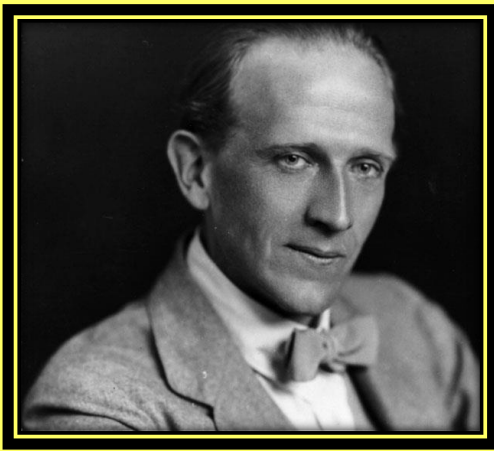


A A Milne





Who was A. A. Milne?

A. A. Milne was a famous author, poet and playwright. His most famous stories were about Winnie the Pooh.



Alan Alexander Milne was born on the 18th of January 1882 in Hampstead, London. He was the youngest of three sons born to John Vine Milne and Sarah Maria Heginbotham.



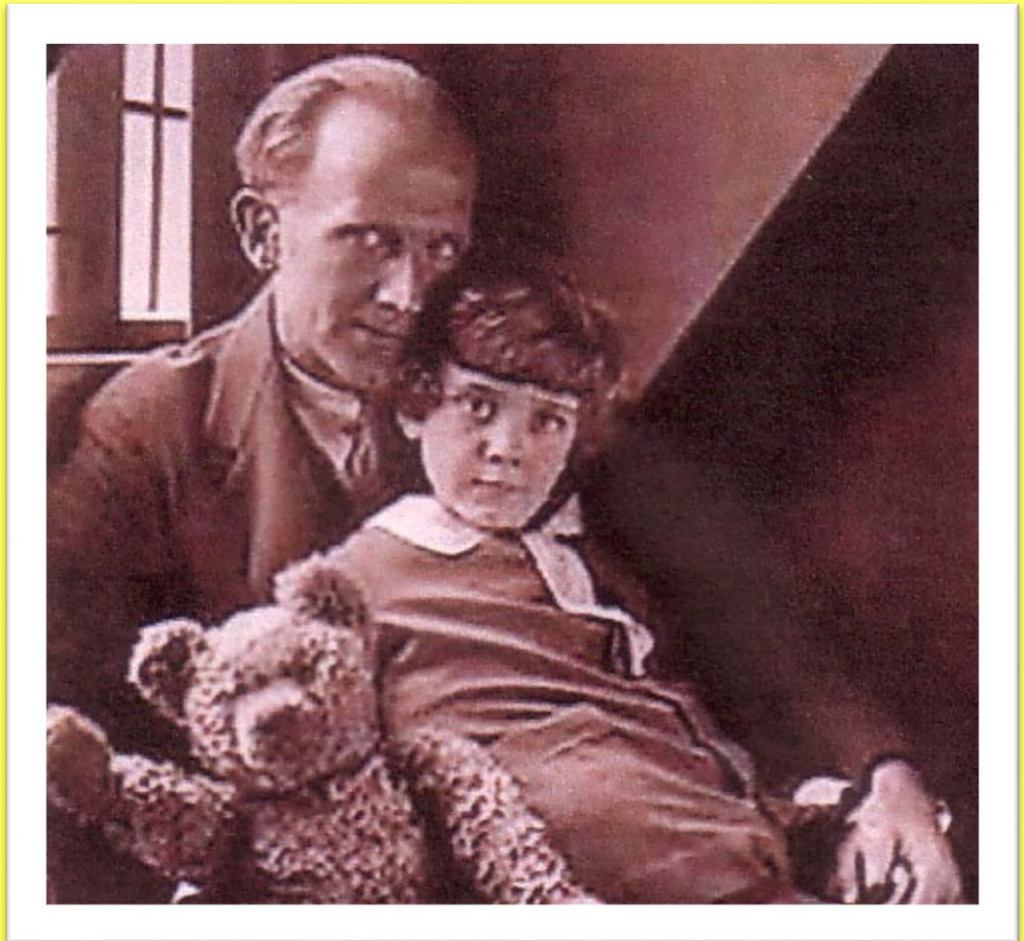
A A Milne married Dorothy
"Daphne" de Sélincourt in 1913.



