BAKER • STREET ALMANAC • 2019

AN ANNUAL CAPSULE OF A TIMELESS PAST & FUTURE

BAKER STREET ALMANAC

AN ANNUAL CAPSULE
OF A
TIMELESS PAST & FUTURE

2019

There are two versions of the 2019 *Baker Street Almanac*: the limited *Sense of Humour Edition* (it features an ink-on-paper format, and some copies — to be honest, the ones that people actually pay for — include a few accessories), and the unlimited *Staunch Witnesses Edition* (it features an electrons-on-internet format, and it is free).

This year's Staunch Witnesses Edition is unlimited, of course, and we hope you find more than your money's worth of data and diversions in its pages!

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Baker Street Almanac

AN ANNUAL CAPSULE
OF A
TIMELESS PAST & FUTURE

2019

IN THE FORM OF A FORMIDABLE SCRAP-BOOK OF 2018,
INCLUDING TREASURES CREATED OR UNCOVERED THEN,
WITH A FEW OTHER ODDS AND ENDS TOSSED IN,
AND A GLANCE AHEAD AT 2019

EDITED BY
Ross E. Davies

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Laws of Demand and Supply

Ross E. Davies[*]

I will begin by explaining why the *Green Bag* is publishing a second almanac (the one you are reading now — the *Baker Street Almanac*) when we are already quite happy, and busy, with our first series (the *Green Bag Almanac & Reader*). Then I will briefly sketch some of what we have (and have not) done in this volume, and what we hope to do in years to come.

Demand

Every year since 2006 we have published a *Green Bag Almanac & Reader* filled with two kinds of goodies: "exemplary legal writing from the year just passed" and "useful and entertaining tidbits for lawyers"[1] From the start, the main idea behind combining the legal writing and the tidbits has been to create a publication that is both professionally instructive and distractingly interesting for a fairly wide range of readers: some come for the exemplary legal writing and stay for the useful and entertaining tidbits; others come for the useful and entertaining tidbits and stay for the exemplary legal writing. That approach required (and still requires) us to keep the distractions interesting year after year by varying the flavors of our useful and entertaining tidbits. (The legal writing tends to take care of itself because there are so many excellent legal writers, and such a rainbow of legal matters, that we never know where the exemplars are going to come from or what they are going to be about.) And we have indeed varied the flavors. Themes of the *Almanac & Reader* have ranged from baseball to Shakespeare, from breakfast to Thomas Nast, from presidential elections to Sherlock Holmes.

It is that last theme — Holmes the fictional detective (not Holmes the real-life essayist, nor his son the lawyer) — that has caused us trouble. We published a Holmes-themed *Almanac & Reader* in 2015. Reader response was so extraordinarily positive, and demands for a sequel so numerous and emphatic, that we violated our tradition of variation, postponed a planned whist-themed *Almanac & Reader*, and put out a second Holmes-themed edition in 2016. There was plenty of demand for a third round of Holmes, but enough was enough. In 2017 we published a long-planned *Almanac & Reader* tribute to Thurgood Marshall, and in 2018 we finally put out our whist book. In 2019 we have another new theme. In other words, we have moved on from the idea of another Holmes-themed *Almanac & Reader*.

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[*] Ross Davies is a *Green Bag* editor.

[1] See, e.g., greenbag.org/green_bag_press/almanacs/almanacs.html.

Which is not to say that we have been ignoring the wishes of our readers, many of whom continue to encourage us to generate more Sherlock Holmes stuff. (Our sense is that they are not a majority of our readers, but a substantial minority — probably a few hundred.) We have included Holmes-oriented stories and related work in our flagship journal (the *Green Bag*) and our experimental journal (the *Journal of Law)*, in our new good-writing series (*Re-readings*), and in premiums we occasionally issue to our "Extravagant" subscribers. But that is getting to feel like a bit too much as well. All the publications I've mentioned have a law-and-variety orientation, not a law-and-Holmes-and-variety orientation. Persistent use, even at a relatively low level, of the same spice in all the *Green Bag*'s dishes is not to our taste. And yet our readers clearly enjoy the material, and there are so very many opportunities to braid strands of law and Holmesian detective fiction in useful and entertaining ways. Ignoring those readers, and ignoring the possibilities in the material, is not to our taste either.

Enter the *Baker Street Almanac* — our latest effort to strike a satisfactory balance. With it, we are moving away from putting a little bit of Sherlock Holmes into many of our legal publications and toward putting a little bit of law into an annual Holmes publication. We will see how that goes for us and for our readers. We are optimistic.

Supply

And now some specifics about the *Baker Street Almanac*. This edition is not the first.[2] In early 2018 we issued a small pamphlet to raise awareness of the project among prospective authors and readers.[3] This edition is, however, the first big block of words, numbers, and pictures that typifies a conventional almanac. But it is not yet an excellently conventional almanac, because it is strikingly incomplete for a publication that aspires — as this one does — to broad, deep, and even coverage of its subject area.

On the subject area itself, we are already all the way home. We know what it is: documentation of the study and enjoyment of Sherlock Holmes and related characters, with a focus on creating year-by-year (and cumulative) time capsules of material likely to be useful and entertaining both now and later.[4] In each volume we will also sprinkle a few freestanding, one-off

[2] Nor, for that matter, is it the first Holmes-oriented almanac. See, for example, Svend Petersen, *A Sherlock Holmes Almanac* 12-19 (1956; 2003) (revised and expanded by Carl William Thiel, Karen Murdock, Frank Darlington, Edwin Christenson, and George A. Vanderburgh).

[3] See greenbag.org/BSA/bsa.html.

[4] With some special attention to the law, of course, when opportunity knocks.

works of various sorts (listed under the "Commentaries, Histories, and Diversions" heading in the table of contents), but most of our attention will be on the thoughtful description of work done elsewhere.

On breadth of coverage of that subject area, however, we are a long, long way from home. Consider the first big section near the front of this book, titled "Around the World in 2018." It is the work of first-rate Sherlock Holmes experts from around the globe, each giving a year-in-review report on Holmes-related business in their home country or region. But there are obvious and serious holes — missing countries (China, Denmark, Iraq, Spain, and Switzerland, for example) and even continents (Africa and South America, obviously, and surely there should be at least a bit of relevant news from Antarctica too). So, while the reports we have here are quite well done, there are too few of them. We are looking out for opportunities to include more.

On depth, we are in a similar situation. In the next big section, titled "Lists and Other Records," we have barely started.[5] Yes, there are excellent entries on several topics, from law (of course) to cosplay to elementary education to numismatics to podcasting, and more. But again, there are many hard-to-miss gaps. Where is the coverage of theater and film, painting and singing, and all the other arts? Or the coverage of chronologies? Of journals and scholarship? Of food and drink?! I could go on and on. And then there are entries in which time-pressed authors have given us just enough to indicate the areas in which they intend to report and write more deeply in the future. And so, again, while the reports we have are quite well done, there are too few. And again we hope to include more as the years pass.

Finally and obviously, with so many gaps and dips, evenness is something we can only look forward to.

So, this early *Baker Street Almanac* is much like the early installments of the *Green Bag Almanac & Reader*: maybe a good idea and maybe a good start, but with much to prove and a long way to go. Here's hoping our new almanac's readers turn out to be as helpful in the near future as our old one's were (and continue to be) in enlarging and improving the published product. Please send your criticisms and suggestions to editors@greenbag.org.

Some enlargements and improvements are already underway. For example, one of the great publications that we seek to emulate — *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack*,[6] commonly called simply *Wisden* and commonly described as "the

[5] The section sandwiched between "Around the World in 2018" and "Lists and Other Records" — titled "Scuttlebutt" — is *sui generis*, perfect, and complete because it is simply a compilation of monthly newsletters written by Peter Blau, the Schelling point of Sherlock Holmes scholarship and society. So, no hand-wringing is called for there.

[6] *Wisden* does three things in its annual brick of 1,500+ pages about the world of cricket:

Bible of Cricket" — has for more than 150 years featured a "Births and Deaths" biographical register of significant figures in the cricketing world. Linda and Terry Hunt are working on a similar register for the world of Sherlock Holmes. (Presumably the two registers will overlap in at least one place. *Wisden* lists "Conan Doyle Dr Sir Arthur Ignatius" and notes, "Creator of Sherlock Holmes; his only victim in first-class cricket was W.G. Grace."[7]) Look for it in the 2020 *Baker Street Almanac*.

Finally, there is the matter of getting the *Baker Street Almanac* into the hands of readers. Like the content of the book itself, production and distribution are works in progress. Tinkering will happen. For now, though, the approach is pretty straightforward. The 2019 version takes two forms:

- An online version of the 2019 *Baker Street Almanac* will be available for free at the *Green Bag*'s website (www.greenbag.org).
- An ink-on-paper version — a limited edition, some copies of which may have a few accessories (packaged with the book or obtainable by solving puzzles or following instructions in and around the book[8]) — will be available for purchase, also at the *Green Bag*'s website.

The two versions do have differences other than format and accessories, including: (1) the ink-on-paper version is almost entirely in black-and-white, including all the photographs (there are many of them), while much of the online version is in color (including many of the photographs); (2) the ink-on-paper version has a small number of extra pages; and (3) the covers are not the same.

Gratitude, and an Appeal

Thank you for reading. We are sure you know some facts that we missed or mangled. Telling us (or telling an author directly) about them is the way to get them added or repaired for next year. So, please help us start a "Correspondence" section in next year's *Baker Street Almanac*: Let us know how we can do better and what else we should be doing.

Ross E. Davies
February 10, 2019

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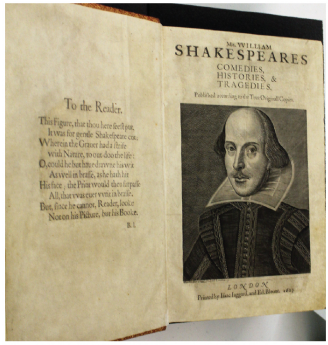
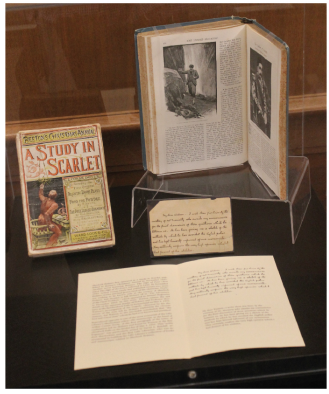
(1) it provides a compact, authoritative, and comprehensive summary of the long history of its subject area, (2) it delves in greater detail into the past year, and (3) it spices things up with some pictures and essays and the like. Perhaps someday the *Baker Street Almanac* will be doing as much for its subject area.

[7] *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2015* at 1452.

[8] The plan is to include a complete checklist of accessories associated with this year's *Baker Street Almanac* somewhere in next year's edition.

“PRETTY THINGS! FINE THINGS!”





. . . AT THE LILLY LIBRARY

A Virtual Tour by Sue and Ben Vizoskie

"Pretty Things! Fine Things!"

. . . at the Lilly Library

Sue and Ben Vizoskie[*]

A significant Sherlockian event of 2018 was a conference held on the Bloomington, Indiana campus of Indiana University on October 5-7. "From Gillette to Brett V," like its four previous incarnations, was organized by Mark Gagen and Steven Doyle (fig. 1) and focused on the Sherlock Holmes of stage, screen and radio.

The first scheduled event of the conference was an exhibition at the Lilly Library (fig. 2) designed and mounted exclusively for the conference attendees. Sherlockians tend to have many and varied extra-Sherlockian interests, and the library staff had gathered many exquisite treasures from the Lilly's diverse special collections that amazed, delighted, educated, and entertained. We hope the photographs on the next few pages will provide you with an inkling of the breadth and depth of the Lilly Library's holdings.

The Lilly Library had many significant items on permanent display. Among them were portraits of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart (fig. 3) and by Thomas Sully, a desk from the office of Abraham Lincoln (fig. 4), and select items from the Jerry Slocum Mechanical Puzzle Collection (fig. 6 and 7). On temporary display was a copy of Shakespeare's First Folio (fig. 5).

Two other temporary exhibitions were on view at the library. "Frankenstein 200: The Birth, Life, and Resurrection of Mary Shelley's Monster" celebrated the 200th anniversary of the publication of *Frankenstein*, and featured first editions of *Frankenstein* (fig. 8), other gothic novels and other works by Mary Shelley and her contemporaries, alongside recent adaptations of *Frankenstein*. The other exhibition, "Random Acts of Granfalloonery: The Art and Fiction of Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.," showcased works by and about the author, a native of Indiana. Culled from the library's Vonnegut Manuscript Collection, the exhibition included first pages of drafts from his novels, first editions of the novels, and cover art for many foreign editions (fig. 9).

The items selected by the librarians to welcome Sherlockians to the collections were often historically significant as well as unique. There was the letter sent to Thomas Jefferson by George Washington, enclosing a copy of the Acts of the First Congress (fig. 10). This copy of the Acts was opened to the page where Jefferson had written a correction (fig. 11) on what became the

---

[*] Sue and Ben Vizoskie have long served as officers of The Three Garridebs, in Westchester County, NY. Copyright 2019 Sue and Ben Vizoskie. All photos are by Ben Vizoskie with the permission of the Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. Another document from that era was a defense of the constitutionality of a national bank, written by Alexander Hamilton and submitted by him to George Washington (fig. 12). In addition, a first printing of the Declaration of Independence was on view (fig. 13).

A one-of-a-kind curiosity — a recherché item if you prefer — was a lock of Edgar Allan Poe's hair and the letter in which he enclosed it to Sarah Helen Whitman (fig. 14). In addition, there were significant items from the world of cinema: Darryl F. Zanuck's personal copy of the script for the 1939 film *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (fig. 15) and the Oscar awarded to John Ford for *How Green Was My Valley* (fig. 16).

To enhance their experience, attendees were encouraged to interact with some of the displays. They could don white gloves to hold the Oscar, or work on bookbinding as demonstrated by Exhibition Assistant Jenny Mack (fig. 17), or attempt to solve some of the mechanical puzzles.

A small (no pun intended) display of miniature books included several that were Sherlockian (fig. 18). Those exhibited were chosen from the library's 16,000 diminutive volumes.

Several crime-related items contemporary to Sherlock Holmes were displayed. These included an early *Newgate Calendar* (fig. 19), a rare complete run of penny dreadfuls featuring the highwayman Dick Turpin (fig. 20), and other nineteenth-century publications.

The exhibition also featured two Sherlockian manuscripts. Participants could handle the manuscript of "The Adventure of the Red Circle" (fig. 21) and observe that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle had changed the original title. The other manuscript was in a corner showcase (fig. 22) with a copy of the 1887 *Beeton's Christmas Annual* (fig. 23) and a bound volume of *Strand* magazines opened to the page describing the events at the Reichenbach Falls. As explained in the Lilly's description of this group of items, this final manuscript, once described by David A. Randall, prominent Sherlockian and the first Lilly Librarian, as a "noble fragment," was the first paragraph of the farewell note from Holmes to Watson, written in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's own hand (fig. 24).

We would like to thank Joel Silver, Director, Erika Dowell, Associate Director, Rebecca Baumann, Head of Public Services, and the staff of the Lilly Library for all their efforts in creating an exceptional exhibition and providing us with a very special afternoon.

We would also like to point out that the library makes its holdings available to all interested individuals for enjoyment and research. You can learn more about the Lilly Library and its rare books, manuscripts, and special collections at www.indiana.edu/~liblilly.

Fig. 1 (above): Mark Gagen, left, and Steven Doyle, right, the two organizers of all five of the "From Gillette to Brett" conferences. Fig. 2 (below): The Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. October 2018.

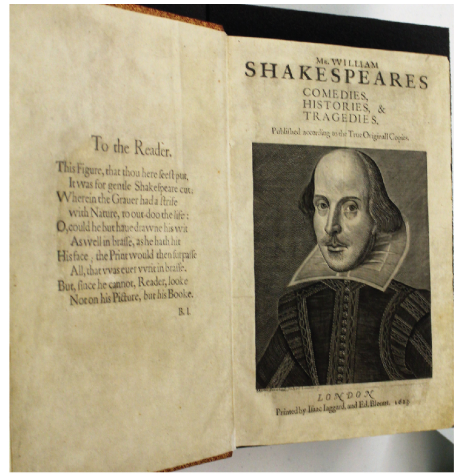


Fig. 3 (above left): In the Main Gallery, a Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington. Fig. 4 (below): Abraham Lincoln's desk, with a description stating, "This desk was used in the law office of Stephen T. Logan at Springfield, Illinois from 1832 to 1865. Logan and Lincoln were law partners from 1841 to 1844. Lincoln used the desk during that period for legal business. The desk was acquired in February, 1946, from Logan Coleman, grandson of Stephen T. Logan through the generosity of Frank L. Jones of New York." Fig. 5 (above right): William Shakespeare's First Folio (1623).

Fig. 6: These cases of puzzles display a fraction of the Jerry Slocum Mechanical Puzzle Collection which includes 30,000 puzzles and more than 4,000 books. Fig. 7: A case protects a tangram table, the largest mechanical puzzle on display. Each of the seven tans is actually an individual table.

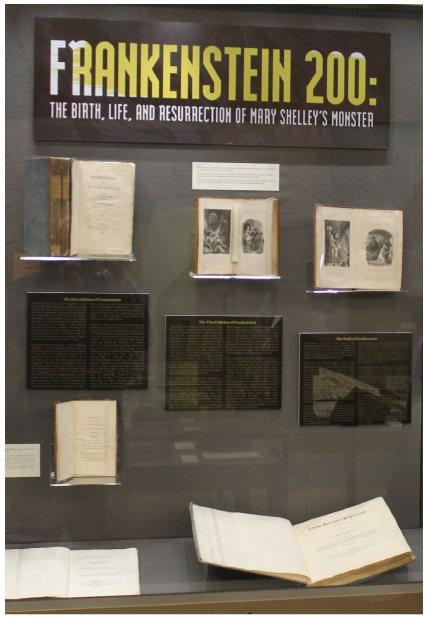
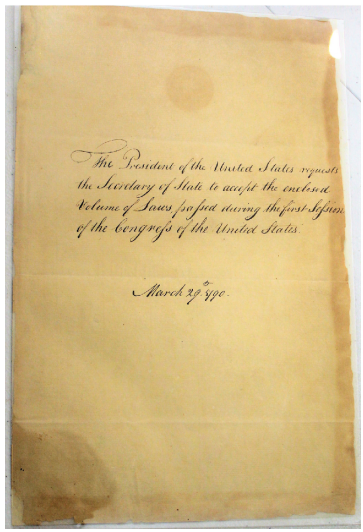
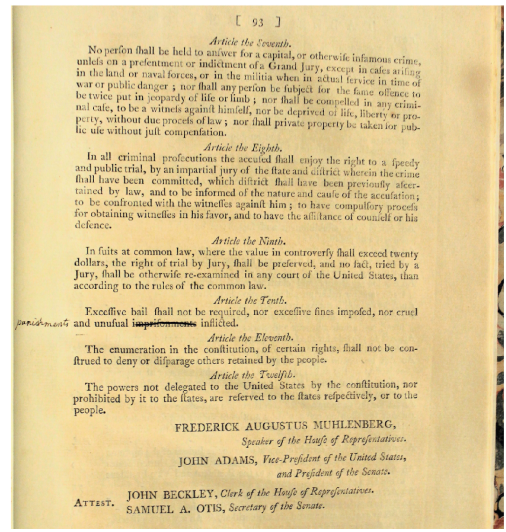


Fig. 8 (above left): One of several display cases in the "Frankenstein 200" exhibition. Fig. 9 (above right): A display in the Kurt Vonnegut exhibition includes cover art for foreign editions, two manuscript pages, and some first editions. Fig. 10 (below left): Washington's note reads, "The President of the United States requests the Secretary of State to accept the enclosed volume of laws passed during the first Session of the Congress of the United States. March 29th 1790." Fig. 11 (below right): Detail of the last page of Thomas Jefferson's copy of the Acts of Congress (for the first U.S. Congress). He has corrected "imprisonments" to "punishments." The first Congress passed twelve articles; the ten that were ratified became known as the Bill of Rights.


The President of the United States requests the Secretary of State to accept the enclosed Volume of Laws passed during the first Session of the Congress of the United States.

March 29th 1790.


[93]

Article the Seventh.

No perſon ſhall be held to anſwer for a capital, or otherwiſe infamous crime, unleſs on a preſentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in caſes ariſing in the land or naval forces, or in the militia when in actual ſervice in time of war or public danger; nor ſhall any perſon be ſubject for the ſame offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor ſhall be compelled in any criminal caſe, to be a witneſs againſt himſelf, nor be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due proceſs of law; nor ſhall private property be taken for public uſe without juſt compenſation.

Article the Eighth.

In all criminal proſecutions the accuſed ſhall enjoy the right to a ſpeedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the ſtate and diſtrict wherein the crime ſhall have been committed, which diſtrict ſhall have been previouſly aſcertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cauſe of the accuſation; to be confronted with the witneſſes againſt him; to have compulſory proceſs for obtaining witneſſes in his favor, and to have the aſſiſtance of counſel for his defence.

Article the Ninth.

In ſuits at common law, where the value in controverſy ſhall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury, ſhall be preſerved, and no fact, tried by a Jury, ſhall be otherwiſe re-examined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Article the Tenth.

Exceſſive bail ſhall not be required, nor exceſſive fines impoſed, nor cruel and unuſual ~~impriſonments~~ puniſhments inflicted.

Article the Eleventh.

The enumeration in the conſtitution, of certain rights, ſhall not be conſtrued to deny or diſparage others retained by the people.

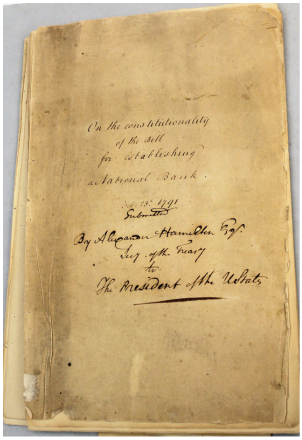
Article the Twelfth.

The powers not delegated to the United States by the conſtitution, nor prohibited by it to the ſtates, are reſerved to the ſtates reſpectively, or to the people.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,
Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.

JOHN ADAMS, *Vice-Preſident of the United States, and Preſident of the Senate.*

ATTEST. JOHN BECKLEY, *Clerk of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.*
SAMUEL A. OTIS, *Secretary of the Senate.*



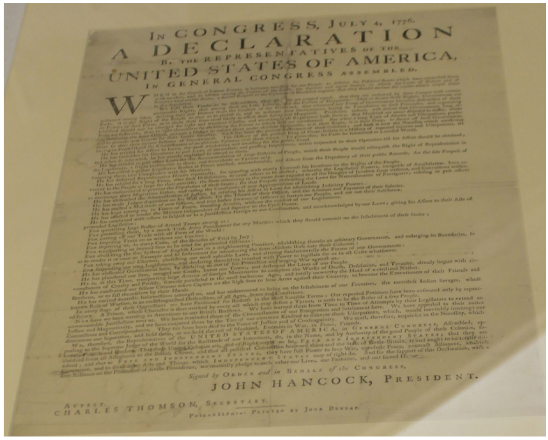
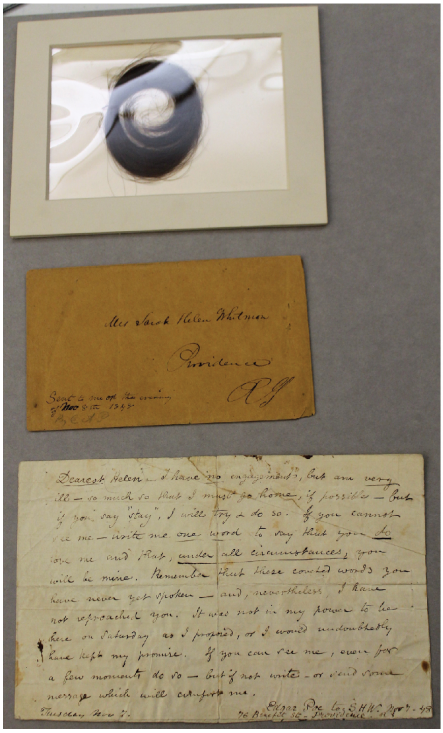


Fig. 12 (above left): This cover reads "On the constitutionality of the Bill for establishing a National Bank Feb. 23d 1791 Submitted by Alexander Hamilton Esq. Secy. of the Treasy to The President of the UStates". Fig. 13 (above right): The Declaration of Independence, a first printing from Philadelphia by John Dunlap. Fig. 14 (below left): From the top, a lock of Edgar Allan Poe's hair, an envelope addressed to Sarah Helen Whitman, Providence RI, and a letter from Poe to Whitman. Fig. 15 (below right): Script for *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (1939) with a large D.Z. (Darryl Zanuck) written on the cover.



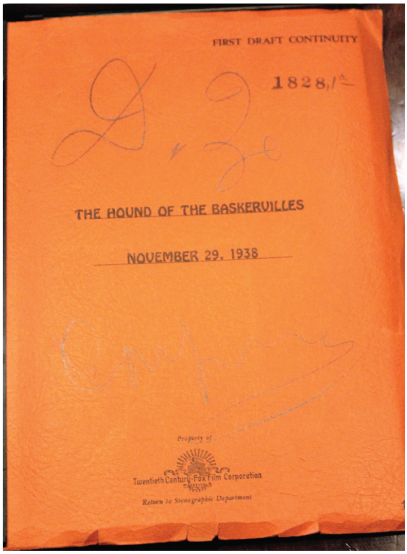
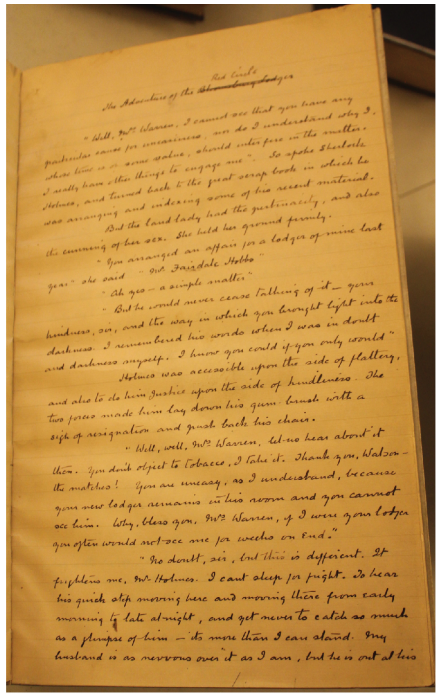


Fig. 16 (left): Oscar statuette. The plaque on the base reads "ACADEMY FIRST AWARD TO JOHN FORD FOR DIRECTION OF HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY". Fig. 17 (above): Jenny Mack, Exhibition Assistant, demonstrates bookbinding. Attendees were able to attempt this, also. Fig. 18 (below): Miniature books are often described as being under 3 inches in size. Many of these books are approximately one inch tall. The top row of books, in black bindings, are all Sherlockian stories.



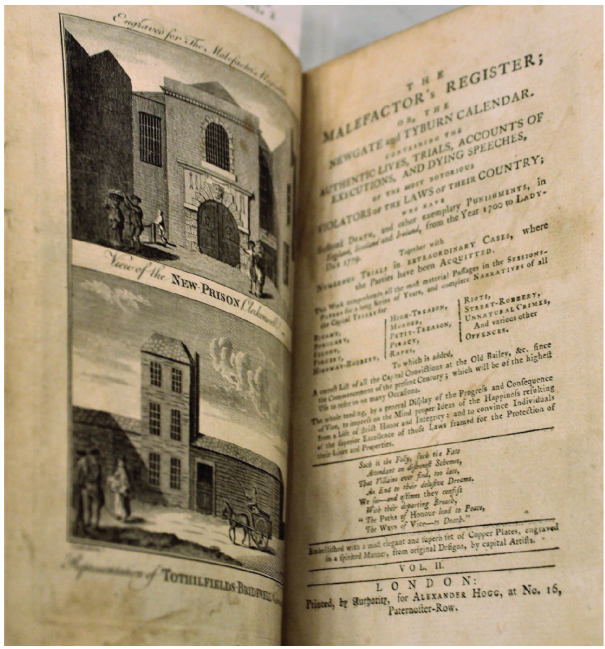


Fig. 19 (left): *The Malefactor's Register; or, The Newgate and Tyburn Calendar* c.1780, also called the *Newgate Calendar*. Fig. 20 (above left): Penny dreadfuls – a complete set of 254 installments (cost, just one penny apiece) is stacked in the background. In the foreground is a colored plate distributed free with one of the installments. This series features Dick Turpin. Fig. 21 (above right): The first page of the manuscript of "The Adventure of the Red Circle." Please note that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's original title was "The Adventure of the Bloomsbury Lodger."

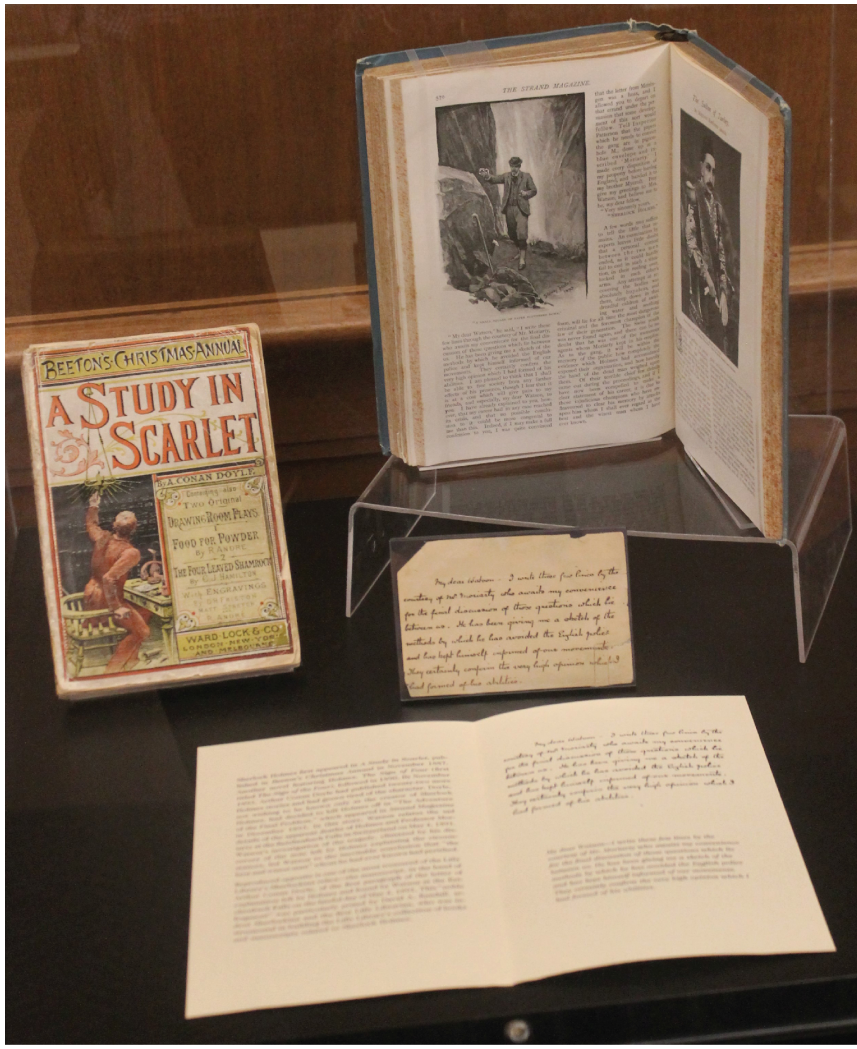


Fig. 22: A showcase including a copy of the *Beeton's Christmas Annual* for 1887, a volume of bound *Strand* magazines from 1893, a small manuscript note in Doyle's hand, and the Lilly Library's explanatory booklet.

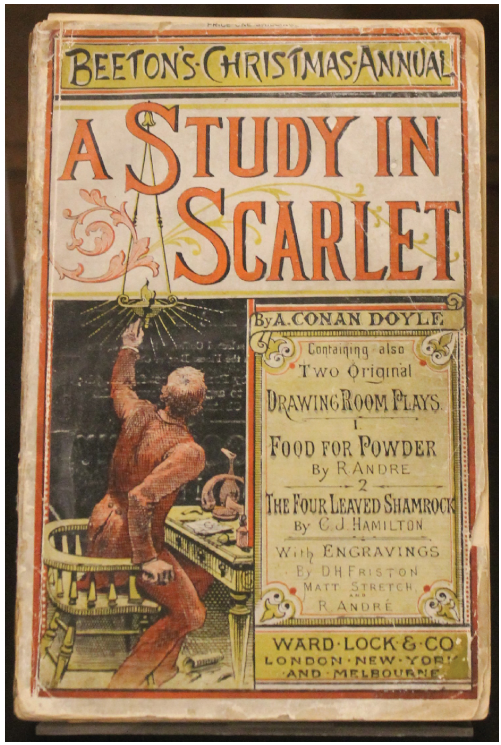
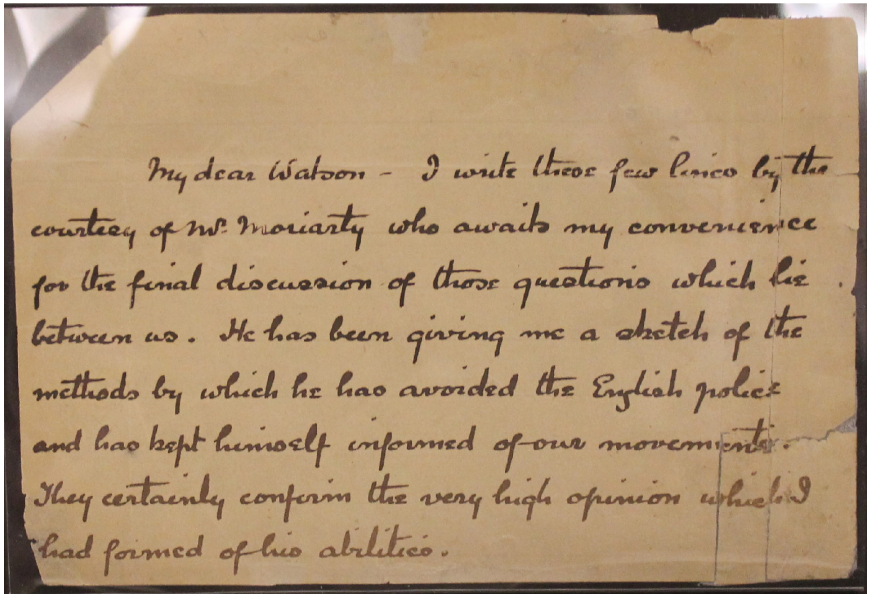


Fig. 23 (right): An original copy of *Beeton's Christmas Annual* of 1887 which contained the first publication of *A Study in Scarlet*. Fig. 24 (below): This note was written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. It contains the first paragraph of the letter written by Sherlock Holmes to Dr. John H. Watson during Holmes's famous meeting with Moriarty at the Reichenbach Falls.



Around the World in 2018

Australia • Canada • France
Germany • Great Britain • India
Japan • Sweden • United States

But unfortunately the power of accumulating knowledge and that of imparting it are two very different things, and the uninspired historian becomes merely the dignified compiler of an enlarged almanac.

Arthur Conan Doyle,
Through the Magic Door,
Cassell's Magazine, Aug. 1907

Editors' note: Ouch.

Sherlock in Australia 2018

Bill Barnes[*]

Sherlockians in Australia

Australia can plausibly lay claim to the world's first Sherlockians. In 1904 a group of gold miners spelt out the name of their mine in "dancing men" characters and sent a photo to Arthur Conan Doyle. The December 1903 edition (January 1904 colonial issue) of *The Strand Magazine* had carried the story "The Adventure of the Dancing Men" which had inspired the miners and their photo appeared in the August 1904 (U.K.) issue.

It wasn't until 1947 before any more known Sherlockian activity took place in Australia, when two teenage friends in Sydney, New South Wales wrote to a local newspaper about the idea of forming a Sherlock Holmes club. Five people attended the inaugural meeting and "The Red-Headed League" was formed. Alas, there wasn't a second meeting, although both friends continued with their interest in the Canon.

Sometime in the 1950's, a university student in Melbourne, Victoria, thinking he was the only antipodean member of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, formed a one-person Sherlockian society called "The Friends of Mary Fraser". Meetings were rather short and lonely.

The Press, Watson, is a most valuable institution, if you only know how to use it. And so it was that, again, a newspaper notice led to the formation of a Sherlockian group. This was in Adelaide, South Australia, where 12 enthusiasts gathered in 1978 to form "The Sherlock Holmes Society of Australia". Their newsletter, *News From The Diggings*, contained many articles over the years on "the Australian connection" to the Canon.

Gradually the word spread about this new group and its enthusiasm and efforts in promoting the Master Detective soon bore fruit, with "The Sherlock Holmes Society of Western Australia" being founded in 1983 in Perth, Western Australia. Their publication, *The Western Flyer*, graduated over the years from a simple newsletter to a lively journal. They remain the most active society in Australia with six meetings scheduled a year interspersed with an equal number of informal catch-ups.

When it became apparent that there were a number of Sydney-based members of The Sherlock Holmes Society of Australia, they got together and decided to form a local group. "The Sydney Passengers" was launched in

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[*] Bill Barnes is the Captain of The Sydney Passengers. Copyright 2019 Bill Barnes.

The Strand Magazine (August 1904, page 236): WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE MINE? Some miners in Australia have adapted the cipher of "The Dancing Men" given in the Sherlock Holmes story published in THE STRAND MAGAZINE for December, 1903, and have spelt out the name of their mine as shown in the photograph. Can our readers give the name of the mine? — The photo was sent to Sir A. Conan Doyle, Undershaw, Hindhead, Haslemere. *From a Photo. by H. Grose.*

1985 with four members and two associate members. At present, they are the most populous group with around 100 members and a thrice-yearly journal, *The Passengers' Log*, which has been regarded by knowledgeable readers around the world as being one of the top four Sherlockian journals.

By 1988, interest was also being awakened in other States, with "The Resident Patients" starting up in Toowoomba, Queensland. This society produced a journal called *Panacea* and each year ran an annual Silver Blaze Race Day at the local track, until they folded in 1996. Nineteen eighty-eight also saw the formation of "The Elementary Victorians" in Melbourne — they lasted until 2014. In the late 1980's, with a number of societies now flourishing around the country, a national get-together seemed a logical step. It was held in the Canonically-correct town of Ballarat in 1990. Representatives from societies in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney had a marvelous time indulging in the usual Sherlockian pastimes of eating, drinking and talking over a wide range of Sherlockian subjects. After the success of this inaugural national meeting, further national events were held in Toowoomba in 1994 and Sydney in 1995. Another short-lived group called "The Priory Students" met for one meeting in 1995 in Ipswich, Queensland.

A second group formed in Melbourne in 1997 called "The Sherlock Holmes Society of Melbourne" which, amongst other things, holds an annual "Mrs Hudson's Canonical Cooking Competition" where members bring along dishes to share that they have created with relevance to one of the stories. Their newsletter, *Victorian Holmes*, describes these canonical culinary masterpieces and Sherlockians in other states can only read about them and drool.

Australia boasted a branch of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club for the years 2000-2002 when two members from Japan lived in Melbourne.

In 2002, various unfortunate events caused The Sherlock Holmes Society of Australia to be dissolved. Sherlock Holmes turned 150 in January 2004 and at a dinner in Adelaide to celebrate this occasion it was resolved to re-form a society in that State — "The Sherlock Holmes Society of South Australia", which later adopted the secondary title of "The Unscrupulous Rascals". They have the fortunate knack of being able to regularly attract interesting locals as guest speakers.

Nowadays, the Sherlockian population in the groups in Perth, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide number around 185. There are strong communal links between the groups and cross-membership. The large distances between these locations mean that combined events are difficult but visits by individual Sherlockians and exchange of publications keeps the discourse active.

Sherlockian Activity in Australia 2018

Key:
SP = The Sydney Passengers
SHSWA = Sherlock Holmes Society of Western Australia
SHSM = The Sherlock Holmes Society of Melbourne
UR = The Unscrupulous Rascals (Sherlock Holmes Society of South Australia)

Date	Group	Event	Location	Details
06-Jan	SHSWA	Birthday BBQ Bash	Member's home	The Empty House Shoot — solve a canonical puzzle and shoot the correct answer on the target.
18-Feb	UR	Meeting	Rob Roy Hotel, Adelaide	Group discussion on pastiches. Quiz on 'A Study in Scarlet', Part 2, Ch. 2 & 3.
25-Feb	SHSWA	Informal meeting	Koko Black, Perth	Fellowship and chat over tea/coffee.
24-Mar	UR/SP	Visit by Bill Barnes (SP) to Adelaide	Adelaide Central Market	Informal get-together — Mark Chellew, Ross Philpot, Margaret Meyler, Bill Barnes.
24-Mar	SHSWA	Meeting	Member's home	Compare and contrast original story vs Granada TV episode: 'The Greek Interpreter'.
25-Mar	SP	Meeting	Oxford Hotel, Drummoyne	Robert Veld (SP) gave two talks: Early publications of 'A Study in Scarlet'; and Adaptations of 'A Study in Scarlet' on film and TV, with video excerpts by Bill Barnes.

Date	Group	Event	Location	Details
29-Apr	SHSWA	Informal meeting	Chapels on Whatley, Maylands	Fellowship and chat over tea/coffee.
06-May	SHSM	Meeting	Member's home	Annual "Mrs Hudson's Canonical Cooking Competition" with theme 'The Copper Beeches'. Winner was gingerbread characters (with annotations). Quiz on same story.
20-May	UR	Meeting	Rob Roy Hotel, Adelaide	Attendees talked about their Top 5 Canonical stories. Quiz on 'A Study in Scarlet', Part 2, Ch. 4 & 5.
26-May	SHSWA	Meeting	Member's home	Show and Tell — members bring along items of interest or tell about interesting recent experiences.
27-May	SP	Meeting	Oxford Hotel, Drummoyne	The "Carole Dukes 'Montpellier' Award" for 2017 was presented to Doug Elliott for his article on ACD and Spiritualism. Robert Veld (SP) gave a presentation on "When Sherlock Holmes Ruled the Airwaves" (radio adaptations from 1920's on).
24-Jun	SHSWA	Informal meeting	Cranked, Leederville	Fellowship and chat over tea/coffee.
29-Jul	SP	Meeting	Oxford Hotel, Drummoyne	Annual Film Festival — Bill Barnes (SP) showed video excerpts of portrayals of Irene Adler from film and TV.
19-Aug	UR	Meeting	Rob Roy Hotel, Adelaide	Mark Chellew (UR) gave a talk on the various women characters in the Canon. Quiz on A Study in Scarlet, Part 2, Ch. 6 & 7. The annual "Art in the Blood Award" was given to the book "Sherlock Holmes: The Australian Casebook".
22-Aug	UR	Address to the Norwood Combined Probus Club	Norwood Town Hall	Talk by Ross Philpot (UR) on ACD and his achievements; the canon's 60 stories; and the activities of The Unscrupulous Rascals — 21 attendees.
26-Aug	SHSWA	Informal meeting	Brew Ha, Subiaco	Fellowship and chat over tea/coffee.
14-Oct	SHSWA	Meeting	Miss Mauds, Perth	Annual Maiwand Luncheon (deferred from July). The venue unfortunately did not allow for the customary presentation of the details of the famous Battle.

Date	Group	Event	Location	Details
28-Oct	SP	Meeting	Oxford Hotel, Drummoyne	"Hallowe'en Horrors" — Philip Cornell (SP) gave a talk on horror elements in the Canon; Doug Elliott (SP) gave a presentation on horror and supernatural elements in ACD's non-Holmes stories.
28-Oct	SHSWA	Informal meeting	Dome, Scarborough	Fellowship and chat over tea/coffee.
03-Nov	SHSWA /SP	Visit by Bill Barnes (SP) to Perth	Criterion Hotel, Perth	Informal get-together — Damian Magee, Heather Magee, Fred Rutter, Carole Rutter, John Jackson, Martin Bloom, Bill Barnes.
06-Nov	SP	Melbourne Cup (famous horse race)		Bill Barnes and Philip Cornell put out their annual tips based on (sometimes obscure) canonical connections to horse names, etc. This year they tipped the winner.
17-Nov	SHSM	Meeting	Melbourne Club, Melbourne	Fourth Annual Sherlock Holmes Dinner. Talk by Michael Duke (SHSM) on "War and the Victoria Cross in the Canon".
19-Nov	UR	Meeting	Rob Roy Hotel, Adelaide	Local crime writer, David Kilner gave a talk on the history of crime fiction and its influence across all media. Quiz on 'The Adventure of the Illustrious Client'.
25-Nov	SHSWA	Meeting	Austria Club, Orange Grove	Annual Blue Carbuncle Lunch & AGM.

Sherlock in Canada 2018

various authors — see each society's report

The Bootmakers of Toronto
The Sherlock Holmes Society of Canada

Barbara Rusch and Donny Zaldin[*]

The Bootmakers of Toronto (The Sherlock Holmes Society of Canada) was founded in 1972 and is the oldest Sherlockian society in the country. Its name is based on the inscription inside Henry Baskerville's boot ("Meyers, Toronto") in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, and its president is "Meyers." All other Sherlockian societies in Canada are scion societies of the Bootmakers, including: the Bimetallic Question of Montreal; the Cesspudlians of London, Ontario; the Spence Munros of Halifax, Nova Scotia; the Stormy Petrels of British Columbia; the Stratford On Avon Sherlock Holmes Society of Stratford, Ontario; and the Wisteria Lodgers of Edmonton, Alberta.

Website: www.torontobootmakers.com
Journal: *Canadian Holmes*; Editors: Mark and JoAnn Alberstat (HalifaxSherlock@gmail.com)
Address: Thelma Beam, Secretary (meyerstoronto@yahoo.ca), 3303-2045 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada, M8V 2Z6
Contacts: Mike Ranieri, Meyers (mranieri@rogers.com); Donny Zaldin, Consigliere (donaldzaldin@rogers.com)

Date	Event	Location	Description
Jan 6	Sherlock Holmes Society of London Dinner	Parliament Buildings, London, England	Annual Dinner in the Members' Dining Room in the House of Commons, attended by Bootmakers Peggy Perdue, Barbara Rusch, and Donny Zaldin
Jan 10-14	BSI Sherlock Holmes Birthday Weekend	New York, NY	Gathering of Sherlockians, including ASH Dinner, Lecture, Gillette Luncheon, BSI Dinner, Gaslight Gala, Cocktail Party, Ball, etc., attended by 14 Bootmakers
Jan 27	Blue Carbuncle Annual Awards Dinner	Toronto banquet hall	Dinner attended by 52 Bootmakers and guests, featuring mystery genre guest speaker, audience participation, and toasts

[*] Donny Zaldin and Barbara Rusch of The Bootmakers of Toronto authored this report. Copyright in their report belongs to The Bootmakers of Toronto (The Sherlock Holmes Society of Canada).

Date	Event	Location	Description
Jan 28	Marlene Aig Memorial Brunch	Toronto restaurant	After party over breakfast/lunch, for local members and guests and out-of-towners to commemorate our late American member Marlene Aig
Feb 24	Story Meeting #1	Toronto Public Library	Featuring STOC, attended by 44 Bootmakers and guests
Apr 7	Story Meeting #2	Toronto Public Library	Featuring GLOR, attended by about 40 Bootmakers and guests
May 4	Speckled Band of Boston Annual Dinner Meeting	Boston, MA	Special Meeting of the 78-year-old society, The Speckled Band of Boston, inviting women for the very first time, attended by Bootmakers Fran Martin, Peggy Perdue, George Vanderburgh, Barbara Rusch, and Donny Zaldin
Jun 9	Pub Night	Toronto pub	Informal meeting, with comestibles, potables and toasts
Jun 8-9	Scintillation of Scions XI Symposium	Baltimore, MD	A weekend of Sherlockian erudition and camaraderie, sponsored by Watson's Tin Box and attended by Bootmaker speakers, Barbara Rusch, and Donny Zaldin
Jul 14	Silver Blaze Event	Woodbine Race Track, Toronto	31st consecutive annual horse race commemorating the eponymous prize thoroughbred, with buffet luncheon and full race card, attended by 57 Bootmakers and guests and featuring the Bootmakers-sponsored "Silver Blaze Race," with photo op of presentation of SB trophy in the winner's circle
Aug 11-12	BSI Silver Blaze Race and Seminar	Saratoga Race Course and Conference Venue, Albany, NY	7th triennial (revived) BSI Silver Blaze Race and Seminar at Saratoga, attended by Bootmakers Cliff and Doris Goldfarb, Hartley and Marilyn Nathan, Ed Van der Flaes, and speakers Barbara Rusch and Donny Zaldin
Sep 08	Story Meeting #3	Toronto Public Library	Featuring MUSG, attended by about 40 Bootmakers and guests
Oct 13	"The Hound of the Baskervilles"	Shaw Festival, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON	Bootmakers' group outing to see theatrical adaption of 1902 ACD novel, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, by R. Hamilton Wright and David Pichette (with a "twist" ending)
Oct 17	Outreach with BSI scion, The Greek Interpreters of Athens, AL	Athens, AL	Illustrated PowerPoint presentation by Barbara Rusch, on Gothic and Sinister Elements in CREE

Date	Event	Location	Description
Oct 19	"The Uncanny Cases of Sherlock Holmes"	Acton, ON	Play, themed to Halloween
Oct 27	Story Meeting #4	Toronto banquet hall	Featuring REIG, attended by about 40 Bootmakers and guests
Oct 31	Prime Minister Justin Trudeau	Ottawa, ON	The Prime Minster of Canada dresses up as Sherlock Holmes for trick or treat
Nov 3	"The Game's Afoot," or "Holmes for the Holidays"	Milton, ON	Dec 3, 1936 murder mystery play by Ken Ludwig, at Gillette Castle, calling on William Gillette to solve the case
Nov 6	Outreach with The Bimetallic Question of Montreal	Montreal, PQ_	Dinner of visiting BOTs Barbara Rusch and Donny Zaldin, with a small contingent of BMQs, including Susan Ruth Fitch and Paul Billette (Mrs. Hudson)
Nov 23-Dec 1	"The Penultimate Problem of Sherlock Holmes"	Ottawa, On	A play featuring a séance, during which Holmes & Watson meet their maker, ACD, who threatens to write their "last" adventure
Nov 24	"The Lost World" (latest restoration from 2016)	Toronto, ON	Special screening (in cooperation with the Bootmakers) of the 1925 silent film adaptation of ACD's 1912 novel, at the Toronto Silent Film Festival
Dec 1	Story Meeting #5, AGM	Toronto Public Library	Annual General Meeting, featuring CROO attended by 40± Bootmakers and guests

The Bimetallic Question
The Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes Society of Montreal

Susan Ruth Fitch[*]

Founded in 1979, to become first Canadian scion society of the Bootmakers of Toronto
Motto: *Venatio Adest!*
Website: www.bimetallicquestion.org
Address: Wilfrid de Freitas (wilfrid@defreitasbooks.com), P.O. Box 232, Westmount Station, Westmount, Quebec, Canada, H3Z 2T2
Contacts: Wilfrid de Freitas, co-founder (wilfrid@defreitasbooks.com); Susan Fitch, archivist and webmaster (susanruthfitch@yahoo.ca)

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[*] Susan Ruth Fitch of The Bimetallic Question authored this report. Copyright in her report belongs to The Bimetallic Question (The Sherlock Holmes Society of Montreal).

Date	Event	Location	Description
Jan 27	Bimetallic Question Annual Sherlock Holmes Birthday Dinner	The Atwater Club 3505 Atwater Ave, Montréal, Québec H3H 1Y2	Formal dinner with special guest speaker Robert N. Wilkins, Montreal historian and freelance writer, attended by 53 Bimetallic Question members and guests, and featuring live musical performances, a Sherlock Holmes playette, audience participation, and toasts.
Feb 1	February Regular Meeting	Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1	Featuring toasts, Sherlockian and Doylean show and tell, and a monumentally difficult quiz on *The Musgrave Ritual*, with light refreshments served, attended by 15.
Apr 5	April Regular Meeting	Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1	Featuring toasts, Sherlockian and Doylean show and tell, and an exquisitely challenging quiz on *The Engineers Thumb*, with light refreshments served, attended by 18.
Jun 7	June Regular Meeting	Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1	Featuring toasts, Sherlockian and Doylean show and tell, and a dastardly difficult quiz on *The Noble Bachelor*, with light refreshments served, attended by 20.
Aug 2	August Regular Meeting	Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1	Featuring toasts, Sherlockian and Doylean show and tell, and a fiendishly difficult quiz on *The Sign of Four*, with light refreshments served, attended by 14.
Aug 11	Victorian Tea	Member's home residence, Dollard des Ormeaux, Québec	Sumptuous homemade pastries and other traditional delicacies served on beautiful English bone china awaited all at this Victorian Tea hosted by Carol and Jacob Abramson in their residence, attended by 25 members and guests, many elegantly attired in period dress.
Oct 4	October Regular Meeting	Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1	Featuring toasts, Sherlockian and Doylean show and tell, and a cunningly challenging quiz on, *The Creeping Man*, with light refreshments served, attended by 14.
Dec 6	December Regular Meeting	Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1	Featuring toasts, Sherlockian and Doylean show and tell, and an unremittingly challenging quiz on *The Red Circle*, with light refreshments served, attended by 16.

Date	Event	Location	Description
Ongoing	Sherlock Holmes Escape Room	The Ministry of Cricket and Other Homeless Sports 1301 Rue Mazurette, Montréal Québec H4N 1G8	Participants enter a recreation of the Victorian London Baker Street flat of Sherlock Holmes, where they are given one hour to solve the mystery of the disappearance of Holmes and Watson.
Oct 24, 2018 to Mar 31, 2019	War Flowers	Chateau Ramezay Museum, Old Montreal, 280 Notre-Dame East, Montréal, Québec	Members return in ongoing visits to view these portraits of ten Canadians who were involved in the First World War. Their stories are movingly told featuring the pressed flowers they sent home to loved ones from overseas.
Ongoing	The Redpath Museum	The Redpath Museum, McGill University, Downtown Campus 859 Sherbrooke Street West, Montréal, Québec	Where in Montreal can you find a fine specimen of a Lion's Mane Jellyfish? On a Sherlock Holmes-themed tour of this amazing museum of ethnology, biology, paleontology, mineralogy and geology. Constructed in 1882, it is the oldest building in Canada built specifically to be a museum.
Ongoing from May 2018	*40 Years and Counting: The Bimetallic Question 1979–2019*	Circulation of Bimetallic Question archive materials of Doylean, Sherlockian, and Victorian interest, via email	The Bimetallic Question will be 40 years in existence in May 2019 — something to celebrate! Montreal members, as well as friends from other societies near and far, receive a weekly sharing of fascinating treasures from our archive via email, upon request.

The Spence Munros of Halifax, Nova Scotia

Mark Alberstat[*]

Website: www.facebook.com/pages/The-Spence-Munros/212957769636
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Email: HalifaxSherlock@gmail.com
Contacts: Mark and JoAnn Alberstat (HalifaxSherlock@gmail.com) are the General Managers of the Society, and Editors of *Canadian Holmes*, the quarterly journal of The Bootmakers of Toronto (The Sherlock Holmes Society of Canada)

[*] Mark Alberstat of The Spence Munros authored this report. Copyright in his report belongs to The Spence Munros of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Date	Event	Location	Description
Jan 14	Birthday Luncheon	Opa Restaurant, Dartmouth	164th Birthday luncheon for Sherlock Holmes
Mar 11	Story Meeting	Alderney Public Library	Discussed *The Sign of Four*, Chapters 7-12
May 6	Story Meeting	Spitfire Arms, Windsor	Discussed "A Scandal in Bohemia"
Jun 3	Movie Watching	Mark and JoAnn's home in Dartmouth	Watched *The Great Mouse Detective*
Sep 8	Story Meeting	Member's home in Prospect	Discussed "The Adventure of the Red-Headed League"
Nov 18	Story Meeting	Mark and JoAnn's home in Dartmouth	Discussed "A Case of Identity"

The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia

Fran Martin[*]

Website: www.thestormypetrels.com
President: Fran Martin ("The Consulting Detective")
Email: franziskah@shaw.ca

Date	Event	Location	Description
Jan 6	Sherlock Holmes' Birthday Brunch	Vancouver	Brunch meeting
Feb 6	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session
Mar 6	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session
Mar 12-18	Black Creek Pioneer Village	Toronto, ON	Pioneer museum visit — a miniature town is created for kids and adults to explore, find clues and solve case
Mar 17	Master's Dinner	Vancouver	Annual Formal Dinner
22-Mar-18	Eve Lazarus presents Canada's SH	Vancouver	Lecture about Inspector JFCB Vance, known as "Canada's SH"
Apr 3	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session
May 1	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session

[*] Fran Martin of The Stormy Petrels authored this report. Copyright in her report belongs to The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia.

Date	Event	Location	Description
May 12-Jun 16	SH and the American Problem	Calgary, AL	Canadian premiere of play directed by Mark Bellamy
May 19	SH and the Case of the Jersey Lily	Ottawa, ON	Play by Katie Forgette, community theatre Ottawa Little Theatre
Aug 11-Oct 27	Hound of the Baskervilles	Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON	Play by R. Hamilton Wright and David Pichette
Aug 23-31	SH & The Curse of Moriarty	Victoria, BC	Play at the Langham Court Theatre
Sep 6	Baskerville: A SH Mystery	Kelowna, BC	Play at the Many Hats Theatre
Aug 12	Silver Blaze Event	Surrey, BC	Horse race and potluck
Sep 29	Reichenbach Falls Wreath Dedication	Squamish, BC	Annual tribute at Shannon Falls, BC
Sep 29	Bee Farm Visit	Squamish, BC	Apiary talk and lunch
Oct 2	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session
Oct 19	The Uncanny Cases of SH	Halton Hills, ON	Youth theatre
Nov 1	Holmes for the Holidays	Milton, ON	A play that takes place at Gillette Castle
Nov 2-Dec 19	SH and the Case of the Christmas Carol	Rosebud, AL	Christmas play
Nov 3	4th Int'l Summit	Mt. Vernon, WA	Sherlock Holmes Groups of Pacific Northwest lunch and events
Nov 6	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session
Nov 23-Dec 1	The Penultimate Problem of SH	Ottawa, ON	Performance by Phoenix Players at The Gladstone Theatre
Dec 4	Monthly Story Meeting	Vancouver	Study session and Christmas event

The Wisteria Lodgers
The Sherlock Holmes Society of Edmonton, Alberta

Constantine Kaoukakis[*]

Website: sherlockholmesedmonton.com
President: Constantine Kaoukakis (constantinusmagnus@yahoo.com)
Contact: SherlockHolmesEdmonton@hotmail.com

Date	Event	Location	Description
Jan 21	2nd Sherlock Holmes Birthday Dinner	Edmonton	Annual Dinner Party for Sherlock Holmes
Feb 11	Society Meeting	Edmonton	Story: "The Mazarin Stone"
Apr 11	Society Meeting	Edmonton	Story: "The Stockbroker's Clerk"
Jun 10	Society Meeting	Edmonton	Story: "The Cardboard Box"
Aug 22	Play	Edmonton	Two Sherlock Holmes mysteries at the 2018 Fringe Festival
Sep 16	Society Meeting	Edmonton	Story: "The Missing Three-Quarter"
Oct 21	Society Meeting	Edmonton	Story: "The Adventure of the Red Circle"
Nov 18	Society Meeting	Edmonton	Story: "The Blanched Soldier"
Nov 25	Play	Devon, AL	"The Game's Afoot" — a murder mystery set at William Gillette's castle in December 1936

[*] Constantine Kaoukakis of The Wisteria Lodgers authored this report. Copyright in his report belongs to The Wisteria Lodgers (The Sherlock Holmes Society of Edmonton, Alberta).

Sherlock in France 2018

Fabienne Courouge[*]

Editors' note: We are pleased to have a report on several interesting and impressive activities of the French Sherlockian community from Fabienne Courouge, the Paris-based editor of *La gazette du 221B* (gazette221b.com), who invites Sherlockians everywhere to join *La Gazette*'s Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/1816195815071577/.

Sherlockian Activity in France 2018

Date	Type	Name	Author
since janv — on tour	play	Sherlock Holmes et le mystere de la vallée de Boscombe (Théâtre du Gymase, Théatre du Splendid, Festival d'Avignon, etc.)	Christophe Delort
06-janv	event	Death of Yves-Charles Fercoq, one of the founders of Société Sherlock Holmes de France	
31-janv	play	Le cercle de Whitechapel	Julien Lefevre
12 févr	magazine	La gazette du 221b n°1	Fabienne Courouge et Helene Colin
05-févr	novel	Retrouvailles à Strasbourg (Les enquêtes rhénanes)	Roger Seiter
12-févr	novel	Les Cinq Voyelles Viennoises: La quatrième aventure de Sherlock Holmes	Abdesselam et Rabie Bougedrawi
04-avr	novel	Le Club Des Mendiants Aristocrates	Abdesselam et Rabie Bougedrawi
11-avr	novel	Le meilleur ennemi de Sherlock Holmes	Martine Ruzé-Moens
20-avr	magazine	La gazette du 221b n°2	Fabienne Courouge et Helene Colin
30-avr	game book	La malédiction des Baskerville	Gauthier Wendling et Guillame Romro
03-mai	novel	Sherlock Holmes à Chamonix	Pierre Charmoz

[*] Fabienne Courouge's Sherlockian writings include a series of papers under the title *Les Modernisations de Sherlock Holmes dans les films et les séries du XXIe siècle*.

Date	Type	Name	Author
25 aout	novel	La petite chanteuse à la bougie	Abdesselam Boudegrawi
29-août	comic	Moriarty T01: Empire mécanique	Fred Duval jean-Pierre Pécau-Scarlet-Stevan Subic
since 01-sept in several cities	giant game	Sherlock Holmes géant dans la ville (La Rochelle, Poitiers, Tours, etc.)	www.sherlockgeant.fr
15-sept	magazine	La gazette du 221B n°3	Fabienne Courouge et Helene Colin
23-sep	novel	Le rituel des Shrewsbury	Abdesselam Boudegrawi
10-oct	comic	Sherlock Holmes society T05: les péchés du fils	Sylvain Cordurier - Alex Gonzalbo
17-oct	kids' book	Les 10 meilleures enquêtes de Sherlock Holmes	Sandra Lebrun et Loïc Méhée
07-nov	comic	Sherlock Holmes sociéty T06: le champs des possibles	Sylvain Cordurier et Andrea Fattorie
13-nov	short movie	Kerloc'h: une enquête en Gwen Ha Du	Benoît J. Grémare
23-nov	comic	Sherlock Holmes: sur les traces de Jack l'éventreur	Ced
4 déc	YouTube channel	Sher[UN]Locked — video	Daniel Henocq

SHERLOCK IN GERMANY 2018

Silvia Glücklich[*]

There is a long tradition of Sherlock Holmes societies and clubs in Germany. During our research for the book *The Adventures of Two British Gentlemen in Germany*, we discovered that the first association was founded in 1903, in Erlangen to be exact. It was a students' fraternity. Since then, many societies have come and gone. In 2010, Olaf Maurer and Nicole Glücklich decided to re-establish the Deutsche Sherlock-Holmes-Gesellschaft (DSHG) (Sherlock Holmes Society of Germany) with the objective of reviving Germany's Sherlockians.

Today, the DSHG has approximately 600 regular members and around 3,000 followers ("Irregulars" as we call them) on social media. Our society's magazine is the *Baker Street Chronicle*, which is published every three months.

Germany's theatre groups love to perform Sherlock Holmes plays on stage, hence we are very busy with going to the theatre or attending readings and live performances of audio dramas throughout the year. In 2018, even two Sherlock Holmes musicals started, one in Cologne and the other one in Hamburg.

Naturally, we organise special events for our members on a regular basis, such as our annually trip to Meiringen, in Switzerland, which is always a very popular event. In Meiringen, we are of course visiting the famous Reichenbach Falls and Rosenlaui, and also the small but wonderful Sherlock Holmes museum and the filming locations of Granada's "The Final Problem" with Jeremy Brett. It often happens that members of other societies, from France for example, accompany us on our trips.

(In May 2019, we are going to Feldkirch (Austria). Feldkirch is the village where Arthur Conan Doyle spent one year at the Jesuit gymnasium Stella Matutina.)

In November, we always have our official Christmas dinner. Usually the dinner takes place at a hotel that has a connection to Sherlock Holmes or Arthur Conan Doyle. In 2018, the dinner was at the hotel Steigenberger in Bad Homburg. We chose this hotel as it was the place where the famous motor race "The Prince Henry Tour" started in 1911. Arthur Conan Doyle was one of its participants.

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[*] Silvia Glücklich serves on the board of directors of the Deutsche Sherlock-Holmes-Gesellschaft. Copyright Silvia Glücklich.

In May 2018, we released the second volume of our *The Adventures of Two British Gentlemen in…* book series. The second volume focuses on Sherlock Holmes's connections and Arthur Conan Doyle's travels to Germany. (Currently, we are working on the third volume, which will focus on Austria.)

The most important event, however, is the SherloCON, a Sherlock Holmes convention which takes place every other year. We initiated the SherloCON in 2012. The fourth and latest convention was in May 2018. The number of attendees has increased steadily and the SherloCON 2018 was a great success. For three days, members of our society, Sherlock Holmes fans, and fans of crime fiction can enjoy various Sherlock Holmes events — such as lectures, readings, murder mystery dinners, live audio play performances, and scavenger hunts.

In 2011, the DSHG launched the "Blue Carbuncle Award". Every year, we recognize outstanding Sherlock Holmes publications, performances, audio plays, and games. In 2018, the "Blue Carbuncle" award ceremony took place at the SherloCON. One of the winners in 2018 was Mattias Boström for his book *From Holmes to Sherlock: The Story of the Men and Women Who Created an Icon*.

In 2017, we had the idea of organising Sherlock Holmes regular's tables. This idea was very popular and in 2018 approximately 15 "Stammtische" (as they are called in German) took place in Dortmund, Thüringen, Stuttgart, and even in Vienna (Austria) and Basel (Switzerland). During those events, the participants enjoy a good meal and a good discussion about Sherlock Holmes. "Stammtische" are small but nice events and perfect opportunities to meet fellow-Sherlockians.

Deutsche Sherlock-Holmes-Gesellschaft (DSHG)
Website: www.deutsche-sherlock-holmes-gesellschaft.de
Email: info@sherlock-holmes-gesellschaft.de
Baker Street Chronicle: www.baker-street-chronicle.de
SherloCON: www.sherlocon.info
Board Members: Olaf Maurer, Nicole Glücklich, Silvia Glücklich
Facebook: www.facebook.de/dtshges, www.facebook.de/BakerStreetChronicle

Sherlock in Great Britain 2018

Editors' note: Our organizing of reports about goings-on in Great Britain last year was not up to snuff, for which we apologize. We will do our best to do better next time. Despite our ineptitude, we do have a good deal of interesting news to share, due in large part to the generosity of Catherine Cooke and Roger Johnson of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, for which and to whom we are most grateful.

Jan. 6: The Sherlock Holmes Society of London: Annual Dinner — "The Stormy Petrel Supper" — with guest speaker Admiral The Right Honourable Lord West of Spithead, GCB DSC PC.

Jan. 7: The Sherlock Holmes Society of London: Morning After — informal lunch and socialising at The Centre Page.

Jan. 8-13: *Sherlock Holmes and the Hooded Lance* performed by Common Ground Theatre Company at The New Wolsey Studio, St George's Street, Ipswich IP1 3NF.

Mar. 22: Sherlock Holmes Society of London: Meeting at the National Liberal Club. The theme for the evening was "The Untold Cases," in which members of the Society addressed Watson's unpublished stories. The speakers had five minutes each in which to present their arguments as to why the adventure should have been published

Apr. 25-May 5: *Sherlock Holmes, The Final Curtain*, a new "thriller" written by Simon Reade and starring Robert Powell as Holmes and Liza Goddard as Mary Watson, premiered at the Theatre Royal Bath, followed by a UK tour.

May 12: *Sherlock and the Sign of Four, A Whodunnit Evening*, at Alderholt Village Hall, Station Road, Alderholt, Dorset SP6 3RB.

May 22: Portsmouth Museum: Andrew Lycett opened "You Don't Know Sherlock Holmes Yet?" — a new exhibition supplementing the permanent "A Study in Sherlock" exhibition until May 2020, including a zone dedicated to children.

May 24-27: The Sherlock Holmes Society of London: *A Capital Return!* mini-festival weekend, including:

> **May 24:** Annual general meeting followed by a performance by David Stuart Davies of *The Game's Afoot*.
>
> **May 25:** A visit to The Postal Museum including a journey on the underground Mail Rail.

May 26: A day at Undershaw, home of Stepping Stones School.

May 27: *Holmes in The City* walking tour followed by lunch at The Centre Page pub.

May 23-26: The Grayshott Stagers production of Leslie Bricusse's West End musical, *The Revenge of Sherlock Holmes*, at Grayshott Village Hall.

June 24: Sherlock Holmes Society of London: The annual Victorian Cricket Match — a delightful informal event, open to everyone, with good company and bring-your-own picnicking and seating — was played at the West Wycombe Cricket Club. Once again, the gentlemen of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London took on the "Gold Bats" of the PG Wodehouse Society, playing to 1895 rules.

Sept. 16: Charles Augustus Magnussen's futuristic house, which featured in Sherlock, was opened to the public for one day only from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. The 60-acre estate of Swinhay House in North Nibley, Gloucestershire, is owned by Sir David McMurtry, who does not reside there because his wife prefers more modest living. Visitors were given guided tours and permitted to wander in the grounds and gardens.

Sept. 20: The Museum of Freemasonry, London: An exhibition entitled "The Bejewelled: Badges, Brotherhood and Identity" (which will run until August 24, 2019) opened with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Freemasonry jewels among those on display. Hannah Furness's article in the August 26 *Sunday Telegraph* quoted Mark Dennis, the curator, saying their collection is "probably the largest bodies of male jewellery anywhere." Other jewels exhibited once belonged to Prince Albert Edward/Edward VII, Rudyard Kipling, and the Duke of Connaught.

Oct. 12: The Sherlock Holmes Society of London: Richard Lancelyn Green Lecture — "Doctors, Detectives and Disasters: Conan Doyle's Medicine and Conflicts" — delivered by Michael Crumplin at the National Liberal Club. The lecture looked at those aspects of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's life and writings which relate to military and medical history, as well as at events that were relevant during his writing career in both the military and, importantly, the medical field. Crumplin added that, "As a relatively uninformed individual with regard to the famous fictional detective and his medical companion, I feel that I should concentrate on some of the tumultuous events and people during the late 19th and early 20th century that clearly had an impact on, and influenced his writings and career. Finally, during this great centenary of remembrance I will say a little about medical issues of the Great War".

Nov. 29: The Sherlock Holmes Society of London: Film evening (with the theme "Subtitles Provided") at The Art Workers Guild, with viewings of the modern-day Japanese production *Miss Sherlock* and the 1923 silent version of *The Sign of Four*, starring Eille Norwood, making his final screen appearance as the master detective.

Dec. 2-14: BBC Radio 4 broadcast two episodes of *Mrs Hudson's Radio Show* — based on Barry and Bob Cryer's popular book, *Mrs Hudson's Diaries* — with the father-and-son writing team appearing as various characters, Patricia Hodge as Mrs. Hudson, and Miriam Margolyes as her friend Mrs Brayley. "Episode One: Rare Medium" was broadcast on December 2 at 19:15, and repeated on BBC Radio 4 Extra on December 7 at 7:30, 17:30, and 22:00 and on December 8 at 5:30. "Episode Two: Wild Geese" was broadcast on December 9 at 19:15, and repeated on BBC Radio 4 Extra on December 14 at 7:30, 17:30, and 22:00, and on December 14 at 5:30. The show was recorded before a live audience at The Drill Hall, the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's studio theatre on the November 5.

Dec. 18: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, a comedy farce, begins a December-January run (part of a longer tour that began in October) at the Drayton Arms Theatre, located above the pub at 153 Old Brompton Road in London. Roger Johnson reports:

> I saw one of the first performances at The Drayton Arms and found it a comic delight, with pantomime chestnuts and "Carry On" vulgarities (nothing wrong with vulgar humour!). Oliver Hayes and Bibi Lucille (Sherlock Holmes and Dr Jane Watson) are likewise delightful. I was very pleased to have the chance of a brief chat with them — and astonished to be told that they had learned and rehearsed the play at very short notice. (Fortunately, it's the sort of comedy in which a couple of fluffed lines and a dry seem as if they might be intentional. Addressing the prompter as "Mrs Hudson" was an excellent touch.)

Sherlock in India 2018

Jayantika Ganguly[*]

The Sherlock Holmes Society of India is an online community boasting of about two hundred members. Membership is free and unrestricted by geographical constraints or any other restrictions, for that matter — except for the minimum requirement of an interest in Sherlock Holmes and/or all things Sherlockian/Holmesian; nothing else matters. (One of the interesting things about the society is that we largely use the terms "Sherlockian" and "Holmesian" interchangeably — though we do have a few distinguished members who frown at such blasphemy!) But we are a young society and we are much laxer about these things — though we do like to keep an eye on our international counterparts (and often drool in awe of their enthusiasm and activities)! We do have a really cool "brand image" (as we like to call it) that was designed especially for us by the celebrated Czech artist Petr Kopl. As the song goes, we "get by with a little help from my friends." Actually, a lot. One only has to look at our e-magazines or discussion boards.

2018 has not been a particularly eventful year for the Sherlock Holmes Society of India, or for Indian Sherlockians in general. We did stick to our schedule and release the summer and winter issues of *Proceedings of the Pondicherry Lodge* — the bi-annual e-magazine of the Sherlock Holmes Society of India — on June 1, 2018 and December 1, 2018 respectively. The page-count as well as the international Sherlockian scholarship remains impressive. What was especially encouraging was that we had our youngest ever contributor to the e-magazine in the June issue — a boy of thirteen, who won our hearts with his Sherlockian essay! The annual meeting of the Sherlock Holmes Society of India remains suspended due to poor attendance, but we hope that we can resume our get-together in the future. (All issues of *Proceedings of the Pondicherry Lodge* can be read for free at www.sherlockholmessociety.in — that's six years' worth of Sherlockian goodness!)

The online activities of the Sherlock Holmes Society of India — online discussions, Facebook, and the like — have remained moderate as well. Since vigorous discussions usually happen when there is something new and exciting in the Sherlockian world (like the advent of BBC *Sherlock*, which sparked discussions for years) — we did not have too much to discuss this year. Of course, the new season of *Elementary* and the new Japanese series

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[*] Jayantika Ganguly is General Secretary and Editor of The Sherlock Holmes Society of India. Copyright 2019 Jayantika Ganguly.

Miss Sherlock were popular topics, but in general, the year has been quieter than usual. Even the eternally popular discussions about the Indian counterparts of Sherlock Holmes — notably, "Feluda" of Satyajit Ray and "Byomkesh Baksh" of Sharadindu Bandhopadhay — and Holmes' influence on them, has been mellow.

As the learned Founder-President of the Sherlock Holmes Society of India says, Holmes Mania is like sine waves; and 2018 clearly was not the crest . . . but it was probably not the trough, either. (Any further mathematical analysis is beyond my meagre capabilities . . . but we could possibly dig up some professors/mathematicians/physicists/engineers from amongst our members who would know better!)

We do have some exciting things coming up, though. Towards the end of 2018, a group of Indian doctors decided to host a Sherlock Fan Fest in early 2019 (February 9, 2019) — but we will talk about that when we reminisce about what happened in the Sherlockian world in India in 2019 next year — which, hopefully, shall be more eventful than this one.

Sherlock in Japan 2018

Yuichi Hirayama[*]

The Japanese nationwide Sherlockian society, Japan Sherlock Holmes Club (JSHC) publishes its bulletin, *The World of Holmes*, once a year. According to the latest issue (volume 41), more than 670 members belong to JSHC now.

There are two conventions each year, in the spring and fall. The 2018 Spring Convention, attended by 101 members, was held on March 18 at Verk Yokosuka, Yokosuka city, Kanagawa. The Sherlock Holmes Award for 2018 was presented to the Japanese edition of *The Sherlock Holmes Book* (Sanseido, amzn.to/2Rj1p7p) (by David Stuart Davies, translated by Masamichi Higurashi), and *Meitantei Holmes Zensyu (Complete Works of Great Detective Holmes)* (three volumes) (Sakuhinsya, amzn.to/2Rj2lZt amzn.to/2RpAOG8 amzn.to/2AjCmHP) (translated by Minetaro Yamanaka, edited and annotated by Yuichi Hirayama). The latter were children's adaptations of the Canon more than sixty years ago, re-collected and reevaluated from a Sherlockian point of view. The Incentive Award for 2018 was presented to *Project SH*. The best paper in *The World of Holmes* was "There was no Bruce-Partington Plans," by Keiji Miyamoto. The Fall Convention, attended by 41 members, was held at Wakura hot springs, in Ishikawa.

There are also monthly meetings in Tokyo. If you have a chance to visit Tokyo, and are interested in our activities, please contact us.

In 2018, the largest topic in Japanese Sherlockiana was *Miss Sherlock* (amzn.to/2BGaugO). It was a short mystery series (eight episodes) made by Hulu, an international cable TV network. Sherlock is played by Yuko Takeuchi, Watson by Shihori Nukijiya. They are famous Japanese actresses. It is the second Japanese Sherlockian TV series broadcast abroad (the first one was an animation series, *Sherlock Hound*, by Hayao Miyazaki). Naohiko Kitahara, a member of JSHC, supported this drama as a Sherlockian expert. He put in many Sherlockian references (for example, names of shops and companies, etc.), but it is not possible to detect them unless you can read or listen in Japanese.

Masako Komatsuki continues her translation of the Canon. In 2018, she published *Sherlock Holmes Saigo No Aisatsu (His Last Bow)* (Kadokawa-syoten, amzn.to/2Afu57y). We Sherlockians in the non-English-speaking country are privileged to read many translations of the Canon.

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[*] Yuichi Hirayama is "The Japanese Vase" in the Baker Street Irregulars. Copyright 2019 Yuichi Hirayama.

Kitahara did some nice work on this aspect in 2018, collecting many vintage translations in one volume, in *Sherlock Holmes No Koten Jikencho (Classic Casebooks of Sherlock Holmes)* (Ronso-sya, amzn.to/2EN7IKN). The earliest of those translations was TWIS in 1894, only three years after the original.

As for Doyleana, Mikio Kawamura, a member of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, published *Hyoden Conan Doyle No Shinijitsu (Truth of Conan Doyle)* (Kamkura Syunju-sha, amzn.to/2CxFBgm).

Hiro and her *Project SH* (twitter.com/projectsh_info) present splendid original Sherlockian theater. Their second and third performances (December 2017 and September 2018) were highly esteemed by many members of JSHC. They plan to present two more plays in the near future.

SHERLOCK IN SWEDEN 2018

Mattias Boström[*]

The history of Sherlockian societies in Sweden started when the late Ted Bergman, BSI (1928-2017) founded the Solitary Cyclists of Sweden in 1963. It was a small group, initially mainly consisting of journalists and writers who had written about Sherlock Holmes in newspapers or elsewhere from the 1930s to the 1960s. Bergman himself was a banker, and became an internationally known Sherlockian. For more than fifty years he was the most well-known and active Sherlockian in Sweden, and an inspiration for many generations to come. The Solitary Cyclists were growing a little during the 1960s, but since many of the members were elderly already at the beginning, the number of members diminished in the early 1970s, and the activities stopped around 1973.

In 1979, a group of high-school boys in Stockholm felt that there was a need for a new Swedish Sherlockian society. Together they founded the Baskerville Hall Club of Sweden (BHC), which forty years later is the leading society here, with approximately ninety members from all over the country. The main activity of the BHC is the annual meeting, always held in January to celebrate the Master Detective's birthday. In 2018, it was held on January 13. A number of Ted Bergman's children and grandchildren were also present, specially invited to commemorate him, and also to see a side of his Sherlockian interest in which they hadn't participated before and meet his friends from that world.

