

J.K. ROWLING

A PREVIEW



Kennilworthy  
Whisp



# QUIDDITCH THROUGH THE AGES



GLYNNIS GRIFFITHS  
(HOLYHEAD HARPIES)

ILLUSTRATED BY  
EMILY GRAVETT



BLOOMSBURY







J.K. ROWLING  
QUIDDITCH  
THROUGH  
THE AGES

KENNILWORTHY WHISP

ILLUSTRATED BY  
EMILY GRAVETT



BLOOMSBURY  
CHILDREN'S BOOKS  
LONDON OXFORD NEW YORK NEW DELHI SYDNEY

*in association with*  
*Whizz Hard*  
*Books*  
129B DIAGON ALLEY, LONDON





ROOM SPORTS EMERGED almost as soon as broomsticks were sufficiently advanced to allow fliers to turn corners and vary their speed and height. Early wizarding writings and paintings give us some idea of the games our ancestors played. Some of these no longer exist; others have survived or evolved into the sports we know today.

The celebrated **ANNUAL BROOM RACE** of Sweden dates from the tenth century. Fliers race from Kopparberg to Arjeplog, a distance of slightly over three hundred miles. The course runs straight through a dragon reservation and the vast silver trophy is shaped like a Swedish Short-Snout. Nowadays

this is an international event and wizards of all nationalities congregate at Kopparberg to cheer the starters, then Apparate to Arjeplog to congratulate the survivors.



Poster for the 1956 race,  
from Kopparberg to Arjeplog,  
a distance of 48 Swedish miles



Woodcut map of the route  
(Medieval)



ANCIENT BROOM GAMES



*'The course runs straight  
through a dragon reservation.'*





# QUIDDITCH TEAMS OF



APPLEBY ARROWS



BALLYCASTLE BATS



CAERPHILLY CATAPULTS



CHUDLEY CANNONS

FALMOUTH  
FALCONS



HOLYHEAD HARPIES



KENMARE KESTRELS



# BRITAIN AND IRELAND



MONTROSE MAGPIES



PRIDE OF PORTREE



PUDDLEMERE  
UNITED



TUTSHILL TORNADOS



WIGTOWN WANDERERS

WIMBOURNE  
WASPS







# TEAM UNIFORMS OF



APPLEBY  
ARROWS

BALLYCASTLE  
BATS



CAERPHILLY  
CATAPULTS



CHUDLEY  
CANNONS



FALMOUTH  
FALCONS



HOLYHEAD  
HARPIES



KENMARE  
KESTRELS





# BRITAIN AND IRELAND



MONTROSE  
MAGPIES



PRIDE OF  
PORTREE



PUDDLEMERE  
UNITED



TUTSHILL  
TORNADOS



WIGTOWN  
WANDERERS



WIMBOURNE  
WASPS







## CHUDLEY CANNONS



The Chudley Cannons' glory days may be considered by many to be over, but their devoted fans live in hope of a renaissance. The Cannons have won the League

twenty-one times, but the last time they did so was in 1892 and their performance over the last century has been lacklustre. The Chudley Cannons wear robes of bright orange emblazoned with a speeding cannonball and a double 'C' in black. The club motto was changed in 1972 from 'We shall conquer' to 'Let's all just keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best'.







*'The club motto was changed in 1972 from "We shall conquer" to "Let's all just keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best".'*



Pre-1972 pin badge and fan T-shirt produced in 1972 after the motto change





Scenes from the 1473  
Quidditch World Cup final by  
an unknown Flemish artist,  
oil on panel (15th century)

and the release, from under the robes  
of the Transylvanian Captain, of a  
hundred blood-sucking vampire bats.

The World Cup has since been  
held every four years, though it  
was not until the seventeenth  
century that non-European teams  
turned up to compete. In 1652 the  
European Cup was established,  
and it has been played every three  
years since.









handle, designed for endurance flying and to withstand high winds. The Oakshaft is now a highly prized vintage broom, but attempts to use it for Quidditch were never successful. Too cumbersome to turn at high speed, the Oakshaft never gained much popularity with those who prized agility over safety, though it will always be remembered as the broom used in the first ever Atlantic broom crossing, by Jocunda Sykes in 1935. (Before that time, wizards preferred to take ships rather than trust broomsticks over such distances. Apparition becomes increasingly unreliable over very long distances, and only highly skilled wizards are wise to attempt it across continents.)



