cheer up the others. "I'm sure Dr.

Lion will be able to put you right," he tells them. They are just coming out of the woods when Rupert spies a familiar figure—the little servant of his friend the Old Professor. At the same moment Freddy points and cries, "The camera! He's got the camera!"

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Rupert and the Camera—10



As the others take cover Rupert and Freddy dash after the servant. "Is that your camera?" cries Rupert. "Why do you ask?" the servant demands. "Oh, please, it is important!" Rupert pleads. "Well," says the servant rather reluctantly, "it's a special see-through camera the Professor has invented.

He was testing it in the woods, put it down for a moment to go and look at an unusual plant and couldn't find it again. I've been looking . . . What? . . ." He breaks off staring. Tired of waiting the others have begun to come out of hiding.

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Rupert and the Camera—11



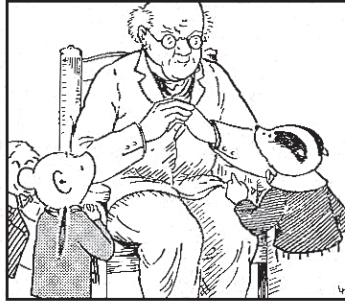
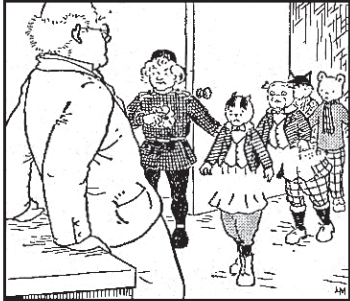
"So you lot had the camera!" exclaims the servant staring at the half-visible newcomers. "No we jolly well didn't!" rings out Podgy's voice. "It was that awful Freddy Fox!" "Well, whoever had it has done enough damage with it," declares the servant angrily. "Oh, please," Rupert begs, "can you do any-

thing about it?" "I can't," snorts the servant. "And I don't know if even the Professor can. But I suppose you'd better come and see him." And so off to the Professor's tower troops the strangest procession Nutwood has ever—or never—seen.

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Rupert and the Camera

Rupert and the Camera—12

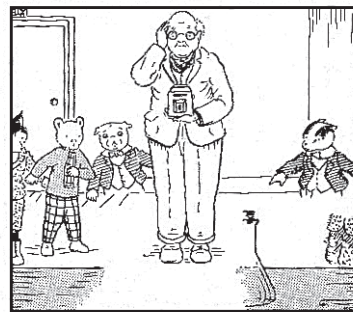
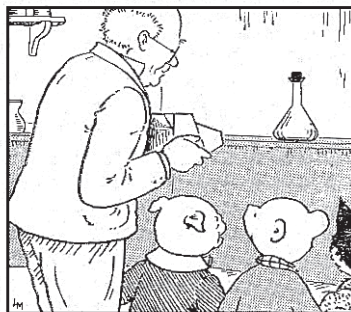


The Professor's eyes pop when Rupert and the others are ushered into his workroom. "One of them had your camera," the servant says. "Now they want your help." Hurriedly Bill explains: "We were chatting in the woods—Algy and I were standing, Bingo and Podgy sitting—when someone snapped us

with your camera." "It was Freddy!" blubs Ferdie's voice. "He snapped me too." "Didn't mean any harm," mumbles Freddy. "D-does it hurt?" the Professor asks anxiously. Everyone says it doesn't. "But what on earth has happened to us?" comes Bingo's voice.

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Rupert and the Camera—13

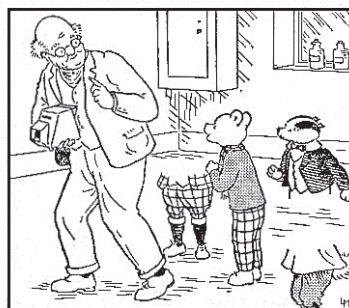


"Well," says the Professor, "my camera is meant to take pictures of hidden things. If I wanted to photograph something hidden by, say, that workbench . . ." He aims the camera at a workbench in the room. ". . . I'd set it so . . ." He turns a knob. ". . . and I'd press this button." He does. And the middle part of

the workbench vanishes. "Oh, dear!" exclaims the Professor. "It keeps doing that. Instead of just seeing through whatever is doing the hiding it makes it disappear. It would seem that the same thing must have happened to you lot."

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Rupert and the Camera—14



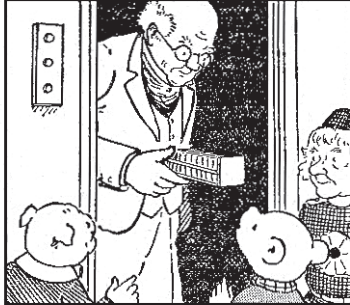
Everyone starts talking, all asking the same thing: Can the Professor get them out of the fix they are in? He scratches his head and says, "I-I don't know." Everyone groans. Then Algy speaks up: "Look, if the camera can make things vanish can't it somehow be made to put them back again . . .?" "Aha"

the Professor breaks in. "That gives me an idea we might try. Quick—the camera!" And grabbing it, he dashes into a small room and slams the door. A light glows over the door. "He's developing the film in the camera," the servant says.