Two other get-togethers were held in Stockholm in 2018 — afternoon tea on January 6 and a pub meeting on October 9 — which is less activity than in previous years. BHC doesn't have any tradition of discussing specific stories in the Canon at its gatherings, but at the annual meetings there is often a short lecture, a quiz, or some other kind of entertainment by the members. A book auction — normally with very low prices — is also held at the annual meeting.

For members living far away from Stockholm, contact with the BHC mainly consists of the four annual issues of the magazine *The Moor*. During 2018, the magazine also started publishing original articles in English by prominent, foreign Sherlockians. The rest of the material is in Swedish.

The BHC is led by Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf, and contact person is the

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[*] Mattias Boström is the author of *From Holmes to Sherlock: The Story of the Men and Women Who Created an Icon* (2017), which Michael Dirda, BSI, called "the best account of Baker Street mania ever written. Really."

secretary Anders Wiggström, who is also editor of *The Moor*.

The other active Sherlockian society is a local one, Doctor Mortimer's Correspondent (DMC), which is based in the university town Uppsala, north of Stockholm. It was founded in 2003 and the twenty-five members are all connected to Uppsala in some way, most of them living there. DMC has no publication, but instead it's quite an active society. Many of the members dress up in Victorian clothes — well, maybe not Victorian, but pretty close — for the gatherings. The annual meeting was held on March 9, and on May 20 there was the yearly croquet tournament in the Uppsala botanical garden. Glen Miranker, BSI, visited Uppsala in early summer together with his wife Cathy and daughter Emily, who is also a member of the BSI, and DMC met them for dinner on June 19. There were lunches on January 28, April 22, and September 23, gatherings at the homes of different members on October 14 and November 18, and a pub night on October 28. The year ended with a Christmas dinner at the home of the Bylander family, with the celebration of DMC's 15-year jubilee. Meetings often include a quiz on a story from the Canon.

The President of DMC is Morgan Malm.

Apart from the activities of the BHC and DMC, I have myself been quite active, since a revised edition of my book *Från Holmes till Sherlock* (*From Holmes to Sherlock*) was published in Sweden on September 26. I have given Holmes lectures in Stockholm, Gothenburg, and Lerum, in libraries and bookstores.

A few other books with a Sherlockian connection were published in Swedish during 2018. Two stories for kids: Nancy Springer's *Enola Holmes och kidnappningsmysteriet* (*The Case of the Missing Marquess*), and Sam Hearn's *Sherlock Holmes och den försvunna diamanten* (*Baker Street Academy: Sherlock Holmes and the Disappearing Diamond*). And also a collection of brain teasers, lateral thinking puzzles, and logic problems: Dan Moore's *Sherlock Holmes samling med tankenötter* (*Sherlock Holmes' Book of Conundrums*).

SHERLOCK IN THE U.S.A. 2018

Monica M. Schmidt[*]

Editors' note: Monica Schmidt has managed to put together an impressively interesting set of perspectives on exemplary American Sherlockian events, partly by giving us her own reports (she is remarkably mobile) and partly by lassoing correspondents from all across the United States to provide grist for her editorial mill.

JANUARY

BSI weekend — Monica M. Schmidt

Sherlockians from all around the globe gathered for the annual five-day wall-to-wall celebration of Sherlockiana in New York City on January 10-14, 2018. The "weekend" is bookended by Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes events (ASH Wednesday and the ASH Sunday Brunch), with the invitation-only Baker Street Irregulars Dinner and the Gaslight Gala as the Friday night tent-poles. Flanking the Friday festivities was the Distinguished Lecture by Martin Edwards and the Baker Street Babes charity costumed ball on Thursday and the BSI Cocktail Reception and the Lost in New York with a Bunch of Sherlockians on Saturday. For the die-hard late-night crowd every night ended at O'Lunney's Times Square Pub, an Irish pub to which many Sherlockians flock for a cold beverage and warm camaraderie as they stayed until 2:21 a.m. to recite Vincent Starrett's sonnet *221B*. Additionally, several other scions met for breakfasts, lunches, dinners, or cocktails — some open to all, others invitation-only.

Norwegian Explorers' Baker Street West dinner — Julie McKuras

In 1948, five University of Minnesota faculty members — E.W. McDiarmid, Bryce Low Crawford, Jr., E.W. Ziebarth, Wallace Armstrong and Theodore Blegen — held the first meeting of the Norwegian Explorers on January 23, an evening with a temperature of 21 degrees below zero. In 2018, we marked the 70th Anniversary of our scion society. On January 28, The Norwegian Explorers held their annual informal *Baker Street West Dinner* at Cooper's Pub in St. Louis Park, where those who had made the trek to New York gave an overview of events. This year, the event was overseen by Tom Gottwalt, the new president of the Explorers, who succeeded Gary Thaden (who held the position for eleven years).

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[*] Monica M. Schmidt is "Julia Stoner" in the Baker Street Irregulars. Copyright 2019 Monica M. Schmidt.

FEBRUARY

SOB Luncheon — Greg Ruby

Twenty-five Sherlockians gathered on Saturday, February 3, for the first mob in 2018 of the Sherlockians of Baltimore at Sabatino's, in Baltimore's Little Italy. The program was kicked off by the *SOB In Charge,* Greg Ruby. After introductions, John Baesch offered up the day's first toast, to Sherlock Holmes. Frank Mentzel toasted his alma mater and SOB investiture, City College. Over lunch, several of the attendees discussed the activities they participated in during the recent BSI Weekend in New York. Evelyn Herzog presented a paper on her involvement with other young ladies in picketing the BSI Dinner 50 years earlier. Rachael Leventhal led a story discussion on "The Adventure of the Empty House," and Dennis Dorsch provided the quiz for that story. Due to their participation in this meeting, those three folks were elevated to Certified SOBs and awarded investitures with Baltimore-based themes. Herzog chose Etta Cone — a noted Baltimorean, who, with her sister, assembled a large collection of modern French art — as her investiture. Leventhal chose "Maryland Science Center" as she had fond memories of visiting there as a child and now enjoys taking her children there. Dorsch chose Theodore R. McKeldin, former Mayor of Baltimore and Governor of Maryland, as his investiture since he served as a speechwriter to the Mayor. A special reading of the Musgrave Ritual was done by the attendees, in the "Bawlmerese" accent. To conclude the meeting, Herzog recited Vincent Starrett's *221B*.

MARCH

The Criterion Bar Association Dinner — Monica M. Schmidt

The original co-ed Sherlockian scion in Chicago meets four times annually on an academic calendar. As this Sherlockian is strategically located only four hours' drive from Chicago, it's easy for me to attend one or two of their dinners each year. Gathered were about 30 Sherlockian patriarchs and matriarchs from the Chicago region keeping the memory green (both figuratively and literally) at this St. Patrick's Day-themed meeting held at the Skokie location of Maggiano's Little Italy. Local Sherlockian Ron Levitsky gave a fascinating presentation exploring Arthur Conan Doyle's lineage as he grappled with the paradox of being a British imperialist with Irish roots. Good food and drink and excellent company made for a delightful evening.

Holmes, Doyle, and Friends 5 — Dan Andriacco

"Holmes, Doyle, & Friends," the annual program long known in the Sherlockian world simply as "the Dayton Symposium," continued its comeback on March 9 and 10. A strong list of speakers attracted the largest attendance since the Agra Treasurers scion assumed sponsorship of the rebranded conference in 2014. Speakers Ray Betzner, Donald E. Curtis, Jacquelynn Bost Morris, Mark Friedman, Monica Schmidt, Steven T. Doyle, Brent Morris, and Liese Sherwood-Fabre generated such feedback on evaluations as "loved all the presenters," "uniformly good quality," and "great variety of interesting speakers." What was then called the "Sherlock Holmes/Arthur Conan Doyle Symposium" launched on the campus of Wright State University in 1981. "Holmes, Doyle, & Friends: *Six*" will take place March 28 and 29, 2019. For more information as it unfolds, go to www.agratreasurers.net/holmes--doyle----friends.html.

April

221B Con — Taylor Blumenberg

221B Con 2018 was held at the Atlanta Airport Marriott in Atlanta, GA on April 13-14. Programming included discussion panels, writer's workshops, costuming, karaoke, and a dance party. Featured guests included authors Nancy Springer and Lyndsay Faye as well as a performance by The Atlanta Radio Theater Company and live podcasts by The Baker Street Babes, The Three Patch Podcast, and Geek Vs. A charity auction was also held for the convention's chosen charity, The Beacon Society, a group that promotes the teaching of Sherlock Holmes by providing grants to teachers and librarians

140 Varieties of Tobacco Ash dinner — Vincent Wright

The 140 Varieties of Tobacco Ash is a limited-membership club based in Central Indiana and consisting of members from all over the country. Meetings are generally held in April or May and consist of an evening of privately-banded cigars in a local cigar bar, alcohol of all types, and dinner in any one of a number of the finest restaurants in Indianapolis. With a light program, the gatherings make very few demands of its members except wearing the club tie and observing all rites and rituals (an exception to the tie rule is made for the female members). After-dinner happenings can include inducting new members, attendees entering their thoughts about the evening into the group's journal, and the presentation of club-exclusive paraphernalia, including the highly sought after (but members-only) club pin.

May

Hugo's Companions Birthday dinner — Monica Schmidt

There is a legend explaining exactly why Hugo's Companions celebrates Holmes's birthday in May, but the reasoning is far less important than the company that is kept. The gentlemen of Hugo's Companions hosted their birthday dinner at Ridgemoor Country Club in Chicago and invited several men and women from across the Midwestern region to attend this annual birthday dinner. The current Sir Hugo, Al Shaw — invested in the BSI as "Sir Hugo Baskerville" earlier in the year — emceed the event as the guests enjoyed the multicourse dinner. Dan Andriacco was the guest speaker and discussed the fascinating topic of familiar plot tropes in the Canon. At the meeting, Andriacco was also the recipient of the Horace Harker Award, given to Sherlockians who keep the memory green through publication. Long-time Chicagoland Sherlockian David Humphries's wife, Ruth, was named the Yeoman's Daughter, the award given to the suffering spouse of a Sherlockian.

The Speckled Band of Boston — James O'Leary

The atmosphere of the dark, wood-paneled first floor of the Tavern Club, in an alley off Boylston Street opposite Boston Common, was especially electric this past May 4 as women's suffrage finally reached the Speckled Band of Boston some 98 years after the passage of the 19th Amendment. The pre-dinner cocktails buzzed with a type of excitement I have rarely felt in my short tenure at the Band. Once up to the second-floor dining room, not surprisingly more crowded than the usual packed-like-sardines feel, the dinner rituals — the Prayer for the Speckled Band of Boston, the Quiz, the singing of "We Never Mention Aunt Clara" — took on a freshness being introduced to so many newcomers. The Vichyssoise a la Vernet was to my liking; the Stake and Kidney Pie a la Martha Hudson, however, was not the kitchen's best foot forward. Some traditions we honor, some we modify, some we might bid adieu. The menu, unchanged for 78 meetings . . . well let us say that a new cookbook sent in Mrs. Hudson's direction would not be amiss.

Watson's Tin Box — Carla Coupe

The Tin Box changes Gasogenes every year, and generally our meetings are casually chaotic. This evening we welcomed new attendees, and those coming to their second meeting were officially recognized as members of the Tin Box. After introductions, Al Armstrong gave the toast to The Woman, and

Jacquelynn Morris followed up with a toast to Her Gracious Majesty. Karen Wilson reprised the delightful musical toast to Violet Hunter that she gave at the spring meeting of the Sons of the Copper Beeches. Then, in honor of the evening's story, we gave extemporaneous toasts to all the poor clients that Holmes did not save. Debbie Clark presented the Evidence Box for this evening's tale: "The Five Orange Pips." Paul Churchill, one of our founders, assembled an Evidence Box for each of the 60 canonical stories, and they contain items referred to in the story — many of which are "faux originals" or "the very one" — but all of which are fascinating. (We hope to upload photos of the box items to our website over the next few years, so everyone can enjoy them.) Dinner was served and eaten while we had a lively discussion of "The Five Orange Pips." Then Nea Dodson gave a fascinating talk on the parallels between Holmes and science fiction fandoms in "Two Fandoms, Both Alike in Dignity." She had also given this talk to the Red Circle, and you can read a copy at redcircledc.org/assets/files/Two%20Fandoms.pdf. We finished up with a quiz on the night's story by Lynne Stephens, our Tantalus. Winners received a prize for their efforts.

June

Scintillation of Scions XI — Karen Wilson

On Saturday, June 9, 2018, "A Scintillation of Scions XI" took place at the BWI Sheraton Hotel in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. The brainchild of Jacquelynn Morris, ASH, BSI, Scintillation was helmed this year by Karen Wilson, ASH, and a team of dedicated volunteers from Watson's Tin Box of Ellicott City, Maryland. Eighty were registered for the day-long symposium, which featured nine Sherlockian speakers whose talks combined scholarship and humor to cover a variety of topics. On the program were Beth Austin, ASH ("Sherlock Holmes: An Archetype"); Susan Bailey ("Well Up in Anatomy: The Dissecting Room at Barts"); Cath Bruhnke ("A Study in Squab"); Ross Davies, BSI ("The Adventure of the Ambulant Doctor"); Terry Hunt, BSI, ASH ("Calabash Pipe and Phrenology Bust: Two Non-Canonical Sherlockian Icons"); Nick Martorelli, ASH, BSI ("Revision, My Dear Watson"); Barbara Rusch, BSI, ASH ("Live Long and Prosper: Leonard Nimoy and His Sherlockian Connections"); Monica Schmidt, ASH ("Watson's Wagers: An Exploration into Problem Gambling"); and Donny Zaldin, BSI, ASH ("Investigating Investigating Women: Female Predecessors and Successors to Sherlock Holmes"). A pre-conference cocktail reception the night before, vendors' tables, a raffle of Sherlockian novelties (50% of whose proceeds benefitted The House of Ruth Maryland, a local charity), a post-

conference Holmesian movie night, and plenty of good Sherlockian socializing rounded out the weekend's offerings.

The Sub-Librarians Scion of the Baker Street Irregulars — Monica M. Schmidt

Founded in 1967, The Sub-Librarians was the "brain-child" of John Bennett Shaw, who was a library trustee at the time. It is the oldest themed or profession-oriented society related to Sherlock Holmes, and its members include librarians, library staff members, and lovers of libraries who share an appreciation for Sherlock Holmes. The annual meeting is held during the American Library Association's annual conference and often includes an even less-formal dinner gathering with local Sherlockians or Sherlockian Scions afterward. The 2018 meeting (the 41st irregular meeting of the Sub-Librarians) was held at the ALA conference in beautiful and muggy New Orleans. George H. Scheetz oversaw the meeting and Monica Schmidt, ASH, gave the presentation, "You have been on eBay, I Perceive: The Pathology of Sherlockian Collecting." The meeting was followed by dinner and beverages at Mulate's (the Original Cajun Restaurant), a New Orleans treasure.

July

The Three Garridebs [Westchester County, New York] — Troy Reynolds

The Three Garridebs concluded their 45th year with their annual awards luncheon in July. At this event, there are no quizzes, games, show-and-tell, or discussions as there are at the regular meetings. Instead, the scion recognizes the best toasts and papers from these meetings, awards certificates to the quiz winners, and presents additional honors. The theme for the previous year's meetings was "espionage and foreign intrigue." Greg Darak's homage to the architect who designed the Foreign Office building in which "Tadpole" Phelps worked was deemed the best toast of the year. Paul Astle earned the award for best scholarly paper for his investigation of how the untrustworthy papers that Sherlock supplied to Von Bork affected naval warfare during WWI. Fran Schulz's discussion of fascinators and women's hats, which coincided with the most recent royal wedding, took home the award for best multimedia presentation. Troy Reynolds received the award for best humorous paper for his theory on the Mrs. Hudson/Mrs. Turner conundrum. The Jan Stauber Rubber Goose Award is given for outstanding contribution to the festive spirit of the Blue Carbuncle Luncheon, the Garridebs' other annual special meeting. Sue Vizoskie received the award for her seasonal tribute to Mrs. Hudson. And Lorraine and Tony Czarnecki were presented with a

letter of recognition from Queen Victoria for their significant involvement with the scion.

In one of the most anticipated parts of the luncheon, two Garridebs received their investitures: Fran Schulz as "A Twinkle of Amusement" and Bob Zatz as "The Penalty of the Law." Two other prestigious awards were also presented. The William P. Schweickert Fellowship Award, given to an individual exhibiting the qualities of Sherlockian fellowship and gentle(wo)manly conduct exemplified by Bill Schweickert, was presented to Margaret Fleesak. And in long overdue recognition, Ben Vizoskie received the Robert E. Thomalen Two-Shilling Award for "remarkable contributions to Sherlockian scholarship" and "tireless dedication to the continued well-being and growth of the Three Garridebs." The meeting also marked the first full year of service for officers Will Walsh and Troy and Rebecca Reynolds, who joined veteran officers Ben and Sue Vizoskie and Dante Torrese as caretakers of the scion. The luncheon concluded with an audio recording of the traditional closing poem "A Long Evening with Holmes," recited by author, Bill Schweickert.

AUGUST

Holmes in the Heartland conference — Rob Nunn

The Parallel Case of St. Louis hosted the first Holmes in the Heartland weekend in St. Louis, Missouri August 10-12. Visitors from across the country met on Friday night for a tour of the National Blues Museum and dinner at Sugarfire BBQ, dubbed "The Blues Carbuncle and 221BBQ Night."

Saturday's symposium, "A Curious Collection," highlighted the newly inducted St. Louis Sherlock Holmes Research Collection, housed in the Rare Books and Manuscript Room of the St. Louis Public Library, a new and growing center for Sherlockian research. The day's program began with talks from the research collection's founders, Mary Schroeder, ASH, and Bill Cochran, BSI. Tim Johnson, curator of the Sherlock Holmes Collection at the University of Minnesota, gave the day's keynote speech. Bill Mason, BSI, treated the audience to the history of puns, including the famous, "There's no police like Holmes." Tassy Hayden made her speaking debut, informing the crowd of the evolution of fingerprinting in detective work and the Scotland Yard detective who popularized the practice at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Brad Keefauver, BSI, ASH, proposed the theory of deep continuity and that many of the stories existed in parallel universes. Don Hobbs, BSI, ASH, shared many funny stories of the life of a maniac collector. The "Curious Collection" theme continued when there was a sur-

prise appearance by Mark Twain! He talked about his life growing up in the heartland and how he tried his hand at detective fiction with "Tom Sawyer, Detective" and a Sherlockian tale, "A Double-Barreled Detective Story." The presentations wrapped up with a demonstration of some of Holmes's self-defense techniques.

Locals and guests alike adjourned to a local Italian restaurant for some amazing food, drinks, and games. People mingled at the bar, conversation buzzed throughout the meal, and groups dove into their games of choice. Sherlock Holmes Tarot cards, 221B Master Detective, Cluedo, and Werewolf were all big hits at the gaming tables.

Sunday included a tour of the Rare Book Room in the Becker Medical Library on the campus of Washington University, including displays relating to Victorian London, Arthur Conan Doyle's medical college in Edinburgh, and a book written by Joseph Bell. The weekend wrapped up with an afternoon tea at The London Tea Room, where finger sandwiches, scones, desserts, and of course, a wide selection of teas were enjoyed.

BSI Silver Blaze in Saratoga — Lou and Candace Lewis

Over 50 attendees gathered at the Silver Blaze Weekend at Saratoga — the usual culprits from Toronto and Indianapolis plus Arizona and even New York City and Boston. On Friday night, about 14 of us gathered for dinner at the Desmond Hotel — not far from the Albany airport and only a 25-minute drive to the track.

On Saturday, we were off to the race course. Races typically start at noon, so there was plenty of time to park and attack the sumptuous banquet that is part of the "At The Rail" experience. The service and betting both were housed adjacent to the track in an air-conditioned tent. This year the weather was mild and many of us wandered over to the finish line to root our choices home. We collected two dollars per person as a donation for a bet to be placed for The Watson Fund and once again the horse we designated "Silver Blaze"—because the horse was wearing the appropriate red and black — came through. As a result, we were able to make a substantial donation to the Fund. Those of us who were still interested in more fine dining toddled off to Jack's Oyster House in Albany for dinner.

The following morning, we gathered for brunch and talks — "It's Alimentary my dear Watson!" — at the Desmond Hotel and then were regaled by the wit and wisdom of five learned Sherlockians who held forth on comparisons between "Silver Blaze" and "The Crooked Man."

September

The Red Circle of DC — Carla Coupe

Our regular meeting room at the Hyatt Regency in Bethesda bustled with new and old members at a rare Saturday luncheon. Highlights of the pre-lunch mingle were Denny Dobry's tempting collection of Holmes-related books for sale and the much-coveted Red Circle pins that Tom Fahres was selling. After a tasty lunch, Peter Blau introduced Monica Schmidt, our guest speaker, whose topic was "You Have Been on eBay, I Perceive: The Pathology of Sherlockian Collecting."

Monica noted that when she first chose the subject, she wanted to ensure she handled the topic respectfully, because many Sherlockians are known for their collections — especially Peter. She defined the differences between collecting and hoarding. Briefly, collecting consists of seeking, locating, acquiring, engraving, cataloging, displaying, storing, and maintaining items of interest to the collector. Hoarding is anxiety producing, resulting in disarray and embarrassment about entertaining or even just having people visit. Unfortunately, the capitalism and consumerism of our culture can encourage hoarding. Some anti-anxiety drugs can help hoarders, along with therapy and learned coping skills. The audience members were fascinated by Monica's talk, and after she finished, asked many questions. Bev Wolov noted that one way to differentiate between collecting and hoarding is to ask: "Who is in control: you or the stuff?" Monica agreed, and explained that collecting follows a theme or rules of logic, while hoarding is indiscriminate, and often spills over to other areas of the person's life.

We all agreed that we and the Sherlockians we knew were collectors, not hoarders — much to several participants' thinly veiled relief. Monica received kudos and a hearty round of applause for her interesting talk. Peter then took the podium and reminded members about upcoming activities, and after yet more questions for Monica, we wrapped up the September meeting.

CCOBS' Annual Medal Quiz — Jerry Kegley

The Curious Collectors of Baker Street held their 26th Annual Canonical Medal Quiz the afternoon of Saturday, September 8, at the Robin Hood Pub in Sherman Oaks, CA. This year's object of attention was "The Man with the Twisted Lip." Coveted, one-of-a-kind prize medals in gold, silver, and bronze, created by the incomparable Maggie Schpak, BSI were once again at stake. The Tin Boxes (Co-Presidents Jerry Kegley, BSI & Chrys Kegley, BSI) brought the meeting to order and covered news and notes of a

Sherlockian nature with "Plugs & Dottles." Elvin Lindholm was formally welcomed as a CCOBS member with the presentation of his membership certificate and society pin. An explanation of why each of the guests had been photographed doing their best twisted lip impersonation was provided. The Tin Boxes then led the gathering in a reciting of the Sherlockian Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Canonical toast to Dr. Watson by Elvin Lindholm. The event's guest speaker, Amanda Raymond, author of "Son Of Sherlock," enlightened the meeting on her inspiration and process along with her further forays into the Sherlockian world. Carolyn Richardson toasted Sherlock Holmes, followed by Jeff Hart's (BSI) tribute to "The Founder of the Feast," Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The anticipation was now over, as Aaron Rubin, the 2017 medal quiz winner stood to present this year's exam. One by one the quiz-takers were eliminated until there were only three left standing. In the end, Jeff Hart edged out Beth Gallego, then Jerry Kegley, respectively to win the gold. The program continued with a screening of some Sherlockian silent shorts from the early days of cinema. After the votes had been counted, Chrys Kegley was determined to be the winner of the "Let's Get Twisted Lip" picture contest. The event was ended with a recitation of the Musgrave Ritual by the assemblage.

The Torists International, Sherlockian Society — Monica M. Schmidt

Donald Izban, BSI, a Chicagoland patriarch in the Sherlockian community is a "sciontist" — he's widely known for his creation of several scions, each serving a different purpose, over the past 35 years. The Torists International Sherlockian Society is the strongest representation of his work. The group meets quarterly on the 27th of March, June, September, and December — regardless of what day of the week upon which the 27th falls. The meeting is usually held at Ridgemoor Country Club in Chicago, which offers an excellent menu to complement the gorgeous view of the links, and includes an often thought-provoking presentation by one of the local Sherlockians. The September meeting had Al Shaw emceeing the event in lieu of the absent Vice President Philip Cunningham, BSI (whose wedding anniversary excuses him annually from this meeting). Don Izban presented on the topic of "Dr. Watson's Italian Heritage." Of course, Italian cuisine was served to go along with the theme.

The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic) 76th anniversary dinner — Donald Terras

Members of Hugo's Companions were invited to the annual meeting of The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic), which was held at Baskerville Hall in Maggiano's Restaurant on Chicago's North Shore on September 28. The usual

cocktail hour was complemented by a Books Alive! Sherlockian book sale and signing with representatives from The Baker Street Irregulars Publications, Wessex Press, The Battered Tin Dispatch Box, Bonnie MacBird, and Master of the Hounds, Donald J. Terras, who also had his lighthouse history books available to illuminate this extravaganza. Master Terras talked about the Hound's successful initiative to restore Vincent Starrett's headstone in Chicago's Graceland Cemetery and the need to take care of a $349 shortfall. A motion by Gary Thaden that we take care of this right away was carried by long-time Hound Jerry Kaufmann who made a donation that covered the cost overrun. A Stand on the Terrace was held for Hound and Companion, Wayne Smida, and the Hound-centric toasts were proffered up, followed by a sumptuous dinner that was enjoyed by the 45 attendees. Featured speaker Bonnie MacBird discussed "Sherlock Holmes On Screen and On the Page." David Harnois of Iowa, Ryan Lozano of Texas, and Bonnie MacBird were then inducted into the Hounds. The event ended with a superlative recitation of *221B* by longtime Companion and Hound David Humphrey.

October

From Gillette to Brett V — Steven Doyle

From Gillette to Brett V, sponsored by Wessex Press, was held on the campus of Indiana University, Bloomington October 5-7, 2018. Attendees enjoyed events over three days and three venues — all devoted to Sherlock Holmes on stage, screen, and radio — on the beautiful IU campus.

The conference began on Friday afternoon with an exhibition of rare books at the Lilly Library. The Lilly has a significant collection of material related to Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle, but this exclusive exhibition also featured an amazing array of books, manuscripts, and artifacts from literature, history, and entertainment. The Lilly is uniquely generous, and attendees marveled at being able to hold items ranging from Shakespeare's first folio to the manuscript of Holmes tale "The Red Circle."

That evening *From Gillette to Brett V* showed the first of three feature films — the 30th Anniversary Screening of *Without a Clue* in the state-of-the-art IU Cinema. This was followed by a reception for all attendees in the Indiana Memorial Union.

Saturday, October 6 started early in the Whittenberger Auditorium, the main location for speakers and presentations. Next door was a large dealers' room featuring an array of vendors, as well as a Sherlockian Cinema Exhibition of costumes, props, and memorabilia.

The line-up of speakers was as impressive as their topics were varied. Nicolas Utechin kicked off the day with an entertaining look at the lasting impact that Sidney Paget's Holmes illustrations have had on the casting of Sherlock Holmes. Ashley Polasek discussed how evolving technology and technique have changed through time in portraying Holmes on screen. Glen Miranker then introduced the second screening of the weekend — the "lost" German *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. The last silent Holmes film ever made, this film was thought lost for decades, and had never been screened in North America until it was rediscovered and restored. *From Gillette to Brett V* was only its second public exhibition in North America. Leslie S. Klinger discussed the landmark CBS television series *Elementary*, and screened his exclusive interview with series creator Robert Doherty. Terence Faherty showed Basil Rathbone's lasting identification with Holmes did not originally come from film, but rather through his long-running radio series. Charles Prepolec discussed Peter Cushing's *first* portrayal of Sherlock Holmes in Hammer Studio's 1959 version of *The Hound of the Baskervilles.* David Stuart Davies shared his personal and moving memories of the great Jeremy Brett, playing excerpts from interviews over the span of Brett's Sherlockian portrayal. Jeffrey Hatcher, playwright and screenwriter of two Sherlockian plays and the 2015 film *Mr. Holmes*, closed out the day's talks with an entertaining account of this work on these projects.

Saturday evening featured the final screening of the weekend, the 60th Anniversary Screening of Hammer Studio's *The Hound of the Baskervilles,* again at the IU Cinema.

Sunday featured the option to attend an exclusive matinee of Jeffrey Hatcher's new play *Holmes and Watson* in Indianapolis, which marked the official end of a remarkable Sherlockian weekend.

The Sons of the Copper Beeches — Monica M. Schmidt

The Autumn 2018 meeting of the Copper Beeches was truly an event of note. In October 2017, the group invited its first class of women to attend the dinner and enjoy the Philadelphia Racquet Club's take on black bean soup (it grows on you). After attending three meetings, new members can earn journeyman status if they survive the dreaded recitation of The Musgrave Ritual, overseen by Stephen Shalet. As the scion meets semiannually, this meeting offered the first opportunity for women to earn journeyman status. The largest class in history — 15 men and women — recited the ritual with enthusiasm and earned their journeyman status. In order to distinguish one's self as a Master Copper Beech-Smith, one must have achieved journeyman status and delivered a trifling monograph at a Sons meeting. There-

fore, history was made once again as Headmastiff Robert Katz inducted Rebecca Romney, Janice Fisher, Ashley Polasek, Victoria Robinson, and Karen Wilson as the newest Master Copper Beech-Smiths. Christopher Zordan gave the answers to a dastardly Sherlockian quiz that would have challenged even the most studious of scholars. Much port was consumed by all.

The Denizens of the Bar of Gold — Greg Ruby

Over 40 Sherlockians and guests gathered at the Cambridge Yacht Club on Saturday evening, October 27, 2018, for the 25th anniversary dinner of the Denizens of the Bar of Gold of Maryland's Eastern Shore. Attendees came from Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Iowa. Art Renkwitz, Gasogene of the Denizens, started the festivities by welcoming all and presenting membership certificates to first-time attendees. John Pforr, who presented the program at the first Denizens meeting in 1993, and Michael Whelan, Wiggins of the Baker Street Irregulars and a co-founder of the Denizens, both made brief comments. As the guests dined on filet mignon, broiled salmon, or chicken, a video montage was played highlighting memories from the past 25 years.

Bradley Harper, author of *A Knife in the Fog,* was the evening's featured presenter. The story "The Adventure of the Three Students" was the theme for the evening. Two quizzes (rookie and pro) on the story were prepared by John Knud-Hansen and Peter Howell, and were won by Kathy Harig and Debbie Clark. At each meeting, Alice Zalik creates a pillow on the evening's story that is raffled off and is highly sought after. Monica Schmidt won the raffle for the pillow. The evening ended with readings of William C. Thomas's *The Beggar* and William P. Schweickert's *A Long Evening with Holmes* by John Knud-Hansen.

November

The Younger Stamfords meeting — Monica M. Schmidt

The Younger Stamfords was founded by Dr. Richard (Dick) Caplan, BSI, in 1988, when I was a wee lass of 7. On a snowy winter's night, 28 people arrived for the meeting, forecasting a healthy future for the group. Meetings usually occur on a Monday evening in May and November. The November 2018 dinner marked the 30th anniversary for the organization — Dick remains the beloved patriarch of The Stamfords and is active in the scion, but Monica Schmidt took over the presidency of the group in 2013. Gathered in the library room in Coralville, Iowa's restaurant Vesta, the members shared libations, a meal, and some cake to celebrate the occasion. Al Dawson of-

fered his traditional toast to Queen Victoria and Monica gave two toasts — one to founder Dick Caplan and another to the ever-suffering Sherlockian spouses (especially her husband, Bill). The evening's entertainment was a radio play adaptation (by Edith Meiser) of The Musgrave Ritual. Stamfords members, BJ Wagner, Mitch Thompson, Dick and Ellen Caplan, David Kelzenberg, Al Dawson, Monica Schmidt, and David Harnois (iamlostwithoutmyboswell .com/) performed to the delight of the crowd.

Saturday with Sherlock Homes at the Pratt — Beth Austin

Saturdays with Sherlock Holmes at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland began in 1980. The program was founded by Phil Sherman, Sherlockian extraordinaire, dedicated to "keeping green the memory of the Master." The program was originally a full weekend of talks, movies, and Sherlockian socializing. This has been pared down over the years in response to interest levels changing so that now it is a Saturday morning with Sherlock Holmes and is strictly talks presented by knowledgeable and interesting speakers. Each program is created with an overarching theme, "My Favorite Sherlock Holmes Story," "Romance in the Canon," "Friends and Foes of Sherlock Holmes," "Yes, but is it Literature?" "Is there a Doctor in the House?" "Why is Sherlock Holmes Still Relevant" are a few of the topics over the years. This coming year we will look at the 20 rules for writing detective fiction and see if Doyle fits the mold.

The Crew of the Barque Lone Star Seminars — Steve Mason

In November 2018, the Crew of the Barque Lone Star (the Dallas-Fort Worth scion society) conducted two seminars for the general public to attend and learn more about Sherlock Holmes. The first meeting was held at one of the Dallas public libraries and included sessions on: Arthur Conan Doyle and the creation of Sherlock Holmes; the Golden Age of Sherlock Holmes (movies, TV shows, pastiches); and Modern Interpretations on Sherlock Holmes (anime, cartoons, comic books). Several members of the public, as well as many members of our society, attended the seminar.

The second meeting was conducted at the Allen Public library, and was entitled "Sherlock Holmes on Stage, Film, Radio, and Television." Members of our society conducted sessions on: Variations on Doctor Watson; Sherlock Holmes on stage; Holmes on radio; an original Holmes radio play, written by Gayle Puhl; Holmes in film; the Basil Rathbone movies; Holmes' animations; Holmes on television; and we ended with a Sherlock Holmes mystery game, devised by Brenda Hutchison. All the attendees enjoyed the presentations.

We have picked up a few more members to our society who attended one of the seminars.

The Ribston-Pippins dinner — Regina Stinson

The Ribston-Pippin Sherlockian Society of Royal Oak Michigan celebrated its 30th anniversary at the Casa Real Mexican Restaurant in Madison Heights on November 17, 2018. Thirty years of hijinks featuring treasure hunts, plays, movies, picnics, and general Sherlockian scholarship. Our Gasogene and founder, Regina Stinson, presented a film review of the many movies featuring different Holmes portrayers. She will give this presentation at the Dayton Symposium on March 30, 2019. Our Tantalus, Sam Stinson, expounded about how Holmes survived his fall into Reichenbach falls using a bungee cord. The Pippins tumbled out of Casa Real into the chill autumn evening, well fed and eagerly looking forward to the next thirty years.

December

The Tankerville Club meeting — Dan Andriacco

A little south of Dayton, the Tankerville Club of Cincinnati learned about "Arthur Conan Doyle in Cincinnati" when local historian Jeff Suess spoke at the autumn meeting on December 7. ACD visited the Queen City in 1894 and 1923. A headline in *The Cincinnati Enquirer* during the 1894 visit reported: "Conan Doyle Does Not Seem to Be Infatuated with Ear Corn." (But he did like sweet potatoes.) The meeting also featured a quiz and a discussion of "A Scandal in Bohemia," followed by an audio mash-up of multiple performers saying "Good-night, Mr. Sherlock Holmes" in various productions from early radio to the Granada series. The production was created by R. Joel Senter, Sr. in 1996 to celebrate Barbara Herbert's turn as "*the* Woman" at the annual BSI dinner in New York. Barbara, who introduced the CD at the meeting, remains forever "*the* Woman" of the Tankerville Club. Her husband, Paul Herbert, BSI, founded the club in 1977. He and Dr. Senter both passed beyond the Reichenbach in 2018. Barbara generously donated some of Paul's Sherlockiana to be auctioned off for the benefit of the club, another highlight of the autumn meeting. For more about the Tankerville Club, write to Dan Andriacco, Most Scandalous Member, at tankervilleclub @gmail.com.

The Norwegian Explorers' Annual Dinner — Julie McKuras

The Explorers Annual Dinner with our customary British buffet was held on December 6 at the Minneapolis Golf Club. The traditional program included an invocation, toasts, a short business meeting which included an election and a donation from the group to the Sherlock Holmes Collections, Robert Brusic's "Captions Courageous" and Canonical Christmas Carols, and Phil Bergem's presentation "Sherlockian Rambles." This year's Norwegian Explorers 2018 Christmas Annual was the 17th published by our society with creative stories, essays, and artwork done entirely by our membership. The Annual is distributed at our annual dinner and at the New York dinners held for the BSI and "The Woman." Sigerson Awards were presented to those who contributed to this latest publication edited by Phil Bergem and Ray Riethmeier. We spent a lovely long evening with Holmes. We welcomed new members, connected with the son of a woman who belonged to the group in the early 1950s, and thankfully had no Stands upon the Terrace for any of our members.

The Wizard of Iz Sherlockian Brunch Club — Monica M. Schmidt

A close-knit group of about 20 Chicagoland Sherlockians gathered at Kappy's American Grill on December 8, 2018 for the final Wizards of Iz Sherlockian Brunch Club meeting run by Donald J. Izban, BSI, before he hands over reins to local Sherlockian matriarch, Brenda Rossini. Unlike most Sherlockian events, this brunch has minimal Sherlockian agenda — it's mostly an excuse for local Sherlockians to break bread with one another on the second Saturday of the month in between the other more structured scion events. It was business as usual despite the transition of leadership. In the monthly invitation, there is a Sherlockian quiz that must be returned via post and the winners get to pick from a pool of Holmesian prizes. For this brunch, Dino Argyropoulos and Monica Schmidt tied for the most correct answers — Monica won a pair of binoculars and Dino a copy of one of Dan Andriacco's books (with the intent to have it signed at the 2019 Holmes, Doyle, and Friends conference). The brunch ended with Beau Meskan and his wife gifting each attendee holiday packages of white chocolate bark (yum!), everybody wishing each other the compliments of the season, and promises for everybody to keep in touch between then and the next Sherlockian event in the Chicagoland.

Is It Discreet?

Is It Right?

"The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton"
in the Post-#MeToo Era

Lyndsay Faye

Lyndsay Faye is the author of several novels,
has been translated into 15 languages,
but remains in love with English.
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Is It Discreet? Is It Right?

"The Adventure of Charles Augustus Milverton" in the Post-#MeToo Era

Lyndsay Faye

Few villains in the Sherlock Holmes Canon inspire heartier revulsion than Charles Augustus Milverton — not merely on the part of the reader of Dr. John Watson's accounts, but that of the Great Detective himself. To provide a bit of contrast: when Holmes speaks of Professor James Moriarty, his tone is often one of reluctant admiration, if not downright regret over his arch-rival's otherwise unlamented demise. While Watson chides his friend that few of the law-abiding citizens of London would agree a criminal mastermind should be missed overmuch, he also comprehends that Holmes's intellectual needs are voracious, insatiable, but never malicious. Despite his legendary ego, Holmes can't be expected to solve *every* crime in London; and barring that possibility, he devotes himself single-mindedly to solving only the most grotesque and challenging conundrums. Moriarty's combination of brilliance and amorality provided Holmes with as much of a service as he did a problem, no matter how much Watson might rue admitting it.

Not so with Milverton. When one contrasts this attitude of nostalgia for the good old days against Holmes's utterly repulsed demeanor towards the Master Blackmailer, one quickly sees how deeply our hero despises the criminal he characterizes as the worst man in London. And when he explains that there can be no comparison between "the ruffian, who in hot blood bludgeons his mate, with this man, who methodically and at his leisure tortures the soul," it is difficult to summon any counter-argument. Considering the facts that Milverton preys on women guilty of mere possession of a sex drive — or still worse, an open and trusting nature — and that his entire livelihood is based on ruining them, the urgency Holmes feels over his destruction becomes not only understandable, but chivalrous and in large degree unselfish. Remember that Holmes's appetite for mental exaltation plays no part in this particular case. As a negotiator given no opportunity to negotiate, he is merely a hired intermediary on the part of Lady Eva Blackwell — a minor role at which he would normally scoff.

The hashtag and phrase #MeToo (or often Me Too, when found in print media) is now widely associated with the downfall of accused serial sexual predator Harvey Weinstein after a series of exposes by Ronan Farrow were published in *The New Yorker*. But "Me Too" as a movement was actually founded by Bronx-born African American civil rights activist Tarana Burke

in 2006. After the Weinstein scandal began to go viral, and celebrities started using the hashtag, Burke feared that the initial goal of her message might potentially be lost, and shared the story of its origin with *The Washington Post*. Herself a survivor of multiple childhood sexual assaults in the low-income housing project where she grew up, she tweeted that #MeToo was "beyond a hashtag. It's the start of a larger conversation and a movement for radical community healing." Specifically, when working at a youth camp in Alabama, a girl in her early teens by the name of Heaven grew particularly attached to Burke, confiding in her counselor about the sexual violence she had herself suffered. Burke "was not ready" for this conversation and referred Heaven to another volunteer. The original Me Too was born when Heaven abandoned the camp never to return, and Burke's inability to assist her young charge wracked the activist with guilt. "Why couldn't you just say 'me too?'" became her battle cry. Over ten years later, she wanted more than anything to ensure that #MeToo (in its online usage) would be more than a flash in the pan of celebrity news reporting and would spark a wider dialogue, particularly with men, about the incredible pervasiveness of sexual misconduct. Burke fought to ensure that her story — and Heaven's — would not be silenced.

As a woman who has been as disturbed as many of us by the fallout from Harvey Weinstein's disgrace (one is hard pressed to say whether he or Milverton is the more repugnant figure), I have contributed to multiple painful but necessary public conversations regarding #MeToo. Because #MeToo is ultimately about survivors' voices, it does not seem out of place for me to say that I have twice been (albeit briefly, and escaped both times) kidnapped by cab drivers who wanted to take me somewhere entirely other than my home, touched inappropriately, and solicited for sexual favors in return for being "mentored" in the world of mystery fiction writing. While hardly any women of my acquaintance were shocked at this news, plentiful good men came forward to say they were appalled, disgusted, and wished in future for us to consider them allies in the war against sexual assault — allies like Sherlock Holmes and John Watson, both men of honor who genuinely abhor seeing women harmed.

At one point during this painful but necessary dialogue, a curious question arose. We are already familiar with Watson's dismay when he learns that Holmes has become engaged to Milverton's housemaid under false pretenses. We would expect nothing less from the utterly scrupulous doctor, and unfortunately cannot be too surprised that the cold-blooded detective threw himself into the heady business of winning at any cost, especially against such a loathsome foe. But following the movement largely responsible for revealing that most females are bound to be treated as disposable at some point in their lives,

to what extent do we need to reevaluate Holmes's callous — although, to him, morally justifiable — actions? Was Holmes culpable in any fashion? Was there another, better way of proceeding, or was he instead faced with no choice?

According to the sleuth, the end entirely justifies the means (a phrase generally attributed to Nicolo Machiavelli's commentary in *The Prince*, but first probably expressed by Sophocles in *Electra* when he wrote that "the end excuses any evil"). Holmes claims that consideration of the girl's feelings is unnecessary because he has a hated rival who will swoop in the moment Holmes's back is turned. To anyone who has ever fallen hard for a charming newcomer who happens to be pulling out all the stops, this excuse is at worst laughable and at best hopelessly naïve. While one cannot imagine Holmes taking any physical advantage of his paramour whatsoever — indeed, he makes a point of assuring Watson that the extent of their association has been confined to walking and talking — surely going as far as an actual marriage proposal could not have been entirely necessary. On the contrary, it smacks rather of Holmes's well-documented yen for theatrical parlor tricks along the lines of hiding treaties in curry dishes and masquerading as old booksellers. If Holmes had been operating without an audience, there is no doubt in my mind that proceedings would have ceased well before the contractually binding phase. I can only surmise, however, that in the course of an otherwise abysmally dark investigation, the prospect of announcing his engagement to Dr. Watson must have been cheering in no small degree.

Let us assume, then, that Holmes can be accused of insensitivity bordering on the incredible, but never of predatory designs. He is, in fact, seeking actively — at immense personal risk — to prevent a predator from hunting his prey unchecked. Lying to maids rather than marching down to the housing offices to research floor plans is doubtless morally wrong. But Holmes and Watson almost immediately abandon all talk of the unnamed servant girl to enter a parallel discussion; Holmes proposes to burgle Milverton's lair. Housebreaking is also immoral (under most circumstances), arguably no more or less so than stealing a man's pocketbook by force, but Watson hardly needs to consider the matter before conceding Holmes's point: the end excuses any evil. It is almost impossible to disagree with either man. How many acts of a dubious ethical nature was Holmes forced to commit during his dismantling of Professor Moriarty's network, and how many lives were saved as a result? At the very least, Holmes was guilty of tossing an elderly maths professor off a cliff in Switzerland. (While self-defense could surely be argued beyond any reasonable doubt, one wonders whether it's quite cricket for a talented boxer and "baritsu" student to go hand to hand with an opponent better accustomed to lifting chalk and erasers.)

Much more disturbing to me is not that Holmes duplicitously flirted with a housemaid, or even that he got a trifle carried away with his performance — it is that two reasonably well-off men of independent means could forget any consideration of her after expending a mere few sentences on her welfare. The tale of the housemaid is not the tale being told to us; like the stories of Tarana Burke and her young friend Heaven, the maid's narrative is disposable, and as such, is now lost to the mists of time. After obtaining her degree from Auburn University, Burke helped to found Just Be Inc., which combats the issue of erasure by encouraging young women of color to believe in their own intrinsic value. "When they're not in this circle or in this room, they'll go out into this world that'll constantly try to devalue them, and they need to be grounded in something that constantly brings them back to their worthiness . . . ." Burke told Vibe.com in a feature interview. One hopes that Holmes's former fiancée emerges from her broken engagement, her employer's burgling, and his subsequent murder without any enduring scars. The unfortunate but undeniable truth is that neither Holmes nor Watson bothered to tell us if that were the case.

My point here is hardly a subtle one, though it is darkly ironic. The preservation of Lady Eva Blackwell's engagement is important to both Holmes and Watson, in fact drives all their actions; the preservation of the nameless maid's engagement is of no import whatsoever. Both are offers of marriage accepted in good faith, but the housemaid's dreams of the future must be sacrificed (indeed, exploited) in order to preserve the heiress's. I would argue that this is not an example of misogyny on Holmes's and Watson's part, but instead of rampant classism. The housemaid is not even the only member of a lower economic strata who falls victim to Victorian snobbery during the account. Recall that Lady Eva is a beautiful debutante who made the cardinal error in judgment of writing to an "impecunious young squire in the country." These terms are simply coding for the fact that her affections were directed at a man who was poorer than she. And as a comely young maiden, Lady Eva's intrinsic value lies in not who she is, but who she marries. Now slated to be wed to the much more impressive-sounding Earl of Dovercourt, one wonders to what extent her early correspondence could have consisted of genuine love, or frank sexual attraction, and what if any role her parents played in redirecting the course of her life and affections.

Parental control over unmarried women in the higher echelons of society was during the time period in question nearly absolute. While this by no means guarantees or even suggests that Lady Eva's authority figures were cruel to her, it does bring up a point seldom made: while Lady Eva was terrified of her reputation being forever sullied, and all prospects of running a respectable

household of her own were assuredly threatened, her country squire could as easily have been the love of her life as a fortune-seeking knave (and in this manner, Lady Eva's story arguably proves just as peripheral to the plot as the hapless housemaid's). Fortunately, the accepted medical opinion in the late 19th century was that normal, healthy women had no interest in matters "sprightly" whatsoever, as eloquently explicated by Dr. William Acton in his 1870 study of prostitution and its deleterious effects:

> . . . There can be no doubt that sexual feeling in the female is in the majority of cases in abeyance. . . . The best mothers, wives, and managers of households know little or nothing of sexual indulgence. Love of home, children, and domestic duties, are the only passions they feel. . . . A modest woman seldom desires any sexual gratification for herself. She submits to her husband, but only to please him; and, but for the desire of maternity, would far rather be relieved from his attentions.

Therefore, the modern reader need not concern oneself in the slightest over whether Lady Eva's fondest wishes actually came true following the Milverton debacle. Other than making a profitable match and bearing healthy children, she never had any in the first place.

Much more importantly, the reputations of housemaids during the Victorian and Edwardian eras were scrutinized to the minutest degree. An amoral individual himself, possibly Milverton had no interest in what his maids got up to and whom they deigned to walk about with after hours. Surely there was a housekeeper who did pay attention to such scruples, however, to say nothing of the jilted sweetheart who may have demanded an explanation regarding why he was treated so cruelly. As Victorian social historian Henry Mayhew reported:

> Maid-servants seldom have a chance of marrying, unless placed in a good family, where, after putting by a little money by pinching and careful saving, the housemaid may become an object of interest to the footman, who is looking out for a public-house, or when the housekeeper allies herself to the butler, and together they set up in business. In small families, the servants often give themselves up to the sons, or to the policeman on the beat, or to soldiers in the Parks. . . . They are badly educated and are not well looked after by their mistresses as a rule, although every dereliction from the paths of propriety by them will be visited with the heaviest displeasure, and most frequently be followed by dismissal of the most summary description. . . .

Our housemaid's position after Holmes abandons his Escott persona is not merely tenuous; it is downright perilous. It is not a far stretch to imagine her abandoned by her former suitor and in very real danger of losing her livelihood without being given a character reference. The fate of such women, ejected from not only their occupations but their lodgings when faced with being sacked, was often destitution, prostitution, or even death. One cannot imagine Holmes's fiancée is trained in typewriting or music teaching. Nor is it likely she has wealthy relations on whom she can rely. She is a manual laborer, hands scabbed and roughened with lead-black and lye and astringent cleaning materials, a poor woman scrubbing the front doorsteps of a rich sadist, whose best hope for a good future lies in a happy — or at least, not distasteful — marriage.

None of these worries even occur to Holmes or Watson, safe at Baker Street by the fire and planning their knights-in-shining-armor campaign. Neither does it cross Holmes's mind that when he described himself as "a plumber with a rising business," the housemaid could easily have considered her own economic situation and chosen what she imagined would be a life of stability rather than penury. We have no notion of Holmes's rival's profession (though as Mayhew indicates, footman or groomsman or other household worker is likeliest), or even any idea whether he treats his sweetheart well. He could be a man given to drink, a man often under-employed or out of work, or in countless other ways a less desirable option than Escott. No one would dream of making the ludicrous argument that Holmes was overly experienced at the art of seduction; but his effect on women when he wanted to be charming was reported by Watson as soothing to the point of mesmeric. He could easily have made a better case for himself than his rival could do. We will never know the truth of why our housemaid chooses Holmes over another man. What we do know, however, is that our protagonists' lives are so very removed from that of a housemaid that they spend around fifteen seconds discussing her before switching to talk of the weather.

The entire problematic plot of this adventure is thankfully redeemed, resoundingly, by the true heroine of the tale: the veiled woman whose life Milverton ruined. She describes with heartbreaking passion having begged and prayed for the blackmailer's mercy, been rebuffed and tragically humiliated, and then proceeds to empty five shots from a gleaming little revolver into her enemy's chest. It turns out that, while Holmes and Watson admittedly contribute to the destruction of the incriminating documents in Milverton's safe, they are not needed to bring the matter to a successful conclusion. Our two gallants are, in fact, delightfully superfluous. The veiled widow pours out her soul (and a striking number of bullets), escapes scot-free, and doubtless

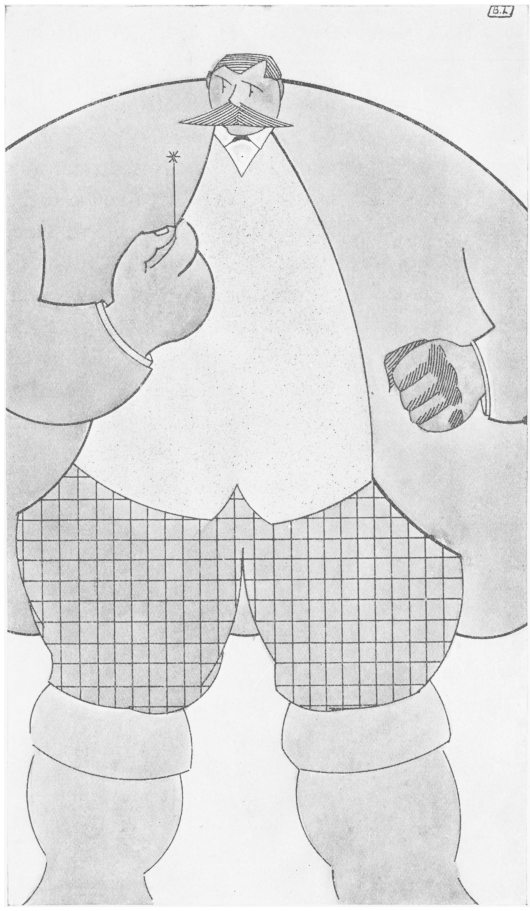
expends as much guilt on her successfully executed murder as Holmes spends on his ex-fiancée. This arguably makes Milverton's killer the perpetrator of the single most dramatic and deserved extermination of a human pestilence in the entire canon. Whatever the ranking, she is deserving of our enthusiastic applause.

One hardly enjoys seeing Sherlock Holmes behaving less than ideally. But in Holmes's defense, he never for a second ponders coming up with a more prudent plan of attack that would have been of less risk to his life and his professional reputation. On the contrary, after being warned by Watson they very likely could both end up in jail over this escapade, he still considers doing what he believes to be right more important than potential damage to himself — or still more consequently, his friend. No, if the story we are being told is entirely about the Great Detective and the Good Doctor, then we can forgive them for mistakes made out of abundance of enthusiasm. Whoever heard of Sherlock Holmes, of all people, getting carried away?

The question we must pose ourselves in a post-#MeToo society is: whose story *isn't* being heard, and why might society cause this to be so? In her feature interview for Vibe.com, Burke goes on to say:

> When we initially got started, it was about giving these girls language so that they could adequately describe what they'd experienced. You could have pain without having the words to describe it, because no one taught it to you. So we started off giving them language, then, we gave them possibility. I could stand up and say, 'I'm Ms. Tarana, this happened to me, too.' And that always got them. That was the hook.

While neither Lady Eva nor the unnamed housemaid speak a single word in "Charles Augustus Milverton," I can still admire the narrative for a number of reasons — including the fact that Milverton's assassin does. She speaks her heart, pithily and with poise, and she does so while facing the man who did not merely ruin her, but refused to listen to her pleas. Perhaps it is not, after all, the five bullets emptied into the torso of a soulless blackmailer we ought to admire about this veiled woman, although such an act must have required unspeakable suffering, desperation, and courage. Perhaps instead what is most admirable about her is her stating clearly — and regarding complete strangers to her — that Milverton "will ruin no more lives as you have ruined mine. You will wring no more hearts as you have wrung mine." In that instant, as clearly and powerfully as I have ever heard anyone speak, Milverton's brave murderess declares, "Me too."



Caption Invitational

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Scuttlebutt

from the

Spermaceti Press

by Peter Blau

SCUTTLEBUTT FROM THE SPERMACETI PRESS

A LITTLE ABOUT THE HISTORY . . .

Peter E. Blau[*]

Editors' note: As Peter Blau explains below, his long-running, supremely informative and entertaining monthly newsletter is available online at the website of The Red Circle of Washington, DC. So, why are we printing all 12 issues of *Scuttlebutt* from 2018 here in the *Baker Street Almanac*? Because the internet is a wonderfully flexible resource for sharing and updating information — so wonderfully flexible that ensuring a first edition of something posted on the web remains there unchanged can be difficult. Indeed, the Internet Archive itself now keeps ink-on-paper copies of many of the millions of books it posts online. "The books are not meant to be loaned out on a regular basis," *The Guardian* reported in a 2011 article about the project, "but are protected as authoritative reference copies if the digital version somehow disappears or a question ever arises about an eBook's faithfulness to the original printed edition." In the same spirit, we hope to preserve — in ink, on paper — each issue of *Scuttlebutt* in its original, first-edition form, just as it appeared when it rolled out of the printer in Peter's office. And now, in his own words . . .

Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press has been published monthly ink-on-paper, with occasional illustrations and enclosures, for 47 years. Much of the gossip is quite trivial, but most of it is Sherlockian or Doylean. And the subscription price will increase whenever postage rates increase.

The newsletter started in 1971 as sheets of paper, kept by my typewriter, so that I could write paragraphs of minor news for my friend John Bennett Shaw. Eventually others found out about what I called "information sheets" and asked for photocopies, and the number of copies required soon reached the point where I started charging for them to recover out-of-pocket costs. When I acquired my first computer in 1985, things became much easier and the format more consistent. Philip A. Shreffler, editor of *The Baker Street*

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[*] Peter E. Blau is "Cartwright" (that is, the Secretary) of the Baker Street Irregulars. The introduction printed here appears in a slightly different form on the website of The Red Circle of Washington, DC (redcircledc.org). Copyright in it (and in *Scuttlebutt* itself) belongs to Peter E. Blau.

Journal in 1987, suggested that readers of the *BSJ* might welcome the opportunity to read all that gossip, trivial and otherwise, and I finally named the newsletter, starting with the January 1988 issue.

The Spermaceti Press is the imaginary establishment from which my seasonal souvenirs for the Sherlockian birthday festivities in New York in January have been published for many years, named in honor of a real (and the only known remaining) spermaceti press, preserved at the Nantucket Whaling Museum, where it once was used not to publish anything for whalers, but rather to process whale oil. And the name of the press seemed appropriate, considering my Investiture in The Baker Street Irregulars ("Black Peter") and the fact that when I named my press I was living on Holmes Road in Pittsfield, Mass., just up the road from Arrowhead, the home in which Herman Melville lived when he wrote Moby Dick.

Scuttlebutt is an appropriate pun, since it means gossip, and comes from the barrel (butt) of water used to provide drinking water for the crew of whalers and other ships. Gossip was as common around the scuttlebutt then as it is today around office water-coolers. I must confess that if I had realized how long it took to explain the name of the newsletter, I might have named it simply *Gossip*, but what's done is done. And thanks to Willis G. Frick for providing web-space for an archive of back issues of the electronic version back to 1985. I'm not sure why anyone is interested in old gossip, but I've received requests, and bits and bytes make it easy to provide at least some ancient history.

Jan 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

Sherlockians (and Holmesians) gathered in New York to celebrate the Great Detective's 164th birthday during the long weekend from Jan. 10 to Jan. 14. The festivities began with the traditional ASH Wednesday dinner sponsored by The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes at Annie Moore's, and continued with the Christopher Morley Walk led by Jim Cox and Dore Nash on Thursday morning (followed by the usual lunch at McSorley's).

The Baker Street Irregulars' Distinguished Speaker on Thursday evening was Martin Edwards, the award-winning mystery author and commentator on mysteries, and The Babes of Baker Street's "Daintiest Scream on the Moor Charity Ball" featured the unveiling of a "Cake Boss" cake in the shape of a bust of Sherlock Holmes (to be featured on an upcoming episode of the TV series.

Friday's William Gillette Luncheon included a performance by the Friends of Bogie's at Baker Street, plus Al Gregory's presentation of the annual Jan WHIMSEY Award (named in memory of his wife Jan Stauber), which honors the most whimsical piece in The Serpentine Muse last year, to M.E. Rich. And Otto Penzler's traditional open house at the Mysterious Bookshop provided the usual opportunities to browse and buy.

The Irregulars and their guests gathered for the BSI annual dinner at the Yale Club, where Roy Pilot proposed the traditional preprandial first toast to Patricia Izban as The Woman. The annual-dinner agenda included toasts, rituals, and papers, and Mike Whelan (the BSI's "Wiggins") presented this year's Birthday Honours (Irregular Shillings and Investitures) to Shannon Carlisle ("Beacons of the Future!"), Dean Clark ("Watson's Journal"), Denny Dobry ("A Single Large Airy Sitting-Room"), Jeffrey Hatcher ("The Five Orange Pips"), Maria Fleischhack ("Rache"), Anastasia Klimchynskaya ("The Old Russian Woman"), Rebecca Romney ("That Gap on That Second Shelf"), Candace Lewis ("A Little Art Jargon"), Nick Martorelli ("Seventeen Steps"), and Al Shaw ("Sir Hugo Baskerville"). Mike also made a Two-Shilling Award to John Linsenmeyer.

An enthusiastic crowd attended this year's Gaslight Gala at the Social Bar & Grill, and some of the more fervent (or perhaps hard core) Sherlockians gathered after the dinners at O'Lunney's Irish Pub to honor long-standing traditions such as staying until at least 2:21.

On Saturday morning Covent Garden West (the dealers room at the Roosevelt Hotel) welcomed sellers and buyers, and authors and editors delighted to inscribe or sign their books. The Beacon Society held its annual meeting, and the Junior Bloodstain of The Clients of Adrian Mulliner featured a performance of "The Bayswater Boarding House" (adapted by dramatized by Bill Hyder from a parody written by Headon Hill).

The BSI's afternoon reception at the Yale Club offered entertainment, conversation, wining, and dining, and Susan Bailey was honored as the winner of the Morley-Montgomery Award (a check and an attractive certificate) for the best contribution to The Baker Street Journal in 2017. And the John H. Watson Fund's raffle prize was (jewelry from "Charles Augustus Milverton") created by Maggie Schpak), and the auction attracted enthusiastic bidders.

Jan 18 #2 The main Saturday-evening event was the annual "Very Irregular Lost in New York with a Bunch of Sherlockians" dinner at O'Lunney's Times Square Pub (arranged by Chrys Kegley and The Curious Collectors of Baker Street) and on Sunday morning a goodly crowd gathered at the Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes' brunch at the Long Room.

A final note for those who want to plan ahead: The Baker Street Irregulars' next annual dinner will be held on Jan. 11, 2019.

I've not reported on everything, I hasten to add: you'll find more detailed reports on the goings-on in the spring issue of The Baker Street Journal. The BSJ appears quarterly, and subscriptions (four issues plus the Christmas Annual) cost $41.95 (to the U.S.) or $55.00 (elsewhere): you can pay by check sent to the BSJ (Box 583, Zionsville, IN 46077), or by credit card or PayPal at the BSJ web-site at <www.bakerstreetjournal.com>, which has interesting features such as articles from recent issues of the BSJ, some of the papers written by winners of the Morley-Montgomery Awards, and information on the BSI's other publications and activities.

"Far from Baker Street, Ardent Holmes Fans Celebrate His Birthday" was the headline on Corey Kilgannon's story about the birthday festivities in the N.Y. Times on Jan. 15; the story ran on-line a day earlier as "It's Elementary: Sherlockians Take Manhattan" <www.tinyurl.com/yamqwwa3>. Kilgannon, with John McDonough and Malachy McCourt, host "Talk Back--New York, We and Thee Edition" (a two-hour weekly series broadcast by WBAI-FM), and on Jan. 17 they discussed the celebration and interviewed Lyndsay Faye; the program is available on-line at <www.wbai.org/program.php?program=186>, and the 23-minute segment begins at 01:00.

There also is Scott Monty's well-illustrated account of some of the events at "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" <www.tinyurl.com/y9nlqo9n>; remarkable for having been posted, as Scott notes, by someone who missed his first BSI annual dinner since 1995.

Al Gregory <gaslightandfog@verizon.net> offers (via e-mail) his 2017 edition of "The ABC of the BSI" (an alphabetical listing of Investitures, with recipients, from "Abbey Grange" to "Young Stamford") and "The Florin Society" (couples in which both spouses have received Irregular Shillings).

TRENCHES: THE WAR SERVICE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, the latest volume in the Baker Street Irregulars Manuscript Series (2017; 274 pp., $39.95), is edited by Robert Katz and Andrew Solberg, offers a facsimile of the fourteen surviving pages of the manuscript of "His Last Bow", an annotated transcript, interesting commentary on the manuscript, the story, and the world in which Sherlock Holmes lived when he was involved in the case. More information about the book, including the table of contents and one of the essays, can be found at <www.bakerstreetjournal.com>.

Also from the BSI is MOBILE HOLMES: TRANSPORTATION IN THE SHERLOCKIAN CANON (2017; 270 pp., $21.95), edited by Walter Jaffee; it's a delightful anthology of essays, from traveling on foot (Catherine Cooke's "What Do You Say to a Ramble Through London?") to traveling aloft (Chuck Winge's "Sherlock Holmes and Aeroplanes").

Jan 18 #3 Jim French died on Dec. 21. He had a long career in radio, as a DJ and an on-air personality, going on to write and produce nearly 500 original shows (including "The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes") for his Imagination Theater. Details on his broadcasts are available at <www.old-time.com/otrlogs2>; see "Jim French Shows", "The Classic Adventures of Sherlock Holmes", and "The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes").

"221b in 360" (an impressive photographic slide-show tour of the full-scale recreation of the sitting-room Chuck Kovacic has created in his home in Los Angeles) <www.221bbakerstreetla.com>, was reported last month, and Alexander Orlov has now noted a truly spectacular 3D interactive tour that's also engineered for those who use virtual reality <www.tinyurl.com/y8hrzt7t>.

The sixth issue of the resurrected Saturday Review of Literature was published this month, edited by George Fletcher, Jon Lellenberg, Don Pollock, and Phil Shreffler, and with articles that include Phillip G. Bergem's discussion of "221B: What and Where?", Peter Calamai's "Conan Doyle's Neologisms: A Debate", and much more. The issue costs $5.00 postpaid from Donald Pollock (521 College Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14305).

Paramount has collaborated with Variety: The Children's Charity to create a new pin featuring Sherlock Gnomes for its current Gold Heart Campaign; the pins will be available at movie theaters in return for a $3.00 donation, and there's a list of participating theaters at <www.usvariety.org/gold-hearts>.

Randall Stock has kindly forwarded a report from The Bookseller (Jan. 4) on plans by John Murray to celebrate the publisher's 250th anniversary with a new book DEAR MR. MURRAY: LETTERS TO A GENTLEMEN PUBLISHER, due in October. One of the letters, from Adrian Conan Doyle, discusses challenging Harold Nicolson to a duel for insulting Adrian's father; it is likely that Adrian was angry about Nicolson's review of John Dickson Carr's biography THE LIFE OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE in the Daily Telegraph and Morning Post (Feb. 4, 1949). "It is an irksome task," Nicolson wrote, "to write the biography of a man whose children are loyal and alive. It is not easy to depict with sincerity the career of someone whose fame was wholly out of proportion to his intrinsic merits." Nicolson's review has much more to say about Conan Doyle, and Adrian would not have been pleased by any of it.

The next "Sherlocked USA" convention will be held in Los Angeles on May 25-27; it is organized in association with Hartswood Films (the company that produces the BBC series "Sherlock") <www.sherlockedusa.com>, and many series stars attend the Sherlocked conventions. Tickets cost from $145 (standard) to $2995 (VIP Package).

The Baker Street Journal's Christmas Annual for 2017 was written by Sonia Fetherston and Julie McKuras, who tell grand stories about "Helene Yuhasova: The Poetess Laureate of the Baker Street Irregulars"; the Christmas Annuals are available only as part of subscriptions to the BSJ, but they can be found at eBay. You can also hear an excellent podcast about "Helene Yuhasova: Woman of Mystery" at Scott Monty's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <www.tinyurl.com/ya5frbbo>, where they share some of those stories.

Jan 18 #4 "Mystery as Pub Named after Sherlock Holmes writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is magically rebranded the 'JK Rowling'" read the headline in the Daily Mail on Jan. 1 <www.tinyurl.com/y77g56cz>. Nicholson Pubs (the owner of the establishment in Edinburgh) declined comment on the change, but the Daily Mail suggested that the renaming was an elaborate stunt for Hogmanay (that's the Scottish celebration of the New Year). The Edinburgh Evening News <www.tinyurl.com/y8xndd77> had more information: the change is merely temporary, and is tied to Message from the Skies, a visual art installation that was designed to showcase streets and buildings that have inspired some of the city's finest authors, and included an app that allowed residents and visitors to explore the city while they read a story written by Val McDermid. The event ended on Jan. 25.

The Unemployed Philosophers Guild <www.philosophersguild.com> continues to offer imaginative Sherlockiana, including an attractive Sherlock Holmes Mug that comes with instructions <www.tinyurl.com/ycmrqspr>.

One of the more imaginative celebrations of the holiday season is "The Bloo Sparkly" (The Blue Carbuncle, as Told by Animated GIF), created by someone nommed "whorl" and posted at Scott Monty's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog in 2011 <www.tinyurl.com/ydd2oks3> and again in 2017.

Samantha Wolov notes Elvis Costello's "Dr. Watson, I Presume" (released in 2010 on his album "National Ransom"), which may or may not be Sherlockian: you can sample the song (and read the lyrics) at <www.tinyurl.com/y8h9vuy7> and decide for yourselves.

"I hear of Sherlock everywhere," including on the label of Whodunnit? Popcorn (Specially Blended for Mystery Lovers), available from Acorn <www.acornonline.com/XB3412.html> ($14.95 for 30 oz.). "The sound of crunchy popcorn adds to the suspense!" they explain. Acorn also offers a Star Wars Popcorn Maker and Rogue One Darth Vader Lightsaber Handheld Immersion Blenders for fans of that other series.

The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes have issued a CD that contains a complete run of The Serpentine Muse from April 1975 through winter 2015; it's indexed and text-searchable, and costs $15.00 postpaid <www.ash-nyc.com>.

Roger Heyworth has designed SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE CARD GAME for Gibson and Sons Ltd.; there was a first edition in 1991, a second edition in 2014, and (apparently) a third edition (in a black box) in 2017, available at Amazon in the U.K. and the U.S.

Paul Annett died on Dec. 11. He was writer, producer, and director in film and television; his directing credits include work on series that include "Poldark" (1975–1976) and "EastEnders" (1998–2009), and three of the early stories in Granada's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes": "A Scandal in Bohemia" and "The Solitary Cyclist" (1984), and "The Copper Beeches" (1985).

When in Dallas: Daniel J. Darrouzet will appear in an "author talk" about his STORIES FROM THE TIN BOX: UNTOLD ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (2015) at 6:30 pm on Feb. 8 at the Preston Royal Branch Library in Dallas; directions at <www.tinyurl.com/y88cf6j3>.

Jan 18 #5 More and more Sherlockian societies are taking advantage of digitization to create on-line archives of their newsletters and other publications. The Sherlock Holmes Klubben i Danmark is the latest to do this, and all issues of their "Sherlockiana" from 1956 through 2016 are available at their web-site <www.sherlockholmesklubben.dk>; there's a link at the top of their opening page.

The February issue of Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine continues a long annual tradition of honoring Sherlock Holmes' birthday, with Sherlockian artwork on the cover, an amusing pastiche by Terence Faherty, a nice homage to Sherlockians by John Morgan Wilson, and reviews by Steve Steinbock of new Sherlockian books.

"Pop star Rita Ora was channeling detective Sherlock Holmes when she wore a bizarre Burberry shorts combo to the BBC Radio 1 Teen Awards in October. The only mystery to solve is why anyone let her leave the house like this." She provided one of the "worst fashion frights" in 2017, according to the Daily Mail (Dec. 29. You can see all of their picks at <www.tinyurl.com/y9t6ep8c>.

The Sherlockian Calendar, maintained by Ron Fish and Sue and Ben Vizoskie, is at <www.sherlockiancalendar.com>; it's a helpful list of upcoming Sherlockian events, for anyone who would like to know what's happening when and where, and it offers an interesting look at how many society events are being held hither and yon. You should contact Ron at <ronf404@aol.com> to have a meeting or conference listed. The calendar also is available on Twitter as @SianCalendar.

Terence Marsh died on Jan. 9. He began his film career as a draughtsman at Pinewood Studios, and went on to become a highly-regarded art director and production designer who won Oscars as art director on "Dr. Zhivago" (1968) and "Oliver!" (1968); his many credits included his work as production designer on Gene Wilder's "The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother" (1975).

Congratulations to Jessie Amaolo on her promotion to curator of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library; her formal title is services specialist for the collection, and she succeeds Peggy Perdue, who has been promoted to senior department head of the special collections department.

Leslie S. Klinger's BAKER STREET REVERIES: SHERLOCKIAN WRITINGS 2006-2016 (Indianapolis: Gasogene Books, 2018; 228 pp., $23.95), a sequel to his BAKER STREET RAMBLES (2008), reprints his more recent essays, including his checklist, unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately) not illustrated) of Sherlockian pornography. Gasogene is at <www.wessexpress.com>.

Gasogene has also published 70 YEARS BY GAS LAMP, edited by Mary Ann Bradley, Louise Haskett, and Melanie Hoffman (2018; 245 pp., $21.95); it's the latest (sixth) casebook from The Illustrious Clients of Indianapolis, offering a wide variety of writings by its members and guest speakers. And Dan Andriacco's imaginative and well-written pastiche HOUSE OF THE DOOMED (2018; 117 pp., $19.95).

Jan 18 #6 The Long Beach Shakespeare Company continued their annual celebration of Sherlock Holmes' birthday last month offering an Old Time Radio adaptation of "Sherlock Holmes and the Scandal in Bohemia" dramatized by Ken Knight and featuring Joe LoCicero as Holmes; you'll be able to listen to a podcast of the show at <www.lbshakespeare.org/audio.php> in late February.

CBS has announced that the sixth season of "Elementary" (starring Jonny Lee Miller and Lucy Liu) will premiere on Apr. 30; there will be 21 episodes in the season, which thus will run through the summer (some of us remember the long-ago age when series ran from fall through spring, and summer when one watched re-runs). If you want to know what Sherlock Holmes has on his book shelves (in "Elementary"), Gabby Barone has reported a list posted at Goodreads <www.tinyurl.com/ycfb8xur>.

Some important news from the birthday festivities: a print of the 1929 German silent film "Der Hund von Baskerville" (directed by Richard Oswald and with Carlyle Blackwood as Holmes), discovered in Poland and now restored by the San Francisco Silent Film Festival, will have its world premiere at the Festival on June 2 <www.tinyurl.com/y6w6cy4a>. The Festival's blog also is interesting; one of the items there is Kyle Westphal's "The Un-Lost World: A Conversation with Serge Bromberg of Lobster Films" about the latest restoration of "The Lost World" (1925) <www.tinyurl.com/yc7h5kvb>.

The Mystery Writers of America have announced the nominees for this year's Edgar awards, and they include Mattias Boström's FROM HOLMES TO SHERLOCK: THE STORY OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO CREATED AN ICON, and Michael Sims' ARTHUR AND SHERLOCK: CONAN DOYLE AND THE CREATION OF HOLMES (best critical/biographical), and Brad Ricca's MRS. SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE TRUE STORY OF NEW YORK'S GREATEST FEMALE DETECTIVE AND THE 1917 MISSING GIRL CASE THAT CAPTIVATED A NATION (best fact crime) [not really Sherlockian]; the winners will be announced at the MWA Gala Banquet in New York on Apr. 26.

Canterbury Classics offers a long series of "Word Cloud Classics" reprints in attractive "flexibound" bindings, one of the titles being THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (2012; $14.99), available at Amazon and elsewhere.

Ken Ludwig, the author of the Sherlockian plays "Postmortem", "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" and "Baskerville: Sherlock Holmes Mystery" has a new (and non-Sherlockian) play: a dramatization of "Murder on the Orient Express". "It's glamorous, it's romantic, and just the title itself is magic," he has explained, adding that "It is a bigger play than I usually write for the stage, but I've been able to cut the number of suspects down." The play had its premiere at the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, N.J., last year, and is due at the Hartford Stage in Hartford, Conn., in February; the play has a web-site at <www.tinyurl.com/y9dz2kw9>, and one can be sure it will be produced elsewhere.

Nick Utechin still is pursuing his search for the plates that were used to produce Helan Halbach's 1974 edition of Gillette's play "Sherlock Holmes" (Sep 13 #5) (and in the 2016 Christmas Annual of The Baker Street Journal) and would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who has not already been in contact with him <highfieldfarmhouse@gmail.com>.

Jan 18 #7 DEATH AT THE DIOGENES CLUB, by Anna Elliott and Charles Veley (Wilton Press, 2017: 355 pp., $13.98), the sixth title in their "Sherlock Holmes and Lucy James" series, has Lucy (Sherlock Holmes' daughter) and Holmes in pursuit of a vicious killer in a novel that offers both thrills and romance, together with some interesting characters. The series has a web-site at <www.sherlockandlucy.com>.

Material from the Daniel Posnansky Collection already is turning up at eBay from people who bought large lots at the auction, among them Lewis Durbin, whose shop is at durbi0.

THE HISTORY OF THE LIMITED EDITIONS CLUB, by Carol Porter Grossman (Newcastle: Oak Knoll Press, 2017: 268 pp., $125.00), is a splendid book, printed and bound in the high-quality tradition of the Club, offering the story of George Macy, and the many delightful books the Club produced for its subscribers: there are three pages about the Club's spectacular edition of THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES and how much work was involved earning George Macy a well-deserved Investiture in The Baker Street Irregulars. There's more information about the book, with colorful images, at <www.oakknoll.com>.

BAKER STREET ELEMENTARY: A SCANDAL IN CASSEROLE is the latest in the series of amusing comic books created by Joe Fay, Steve Mason, and Rusty Mason; it is available (along with their BAKER STREET ELEMENTARY comic strips) at The Crew of the Barque Lone Star's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/j29mukf>.

Peter Wyngarde died on Jan. 15. He began his acting career with the Nottingham Repertory Company, and went on to a long career on stage, screen, and television; he played Baron Gruner with Peter Cushing in "The Illustrious Client" (1965), and Langdale Pike with Jeremy Brett in Granada's "The Three Gables" (1984). According to the obituary in the Guardian (Jan. 23) <www.tinyurl.com/yctcmdfw>, he had enough clout in 1965 that the producers of "The Illustrious Client" acceded to his agent's stipulation that on foreign prints he was credited alongside the leads in the opening titles, and was paid considerably more than Douglas Wilmer and Nigel Stock.

David Harnois continues to add to his dramatized readings of the Canon, and he now offers "The Blue Carbuncle" and six other stories at his "I Am Lost Without My Boswell" web-site <www.iamlostwithoutmyboswell.com>, where you can listen to or download the readings, which are nicely done.

HAMPSHIRE THROUGH WRITERS' EYES (London: Eland, 2017: 373 pp., £12.99) is edited by Alastair Langlands and offers an interesting anthology of commentary about the county by writers who range from Austen to Wodehouse; Conan Doyle is included, of course; he lived in Southsea when he created Sherlock Holmes, and wrote about the county in the Canon, and in THE WHITE COMPANY and MICAH CLARKE. Eland has been described as offering "guidebooks for the enquiring mind," and their web-site <www.travelbooks.co.uk> shows how wide their coverage of the world is.

The Beacon Society offers annual Jan Stauber grants of up to $500 to fund development of programs that introduce young people to Sherlock Holmes in the U.S. and Canada; the deadline for grant applications is May 1, and details are available at the society's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/h7acxds>.

Jan 18 #8 Fraser McAlpine has noted at Anglophenia some Sherlockian allusions in the "Doctor Who" episode "The Angels Take Manhattan" (broadcast on BBC One on Sept. 29, 2012): the first chapter in Melody Malone's pulp novel is titled "The Dying Detective", and the TARDIS lands in China in the year 221 BC: it is not a surprise that the script was written by Steven Moffat.

"Sherlock Holmes is retired and in a foul mood. It's 1922, and Dr. Watson's granddaughter, Dot, has been trying to edit the old detective's long-awaited memoirs." That's the premise of the latest play by Craig Sodaro, just published by the Pioneer Drama Service <www.pioneerdrama.com> ($7.00). Pioneer specializes in plays for schools and other organizations.

