

Sherlockians (and Holmesians) gathered in New York to celebrate the Great Detective's 168th birthday during the long weekend from Jan. 12 to 16; the (very) long weekend was filled with events, both formal and informal, and the events were well-attended despite the on-going pandemic, and the loss of the now-closed Roosevelt Hotel. Detailed reports on many if not most of the goings-on will be posted soon at the web-site of The Baker Street Irregulars <[www.bakerstreetirregulars.com](http://www.bakerstreetirregulars.com)>. In the meantime, here are a few brief paragraphs to tide you over.

Locals and early arrivals enjoyed the ASH Wednesday dinner, and on Thursday morning the ACD Society's Inaugural Doylean Awards Ceremony was held at the Mysterious Bookshop; their web-site <[www.acdsociety.com](http://www.acdsociety.com)> offers a link to video of the meeting.

The BSI's Distinguished Speaker on Thursday evening was Prof. Mary Bendel-Simso, on "My dear Watson...the law is as dangerous to us as the criminals": Sherlock Holmes and the Official Police" (her paper will be published in the Baker Street Journal later this year).

On Friday the Irregulars and their guests assembled for the BSI's annual dinner at the Yale Club, where Julie McKuras proposed the traditional pre-prandial first toast to Jennifer Olson, as *The Woman*. The annual dinner's agenda included the usual toasts, rituals, and papers (Ray Betzner paid tribute to Vincent Starrett, and Ira Brad Matetsky celebrated Rex Stout). Russell Merritt received the annual Morley-Montgomery Award (a check and an attractive certificate) for the best contribution to The Baker Street Journal in 2021, and Mike Kean announced the BSI's Birthday Honours: Laurence Deloison ("Claridge's Hotel"), Jim Hawkins ("The Hans Sloane of My Age"), Heather Holloway ("Atlanta"), David Humphrey ("Chicago Central"), Tim Johnson ("Theophilus Johnson"), Mark Jones ("Peter Jones"), Tiffany Knight ("Knight's Place"), Crystal Noll ("Crystal Palace"), Rob Nunn ("Elementary"), Aaron Rubin ("The Amethyst Snuffbox"), Jonathan Tiemann ("The Bank of England"), Janice Weiner ("Scotland Yard"), Karen Wilson ("Bartholomew Wilson"), and Joanne Zahorsky-Reeves ("Toby"). And the BSI's prestigious Two-Shilling Award was bestowed on Marsha Pollak.

On Saturday morning Covent Garden West offered the traditional opportunity for dealers to assist people who wanted to add to their collections, and the agenda of the Saturday luncheon and reception included the presentation of the new Susan Rice Mentorship Award that recognizes "commitment to mentoring Sherlockians as a means of keeping green the memory of Sherlock Holmes" to Peter E. Blau. The Dr. John H. Watson Fund's auction attracted enthusiastic bidders, and the raffle prize was a set of jewelry with a bee motif created by Maggie Schpak in memory of Susan Rice.

The second annual meeting of the Literary Agents was held via Zoom on Sunday morning; you are welcome to watch video of the proceedings at the "Doings of Doyle" page at Facebook <[www.tinyurl.com/3ncb9h2w](https://www.tinyurl.com/3ncb9h2w)>. And for those who lasted that long, the last event of the birthday festivities was the Adventuresses' Brunch at The Long Room.

Jan 22 #2 The splendid "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects from the Collection of Glen S. Miranker" exhibition will be on display at the Grolier Club in New York through Apr. 16; it's a wonderful opportunity to see some spectacular Sherlockian and Doylean treasures, and you can watch video of the opening ceremonies, and see images of the exhibits, at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/3y7pnkx3](http://www.tinyurl.com/3y7pnkx3)>. If you can't get to New York, you should visit the Grolier's web-site, where they have an on-line version of the exhibition <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8mzssh](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8mzssh)>, and images of many more of the exhibits <[www.tinyurl.com/2p85y5xy](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p85y5xy)>. The catalog is available from the Grolier, and recommended.

More from the birthday festivities in New York: Gary Lovisi has uploaded a ten-minute video tour of Covent Garden West (aka the dealers room) to YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNyWSwe97vo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNyWSwe97vo)>, and you are welcome to try to identify all those people behind all those masks.

Two new titles have been published by the Baker Street Irregulars Press: *A Masterpiece of Villainy* is the new addition to the Manuscript Series (244 pp., \$39.95), edited by Ross E. Davies; it offers a facsimile of the manuscript of "The Norwood Builder", with an annotated transcription and scholarly commentary on the manuscript and on various aspects of the story (it is grand that the Manuscript Series offers readers an opportunity to come close to the moment when the stories were written, and the commentary is delightful).

*Referring to My Notes: Music and the Sherlockian Canon*, edited by Alexander Katz and Karen Wilson (173 pp., \$39.95), the next title in the BSI's Professions Series, explores what Nicholas Meyer, in his foreword, calls "the possibilities suggested by Doyle when he so blithely made Holmes a violinist and an opera devotee," and the scholarship extends to discussion of musicians who have been members of the BSI, and some of the Sherlockian musicals performed on stage. Both books (and many others) can be ordered at <[www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/tag/books](http://www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/tag/books)>.

*The Sherlock Holmes Review: Anthology Volume Two 1988-1990* (Indianapolis: Gasogene Books, 2020; 131 pp., \$34.95) is a reprint of the second volume of Steven Doyle's periodical, called by one critic "the last great Sherlockian journal" (it was full of scholarship in an era when there were far fewer readers than there are today). And the *Sherlock Holmes Review: 2021 Sherlockian Annual* (118 pp., \$24.95) is a welcome revival that is a fine demonstration of Steve's continuing ability to find authors who have interesting things to say about many aspects of Sherlockiana. Both can be ordered at <[www.gasogenebooks.com](http://www.gasogenebooks.com)>.

More from Gasogene: *The Finest Assorted Collection: Essays on Collecting Sherlock Holmes*, edited by Peter Eckrich and Rob Nunn (232 pp., \$26.95) an impressive gathering of essays written by people who pursue a wide variety of Sherlockiana and who have interesting things to say about it all. And Dan Andriacco's *The Sword of Death* (105 pp., \$18.95), a nicely traditional pastiche that has Holmes and Watson investigating a case that involves a headless corpse and complicated family relationships; Dan's web-site is at <[www.bakerstreetbeat.blogspot.com](http://www.bakerstreetbeat.blogspot.com)>.

Jan 22 #3 Joseph McBride's *Billy Wilder: Dancing on the Edge* (New York: Columbia University, 2021; 658 pp., \$40.00) is a spectacular biography of an iconic film writer and director. McBride is a film historian and focuses in detail on how Wilder's life and career are reflected in his many films, including "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes" (1970). Readers of the book will want to watch Wilder's films again, to see just how complex and revealing they were.



Disney honored the 35th anniversary of "The Great Mouse Detective" with an attractive ornament, kindly reported by Tim Kline, that shows Basil of Baker Street ready to head out on an investigation <[www.tinyurl.com/bdef2sfd](http://www.tinyurl.com/bdef2sfd)>. \$24.99 from the Disney Shop; part of the "Disney Sketchbook Ornament Legacy Collection", and it's a limited release (but they don't say just how limited the release is).

The Smithsonian magazine's web-site reported on Dec. 29 on the books that entered the public domain at the end of 2021 <[www.tinyurl.com/ycxfk6fx](http://www.tinyurl.com/ycxfk6fx)>, and noted that all sound recordings made before 1924 now also are in the public domain. And for bibliophiles, there's an older interview with Edward Brooke-Hitching <[www.tinyurl.com/32bvp7w5](http://www.tinyurl.com/32bvp7w5)> about his book *The Madman's Library: The Strangest Books, Manuscripts, and Other Literary Curiosities from History* (2021).

Potter & Potter Auctions will have some interesting (and often rare) Sherlockiana and Doyleana in an auction of fine books and manuscripts on Feb. 26 <[www.auctions.potterauctions.com/mobile/catalog.aspx?auctionid=1127](http://www.auctions.potterauctions.com/mobile/catalog.aspx?auctionid=1127)>.

Rick Boyer died on Jan. 19, 2021. He studied creative writing under Kurt Vonnegut Jr., became a writer himself, and taught English at Western Carolina University until he retired in 2008. His first novel (*Billingsgate Shoal*) won an Edgar Award in 1983, and he went on to write a pastiche *The Giant Rat of Sumatra* (1976) and four short pastiches collected as *A Sherlockian Quartet* (1999).

The Film Detective <[www.thefilmdetective.com](http://www.thefilmdetective.com)>, a classic film restoration and streaming company, celebrated Sherlock Holmes' birthday on Jan. 6 with a 20-hour "Sherlock Holmes Marathon of Mystery". There's also a podcast at the web-site, with Carl Amari playing and discussing classic old-time radio programs.

Fred Taraba (at Taraba Illustration Art) specializes in original artwork by American artists, and is offering Roy V. Hunt's colorful rendition of Holmes, Watson, and a ghostly Hound of the Baskervilles for \$2,650 (plus shipping). Hunt was a dedicated Sherlockian, one of the founders of the Council of Four in Denver, and the principal illustrator of the books and journals published by Luther Norris' Pontine Press. The artwork is from Luther's collection; contact Fred <[fred@tarabaillustrationart.com](mailto:fred@tarabaillustrationart.com)> if you are interested.

Vanessa Redgrave, who starred as Lola Deveraux in "The Seven-Per-Cent Solution" (1976) has been awarded a DBE (Dame Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) for services to drama in Her Majesty's New Year's Honours List for 2022. Anthony Horowitz, author of *The House of Silk* (2011) and *Moriarty* (2014), received a CBE (Commander) for services to literature.

Jan 22 #4 Nicely in time for the birthday festivities, the Yale Alumni Magazine celebrated Conan Doyle with an article by Betsy Golden Kellem about "The Man Who Believed Too Much" in its Jan.-Feb. issue, noting that in 1922 he lectured at Yale while touring the U.S. promoting Spiritualism <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9cet24](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9cet24)>. The article is accompanied by a fine portrait of Conan Doyle by Ricardo Martinez Ortega.

Scott Monty and Burt Wolder ended 2021 at their "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast with an excellent tribute to the late Mike Whelan by seven of his fellow Irregulars <[www.ihose.com/ihose231](http://www.ihose.com/ihose231)>.

Willy Werby died on Dec. 24. Well known to Sherlockians for her meticulous recreation of the sitting-room, first displayed at 1100 California Street, on the top of Nob Hill in San Francisco, and then on the top floor of the Holiday Inn on Union Square, Willy presided over what was for many years an attraction for the members of the Persian Slipper Club, visiting Sherlockians, and tourists.

Ashley Polasek moderated an on-line session on "Arthur Conan Doyle's Afterlives" <[www.tinyurl.com/mry3rkxf](http://www.tinyurl.com/mry3rkxf)> at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association on Jan. 9.

The autumn issue of *The Magic Door* (published by the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library) includes articles by Hartley R. Nathan and Charles L. Blanksteen (on "Arthur Conan Doyle: Stereotypes and Racism") and Elizabeth Savage ("In Search of Conan Doyle: Messages from the Afterlife"), and other reports from and about the Library and the Collection; copies of the newsletter can be requested from Cliff Goldfarb, Toronto Public Library, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto M4W 2G8, Canada <[cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca](mailto:cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca)>.

Mrs. Hudson is alive and well, hard at work as the "agony aunt" for the British magazine *Country Life* <[www.tinyurl.com/ycknr7ev](http://www.tinyurl.com/ycknr7ev)>. But she's not our Mrs. Hudson: the magazine was founded in 1897 by Edward Hudson.

Who knew? There's an amusing connection between the British rock band The Who and the Canon, discovered by Adrian Nebbett and reported in a post to the Sherlock Holmes on Screens page at Facebook. Richard Barnes wrote all about it in *The Who: Maximum R&B* (1982), which the Internet Archive kindly offers free on-line <[www.tinyurl.com/yckj4ken](http://www.tinyurl.com/yckj4ken)>.

Reported: *Sherlock Holmes: Das Kochbuch*, by Silke Martin (Münster: Hölker Verlag, 2021; 128 pp., €24.00); in German, but reviewed in English in the *Soledad Times* on Dec. 30 <[www.tinyurl.com/yckszww3](http://www.tinyurl.com/yckszww3)>.

Fans of the 2019 "Detective Pikachu" film will enjoy a new fan-film animation "Detective Pikachu: A Christmas Case" that was uploaded to YouTube on Dec. 25 <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=krTu8-CI2DY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krTu8-CI2DY)>. The quality is thoroughly professional.

Let me recommend this television series: "One Strange Rock" from National Geographic in 2018. It's now playing on Disney+ and available on DVD, and there's a trailer at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrC4vDcWmxk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrC4vDcWmxk)>. It's not Sherlockian, but it's a splendid explanation of the history of Earth, told by Will Smith, astronauts, and many others.

Jan 22 #5 Betty White died on Dec. 31. She appeared on an experimental television broadcast in 1939 and went on to stardom in a wide range of series that included comedies, soap operas, and game shows. She made a public-service commercial broadcast in 1989 in which she encouraged viewers to read more, suggesting the Canon as a possibility ("solve a mystery with Sherlock Holmes"), and mentioned that as a young girl her favorite books were "Alice in Wonderland" and "Sherlock Holmes".

Heritage Auctions has an interesting article on-line about "The Wonderful World of Disney Maquettes" <[www.tinyurl.com/4zjm86cv](http://www.tinyurl.com/4zjm86cv)>, and the Great Mouse Detective will be at auction on Feb. 4-7 <[www.tinyurl.com/3hjeprc6](http://www.tinyurl.com/3hjeprc6)>. For those who don't remember the 1986 film, that's Basil of Baker Street.

"Sherlock Holmes Consulting Detective" (a game issued by Sleuth Publications in 1981) now has an entry at Wikipedia; revised and expanded since 1981, the game now is available as four sets of ten cases each from SPACE Cowboys <[www.tinyurl.com/2nyk8chw](http://www.tinyurl.com/2nyk8chw)>. Their web-site offers much more information as well as a video and a free opportunity to pursue one of the cases; anyone who remembers the original game will be amazed at how far it has come over the years, how well it uses modern technology, and how long the game has lasted

There will be a performance of "Time Travel Tinies: Mystical Creatures" by story teller Dani at the National Archives in Kew (in Britain) on Feb. 25 <[www.tinyurl.com/5n6dw4pe](http://www.tinyurl.com/5n6dw4pe)>; their web-site has an attractive Sherlockian mouse created by Cog Design (the mouse may or may not be one of the mystical creatures).