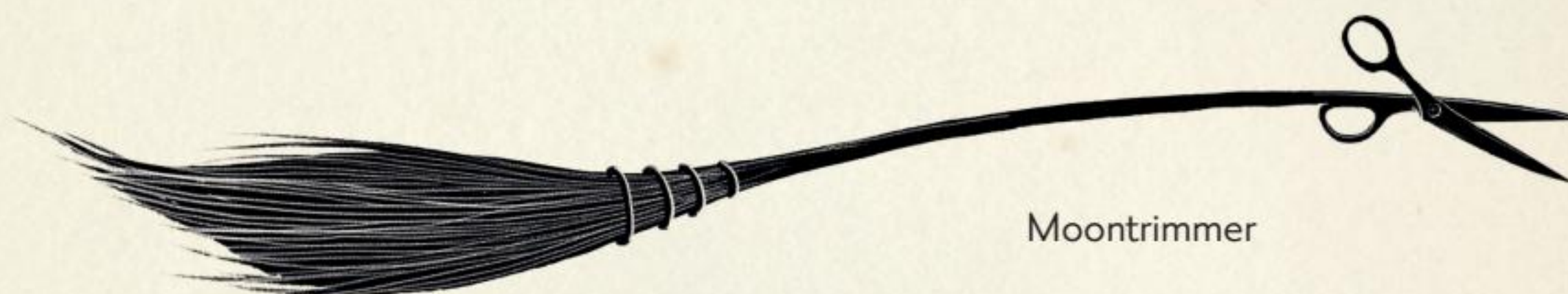
*'The Oakshaft ... will always  
be remembered as the broom  
used in the first ever  
Atlantic broom crossing,  
by Jocunda Sykes in 1935'*