The International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition is heading back to the United States, and will open at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J., on Nov. 3, running through May 27, 2019; their web-site's at <www.lsc.org>, and while there's nothing about the exhibition up yet, stay tuned.

Will Thomas' ANATOMY OF EVIL (New York: Minotaur, 2015; 336 pp., $25.99) is the seventh in his series that features private enquiry agent Cyrus Barker (an homage to Holmes' rival in "The Retired Colourman") and his assistant Thomas Llewelyn, who in this novel have been enlisted to aid Scotland Yard in pursuit of Jack the Ripper, and are (eventually) successful at the end of a story that's told well and with imagination.

Theatrics: Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" is running at the Barnstable Comedy Club in Barnstable, Mass., through Feb. 4 <wwwbarnstablecomedyclub.org>.

Dennis Rosa's "Sherlock Holmes and the Curse of the Sign of the Four" is on at the Providence Playhouse in Scranton, Pa., through Feb. 4; web-site at <www.actorscircle.com>.

Jeremy Paul's "The Secret of Sherlock Holmes" is on at the Brumder Mansion in Milwaukee, Wis., through Feb. 10 <www.milwaukeemansion.com>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is on at the Great American Melodrama & Vaudeville in Oceano, Calif., through Mar. 4; web-site at <www.greatamericanmelodrama.com>

R. Hamilton Wright's "Sherlock Holmes and the American Problem" is due at the Whidby Island Center for the Arts in Langley, Wash., Feb. 9-24; their web-site's at <www.wicaonline.org>.

Max Gee's "Sherlock Holmes and the Speckled Band" is due at the Genesian Theatre in Sydney, N.S.W., Apr. 7-May 12 <www.genesiantheatre.com.au>.

Madeleine George's "The (Curious Case of the) Watson Intelligence" has been scheduled at the Silver Spring Stage in Silver Spring, Md., on Apr. 13-May 5 <www.sstage.org>.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>

Feb 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

Malice Domestic has announced the nominees for this year's Agatha awards, which include Mattias Boström's FROM HOLMES TO SHERLOCK (best nonfiction). The winners will be announced at Malice in Bethesda on Apr. 29.

Sorry about that: in the last issue (Jan 18 #7) I noted that material from the Daniel Posnansky Collection already is turning up at eBay from people who bought large lots at the auction, among them Lewis Durbin, whose shop actually is at lewidurbi0.

"Worzel Gummidge" was a well-received British children's television series broadcast by ITV (1979-1981) that was continued in New Zealand as "Worzel Gummidge Down Under" (1987-1989). The series starred Jon Pertwee, and Howard Ostrom has discovered "Elementary My Dear Worty" from the second series at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/ybrkb378>. It's interesting to see Jon Pertwee as someone other than Doctor Who; Una Stubbs starred in the series as Aunt Aunt Sally, but doesn't appear in the Sherlockian episode.

Chris Redmond created <www.sherlockian.net> in 1994, and it's now managed by Michigan State University's WIDE Research Center: the web-site has been revised, and it's well worth visiting and exploring as a valuable resource for the ever-growing population of Internet-savvy Sherlockians.

J. M. W. Turner's iconic 1804 painting of the Reichenbach Falls seen twice in the BBC's "Sherlock" television series, at the end of the second season, and in the recent Christmas special, can be viewed on-line in full color at <www.tinyurl.com/hptv8q5>. If you like to know more about Turner and his work, Christie's has two excellent articles (one with an instructive video) on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/ydgxenh4> and <www.tinyurl.com/y7syojua>.

Mike Vagnetti has reported a new stamp issued by the Solomon Islands, in a set of four stamps that honor the 300th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of England (founded in 1717, it was the first Masonic Grand Lodge); the stamp shows both Conan Doyle and Holmes, and the others stamps show Ernest Shackleton, Winston Churchill, and Rudyard Kipling. Mike also reports that the American Topical Association has a checklist of Conan Doyle/Sherlock Holmes stamps, available only to members, with 63 entries. You can see the Solomon Island stamps in full color at Steve Trussel's excellent web-site "The Philatelic Sherlock Holmes" <www.trussel.com/detfic/sholmes.htm>. And Mike <mjvagnetti@gmail.com> would be happy to hear from anyone who has Sherlockian items (stamps and poster stamps) to offer.

BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH READS SHERLOCK HOLMES' REDISCOVERED RAILWAY MYSTERIES is a two-CD set from BBC Worldwide (2015, £11.78), offering four pastiches written by John Taylor.

"Yuukoku no Moriarty' ["Moriarty the Patriot"] is a Japanese manga written by Ryounosuke Takeuchi and drawn by Hikaru Mihoshi, reimagining the Canon "with Moriarty as the protagonist and exploring his motivation in becoming the greatest criminal Britain has ever seen." It has not been published as a book in English, but 16 episodes are available in English on-line at the Manga Rock web-site <www.mangarock.com/manga/mrs/serie-100056011>.

Feb 18 #2 The Bookseller has reported that "Sherlock Holmes: The Definitive Collection" (read by Stephen Fry) was Audible's best selling title in 2017; the set spent four month at the top of the Audible chart and was in the top 20 for 11 months since it was released in February 2016. If you don't have it yet, it is available at <www.audible.com> for $85.26 (or free as a join-now premium).

In the last issue of this newsletter (Jan 18 #4) I wrote about someone who was nommed "whorl" (based on a belief that aliases used on the Internet are "noms" as in "noms de plume"). A query from a reader (actually, my sharp-eyed proof-reader) led to some on-line research that revealed that my belief was unfounded, and then to a query to people who are far more Internet-savvy. Thanks to Lyndsay Faye, I can now report that an Internet alias is called a "pseud" (as in "pseudonym").

Scott Monty's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog offers two interesting items: one of them "Holmes & Watson 1916-2016" (an imaginative montage of film and television clips set to the song 'Something Good (Will Come from That)'" <www.tinyurl.com/y8uyqgmg> and the other an interview with Ross Davies about "Boxes from Royalty" <www.tinyurl.com/y9y52p94>.

I've reported before (Aug 16 #2) on APOPO <www.apopo.org>, a company that trains giant African pouched rats to detect unexploded landmines in countries in Africa and Asia (the rats don't weigh enough to set off the mines, which can then be disarmed); the rats can also be trained to detect tuberculosis in mucous samples, and now they are in pursuit of smugglers who are shipping endangered pangolins from Africa to Asia, as noted in a recent report in the Washington Post <www.tinyurl.com/y724dwol>. Needless to say, APOPO welcomes donations from people who want to adopt giant rats.

Has anyone seen the new play "The Play That Goes Wrong" (2012) in London or New York or elsewhere? The Tampa Bay Observer, reporting that the play is due there in October, describes it as "a carefully chaotic comedy that has tickled audiences with farcical disaster visited upon the erstwhile production of a Sherlock Holmes-style mystery."

Mort Walker died on Jan. 27. A legendary comic strip writer, he was best known for creating "Beetle Bailey" in 1950 and "Hi and Lois" in 1954, and drew "Beetle Bailey" for 68 years, making him the longest-running artist in comic-strip history. His colorful web-site is at <www.mortwalker.com>, and this strip was published on Jan. 7, 2008:

Editors' note: In the Beetle Bailey comic strip Peter inserted here, Sarge tells Beetle and Zero to "start showing some signs of intelligence," and then they surprise Sarge by reappearing attired (and speaking) like Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson. Alas, we cannot afford a license to reprint the strip (but Peter tells us it is available online at the official Beetle Bailey website — beetlebailey.com/comics/january-7-2008/).

Feb 18 #3 The Strand Magazine (the modern version edited by Andrew Gulli) continues to publish quarterly <www.strandmag.com>, and its online blog includes interesting posts such as Daniel E. Lambert's "Sherlock Holmes in Verse" and Bonnie MacBird's "The Risk of 'The Reveal': Tampering with or Augmenting the Legend of Sherlock Holmes".

Leslie Katz continues to make his Sherlockian scholarship available at the Social Science Research Network: his latest article is "Each Picture Told a Story: Photography in the Sherlock Holmes Adventures" and you can read or download it (and his other articles) at <www.ssrn.com/author=1164057>.

The Holmes Financial Solutions web-site features a silhouette of Sherlock Holmes in the logo, and the company was in the news recently when it was fined £300,000 by the British government for making 8.8 million nuisance robo-calls in 2015 and 2016 <www.tinyurl.com/y8c4o35v>. The company's solicitors are at work on an appeal. If you're bothered by robo-calls in the U.S., there is a solution: <www.nomorobo.com>. The company won a challenge set by the Federal Trade Commission, and its service is available without charge for landlines (if your service provider's compatible) and for a modest monthly fee for cell phones. The N.Y. Times ran an interesting article last year <www.tinyurl.com/m4v8mkv> on how you can reduce the number of robo-calls you receive.

Les Klinger has an interesting web-site, which offers a helpful list of errata in all three volumes of THE NEW ANNOTATED SHERLOCK HOLMES, with a link at the end that allows you to download a PDF that shows which errata have been corrected in various editions <www.tinyurl.com/ycztyf48>.

I've long described this newsletter as six or more pages of whatever gossip I find appropriate, much of it quite trivial, but most of it Sherlockian or Doylean, and anyone who wants to run a word-search on two large files with all of the text since March 1985 can now do just that, thanks to Steve Mason, who updates the compilation and makes it available for download from the Crew of the Barque Lone Star's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/ybxh2y2m>.

John Mahoney died on Feb. 4. He had a long acting career on stage, screen, and television, and was best known as Frasier Crane's father Martin Crane on the NBC-TV sitcom "Frasier": he wore Sherlockian costume in the "Halloween" episode broadcast in 1993.

There have been occasional reviews of the new animated film "Batman: Gotham by Gaslight" that have mentioned its Sherlockian echoes. According to Den of Geek! <www.tinyurl.com/ydeuvdms>, there is good reason: Jim Krieg, who adapted the film, said in an interview that he grew up as a Holmes fan and "didn't want to leave any Sherlockian stone unturned," citing "A Study in Terror" (1965) as a favorite Sherlock Holmes vs. Jack the Ripper film, and executive producer Bruce Timm said that he watched "Gilligan's Island" all the time as a kid, and recalled the episode that had the Professor as Sherlock Holmes and the Skipper as Dr. Watson. If you've not seen that episode of "Gilligan's Island" series it's "Up at Bat" (1966), and there's a Sherlockian clip at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/y8lp7qkc>, from the dream sequence that features Inspector Sherlock and Colonel Watney).

Feb 18 #4 Janet Hutchings, the editor of Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, presides over a blog ("Something Is Going to Happen") that offers interesting contributions about "suspense, short stories, and the mystery-fiction scene," such as an interesting post last year on "The Last of the Kingdom of Romance: 90 Years Since the Publication of The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes" by R. T. Raichev <www.tinyurl.com/y9qoe374> and a "Report from Baker Street" by Steve Steinbock <www.tinyurl.com/y9bppzeh> about the 2016 annual dinner of the Baker Street Irregulars.

John Morris died on Jan. 25. He began his musical career as a concert pianist ("I didn't like practicing," he once admitted) and went on to composing and arranging for Broadway shows, and then for films, and his credits included the orchestration for "The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother" (1975).

"Rugger, Romance, and Sherlock Holmes!" is the title of an illustrated talk delivered by Roger Johnson this month during the Portsmouth Bookfest last month: if you're wondering how those three topics were combined in the same talk, it was subtitled "You Should Go to Blackheath First" and Roger suggests that "the importance of Blackheath in the life of Arthur Conan Doyle and in the career of Sherlock Holmes should not be overlooked."

Lakin & Marley Rare Books in Mill Valley, Calif., are offering the original Universal Studios script archives for the Rathbone/Bruce series, most heavily annotated: go to <www.tinyurl.com/y86rhapq> for detailed descriptions and commentary.

Further to the item (Dec 17 #3) on Tania Henzell's new Sherlock Holmes Tartan: the tartan will have an official launch party at the Physicians Hall in Edinburgh on Mar. 22: details at <www.tinyurl.com/yawvtmxr>. Karen Ellery notes that you can inspect the official registration for the tartan at <www.tinyurl.com/y7twgdsq>. Lee Crow reports that there is an older Holmes tartan (from 1830): you can search the Register's web-site to find tartans for Watson and Moriarty and (likely) other Canonical characters.

For anyone who misses "Sherlock": "The Sherlock You Didn't See: Scenes--and Entire Episodes--That Never Aired" was the headline on a story at Digital Spy <www.tinyurl.com/yd99rmmh>.

The winter issue of The Magic Door (the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library newsletter) celebrates the 150th anniversary of Canada as a nation, and offers Donny Zaldin's article "Arthur Conan Doyle and Canada: 1914 and One Hundred Years Hence" along with news from and about the Library and the Collection. Copies of the newsletter are available from Clifford S. Goldfarb, 22 Markdale Avenue, Toronto, ON M6C, 1T1, Canada <cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca>, and you can join the Friends at <www.acdfriends.org>.

"The Adventures of Sherlock Hound" was a delightful Japanese animated television series broadcast in 1984-1985, with 26 episodes (the first six directed by Hayao Miyazaki). Holmes is a red fox, Watson a Scottish terrier, and Moriarty a gray wolf, and it's nice indeed that all 26 episodes now are available at YouTube: search for [sherlock hound].

Feb 17 #5 George MacDonald Fraser noted in his introduction to a new edition of THE WHITE COMPANY and SIR NIGEL (Feb 00 #7) that John Ford was said to have had THE WHITE COMPANY in his sights at the end of his career, with John Wayne and Alec Guinness in mind. According to Wikipedia, the two novels were among Wayne's favorite books.

A GIFT OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: CHRISTMAS 1914: EDITION: THE VALLEY OF FEAR is a reproduction of what Ross E. Davies suggests might have been the true first book edition of the story (as he explained at this year's annual dinner of The Baker Street Irregulars). His book offers the text that was published in the Associated Sunday Magazines in newspapers in the U.S., which differs from the text that appeared in The Strand Magazine and then in books in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. in 1915. Ross has supplied a perceptive introduction, and he has kindly made an electronic edition of his book available on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/y83d3gvd>.

It should be noted that the book is only one of the many items available at <www.rossdavies.org>; click on "Maps and misc." and "Sherlockian toasts" to find links to interesting Sherlockian (and non-Sherlockian) material. You can also click on "Green Bag" and then on "Almanac & Reader" to be able to read the 2012 edition (which honored Rex Stout and Nero Wolfe); the 2015, 2016, and 2017 editions were thoroughly Sherlockian and Doylean.

DOUBLE TROUBLE IN BUGLAND, by William Kotzwinkle (Boston: David R. Govine, 2016: 244 pp., $14.95) is a colorful sequel to his TROUBLE IN BUGLAND (Jun 83 #2), again illustrated by Joe Servello, and offering further adventures of Inspector Mantis and his companion Dr. Hopper.

Holmes and Watson appear to be taking over the MCU . . . that's the Marvel Cinematic Universe, which was launched with "Iron Man" in 2008 with Robert Downey Jr. as Tony Stark, and included "Doctor Strange" in 2016 with Benedict Cumberbatch as Stephen Strange, and now there's "Black Panther" with Martin Freeman as Everett K. Ross (kindly reported by Samantha Wolov).

Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y76whnjf> has much to offer, including a new web-only column "Stranger Than Fiction" by Dean Jobb; his February column ("We Hear of Sherlock Everywhere") calls attention to four recent Sherlockian and Doylean titles.

Congratulations to Maggie Schpak, who received the 2018 Distinguished Service Award from the Costume Designers Guild. Maggie handcrafts the colorful raffle prizes for the Dr. John H. Watson Fund at each year's birthday festivities in New York, and at her Metal Arts Studio in Los Angeles makes items for major films and television series <www.tinyurl.com/y8m7zwze>; you can see her in the photo gallery at the web-site.

Reported by Howard Ostrom: Ernie Kovacs and Hans Conried in deerstalkers in "Private Eye, Private Eye" (an episode of "The U.S. Steel Hour" broadcast by CBS-TV on Mar. 8, 1961); the spoof of detective stories is included as a bonus disk with the first 1,000 copies of "Ernie Kovacs: Take a Good Look: The Definitive Collection" (available from Shout! Factory for $64.97). One hopes that the episode will be available eventually at YouTube; but in the meantime you can see them with Edie Adams at <www.youtube.com/y842v4cq>.

Feb 18 #6 IN THE SHADOW OF AGATHA CHRISTIE: CLASSIC CRIME FICTION BY FORGOTTEN FEMALE WRITERS: 1850–1917, edited by Leslie S. Klinger (New York: Pegasus Crime, 2018: 356 pp., $26.95) was reviewed in Publishers Weekly as a "stellar" anthology and a "must-have volume for classic crime fans," and includes Carolyn Wells' "The Adventure of the Clothes-Line" (a 1915 burlesque that features Sherlock Holmes as the president of the Society of Infallible Detectives) and Baroness Orczy's "The Regent's Park Murder" (about the baffling murder of a man who had won at cards, published in 1901, two years before "The Empty House").

Paul D. Herbert ("Mr. Leverton, of Pinkerton's") died on Feb. 16. He was excellent high-school history teacher, an energetic and wide-rangeing collector, the founder of the Tankerville Club of Cincinnati and its only official secretary, and a delightful Sherlockian who was awarded his Investiture from The Baker Street Irregulars in 1977 and their Two-Shilling Award in 2004: he also for twenty years was the BSI's Dr. Watson, presiding over the Dr. John H. Watson Fund, which offers financial assistance to Sherlockians who might otherwise not be able to participate in the birthday festivities in New York.

THE SECRET OF THE COTTINGLEY FAIRIES, by F. R. Maher (Charleston: CreateSpace, 2017: 96 pp., $20.53), offers a speculative explanation for the famous hoax. The author also presides over the annual Legendary Llangollen Faery Festival in Wales <www.northwalesfaeryfestival.com>.

Further to the report (Oct 17 #4) on the competition set by the Folio Society and House of Illustration for artwork for THE SELECTED ADVENTURES AND MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, there were 450 entries and 24 finalists. Samples of the finalists' imaginative submissions were published in full color at the web-site of the Guardian on Feb. 5 <www.tinyurl.com/ydgobmfz>, and the winners were chosen by a panel of six judges that included Helen Dorey as their Sherlockian expert. The $5,000 commission to illustrate the book and design the binding was won by Max Löffler <www.tinyurl.com/y7r8d93k>.

Bill Crider died on Feb. 18. He was an author, a critic, a columnist, and a reviewer, all in the mystery field: Janet Hutchings, the editor of Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, described him as a superfan and a perfect fit for the magazine's Blog Bytes department. His stories included three Sherlockian pastiches, and his web-site <www.billcrider.com> nicely shows how wide his interests were.

"Blossom Detective Holmes" (an animated mini-series that's seeking funding at Kickstarter) features two teen-age girls: Skylar Holmes and Jamie Watson: details (and video) at <www.tinyurl.com/ya46os5a>.

IMAGINATION THEATRE'S SHERLOCK HOLMES, edited by David Marcum (London: MX Publishing, 2017: 388 pp., $34.95), is a collection of 15 scripts from "The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (the long-running radio series produced by the late Jim French from 1998 to 2017). The scripts for the pastiches were written by Jim French and other authors, and provide a welcome opportunity for those who enjoy radio drama to see what goes into creating entertaining programs. The MX web-sites are at <www.mxpublishing.com> and <www.mxpublishing.co.uk>.

Feb 18 #7 Theatrical news: Ken Ludwig's comedy "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is running at the Warehouse Living Arts Center in Corsicana, Texas, through Mar. 3 <www.warehouselivingartscenter.com>. And it's due at the Fallon House Theatre in Columbia, Calif., Aug. 31-Sept. 30 <www.sierrarep.org>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" is running at the Kinetic Theatre in Pittsburgh, Pa., through Mar. 4 <www.kinetictheatre.org>. It's also scheduled at the Norris Center in Naples, Fla., Mar. 21-Apr. 20, 2019; web-site at <www.gulfshoreplayhouse.org>.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's comedy "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is running at the Wells Theatre in Norfolk, Va., through Mar. 11; web-site at <www.vastage.org>.

Simon Williams' "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is on at The Mill in Sonning Theatre in Sonning Eye, Oxon., until Mar. 17 <www.millatsonning.com>.

C. P. Stancich's "Sherlock Holmes and the Spinsters of Blackmead" is being performed at Theatre Suburbia in Houston, Tex., through Mar. 24; web-site at <www.theatresubrubia.org>.

The East Lynne Theater Company's will be touring Craig Wichman's radio-theater production of "Sherlock Holmes' Adventure of the Speckled Band" will tour in New Jersey in March <www.tinyurl.com/ya6busq8>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" is scheduled at the Town Theatre in Columbia, S.C., Mar. 2-18 <www.towntheatre.com>.

C. P. Stancich's new play "Oscar Dove: Letters to Sherlock" will premiere at the Mary Miller Theatre in Lafayette, Colo., Mar. 2-24; their web-site's at <www.tclstage.org>.

Vince Stadon's "The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., Mar. 2-31 <www.bakerstreetwest.com>.

Peter Birch's new "The Sign of the Four" will be performed at the Garrick Theatre in Altrincham, Manchester, Mar. 5-10 <www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk>.

Broadway RDF will perform "Murder in the Casbah" (1945) in their "Old Time Radio Hour" at the Swedish Crown Restaurant in Lindsborg, Kans., Mar. 8 and 10 <www.broadwayrfd.org>.

John Nassivera's "The Penultimate Problem of Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at the East Cleveland Theater in East Cleveland, Ohio, Mar. 23-Apr. 8 <www.eastclevelandtheater.org>.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (by R. Hamilton Wright and David Pichette) is scheduled at the Shaw Festival Theatre in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., on Aug. 1-Oct. 27 <www.shawfest.com>.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>

Mar 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

"If we could have ordered nature to construct a spot for us, it could not have hit upon anything more perfect." Conan Doyle wrote after visiting the site of Undershaw, and the Stepping Stones School has invited everyone to a celebration of his life and times on May 25-27: you can sit in the study in which he brought Sherlock Holmes back to life, and enjoy a variety of activities. Details are available at <www.tinyurl.com/ya2h67zb>.

Greg Darak has reported a nice discovery in Abel Green's THE SPICE OF VARIETY (published by Henry Holt in 1952): it's an anthology of articles that appeared in Variety, and one of them is drama critic Ashton Steven's "Night Letter Biographies": he had asked actors to write autobiographies "confined to dimensions of a Western Union night letter, which at that time ran to 50 words before the extras began to count up." The first (with slightly more than 50 words) was written by William Gillette: AT AGE OF 18 COULD READ AND WRITE, AND HAD GRADUATED FROM EVERY CIRCUS THAT CAME TO TOWN, DID NOT RUN AWAY AND GO ON THE STAGE BECAUSE THERE WAS NOTHING TO RUN AWAY FROM, EVERYBODY HELPED ME TO LEAVE - AND THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON EVER SINCE, IT IS NOW 1930 AND I DO NOT FEEL VERY WELL - WILLIAM GILLETTE.

You can see Benedict Cumberbatch perform "I'm a Little Teapot" at the Nerd Reactor web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y7tw34ok>. You can also see his audition for Smaug in "The Hobbit" at <www.tinyurl.com/mftxbvq>, and then how he was filmed as Smaug at <www.tinyurl.com/ydhmyvr8>.

Jim Webb kindly reported on Nick Allen's article in the Daily Telegraph on Mar. 15 <www.tinyurl.com/y98uwipu> on comments by Vasily Nebenzya, Russia's permanent representative to the United Nations, on the nerve gas poisoning of Sergei and Yulia Skirpal in England: Nebenzya compared the intelligence of Sherlock Holmes with that of Inspector Lestrade, and suggested that "we could all benefit from having a Sherlock Holmes with us today," adding that "the collective Inspector Lestrades today are high-level members of the UK government who are coming up with egregious, superficial, and unsupported accusations." This may be the first official mention of Sherlock Holmes at the United Nations, and you can watch Nebenzya's speech (with English subtitles) at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=94154nQnaCI> at [14:38 minutes].

Bakerstreet Coffee, a Sherlock Holmes-themed cafe that will offer a fireplace, bookcases, and cozy furniture, is scheduled to open in mid-April in Livingstone, Mont. "I love Sherlock Holmes," co-owner Cassandra Weisgerber told the Livingston Enterprise, "and I obviously love themes."

Roger Johnson launched The Sherlock Holmes Society of London's newsletter The District Messenger, on Dec. 1, 1982, reporting the latest Sherlockian and Doylean news from the U.K. and elsewhere; Jean Upton is the editor now, and the newsletter is now at 373 issues, all available at the web-site of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London <www.tinyurl.com/yd5et39e>. There's always much of interest, including (in the February issue) news from Paul Carley of his "Sherlock Holmes in Phonetic Transcription" (phonetic may or may not count as a language that Don Hobbs will add to his bibliography of translations "The Galactic Sherlock Holmes"); the project has begun with "A Scandal in Bohemia" <www.phoneticsherlock.blogspot.co.uk>.

Mar 18 #2 Rachel McMillan's THE BACHELOR GIRL'S GUIDE TO MURDER (Eugene: Harvest House, 2016; 222 pp., $9.99) is set in Toronto in 1910 and features Merinda Herringford and Jem Watts, two young women who would like to become detectives in the tradition of Holmes and Watson; the series includes two more novels, A LESSON IN LOVE AND MURDER (2016) and THE WHITE FEATHER MURDERS (2017), and there are two e-book novellas and a (free) e-story available at Amazon.

The manuscript of "The Dancing Men" will be up for bids on Apr. 18 at Heritage Auctions in Dallas <www.tinyurl.com/ycreu8gc> (877-437-4824), with an opening bid of $250,000. Randall Stock has an excellent illustrated discussion of the manuscript, including its history, at his "Best of Sherlock" web-site <www.bestofsherlock.com/mss/dancing-men-2018.htm>.

"Sherlock Holmes contre Conan Doyle" is the title of a French documentary broadcast by France 5 on Feb. 18; the program included interviews with Roger Johnson, Anthony Horowitz, Vincent Delay, Pierre Bayard, and others, and it's available in English ("Sherlock Holmes Against Conan Doyle") at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/yb8gnqkf>.

Peter Miles died on Feb. 26. He began his acting career on stage and went on to perform with the Royal Shakespeare Company, and then moved on to supporting roles in television, including three appearances in "Doctor Who"; he also played Sam Brewer in "Shoscombe Old Place" and Williamson in "The Solitary Cyclist" in Peter Cushing's BBC-1 television series (1968) and Sir William Gull in Brian Clemens' play "Holmes and the Ripper" (1988).

Evy Herzog spotted a Sumikko Gurashi Inspector Takage at a Barnes & Noble store ($19.95) <www.tinyurl.com/y8avqfdg>; it's a 6-inch-high plush toy, and available at other web-sites as a Sumikko Gurashi Detective Dinosaur. It seems that Sumikko Gurashi Tokage is the son of the Loch Ness Monster, and an addition to the series of toys launched by the Japanese company San-X in 2012.

There have been past discussions of actors who have played both Holmes and Watson, and Moriarty, and Conan Doyle, and it turns out that there actors who have played both Holmes and Lestrade: Howard Ostrom has discovered that Peter Bromilow toured the streets of Toronto dressed as Sherlock Holmes to publicize the try-out there of the musical "Baker Street" in 1965 (he also played Lestrade in Charles Marowitz's "Sherlock's Last Case" in Los Angeles in 1984).

Roger Johnson reports that Roger Llewellyn also has played Holmes and Lestrade, and Howard notes that John Colicos has played Holmes, Lestrade, and Moriarty, and that Tim Pigott-Smith has played Holmes, Lestrade, and Watson. Any others to add to the list?

Jeff Falkingham's MURDER IN MINNESOTA! (Murrieta: AuthorCentrix, 2018; 259 pp., $10.99) offers reprints of his earlier SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE CAPER (2007) and SHERLOCK HOLMES IN SEARCH OF THE SOURCE (2009); Holmes is in Browns Valley in 1886 to solve a series of murders, and in St. Paul in 1896 to solve another mystery (both stories involve a lot of local history); the author's web-site is at <www.cccaper.com>.

Mar 18 #3 John Nicholson, who collaborated with Steve Canny to dramatize "The Hound of the Baskervilles" as a three-man comedy for Peepolykus in 2007, went on to parody "Dracula: The Bloody Truth" as a four-man comedy for Le Navet Bete last year; it's not Sherlockian, but there are some interesting (and amusing) trailers available at YouTube. There is a web-site for the play at <www.lenavetbete.com/shows/dracula>.

Lewis Neisner died on Mar. 1. He worked in retail as an officer of the national chain Neisner Bros., and then as a professor retailing and marketing at universities in New York and Maryland, and was the founder of the Sherlockian society Rochester Row in Rochester, N.Y.

The Redbeard Brewing Co. makes "small batches of big beers" and has a craft brewery and taproom in Staunton, Va., where you can imbibe their 221B Baker Brown Ale <www.tinyurl.com/y9xxlym2>.

Further to items about Grace Humiston, a lawyer-turned-investigator in 1917 who was known as "Mrs. Sherlock Holmes" (Sep 11 #4 and Oct 17 #7), she will be featured in this season of the NBC-TV series "Timeless" (as reported by Brian Truitt in USA Today on Mar. 7).

They're off and running: The Baker Street Irregulars' triennial running of The Silver Blaze at Saratoga Race Course in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., is set for Aug. 11. Lou Lewis <llewis@lewisgreer.com> is the contact, if you want to enroll on their mailing list.

Alexander Orlov has noted a Dr. Watson Restaurant in Moscow; the web-site's at <www.drwatson-restaurant.ru> (where they advertise "traditional English cuisine" and "British-loved beers").

Chris Redmond will deliver this year's Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture on Apr. 21 at the Toronto Reference Library, speaking on "Sherlock Holmes and the Holy Grail" <www.acdfriends.org>; admission is free, and the public is welcome to attend.

Alexa, according to Wikipedia, is an "intelligent personal assistant" developed by Amazon for use in its Amazon Echo. If you have Alexa, you can play "Baker Street Experience" (an interactive audio Sherlock Holmes adventure developed by Schell Games); their web-site <www.tinyurl.com/ycoagvm4> includes a link to a review that allows everyone to sample the game.

The Grillparzer Club of the Hoboken Free State will hold this year's Christopher Morley Birthday Lunch in Hoboken, N.J., on Apr. 29; more information is available from Terry Hunt <18goldini95@gmail.com>.

The Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Centre in Edinburgh, home of the Edinburgh Association of Spiritualists, has interesting events scheduled in August: Ann Treherne will talk about "Arthur Conan Doyle: Spiritualist", Bob Stek about "The Strange Friendship of Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini", and Peter Barratt about his great-grandmother "Alice Hawkins: Suffragette"; details at <www.tinyurl.com/y7owl3dj>. The Centre's an interesting venue for Peter Barratt's lecture, considering Conan Doyle's negative comments about suffragettes.

Mar 18 #4 SYFY Wire reported on Mar. 12 <www.tinyurl.com/yc7ekevj> that Stephen King and Bev Vincent have edited FLIGHT OR FRIGHT (due in September from Cemetery Dance Books); the book's an anthology of flight-based horror stories (including Conan Doyle's "The Horror of the Heights"), and it will be published in three formats: a standard hardcover ($29.95), a slip-cased numbered edition ($85.00), and a leather-bound limited edition signed by King ($1500.00) that's already sold out.

Further to the item (Aug 17 #6) about plans to film Stephen King's pastiche "The Doctor's Case" in western Canada, the completed film premiered at the College of New Caledonia's "Cinema CNC Film Festival" on Mar. 9. There is an excellent trailer for the film at <www.thedoctorscasemovie.com>.

Karen Kruse Anderson ("Emilia Lucca") died on Mar. 18. Karen was a teenager in Washington, D.C., in 1949, when she found three fellow-enthusiasts and founded The Red Circle in 1950. After moving to California she met and married Poul Anderson and went on to write delightful science-fiction and fantasy, both with her husband and on her own. She was noted as the first person to use the term "filk music" in print (1955), and was the author of the first published "scifaiku" (1962). Karen also wrote a draft version of "Hatty, or St. Simon's Bride (A Filbert and Sullivan Chamber Operetta)" for performance in 1994; the work was completed as "A Filk Opera" and presented by the "Doyle a la Carte Opera Company" in 1995 (with Karen performing as Sherlock Holmes). She received her Investiture from The Baker Street Irregulars in 2000.

The Christopher Morley Knothole Association reports in the February issue of their newsletter on a workshop reading last year of a new musical comedy "I'll Take It" based on Morley's book PARNASSUS ON WHEELS; book and lyrics by Eli Pasic, music by Henry Krieger, and there was a story about the event in Broadway World Off-Broadway <www.tinyurl.com/ya6v3gwl>.

"Holmes in the Heartland" is the title of the conference planned for Aug. 10-11 by The Parallel Case of St. Louis; details on the gathering will be found at <www.tinyurl.com/yd5elmpj>.

Sherlock Holmes' parents' home is on the market for £950,000. The six bedroom house, called Trewalter Fawr, is located in the Vale of Glamorgan and was featured in the episode "His Last Vow" in the BBC's "Sherlock" series; details (with images) at <www.tinyurl.com/y9pvk7k5>.

"People love the monster but do not always honor the book," Scott Van Wynsberghe wrote in the National Post on Mar. 9, in a long article about FRANKENSTEIN <www.tinyurl.com/yabl4pb5>, kindly reported by Cliff Goldfarb; one might believe that the quote might apply also to Sherlock Holmes.

A collection of 21 letters from Dorothy L. Sayers to various correspondents is up for bids at RR Auction on Apr. 11; in 1937 she wrote to Walter Klinefelter: "I am afraid I am not really very learned in the higher criticism of Sherlock Holmes, but the man who can, I am sure, give you the information...would be Mr. H. W. Bell...who wrote 'Sherlock Holmes & Dr. Watson,' and who is engaged on an elaborate and careful research into Conan Doyle's sources." <www.tinyurl.com/y99aj72v>.

Mar 18 #5 There may someday be an annotated edition of Conan Doyle's 1896 novel RODNEY STONE about the early days of bare-knuckle boxing, but in the meantime you can read about the real boxer John Jackson, who appears in the novel, at Wikipedia: he is buried at Brompton Cemetery in London, as reported by Alexander Orlov, and the Wikipedia entry has an image of Jackson's elaborate funerary monument.

Brooks Arthur Wachtel's LADY SHERLOCK: CIRCLE OF THE SMILING DEAD (Colorado Springs: WordFire, 2016: 232 pp., $15.99) is set in 1906 and features Lady Natasha Dorrington ("an emancipated and brilliant detective") in a battle with a pagan cult that wants to launch a world-wide war; Mycroft Holmes is involved on behalf of the government, with Sherlock Holmes making a brief appearance.

"You don't know Sherlock Holmes yet: the story begins in Portsmouth" is the title of an exhibition that will open at the Portsmouth City Museum on May 22, offering an exploration of the time Conan Doyle spent in the city and how it shaped Sherlock Holmes.

Further to the item (Feb 18 #4) on Tania Henzell's new Sherlock Holmes Tartan: according to a story in the Daily Telegraph (Mar. 25), Richard Pooley, director of the Conan Doyle Estate, has said that the Estate is working on getting stars of the upcoming comedy "Holmes and Watson" to wear the tartan on the red carpet when the film opens in November. Pooley has more to say about the tartan at the Estate's web-site <www.conandoyleestate.com> (see "Weaving Family and Holmes Together").

"Family Guy: V Is for Mystery" (broadcast on Fox on Mar. 25) had Stewie and Brian as Holmes and Watson in London in 1896; it's available (for a while) at <www.tinyurl.com/y96md2nc> and <www.tinyurl.com/y7vmc375>.

Henry Mance suggested in the Financial Times on Mar. 23 that the decision by Cynthia Nixon (Miranda in "Sex and the City" to run for governor of New York might inspire other actors: "Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective is all-knowing, able to infer people's characters from tiny details about their appearances and social habits. But when actor Benedict Cumberbatch sees that Facebook can do exactly the same thing, he realizes the error of his ways and becomes a pro-privacy Liberal Democrat candidate."

"Sherlock Gnomes" (the animated sequel to "Gnomeo and Juliet") will delight people who look for Easter eggs in films, and it will interesting to see if someone puts up a web-site devoted to them. They're not only Sherlockian (watch for a tip of the hat to Ray Harryhausen), but there are plenty that will please the faithful: to start you off, the shop called Curly Fu's is a substitute for the Lucky Cat shop in the BBC's "Sherlock" series, and Curly Fu is the Chinese nickname for Benedict Cumberbatch's Sherlock Holmes.

An art group calling itself the Philosoraptors has released a video showing the face of Russian president Vladimir Putin being projected onto the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office on Mar. 18 (the day he was re-elected after a landslide victory) with the words "Miss Me?" in an apparent reference to the BBC's "Sherlock" series <www.tinyurl.com/y7h4e5hn>. A Foreign Office spokeswoman denied that the event happened.

Mar 18 #6 Ken Ludwig's comedy "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is being performed at Scripps Ranch Theatre in San Diego, Calif., through Apr. 9 <www.scrippsranchtheatre.org>. The play also is scheduled at the Coaster Theatre Playhouse in Cannon Beach, Ore., June 22 to Sept. 2 <www.coastertheatre.com>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" is running at the Maverick Theatre in Fullerton, Calif., through Apr. 22 <www.mavericktheatre.com>.

Craig Sodaro's "The Secret Case of Sherlock Holmes" has been scheduled by the English Speaking Society of the Université Bretagne Sud at the Paquebot in Lorient, France on Apr. 3 <www.tinyurl.com/y9q8xsjt>.

Callum Hale's parody "The Adventure of Isaac Saddlesore and the Witches of Dremn" will be performed at the Hen & Chicks Theatre in London on Apr. 8–9 <www.tinyurl.com/yaodd82b>.

Tim Kelly's adaptation of Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at the Northwest Cabarrus High School in Concord, N.C., Apr. 13–14; web-site at <www.riseandshineplayers.com>.

"No Sh#t Sherlock!" (a program of four one-act plays that will include Tim Kelly's "The Last of Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at the Northminster Community Hall in San Diego, Calif., Apr. 13–21 <www.clairmontactone.org>.

Tommy Kelley's new play "Sherlock Holmes and the Crime of the Century" is scheduled at the Central School Project in Bisbee, Ariz., Apr. 20–29; their Facebook page is at <www.tinyurl.com/yavnkag9>.

"A Scandal in Nova Alba" (a new one-act play by Orlando Pearson) is scheduled at the cornerHOUSE Community Arts Centre in Surbiton, London, Apr. 24–28 <www.thech.org>; "a mix of Bard and Baker Street".

"Sherlock Holmes: The Final Curtain" (a new play by Simon Reade) will debut at the Theatre Royal in Bath, Apr. 25–May 5, and then go on tour in Britain; the tour schedule is on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/y9gkkaj9>.

The Baker Street Players will present Beth Barnard's new play "A Study in Sherlock: The Bitter Nemesis" at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., on Apr. 28 and May 5 <www.bakerstreetwest.com>; her "A Study in Sherlock: "You Sea But You Do Not Observe" is scheduled for Sept. 8 and 15.

Madeleine George's "The (Curious Case of the) Watson Intelligence" will be performed at the Reno Little Theater in Reno, Nev., on May 4–20; web-site at <renolittletheater.org>.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Stepping Stone School at Undershaw (Conan Doyle's former home) on May 25–26 <www.tinyurl.com/y7e5fpyk>.

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Apr 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

The manuscript of "The Dancing Men" offered at Heritage Auctions in Dallas on Apr. 18 (Mar 18 #2) sold for $312,500 (the opening bid of $250,000 plus the buyer's premium): Randall Stock has provided an excellent illustrated discussion of the manuscript, including its history, at his "Best of Sherlock" web-site <www.bestofsherlock.com/mss/dancing-men-2018.htm>. There's also an interesting post about the manuscript, and the Baker Street Irregulars' manuscript-series volume DANCING TO DEATH (Jan 17 #2), at his "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <www.tinyurl.com/yahwcxj9>. DANCING TO DEATH is still available for purchase at <www.bakerstreetjournal.com>. And it is a pleasure to report that the manuscript now is part of the collection of Glen A. Miranker.

Further to the item about the pterosaur "Arthurdactylus conan-doylei" and the tetrapod "Irritator challengeri" (described by David M. Martill and his co-authors from the Lower Cretaceous formations of Brazil (Feb 96 #1), both fossils are included in a database at <www.dinosaurpictures.org>: billed as the world's largest dinosaur database, it also offers a link to an interactive globe of ancient earth that allows you to see how the Earth's surface has changed from the Edicarian Period (600 million years ago) to the present.

"Moffat and Gatiss Confirm New Sherlock Series" was the headline on James C. O'Leary's post to Scott Monty's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y9xctukv> earlier this month: the new series is scheduled to air on CBS-TV in the network's next season.

Further to the item (Mar 18 #1) on Vasily Nebenzya's speech at the United Nations, the Daily Telegraph has (alas) a pay-wall for archived articles, and YouTube presents moving targets: try <www.tinyurl.com/yaoumnou>: the Sherlockian segment starts at 14:05 minutes.

It should be noted that in a later speech Nebenzya read from "Alice in Wonderland" ("sentence first and verdict afterwards") in discussing the nerve-gas poisoning of Sergei and Yulia Skirpal in England. Alexander Orlov has noted that Nebenzya's father was deputy chairman of the USSR Committee for Publishing, and chairman of the Council for Children's Literature.

And the saga continues: Karen Peirce, the U.K. ambassador to the U.N., responded to a request from Russia that its scientists be allowed to investigate the poisoning by saying that permitting them to join "an investigation when they are the most likely perpetrators of the crime ... would be like Scotland Yard inviting in Professor Moriarty."

When you're in India: Sherlock's Pub is now open in Chennai (formerly known as Madras, with a video spotted by Jennie Paton <www.tinyurl.com/y97jgwem>.

Jean Upton reports in the latest issue of the District Messenger (the newsletter of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London) that the National Portrait Gallery's portrait of Conan Doyle, by Henry Gates, is on display again (in room 31) and appears to have been cleaned and restored. Current and past issues of the newsletter are archived at <www.tinyurl.com/yd5et39e>.

Apr 18 #2 Laurie R. King's ISLAND OF THE MAD (New York: Bantam, 2018: 306 pp., $28.00) has Mary Russell (and her husband Sherlock Holmes) first in England and then in Venice, in 1925, when Americans (including Elsa Maxwell and Cole Porter) are enjoying themselves, and Mussolini's Black Shirts are on the rise; the mystery's imaginative, the politics compelling, and Venice, as always, is intriguing.

The Public Safety Center in Edmond, Okla., displays a bronze sculpture of Sherlock Holmes, created by artist Jane DeDecker and dedicated on Oct. 29, 2015. Images of the sculpture can be seen at <www.tinyurl.com/y8dx4lvm>.

"Dark Places, Wicked Companions, and Strange Experiences" is the title of The Norwegian Explorers' next conference in Minneapolis, scheduled for Aug. 9-11, 2019, at the Graduate Hotel (the new name of the Commons Hotel), and there will be an evening reception on Apr. 8; you can enroll on their mailing list by contacting Julie McKuras <mike9750@aol.com>.

How many of Sherlock Holmes' books have you read? Not the Sherlock Holmes in the Canon, but rather the Sherlock Holmes played by Jonny Lee Miller in "Elementary". Listopia (a feature of Goodreads) has a list of 27 books in Holmes' brownstone, and if you can identify more you're welcome to add to the list <www.tinyurl.com/ycfb8xur>.

Here a Baskerville, there a Baskerville, everywhere a Baskerville: further to the item (Oct 95 #1) on Crowsley Park House in Henley-on-Thames, owned by the Baskerville family, one of whose members, Sir Henry Baskerville, was High Sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1847: it's one of the many house alleged to have inspired the Sherlock Holmes story, and it has stone gatepost statues of "hell hounds" with spears through their mouths: you can see one of the hounds in a story in the Henley Standard <www.tinyurl.com/y9muagr5>, with mention of the Baskerville Arms, a pub in nearby Lower Shiplake (not to be confused with The Baskerville Arms in Hay-on-Wye, near Clyro in Wales).

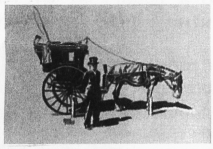
Further to the item (Mar 18 #4) on the Dorothy L. Sayers letter to Walter Klinefelter in which she recommended he contact H. W. Bell for information about the higher criticism of Sherlock Holmes, it was one of 21 letters in the lot at RR Auction that had an opening bid of $300 and sold for $4,500 (plus 22.5% buyer's premium).

A reminder of the days when there were smoking and non-smoking sections in restaurant: a (briefly) Sherlockian commercial in favor of proposition 10 in California, on "The David Letterman Show" on Oct. 24, 1980, spotted by Greg Ruby <www.tinyurl.com/ya9crje8> (at 28:24 minutes).

Andrew Ive has noted an interesting possibility for the origin of Sherlock Holmes' names: Conan Doyle married Louise Hawkins in 1885 in Lonsdale, near St. Mary's Church in Ingleton, where the Rev. Thomas Dod Sherlock had been vicar, and where a nearby area was called the Holmes. The church in Ingleton has launched a campaign to raise money for repairs, and there are plans to have a statue of Sherlock Holmes placed in the grounds once the building work has been completed, and contributions will be most welcome: there is more information at <www.ingleton.co.uk/sherlock_holmes.asp>, and you can reach Andrew Ive at <andyive69@gmail.com>.

Apr 18 #3 The Brigadier Gerard is now shut and empty. That's the pub in York, which was originally a private house, then the Gasworks Social Club, and in 1984 expanded as The Brigadier Gerard: it was named not in honor of the hero of Conan Doyle's stories, but rather for a famous race horse. York Mix reported on Mar. 28, that the pub suddenly closed, with no explanation from the brewery that managed it. racing fans are aware that the horse was named for Conan Doyle's swashbuckling hero, and it is worth noting that there is another pub called The Brigadier Gerard, in Eastleigh.

Pokémon's new Nintendo game "Detective Pikachu" has been released, and the company has kindly made a comic book "Detective Pikachu: Episode 0--Eevee's Case" available as a free Kindle download at <www.amazon.com>.



Adolph Treidler's atmospherically-Sherlockian ink-and-brush painting of a hansom cab and its driver is available from Taraba Illustration Art for $350 (plus $50 domestic shipping); the image size is 8 x 10 in.). Treidler (1886-1961) was well-known for his magazine covers, posters, and illustrations for advertising; first come, first served, and you can contact Fred Taraba by e-mail <fred@tarabaillustrationart.com> to purchase the artwork. Fred advertises a wide variety of attractive original artwork at his web-site, including an illustration by Robert Fawcett for a non-Sherlockian story by Noel Langley (Fawcett also illustrated Sherlockian pastiches written by Arthur Whitaker, and by Adrian Conan Doyle and John Dickson Carr.

"Secret Agent Selection: WW2" is the title of a five-episode weekly television series launched by BBC Two on Apr. 9, about the beginning of the Special Operations Executive, whose members were known as the Baker Street Irregulars (because their original offices in 1940 were in Baker Street); the series may (or may not) air in other countries, eventually.

Further to the report (Dec 17 #8) that his long-running "Detective Conan" manga series would be on hiatus while he recovered from illness, Gosho Aoyama announced that the comic would return to stores in April. The manga features a genius teenage detective who shrank into a young boy after being forced to ingest an experimental toxin and takes on the alias Conan Edogawa (in tribute to Conan Doyle) and continues to solve mysteries. The series has been translated into more than two dozen languages (the English version is titled "Case Closed") and has been adapted into an animated series, feature films, video games, and live-action specials.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE VANISHING MAN is a new comic-book series due from Dynamite Entertainment in May, written by Leah Moore and John Reppion, with cover artist John Cassaday and interior artist Julius Ohta. Dan Wickline had a preview at Bleeding Cool on Mar. 29 <www.tinyurl.com/ycmbczxo>.

"We Are The Mighty" describes itself as a "military media brand run by veterans, military family members, and civilians to bring relevant, engaging entertainment to the military community," and they recently posted a video of a taste test of a British field ration from the Second Boer War, something Arthur Conan Doyle might have eaten in South Africa almost 120 years ago <www.tinyurl.com/y745s83c>.

Apr 18 #4 Carol Nelson Douglas reports that Midnight Louie, P.I., who's featured in a 28-book alphabetical mystery series, will return in October in ABSINTHE WITHOUT LEAVE: the book will also have a cameo appearance by Irene Adler (the heroine of an eight-book series about the only woman who outwitted Sherlock Holmes). There is more information about Carol, and her books, at her web-site <www.carolnelsondouglas.com>.

Further to the item (Jul 15 #2) on "Sherlock Holmes' Fictional Baker Street Home in London Subject to Ownership Mystery" about just who owns the block of property at 215-237 Baker Street, which includes the site of the former Abbey National, where mail addressed to Sherlock Holmes was for many years answered by Holmes' secretary: it's still a mystery, although it seems to be tied to Kazakh oligarch Nurali Aliyev, according to a report at Microsoft's MSN web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y82jxwoe>, kindly noted by Oscar Ross.

BBC Radio 4 has a Friday-night comedy podcast that includes "The News Quiz" (a satiric look at the week's news) and uses a nicely Sherlockian image at its web-site: there have been no reports (so far) of anything Sherlockian on the podcast, but you can listen on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/ya9hqmkr>.

The on-line A.V. Club (which bills itself as "pop culture obsessives writing for the pop culture") has some interesting "Watch This" reviews of older Sherlockian films <www.avclub.com>: search for |sherlock holmes|.

Alexander Orlov has reported an interesting web-site: the Cover Art Archive <www.tinyurl.com/yd86mzyj>: it's a joint project between the Internet Archive and MusicBrainz, and has images of (at the moment) more than 800,000 album covers, and an excellent search engine that works for titles and artists and types of music.

Sherlock Holmes "looked in at Mecca" during the Great Hiatus, he told Watson (in "The Empty House"). Undoubtedly Mecca looked much the same then as it did in 1885, when it was photographed by Al-Sayyid Abd Al-Ghaffar; fifteen of his photographs will be offered at Sotheby's in London on May 15, and you can see an article about them at <www.tinyurl.com/y9w2cb4t>.

"The Real Sherlock of Baker Street" was the headline on a Londonist report <www.tinyurl.com/y8oh42yb> on a City of Westminster plaque on York Terrace East, a five minute walk from Baker Street: it honors Dame Sheila Sherlock, a professor of medicine and a world authority on the liver and its diseases (she published hundreds of papers in scientific journals, and in 1951 was made the youngest female Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians). She was appointed a Dame in 1978, and then a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Julian D. Corrington wrote about "Baker Street Weather" in The Saint Detective Magazine (Nov. 1957), but he was best known for his pioneering work in amateur microscopy and for founding the American Society of Amateur Microscopists in 1939. He also wrote about Sherlock Holmes and his use of the microscope in Nature Magazine (Oct. 1953) and in books published by Bausch & Lomb (1934) and McGraw-Hill (1957): Burt Wolder has discovered an interesting article by John Gustav Delly in Modern Microscopy (Aug. 14, 2013) on Corrington, his career, and his microscopes <www.tinyurl.com/ybdgwyho>.

Apr 18 #5 Roger Llewellyn died on Apr. 17. He had a long theatrical career that included appearances as Inspector Lestrade (with Ron Moody as Sherlock Holmes) in Leslie Bricusse's "Sherlock Holmes: The Musical" (1988) and Sherlock Holmes in Christopher Martin's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1997). Roger also played Holmes (and many others parts) in David Stuart Davies' one-man shows "Sherlock Holmes: The Last Act! (1999) and "Sherlock Holmes: The Death and Life" (2008) in world-wide tours. Excerpts from "Sherlock Holmes: The Last Act!" are available at YouTube, and audio recordings of both one-man shows from Big Finish <www.bigfinish.com>.

The International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition will be at the Houston Museum of Natural Science through Sept. 30 <www.tinyurl.com/ya7r7rlw>, and then on display at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J., Nov. 3 through May 27, 2019 <www.lsc.org>: it's a splendid exhibition, well worth a visit.

Reported: MYCROFT AND SHERLOCK, by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Anna Waterhouse, is due from Titan Books in October: a sequel to their MYCROFT HOLMES (Jun 15 #2), it's set in 1872, when the brothers unintentionally investigating the same mystery as they pursue the reason behind the growing opium trade. There's a third book in the series scheduled for 2019.

Mystery Scene, edited by Kate Stine <www.mysteryscenemag.com>, frequently offers Sherlockian content: issue 153 (winter 2018) has Michael Mallory's report on "The Remarkable Lives of Anthony Boucher" (he was an avid Sherlockian and an early member of The Baker Street Irregulars), Cathy Pickens' article about "Writers Turned Sleuths" (Arthur Conan Doyle and Erle Stanley Gardner), and reviews of Sherlockian books.

"Sherlock Gnomes" had an opening weekend gross of $10.6 million, according to the Box Office Mojo web-site, far behind the $25.4-million opening weekend gross of "Gnomeo and Juliet" in 2011. As of Apr. 26, the film's total worldwide gross was $58.6 million; the web-site estimates the film's production budget at $59 million (the industry rule of thumb is that the studio gets half of the gross receipts). It should be noted that it isn't the only gnomish film you can see this year: there also is "Gnome Alone" (which premiered in Europe in 2017 but hasn't yet been released in the U.S.), with an official trailer available at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/ycycpnvf>

Vicki Delany's THE CAT OF THE BASKERVILLES (New York: Crooked Lane, 2018; 291 pp., $26.99) is the third in her series of "Sherlock Holmes Bookshop" mysteries that star Gemma Doyle (the proprietor of the Sherlock bookshop) and her friend Jayne Wilson (the proprietor of the next-door Mrs. Hudson's Tea Room), this time investigating the death of an actor scheduled to perform as Holmes in a local presentation of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (and there are twists and turns, and a bit of romance, in the story). And there's a fourth book in the series coming up: "A Scandal in Scarlet".

And there's late-breaking news: Mattias Boström won the Agatha Award (for best nonfiction) for his FROM HOLMES TO SHERLOCK (Apr 17 #4); the award was announced at the Malice Domestic awards dinner in Bethesda on Apr. 28, and Mattias was there to accept the traditional appropriately-decorated ceramic teapot and deliver an artful and gracious acceptance speech. You can see him with his award at his Facebook page <www.tinyurl.com/ya6y945x>.

Apr 18 #6 Benedict Cumberbatch and Jonny Lee Miller alternated as Frankenstein and the Creature in the National Theatre's production of "Frankenstein" in 2011, and the show was recorded and will be screened again in theaters in October. It was the first time they played the same character (they went on to perform as Sherlock Holmes on television), and it's well worth seeing the play twice, so that you can decide which actor is better in which role.

Michael Kuhn's "Sherlock Holmes und die Schnecken von Eastwick" [Schnecken are snails] is being performed at the Boulevardtheater in Dresden through May 12 <www.boulevardtheater.de>.

"The Sherlock Project" (a new "immersive theatrical experience") is being presented by the PaperHouse Theatre at the FROCK Shop in Charlotte, N.C., through May 12 <www.paperhousetheatre.com>.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's comedy "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is being done at the Waldon Arts Center in Fayetteville, Ark., through May 27 <www.theatre2.org>.

Steven Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" is due at the Stagehouse Theatre in El Cajon, Calif., May 10–19 <www.tinyurl.com/yab57n4b>.

Tim Kelly's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Stafford Gatehouse Theatre in Stafford, May 15–19 <www.staffordplayers.co.uk>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is due at Chevalier College in Burradoo, N.S.W., May 23–26 <www.tinyurl.com/yao2azs7>. Ken Ludwig's "Postmortem" (an earlier version of "The Game's Afoot") will be performed at the Theatre in the Round in Minneapolis, Minn., June 1–24 <www.theatreintheround.org>.

"Sherlock Holmes" (a new "comedy musical") will be performed at the Sörby Rundloge in Mjölby, Sweden, June 2–17 <www.soffteater.se>.

Tal Aviezer's new play "Sherlock Holmes: The Musgrave Ritual" will be performed at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum in Pelham Bay Park, N.Y., June 2–10 <www.bartowpellmuseummansion.org>.

The Chapterhouse Theatre Company will continue touring its "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" on tour in England this summer, June 14 through Aug. 30 <www.chapterhouse.org>.

The East Haddam Stage Company, based at Gillette Castle in Connecticut, has held auditions for this year's season, which will include an adaptation of "The Professor" (William Gillette's first comedy) July 7–Aug. 12, an original one-man presentation of "Yukitaka Osaki, William Gillette's Gentleman Valet" in September, and Ara Barlieb's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Christmas Goose" for the holidays.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>

May 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

"Dark Deeds in the Canon" is the title of the next Reichenbach Irregulars' conference in Switzerland, scheduled for May 31-June 4, 2019; their focus will be on Professor James Moriarty and Baron Adelbert Gruner. Details are available at their web-site <www.221b.ch>.

"Elementary" has been renewed for a seventh season. Its ratings continue to decline (it's the least-watched of all of the CBS-TV dramas, according to a story in the Wall Street Journal), but it's profitable nevertheless, thanks to revenue from overseas, syndication, and a deal with Hulu.

Sorry about that: the correct version of last month's newsletter report is: "Dark Places, Wicked Companions, and Strange Experiences" is the title of The Norwegian Explorers' next conference in Minneapolis, scheduled for Aug. 9-11, 2019, at the Graduate Hotel (the new name of the Commons Hotel), and there will be an evening reception on Aug. 8; you can enroll on their mailing list by contacting Julie McKuras <mike9750@aol.com>.

Watson's Tin Box is hosting this year's "Scintillation of Scions" on June 8-9, at the Sheraton Baltimore-Washington Airport. It is an entertaining gathering of both local and far-flung Sherlockians, and registration is now open <www.scintillation.org>.

"Sherlock Gnomes" was released in Great Britain and Ireland on May 11, and Odeon Cinemas promoted the opening with an offer to give every child "the chance to grow their very own mini garden with our flowering seed paper!" <www.tinyurl.com/yd4rjl69>. The children, of course, will need to provide their own garden gnomes.

And there's more promotion in Great Britain: Hovis has launched a "221b Bakery Street" campaign <www.tinyurl.com/y6uxacnz> <www.tinyurl.com/y8atl66j> that promotes their "Best of Both" bread loaves; prizes range from a family adventure in London to Sherlock Gnomes toast stamps.

The Sub-Librarians Scion of the Baker Street Irregulars will gather on June 24 in New Orleans, during the annual meeting of the American Library Association; Monica Schmidt will be their guest speaker (on "You Have Been on eBay, I Perceive: The Pathology of Sherlockian Collecting"), and more information is available from Marsha Pollak <mlpollak@icloud.com>.

Etchings by James Ensor, a member of the XX Group, the "modern Belgian masters" whose pictures "entirely absorbed" Sherlock Holmes (in "The Hound of the Baskervilles") were at auction this month at Christie's, and there's an interesting article about him at their web-site <www.tinyurl.com/yd6mlr28>.

Congratulations to Russell Merritt, who has received the Denver Silent Film Festival's David Shepard Career Achievement Award. Russell is a member of the board of the San Francisco Silent Film Festival, an adjunct professor in the Department of Film & Media at the University of California Berkeley, and a leader in the restoration of two important silent films: William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" (1916) and Carlyle Blackwell's "Der Hund von Baskerville" (1929).

May 18 #2 MYSTERY MOST GEOGRAPHICAL (Cabin John: Wildside Press. 2018: 349 pp., $35.00) is the 13th Malice Domestic anthology, offering nice assortment of short stories and a foreword by Nancy Pickard (who received the Lifetime Achievement award at this year's Malice): one of the stories is Michael Robertson's "The Barrister's Clerk" an imaginative addition to his "Baker Street Letters" series about the London barristers who have their offices at Sherlock Holmes' address and are tasked with answering his mail. Wildside's web-site is at <www.wildsidepress.com>.

Also from Wildside: Christopher Redmond's ABOUT BEING A SHERLOCKIAN (2017: 250 pp., $14.99) is a sequel of sorts to his ABOUT SIXTY (Dec 16 #5): Chris has edited an anthology of sixty essays "celebrating the Sherlockian community" and in his introduction he explains just how easy (or difficult) it can be to define just what a Sherlockian is: the essays are by a delightful mix of authors, old hands and newcomers, who describe with great enthusiasm the many paths they followed in becoming Sherlockians.

"He made the country down in Illinois," Lucy Ferrier said (in "A Study in Scarlet"): our postal service has issued a stamp honoring the 200th anniversary of statehood for Illinois.

Karen Murdock has noted Matthew Walther's "The Man Who Knew Everything" in The Week (Apr. 25) <www.theweek.com/articles/763465>: it is a review of Rebecca Tope's new SABINE BARING-GOULD: THE MAN WHO TOLD A THOUSAND STORIES. The many things he wrote about included the folktales of Dartmoor, and he's a very important character in Laurie R. King's THE MOOR (1998), in which he's visited by Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes. Baring-Gould's grandson (William S. Baring-Gould), when he wrote his biography of Sherlock Holmes, used details from his grandfather's life in describing Holmes' early years. Sabine Baring-Gould lived at Lewtrenchard, near Dartmoor: his house now is a luxury hotel <www.lewtrenchard.co.uk> and you can visit his grave at the nearby Lewtrenchard Cemetery.

Alexander Orlov has reported a new adaptation of a Canonical story in which Holmes and Watson do not appear: an 18-minute video ("Violet") is available at Vimeo <www.vimeo.com/22871372>. There's also a Russian video "Seldon" <www.tinyurl.com/n4narya>, and the Indian film "Bees Saal Bad" inspired by "The Hound of the Baskervilles" <www.tinyurl.com/y894fae7>.

They're off and running: The Baker Street Irregulars' triennial running of The Silver Blaze at Saratoga Race Course in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., is set for Aug. 11. More information about the two-day excursion is available online at <www.bakerstreetjournal.com/silverblaze2018.html>.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE LOST RADIO SCRIPTS (Little Falls: Purview Press, 2017: 396 pp., $25.98), edited by Ian Dickerson, offers twelve scripts written by Denis Green and Leslie Charteris [as Bruce Taylor] from the Rathbone/Bruce 1944 radio series "The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (all of them from programs for which audio recordings are not known to exist): Dickerson discovered the scripts in Charteris' papers, and it's nice to have a chance to revisit the radio series. You can listen to Scott Monty and Burt Wolder's interview with Dickerson at their "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" archive <www.tinyurl.com/y82pbko9>.

May 18 #3 Martin Edwards' THE STORY OF CLASSIC CRIME IN 100 BOOKS (London: British Library, 2017; 353 pp., £25.00) (Scottsdale: Poisoned Pen Press, $26.95) is a delightful companion to the "British Library Crime Classics" series that offers reprints of excellent novels and short stories; some of the anthologies include stories by Conan Doyle, and this book explores the history of crime fiction in novels published in the first half of the twentieth century (one of them, of course, is "The Hound of the Baskervilles"). The book also is available in a trade-paperback edition to match the crime-classics series. And Edwards, recently asked what he would have added as the 101st title, confessed that there already are 102 novels in his book.

Cub Scouting, part of the Scouting Program of the Boy Scouts of America, offers Cubs belt loops (instead of merit badges), and Kate Karlson has reported an interesting Code of the Wolf elective adventure loop. They're available for $1.49 at your neighborhood Scout Shop, and on-line at <www.scoutshop.org>: search for [619939]. And yes, in February the Boy Scouts of America announced their new name: Scouts BSA, recognizing the decision to admit young women as full-fledged Scouts. The Cub Scouts program already admits girls; now older girls will be able to join Scouts BSA and have an opportunity to advance to become Eagle Scouts. One hopes that eventually the Scouts BSA will offer a Sherlockian merit badge.

Mattias Boström, who last month won the Agatha Award (best nonfiction) for FROM HOLMES TO SHERLOCK at Malice Domestic, has been nominated for an Anthony Award (best critical/non-fiction book) at Bouchercon; winners will be announced at Bouchercon in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Sept. 8. Mattias also has received Der blaue Karfunkel from the Deutsche Sherlock-Holmes-Gesellschaft at SherloCON in Saarbrücken, and the Tony & Freda Howlett Literary Award from the Sherlock Holmes Society of London.

THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: ILLUSTRATED AND ENHANCED BY N. R. REEKIE (2017) offers an imaginative approach to the Canon: there are more than 300 illustrations, including his own Rapidograph technical-pen artwork, and the 352-page book is available at eBay for £24.99 <www.tinyurl.com/y79ollmr>.

The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes, now at the Houston Museum of Natural Science <www.hmns.org>, has some added material. According to the Houston Chronicle <www.tinyurl.com/y7k2vs47>, the exhibits now include the curved pipe Robert Downey Jr. smoked and the pocket watch worn by Jude Law, the pink suitcase from Benedict Cumberbatch's "A Study in Pink", and a costume worn by Lucy Liu.

Conan Doyle wrote about the bare-knuckle boxer John Jackson, who appears in RODNEY STONE (Mar 18 #5), and there are other boxers in Conan Doyle's writings; one of them is William Abednego Thompson, known as Bendigo, who was honored in Conan Doyle's poem "Bendy's Sermon". According to the Nottingham Post <www.tinyurl.com/y8e6yydo>, a fund-raising campaign is underway to pay for a statue of Bendigo, who is buried in Nottingham. Alan Dance and David Field's novel BENDIGO: THE RIGHT FIST OF GOD (2016) is based on the life of "the most famous son of Nottingham since Robin Hood first ventured from the leafy glades of Sherwood Forest to taunt the Sheriff."

May 18 #4 Maria Konnikova, author of MASTERMIND: HOW TO THINK LIKE SHERLOCK HOLMES (2013), and then THE CONFIDENCE GAME: WHY WE FALL FOR IT...EVERY TIME (2016), began playing poker in late 2016 while working on a new book THE BIGGEST BLUFF, but she's earning so much in poker tournaments that the book likely won't be published until next year, according to a report in the N.Y. Post on May 3 <www.tinyurl.com/ya9m9wqn>; Maria's website is at <www.mariakonnikova.com>.

"A Strange Change Toy Featuring The Lost World" was made and sold by Mattel in the late 1960s, likely inspired by the film that starred Claude Rains as Professor Challenger (1960). There's a Wikipedia entry for the "Strange Change Machine" that describes the toy in detail: it offered pressed "shape memory" plastic figures of prehistoric animals, an "Expansion Chamber" with a heating element, and a "Compressor" (Wikipedia provides links to web-sites that have images and more information); it cost only $1.50 in those good old days and seems to have been discontinued quickly because the toy was so dangerous to children who played with it. You can find it at eBay (for a lot more than $1.50) and play with it now (carefully, of course).

The seventh running of the No Frills Silver Blaze will take place on Aug. 18 at Monmouth Park in Oceanport, N.J., and it's truly no frills: entrance fee $5.00 (or $3.00 for seniors), and bring your own food and drinks. The event is arranged by The Turf Builders of Baker Street, and more information is available from Peter McIntyre <pslpete@optonline.net>.

The Japanese eight-episode series "Miss Sherlock" (produced by HBO Asia and Hulu Japan) (Dec 17 #6) began its run on Apr. 27, and the series has a website at <www.hboasia.com/HBO/en-ph/shows/miss-sherlock>. You can watch the series (with English subtitles) at <www.dailymotion.com>.

Raymond C. Murray died on Apr. 8. He was a leader in the field of forensic geology (the use of soil and mineral evidence in law enforcement) and wrote two of the field's standard textbooks, FORENSIC GEOLOGY (1975 and 1992) and EVIDENCE FROM THE EARTH: FORENSIC GEOLOGY AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION (2004 and 2011), with due credit to Sherlock Holmes for his geological expertise: you can learn more about Ray's work at <www.forensicgeology.net>.

C. J. Carter-Stephenson's "Back of the Bookshelf" is a monthly podcast offering his narration of classic short fiction, and it was launched with Conan Doyle's "The Disintegration Machine" available in both video and audio <www.carter-stephenson.co.uk/botb.html>.

Congratulations to Andrew Jay Peck, who began his legal career in 1978 and was appointed U.S. magistrate judge for the Southern District of New York in 1995; he retired from the bench in February and has joined the law firm DLA Piper as a senior counsel, and you can read about his career in an American Bar Association article at <www.tinyurl.com/yck3198q> (there's also a podcast interview). Andy was the winner of the Morley-Montgomery Award for the best article in The Baker Street Journal in 1972, joined the Baker Street Irregulars in 1973 (as "Inspector Baynes, Surrey Constabulary"), and plans to continue his pursuit of Sherlock Holmes (and the N.Y. Yankees).

May 18 #5 Ashley Polasek has edited A PLUM ASSIGNMENT: DISCOURSE ON P. G. WODEHOUSE AND HIS WORLD (Winch and Clutterbuck, 2018), the discourse being by Curtis Armstrong and Elliott Milstein: the book isn't Sherlockian but you can listen to the three of them talk about Wodehouse, and his enthusiasm for Conan Doyle and Holmes, with Scott Monty and Burt Wolder in a podcast at "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" <www.tinyurl.com/yau22ldl>.

There's a race horse named Sherlock Holmes, and the [Melbourne] Herald Sun had a picture of him <www.tinyurl.com/y7gn68v8> winning a race at Flemington; the chestnut gelding, born in Ireland, is doing well in Australia, and you can see video of him winning the race at <www.tinyurl.com/y82nl5og>.

The Practical, But Limited, Geologists (also known as The Friends of Sherlock Holmes) met to honor the world's first forensic geologist with drinks and dinner at Carnegie's, in the Peery Hotel, in Salt Lake City on May 23, during the annual meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, welcomed by members of The PsiKeys of Sherlock and The Avenging Angels. Our next meetings will be on Nov. 7 in Indianapolis, and on May 22, 2019, in San Antonio.

There is a definitely-firm and reliable rumor that there's a third Robert Downey Jr. "Sherlock Holmes" film in the works. According to the Hollywood Reporter (May 7), Warner Bros. and Village Roadshow Pictures have announced that "Sherlock Holmes 3" will open in theaters Christmas Day in 2020. All that's needed now is a script and a director and a start of production.

Further to the item about Grace Humiston, a lawyer-turned-investigator in 1917 who was known as "Mrs. Sherlock Holmes" and was featured in a recent episode of the NBC-TV series "Timeless" (Mar 18 #3), Rachel Kaufman wrote about the episode at the Smithsonian blog <www.tinyurl.com/y9pys2oa>.

Sundance TV plans an eight-episode international drama series based on Umberto Eco's THE NAME OF THE ROSE, starring John Turturro as the Franciscan monk William of Baskerville, Damian Hardung as Adso of Melk, and Rupert Everett as inquisitor Bernard Gui; the book, set in Italy in 1327, nevertheless was nicely Sherlockian.

It's a bit late for this year, but in plenty of time for next year: Sherlock Holmes Day is celebrated on May 22. It's an event established in 2013 by the forum and games site Gaia Online, and there's much more information available on-line at <www.daysoftheyear.com/days/sherlock-holmes-day>.

Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss and Benedict Cumberbatch celebrated Sherlock Holmes Day on-line with video and audio teasers for their "Sherlock" series at the BBC America web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y92csyc3>.

Margalit Fox's CONAN DOYLE FOR THE DEFENSE (New York: Random House, 2018: 352 pp., $27.00) has the subtitle "the true story of a sensational British murder, a quest for justice, and the world's most famous detective writer," and it's a carefully-researched and well-written account of the Oscar Slater case; the author has discovered new and interesting information about the case, and she offers a convincing explanation of why the police and the government were so determined to convict an innocent man.

May 18 #6 English Heritage has announced that Peter Cushing will be honored with a blue plaque at his childhood home in Croydon: the announcement was made on May 4 (Star Wars Day) and the plaque will be unveiled in July. Roger Johnson has noted that May 4 also is Reichenbach Day (when Holmes and Moriarty fought to the death in Switzerland); Cushing was Sherlock Holmes in "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1959), a BBC television series (1968), and "The Masks of Death" (1984). He also played Conan Doyle in a television film "The Great Houdinis" (1976).

For those who may be wondering why May 4 is Star Wars Day (May 18 #1): the celebration was created by fans of the series, who happily say "May the 4th be with you." The announcement was made on Star Wars Day in recognition of Cushing's memorable performance at the Grand Moff Tarkin in the first "Star Wars" film in 1977.

Reported: Leslie S. Klinger's IN THE SHADOW OF AGATHA CHRISTIE (New York: Pegasus, 2018: 356 pp., $25.95) is subtitled "classic crime fiction by forgotten female writers: 1850-1917" and offers 16 stories that include Carolyn Wells' 1915 Sherlockian burlesque "The Adventure of the Clothes-Line".

Fans of Scooby-Doo will welcome the news that "Scooby-Doo and Guess Who?" is being developed for a 2019 launch on Boomerang's digital-streaming service: episodes of the animated series will feature characters such as Batman, the Flash, Wonder Woman, and Sherlock Holmes.

When in Middlesbrough (in North Yorkshire): the Orange Pip Market, a monthly artisan food market is on Baker Street <www.orangepipmarket.com>: it was founded in 2014 and named for the Sherlock Holmes story. You can also stop in at the local pub The Twisted Lip <www.thetwistedlip.co.uk>.

Nancy Springer's THE CASE OF THE GYPSY GOOD-BYE (New York: Philomel, 2010: 176 pp., $14.99) is the sixth and last in her pleasant series about Enola Holmes, the 14-year-old younger sister of Mycroft and Sherlock: she's hiding from them in London and solving mysteries on her own. All of the books are available in trade paperbacks from Puffin ($6.99), and the series has been in the news because Legendary Entertainment has signed the British actor-model Millie Bobby Brown to star in and produce feature films based on the series. There's more information about Enola Holmes, and Nancy Springer, at the author's web-site <www.nancyspringer.com>, and about Millie Bobby Brown at Wikipedia and elsewhere on the Internet.

Overwatch, a team-based multiplayer first-person shooter video game developed and published by Blizzard Entertainment <www.playoverwatch.com/en-us>, allows players to purchase "skins" that change the outfit or color scheme of the players' heroes, and one of the anniversary skins offers McCree the opportunity to dress in a Sherlockian costume that also fits support hero Ana: you can see Ana wearing the skin, and explore Overwatch, at the DBLTAP web-site <www.tinyurl.com/ydbeqats>.

BRAIN GAMES is a series of puzzle books, and their SHERLOCK HOLMES PUZZLES (Morton Grove: Publications International, 2017: 198 pp. $12.98) has more than "100 cerebral challenges inspired by the world's greatest detective" (standard puzzles, with many tied to the Canon).

May 18 #7 Patricia Morison died on May 20. She had a long career both as a singer (she starred in "Kiss Me Kate" on Broadway in 1948 and then in "The King and I" on Broadway and on tour) and as an actor (in films and on television) and is best-known to Sherlockians as the evil Mrs. Hilda Courtney in Basil Rathbone's "Dressed to Kill" (1946).

The new block-buster film "Avengers: Infinity War" stars Robert Downey Jr. (Iron Man) and Benedict Cumberbatch (Doctor Strange), who have both played Sherlock Holmes, but there are no allusions to that in the movie. According to Comic Book Resources <www.tinyurl.com/y97dbj44>, directors Joe and Anthony Russo believed that jokes about the character connection would have been "too obvious."

The East Haddam Stage Company, which is based at Gillette Castle in Connecticut, will be on tour with its radio drama "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Speckled Band" in the fall <www.ehsco.org>.

Stephen Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" is due at the Morris-Jumel Mansion in New York, N.Y., June 8-24 <www.morrisjumel.org>.

Ray Crew's new play "Sherlock Holmes and the Avenging Angels" is scheduled at the Elementary Theatre in Cape May, N.J., June 21-Sept. 29, during the Sherlock & Shakespeare Festival <www.capemaymac.org>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" is due at the Alley Theatre in Houston, Tex., June 22-July 22 <www.alleytheatre.org>; at the Indiana Repertory Theatre in Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 25-Oct. 21 <www.irtlive.com>; and at the North Coast Repertory Theatre in Solana Beach, Calif., Oct. 17-Nov. 11 <www.northcoastrep.org>.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (a new dramatization by Tim Churchill and Catherine O'Reilly) is scheduled at the Stoke Repertory Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., July 31-Aug. 4 <www.stokerep.info>.

The Ghostwriters' "Adventures of the Improvised Sherlock Holmes" is scheduled at La Belle Angèle in Edinburgh, Aug. 2-26 <www.improvsherlock.com>.

Richard Lavin's new play "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Impaled Whaler" is due at Tudor House in Lake Arrowhead, Calif., Aug. 10-25; website at <www.tudorhouseentertainment.villas>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is scheduled at the Krevsky Center in Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 7-16 <www.theatreharrisburg.com>.

Charles Marowitz's "Sherlock's Last Case" is due at the Huntington Avenue Theatre in Boston, Mass., Sept. 28-Oct. 28 <www.huntingtontheatre.org>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the West End Horror" (dramatized from Nicholas Meyer's novel by Anthony and Marcia Milgrom Dodge) will be performed at the Little Lake Theatre in Canonsburg, Pa., Oct. 11-27 <www.littlelake.org>.

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Jun 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

The mid-year letter from Mike Whelan ("Wiggins" of the Baker Street Irregulars) included the news that the BSI Archive, formerly at the Houghton Library at Harvard University, is being transferred to the Lilly Library at Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind.; the Lilly Library already has an impressive Sherlockian and Doylean collection, and now also houses the archive of the Mystery Writers of America.

There also was news of the next BSI conference, set for 2020, will have as its theme "Sherlock Holmes and the British Empire" (details to be announced later). Next year's birthday festivities in New York will be held on Jan. 9-13, and the Distinguished Speaker Lecture on Jan. 10 will feature director and playwright Ken Ludwig, author of "Postmortem", "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays", and "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery".

Russian war correspondent Arkady Babchenko, who fled Russia for Ukraine in 2017, turned up at a press conference in Kiev last month, one day after he had been reported killed; he explained that the announcement that his wife had found his body after he had been shot several times at the entrance to his apartment in Kiev was intended to help Ukraine's security services foil a real plot against his life. All this is of possible interest to readers of this newsletter because Anton Geraschenko, a member of Ukraine's parliament, then said that "Sherlock Holmes successfully used the method of staging his own death for the effective investigation on complex and intricate crimes, no matter how painful it was for his family and Dr. Watson."

Benoit Guilielmo has launched an on-line collection of Sherlockian articles from the 1930s (many of them reprinted for the first time), accompanied by some modern commentary on what he calls the Golden Age of Sherlockian scholarship (1927-1934), at <www.earlysherlockiana.blogspot.fr>. It's nicely done, and an opportunity to see what the Sherlockian world once was like.

The manuscript of "The Story of Spedegue's Dropper" will be at auction at Sotheby's in London on July 10, estimated at £10,000-£15,000. There is a nice entry about the manuscript at Randall Stock's "Best of Sherlock" website at <www.bestofsherlock.com/mss/spedegues-dropper-2018.htm>.

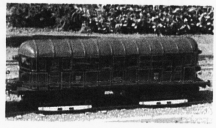
Howard Ostrom has found another example of the wonders of digitization: the Nov. 1906 supplement to the Urban Films catalog, with a three-page synopsis of Vitagraph's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (1905); it's on-line at <www.lukemckernan.com/2018/02/15/the-world-in-1906> [pages 61-63]. Leslie S. Klinger wrote about the film in The Baker Street Journal, June 1998.

Sherlock Bones Lost 'N Hound Dog Recovery has a Facebook page but no website: they're "a local group of animal lovers dedicated to reuniting owners with their lost furries" in and around Buffalo, N.Y.

"Hooray for Meghan Markle, a Very Modern Adventuress" was the headline on a story by Julie Burchill in the Spectator on Apr. 28, reported by Evy Herzog (who presides over The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes). The word "adventuress" is rarely encountered today, other than in the Canon and at Sherlockian gatherings; you can read the article at <www.tinyurl.com/yd7d9ot4>.

