

## Topic Page: [Milligan, Spike, 1918–2002](#)

Summary Article: **Milligan, Spike (Terence Alan)**

From *Chambers Biographical Dictionary*

1918-2002

Irish humorist

Born in Ahmadnagar, India, he was a singer and trumpeter before doing war service. He made his radio debut in *Opportunity Knocks* (1949) and, along with Peter Sellers, Harry Secombe and Michael Bentine, co-wrote and performed in the *Goon Show* (1951-60). His unusual perspective on the world, allied to his sense of the ridiculous and the surreal, has had a great influence on British humour. On stage, he appeared in *Treasure Island* (1961, 1973, 1974, 1975) and *The Bed-Sitting Room* (1963, 1967) which he also co-wrote. His many television programmes include *Paging You* (1947), *Idiot Weekly, Price 2d* (1956), *A Show Called Fred* (1956), *Son of Fred* (1956), *The World of Beachcomber* (1968-69) and the Q series (1969-80). He appeared in films such as *The Bed Sitting Room* (1969), *The Magic Christian* (1969) and *Digby - The Biggest Dog in the World* (1973). He published a variety of children's books, poetry, autobiography and comic novels including *Puckoon* (1963), *Adolf Hitler, My Part in His Downfall* (1971), *Where Have All the Bullets Gone?* (1985), *The Looney: An Irish Fantasy* (1987) and *Peacework* (1991). In later years he published a number of humorous reworkings of classic works of literature in the ... *According to Spike Milligan* series, such as *Wuthering Heights According to Spike Milligan* (1995). He was awarded an honorary knighthood in 2000.

Scudamore, Pauline, Spike Milligan (1985).

**APA**

Chicago

Harvard

MLA

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Milligan, Spike (Terence Alan). (2011). In L. Rodger, & J. Bakewell, *Chambers Biographical Dictionary* (9th ed.). London, UK: Chambers Harrap. Retrieved from [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan\\_spike\\_1918](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan_spike_1918)

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## APA

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## Chicago

"Milligan, Spike (Terence Alan)." In *Chambers Biographical Dictionary*, by Liam Rodger, and Joan Bakewell. 9th ed. Chambers Harrap, 2011. [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan\\_spike\\_1918](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan_spike_1918)

## Harvard

Milligan, Spike (Terence Alan). (2011). In L. Rodger & J. Bakewell, *Chambers Biographical Dictionary*. (9th ed.). [Online]. London: Chambers Harrap. Available from: [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan\\_spike\\_1918](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan_spike_1918) [Accessed 20 September 2019].

## MLA

"Milligan, Spike (Terence Alan)." *Chambers Biographical Dictionary*, Liam Rodger, and Joan Bakewell, Chambers Harrap, 9th edition, 2011. *Credo Reference*, [https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan\\_spike\\_1918](https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/milligan_spike_1918). Accessed 20 Sep. 2019.