The August Derleth Society <[www.augustderleth.org](http://www.augustderleth.org)> was founded in the late 1970s and continues to celebrate the many-faceted literary career of the creator of Solar Pons. Membership costs \$25.00 a year and includes their quarterly newsletter Sage of Sac Prairie; the latest issue offers a nicely illustrated article by Derrick Belanger on "Resurrecting Solar Pons" (with details on how the Pontine Canon was brought back into print, accompanied by a series of new pastiches by modern authors). The society's postal address is Box 481, Sauk City, WI 53583.

Adrian Conan Doyle was an author and an artist, as well as a fierce advocate of his father's place in literary history. Seven of Adrian's paintings will be offered at Roseberys London in an auction on Feb. 15-16, and you can see them at <[www.tinyurl.com/uef99d6a](http://www.tinyurl.com/uef99d6a)>.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (a new Japanese film) is scheduled for release on June 17; it's a sequel of sorts to the television series "Sherlock: Untold Stories" broadcast by Fuji TV in 2019, with Dean Fujioka as Shishio Homare, a freelance crime consultant. You can see the poster and watch a trailer at <[www.tinyurl.com/2c4hexs6](http://www.tinyurl.com/2c4hexs6)>.

*Miss Moriarty, I Presume?*, by Sherry Thomas (New York: Berkley, 2021; 353 pp., \$16.00), is the sixth book in her "Lady Sherlock" series that stars Charlotte Holmes, who does her detecting while pretending to be the sister of the non-existent Sherlock Holmes, and encounters both mystery and romance while (now) in dire peril in a battle with Moriarty. The author's web-site is at <[www.sherrythomas.com](http://www.sherrythomas.com)>.

Jan 22 #6 The 1921 census of England and Wales is on-line and searchable at the National Archives <[www.findmypast.co.uk/1921-census](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/1921-census)>; you need to pay to see results, but the Daily Mail published an article on Jan. 6 with images of the pages listing the people at Conan Doyle's home when the census was taken <[www.tinyurl.com/43jvv7cc](http://www.tinyurl.com/43jvv7cc)>: the five members of the family, five servants, and three visitors: parapsychologist James Hewat McKenzie, his wife Barbara, and the American medium Ada Besinnet.

Philip Ball's *The Modern Myths: Adventures in the Machinery of the Modern Imagination* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2021; 426 pp., \$30.00) explores stories that have become myths because retellings of the stories have become necessary, from Robinson Crusoe to Batman, and (of course) including Sherlock Holmes. He suggests that Holmes is not quite what Conan Doyle intended, but rather is a "wish-fulfillment fantasy" that gives him mythic potency, and that the Sherlock Holmes myth "exists not because of but in spite of the advocacy of Sherlockians."

The Beacon Society continues to administer the Fortescue Scholarship Honours Program, and more than 120 people have completed all three exams and have received their Doctorate in Sherlockiana. There also are annual Re-Certification exams for those who want to continue on, and there is more information about the Program at <[www.tinyurl.com/5exr3zh2](http://www.tinyurl.com/5exr3zh2)>.

"Books, Bohemians, and Baker Street: A Study in Sherlock in Special Collections" is the title of a splendid on-line exhibition at the University of Delaware Library; many of the exhibits are from the collection of Mark Samuels Lasner. There are unique items such as a four-page typescript and an autograph manuscript page from the lecture Conan Doyle gave during his tour of the U.S. in 1894 (easily readable at the web-site), and the exhibition is well worth exploring <[www.tinyurl.com/37rfz9m4](http://www.tinyurl.com/37rfz9m4)>.

The Banished Words List for 2022 has been posted on-line by Lake Superior State University <[www.lssu.edu/traditions/banishedwords](http://www.lssu.edu/traditions/banishedwords)>, with due attention paid to Old Irregular Bill Rabe, who launched the list in 1976. You can scroll down at their web-site to read more about Bill, and some of his other imaginative creations. You can also read an interview with his son John, who has more grand stories about his father, at Scott Monty's "Timeless and Timely" blog at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8eh6km](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8eh6km)>.

"Extant Exhibits: The Remains of 1951" is an excellent article by Nicholas Utechin, published in the Platinum Jubilee Supplement (winter 2021) of the Sherlock Holmes Journal, and available to everyone at the web-site of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London <[www.tinyurl.com/32xywver](http://www.tinyurl.com/32xywver)>; it's a well-illustrated account of his research into what has survived from the exhibition at Abbey House that led to the creation of the Society.

It's a wrap! Filming on the next "Enola Holmes" film has been completed, and there's brief footage from the celebration <[www.tinyurl.com/52cpp2t8](http://www.tinyurl.com/52cpp2t8)>. No word yet on when the film will stream on Netflix.

There seems to be no end to the list of buildings thought to be historic because of Conan Doyle: the attractive Torquay Pavilion, threatened by re-development plans has its supporters, because Conan Doyle once lectured there, according to Devon Live (Nov. 18) <[www.tinyurl.com/2p95nks4](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p95nks4)>. It's also considered to be important because Agatha Christie accepted a proposal of marriage after a concert there in 1903.

Jan 22 #7 The Sunday Times noted that "Britain's villages in all their diversity, prettiness and grittiness have survived and thrived over hundreds of years" in an article on "The 50 Best Villages in the UK" (Sept. 12), adding that all of them have "attractive houses, good connections, a decent school, and friendly neighbours who come together at the pub, shop and village hall." One of the villages is Minstead, where Sir Arthur and his wife Jean are buried; there are 600 or so residents and the average house price is £752,353.

For those who enjoyed Ken Ludwig's delightful "The Game's Afoot; or Holmes for the Holidays" and would like to read the script, it was published by Samuel French in 2012 and is readily available at Amazon. It's grand to see what an accomplished playwright did with William Gillette and his fellow actors at Gillette Castle in 1936.

Lyndsay Faye discussed the "10 Most Underrated Sherlock Holmes Stories" at the Publishers Weekly web-site on Jan. 10 <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8k44pk](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8k44pk)>, explaining why she likes them.

The U.S. Mint's new "American Women Quarters Program" celebrates "the accomplishments and contributions made by women to the development and history of our country," and the five quarters due later this year will include one honoring Anna May Wong, the first Chinese-American film star in Hollywood <[www.tinyurl.com/34evmznd](http://www.tinyurl.com/34evmznd)>. She played Mrs. Pyke in Reginald Owen's "A Study in Scarlet" (1933), and she also was in the title of "Herlock Sholmes in Be-a-Live Crook, or Anna Went Wrong" (1930), the British marionette burlesque of Clive Brook's film "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (1929).



John Murray's new imprint Baskerville (Jun 21 #4) has now launched, with an appropriate logo <[www.tinyurl.com/338rfydz](http://www.tinyurl.com/338rfydz)>. The name of the imprint honors John Murray's long history as Conan Doyle's publisher; there's more about Baskerville and some of its new titles in an article in the Bookseller (Jan. 18) <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9xtzwf](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9xtzwf)>.

"Briony Lodge, Serpentine Avenue, St. John's Wood" is an address that resonates with admirers of Irene Adler. If you'd like to know more about the neighborhood, and its history (including it having been an "ideal place to keep a mistress"), there was an interesting article in Country Life (Jan. 18) <[www.tinyurl.com/yhjud7ss](http://www.tinyurl.com/yhjud7ss)>.

The Mystery Writers of America will honor Laurie R. King as a Grand Master at their awards ceremony in New York on Apr. 26; the award is regarded as the "pinnacle of achievement in mystery writing," and recognizes a body of work that is "both significant and of consistent high quality." The Mary Russell stories are only part of her long list of credits, and she is the fourth member of the Baker Street Irregulars to be named Grand Master (the others are Vincent Starrett, Rex Stout, and Fred Dannay).

The New Yorker has its own YouTube channel, and one the videos is "Drawing Life with George Booth" <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYlRXgnapj8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYlRXgnapj8)>; Booth sold his first cartoon to the magazine in 1969, and is still at work for them. It's a warm tribute to a great cartoonist, kindly reported by Bob Coghill, who calls your attention to the bookshelf in the office of David Remnick, editor of the magazine (at 1:21 in the 23-minute video).

Jan 22 #8 Timothy Miller's *The Strange Case of the Dutch Painter* (Jersey City: Seventh Street, 2022; 264 pp., \$17.95) opens with Sherlock Holmes (using the alias Vernet in Paris in 1890), investigating theft and forgery of great art, and soon the death of Vincent Van Gogh. Vernet is accompanied and assisted by a Dr. Lermolieff (who is not Dr. Watson using an alias); the story is imaginative, nicely told, and full of twists and turns.

BBC Radio 4 has kindly made many of their Sherlock Holmes programs available at <[www.tinyurl.com/3kwyewyn](http://www.tinyurl.com/3kwyewyn)>; many of them starring Carlton Hobbs, and others Clive Merrison.

Al Gregory <[gaslightandfog@verizon.net](mailto:gaslightandfog@verizon.net)> kindly offers (via e-mail) his new 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 are Investitured Irregulars).

Theatrics: Ken Ludwig's "The Games' Afoot" is now running at the Elgin Art Showcase in Elgin, Ill., through Feb. 13 <[www.elgin-theatre.org](http://www.elgin-theatre.org)>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" is being performed at the Torrance Theatre Company in Torrance, Calif., through Feb. 13; their web-site's at <[www.torrancetheatrecompany.com](http://www.torrancetheatrecompany.com)>.

Kate Hamill's "Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson--Apt. 2B" will be performed at Copaken Stage in Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 1-20 <[www.kcrep.org](http://www.kcrep.org)>.

Bob Bryan's new "Sherlock Holmes: Raising the Dead" will be performed at the Ole Olsen Memorial Theatre, Feb. 3-13 <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9dkkp6](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9dkkp6)>.

Jon Jory's "A Sherlock Holmes Radio Mystery Show" is coming up at the Hornel Historic Home in Austin, Minn., on Feb. 4 <[www.tinyurl.com/4zxtaenu](http://www.tinyurl.com/4zxtaenu)>.

Neil Oldham's new "A Sherlock Holmes Pantomime" will be performed at St. Bernadette's Hall in Blackpool, Lancs., Feb. 16-19; their web-site's at <[www.stbparishplayers.wixsite.com/sbpplayers](http://www.stbparishplayers.wixsite.com/sbpplayers)>.

"Sherlock Returns" (by Peter Sham and Brad Carroll) will be performed at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in Hampton, N.J., Mar. 8-Apr. 9, 2022; web-site at <[www.hhplayhouse.com](http://www.hhplayhouse.com)>.

The improvised comedy "Spontaneous Sherlock" will tour in Britain beginning at the Sundial Theatre in Cirencester, Glos., on Mar. 12; the web-site for the Spontaneous Players is at <[www.tinyurl.com/67uwmsap](http://www.tinyurl.com/67uwmsap)>.

David MacGregor's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Ghost Machine" will be performed at the Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, Mich., Apr. 14-Aug. 27 <[www.purplerosetheatre.org](http://www.purplerosetheatre.org)>.

Lesley Ward's new play "Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Lipstick, Ketchup, and Blood" is coming up at the Pitlochry Festival Theatre in Pitlochry, Scotland, June 8-July 7 <[www.pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com](http://www.pitlochryfestivaltheatre.com)>.

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



The Barts and The London Student Association (BLSA) have launched a petition campaign against the decision by the Queen Mary University of London to change the name of Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry to QMUL Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, noting that "St. Bartholomew's Hospital was founded in 1123, making it the oldest remaining hospital in the country. St. Bartholomew's Medical College was of course the school of Dr. John Watson." If you'd like to read and sign the petition there's a web-site at [www.bartslondon.com/wearebl](http://www.bartslondon.com/wearebl). The Telegraph had a story about the campaign on Jan. 31 [www.tinyurl.com/md695y3j](http://www.tinyurl.com/md695y3j).

"Sherlock Holmes and the Speckled Band" is one of a series of 1000-piece "classic mystery" jigsaw puzzles from Bepuzzled [www.tinyurl.com/2p9ya5w7](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9ya5w7) (\$12.36 at Amazon); they come with a dire warning: "Beware! The puzzle is different from the box cover."

"Fresh Air" (produced by WHYY-FM in Philadelphia) is one of the best programs on National Public Radio, and Karen Murdock reports that on Jan. 19 Terry Gross interviewed Benedict Cumberbatch about his new film "The Power of the Dog" [www.tinyurl.com/4xu5e6xc](http://www.tinyurl.com/4xu5e6xc); there's nothing Sherlockian about the interview, but it's well done indeed.

The web-site of the Conan Doyle Collection in Portsmouth is well worth exploring; go to [www.tinyurl.com/2n9urv2n](http://www.tinyurl.com/2n9urv2n) to view a photograph (from the 1890s) of "Conan Doyle the cricketer" accompanied by his wife Louisa, his sister Connie, and husband E. W. Hornung.

The Beacon Society is continuing to publish its quarterly newsletter for younger Sherlockians, and the latest issue of Sherlock's Spotlight can be found at their web-site [www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com); the contents include material both by and for younger followers of the Great Detective.

Stephen Chahn Lee's *Sherlock Holmes and the Silent Contest* (2022) is a 97-page monograph that offers his conclusions about "how Sherlock Holmes defeated Professor Moriarty and why Dr. John Watson lied." The approach to the Canon is interesting, and the book is available free from the author [stephenchahnlee@gmail.com](mailto:stephenchahnlee@gmail.com). You can also watch his lecture on "Sherlock Holmes and the Art of Evidence" at the Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQ6V0leExss](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQ6V0leExss).

Sonia Fetherston, who's gathering reminiscences about Thomas L. Stix (Wiggins of the Baker Street Irregulars), would appreciate hearing from anyone who would like to share first-person stories about Tom for a new book that will be published by the BSI Press [soniafetherston@comcast.net](mailto:soniafetherston@comcast.net).

The Baker Street Irregulars are the oldest of the three American 20th-century literary societies with entries at Wikipedia, and the BSI entry is at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Baker\\_Street\\_Irregulars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Baker_Street_Irregulars). It includes a list of 76 Irregulars who have their own entries at Wikipedia, and there likely are more who aren't yet on the list. In case you're wondering, the other two societies are the Norman Mailer Society and the Wolfe Pack.

Feb 22 #2 Many books, films, and sound recordings entered the public domain at the end of 2021, and there was much publicity about it all. In an article at Mental Floss' web-site (Dec. 30), Jake Rossen suggested that if you would like to write a story teaming up Sherlock Holmes with Winnie the Pooh to help solve the murder of Bambi's mother, now you can <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8bts7e](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8bts7e)>.