Jun 18 #2 Erik Ofgang's GILLETTE CASTLE: A HISTORY (Charleston: History Press, 2017; 139 pp., $21.99) is a nicely readable and attractively illustrated guide to William Gillette's home in Hadlyme, Conn., with discussion of Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes, and Gillette himself, but the main focus is on the Castle and its history.

A "Sherlock Holmes" electric locomotive was used on the Metropolitan Line in London from the early 1920s until it was withdrawn from service in 1962, but now there's a new one, christened at a naming ceremony at the Quainton Road Station on Apr. 29, and video of the ceremony is available at YouTube; search for [quainton sherlock holmes].



All that remains of the first locomotive are the nameplates, which are fortunately preserved in Sherlockian collections, but a battery-powered scale model (in 7¼-inch gauge, which means it will run on rails 7¼ inches apart) was at auction at Dreweatts in England in 2013, with an estimate of £1,000-£1,500. It sold for £2,728 (including the buyer's premium). Of course there is a 7¼-inch Gauge Society, with a web-site <www.sevenandaquarter.org> for those who enjoy riding on (rather than in) these attractive trains, and you can do exactly that in Great Britain, Europe, and North America, as noted in the Club Directory at the web-site.

The winners of this year's Audie Awards (from the Audio Publishers Association) included Stephen Fry's recording of the Sherlock Holmes stories (for excellence in production); the recording is available from Audio Studios at <www.audible.com>.

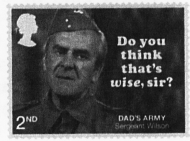
THE CROWN JEWEL MYSTERY, by Anna Elliott and Charles Veley (Wilton Press, 2017; 109 pp., $5.98), a prequel to their "Sherlock Holmes and Lucy James" series, brings Lucy to London for the first time, hoping to determine the identity of her mysterious benefactor and winding up on the scene of a bank robbery; the novella is both imaginative and fast-paced, and the series has a web-site at <www.sherlockandlucy.com>.

Earlier novels in the series include REMEMBER, REMEMBER (2017; 346 pp.) and THE JUBILEE PROBLEM (2017; 407 pp.) (each $12.99); Lucy discovers who her mysterious father and mother are, and is involved in investigating two interesting mysteries, as well as some romance.

The restored version of "Der Hund von Baskerville" (1929) received a warm reception at the San Francisco Silent Film Festival this month, and there are reports that a commercial DVD will be available sooner rather than later; in the meantime, Daniil Dubshin has reported, you can watch clips from the film uploaded by Rob Byrne to Vimeo: go to <www.vimeo.com> and search for [der hund von baskerville] to see how splendid the restoration is.

"Sherlock: The Game Is Now" <www.sherlockgame.com> is billed as "the only official Sherlock Holmes Escape Game, a 90-minute immersive experience for teams of 4-6 people," and it will open in London on Oct. 23 and run through Feb. 24, with tickets costing £54 per person. It's organized by Time Run and "Sherlock" creators Steve Moffat and Mark Gatiss, and you can see some of Time Run's other escape games at <www.time-run.com>.

Jun 18 #3 Martyn Sutton is the proprietor of Uncle Jeremy's Household, a gift shop in Ingleton <www.unclejeremy.com> that celebrates the connections of Sherlock Holmes to the Yorkshire Dales: he believes that the name of Sherlock Holmes was inspired by Conan Doyle's visits to the region (he married his first wife Louise Hawkins there in 1885, the same year his short story "Uncle Jeremy's Household" was published). One of their Sherlock Holmes Teddy Bears will be the prize in the "This is Ingleton" competition in July at <www.facebook.com/VisitIngleton>; the contest is open to anyone, anywhere, who answers a simple question to qualify for the end-of-the-month drawing.



The Royal Mail has issued a set of eight stamps honoring the 50th anniversary of the BBC's long-running television series "Dad's Army" that was broadcast from 1968 to 1977. Two of the stamps show Arthur Lowe as Capt. George Mainwaring and John Le Mesurier as Sgt. Arthur Wilson; if the actors look familiar, it's because Arthur Lowe played Dr. William Watson in "The Strange Case of the End of Civilization as We Know It" (1977), while John Le Mesurier was Eduardo Lucas in "The Second Stain" in the Alan Wheatley television series (1951), Barrymore in "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1959), and Lord Redcliff in "The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother" (1975).

Rob Nunn has been posting to his "Interesting Though Elementary" blog since June 2017 <www.interestingthoughelementary.blogspot.com>. It's imaginative as well as interesting, with a mix of essays and interviews.

Bill Peschel'S "223B Casebook Series" continues, offering his survey of the many parodies and pastiches published in newspapers, magazines, and books, reprinted with footnotes and brief accounts of what Conan Doyle was doing each year. The latest volumes are SHERLOCK HOLMES: GREAT WAR PARODIES AND PASTICHES I: 1910-1914 (Hershey: Peschel Press, 2017; 365 pp.) and SHERLOCK HOLMES: JAZZ AGE PARODIES AND PASTICHES I: 1920-1924 (2018; 352 pp.) (each $15.99), and both volumes include one of his own pastiches, in which Mark Twain reports on his encounters with Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes. Bill's web-site is at <www.peschelpress.com>.

It's likely far too late for souvenir-hunting, but Del Taco kindly offered free Sherlock Holmes lunch bags with the purchase of any Kid Loco Meal (a kid's quesadilla, fries, drink and a treat); their web-site allows you to find your nearest Del Taco <www.tinyurl.com/y873mnme>.

The latest catalog from the BBC Shop has as always a page of Sherlockiana, including a Sherlock Holmes Pewter Pocket Watch, just the thing for those who, like Holmes, don't wear a wristwatch <www.tinyurl.com/y9p7td5b>.

Ray Betzner continues to find new and interesting material for his "Studies in Starrett" blog <www.vincentstarrett.com>, which now includes entries on "Where are the missing pages of Starrett's autobiography?" and a new translation of his classic sonnet "221B"; the new translation, handsomely printed and bound, is available the Atelier Typographique de la Cité in Switzerland for CHF40.00 <www.ateliertypo.tictail.com/product/221b>.

Jun 18 #4 "With Landmark UK Embassy Planned for East London, China Rides the River of History Full Circle" was the headline on a story in the South China Morning Post on June 05 <www.tinyurl.com/y98b82hs> about a new Chinese embassy that will be on the site of the old Royal Mint. The article noted that the East End was home to London's first Chinatown, and that the area's opium dens were legendary: "It was in one such establishment in Limehouse that Sherlock Holmes found Dr. Watson" in "The Man with the Twisted Lip". The Royal Mint moved to Wales in 1975, and (yes indeed) the South China Morning Post was quite careless about who found whom in the Bar of Gold.

Jennie Paton found a video demonstration <www.tinyurl.com/yadndn8p> of how easy it is to use the Mr. Sherlock lock-picking tool set, which comes with a full set of lock picks and a transparent padlock that helps you see what you're doing.

YOUNG PUFFIN'S WONDERFULLY GRAND MYSTERY is a delightful children's carousel-bound pop-up book created by Yekaterina Komarovskaya and Mike Ficarra: Young Puffins wears Sherlockian costume while investigating a mystery that unfolds (literally) as one turns the pages to read a story that's both imaginative and amusing. It was a successful Kickstarter project and now is available to everyone ($31.00); just go to <www.youngpuffin.com> to see a demonstration of how the books works. Young Puffin himself also is available as a plushie ($20.00), along with other merchandise.

RiffTrax offers a download of the colorized version of "Sherlock Holmes and the Woman in Green" (1945) with commentary by Mystery Science Theater 3000 stars Bridget Nelson and Mary Jo Pehl ($9.99) at <www.rifftrax.com>; needless to say, they don't take the movie seriously.

Holmes Fest is now an annual event in Portsmouth; this year's celebration began on June 27 and runs through July 14, with a wide variety of goings-on <www.lifeisamazing.co.uk/holmesfest>.

They're off and running at Laurel Park in Maryland, where Greg Ruby has arranged for The Silver Blaze (Southern Division) on July 22. You can read all about it at the Facebook page for the event, and there's more information available from Greg at <greg@fourthgarrideb.com>.

Royal Books is offering an early treatment of the script for "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (1929) for $4,500 <www.tinyurl.com/y9shlpb4>; written by F. Hugh Herbert, it differs substantially from the finished film, and does not contain the now-classic statement "Elementary, my dear Watson" (spoken by Clive Brook in the film when it was released). It was the first talking Sherlock Holmes film, and the first known instance of Holmes actually saying the line (William Gillette often is credited as the first, but the line does not appear in any known script of his play, and no one has reported a contemporary newspaper or magazine that mentions Gillette saying it).

"Anything Goes--on ISLAND OF THE MAD" is an amusing book trailer promoting the latest volume in Laurie R. King's series about Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes (Apr 18 #2) <www.tinyurl.com/ydxlcqwb>. That's not Cole Porter singing, but Michael Meketa III does well with his cover of the song.

Jun 18 #5 "To review the books, monographs, films, and other, more ad-hoc projects inspired by Holmes today is not to note a revival of interest, but simply to let down a bucket into a bottomless well." That's according to Christopher Sandford in HOUDINI AND CONAN DOYLE (London: Duckworth Overlook, 2011; 282 pp.).

Excerpts from Jeffrey Hatcher's imaginative play were read during the Baker Street Irregulars' "The Mind and Art of Sherlock Holmes" conference in 2016 in Chautauqua, and the play premiered in 2017 in Tucson, Ariz., and has had other productions since then; the script has now been published by the Dramatists Play Service ($9.00) <www.tinyurl.com/yaxbwm7y>, and you can read a sample at their web-site.

It would have pleased the late Herman Beerman and other members of the Sir James Saunders Society: "Had Sherlock Holmes Gone into Medicine, He'd Have Been a Dermatologist" is the headline on Phil Whitaker's article in the New Statesman on Mar. 4 <www.tinyurl.com/y94b8vcc>.

Records by Mail <www.recordsbymail.com>, launched in 1974, now has an 8000-square-foot warehouse with more than 2 million vinyl LPs and 45s; searching for [sherlock holmes] turns up a few interesting items, and of course there is a lot more material for anyone interested in old records.

Cynthia Ward's THE ADVENTURE OF THE INCOGNITA COUNTESS (Seattle: Aqueduct, 2017; 110 pp., $12.00), is part of a "conversation pieces" series of feminist science fiction; Lucy Harker is Dracula's dhampir daughter and a British intelligence agent who encounters dangerous foes on board the Titanic; the book's Sherlockian only for occasional mentions of Mycroft as head of Britain's secret service.

Karen Murdock noted a letter to the editor in the Chicago Tribune on June 3 about "bringing the cane back into style" that mentioned that "you can even learn single-stick cane-fighting (like Sherlock Holmes) at the Forteza Fitness, a local gymnasium." Forteza Fitness also is the home of the Bartitsu Club of Chicago <www.bartitsuclubofchicago.com>.

"Comedy Playhouse" was a long-running British 30-minute television series broadcast by BBC-1 from 1961 to 1975; many episodes graduated to their own series, but among those that didn't was "Elementary, My Dear Watson" (1973) with John Cleese as Sherlock Holmes and Willie Rushton as Dr. Watson. As with so much long-lost television, a YouTube user has come to the rescue; you can watch the program at <www.tinyurl.com/ycgb59ux>.

Leslie Katz continues to make his Sherlockian scholarship available at the Social Science Research Network; his latest article is "The Game Is a Hand: Traditional Tabletop Games in the Sherlock Holmes Adventures" and you can read or download all of his articles) at <www.ssrn.com/author=1164057>.

Mattias Boström, whose FROM HOLMES TO SHERLOCK has already been nominated for an Anthony Award (best critical/non-fiction book) at Bouchercon; also has been nominated for a Macavity Award (best mystery-related nonfiction) from Mystery Readers International; the winners of both awards will be announced at Bouchercon in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Sept. 8.

Jun 18 #6 The second issue of The Newspapers (it's an "Irregular Journal of Sherlockiana" that Greg Ruby edits for The Sherlockians of Baltimore) has been published, with 136 pp. of toasts, poems, articles, and much more, many by members of the SOBs <www.tinyurl.com/SOB2018Newspapers> ($20.00). It focuses on material from Baltimore newspapers, and about Baltimore, but Greg casts his net widely to include Evelyn Herzog's account of the history of the Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes, plus Ross E. Davies' investigation of the history of the first Sherlock Holmes game (the Parker Brothers card game that was launched in 1904).

Further to the earlier report (Aug 14 #2) about the Mars 2020 Rover and its Scanning Habitable Environments with Raman and Luminscence for Organics and Chemicals, Jeff Dow notes that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has a new and colorful web-site about SHERLOC and its Wide Angle Topographic Sensor for Operations and eNgineering (yes, that's WATSON) at <www.tinyurl.com/ybvkgoqj>.

"Save the date," says Susan Diamond: the 59th annual running of the Silver Blaze in Chicago will be on Oct. 20 at the Hawthorne Race Course. You can enroll on her mailing list at <szdiamond@comcast.net>.

Another early Sherlockian film has turned up at YouTube, reported by Jennie Paton. "Sherlock Holmes i Bondefangerklor" (1910) features Otto Lagoni as Holmes, and is one of the Danish silent films made by Nordisk (and the only one known to have survived) <www.tinyurl.com/ybocm6w8>: the title is "Sherlock Holmes in the Claws of the Confidence Men" in English.

Wikipedia has a web-page for "Hat" <www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/hat> with illustrated entries for hats that range from the Ascot cap to the Zuchetto: one of the hats is the Deerstalker, with a mention of Sherlock Holmes.

Claire O'Dell's A STUDY IN HONOR (New York: Harper Voyager, 2018; 294 pp., $15.99) reimagines Holmes and Watson in a feminist thriller set in a near-future Washington during the next Civil War: the protagonists are Dr. Janet Watson and covert agent Sara Holmes, both black LGBTA women, engaged in a battle against both villainy and bureaucracy.

Greg Ruby discovered two amusing television commercials from 1970 and 1971 for Esso Home Comfort; available at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/y7lpcnut> and <www.tinyurl.com/ycgyecbh>.

EL GOS DEL BASKERVILLES is Catalan translation published by Vicens-Vives in Barcelona in 2013, with striking artwork by Bulgarian artist Iassen Ghiuselev; you can view the artwork at his web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y7d2mbxs>, and order the book from the publisher or (possibly) at www.abebooks.com>. Some of the original artwork is available from the artist.

In case you've wondered about how important Sherlock Holmes truly is, Sidney Paget's original watercolor of "Fishing Boats on the Shoreline" sold at auction this month for £160 <www.tinyurl.com/y7r2rqag>. In 2004 his original pen and ink and wash drawing of "The death of Sherlock Holmes" was sold at auction for $220,000. Randall Stock has a nice (and nicely illustrated) census of Sidney Paget paintings at <www.tinyurl.com/y8hd6fxo>.

Jun 18 #7 "Revision, My Dear Watson" (episode 146 on the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog) <www.tinyurl.com/y9765sbh> offers Nick Martorelli, interviewed by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder; Nick suggests that Irene Adler was the Boba Fett of the Sherlock Holmes stories (and explains this for those who are fans of "Star Wars" and those who aren't), and has much more to say about the four long stories in the Canon. Scott and Burt have started providing a transcript of each of the podcasts; a few of them are available now, and they're asking for assistance in keeping the worthy project going.

Deadline Hollywood reports that the release date for "Holmes & Watson" (the new comedy that stars Will Ferrell as Holmes and John C. Reilly as Watson) has been postponed once more; it's now scheduled for Dec. 21.

The Mount Nelson in Capetown is one of six "hotels with pasts as amazing as the amenities," Cator Sparks blogged on May 4 <www.tinyurl.com/yddwul3j>, noting that the Prince of Wales and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle both stayed at the hotel in 1925. According to Brian Pugh's A CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE (2012), Conan Doyle stayed at The Mount Nelson twice (in 1900 and 1928). There's no mention of Conan Doyle in Spark's entry for the Mena House in Egypt, but Conan Doyle did stay there, in 1895.

David Marcum has edited SHERLOCK HOLMES: BEFORE BAKER STREET for Belanger Books (2017, 356 pp., $19.95); it's an anthology of stories from the years before Holmes met Watson and moved into quarters at 221B. The publisher's web-site is at www.belangerbooks.com>.

David also continues to edit his series of annual anthologies of pastiches for MX Publishing, with two new volumes added this year: THE MX BOOK OF NEW SHERLOCK HOLMES STORIES: PART IX and PART X (406 pp. for 1875-1895 and 386 pp. for 1896-1919, $44.95 each); they are excellent anthologies, and offer poems and radio scripts, as well as traditional pastiches, written by authors old hands and newcomers, and good writers as well. The MX web-sites are at <www.mxpublishing.com> and <www.mxpublishing.co.uk>.

Also from MX: Carl Heifetz's SHERLOCK HOLMES THROUGH THE MICROSCOPE (2018: 214 pp., $14.95) is a collection of essays that reflect his expertise as a microbiologist and examine scientific aspects of the Canon; most have been published in journals with limited circulation, and it's nice to see them now more widely available. David Ruffle's WATSON: MY LIFE (2018; 148 pp., $12.95) takes a new approach to the Canon, offering Dr. Watson's reminiscences about his life, loves, and career, and his association with Sherlock Holmes, as recorded in 1936.

And there's more from MX: Richard T. Ryan's THE DRUID OF DEATH (2018: 217 pp., $28.95) has Holmes and Watson and Lestrade investigating a series of bizarre murders at Druid sites in England; his previous pastiches were THE VATICAN CAMEOS (2016) and THE STONE OF DESTINY (2017), and his new book includes a chapter from his upcoming THE MERCHANT OF MENACE. Michael Druce's SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ROSWELL INCIDENT (2018; 211 pp., $14.95) has Holmes and Watson alive and well in the 1940s and 1950s, involved with British and American and Russian intelligence and counter-intelligence in a plot that may or may not involve aliens and flying saucers.

Jun 18 #8 Last year the French company Black Box Boutique released a limited Blu-ray+DVD "Ultimate Collector's Edition" of the 1984 Japanese animated "Sherlock Hound" television series, in Japanese with French subtitles <www.blackbonesboutique.com/sherlockholmes.htm>, with a 200-page book of artwork. It cost E59.00, and is no longer available from the company, but completists may want to pursue it from other sources.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's comedy "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is being performed at the English Theatre in Frankfurt, Germany, through July 8 <www.english-theatre.de>, and then tours to the Deutsches Theater in Munich, Germany, July 17-21 <www.deutsches-theater.de>.

"A Scandal in Bohemia, Part One" (a radio play) is due at the Edge Theater in Chicago on July 22 <www.idlemuse.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is scheduled at the Clove Creek Dinner Theater in Fishkill, N.Y., Aug. 2-19; their web-site's at <www.clovecreekdinnertheater.com>. Also at the Magenta Theatre in Vancouver, Wash., Sept. 7-22 <www.magentatheatre.com>; and at the Duluth Playhouse in Duluth, Minn., Oct. 4-14 <www.duluthplayhouse.org>;

The Illyria Theatre Company will tour Oliver Grey's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" in Britain, Aug. 3-Sept. 7 <www.illyria.co.uk>.

Katie Forgette's "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily" is due at the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Aug. 9-26 www.chambertheatre.com.

Timothy Evers' new play "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" is due at the Chelsea Market Theatre in Houston, Oct. 3-21 <www.classicaltheatre.org>.

"Legenda jménem Holmes" [A Legend Named Holmes] (a "cult musical" by Ondrej G. Brzobohaty) will premiere at the Musical Theater Karlín in Prague, Oct. 12-21 <www.vstupenky.ticket-art.cz>.

C. P. Stancich's "Sherlock Holmes and the Masters of Crime" is scheduled at the Camino Real Playhouse in San Juan Capistrano, Calif., on Oct. 19-Nov. 4 <www.caminoplayhouse.org>.

The East Lynne Theater Company will perform Craig Wichman's radio-style adaptation of "Sherlock Holmes' Adventure of the Speckled Band" at the First Presbyterian Church in Cape May, N.J., Oct. 26-Nov. 2, and Mar. 15-17, 2019 <www.eastlynnetheater.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" has been scheduled by the St. Marys Community Players at the Town Hall Theatre in St. Marys, Ont., Nov. 1-11 <www.stmaryscommunityplayers.org>.

John Longenbaugh's "Sherlock Holmes & the Case of the Christmas Carol" will be performed at the Rosebud Theatre in Rosebud, Alta, from Nov. 2 to Dec. 23 <www.rosebudtheatre.com>.

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Jul 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

The new Baker Street Irregulars web-site is now live, and it's well worth exploring <www.bakerstreetirregulars.com>: there are links to information about the BSI, The Baker Street Journal, the BSI Press, the BSI Trust, and BSI Events, and there's even video encouraging people to subscribe to (and contribute to) the BSJ <www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/bsj-why-subscribe>. Scott Monty has an interesting blog about the BSI's history on the Internet at <www.tinyurl.com/ybj82f5n>.

Harlan Ellison died on June 28. He was a prolific and sometimes controversial author of science-fiction and fantasy whose work included short stories, novels, comics books, films, and television. In a 1987 lecture he explained that those in search of success must read and re-read only one essential book: the collected Sherlock Holmes stories. It's well worth reading his short story "He Who Grew Up Reading Sherlock Holmes" (dedicated to Ray Bradbury), published in the Subterranean Press magazine (summer 2014) and available on-line at the press's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/yc9zpp2o>.

Further to the item (May 18 #5) about the race horse named Sherlock Holmes, racing in Australia, there's also Sherlock, winner of the Kodlipet Plate at Mysore, India, on June 27 <www.tinyurl.com/ybqgj8v4>.

221B Capital <www.221bcapital.com> describes itself as an "equity fund running long/short with a low net exposure." Jillian McIntyre, chief investment officer and portfolio manager, told TheStreet on May 3 that short sellers ought to be tasked with sniffing out fraud in any market, and that the firm is named after Sherlock Holmes' address <www.tinyurl.com/ybvjb8kv>.

Big Chief Studios offers a wide range of (expensive) figures of Holmes and Watson and Moriarty (from the "Sherlock" television series); their web-site is at <www.bigchiefstudios.co.uk/e-mailer/sherlock-special-offers>.

Allen Osborne has started work on compiling a data-base that will indicate which of the many Sherlockian societies have Investitures, and what the Investiture process involves, and he would appreciate hearing from anyone who has information to offer <ibish1854@mail.com>.

Herb Moskowitz has written an interesting and nicely illustrated monograph on William Gillette's film "Sherlock Holmes" (1916); it's a 4.33-MB file, available by e-mail from Herb at <herbphilly@aol.com>.

Google Books offers access to their Ngram Viewer, which charts the frequencies of any set of comma-delimited search strings using a yearly count of occurrences in sources printed between 1500 and 2008; there are more than 5 million books in their data base. You can see how it works at their web-site <www.books.google.com/ngrams>, where, as reported by Mark Alberstat, their default sample search offers an interesting choice of names.

"To gnome is to love me" might be the slogan for Garden Fun, which offers a 14" Sherlock Gnomes ($59.99) <www.gardenfun.com> that will be just as happy in your home as in your garden. Alas: the company doesn't offer an accompanying Watson Gnome. Sammi Mankini Gnome, however, is available ($39.99).

Jul 18 #2 A Hollywood Reporter story <www.tinyurl.com/y7q9429q> about the new "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" discussed earlier dinosaur films, including "The Lost World" (1925), and mentioned "King Kong" (1933), noting that the paper had reported that Radio Pictures and the Los Angeles police department were trying to find two men who had worked as extras on the "Kong" set but had not shown up for their pay checks. "Studio and cops are not worried about the pay checks, but about a machine gun that disappeared."

Henry T. Folsom ("The Golden Pince-Nez") died on May 8. He graduated from Yale University, was president of the Folsom Arms Company, attended Berkeley Divinity School, and in 1957 was ordained, serving as rector of Episcopal churches in New Jersey, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Intrigued by Canonical chronology, Hank published THROUGH THE YEARS AT BAKER STREET in 1962 and became a Baker Street Irregular in 1965. He won the Morley-Montgomery Award for the best paper in The Baker Street Journal in 1965 (appropriately titled "My Knowledge of the Bible Is a Trifle Rusty..."), received the BSI's Two-Shilling Award in 1986, and for many years presided over The Cornish Horrors in Connecticut.

A story in the Sunday Times (Jan. 17, 2016) began "It has been home to the Doctor Who actor Tom Baker and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, but the East Sussex town of Crowborough is about to welcome its most glamorous resident yet," and went on to describe Highwell House, and its new owner Cate Blanchett; you can see a photograph of the house at <www.tinyurl.com/y9ydzjad>. That led to a lot of publicity, from people who didn't read the Sunday Times all that carefully, saying that Conan Doyle actually lived in the house; as Abraham Lincoln once said, "if it's on the Internet it must be true."

When in Spain: you can visit La Pipa <www.pipaclub.eu>. "This clandestine after-hours jazz club is located in a third-story flat in Barcelona's gothic quarter. The Sherlock Holmes themed watering hole is reached by ringing the correct buzzer and is open well into the early hours, making it perfect for post-club debriefs."

Further to the report (Dec 17 #5) that the New Forest National Park Authority had rejected a proposal to demolish the Lyndhurst Park Hotel (the campaign to protect the hotel had cited evidence that Conan Doyle had helped design the redevelopment of the building as a hotel in 1912), the Southern Daily Echo reported on July 3 that the developers had filed an appeal, hoping that a government-appointed planning inspector would allow the proposed development <www.tinyurl.com/yb8gdzvz>.

Javier Olivares' striking artwork for EL PERRO DO LOS BASKERVILLE (2011) is on display at his web-site <www.javierolivares.blogspot.com> [click on 2011 and scroll down].

"Hounds of the Bakersfield" is a song originally written by Bill Kirchen as a tribute to Merle Haggard, and Kirchen now plays, tours, and records with a group of the same name. Guitar Player Magazine has said that he's a "titan of the Telecaster," and a Google search for [hounds of the bakersfield] will turn up links to some of his tracks, including "When the Cowboy Sings" (in which he mentions Sherlock Holmes).

Jul 18 #3 "Holmes, Sweet Holmes" (a 1968 episode of a Canadian 30-minute television series called "Telescope") presented "a visit with Adrian Conan Doyle" at the Château de Lucens, and it's now nicely available in three parts at YouTube; The first part is at <www.tinyurl.com/hllmqpj>, and links to the other two are at the right. There's a lot of Adrian, and a brief view of him driving his Ferrari 250 SWB. Sotheby's recently had an interesting article <www.tinyurl.com/yd8b8k2l> about a Ferrari 250 GTO that is coming up for auction in August, with an estimate of more than $45 million. Charles Foley, who lived for a time at the Château, notes that the SWB [short wheel base] wasn't as beautiful as the GTO, but nevertheless was fast enough, with a top speed of 168 mph; Adrian sold his Ferrari in 1967 and bought a Lamborghini Miura, the first mid-engined supercar.

How many actors have played the role of Sherlock Holmes? Almost 4,000, according to the count in the latest version of Howard Ostrom's "A-Z List of Sherlock Holmes Performers" <www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html>, which includes more than 8,000 images of the actors; the index also is available directly from Howard <howardostrom@gmail.com>, and he has compiled many other interesting data-bases, available at <www.nphl.co.uk/original-essays.html>.

Miklós Rózsa, a musician best known for his film scores, is credited with almost a hundred films; tracks from ten of them recorded by the Nuremberg Symphony Orchestra (with Elmer Bernstein conducting) were released in 1987 on a CD ("Miklós Rózsa: Classic Film Music"). The CD has been reissued by Jay Records ($12.99) <www.jayrecords.com/recording/miklos-rozsa>, and one of the CD tracks is the "English Waltz" from "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes" (1970).

The colorful cover photograph of the spring 2018 issue of The Baker Street Journal shows an interesting bust of Sherlock Holmes, apparently created by M. G. Stead, who is cited in De Waal's THE UNIVERSAL SHERLOCK HOLMES for "a poor likeness of the Literary Agent" [C17602] described as a keramic figure edition from Finesse Studios in Cornwall, and dated 1987. There's an image of the cover of the BSJ at <www.tinyurl.com/y9t3pev4>; does anyone have any information about M. G. Stead, or the busts of Holmes or Conan Doyle?

Jennie Paton notes that "Shivering Sherlocks" (1948) is available at Vimeo <www.tinyurl.com/ycg82c4t>; it's a "Three Stooges" comedy, not Sherlockian except for the title. However there are two films that do have the Three Stooges in Sherlockian costume: "Horses' Collars" (1935) and "We Want Our Mummy" (1939); all three films are available at YouTube.

Ronald B. De Waal ("Lomax, the Sub-Librarian") died on July 3. His career as a humanities librarian and associate professor at Colorado State University led him to consider creating a bibliography, and, inspired by William S. Baring-Gould's article about The Baker Street Irregulars in Esquire in 1966, he chose "Sherlock Holmes" as his subject, launching a project that resulted in three volumes of a massive record of anything and everything related to the Great Detective: THE WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SHERLOCK HOLMES AND DR. WATSON (1974), celebrated at a "Sherlock Lives!" conference at CSU in 1975. THE INTERNATIONAL SHERLOCK HOLMES (1980), and THE UNIVERSAL SHERLOCK HOLMES (1994). He received his Investiture from The Baker Street Irregulars in 1969, and the BSI's Two-Shilling Award in 1984.

Jul 18 #4 William Hobbs died on July 10. Born in Britain, he grew up in Australia, where he took up fencing and almost made the country's fencing squad for the Olympics in Melbourne; he also tried acting in repertory theater, and went on to a decades-long career as a fight director and stuntman. He was credited as fight arranger on Gene Wilder's "The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother" (1975), and (according to his obituary in the Hollywood Reporter) once said that Wilder was his most promising actor pupil.

Jack Benny had a long career on radio, and was heard as Sherlock Holmes on "The Chevrolet Show" on June 2, 1933 in the second of two episodes of "Who Killed Mr. X?"; you can listen to the show at <www.tinyurl.com/y9tpv7zs>.

Designed by Geeks <www.designedbygeeks.com> offers a variety of Sherlockian SVGs and other merchandise (including an imaginative "Mind Palace Mug"); in case you're wondering about what an SVG is, it's an abbreviation for Scalable Vector Graphics, an image format that's used with computerized sewing machines, electronic cutters, and standard computer printers (their other merchandise doesn't require technology more advanced than credit cards).

Greg Ruby reports that The Numismatic Friends of Sherlock Holmes will hold a dinner meeting during the World's Fair of Money in Philadelphia on Aug. 15, and local (and visiting) Sherlockians are welcome: details are available from Greg <221b@fourthgarrideb.com>, and reservations are requested by Aug. 13.

Sam Hearn's SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE DISAPPEARING DIAMOND (New York: Scholastic, 2018; 176 pp., $12.99) is written for young readers (ages 8-12) and attractively illustrated by the author: young John Watson arrives at Baker Street Academy in London as a new student and finds new friends, including Sherlock Holmes, Mrs. Hudson, and a hound named Baskerville, and of course there's a mystery to be solved. SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE BAKER STREET CURSE will be the next in the series.

Sherlock Holmes and Sigmund Freud worked together in Nicholas Meyer's THE SEVEN-PER-CENT SOLUTION (1974), and now Netflix has announced that it will make its first Austrian drama series "Freud" with the young neurologist in pursuit of a serial killer in Vienna, assisted by a medium named Fleur Salomé and a police detective named Kiss. The series will be made in German, but will be streamed in other countries, presumable dubbed or subtitled.

The seventh season of the CBS-TV series "Elementary" officially began production on July 11, but there's no word so far of how many episodes there will be, or when the season will premiere.

Joel Senter died on July 23. Joel and his wife Carolyn maintained Classic Specialties since the 1980s, selling (and sometimes publishing) a wide variety of Sherlockiana from their web-site, and in 2005 they launched their Sherlockian E-Times, a delightful electronic newsletter. Joel was an enthusiast in the world of old-time radio, and a stalwart member of the Tankerville Club of Cincinnati: in 2000 he was interviewed by Jim Hawkins for the web-site of the Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem, and it's on-line at <www.nashvillescholars.net/cjsenterbio.html>.

Jul 18 #5 The N.Y. Book Review has an interesting podcast, and a recent program ("True Crime Starring the Creator of Sherlock Holmes") presented Margalit Fox talking about her new book CONAN DOYLE FOR THE DEFENSE (May 18 #5) <www.tinyurl.com/yalmtwkd>. An earlier podcast ("From Brooklyn to the Gulag") included Michael Sims discussing his biography ARTHUR AND SHERLOCK: CONAN DOYLE AND THE CREATION OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Mar 17 #5) <www.tinyurl.com/y984ku48>.

Kim Newman's PROFESSOR MORIARTY: THE HOUND OF THE D'URBERVILLES (Dec 11 #2) has been optioned for television by Playground Entertainment, Lenny Picker reports. According to Deadline Hollywood (July 23), Newman announced that the book is in development as a long-form (mini-series) TV project; Playground has produced series that include "Wolf Hall" (2015), "Howards End" (2017), and "Little Women" (2017). Newman's book offers seven stories told by Col. Moran about his association with Prof. Moriarty.

Cliff Goldfarb has kindly reported Gray Basnight's article "A Brief History of Cryptography in Crime Fiction" <www.tinyurl.com/ybp3f34m>; it's an interesting discussion of "Biblical codes, Holmesian ciphers, and Poe's Encryptions." The article appeared on Crime Reads <www.crimereads.com>, an intriguing web-site that has many other posts of interest; you can search for [sherlock] and [conan doyle] to see much more.

Alexander Orlov has noted a "Detective Sherlock Holmes: Hidden Object Game" from CrispApp <www.tinyurl.com/y9q4oqsu>, available (free) at the Microsoft store; you can download and play it in Russian and English. The artwork on the opening screen is Sherlockian: there may be more Sherlockian content to be discovered by those who are willing to play through it all. There are other Sherlock Holmes games available at the Microsoft store, as well as 40 apps; search for [sherlock holmes].

Swinhay House (the home of Charles Augustus Magnussen in the finale of the third series of "Sherlock"), will be open to the public for the first time ever, for just one day, on Sept. 16 <www.tinyurl.com/yd7yrmve>. The home of Sir David McMurtry, who has made the house available as part of Heritage Open Days this year, is in North Nibley in Gloucestershire.

John B. Koelle ("The Sussex Vampire") died on Apr. 25. Jack graduated from Swarthmore College and served in the U.S. Air Force; he retired in 1958 and worked as an electrical engineer for many years. He enjoyed classical music, and diving and underwater photography, and was warm and welcoming to Sherlockians. Jack received his Investiture from The Baker Street Irregulars in 1965, and its Two-Shilling Award in 1986. He was a long-time member of the Sons of the Copper Beeches, serving as the society's Head Mastiff from 1971 to 1984, and he always was glad to report that the Sons were alive and drinking in Philadelphia.

Angela Misri's NO MATTER HOW IMPROBABLE (Fierce Ink, 2016; 243 pp., $16.99) is the third in a series about the adventures of Portia Adams, who has discovered that she's the granddaughter of both Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, and that her mysterious guardian and advisor is Irene Adler; Portia is pursuing her own career as a consulting detective in London. The author's web-site is at <www.aportiaadamsadventure.com>.

Jul 18 #6 Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is being performed at the Powerhouse in New Canaan, Conn., through Aug. 11 <www.tpnc.org>, the Peninsula Theatre in Woy Woy, N.S.W., until Aug. 12 <www.woywoylt.com>, and at the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre in Kalamazoo, Mich., through Aug. 20 <www.kazoocivic.com>. The play also is due at the Fallon House Theatre in Columbia, Calif., Aug. 31-Sept. 30 <www.sierrarep.org>; at the Bay Area Harbour Playhouse in Dickinson, Tex., Oct. 12 through Nov. 4 <www.harbourtheatre.com>; and the Seacoast Repertory Theatre in Portsmouth, N.H., Oct. 18-28 <www.seacoastrep.org>.

Victoria Hudson-Muir's new "The Dark Discovery of Sherlock Holmes" is being performed at the Bell Homestead National Historic Site, in Brantford, Ont., through Aug. 11 <www.branttheatre.com>.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (by R. Hamilton Wright and David Pichette) is being performed at the Anacortes Community Theatre in Anacortes, Wash., through Aug. 18 <www.acttheatre.com>.

Robert Brock's marionette production "The Death & Life of Sherlock Holmes" is running at Lancaster Marionette Theatre in Lancaster, Pa., through Nov. 17 <www.lancastermarionnette.org>.

"The Empty Glass: Sherlock Holmes Comes to Dover" will be performed at the Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover, Del., on Aug. 18; the web-site's at <www.tinyurl.com/y7hyf434>.

David Elendune's new play "Sherlock Holmes and the Curse of Moriarty!" will be performed at the Langham Court Theatre in Victoria, B.C., Aug. 23-Sept. 1, during the Victoria Fringe <www.tinyurl.com/y7yk2fnf>.

The Blackeyed Theatre will be touring Nick Lane's new dramatization "Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four" in Britain, Sept. 10-Apr. 6; the schedule is at <www.blackeyedtheatre.co.uk>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" is scheduled at the Lancaster Playhouse in White Stone, Va., Sept. 14-29; their web-site's at <www.lancasterplayers.org>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club" is due at the Long Beach Playhouse in Long Beach, Calif., Sept. 22-Oct. 20 <www.lbplayhouse.org>.

"Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" (written by Eric Coble and based on the graphic novels by Tony Lee and Dan Boultwood), has been sched-uled at the Valley Center Stage in North Bend, Wash., Oct. 12-27; web-site at <www.vallyecenterstge.org>.

"Das Sherlock Musical" is a German/British production that will premiere at the Urania Theater in Cologne on Nov. 7 <www.thesherlockmusical.com>, and then tour in Germany and Britain.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>

Aug 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

A hitherto unrecorded page from the manuscript of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" has turned up, from Chapter XIII, where Holmes is giving instructions to Sir Henry. It's in the hands of a private owner, and is for sale: details are available at item H37 in Randall Stock's census at his "Best of Sherlock" web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y9c5evqa>.

Conan Doyle's Colt .38 semi-automatic pistol will be offered at auction on Sept. 20 at Holts Auctioneers in the U.K., estimated at £4,000-£6,000. It has an interesting provenance: first owned by Conan Doyle's brother Innes, it likely came to Conan Doyle from Innes' widow Clara, and was one of two pistols placed in his London solicitors' safe deposit box in 1921, when the Firearms Act first became law, and apparently forgotten after he died. Details will be found at <www.tinyurl.com/y9o9kkoy>.

Bob Terry, who has been collecting Sherlockiana and Doyleana for decades, is selling some of his treasures at Heritage Auctions on Sept. 13, including a complete run of the Sherlock Holmes stories in single issues of The Strand Magazine, a delightful copy of Lippincott's Monthly Magazine (with "The Sign of the Four"), and much more: go to <www.ha.com> and search for "bob terry" (in quotes).

"The Great American Read" is an eight-part series launched by PBS-TV in May <www.tinyurl.com/yd6or513>, based on their list of America's 100 best-loved novels: viewers will be able to vote on their favorites (the grand finale is to air in October): THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES did not make the list, but Mark Haddon's THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME did.

Howard Ostrom has noted an interesting article at the culturebox web-site <www.tinyurl.com/ycrcyq4p> about an exhibition at the Cheverny chateau in Loir-et-Cher in France, where you can see full-size figures of Scooby-Doo, Hercule Poirot, John Steed, Colombo, and Sherlock Holmes, all created with Legos: the article's in French, with a colorful image showing Holmes.

Planning ahead: the Sherlockian birthday festivities in New York will be on Jan. 9-13, with The Baker Street Irregulars' annual dinner on Jan. 11; the annual dinner of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London will be on Jan. 19.

"Harrods is celebrating rarity in all its guises via a curated list of Rare Finds," the store announced this month, one of the rare finds being an Arthur Conan Doyle Goyard Trunk <www.tinyurl.com/y7e875u4>, one of only seven ever made (one of which has been lost): two of the trunks are owned by Goyard, and one of those was exhibited in New York two years ago (Nov 16 #5). This one, from a private collection, seems to have been sold (the price was £96,000): no one seems to know which of the seven trunks was the one that was commissioned by Conan Doyle in 1925.

Phillip Bergem has updated his two extensive checklists of Sherlockian and Doylean films and television programs, annotated for date, country, actors who played Holmes and Watson (or Conan Doyle), production company, and alternate titles: they're available by e-mail from Phil <pgbergem@gmail.com>, and at Willis Frick's "Sherlocktron" <www.sherlocktron.com>.

Aug 18 #2 "I'll play Sherlock Holmes the detective," George Robey sang in the second verse of "Bang Went the Chance of a Lifetime" (which he wrote with Sax Rohmer in 1908); Robey was known as one of the greatest music-hall performers, and Rohmer certainly is best known as the creator of Dr. Fu Manchu. Howard Ostrom has reported that you can hear Robey perform the song at <www.tinyurl.com/y7mfvtpz>; it will be helpful if you also have a print-out of the lyrics, available at <www.tinyurl.com/yaw2jy7c>. Robey earlier played Sherlock Holmes in a revue at the Tivoli in London in 1902.

For the completists: there was a British movie tie-in edition of Mitch Cullin's A SLIGHT TRICK OF THE MIND (Apr 05 #6) published by Canongate in 2015 as MR. HOLMES, with a movie-poster cover showing Ian McKellan as the Great Detective (£7.99).

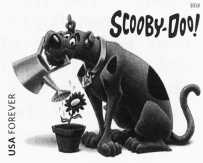
THE GRAND GAME: A CELEBRATION OF SHERLOCKIAN SCHOLARSHIP: VOLUME ONE: 1902-1959, edited by Laurie R. King and Leslie S. Klinger, published in 2011 and long out-of-print, has been reissued the Baker Street Irregulars Press as a trade paperback <www.tinyurl.com/yavarpbp>. The late Bernard Davies once wrote, "How wonderful to discover that, even if you are slightly mad, you are not alone," and the book demonstrates well just how interesting it can be to play the Grand Game (the web-site offers a look at the table of contents). Recommended.

Jim Hawkins has launched a Facebook page for the friends of the late John Bennett Shaw; it's intended to be an on-line gathering place where friends can share memories and tell stories about him <www.tinyurl.com/y9bzq38x>.

Philip K. Jones died on June 13. He worked for many years in information technology, and when he retired he devoted his attention to a comprehensive data base of Sherlockian pastiches, parodies, and related fiction, winding up with more than 11,000 entries; it is far more than merely a list of authors and titles: an excellent (some might say frightening) demonstration of how popular Sherlock Holmes is. An earlier version (with 9,531 entries) is available on-line at <www.ash-tree.bc.ca/Sherlock.htm>, along with his 2012 paper "The Untold Tales--Analyzed".

Dermot McEvoy's article on "How Two Literary Legends Tried to Save Sir Roger Casement from the Gallows" <www.tinyurl.com/yb8o48h3> is an interesting exploration of the unsuccessful efforts of George Bernard Shaw and Arthur Conan Doyle to win a reprieve for Casement.

The Postal Service has issued a stamp honoring Scooby-Doo, who first appeared in a Hanna-Barbera television series on CBS-TV in 1969 and still is going strong, on stage and screen as well as on television. Greg Ruby posted a colorfully-illustrated discussion of "Sherlock Holmes and Scooby-Doo" at the Fourth Garrideb web-site in 2016 <www.tinyurl.com/y9fsnxv9>.



Further to the item on the Google Books Ngram Viewer (Jul 18 #1) Scott Monty sent a reminder that Cory Howell reported in detail on "Sherlock Holmes vs. Tarzan--by the Numbers" at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" web-site in 2016 <www.tinyurl.com/ybjjtzd6>.

Aug 18 #3 The 2018 Irene Adler Prize has been awarded to Lynette Curtis for her essay "Letters to Las Vegas". The prize is a $1,000 scholarship for a woman pursuing a degree in journalism, creative writing, or literature, established by Lucas Aykroyd, an award-winning public speaker and writer in Vancouver, B.C.; it is indeed named for the heroine of "A Scandal in Bohemia", and you can learn more about the prize, and read the winning essay at <www.lucasaykroyd.com/scholarships>.

Sheldon Comics is an on-line strip created by Dave Kellett, and you can see his colorful (and amusing) "Anatomy of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" at his web-site <www.sheldoncomics.com/archive/180730.html>; kindly noted by Alexander Orlov.

From 1978 to 1991 the U.S. Postal Service issued a series of stamps honoring the "Performing Arts" designed by Jim Sharpe; four of the stamps showed Will Rogers, W. C. Fields, Douglas Fairbanks, and the three Barrymores, all of whom had Sherlockian or Doylean connections. Sharpe's artwork for two of the (other) stamp designs, mounted with copies of the stamps in the series, is available from Taraba Illustration Art for a modest $275 (shipping extra) and you can request an image from <fred@tarabaillustrationart.com>.

In 1979 the late Norman Schatell proposed that William Gillette be included in the series. As you can see at <www.tinyurl.com/ya5zrhux>, many of the stamps in the series showed the artists in performance, and a stamp honoring Gillette surely would have showed him as Sherlock Holmes, which would have been the only U.S. postage showing commemorating the Great Detective.

Evy Herzog has reported an amusing and colorful "Sherlock Bones and Doctor Pupson" T-shirt designed by Mike Tanoory and available ($25.00) from John Wye's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y8bmjot2>; Bones is a chihuahua, and Pupson is a French bulldog.

"Arthur Conan Doyle was a doctor himself before becoming a writer. Talked about the lessons you learn as a doctor: discipline, confidence, and being able to be decisive. And all of that is indispensable. The last thing I got from him is a very deep understanding of science and also an appreciation of empirical evidence." Charles Krauthammer in "Charles Krauthammer: His Words" (a one-hour tribute on Fox News on June 22). You can watch the program at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8w50olSCk8>.

Steve Mason has issued a call for nominations for the Beacon Award, given annually by The Beacon Society to someone who has "made a significant contribution to exposing young people to the stories of Sherlock Holmes." The deadline for nominations is Nov. 15, and details are available at the society's web-site <www.beaconsociety.com>.

Penn & Teller are among the best magicians performing today, and they have a great television series ("Penn & Teller: Fool Us" on The CW); you can see Shawn Farquhar fool them for the second time with a Sherlockian magic trick at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=E64Z1jlRn4E> (with thanks to Howard Ostrom for his report). Colin McLeod, who's often described as the Sherlock Holmes of mentalism also appeared on the show (but did not fool Penn & Teller); you can see him perform at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnMPnNav_WE>.

Aug 18 #4 "The Daintiest Scream on the Moor Charity Ball" was one of many events during the birthday festivities in New York last January, and you can read (almost) all about it in Maria Fleishhack's report in the spring issue of The Baker Street Journal: one of the highlights was the appearance of the Sherlock Holmes Cake created for the television reality series "Cake Boss", and there's video at <www.tinyurl.com/y739ullg>. There also is the Baker Street Babes' podcast, where they talk about the ball and the cake and other things <www.tinyurl.com/yabudnnt>.

Nero Wolfe was not the only son of Sherlock Holmes, according to Yuichi Hirayama, who has written THE REMINISCENCES OF KOGORO AKECHI, a biography of the detective created by Edogawa Rampo in 1925: Akechi was a brilliant but eccentric detective who consulted with the police and was a master of disguise and an expert at judo, and relied on a group of young boys to gather information.

MYCROFT AND SHERLOCK is the second in the series written by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Anna Waterhouse, due from Titan Books in October: Bill Seil reports that there's publicity, a Sherlockian photograph of Abdul-Jabbar, and an extract from the book at <www.tinyurl.com/y7n3ddfy>.

Paramount's "Sherlock Gnomes" has a lifetime gross of more than $89 million worldwide (according to the Box Office Mojo web-site), far behind "Gnomeo and Juliet" (more than $193 million worldwide). The numbers don't include revenue from television, DVDs, and tie-in merchandise, which of course can be significant. And there's lots of tie-in merchandise, including a 141-page movie novelization by Mary Tillworth that seems to have been based on an early version of the script, and A. E. Dingee's SHERLOCK GNOMES ON THE CASE, which comes with a handy decoder ($5.99) (both from Simon Spotlight).

The fifth season of "The Flash" will debut on the CW channel on Oct. 9 with Tom Cavanagh as a new character Sherloque Wells: Nick Venable suggested on Cinema Blend <www.tinyurl.com/yagnoxao> that the character may be a nod to Sherlock Holmes, or perhaps Sherlock Hemlock.

John Allen's SHADOW WOMAN: THE CREATOR OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Long Beach: Allen & Allen Semiotics, 2017: 302 pp., $19.95) suggests that much of Conan Doyle's literary work was not in fact written by him, and that most of the Canon was written by Louise Conan Doyle and Jean Conan Doyle: Allen offers evidence from stylometric analysis, the Canon's literary allusions, and a detailed examination of the manuscript of "A Scandal in Bohemia", and does not neglect Conan Doyle's non-Sherlockian work. Allen's research involved scholarship by Sherlockians, and others, and he displays an ability to discover allusions, make connections and draw conclusions that rivals what Sam Rosenberg achieved in NAKED IS THE BEST DISGUISE more than 40 years ago.

He also has written BRIMSTONE (Long Beach: Allen & Allen Semiotics, 2018: 223 pp., $9.99): it's billed as the first in a series of Louise Conan Doyle mysteries, but features Louise Hawkins and is set in 1879 (well before she met her future husband). The book's well plotted and well written, and has interesting supporting characters: careful readers will note foreshadowing of the Canon. The author has a "Louise Conan Doyle Cyclopedia" web-site at <www.louiseconandoyle.com>, where he has been blogging since June 2017.

Aug 18 #5 Joanna Blalock stars in A STUDY IN TREASON (New York: Minotaur, 2018; 299 pp., $26.99), the second in Leonard Goldberg's series about the daughter of Sherlock Holmes, who once again is working with Dr. John H. Watson and his son Dr. John H. Watson Jr. in 1914, searching for a missing document and encountering a vicious killer (Joanne has learned much from her father). The author has a web-site at <www.leonardgoldberg.com>.

Sorry about that: the correct URL for Jim Hawkins' interview with the late Joel Senter (Jul 18 #4) is <www.nashvillescholars.net/jcsenterbio.html>.

Much has been written about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's encounters with Harry Houdini, and while Conan Doyle is mentioned only in passing in Derek Tait's THE GREAT HOUDINI: HIS BRITISH TOURS (Barnsley: Pen & Sword History, 2017; 296 pp., $39.95), the book offers a carefully-researched and enjoyable look at Houdini's appearances in Britain, where he performed in vaudeville theaters at the top of bills that included many other entertainers (audiences definitely got their money's worth in those long-ago days).

"How It Should Have Ended" is a 15-minute animated web-series streamed by Starz Digital Media: their 3-minute alternate ending for "Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows" premiered on Feb. 16, 2012, and it's available on-line at <www.howitshouldhaveended.com/?s=sherlock>, in case you don't want to wait until the third Robert Downey Jr. film arrives in theaters.

The "Baker Street Sonata" will be a performance by the Mother Lode Friends of Music at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., on Nov. 10 and 11: more information at <www.bakerstreetwest.com>.

"The John Batchelor Show" was launched on WABC-AM in New York in 2001, and is still going strong, and there's a web-site <www.johnbatchelorshow.com> where you can listen to his podcasts, including a two-part interview with Michael Dirda (uploaded on Aug. 12) about Conan Doyle, and Holmes, and The Baker Irregulars.

Alexander Orlov has reported that there's a "Baker Street" residential complex in the Dzerzhinsky district of Volgograd. There's a web-site (with an amusing video) at <www.bs34.ru/kompleks/o-komplekse>, and more information to be found at <www.bs34.ru/kompleks/novosti/novosti-17-09-2014-07>: it's all in Russian, and (as always) Google Translate can be helpful. Buildings in the complex are named Sherlock, Watson, Big Ben, and Hudson House.

Edward C. Rochette died on Jan. 18. He was a professional numismatist, as a cartoonist and editor and then an executive with the American Numismatic Association. Ed also was an energetic Sherlockian, and a member of three Sherlockian societies in Colorado, and for many years he presided over the mail-order company Sherlock, Stock & Barrel.

Michael A. Ventrella and Jonathan Mabery have edited BAKER STREET IRREGULARS: THE GAME IS AFOOT (New York: Diversion Books, 2018; 257 pp., $15.99); it's a sequel to their BAKER STREET IRREGULARS: THIRTEEN AUTHORS WITH NEW TAKES ON SHERLOCK HOLMES (Feb 17 #5) and offers thirteen more versions of Holmes (among them a home security system, a rabbi, a female librarian in ancient Egypt, and Santa Claus).

Aug 18 #6 Further to the earlier report (Jan 18 #7) that items from the Daniel Posnansky Collection are turning up at eBay from people who bought large lots at the auction, Lewis Durbin (lewidurbi0) is offering a nicely bound volume of Chambers's Journal (1879) for $649.50: "The Mystery of Sasassa Valley" (Conan Doyle's first published story) appeared in the magazine on Sept. 6, 1879 <www.tinyurl.com/y96jg25z> (when the author was only 20 years old).

The No Frills Silver Blaze was run at Monmouth Park in Oceanport, N.J. on Aug. 18, arranged by The Turf Builders of Baker Street, and Kate Karlson suggests that the winner had the most appropriate name in any runnings of The Silver Blaze anywhere, ever <www.tinyurl.com/y869pblr>. Sherlockians (and others) who were wise enough to bet on the winner made a bit of money: the payout was $4.80/$2.60/$2.20.

At least it's not a musical: "King Kong Alive on Broadway" will open this fall, using animatronics and puppetry in a 21st-century reimagining of the story of "a 2,000-pound, 20-foot high gorilla and the woman who risks everything to help him" <www.kingkongbroadway.com>. Nor is it Sherlockian, apparently, but nevertheless the mind boggles.

Further to the report (May 17 #4) about Sherlockian.Net having found a new home at Michigan State University, there has been a formal (and nicely illustrated) announcement on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/y87cvakj>.

Les Moskowitz has noted a story in the Philadelphia Inquirer that reports that the historic Carbon County Jail in Jim Thorpe, Penn., is for sale: the asking price is $749,000 <www.tinyurl.com/yd8naz4v>. Sherlockians visited the jail in 2004 during the first of the Baker Street Irregulars' weekend excursions (it's where the Mollie Maguires were hanged), and if you buy it you also acquire the gallows and a ghost. Les also reports that there's an interesting podcast about the Mollies at <www.tinyurl.com/yb8g2xpd>.

"Professor Quiz" (radio's first quiz show) launched on CBS on May 9, 1936, and "Uncle Jim's Question Bee" was the second, premiering on NBC on Sept. 26, 1936; both programs had the same sponsor, the company that in 1930 had begun a long running series that starred William Gillette, Richard Gordon, and Louis Hector, all of whom played Sherlock Holmes. That series ended on May 26, 1935: it's likely that G. Washington Coffee decided in 1935 that a quiz show would be more popular with listeners than Sherlock Holmes.

So (spoiler alert): the appropriately-named winner of the No Frills Silver Blaze at Monmouth Park was named (in case you didn't bother to click on the link) Faster N Blazes.

The summer issue of The Baker Street Journal at hand, with scholarship and news and artwork, some of the artwork being a nice reminder of the humor of the late Norman Schatell. Editor Steve Rothman reports on Les Klinger's recent (and successful) battle with the Conan Doyle Estate Limited over its application for a trademark on Sherlock Holmes for use in books, short stories, and magazines in the field of detective fiction; there's still time to purchase a subscription for this year's five issues of the BSJ, available at <www.bakerstreetirregulars.com>.

Aug 18 #7 Derrick Belanger's SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE ADVENTURE OF THE PRIMAL MAN (Manchester: Belanger Books, 2016; 167 pp., $9.95) involves Holmes and Watson, and Holmes' cousin Prof. Ellington Dynamo (who is a dead ringer for Prof. George Edward Challenger) investigating a possible yeti, bought to London from Tibet in a block of ice; there's also an account of the first case Holmes solved, as a young student. The publisher's web-site is at <www.belangerbooks.com>.

Also from Belanger: David Marcum's HOLMES AWAY FROM HOME: ADVENTURES FROM THE GREAT HIATUS, VOLUME ONE (1891-1892) and VOLUME TWO (1893-1894) (2016; 279/305 pp., $19.95 each) are collections of pastiches recounting Holmes' adventures between "The Final Problem" and "The Empty House" (he had many adventures, in many countries).

Barry S Brown's MRS. HUDSON'S OLYMPIC TRIUMPH (London: MX Publishing, 2017; 245 pp., $16.95 the fifth in his "Mrs. Hudson of Baker Street" series, and he continues his amusing approach to the Canon: Mrs. Hudson does the real detecting, with assistance from Holmes and Watson, this time in a case that takes them all to Greece for the 1896 Olympics (in which Holmes competes), and of course they solve a mystery on behalf of Her Majesty's government. The author's web-site is at <www.barrysbrown> and MX Publishing sells all of its books at <www.sherlockholmesbooks.com>.

Also from MX: Marcia Wilson's THE PEACEFUL NIGHT POISONINGS, 2017; 270 pp., $14.95) is the second title in her "Test of the Professionals" series; the first was THE ADVENTURE OF THE FLYING BLUE PIGEON, with LEAP YEAR being the third). The books focus on the professionals (Lestrade, Gregson, and Bradstreet), and their work with Holmes and Watson, and the well-written story offers an interesting look at a world as seen by the Scotland Yarders.

More from MX: Thos. Kent Miller's SHERLOCK HOLMES ON THE ROOF OF THE WORLD was a 75-page booklet published in 1991 (Oct 91 #4); revised and expanded, it was published in three volumes in 2017 as HOLMES BEHIND THE VEIL: SHERLOCK HOLMES ON THE ROOF OF THE WORLD (116 pp., $9.95); THE GREAT DETECTIVE AT THE CRUCIBLE OF LIFE (414 pp., $18.95), and THE SUSSEX BEEKEEPER AT THE DAWN OF TIME (387 pp., $18.95). Miller focuses on books written by H. Rider Haggard and the characters he created (chiefly Leo Vincey about Tibet, and Alan Quatermain about East and West Africa), with many more from books written by Rudyard Kipling and Jules Verne and others, as well as from both legend and history, past and present.

Still more from MX: Allan Mitchell's SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE GHOST OF GLASTONBURY (2017; 330 pp., $16.95) has Holmes and Watson in Somerset, a region that Holmes knew well as a youth, with a mystery that involves a detailed ancient history of the area. John Sutton's UPON A NATION'S HONOUR (2018; 204 pp., $16.95) has Holmes and Watson working hard to foil Germany's sinister plot to steal a top-secret weapon from the new HMS Dreadnaught (the weapon would provide Germany with a fearsome advantage in the coming World War).

"Holmes and Watson" (starring Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly) is scheduled to open wide in theaters on Dec. 21, and there's an amusing poster, spotted by Herb Moskowitz, at <www.tinyurl.com/y7x7jbs3>.

Aug 18 #8 Jeffrey Hatcher's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club" is running at the Maplewood Barn Community Theatre in Columbia, Mo., until Sept. 9 <www.maplewoodbarn.com>. It will also be performed at the Long Beach Playhouse in Long Beach, Calif., Sept. 22-Oct. 20 <www.lbplayhouse.org>.

Ray Crew's "Sherlock Holmes and the Avenging Angels" (not a dramatization of "A Study in Scarlet") is on at the Elementary Theater in Cape May, N.J., through Sept. 29 <www.centerforcommunityarts.org>.

Robert Brock's two-act puppet play "The Death and Life of Sherlock Holmes" is running at the Lancaster Puppet Theatre in Lancaster, Pa., through Nov. 17 <www.lmtyapsody.com>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is due at the Century Church Theatre in Hillsburgh, Ont., Sept. 7-16 <www.tinyurl.com/ybbcmy6c>; it also will be performed at the Riverbank Theatre in Marine City, Mich., Sept. 7-30 <www.riverbanktheatre.com>.

John Goodrum's dramatization of "The Nightmare Room" will be performed at the Pomegranate Theatre in Chesterfield, Derbyshire, Sept. 13-15; web-site at <www.chesterfieldtheatres.co.uk>.

Christopher Cutting's "The Accidental Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" is due at the Lansdown Hall & Gallery in Stroud, Gloucestershire, Sept. 14-16; and at the Bread and Roses Theatre in Clapham, London, Oct. 6-7; the web-site's at <www.tobaccoteatheatrecompany.co.uk>.

Hellan Salfas' "Sherlock Holmes i el Destripador" is scheduled (in Catalan) at the Teatre Apolo in Barcelona, Sept. 21-Oct. 7 <www.teatreapolo.com>.

John de Lancie and Nat Segaloff's dramatization of "The Lost World" will be performed at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse in Meredith, N.H., Sept. 28-29, as part of a "Radio Drama Double Feature" <www.winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org>.

Dennis Rosa's "Sherlock Holmes and the Curse of the Sign of the Four" will be performed at the Crescent Theatre in Birmingham, West Midlands, Oct. 4-6 <www.crescentheatre.co.uk>.

"The Improvised Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" is scheduled by the Synergy Theater at the Lesher Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek, Calif., Oct. 18-21 <www.lesherartsceter.com>.

Andy Suess' "Sherlock Holmes und der Diebstahl der Quadriga" (a radio play performed by actors and puppets) will be performed at Das Weite Theater in Berlin, Oct. 12 and 13 <www.das-weite-theater.de>.

Thomas Moore's dramatization of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is due at the Lowry in Salford on Oct. 28, and at the Drayton Arms Theatre in London on Dec. 11-Jan. 12, 2019 <www.thehoundofthebaskervilles.co.uk>.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>

Sep 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

Apologies for being a bit late with this issue, my excuse being a trip to the land of the "dubhgall" (which translates to "dark foreigner"). That's Ireland, and the presence of the name in the historical records of the 8th and 9th centuries, when the Vikings arrived in Ireland, suggests that the descendants of that dark foreigner are those known today as Doyle (one recalls, of course, that there's a photograph of Conan Doyle in costume as a Viking).

Arthur Conan Doyle's visit to Berlin in 1890 to investigate Robert Koch's widely hailed cure for tuberculosis is briefly discussed in biographies of Conan Doyle (he concluded that Koch's treatment was not, in fact, a cure, and published an article explaining why). Thomas Goetz's THE REMEDY: ROBERT KOCH, ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE, AND THE QUEST TO CURE TUBERCULOSIS (New York: Gotham Books, 2014; 298 pp., $27.00) offers a detailed account of how great a scourge the disease was at the time, and informative biographies of the two doctors.

The McClelland Tobacco Company has closed, after 40 years of selling pipe tobaccos from high grade leaf and strip tobacco that's no longer available; "we might have limped along with lesser leaf," the owners said, "but nobody would have been happy with the resulting products, and we would have been ashamed of them." Larry Wagner wrote about the company's history in an article in Tobacconist in May <www.tinyurl.com/y9dt3aya>, but doesn't mention their "221B Series" that featured Black Shag, Arcadia, and Honeydew, prized by Sherlockian pipe-smokers (and others who were happy to collect the handsome tins).

Alexander Orlov has noted a Sherlock Holmes Pub in Kharkov, in the Ukraine (without a web-site, but it's reviewed at TripAdvisor on-line). The fact that there are so many Sherlock Holmes Pubs around the world demonstrates his popularity.

The late Raymond Smullyan, author of THE CHESS MYSTERIES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (1979) and many other books, has been credited as having created "the hardest logic puzzle ever." If you would like to try your hand at it, you can find it at Wikipedia <www.tinyurl.com/prux6yo>. But (spoiler alert): don't scroll down too far, because Wikipedia also gives the solution (which you may find as difficult as the puzzle).

"The Return of Sherlock Holmes" was a two-hour special broadcast by CBS-TV on Jan. 10, 1987, starring Michael Pennington (Sherlock Holmes) and Margaret Colin (Jane Watson); Jennie Paton has found it conveniently available at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/y8wcm94k>.

Many will have seen at least one performance of Matthew Lang's one-act play "Sherlock's Last Case" or Charles Marowitz's two-act play "Sherlock's Last Case" (which was Marowitz's expanded version of the play he wrote as Matthew Lang). There's some interesting discussion of the play in his BURNT BRIDGES (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1990): the sub-title of the book is "a souvenir of the swinging sixties and beyond," and he tells grand stories about his early theatrical career in London and elsewhere.

Sep 18 #2 It's always fun to realize that my local library is housed in three buildings on Capitol Hill. The Library of Congress has all sorts of resources, including a well-staffed reference desk, where for more than 30 years you could find Thomas Mann, who knew just where all the bodies were buried. Tom is now retired, and has found time to write DOC AT THE REFERENCE DESK (Washington: Alexandrina Press, 2017; 77 pp., $7.00), a collection of "small stories in a large library" that gives one an idea of some of the strange things that can happen at a reference desk. Non-Sherlockian (but obviously written by a Sherlockian), and great fun for anyone who likes real libraries.

The Royal Mail has issued a set of eight stamps honoring the 200th anniversary of the Old Vic in London, and three of the stamps show actors who have had six Sherlockian roles (none of them at the Old Vic): Sir Ralph Richardson and Sir John Gielgud, Sir Laurence Oliver, and Dame Judi Dench. Try your hand at naming the six roles without looking them up (answers will be on the next page).

Craig Sodaro is a prolific playwright for younger performers, and Pioneer Drama Service <www.pioneerdrama.com> has published many of his plays (and plays by other authors); you can search at their web-site for [sherlock holmes] and (for one additional play) [conan doyle].

You can see a poster for "Detective Chimp and the Case of the Missing Mustache" (a film that exists only as a poster) in the trailer for "Teen Titans Go! to the Movies" (2018), and likely in the film itself. There's a brief glimpse of the poster (at 26 seconds) in the trailer <www.tinyurl.com/y8z428kj>.

"If you could attenuate to every strand of quivering data, the future would be entirely calculable." is attributed to Sherlock Holmes in an article by Max Loh in Seeking Alpha on Aug. 20 <www.tinyurl.com/y9aspmol>. So: where and when did Sherlock Holmes say that? Not in the Canon, so don't bother searching there.

Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, which for many years has published Sherlockiana in its February issue, nicely timed to coincide with the birthday festivities in New York, has a web-site <www.tinyurl.com/yaemcfcm> that's well worth exploring. There's audio and video from the symposium at Columbia University in 2016 that celebrated the 75th anniversary of EQMM, Arthur Vidro's web-only account of the history of the magazine's first issue, Dean Jobb's "Stranger Than Fiction" report on "We Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" (Feb. 2018), and much more.

George Mann's THE IMMORALITY ENGINE (New York: Tor/Tom Doherty, 2011; 347 pp., $33.87) is the third in his series about Sir Maurice Newbury and Victoria Hobbes: the first was THE AFFINITY BRIDGE (2009), the second THE OSIRIS RITUAL (2010), and the fourth THE EXECUTIONER'S HEART (2013). The series, set in a steampunk Victorian London, with interesting characters, is not Sherlockian, but nicely done. Mann has written some good Sherlockian pastiches, and has a web-site at <www.george-mann.com>.

Sep 18 #3 About those four actors: Richardson and Gielgud played Holmes and Watson in "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" on BBC Radio (1954); Olivier was Prof. Moriarty in "The Seven-Per-Cent Solution" (1976); Dench was Sally in "A Study in Terror" (1965), and was heard as Mrs. Hudson in "The Hound of the Baskervilles" on BBC Radio (1998), and Gielgud played Lord Salisbury in "Murder by Decree" (1979).

Why did Rex Stout decide that Nero Wolfe would live on West 35th Street in New York? John J. McAleer, who wrote a delightful and definitive biography of Stout, reported in 1979 that Stout explained that West 35th Street was where William Gillette's Holmes "received his first acclaim" at the Garrick Theatre.

CLASSIC AMERICAN CRIME FICTION OF THE 1920S (New York: Pegasus Crime, 2018; 1,152 pp., $39.95), annotated by Leslie S. Klinger and with a Foreword by Otto Penzler, is an interesting addition to the wide variety of literature that Les has annotated; the book contains five novels by Earl Derr Biggers, S. S. Van Dine, Ellery Queen, Dashiell Hammett, and W. R. Burnett, from a decade in which American crime writing was reborn (and a decade that is far enough in the past that annotations are helpful indeed). Four of the authors likely will be familiar; Burnett wrote LITTLE CAESAR, today best known as the source of the 1931 movie that starred Edward G. Robinson, and it's a treat to see what Rico was like on the printed page.

The U.S. Postal Service has issued a colorful set of four postage stamps showing dragons, one of them being a green dragon and thus Sherlockian; dragons are mentioned in three of the Sherlock Holmes stories, but only one of them is green.

"If you could attenuate to every strand of quivering data, the future would be entirely calculable," was said by Sherlock Holmes in "The Six Thatchers" (an episode in the BBC's "Sherlock" series), and easily found, as it turns out, with a Google search. This is not the first time Holmes has been quoted in print from an unidentified non-Canonical source, and it's likely to happen more and more often.

Karen Murdock spotted Robert Douglas-Fairhurst's interesting review in the Guardian on Aug. 16 <www.tinyurl.com/y7qrxp6g> of two books about mazes and labyrinths; he draws an interesting connection between "the scarlet thread of murder" in "A Study in Scarlet" and the ball of red thread that Ariadne gave to Theseus to help him find his way out of the Cretan labyrinth after he killed the Minotaur.

The Baker Street Irregulars <www.tinyurl.com/yb57rklo> is one of the teams in the CSFBL [Computer Simulated Fantasy Football League]; you're welcome to click on the "How to Play" button to see how thing work in the League.

Neil Simon died on Aug. 26. He wrote dozens of plays, more than 20 screenplays, and the scripts for five hit musicals, and was sometimes called the world's most popular playwright. Perhaps best-known for "The Odd Couple" (1965), he won the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1991 for "Lost in Yonkers", and wrote the screenplay for "Murder By Death" (1976); one of the alternate endings for the film included an appearance by Holmes and Watson.

Sep 18 #4 Collectors of Sherlockian comic books face a problem: the older comic books are more and more expensive each year. But if you want only to read them, there's a great web-site with digital scans and a handy search engine. For example: Hit Comics #29 (Sept. 1943) had Sherlock Holmes on the cover (and in the story "Barry Magician"); you can read the entire comic book, in full color, at <www.comicbookplus.com/?dlid=71548>.

When in Edinburgh: consider The Real Sherlock Holmes Walking Tour of Edinburgh <www.realsherlockholmes.com>; tours can be three hours or a full day (and of course focuses on Conan Doyle rather than Holmes).

Further to the report (Feb 18 #6) on the competition set by the Folio Society and House of Illustration for Sherlockian artwork, one of the finalists was Natasa Ilincic, and her three illustrations can be seen at her web-site <www.natasailincic.com/book-illustration-2>, and prints are available at her shop at Society6 <www.tinyurl.com/yafa4s9v>.

Karen Murdock has reported an article about "Miraculous Mushrooms" in the August issue of Remedies, and the Lion's Mane Mushroom, which is believed by some to be quite healthful and helpful. Hericium erinaceus, according to Wikipedia, has other names, including the bearded hedgehog mushroom and the satyr's beard, and is undergoing basic research for potential biological properties.

Canadian skater Stephen Gogolev landed a quad Lutz en route winning a gold medal in a competition in Slovakia last month; he skated to music from the film "Sherlock Holmes" and wore imaginative costume, which you can see in a story in the Toronto Star <www.tinyurl.com/y7dsltre>.

What's the strangest location for a Sherlockian lecture? A leading candidate would be the Mountain View Mausoleum in Altadena, Calif., where Leslie S. Klinger will be the guest speaker on Oct. 11 at an event that will include (in addition to his lecture) a happy hour, a book signing, and a dessert reception; the story at Pasadena Now <www.tinyurl.com/ya9ct3mm> has a nice image of the mausoleum.

About that postage stamp: the Green Dragon was the inn, kept by old Barnes, three miles off at Crendall (in "Shoscombe Old Place").

Greg Ruby continues to post interesting commentary at "The Fourth Garrideb" <www.fourthgarrideb.com>; devoted to the "Numismatics of Sherlock Holmes", it covers much more than money: "The Decorated Captain Tommy Gregson of the NYPD" explains the medals and ribbons one sees when he wears his dress uniform on the television series "Elementary".

Further to the report (Aug 18 #7) about the amusing poster for "Holmes and Watson" (the film that stars Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly and is due for release on Dec. 21), the poster is now extremely difficult to find on the Internet; Torrent Freak noted (Aug. 29) <www.tinyurl.com/yczqgvr9> that Columbia Pictures sent DMCA notices to scrub any and all copies from the web (the DMCA is the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, enacted in 1998). Not every web-site received a DMCA notice; the Red Circle of Washington still displays the poster in its Calendar <www.redcircledc.org>.

Sep 18 #5 The British Library has an interesting web-site, which offers articles such as Liza Picard's "Education in Victorian Britain" <www.tinyurl.com/yba2nyza> which includes a brief mention of board-schools (as in "The Naval Treaty"). And John Sutherland's "An Introduction to Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" <www.tinyurl.com/y9cztloq> which includes a mention that Eliot was a great lover of the Sherlock Holmes stories.

Laurie R. King and Leslie S. Klinger have edited FOR THE SAKE OF THE GAME (New York: Pegasus, 2018; 284 pp., $25.95), the fourth in their series of anthologies of "stories inspired by the Sherlock Holmes Canon." Sherlockians often use the word "pastiche" to describe just about any sort of Sherlockian story, including parodies (such as Robert L. Fish's "Schlock Homes" stories) and homages (August Derleth's "Solar Pons" stories), and it may be that yet another word is needed to describe what happens after Laurie and Les ask good writers to do something (or anything) Sherlockian: the results can be interesting and enjoyable indeed.

Further to the item (Mar 18 #5) on Tania Henzell's new Sherlock Holmes Tartan: she has a web-site at <www.sherlockholmestartan.com> where you can see a wide variety of merchandise; she will also have a table in the Merchants Room during the Birthday Festivities in January.

FLIGHT OR FRIGHT, an anthology of flight-based horror stories that was edited by Stephen King and Bev Vincent (Mar 18 #4), has been issued as an audiobook, with Simon Jones reading Conan Doyle's "The Horror of the Heights" (Simon and Schuster Audio, $34.99); Jones played Sherlock Holmes on stage in the Gillette play in New York in 1998, and in the musical "Baker Street" in New York in 2001.

"It's good if you want to go to the Sherlock Holmes Museum every single day of your life, and less-than-ideal for literally anything else," according to an article in VICE on Sept. 10 <www.tinyurl.com/y85rgfoc>: it's a small apartment with a fold-out bed, available for £1.894 a month.

Jennie Paton spotted an imaginative and jazzy video that advertises Sherlock Handcraft Gin <www.vimeo.com/287490989>: there's a nice image of the label at <www.markspirits.com>. The method of production is "bathtub with premium grain alcohol," and the name was "inspired by the best hound of all time."

The summer issue of The Magic Door (the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library newsletter) focuses on Conan Doyle in Africa, with articles by James Reese, Hartley Nathan, and Brenda Rossini along with news from and about the Library and the Collection. Copies are available from Clifford S. Goldfarb, 22 Markdale Avenue, Toronto, ON M6C, 1T1, Canada <cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca>, and you can easily join the Friends at <www.acdfriends.org>.

Sorry about that: the amusing poster for "Holmes and Watson" (Aug 18 #7) is hard to find on the Internet, likely because the studio requested/demanded that it be taken down. If you would like to see it, go to the Red Circle of Washington's web-site <www.redcircledc.org>: it's in the Calendar at the right, at Dec. 21.

Sep 18 #6 Ray Betzner plans to devote his "Studies in Starrett" blog this fall to a detailed examination of the publishing history of THE PRIVATE LIFE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, a true classic in our literature, and he'd like to hear from anyone who has information about the history of Mike Murphy's plans to reprint the 1933 first edition, which resulted in a limited edition of unbound signatures from the Autolycus Press in 1979. Ray can be reached at <rbetzner@mac.com>, and you can read the first of his weekly installments at <www.bit.ly/2wTxQOB>.

Copies of William R. Cochran's THE EMPTY PROBLEM AND THE FINAL HOUSE (2017) are still available for $21.00 postpaid from Bill (614 South Terrace Drive, Carbondale, IL 62901): the 35-page pamphlet offers the results of his explorations of the two stories that bookend the battle at the Reichenbach.

There's now an official trailer for the upcoming comedy "Holmes and Watson" (starring Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly) <www.tinyurl.com/y8kgh4at>: the film's due in theaters on Dec. 21.

"Bejewelled: Badges, Brotherhood and Identity" is the title of an exhibition, open through Aug. 24, 2019, at the Library and Museum of Freemasonry in London. The exhibition's web-site is at <www.tinyurl.com/7zslb3j>, and there was an article in the Telegraph on Aug. 25 <www.tinyurl.com/yak9t69o> that said that the jewelry on display would include Conan Doyle's badge: it turns out that the reporter got it wrong: while the Museum does have Conan Doyle's jewelry, it won't be on display.

Mattias Boström's FROM HOLMES TO SHERLOCK will have a Japanese edition from Sakhin-sha, translated by Yuichi Hirayama: his book's already available in Swedish (2013), Danish (2014), German (2015), Norwegian (2016), and English (2017).

"The Hound of the Wasgijville!" is the title of a new 1,500-piece Sherlockian jigsaw puzzle that features detective Sheer-luck, available at Amazon ($20.00) and elsewhere <www.tinyurl.com/y9yrhyaa>. There's also a new (and attractive) "Sherlock Holmes" 1,000-piece puzzle available from ThinkGeek ($14.99) <www.tinyurl.com/y8xuezx5>.

John P. Crotty ("Dr. James Mortimer") died on Aug. 12. He worked for many years as a radiologist in St. Louis, and was a colleague of Dr. Gray Chandler Briggs, from whom John acquired the treasure trove of original Frederic Dorr Steele artwork that Briggs had received from the artist. John was an energetic member of the Sherlockian society in St. Louis, and received his Investiture from The Baker Street Irregulars in 1972.

Those who enjoy the CBS-TV series "Elementary" will welcome the news that the two-part finale does not end the series. The seventh season is now in production, picking up a year later, and show-runner Rob Doherty has told a TV Line interviewer that "Sherlock, Joan, Gregson, and Bell form this very non-traditional family unit, and as the seventh season begins there's going to be a family crisis." Jonny Lee Miller and Lucy Liu now firmly hold the second-place record for having played Holmes and Watson in the most performances in the most shows (Rathbone and Bruce still lead, counting all their films and radio programs).

Sep 18 #7 S. C. Roberts' HOLMES AND WATSON: A MISCELLANY, first published in 1953, was a landmark in Sherlockian scholarship, offering a collection of his writings, including a play and a pastiche, and his comments on the Sherlock Holmes Exhibition at Abbey House in 1951, demonstrating well just how much fun there is in taking a serious look at the Canon. Roberts was an excellent writer, and the first president of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London, and his book has now been reissued by the British Library (160 pp., £10.00/$15.95), with an nicely insightful Introduction by Guy Marriott: it's grand to have Roberts' thoughts on the Canon available again.

Conan Doyle's Colt .38 semi-automatic pistol, offered at auction on Sept. 20 in the U.K. (Aug 18 #1), sold for £4,000 <www.tinyurl.com/y9o9kkoy>.

Further to the item (Sep 97 #1) about Abdul Hamid II, who was the last Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, the Daily Sabah had an interesting story on July 27 about the Sultan's passion for Sherlock Holmes, and his meeting with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle <www.tinyurl.com/yd57kftz>. Grey Ruby has an interesting post about the medals the Sultan awarded to Conan Doyle and his wife at the Fourth Garrideb web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y7f67nd4>.

Evy Herzog reports that Fabienne Courouge and Hélène Colin, with some kinsprits, have founded "La Gazette du 221B" (a "webzine d'études et d'actualités sur l'univers de Sherlock Holmes"), all in French, with three issues so far: all available in the Archives at <www.gazette221b.com>, and they're a colorful demonstration of what can be done now on the Internet.