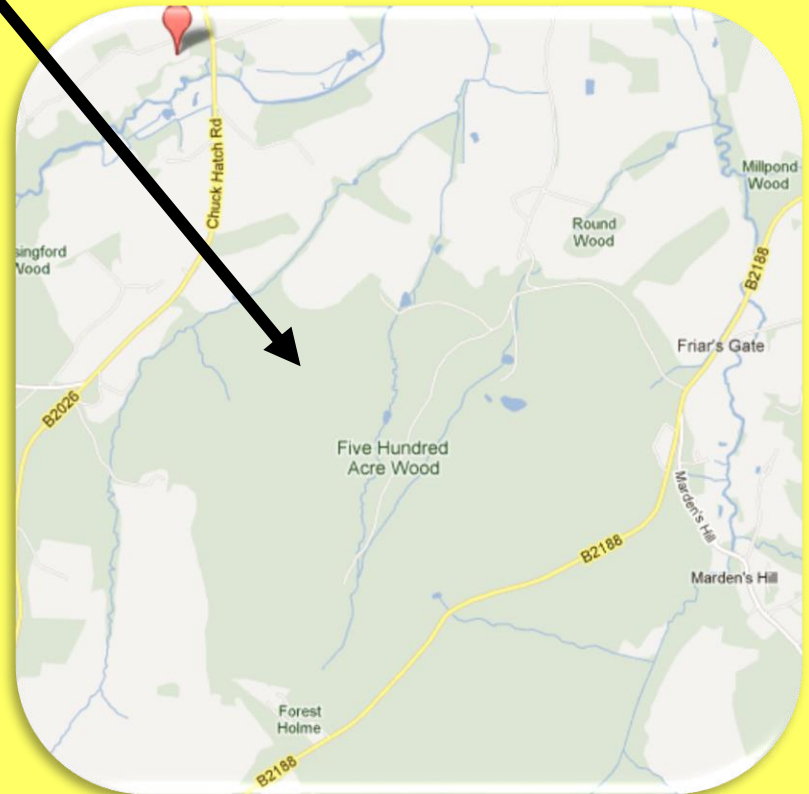
When World War I began, A. A. Milne joined the army in 1913 and served in France. He was discharged on February 14th, 1919.