"A Black Sherlock Holmes" (1918) was the first film made by the Ebony Film Corp., and it has been preserved, although in poor condition; you can view it at <[www.vimeo.com/457274050](http://www.vimeo.com/457274050)>, and read Nikki Igbo's blog post (Feb. 2) <[www.tinyurl.com/47x4v9m6](http://www.tinyurl.com/47x4v9m6)> about this and other "race films" produced at a time when theaters were strictly segregated.

*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, adapted by Valerie Tripp, with illustrations by Carlo Molinari (New York: Starry Forest Books, 2020; 64 pp., \$7.99) is one of the titles in the "classic adventures" series of chapter books for young readers (ages 7-10); with three stories ("The Red-Headed League", "The Speckled Band", and "The Hound of the Baskervilles"). The colorful and attractive illustrations by Carlo Molinari, can be sampled at Amazon <[www.tinyurl.com/2p94w4k9](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p94w4k9)>.

Barry Cryer died on Jan. 25. He was a writer, comedian, radio quiz panelist, and actor, performing on British radio and television for more than 60 years. He wrote *Mrs. Hudson's Diaries: A View from the Landing at 221B* (2012) and "Mrs. Hudson's Radio Show" for BBC Radio 4 (2018), and with his son Bob a play "Mrs. Hudson's Christmas Caper" (2014).

Who was the first Sherlockian scholar? According to research by members of the Sherlockian Chronologist Guild, a new candidate is Helen Elizabeth Wilson, whose article "The Life of Sherlock Holmes" was published in the Oct. 1898 issue of the Cornell Magazine, as reported in the Dec. 2021 and Jan. 2022 issues of Timeline (the Guild's official newsletter), which are available by e-mail from Brad Keefauver <[bkeefauver@gmail.com](mailto:bkeefauver@gmail.com)>. Vincent Wright has a detailed discussion of the discovery at his "Historical Sherlock" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/yxnuejnj](http://www.tinyurl.com/yxnuejnj)>. He also has posted a video at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=bks-LguCG7Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bks-LguCG7Q)>, and was interviewed about his discovery by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/32dwhepm](http://www.tinyurl.com/32dwhepm)>.

Kim Newman, author of *Anno Dracula* and *The Hound of the D'Urbervilles*, was the Baker Street Irregulars' distinguished speaker in 2013, and Jennie Patton has reported a YouTube video <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=08E5fulS6Qc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08E5fulS6Qc)> in which he explains his enthusiasm for the film "Murder by Decree" (1979).

"There will always be a war. That's the one thing one can always be sure of." -Irene Adler. That's not a quote from the Canon, of course, but instead from a teaser for Marvel's "Judgment Day" comic book due in stores this summer, and here's where it gets complicated: it already had been revealed that Destiny actually is Irene Adler, and Destiny has her own entry at Wikipedia <[www.tinyurl.com/3cjbbxry](http://www.tinyurl.com/3cjbbxry)>. You can see the teaser in an article at the CBR web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/yckpamad](http://www.tinyurl.com/yckpamad)>.

Feb 22 #3 "A Study in Sherlock & His Creator: 50 Years of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection" is a new exhibition at the Toronto Public Library, running through Apr. 16 <[www.tinyurl.com/5avnzvyr](http://www.tinyurl.com/5avnzvyr)>. The collection was opened to the public in 1971, and the web-site includes a virtual tour of the exhibition, with images of more than 40 items on display, a large-print exhibit booklet, a reading list, and a coloring book based on items in the collection. The collection has its own interesting web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/fn3szwn7](http://www.tinyurl.com/fn3szwn7)>, with a link to images of 428 items in its digitized archives, and curator Jessie Amaolo narrates a video tour of the exhibition at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=2HgMZKq0e6k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2HgMZKq0e6k)>.

Greg Darak has reported that Cimmerian Records <[www.cimmerianrecords.com](http://www.cimmerianrecords.com)> has released 2-CD sets with the complete soundtrack music of both of the Robert Downey Jr. films (\$24.95 each).

Telegraph posts are mentioned in the Canon (in "Silver Blaze") and it is nice to know that there is a Telegraph Pole Appreciation Society in Britain. There was a nice article about the society in Country Life (Jan. 27) <[www.tinyurl.com/4dazwsjx](http://www.tinyurl.com/4dazwsjx)>. And of course the society has a web-site, at <[www.telegraphpoleappreciationsociety.org](http://www.telegraphpoleappreciationsociety.org)>.

There was lively bidding at Heritage Auctions for the Disney maquette of The Great Mouse Detective (Jan 22 #5) <[www.tinyurl.com/3hjeprc6](http://www.tinyurl.com/3hjeprc6)>, and it was bought for \$5,760 (including the buyer's premium).

RadioEchoes <[www.radioechoes.com](http://www.radioechoes.com)>, noted by Roger Johnson provides a fascinating look at how much old-time radio is available on the Internet: the web-site lists 4,042 series with 110,078 episodes; for [sherlock holmes] they have 7 series with 587 episodes, and the numbers likely will be higher by the time you read this.

The Baker Street Journal's 2021 Christmas Annual is devoted to "The Dean of British Sherlockians", and Nicholas Utechin, with assistance from Roger Johnson, and Guy Marriott, have done a grand job of celebrating "the life and works of S. C. Roberts," who in many ways laid the foundation for today's world of Sherlockian scholarship and pseudo-scholarship. It's part of the annual subscription to the BSJ (if you aren't a subscriber, search for someone who is, and borrow it). You can subscribe to the BSJ, and receive the 2022 Christmas Annual) at <[www.tinyurl.com/5fvmdf86](http://www.tinyurl.com/5fvmdf86)>.

Sherlock Holmes was a winner on Feb. 5, at the Hipodromo Maroñas in Montevideo, and (reported by Jennie Paton) you can see him in action, with commentary in Spanish, at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRtLqi6q\\_vw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRtLqi6q_vw)>.

Further to the discussion (Mar 14 #4) of the Indian film "Bees Saal Baad" [Twenty Years After] (1962), there was an interesting review at the Cinestaan web-site on Feb. 3 that offers a reminder of the film's many echoes of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and a link that allows you to watch the film at YouTube <[www.cinestaan.com/articles/2022/feb/3/33143](http://www.cinestaan.com/articles/2022/feb/3/33143)>. Alas, the film's in Hindi, without subtitles in English. If you want to watch the film with subtitles in English, the Bollywood Entertainment DVD is available at eBay <[www.tinyurl.com/msnuamsa](http://www.tinyurl.com/msnuamsa)>.

Feb 22 #4 There has been wide-spread publicity for the "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects from the Collection of Glen S. Miranker" exhibition at the Grolier Club in New York in newspapers and magazines and at the Grolier's channel at YouTube, and Steve Doyle has interviewed Glen for this year's inaugural broadcast of the Fortnightly Dispatch; it's available at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBGAH0G4jrI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBGAH0G4jrI)>.

This year's Fortnightly Dispatch continues with a interesting interview with Dan Stashower at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=aAYPAXeOUpS](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aAYPAXeOUpS)>.

Leonard Goldberg's *The Blue Diamond* (New York: Minotaur Books, 2021; 320 pp., \$26.99), is the sixth title in his series that stars Sherlock Holmes' daughter Joanna Blalock, who learned much from her father and is working with Dr. John H. Watson and his son (and her husband) Dr. John H. Watson Jr. in 1917 at recovering a stolen 2,828-carat flawless blue diamond; they soon discover that there's far more at stake in a battle with thieves and spies. The author's web-site is at <[www.leonardgoldberg.com](http://www.leonardgoldberg.com)>.

When in Bangkok: you can visit the 008 Bar in the Akyra Hotel and sample their eight cocktails that pay tribute to Sherlock Holmes; details can be found at <[www.tinyurl.com/3ms6j38k](http://www.tinyurl.com/3ms6j38k)>.

David Karpeles died on Jan. 19. He was a teacher and then an investor in real estate, and in the late 1970s began collecting manuscripts, eventually founding the Karpeles Manuscript Library, housed in 16 museums across the United States <[www.karpeles.com](http://www.karpeles.com)>. His collection included Conan Doyle letters as well as Sherlockian and other manuscripts; see Randall Stock's "Best of Sherlock" for details when some of the material was sent to auction in 2016 <[www.bestofsherlock.com/mss/bonhams-2016-manuscripts.htm](http://www.bestofsherlock.com/mss/bonhams-2016-manuscripts.htm)>.

Samantha Wolov has spotted an attractive machine-woven Bulldog Tapestry Panel (\$8.98) that's advertised from Poland at Etsy <[www.tinyurl.com/y62pj63a](http://www.tinyurl.com/y62pj63a)>. It's handsome indeed, and was quickly and safely delivered.



"Don Matteo" (a popular and long-running Italian television series broadcast by Rai 1) is available in the U.S. with subtitles in English) on the MHz Choice streaming service, which has many foreign mystery series, according to Pattie Tierney. Don Matteo (who is played by Terence Hill) is a Catholic parish priest skilled at solving crimes. In the first episode he opens his suitcase at his new parish and takes out his childhood keepsakes, one of which is a drawing he made of Sherlock Holmes, by way of demonstrating his passion and inspiration as a detective.

The Norwegian Explorers' Christmas Annual for 2021 has "Science and Medicine" as its theme, with contributions that relate to appropriate aspects of the Canon; the 106-page booklet, edited by Ray Riethmeier and Phillip Bergem, can be ordered from Phillip at 3829 172nd Avenue NW, Andover, MN 55304. \$10.00 postpaid; checks made payable to the Norwegian Explorers, please, or sent via PayPal to <[norexpay@gmail.com](mailto:norexpay@gmail.com)>. Back issues for some earlier years still are available.

Feb 22 #5 Larry Millett's *Rafferty's Last Case* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2022; 375 pp., \$25.95), the ninth and last in the entertaining series of mysteries he began in 1995, featuring Sherlock Holmes and Shadwell Rafferty in St. Paul, is set in 1928 and begins opens with the brutal murder of Rafferty; Holmes and Watson are in pursuit of the murderer, sorting through five prime suspects in a case that also involves blackmail and corrupt politicians.

Seven paintings by Adrian Conan Doyle were at auction this month in London (Jan 22 #5), all estimated at £400-£600; one sold for £550, four sold for £280 each, and two didn't sell. You can view images of all the paintings at <[www.tinyurl.com/3nzdybjb](http://www.tinyurl.com/3nzdybjb)>.

Timothy Miller, who has written two imaginative pastiches, has an interesting web-site <[www.thestrangecasesofsherlock.com](http://www.thestrangecasesofsherlock.com)>, at which he posted on Feb. 14 an amusing account of "scion society hazing."

Beryl Vertue died on Feb. 12. She began her career in entertainment as a secretary at Associated London Scripts, went on to become a business manager and an important television producer. In 1979 she founded Hartswood Films, the company that created many hit series, and was executive producer of "Sherlock" for the BBC. She was appointed an OBE in 2000 and an CBE in 2016, and Benedict Cumberbatch called her "Sherlock's godmother."

Raymond Keene's "Norwegian Clue" at TheArticle web-site (Feb. 12) will be of interest to chess enthusiasts <[www.thearticle.com/norwegian-clue](http://www.thearticle.com/norwegian-clue)>, and it has a link to Bill Wall's extensive list of references to chess in Conan Doyle's Sherlockian and non-Sherlockian stories, in Sherlockian articles and stories by others, and in Sherlockian films and television.

Many Sherlockians have seen and enjoyed the International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition, which will be at the Frost Science Center in Miami, Fla., May 14-Sept. 5 <[www.frostscience.org/exhibition/sherlock-holmes](http://www.frostscience.org/exhibition/sherlock-holmes)>. Created by the Exhibits Development Group, the exhibition has an impressive web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/4sv5j dj3](http://www.tinyurl.com/4sv5j dj3)> where the company promotes the exhibition to museums that might consider putting it on display.

Karen Murdock, who is writing a book about figures of speech in the Canon, will be speaking about "Beyond Similes and Metaphors: Fun with Figures of Speech" via Zoom on Mar. 23 <[www.tinyurl.com/2p848fna](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p848fna)>.

For those who like to find Sherlockian connections to everything, there's an article at The Conversation (Jan. 28) <[www.tinyurl.com/5n8ynptf](http://www.tinyurl.com/5n8ynptf)> that manages to mention the Canon in discussion of the new game Wordle.

Netflix has released a three-minute trailer showing what its viewers can expect in 2022 <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTI6T5M8Fj0&t=4s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTI6T5M8Fj0&t=4s)>, and there's a brief look (at 1:02) at "Enola Holmes 2". There isn't a release date yet, but here's a synopsis: "Now a detective-for-hire like her infamous brother, Enola Holmes takes on her first official case to find a missing girl, as the sparks of a dangerous conspiracy ignite a mystery that requires the help of friends—and Sherlock himself—to unravel."

Feb 22 #6 "The BBC confirmed rumours Sherlock Holmes is next to be portrayed as a 'non-nonsense, trans northerner,' according to Romeo Coates in *The Critic* (Feb. 2022), "with 'Baker Street' now in Bolton. As excitement mounts over casting, we're assured by a Beeb source: 'It's more true to life than anything Conan Doyle wrote.'" There is more such news at [www.thecritic.co.uk/issues/february-2022/go-west-young-man](http://www.thecritic.co.uk/issues/february-2022/go-west-young-man).

Lucky Duck Games [www.luckyduckgames.com](http://www.luckyduckgames.com) has announced plans for a "Sherlock: Case Connection" table-top game based on the BBC's "Sherlock" series [www.tinyurl.com/45an5zxv](http://www.tinyurl.com/45an5zxv) and [www.tinyurl.com/38sywctf](http://www.tinyurl.com/38sywctf).

"Sherlock Holmes on Screens" (an interesting web-site maintained by Howard Ostrom, Thierry Saint-Joanis, and Jean-Claude Mornard) offers easy access to Sherlockian video (including a commercial that shows Holmes and Watson in diapers) [www.sherlock-holmes-on-screens.com](http://www.sherlock-holmes-on-screens.com). There's also an interesting interview with Howard Ostrom at YouTube [www.tinyurl.com/mrxas37k](http://www.tinyurl.com/mrxas37k).

Sherlockians can now have their cake and eat it too. Jennie Paton reports that there's now a "Sherlock" cake-topper image [www.tinyurl.com/4dw662rj](http://www.tinyurl.com/4dw662rj) available for \$11.99. You'll also need an edible printer that uses edible ink and edible paper, and they're available as well.