"Sherlock Holmes brings The Rolling Clones" was the headline on a story in the Gulf Daily News <www.tinyurl.com/yc6hfx3n>: the Rolling Clones band is a tribute to the Rolling Stones, and the "Sherlock Holmes" turns out to be the Sherlock Holmes Pub in the Gulf Hotel in Bahrain.

Further to the report (Jul 18 #2) on a proposal to demolish the Lyndhurst Park Hotel (the campaign to protect the hotel had cited evidence that Conan Doyle helped design the redevelopment of the building as a hotel in 1912), the National Park Authority has scheduled a five-day inquiry in January, at which the developer will continue its battle against local objections, according to a story in the Southern Daily Echo <www.tinyurl.com/y7t87ssw>.

Conan Doyle and hockey? We know he was an athlete, but we don't know if he played hockey, although there is a connection: a letter he wrote (well, it actually was written and signed for him by his secretary) from Undershaw to Miss Williams, saying, "I am sorry to say that I have so much heavy work to hand at present that I fear I am quite unable to be of any use to the Hindhead Hockey Club." There seems to be nothing on the Internet about a Hindhead Hockey Club, but there is a Haslemere Hockey Club that was founded in 1946, with eight teams for men, five for ladies, and ten squads in a junior section. And their sport, of course, is field hockey. The letter was at auction this month at Duke's in Dorchester, estimated at £200-£300; it sold for £180 <www.tinyurl.com/ybgulfff>. You can identify letters written and signed by Conan Doyle's secretaries by the symbols written underneath the signatures; this is something to look for if you have any doubts about the handwriting.

Sep 18 #8 And there's no shortage of Sherlockian (and Doylean and Watsonian) theater coming up: Madeleine George's "The (Curious Case of the) Watson Intelligence" is on at the Dragon Theatre in Redwood City, Calif., though Oct. 7 <www.dragonproductions.net>.

Timothy N. Evers' "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" ("The Greek Interpreter" and "Charles Augustus Milverton") will be performed at the Classical Theatre Company in Houston, Tex., Oct. 3-21 <www.classicaltheatre.org>.

"The Twilight of the Gods" (a new "comedic thriller" written by Wes Driver and Gregg Greene) is due at the Williamson County Performing Arts Center at Academy Park in Franklin, Tenn., Oct. 4-14 <www.blackbirdtheater.com>: the play offers "Mark Twain, Edgar Allan Poe, Annie Oakley, Arthur Conan Doyle, and a number of other 19th century luminaries...locked in a battle of wits and ideologies, while a killer in their midst turns their dream for a modern Utopia into a Gothic nightmare."

Patrick Derksen's "A Lighter Shade of Noir" (a parody whose characters include Shirley Holmes and Dr. Watson) is coming up at the Aledo High School in Weatherford, Tex., Oct. 4-7: the Aledo Players have a Facebook page.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" is scheduled at the Garvin Theatre in Santa Barbara, Calif., Oct. 10-27: their web-site is at <www.theatregroupsbcc.com>. It's also due at the Jewel Box Theatre in Oklahoma City, Okla., from Nov. 19 to Dec. 5 <www.jewelboxtheatre.org>.

"Spontaneous Sherlock" (improvised by the Spontaneous Players) is performed at Monkey Barrel Comedy in Edinburgh <www.thespontaneousplayers.com>, next on Oct. 11 and 25, and Nov. 8 and 22. Their first performance was in Feb. 2015, and they have since appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe and on tour in the U.K.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's comedy "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is scheduled at the Barn Theatre in Cirencester, Glos., from Oct. 24 to Nov. 24 <www.barntheatre.org.uk>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" will be performed at the Cape Fear Playhouse in Wilmington, N.C., Oct. 25-Nov. 11: web-site at <www.bigdawgproductions.org>.

"Baker Street Irregulars" (by Flip Kobler and Cindy Marcus) is planned by the Owasso Community Theatre in Owasso, Okla., Nov. 1-3: their web-site's at <www.octok.org>.

John Alvarez's new "Sherlock Holmes & the Case of a Siren's Call" will be performed during the Sherlock Holmes Weekend in Cape May, N.J., on Nov. 2-4 <www.capemaymac.org>.

William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" is scheduled at the W. D. Powell Theatre at Union University in Jackson, Tenn., Nov. 8-13 <www.uu.edu/theatre>.

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Oct 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

Modern technology has made it possible to abbreviate the traditional forecast for the birthday festivities in New York in January; detailed information will be available at <www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/bsi-event-dates>. The (very) long weekend will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 9, and end on Sunday, Jan. 13, and the schedule may or may not include some surprises; space is limited at some events, so don't delay registering. There will be more information at Scott Monty's excellent web-site <www.bsiweekend.com>, and his "Here Are Your #BSIWeekend Tips" will be at <www.ihose.co/bsi2019tips> in December.

Copies of two of the sepia gelatin prints of the Cottingley Fairies went to auction this month at Dominic Winter Auctioneers in Cirencester, estimated at £700-£1,000 each, and went for £15,000 (Frances Griffiths with the fairies) and £5,400 (Elsie Wright with the gnome) <www.tinyurl.com/y7edj26u>.

The Sherlock Holmes Society of London's 2018 Christmas Card features a period photograph of The Royal Exchange <www.tinyurl.com/yde36bvd> ($20.00 for a packet of ten). The Society's home-page has much of interest, including (under Publications) a link to an archive of all of the issues of The District Messenger, the newsletter launched by Roger Johnson as a "Grapevine Service" in 1982 and now (edited by Jean Upton) after 379 issues continues to offer the same mix of information and gossip in the U.K. (and elsewhere) that this newsletter does for the U.S. (and elsewhere).

It's nice to know that treasures do turn up: a previously unrecorded copy of Beeton's Christmas Annual for 1887 is advertised by Peter L. Stern, for $75,000; it has been added to Randall Stock's annotated checklist and census at <www.bestofsherlock.com/beetons-christmas-annual.htm>, where you'll also find a link to the AbeBooks entry.

MC Black has noted the web-site of the Haslemere Society, which has placed a blue plaque at Undershaw (Conan Doyle's former home); their web-site's at <www.haslemeresociety.org/undershaw.html>, with a link to the booklet that the society issued when the plaque was unveiled in 2016.

Samantha Wolov has reported an En Voyage Perfumes eau de parfum called "The 7% Solution" (suitable for men or women), described at the company's web-site as happy, relaxing, stimulating, and clarifying (and with a mention of Sherlock Holmes at their web-site) <www.tinyurl.com/y73uzs7u> ($60.00 for an ounce, or $50.00 for half an ounce).

Peter Melonas has been creating interesting Sherlockian (and other) artwork since the 1980s, and his offers at eBay include six Sherlockian prints, one of them a (and colorful) tribute to "The Dancing Men" ($20.00) that you can see at <www.tinyurl.com/y7ovwujc>.

Bill Seil discovered an intriguing Literary Hub blog by Emily Temple on "A Century of Reading: The 10 Books That Defined the 1900s". THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES is one of the ten, and Temple noted that the book revived the Sherlock Holmes series, asking "was this an early precursor of Twitter fans bringing back every show on the planet?" <www.tinyurl.com/yc7ohr6u>.

Oct 18 #2 THE ADVENTURES OF TWO BRITISH GENTLEMEN IN GERMANY/DIE ABENTEUER ZWEIER BRITISCHER GENTLEMEN IN DEUTSCHLAND, edited by Nicole Glücklich, and published by the Deutsche Sherlock-Holmes-Gesellschaft (286 pp. in English and 298 pp. in German), is a welcome companion to their earlier book about Switzerland (Jul 17 #1); the new book discusses the visits to Germany by Conan Doyle, the Great War, Sherlockian societies in Germany (including a detailed discussion of a society apparently founded in 1902), and Sherlock Holmes on stage, screen, radio, and television in Germany, all carefully and colorfully illustrated. Available for $42.00 (E36.00) postpaid from the society via PayPal <info@sherlock-holmes-gesellschaft.de>.

Birmingham is the youngest city in Europe, with nearly 40% of its population aged under 25, according to the "Student City Guide" published in The Sunday Times on Sept. 23. The Guide also notes that the city has made its mark as the birthplace of HP Sauce and Black Sabbath, "not to mention Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who bought a violin on Sherlock Street while he was a medical student." No author stated for the Guide, so there's no one to ask for evidence that Conan Doyle ever played the violin. And yes, he was born in Edinburgh.

Howard Ostrom's SHERLOCK HOLMES ON SCREENS 1929-1939 is the first volume of his Sherlock Holmes Cyclopedia (Saint-Sauvier: Mycroft's Brother Editions, 2018; 88 pp., E30.00) <www.mycrofts.net>; it's a delightful exploration of the first decade of Sherlockian talking films, major and minor, from "The Ghost Talks" (1929) to "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (1939). Howard has spread his net widely, and includes actors in Sherlockian costume, and the entries are accompanied by contemporary reviews, photographs, posters, and commentary; those who have access to the Internet can (and surely will) find many of the major (and minor) films at YouTube or Vimeo. Copies (inscribed on request) are available for delivery in the U.S. for $35.00 postpaid, from Howard (5748 SW 60th Place, Ocala, FL 34474).

James Mustich's 1,000 BOOKS TO READ BEFORE YOU DIE (from Workman, 2018) was warmly reviewed by Michael Dirda in the Washington Post, and it is reported that one of the 1,000 books is THE COMPLETE SHERLOCK HOLMES ("it would be hard to name another modern literary character who has achieved such international celebrity").

MYCROFT AND SHERLOCK, by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Anna Waterhouse (New York: Titan Books, 2018; 355 pp., $25.99) is set in 1872, two years after their MYCROFT HOLMES (Jun 15 #2); the brothers are unintentionally investigating the same mystery, and don't share information until the end of their case. The book's a thriller as well as a mystery, with interesting major and minor characters, and it offers an intriguing look at Victorian London.

Further to the previous report (Jun 18 #3) on "Sherlock: The Game Is Now" <www.sherlockgame.com> (billed as "the only official Sherlock Holmes Escape Game, a 90-minute immersive experience for teams of 4-6 people"), it's sold out through the end of the year, but tickets are now being made available through the end of May 2019. The game is organized by Time Run and "Sherlock" creators Steve Moffat and Mark Gatiss, and tickets for the 90-minute experience cost £54 per person. If you don't have your own group, there's a Facebook page for those who want to form teams.

Oct 18 #3 Terry Hunt has reported on a discovery in Christopher Morley's memorandum book for 1935 (in the Morley collection at the Harry Ransom Center in Austin, Texas): a list of "names for cottage" that he was considering for the one-room cabin that he used as a studio: Ex Libris, The Knothole, The Molehill, The Dachshunds, Satisfaction Piece, The Workhouse, Poison Ivy, Socony Cottage, and The Nerts. Those who've made a pilgrimage to Roslyn, Long Island, know that the name he chose is The Knothole (which also is the name of the newsletter of The Christopher Morley Knothole Association <www.christophermorley.org>.

Samantha Wolov has reported <www.bookmarksreviews.com>, handy for those who want to see what reviewers have said about new books from major publishers; you can also search to see how older books (and authors) have been rated.

Reported: the Folio Society's THE SELECTED ADVENTURES AND MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Feb 18 #6) has been published ($45.95), and you can read all about it at <www.tinyurl.com/y85vw9br>; Helen Dorey was on the panel of six judges that chose the illustrator (Max Löffler), and there's an introduction by Michael Dirda.

Nils Clausson's ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S ART OF FICTION: A REVALUATION (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars, 2018; 384 pp., £67.99) opens with a suggestion that "the fact that Conan Doyle is almost universally regarded as a popular writer has meant that his fiction, like most popular fiction, has been studied not as literature but as a manifestation of popular culture." Clausson offers an academic "close reading" that is intended to reveal the "neglected artistry" in Conan Doyle's fiction a decidedly different view of Conan Doyle's Sherlockian and non-Sherlockian writings. The publisher offers a 40% discount if you purchase from their web-site by Nov. 15; use the special code ACD40 at their web-site <www.cambridgescholars.com>.

Cinema Scandinavia reported on Oct. 17 <www.tinyurl.com/y7luok7w> that the television series "Sherlock North" (in development by Snapper Films in Finland) has been picked up by Viaplay for international distribution; Holmes travels to Scandinavia after the battle at the Reichenbach and "finds himself solving crimes in Finnish Lapland."

"The Arthur Conan Doyle Encyclopedia" at <www.arthur-conan-doyle.com> is a spectacular web-site, maintained by Alexis Barquin in France. It has more than 5,000 pages, and is devoted to all aspects of the life and career of Conan Doyle. You can see the depth of the research with a text search for [les andelys]. It's a town in Normandy that is mentioned several times in Conan Doyle's fiction, and Alexis explains that two of Conan Doyle's sisters went to school there, and Conan Doyle visited the town, and there's a video of a 1959 television interview with the woman whose home he stayed in (the interview was filmed in her garden).

The opening of "Holmes & Watson" (with Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly) has been delayed until Dec. 25, which will please those who want something to do after opening their Christmas presents; no reason was given, but likely it was competition (five other films were scheduled for Dec. 21). The official name for the film now has an ampersand (and no reason was given for that, either).

Oct 18 #4 Bill Mason's A HOLMES BY ANY OTHER NAME (Rockville: Wildside, 2018; 195 pp., $12.99) offers the results of his exploration of variations of the Great Detective's name that he found in parodies, films, comic books, and many other sources, from 1891 to the present; 578 names, from Airlock Holmes to Zoolock Holmes, annotated and indexed, and there are shorter lists for Watson and Moriarty (it's amusing to see the fun people have had with the name of Holmes, Watson, and Moriarty). The publisher's web-site is at <www.wildsidepress.com>.

Also from Wildside: SHERLOCK HOLMES IS LIKE, edited by Christopher Redmond (2018; 275 pp., $14.99), offers what he describes as "sixty comparisons for an incomparable character," with essays by sixty Sherlockians whose suggestions range from traditional and expected to weird and wonderful (the latter including Lucy van Pelt, proposed by Steve Mason).

The airport in Tottori in Japan has been renamed the Tottori Sand Dunes Conan Airport, according to a story in the Japan Times (July 28). The name of the airport honors the province's impressive sand dunes, and the manga and anime character created by Tottori native Gosho Aoyama; the comic has been running in a weekly magazine since 1994 and features a young detective named in honor of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (the English version of the manga is called "Case Closed"). You can see Detective Conan at the airport in an image at <www.tinyurl.com/y8rysgel>.

Jennie Paton spotted "Back of the Bookshelf" (a monthly podcast of classic short stories narrated by C. J. Carter-Stephenson); the first story is Conan Doyle's "The Disintegration Machine" <www.vimeo.com/293785106>.

Brian W. Pugh continues to revise his A CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE (Mar 14 #7); the fourth edition (London: MX Publishing, 2018; 444 pp., $34.95) is a grand resource for information about the life and work of Conan Doyle. The chronology starts in 1755 (with the birth of James Doyle) and ends in 1998 (the memorial service for Dame Jean), and one of the truly useful aspects of the chronology is the citation of sources, so that one can sort through conflicts (and learn that in some cases, Conan Doyle himself was not the most reliable source). There's also information about aspects of his life and works, and maps and photographs, and a careful and useful index compiled by Geraldine Beare. Recommended. MX's books are available at <www.sherlockholmesbooks.com>.

Also from MX: Daniel D. Victor's SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE SHADOWS OF ST. PETERSBURG (2018; 182 pp., $12.95) offers an interesting intersection of the Canon with CRIME AND PUNISHMENT: Holmes and Watson are in pursuit of a killer who seems to be recreating the murders in Dostoyevsky's book. Elizabeth Crowens' SILENT MERIDIAN (2016; 350 pp. $16.95) is a complicated time-shifting novel that involves Conan Doyle, Wells, Houdini, Freud, Jung, and a Japanese shogun in a set of parallel and sometimes supernatural universes. W. P. Lawler's TREACHERY IN TORQUAY (2018; 317 pp., $16.95) is set on the south coast of England in 1905, with Holmes and Watson investigating a series of brutal murders and aiding a client in protecting his family from dire peril. TALES FROM THE STRANGER'S ROOM, VOLUME 3, edited by David Ruffle (2017; 207 pp., $16.95), is an interesting anthology of pastiches, poetry, vignettes, and quizzes.

Oct 18 #5 The International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition will open at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J., on Nov. 3, running through May 27, 2019, and their web-site's at <www.lsc.org>. It's a spectacular exhibition, and it has been welcomed with enthusiasm everywhere it has been in the U.S. and overseas; there are no future venues scheduled for the exhibition, and it's nice indeed (for travelers from afar) that it will be open during the Sherlockian birthday festivities in January.

Congratulations to Russell Merritt, who received the David Shepard Career Achievement Award at the Denver Silent Film Festival; Russell was instrumental in the rescue and restoration of both "Sherlock Holmes" (1916) and "Der Hund von Baskerville" (1929).

Canadian Holmes, published quarterly by The Bootmakers of Toronto, always is interesting; the fall 2018 issue includes Peter Calamai's "Seeking the Conan Doyle 'Estate' in Portugal" (detailing the results of his investigation triggered by a report that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle once had an estate in Sintra) (he didn't, but there was one), and much more in the 40-page issue; subscriptions to the quarterly cost $30.00 (US or CA) a year, by mail to the Bootmakers at 2045 Lakeshore Boulevard West #3303, Etobicoke, ON MV8 2Z6, Canada; or at their web-site <www.torontobootmakers.com>.

Martin Edwards will deliver next year's Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture on Apr. 6 at the Toronto Reference Library (Edwards is president of the Detection Club and chair of the Crime Writers' Association, and his topic will be "In Sherlock's Footsteps"); admission is free, and the public is welcome to attend <www.acdfriends.org>.

The Japanese eight-episode series "Miss Sherlock" (produced by HBO Asia and Hulu Japan) (May 18 #4) is now available on HBO Go in the U.S., and it is well worth watching; it stars Yūko Takeuchi as Sherlock, and Shihori Kanjiya as her friend Wato-san, and is full of Canonical echoes.

It's sometimes tempting to suggest that everything has a Sherlockian connection. "King Kong" does, at least to the author of the Sherlock Holmes stories: Willis H. O'Brien, who created the stop-motion special effects for "The Lost World" (1925), did the same for "King Kong" (1933), and the late Forry Ackerman owned a pair of models of pterodactyls, one from each film. If you'd like to see what modern technology can do, there's a trailer for the musical "King Kong" (now in previews on Broadway) that shows their 20-foot version of the "gentle giant" <www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8YJwRUTK7Y>. See also the N.Y. Times <www.tinyurl.com/yb9losty>.

EconoTimes reported on Oct. 23 that the CBS-TV series "Elementary" has celebrated production of its 150th episode <www.tinyurl.com/y7fywz4e>, and has links to images of the event at the Twitter account of writer and producer Jeffrey Paul King, who has worked on every episode.

Bradley Harper's A KNIFE IN THE FOG (Amherst: Seventh Street Books, 2018; 288 pp., $15.95) has Arthur Conan Doyle and Joseph Bell in pursuit of Jack the Ripper, accompanied by Margaret Harkness (who also was a real person, quite familiar with the appalling conditions faced by the poor in London); Conan Doyle is an excellent detective, and the story's nicely told.

Oct 18 #6 And theatrical news: C. P. Stancich's "Sherlock Holmes and the Doom of Devilsmoor" is on at the Gillette Community Theatre in Gillette, Wyo., though Nov. 3 <www.gillettecommunitytheatre.weebly.com>.

Tim Kelly's dramatization of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is being performed at the Bay Area Harbour Playhouse in Dickinson, Tex., through Nov. 4 <www.harbourtheater.com>.

Jeffery Hatcher's "Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders" is running at the Clear Creek Community Theatre in Nassau Bay, Tex., through Nov. 4 <www.clearcreekcommunitytheatre.com>.

Katie Forgette's "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily" is on at the Little Theatre in American Falls, Idaho, through Nov. 5; Facebook page at <www.tinyurl.com/y9p2a2ud>. It's also due at the Wade James Theatre in Edmonds, Wash., June 14-30; web-site at <www.edmondsdriftwoodplayers.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is being performed at the Monon Depot Theatre in Lafayette, Ind., through Nov. 10; the web-site's at <www.lafayettecivic.org>. It also will be performed at the Andria Theatre in Alexandria, Minn., Jan. 11-20, 2019 <www.andriatheatre.org>; and the Des Moines Community Playhouse in Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 25-Feb. 10, 2019 <www.dmplayhouse.com>.

Brian Guehring's "Sherlock Holmes and the First Baker Street Irregular" is due at the Lansing Hannah Community Center in East Lansing, Mich., Nov. 2-11 <www.allofusexpress.org>.

William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" is due at Harriton High School in Bryn Mawr, Pa., Nov. 14-17 <www.harritontheater.com>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Missing Holly" is due at the Prairie Pines Playhouse in Maize, Kans., Nov. 16-Dec. 23 <www.prairiepinesplayhouse.com>.

The Rain or Shine Theatre Company will perform their new comedy "Sherlock Holmes and the Curious Case of Dr. Jekyll & Miss Hyde" at the Bradwell Village Hall in Bradwell, Oxon., on Nov. 17, and then take the show on tour in the U.K. <www.rainorshire.co.uk>.

John Nassivera's "The Penultimate Problem of Sherlock Holmes" is due at The Gladstone in Ottawa, Ont., Nov. 23-Dec. 1 <www.thegladstone.ca>.

The Tehachapi Community Theater will perform John Longenbaugh's "Sherlock Holmes & the Case of the Christmas Carol" at TCT Second Space In Tehachapi, Calif., Nov. 23-Dec. 9 <www.tinyurl.com/y9nt4zyn>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" is due at the Hanover Tavern in Hanover, Va., Nov. 30-Jan. 6 <www.virginiarep.org>. And at the Stage III Community Theatre in Casper, Wyo., Dec. 7-23; web-site at <www.stageiiitheatre.org>.

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Nov 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

Modern technology has made it possible to abbreviate the traditional forecast for the birthday festivities in New York in January; details available at <www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/2018/11/20/the-2019-bsi-weekend>. Space is limited at some events, so don't delay registering.

The Dr. John H. Watson Fund offers financial assistance to all Sherlockians (membership in the BSI is not required) who might otherwise not be able to participate in the weekend's festivities. A carefully pseudonymous John H. Watson presides over the fund and welcomes contributions, which can be made by check payable to John H. Watson and sent (without return address on the envelope) to Dr. Watson, care of The Baker Street Irregulars, at 7938 Mill Stream Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46278; your letters are forwarded unopened, and Dr. Watson will acknowledge your generosity.

Just in time for holiday hinting (or shopping), Randall Stock's annual informative nominations for the best Sherlock Holmes books/DVDs of the year is on-line at <www.bestofsherlock.com/sherlock-gifts.htm#newgifts>; he also has recommendations of older Sherlockiana.

Those who fondly remember the days when one could listen to "Bob and Ray" on the radio in the 1950s will welcome Jennie Paton's discovery that one of their "Sherlock Sage" segments (with Bob Elliott as Sherlock Sage and Ray Goulding as Dr. Clyde) is available at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/y8xjss8w>; and yes, YouTube does audio as well as video.

Thomas D. Utecht ("Arthur Charpentier") died on Nov. 9. He worked in marketing communications for Macy's and then for the U.S. Navy, and discovered the Sherlockian world at a John Bennett Shaw workshop in 1984. Thom was a founder of the Montague Street Lodgers and a stalwart member of the Three Garridebs, and (like Holmes) was an inveterate pipe-smoker; he was an enthusiastic attendee at Autumn in Baker Street, and received his Investiture from The Baker Street Irregulars in 1994.

The next 221B Con will be held in Atlanta on Apr. 5-7; registration is now open at <www.221bcon.com>, where you'll also find information on guests and performers and much more (it's bill as a "fan con for all things Sherlock Holmes"). Bob Stek's enthusiastic report on the 2014 event will be found on the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog at <www.tinyurl.com/y8y3muvs>.

A passing mention of George Charles Haité, reported by Karen Murdock from a newspaper in New Zealand, led to an interesting discovery: Haité was a designer, painter, illustrator and writer who illustrated an article on "The History of the Strand" in the first (Jan. 1891) issue of The Strand Magazine and (far more important to Sherlockians) created the iconic image that graced the cover of the magazine for decades; it also appeared on the covers of the first British editions of THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES and THE MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. There is an excellent entry about him at Wikipedia; his original artwork was on display at the "Sherlock Holmes: The Man Who Never Lived and Will Never Die" exhibition in London in 2014-2015, and is reproduced in the catalog of the exhibition (Quarterly Press) and in Alex Werner's book about the exhibition (Ebury).

Nov 18 #2 The PM was dressed up as Sherlock Holmes for Halloween, according to a Huffington Post story <www.tinyurl.com/yaaxldar>, and was accompanied by his wife, costumed as a zombie bride. Add another name to the list of Sherlockian politicians: Justin Trudeau, the prime minister of Canada; there's a photograph of him as Sherlock Holmes in the article. And there was a report on Yahoo Canada Style that some Canadians were wondering what exactly might have been in Trudeau's pipe, two weeks after marijuana was legalized in Canada.

Further to the report (Sep 18 #4) on Canadian skater Stephen Gololev performing in an imaginative costume to music from the film "Sherlock Holmes" in a competition in Slovakia, Jennie Paton has found video of him competing at the Minto Summer Skate in Canada <www.tinyurl.com/ya9bsrhl>.

Edward J. Van Liere was a prolific contributor to Sherlockian literature in the 1950s and 1960s, and a co-founder of The Scion of the Four in Morgantown, W. Va., and a new book provides much more about his life and career. William A. Neal's QUIET ADVOCATE (Morgantown: West Virginia University Libraries, 2017; 264 pp., $14.95) focuses on Van Liere's many contributions medical education in the state (where during the depression he was successful in establishing a four-year medical school). His Sherlockian writings were collected in A DOCTOR ENJOYS SHERLOCK HOLMES (1959), and he was a contributor to Michael Harrison's anthology BEYOND BAKER STREET (1976); Neal's biography has a fine chapter devoted to Van Liere as a Sherlockian.

For those who are into Sherlockian games, MMORPG notes that Wizard101 has released a "Great Detective" bundle starring Sherlock Bones and Dr. Rolf; details (and images) are at <www.tinyurl.com/y83gnxds> and (with video) at <www.tinyurl.com/y7zo7r26>.

"Can you solve the secret werewolf riddle?" is the riddle-of-the-month at TED-Ed, discovered and reported by Samantha Wolov; there's Sherlockian artwork, but otherwise it's not Sherlockian <www.tinyurl.com/yd4eg444>.

"I sent down to Stanford's for the Ordnance map," Sherlock Holmes said to Watson (in "The Hound of the Baskervilles"). The iconic London bookshop, which was established by Edwin Stanford in 1853, is moving to a new location (just round the corner in Covent Garden); the Stanfords web-site has a section on the shop's history at <www.stanfords.co.uk/our-history>. If you don't recognize the name, that's because it's misspelled Stamford in many editions of the Canon.

Publicity for the "Holmes & Watson" film is gearing up: Kelly Blau kindly reported that the N.Y. Times published an interview with Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly on Nov. 4 <www.tinyurl.com/y9am3fam>, including their explanation of how they chose who would play Holmes and who would play Watson.

"A box of Watson's memorabilia of Sherlock Holmes has been stolen from his club in Piccadilly," is the premise of the first in the Sherlock geocache series set in London <www.tinyurl.com/y97oylfe>, reported by Jennie Paton. Geocaching is the modern version of a Victorian outdoor recreational activity called letterboxing, participants now use GPS technology, and there's an excellent article about geocaching at Wikipedia.

Nov 18 #3 Nicholas Utechin's THE COMPLETE PAGET PORTFOLIO (Indianapolis: Gasogene Books, 2108; 274 pp., $46.95) is a delightful tribute to Sidney Paget, offering high-quality reproductions of all his Sherlockian illustrations from The Strand Magazine, and (for the first time) an opportunity to see 22 (that's almost all) pieces of the original artwork known to have survived shown (in full color) side-by-side with the illustrations published in the magazine; the book also includes full-color portraits of Sherlock Holmes that weren't published in the Strand. Highly recommended. The publisher's web-site is at <www.gasogenebooks.com>, and you can listen to an interesting interview with Nick at <www.ihose.co/ihose156>.

Gasogene also has published Terence Faherty's THE TRUE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE ANNOTATED EDITION (2018; 153 pp., $19.95); it's a collection of his amusing "earlier drafts" of the stories, some of them reprinted from the annual Sherlockian issues of Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, and others new, and all great fun. Faherty's Sherlockian and non-Sherlockian bibliography can be found at his web-site <www.terencefaherty.com>.

The long wait for Pokémon's "Detective Pikachu" film is scheduled for release on May 11; it's based on the company's Nintendo game, and there's an amusing 3-minute official trailer at <www.tinyurl.com/ybszkx68>.

Stan Lee died on Nov. 12. He was a legend in the world of comic books, and famous for creating a new world of super-heroes for Marvel Comics. In 2008 he told an interviewer that "There have been millions of detective stories over the years. Many of them are forgettable. Somehow Sherlock Holmes has endured, mainly because no one could write a detective story as brilliantly as Conan Doyle and nobody could come up with a character as interesting and flawed as Sherlock Holmes." And two years later he explained that "I know what I loved about Conan Doyle's work was he made his characters so real. I mean not only me, but the people that read Sherlock Holmes felt that they knew him." The "Marvel Preview" series (billed as "Stan Lee Presents") had a two-part "The Hound of the Baskervilles" in 1976, and he had author credit for "Spidey Super Stories: Sherlock Spidey" in The Electric Company in 1977.

The Strand Magazine (the modern version that's edited by Andrew Gulli) continues to offer a wide variety of Sherlockian merchandise at its web-site, including an attractive and artistic wall calendar for next year ($24.95); the URL is <www.strandmag.com/product/sherlockholmes-calendar-2019>.

"Live from the Red Carpet" is the title of the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" report on this year's "From Gillette to Brett" conference in Bloomington, Ind., on Oct. 5-7 <www.tinyurl.com/y9lyjjh5>. There were 150 people on hand for the festivities, and you can hear all about it at the podcast.

"I know perfectly well how unneptile you are about aunts," the late Ronald Knox wrote in his Miles Bredon novel DOUBLE CROSS PURPOSES (1937). Stu Nelan has noted (on p. 155 in his copy of the Dover edition), and he wonders just what "unneptile" means. Google is of no assistance, and it's possible that Knox, who enjoyed word-play, invented the word. Has anyone seen the word used anywhere else?

Nov 18 #4 "American Is Killed by Bow and Arrow on Remote Indian Island" was the headline on the N.Y. Times article (Nov. 21) about the death of John Allen Chau, who attempted to go ashore on North Sentinel (one of the Andaman Islands) apparently in hopes of converting the tribesmen to Christianity. The Indian government has banned all access to the islands, and the seven fishermen who brought Chau to the island have been arrested and charged with culpable homicide not amounting to murder; the government also has announced that although charges have been filed against "unknown persons" for killing Chau, it is virtually impossible to prosecute members of the protected tribes, or to recover his body.

Thanks to YouTube, admirers of the Brigadier Gerard can see him in action in "The Fighting Eagle" (1927) <www.tinyurl.com/ybx8ap8t>, and in "How the Brigadier Won His Medal" (1954) <www.tinyurl.com/y74nymv3>.

There's additional news for admirers of the Brigadier: the British Library has acquired the manuscripts for five of the first eight stories, and Randall Stock has a detailed report on the manuscripts, and their history, at his "Best of Sherlock" web-site <www.tinyurl.com/y8gmfuo8>. The survival of the manuscripts was reported more than two years ago (Mar 16 #1), and it is nice indeed that they will now be readily available to scholars.

Melvin Ragin ("Wah Wah Watson") died on Oct. 24. A guitarist and session musician, he was famous for his skills with the wah-wah pedal and in 1976 recorded an LP album "Elementary" that showed him on the cover with deerstalker and calabash; you can see the cover and listen to an extended release version of the album at <www.tinyurl.com/y8cgxfau>.

Flicker Alley (the company that distributed the restored versions of William Gillette's 1916 "Sherlock Holmes" and Wallace Beery's 1925 "The Lost World") also offers "Douglas Fairbanks: A Modern Musketeer" (a 5-DVD set of digitally remastered versions of 11 films that include his 1916 ""The Mystery of the Leaping Fish") (with Fairbanks as Coke Enneyday in Sherlockian costume) and a 22-page booklet with an essay about Fairbanks and his films by Jeffrey Vance and Tony Maietta ($69.95) <www.flickeralley.com>. The set offers a grand opportunity to see some of Fairbanks' classic films (as well as one of the truly weird Sherlockian films).

The BoardRoom is a speakeasy (they're coming back into fashion, even though liquor's legal now) in Los Angeles <www.patinagroup.com/the-boardroom>, and Karen Murdoch spotted a story in the Los Angeles Times that noted that the cocktails are named after famous authors, including a "gin-forward Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" (the recipe is Plymouth gin, Dolin Blanc, Braulio, orange bitters, and lemon peel). For those not versed in cocktails: Dolin Blanc's a vermouth, Braulio's a liqueur, and gin-forward appears to be a gin that's not flavor-added and thus tastes like juniper berries).

"Cats on the Page" is an exhibition at the British Library, that will run from Nov. 27 to Mar. 17 <www.tinyurl.com/y7cjczvo>; you will have a chance to "renew your acquaintance with familiar favorites including Mog, Winnie and Wilbur, and T. S. Eliot's Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats (the last of which includes "Macavity: The Mystery Cat" and "Gus: The Theatre Cat", both of interest to Sherlockians).

Nov 18 #5 "Everyone needs a mother who keeps them grounded," according to Benedict Cumberbatch, who told GQ that he bounded home, full of excitement, after being told that he would be the next Sherlock Holmes, but he was soon put in his place. "The first thing my mother said when I mentioned I'd got the part was: 'You don't have the right nose.'" Noted by Karen Murdock in Patrick Kidd's "The Times Diary" in The Times on Nov. 2.

Juris Jurjevics died on Nov. 7. He had a long career in the publishing industry, and in 1986 was one of the founders of the Soho Press, to publish "books that deserve to be published, but that the bigger houses can't afford to do." His obituary in the N.Y. Times noted that earlier, as editor in chief for E. P. Dutton, he "scooped up a manuscript that had crossed his desk on a hunch that readers would clamor for a Sherlock Holmes revival." The novel was Nicholas Meyer's THE SEVEN-PER-CENT SOLUTION (1974).

Hospitality & Catering News reported on Oct. 13 <www.tinyurl.com/yakcegyz> that Adrian Martin, newly appointed Master Cook at Simpson's-in-the-Strand (an establishment mentioned in the Canon), has delved into its archives to create a spectacular new Bill of Fare. And it's spectacular indeed.

Basil Rathbone with two Hounds of the Baskervilles? Not quite, but there's an amusing signed photograph of Rathbone coming to auction at Written Word Autographs on Dec. 15 <www.tinyurl.com/y8kg4wnk>.

Further to the item (Apr 16 #4) on the metal plates apparently created in 1940 to celebrate Macmillan's publication of Vincent Starrett's 221B: STUDIES IN SHERLOCK HOLMES, Greg Ruby has continued his research on "Sherlock Holmes and the American Bank Note Mystery" and posted his latest findings at the Fourth Garrideb web-site <www.tinyurl.com/ycvgvpy7>.

Greg also notes <www.tinyurl.com/y7a7hdfm> the appointment of Hugh Laurie as CBE (that's Companion of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) for services to drama in the 2018 New Year Honours List. Laurie read "The Hound of the Baskervilles" on BBC Radio 2 (in 2002) and played the Holmes-inspired House in the long-running Fox television series, and will be seen as Mycroft in the film "Holmes & Watson" due in theaters in December.

Peter Brace died on Oct. 29. He began his long acting career in 1947, and went on to being a stuntman and stunt coordinator, with more than a hundred credits; he played the hangman in the 1990 television film "Hands of a Murderer" (also known as "Sherlock Holmes and the Prince of Crime").

Karen Murdock has noted an article in the Irish Times (Nov. 10) about how craft breweries are becoming creative with artwork on their cans. Yellowbelly Beer in Wexford offers an "It's Elementary" India Pale Ale that has Sherlockian artwork <www.yellowbellybeer.ie/beer-type/its-elementary>.

Visitors to Edinburgh might want to stay at the Sherlock Apartments at 14 Picardy Place: the three serviced apartments are named for Doyle, Watson, and Moriarty, with nicely modern furnishings (according to on-line images). You can see the Doyle Residence at <www.tinyurl.com/y7wklvrh>, the Moriarty Residence at <www.tinyurl.com/y8xp8y7a>, and all three with a Google search (Conan Doyle, it should be noted, was born at 11 Picardy Place).

Nov 18 #6 George A. Cooper died on Nov. 16. He began his acting career on stage in Britain in the 1940s and then moved to television, performing for almost 50 years. He was Mr. Fawcett in "The Croxley Master" in the BBC series "The Stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" (1967), Inspector Gregson in "A Study in Scarlet" and "The Greek Interpreter" in Peter Cushing's "Sherlock Holmes" series (1968), and Inspector Beedel in "The Missing Witness Sensation" in "The Rivals of Sherlock Holmes" (1971).

Theatrics: John Longenbaugh's "Sherlock Holmes & the Case of the Christmas Carol" is being performed at the Company OnStage in Houston, Texas, through Dec. 22 <www.companyonstage.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" on at the Runway Theatre in Grapevine, Texas, through Dec. 17 <www.runwaytheatre.com>; and at the Richardson Theatre Centre in Richardson, Texas, through Dec. 23 <www.richardsontheatrecentre.net>. It's also scheduled at the Performing Arts Center in Tarpon Springs, Fla., Dec. 8-16 <www.tarponarts.org>.

Tim Kelly's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Salterton Playhouse in Salterton, Devon, Dec. 3-8 <www.saltertondrama.co.uk>.

Tim Kelly's adaptation of Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at the Colonnade Theatre in Ringgold, Ga., Dec. 6-8 <www.colonnadecenter.org>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" will be performed at Theatre Lawrence in Lawrence, Kans., Jan. 18-27 <www.wp.theatrelawrence.com>. Also at Stage West in Fort Worth, Texas, May 30-June 20 <www.sagewest.org>.

"Sherlock Holmes: Das Musical" (Holmes and Watson investigate their first case) will premiere (in German) at the First Stage Theater in Hamburg Jan. 20, 2019 <www.sherlockholmes-musical.de>; it's billed as "ein rasantes Musical über Liebe, Tod und Leidenschaft".

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" will be performed at the Black Box Theatre in LaGrange, Ga., Jan. 24-Feb. 2 <www.lsparts.org>; at the Hill Country Community Theatre in Cottonwood Shore, Tex., Feb. 14-Mar. 3 <www.thehcct.org>; at the Studio Theatre in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Mar. 29-Apr. 7 <www.tinyurl.com/ybcw83r6>; at the Falcon Theatre in Newport, Ky., May 3-18 <www.falcontheatre.net>; and at the Bellevue Little Theatre in Bellevue, Neb., May 3-19 <www.bellevuelittletheatre.weebly.com>. Also at the Lowe Auditorium in Upper Ferntree Gully, Vic., Aug. 8-31; website at <www.1812theatre.com.au>.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Regis Centre in Bognor Regis, West Sussex, Feb. 7-9, 2019 <www.regiscentre.co.uk>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Missing Music" (performed by the Nashville Symphony) is scheduled at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center in Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 9 <www.tinyurl.com/yc75uvxe>.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>

Dec 18 #1 Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

There is still time to reserve for many of the events during the birthday festivities in New York (although the Saturday cocktail reception has sold out, and no tickets will be available at the door); details are available at <www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/2018/11/20/the-2019-bsi-weekend>.

Flicker Alley has announced that its deluxe Blu-ray/DVD dual-format edition of "Der Hund von Baskerville" (1929) will be released on Feb. 5, and there is a pre-order sale price of $29.95 <www.tinyurl.com/y9qh6zjs>; this is the last Sherlockian silent film, directed by Richard Oswald, and the bonus materials will include Oswald's earlier "Der Hund von Baskerville" (1914), as well as original commentary on the story and on the restoration, and an illustrated booklet with an essay by film historian Russell Merritt.

"There's a fundamental principle of law that derives from Sherlock Holmes, which is the dog that didn't bark," Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito said during an argument on Nov. 26; the case involved jurisdiction on Native American land in Oklahoma, and you can read the details in an article in The Economist (Nov. 28) <www.tinyurl.com/ya8qyrkv>.

"The Vampire of the Lyceum" (a short-story pastiche written by Charles Veley and Anna Elliott) is available (free) as text and read by Simon Prebble at their web-site <www.sherlockandlucy.com/the-vampire-of-the-lyceum>.

Big Chief Studios reports that production has been completed on their licensed figures showing Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman in costume from "The Abominable Bride" are now on their way from China and should be available for Christmas shopping <www.tinyurl.com/ycgvdqaf>.

Thomas Mann's A CHRISTMAS CAROL AT 221B (League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, 2018; 21 pp., $5.50 at Amazon) is a nicely seasonal (and Dickensian) pastiche.

Oscar Ross observed the Sherlockian artwork on the cover of the Dec. 2018 issue of Philosophy Now <www.philosophynow.org>; the issue's cover story is Tim Weldon's "The Forgiving Reason: The Secret of Sherlock Holmes' Success" (which explores the links between Holmes and Blaise Pascal) and there's also Carol Nicholson's "Ockham's Rose" (in which she discusses Umberto Eco's THE NAME OF THE ROSE). Both articles can be read at the web-site.

Howard Ostrom has now identified more than 4,300 actors who have appeared as Sherlock Holmes on stage, screen, radio, television, the Internet, and elsewhere. His SHERLOCK HOLMES ON SCREENS 1929-1939 (the first volume of his Sherlock Holmes Cyclopedia) appeared earlier this year (Oct 18 #2), and you can hear him discuss the project in the latest "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast <www.tinyurl.com/ybslndo3>.

The Canon has many mentions of fog, and today's readers might not know just what a "London particular" really was like. The MiceTimes of Asia had an interesting illustrated article on Dec. 8 about the "great smog" that enveloped London for four days in December 1952, when 12,000 people died and more than 100,000 were injured <www.tinyurl.com/ybxecqcg>.

Dec 18 #2 Responding to the query about "unneptile" (Nov. 18 #3), Steve Rothman suggests a bit of word-play on "neptis" (in Latin). It should be noted that "neptis" can mean "niece" as well as "grand-daughter" and that a nephew is "nepote" or "nepos" (giving us the word "nepotism"). Stu Nelan reports that Miles Bredon is speaking to his wife Angela, about her aunt, so Angela would be the niece (and "unneptile" would be a coinage by Ronald Knox for "not niece-ish").

SHERLOCK and SHERLOCK DELUXE are memory games designed by Reinhard Staupe, first issued in 2009 for ages 5 to adult. SHERLOCK ($10.00) has 49 cards, and SHERLOCK DELUXE ($15.00) has 60 cards and a small Sherlockian figurine. The games are made by PlayRoom Entertainment for Ultra-PRO Entertainment, and are available at Amazon and elsewhere.

All sorts of things turn up on YouTube. Howard Ostrom has noted two videos produced by the Columbia University Libraries Preservation Committee: "Murder in the Stacks" (1987) and "Shedding Light on the Case" (1990), with David Chapman (Sherlock Holmes) showing David Bowman (Dr. Watson) the proper techniques of preservation. You can search for the videos by their titles at <www.youtube.com>.

Two pieces of artwork showing Snoopy in Sherlockian costume from the television program "It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown" (1974) were offered at Heritage Auctions on Dec. 9: a production cel <www.tinyurl.com/y9fwzwls> sold for $1,800 (including the 20% buyer's premium), and aa graphite animation drawing <www.tinyurl.com/yd2o2bqd> sold for $780 (ditto). Both were signed by Bill Melendez, who produced the program and provided voices for Snoopy and Woodstock.

Denis Norden died on Sept. 19. Famous (sometimes notorious) for his often-ribald sense of humor, he had a long career on British radio and television and was a successful screenwriter as well: he wrote the screenplay for "The Best House in London" (1969), an X-rated film (because it was that sort of house) remarkable for a very short scene that included uncredited performances by Peter Jeffrey as Holmes and Thorley Walters as Watson.

Michael Robertson's A BAKER STREET WEDDING (New York: Minotaur, 2018; 291 pp., $26.99) is the sixth in his series about Reggie and Nigel Heath, who have their offices in the building at 221B Baker Street, and a lease that requires them to answer Sherlock Holmes' mail: Reggie's marriage to Laura Rankin puts them both in unexpected and dire peril, and they are rescued by Reggie's law clerk Lois and a thoroughly intriguing character who has madey a minor appearance in a previous book but now comes into his own (no spoiler here, but Sherlockians won't be fooled for very long).

"Do not destroy the Strand," was the plea from Nancy Bass Wyden, owned of the Strand Bookstore, which has been a destination for visitors to New York since it opened in 1927. "18 miles of books" is the slogan of the store, and those miles include a separate section for rare books located on an upper floor. The city wants to declare the bookshop's building an official city landmark, but the owner believes that landmarking would result in the death of the business. You can read all about it in an article in the N.Y. Times (Dec. 3) <www.tinyurl.com/y8x6x2nk>, kindly note by Samantha Wolov.

Dec 18 #3 Ron Fish's Sherlockian Calendar <www.sherlockiancalendar.com> is a helpful list of upcoming Sherlockian events, for anyone who would like to know what is happening when and where, and it offers an interesting look at how many society events are being held hither and yon. You should contact Ron <ronf404@aol.com> if you would like to have a meeting or conference listed.

It's not all that often that The New Yorker offers an image of Sherlock Holmes on its cover (in fact, this the first time ever): the Dec. 24 "Power Issue" has Barry Blitt's "Elementary" tribute to the ongoing investigation by special counsel Robert Mueller; you can see the cover in full color (and with Blitt's preliminary sketch) at <www.tinyurl.com/ycsvesb5>.

Vicki Delany's A SCANDAL IN SCARLET (New York: Crooked Lane, 2018; 293 pp., $26.99) is the fourth in her series of "Sherlock Holmes Bookshop" mysteries that star Gemma Doyle (proprietor of the Sherlock bookshop) and her friend Jayne Wilson (who manages the next-door Mrs. Hudson's Tea Room). The pastiche begins with a mysterious fire at the local house museum, and needless to say there are murders and a complicated plot. The author has more than one series going, and her website's at <www.vickidelany.com>.

"A four of gin hot" is Scott Monty's Canonical introduction to his "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" post about Sherlock & Sons Gin: it's a new brand of small-batch products from Distillers of Surrey, founded by Simon Sherlock. Read all about it at <www.tinyurl.com/y95wyp6d>.

Barbara S. Koelle died on Nov. 28. She married her husband Jack in 1948, and for decades shared his many interests; she also was a gourmet cook, an avid reader, and a keen collector of children's book, and was a long-time member of the International Wizard of Oz Club, serving as a member of its board of directors, its president, and editor of its magazine The Baum Bugle. She was honored by The Baker Street Irregulars as The Woman in 1982.

The January-February issue of Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine continues a long annual tradition of honoring Sherlock Holmes' birthday, with Sherlockian artwork by Natasa Illincic on the cover, an amusing pastiche by Terence Faherty, a new story about the Amlingmeyer brothers by Steve Hockensmith, a pastiche by Keith Hann (with artwork by Jason C. Eckhardt), a Sherlockian cartoon by Scott Masear, and reviews by Steve Steinbock of new Sherlockian books.

A bit more about T. S. Eliot's OLD POSSUM'S BOOK OF PRACTICAL CATS: there is a registered charity called Old Possum's Practical Trust, established by Valerie Eliot in 1990 <www.old-possums-practical-trust.org.uk>.

Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki's long and distinguished career includes his work on the 1984 Japanese-Italian television series "Meitantei Homuzu" ["Famous Detective Holmes"], widely available in English as "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes": Miyazaki directed the first six episodes, and they're great fun. Jenne Paton reports an interesting video by Stevem at YouTube about "Miyazaki's Forgotten Gem" <www.tinyurl.com/yc6bwhpk>.

Dec 18 #4 From manga to the stage: the Anime News Network reports (Dec. 21) that Ryosuke Takeuchi and Hikaru Miyoshi's "Yukoku no Moriarty" ["Moriarty the Patriot"] manga has inspired a stage musical that will be performed in Tokyo and Osaka in May <www.tinyurl.com/y9ts25j5>; the manga debuted in 2016 and stars James Moriarty, an orphan who is adopted into the Moriarty family. The musical will star Shogo Suzuki (William James Moriarty) and Ryo Hirano (Sherlock Holmes). There's a brief trailer for the musical at <www.tinyurl.com/ybulsmd4>.

Further to the report (Oct 18 #3) that THE SELECTED ADVENTURES AND MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES has now been published by the Folio Society, there was a post on Dec. 5 at the Flavorwire web-site <www.tinyurl.com/yazqhzyy> that offers a look at some of the artwork, and at Michael Dirda's introduction.

Tim Dedopoulos' THE SHERLOCK HOLMES PUZZLE CARD CHALLENGE (Carlton, 2018; $14.95) is a colorful box of 60 decorative cards with logical puzzles that are only marginally Sherlockian.

John Wulp died on Nov. 27. He was a playwright, producer, director, visual artist, designer, and educator, and in 1979 was nominated for a Tony Award as scenic designer for "The Crucifer of Blood" (which starred Paxton Whitehead and Glenn Close).

The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes debuted in Columbus, Ohio, in 2014, and after touring in the United States and in other countries, now is at the Library Science Center in Jersey City, N.J. through May 27, and well worth a visit. There are spectacular Sherlockian and Doylean items on display, and a murder mystery (written by Dan Stashower) to solve, and you can listen to Scott Monty and Burt Wolder's interview with exhibition creators Amy Noble Seitz and Geoffrey Curley at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast at <www.tinyurl.com/y7bn6cjj>.

Gyles Brandreth, author of seven murder mysteries that feature Arthur Conan Doyle and Oscar Wilde, has written a new short story that them at a festive party at Buckingham Palace; the story was published, with colorful illustrations, in the Mail on Sunday on Dec. 23 <www.tinyurl.com/yddea86y>.

"Sherlock Holmes, John Watson, and a Christmas Gift of Friendship" is the title of Colin Fleming's warm holiday tribute, accompanied by some striking artwork, in the Daily Beast on Dec. 22 <www.tinyurl.com/y8rhozbo>.

The copyright clock continues to tick: at the end of this year "The Creeping Man" (published in 1923) will enter the public domain. Only the final nine Sherlock Holmes stories will be protected by copyright, and the last of them will enter the public domain at the end of 2022.

Further to the report (Sep 18 #7) on a proposal to demolish the Lyndhurst Park Hotel (the campaign to protect the hotel had cited evidence that Conan Doyle helped design the redevelopment of the building as a hotel in 1912), the BBC reported on Dec. 21 <www.tinyurl.com/y9jrdk9w> that the developer has withdrawn its appeal against the National Park Authority's decision to reject the proposal to demolish the hotel. The NPA said it would seek to recover its costs of preparing for a public hearing scheduled in January.

Dec 18 #5 The two volumes of THE MX BOOK OF NEW SHERLOCK HOLMES STORIES: SOME UNTOLD CASES, edited by David Marcum, are the latest additions to his excellent series of anthologies, and they will be welcomed by those who believe that traditional short stories are the best way to visit Holmes and Watson again (London: MX Publishing, 2018: 405/415 pp., $44.95 each); there are new short stories, poems, and a radio script, all offering imaginative accounts of cases only mentioned in the Canon. MX's books are available at <www.sherlockholmesbooks.com>.

Also from MX: Tim Symonds' A MOST DIABOLICAL PLOT (2018: 156 pp., $12.95) is a collection of six pastiches reprinted from volumes of David Marcum's THE MX BOOK OF NEW SHERLOCK HOLMES STORIES: his other Sherlockian work can be found at his web-site <www.tim-symonds.co.uk>.

Tom Bidwell, whose television adaptation of Richard Adams' "Watership Down" debuted on BBC One this month, has told the BBC Writersroom that his next project will be a Netflix series titled "The Irregulars" that will focus on a group of street urchins whose crime-solving success a drug-addict Holmes takes credit for: the interview's at <www.tinyurl.com/ydxgpqwh>.

Too late for this year, but in plenty of time for next year: Stephanie Urban has found amusing artwork by David Price on a "Sherlock Holmes Christmas" card from Allport Editions <www.allport.com/products/1873>.

The Chautauqua Institution, founded in 1874, offers a wide variety of summer educational programs, and Bob Coghill and Christopher Redmond discussed Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle at Chautauqua's Hall of Philosophy on Aug. 23, 2000: Jennie Paton has kindly reported a 35-minute video of the discussion at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=6psB3rmNoBE>.

The Beacon Society works to provide teachers, librarians, children's museums, and children's theaters with resources "to bring the magic of Sherlock Holmes to life," and their web-site <www.beaconsociety.com> is well worth exploring. Click on "additional resources" and then on "beacon booklist" to see an interesting list of recommended books for younger Sherlockians to enjoy and use for research purposes.

Deadline Hollywood reported on Dec. 17 <www.tinyurl.com/yaccj5fo> that the CBS-TV series "Elementary" will end its run after the seventh season, due to air in 2019. Created by Rob Doherty, the series stars Jonny Lee Miller as Holmes and Lucy Liu as Watson, and at the end of the seventh season will have set a record of 154 episodes for a Sherlockian television series: only Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce have played Holmes and Watson more often and for more hours, screen and on the radio.

The District Messenger is the newsletter of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, now edited by Jean Upton and as always interesting and informative, has reported in its latest (382nd) issue on some news from the U.S.: Ceylan Yeginsu, on the N.Y. Times' ReaderCenter on Twitter, recently asked readers about their experiences with petty crime in London: according to Jean, "one person reported that a red-headed man hired him to copy out the Encyclopedia Britannica, but it turned out to be a scam." The newsletter (and much more) is available at <www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk>.

Dec 18 #6 The play's the thing (as Shakespeare wrote): Bart Lovins' "The Novel Adventures of Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Scarlet" is a new production of a dramatization performed at Expanded Arts in New York in 1998, now being produced again at the Hardin County Schools Performing Arts Center in Elizabethtown, Ky., Jan. 17-27 <www.thepac.net>.

Kevin O'Brien's "Sherlock Holmes and the Temple of Doom" will be performed by Upstage Productions <www.upstageproductions.com> at the Carterville Community Center in Carterville, Ill., on Jan. 18; the dinner theater mystery is billed as "Sherlock Holmes, Nancy Drew, Lt. Columbo, and the Scooby Doo Gang are on a wild and dangerous treasure hunt, but so is the amazing archeologist Louisiana Jones." The company has another play titled "No Schick, Sherlock" (Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson come through many a close shave as they investigate "The Case of the Slashing Razor").

Jami-Leigh Bartschi's musical "My Dear Watson" is due at the Edge Theater in Chicago, Ill. Feb. 5-23 <www.cmtf.org>.

Nick Scovell's "Sherlock Holmes: The Hound of the Baskervilles" is due at Ferneham Hall in Fareham, Hants., Feb. 20-24 <www.fernehamhall.co.uk>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Case of Dying to Say I Do" is a new play scheduled at the Diamond Theatre in Ligonier, Pa., Mar. 1-3 <www.diamondtheatre.com>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" will be performed at the Commonweal Theatre in Lanesboro, Minn., Apr. 5-July 6 <www.commonwealtheatre.org>.

Rick Robinson's "Sherlock Holmes and the Sign of the Four" is scheduled at the Oregon Cabaret Theater in Ashland, Ore., Apr. 11-May 26; web-site is at <www.theoregoncabaret.com>.

K. C. Brown's "Sherlock's Veiled Secret" will be performed at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville, Md., May 3-12 <www.rlt-online.org>.

Margaret Raether's new play "Sherlock Holmes & the Precarious Position" is scheduled at the Cheek Theater at Rockford University in Rockford, Ill., on May 9-26 <www.artistsensemble.org>. "Whistling in the Dark" (her dramatization of "The Speckled Band"), performed in 2017, was broadcast by Northern Public Radio on July 15, 2017; podcast at <www.tinyurl.com/yctj3aou>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery" is due at the Warner Theatre in Torrington, Conn., Mar. 23-31 <www.warnertheatre.org>. Also at the Ashland University Studio Theatre in Ashland, Ohio, Apr. 5-7; web-site at <www.ashland.edu>. And at the Firehouse Theater in Alliance, Ohio, May 10-19 <www.carnationcityplayers.com>.

Michael Mitnick's new play "Mysterious Circumstances" will premiere at the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles, July 11-14 <www.geffenplayhouse.org> (the play is inspired by David Grann's article in the New Yorker about the death of Richard Lancelyn Green).

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A Short History
of
The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota

by Julie McKuras

Front row (left to right): E.Z. Ziebarth, E.W. McDiarmid, and Bryce Low Crawford Jr. Back row: Julie McKuras, Bruce Southworth, Allen Mackler. Photo courtesy of Phil Bergem.

The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota

A Short History

Julie McKuras[*]

In April 1947 five individually accomplished University of Minnesota faculty members met for lunch at the University Campus Club. Those five friends were:

1. Errett Weir McDiarmid (1909-2000), B.S.I. ("The Bruce Partington Plans" 1957, 2-Shilling Award 1985), studied at Texas Christian University, Emory University, and the University of Chicago Graduate School. After posts at Baylor University and the University of Illinois, in 1943 he began his long career at the University of Minnesota, where he served as the University Librarian, Director of the Division on Library Instruction, Dean of the College of Science, Literature and Arts, and Director of the Graduate School Fellowship Office. McDiarmid spent two years at the University of Concepción establishing a graduate program and was President of the American Library Association for two years. He worked to build the world's largest Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota Library and served as Sigerson of the Explorers.

2. Bryce L. Crawford, Jr. (1914-2011), B.S.I. ("The Solitary Cyclist" 1985), graduated from high school at the age of 15 and two years later won first place in the National Edison chemistry essay contest. He was flown to Menlo Park, NJ to meet Henry Ford and Thomas Edison. Crawford received his Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D. from Stanford University by the age of 23 and pursued post-doctorate work at Harvard. After teaching chemistry at Yale for one year, he came to the University of Minnesota in 1940 as a Professor in the Physical Chemistry Department where, his World War II research in the field of rocket propellants was signaled as a significant contribution to rocketry and the development of solid propellants. He was a Guggenheim Fellow at Cal Tech, and a Fulbright Fellow in Japan and at Oxford. Crawford was Chair of the Chemistry Department from 1955 to 1960 and Dean of the Graduate School from 1960 to 1972. An active member of both the National Academy of Sciences and the American Chemical Society, he was awarded the Priestly Medal in 1982 in recognition of his numerous contributions to the field.

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[*] Julie McKuras was President of the Norwegian Explorers from 1997 to 2006. Copyright 2019 Julie McKuras. The photo on the page before this page is copyright Phil Bergem.

3. Wallace Armstrong (1905-1984) came to the University of Minnesota in 1928 and received his Ph.D. and M.D. An authority on calcium metabolism and bone biochemistry, he authored more than 175 publications and was an internationally recognized expert on those subjects. His research helped lead to the fluoridation of the nation's water supply and he received numerous awards for this work. In the late 1940s he "received one of the earliest research grants from the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to study the effects of radiation in the body" (*Minneapolis Star Tribune*, June 9, 1984). He served as an assistant Professor, Professor, and Chairman in the Physiological Chemistry Department and as Regents Professor Emeritus.

4. E.W. Ziebarth (1910-2001) received his undergraduate and Master's degrees at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and his Ph.D. in Speech and Communication at the University of Minnesota, where he served as Associate Professor of Speech. He traveled to Europe, the Middle East, Japan, and the Soviet Union as a foreign correspondent in the 1940s and 1950s. Ziebarth was a CBS broadcaster and award-winning news editor, as well as co-host of the series "This I Believe" with Edward R. Murrow. He was a member of the College of Liberal Arts faculty, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and the interim President of the University. Ziebarth received Peabody Awards in 1948 and 1972.

5. Theodore C. Blegen (1891-1969) attended the University of Minnesota, where he received his Ph.D., and taught high school history in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Active in the Minnesota Historical Society, the Torske Klubben, and the Norwegian-American Historical Society, Blegen was a Guggenheim Fellow to Norway and author of 26 books. He acted as Dean of the Graduate School from 1938 to 1960. Blegen Hall at the University of Minnesota was named in his honor.

We have five academics from different fields: a historian, two chemists, a broadcaster, and a librarian. In addition to their golf outings, they shared a love of Sherlock Holmes and over lunch at the Campus Club they decided to form a scion society of the Baker Street Irregulars — a group that would reflect their scholarly interests as well as their good humor. In January 1948 they organized a meeting of the newly named Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota. (In 1998 the three surviving founders — McDiarmid, Crawford, and Ziebarth — denied they came up with the name for the society. Due to lack of any conclusive evidence we believe it was Blegen, a student and teacher of Norwegian immigration to the area, who proposed it.) The first meeting was held at the Covered Wagon Restaurant, "in memory of John Ferrier" on an evening when it was "21 degrees below zero" (McDiarmid, Vol. 4, No. 2, 1948 *Baker Street Journal*). Four of the five founders were present along with

several new members, and it is here that we should note just how remarkable our founders were. While they may have adhered to Sherlock Holmes's adage that "no ghosts need apply," from the beginning they had the vision to admit women to the membership and felt that any interest in Sherlock Holmes, from novice to expert, was all that was needed to belong to the Explorers. As McDiarmid noted in his 1982 pamphlet, *The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota; A History & an Invitation*, it was "neighborly to invite yet others to join the 'Cult of Sherlock Holmes' as Mr. [John Bennett] Shaw refers to it."

Subsequent meetings were held at the Campus Club, where the members enjoyed dinner, proposed toasts, participated in quizzes, and discussed the Canon. In 1951 Theodore C. Blegen's *The Crowded Box-Room, Sherlock Holmes as Poet* was the first Sherlockian book written by an Explorer and began the publishing affiliation with Emerson G. Wulling of the Sumac Press. The following year *Sherlock Holmes: Master Detective,* edited by Blegen and McDiarmid, came out and contained essays by a number of the members.

The first Explorer to attend the Baker Street Irregulars dinner was Bryce L. Crawford in 1953 and he reported on the event at the Explorers' March dinner meeting. It was during this period that Dr. Philip S. Hench (1896-1965) joined the group. Hench, the Mayo Clinic's Chief Rheumatologist and winner of the 1950 Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine, was a member of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London and was pointed to the Norwegian Explorers by members of the London group. McDiarmid wrote in 1995 that the Explorers "possibly has had more Nobel Prize winners (two) in its membership than any other Sherlockian society: Philip S. Hench in 1950 [Physiology or Medicine, for his work with hormones derived from the adrenal cortex, the basis for cortisone preparations] and William Lipscomb in 1976 [Chemistry, for his work on the structure of boranes]."

Hench was an avid Sherlockian collector and traveler. While in Switzerland in 1953 he was distressed to find no local knowledge or notice of the climactic battle at the Reichenbach Falls, and upon his return to Minnesota proposed that the Explorers work with the London Society to place a plaque at the Falls. Bryce Crawford and fellow Explorer Ray Moore traveled to Meiringen in 1956 to determine where Holmes and Moriarty struggled and to find a place for the plaque. This began the long-running debate about reimbursement for the estimated 32-cent funicular railway ride to the Falls, which was denied due to lack of a receipt in triplicate and a sworn affidavit, and attributed by the fellow founders to indolence and a sedentary lifestyle. Discussion of this simmering controversy continued for years on area golf courses.

A meeting was held in November 1956 to update the membership about progress on the project, with presentations by Hench, Moore, Crawford,

and others. Additional funding was needed and a third book of essays was planned to raise funds.

1957 was a momentous year for the Norwegian Explorers. McDiarmid received the investiture "The Bruce-Partington Plans" at the Baker Street Irregulars annual dinner. *Exploring Sherlock Holmes*, edited by McDiarmid and Blegen, was published, and on June 25, 1957 the plaque was installed at the Reichenbach Falls. In attendance were Theodore and Clara Blegen and representatives from The Sherlock Holmes Society of London. The plaque inscription, written by Bryce Crawford, reads:

> Across this dreadful cauldron occurred the culminating event in the career of Sherlock Holmes, the world's greatest detective, when on May 4, 1891 he vanquished Prof. Moriarty, the Napoleon of crime.
>
> Erected by the Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota and The Sherlock Holmes Society of London. 25 June 1957.

The following years, particularly the 1960s, were a period of relative inactivity for the Explorers. The founders were either retiring (Blegen), living abroad (McDiarmid at Chile's University of Concepcion and Armstrong in Stockholm), taking up an increasingly busy positions (Crawford as Dean of the Graduate School), or, most unfortunately, passing away (Hench in 1965 and Blegen in 1969).

In March 1966 an article in a Minneapolis newspaper appeared with the headline "Local Group of Sherlock Holmes Lovers Declines." The article stated "The Minnesota Chapter of the Baker Street Irregulars is close to death, much like its hero Sherlock Holmes . . . ." It ended with, "In an age of Batman, is there a place for a ratiocinative sleuth? . . . The answer should be elementary, my dear Watson."

Perhaps the answer wasn't elementary, but in 1969 and 1970 two articles ran in *The Baker Street Journal* under the name Otis Hearn. Who was Hearn? He was Walter N. Trenerry, a member of the Norwegian Explorers. A rebirth of the group seemed to be taking place. Minnesota writer John Fenn, assisted by the Explorers, debuted his play *Sherlock Holmes and the Affair of the Amorous Regent* in 1972. Many Explorers attended numerous plays in the Twin Cities over the years and hosted a variety of meetings, some focusing on Holmes in film.

In May 1974, through the efforts of McDiarmid and Special Collections Curator Austin McLean (1930-2015, "The London Library" 1990), the University Libraries acquired the James C. Iraldi Collection, the first step in building the Sherlock Holmes Collections. The May 2 Norwegian Explorers

meeting was led by Master of Ceremonies Bryce Crawford, who pledged the support of the Explorers in the endeavor and suggested that it should be named The Errett Weir McDiarmid Collection on Sherlock Holmes. The naming suggestion failed but the request signaled the important role that McDiarmid played and the resolve of the Explorers to support the growth of the library's holdings, which continues to this day.

John Bennett Shaw came to town in November 1975 to deliver a well-received lecture on "The Cult of Sherlock Holmes." Sponsored by the University's Department of English, Humanities, and Concerts and Lectures in cooperation with the Norwegian Explorers, the text of his presentation was included in the Explorers' 1978 *Cultivating Sherlock Holmes*, to mark the 30th anniversary of the group. Edited by Bryce Crawford and Joseph Connors, it was dedicated to members who had passed away.

The Mary Kahler and Philip S. Hench Collection of Sherlock Holmes and Arthur Conan Doyle came to the University in December 1978. This outstanding collection contained treasures such as books, periodicals, photos, and memorabilia. It included four copies of *Beeton's Christmas Annual*, two pages from the original manuscript of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, the last Czarina of Russia's Tauschnitz editions of the Canon, and unique works by Frederic Dorr Steele, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and William Gillette. In July 1979 the Explorers held a program to mark the dedication of the collection. As the 1984 conference program later noted, "Dr. Hench built it with the same intelligence and perseverance that won him the Nobel Prize for his work with cortisone."

On May 2, 1983 Dr. Alvin Rodin gave an illustrated talk titled "Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Physician" at the Hennepin County Government Center. Rodin and Mayo Clinic Librarian Jack Key were featured in an article in *The London Times*. Their work was celebrated for concluding that Conan Doyle was "far from being a failure as a physician, accurately predicted a number of medical developments, to such an extent that he should, they say, be considered on a par with Sir William Osler, the most famous doctor of Conan Doyle's era."

Two months later John Bennett Shaw, described by the University of Minnesota's press release as "a witty and popular lecturer who owns what is thought to be world's largest collection of Sherlock Holmes books, articles and artifacts" and actress and writer Edith Meiser were the highlights of "Adventures on the Air." Meiser discussed the scripts featuring Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson that she wrote for radio broadcasts. The campaign to bring her collection to the University of Minnesota began.

The 1984 conference mentioned above was "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes in Minnesota." Among the speakers were John Bennett and Dorothy

Rowe Shaw, Frederic Dorr Steele's son Robert Steele, Derham Groves, and Michael Harrison, to name a few. The program indicated that the Shaw Collection would eventually come to the University.

In 1986 McDiarmid stepped down as Sigerson and C. Paul Martin was elected as the first President. Under his watch, meetings and events, such as several Silver Blaze races at the nearby Canterbury Downs racetrack, a Sherlock Holmes Centennial Exhibition at the Hennepin County Government Center, plays, and recreated radio programs, were held.

As each new acquisition to the Sherlock Holmes Collections arrived, meetings were held to acknowledge and celebrate them. In 1986 Frederic Dorr Steele's children donated their father's letters, manuscripts, photos, and prints to the Library, an accomplishment facilitated through the connections made by librarian and Explorer Andrew Malec ("The Strange Old Book Collector" 1986). 1987 saw the first issue of the Explorers' newsletter *Explorations*. That same year Edith Meiser's scripts, recordings, correspondence, and clippings came to the Library, and that was followed in 1988 by the addition of both the Vincent Starrett Collection and Minnesota bookman J. Harold Kittleson's Christopher Morley collection.

Pj Doyle was elected in 1989 and served for two years as President. She implemented our January Baker Street West dinners and her term saw visiting speakers, programs, tours of local bookstores, summer picnics, and the fourth Silver Blaze Cup.

Bruce Southworth took the role of President from December 1991 until December 1994. The Explorers had a large membership and an increasing number of ideas for meetings. There were social events such as teas and plays, book hunting excursions, and a trip to the Science Museum of Minnesota. Bruce also acted as Chair of the 1993 "Victorian Criminal Classes: Rogues, Rascals, and Ruffians" conference. Speakers included many Irregulars as well as author Carole Nelson Douglas.

Allen Mackler stepped in as President in December 1994 at the annual dinner, which featured David Hammer as guest speaker. During his tenure the yearly presentation of an Edith Meiser radio script by The Red-Throated League of The Norwegian Explorers began at the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting. In October 1995, one year after John Bennett Shaw's death, a conference titled "The Detective and the Collector" was hosted by the University of Minnesota to dedicate the arrival of the John Bennett Shaw Collection. Dorothy Rowe Shaw was present and speakers included Richard Lancelyn Green, Thomas Stix, Jr., and Derham Groves. Additionally, two other collections arrived at the Library — those of Wilmer "Bill" Rabe and Norman Schatell. It was during this same year that Explorer George Hubbs

founded the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections. The first newsletter was produced in March 1998 with Editor Bruce Southworth working with Richard Sveum and me.

I was elected as President in December 1997 and the next year saw the planning and implementation of the conference held to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Explorers. Chaired by Bruce Southworth, the "Founders' Footprints" conference was held in August 1998 and established the ongoing practice of holding triennial conferences. Among the speakers were Dan Posnansky, Fred Kittle, Al and Julia Rosenblatt, Catherine Cooke, and Peter Blau. Making his first appearance at an Explorer event was the Library's Curator of Special Collections and Rare Books, Timothy Johnson, who had been named to the position only the month before. Events during my tenure included author presentations, January Baker Street West dinners, a Magic Lantern show, performances by the Red-Throated League, film screenings and games, slideshows, and Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections annual meetings. In 1998 we partially resolved the ongoing conflict of the 1956 failure to reimburse Bryce Crawford for his 32-cent ride on the Meiringen funicular. Explorer Phil Bergem prepared and presented Crawford with 32 cents set on velvet matte in a frame. Crawford took it with his usual good humor, happy that there were still "honest people in the world." (The Board of the Norwegian Explorers chose not to reimburse Bergem for his expenses due to the same reasons Crawford had been denied many years earlier.) In 2001 the appropriately named "2001: A Sherlockian Odyssey, A Journey Among the Shaw 100" conference took place with speakers Peter Blau, Jon Lellenberg, Don Pollock, Chris Redmond, and Steven Rothman, and we honored the memory of E.W. McDiarmid. The following year we began the publication of our *Norwegian Explorer Christmas Annual*. In June 2004 the "A River Runs by It; Holmes and Doyle in Minnesota" conference was held, with featured presenters such as Peter Blau, Leslie Klinger, Jon Lellenberg, Barbara and Christopher Roden, and Barbara Rusch.

In December 2006 Gary Thaden was elected President of the Explorers, a post he held until December 2017. There were numerous meetings with a variety of presentations for the general membership throughout his term. The "Victorian Secrets and Edwardian Enigmas" conference took place in July 2007 and had many notable presenters — Michael Kean, Cliff Goldfarb, Elaine and Jonathan McCafferty, Michael Dirda, Susan Vizoskie, Jon Lellenberg, Bill Mason, Leslie Klinger, Dan Stashower, Randall Stock, and locals Gary Thaden and Michael Eckman. We concluded with a live fashion show of Victorian undergarments. The August 2010 "The Spirits of Sherlock Holmes" conference was notable for several reasons. We had an out-

standing group of speakers such as Catherine Cooke, Susan Dahlinger, Leslie Klinger, Evelyn Herzog, Ray Betzner, and Jon Lellenberg, but also had a running joke throughout the conference due to a bit of faulty journalism. After interviewing me, *The Minneapolis Star-Tribune* reported that I, and not the University of Minnesota Libraries, owned "four copies of the penny magazine (*Beeton's Christmas Annual*)." Co-Chair Thaden opened the conference by stating a bevy of Minnesota law enforcement organizations, including the non-existent Apple Valley MN Swat Team, were at that moment raiding the McKuras family home in Apple Valley to retrieve the *Beeton's*. At the Friends meeting, in the presence of the McDiarmid family, Timothy Johnson was named the first E.W. McDiarmid Curator for the Sherlock Holmes Collection.

We hosted the "Sherlock Holmes Through Time and Place" conference in August 2013, and had speakers and attendees from all over the United States, Denmark, England, Sweden, Canada, and Switzerland. Chris Redmond, Marcus Geisser, Guy Marriott, Palle Schantz Lauridsen, Marsha Pollak, Don Hobbs, Bill Mason, Roger Johnson, Jean Upton, Marina Stajić, Mattias Boström, Leslie Klinger, Michael Eckman, Pj Doyle, Elaine and Joe Coppola, Matt Laffey, and Mary Loving entertained the large crowd. For our June 2016 conference, "The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes," we decided that it would be interesting to have speakers who hadn't presented at previous conferences (with the exception of Bill Mason, who had proposed the theme). Attendees came from the United States, Canada and Japan enjoyed the talks as well as the book they received, *The Missing Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes*.

Tom Gottwalt was elected president in December 2017. As our founders did in the beginning, he has arranged dinners, toasts, quizzes, and Canon discussions. In 2018 the Explorers celebrated our 70th Anniversary. Our group meets on a fairly regular irregular basis at the University of Minnesota's Elmer L. Andersen Library. Each year we hold a January dinner to discuss the Sherlock Holmes Birthday weekend, a Spring performance of an Edith Meiser radio script by the Red-Throated League of the Norwegian Explorers, a Fall meeting and an annual dinner in December. Additionally, monthly study group sessions are held to discuss the Canon in detail and there are occasional theatre and film outings. Our conferences are held every three years and have been well-received and well-attended with interesting and talented presenters and enthusiastic attendees. We continue to support The Sherlock Holmes Collections and contribute a substantial portion of any conference proceeds to the Library; the Explorers and the Friends are inexorably intertwined.

If we can judge our group successful for longevity and inclusiveness, we must attribute those achievements to the men who founded the Explorers. They had a concept for the society, a scholarly and entertaining platform that included celebrating the friendship between Holmes and Watson as well as among the members. Those five men have left us with a wonderful history and hopefully, we can continue with their vision for at least the next 70 years.

Presidents of the Norwegian Explorers

1948-Dec. 1989:	E.W. McDiarmid, B.S.I. ("The Bruce-Partington Plans" 1957, 2 Shilling Award 1985), our "Sigerson"
Dec. 1989-Dec. 1991:	Pj Doyle, B.S.I. ("Ettie Shafter" 2010)
Dec. 1991-Dec. 1994:	Bruce Southworth, B.S.I. ("Victor Hatherley" 1992)
Dec. 1994-Dec. 1997:	Allen Mackler, B.S.I. ("Sarasate" 1990)
Dec. 1997-Dec. 2006:	Julie McKuras, B.S.I. ("The Duchess of Devonshire" 2001)
Dec. 2006-Dec. 2017:	Gary Thaden
Dec. 2017-present:	Tom Gottwalt

Conferences Held by the Norwegian Explorers

(often in conjunction with the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections and the University of Minnesota)

1984: The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes in Minnesota (Sponsored by The University of Minnesota's Department of Conferences; Special Collections and Rare Books; The Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Libraries)
1993: Sherlock Holmes' Victorian Criminal Classes: Rogues, Rascals and Criminals (Bruce Southworth, Chair)
1995: The Detective and the Collector
1998: Founders' Footprints (Bruce Southworth, Chair)
2001: 2001: A Sherlockian Odyssey (Julie McKuras and Richard Sveum, Co-Chairs)
2004: A River Runs by It: Holmes and Doyle in Minnesota (Julie McKuras and Richard Sveum, Co-Chairs)
2007: Victorian Secrets and Edwardian Enigmas (Julie McKuras and Richard Sveum, Co-Chairs)
2010: The Spirits of Sherlock Holmes (Gary Thaden and Michael Eckman, Co-Chairs)
2013: Sherlock Holmes Through Time and Place (Julie McKuras and Gary Thaden, Co-Chairs)
2016: The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes (Julie McKuras and Gary Thaden, Co-Chairs)
2019: Dark Places, Wicked Companions and Strange Experiences (Julie McKuras and Gary Thaden, Co-Chairs)

Publications by and for the Norwegian Explorers

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Blegen, Theodore C. and E.W. McDiarmid. *Sherlock Holmes: Master Detective*, 1952.