Signed fan photograph of Jocunda Sykes,  
circa 1935

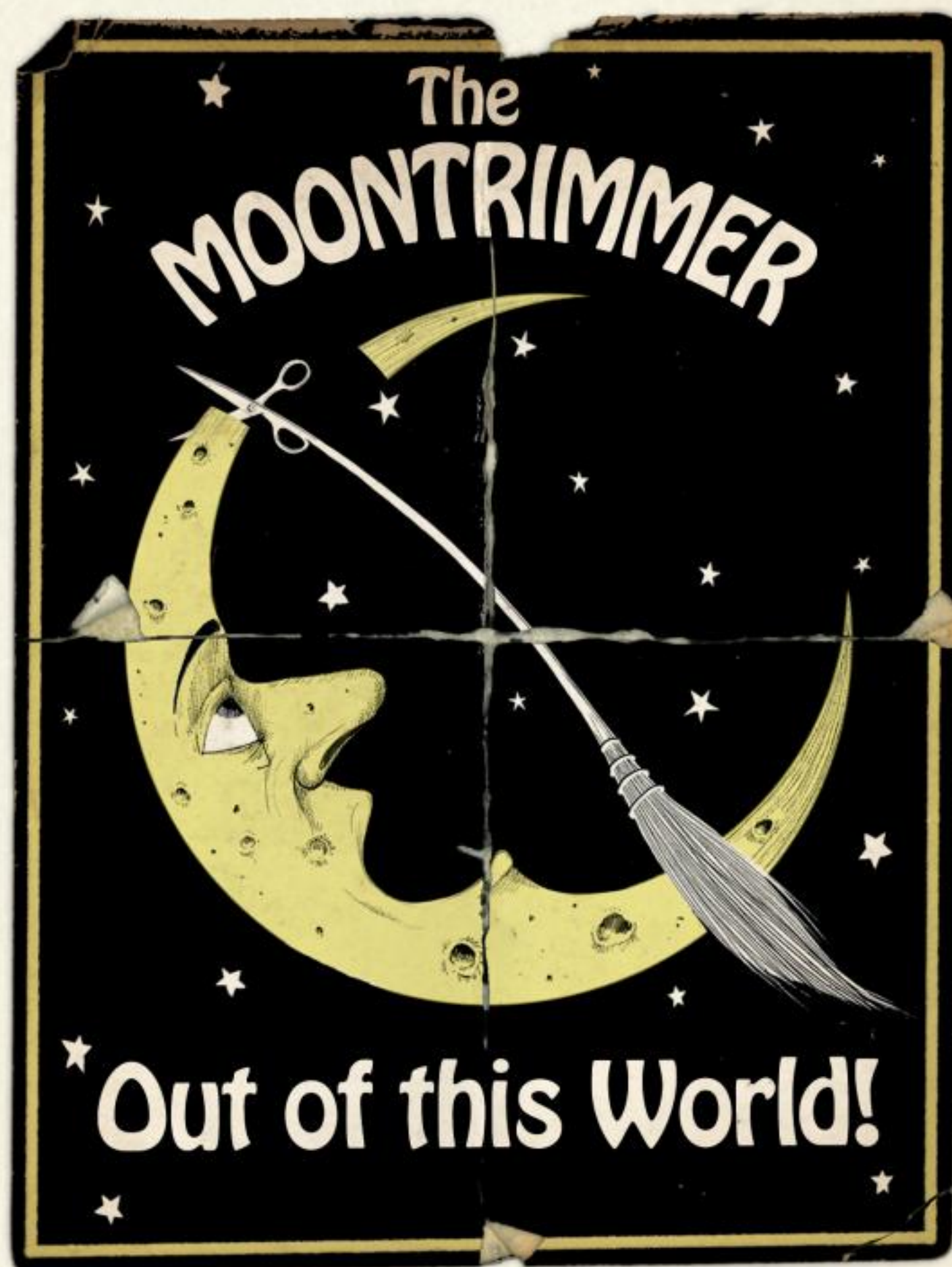


The **MOONTRIMMER**, which was first created by Gladys Boothby in 1901, represented a leap forward in broom construction, and for a while



Moontrimmer

these slender, ash-handled brooms were in great demand as Quidditch brooms. The Moontrimmer's principal advantage over other brooms was its ability to achieve greater heights than ever before (and remain controllable at such altitudes). Gladys Boothby was unable to produce Moontrimmers in the quantities Quidditch players clamoured for. The production of a new broom, the **SILVER ARROW**, was welcomed; this was the true forerunner of the racing broom, achieving much



Moontrimmer advertising flyer  
(1901)





THE GAME OF QUIDDITCH continues to thrill and obsess its many fans around the world. Nowadays every purchaser of a Quidditch match ticket is guaranteed to witness a sophisticated contest between highly skilled fliers (unless of course the Snitch is caught in the first five minutes of the match, in which case we all feel slightly short-changed). Nothing demonstrates this more than the difficult moves that have been invented over its long history by witches and wizards eager to push themselves and the game as far as they can go. Some of these are listed below.



Official tickets to international and local fixtures are highly prized collectables.







### Bludger Backbeat

A move by which the Beater strikes the Bludger with a backhanded club swing, sending it behind him or her rather than in front. Difficult to bring off with precision but excellent for confusing opponents.

### Dopplebeater Defence

Both Beaters hit a Bludger at the same time for extra power, resulting in a Bludger attack of greater severity.



### Double-Eight Loop

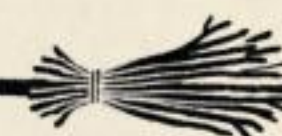
A Keeper defence, usually employed against penalty takers, whereby the Keeper swerves around all three goal hoops at high speed to block the Quaffle.