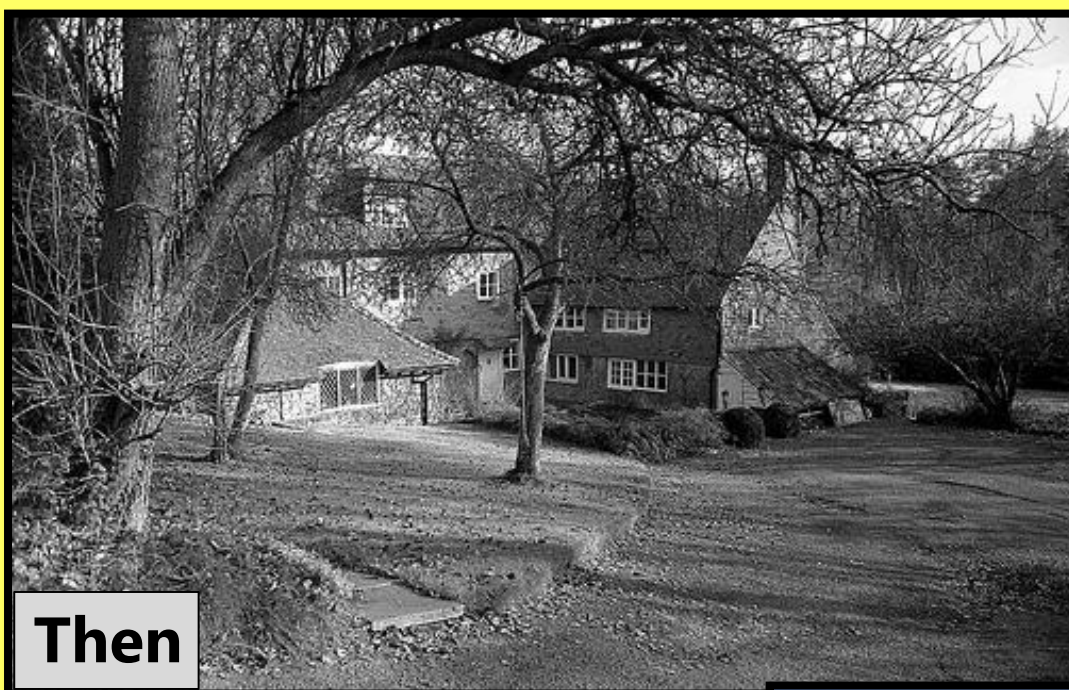


In 1920 A A Milne's only child was born. He was named, Christopher Robin Milne.



In 1925 the A.A.Milne and his family moved to Cotchford Farm, Hartfield, East Sussex. The house was on the outskirts of Five Hundred Acre woods in the Ashdown Forest.





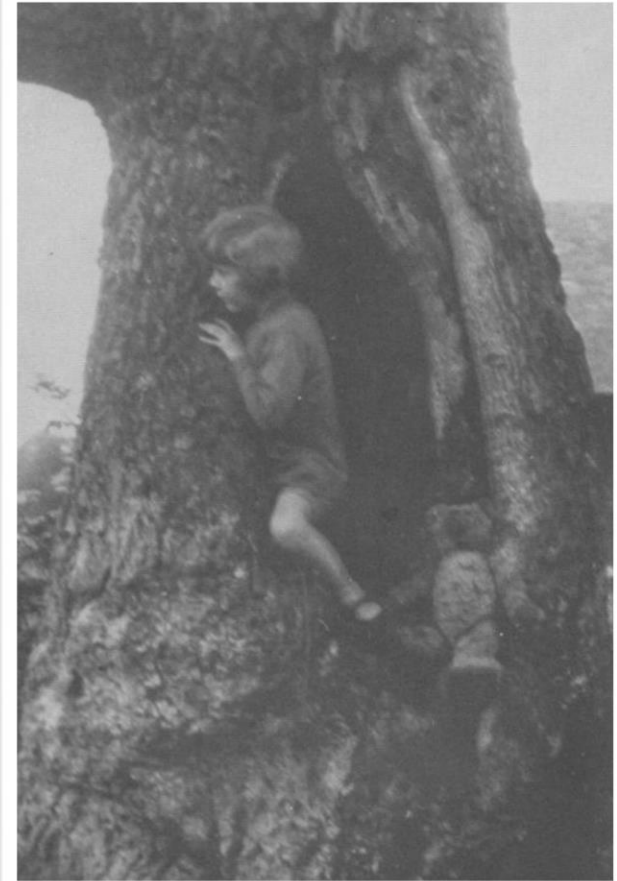
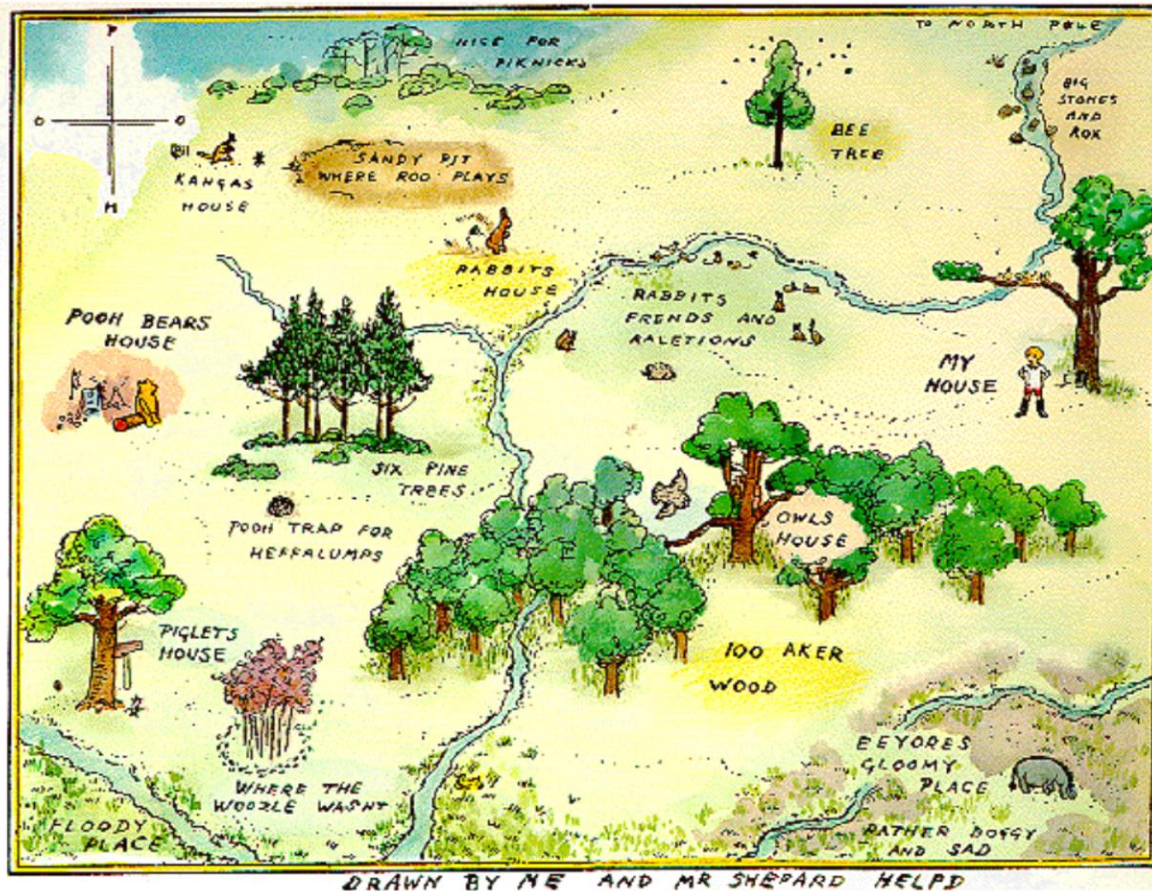
Then