500 copies.
McDiarmid, E.W. and Theodore C. Blegen, eds. *Exploring Sherlock Holmes*. 1957. 400 copies.
Crawford, Bryce L., Jr. and Joseph B. Connors, eds. *Cultivating Sherlock Holmes*, 1978. 400 copies.
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McDiarmid, E.W. *The Real Sherlock Holmes*, 1984.
Shannon, James P. *A Fixed Point in a Changing World*, 1984.
Shelby, Don. *Sherlock Holmes: Investigative Reporter*, 1984.
Rosenblatt, Albert and Julia Rosenblatt. *The Sherlock Holmes Crossword*, 1985.
Berman, Ruth. *A Case of Double Identity: William Gillette and Sherlock Holmes on Stage in the Twin Cities*, 1995.
McDiarmid, E.W. *The Saga of a Sherlockian Society*, 1995.
Brusic, Lucy. *Sherlock Holmes: The Detective & The Collector, Essays on the John Bennett Library*, 1995.
Hubbs, George. *[Yes, Virginia,] Sherlock Holmes Lives*, 1995.
McDiarmid, E.W. and Peter E. Blau. *A Basic Holmesian Library*, 1995.
McKuras, Julie and Richard J. Sveum. *The History of the Norwegian Explorers (1948-1998)*, 1998.
Bergem, Phillip G. *A. Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes Related Articles in The Strand Magazine*, 2001.
Bergquist, John, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual*, 2002.
Bergquist, John, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual*, 2003.
Bergquist, John and Phillip Bergem, eds. *The Horror of the Heights: A Facsimile of the Author's Holograph Manuscript with Commentary*, 2004.
Bergquist, John, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; The Architectural Holmes*, 2004.
Bergquist, John, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; The Charm of Variety*, 2005.
Bergquist, John, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Women in the Canon,* 2006.
Bergquist, John, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; 221B Baker Street*, 2007.
Bergem, Phillip, Michael Eckman and John Bergquist, eds. The Norwegian Explorers Omnibus, 2007.
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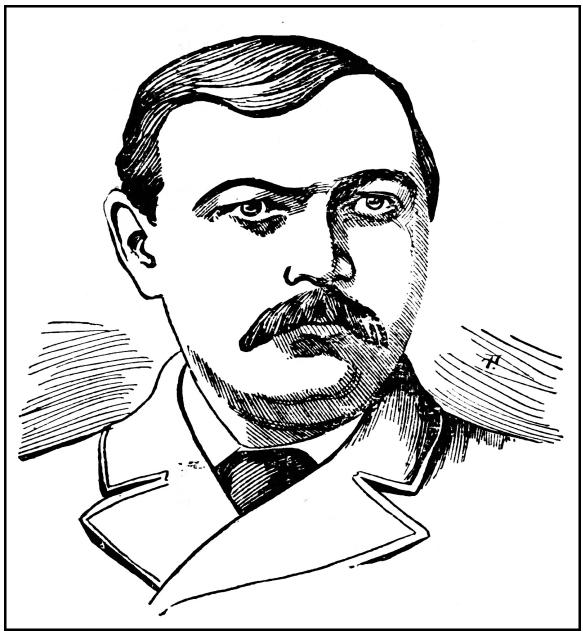
Reich, Timothy, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Heroism, Courage, & Valor,* 2010.
Reich, Timothy, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Treasures*, 2011.
Reich, Timothy, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Deception*, 2012.
Bergem, Phillip, ed. *J. Randolph Cox: A Sherlockian Festschrift*, 2013.
Reich, Timothy, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Anniversaries*, 2013.
McKuras, Julie and Timothy Reich, ed. *The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota 65th Anniversary; An Updated History*, 2013.
Reich, Timothy and Ray Riethmeier, eds. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Pairings*, 2014.
Reich, Timothy and Ray Riethmeier, eds. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual;*

Histories and Futures Deduced, 2015.
McKuras, Julie, Timothy Johnson, Ray Riethmeier, and Phillip Bergem, eds. *The Missing Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes,* 2016.
Riethmeier, Ray and Phillip Bergem, eds. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; The Miss Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, 2016.
Riethmeier, Ray and Phillip Bergem, eds. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; Fame and Fortune in the Canon*, 2017.
Riethmeier, Ray and Phillip Bergem, eds. *The Norwegian Explorers Christmas Annual; War and Peace*, 2018.

Lists & Other Records



When I burgle my son's money box as my own was burgled 30 years ago it will be to set him up with a complete Macaulay.

Of course they say that he is inaccurate. They say so of Froude, also; and of everyone else who tries to turn history into something more human than an almanac.

A. Conan Doyle,
Before My Bookcase,
Philadelphia Inquirer, June 3, 1894

Editors' note: Ouch again.

The Baker Street Babes

The Playlist

Taylor Blumenberg, Maria Fleischhack, and Tamar Zeffren[*]

Editors' note: The Baker Street Babes (meet the cast here: bakerstreetbabes.com /babes/) have been a potent and mobilizing force in the Sherlockian world for nearly a decade, engaged in enterprises ranging from book publishing (*Femme Friday*) to fundraising (for the Wounded Warrior Project and the Disabled American Veterans Trust) to podcasting. It is the last of those activities that the authors focus on here, including their long-running eponymous show, as well as a series of specials, their *Live & Local* shows, and a couple of other bits and bobs — all of which you can listen to at bakerstreetbabes.com.

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
1	Meet the Babes (general introduction, possible scenarios for S2, Sherlock BBC cast on London stages; round up by Marie)	5/26/11	Curly, Ardy, Kafers	Marie	53min
2	Caitlin Obom & The Sherlock Holmes Fandom (songwriting by Caitlin, review of Emperor & Galilean at the National Theatre with Andrew Scott, screening and Q&A of The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes, hosted by Mark Gatiss, with special guest Steven Moffat)	6/10/11	Curly, Kafers, Turk	Caitlin Obom and Maria	51min
3	Victoriana & Granada	6/28/11	Curly, Kafers, Ardy, Jenn	Trudi	1hr 12min
4	The Women of Sherlock Holmes	7/19/11	Curly, Ardy, Jenn		1h 4min
5	Guy Ritchie's Sherlock Holmes	8/11/11	Curly, Kafers, Ardy, Taylor		54min
6	Lyndsay Faye & The Pastiche	8/18/11	Curly, Jenn, Ardy, Kafers	Lyndsay Faye	1h 51min

[*] Taylor Blumenberg (a professional enthusiast), Maria Fleischhack (one of two doctor Babes), and Tamar Zeffren (your friendly neighborhood digital archivist) hold the copyright in this work.

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
7	Villains, Bad Guys & Adversaries	9/6/11	Curly, Jenn, Ardy, Kafers		1h 5min
8	Laurie R. King — Of Bees & Babes	9/26/11	Ardy	Laurie R. King, Amy, Sarah	52min
9	We Hear of Sherlock Everywhere	10/13/11	Ardy, Curly, Jenn, Turk, Taylor	Sigita	1h 1min
10	Charlotte Walters & Dan Andriacco	11/2/11	Curly	Charlotte Walters, Andriacco	54min
11	Paget & The Image of Sherlock Holmes	11/9/11	Curly, Jenn, Kafers		46min
12	Anthony Horowitz	11/17/11	Jenn	Anthony Horowitz	37min
13	Undershaw	12/1/11	Curly, Ardy, Marie	Lynn Gale, Alistair Duncan	1h 10min
14	Les Klinger	12/15/11	Curly, Ardy, Jenn	Les Klinger	59min
15	A Game of Shadows + bonus Sherlock Series 2 (Guy Ritchie hates trees!)	12/22/11	Curly, Ardy, Taylor, Marie	Lyndsay Faye	1h 13min
16	A Scandal in Belgravia (Sherlock BBC discussion)	1/2/12	Curly, Kafers, Taylor, Marie	Sigita	1h 11min
17	The Hounds of Baskerville (Sherlock BBC discussion)	1/9/12	Ardy, Curly, Marie, Turk, Taylor, Amy, Maria		1h 19min
18	The Reichenbach Fall (Sherlock BBC discussion)	1/16/12	Curly, Ardy, Jenn, Turk, Amy, Maria, Marie		1h 24min
19	John Watson Appreciation	2/4/12	Curly, Lyndsay, Amy, Maria, Marie, Kafers, Taylor, Ardy, Sarah		1h 23min
20	Joe Lidster & Blogging Sherlock (running BBC Sherlock's blogs)	2/12/12	Curly, Marie	Joe Lidster, Stephen	46min
21	Gerry O'Hara & Tracy Revels	2/27/12	Maria, Taylor	Gerry O'Hara, Tracy Revels	1h 1m
22	Michael Price & The Music of Sherlock	3/14/12	Curly, Ardy, Marie, Maria, Amy, Sarah, Turk	Michael Price	55min

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
23	New & Old Sherlock	4/5/12	Ardy, Amy, Jenn, Maria, Sarah, Taylor	Mattias Boström	56min
24	The Detective & The Woman	4/15/12	Amy, Ardy, Jenn, Sarah		39min
25	Steampunk Holmes	4/23/12	Jenn, Lyndsay, Amy	Richard Monson-Haefel, P.C. Martin, Daniel Cortes	43min
26	Lara Pulver & Irene Adler	5/10/12	Curly, Lyndsay, Maria, Jenn	Lara Pulver	38min
27	Amanda Abbington	5/26/12	Curly, Turk, Ardy, Kafers	Amanda Abbington	1h 12min
28	Louise Brealey (discussion about Molly Hooper's character on BBC Sherlock)	6/22/12	Curly, Maria, Ardy	Joanne, Louise Brealey	35min
29	The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes	7/16/12	Jenn, Lyndsay	Susan Rice, Mickey Fromkin	59min
30	The Episode of Dubious Legality — Betsy Rosenblatt, the OTW, and Fanworks	8/8/12	Ardy, Lyndsay, Taylor, Amy	Betsy Rosenblatt	45min
31	"How Do You Feel About The Violin?" Meet the Sherlock Fan Orchestra! (collectively playing music from BBC Sherlock, inspiration, official endorsement, motivating others to pick up instruments and show their love for the show)	10/6/12	Maria, Ardy, Sarah	Elliot, Matt	37min
32	Elementary	10/6/12	Amy, Lyndsay, Taylor, Curly, Ardy, Maria, Sarah		1h 4min
33	Wear Sherlock	10/14/12	Curly, Kafers	Lyd, Caz	59min
34	Fandom, Meetups & Fan Fiction	11/10/12	Ardy, Maria	Amy, Maz, Trills	58min
35	Watson & Holmes	12/23/12	Lyndsay, Amy, Curly	Brandon Perlow, Justin F. Gabrie	1h 10min

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
36	How To Think Like Sherlock Holmes with Maria Konnikova	1/22/13	Curly, Lyndsay, Kafers, Amy, Sarah, Ardy, Melinda	Maria Konnikova	1h 6m
37	The Detective, The Woman & The Winking Tree	2/17/13	Sarah, Amy		27min
38	Free Sherlock (the lawsuit concerning the Holmes Estate and Les Klinger freeing Sherlock Holmes)	3/22/13	Lyndsay, Curly	Les Klinger	1h 5min
39	Interview with Roger Johnson & Jean Upton	4/2/13	Curly, Kafers, Ardy	Roger Johnson and Jean Upton, editors of The Sherlock Holmes Miscellany	50min
40	Morphic Graffiti and The Revenge of Sherlock Holmes	4/17/13	Ardy, Kafers	Luke Fredericks, Stewart Charlesworth	29min
41	Daniel Stashower and The Hour of Peril	5/20/13	Amy, Lyndsay, Melinda, Taylor	Daniel Stashower	1h 31min
42	Lestrade Appreciation	6/30/13	Curly, Lyndsay, Melinda, Kafers, Ardy, Sarah		1h 14min
43	Charles Augustus Milverton Appreciation	8/16/13	Curly, Lyndsay, Melinda, Taylor, Ardy, Maria, Amy		1h 31min
44	Sherlock Holmes After Dark Pt. 1	9/14/13	Curly, Liz, Lyndsay	Les Klinger, Madlori, reapersun, Sketchlock	1h 3min
45	Sherlock Holmes After Dark Pt. 2	9/21/13	Curly, Liz, Lyndsay	Madlori, reapersun, Sketchlock	1h 12min
46	Moriarty Returns! With Daniel Corey	10/26/13	Lyndsay, Melinda, Sarah	Daniel Corey	1h 32min
47	Sherlock — The Game (Is On!)	11/28/13	Curly, Maria, Taylor, Ardy	Lynx, Carolyn, Yuri, Joey, Becky	49min
48	Nick Briggs & The Ordeals Of Sherlock Holmes	12/23/13	Curly, Taylor, Kafers, Maria, Amy	Nick Briggs	1hr
49	The Empty Hearse	1/2/14	Taylor, Lyndsay, Amy, Curly, Kafers, Turk		1hr 24min

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
50	The Sign of Three (we chat about The Sign of Three)	1/6/14	Maria, Curly, Kafers, Lyndsay, Melinda, Amy, Ardy, Sarah		1h 10min
51	His Last Vow	1/14/14	Curly, Lyndsay, Kafers, Ardy, Amy, Sarah		1h 36min
52	A Finger Slip Webseries	1/31/14	Curly	Finger Slip production team	46min
53	Lars Mikkelsen, Jonathan Aris, Arwel Wyn Jones	2/17/14	Taylor, Kafers	Lars Mikkelsen, Jonathan Aris, Arwel Wyn Jones	25min
54	The Detective, The Woman, and The Silent Hive	3/18/14	Melinda, Kafers, Sara, Amy		46min
55	Tony Lee	3/30/14	Kafers, Taylor	Tony Lee	59min
56	A Slight Trick of the Mind with Mitch Cullin	6/4/14	Curly, Kafers	Mitch Cullin	51min
57	Sherlock Series 4 Predictions	8/26/14	Curly, Lyndsay, Ashley, Maria, Ardy		55min
58	Curtis Armstrong	11/16/14	Curly, Lyndsay	Curtis Armstrong	1h 15min
59	BSI Weekend 2015	1/19/15	Ashley, Curly, Maria		1h 5min
60	Mrs. Hudson Appreciation (Mrs. Hudson is the best!)	2/11/15	Ardy, Maria, Lyndsay, Amy		1h 3min
61	Adam Christopher & Elementary	3/5/15	Liz, Lyndsay	Adam Christopher	46min
62	Parodying Sherlock with Vidar Magnussen (Discussing Holmes parodies and the ideas and production behind Vidar Magnussen's hilarious parodies)	3/14/15	Taylor, Maria, Sora	Vidar Magnussen	28min
63	Robert Doherty	5/11/15	Liz, Amy	Robert Doherty	45min
64	The Lost William Gillette Film	6/28/15	Lyndsay, Ashley	Tim Greer	1h 27min
65	Sherlock Prom (the Sherlock Prom at the Royal Albert Hall)	7/30/15	Amy, Ashley, Maria	Matthew Sweet	57min

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
66	Mr. Holmes Reaction Episode	8/17/15	Lyndsay, Sarah, Taylor, Amy, Melinda		40min
67	Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Anna Waterhouse (Mycroft Holmes novel)	9/16/15	Ashley, Lyndsay	Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Anna Waterhouse	42min
68	Unaired Sherlock Pilot Reaction (recap and appreciation of the unaired pilot of BBC Sherlock)	11/16/15	Amy, Maria, Ardy		1h 21min
69	Ken Ludwig & Baskerville (Ken Ludwig's play, "Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery")	12/10/15	Lyndsay, Ashley	Ken Ludwig	54min
70	The Abominable Bride	1/2/16	Amy, Ashley, Sarah		58min
71	Bert Coules (we talk about Bert's Sherlock Holmes radio/audio book adaptations)	1/10/16	Kristina, Lyndsay, Maria	Bert Coules	57min
72	A Study in Pink (Sherlock BBC — somewhat nostalgic discussion of "A Study in Pink")	3/23/16	Maria, Sora, Amy, Tiffany, Tamar		1h 40min
73	Paul Cornell	5/16/16	Amy	Kate, Paul Cornell	1h 3min
74	Behind the Canonical Screen	6/9/16	Ashley, Lyndsay	Tim Greer	57min
75	The Hillywood Show! (discussion of the Sherlock BBC Hillywood Parody)	8/26/16	Sarah, Sora	Hilly and Hannah Hindi	44min
76	Sherlock & Shakespeare (Shakespeare in the canon, similarities between Shakespearean characters, esp. Hamlet, and Holmes)	11/18/16	Maria, Lyndsay, Amy, and Tiffany		1h 11min
77	The Six Thatchers	1/6/17	Ashley, Lyndsay, Amy		52min
78	The Lying Detective	1/9/17	Sora, Sarah, Amy, Lyndsay, Maria		1h
79	The Final Problem	1/18/17	Lyndsay, Tiffany, Ashley		1h 46min

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
80	Martin Powell Live at 221B Con	4/27/17	Taylor, Lyndsay, Sarah, Ashley, Amy	Martin Powell	51min
81	The Whole Art of Detection — Lost Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes	7/26/17	Amy, Sarah, Lyndsay	Elinor	31min
82	Baker Street in LA (221B sitting room replica in LA)	11/14/17	Tiffany	Chuck Kovacic	52min
83	Nancy Springer Live at 221B Con (Q&A about Enola Holmes and the planned adaptation)	4/25/18	Sarah, Lyndsay, Amy, Taylor	Nancy Springer	49min
84	The Many Faces of Irene Adler	7/8/18	Amy	Chris Zordan	53min
85	Cake Boss & Our Charity Ball (recap of the Daintiest Scream on the Moor Charity Ball during the 2018 BSI weekend, including the making of the "Cake Boss" episode, the New York Times coverage, and the Voice of America presence at the ball)	8/18/18	Tiffany, Maria, Lyndsay		1h 4min
	SPECIALS				
1	Sherlock Panel at Dragon*Con	9/6/11			46min
2	The Great Sherlock Holmes Debate	11/13/11			1hr 11min
3	Alistair Duncan: A Study in Barts: Holmes, Watson, and England's Great Hospital	6/27/12			38min
4	Lyndsay's Intro to Canon, Part I	10/6/12			1hr 27min
5	Lyndsay's Intro to Canon, Part II	11/21/12			1hr 33min
6	Sherlopalooza	11/21/12			51 min
7	Lyndsay's Intro to Canon, Part III	12/5/12			1hr 34min

#	Title (Topic)	Date	Hosts	Guests	Length
8	Lyndsay's Intro to Canon, Part IV	4/9/13			1hr 39min
9	221B Con Live with Cara McGee	4/21/13			59min
	221B Con: Watson's Through Time	7/26/13			52min
	221B Con with Ashley Polasek	4/26/14			49min
11	From Baker Street to the Holodeck	5/15/14			54min
12	Emma Grant	7/22/14			1hr 15min
13	From House to Psych	10/4/14			59min
14	221B Con Live With Ben Syder	4/27/15			46min
15	221B Con Live With David Nellist	5/4/16			55min
	LIVE & LOCAL				
1	Les Klinger & Laurie R. King	12/5/14			44min
2	Jeremy Strong	4/8/15			43min
3	Bonnie MacBird & Art in the Blood	10/6/15	Ardy		41min
4	No Place Like Holmes	12/18/15	Maria, Ardy		36min
5	New York Public Library	7/25/16			1hr 23min
6	Bonnie MacBird	8/30/17	Ardy		47min
7	Michael Sims	12/13/18			1hr 4min
	OTHER				
	IHOSE #70: Sherlockian Jeopardy	11/27/14			
	The Revenge of Sherlock Holmes: Minicast	4/25/13			10min

EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES 2018

Shannon Carlisle[*]

January 12 — New York City, NY

540 Junior Sherlockian Society wooden nickels were distributed through the BSI, The Woman, and the Gaslight Gala dinner packets. Recipients were encouraged to share the nickels with children and youth and encourage them to participate in Junior Sherlockian training, a program of the Beacon Society.

May 8 — Moore Elementary School, Franklin, TN and Stepping Stone School, Hindhead, UK

Throughout the school year, Shannon Carlisle's fourth-grade students communicated with Stepping Stones students using Padlet, an online bulletin board. On May 8, the students used Google Meet, a video conference application, to ask the students follow-up questions and take a virtual tour of Arthur Conan Doyle's former study. The Fresh Rashers (Marino Alvarez, Jim Hawkins, Bill Mason, Dean Richardson, and Drew Thomas) were present for the Google Meet and stayed to play REDH Jeopardy.

May 15 — Freedom Intermediate School, Franklin, TN and the Katz residence, Morristown, NJ

Dr. Robert Katz donated copies of *The Grand Game: a Celebration of Sherlockian Scholarship, Volume Two, 1960–2010* to the students that received honorary membership into Watson's Tin Box of Ellicott City (2017). When Shannon Carlisle and Dr. Marino Alvarez delivered the books, they led a discussion of "The Blue Enigma" essay, by Judge S. Tupper Bigelow. The essay focuses on the inconsistencies found in "The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle," including the color of Holmes's dressing gown, the Bakers in 1890 London, Holmes's deductions made from Henry Baker's hat, the absence of crops in geese, laws of England, and the blue carbuncle. The students also had the opportunity to talk with Dr. Katz using the Google Meet application.

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[*] Shannon Carlisle's classroom is 221b Baker Street. The Sherlockian theme encourages her students to employ the mindset and skills needed for optimal growth, provides an engaging framework for learning, and supports students in their attempts to be productive citizens. Copyright 2019 Shannon Carlisle.

May 19 — Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem, Nashville, TN

Ella Carlisle (11) and her mother, Shannon Carlisle, presented "Victorian Dining with Imogene, Rusty, and Sherlock Holmes". During the presentation, Ella listed the foods and drinks the characters enjoyed in the pastiche, *Imogene and the Case of the Missing Pearls*. Then, she provided samples of four of the foods baked with recipes from Julia Carlson Rosenblatt and Frederic H. Sonnenschmidt's cookbook, *Dining with Sherlock Holmes: A Baker Street Cookbook*. Finally, the Nashville Scholars determined that the treacle tart with the custard sauce was their favorite.

August — Belanger Books, Manchester, NH

David Marcum and Derrick Belanger invited three students to write poems as introductions to the three-volume anthology, *Sherlock Holmes: Adventures Beyond the Canon*. The student participants who were published in the anthology were from Suffolk, England, and Broomfield, CO.

August — Belanger Books, Manchester, NH

Derrick Belanger announces *The Irregular Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. This book will be the first pastiche anthology written specifically for YA and kids. Both established authors and student writers are invited to contribute stories. All proceeds will be donated to The Beacon Society. The book will be published in 2019.

August 9 — www.juniorsherlockian.com

On the 221st day of the year, the Junior Sherlockian Society celebrated its first birthday. Sponsored by the Beacon Society, the program continues to invite children and youth to complete Junior Sherlockian Training — an in-depth study of Sherlock Holmes's character traits, observational skills, capacity for critical thought, and inductive and deductive reasoning. During the online training, Junior Sherlockians-in-Training complete the 2-2-1-b tasks to explore, experience, and extend their understanding and appreciation of the great detective. Upon completion of the tasks and submission of "training evidence," a certificate of completion is granted.

August 13-17 — Moore Elementary School, Franklin, TN

Shannon Carlisle provided Sherlockian Training for 96 fourth graders. The Sherlockians-in-Training were introduced to the great detective and participated in the "Who borrowed Mr. Bear?" simulation. By the end of the week-long training, the students learned to be observant, active participants in their learning, and critical thinkers . . . just like Sherlock Holmes.

August 17 — Moore Elementary School, Franklin, TN

Dan and Ann Andriacco visited The Sherlock Holmes Museum for the Young, Curious, and Observant Mind, in 221b Baker Street of Moore Elementary School. The details of their adventure were highlighted in Dan Andriacco's *Baker Street Beat* online article "Class in Session: 221B in Tennessee." (bakerstreetbeat.blogspot.com/2018/08/class-in-session-221b-in-tennessee.html) Later in the fall, Shannon Carlisle's students analyzed the plot elements in Dan's short story, "The Adventure of the Amateur Players," before attempting narratives of their own. (bakerstreetbeat.blogspot.com/2018/10/suspense-in-sherlockian-short-short.html)

November — Albert Cassens Elementary School, Edwardsville, IL

Rob Nunn taught his annual Sherlock Holmes unit to 24 fifth graders. Over the course of this two-week unit, students read "The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle," "The Adventure of the Red-Headed League," "The Adventure of Silver Blaze," "The Adventure of the Speckled Band," "The Adventure of the Copper Beeches," and "A Scandal in Bohemia." The class practiced and performed reader's theater plays of "The Blue Carbuncle" and "The Red-Headed League" for 150 other students. Students learned about the conventions of the mystery genre and writing and editing process by crafting their own Sherlock Holmes mysteries. They also discussed the history of *The Strand Magazine*, used Holmes' deductive reasoning while investigating items of clothing for details of their owners, and enjoyed a viewing of "The Great Mouse Detective."

November 9 — American Academy, Castle Pines, CO

Derrick Belanger presented "You are Sherlock Holmes" to 148 fifth graders. The students practiced the Sherlockian skills of observing, analyzing, and deducing. They applied these critical thinking skills as they began drafting their own mystery inspired by the Sherlock Holmes canon.

December 6 — Century Middle School, Thornton, CO

Derrick Belanger gave a brief presentation to the Century Middle School Writing Club on writing Sherlock Holmes pastiches. He then answered questions from the students about the writing and publishing process.

December 20 — Moore Elementary School, Franklin, TN

Dr. Marino Alvarez helped Shannon Carlisle's fourth graders analyze the setting, characters, and plot of "The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle." In addition, he challenged them to complete his BLUE cryptograph.

SHERLOCK HOLMES IN PRINT

Carla Coupe, Jaime Mahoney, and Jacquelynn Morris[*]

The state of publishing in the Sherlock Holmes community is good. The variety of books that are published every year — from glossy hardcovers put out by large, established publishers with widespread publicity to small runs from niche publishers to hand-sold paperbacks from self-published authors — provides something for every type of Sherlockian. Want to read more Holmes and Watson adventures? Got 'em. How about a scholarly meta-discussion about an arcane aspect of Sherlockian studies? Over there, on that shelf. A graphic novel? A tongue-in-cheek look at the history of the community? An anthology of essays about the original stories? Check, check, and check.

But where can a Sherlockian, budding or seasoned, find these books? Well, on Amazon, of course, but simply typing in "Sherlock Holmes" returns a mind-boggling number of hits. Sherlockian-focused websites, such as sherlockian.net, sometimes offer a list of new titles, and those who are on social media often receive recommendations and reviews. But if you prefer to head to your local bookstore, or order from a small publisher's website, how can you refine your search?

Books published by the larger houses, with broad distribution, will often receive preferential treatment at the bookstore, so checking the tables at the front, or reading publicity releases, will provide many choices. Small publishers, however, often aren't distributed by the larger chain bookstores. Checking your local independent bookstore may help (and we hope to provide a list of independent bookstores that carry Sherlockian titles in next year's *Almanac*), or in many cases you can order books directly from the publisher's website.

We have collected a list of small publishers, included below. Some of these publishers focus specifically on Sherlock Holmes-related publications, such as the BSI Press, while others offer a broader range of books, as well as those of interest to a Sherlockian. Hopefully these suggestions will provide a starting place for your search or broaden it with new names. After all, one of the joys of being a Sherlockian is that, regardless of your specific interest, there's always a new book out there for you to enjoy!

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[*] Carla Coupe, Jaime Mahoney, and Jacquelynn Morris — all past Gasogenes of the Watson's Tin Box scion society in Ellicott City, Maryland — have long been involved (in a wide range of capacities) in the study and publication of Sherlockian scholarship and fiction. Copyright 2019 Carla Coupe, Jaime Mahoney, and Jacquelynn Morris.

Sherlockian Publishers

Belanger Books: belangerbooks.com
Brothers Derrick and Brian Belanger helm this press, which specializes in Holmes pastiches, children's books, and sci-fi/steampunk.

BSI Press: bakerstreetirregulars.com
The publishing arm of the well-known Baker Street Irregulars, this press specializes in limited-run reference books and the quarterly magazine, the *Baker Street Journal*.

Crooked Lane Books: crookedlanebooks.com
Crooked Lane Books is a mystery publisher which also offers Sherlockian titles.

Edge Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing: edgewebsite.com
Based in Calgary, Canada, Edge focuses horror and has also published some Holmes-related fiction.

Endeavour Media: endeavourmedia.co.uk
This London-based publisher carries pastiches by well-known authors in the Sherlockian community.

Gemma Halliday Publishing: gemmahalliday.com/gh-publishing
This publisher focuses on lighthearted, modern stories, including Sherlockian ones.

Graphic Universe: lernerbooks.com/pages/Graphic-Universe
Graphic Universe publishes fiction and nonfiction graphic novels, including Holmes-related ones.

MX Publishing: mxpublishing.co.uk (store: sherlockholmesbooks.com)
Based in London, MX is run by Steve Emecz and has a large collection of Holmes-related fiction and pastiches. MX books are also available at a number of independent bookstores.

Mango Publishing: mango.bz
Based in Miami, Mango has published a few Sherlockian titles.

Mysterious Press: mysteriouspress.com

Owned by Otto Penzler, who also owns the Mysterious Bookshop in New York, Mysterious Press specializes in mysteries and thrillers, and publishes a number of Sherlockian reference books and pastiches.

Skyhorse Publishing: skyshorsepublishing.com

Started in 2006, Skyhorse publishes some well-known authors in the Sherlockian community.

Titan Books: titanbooks.com

Based in London, Titan Books offers a collection of Sherlockian books and graphic novels.

Wessex Press-Gasogene Books: wessexpress.com

Based in Indianapolis, Indiana, and run by Steve Doyle and Mark Gagen, this widely respected small publisher offers a wide variety of material: reference and scholarly volumes, pastiches, and audio CDs.

Wildside Press: wildsidepress.com

John Betancourt owns and runs this Maryland-based publisher specializing in mysteries, horror, and science fiction. Wildside publishes *Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine* and a number of Holmes-related books and pastiches.

The Artifacts in the 221B Baker Street Sitting-Room

Re-Creation in Reading, Pennsylvania

Denny Dobry[*]

Editors' note: This is the first stage of what we hope will become a complete inventory (with pictures) of Denny Dobry's famous re-creation of 221B. He welcomes visitors. Contact him at dendobry@ptd.net to make arrangements.

Key:
Page = Page number in Doubleday's *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* where a reference to the listed article is found
Ded. = Deduced, for items that must have existed, but are not in the written words of the story.
Image # = Image number of artifact in the pages of pictures following this table

Artifact Description	Page	Image #
A Study in Scarlet		
Netley Hospital where Watson received his Army Medical Surgeon Training	15	STUD01
Watson's Army Medical Department Officer's Commission	15	STUD02
Army Medical Department Cap Badge; 5th Northumberland Fusiliers Cap Badge (1st Regiment to which Watson was attached); Royal Berkshires — 66th of Foot Cap Badge (2nd Regiment to which Watson was attached); 2nd Afghan War Medal (since the only campaign that Wat-	15	STUD03

[*] Denny Dobry is "A Single Large Airy Sitting-Room" in the Baker Street Irregulars. Copyright 2019 Denny Dobry.

Artifact Description	Page	Image #
son saw action was a British defeat (Maiwand), he would not have been issued a Campaign Bar		
Watson's Service Helmet	15	STUD04
Watson told Holmes that he smoked *Ship's* tobacco; this would have been a reference to *Schipper's Tabac*, a popular Danish Tobacco in Victorian times, that is still produced today	19	STUD05
Holmes told Watson that he played the violin	19	STUD06
Cheques from Holmes and Watson to Mrs. Hudson as Security Deposits (If she had only known what she was in for, she would have asked for a lot more)	Ded.	STUD07
Letter from Tobias Gregson asking Holmes' assistance to figure the 'puzzler' murder discovered at 3, Lauriston Gardens	26	STUD08
Found among Drebber's effects: Russian Leather Card Case with cards of Enoch Drebber of Cleveland	26	STUD09
Found among Drebber's effects: A Gold Watch, No. 97163 by Barraud, of London with a very heavy and solid Albert Chain	30	STUD10
Found among Drebber's effects: Gold Pin — Bull-Dog Head with rubies as eyes	30	STUD11
Found among Drebber's effects: Pocket Edition of Boccaccio's *Decameron*	30	STUD12
Found among Drebber's effects: Two letters from the Guion Steamship Company addressed to the American Exchange, Strand — to be left till called for.	30	STUD13
	30	STUD14
Holmes Lens and Tape Measure that he used at the Crime Scene at 3 Lauriston Gardens	31	STUD15
Sherlock Holmes threw his card across the table to Constable John Rance	35	STUD16
Lestrade's Calling Card	Ded.	STUD17
Gregson's Calling Card	Ded.	STUD18
Holmes' Sketch of Crime Scene	Ded.	STUD19
Box of Trichinopoly Cigars — Holmes found the ashes of a Trichinopoly cigar at the crime scene	21	STUD20
Holmes' Telegram to Cleveland Police regarding circumstances of Drebber's marriage	38, 85	STUD21
Programme from Hall's Norma Neruda where Holmes and Watson went after interviewing Constable Rance	34	STUD22
Newspaper Article on the "BRIXTON MYSTERY"	41	STUD23
Henri Murger's *Vie de Boheme* read by Watson while waiting for Holmes	40	STUD24

Artifact Description	Page	Image #
to return after following "Mrs. Sawyer"		
Return Telegram to Holmes from Cleveland Police; Drebber applied for protection from an old rival	38, 85	STUD25
Agony Column Article placed by Holmes regarding a 'Found Wedding Ring'	37	STUD26
Watson's Service Revolver — Adams Mark III, Official British Issue from 1872 to August 1880	38	STUD27
Enoch Drebber's Passport; both Drebber and Stangerson must have had Passports, and they would have most likely been found among Stangerson's effects	Ded.	STUD28
Drebber's Change Purse with 80-odd English Pounds found with Stangerson's affects; Lucy's wedding ring that Holmes released to 'Mrs. Sawyer'	48	STUD29
Telegram to Stangerson — J. H. is in Europe	48	STUD30
Jefferson Hope used a map of London to find his way about as a cabbie	78	STUD31
The Darbies (Handcuffs) that Holmes slapped on Jefferson Hope when Hope reached down to fetch Holmes' portmanteau	51	STUD32
The Sign of Four		
Holmes used his syringe from his neat morocco case to inject a 7% solution into his arm to Dr. Watson's dismay	89	SIGN01
Holmes deduced that Watson had sent a telegram when he went to the post office because he had not touched the stamps and postcards on his desk	92	SIGN02
Newspaper Ad place by Mary Morstan asking for help locating her father, Captain Morstan	95	SIGN03
The Langham Hotel Bill of Fare, where Captain Morstan was staying while in London	94	SIGN04
Newspaper Ad inquiring about the address of Mary Morstan	95	SIGN05
Mary Morstan's calling call presented to Sherlock Holmes on a brass salver by Mrs. Hudson	93	SIGN06
	93	SIGN07
Six addresses cut out from the mysterious packages sent to Mary over the last six years	96	SIGN08
Envelope and message, anonymously sent to Mary instructing her to "Be at the third pillar from the left outside the Lyceum Theatre at seven o'clock."	95	SIGN09
	95	SIGN10
Holmes recommended that Watson read Reade's *Martyrdom of Man*, one of the most remarkable book ever penned.	97	SIGN11
Holmes took his pistol from the drawer and put it in his pocket. Holmes	98	SIGN12

Artifact Description	Page	Image #
pistol was likely a Webley British Bulldog		
Mary found a curious paper (a map) in her father's desk and showed it to Holmes during the cab ride to Lyceum Theatre	98	SIGN13
Holmes examined the map with his double lens	98	SIGN14
Holmes used his pocket lantern to illuminate his notebook to jot down figures and memoranda	99	SIGN15
Thaddeus Sholto had hookah in his apartment	100	SIGN16
When he learned that Watson was a Doctor, Thaddeus Sholto asked him if he had his stethoscope with him.	100	SIGN17
Thaddeus Sholto offered his guests a glass of Tokay	101	SIGN18
Holmes used his pocket lens to examine the stair-carpet	108	SIGN19
A torn sheet of note-paper found in the table in Bartholomew's room on which was written *"the sign of the four"*	109	SIGN20
A brown, close-grained stick, with a stone head like a hammer, and a long dark thorn stuck in the just above Bartholomew's ear	109	SIGN21
Inspector Athelney Jones Business card	Ded.	SIGN22
Mr. Sherman, Toby's owner, wore blue-tinted glasses	117	SIGN23
Holmes borrowed the police-sergeant's bull's eye to lighten his way as he crawled through the attic to the roof	117	SIGN24
Holmes told Watson to look out for Blondin before climbing across the roof referring to the high-wire artist of the time , Blondin, who walked across Niagara Falls on a tight-wire	118	SIGN25
		SIGN26
Holmes told Watson: "There is much food for thought in Richter" German author known as Jean Paul	121	SIGN27
		SIGN28
Telegram from Holmes to Watson, summoning the Baker Street Irregulars	125	SIGN29
STANDARD Newspaper article on "Mysterious Business in Upper Norwood"	125	SIGN30
While waiting for word on the case, Holmes busied himself with an abstruse chemical analysis	130	SIGN31
Telegram Holmes to Jones, summoning the Inspector to meet him at Baker Street to be on hand to track down the 'Sholto gang'	132	SIGN32
Watson's Service Revolver — Adams Mark III, Official British Issue from 1872 to August 1880	135, 138	SIGN33
Inspector Sam Brown who lamented getting a reward had the Agra Treasure been recovered	143	SIGN34
Map of the Andaman Islands with the names of the Sign of Four, found	Ded.	SIGN35

Artifact Description	Page	Image #
in possession of Jonathon Small		
The Agra Treasure, recovered from the bottom of the Thames at a very great expense	142	SIGN36
		SIGN37
Watson/Morstan Wedding Invitation addressed to Sherlock Holmes	157 Ded.	SIGN38
Watson/Morstan Marriage Licence		SIGN39
The Hound of the Baskervilles		
Dr. Mortimer's Bulbous-headed walking stick (A Penang Lawyer) with the inscription "To James Mortimer, M.R.C.S., from his friends of the C.C.H."	669	HOUN01
		HOUN02
A well-polished, silver-plated coffee-pot that Holmes saw Watson's reflection in while he examined the walking stick	669	HOUN03
Lost and Found Newspaper article placed by Holmes looking for the owner of the Walking Stick	Ded.	HOUN04
Dr. Mortimer's Calling Card	Ded.	HOUN05
1882 Lancet with Dr. Mortimer's article on *"Some Freaks of Atavism"*	671	HOUN06
Holmes noted that Mortimer rolled his own cigarettes and carried cigarette papers.	672	HOUN07
"The Curse of the Hound of the Baskervilles"	673	HOUN08
Letter from the Vatican thanking Holmes for his assistance in solving the mystery of the Vatican Cameos	677	HOUN09
Devon County Chronicle Newspaper article on the death of Sir Charles Baskerville	676	HOUN10
Reply from South America to Dr. Mortimer's inquiry regarding the status of Rodger Baskerville; the sender informed Mortimer that Rodger died of yellow fever	681	HOUN11
Letter from Sir Henry to Dr. Mortimer responding to the Doctor's correspondence regarding the death of Sir Charles	Ded.	HOUN12
Holmes smoked his black clay pipe while contemplating the story told to him by Dr. Mortimer	683	HOUN13
Holmes sent down for a large scale Ordnance Map from 'Stamford's'. The Map Seller's actual name was 'Stanford's' in Charing Cross	683	HOUN14
Sir Henry Baskerville's Calling Card	Ded. 685	HOUN15
Envelope and mysterious message: *"As you value life or your reason keep away from the moor."*	685	HOUN16
Sir Henry's stolen boot with 'Meyers , Toronto' on the label	688,	HOUN17

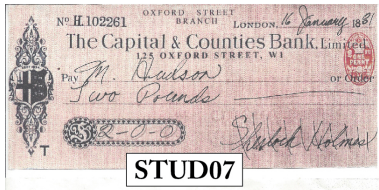
Artifact Description	Page	Image #
	760	
Telegram from Mortimer to Barrtmore: : "Is all ready for Sir Henry?"	694	HOUN18
Second Telegram from Mortimer to Grimpen P.O. — to be delivered into Barrymore's hand	694	HOUN19
Stapleton's Butterfly collection	706 Ded.	HOUN20
		HOUN21
Watson's two reports to Holmes	712, 716	HOUN22
Watson's hand-drawn map of the area around Baskerville Hall	Ded.	HOUN23
Telegram from Holmes complimenting Watson on his detailed reports	Ded.	HOUN24
Watson's notes as recorded in his diary	726	HOUN25
Laura Lyons Business card	731	HOUN26
Laura Lyons Remington Typewriter	733	HOUN27
Love letter to Laura Lyons from Stapleton encouraging her to find the money to finalize her divorse	753 Ded.	HOUN28
Dr. Mortimer played cards late into the night that Dr. Watson returned from Coombe Tracey	733	HOUN29
When Watson entered the stone hut on the Moor, he found, among other items, a pannikin (a vessel to heat food), a tinned tongue, 2 tins of preserved peaches and a sheet of paper with a note roughly scrawled in pencil: "Dr. Watson has gone to Coombe Tracey"	739	HOUN30
		HOUN31
Holmes wore a 'cloth cap' (likely a deerstalker) when Watson saw him outside the stone hut	740	HOUN32
Holmes told Watson that Cartwright had brought him a 'clean collar"	741	HOUN33
A letter from a professional photographer who had the Vandeleurs' photograph in his file	753 Ded.	HOUN34
		HOUN35
Three written descriptions of the Vandeleurs from trustworthy witnesses, identifying the Vandeleurs as the Stapletons.	753	HOUN36
		HOUN37
		HOUN38
Telegram from Lestrade to Holmes stating that he has the unsigned warrant and is on his way to Dartmoor.	752	HOUN39
Inspector Lestrade's Business card	Ded.	HOUN40
The unsigned arrest warrant secured by Lestrade	752	HOUN41
Holmes British Bull Dog pistol with which he dispatched the Hound and Dr. Watson's Adams Mark III Service Revolver, Official British	757	HOUN42

Artifact Description	Page	Image #
Issue from 1872 to August 1880		
Receipt from 'Ross and Mangles' where Stapleton acquired the Hound	762	HOUN43
Holmes found that the Stapleton's stayed at the Mexborough Private Hotel in Crave Street when they stayed in London	763	HOUN44
Holmes reserved a box to watch the play *"Les Huguenots"* featuring the De Reszkes brothers at the Covent Garden Royal Opera House	766	HOUN45
The Valley of Fear		
Envelope addressed to Holmes with Camberwell Postmark, dated January 6, 1888 (Happy Birthday Holmes!)	769,775	VALL01
Cryptic message Holmes knew to be from his Confidential Informant, Porlock	770	VALL02
Holmes ruled out the Bradshaw Railway Guide as the key to the cipher	772	VALL03
Holmes and Watson used last year's Whitaker's Almanac to decipher Porlock's message	772	VALL04
Watson's handwritten de-ciphered message	771	VALL05
Envelope addressed to Holmes with Camberwell Postmark, dated January 7, 1888	771,775	VALL06
Porlock's un-ciphered message telling Holmes that he needs to lay low since Moriarty is suspicious	771	VALL07
Inspector Alec MacDonald's photograph and card	773	VALL08
Colonel Sebastian Moran's annual paycheck in the amount of £6,000 drawn from the Union Bank of Manchester	777	VALL09
The Postcard showing the Deutsche Bank — one of at least 20 used by Moriarty	777	VALL10
Cheque from the Credit Lyonnais Bank — another of at least 20 used by Moriarty	777	VALL11
Envelope addressed to Inspector MacDonald by Sussex Constabulary Officer White Mason, hand delivered to him by the milk train	778	VALL12
Note from White Mason asking for MacDonald's and Holmes' assistance to solver the 'snorter' at Birlstone	778	VALL13
The sawed-off shotgun murder weapon found at the crime scene, that Holmes identified as am American weapon manufactured at the Pennsylvania Small Arms Company	782, 785	VALL14
Photograph of Cecil James Barker, close friend of John Douglas from their days together in America	781	VALL15
Card printed 'V. V. 341' on rough cardboard found next to the murdered victim's body	783, 789,	VALL16

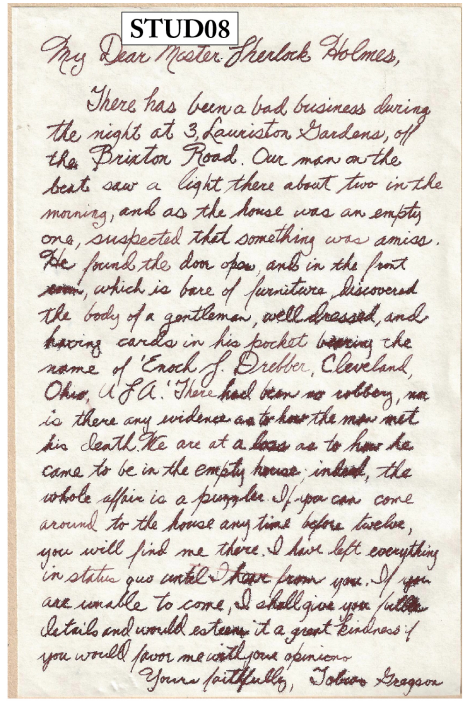
Artifact Description	Page	Image #
	790	
The twisted snake ring Douglas wore on the third finger of his left hand	784	VALL17
Mr. Douglas' single dumb-bell found in the murder room	790, 800, 807	VALL18
Ad for a Rudge-Whitworth Bicycle, the make of the one believed to have belonged to the perpetrator.	791	VALL19
County Cycle map found in the hotel room of the American 'Hargrave'	804	VALL20
'a small tract' purchased by Holmes from the local tobacconist where he learned the history of Birlstone Manor	807	VALL21
Envelope and note addressed to Cecil Barker from Inspector MacDonald the regarding draining the moat	808	VALL22
		VALL23
Stock Certificate for the Vermissa Iron and Coal Company	811	VALL24
Photograph of John 'Black Jack' McGinty, Bodymaster of the Vermissa Valley Lodge of the Ancient Order of Freemen	797	VALL25
Newspaper article reporting the shooting of Jonas Pinto in Chicago, which McMurdo claimed to be his work	828	VALL26
Vermissa Daily Herald news article on the *"Reign of Terror in the Coal and Iron District"*	837	VALL27
Members of Lodge 341 of Vermissa Valley Lodge of the Ancient Order of Freemen, aka "The Scrowrers"	815	VALL28
Vermissa Daily Herald news article: "Outrage at Herald Office"	840	VALL29
Photograph of Ettie Edwards nee Shafter	865	VALL30
Photograph of Birdy Edwards, aka Jack McMurdo, aka John Douglas	855	VALL31
Note from Holmes warning Mrs. Ivy Douglas to get her husband out of England	865	VALL32
Telegram from Ivy Douglas to Cecil Barker reporting that her husband Jack was lost at sea while aboard the ship the *Palmyra*	865	VALL33
Postcard showing the ship the *Palmyra*	865	VALL34
Anonymous note received by Holmes which he deduced was from Professor Moriarty "Dear me, Mr. Holmes. Dear me!	865	VALL35

STUD01
Netley Hospital

STUD03

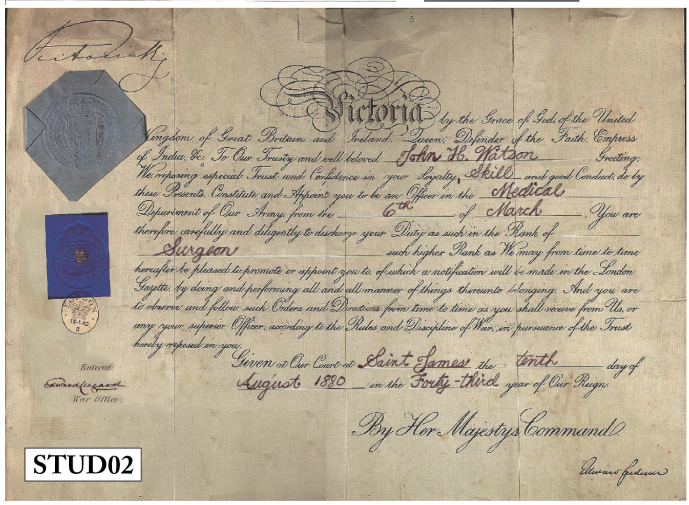

No. H.102261
OXFORD STREET BRANCH
LONDON, 16 January 1881
The Capital & Counties Bank, Limited
125 OXFORD STREET, W1
Pay M. Hudson
Two Pounds
or Order
£2-0-0
Sherlock Holmes
STUD07

No. K 953435
London 16 January 1881
Messrs Cox & Co
Pay Mrs. Martha Hudson or Bearer
Two Pounds
£2-0-0
John Hamish Watson


STUD08
My Dear Master Sherlock Holmes,
There has been a bad business during the night at 3, Lauriston Gardens, off the Brixton Road. Our man on the beat saw a light there about two in the morning, and as the house was an empty one, suspected that something was amiss. He found the door open, and in the front room, which is bare of furniture, discovered the body of a gentleman, well dressed, and having cards in his pocket bearing the name of 'Enoch J. Drebber, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A.' There has been no robbery, nor is there any evidence as to how the man met his death. We are at a loss as to how he came to be in the empty house; indeed, the whole affair is a puzzler. If you can come round to the house any time before twelve, you will find me there. I have left everything in statu quo until I hear from you. If you are unable to come, I shall give you fuller details, and would esteem it a great kindness if you would favor me with your opinion.
Yours faithfully, Tobias Gregson

STUD05
SCHIPPERS TABAK
SPECIAL

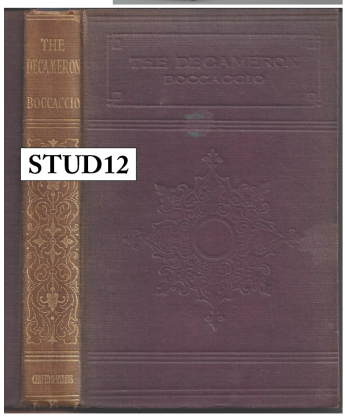
STUD04


Victoria by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith Empress of India &c. To Our Trusty and well beloved John H. Watson Greeting:
We reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Skill and good Conduct do by these Presents Constitute and Appoint you to be an Officer in the Medical Department of Our Army from the 6th of March You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge your Duty as such in the Rank of Surgeon such higher Rank as We may from time to time hereafter be pleased to promote or appoint you to, of which a notification will be made in the London Gazette, by doing and performing all and all manner of things thereunto belonging. And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from time to time as you shall receive from Us or any your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you.
Given at Our Court at Saint James the tenth day of August 1880 in the Forty-third year of Our Reign.
By Her Majesty's Command
Entered Commd Recd War Office
STUD02

STUD06

STUD09

STUD10



STUD12

STUD15

STUD11

STUD16

SHERLOCK HOLMES
CONSULTING DETECTIVE

221 B BAKER STREET LONDON W1

By courier

American Exchange, Strand
To be left till called for

Joseph Stevenson

STUD13

By courier

American Exchange, Strand
To be left till called for

Enoch J. Drebber

STUD14

5 Waterloo Place
Pall Mall, London, SW

25 Water Street
Liverpool

11 Rumford Street
Liverpool

Mr. Enoch J. Drebber
c/o American Exchange
The Strand
London, SW

1 March 1881

Dear Sir:

This letter is being sent to confirm your reservation for passage aboard our mail steamer Abyssinia which sails for Queenstown and New York from Liverpool on Saturday, 5 March. You may pick up your ticket and boarding pass at our Water Street office in Liverpool on or before the sailing date. If you have particular questions regarding departure, you may make enquiries at any one of our offices.

Please be advised that the Guion Line supplies abundant provisions of excellent quality, cooked and served by the company's skilled stewards. We at the Guion Line are also proud of the fact that we have not lost a single English, Welsh, Scotch or Irish passenger in the last 25 years.

We wish you "Bon Voyage" and hope that we may provide for your future sailing needs. On behalf of the Guion Line I remain

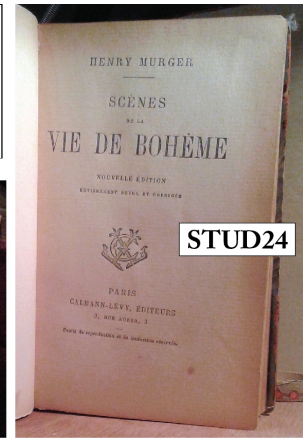
Respectfully yours,

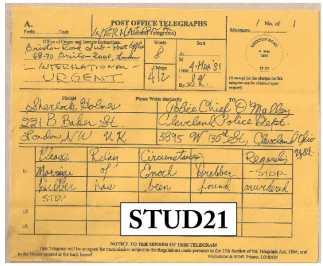
Thomas Birbeck

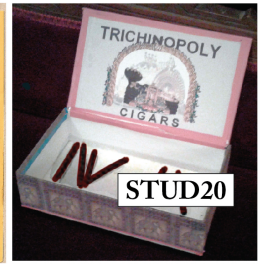
Thomas Birbeck

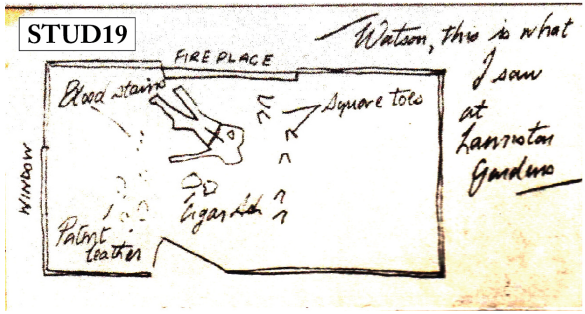
G. Lestrade
Inspector
Scotland Yard
London
STUD17

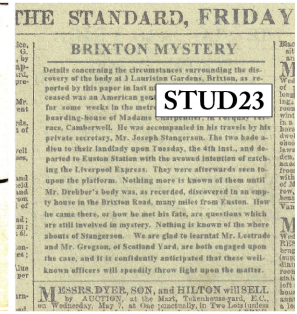
Tobias Gregson
Inspector
Scotland Yard
London
STUD18

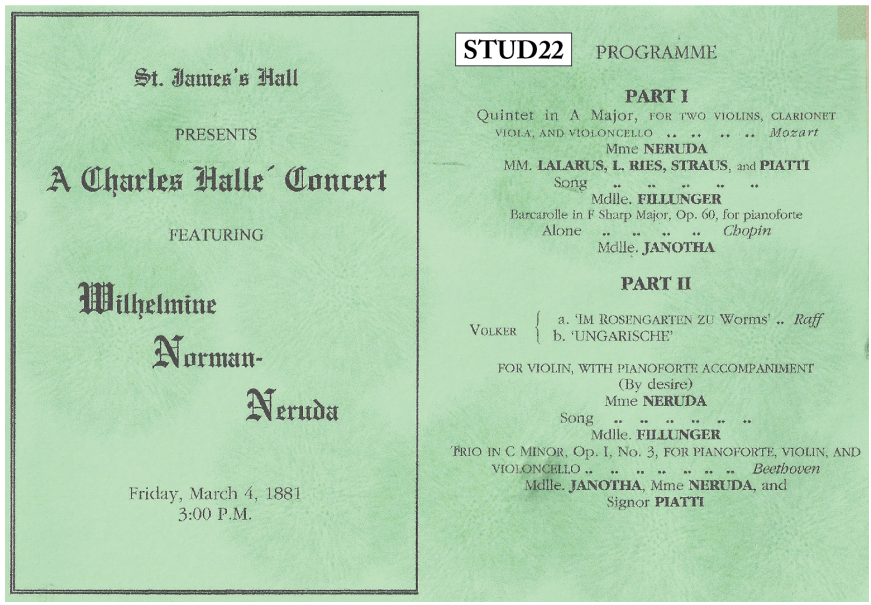

HENRY MURGER
SCÈNES
DE LA
VIE DE BOHÈME
PARIS
CALMANN-LÉVY, ÉDITEURS
STUD24

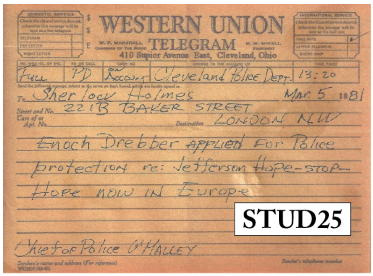

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS
Sherlock Holmes
221 B Baker St
London N.W.
Please come at once
STUD21


TRICHINOPOLY
CIGARS
STUD20

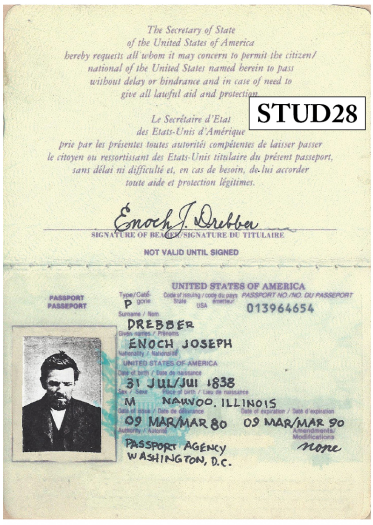

STUD19
Watson, this is what I saw at Lauriston Gardens
FIRE PLACE
Blood stains
Square toes
Cigarette
Patent leather
WINDOW

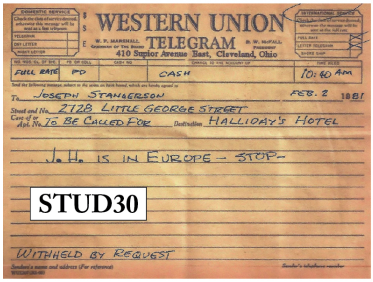

THE STANDARD, FRIDAY
BRIXTON MYSTERY
STUD23


St. James's Hall
PRESENTS
A Charles Halle´ Concert
FEATURING
Wilhelmine
Norman-
Neruda
Friday, March 4, 1881
3:00 P.M.
STUD22
PROGRAMME
PART I
Quintet in A Major, FOR TWO VIOLINS, CLARIONET VIOLA, AND VIOLONCELLO .. .. Mozart
Mme NERUDA
MM. LALARUS, L. RIES, STRAUS, and PIATTI
Song .. ..
Mdlle. FILLUNGER
Barcarolle in F Sharp Major, Op. 60, for pianoforte
Alone .. .. Chopin
Mdlle. JANOTHA
PART II
VOLKER a. 'IM ROSENGARTEN ZU Worms' .. Raff
b. 'UNGARISCHE'
FOR VIOLIN, WITH PIANOFORTE ACCOMPANIMENT
(By desire)
Mme NERUDA
Song .. ..
Mdlle. FILLUNGER
TRIO IN C MINOR, Op. 1, No. 3, FOR PIANOFORTE, VIOLIN, AND VIOLONCELLO .. .. Beethoven
Mdlle. JANOTHA, Mme NERUDA, and
Signor PIATTI


WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM
410 Superior Avenue East, Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland Police Dept. 13:20
To Sherlock Holmes MAR 5 1881
221B BAKER STREET
LONDON
Enoch Drebber applied For Police Protection re: Jefferson Hope-STOP- Hope now in Europe
Chief of Police O'Malley
STUD25

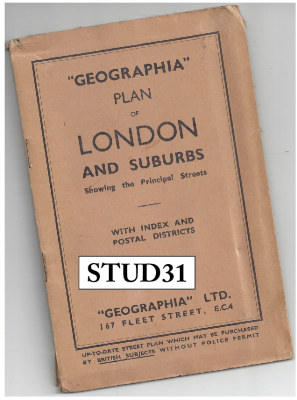
STUD27


The Secretary of State of the United States of America hereby requests all whom it may concern to permit the citizen/national of the United States named herein to pass without delay or hindrance and in case of need to give all lawful aid and protection.
STUD28
Le Secrétaire d'Etat des Etats-Unis d'Amérique prie par les présentes toutes autorités compétentes de laisser passer le citoyen ou ressortissant des Etats-Unis titulaire du présent passeport, sans délai ni difficulté et, en cas de besoin, de lui accorder toute aide et protection légitimes.
Enoch J. Drebber
SIGNATURE OF BEARER / SIGNATURE DU TITULAIRE
NOT VALID UNTIL SIGNED
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PASSPORT / PASSEPORT
P
013964654
DREBBER
ENOCH JOSEPH
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
31 JUL/JUI 1838
M
NAUVOO, ILLINOIS
09 MAR/MAR 80
09 MAR/MAR 90
PASSPORT AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.
none


WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM
410 Superior Avenue East, Cleveland, Ohio
FULL RATE PD CASH 10:40 Am
FEB. 2 1881
To JOSEPH STANGERSON
Street and No. 2128 LITTLE GEORGE STREET
Care of or Apt. No. TO BE CALLED FOR Destination HALLIDAY'S HOTEL
J. H. IS IN EUROPE - STOP-
WITHHELD BY REQUEST
STUD30

Times.
STUD26
DOVER.—DIVER'S CASTLE HOTEL, on the Quay, near both railway stations and Admiralty Pier, whence boats depart. Views of sea, Castle, and cliffs. Coffee and reading room. Terms moderate. Best attention. Night porter. Wire or write.
HOTEL BURLINGTON in DOVER BAY.
SATURDAY to MONDAY, £2 2s.
Including rail and hotel accommodation.
Available for one journey on Saturdays and Mondays only by any train.
COUPONS may be obtained through Messrs. THOMAS COOK and SONS and their Branch Office; Chief Offices, Ludgate-circus, London; also on application to the Manager, Hotel Burlington, Dover.
INCLUSIVE TERMS: One week from £3 10s., According to position of rooms.
The Hotel is situated opposite the Promenade Pier, where Military Bands Perform regularly. The prettiest illuminated sea front on the coast. General Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Tilbury arrive within 50 yards of the Hotel. Burlington String Band every night in the lounge.
EASTBOURNE.—ALEXANDER HOTEL, facing sea, close to Devonshire-park and baths. Unexceptionable cuisine. Choice vintage wines. Home comforts. Sanitary certificate.—M. E. Harrison, Proprietress. Telephone 122.
ILFRACOMBE.—ILFRACOMBE HOTEL.—Famous for its high-class cuisine and general comfort. The principal and only hotel on the seashore. An ideal position. 250 rooms. Grounds five acres. Tennis, croquet. Splendid swimming bath. Elegant lounge hall. Passenger lift. Moderate tariff. Terms on application.—H. E. CROWDY, Manager.
FOUND — — IN BRIXTON ROAD, this morning, a plain gold wedding ring, found in the roadway between the White Hart Tavern and the Holland Grove. Apply Dr. Watson, 221B, Baker Street, between eight and Nine this evening.
INCLUSIVE TERMS: One week from £3 10s., According to position of rooms.
The Hotel is situated opposite the Promenade Pier, where Military Bands Perform regularly. The prettiest illuminated sea front on the coast. General Steam Navigation Company's steamers from Tilbury arrive within 50 yards of the Hotel. Burlington String Band every night in the lounge.
RAMSGATE.—The GRANVILLE, leading Hotel. Cuisine unexcelled. Turkish and ozone baths. Certificated
RAMSGATE.—The GRANVILLE, leading Hotel. Cuisine unexcelled. Turkish and ozone baths. Certificated

STUD29


"GEOGRAPHIA"
PLAN
OF
LONDON
AND SUBURBS
Showing the Principal Streets
WITH INDEX AND POSTAL DISTRICTS
"GEOGRAPHIA" LTD.
167 FLEET STREET, E.C.4
UP-TO-DATE STREET PLAN WHICH MAY BE PURCHASED BY BRITISH SUBJECTS WITHOUT POLICE PERMIT
STUD31

STUD32

SIGN01

SIGN02

SIGN04

The Langham Hotel,

PORTLAND PLACE, W., LONDON.

TABLE D'HOTE, AT 6 P.M.

BILL OF FARE.

SOUPS

Mutton Broth — Purée de Pois

FISH

Brochet sauce Italienne.
Anguille à la Tartare.

ENTRÉES

Palais de Boeuf au gratin.
Poulets au Chasseur.

JOINTS

Gigots de Mouton — Rosbif

VEGETABLES

Choux Fleurs.
Oignons d'Espagne.

Cheese.

ENTREMETS SUCRES

Tartes de Pommes á la Parisienne.

GLACES

au Ratafia. — aux Abricots.

Dessert.

SEATS MUST BE SECURED BEFORE FIVE P.M.

Le 1 Decembre — J. M. SANDERSON, MANAGER.

SIGN03

The

LONDON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 187

MONSIEUR J. B. CRETAL est prié de vouloir bien COMMUNIQUER son ADRESSE à Monsieur Gunsbourg, de Paris.

HESELTINE.—If WILLIAM HESELTINE, formerly in New-street, Dorset-square, London, then of Wellington-place, Gloucester-place, Portman-square, and lately to [illegible], Solicitor, Warwick-street, Regent-street, London, they will hear of something to their avantage.

CAPTAIN MORSTAN. Last seen staying at the Langham Hotel, London, on the evening of 3rd December. Will Captain Morstan, of the 34th Bombay Infantry, or anyone knowing the whereabouts of Captain Morstan, please contact Scotland Yard, 4 Whitehall Place, urgently. His daughter, Miss Mary Morstan, is anxious for a reunion.

SUBPŒNA to an order of the High Court of Justice [illegible] Catherine Hawley Widow deceased Peter Agutter Shackell 1878

THE MUSICAL ARTISTS' SOCIETY. President, His Grace the Duke of BEAUFORT, K.G.—The THIRTEENTH TRIAL of NEW COMPOSITIONS on Saturday, December 7th, at the Royal Academy of Music, Hanover-square, at 3 o'clock precisely. Application for membership to be made to the Hon. Secretary, EDWARD L. THORNE, Hon. Sec., 84, New Bond-street.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Sir MICHAEL COSTA.—Friday, December 13th, at Rossini's Oratorio MOSES in EGYPT. English version, by Mr. A. Mathieson. Principal vocalists:—Mme. Sherrington, Mdlle. Marie Ezequist, Miss Julia Elton; Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Smith, Mr. Patton, Mr. Hilton, and Mr. Santley, Organist, Mr. Willing. Tickets, 3s., 5s., 7s., 10s. 6d.; book of words, 1s.; vocal score, 6s. The Forty-Seventh Annual Christmas Performance of Handel's Messiah on Friday, the 20th December.

ROYAL ALBERT-HALL CHORAL SOCIETY. President, H.R.H. The Duke of EDINBURGH, K.G. Conductor, Mr. BARNBY.—Thursday, Dec. 12, at 8, Handel's Ode for the HYMN of PRAISE and Rossini's STABAT MATER. Miss Lemmens-Sherrington, Mdlle. Marie Ezequist, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Santley.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—THIS DAY, GREAT CIRCUS, &c. Admission, from 10.0 p.m., one shilling; or by season ticket. Immense and 6.45: Myers's Great Circus, 2.45 and 6.30; Great G Hoskin and A.G. Phonograph at Intervals during the Gallery (with works on sale); Marine Aquarium; W Insides of Animals; Fine Arts Courts and Collections. 2.0 p.m., &c. N.B.—Bertram and Roberts' Refreshme

CRYSTAL PALACE.—MYERS'S GREA THIS MORNING, at 2.45; THIS EVENING, at 6.45, 8.0, 9.15, 10.30, and 11.45.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SATURDAY (Dec. 7th, 1878, at 3 o'clock. The programme wi No. 4, in G, (Beethoven); symphony, in D (first time at these concerts); incidental music to Th Venice (Sullivan). Vocalists:—Madame Lemmens-Sh John Boddon (his first appearance at the Crystal Palac forte, Mlle. Janotha (her first appearance at the Crystal

SIGN05

The

LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 188

HAVE seen your Attorneys and letters. Cannot act without hearing from you again. Write or send for [illegible] very urgent.

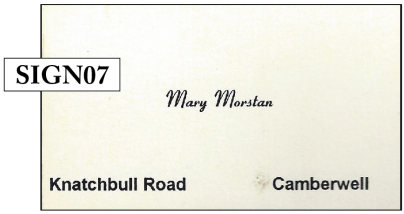
MARY MORSTAN. Will Miss Mary Morstan, or anyone knowing the whereabouts of Miss Morstan, please advertise her address in this paper, when a matter of some importance will be communicated to her advantage.

NEXT OF KIN.—Davies, otherwise Esmonson.—The next of kin of ELIZABETH MARY DAVIES, otherwise ESMONSON, late of [illegible] Lambeth-road, St. Albans, [illegible] Hertfordshire, [illegible] Lambeth-road, St. Albans, [illegible]

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Cirencester. Established by Royal Charter, 1845. For the Science and Practice of Agriculture. For intending Land Owners and Occupiers, Land Agents, Surveyors, Colonists, &c. The College Farm, for the practical instruction of the Students, surrounds the College, with which it is in connexion, and is a fine mixed Farm of about 500 acres. President—His Grace the DUKE of MARLBOROUGH, K.G. COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT. The Right Hon. the EARL of DUCIE, Chairman. The Right Hon. the Earl [illegible] Sotheron-Estcourt, Hatherop. The Right Hon. Sir Michael E. [illegible], M.P. William John Edmonds, Esq.,

FLORAL-HALL, Covent-garde [illegible] Patronage Her Most Gracious MAJESTY. H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALE H.R.H. the PRINCESS of WA and the Members of the Royal F A GRAND VOCAL and INSTRUMENT the FUNDS of the ROYAL COLLEGE of M Royal Amateur Orchestral Society, in conjunc Opera. In the Floral-hall, on Saturday commencing at 3 o'clock, at which their Ro and Princess of Wales and other Members graciously signified their intention of being

SIGN11

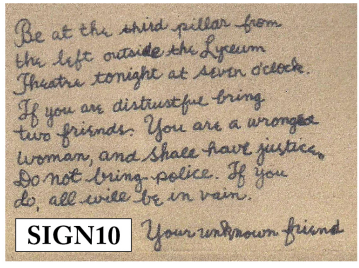


SIGN07

SIGN06

SIGN13

SIGN12



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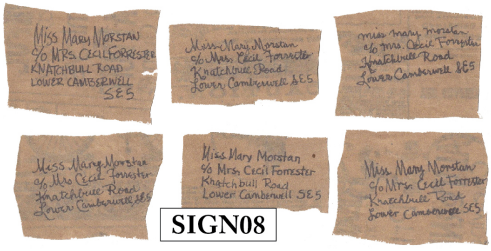

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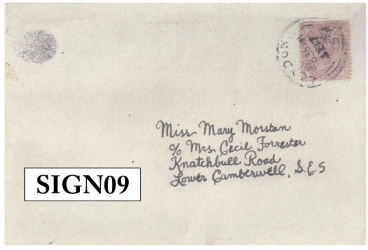


SIGN09

SIGN14

SIGN15

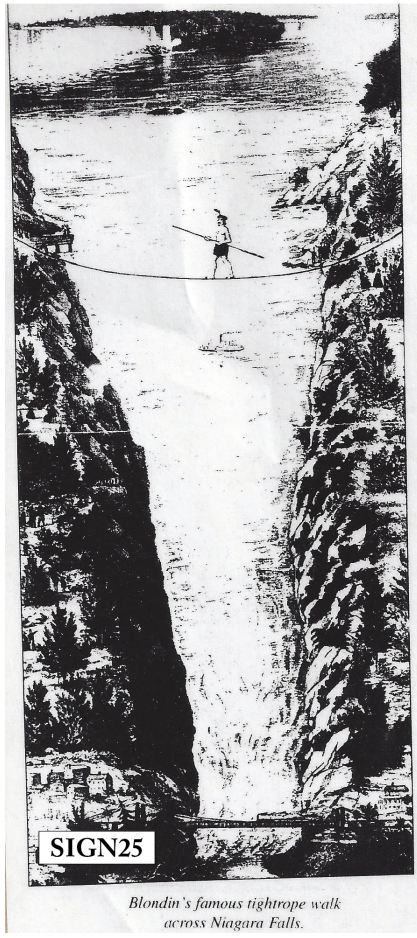
SIGN21

SIGN24

SIGN17

Athelney Jones
Inspector
SIGN22
Scotland Yard
London

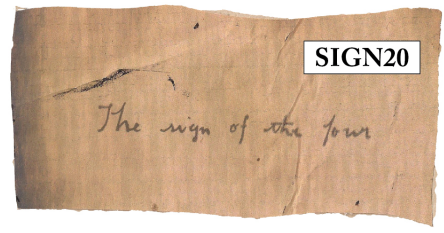
SIGN23


SIGN25
Blondin's famous tightrope walk
across Niagara Falls.

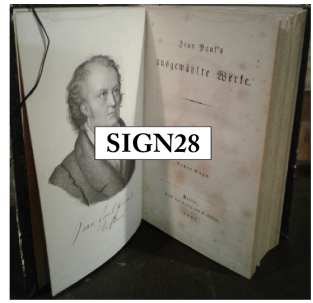
SIGN16

SIGN18
Imperial
TOKAJI

SIGN19


SIGN20
The sign of the four

SIGN26



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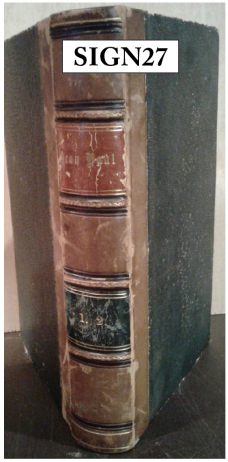
SIGN30



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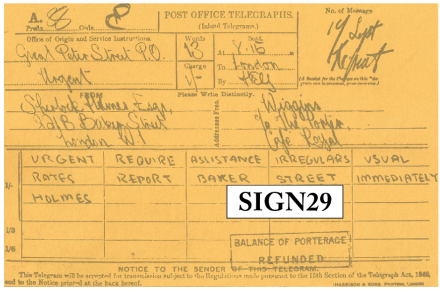
SIGN31



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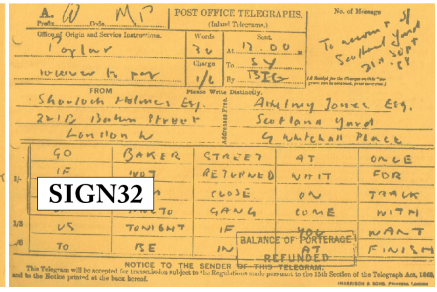
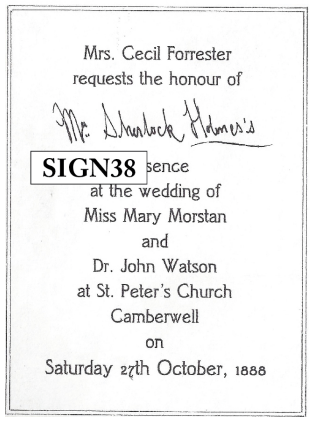


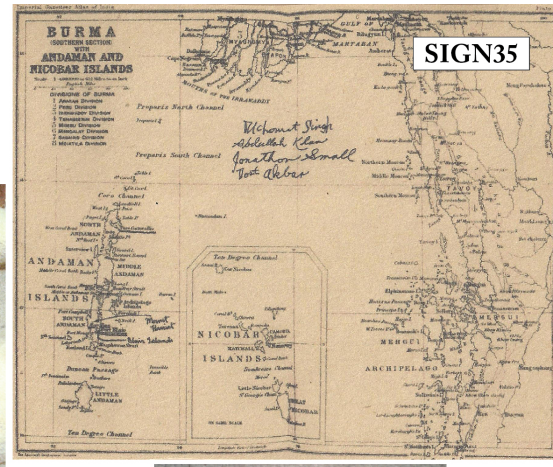
SIGN32

SIGN34
Samuel J. Brown
Inspector
Scotland Yard
London

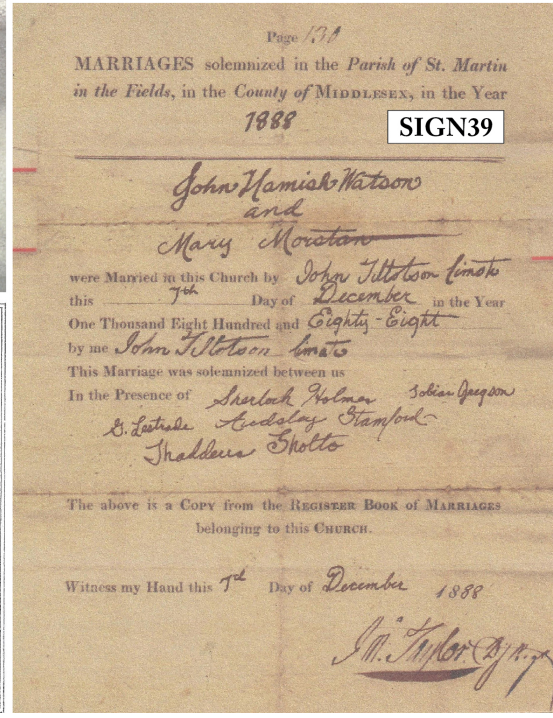
SIGN36

SIGN37


Mrs. Cecil Forrester
requests the honour of
Mr. Sherlock Holmes's
SIGN38
sence
at the wedding of
Miss Mary Morstan
and
Dr. John Watson
at St. Peter's Church
Camberwell
on
Saturday 27th October, 1888


BURMA
(SOUTHERN SECTION)
WITH
ANDAMAN AND
NICOBAR ISLANDS
SIGN35
ANDAMAN
ISLANDS
NICOBAR
ISLANDS
MERGUI
ARCHIPELAGO
Ten Degree Channel

SIGN33


Page 174
MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of St. Martin
in the Fields, in the County of MIDDLESEX, in the Year
1888
SIGN39
John Hamish Watson
and
Mary Morston
were Married in this Church by John Tillotson Curate
this 7th Day of December in the Year
One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-Eight
by me John Tillotson Curate
This Marriage was solemnized between us
In the Presence of Sherlock Holmes Solian Jeyason
E. Lestrade Hudson Stamford
Thaddeus Sholto
The above is a COPY from the REGISTER BOOK of MARRIAGES
belonging to this CHURCH.
Witness my Hand this 7th Day of December 1888
J. M. Taylor R.G.

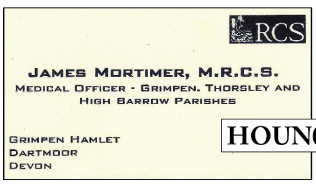
HOUN01

HOUN02

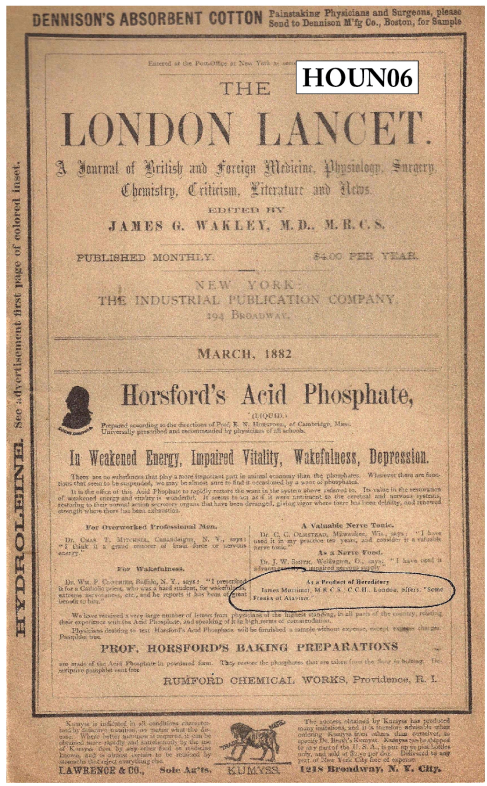
HOUN03

HOUN04

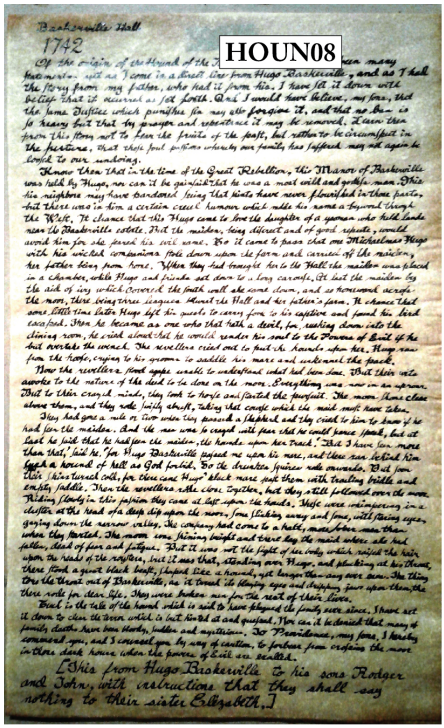
HOUN07



HOUN05



HOUN06



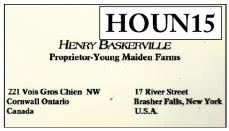
Baskerville Hall

1742

Of the origin of the Hound of the [illegible] many fantastic tales are I come in a direct line from Hugo Baskerville, and as I had the story from my father, who had it from his. I have [illegible] it down with the belief that it occurred as set forth. Dark I would have believe, my [illegible], did the same Justice which punishes [illegible] may also forgive it, and that we [illegible] so heavy but that by prayer and [illegible] it may be removed. I trust then from this story not to fear the [illegible] of the past, but rather to [illegible] in the [illegible]. That their foul [illegible] wherever our [illegible] has [illegible] again to [illegible] to our undoing.