The Brick Show web-site reported (Feb. 14) [www.brickshow.com/2022/02-15](http://www.brickshow.com/2022/02-15) that a LEGO Ideas member has qualified for the company's First 2022 review stage with a spectacular Sherlockian display. LEGO certainly has come a long way since the days of simple rectangular bricks: Brandon Daniel has noted three complete rooms from 221B available from Pantasy (\$89.00); the web-site even has video [www.tinyurl.com/2p86mrum](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p86mrum).

Patricia Srigley's *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes' Cat* (Montreal: WigglesWorth, 2021; 211 pp., \$9.99) begins with Holmes adopting a stray cat, who helps tell irreverent and sometimes slapstick stories about their adventures and cases; the author's web-site is at [www.srigleyarts.com](http://www.srigleyarts.com).

Plan well ahead: "Lone Star Holmes: A Look at Sherlock Holmes Past, Present and Future" is the title of the conference set for May 26-27, 2023, at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. To enroll on their mailing list, just send a message to Don Hobbs [221b@verizon.net](mailto:221b@verizon.net); the festivities also will celebrate the formal opening of Don's massive collection of foreign translations of the Canon, which he has donated to SMU.

You can listen to Ross Davies and Ira Matetsky interviewed by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog about the latest addition to the Baker Street Irregulars' manuscript series ("The Norwood Builder") at [www.tinyurl.com/mrxxwye4](http://www.tinyurl.com/mrxxwye4).

Christian Klaver's *Sherlock Holmes & Count Dracula* (New York, Titan, 2021; 425 pp., \$19.99) begins with Holmes being asked by Dracula for help finding his kidnapped wife Mina, and there are vampires as well as plenty of action in this greatly expanded version of three short stories that were published earlier as "The Supernatural Case Files of Sherlock Holmes" (Feb 15 #3). The author's web-site is at [www.christianklaver.com](http://www.christianklaver.com).

Feb 22 #7 In 2010 the Baker Street Irregulars sold twenty unfinished aluminum replicas of the Sherlockian switch plate that was rescued from Edgar W. Smith's cottage at 221B Baker Street in Morristown (and is now held in the BSI Archives) <[www.tinyurl.com/2xpyujy5](http://www.tinyurl.com/2xpyujy5)>. Bruce Harris <[marxman@comcast.net](mailto:marxman@comcast.net)> is compiling a census of the replicas, and would appreciate hearing from anyone who has one.

"The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress invites people of all ages to discover the fascinating people, places, and events that await you whenever you read" at Read.gov, and the web-site offers digitized images of books, including a pirated edition of "the book that started it all" (*A Study in Scarlet*) <[www.read.gov/books/sherlock\\_holmes.html](http://www.read.gov/books/sherlock_holmes.html)>.

"Reacher is the new Sherlock Holmes," Howard Ostrom suggests, in a recent post to his "Sherlock on Screens" blog at <[www.tinyurl.com/ym83f683](http://www.tinyurl.com/ym83f683)>, with video from the new series that's running on Amazon Prime.

If you've not seen the catalog for the Sherlock Holmes Exhibition at Abbey House in London in 1951, it has been scanned and made available on-line at <[www.wellcomecollection.org/works/yugh4nzt/items?canvas=1](http://www.wellcomecollection.org/works/yugh4nzt/items?canvas=1)>; thanks to Jennie Paton for reporting this.

Emma Hughes discussed "the nine greatest cats in literature" in an article for Country Life in 2018 <[www.tinyurl.com/mrxxwye4](http://www.tinyurl.com/mrxxwye4)>. Sherlockians will be glad to see that Macavity leads the list.

Johanna Draper Carlson has launched a new "Sherlock Holmes in Comics" web-site at <[www.comicsworthreading.com/sherlock-holmes-in-comics](http://www.comicsworthreading.com/sherlock-holmes-in-comics)>, covering comics, graphic novels, and manga; it's colorful web-site, with much worth exploring.

Benedict Cumberbatch was honored by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 28 as the 2,714th star on the Walk of Fame. You can read their press release at <[www.tinyurl.com/yckp86ew](http://www.tinyurl.com/yckp86ew)>.

There's a new Sherlock, noted by Andrew Jay Peck: "Merlin IS is powered by Sherlock, the world's first AI-driven digital document bloodhound and the backbone of Merlin's Search 2.0 platform," according to the press release <[www.tinyurl.com/4xmprfse](http://www.tinyurl.com/4xmprfse)>.

Planning continues for "Jubilee@221B" (the conference celebrating the 50th anniversaries of the opening of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library, and the founding of the Bootmakers of Toronto) to be held at the Library on Sept. 23-25. To enroll on the mailing list, you can send an e-mail request to <[jubilee\\_registration@acdfriends.org](mailto:jubilee_registration@acdfriends.org)>.

Don Hobbs continues to expand his "Galactic Sherlock Holmes" data-base of foreign translations of the Canon (which now has about 14,000 entries in 112 different languages, and many full-color illustrations), and would be glad to hear from anyone who has found something not already in the data-base; the latest version is available on request and without charge as a large WeTransfer file <[221b@verizon.net](mailto:221b@verizon.net)>.

Feb 22 #8 Just the thing for dinosaur fans: original artwork by Harry Rountree for "The Lost World" (ink wash and gouache on board) will be offered at Heritage Auctions on Apr. 15 <[www.tinyurl.com/34w97sv6](http://www.tinyurl.com/34w97sv6)> estimated at \$3,000-\$5,000; it's fascinating to see just how much better the original artwork was than what readers of the story in the Strand Magazine saw. That's also true, of course, for Sidney Paget's original artwork for the Sherlock Holmes stories.

*The Three Winter Terrors* (New York: Titan, 2021; 407 pp., \$19.99) is James Lovegrove's latest pastiche; Holmes and Watson investigate three grotesque murders, in 1899, 1890, and 1894, all of them involving the same family, and all with a touch of the macabre. Lovegrove has information about all of his Sherlockian pastiches at his web-site <[www.jameslovegrove.com](http://www.jameslovegrove.com)>.

Theater news: John Nicholson and Steven Canny's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is being produced at Steeltown Coffee & Tea in Pittsburg, Calif., through Mar. 6 <[www.pittsburgcommunitytheatre.org](http://www.pittsburgcommunitytheatre.org)>. It's also due at the Ilkley Playhouse in Ilkley, W. Yorks., on Mar. 3-12; their web-site is at <[www.ilkleyplayhouse.co.uk](http://www.ilkleyplayhouse.co.uk)>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is running at the Port Angeles Community Theatre in Port Angeles, Wash., through Mar. 14 <[pacommunityplayers.org](http://pacommunityplayers.org)>; and at the Åbo Svenska Teater in Turku, Finland, through Apr. 23; their web-site is at <[abosvenskateater.fi](http://abosvenskateater.fi)>. It's also due at the Little Theatre of Fall River in Fall River, Mass., Mar. 17-27 <[www.littletheatre.net](http://www.littletheatre.net)>, and it will be produced at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., Apr. 1-May 14 <[www.bakerstreetwest.com](http://www.bakerstreetwest.com)>.

Jules Tasca's "An Evening with Sherlock Holmes" (with three one-act plays) is being performed at Theatre Suburbia in Houston, Texas, through Mar. 26 <[www.web.theatresuburbia.org](http://www.web.theatresuburbia.org)>.

Daniel Foley's "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" is running at Upstairs at the Gatehouse in London, Mar. 1-6 <[www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com](http://www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com)>.

The Théâtre Sans Frontières will tour "Sherlock Holmes: The Speckled Band" in Britain, beginning at the Queen's Hall Arts Centre in Hexham, Northum., on Mar. 8 <[www.tsf.org.uk](http://www.tsf.org.uk)>.

Eric Coble's "Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" will be produced at Silverdale Baptist Academy in Chattanooga, Tenn., on Mar. 10-11 <[www.silverdaleba.org](http://www.silverdaleba.org)>.

The Northern Opera Group has announced it will begin work in April in the U.K. on Lliam Paterson's opera based on "The Sign of Four"; there's more information at <[www.northernoperagroup.co.uk/sherlockholmes](http://www.northernoperagroup.co.uk/sherlockholmes)>.

Tim Kelly's adaptation of William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" has been scheduled by the 3rd Act Theatre Company in Oklahoma City, Okla., Apr. 8-23 <[www.3rdacttheatreco.com](http://www.3rdacttheatreco.com)>.

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



The Baker Street Irregulars will celebrate Sherlock Holmes's 169th birthday at their annual dinner in New York on Jan. 6, 2023, which of course is his actual birthday. Planning is under way for the Distinguished Speaker Lecture on Jan. 5, and the Reception on Jan. 7. If you're not already receiving news and updates from the BSI, you can enroll on their e-mail list at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8n2ptm](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8n2ptm)>.

There was active (and serious) bidding at Potter & Potter Auctions on Feb. 26 for some interesting (and often rare) Sherlockiana and Doyleana. You can see the catalog at <[www.tinyurl.com/y3ff3jff](http://www.tinyurl.com/y3ff3jff)> and the results of the auction at <[www.tinyurl.com/yc2kw4d6](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc2kw4d6)>.

Simon Guerrier's *The Great War* (New York: Titan, 2021; 293 pp., \$14.95) is the latest title in Titan's long-running series of "The Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes". Set in 1917 at a British field hospital, it features Augusta Watson, a VAD (Volunteer Aid Detachment) who assists nurses in the hospital and is assigned to help Sherlock Holmes an investigation of what turns out to be a complicated conspiracy; the book is more of a thriller than a mystery, but nevertheless nicely done.

Lyndsay Faye wrote about "Pastiche, Fan Fiction, and the Sincerest Form of Flattery" at the CrimeReads blog on Feb. 28 <[www.tinyurl.com/mryxsbdj](http://www.tinyurl.com/mryxsbdj)> and lamented that when her first book *Dust and Shadow* was published she wasn't able "to hire a plane with an advertising banner reading DID YOU KNOW THE SHERLOCK HOLMES ADVENTURES ARE THE AWESOMEST THINGS TO HAPPEN SINCE SUPER-NOVAS?"

"Sherlock the Musical" (written by Stefan van de Graaff and Denning Burton), performed in Canada in 2017, has been filmed from a new production, with a studio cast recording uploaded to YouTube on Mar. 25; their channel's at <[www.youtube.com/channel/UCGlo7-cOunr\\_mn6CTc6R1Bg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGlo7-cOunr_mn6CTc6R1Bg)>, and a full filmed production will be uploaded on Apr. 26.

Karen Ellery, who presides over the Tea Brokers of Mincing Lane, would appreciate hearing about any published articles, essays, and pastiches that focus on Sherlock Holmes and tea <[teabrokersmincinglane@gmail.com](mailto:teabrokersmincinglane@gmail.com)>.

Edwin Van der Flaes ("Victor Trevor") died in February. Born in Belgium, he emigrated to Canada in his teens and was an early member of the Boot-makers of Toronto, serving twice as the society's Meyers (president); Ed also was involved for many years as a leader in Scouts Canada, and enjoyed traveling, by car whenever possible, to meetings of other Sherlockian societies. He received his Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 1984.

The campaign continues against the decision by the Queen Mary University of London to rename Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry as the QMUL Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (Feb 22 #1), and the "We Are BL" students have posted an update <[www.tinyurl.com/2p88bhkf](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p88bhkf)>; some of the newspaper articles can be read at <[www.bartslondon.com/weareblresponses](http://www.bartslondon.com/weareblresponses)>.

Mar 22 #2 William Brittain was a prolific author of short stories that appeared in Ellery Queen's *Mystery Magazine* and Alfred Hitchcock's *Mystery Magazine*, and it's grand to see many of them back in print, thanks to Crippen & Landru, in *The Man Who Read Mysteries* (2018; 212 pp., \$29.00 cloth or \$19.00 paper) and *The Man Who Solved Mysteries* (2022; 316 pp., \$32.00/\$22.00); Sherlockians will especially enjoy "The Man Who Read Sir Arthur Conan Doyle" and "Mr. Strang, Armchair Detective" (in the first volume). Crippen & Landru (Jeffrey Marks and Douglas G. Greene) continue to bring "lost classic" mystery short stories back into print, and their web-site <[www.crippenlandru.com](http://www.crippenlandru.com)> has much to offer.

Fans of the BBC's "Sherlock" television series will recall Watson meeting Irene Adler in a scene filmed in the derelict (and atmospheric) Battersea Power Station, which no longer is as derelict as it was then; you can read about its history, and see what it's like now, in an article at the Country Life web-site on Mar. 1 <[www.tinyurl.com/ymshdyzn](http://www.tinyurl.com/ymshdyzn)>.

Yuichi Hirayama has noted an interesting use of the Canon: helping Japanese learn English grammar using "The Blue Carbuncle"; details available at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaEVyu\\_H5Mo&t=8s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaEVyu_H5Mo&t=8s)>.

Benedict Cumberbatch was honored by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 28 as the 2,714th star on the Walk of Fame (Feb 22 #7), with only a brief mention of "Sherlock" during the ceremony. You can watch the festivities at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfkijn4\\_4NiE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfkijn4_4NiE)>.

Those who attended the Arthur Conan Doyle Society's inaugural Doylean Honors awards ceremony at the Mysterious Bookshop during the birthday festivities in January received an attractive and amusing limited-edition Sherlock Holmes bobblehead statuette; Ross Davies has annotated the bobblehead (and there is much to explain) at <[www.tinyurl.com/22e4eda3](http://www.tinyurl.com/22e4eda3)>.

Tania Henzell (who is the step-great-great-granddaughter of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle) has a new video in which she explains the design of her Sherlock Holmes tartan <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=--lgLIFcc6A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=--lgLIFcc6A)>; her web-site is at <[www.sherlockholmestartan.com](http://www.sherlockholmestartan.com)>.

Potter & Potter Auctions continues to offer interesting (and rare) Sherlockian and Doylean books, as well some Derleth titles, at a sale upcoming on Apr. 26 <[www.auctions.potterauctions.com/Catalog.aspx?auctionid=1131](http://www.auctions.potterauctions.com/Catalog.aspx?auctionid=1131)>.

The Grillparzer Club of the Hoboken Free State has announced that its annual Christopher Morley Birthday Lunch will be held in Philadelphia this year, on Mar. 7. Linda and Terry Hunt <[hobokenfreestate@gmail.com](mailto:hobokenfreestate@gmail.com)> will be happy to provide more information.