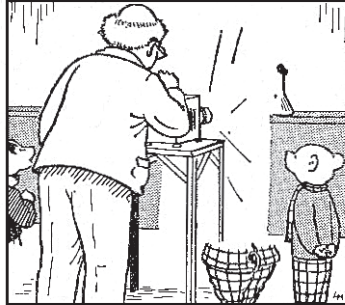
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Rupert and the Camera

Rupert and the Camera—15



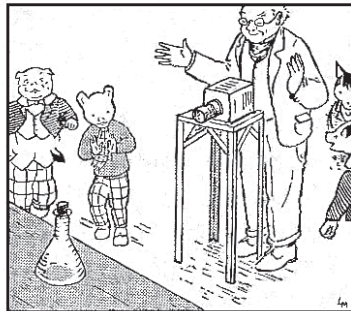
Rupert and the others wait anxiously outside the room where the Professor is developing the film from his see-through camera. "What can he be up to?" mutters Ferdie's voice from his invisible top half. At last the light over the door goes out and the Professor emerges carrying a rack of slides. He looks



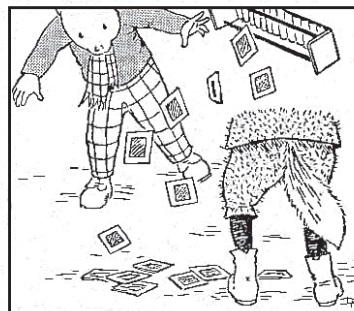
serious and no one dares to breathe a question as he crosses to a projector on a stand and places one of the slides in it. Now he points it at the workbench which has lost its middle. "Well, here goes," he says and switches on the projector.

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Rupert and the Camera—16



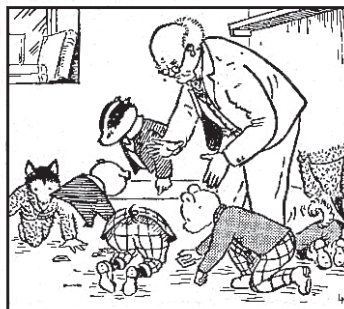
A click. A flash. And a great "A-a-ah!" from Rupert and the others. The middle part of the workbench is back in place. "Now do you see?" beams the Professor. "If we can put back the workbench then we can put back the bits of you which have disappeared. They're all here, you see, on the film! All



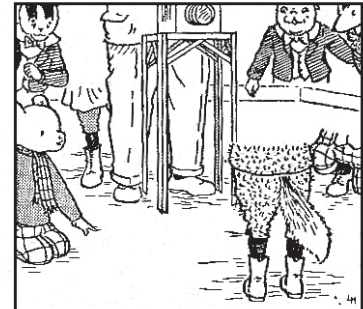
we need do is project them back to you. Now, who's going to be first? Algy!" But as Algy steps forward Ferdie barges past him. "No, me first!" he cries. And in his haste knocks the rack of slides flying all over the place.

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Rupert and the Camera—17



At once there is a scramble to pick up the precious slides. "No, no!" cries the Professor. "Leave it to me or we shall get into an awful muddle." Then peering through his glasses he stoops and gathers up the slides. "Right you are, Algy," he says when he is ready again. But Algy says, "Let Ferdie

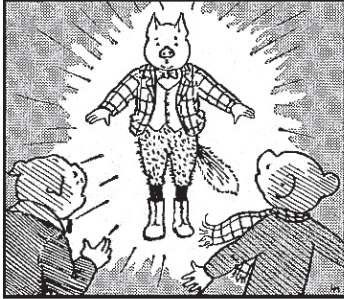


go first if he's so anxious to." "Very well," says the Professor. "Stand in front of the projector, Ferdie." The half-visible fox obeys. The Professor peers at a slide then puts it in the projector. There is a click... a flash... a pause... a wail of dismay.

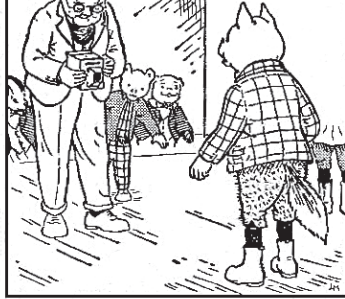
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Rupert and the Camera

Rupert and the Camera—18



Ferdie has a top half again—Podgy's! But there is no mistaking the wall that comes from it—Ferdie's. "Hi, what's happening?" cries the real Podgy's voice from above his visible lower half. "It's his own silly fault for knocking over the slides and mixing them up," snorts Bill. "Now what?" "Can't we



photograph Podgy's top half away again?" suggests Rupert. "Good idea!" the Professor cries and dashes for the camera. A moment later he is ordering the Podgy-topped Ferdie to stand before the camera. Then he presses the button.

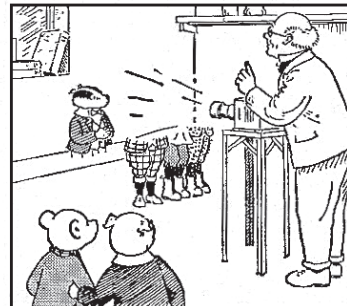
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Rupert and the Camera—19



Rupert's idea works. Podgy's top half vanishes, leaving Ferdie's legs in front of the camera. "Now," says the Professor firmly, "we shall go very carefully through the slides this time . . . but, first, of course, I shall have to make a new slide for Podgy since the first

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one will be empty now." That's soon done, though, and a little later Algy stands laughing with relief before the projector as his legs re-appear. Then Bill takes his place before the projector as three seats of legs—Podgy's, Bingo's and Ferdie's—wait for their turn.

Rupert and the Camera—20



At last everyone is back to normal and the Fox brothers start to sneak away. But the Professor spots them. "Wait!" he orders. "I've something to say." He turns to Rupert and the others. "Although you weren't to blame for what happened you should hear this



too. Never pick up any strange object you see lying about no matter how interesting it looks. And never tamper with things you don't understand. You were lucky this time. Now off you go!"

THE END

Another Adventure Tomorrow

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. . AND SO TO BED.



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