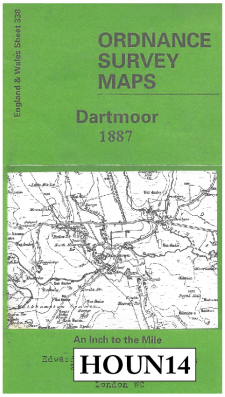
I know then that in the time of the Great Rebellion, this Manor of Baskerville was held by Hugo, no can it be gainsaid that he was a most wild and godless man. This his neighbors may have pardoned being that [illegible] were [illegible] but there was in him a certain [illegible] humour which made his name a byword through the [illegible]. It [illegible] that the Hugo came to love the daughter of a yeoman who held land near the Baskerville estate. But the maiden, being [illegible] and of good repute, would [illegible] him for she [illegible] his evil name. So it came to pass that one Michaelmas Hugo with his wicked companions rode down upon the farm and carried off the maiden, her father [illegible] from home. When they had brought her to the Hall the maiden was placed in a chamber, while Hugo and [illegible] sat down to a long carouse. It [illegible] the ears of [illegible] which covered the [illegible] hall she could hear [illegible] the room. Then [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

HOUN13

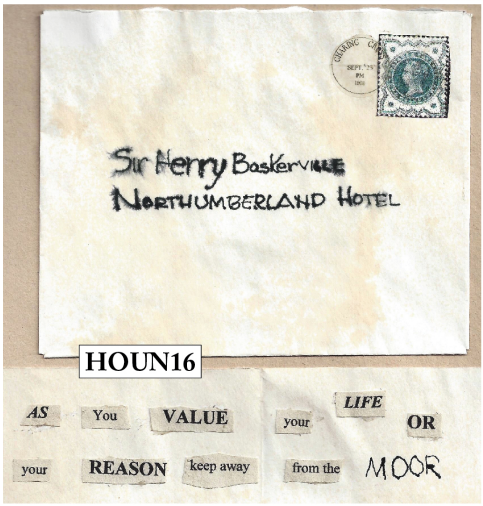

HOUN15
HENRY BASKERVILLE
Proprietor-Young Maiden Farms
221 Vois Gros Chien NW
Cornwall Ontario
Canada
17 River Street
Brasher Falls, New York
U.S.A.

HOUN20

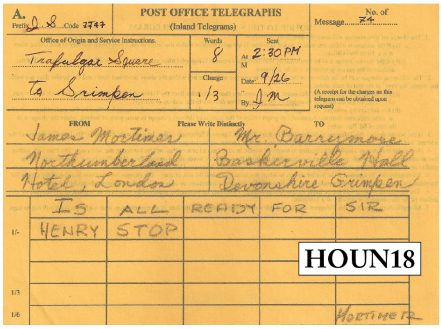
HOUN22
Baskerville Hall
October 15th
Baskerville Hall
October 13th
Sherlock Holmes
221 B Baker Street
London NW

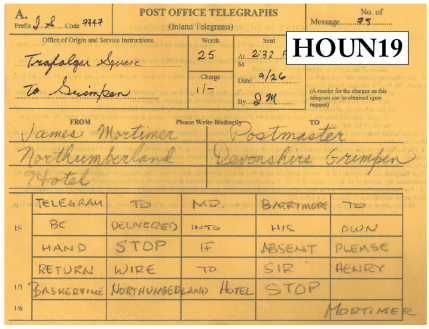

ORDNANCE
SURVEY
MAPS
Dartmoor
1887
England & Wales Sheet 238
An Inch to the Mile
HOUN14

HOUN21
COLLECTED BY
JOHN STAPLETON

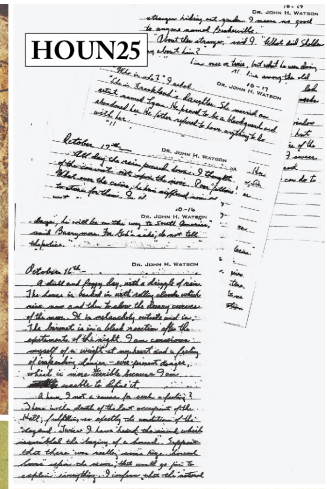

Sir Henry Baskerville
Northumberland Hotel
HOUN16
AS
You
VALUE
your
LIFE
OR
your
REASON
keep away
from the
MOOR

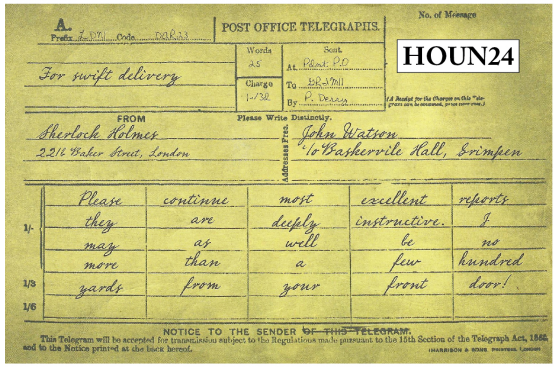
HOUN17
MEYERS
Toronto

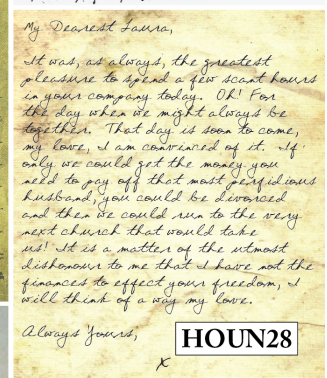

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS
(Inland Telegrams)
Trafalgar Square
To Grimpen
Words 8
Sent At 2:30 PM
Charge 1/3
Date 9/26
By J M
FROM James Mortimer
Northumberland Hotel, London
TO Mr Barrymore
Baskerville Hall
Devonshire Grimpen
IS ALL READY FOR SIR
HENRY STOP
HOUN18
MORTIMER


POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS
(Inland Telegrams)
HOUN19
Trafalgar Square
To Grimpen
Words 25
Sent At 2:32
Charge 11-
Date 9/26
By J M
FROM James Mortimer
Northumberland Hotel
TO Postmaster
Devonshire Grimpen
TELEGRAM TO MR. BARRYMORE TO
BE DELIVERED INTO HIS OWN
HAND STOP IF ABSENT PLEASE
RETURN WIRE TO SIR HENRY
BASKERVILLE NORTHUMBERLAND HOTEL STOP
MORTIMER

HOUN23
Grimpen Mire
Light-Tr
Grimpen Village
Waterpit House
Wood
Black Tor
Lafter Hall
Baskerville Hall
Grimpen, Baskerville Hall &
Environs (with topographical
additions inset)

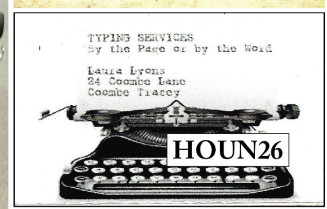

HOUN25
Dr. John H. Watson


HOUN24
POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.
No. of Message
Words 25
Sent At Pinst. P.O.
Charge 1/-
To 221/7/11
By P. Evans
For swift delivery
Please Write Distinctly.
FROM
Sherlock Holmes
221b Baker Street, London
Address Free
John Watson
"To Baskerville Hall, Grimpen
Please continue most excellent reports
they are deeply instructive. I
may as well be no
more than a few hundred
yards from your front door!
NOTICE TO THE SENDER OF THIS TELEGRAM.
This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1868,
and to the Notice printed at the back hereof.


My Dearest Laura,
It was, as always, the greatest
pleasure to spend a few scant hours
in your company today. Oh! For
the day when we might always be
together. That day is soon to come,
my love, I am convinced of it. If
only we could get the money you
need to pay off that most perfidious
husband, you could be divorced
and then we could run to the very
next church that would take
us! It is a matter of the utmost
dishonour to me that I have not the
finances to effect your freedom, I
will think of a way my love.
Always Yours,
HOUN28

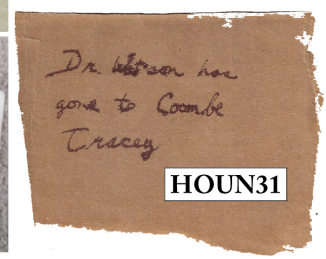
HOUN30
PEACH

HOUN27


TYPING SERVICES
By the Page or by the Word
Laura Lyons
24 Coombe Lane
Coombe Tracey
HOUN26

HOUN32

HOUN29


Dr. Watson has
gone to Coombe
Tracey
HOUN31

Andrew Haywood
Minster Photography
Micklegate
York

Dear Mr. Holmes,

I searched my catalogue of images and found the enclosed. I trust it may serve your purpose? The young couple are most certainly Mr & Mrs Vandeleur. I have the collection paperwork to prove the fact (including Mr. Vandeleur's signature). For my own part I knew them well enough as my sister's children attended the school they ran in Millington. If you wish I could forward on her details too, I know she would be only too happy to help. There are a good number of people in this area who would take no small pleasure in seeing that man brought to account.

Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Haywood

HOUN34

October 1889

Inspector Lestrade,

I was a student of Master Fraser at the St. Oliver school in 1886. Our Headmaster was John Vandeleur. He didn't act like a headmaster and was very short with Mr. Fraser. My friends at the school told me Vandeleur left after I did. Good riddance! they said.

Sincerely,
Billy Page

HOUN36

HOUN38

SAINT OLIVER'S PRIVATE SCHOOL
YORKSHIRE

October 15, 1889

Dear Sir;

In response to your recent inquiry regarding my association with Mr. John Vandeleur, please be advised that I served as a 'Master of the Classics' at St. Oliver's from 1884 up to the time of the unexplained disappearance of Mr.Vandeleur and his wife in 1886. During that time, Mr. Vandeleur served as Headmaster of the school, having been the school's co-founder in 1884.

Following the death of Thaddeus Fraser, the school's most competent administrator, the reputation of the institution declined. Only through the supreme efforts of myself and other members of the Board of Regents have we been able to upright the school after the departure of Mr. Vandeleur.

Although I did not know Mrs. Vandeleur personally, all indications are that she was a reserved woman and quite submissive to her husband.

Please let me know if I can be of any other service.

Respectively yours,

Edwin P. Undershaw M.D.

October 1889

To whom it may concern,

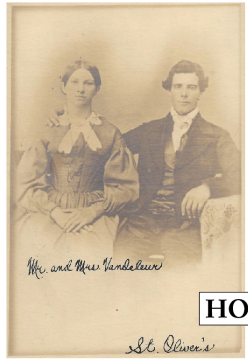
Prior to my current position at the Kingsley School in Bideford, I was the math professor at St. Oliver's Private School at Yorkshire. The Headmaster was John Vandeleur.

I believed Vandeleur to be incompetent, rude, and generally a pompous ass. We had heated disagreements over his evaluations of my performance as a teacher which lead to my resignation.

I was puzzled as to what his wife saw in him, she being an attractive woman.

Affectionately,
Morey Artel, Ph.D.

HOUN37



HOUN35

HOUN33

A. Prefix Code
POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS
(Inland Telegrams)
No. of Message
Office of Origin and Service Instructions
Words
Sent
At
Charge
Date
By
(A receipt for the charges on this telegram can be obtained when required)
Please Write Distinctly
FROM
TO
Lestrade
Scotland Yard (Yadar)
Sherlock Holmes
Combe Tracy Station
Devonshire

WIRE	RESIGNED	COMING	DOWN	WITH
UNSIGNED	WARRENT	ARRIVE	FINE	FORTY

NOTICE TO THE SENDER OF THIS TELEGRAM
This Telegram will be accepted for transmission subject to the Regulations made pursuant to the 15th Section of the Telegraph Act, 1866, and to the Notice printed at the back hereof.
HARRISON & SONS, Printers, LONDON

HOUN39

G. Lestrade
Inspector

Scotland Yard
London

HOUN40

HOUN42

HOUN41

To all and every of the Constables of the Metropolitan Police Force:

Metropolitan Police District, to wit. } WHEREAS Roger Baskerville II, alias John VanDeleur, alias Jack Stapleton of Dartmoor, Devonshire

(hereinafter called the *Defendant*) hath this day been charged upon Oath before the undersigned, one of the Magistrates of the Police courts of the Metropolis sitting at the _____ Division Police Court in the County of _____ and within the Metropolitan Police District. For that h_ the said *Defendant* on the _____ day of _____ at _____ in the said County and District is required to appear to answer allegations related to:

These are therefore to command you and everyone of you, the constables of the Metropolitan Police Force, in Her Majesty's name, forthwith to apprehend the said Defendant and to bring h_ before Me at the Police Court aforesaid, or before such other Magistrate of the said Police Courts as may then be there, to answer unto the said charge, and to be further dealt with according to Law.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal, this _____ day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand _____ Hundred and _____ at the Police Court aforesaid.

Sched. 1.- No. 6
WARRANT
First Instance
1880-8-02 (120)

MAGISTRATE

V. R.

ROSS AND MANGLES
PET MERCANTILE

Transaction Date: 23 Feb, '87

Breeders of Mastiff, Beagle, Weimaraner, Bulldog, Vizsla Cocker Spaniel and other popular Breeds

722 Fulham Road
London

Sold to: Mr. Vandeleur
Yorkshire

1 Blood Hound, Mastiff & other Matt | 2/9/- | - | 5 | -

- | 5 | -

HOUN43

HOUN45

ROYAL OPERA
COVENT GARDEN

The Grand Opera Syndicate, Limited.
Managing Director, - Mr. MAURICE GRAU

THIS EVENING'S PERFORMANCE.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th 1888,
Meyerbeer's Opera,

LES HUGUENOTS
(IN FRENCH)
At 8 o'Clock.

Heinrich der Vogler — M. EDOUARD DE RESZKE
Lohengrin .. — M. JEAN DE RESZKE
Ena .. — Madame NORDICA
Telramund .. — Herr FEINHALS
Ortrud .. — Miss MARIE BREMA
Hoerrufer .. — Mr. LEMPRIERE PRINGLE
Conductor .. — M. PH. FLON

Secretary and Business Manager, Mr. NEIL FORSYTH

HEALTHIEST, LONDON. TELEPHONE No.-900 CENTRAL.

PLEASE LEAVE KEY AT THE OFFICE.

Date 25 September 1888

MEXBOROUGH PRIVATE HOTEL
6.7.8.9 CRAVEN STREET, LONDON, W.1

Mr. A Mr Newton (2) No. 7458

WILLIAM LOBSOCK, Proprietor & Manager.

PLEASE CHECK ITEMS. NO CHARGE FOR ATTENDANCE. ESTABLISHED 1859.

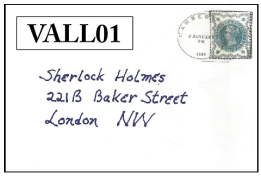
Dec. Breakfast Dinner Tea Supper Beds Attend. Wines & Cigars Washing Boot Cleaning & Electric Light, etc. Fires Suits Sundries £ s. d.

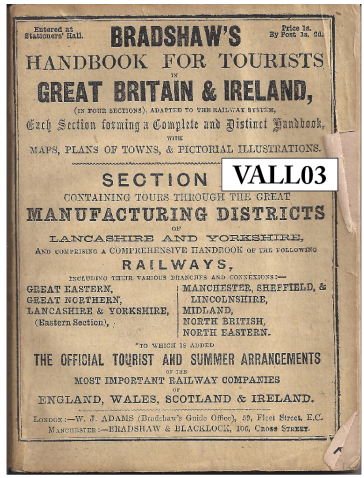
7 days at 15/6 per day as arranged 5 8 6
5 6
5 17 -

Received with thanks on behalf of MEXBOROUGH PRIVATE HOTEL

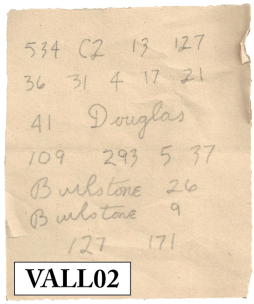
ONE PENNY

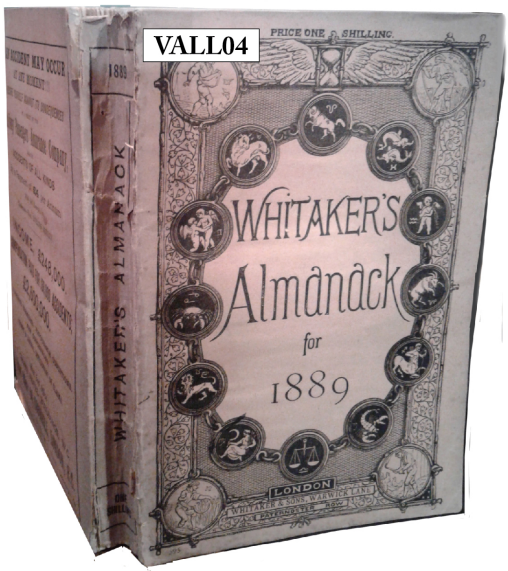
HOUN44

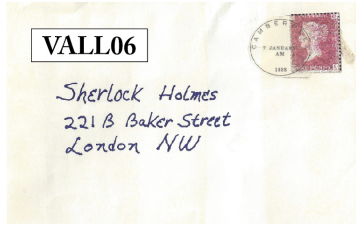

VALL01
Sherlock Holmes
221B Baker Street
London NW

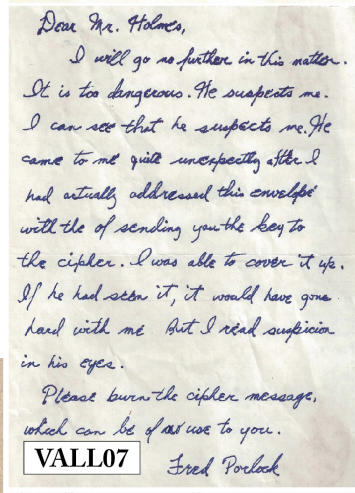

Entered at Stationers' Hall.
BRADSHAW'S
Price 1s. By Post 1s. 6d.
HANDBOOK FOR TOURISTS
IN
GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND,
(IN FOUR SECTIONS), ADAPTED TO THE RAILWAY SYSTEM,
Each Section forming a Complete and Distinct Handbook,
WITH
MAPS, PLANS OF TOWNS, & PICTORIAL ILLUSTRATIONS.
SECTION
VALL03
CONTAINING TOURS THROUGH THE GREAT
MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS
OF
LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE,
AND COMPRISING A COMPREHENSIVE HANDBOOK OF THE FOLLOWING
RAILWAYS,
INCLUDING THEIR VARIOUS BRANCHES AND CONNEXIONS:—
GREAT EASTERN,
GREAT NORTHERN,
LANCASHIRE & YORKSHIRE,
(Eastern Section),
MANCHESTER, SHEFFIELD, & LINCOLNSHIRE,
MIDLAND,
NORTH BRITISH,
NORTH EASTERN.
TO WHICH IS ADDED
THE OFFICIAL TOURIST AND SUMMER ARRANGEMENTS
OF THE
MOST IMPORTANT RAILWAY COMPANIES
OF
ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND & IRELAND.
LONDON:—W. J. ADAMS (Bradshaw's Guide Office), 59, Fleet Street, E.C.
MANCHESTER:—BRADSHAW & BLACKLOCK, 106, Cross Street.

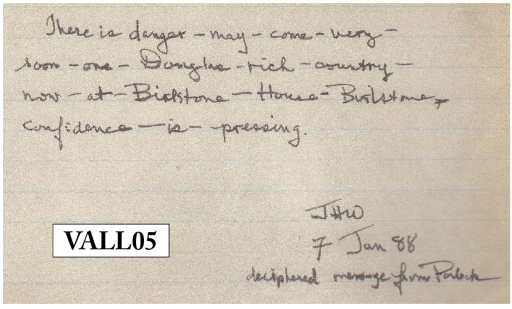
VALL08
Alec MacDonald
Inspector
Scotland Yard

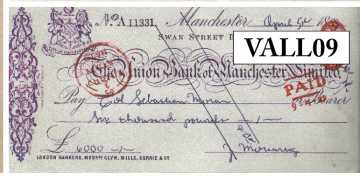

534 C2 13 127
36 31 4 17 21
41 Douglas
109 293 5 37
Burlstone 26
Burlstone 9
127 171
VALL02

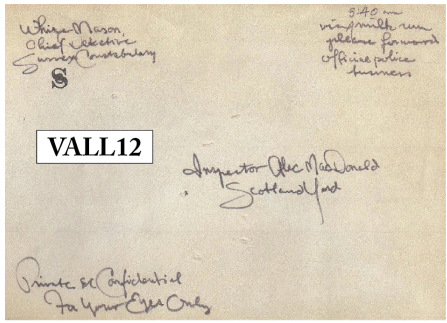

VALL04
PRICE ONE SHILLING
WHITAKER'S ALMANACK
1889
WHITAKER'S
Almanack
for
1889
LONDON

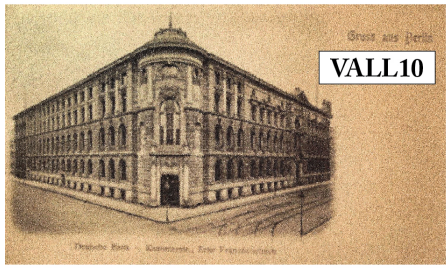

VALL06
Sherlock Holmes
221 B Baker Street
London NW


Dear Mr. Holmes,
I will go no further in this matter.
It is too dangerous. He suspects me.
I can see that he suspects me. He
came to me quite unexpectly after I
had actually addressed this envelope
with the of sending you the key to
the cipher. I was able to cover it up.
If he had seen it, it would have gone
hard with me But I read suspicion
in his eyes.
Please burn the cipher message,
which can be of no use to you.
VALL07
Fred Porlock

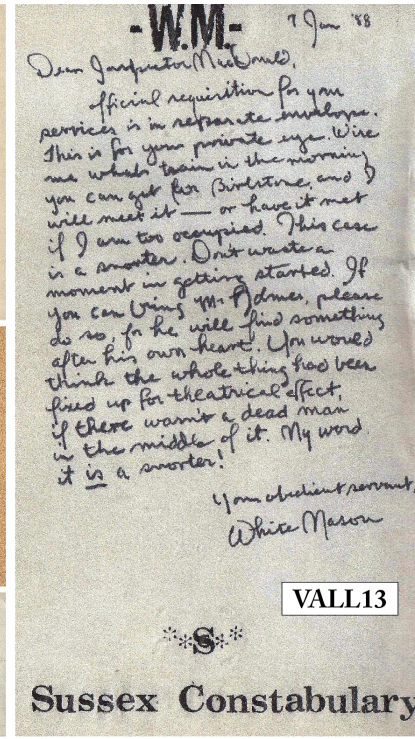

There is danger - may - come - very -
soon - one - Douglas - rich - country -
now - at - Birlstone - House - Burlstone -
confidence - is - pressing.
VALL05
7 Jan 88
deciphered message from Porlock


No A 11331
Manchester August 9th
SWAN STREET
The Union Bank of Manchester Limited
PAID
Pay Lord Belcarres Morrison
Five thousand pounds
£ 6000 -/-
Morrison
VALL09


VALL12

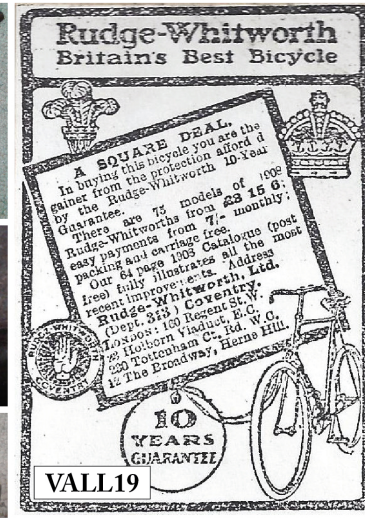

VALL10

VALL11
Credit Lyonnais
(BUREAU DES ÉTRANGERS)


-W.M-
Dear Inspector MacDonald,
VALL13
Sussex Constabulary

VALL15

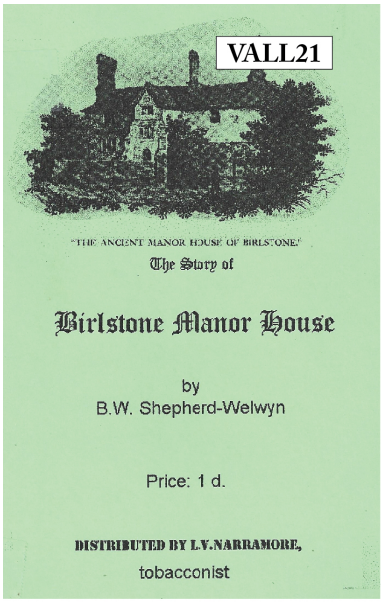
VALL14

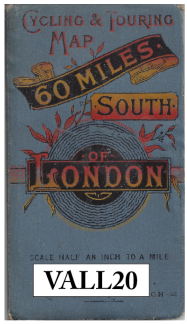

Rudge-Whitworth
Britain's Best Bicycle
A SQUARE DEAL.
10 YEARS GUARANTEE
VALL19

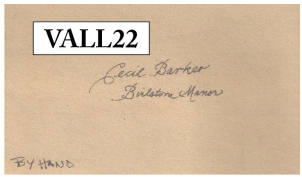
VV
341
VALL16

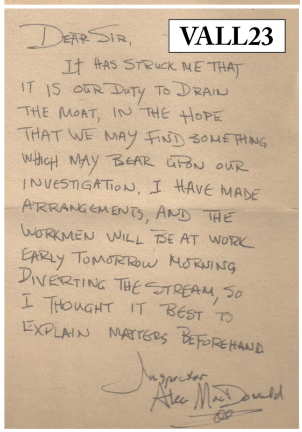
VALL17

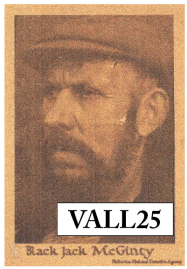
VALL18

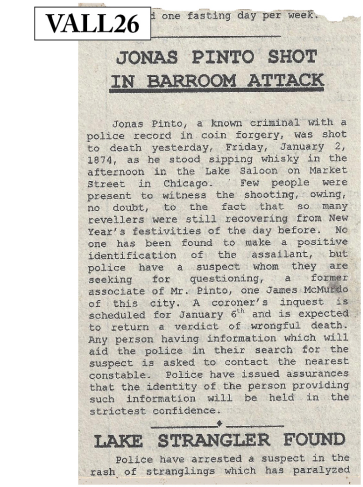

VALL21
"THE ANCIENT MANOR HOUSE OF BIRLSTONE."
The Story of
Birlstone Manor House
by
B.W. Shepherd-Welwyn
Price: 1 d.
DISTRIBUTED BY L.V.NARRAMORE,
tobacconist


CYCLING & TOURING MAP
60 MILES SOUTH OF LONDON
SCALE HALF AN INCH TO A MILE
VALL20

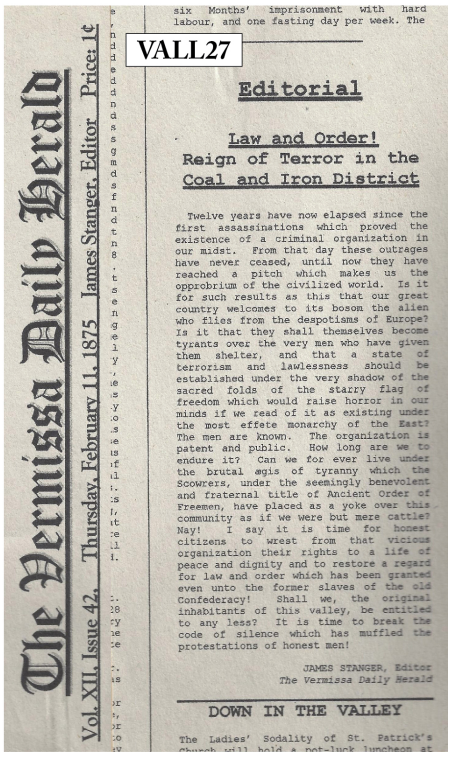

VALL22
Cecil Barker
Birlstone Manor
BY HAND


VALL23
DEAR SIR,
IT HAS STRUCK ME THAT IT IS OUR DUTY TO DRAIN THE MOAT, IN THE HOPE THAT WE MAY FIND SOMETHING WHICH MAY BEAR UPON OUR INVESTIGATION. I HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS, AND THE WORKMEN WILL BE AT WORK EARLY TOMORROW MORNING DIVERTING THE STREAM, SO I THOUGHT IT BEST TO EXPLAIN MATTERS BEFOREHAND
Inspector Alec MacDonald

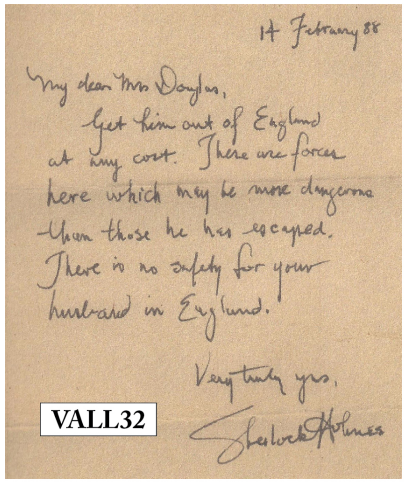

VALL25
Black Jack McGinty


VALL26
one fasting day per week.
JONAS PINTO SHOT IN BARROOM ATTACK
Jonas Pinto, a known criminal with a police record in coin forgery, was shot to death yesterday, Friday, January 2, 1874, as he stood sipping whisky in the afternoon in the Lake Saloon on Market Street in Chicago. Few people were present to witness the shooting, owing, no doubt, to the fact that so many revellers were still recovering from New Year's festivities of the day before. No one has been found to make a positive identification of the assailant, but police have a suspect whom they are seeking for questioning, a former associate of Mr. Pinto, one James McMurdo of this city. A coroner's inquest is scheduled for January 6th and is expected to return a verdict of wrongful death. Any person having information which will aid the police in their search for the suspect is asked to contact the nearest constable. Police have issued assurances that the identity of the person providing such information will be held in the strictest confidence.
LAKE STRANGLER FOUND
Police have arrested a suspect in the rash of stranglings which has paralyzed

Vermissa Iron & Coal Company
This Certifies
VALL24


VALL27
The Vermissa Daily Herald
Vol. XII, Issue 42. Thursday, February 11, 1875 James Stanger, Editor Price: 1¢
six Months' imprisonment with hard labour, and one fasting day per week. The
Editorial
Law and Order!
Reign of Terror in the Coal and Iron District
Twelve years have now elapsed since the first assassinations which proved the existence of a criminal organization in our midst. From that day these outrages have never ceased, until now they have reached a pitch which makes us the opprobrium of the civilized world. Is it for such results as this that our great country welcomes to its bosom the alien who flies from the despotisms of Europe? Is it that they shall themselves become tyrants over the very men who have given them shelter, and that a state of terrorism and lawlessness should be established under the very shadow of the sacred folds of the starry flag of freedom which would raise horror in our minds if we read of it as existing under the most effete monarchy of the East? The men are known. The organization is patent and public. How long are we to endure it? Can we for ever live under the brutal ægis of tyranny which the Scowrers, under the seemingly benevolent and fraternal title of Ancient Order of Freemen, have placed as a yoke over this community as if we were but mere cattle? Nay! I say it is time for honest citizens to wrest from that vicious organization their rights to a life of peace and dignity and to restore a regard for law and order which has been granted even unto the former slaves of the old Confederacy! Shall we, the original inhabitants of this valley, be entitled to any less? It is time to break the code of silence which has muffled the protestations of honest men!
JAMES STANGER, Editor
The Vermissa Daily Herald
DOWN IN THE VALLEY
The Ladies' Sodality of St. Patrick's

VALL28



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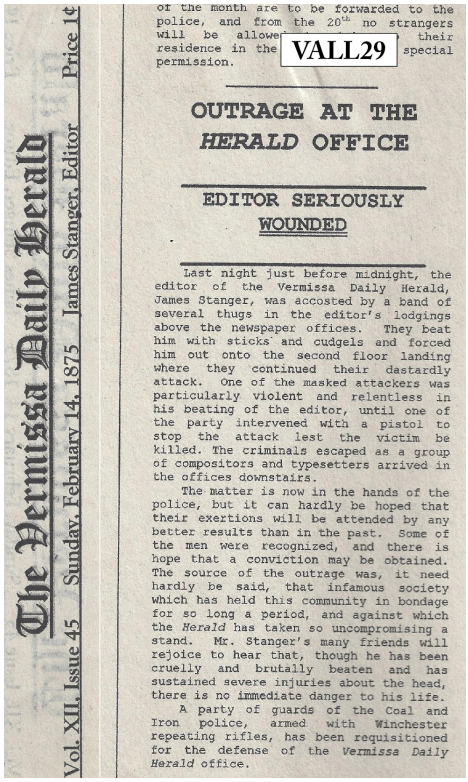

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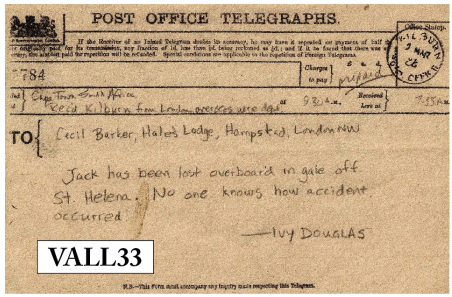
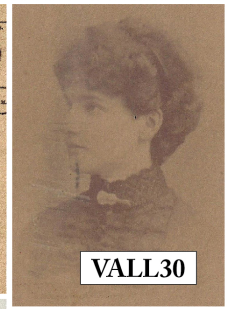


VALL33



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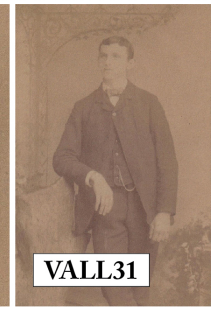

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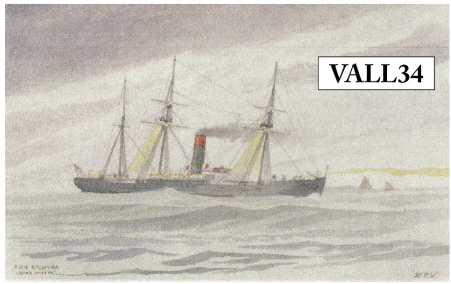

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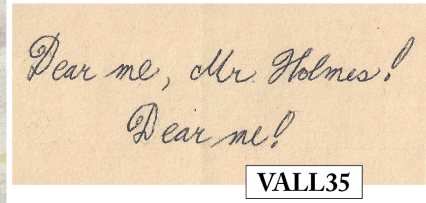

VALL35

Sherlockian Cons and Cosplay

Heather Holloway[*]

The Sherlockian community has seen a bit of demographic upheaval over the last few years. Since the debut of BBC Sherlock and the rise of internet fandom in general, traditional Sherlockians have had to adjust to a younger, more female audience. The cognitive dissonance involved in this has been much discussed and over-exaggerated in my opinion.

Since his creation, Sherlock Holmes has always engendered a fervor in the masses. There is a reason that the completely apocryphal story of mourning Victorians storming the *Strand* offices in black armbands still holds sway (and is quoted as real in many sources). It's because it seems like it could have happened.

Certainly, the internet has changed the way we all interact with the Great Detective. Playing the Game is easier than ever and finding like-minded friends, once a rare treat to be savored at a Scion meeting, can happen daily in the realms of cyberspace. Sherlockiana has always bloomed because of personal connections and the fact that those of us who enjoy the Canon and its related media also enjoy the company of one another.

One of the newer ways that Sherlock Holmes aficionados have been able to come together is through conventions, both fan-run and professional. These events are a sharp contrast to the more academic symposiums and the dignified Scion meetings of the past. Fan conventions, based on the decades-old Science Fiction models, are generally organized over a weekend and provide multiple hours of programming during the day.

Though major industry events like San Diego Comic-Con make it appear as if conventions and their related culture are new, the first World Science Fiction Convention was held in New York City in 1939. It was at this event that Myrtle R. Douglas invented cosplay as we know it when she and then-boyfriend Forrest J. Ackerman arrived in "futuristicostumes" created and made by Douglas based on characters from the 1936 film *Things to Come*. Though they were the only people to attend in costume, the idea took off immediately. The next year's convention included both an unofficial costume masquerade in Douglas's hotel room and an official costume masquerade hosted by the con. It was from this moment forward that cons and cosplay, a term not actually coined until the 1980s, became synonymous.

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[*] Heather Holloway is director and co-founder of 221B Con. Copyright 2019 Heather Holloway.

So cosplay, as we know it, is older than most assume, but also not new to Sherlockiana. How many Scion meetings and BSI goings-on have been attended by Victorian-garbed devotees of the Master? How many of us own a deerstalker or Inverness cape? Who amongst us has never mugged cheerfully with a giant pipe? The only difference between the Sherlockian cosplay of the past and that of today is the sheer scale and the fact that the internet allows us to see so much more of what's happening.

The fact is that newer Sherlockians aren't very different from traditional Sherlockians. If the internet had existed when Jeremy Brett became Holmes, I imagine a similar fandom would have grown around him. Cumberbatch and Freeman just have the great luck to live in an age of Tumblr and Twitter and Facebook. It's so easy to Google search for likeminded fanatics and then meet them in person — something that an entire generation of mothers warned us never to do!

And we are all better off. Because Sherlock Holmes lives — now, just as he did in 1895.

A (Partial) Inventory of Conventions and Cosplay

221B Con

2019 (Apr 5-7); 2018 (Apr 13-18); 2017 (Apr 7-9); 2016 (Apr 1-3); 2015 (Apr 10-12); 2014 (Apr 4-6); 2013 (Apr 13-14)

The longest-running Sherlock Holmes fan convention is held in April of each year in Atlanta, GA. Beginning as a two-day event but moving to a three-day event as of the second year, 221B Con hosts over 100 hours of programming, including panels, karaoke, a dance party, and a costume exhibition. The programming is split between traditional and more current Sherlock Holmes incarnations and the Canon.

Bay Area Sherlock Con

2014 (Aug 2-3); 2013 (Aug 17);

BASC was a short-lived convention held in Santa Clara, CA. Focusing mostly on BBC Sherlock and Fandom, the convention brought traditional Sherlockians Michael Kean and Marsha Pollak to discuss cuisine in the Canon and Holmesian movie adaptations, respectively. Each convention ended with a large tea party, attended by costumed fans.

Elementary Con

2014 (Feb 7-9)

Organized by Starfury, a professional convention management service, Elementary was an unofficial convention for BBC Sherlock that was run for profit. This type of con is very different from the fan run conventions like Sherlock Seattle and 221B Con. Elementary Con was the first Sherlock con to boast guests from the wildly popular BBC show. Benedict Cumberbatch sat for questions from his fans and then signed autographs and posed for pictures. The event included a costume parade and competition as well as panels and discussions about BBC Sherlock.

GridLOCK DC

2015 (Aug 8-9); 2014 (Aug 16)

Lasting two years, GridLOCK was the second East Coast fan convention organized to celebrate Sherlock Holmes. Panels included discussions of fanfiction, fanart, the Canon, and cosplay.

Save Undershaw Freeze

2012 (Apr 21)

Hosted by the Baker Street Babes

A flash mob organized in support of the movement to "Save Undershaw," the former home of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Around 70 people met on the National Gallery terrace in London at 2pm, some in costume, some not, and froze in place for five minutes. The event was confusing to many passersby who stopped to inquire about the strange happening and were educated about the plight of Undershaw.

Sherlocked

UK: 2017 (Oct 27-29); 2016 (Sep 23-25)

US: 2018 (May 25-27); 2017 (May 26-28)

Organized by Massive Events & Showmasters Ltd. in cooperation with Hartwoods Films, Sherlocked was the Official BBC Sherlock convention. This large convention was fully focused on BBC Sherlock and included major guests like Martin Freeman and Benedict Cumberbatch. Full sets were constructed onsite so that fans and cosplayers could take photographs in Baker Street, and dozens of other photo opportunities were afforded to those who purchased high-level tickets for access to over a dozen guests.

SherlockeDCC

2015 (Jul 10); 2014 (Jul 25); 2013 (Jul 18)

Hosted by the Baker Street Babes

For three straight years, the BSB hosted an unofficial BBC Sherlock party at San Diego Comic Con, the most star-studded convention in the world. The parties have been attended by fans in and out of costume and even Steven Moffat, Sue Vertue, and Mark Gatiss.

Sherlock Seattle

2016 (Oct 21-23); 2015 (Jan 9-11); 2014 (Aug 2-3); 2013 (Oct 4-6); 2012 (Nov 3-4)

Sherlock Seattle was the first Sherlock Holmes fan convention to be held. Noted Sherlockians Laurie R. King and Leslie Klinger attended the first convention as Guests of Honor. Panels over the years included "The Weapons of Sherlock Holmes," "Fandom 101," and "Cosplay Connection: How Cosplay Expands on The Fandom Experience." Sherlock Seattle went on hiatus after the 2016 event due to a drop in attendance.

Sherlopalooza

2012 (Nov 17)

Hosted by the Baker Street Babes and the Sherlock Holmes Society of London

The complete second series of Sherlock was screened at the Prince Charles Cinema in Leicester Square. The night included a Question and Answer session with Sherlock composer Michael Price and Joe Lidster, the official writer for the BBC's fictional Sherlock-related blogs. The theater sold out its 285 seats for the event, which included a costume contest.

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE LAW 2018

Ira Brad Matetsky[*]

January 8, 2018 — Judge Michael P. Allen of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims remands a disability claim for further review. The agency found that the veteran failed to establish that his emphysema was caused by a service-related condition, but did not address his alternative theory that his disease was aggravated by such a condition. Allen decides that "[t]he Board may have been correct as far as it went, but the problem is that there is a critical topic that the examiners did not discuss."[1] He concludes that "[f]rom a literary perspective, this appeal's critical feature is akin to Sherlock Holmes deciding a case because of the dog that did *not* bark. *See* Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes, The Adventure of Silver Blaze* (1894)."[2]

April 17, 2018 — A plaintiff in a North Carolina defamation case is denied a preliminary injunction that would have prevented the defendant from repeating the allegedly defamatory statements.[3] Among other things, the defendant had circulated an online article titled "Characteristics of a Sociopath," allegedly intended as a reference to plaintiff. The article "begins by quoting the Sherlock Holmes character in a British television series describing himself as 'not a psychopath, [but instead] a high functioning sociopath,' and then continues by examining 'what the term sociopath entails, whether it is indeed distinct from psychopathy, and whether Holmes was right to diagnose himself as one.'"[4] Magistrate Judge L. Patrick Auld concludes that even assuming the article referred to plaintiff, forwarding it did not constitute a factual statement about him, but would be considered subjective and hyperbolic language and therefore unlikely to support liability for defamation.

April 20, 2018 — The Maryland Court of Appeals (the state's highest court) analyzes the state's "doctrine of imputed negligence" in an automobile accident case. A car owner allowed another person to drive the car while the owner rode as a passenger. Under one early line of Maryland precedents, the court observed, the owner-passenger would not only be liable to third parties for injuries caused by the driver's negligence, but would have no claim

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[*] Ira Brad Matetsky is "The Final Problem" in the Baker Street Irregulars.

[1] *Lang v. Shulkin*, 2018 U.S. App. Vet. Claims LEXIS 18, at *6 (Jan. 8, 2018).

[2] *Id.* at n.4.

[3] *Wolfe Fin. Inc. v. Rodgers*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 64335 (M.D.N.C. Apr. 17, 2018), adopted, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 82643 (M.D.N.C. May 14, 2018).

[4] *Id.* at *38-39 (bracketed material in original).

against the driver for the owner-passenger's own injuries. Discussing this doctrine, Justice Robert McDonald writes for the court:

> The reasoning of the "both ways" theory of imputed negligence appears logical in its symmetry. A logician might conclude the analysis with Q.E.D. or the brutally logical and fictional Sherlock Holmes might say: "Elementary." However, as a real-life Holmes once famously said: "The life of the law has not been logic; it has been experience." Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., *Book Notices*, 14 Am. L. Rev. 233, 234 (1880).[5]

McDonald correctly cites "The Crooked Man" as the source for Sherlock Holmes's use of the word "elementary."[6] Commendably, he does not insert the never-spoken phrase "elementary, my dear Watson" into Holmes's mouth. The court ultimately declines to apply the imputed negligence doctrine in this case.

May 7, 2018 — The Pennsylvania Superior Court affirms a trial judge's decision that a teenage defendant will be tried in (adult) criminal court rather than juvenile court. The judge found, among other things, that the defendant had "displayed a good deal of sophistication" in connection with his criminal enterprise. This conclusion is reached even though "in order to be a drug dealer [one doesn't] need to be Professor Moriarty from Sherlock Holmes."[7]

June 26, 2018 — Margalit Fox's book *Conan Doyle for the Defense: The True Story of a Sensational British Murder, a Quest for Justice and the World's Most Famous Detective Writer*, is published by Random House. The book details Doyle's role in publicizing the unjust conviction of Oscar Slater, who was exonerated and freed after serving 18 years in a Scottish prison for a murder he did not commit. Reviews are positive.

November 21, 2018 — Another judicial invocation of "the dog that didn't bark," this one from the U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico. Judge James O. Browning analyzes a set of amendments to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Act (ISDA), which were passed by Congress and signed by President Bill Clinton in 1994. In reviewing the legislative history of the amendments, Browning finds it significant that Clinton did

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[5] *Seaborne-Worsley v. Mintiens*, 458 Md. 555, 567 (2018) (footnotes omitted).
[6] *Id.* at n.11.
[7] *Commonwealth v. Lindsey-Cooley*, 2018 Pa. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 1467, at *10 (May 7, 2018).

not issue a presidential signing statement when he signed them:

> President William J. Clinton issued more than fifty percent more signing statements than any other President in history. *See* Congressional Research Service, Presidential Signing Statements: Constitutional and Institutional Implications 5-7 (Jan. 4, 2012). . . . His choice not to issue one on the ISDA amendments is therefore as notable as a dog that does not bark, especially given that he wrote four other signing statements on other bills the same day that he signed the ISDA amendments of 1994.[8]

A footnote to this passage observes:

> The "dog didn't bark" canon derives from a short story from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in which Sherlock Holmes deduces the identity of the villain after realizing that the dog of the house did not bark when the individual came to the house. *See* Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, The Adventure of Silver Blaze, *in The Complete Sherlock Holmes* 347 (A.C. Doyle Memorial ed. 1960). The Supreme Court repeatedly has invoked this unofficial canon of statutory construction.[9]

November 27, 2018 — During oral argument before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Carpenter v. Murphy*, Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. invokes "a fundamental principle of law that derives from Sherlock Holmes, which is the dog that didn't bark."[10]

December 4, 2018 — Christopher Sandford's book *The Man Who Would Be Sherlock: The Real-Life Adventures of Arthur Conan Doyle*, is published in the United States by Thomas Dunne Books (Macmillan). (It had appeared in the U.K. in 2017.) The book discusses Conan Doyle's interaction with real-world criminal matters, including the George Edalji and Oscar Slater cases.

December 31, 2018 — At the stroke of midnight, for the first time in 21 years, a canonical story enters the public domain in the United States. Legislation passed in 1998, a time when the final ten stories from *The Case-Book of Sherlock Holmes* were still under copyright in the U.S., extended the copyright term for certain pre-1979 works from 75 years to 95 years, "freezing" the public domain for 20 years. Works first published in 1923, whose copy-

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[8] *United States v. Cleveland*, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 198571, at *121 (D.N.M. Nov. 21, 2018).

[9] *Id.* at n.27.

[10] Transcript of oral argument at 53, *Carpenter v. Murphy*, No. 17-1107 (argued Nov. 27, 2018).

rights expire on December 31, 2018 and which enter the public domain on January 1, 2019, include "The Adventure of the Creeping Man" by Arthur Conan Doyle. Other important detective fiction that may also now be freely republished includes *Whose Body?* by Dorothy Sayers, the first Lord Peter Wimsey novel, and *The Murder on the Links* by Agatha Christie, the second Hercule Poirot novel. Other works by Arthur Conan Doyle that may now be freely reprinted in the United States include the early chapters of his memoir, *Memories and Adventures*. The balance of that book will enter the public domain one year hence on January 1, 2020, together with "The Adventure of the Sussex Vampire," "The Adventure of the Three Garridebs," and "The Adventure of the Illustrious Client."

Sherlockian Groups and Societies

Mike McSwiggin[*]

What follows is a list of Sherlockian groups and societies, in three categories: by country (for general-interest groups), by profession (for work-related special-interest groups), and by "Other" (for everyone else). Countries are listed in alphabetical order (and in alphabetical order by state within the United States because there are so many of them!). Professional groups are listed alphabetically by name (each listing describes the profession represented). Finally, the "Other" category lists groups that are internet-based or wide-ranging in some other way or simply unclassifiable. Many thanks to Peter Blau, who is the keeper of lists and a general fount of knowledge for all things Sherlockian. I have used mailing address contact information supplied to him by the groups listed below, augmented wherever possible with updated email addresses, websites, and Facebook groups.

Like many other contributors to this almanac, I am looking to you, the reader, to supplement my understanding and knowledge. If the information about your group in this report is inaccurate (or is missing entirely), please send me (at mikemcswiggin@gmail.com) up-to-date email, website, and Facebook information for your group, along with the group's name and any other pertinent information.

Sherlockian Societies by Country

Australia

The Sydney Passengers
Bill Barnes
19 Malvern Avenue
Manly, N.S.W. 2095
www.sherlock.on.net/

The Sherlock Holmes Society of South Australia
Mark Chellew
P.O. Box 85
Daw Park, SA 5041
sites.google.com/site/sherlocksa/

The Sherlock Holmes Society of Melbourne
Michael Duke
Melbourne 3 Gillies Street
Hampton, Vic. 3188
mmgduke@bigpond.net.au

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[*] Mike McSwiggin is "A Seven-Per-Cent Solution" in the Baker Street Irregulars.

The Sherlock Holmes Society of Western Australia
Fred Rutter
49 Cedar Way
Forrestfield, WA 6058
camden.house@telstra.com

Austria

Baker Street Vienna
Silvia Groniewicz
Anton-Baumgartnerstrasse 44/C5/1/1
1230 Vienna
www.facebook.com/BakerStreetVienna/

Belgium

Le peloton des cyclistes solitaires
Cedric C. Goffinet
Rue de Levallois-Perret 46
B-1080 Bruxelles

Brazil

The Isadora Klein Amateur Mendicant Society
Carlos Orsi Martinho
r. Zacarias de Goes, 404, ap. 92
Jundiai-SP 13201-800

Canada

The Singular Society of the Baker Street Dozen
Charles Prepolec
101 Royal Bay NW
Calgary, AB T3G 5J6
www.facebook.com/groups/2679735952/

The Wisteria Lodgers of Edmonton
Constantine Kaoukakis
9705 163rd Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5P 3N1
sherlockholmesedmonton.com/

The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia
Krista Lee Munro
thestormypetrels.com/

The Halifax Spence Munros
Mark J. Alberstat
46 Kingston Crescent
Dartmouth, NS B3A 2M2
www.facebook.com/The-Spence-Munros-212957769636/

The Main Street Irregulars
Trevor S. Raymond
4 Lyons Court
Georgetown, ON L7G 5P4

The London Cesspudlians
Mark Hanson
70 Augusta Crescent
London, ON N6E 2E1

The Stratford on Avon Sherlock Holmes Society
Jack Winn
32 Ontario Street #3
Stratford, ON N5A 3GB
www.facebook.com/Stratford-On-Avon-Sherlock-Holmes-Society-890766164306152/

The Bootmakers of Toronto
Thelma Beam
360 Bloor Street East #910
Toronto, ON M4W 3M3
www.torontobootmakers.com/

The Bimetallic Question
Wilfrid de Freitas
Box 883, Stock Exchange Tower
Montreal, QC H4Z 1K2
www.bimetallicquestion.org/

China

The Chinese Sherlockian Society
Zhen Liu
Shanghai
ellry@sherlockian.org

Czech Republic

Ceska spolecnost Sherlocka Holmese (The Czech Sherlock Holmes Society)
Ales Kolodrubec
Belehradsk 94
120 00 Praha 2

Institute for the Study and the Life and Work of Sherlock Holmes
www.sherlockian.cz/

Denmark

The Cimbrian Friends of Baker Street
Jens Byskov Jensen
Billundveg 24
DK-7323 Give

The A.C. Doyle & Sherlock Holmes Society of Copenhagen
Michael Morton
Loevens Kvarter 4 A
DK-2620 Albertslund

Sherlock Holmes Klubben i Danmark (The Danish Baker Street Irregulars)
Bjarne Rother Jensen
Hojbovangen 24
DK-9200 Aalborg SV
www.facebook.com/SHKlubben/

France

Le Cercle Holmesien de Paris
Laurence Deloison
c/o Thierry Gilibert
100 rue de la Chapelle
75018 Paris
cercleholmesiendeparis.tumblr.com/

La Societe Sherlock Holmes de France
Thierry Saint-Joanis
15 rue Grande
03370 Saint-Sauvier
www.sshf.com/

Le Cercle Litteraire de l'Escarboucle Bleue
Jean-Paul Cabot
escarboucle-bleue.pagesperso-orange.fr/

Germany

Deutsche Sherlock-Holmes-Gesellschaft
Olaf H. Maurer
Wanderstrasse 31
D-67071 Ludwigshafen am Rhein
dshc.de/

Hungary

The Sherlock Holmes Club of Hungary
Zsofia Marincsak
sherlockian-sherlock.com/sherlock-holmes-club-hungary.php

India

The Sherlock Holmes Society of India
Cmdt (JG) Sumal Surendranath
Principal Directorate of Law (Rm 27)
Coast Guard HQ, Nat'l Stadium Complex
Purana Quila Road, New Delhi 110001
www.sherlockholmessociety.in/

Iraq

The Baker Street Arabs
Robert F. Cryne
U.S. Embassy-Iraq
RCLO, Room S-115
APO AE 08316

Israel

The Sherlock Holmes Society of Jerusalem
Moshe Nalick
Kiryat Telshe-Stone 114/3
D.N. Harei Yehuda

Italy

Uno Studio in Holmes
Gianluca Salvatori
Torre di Monterivecchi
Via delle Ballodole 9/18
50139 Firenze
www.unostudioinholmes.org/

Japan

The Circle of the Trained Cormorant
Nob Yamamoto
2-17-101 Iwaei-cho
Gifu-shi, Gifu 500-8134

The Japan Sherlock Holmes Club
Akane Higashiyama
Ohizumi-machi 2-55-8
Nerima-ku, Tokyo 178-0062
www.holmesjapan.jp/english/index.htm

The Men with the Twisted Konjo
Yuichi Hirayama
2-10-12 Kamirenjaku, Mitaka-shi
Tokyo 181-0012

Kyrgyzstan

The Seventeen Steppes
Loudmila Konkova
Kurmanjan-Datka Str 271
Osh Oblast Library, Soros Res. Ctr.
Kyrgyzstan 714000

The Netherlands

The Baarn Baskervilles
Jan-Just Middel
Nieuw Baarnstraat #4-C
3743 BR Baarn

New Zealand

The Antipodean Holmesian Society
Ted Nye
51 Irvine Road, The Cove
Dunedin

Portugal

Os Naufragos de Nora Creina [The Norah Creina Castaways]
Joel Lima
Largo do Mastro 29-3, Porta D
1100 Lisboa

Spain

Circulo Holmes
Joan Proubasta
Camelies 83, 1.o 3.a
08024 Barcelona
www.circuloholmes.org.es/

The Amateur Mendicant Society of Madrid
Miguel Gonzalez Pedel
Mozart 15 (6-F)
28008 Madrid

Sweden

The Swedish Pathological Society
Joakim Eklund
Norsesundsvagen 71
SE-44163 Alings†s

The Baskerville Hall Club of Sweden
www.sherlockholmes.se/

The Fierce Badgers in Ystad
Lars Jannedal
Hagermansgatan 16
SE-26132 Ystad

Switzerland

The Reichenbach Irregulars
Markus Geisser & Michael A. Meer
34 Place de Bourg de Four
CH-1240 Geneva
www.221b.ch/

United Kingdom

The Sherlock Appreciation Society
Sharon Jones
UK EN Bolton Bolton Sixth Form College
Dean Road, Bolton BL3 5BU
England
www.facebook.com/groups/325607570921551/

The Retired Beekeepers of Sussex
Elinor Hickey
Brighton
retiredbeekeepers@gmail.com
retiredbeekeepers.tumblr.com/

The Sherlock Holmes Society of Cheltenham
Reginald Lee
19 Wellington Place, London Road
Cheltenham GL52 6EW
England

The Poor Folk Upon the Moors
H. Vosper Arthur
Spynishlake, Doddiscomsleigh
Exeter, Devon EX6 7PR
England
poorfolk.wixsite.com/poorfolkuponthemoors

The Sherlock Holmes Society of London
Bob Ellis
13 Crofton Avenue
Orpington, Kent BR6 8DU
England
www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/

Shersoc (Sherlock Society)
Florence Roberts-Bowman
University of York
shersoc@yusu.org

The Crew of the S.S. May Day
Oscar Ross
19 Ardcarn Way
Belfast BT5 7RP
Northern Ireland
thessmayday.org.uk/

The Sherlock Holmes Society of Scotland
Barry Young
19 Windsor Court, Dirleton Drive
Glasgow G41 3BG
Scotland
sherlockscotland.blogspot.com/

The Deerstalkers of Welshpool
Roy Upton-Holder
146 Little Henfaes Drive
Welshpool SY21 7BA
Wales
sherlockholmeswelshpool.wordpress.com/

United States

— Alabama

The Athens Chapter of the Baker Street Irregulars
Robert K. Glenn
Athens State University
300 North Beaty Street
Athens, AL 35611-1902

The Eastern Shore Irregulars
Philip Ellis
Box 2661
Daphne, AL 36526-2661

The Disreputable Little Scarecrows of the Shoals
Terry Pace
808 Alabama Avenue
Sheffield, AL 35660-2824

— *Alaska*

The Singular Society of the Lion's Mane
Erin Bentley
7500 Trenton Lane
Anchorage, AK 99502-3142

— *Arizona*

The Baker Street Arabs of the Western Desert
Paul C. Smedegaard
40339 Hickok Court
Anthem, AZ 85086-3606

The Desert Beekeepers
Doris and Richard Dale
Box 18635
Fountain Hills, AZ 85269-8635

The Transfixed Correspondence of Phoenix
Lauren Cercone
2512 West Gary Way
Phoenix, AZ 85401-7639
www.meetup.com/Phoenix-Sherlockians/
www.facebook.com/transfixedcorrespondence/

— *Arkansas*

The Arkansas Valley Investors, Ltd.
George Wildgen
42 Cimarron Valley Circle
Little Rock, AR 72212-3502

— *California*

Holmes' Hounds at Baker Street West
Linda Hein
Hein & Co. Books & Vintage Goods
204 Main Street
Jackson, CA 95642-2332
bakerstreetwest.com/holmes-hounds/

The Loungers and Idlers of the Empire
Edna Jukofsky
5316 Huddart Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91006-5953
www.facebook.com/TheLoungersAndIdlersOfTheEmpire/

The Diogenes Club of the Monterey Peninsula
Michael H. Kean
3040 Sloat Road
Pebble Beach, CA 93953-2837

The Goose Club of the Alpha Inn [California]
John P. Sohl
20446 Orey Place
Winnetka, CA 91306-4246

The Trained Cormorants of Long Beach, California
Jim Coffin
6570 East Paseo Alcazaa
Anaheim, CA 92807-4910

The Curious Collectors of Baker Street
Jerry and Chrys Kegley
18014 Sherman Way #275
Reseda, CA 91335-4639
www.facebook.com/Curious-Collectors-of-Baker-Street-CCOBS-163335686396/

The Christopher Morley Whiskey & Sodality Club
Steven E. Whiting
3245 University Avenue #1-150
San Diego, CA 92104-2009

The Grimpen Admirers of Sherlock Holmes
Steven E. Whiting
3245 University Avenue #1-150
San Diego, CA 92104-2009
www.facebook.com/Grimpen-Admirers-of-Sherlock-Holmes-757195544388633/

The Noble West Enders
Jim Ferreira
573 Oriole Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550-2684

The Scowrers and Molly Maguires of San Francisco
Marc Kaufman
17 Mountain Meadow Road
Woodside, CA 94062-4413

The Blind German Mechanics
Wally Conger
2650 Brentwood Circle
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420-5543
www.facebook.com/groups/43218057055/

The Sherlock Breakfast Club
Bonnie MacBird
655 North Bundy Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90049-2316
www.meetup.com/sherlock-breakfast-club/

The Blustering Gales from the South-West
Carol Sperling
4864 West 120th Street
Hawthorne, CA 90250-2725
www.coliserv.net/bgsw/

— *Colorado*

Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients
William S. Dorn
617 Detroit Street
Denver, CO 80206-3831
dwnp.com/
www.facebook.com/DrWatsonsNP/

— *Connecticut*

The Winter Assizes at Norwich
Charles A. Adams
60 River Road
East Haddam, CT 06423-1403

Through the Magnifying Glass: The Cheshire Sherlock Holmes Society
Andrew Tranquilli
390 Contour Drive
Cheshire, CT 06410-2105

The Yale Sherlock Holmes Society
Linda C. Mayes
230 South Frontage Road
New Haven, CT 06519-1124

— *District of Columbia*

The Red Circle of Washington, D.C.
Peter E. Blau
7103 Endicott Court
Bethesda, MD 20817-4401
www.redcircledc.org/

— *Florida*

The Friends of Sherlock Holmes
Les Moskowitz
7067 Trentino Way
Boynton Beach, FL 33472-7301

The Sherlock Holmes Mystery Club
Howard S. Schoen
7833 Whispering Palms Drive #202
Boynton Beach, FL 33437-3842

The Fresh Rashers of Estero Island
Fort Myers Beach, FL
David J. Milner
6 Crowndale Drive
Taylors, SC 29687-4031

The Tropical Deerstalkers
Robert S. Ennis
3455 Stallion Lane
Weston, FL 33331-3035

The Pleasant Places of Florida
Carl L. Heifetz
12825 Astonwood Drive #212
Tampa, FL 33626-3131
ppofl.net/

— *Georgia*

The Confederates of Wisteria Lodge
Mary Leonard
Mycroft Manor
1265 Willow Park Way
Cumming, GA 30041-7911

The Keepers of the Bullpup
Ira Block
406 Pine Street
Madison, GA 30650-1614

— Illinois

The Tenacious Bulldogs
George H. Scheetz
406 Wolcott Lane
Batavia, IL 60510-2838

The Chester Baskerville Society
Michael W. McClure
1415 Swanwick Street
Chester, IL 62233-1317

Altamont's Agents of Chicago
John N. Wilson
11837 West 118th Street
Palos Park, IL 60464-1401

The Criterion Bar Association
Allan T. Devitt
16W603 3rd Avenue
Bensenville, IL 60106-2327
www.facebook.com/The-Criterion-Bar-Association-188549744619973/

The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic)
Donald J. Terras
Grosse Pointe Lighthouse
2535 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60201-2431
www.houndsofthebaskerville.org/

Hugo's Companions
Al Shaw
1423 South Birch Drive
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
www.facebook.com/groups/673134672807200/

The Solar Pons Breakfast Club
Bernadette Donze
7224 South Kidwell Road
Downers Grove, IL 60516-3766

The Torists International, S.S.
Donald B. Izban
1012 Rene Court
Park Ridge, IL 60068-2068
www.facebook.com/thetorists/

The Scotland Yarders
Janice Weiner
6540 N. Richmond Street
Chicago, IL 60645-4209
www.facebook.com/groups/775061845982024/

The Occupants of the Empty House
William R. Cochran
614 South Terrace Drive
Carbondale, IL 62901-2117
sherlockinsouthernillinois.blogspot.com/

The Beespeckled Band
Barb Eskoz
648 Burton Avenue
Highland Park, IL 60035-4812

The Baker Street Pages
Tim O'Connor
6015 West Route 115
Herscher, IL 60941-6139

The Hansoms of John Clayton
Brad Keefauver
4009 Chelsea Place
Peoria, IL 61614-7201

Pondicherry Lodge
Mary Denham
40 Westwood Terrace
Springfield, IL 62702-4611

— *Indiana*

The Illustrious Clients of Indianapolis
Steve Doyle
www.facebook.com/The-Illustrious-Clients-of-Indianapolis-184841455301/

The Retired Colourmen
Michael F. Whelan
Sussex Downs
7938 Mill Stream Circle
Indianapolis, IN 46278-2105

The Solitary Cyclists of South Bend
Michael J. Crowe
4318 Foxfire Drive
South Bend, IN 46628-4069

— *Iowa*

The Priory School Dropouts
B. Dean Wortman
223 Lynn Avenue
Ames, IA 50014-7166

The Younger Stamfords
Monica Schmidt
1640 Deborah Drive NE
Solon, IA 52333-9324
www.meetup.com/the-younger-stamfords/

The Iowa Valley of Fear
P.J. Colbert
Marshalltown Community College
3700 South Center Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158-4760

— *Kentucky*

The Silver Blazers
Ralph Hall
2906 Wallingford Court
Louisville, KY 40218-2363
hall221b@aol.com

— *Louisiana*

Le Cercle de Sherlock Holmes
R.W. Culver
4324 Loveland Street
Metairie, LA 70006-4122

— *Maryland*

Society of the Naval Treaty
Lynn Whitall
562 Maynadier Lane
Crownsville, MD 21032-2136

The Carlton Club
Karen Lane
837 Bear Cabin Drive
Forest Hill, MD 21050-2732

The Sherlockians of Baltimore
Greg Ruby
2400 Boston Street #102-A19
Baltimore, MD 21224-4780
SherlockiansofBaltimore@gmail.com

The Six Napoleons of Baltimore
William Hyder
717 Maiden Choice Lane #ST-508
Catonsville, MD 21228-6137
www.facebook.com/groups/2132592560358582/

The Denizens of the Bar of Gold
Art Renkwitz
1908 Pig Neck Road
Cambridge, MD 21613-3644
www.homeroomd140.com/denizens.html

Watson's Tin Box
Andrew J. Solberg
5612 Thicket Lane
Columbia, MD 21044-2526
www.watsonstinbox.org/

— *Massachusetts*

The Speckled Band of Boston
Richard M. Olken
1313 Washington Street #306
Boston, MA 02118-2153

The Friends of Irene Adler
Cambridge-area scion
Daniel Posnansky
11 Goosefair Lane
Kennebunkport, ME 04046-5730

Sherlock Holmes Pipe Club of Boston
Nelson Pidgeon
shpcboston@yahoo.com
www.shpcboston.org/

— *Michigan*

The Arcadia Mixture
Stephen Landes
1260 Barrister Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2820

The Amateur Mendicant Society
Christopher Music
6717 Snow Apple Drive
Clarkston, MI, 48346-2163
www.amateurmendicantsociety.org/

The Greek Interpreters of East Lansing
Shari Conroy
4440 Beeman Road
Williamston, MI 48895-9607
thegreekinterpreters.org/

The Ribston-Pippins
Regina Stinson
715 Amelia Avenue
Royal Oak, MI 48073-2756
www.ribston-pippins.com/index.html

— *Minnesota*

The Lady Frances Carfax Society
Linda J. Reed
2809 Fremont Avenue South #211
Minneapolis, MN 55408-2036

Martha Hudson's Cronies
Julia Carraher
4242 Stevens Avenue South #2
Minneapolis, MN 55409-2004

The Norwegian Explorers of Minnesota
NorwegianExplorers@gmail.com
www.norwegianexplorers.org/

— *Missouri*

The Black Jacks of Ballarat
Jason Hicks
941 East Brookside Drive
Marshfield, MO 65706-8917

The Harpooners of the Sea Unicorn
Michael E. Bragg
807 South 6th Street
Saint Charles, MO 63301-2921
harpooners.wordpress.com/

The Jefferson Hopes of St. Louis
Michael Waxenberg
7353 Princeton Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63130-2923

The Noble Bachelors of St. Louis
Randall Getz
7456 Cornell Avenue
University City, MO 63130-2914

The Parallel Case of St. Louis
Joseph J. Eckrich
914 Oakmoor Drive
Fenton, MO 63026-7008
parallelcasestl.wixsite.com/home

— *Nebraska*

The Omaha Sherlockian Society
Carl Wirth
2720 North 45th Avenue
Omaha, NE 68104-4527
www.omahasherlockiansociety.org/

The Maiwand Jezails
Lee Polikov
Office of the County Attorney
1210 Golden Gate Drive
Papillon, NE

— *New Hampshire*

Sherlock Holmes Club of the Upper Valley
Tom Brydges
14 Berrill Farms Lane
Hanover, NH 03755-3206

Cox & Co. of New England
David W. Houle
193 Currier Drive
Manchester, NH 03104-4735

— *New Jersey*

The Red-Headed League of Jersey
Steve and Linda Morris
723 Drake Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846-2143
RHLeagueNJ@aol.com
www.facebook.com/groups/RHLeagueNJ/

Mrs. Hudson's Cliffdwellers of New Jersey
Ron Fish
Box 4
Circleville, NY 10919-0004
mrshudsonscliffdwellers.homestead.com/

The Epilogues of Sherlock Holmes
Robert S. Katz
11 Van Beuren Road
Morristown, NJ 07960-7008

— *New Mexico*

The Dog(s) in the Night
Graham Sudbury
Box 506
Taos, NM 87571-0506

— *New York*

The Avenging Winters of Albany
C.M. Powers
9 Elaine Court
Cohoes, NY 12047-4008
theavengingwintersofalbany.wordpress.com/

The Montague Street Lodgers of Brooklyn
Peter Crupe
1533 64th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219-5709

The Hudson Valley Sciontists
Lou Lewis
2 Loockerman Avenue
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-4906
hudsonvalleysciontists.homestead.com/

The Consulting Detectives
Herbert M. Levy
Box 197
East Meadow, NY 11554-0197

The Three Garridebs
Dante M. Torrese
US NY Eastchester 11 Chestnut Street
Ardsley, NY 10502-1001
3garridebs.homestead.com/

The Delaware Deerstalkers
Leonard E. Sienko, Jr.
12 East Main Street
Hancock, NY 13783-1128

The Baker Street Underground
Andrew Jay Peck
185 West End Avenue #11-F
New York, NY 10023-5544

The Isle of Uffa Chowder and Marching Society
Susan Rice
125 Washington Place #2-E
New York, NY 10014-3838

The Priory Scholars of NYC
Judith Freeman
280 Ninth Avenue #1-C
New York, NY 10001-5714
prioryscholarsnyc.wordpress.com/

The Three Hours for Lunch Club
New York City-based group
Burt Wolder
8 Essex Road
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076-2547

The Young Sherlockians of New York
Mohamad Bazzi
8008 35th Avenue #5-F
Jackson Heights, NY 11372-4934

Rochester Row
Lewis Neisner
501 Rivers Run
Rochester, NY 14523-4935
sites.google.com/view/rochester-row/home

Altamont's Agents
Thomas A. Dandrew II
375 Langley Road
Amsterdam, NY 12010-7915

The Long Island Cave Dwellers
Warren Randall
15 Fawn Lane West
South Setauket, NY 11720-1346

The Mycroft Holmes Society of Syracuse
Carol Cavalluzzi
300 Heroy Lab
Syracuse University
Syracuse, NY
www.facebook.com/groups/1013100595455929/

— *North Carolina*

Sherlock Holmes Society of the Cape Fear
P. O. Box 347
Carolina Beach, NC 28428
www.sherlockholmessociety.com/

Diogenes Club Excommunicants
Sally Humphreys
1474 Oberry Road
Mount Olive, NC 28365-7038

— *Ohio*

The Inverness Capers
Michael Senuta
881 North Columbine Drive
Barberton, OH 44203-4320

The Tankerville Club
Cincinnati, OH
Dan Andriacco
tankervilleclub@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/Tankerville-Club-1926753590689616/

Mrs. Hudson's Lodgers
Jeffrey Cunninghan
1780 Kingsley Avenue
Akron, OH 44313-6142
www.mrshudsonslodgers.com/

The Clients of Sherlock Holmes
Sherry Rose-Bond
5471 Riverport Drive
Columbus, OH 43221-5625

The Agra Treasurers
Dayton, OH
Lorraine Reibert
www.agratreasurers.net/

The Stormy Petrels of Maumee Bay
Mark J. McGovern
3033 Sherbrooke Road
Toledo, OH 43606-3772
www.facebook.com/groups/671711902978785/

— *Oklahoma*

The Afghanistan Perceivers of Oklahoma
Vic Lahti
8515 East 64th Street
Tulsa, OK 74133-7634

The Elder Brothers of John W. Watson
Richard Kearns
1615 South Columbia Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104-5903

— *Oregon*

The Noble and Most Singular Order of the Blue Carbuncle
Terri Zensen
15103 N.E. 27th Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98686-1524
sherlockholmesportland.com/

The Vamberry Wine Merchants
Drucilla Weiland
7550 Ridgewood Drive
Gladstone, OR 97027-1462

— *Pennsylvania*

The Miners of Vermissa Valley
Terrence I. McKee
15 Lindsay Drive
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-3029

The White Rose Irregulars of York
Denny Dobry
5003 Stony Run Drive
Reading, PA 19606-3816
www.facebook.com/WRIScion/

The Danville Sherlockians
Scott Turner
112 West Market Street
Danville, PA 17821-1819
www.facebook.com/DanvilleSherlockians/

The E. Hopkins Trust Company
Jeff Decker
14 Racehorse Drive
Jonestown, PA 17038-9227

The Ancient Order of Free Sherlockians, Philadelphia Lodge
Anastasia Klimchynskaya
1810 South Rittenhouse Square #706
Philadelphia, PA 19103-5813
ancientorderoffreesherlockians.wordpress.com/

The Sons of the Copper Beeches
Raymond L. Betzner
110 Oakmont Drive
Thorndale, PA 19372-1154
sonsofbeeches@me.com

The Fifth Northumberland Fusiliers
William H. Conway
5383 Library Road
Bethel Park, PA 15102-3607

Lodge 341, Vermissa
Julianne Burke
114 Pennsylvania Avenue
Camp Hill, PA 17011-5455

The Diogenes Club of Scranton
Alan Sweeney
105 Washington Road
Scranton, PA 18509

The Regency Irregulars
James L. Young Jr.
Valley Forge, PA
james.l.young@verizon.net

— *Rhode Island*

The Cornish Horrors
Burt Wolder
www.facebook.com/The-Cornish-Horrors-126862217346878/

— *South Carolina*

The Charlockians
Taylor Blumenberg
7000 South Kenwood Drive
Charleston, SC 29406-4566
www.facebook.com/groups/313978055310330/

The Hansom Wheels
Myrtle Robinson
6117 Lakeshore Drive
Columbia, SC 29206-4331
www.hansomwheels.com/

The Survivors of the Gloria Scott
David J. Milner
6 Crowndale Drive
Taylors, SC 29687-4031
www.facebook.com/SurvivorsoftheGloriaScott/

— *South Dakota*

The Sign of the Four Faces
Cary J. Wencil
5009 South Caraway Drive
Sioux Falls, SD 57108-2822

— *Tennessee*

Friends of the Soldier Named Murray
Nora S. Michaels
1005 Mountain Creek Road #106
Chattanooga, TN 37405-1666

The Baker Street Volunteers
Stefanie Kate Hawks
P.O. Box 9486
Knoxville, TN 37940-9486

The Diogenes Club West (East Tennessee Division)
David Marcum
thepapersofsherlockholmes@gmail.com

The Giant Rats of Sumatra
Robert A. Lanier
635 West Drive
Memphis, TN 38112-1728
www.sherlock-holmes.com/giantrat.htm

The Fresh Rashers of Nashville
Bill Mason
2367 Lights Chapel Road
Greenbrier, TN 37073-4926

The Nashville Scholars of the Three Pipe Problem
Gael B. Stahl
1763 Needmore Road
Old Hickory, TN 37138-1126
www.nashvillescholars.net/

— *Texas*

The Abernetty Family of Abilene, Texas
Larry Prince
633 Green Valley Drive
Abilene, TX 79601-4514

The Crew of the Barque "Lone Star"
Steve Mason
9916 Angel Bend
Denton, TX 76208-2035
www.dfw-sherlock.org/

The Diogenes Club of Dallas
Jim Webb
3811 Wooded Creek Drive
Dallas, TX 75244-4751
home.earthlink.net/~diogenesclubdallas/index.html

The Maniac Collectors
Don Hobbs
2100 Elm Creek Lane
Flower Mound, TX 75028-4680

The John Openshaw Society
Brian Clark
8807 Burleson Court
Houston, TX 77064-7433
www.johnopenshaw.org/

— *Utah*

The Country of the Saints
Kevin John
637 North 200 West
Brigham City, UT 84302-1415

The Avenging Angels
Heidi-Marie Mason
5556 Marshwood Lane #4-E
Murray, UT 84107-6461

— *Vermont*

The Goose Club of the Alpha Inn [Vermont]
William E. Wicker
140 Birchwood Drive
Colchester, VT 05446-6255

The Baker Street Breakfast Club
Sally Sugarman
Box 407
Shaftsbury, VT 05262-0407
www.bakerstreetbreakfastclub.org/

— *Virginia*

The Old Dominion Irregulars
Michael J. Quigley
Briarbrae
2651 Fort Scott Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-2256

The Cremona Fiddlers of Williamsburg
David F. Morrill
108 Wake Robin Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185-4442

— *Washington*

The Dogs in the Nighttime
Kathleen Kaska
4309 Blue Heron Circle #201
Anacortes, WA 98221-3626
kathleenkaska@hotmail.com

The Sound of the Baskervilles
David N. Haugen
6710 51st Street Court West
University Place, WA 98467-2287
www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/

— *West Virginia*

The Scion of the Four
Andrew G. Fusco
Bowles Rice LLP
7000 Hampton Center
Morgantown, WV 25595-1720

— *Wisconsin*

The Original Tree Worshippers of Rock County
Gayle Lange Puhl
501 South Madison Street #12
Evansville, WI 53536-1350
rocksherlockotw.blogspot.com/

The Notorious Canary-Trainers
Michael H. McCoy
1 Hiawatha Circle
Madison, WI 53711-2804
groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/nct1969/info

The Bagatelle Card Club
Daniel P. King
5125 North Cumberland Boulevard
Milwaukee, WI 53217-5747

The Merripit House Guests
Ed Christenson
2230 Meadowbrook Court #A
Oshkosh, WI 54904-7839

The People of the Drama: The Valley Dwellers
James A. Pabian
S 12595 Davies Road
Spring Green, WI, 53588-9761

Uruguay

The Blue Scarves' Society
Ana Fernandez
Pda. 12 de la Brava, Ed. "Seaside"
Punta del Este, Maldonado
www.facebook.com/groups/368486129842276/

Sherlockian Professional Societies

The Alienists of Baker Street
practicing psychologists
Jason Hicks
941 Brookside Drive
Marshfield, MO 65706-8917

The Baker Street Bar Association
lawyers
David R. McCallister
8142 Quail Hollow Boulevard
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544-2021

The Board-School Beacons
educational research and psychometry
Michael H. Kean
3040 Sloat Road
Pebble Beach, CA 93953-2837

Clerks of the Assizes
court clerks felony trial court
James Motylenski
537 Christie Street
South Hempstead, NY 11550-8004

The Diogenes Club of Washington, D.C.
past/present public servants or military
Michael J. Quigley
Briarbrae
2651 Fort Scott Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-2256
www.facebook.com/DiogenesClubOfWashingtonDc/

The Fairly Good Dispensers
pharmacists (and related fields)
Mike McSwiggin
6746 Jennifer Lynn Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45248-2142
mikemcswiggin@gmail.com

The Forensic Faces of Sherlock Holmes
forensic science
Marina Stajic
425 East 51st Street #4-A
New York, NY 10022-6465

Moriarty's Mathematicians
mathematics majors
John R. Clark
Box 821
Lowell, AR 72745-0821

The Norwood Fire Brigade
fire service
Capt. Randall Getz
Hazelwood Fire Department
6800 Howdershell Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042-1214

The Old Soldiers of Baker Street of the Two Saults (Old SOB's^3)
military Sherlockians
John S. Rabe
261 South Figueroa Street #200
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2503

The Practical, But Limited, Geologists
geology
Peter E. Blau
7103 Endicott Court
Bethesda, MD 20817-4401

The Sherlockian Oenophiles Tasting Society (S.O.T.S.)
alcoholic Sherlockians
Maribeau Briggs
183 Stokes Road
Medford Lakes, NJ 08055-1522

Stimson & Co.
funeral directors
Michael W. McClure
1415 Swanwick Street
Chester, IL 62233-1317

The Studious Scarlets Society
women writing Sherlockiana
Tamara Reynolds Bower
11603 Gladesmore Lane
Tomball, TX 77377-2118
www.studiousscarlets.com/
www.facebook.com/StudiousScarletsSocietyPage/

The Sub-Librarians Scion of The Baker Street Irregulars in the American Library Association
librarians
Marsha L. Pollak
1318 Mildred Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125-3855
scholarexchange.furman.edu/sublibrarians/

The Trifling Monographers
practitioners of public relations
Graham Sudbury
Box 506
Taos, NM 87571-0506

Other Sherlockian Societies

The 140 Varieties of Tobacco Ash
privately-banded cigar dinners
Steven T. Doyle
9 Calumet Court
Zionsville, IN 46077-1934
www.facebook.com/Sherlock-Holmes-for-Dummies-129581877077394/

221b Baker Street/Los Angeles
study of the sitting-room at 221b
Chuck Kovacic
9337 Sophia Avenue
North Hills, CA 91343-2820
www.facebook.com/221bbakerstreetlosangeles/

The Admirable Beach Society
reading at the beach
Beverly A. Ellis
48132 Colony Farm Circle
Plymouth, MI 48170-3305
admirablebeach.com/

The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes
Evelyn A. Herzog
301 Warren Avenue #203
Baltimore, MD 21230-3951
ash-nyc.com/

alt.fan.holmes (Usenet/Internet)
Chuck Lavazzi
computerized newsgroup
thedoge@pobox.com
www.waxwingwebs.com/thedoge/holmes.html

The Apocryphal Calabash
pipe-smoking Sherlockians
Wayne B. Anderson
43744 San Francisco Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93535-5842

The Baker Street Irregulars of St. George's University of London
forensic medicine and pathology
Pamela Eligio
bsi.sgul@gmail.com
www.sgsu.org.uk/organisation/irregulars/

The Baker Street Irregulars
Michael F. Whelan
Sussex Downs
7938 Mill Stream Circle
Indianapolis, IN 46278-2105
bakerstreetirregulars.com/

The Beacon Society
educating the young about the Canon
Joseph A. Coppola
103 Kenny Street
Fayetteville, NY 13066-1230
www.beaconsociety.com/

The Birdy Edwards Society
19th-century detective literature
J. Randolph Cox
Box 226
Dundas, MN 55019-0226

Canonical Sleuths, Inc.
College of Staten Island adult ed class
Francine Kitts
100 Van Cortlandt Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10301-4022

A Case of Identifiers
preserving photographs of Sherlockians
Bill Vande Water
697 Greenbelt Parkway West
Holbrook, NY 11741-4216

The Clients of Adrian Mulliner
Wodehouseans of BSI — Sherlockians of TWS
Elaine Coppola
130 Kenny Street
Fayetteville, NY 13066-1230

The Conan Doyle (Crowborough) Establishment
information on Arthur Conan Doyle and tours of his home
Brian Pugh
20 Clare Road
Lewes, Sussex BN7 1PN
England
www.the-conan-doyle-crowborough-establishment.com/

The Five Orange Pips
Sherlockian scholarship
Albert M. Rosenblatt
300 Freedom Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12569-5431

The Fourth Garrideb
Canonical and Conanical numismatics
Greg Ruby
2400 Boston Street #102-A19
Baltimore, MD 21224-4780
fourthgarrideb.com/

The Grillparzer Club of the Hoboken Free State
celebrating Christopher Morley
Harrison and Linda Hunt
113 North Street
Catskill, NY 12414-1351

The Hansom Cab Clock Club
owners of hansom cab clock sold by Sears
Brad Keefauver
4009 North Chelsea Place
Peoria, IL 61614-7201

The Holmesian Society
interest in Holmes and the 19th century
Albert Mendez
142-35 38th Avenue
Flushing, NY 11354-5520

The Hounds of the Internet
computerized (electronic mailing list)
Alexander E. Braun
2982 Westgate Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125-4126
courageousmurray@aol.com

Irregular Special Railway Company
Holmesians interested in railways
Antony Richards
170 Woodland Road
Sawston, Cambridge CB2 4DX
England

The John H. Watson Society
publishing on Dr. John H. Watson, M.D.
Donald A. Yates
555 Cañon Park Drive
Saint Helena, CA 94574-9726
www.johnhwatsonsociety.com/

The Master's Masons
members of the Masons
Ron Fish
Box 4
Circleville, NY 10919-0004

The Midwest Scion of the Four
a traveling barber-shop quartet
Joseph J. Eckrich
914 Oakmoor Drive
Fenton, MO 63026-7008

The Mini-Tonga Scion Society
collectors of Sherlockian miniatures
Jay Pearlman
1656 East 19th Street #2-E
Brooklyn, NY 11229-1317

The Mongooses of Henry Wood
a correspondence society
Mattias Boström
Täljstensvägen 5
SE-74641 Bålsta
Sweden

Mrs. Turner's Thames Club Breakfasters
annual breakfast during birthday weekend
Raymond L. Betzner
110 Oakmont Drive
Thorndale, PA 19372-1154

Napoléon of Crime
interested in Holmes' adversaries
René Mercat
napoleon-of-crime@hotmail.fr

The O'Lunneys of Helston Asylum
O'Lunneytics celebrate the BSI weekend
Jerry Kegley
18014 Sherman Way #275
Reseda, CA 91335-4639
www.facebook.com/groups/174558085915247/

The Occupants of the Full House
correspondence society (visits welcomed)
Jean Upton
41 Sandford Road
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DE
England

The Persian Slipper Club of New Jersey
smokers who meet at Sherlockian meetings
Sandy Kozinn
15 Adele Avenue
Demarest, NJ 07627

The Praed Street Irregulars
George A. Vanderburgh
Box 50. R.R. #4
Eugenia, ON N0C 1E0
Canada
www.facebook.com/The-Praed-Street-Irregulars-107156039322358/

The Red-Headed League
red-headed Sherlockians
Ann Byerly Marlowe
10324 Castlehedge Terrace
Silver Spring, MD 20902-5807

The Reichenbach Rangers
academic (New Mexico Military Institute)
Darlene Logan
111 West Mathews Street
Roswell, NM 88201-5723

The Retired Colonels
people interested in Holmes and Doyle
George Vanderburgh
Box 50, R.R. #4
Eugenia, ON N0C 1E0
Canada

The Shamlock Holmeses
those who wear their scholarship lightly
Alex Mitchell
10 Byron Street, Miramar
Wellington 6003
New Zealand

Sherlocktron
Internet web-site
Willis G. Frick
513 Via Presa
San Clemente, CA 92672-9474
www.sherlocktron.com/

The Solar Pons Society of London
British scion of Praed Street Irregulars
Roger Johnson
41 Sandford Road
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6DE
England

The Speckled Band of Dartmoor Prison
meets in a maximum security prison
Richard Mackintosh
2123 Old Spartanburg Road, PMB 340
Greer, SC 29650-2704

The Strangers' Room
unofficial consulting scion
Andrew Joffe
Box 233
Craryville, NY 12521-0233
www.facebook.com/groups/221596698387880/

The Three Garish Debs
a playful society
Barbara Roscoe
7101 Mardel Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63109-1124

The Vatican Cameos
Catholic Sherlockians (Catholockians)
Ann Lewis
8448 Bravestone Way
Indianapolis, IN 46239-7921
annmargaretlewis.com/

The Watsonians
admirers of Dr. Watson
Susan Z. Diamond
16W603 3rd Avenue
Bensenville, IL 60106-2327

The William Gillette Memorial Luncheon
annual luncheon during birthday weekend
Susan Rice
125 Washington Place #2-E
New York, NY 10014-3838

The Wimsical Sherlockians
Holmes/Wimsey aficionados' email list
Sandy Kozinn
skozinn@optonline.net

Sherlockian Exhibitions 2018

A Non-exhaustive Source on Exhibits, Installations, and Displays on All Aspects Holmesian

Emily Miranker[*]

The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes

Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ USA
November 3, 2018 till May 27, 2019
Geared towards kids and families, this exhibit zeros in on forensic science and investigatory techniques with interactives so visitors can do some crime-solving of their own. Plus lots of manuscripts, period writings, movie and television props.