### Hawkshead Attacking Formation

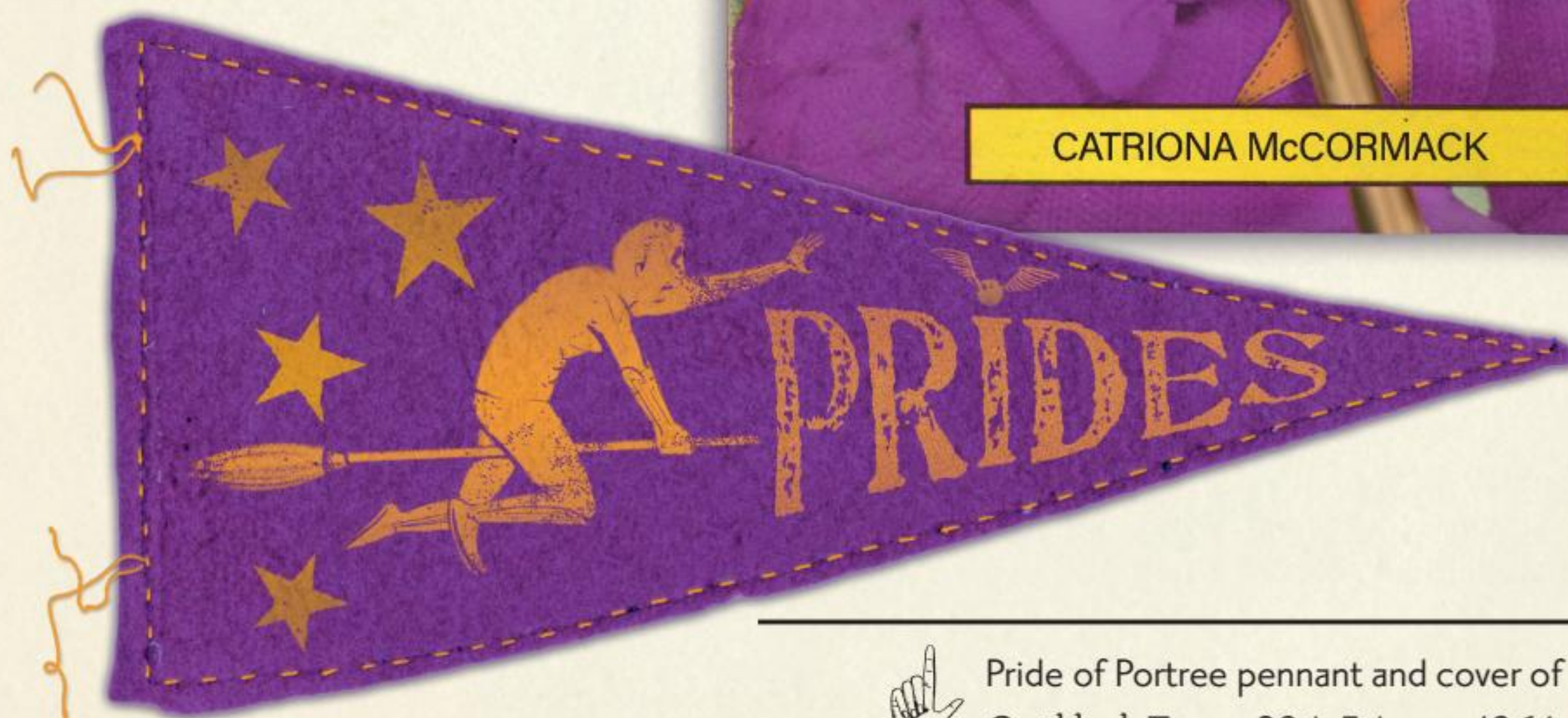
Chasers form an arrowhead pattern and fly together towards the goalposts. Highly intimidating to opposing teams and effective in forcing other players aside.







