

Book Club Editions

Spike Milligan or his management embraced the Book Club concept. That is, books made available to members at a rate much less than the cost of books from traditional booksellers. The books very often look identical to the original but there may be minor differences. They can be a trap for collectors as they are often confused with the original edition and are usually cheaper. They are not valued as highly though.

Book Club Associates

Spike's early books were often available in a Book Club Associates edition. Founded in 1966, Book Club Associates (BCA) was the largest mail order bookseller in the U.K. in the 1970s and 1980s. It advertised extensively especially in Sunday newspaper colour supplements. The company collapsed in 2012.

BCA don't appear to have a unique ISBN. None of my BCA editions have an ISBN on their cover or copyright page.

The Companion Book Club

Operating out of London (Oldhams Books) and Sydney (Hamlyn Publishing) its books were hard cover, often without dust jackets. There is only one Spike Milligan Companion Book Club title, *The Goon Omnibus* which has Spike's *William McGonagall: The Truth at Last* and Harry Secombe's *Goon for Lunch*.

Book People - Ted Smart Editions

Book People is an independent British-based direct bookseller that reaches customers through a network of distributors, ecommerce websites and mail order catalogues. The company was established in 1988 by Ted Smart in Godalming, Surrey. It arranged with publishers to produce Ted Smart editions of selected titles.

First book with the Ted Smart imprint is *Black Beauty* in paperback in 1997. The ISBN is unique but the copyright page shows the Virgin connection.