A Study in Sherlock: Uncovering the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection

Portsmouth Museum, Portsmouth UK
May 22, 2014 till May 22, 2020
A museum dedicated to all things Portsmouth, including this exploration of Doyle's early career as a doctor there and Sherlock depicted in theatre, film, and television. Remarkable materials at the museum, which holds the Richard Lancelyn Green bequest; minus points for the most overused Sherlockian wordplay for the exhibition's title.

You Don't Know Sherlock Holmes . . . yet

Portsmouth Museum, Portsmouth UK
May 22, 2018 till January 1, 2020
This exhibit traces the development of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's writing career and highlights the writing of the first two Sherlock novels. Interactive displays for visitors to play detective a plus; pairs nicely with *A Study in Sherlock* a gallery over.

The World's Most Famous Address — 221b

The Sherlock Holmes Museum, London UK
Permanent
First floor study display of shared rooms of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson; more a life-sized diorama of 221b than exhibit with curatorial vision or interpretation.

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[*] Emily Miranker is "Lady Hatty St. Simon" in the Baker Street Irregulars. Copyright 2019 Emily Miranker.

I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere

The Playlist

Scott Monty and Burt Wolder[*]

Editors' note: A Sherlockian-Doylean book full of lists of the interesting and important would be incomplete without some attention paid to the work of Scott Monty and Burt Wolder. So, this year we are starting with a complete and authoritative list of episodes of their flagship podcast, *I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere* (www.ihearofsherlock.com), aka IHOSE.

2018

Episode 159: The Science of Sherlock Holmes (interview with E.J. Wagner)
Episode 158: The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes (interview with Amy Noble Seitz and Geoffrey Curley)
Episode 157: Sherlock Holmes Cyclopædia (interview with Howard Ostrom)
Episode 156: The Complete Paget Portfolio (interview with Nicholas Utechin)
Episode 155: The Annotated Les Klinger (interview with Leslie S. Klinger)
Episode 154: Live from the Red Carpet (interviews from Gillette to Brett V conference)
Episode 153: The Rooms at 221B Baker Street (interview with Denny Dobry)
Episode 152: Holmes & Watson (interview with Lee Eric Shackleford)
Episode 151: Memoirs from Mrs. Hudson's Kitchen (interview with Wendy Heyman-Marsaw)
Episode 150: Elementary! (interview with James O'Leary)
Episode 149: Conan Doyle for the Defense (interview with author Margalit Fox)
Episode 148: Roger Johnson and Jean Upton (interview with these stalwarts of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London)
Episode 147: Sherlock Holmes and Silent Films (interview with Russell Merritt)
Episode 146: Revision, My Dear Watson (interview with Nick Martorelli)
Episode 145: From Gillette to Brett (interview with Steven Doyle)
Episode 144: The Chronologies of Sherlock Holmes (interview with Vincent Wright)
Episode 143: P.G. Wodehouse and Sherlock Holmes (interview with Curtis Armstrong, Elliot Milstein and Ashley Polasek)
Episode 142: The Criminal Mastermind of Baker Street (interview with Rob Nunn)
Episode 141: Baker Street Beat (interview with Dan Andriacco)
Episode 140: Sherlock Holmes and the Elusive Ear (interview with David MacGregor)
Episode 139: The Strand Magazine (interview with Andrew Gulli)
Episode 138: The War Service of Sherlock Holmes (interview with Bob Katz and Andy Solberg)
Episode 137: Boxes From Royalty (interview with Ross Davies)
Episode 136: Sherlock Holmes: The Lost Radio Scripts (interview with Ian Dickerson)

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[*] Scott Monty and Burt Wolder also star in another podcast, *Trifles*, a weekly show about details in the Sherlock Holmes stories (www.sherlockholmespodcast.com).

2017

Episode 135: Helene Yuhasova: Woman of Mystery (interview with Sonia Fetherston and Julie McKuras)
Episode 134: The Junior Sherlockian Society (interview with Shannon Carlisle)
Episode 133: The Sherlock Holmes Collection of Dan Posnansky (interview with Glen Miranker)
Episode 132: Unquiet Spirits (interview with Bonnie MacBird)
Episode 131: The All-New Sherlockian Dot Net (interview with Liza Potts)
Episode 130: The Hounds of the Baskerville (sic) (interview with Don Terras)
Episode 129: Pop Sherlock (interview with Peggy Perdue)
Episode 128: Sherlockian Coin Collecting (interview with Greg Ruby)
Episode 127: From Holmes to Sherlock (interview with Mattias Bostrom)
Episode 126: Becoming the Gillettes (interview with Tyke and Teddie Niver)
Episode 125: Revenge of the Sherlockian Nerd (interview with Curtis Armstrong)
Episode 124: Replay — To Keep the Memory Green (interview with Steven Rothman and Nicholas Utechin about Richard Lancelyn Green)
Episode 123: Scott and Burt
Episode 122: Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce
Episode 121: Canada and Sherlock Holmes (interview with Peter Calamai)
Episode 120: Firsts in the Canon (Sherlock Holmes was ahead of his time)
Episode 119: A Brace of Interviews (interviews with Lyndsay Faye and Ed Pettit)
Episode 118: The Future of Sherlockian Scholarship
Episode 117: Arthur and Sherlock (interview with Michael Sims)
Episode 116: Can't Get Enough Sherlock Holmes (the latest Sherlock Holmes headlines)
Episode 115: Sherlock Holmes and the Theater (interview with Tim Greer)
Episode 114: Escape with Sherlock Holmes (examining the habit of escapism)
Episode 113: Dancing to Death (interview with Ray Betzner)
Episode 112: Anno Holmes 130 (the 2017 BSI Weekend and where Holmes is 130 years later)

2016

Episode 111: Hip Hop Holmes (interview with Karen Wilson and a Hamilton tribute)
Episode 110: Sociable and Clubbable (discussion of Sherlockian societies)
Episode 109: Behind the Canonical Screen (interview with Lyndsay Faye and Ashley Polasek)
Episode 108: Becoming a Sherlockian (the basics of what this hobby is all about)
Episode 107: A Scintillation of Scions (interview with Jacquelynn Morris)
Episode 106: The Ebb and Flow of Sherlock Holmes (discussion of the changing interest over time)
Episode 105: Echoes of Sherlock Holmes (interview with Leslie S. Klinger and Laurie R. King)
Episode 104: Sherlockians at Chautauqua (capturing the sounds of the BSI conference)
Episode 103: Coupling with Sherlock Holmes — Al and Julie Rosenblatt (interview with the first members of the Florin Society)
Episode 102: Summer at Baker Street (a survey of stories in the summer)
Episode 101: Rebecca Romney (interview with rare book dealer, author, podcaster and cast member of Pawn Stars)

Episode 100: A Sherlockian Centennial (our 100th show — huzzah!)
Episode 99: Chris Redmond (interview with the intrepid Sherlockian scholar)
Episode 98: Europe and Sherlock Holmes (discussion of the influence of Europe in the Sherlock Holmes stories)
Episode 97: The Sydney Passengers (NPR-style story interspersed with personal reminiscences of society members)
Episode 96: A Study in Spring (discussion of some Sherlock Holmes stories that occurred in the spring)
Episode 95: A Curious Collection of Dates (interview with authors Leah Guinn and Jaime Mahoney)
Episode 94: News and Nonsense (discussion of the BSI conference in Sept., a global society survey and more)
Episode 93: Nerve and Knowledge (interview with Bob Katz and Andy Solberg about the latest BSI book)
Episode 92: An Irish Stew (celebrating St. Patrick's Day)
Episode 91: The Confidence Game (interview with Maria Konnikova)
Episode 90: Love in the Canon (a discussion of romance and its role in the stories)
Episode 89: The Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes (interview with Evelyn Herzog and Susan Rice)
Episode 88: The Abominable Show (a discussion of Sherlock: The Abominable Bride)

2015

Episode 87: Otto Penzler (interview about The Big Book of Sherlock Holmes and Ottoman's empire)
Episode 86: Steven Moffat and Sue Vertue (interview with part of the team behind Sherlock)
Episode 85: Nicholas Meyer (interview with the author of The Seven Percent Solution)
Episode 84: Our Favorite Sherlockian Things (a holiday gift guide)
Episode 83: Art in the Blood (interview with author Bonnie MacBird about her pastiche)
Episode 82: The Sincerest Form of Flattery (a discussion of pastiches)
Episode 81: Mycroft Holmes (interview with author Kareem Abdul-Jabbar about his new novel)
Episode 80: The Great Detective (interview with author Zach Dundas about the amazing rise and immortal life of Sherlock Holmes)
Episode 79: Collectors' Corner — Glen Miranker (one of the foremost collectors of Sherlock Holmes and Conan Doyle material)
Episode 78: Legal and Leisure Ramblings (the latest Conan Doyle Estate legal trouble — this time with Mr. Holmes and Mitch Cullin)
Episode 77: The Speckled Band of Boston (a recap of the group's 75th anniversary dinner and an interview with Keeper Dan Posnansky, BSI "Col. Hayter")
Episode 76: Out of the Abyss (Interview with BSI MS Series editors Bob Katz, Andy Solberg and Steve Rothman)
Episode 75: Prince of the Sherlockian Realm (Interview with Sonia Fetherston about Bliss Austin)
Episode 74: The BSI Weekend 2015
Episode 73: A Conversation with Playwright Ken Ludwig

2014

Episode 72: The Sherlockian Tannenbaum (Peter Blau explains his Sherlockian Christmas tree)
Episode 71: A Conversation with the Head of the BSI (with Mike Whelan)
Episode 70: Sherlockian Jeopardy (with the Baker Street Babes)
Episode 69: Sherlock Holmes on Radio, Part 2 (with Bert Coules, covering the BBC Radio series)
Episode 68: Sherlock Holmes on Radio, Part 1 (interview with Bert Coules, head writer for the BBC Radio Sherlock Holmes series)
Episode 67: The Sherlock Holmes Collections (interview with Tim Johnson, curator at the University of Minnesota Libraries)
Episode 66: Get Your Kicks with Sherlock Holmes
Episode 65: Art in the Blood (interview with MAD Magazine caricaturist Tom Richmond)
Episode 64: Sherlock Holmes in Translation (interview with Don Hobbs)
Episode 63: Irregular Stain (Interview with Bob Katz and Andy Solberg)
Episode 62: Inside the BSI Weekend
Episode 61: The Private Life of Vincent Starrett (interview with Ray Betzner and Susan Rice)
Episode 60: Sherlock Holmes — The First 60 Years
Special Episode: Free Sherlock (interview with Les Klinger and Betsy Rosenblatt)

2013

Episode 59: Sherlockology (interview with Jules Coomber and David Mather, of the popular fan site)
Episode 58: Thankful for Sherlock Holmes
Episode 57: A Sherlockian Halloween (interview with Charles Prepolec)
Episode 56: Sherlock Peoria (interview with Brad Keefauver)
Episode 55: The Central Press Syndicate (recent news about Sherlock Holmes)
Episode 54: How to Think Like Sherlock Holmes (interview with author Maria Konnikova)
Episode 53: For the Sake of the Trust (interview with Tom Francis, chairman of the Baker Street Irregulars Trust)
Episode 52: Sherlockian Mythbusters
Episode 51: Who Is a Sherlockian?
Episode 50: A Golden Passage (interview with Bob Katz and Andy Solberg, editors of the BSI Manuscript Series entry for "The Golden Pince-Nez")

2012

Episode 49: I'll Have a Blue Christmas
Episode 48: Dangerous Work (interview with Jon Lellenberg and Dan Stashower about Conan Doyle's arctic whaling diary)
Episode 47: Re: Vampires
Episode 46: Elementary, My Dear CBS
Episode 45: Sherlock Holmes and Politics

Episode 44: Watson and Holmes (interview with Brandon Perlow, Justin Gabrie and Karl Bollers, creators of the African-American duo in modern-day New York)
Episode 43: Fathers in the Canon
Episode 42: Sherlock @PBS — Cumberbatch Returns
Episode 41: The Woman (interview with Lara Pulver, who played Irene Adler in "A Scandal in Belgravia")
Episode 40: One Voice of Sherlock Holmes (interview with voice actor David Ian Davies)
Episode 39: #BelieveinSherlock (interview with the Baker Street Babes)
Episode 38: On Conan Doyle (interview with Michael Dirda)

2011

Episode 37: The Lost Conan Doyle Manuscript (interview with Jon Lellenberg and Dan Stashower)
Episode 36: Michael Hoey and the Fabulous Faces of Universal (interview with Michael Hoey, son of Dennis Hoey, who played Lestrade in the Basil Rathbone movies)
Episode 35: Sherlock Holmes in the News
Episode 34: William Gillette, America's Sherlock Holmes (interview with Henry Zecher)
Episode 33: Remembering Edward Hardwicke (interview with Steve Doyle and David Stuart Davies)
Episode 32: Untitled Les Klinger Sequel (Part 2)
Episode 31: A Chat with Les Klinger (Part 1)
Episode 30: The Sherlockian (interview with Graham Moore)

2010

Episode 29: Baker Street Irregular (interview with Jon Lellenberg)
Episode 28: Friendship
Episode 27: A Sherlockian Potpourri
Episode 26: A Musical Stroll Down Baker Street (interview with Fritz Weaver)
Episode 25: Sherlock Holmes for Dummies (interview with Steven Doyle)
Episode 24: Sherlock Holmes and His Worlds (interview with Sally Sugarman)
Episode 23: The Baker Street Irregulars Weekend in Review
Episode 22: Sherlock Holmes at the Movies (Part 2) (interview with David Morrill)
Episode 21: Sherlock Holmes at the Movies (Part 1) (interview with David Morrill)

2009

Episode 20: Cleaning (The Empty) House
Episode 19: The Return of I Hear of Sherlock

2008

Episode 18: The Sons of the Copper Beeches
Episode 17: Collectors' Corner — Otto Penzler

2007

Special Episode: Compliments of the Season 2007
Episode 16: Collectors' Corner — Jerry Margolin
Episode 15: Michael Whelan, Wiggins of the Baker Street Irregulars (Part 2)
Episode 14: Michael Whelan, Wiggins of the Baker Street Irregulars (Part 1)
Episode 13: Arthur Conan Doyle — A Life in Letters (interview with Jon Lellenberg and Dan Stashower)
Episode 12: Interview with Bob Thomalen (Part 2)
Episode 11: Interview with Bob Thomalen (Part 1)
Episode 10: The Secret of Sherlock Holmes
Episode 9: Our Favorite Books
Episode 8: To Keep the Memory Green (interview with Steve Rothman and Nicholas Utechin about Richard Lancelyn Green)
Episode 7: Interview with Peter Blau (Part 2)
Episode 6: Interview with Peter Blau (Part 1)
Episode 5: Sherlockian 101 (Part 2)
Episode 4: Sherlockian 101 (Part 1)
Episode 3: Interview with Mike Berdan
Episode 2: Interview with the Wessex Press
Episode 1: Welcome and an Introduction

Sherlockian Numismatica 2018

Greg D. Ruby[*]

When The Fourth Garrideb was organized in 2014, it was agreed by those in attendance at the inaugural meeting that one of the club goals would be to catalog coins, tokens, medals, and related items that feature Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Watson, Arthur Conan Doyle, or have canonical relevance. In the four years since, we have come up with over 350 items. In the next several years, we anticipate publishing *The Numismatic Sherlock Holmes*, listing all of these items in a catalog format. This *Almanac* will allow us to document new issues in the interim and provide updates after the catalog is produced. We'll provide some basic commentary here but be sure to check out the links in the attached chart if you wish to learn more.

Coins

The African Republic of Ghana issued a bimetallic 2-cedis coin featuring a portrait of Sherlock Holmes (that looks remarkably like Basil Rathbone from some of his movie publicity photos) and the Hound of the Baskervilles. While dated 2017, the coins were not released until 2018. These coins also have one small mistake; the country is misspelled as GAHNA.

2018 was also the Year of the Dog in the Chinese lunar calendar and the African nation of Chad issued a .999 fine silver 5000-Francs coin that features a very fearful version of the Hound of the Baskervilles. Nowhere on the coin does it reference the Hound, nor does the tin holder that the coin can be stored in. However, the fabric bag that you can place the tin inside does reference the Hound, Sherlock Holmes, and Arthur Conan Doyle.

In June of 2018, Queen Elizabeth II issued a proclamation announcing that a 50-pence coin would be issued in 2019 in the United Kingdom featuring Sherlock Holmes in at least four varieties. We'll have details in next year's edition.

Challenge Coins

For those not familiar with the concept of a challenge coin, it works like this. Traditionally, groups issue these coins to their members as proof of belonging to the group and to increase morale within that group. When members of such a group gather together, usually in a drinking establishment, a

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[*] Greg Ruby is "Bulldog Pin with Ruby Eyes" in the Baker Street Irregulars. Copyright 2019 Greg Ruby.

The coin issued by The Diogenes Club of Washington, DC.

member will display their coin and challenge the others to produce theirs. This is called a coin check. Those that cannot produce their challenge coin will then have to buy a round of drinks for the challenger and all those that produced their coins. If all members challenged can present their coins, then the challenger has to buy the round of drinks. However, these traditions can vary from group to group.

We are aware of three challenge coins being produced in 2018 that have Sherlockian themes. The Detective Bureau of Suffolk County (located in eastern Long Island in New York) issued a challenge coin that features Holmes on the obverse of the coin. Another challenge coin honors the detectives of the New York Police Department and features Mickey Mouse wearing an Inverness cape and deerstalker cap, complete with a NYPD badge. Rather than being round, this coin is shaped like Mickey's character. Our last challenge coin is from the Diogenes Club of Washington, DC and is shaped like the group's heraldic logo. The reverse features an illustration by Frederic Dorr Steele.

Medals

An Indianapolis-based scion — The 140 Varieties of Tobacco Ash — held their 20th annual meeting in the Spring. To commemorate the event, all 18 members were presented with a 2-inch medal that is suspended from a three-quarter-inch ribbon of blue and silver.

Souvenir Cards

The Fourth Garrideb issued three 8.5" by 11" souvenir cards during the course of the year. The first, issued for the annual dinner of the Baker Street Irregulars and the Gaslight Gala, honored the artists who illustrated the earliest publications of "The Adventures of the Three Garridebs." The next two cards were issued for the Numismatic Friends of Sherlock Holmes dinners held during the two annual events of the American Numismatic Association (ANA). In March, the National Money Show was in Irving, Texas, and the card featured a Texas Centennial half-dollar in honor of our friends from the Crew of the Barque Lone Star. The final card was issued during the World's Fair of Money, held in Philadelphia this past August and featured A. Carson Simpson, one of the founding members of the Sons of the Copper Beeches and himself a numismatist.

Wooden Money

Attendees at the annual dinner of the Baker Street Irregulars or the annual Gaslight Gala dinner receive goody bags of assorted souvenirs. In this year's bag, diners received a wooden nickel, printed in black ink, courtesy of the Junior Sherlockian Society. The JSS is an effort, spearheaded by the Beacon Society, to inspire more young people to read the Sherlock Holmes stories.

During the World's Fair of Money, a member of The Fourth Garrideb, Robert Fritsch, issued a wooden nickel featuring a Chinese cash coin (ala "The Red-Headed League").

Other Items

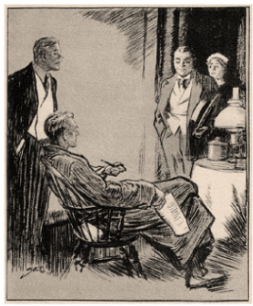
Attendees of the ANA's banquet during the World's Fair of Money received an elongated (or rolled) nickel honoring Edward C. Rochette — the recently deceased past President of the ANA — that featured a portrait of Rochette wearing a deerstalker. An avid Sherlockian, in addition to being a respected numismatist, Rochette had first suggested a Sherlockian coin club

THE FOURTH GARRIDEB

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE BAKER STREET IRREGULARS
AND
THE GASLIGHT GALA

January 13, 2018 • New York, New York

"A printing press—a counterfeiter's outfit," said Holmes



The Fourth Garrideb sends greetings to the attendees of tonight's dinner meeting of the Baker Street Irregulars, and the Gaslight Gala. With this souvenir card, we honor the three illustrators who gave life to the story that our group takes our name from – Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Adventure of the Three Garridebs*.

Howard A. Elcock's illustration, on the left, accompanied the story in the January 1925 issue of *The Strand Magazine*. The center illustration is by John Richard Flanagan and was used with the story in the October 25, 1924 issue of *Collier's* and the December 1924 issue of *Current Opinion*. Finally, Frederick Dorr Steele's illustration was used when the story was syndicated to major newspapers and published by the likes of the *Los Angeles Times*, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, the *Baltimore Sun* and the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*, among others.

The souvenir card issued by The Fourth Garrideb at the January 2018 BSI Weekend.

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to this author in the early 1990s. Attendees at the World's Fair of Money were also able to pick up an elongated cent with this design if they stopped by The Elongated Collectors (TEC) table. Examples are also known to have been rolled on dimes, quarter-dollars, and half-dollars.

For the fourth consecutive year, fantasy 10-pound banknotes of the Kingdom of Great Britain were produced by Franck Medina, a French recording and graphic artist. These highly colorful notes feature a portrait of Holmes and have images of a giant hound, dancing men figures, poison, and a hangman's noose. Above Holmes's portrait is the date 2018 to differentiate it from the previous three versions.

These are the new items that we are aware of that were produced in 2018. Who knows what 2019 will bring us? If you are aware of any new numismatic items with canonical themes, please drop the author a quick note at Greg@FourthGarrideb.com. We are also rediscovering many older items that were made in the recent (and not so recent) past, so check out the website of The Fourth Garrideb (fourthgarrideb.com/) from time to time. Many thanks!

2018 Sherlockian Numismatic Items

Date	Country / Organization / Person	Description	For More Information
2017	Ghana	2 Cedis coin	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/08/23/ghana-issues-2017-hound-of-the-baskervilles-2-cedis-coin/
2018	Chad	5000 Francs coin	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/08/25/chad-issues-2018-5000-franc-coin-honoring-the-hound/
2018	Suffolk County (NY) Police Department	Challenge Coin	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/09/26/suffolk-county-ny-police-issue-sherlockian-challenge-coin/
2018	New York Police Department	Challenge Coin	fourthgarrideb.com/2019/01/28/nypd-challenge-coin-features-a-sherlockian-mickey-mouse/
October 2018	Diogenes Club of Washington, DC	Challenge Coin	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/12/06/diogenes-club-of-washington-dc-issues-challenge-coin/
April 2018	140 Varieties of Tobacco Ash	20th Annual Meeting Medal	fourthgarrideb.com/2019/01/28/the-2018-140-varieties-of-tobacco-ash-dinner-medal/
January 2018	The Fourth Garrideb	Souvenir Card - BSI Annual Dinner	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/08/30/tfg-issued-3-souvenir-cards-in-2018/
March 2018	The Fourth Garrideb	Souvenir Card - ANA National Money Show	
August 2018	The Fourth Garrideb	Souvenir Card - ANA World's Fair of Money	
January 2018	Junior Sherlockian Society	Wooden Nickel - BSI Annual Dinner	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/12/06/junior-sherlockian-society-issued-wooden-nickel-at-2018-bsi-dinner/
August 2018	Robert F. Fritsch	Wooden Nickel - personal	fourthgarrideb.com/2019/01/28/bob-fritsch-issued-his-second-sherlockian-wooden-nickel/
August 2018	The Elongated Collectors	Edward C. Rochette memorial elongated coins	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/08/23/ed-rochette-honored-at-2018-philly-ana-convention-on-elongateds/
2018	Franck Medina	Fantasy Kingdom of Great Britain 10 Pounds note	fourthgarrideb.com/2018/08/30/an-update-about-the-fantasy-10-pound-kingdom-of-great-britain-banknotes/

A Suggested Sherlockian Library

(Arrayed by Interest Level)

Andrew L. Solberg[*]

There are generally two common traits among lovers of the Sherlock Holmes stories. The first is that we are readers. The second is that we are often collectors. Consequently, it is not surprising that we often collect books related to Sherlock Holmes. I am frequently asked what Sherlockians should collect. Of course, that varies by what an individual likes. Some people specialize. I have one friend who only collects books relating to *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. On the other hand, I have another friend who is a "completist." He must have every variant of everything Sherlockian (and I mean *everything*). That becomes very expensive. Many people collect books, but others, like the late Paul Churchill, collect artifacts mentioned in the stories. I know one collector who mostly collects foreign language editions of the stories, another who collects Sherlockian comic books, and another who collects Sherlockian pins. Really, you should choose whatever incites your passion.

However, I think that most Sherlockians collect books. My own collection includes all of the books listed below plus many others. I also like having the original published *Strand Magazines*, *Collier's*, *Harper's*, etc. I don't quite have them all, but I am still looking. My sets are not pristine. That may be important to you, but it is not important to me. Affordability is important to me. I still have my first very beat-up copy of *Profiles by Gaslight* that I found for $1.00 in the discard bin at (the now closed) John Gatch's Bookshop in Baltimore back in 1976. *Profiles by Gaslight* for $1.00 — you can't beat that, and the feeling was exhilarating.

Previous suggestions of which books a Sherlockian collection should include (such as the *Shaw 100* developed by the late great John Bennett Shaw, a completist extraordinaire, whose collection ultimately formed the basis of the massive University of Minnesota Library Sherlock Holmes Special Collection) did not distinguish between Sherlockians who want classical collections and those who just want to both enjoy the stories and have some other neat Sherlockian books. I have tried to make such a distinction. I have identified a core group of books for the casual Sherlockian, the budding Sherlockian collector, and the researcher. I have also identified some books that

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[*] Andrew L. Solberg has been writing and editing (as well as collecting) Sherlockian books and articles since the 1970s. Copyright 2019 Andrew L. Solberg.

are just plain fun and some books for those who are interested in the reading more about the Baker Street Irregulars.

Only a few of these books are new, so, with some exceptions, you won't find them among new books in bookstores. You will have to peruse used bookstores, try BookFinder.com, Amazon.com's used book sellers, or catch them when they appear on Ebay. Don't buy a book the first time you see it on Ebay (unless you know that it is reasonably priced). Note the price for which it sells and try to beat that the next time it shows up. Also, don't necessarily compare the price on Ebay to prices at online booksellers. Online booksellers often offer these books at inflated prices, and you can probably do better (unless you know that the price is reasonable — or you *really* want that book to complete a portion of your collection).

But . . . on to the list. All such lists are subjective. Some people just love the first book they ever bought and will think that it should be on this list. The titles listed below are those that I have found most enjoyable and useful. Your mileage may vary.

For the Sherlockian Non-Collector

These are Sherlockian books that would make any coffee table proud. They are enjoyable reads in their own right and will provide the average casual Sherlockian with hours of great reading. You don't need to be a collector to buy and enjoy these.

	Author	Title
1	Baring-Gould, W	Annotated Sherlock Holmes
2	Baring-Gould, W	Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street
3	Boström, Mattias	From Holmes to Sherlock
4	BSI Press	BSI Manuscript Series
5	Clarkson	The Canonical Compendium
6	Conan Doyle	The Original Illustrated Strand Sherlock Holmes (the stories as they appeared in the Strand)
7	Doyle, Steve	Sherlock Holmes for Dummies
8	Green, RL	Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
9	Keating, HRF	Sherlock Holmes, His World and His Time
10	Klinefelter	Sherlock Holmes In Portrait and Profile
11	Klinger	The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes

	Author	Title
12	Park, Orlando	The Sherlock Holmes Encyclopedia
13	Pointer, Michael	Pictorial History of Sherlock Holmes
14	Sims, Michael	Arthur and Sherlock
15	Smith, E	Profiles by Gaslight
16	Starrett, V	Private Life of Sherlock Holmes
17	Stashower, Dan	Teller of Tales
18	Tracy, J	Encyclopedia Sherlockiana
19	Various	The Baker Street Journal (worth subscribing to, even if you are a casual Sherlockian)

What even casual Sherlockian can be without the fine *Annotated Sherlock Holmes* by William S. Baring-Gould? If you buy only one book, buy this one. Actually, there are two different editions of this. The original was published in two large volumes, and a later edition was published as one VERY LARGE volume. Either one is worth having, though the two-volume edition is a bit easier on the lap, and the paper is considerably better quality than in the one volume edition. However, either edition is fine. Baring-Gould's love of "the Great Game" is evident in this, and, until Les Klinger's fine *New Annotated* edition was published, it was the main source of joy for Sherlockians. It was published in 1967 and is available in used editions for reasonable prices. His *Sherlock Holmes of Baker Street* is also a fun read. You don't have to be deeply involved in the Sherlockian community to enjoy it.

The BSI Manuscript Series is a must-have for anyone who is interested in seeing a Sherlock Holmes story written in Conan Doyle's handwriting. These books also include chapters on the writing of the story, the differences between the manuscript and the published versions, and interesting chapters on various aspects of the story.

Steve Clarkson's Compendium is also worth having. It has a beautiful cover and is very a useful book with the answer to almost any quiz question you can think of. If you want to be able to read the stories as they appeared in the *Strand Magazine* (always fun — two columns with the original illustrations), then I recommend *The Original Illustrated Strand Sherlock Holmes*. Greene's *Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* has other Holmes-related writings by Conan Doyle. Two other beautiful books are *Sherlock Holmes, His World and His Time* and *Pictorial History of Sherlock Holmes*, which do a wonderful job of introducing you to the real Victorian London. *Sherlock Holmes In Portrait and Profile* will educate you on the portrayals (pre-Brett)

of Holmes in print, on screen, and on the stage. *The Sherlock Holmes Encyclopedia* and *Encyclopedia Sherlockiana* are chock-full of Sherlockian facts.

The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes (currently available in stores selling new books) is a beautiful set of three volumes. Les Klinger did a fine job, adding his own flair and interests.

Profiles by Gaslight and *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes* are two early classics and are two of the best books on Sherlock Holmes ever written. *Profiles* was one of the first collections of "writings on the writings" and reflects love for, and the newness of, the genre. *Private Life* reflects Vincent Starrett's (a fine writer in his own right) love of Holmes.

Teller of Tales is a wonderful biography of Conan Doyle. In my opinion, it is the best of all the biographies published thus far. Dan Stashower is quite a tale-teller himself. One of my nicest memories is sitting in a London hotel smoking room, smoking a Cuban cigar, and reading this wonderful book by my friend.

The newest additions to this list are Michael Sims's *Arthur and Sherlock* and Mattias Boström's *From Holmes to Sherlock*. Sims's book focuses on Conan Doyle's early life, through the publication of *A Study in Scarlet*. Sims is a great writer and researcher, and is a joy for Sherlockians and non-Sherlockians, alike. The same is true of *From Holmes to Sherlock.* Mattias covers everything Sherlockian, and I mean everything — Conan Doyle, Gillette, Morley, ASH, Scion Societies, movies, television, stage, and everything in between. It is a must-have.

Even the casual Sherlockian will enjoy the *Baker Street Journal*. It is amazing what people find in the stories that is interesting and entertaining. The *Journal* has been published since 1946, and the well does not appear to be running dry. The best of Sherlockian writings have almost all appeared in the *Journal*. If you are not subscribing, you are missing a lot of Sherlockian entertainment.

For the Sherlockian Library Collector

In addition to those books mentioned above, the following are great Sherlockian books that reflect outstanding Sherlockian analysis. Many form the cornerstone of Sherlockian literature. If you are starting a serious collection, start here.

	Author	Title
20	Bell, HW	Baker St. Studies
21	Blakeney	Sherlock Holmes, Fact or Fiction

	Author	Title
22	Brend	My Dear Holmes (A Study in Sherlock)
23	Conan Doyle	The Complete Sherlock Holmes — Doubleday (or Barnes & Noble Edition that has the same pagination)
24	Dakin, DM	A Sherlock Holmes Commentary
25	Donegall, Lord	Baker Street and Beyond
26	Grazebrook	Studies in SH
27	Haining, P	The Sherlock Holmes Scrapbook
28	Hall, John	Sidelights on Holmes
29	Hall, T	Sherlock Holmes
30	Hardwick, M	The Complete Guide to Sherlock Holmes
31	Harrison, M	Beyond Baker Street
32	Harrison, M	In the Footsteps of Sherlock Holmes
33	Herbert, PD	The Sincerest Form of Flattery
34	Holroyd, JE	Baker St. Byways
35	Holroyd, JE	Seventeen Steps to Baker Street
36	Hyder, W	From Baltimore to Baker Street
37	Katz, Solberg	Nerve & Knowledge — Doctors, Medicine, and the Sherlockian Canon
38	Klinger	A Study in Scarlet (The Entire Annotated Series)
39	Knox, R	Essays in Satire
40	Lellenberg, J	Nova 57 Minor
41	Liebow, E	Dr. Joe Bell
42	McQueen, I	Sherlock Holmes, Detected
43	Queen, Ellery	Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes
44	Redmond, C	In Bed with Sherlock Holmes
45	Roberts, S.C.	Holmes & Watson
46	Sayers, D	Unpopular Opinions
47	Shreffler, P	Sherlock Holmes by Gas Lamp
48	Smith, Edgar W	Baker St. and Beyond
49	Smith, Edgar W	A Baker Street Four Wheeler: Sixteen Pieces of Sherlockiana
50	Smith, Edgar W.	The Incunabular Sherlock Holmes

	Author	Title
51	Smith, Edgar W.	Introducing Mr. Sherlock Holmes
52	Starrett, V	221B
53	Stern	Sherlock Homes, Rare Book Collector
55	Utechin, N	Sherlock Holmes At Oxford
56	Van Liere	A Doctor Enjoys Sherlock Holmes
54	Various	The Sherlock Holmes Journal (worth the subscription)

While I won't discuss each of these, I would like to make a few comments. Arguably, Haining's *Sherlock Holmes Scrapbook* and Starrett's *221B* deserve to be in the list for even casual Sherlockians. They are both wonderful reading, and I have looked at them many times. *221B* is also among the best Sherlockian books ever written and includes Starrett's immortal poem. I am always envious of someone who is reading *221B* for the first time. I did not include them in the "casual" list because neither is what I would consider a coffee table book (as are the others on that list). However, if you are a budding collector, the books on this list will form the foundation of your collection. They are also great fun! Remember that many of these are hard to find, as they were published many years ago. However, looking for them is part of the fun, and when you find one at a reasonable price, the feeling is exhilarating. Bob Katz and I co-edited *Nerve & Knowledge — Doctors, Medicine, and the Sherlockian Canon*. If you are remotely interested in medicine and the Canon (after all, Conan Doyle and Watson were both physicians), this book is for you. Physicians and others from all over the world wrote professional journal-level articles for the book. The book was so successful that the BSI Press launched a "Professions Series," and the second book in the series (just out this year) is *Canon Law — Lawyers, Law and the Sherlockian Canon*. It is a terrific book, and I am thinking of adding it to the list.

Furthermore, there are other books that arguably should go on this list. You should check them out.

For the Sherlockian Researcher

If you enjoy writing articles on Sherlock Holmes, you also should try to have access to the following sources (in addition to everything listed above). I return to them again and again.

	Author	Title
57	Bradshaw	Bradshaw's Railway Guide
58	DeWaal	The Universal Sherlock Holmes — electronic version
59	Goodrich, WD	The New Good Old Index
60	Green & Gibson	A Bibliography of A. Conan Doyle
61	Oxford	The Oxford Sherlock Holmes
62	Redmond, C	The Sherlock Holmes Handbook
63	Redmond, D	Sherlock Holmes, A Study in Sources
64	Various	The Baker Street Journal — 1946-2010 CD Set
65	Various	The Sherlock Holmes Journal — 1952-2002 CD Set

If you can only buy one book on this list, buy DeWaal's *Universal Sherlock Holmes* bibliography. Yes, it was published in 1994 and does not include anything since. Yes, it has errors. However, it is a wonderful accomplishment, and is remarkably thorough. You will want to know (or should) what others have published before on your topic, and I cannot emphasize strongly enough how useful this volume is. In the electronic version, you can search the bibliography on your computer by keyword, author, title, etc.

As I said before, most of the great Sherlockian works have appeared in the *Baker Street Journal*. Other great works have appeared in the *Sherlock Homes Journal* of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London. Once you find the list of articles you want in DeWaal, having the CD sets of the *BSJ* and *SHJ* will save you incredible time and heartburn. They are indispensable to me.

The *Oxford Sherlock Holmes* is a multi-volume annotated set of the stories, edited by some of the world's most knowledgeable Sherlockians and/or Doyleans. Many of the annotations are Doylean, having to do with what Conan Doyle was thinking or going through when he wrote the stories. Goodrich's *Good Old Index* has also been indispensable, being a virtual concordance of the Canon. Like Clarkson's *Compendium*, it tells you where to find various words in the Canon, but each has different strengths, and both are well worth owning.

For the Fun of It

I don't like pastiches for the most part. The following, however, include pastiches, parodies (which I do like), and other treatments of Holmes culture and are really fun (or interesting) reading.

	Author	Title
66	Adey, Robert	As It Might Have Been
66	Adey, Robert	As It Might Have Been
67	Bangs, John Kendrick	Houseboat on the Styx
68	Cagnat, JP	Around the World of Sherlock Holmes in 15 Years
69	Dorn, Bill	Sherlock Holmes, A Study Guide (in two volumes)
70	Doyle, AC	Memories and Adventures
71	Fish, Robert L	Schlock Holmes — Complete Bagel St. Saga
72	Friedman, Kinky	Elvis, Jesus, and Coca Cola
73	Jann, Rosemary	The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Detecting Social Order
74	Kotzwinkle	Trouble in Bugland
75	Meyer, Nicholos	Seven Percent Solution
76	Payne	Myth & Modern Man in SH
77	Redmond, C	In Bed with Sherlock Holmes
78	Rosenblatt	Dining with Sherlock Holmes
79	Queen, Ellery	The Misadventures of Sherlock Holmes
80	Titus, Eve	Basil of Baker Street

Subjective? You bet! Add Laurie King's *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* if you want to. *As It Might Have Been* is a collection of early (and I mean early) Sherlockian parodies. John Kendrick Bangs almost had his own industry of writing Sherlockian parody when Conan Doyle was still writing the Holmes stories (and even Bangs's non-Sherlockian writings are entertaining). *Schlock Holmes* is a great example of later parody and was a very good seller back in the 1970s. Nicholas Meyer almost single handedly resurrected the popularity of Holmes in the early 1970s with his fine pastiche *The Seven Percent Solution*. *Basil of Baker Street* was the original series of children's books on which Disney's *Great Mouse Detective* was based. Many of Kinky Friedman's mystery novels have very Sherlockian themes and are fun.

About the Baker Street Irregulars

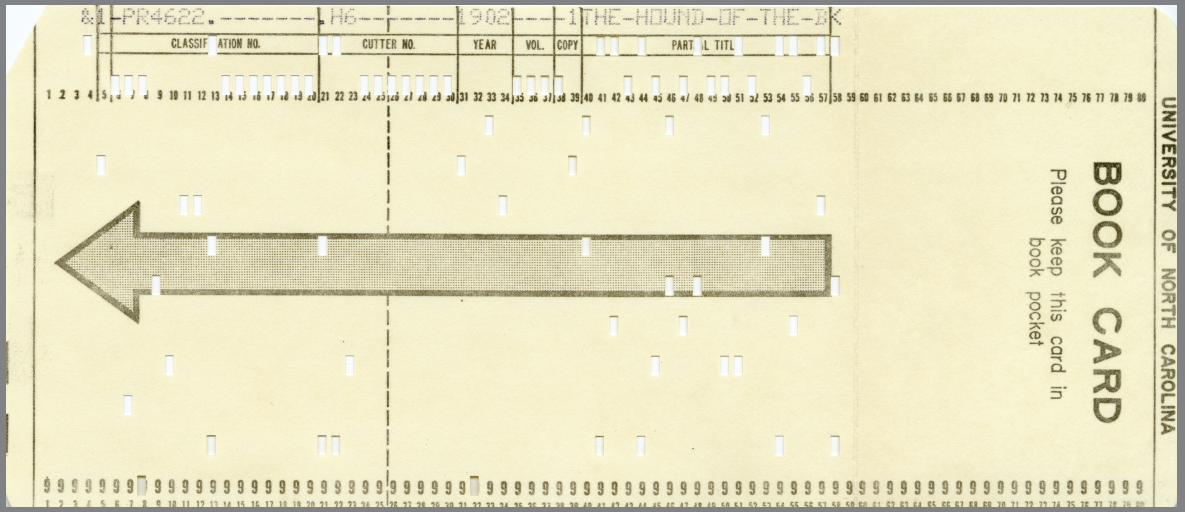
Long before I was invited to my first BSI dinner, I enjoyed Jon Lellenberg's histories of it. I found them fascinating for his style of putting the early days of the BSI into historical perspective. Here, you find the story of how grown men and women developed their love for Holmes into one of the

most prestigious and long lasting literary societies in the context of what else is happening in the world. It's not all hearts and flowers (part of the fun for the reader), but it is always entertaining. They are hard to find and costly, but great reading, even if you have no interest in joining the BSI.

	Author	Title
81	Lellenberg, J,	Irregular Proceedings of the 30s
82	Lellenberg, J,	Irregular Proceedings of the Early 40s
83	Lellenberg, J,	Irregular Proceedings of the Mid 40s
84	Lellenberg, J	Irregular Proceedings of the Late 40s
85	Lellenberg, J	Disjecta Membra

Epilogue

Will this list change over time? Of course. The *Shaw 100* was fine for its day but cannot reflect all of the great works that came after it. In addition, I have found some of the works listed on the *Shaw 100* to be disappointing (as, no doubt, you may find with some on my list, as tastes differ), and so not all of them are included above. However, one of the benefits of being a Sherlockian is that there is so much great reading . . . Have fun.



The Case of the Library's Disappearing Punched Card

by Cattleya M. Concepcion

The Case of the Library's Disappearing Punched Card

Cattleya M. Concepcion[*]

Editors' note: When we shipped them from Green Bag World Headquarters, some copies of the print edition of the *Baker Street Almanac* included (in an old-school, paste-in pocket on the inside back cover) a near-facsimile reproduction of the *Hound of the Baskervilles* library punched card described below.

I did not know that library punched cards were in danger of disappearing until I accidentally found one. The punched card was on the inside front cover of an early U.S. edition of Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*[1] from the collection of the Library of the University of North Carolina. It was a relic of the past and felt especially so from the way that I was seeing the book — as a digitized copy available online.[2] What struck me most was not a feeling of the punched card's obsolescence but a fear that its use in history was on the verge of being lost because, in the rush to digitize, we never made plans to save artifacts of the library's work. The copy, which had been digitized by the Internet Archive in 2015,[3] only captured part of the punched card; it was folded over at the top and half obscured by a book pocket that held it. While digitization practices had preserved the full text of the book, they had failed to preserve the punched card, a remarkable early technology on the path to automation in library circulation systems. Fortunately, the physical copy of the book at UNC was still accessible, so the punched card — and its story — was not lost yet.

Marginal punched cards — the first kind of punched card used by UNC to charge out books to borrowers before computers — had disappeared long ago. Punched cards first appeared in academic libraries for use in circulation operations during the second half of the 1930s.[4] By the early 1950s, UNC

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[*] Cattleya M. Concepcion is a Reference Librarian at Georgetown Law Library. She thanks the librarians at Wilson Special Collections Library, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, who do much more than they are asked in order to connect people with their collections. Copyright 2019 Cattleya M. Concepcion. The image of the punch card on the previous page is courtesy of University Libraries, UNC Chapel Hill.

[1] A. Conan Doyle, The Hound of the Baskervilles (Grosset & Dunlap 1902).

[2] For the digitized copy, see Doyle, supra note 1, available at archive.org/details/houndofbaskervil00doyl_6 (digitized version of UNC's copy on Internet Archive); hdl.handle.net/2027/nc01.ark:/13960/t77t10t9n (digitized version of UNC's copy on HathiTrust).

[3] See id. (watermarks on digitized copy).

[4] Helen T. Geer, Charging Systems 110 (1955).

had a punched card charging system in place. For its system, UNC used Keysort punched cards from Ohio's McBee Company.[5] While several companies sold marginal punched cards, the Keysort punched card was in general use in punched card charging systems,[6] and UNC was one of at least 14 academic libraries that used it as a call card.[7]

UNC's punched call card was 3 x 5 inches.[8] On the face of the card, information relevant to the library could be written in about the borrower and the book to be borrowed.[9] On the left and bottom sides of the card, there were rows for holes around the edges.[10] UNC's punched call card had holes, for example, for data relating to due dates,[11] locations (e.g., reserve book room),[12] academic semester,[13] faculty status,[14] and missing books.[15] According to the McBee Company, "as many as four million different, nonconflicting classifications" could be coded along one edge of the Keysort punched card.[16]

In addition to punched cards, a basic McBee Keysort system required "a hand-slotting punch resembling that used by railroad conductors, and a manual sorting needle resembling an elongated icepick."[17] The Keysort punched card could be notched to add data, and card savers (or correction slips) could be applied to remove or correct data, allowing the card to be repeatedly reused.[18] The sorting needle processed and arranged Keysort punched cards "by passing the needle through the hole designating the sort

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[5] Id. at 164.
[6] Id. at 110.
[7] Id. at 164. Another four academic libraries used a similar charging system with IBM punched cards. Id. at 163. Overall, marginal punched card systems were not widespread. Dennis J. Reynolds, Library Automation, in World Encyclopedia of Library and Information Services 470, 472 (3d ed. 1993).
[8] Howard F. McGaw, Marginal Punched Cards in College and Research Libraries 90 (1952).
[9] See Geer, supra note 4, at 115.
[10] McGaw, supra note 8, at 90.
[11] Id. at 89.
[12] Id. at 97-99.
[13] Id. at 96.
[14] Id. at 89, 110.
[15] Id. at 97-98.
[16] Murray G. Lawson, The Machine Age in Historical Research, American Archivist 141, 143 (1948).
[17] Id. at 142.
[18] Geer, supra note 4, at 115; Reynolds, supra note 7, at 472. For more information on marginal punched cards in circulation systems, see McGaw, supra note 8, at 83-141; Ralph H. Parker, Library Applications of Punched Cards 25-39 (1952).

desired and raising it" because cards with a hole had "nothing to support them" and so they "automatically [fell] clear."[19]

Under a Keysort call card system like UNC's, when a borrower wanted to check out a book, the borrower filled out a punched call card and gave it to the librarian, who then marked the due date on the card as well as on a due date slip inside the book.[20] Later, when the borrower returned the book, the librarian destroyed the punched call card or returned it to the borrower.[21] In this type of punched card charging system, the library never physically attached the punched card to the book.[22] At the time, this feature was regarded as an advantage because it reduced the time and supplies involved.[23] Because book cards and pockets were eliminated, the process required "only stamping, marking, labeling, and the affixing of date-due slips."[24]

Today, the only remaining traces in UNC's books of that first punched call card system are the accompanying due date slips from the period. In UNC's early U.S. edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, a due date slip inside the book shows markings for three loans due on July 27, 1962, October 12, 1962, and October 14, 1974.[25] Shortly after this last date, UNC would implement the next phase of punched cards in its charging system, but not before several years of planning and preparation.

Starting in the 1960s, computers were introduced into library charging systems to process circulation transactions.[26] UNC began planning for a computerized charging system in 1966.[27] Because online computerization required full-time access to a large computer and so was cost prohibitive, UNC pursued an offline system that used a punched book card as the input medium.[28] In this system,

> transactions were not recorded on the computer as they occurred, but collected over time and processed in . . . batch mode. . . . When

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[19] Lawson, supra note 16, at 143.
[20] Geer, supra note 4, at 116.
[21] Id. at 118.
[22] A limited number of academic libraries used a McBee Keysort book card, a punched card that was placed inside a book pocket. Id. at 125, 163-64. However, only three known academic libraries used this system. Id. at 163-64.
[23] McGaw, supra note 8, at 111.
[24] Id.
[25] For the due date slip and markings, see Doyle, supra note 1, available at hdl.handle.net /2027/nc01.ark:/13960/t77t10t9n?urlappend=%3Bseq=5.
[26] Reynolds, supra note 7, at 472.
[27] A.R. Fields, Automation of Wilson Library Circulation, in Automated Circulation in ARL Libraries 70, 70-71 (1978).
[28] Id. at 71.

> a patron charged out a book with a machine-readable punched book card, a library attendant used a machine that, though not connected to a computer, generated a computer-readable circulation transaction punched card that combined . . . the book's call number recorded from the punched book card, and patron identification information from the patron's identification card. The librarians held all such transaction cards throughout the day and . . . took them all to the computer center. . . . These transaction cards were processed against the entire circulation file to generate an updated printout of the circulation file for the librarians . . . .[29]

During the planning stage for the new system, UNC librarians visited other libraries that had implemented computerized circulation procedures and noted that several libraries had developed systems using equipment from IBM.[30] With an IBM manufacturing plant nearby in Raleigh,[31] UNC selected the IBM 1030 Data Collection System to automate its circulation operations.[32]

IBM had released the 1030 Data Collection System in 1963.[33] The 1030 provided a way to transmit data through a telephone line or cable from remote offices to a computer system in a central office.[34] The central computer system used by the 1030 system was a 1448 Transmission Control Unit attached to a 1440 Data Processing System. The 1030 system had four components. First, a 1031 Input Station, which was located at a remote office, allowed input to be entered by a card reader, badge reader, and manual entry. Second, a 1032 Digital Time Unit at the central office provided transaction times for the input to the central computer system. Third, a 1033 Printer, located in the remote office, printed information from the central computer system. Finally, a 1034 Card Punch at the central office accepted transmissions from the remote 1031 Input Station, functioning as the out-

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[29] Reynolds, supra note 7, at 472.

[30] Fields, supra note 27, at 70-71.

[31] IBM opened a manufacturing plant in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1965. IBM, Frequently Asked Questions 10 (April 10, 2007), www.ibm.com/ibm/history/documents/pdf/faq.pdf.

[32] Fields, supra note 27, at 71.

[33] IBM, Endicott Chronology, 1961-1969, IBM Archives, www.ibm.com/ibm/history/exhibits/endicott/endicott_chronology1960.html?mhq=%22ibm%201030%22&mhsrc=ibmsearch_a. The Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California has an image of and manual for the IBM 1030 Data Collection System in its collections (catalog record for the image at www.computerhistory.org/collections/catalog/102635762 and catalog record for the manual at www.computerhistory.org/collections/catalog/102664844).

[34] IBM, Customer Engineering Introduction to 1030 Data Collection System (n.d.), available at ed-thelen.org/comp-hist/IBM-ProdAnn/1030.pdf.

put device when the 1030 system was offline.[35]

In the summer of 1975, UNC launched a single computerized charging system for its Main and Undergraduate Libraries using the IBM 1030 Data Collection System.[36] According to a report by UNC shortly after the system was installed, the configuration consisted of three 1031 Input Stations in the Main Library and two 1031 Input Stations in the Undergraduate Library, which were all connected to one 1034 Card Punch on the ground floor of the Undergraduate Library.[37] UNC had one backup 1034 that could automatically replace the primary 1034 if it went down.[38] In UNC's configuration, data was transmitted through a cable that had been placed between the Main and Undergraduate Libraries.[39]

IBM punched cards were the input/output medium for UNC's computerized charging system. Unlike the Keysort punched call cards that UNC had used earlier for its circulation functions, the IBM punched cards had holes on the face of the card, not around the edges, and the holes were rectangular, not circular.[40] At 7 3/8 x 3 1/4 inches, the IBM punched card had 80 columns and 12 rows.[41] The rows from the top to the bottom were denoted &, -, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.[42] Each hole represented a bit, so the maximum data storage capacity of the IBM punched card was 960 bits or 120 bytes.[43]

For the IBM punched cards that served as book cards to input into the system, UNC coded the book's classification number and short title.[44] Under the previous Keysort punched call card system, this information was filled in by the borrower,[45] so the elimination of handwriting was an advantage of the

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[35] Id.

[36] Fields, supra note 27, at 70-71. This was a joint automated system for the two libraries. By the fall of 1969, UNC had already achieved automation in its circulation operations at the Undergraduate Library. Id. at 70.

[37] Id. at 70-71. Note that the report's description of the configuration makes clear that the author accidentally mixed up the components of the IBM 1030. The configuration provided here tries to provide a corrected description of the system.

[38] Id. at 71.

[39] Id. at 70.

[40] IBM, The IBM Punched Card, IBM 100 (2011), www.ibm.com/ibm/history/ibm100/us/en/icons/punchcard.

[41] Id.

[42] Georg Fisher, Punched Cards (Nov. 10, 2010), www.punctum.com/interest/punch/index.en.html.

[43] Id.

[44] Fields, supra note 27, at 71.

[45] McGaw, supra note 8, at 113.

IBM punched cards.[46] Consistent with UNC's coding procedure, the notched holes in the punched book card found in the early edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* represent the book's classification number under the Library of Congress Classification System (i.e., PR4622 .H6 1902) and shortened title (i.e., The Hound of the BK).

UNC began preparing IBM punched cards for its books in the Undergraduate Library at the end of 1967 and began inserting them into the books about a year-and-a-half later.[47] For the Main Library, UNC began coding punched cards for new books at the start of 1968, and then it later added books classified or reclassified under the Library of Congress Classification System (rather than Dewey Decimal Classification) through 1971.[48] UNC continued to code and insert punched book cards until just days before its joint computerized charging system launched in 1975.[49]

UNC's early edition of Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles* was not one of the Library of Congress classified books that received a punched book card when the computerized charging system initially launched. At the time of the launch in 1975, this particular copy was classified under Dewey Decimal Classification (i.e., 823 D75ho 1902).[50] Per a librarian's note inside the book that reads "recl. 77-6-16," the book was not reclassified to Library of Congress Classification until June 16, 1977.[51] The book appears to have been charged out using the Keysort punched call card system through this time, as a second due date slip inside the book shows markings with a return date of December 5, 1978.[52] So it seems likely that the IBM punched card was coded and inserted into the book sometime after December 1978, about three-and-a-half years after the single computerized charging system launched at UNC.

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[46] Fields, supra note 27, at 71.
[47] Id. at 70.
[48] Id.
[49] Id.
[50] To view the classification written on a book plate inside UNC's copy, see Doyle, supra note 1, available at hdl.handle.net/2027/nc01.ark:/13960/t77t10t9n?urlappend=%3Bseq=4.
[51] See Email from Wilson Special Collections Library, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, to author (Jan. 11, 2019, 3:37 PM) (on file with author) (explaining the meaning of the librarian's note); see also James F. Govan, Annual Report of the University Library, University of North Carolina, for the Fiscal Year 1976-77, at 7 (October 1, 1977) (discussing a project to reclassify about 300,000 volumes from Dewey Decimal Classification to Library of Congress Classification over the next five years). To view the handwritten marking in UNC's copy, see Doyle, supra note 1, available at hdl.handle.net/2027/nc01.ark:/13960/t77t10t9n?urlappend=%3Bseq=7.
[52] For the due date slip and markings, see Doyle, supra note 1, available at hdl.handle.net/2027/nc01.ark:/13960/t77t10t9n?urlappend=%3Bseq=3.

Under UNC's computerized charging system, a book was charged out by inserting the punched book card into one slot and the borrower's badge, which had been coded with his or her Social Security number, into another slot of an IBM 1031 Input Station.[53] Information from the book card and badge were combined with the loan type and due date and then transmitted to the IBM 1034, where a transaction card was punched and stored.[54] The daily circulation operations at UNC proceeded from there:

> At 8:00 a.m. each day the accumulated transaction cards [were] delivered to the Message Center and from there taken to the Computation Center on West Franklin [Street]. [The transaction] cards [were] read into a computer memory containing the circulation file. A special computer program add[ed] new charges to the file, cancel[ed] charges for books which [had] been returned, note[d] books returned overdue, compute[d] the fines, compare[d] the [S]ocial [S]ecurity number with a master address file, and printe[d] out bills for delinquent borrowers. It also note[d] which [were] more than three days overdue and print[ed] out overdue notices. About 11:00 a.m. each day a printed list of all books in circulation, on Reserve, on carrels, being traced, or out of the stacks for any reason [was] delivered to [the Main and Undergraduate Libraries].[55]

UNC's computerized charging system was a success, and in the words of the university librarian at the time, proved to be "a valuable boon to both borrowers and staff."[56] The new system was credited in part for an eight percent increase in circulation at the Main Library.[57]

At the same time that UNC and other libraries had begun to install offline computerized charging systems, a few libraries were already beginning to explore online circulation systems.[58] During the 1970s, commercial vendors of online library systems started to emerge.[59] IBM began to close its punched card manufacturing plants, and the last of its nine plants shut its

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[53] Fields, supra note 27, at 71. Note that the report's description of the configuration makes clear that the author accidentally mixed up the components of the IBM 1030. The configuration provided here tries to provide a corrected description of the system.
[54] Id.
[55] Id.
[56] James F. Govan, Annual Report of the University Library, University of North Carolina, for the Fiscal Year 1975-76, at 4 (October 1, 1976).
[57] Id.
[58] Reynolds, supra note 7, at 473.
[59] Id.

doors by the end of 1984.[60] In the end, UNC's punched book cards were replaced by scannable barcode labels in the early 1990s, when UNC migrated to an online library system from Data Research Associates, Inc.[61]

Punched cards were a key part of library charging systems before computers and in conjunction with computers, before technology ultimately left them behind. While Keysort punched call cards have long been separated from books, IBM punched book cards can still be found inside the covers, like in UNC's early edition of Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. It feels like luck that I came across the punched book card in a digitized copy online. It also feels like luck that UNC's copy even has a punched book card. A second copy of the same edition in UNC's rare book collection does not have a punched book card,[62] as the cards were only inserted into books that could be borrowed. If both copies had been housed in the rare book collection, we would not have this example of a punched book card today.

The physical copy that was digitized is still part of UNC's circulating collection.[63] The book is housed at the Library Service Center,[64] a temperature and humidity controlled facility designed to extend "the useful life of library materials."[65] So the book — and thus the punched book card inside it — is being protected. The obscured image of the punched book card in the digitized copy, however, has already been neglected. As we digitize print books from library collections and move towards digital libraries, we should be careful not to overlook the book cards, book pockets, due date slips, markings, and other items that libraries have added to books to make them findable and available to borrowers. Why should our contributions to books not also be preserved for history?

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[60] Joseph Perkins, IBM Punch-Card Plant Will Close, Washington Post, July 2, 1984, at WB18.

[61] Wilson Special Collections Library, supra note 51. To see the barcode label in UNC's copy of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, see Doyle, supra note 1, available at hdl.handle.net/2027/nc01.ark:/13960/t77t10t9n?urlappend=%3Bseq=3.

[62] Wilson Special Collections Library, supra note 51.

[63] Id.

[64] Id. A search for the book's call number, PR4622 .H6 1902, in the catalog shows that the copy is currently located in the "Brittle Book Remote Storage" (catalog record at search.lib.unc.edu/search?R=UNCb1208543). Note that the 1902 Grosset & Dunlap and 1902 McClure, Phillips & Co. editions have gotten a bit mixed up in the records. The copy of interest here is at present listed under the McClure, Phillips & Co. record rather than the Grosset & Dunlap record (search.lib.unc.edu/search?R=UNCb5454423). Two copies listed in the Grosset & Dunlap record are part of the rare book collection.

[65] UNC University Libraries, Library Service Center, library.unc.edu/services/circulation/lsc (last visited Jan. 31, 2019).

"He was much saturniner than usual, and the others at once deduced there was something toward"

The Adventure of the Clothes-Line

Carolyn Wells[*]

Editors' note: The dust jacket that protects some copies of this almanac features a big version of one of our favorite Frederick Dorr Steele portrayals of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson. That Steele and the others reproduced here first appeared as illustrations for this story from the May 1915 issue of *The Century* (in which his name was spelled "Steel"). The interesting treatments of contractions are in the original, and are preserved here as reminders of the good old days when there was more room for words to move around.

The members of the Society of Infallible Detectives were just sitting around and being socially infallible in their rooms in Fakir Street, when President Holmes strode in. He was much saturniner than usual, and the others at once deduced there was something toward.

"And it 's this," said Holmes, perceiving that they had perceived it. "A reward is offered for the solution of a great mystery — so great, my colleagues, that I fear none of you will be able to solve it, or even to help me in the marvelous work I shall do when ferreting it out."

"Humph!" grunted the Thinking-Machine, riveting his steel-blue eyes upon the speaker.

"He voices all our sentiments," said Raffles, with his winning smile. "Fire away, Holmes. What's the prob?"

"To explain a most mysterious proceeding down on the East Side."

Though a tall man, Holmes spoke shortly, for he was peeved at the inattentive attitude of his collection of colleagues. But of course he still had his Watson, so he put up with the indifference of the rest of the cold world.

"Are n't all proceedings down on the East Side mysterious?" asked Arsène Lupin with an aristocratic look.

Holmes passed his brow wearily under his hand.

"Inspector Spyer," he said, "was riding on the Elevated Road — one of the small numbered Avenues — when, as he passed a tenement-house district, he saw a clothes-line strung from one high window to another across a courtyard."

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[*] Carolyn Wells (1862-1942) was a prolific and popular author throughout her adult life. One of her genres was detective fiction, in which her work was compared favorably to that of other big sellers of her time. See, e.g., Grant M. Overton, *A House of Mystery and a Room of Horror*, The Sun (New York), Oct. 13, 1918, at section 5, page 4. The story reprinted here is one of several Holmes pastiches Wells wrote.

"Was it Monday?" asked the Thinking-Machine, who for the moment was thinking he was a washing-machine.

"That does n't matter. About the middle of the line was suspended —"

"By clothes-pins?" asked two or three of the Infallibles at once.

"Was suspended a beautiful woman."

"Hanged?"

"No. *Do listen!* She hung by her hands and was evidently trying to cross from one house to the other. By her exhausted and agonized face, the inspector feared she could not hold on much longer. He sprang from his seat to rush to her assistance, but the train had already started, and he was too late to get off."

"What was she doing there?" "Did she fall?" "What did she look like?" and various similar nonsensical queries fell from the lips of the great detectives.

"Be silent, and I will tell you all the known facts. She was a society woman, it is clear, for she was robed in a chiffon evening gown, one of those roll-top things. She wore rich jewelry and dainty slippers with jeweled buckles. Her hair, unloosed from its moorings, hung in heavy masses far down her back."

"How extraordinary! What does it all mean?" asked M. Dupin. ever straightforward of speech.

"I don't know yet," answered Holmes, honestly; "I 've studied the matter only a few months. But I will find out, if I have to raze the whole tenement block. There *must* be a clue somewhere."

"Marvelous! Holmes, marvelous!" said a phonograph in the corner, which Watson had fixed up, as he had to go out.

"The police have asked us to take up the case and have offered a reward for its solution. Find out who was the lady, what she was doing, and why she did it."

"Are there any clues?" asked M. Vidocq, while M. Lecocq said simultaneously, "Any footprints?"

"There is one footprint; no other clue."

"Where is the footprint?"

"On the ground, right under where the lady was hanging."

"But you said the rope was high from the ground."

"More than a hundred feet."

"And she stepped down and made a single footprint. Strange! Quite strange!" and the Thinking-Machine shook his yellow old head.

"She did nothing of the sort," said Holmes, petulantly. "If you fellows would listen, you might hear something. The occupants of the tenement houses have been questioned. But, as it turns out, none of them chanced to be at home at the time of the occurrence. There was a suffrage parade in the next street, and they had all been urged to go, and did."

"Had a light snow fallen the night before?" asked Lecocq, eagerly.

"Yes, of course," answered Holmes. "How could we know anything, else? Well, the lady had dropped her slipper, and although the slipper was not found, it having been annexed by the tenement people who came home first, I had a chance to study the footprint. The slipper was a two and a half D. It was too small for her."

"How do you know?"

"Women always wear slippers too small for them."

"Then how did she come to drop it off?" This from Raffles, triumphantly.

Holmes looked at him pityingly.

"She kicked it off because it was too tight. Women always kick off their slippers when playing bridge or in an opera-box or at a dinner."

"And always when they 're crossing a clothes-line?" This in Lupin's most sarcastic vein.

"Naturally," said Holmes, with a taciturnine frown. "The footprint clearly denotes a lady of wealth and fashion, somewhat short of stature, and weighing about one hundred and sixty. She was of an animated nature —"

"Suspended animation," put in Luther Trant, wittily, and Scientific Sprague added, "Like the Coffin of Damocles, or whoever it was."

But Holmes frowned on their light-headedness.

"We must find out what it all means," he said in his gloomiest way. "I have a tracing of the footprint."

"I wonder if my seismospygmograph would work on it," mused Trant.

"I am the Prince of Footprints," declared Lecocq, pompously. "*I* will solve the mystery."

"Do your best, all of you," said their illustrious president. "I fear you can do little; these things are unintelligible to the unintelligent. But study on it, and meet here again one week from to-night, with your answers neatly typewritten on one side of the paper."

The Infallible Detectives started off, each affecting a jaunty sanguineness of demeanor, which did not in the least impress their president, who was used to sanguinary impressions.

They spent their allotted seven days in the study of the problem; and a lot of the seven nights, too, for they wanted to delve into the baffling secret by sun or candle-light, as dear Mrs. Browning so poetically puts it.

And when the week had fled, the Infallibles again gathered in the Fakir Street sanctum, each face wearing the smug smirk and smile of one who had quested a successful quest and was about to accept his just reward.

"And now," said President Holmes, "as nothing can be hid from the Infallible Detectives, I assume we have all discovered *why* the lady hung from the clothes-line above that deep and dangerous chasm of a tenement courtyard."

"We have," replied his colleagues, in varying tones of pride, conceit, and mock modesty.

"I cannot think," went on the hawk-like voice, "that you have, any of you, stumbled upon the real solution of the mystery; but I will listen to your amateur attempts."

"As the oldest member of our organization, I will tell my solution first," said Vidocq, calmly. "I have not been able to find the lady, but I am convinced

that she was merely an expert trapezist or tight-rope walker, practising a new trick to amaze her Coney Island audiences."

"Nonsense!" cried Holmes. "In that case the lady would have worn tights or fleshings. We are told she was in full evening dress of the smartest set."

Arsène Lupin spoke next.

"It 's too easy," he said boredly; "she was a typist or stenographer who had been annoyed by attentions from her employer, and was trying to escape from the brute."

"Again I call your attention to her costume," said Holmes, with a look of intolerance on his finely cold-chiseled face.

"That 's all right," returned Lupin, easily. "Those girls dress every old way! I 've seen 'em. They don't think anything of evening clothes at their work."

"Humph!" said the Thinking-Machine, and the others all agreed with him.

"Next," said Holmes, sternly.

"I 'm next," said Lecocq. "I submit that the lady escaped from a near-by lunatic asylum. She had the illusion that she was an old overcoat and the moths had got at her. So of course she hung herself on the clothes-line. This theory of lunacy also accounts for the fact that the lady's hair was down — like *Ophelia's*, you know."

"It would have been easier for her to swallow a few good moth-balls," said Holmes, looking at Lecocq in stormy silence. "Mr. Gryce, you are an experienced deducer; what did *you* conclude?"

Mr. Gryce glued his eyes to his right boot toe, after his celebrated habit. "I make out she was a-slumming. You know, all the best ladies are keen about it now. And I feel that she belonged to the Cult for the Betterment of Clothes-lines. She was by way of being a tester. She had to go across them hand over hand, and if they bore her weight, they were passed by the censor."

"And if they did n't?"

"Apparently that predicament had not occurred at the time of our problem, and so cannot be considered."

"I think Gryce is right about the slumming," remarked Luther Trant, "but the reason for the lady hanging from the clothes-line is the imperative necessity she felt for a thorough airing, after her tenemental visitations; there is a certain tenement scent, if I may express it, that requires ozone in quantities."

"You 're too material," said the Thinking-Machine, with a faraway look in his weak, blue eyes. "The lady was a disciple of New Thought. She had to go into the silence, or concentrate, or whatever they call it. And they always choose strange places for these thinking spells. They have to have solitude, and, as I understand it, the clothes-line was not crowded?"

Rouletabille laughed right out.

"You 're 'way off, Thinky," he said. "What ailed that dame was just that she wanted to reduce. I 've read about it in the women's journals. They all want to reduce. They take all sorts of crazy exercises, and this crossing clothes-lines hand over hand is the latest. I 'll bet it took off twenty of those avoirdupois with which old Sherly credited her."

"Pish and a few tushes!" remarked Raffles, in his smart society jargon. "You don't fool me. That clever little bear was making up a new dance to thrill society next winter. You 'll see. Sunday-paper head-lines: 'Stunning New Dance! The Clothes-Line Cling! Caught On Like Wildfire!' *That 's* what it's all about. What do you know, eh?"

"Go take a walk, Raffles," said Holmes, not unkindly; "you 're sleepy yet. Scientific Sprague, you sometimes put over an abstruse theory, what do you say?"

"I did n't need science," said Sprague, carelessly. "As soon as I heard she had her hair down, I jumped to the correct conclusion. She had been washing her hair, and was drying it. My sister always sticks her head out of the skylight; but this lady's plan is, I should judge, a more all-round success."

As they had now all voiced their theories, President Holmes rose to give them the inestimable benefit of his own views.

"Your ideas are not without some merit," he conceded, "but you have overlooked the eternal-feminine element in the problem. As soon as I tell you the real solution, you will each wonder why it escaped your notice. The lady thought she heard a mouse, so she scrambled out of the window, preferring to risk her life on the perilous clothes-line rather than stay in the dwelling where the mouse was also. It is all very simple. She was doing her hair, threw her head over forward to twist it, as they always do, and so espied the mouse sitting in the corner."

"Marvelous! Holmes, marvelous!" exclaimed Watson, who had just come back from his errand.

Even as they were all pondering on Holmes's superior wisdom, the telephone-bell rang.

"Are you there?" said President Holmes, for he was ever English of speech.

"Yes, yes," returned the impatient voice of the chief of police. "Call off your detective workers. We have discovered who the lady was who crossed the clothes-line and why she did it."

"I can't imagine you really know," said Holmes into the transmitter; "but tell me what you think."

"A-r-r-rh! Of course I know! It was just one of those confounded moving-picture stunts!"

"Indeed! And why did the lady kick off her slipper?"

"A-r-r-r-h! It was part of the fool plot. She 's Miss Flossy Flicker of the Flim-Flam Film Company, doin' the six-reel thriller, 'At the End of Her Rope.'"

"Ah," said Holmes suavely, "my compliments to Miss Flicker on her good work."

"Marvelous, Holmes, marvelous!" said Watson.

"'Marvelous! Holmes, marvelous!' said Watson"

A Glance Ahead at 2019

Lists like this one tend to be incomplete and out-of-date before they even roll off the presses or load onto the internet. Still, there is no harm in flagging a few future highlights. For a more nearly comprehensive forecast of the near future — and a more accurate one — visit the *Sherlockian Calendar* maintained by Ron Fish of The Three Garridebs at www.sherlockiancalendar.com.

Some Things We Are Looking Forward To

Mar. 29:	Holmes, Doyle and Friends Six (The Agra Treasurers), Dayton, OH, USA
Apr. 5-7:	221B Con, Atlanta, GA, USA
Apr. 6:	Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture (Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection), Toronto, ON, CAN
May 3-5:	Malice Domestic 31, Bethesda, MD, USA
Jun. 7-8:	A Scintillation of Scions XII, (Watson's Tin Box), Baltimore, MD, USA
Aug. 9-11:	"Dark Places, Wicked Companions and Strange Experiences" Conference (The Norwegian Explorers), Minneapolis, MN, USA
Oct. 12-13:	Left Coast Sherlockian Symposium, Portland, OR, USA

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