*'Catriona McCormack, captained the team to two League wins in the 1960s and played for Scotland thirty-six times.'*



Pride of Portree pennant and cover of Quidditch Times, 29th February 1964



## J.K. ROWLING

J.K. ROWLING is best known as the author of the seven Harry Potter books, which were published between 1997 and 2007. The enduringly popular adventures of Harry, Ron and Hermione have gone on to sell over 500 million copies, be translated into over 80 languages and made into eight blockbuster films. Alongside the Harry Potter series, she also wrote three short companion volumes for charity: *Quidditch Through the Ages* and *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, in aid of Comic Relief and Lumos, and *The Tales of Beedle the Bard*, in aid of Lumos. J.K. Rowling collaborated with playwright Jack Thorne and director John Tiffany to continue Harry's story in a stage play, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, which opened in London in 2016 and is now playing in Europe, North America and Australia. In the same year, she made her debut as a screenwriter with the film *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, the first in a series featuring Magizoologist Newt Scamander, which was inspired by the original companion volume. J.K. Rowling has also written a standalone novel, *The Casual Vacancy*, and is the author of the Strike crime series under the pseudonym Robert Galbraith. Both have been adapted for television. She has received many awards and honours, including an OBE and a Companion of Honour for services to literature and philanthropy. She lives in Scotland with her family.

## EMILY GRAVETT

EMILY GRAVETT is the author and illustrator of many award-winning children's books. After leaving school with few qualifications, she spent eight years living on the road before taking the BA Illustration course at Brighton University. She won the Macmillan Prize for Illustration with her first book, *Wolves*, which went on to win the Kate Greenaway Medal and the Boston Globe Horn Book Honor Award for Illustration and marked the beginning of an international career creating extraordinary and innovative books for children: *Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears* won the Kate Greenaway Medal for her a second time. In 2019 she was crowned the winner of the first ever BookTrust Storytime Prize for her picture book *Cyril and Pat*. Her own picture books are published in more than 20 languages and she has also collaborated with some of the most creative writers working today, including Julia Donaldson, A.F. Harrold and Matt Haig. Emily lives in Brighton with her partner and a dog called Dilys.





*'QUIDDITCH THROUGH THE AGES is one of the most popular titles in the Hogwarts school library. Madam Pince, our librarian, tells me that it is "pawed about, dribbled on and generally maltreated" nearly every day – a high compliment for any book'*

*Albus Dumbledore*

- ★ Emily Gravett brings her wildly creative imagination to the Wizarding World's favourite sport in this spectacular sporting almanac.
- ★ A sumptuous visual feast of a book, bursting with glorious illustrations and lovingly handcrafted memorabilia, with two breathtaking gatefold spreads – illustrated in full colour for the first time.
- ★ Packed with Quidditch trivia, profiles of teams loved by readers of the Harry Potter novels – Chudley Cannons, Puddlemere United – and much more ... *Quidditch Through the Ages* is the definitive guide to the magical airborne sport.
- ★ This hugely creative gift book is perfect for newcomers to the series, devotees of beautiful books, and of course Harry Potter fans.
- ★ Twice winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal, Emily Gravett joins the world-class team of illustrators who have brought their own magic to the Wizarding World, the magical universe created by J.K. Rowling.
- ★ Massive national media coverage and an innovative marketing campaign to run from publication date until the end of the year.
- ★ Published in aid of Lumos, an international children's charity founded in 2005 by J.K. Rowling, and Comic Relief.

**PUBLICATION DATE: 6 OCTOBER 2020**

Hardback | 290 x 250mm | 160pp | 9781526608123 | £25.00

Deluxe Slipcase | 314 x 271mm | 160pp | 9781526612373 | £120.00

**HOGWARTS LIBRARY ILLUSTRATED EDITIONS**

OLIVIA  
LOMENECH GILL



CHRIS  
RIDDELL



Publicity enquiries: [Ian.Lamb@bloomsbury.com](mailto:Ian.Lamb@bloomsbury.com)  
[harrypotter.bloomsbury.com](http://harrypotter.bloomsbury.com)

THIS IS AN UNCORRECTED SAMPLER AND IS NOT FOR SALE.

All specifications are provisional. It should not be quoted without comparison to the final revised text.

This does not reflect the quality, page size or thickness of the finished text.

Copyright © J.K. Rowling 2001 Illustrations by Emily Gravett © Bloomsbury Publishing Plc 2020

All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher

ALL TRADE ORDERS TO: MDL, Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 6XS

Tel +44 (0) 1256 302 692; Fax +44 (0) 1256 812 521; [orders@macmillan.co.uk](mailto:orders@macmillan.co.uk)