Cotchford Farm,
Hartfield,
East Sussex



Now

A.A.Milne used the location of Five Hundred Acre woods in his Winnie the Pooh stories. He renamed it the One Hundred Aker wood.





Winnie the Pooh characters

A. A. Milne named the character Winnie the Pooh after a teddy bear owned by his son. The character of Christopher Robin was based on A A Milne own son, Christopher Robin Milne. Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga, Roo and Tigger were also named after Christopher Robin Milne's toys. The characters, Owl and Rabbit, were created by Milne's imagination, while Gopher was added to the Disney version.



Christopher Robin's toys are on display at the Main Branch of the Public Library in New York.

The history of Winnie the Pooh

During the first World War, troops from Winnipeg (Manitoba, Canada) were being transported to eastern Canada, on their way to Europe. When the train stopped at White River, Ontario, a lieutenant called Harry Colebourn bought a small female black bear cub for \$20 from a hunter who had killed its mother. He named her 'Winnipeg', after his hometown of Winnipeg, or 'Winnie' for short.



Winnie became the mascot of the Brigade and went to Britain with the unit. When the Brigade was posted to the battlefields of France, Harry Colebourn, who was now a Captain, took Winnie to the London Zoo for a long loan. He formally presented the London Zoo with Winnie in December 1919 where he became a popular attraction and lived until 1934.