Craig Rice's *Eight Faces at Three* (1939) has been reprinted in Otto Penzler's "American Mystery Classics" series <[www.tinyurl.com/md78fnkv](http://www.tinyurl.com/md78fnkv)>; the book's not Sherlockian, but Lisa Lutz's introduction ("Rediscovering the Gin-Soaked Screwball Mysteries of Craig Rice") is available at the Crime Reads web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/2xua2zae](http://www.tinyurl.com/2xua2zae)> and offers a grand description of the author and the book.

Mar 22 #3 John Keston died on Feb. 18. Born in London, he started his stage career as a singer, moved on to acting, and played Sir Edward Leighton when the Royal Shakespeare Company brought its revival of William Gillette's "Sherlock Holmes" to the U.S. in 1974. His obituary in the Telegraph (Mar. 7) noted that he decided to stay in the U.S., teaching both voice and classical singing, and continued to perform on stage, eventually becoming an ardent and record-breaking runner.

The Grolier Club's channel at Vimeo <[www.tinyurl.com/bde62x42](http://www.tinyurl.com/bde62x42)> offers recorded recordings about the exhibitions, including "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects from the Glen S. Miranker" exhibition. There's another lecture by Glen at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eb96PIH8rHg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eb96PIH8rHg)>.

There has been considerable publicity about the discovery of the Endurance (10,000 feet below the surface of the Weddell Sea in the Antarctic); this was the ship that Sir Ernest Shackleton used in his attempt to reach the South Pole in 1915. As reported earlier (Apr 16 #1), a photograph of his cabin showed the books he took with him on the expedition, and one of them was E. W. Hornung's RAFFLES, which Hornung dedicated to his brother-in-law Conan Doyle. You can see the photograph, and a list of all the books, at <[www.bbc.com/news/magazine-35633374](http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-35633374)>. The site was declared a historical monument in the 1959 Antarctic Treaty, so the book (or what's left of it) will remain there undisturbed.

The N.Y. Post noted (Mar. 11) a Wikipedia-style (crowd-sourced) web-site called Book Trigger Warnings <[www.booktriggerwarnings.com](http://www.booktriggerwarnings.com)> at which people can enter warnings about books with content that might be dangerously offensive. More than 6,000 books have been flagged, including some of the Sherlock Holmes stories <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9c39hr](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9c39hr)>. *A Study in Scarlet* is the most dangerous, with warnings for: blood, drug addiction, forced marriage, homophobia, kidnapping, murder, persecution (Mormons), poison, racism, and stalking.

"A Celebration of Sherlock Holmes" is the theme of this year's DePaul Pop Culture Conference <[www.tinyurl.com/5n6ntm73](http://www.tinyurl.com/5n6ntm73)> at DePaul University in Chicago on May 7, featuring Arwel Wyn Jones (production designer for "Sherlock") Tom Ue (editor of *Fan Phenomena: Sherlock Holmes*), and Ashley Polasek (author of *Being Sherlock*).

Gary Lovisi's *A Sherlock Holmes Notebook* (Eureka: Stark House, 2022; 198 pp., \$15.95) offers a wide-ranging collection of reprints of his many articles and essays about Sherlockiana (and Doyleana); there's a warm tribute to John Bennett Shaw, discussions of plays and films, and much more. Gary has been collecting, and writing about collecting, for decades, and his YouTube channel <[www.tinyurl.com/2p84d4du](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p84d4du)> shows just how varied his interests are.

Ron Fish continues to publicize meetings of Sherlockian societies via his Sherlockian Calendar, including gatherings held via Zoom or other technology; it's a great way to find out what's happening, where and when. You can see his format at <[www.sherlockiancalendar.com](http://www.sherlockiancalendar.com)>, and send information about upcoming meetings to him at <[ronf404@aol.com](mailto:ronf404@aol.com)>.

Mar 22 #4 The Times reported (Mar. 14) that the government of Kazakhstan has arrested Kairat Satybaldy, nephew of the country's former president Nursultan Nazarbayev, who ruled the country for three decades; Satybaldy has been charged with abuse of power and embezzlement of funds. Nazarbayev's daughter Dariga Nazarbayeva, and her son Nurali Aliyev, were named two years ago (Mar 20 #3) as owners of Park View Residence at 215-229 Baker Street <[www.parkviewresidence.co.uk](http://www.parkviewresidence.co.uk)>, the building that retains the façade of Abbey House, where Abbey National for many years provided a secretary to answer mail addressed to Sherlock Holmes at 221B.

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch continues with an interesting interview with Mike Kean (the BSI's Wiggins) <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=erU\\_4hAW\\_Gs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erU_4hAW_Gs)>. His next guest was Mark Gagen (Steve's co-conspirator at the Wessex Press and the BSI Press) <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKzB5KVJcrI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKzB5KVJcrI)>.

His clients—Colonel Ross, whose racehorse flees,  
Or Violet Hunter, seen at Baker Street,  
Who crops her locks of hair—would all agree,  
This haughty, hawkeyed Brit's a bit offbeat.

Observed by Karen Murdock in The New Yorker (Dec. 27, 2021) in a puzzle "In the Doggerel House" by Andy Kravis and Liz Maynes Aminzade, who ask, "Can you identify the literary work or series that each poem is about, and find the character whose name is hidden within?" You'll have no trouble identifying the literary work or series, but can you find the character?

The Original Theatre Company/Octagon Theatre Bolton touring production of John Nicholson and Steven Canny's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" has been recorded and will be streamed on-line from Apr. 14 to July 31; early-bird tickets are available at <[www.tinyurl.com/44e6wruj](http://www.tinyurl.com/44e6wruj)>.

Irish historian Turtle Bunbury has a new podcast "Turtle Bunbury's Global Irish" that recounts the stories of people who left Ireland to make their mark around the world; Lola Montez (thought by some to have been the inspiration for Irene Adler) will be featured on Apr. 11, and Arthur Conan Doyle on Apr. 18 <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9ff7t9](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9ff7t9)>.

The Baz <[www.tinyurl.com/3cwb4rh2](http://www.tinyurl.com/3cwb4rh2)> is a Basil Rathbone blog, noted by Jennie Paton, where you will find Marcia Jessen's interesting discussion of the German versions of the Universal Films (which of course were not released in Germany during WW2).

Baker Street West, in Jackson, Calif., continues to offer podcasts, dramatic readings, and much more <[www.bakerstreetwest.com](http://www.bakerstreetwest.com)>; it's one floor up from the Hein & Co., used-book store, and they recently received some nice (and colorfully illustrated) publicity, with mention of their recreation of the sitting-room, at the Time Out web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/ynvenrs2](http://www.tinyurl.com/ynvenrs2)>.

The Festival de cine Fantástico de Canarias [Canary Islands Fantastic Film Festival] presented an honorary award in 2021 to Nicholas Rowe (who played Sherlock Holmes in two films); Jennie Paton notes video of the award presentation and the interview with Rowe <[www.vimeo.com/688824999](http://www.vimeo.com/688824999)>.

Mar 22 #5 Sherlock Holmes continues to be popular in Japanese manga and anime, and one of the weirdest incarnations surely is Oshiri Tantei [The Butt Detective]; the latest film features the master criminal Shiriarty <[www.tinyurl.com/3xbdwmrb](http://www.tinyurl.com/3xbdwmrb)>. You can also watch the trailer for an earlier film <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=047VMJlBZxQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=047VMJlBZxQ)>, kindly reported by Jennie Paton (you can set the subtitles for English).

Did you find the character in that little poem on the previous page? He's in "crops her locks".

Gary Lovisi's *Sherlock Holmes in Oz* (Cabin John: Wildside Press, 2022; 141 pp., \$12.99) brings Holmes and Watson to Oz, pursuing the Red Poppy Menace and endeavoring to rescue Dorothy Gale (the great-niece of Watson's wife); they encounter L. Frank Baum, and many of the characters he created.

How they got their start: Rob Lowe, an American actor, director, producer, and podcaster, made his acting debut at the age of 15, according to Wikipedia, but he first appeared on stage at the age of 12, as Billy in Thomas Hinton's "Sherlock Holmes: A New Adventure" at Wright State University in Fairborn, Ohio. You can read all about it in the Dayton Daily News, Mar. 17 <[www.tinyurl.com/2s3e7ne4](http://www.tinyurl.com/2s3e7ne4)>.

Yes, Nicholas Rowe did play Sherlock Holmes in two films, in "Young Sherlock Holmes" (1985) and thirty years later in "Mr. Holmes" (2015) in the black-and-white film Ian McKellen sees in a theater.

The Legion of Zoom, a Sherlockian society that was founded late last year to reflect the Age of the Pandemic <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8zv245](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8zv245)>, continues to attract members; Edith Pouden, Rick Krisciunas, and Steve Mason (some of the ringleaders) were interviewed recently by Scott Monty and Burt Wolfer on "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" <[www.tinyurl.com/3tye8fhz](http://www.tinyurl.com/3tye8fhz)>. Don't confuse the society with the other one <[www.tinyurl.com/9dvv94zc](http://www.tinyurl.com/9dvv94zc)>. Or the one in Kansas City <[www.tinyurl.com/2btkbcd](http://www.tinyurl.com/2btkbcd)>.

For those who (mistakenly) believe that the Blue Carbuncle was a blue diamond: the De Beers Cullinan Blue (15.10 carats, step-cut) will be offered at auction at Sotheby's in Hong Kong on April 27; read about it, and watch a video, at <[www.tinyurl.com/3aruc6m5](http://www.tinyurl.com/3aruc6m5)>. Town & Country had an interesting article about blue diamonds (Feb. 16) <[www.tinyurl.com/2p83d3nn](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p83d3nn)>.

The "Sherlock Holmes" electric locomotive, which ran on the Metropolitan Line in London for many years and was restored to service four years ago (Jun 18 #2), will be running on the North Norfolk Railway this summer, according to Rail Advent (Mar. 16) <[www.tinyurl.com/38buudr2](http://www.tinyurl.com/38buudr2)>; the story includes an amusing image showing how the locomotive arrived in Norfolk.

Paulette Greene died on Dec. 6. She was a mail-order used-book dealer in Rockville Center, N.Y., in the 1980s, and her catalogs were helpful indeed to Sherlockian collectors; she also published Sherlockian books by Trevor H. Hall and Madeleine B. Stern, and interesting Sherlockian artwork by her son Sam. At the end of the 1980s she announced that she was retiring, and moved to Boca Raton, Fla., but continued to be active as a dealer.

Mar 22 #6 The 39th issue of Beaten's Christmas Annual has been published by The Sound of the Baskervilles of Seattle, with 73 pages of articles, quizzes, recipes, pastiches, and reports on the society and its members. It costs \$14.00 postpaid (\$25.00 outside the U.S.); checks (in U.S. dollars, please) payable to The Sound of the Baskervilles can be sent to Terri Haugen, 6710 51st Street Court West, University Place, WA 98467.

Rob Nunn has issued a call for contributions to his upcoming *The Monstrum Opus of Sherlock Holmes: A Compendium of Horrors Dr. Watson Dared Not Tell* (not pastiches, but rather "scholarship that plants its tongue firmly in check"); the deadline is July 31, and there's more information at his Interesting Though Elementary blog <[www.tinyurl.com/3h9v7v6r](http://www.tinyurl.com/3h9v7v6r)>.

The Sherlockian Chronologist Convention for this year has been canceled, Ira Matetsky has announced, because "They couldn't agree on the date."

One page from the manuscript of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be up for bids at Heritage Auctions on June 4 <[www.tinyurl.com/2hw5dts6](http://www.tinyurl.com/2hw5dts6)>. It's page H37 in Randall Stock's census, and there's more information about it at his "Best of Sherlock" web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/5n7bahk8](http://www.tinyurl.com/5n7bahk8)>.

Nicholas Meyer will be the keynote speaker at "Jubilee@221B" (the conference that will celebrate the 50th anniversaries of the opening of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library and the founding of the Bootmakers of Toronto) to be held at the Toronto Reference Library on Sept. 23-25. To enroll on the mailing list, send an e-mail request to <[jubilee\\_registration@acdfriends.org](mailto:jubilee_registration@acdfriends.org)>.

Priscilla Ridgway died on Feb. 23. She was executive director of the Mystery Writers of America for many years, went on to work at the New England Society of N.Y.; she enjoyed theater, opera, and concerts in New York, and a good friend of many in the Sherlockian world.

Paddington Station, which opened only a few days after Sherlock Holmes was born, is mentioned in five of the Canonical stories, and Country Life had a nice article on-line (Mar. 21) <[www.tinyurl.com/2tzedhjf](http://www.tinyurl.com/2tzedhjf)> about the history of this London landmark.

Fans of the 1940s Universal films about Sherlock Holmes will remember Rondo Hatton, who played the Hoxton Creeper in "The Pearl of Death" (1944). The Rondo Hatton Classic Horror Awards, which were launched in 2002 at a fan-based web-site and recently reported by Ann Marlowe, can be explored at <[www.rondoaward.com](http://www.rondoaward.com)>.

Broadway World reported on Feb. 9 <[www.tinyurl.com/yk2p9fvt](http://www.tinyurl.com/yk2p9fvt)> that the American Lyric Theater has launched an Aria Access Project, "a free hub of downloadable contemporary aria sheet music" intended for singers who are asked to audition at 21st-century aria. One of the operas is "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Fallen Giant" (by Evan Meier and E. M. Lewis), first performed at the National Opera Center in New York in 2015. Three soprano arias from the opera are available (with sheet music and lyrics) for download at <[www.altnyc.org/aap-soprano](http://www.altnyc.org/aap-soprano)>.

Mar 22 #7 The imaginative life-size bronze sculpture by Irena Sedlecká that shows Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the spirit of Sherlock Holmes <[www.tinyurl.com/y2sevea2](http://www.tinyurl.com/y2sevea2)>, on display in the Garden of Heroes and Villains created by the late Felix Dennis in Dorsington, Stratford-upon-Avon, in Warwickshire, is not easy to see, but the Garden will be open to the public during an evening fund-raiser (with food and drink available) on July 21 <[www.tinyurl.com/2fpcahze](http://www.tinyurl.com/2fpcahze)>.

Don Hobbs has reported an interesting discovery in Yr Herald Cymraeg [The Welsh Herald] <[www.newspapers.library.wales/view/3781337/19](http://www.newspapers.library.wales/view/3781337/19)>: a Sherlockian advertisement for Mackintosh's Toffee, published in 1910 (the toffee still is available in British shops).

