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Irma Pince, Hogwarts Librarian



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QUIDDITCH

THROUGH THE AGES

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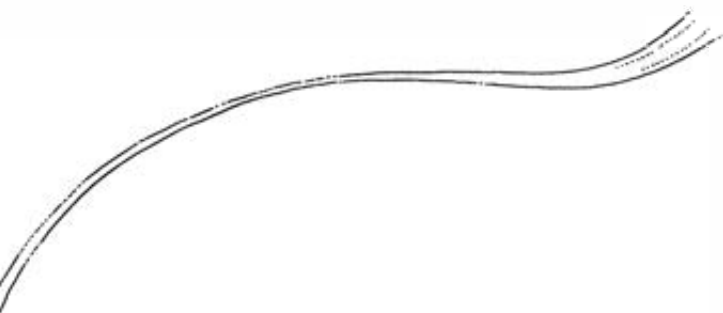
‘I’ve read worse.’

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QUIDDITCH

THROUGH THE AGES



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Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
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Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

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Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them
Quidditch Through the Ages
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The Tales of Beedle the Bard
(Published in aid of Lumos)

The three companion volumes also available as:

The Hogwarts Library
(Published in aid of Comic Relief and Lumos)

ILLUSTRATED EDITIONS

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Illustrated by Olivia Lomenech Gill

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

J.K. ROWLING

QUIDDITCH

THROUGH THE AGES

KENNILWORTHY WHISP



Illustrated by Tomislav Tomic

in association with

Whizz Hard
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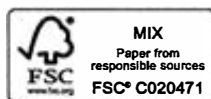
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Comic Relief (UK) was set up in 1985 by a group of British comedians to raise funds for projects promoting social justice and helping to tackle poverty. Monies from the worldwide sales of this book will go to help children and young people in the UK and around the world, preparing them to be ready for the future – to be safe, healthy, educated and empowered.

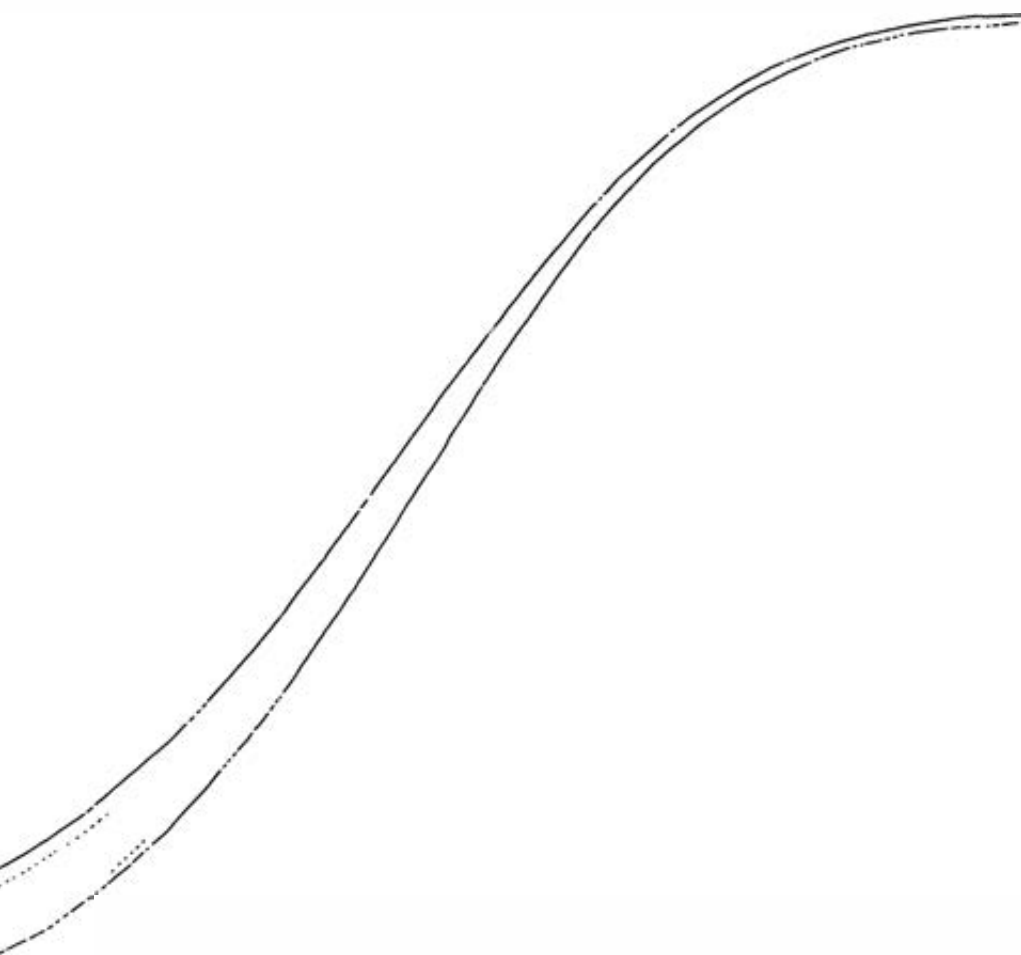
Comic Relief (UK) is a registered charity: 326568 (England/Wales); SC039730 (Scotland).