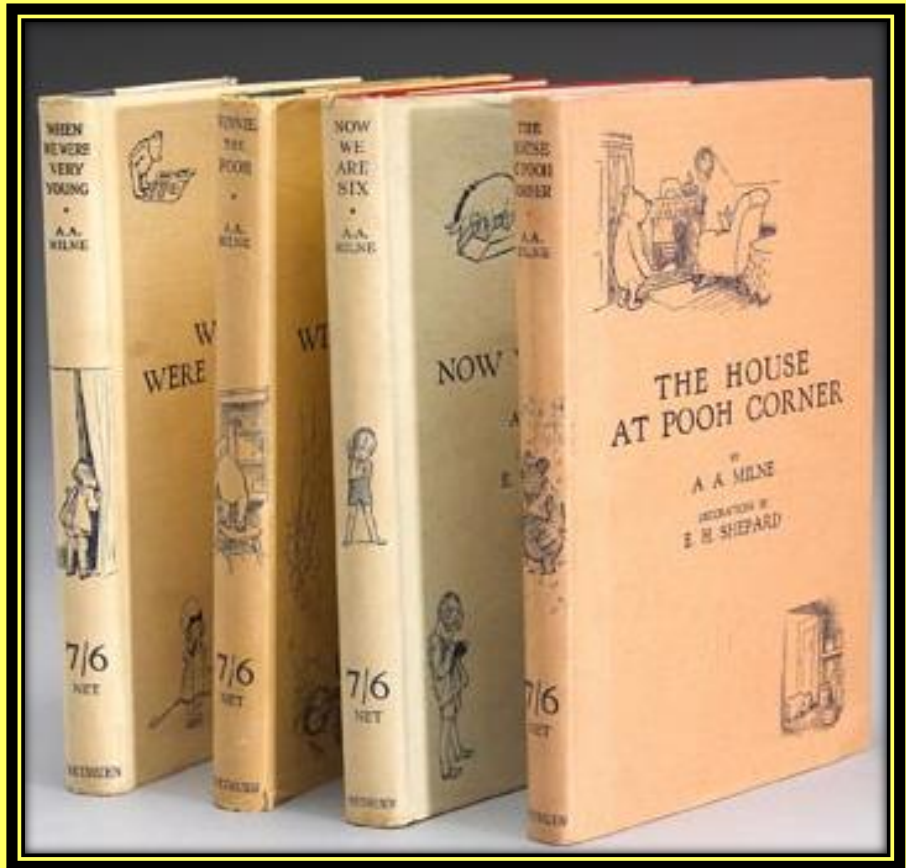
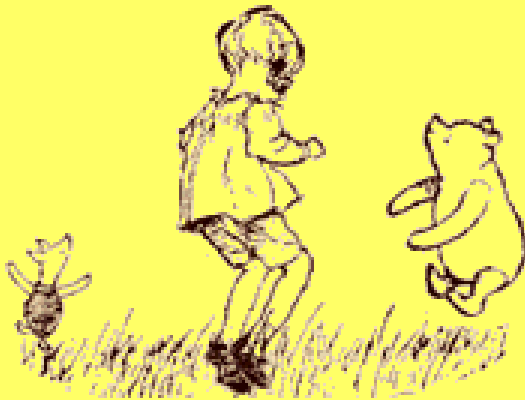


The bear became popular with Christopher Robin. It was his favourite animal at the Zoo, and he often spent time inside the cage with it.



The bear was Christopher Robin's inspiration for calling his own teddy bear Winnie... Winnie the Pooh (this teddy bear started out with the name of Edward Bear). The name Pooh originally belonged to a swan, as can be seen in the introduction of Milne's 'When We Were Very Young'.

The first Winnie the Pooh book was published in London on 14th October 1926. In 1927 A. A. Milne's second book of children's poetry, *Now We Are Six* was published. His third book, *The House At Pooh Corner*, was published in 1928.



A A Milne's last book "Year In Year Out" was published in 1952. When he was 70 years old he suffered a stroke from which he did not fully recover. On the 31st January 1956 Alan Alexander died aged 74 years.