Rob Nunn's *The Common-Place Book 2021* (33 pp., \$5.99) offers 13 of the essays, stories, and toasts he has written since he attended his first society meeting in 2015, among them "A Study in Steadfast" (with an intriguing look at "A Study in Scarlet" by one of its minor characters).

Life's 96-page special issue offering "the story behind the world's greatest detective" (with Basil Rathbone on the cover), which first appeared in 2016, has been reissued (with very minor differences that will be of interest only to the completist) and is back on newsstands, and available at Amazon and elsewhere.

Game-playing Sherlockians may not be aware that Frogwares, the developer of many computer games (their latest is *Sherlock Holmes: Chapter One*) is headquartered in Ukraine. The company's CEO Wael Amr is featured in a recent interview spotted at the IGN web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8emjn7](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8emjn7)> by Jennie Paton.

Original (non-Sherlockian) artwork by Sidney Paget is coming to auction in the U.K. on Apr. 6, estimated at £50-£80 <[www.tinyurl.com/4ppuyxsc](http://www.tinyurl.com/4ppuyxsc)>; it's a watercolor of "a landscape with sailing boats on a lake with mountains beyond and a figure on a path."

9GAG, according to Wikipedia, is a web-site based in Hong Kong that allows users to upload user-generated content. Jennie Paton has noted an amusing "Dead British Actors" video <[www.tinyurl.com/ybcf9jy7](http://www.tinyurl.com/ybcf9jy7)> that's something of a deep fake: it's really a segment from the British BBC-2 television series "That Mitchell and Webb Look". The skit actually aired on Sept. 21, 2006, and starred David Mitchell and Robert Webb.

*Le fantôme de l'oiseau lune* (Paris: Editions l'Âge d'Or, 2013) is a graphic novel written by Yves Varenne and illustrated by René Follet, with cover art that's striking indeed <[www.tinyurl.com/2p83ev5h](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p83ev5h)>.

CGI (Computer Generated Imagery) has been used for quite a while now, but it's nice to know that the first CGI character in a film was the dancing knight from a stained-glass window in "Young Sherlock Holmes" (1985); the GeekTyrant web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8txfkv](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8txfkv)> recently made available a fan-created video showing how much improved the technology is now, and the video includes (at 18:45) an homage to the 1985 film.

Mar 22 #8 Theater news: John Nicholson and Steven Canny's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" is being performed at the Little Theatre in Hertford, Herts., through Apr. 2 <[www.cops.org.uk](http://www.cops.org.uk)>.

Susan Lumenello's "The Sherlock Problem" is on at the Cape Cod Theatre in West Harwich, Mass., through Apr. 3 <[www.capecodtheatrecompany.org](http://www.capecodtheatrecompany.org)>; it's a new comedy featuring Conan Doyle, Holmes, and Watson.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is running at the Runway Theatre in Grapevine, Texas, through Apr. 10 <[www.runwaytheatre.com](http://www.runwaytheatre.com)>. It's coming up at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., Apr. 1-May 14 <[www.bakerstreetwest.com](http://www.bakerstreetwest.com)>.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical "Cats" (with Macavity: The Mystery Cat) is on tour in the U.S. through June 26 <[www.ustour.catsthemusical.com](http://www.ustour.catsthemusical.com)>.

Richard Lloyd's "Sherlock Holmes and the Sons of Anubis" will be performed at the Coulsdon Community Centre in Coulsdon, Surrey, Apr. 2-9; web-site at <[www.twcoulsdon.org.uk](http://www.twcoulsdon.org.uk)>.

Liam Paterson's new opera "The Sign of Four" will have a special preview performance (scenes from the opera and a discussion with the audience) at the East Riding Theatre in Beverley, Yorks., on Apr. 9; their web-site at <[www.northernoperagroup.co.uk](http://www.northernoperagroup.co.uk)>.

Jeff Ames' "The Hit-or-Miss Adventures of Watson and Holmes" will be performed at the Wallenstien Theater at Big Bend Community College in Moses Lake, Wash., Apr. 9 <[www.tinyurl.com/mrx6jprz](http://www.tinyurl.com/mrx6jprz)>.

Jonathan Goodwin will perform his new "Sherlock Holmes: The Poet and His Muse" on-line on Apr. 30 <[www.tinyurl.com/htmaapd5](http://www.tinyurl.com/htmaapd5)>.

Craig Wichman's "The Blue Carbuncle" will be performed by the East Lynne Theater Company in Cape May, N.J., May 14-15 <[www.eastlynnetheater.org](http://www.eastlynnetheater.org)>.

Bert Coules' "Watson: The Final Problem" will be performed during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh, on Aug. 3-10 <[www.assemblyfestival.com/whats-on/all-shows/watson-the-final-problem](http://www.assemblyfestival.com/whats-on/all-shows/watson-the-final-problem)>.

Michael Mitnick's "Mysterious Circumstances" (which was inspired by David Grann's 2004 article in the New Yorker about the death of Richard Lancelyn Green) is scheduled at the Road Less Traveled Theater in Buffalo, N.Y., on Sept. 15-Oct.16 <[www.roadlesstraveledproductions.org](http://www.roadlesstraveledproductions.org)>.

Gael Stahlhuth's "The Norwood Builder" will be performed by the East Lynne Theater Company in Cape May, N.J., Oct. 21-22 <[www.eastlynnetheater.org](http://www.eastlynnetheater.org)>.

Ken Ludwig's "Moriarty: A New Sherlock Holmes Mystery" will premiere at the Cleveland Playhouse's Allen Theatre in Cleveland, Apr. 29-May 21, 2023 <[www.clevelandplayhouse.com](http://www.clevelandplayhouse.com)>.

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



Breaking news about the Baker Street Irregulars' conference on "Sherlock Holmes and the British Empire" at the Bear Mountain Inn, N.Y., on July 29-31: registration will open to the general public on May 17. See the announcement about the conference at <[www.tinyurl.com/2py9xsvs](http://www.tinyurl.com/2py9xsvs)>.

"They're creatures of our creation, like Sherlock Holmes is" might not be an expected answer to the question "What is math?" But there is indeed a relationship, according to Dan Falk's interesting article at the Smithsonian magazine web-site (Sept. 23, 2020) <[www.tinyurl.com/3d2yu2bj](http://www.tinyurl.com/3d2yu2bj)>, noted by John Marlowe.

Are you woke? Are you from Woking? Residents of the city (mentioned in "The Naval Treaty") are reported to be "caught in the glare of a cultural confrontation," according a piece by Stephen Rand in The Article (Apr. 1) <[www.tinyurl.com/245pwp46](http://www.tinyurl.com/245pwp46)>.

Reported: Hugh Corbett's *Hymn to Murder* (Headline, 2021) is set on Dartmoor in 1312, and according to Ben Witherington at Patheos (Mar. 27), involves wild beasts and a taverner named Baskerville.

Sherlockians are well aware that "A Study in Scarlet" was first appeared in Beeton's Christmas Annual for 1887; the annual was named for Isabella Beeton, but it was her husband Samuel who published it, capitalizing on the fame of his late wife, who was renowned for her *Book of Household Management*, first published in 1861. Conan Doyle titled a chapter in his *A Duet: With an Occasional Chorus* (1898) "Concerning Mrs. Beeton", and involves his newly-wed couple in an amusing discussion of the book. Lytton Strachey planned to write a biography of Mrs. Beeton, but didn't; Kathryn Hughes' *The Short Life and Long Times of Mrs. Beeton: The First Domestic Goddess* was published in 2006, and she's scheduled to speak at the British Library on May 18 in a panel discussion of "The Culinary Worlds of Eliza Acton and Mrs. Beeton" <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8eep4](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8eep4)> (the cost is £13.00 live or streamed).

Kathryn Hughes also has written *The Victorian Governess* (1993) and *Victorians Undone: Tales of the Flesh in the Age of Decorum* (2017), and she is now writing a book about the late Victorians' obsession with cats. Andrew Lycett wrote a sprightly review of her *Victorian Undone* for History Today <[www.historytoday.com/reviews/stripping-down-buttoned](http://www.historytoday.com/reviews/stripping-down-buttoned)>.

It has been open since at least 2005: there's a Sherlock Holmes English Lounge in the Arabian Courtyard Hotel in Dubai, and now Jennie Paton has reported a visual tour at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=TN-ljkOXLFE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TN-ljkOXLFE)>.

Further to the preview of "A Celebration of Sherlock Holmes" at the DePaul Pop Culture Conference scheduled at DePaul University in Chicago on May 7 (Mar 22 #3), Paul Booth, who developed the conference, was interviewed recently by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder at their "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/bdsu6jvb](http://www.tinyurl.com/bdsu6jvb)>.

Apr 22 #2 John T. Lescroart began his writing career with *Son of Holmes* (1986) and *Rasputin's Revenge* (1987); they're about Auguste Lupa, and are more Neronian than Sherlockian. If you would like to know more about his long and successful career since then, there's an interesting interview with him published in the March-April issue of Sactown Magazine <[www.sactownmag.com/life-of-crime-john-lescroart](http://www.sactownmag.com/life-of-crime-john-lescroart)>.

Something new: cli-fi (fiction literature that deals with the effects of climate change on human society). A brief Sherlockian cli-fi was one of the winners in a recent competition set by the British magazine *The Speculator* <[www.tinyurl.com/f8vfuxss](http://www.tinyurl.com/f8vfuxss)>.

Jennie Paton spotted an unusual (to say the least) Sherlock in Brazil; you can see him at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=29Q07qN-cKM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29Q07qN-cKM)>.

Lyndon N. Smith's *Star Trek Nation* (Sedgemoor, 2021; 179 pp., \$32.95) offers "an Englishman's view of America." It's very much a memoir, written by someone who believes that the "Star Trek" television series has much to say about America, and its relationship with Britain, and that the Sherlock Holmes stories can be just as helpful to Americans who want to understand Britain. Smith's explanation of it all is nicely entertaining.

The Atlantic Coast Theatre for Youth will be touring their new "Sherlock Holmes & the Opera Mystery" on tour from Sept. 2022 to Aug. 2024; it's for grades K-8, and their web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/3dry4s75](http://www.tinyurl.com/3dry4s75)> has a five-minute video preview.

The Royal Mail has issued a set of stamps showing migratory birds, one of them a Stone-curlew, described as "an odd-looking 'goggle-eyed plover'" (curlews are mentioned in two stories: "The Priory School" and "The Hound of the Baskervilles").



June Brown died on Apr. 3. She began acting on stage with the Old Vic in 1948, and was best known as Dot Cotton in the "Eastenders" television series, in which she appeared for more than 30 years. According to her obituary in the Guardian, she never cared about propriety, claiming that when she appeared in "Calendar Girls" in the West End at the age of 82, she was the only one in the cast who stripped completely naked for the photo call. She also played Anne Chapman in "Murder by Decree" (1979).

Are you woke? Are you from Woking? Be skeptical about anything published on Apr. 1.

Forecast: Sarah Penner's *THE LONDON SÉANCE CLUB*, due in 2023, is reported in *The Bookseller* (Apr. 1) <[www.tinyurl.com/5cmzd6eh](http://www.tinyurl.com/5cmzd6eh)> to be set in London, in 1872, and "inspired by a real gentlemen's-only séance club founded by Charles Dickens and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle." The Ghost Club, founded in 1862, is still going strong, but while Dickens and Conan Doyle were members, they weren't among its founders. Nor were they even members at the same time: Dickens died in 1870, when Conan Doyle was only eleven years old.

Apr 22 #3 It's reasonably official, since it was reported by both Variety and the Hollywood Reporter (Apr. 5): Warner Bros. hopes to expand its "Sherlock Holmes" film universe into television, and is working with HBO Max to develop two new series, with Robert Downey Jr. on board as executive producer. The new series likely would be a substitute for the long-delayed third RDJ film, which was originally scheduled for release in December 2020, but is not yet in production.

The largest autograph album ever compiled by a single collector, with signatures of more than 60,000 notables <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9dmwke](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9dmwke)>, is up for sale for \$250,000. The history of the collection is fascinating indeed, even though (according to the dealer) Conan Doyle is not in the album.

She wasn't a Sherlockian, but Lillian Virginia Mountweazel, well known to some (but not all) of those are interested in copyright, is worthy of attention; you can read about her at <[www.tinyurl.com/cemjfumk](http://www.tinyurl.com/cemjfumk)>. Lady Mondegreen is better known to people interested in strange but useful words; you can read about her at <[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mondegreen](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mondegreen)>.

*Old Marvel, the Scientific Detective* (Dark Lantern Tales, 2021; 229 pp., \$19.95) is an intriguing reprint of a serial, discovered by Joe Rainone, that appeared in Saturday Night (a weekly "story paper" published in Philadelphia) in 1884, three years before Conan Doyle's scientific detective. The book also has a reprint of "A Study in Scarlet" as serialized in The Illustrated Home Guest in 1894, and an introduction by Rainone detailing the coincidences between the two stories. It's all nicely edited by Mark Williams, who presides over Dark Lantern <[www.darklantern.wordpress.com](http://www.darklantern.wordpress.com)>.

Glen and Cathy Miranker were interviewed in a CBS Sunday News segment on Apr. 10 on the "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects" exhibition at the Grolier Club <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-555u43x68](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-555u43x68)>.

"Mystery novels offer a more nuanced perspective in which perfumes are one intriguing tool in the box of dark communication strategies," Megan Volpert suggests in her new book *Perfume (Object Lessons)* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2022). Sherlock Holmes is among the detectives she discusses, and you can read what she has to say about him in an excerpt from the book at the Literary Hub web-site (Apr. 8) <[www.tinyurl.com/2ez7jnn3](http://www.tinyurl.com/2ez7jnn3)>

There have been many mentions of Cameron Hollyer in this newsletter over the years, and the annual Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture in Toronto is named in his honor; if you would like to know more about him, and his many contributions to the Sherlockian world, Chris Redmond's fine tribute will be found at "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" <[www.tinyurl.com/2p837awa](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p837awa)>.

Further to the report (Oct 21 #8) on C. T. Scott's article about "The Curious Incident of Sherlock Holmes's Real-Life Secretary" in the Economist's 1843 Magazine <[www.tinyurl.com/96baau4d](http://www.tinyurl.com/96baau4d)> about Chris Bazlinton, who at the age of 27 signed on as Holmes' secretary at Abbey National: Aurra Studios has announced that "Sherlock Holmes's Secret Secretary" now is in development for television <[www.tinyurl.com/4afm96ts](http://www.tinyurl.com/4afm96ts)>. Needless to say, a secret secretary makes for a better television title than real-life secretary.