Named after the light-giving spell in the Harry Potter books, Lumos was established by J.K. Rowling to end the use of orphanages and institutions for vulnerable children around the world by 2050 and ensure all future generations of children can be raised in loving families.

Lumos is the operating name of Lumos Foundation, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, number 5611912. Registered charity number 1112575.



*With thanks to J.K. Rowling for creating
this book and so generously giving all her
royalties from it to Comic Relief and Lumos*





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FOREWORD

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. Anyone who plays or watches Quidditch regularly will relish Mr Whisp’s book, as do those of us interested in wider wizarding history. As we have developed the game of Quidditch, so it has developed us; Quidditch unites witches and wizards from all walks of life, bringing us together to share moments of exhilaration, triumph and (for those who support the Chudley Cannons) despair.



It was with some difficulty, I must own, that I persuaded Madam Pince to part with one of her books so that it might be copied for wider consumption. Indeed, when I told her it was to be made available to Muggles, she was rendered temporarily speechless and neither moved nor blinked for several minutes. When she came to herself she was thoughtful enough to ask whether I had taken leave of my senses. I was pleased to reassure her on that point and went on to explain why I had taken this unprecedented decision.

Muggle readers will need no introduction to the work of Comic Relief and Lumos, so I now repeat my explanation to Madam Pince for the benefit of witches and wizards who have purchased this book. Comic Relief harnesses laughter to fight poverty and injustice in a most imaginative way, using it to raise funds to help save and improve lives – a brand of magic to which we all aspire. Lumos, in turn, brings light to the darkest of places, revealing children hidden from the world and guiding them home. By buying this book – and I would advise you to buy it, because if you read it for too long without handing



over money you will find yourself the object of a Thief's Curse – you too will be contributing to this magical mission.

I would be deceiving my readers if I said that this explanation made Madam Pince happy about handing over a library book to Muggles. She suggested several alternatives, such as telling the people from Comic Relief and Lumos that the library had burned down, or simply pretending that I had dropped dead without leaving instructions. When I told her that on the whole I preferred my original plan, she reluctantly agreed to hand over the book, though at the point when it came to let go of it, her nerve failed her and I was forced to prise her fingers individually from the spine.

Although I have removed the usual library-book spells from this volume, I cannot promise that every trace has gone. Madam Pince has been known to add unusual jinxes to the books in her care. I myself doodled absent-mindedly on a copy of *Theories of Transubstantial Transfiguration* last year and next moment found the book beating me fiercely around



the head. Please be careful how you treat this book. Do not rip out the pages. Do not drop it in the bath. I cannot promise that Madam Pince will not swoop down on you, wherever you are, and demand a heavy fine.

All that remains is for me to thank you for supporting Comic Relief and Lumos and to beg Muggles not to try Quidditch at home; it is, of course, an entirely fictional sport and nobody really plays it. May I also take this opportunity to wish Puddlemere United the best of luck next season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Albus Dumbledore". The signature is written in a fluid, cursive style with a large, ornate initial 'A' and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.



*THE EVOLUTION OF THE
FLYING BROOMSTICK*