Apr 22 #4 Richard Hughes, mentioned often in this newsletter, was noted for having had characters modeled after him in books written by Ian Fleming and John Le Carré. Hughes' copy of Ian Fleming's *You Only Live Twice*, inscribed by "To Dikko-san from Fleming-san. With all affection." was offered in an on-line auction at Christie's this month, estimated at \$35,000-\$50,000 <[www.tinyurl.com/zr9hncjj](http://www.tinyurl.com/zr9hncjj)>; it didn't sell.

Just the thing for dinosaur fans: original artwork by Harry Rountree for "The Lost World" (ink wash and gouache on board) was sold at Heritage Auctions this month for \$8,125 (including the buyer's premium); at auction in 2017 it sold for \$5,500. It's fascinating to see just how much better the original artwork is than what readers of the story in the Strand Magazine saw <[www.tinyurl.com/34w97sv6](http://www.tinyurl.com/34w97sv6)>.

This year's Virtual Jack Benny convention included "Jack Benny Meets Sherlock Holmes" (written by Brad Strickland and performed by the Atlanta Radio Theatre Company); you can watch (and listen to) the 23-minute show at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtQ1SbgUwKo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtQ1SbgUwKo)>. The ARTC <[www.artc.org](http://www.artc.org)>, founded in 1984, offers an interesting catalog of "adventure in sound," including "Sherlock Holmes and the Crime of the Century".

The (real) "Jack Benny Show" had quite a few Sherlockian segments, including "Sherlock Holmes and King Kong" in the program that aired on May 26, 1933, starring Jack as Sherlock Holmes; Jennie Paton found it on-line at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJyZGVHgGU8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJyZGVHgGU8)>.

The February issue of the quarterly newsletter of The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota has Julie McKuras' report on this newsletter (since there's a compete run in the collection), her "50 Years Ago" tribute to Hank Potter, and other news from and about the collections; copies of the newsletter are available from Timothy Johnson, 15-G Elmer L. Anderson Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455 <[johns976@umn.com](mailto:johns976@umn.com)>.

Ronald Levisky discusses "A Holmesian Homage—The Chronicles of Addington Peace" and Jerry Margolin explains how "The Slavering Hound Is Brought to Heel" in the spring issue of *Canadian Holmes*, which is published quarterly by the Bootmakers of Toronto, and also offers news of Sherlockian goings-on in Canada. Subscriptions cost \$30.00 a year (US or CA); single issues cost \$12.00 <[www.torontobootmakers.com](http://www.torontobootmakers.com)>.

The Knockhatch Adventure Park in Hailsham (Sussex) has a Sherlock Holmes Experience <[www.tinyurl.com/yurfjxya](http://www.tinyurl.com/yurfjxya)>; Richard Doyle (grand-nephew of Sir Arthur) presided over the opening this month. There's also a trailer at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIRbDfrYUS4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIRbDfrYUS4)>. The Parks also offers a Lost World Playbarn <[www.tinyurl.com/yrhk8898](http://www.tinyurl.com/yrhk8898)>.

Nev March's *Peril at the Exposition* (New York: Minotaur Books, 2022, 352 pp., \$27.99), the sequel to her award-winning *Murder in Old Bombay* (2020), has Captain Jim Agnihotri, now married to Diana Framji, in Chicago in 1893 investigating a threat to the Columbian Exposition; Jim has disappeared, and Diana must find him, in a story that's a thriller with some Sherlockian sleuthing involved.

Apr 22 #5 Further to the items (Sep 14 #7 and Dec 14 #5 and May 16 #6) about a new Sherlock Holmes play, written by Rachel Wagsaff and Duncan Abel, and produced by Antonio R. Marion, forecast for Broadway in 2017, Deadline has reported (Apr. 12) <[www.tinyurl.com/yjescyzh](http://www.tinyurl.com/yjescyzh)> that the play is (still) under development, "with an eye toward the West End and Broadway." Stay tuned.

Lykkelig Påskekrim! Turns out that Norwegians have an interesting way of celebrating Easter <[www.lifeinnorway.net/easter-crime](http://www.lifeinnorway.net/easter-crime)>.

If you didn't buy a bottle of Macallan's Archival Series of fine whiskies honoring the "luggy bonnet" for £250 two years ago (May 20 #2), you should have: one bottle was at auction at Sotheby's in Hong Kong this month, estimated at 8,000-12,000 HKD <[www.tinyurl.com/bkb6cjfz](http://www.tinyurl.com/bkb6cjfz)>; it sold for 22,500 HKD (that's \$2,868), with shipping extra.

Who was the first Sherlockian scholar? Not, as it turns out, Helen Elizabeth Wilson, whose article "The Life of Sherlock Holmes" was published in the Oct. 1898 issue of the Cornell Magazine (Feb 22 #2). The spring issue of The Baker Street Journal reprints William Aspenwall Bradley's "Sherlock Holmes and His Literary Prototype" (first published in the Dec. 1896 issue of the Columbia Literary Monthly), accompanied by an article about Bradley by Daniel L. and Eugene B. Friedman, who discovered the 1896 scholarship. You can subscribe to the BSJ <[www.bakerstreetirregulars.com](http://www.bakerstreetirregulars.com)> and receive the spring issue as part of this year's subscription.

Why does Sherlock Holmes like Mexican restaurants? Jennie Paton found the answer at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/shorts/l1TgXNw8Ntc](http://www.youtube.com/shorts/l1TgXNw8Ntc)>.

More than 300 people attended the 221B Con in Atlanta on Apr. 8-10, and a good time seems to have been had by all. There were many panels, and you can see their list at <[www.221bcon.com/panels](http://www.221bcon.com/panels)>. The most detailed report from a Sherlockian about what went on is by Brad Keefauver; check his blog archive for April at <[www.sherlockpeoria.blogspot.com](http://www.sherlockpeoria.blogspot.com)>. You can also hear a 37-minute audio report <[www.tinyurl.com/2p932jyn](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p932jyn)> at the Watsonian Weekly web-site.

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch continues; his latest interviews have been with Mark Jones and Ira Matetsky <[www.tinyurl.com/mr45zbhu](http://www.tinyurl.com/mr45zbhu)>.

In case you've never seen one: a very nice copy of the 1925 A. L. Burt Co. photoplay reprint edition of *The Lost World*, with dust-jacket art from the film <[www.tinyurl.com/5fmutuax](http://www.tinyurl.com/5fmutuax)>, sold at Heritage Auctions on Apr. 10 for \$660 (including the buyer's premium).

For those who are aware that William Gillette smoked a curved wooden pipe, rather than a calabash, when he performed as "Sherlock Holmes" (no one has ever come up with a photograph or contemporary artwork that shows him with a calabash): a "Sherlock Holmes limited edition calabash rusticated estate smoking pipe" (presumably a briar) <[www.tinyurl.com/5d7x3w27](http://www.tinyurl.com/5d7x3w27)> was at auction this month, estimated at \$50-\$150; it sold for \$150.

Apr 22 #6 Mark F. McPherson's *An Irregular Life: Being the Adventures and Memoirs of a Fortunate Sherlockian* (London: MX Publishing, 2022; 539 pp., \$39.99) is the second (and greatly expanded) edition of his memoirs, and it's a great read, offering a chance to share his travels and quests (for Camelot, Atlantis, Jack the Ripper, James Bond, Emma Peel, and the Loch Ness Monster, among others); his meetings with interesting Sherlockians (including his mentor Bill Rabe) and non-Sherlockians; as well as his appearances in his own one-man show "An Evening with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle". Memoirs, of course, are much more fun than autobiographies.

"Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects from the Collection of Glen S. Miranker" at the Grolier Club in New York opened on Jan. 12 and closed on Apr. 16, and had 5,500 visits, more than any other exhibition in at least the last ten years, and would have had more if attendance had not been restricted during the pandemic. The exhibition next will be at the Lilly Library in Bloomington, Ind., Aug 1-Dec. 15; details will be found at Glen's web-site at <[www.sherlockin221objects.org](http://www.sherlockin221objects.org)>.

The Generic Radio Workshop <[www.genericradio.com](http://www.genericradio.com)> offers free downloads of a wide variety of old-time radio scripts, including ten from the Rathbone, Conway, and Gielgud series <[www.genericradio.com/series/sherlockholmes](http://www.genericradio.com/series/sherlockholmes)>, and the Mercury Theater broadcast of Orson Welles' version of the Gillette play <[www.genericradio.com/show/8VCGXSKAOS](http://www.genericradio.com/show/8VCGXSKAOS)>.

"Experience the mystery in VR" seems to be something new in the Sherlockian world. Les Enfants Terribles have created "The Case of the Hung Parliament" as a "live immersive production" that was adapted for an on-line audience on Zoom <[www.vrisch.com/projects/sherlock-holmes-vr](http://www.vrisch.com/projects/sherlock-holmes-vr)>. There's additional information at <[www.sherlockholmesvr.com](http://www.sherlockholmesvr.com)>, and even more about it at <[www.sherlockimmersive.com](http://www.sherlockimmersive.com)>. The review in the Evening Standard (Feb. 25, 2021) was far from enthusiastic <[www.tinyurl.com/4p24znp6](http://www.tinyurl.com/4p24znp6)>.

For fans of "The Lost World": the National Geographic's one-hour program "Explorer: The Last Tepui" began streaming on Disney+ on Apr. 22; you can watch the trailer at <[www.tinyurl.com/y8sc37jr](http://www.tinyurl.com/y8sc37jr)>. It's the story of an expedition to Wei-Assipu, also known as Little Roraima or Roramita (many believe that near-by Roraima was the inspiration for Conan Doyle's story).

Walt and Roger Reed's *The Illustrator in America 1880-1980: A Century of Illustration* (New York: Society of Illustrators, 1984) offers a detailed and well-illustrated discussion of American artists. The entry for Joseph Clement Coll ("perhaps America's greatest virtuoso in the use of pen and ink") includes artwork for "Sir Nigel" and "The Lost World", and the entry for Frederic Door Steele ("best remembered for is portray of Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes") shows a cover from Collier's.

"A wise man once said, if you've eliminated the possible and the probable, then the impossible must be true! Sherlock Holmes, I think: 1899." According to Peter Parker (aka Spider-man), in the May 1973 issue of Marvel Team-Up, noted by Paul Thomas Miller in the April issue of the Sherlockian Chronologist Guild's newsletter Timeline, conveniently available by e-mail from Brad Keefauver <[bkeefauver@gmail.com](mailto:bkeefauver@gmail.com)>.

Apr 22 #7 Rathbone and Bruce in 1959? They both signed a contract with NBC-TV on July 23, 1959, giving permission to use a photograph of them in a "reunion plug" <[www.tinyurl.com/2kx4szmd](http://www.tinyurl.com/2kx4szmd)>; the contract was at auction on Apr. 27, estimated at \$1,500-\$2,500; the photograph was not included, and there was no information on what the program was, or whether it aired. The lot was withdrawn, and for a good reason: Nigel Bruce died in 1953.

Terry Hunt's presentation at the Bryant Library in Roslyn, N.Y., on May 12 about Christopher Morley's connections with Sherlock Holmes will be available on-line <[www.tinyurl.com/5xhw3xxe](http://www.tinyurl.com/5xhw3xxe)>; Morley's "Knothole" is preserved in Roslyn, where he lived and wrote for many years.

Terry also has created a new Sherlockian society, the League of Kilted Canonicals, for Sherlockians who wear kilts; more information is available from him at <[sherlockstuff113@gmail.com](mailto:sherlockstuff113@gmail.com)>.

Theater news: Brian Guehring's "Sherlock Holmes and the 1st Baker Street Irregular" will be performed at the James McCabe Theatre in Valrico, Fla., May 6-21 <[www.thevillageplayersvalrico.com](http://www.thevillageplayersvalrico.com)>.

Allan Martin's "Sherlock Holmes and the Hound of the Basketballs" (a puppet show billed as "appropriate for mature audiences, not children") will be performed at the Old Town Hall in Altamonte, Ont., May 12-15; web-site at <[www.tinyurl.com/4hhzyes4](http://www.tinyurl.com/4hhzyes4)>.

John Nicholson and Steven Canny's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Keighley Playhouse in Keighley, West Yorks., on May 2-7 <[www.keighleyplyhouse.co.uk](http://www.keighleyplyhouse.co.uk)>; also at the Daneside Theatre in Congleton, Cheshire, from June 14 to June 18 <[www.congletonplayers.com](http://www.congletonplayers.com)>.

The Lantern Light Theatre Company will perform "Miss Sherlock Holmes" (a triple bill of one-act plays) on tour in Britain in June and July; their schedule is at <[www.tinyurl.com/yc23w4kw](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc23w4kw)>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" will be performed at the Park Square Theatre in St. Paul, Minn., July 12-Aug.21 <[www.parksquaretheatre.org](http://www.parksquaretheatre.org)>.

A new adaptation of "The Poison Belt" is due at the Jermyn Street Theatre in London, July 21-30 <[www.jermynstreettheatre.co.uk](http://www.jermynstreettheatre.co.uk)>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" will be performed at the Great Plains Theatre in Abilene, Kans., Sept. 9-25 <[www.greatplainstheatre.com](http://www.greatplainstheatre.com)>.

"Spontaneous Sherlock" will be performed at the Glee Club in Nottingham on Oct. 24 <[www.thespontaneousplayers.com](http://www.thespontaneousplayers.com)>.

Katie Forgette's "Sherlock Holmes and Case of the Jersey Lily" is due at the Alley Theatre in Houston, Apr. 14-May 7, 2023 <[www.alleytheatre.org](http://www.alleytheatre.org)>.

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

The Baker Street Irregulars Trust and the Lilly Library are now accepting applications for research fellowships for 2023. The fellowships "support research on various aspects of Sherlockian studies that require consultation of the BSI Archive." The applications deadline is Sept. 15, and more information is available at [www.tinyurl.com/yw8nttvd](http://www.tinyurl.com/yw8nttvd).

This year's BSI Trust annual webinar lecture will be given by Ray Betzner on Sept. 17 on "'221B': The Story of a Sherlockian Sonnet"; Ray is a fervent admirer of, and an expert on, the sonnet's author, Vincent Starrett [www.tinyurl.com/59krarua](http://www.tinyurl.com/59krarua). Ray's blog about Starrett has great stories about him and his books, and the latest story, about an unusual copy of one Starrett's non-Sherlockian books, is at [www.tinyurl.com/57bn88b2](http://www.tinyurl.com/57bn88b2).

More news about the Baker Street Irregulars' conference ("Sherlock Holmes and the British Empire") scheduled at the Bear Mountain Inn, N.Y., on July 29-31: there will be a huckster's room, with limited space for tables, and anyone interested should contact Ralph Hall [bugmanhall@aol.com](mailto:bugmanhall@aol.com). The announcement for the conference is at [www.tinyurl.com/56zskuus](http://www.tinyurl.com/56zskuus).

The Arthur Conan Doyle Encyclopedia, maintained by Alexis Barquin, is well worth exploring; one of the many features he offers is digital text of all of Conan Doyle's fiction [www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/search-fictions](http://www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/search-fictions) (213 short stories, 24 novels, and 16 plays), with a search engine.

"Sherlock the Musical" (written by Stefan van de Graaff and Denning Burton) has been performed and recorded, and can now be seen (without charge) at their web-site [www.sherlockmusical.com](http://www.sherlockmusical.com).

As the era of virtual meetings by Sherlockian societies eases to an end, Jennie Paton would like to capture for posterity an archive of recordings, and would appreciate hearing from societies who would like to have their meetings preserved [jpaton221@gmail.com](mailto:jpaton221@gmail.com).

The 2020 Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture was given at the Toronto Public Library by Rebecca Romney ("Sherlockian Collecting: A Tour of Clever, Creative, and Weird Pursuits") and her paper has now been published for members of The Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection; a limited number of copies are available to people who join the Friends now; their web-site at [www.acdfriends.org](http://www.acdfriends.org) has PayPal and credit-card capability, or you can contact Cliff Goldfarb (789 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON M4W 2G8, Canada). A minimum donation of \$35.00 brings you three issues of their newsletter and a copy of the 2021 Memorial Lecture. Rebecca has some grand stories about collectors and collections.

The spring issue of the Friends' newsletter The Magic Door offers Hartley R. Nathan's article on "Arthur Conan Doyle and the C.P.R. Securities", an account by Jessie Amaolo of the Library's exhibition "A Study in Sherlock & His Creator", and much more. You can request a copy of the newsletter from Cliff Goldfarb (address above) [cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca](mailto:cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca).



May 22 #2 *The Bangalore Detectives Club*, by Harini Nagendra (New York: Pegasus Crime, 2022), is set in southern India in 1921, when Kaveri Murthy, a young doctor's wife, turns detective; she's an admirer of Sherlock Holmes, and the novel, while not really Sherlockian, is full of flavor in a story about Indians, rather than the British, at a time when Mahatma Gandhi was just beginning his campaign against colonial rule.

The Beacon Society continues to publish its "quarterly gazette for younger Sherlockians everywhere," and the spring issue of Sherlock's Spotlight is available at their web-site <[www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com)>; the contents include material both by and for younger followers of the Great Detective.

Serena Blasco's *Enola Holmes: The Graphic Novels: Book One* (Kansas City: Andrews McMeel, 2022; 192 pp., \$14.99) is a reprint of her imaginative and colorful adaptations of the first three of Nancy Springer's novels about the younger sister of Sherlock and Mycroft, nicely timed for the soon-to-be-released second season of the Netflix series. There was a well-illustrated interview with the artist at the School Library Journal web-site in 2018 <[www.tinyurl.com/yyvw46ql](http://www.tinyurl.com/yyvw46ql)>.

Bart Lovins' dramatizations of "The Novel Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (the four long stories) for performance at the Hardin County Schools Performing Arts Center in Elizabethtown, Ky., are imaginatively staged, and available streamed on-line (\$5.00 each) at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8e4rbp](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8e4rbp)>.

The late Marvin Kaye edited the Sherlock Holmes Mystery Magazine since it was launched in 2008, and its new editor is Carla Kaessinger Coupe, whose first issue offers the traditional interesting mix of Sherlockian and non-Sherlockian fiction and commentary. \$12.00 (\$39.99 for four issues) from the Wildside Press <[www.wildsidepress.com](http://www.wildsidepress.com)> (7945 MacArthur Boulevard #215, Bethesda, MD 20818), and you can explore their web-site for more of their Sherlockiana.

When in Tyler (Texas): the Rosevine Inn Bed & Breakfast is place to stay for visiting Sherlockians <[www.tinyurl.com/yc2n63v8](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc2n63v8)>.

The Reichenbach Irregulars, having celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Reichenplaque (the commemorative plaque that was unveiled at the Falls on May 2, 1992), are hard at work planning for their next conference ("Musings on the Amusements in the Canon") which will be held in Leukerbad on June 1-4, 2023. More information about the conference (and the society) will be found at their web-site <[www.221b.ch](http://www.221b.ch)>.

Reported: "Sherlock Holmes: The Peter Cushing Interview" on a new DVD from Kaleidoscope Facilities (£24.99) <[www.tinyurl.com/4hkxrn5v](http://www.tinyurl.com/4hkxrn5v)>.

"Evaline and Mina didn't mean to get into the family business" is the hook for Colleen Gleason's *The Clockwork Scarab* (2013), the first of five books in her series about Evaline Holmes (the niece of Sherlock) and Mina Stoker (the sister of Bram), and their adventures in a steampunk Victorian London. There's a free download of the book at <[www.cgbks.com/Scarab](http://www.cgbks.com/Scarab)>, and more about the series at <[www.colleengleason.com](http://www.colleengleason.com)>.

May 22 #3 Edinburgh policeman James McLevy's *Curiosities of Crime in Edinburgh* and *The Sliding Scale of Life* were published in 1861, and although there's no record of Arthur Conan Doyle ever having read the books, it's intriguing to think of him encountering and enjoying them during his student days in Edinburgh; first editions of both books are available from Type Punch Matrix <[www.typepunchmatrix.com](http://www.typepunchmatrix.com)> (\$3,000).

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch continues; his latest interviews have been with Tamar Zeffren <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6L8ojyA4sU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6L8ojyA4sU)> and Marsha Pollak <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uIY6IntrLw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uIY6IntrLw)>.

Rachelle Zylberberg died on May 1. Better known as Régine, she founded a basement nightclub in Paris in 1957 (later claiming that it was the first discothèque) and went on to create a \$500-million world-wide empire of 23 clubs. She also was an actress and a singer, and led a thoroughly colorful life, and you can hear her sing "I Never Do Anything Twice" (written by Stephen Sondheim) as the Madame in the film "The Seven-Per-Cent Solution" (1976). You can listen to the song at <[www.tinyurl.com/23etp5vp](http://www.tinyurl.com/23etp5vp)>, and to an interesting podcast discussion of the song (noted by Max Magee) at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbOl8U1kNvc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbOl8U1kNvc)>.

Howard Ostrom has reported an interesting one-hour video-biography of Benedict Cumberbatch at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=tydks9RpJ2k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tydks9RpJ2k)>.

Patrick Horgan's *The Detection of Sherlock Holmes* is a "slightly fantastic autobiographic tale" written by an actor who played Sherlock Holmes often, and William Gillette once, in the world premiere of Ken Ludwig's "Dramatic License" (which is still performed as "Postmortem"). Never published as a book, it's available as an audio-book, recorded in 1998 by Horgan himself, from Decklin's Domain <[www.decklinsdomain.com](http://www.decklinsdomain.com)> (\$5.00 as a download, \$9.95 on CD or \$12.45 on a thumb drive); it's imaginative, and nicely done, and recommended. Decklin also offers nine downloads of Horgan reading the entire Canon, three more of Conan Doyle's non-Sherlockian stories, and many stories by other authors; you can sample them, and discover just how wonderful Horgan was.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Children of London" is a new musical graphic novel produced by the Baskerville Files <[www.thebaskervillefiles.com](http://www.thebaskervillefiles.com)>; you can listen to their music at their web-site and at <[www.tinyurl.com/yh723y3w](http://www.tinyurl.com/yh723y3w)>.

The Internet Archive Software Collection, said to be "the largest vintage and historical software library in the world, providing instant access to millions of programs, CD-ROM images, documents, and multi-media," has much to offer <[www.archive.org/details/software?sin=TXT](http://www.archive.org/details/software?sin=TXT)>. If you run a search for [sherlock holmes] you get 182 hits for metadata, and 103 hits for text contents. There's much of interest to Sherlockian gamers.

Max Magee notes that the Internet Archive also offers a treasure trove of Sherlockian radio broadcasts, including 74 BBC programs that were written by Bert Coules, with Clive Merrison as Sherlock Holmes; you can listen to them all at <[www.tinyurl.com/3b4k8d9j](http://www.tinyurl.com/3b4k8d9j)>. You can also search for [sherlock holmes audio] and find enough keep you happy for hours on end.

May 22 #4 "Sherlock Holmes in Comics" is a new "guide to Sherlock Holmes in comic books, graphic novels, and manga" created by Johanna Draper Carlson, who was interviewed by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder for "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" <[www.tinyurl.com/3pvdw9](http://www.tinyurl.com/3pvdw9)>, where you'll find much more, including the tale of "the gorgeous typeface that drove men mad and sparked a 100-year mystery." You can explore Johanna's colorful database at <[www.comicsworthreading.com/sherlock-holmes-in-comics](http://www.comicsworthreading.com/sherlock-holmes-in-comics)>.

Forrest T. Athey ("The Hammerford Will Case") died on Apr. 2. He worked in finance, accounting, and corporate taxation, was the author of a pastiche published in the Baker Street Journal in 1969, and received his Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 1978.

Howard Ostrom launched his "Who's on First, It's Not So Elementary: First Sherlocks by Country" data-base with 50 counties, and he now has 97 countries; you can see the latest 186-page, fully illustrated, version at Ross Foad's "No Place Like Holmes" web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/mr25sxbm](http://www.tinyurl.com/mr25sxbm)>. There also is a Google Drive version at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p89xxew](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p89xxew)>.

Roger Johnson has kindly noted a documentary about Craig's Court in London <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gwjMWfXd3g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gwjMWfXd3g)>; it's described as "London's forgotten square," and has a Sherlockian connection (if you're impatient, just skip ahead to 8:05).



Reichenbachite is a hydrous copper phosphate, a polymorph of pseudomalachite, first reported in 1977, named for the locality where it was found, and the name was formally approved by the International Mineralogical Association in 1984. Unfortunately for Sherlockians, the locality is a different Reichenbach, near Frankfurt am Main (Germany). Reichenbachite has been found elsewhere: this nice specimen, from the Congo, was spotted at a rock and mineral show by Michael Pollak.

Terry Hunt gave a PowerPoint presentation at the Bryant Library in Roslyn on May 12 about "Christopher Morley's Influence on the Sherlockian World" (and he'll be happy to do it via Zoom for Sherlockian societies); you can contact him at <[18goldini95@gmail.com](mailto:18goldini95@gmail.com)>.

The Conan Doyle Collection in Portsmouth, with funding from the Arts Council England, presented a series of on-line lectures this month, in honor of the late Neil McCaw, with talks by Michael Comben (on "Conan Doyle as A. C. Smith: Football and Portsmouth"), Antonija Primorac (on "In Search of Sherlock Holmes's Doubles: Translation and Early Pastiche"), and Anne Chapman (on "Arthur Conan Doyle in the Idler Magazine"); the lectures may be available on-line (stay tuned). Information about the Collection's ongoing project "The Detectives" is conveniently available at their web-site <[www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/our-work](http://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/our-work)>.

The De Beers Cullinan Blue diamond (Mar 22 #5) was sold at auction in Hong Kong on Apr. 27 for \$57.5 million (including the buyer's premium). Weighing 15.10 carats, it's the largest blue diamond ever sold at auction (the Hope Diamond, never at auction, weighs 45.52 carats).

May 22 #5 The ACD Society has launched a new project: an annotated version of the manuscript of "The Terror of Blue John Gap"; it's an on-going project, edited by Margie Deck and Nancy Holder, with commentary by Paul Chapman, Derek Belanger, Mattias Bóstrom, Charles Prepolec, and Bob Coghill, with more to come <[www.acdsociety.com/bjg/a/bjga.html](http://www.acdsociety.com/bjg/a/bjga.html)>. You can also go to <[www.acdsociety.com](http://www.acdsociety.com)> for more information about the society's other activities.

Here's your chance to own a Stradivarius (although you'll need to pay much more than Sherlock Holmes did for his): the Smithsonian magazine web-site reported (May 9) <[www.tinyurl.com/mtzyje9e](http://www.tinyurl.com/mtzyje9e)> that the Tarisio auction house will offer one on June 9, estimated at about \$20 million (which would make it the world's most expensive violin).

It was the Les and Laurie Show at the Mystery Writers of America's awards dinner in New York on Apr. 28: Les Klinger presented Laurie R. King with the MWA's prestigious Grand Master Award, and you can watch the presentation at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KvddnMlFT0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KvddnMlFT0)>.

Ingenuity, the little helicopter that has been flying nicely on Mars since 2021, when the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's rover Perseverance landed, is nearing the end of its useful life, according to an article in the Washington Post (May 15) <[www.tinyurl.com/2m6kevne](http://www.tinyurl.com/2m6kevne)>. SHERLOC and WATSON <[www.tinyurl.com/mswem6ev](http://www.tinyurl.com/mswem6ev)>, however, are still at work.

Jim Hawkins is hoping to identify the first Sherlockian society lapel pin. Ron De Waal has Hugo's Companions' "221B Lapel Pin" (1966), and the Scowrers and Molly Maguires' "Membership Lapel Pin" (1971). Does anyone know of other candidates? Contact Jim at <[seniorhawk@gmail.com](mailto:seniorhawk@gmail.com)>.

"Hitler the ranting detective" <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=SrUiKl4LDbs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SrUiKl4LDbs)> is a new video spotted by Jennie Paton. See for yourself: "Hitler proves how easy Sherlock Holmes' mysteries are by solving them!"

The Florida Bibliophile Society held an on-line meeting on Apr. 19, with Ray Betzner as guest speaker; his topic was "Vincent Starrett and Sherlock Holmes" and you can tune in at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNM8DAGyClA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNM8DAGyClA)>. Ray notes that his presentation starts at 9:30.

Douglas Wadle's *Einstein's Violin: The Love Affair Between Science, Music, and History's Most Creative Thinkers* (Bloomington: Archway, 2022; 215 pp., \$33.95) is aptly subtitled: the author does a deep dive into the relationship between music and genius, acknowledging how important music has been to Albert Einstein, Sherlock Holmes, and many others who "relied on music to access the innate creativity of the brain."

Overton Audios has produced two interesting albums of Sherlock Holmes pastiches "The Game Is On" and "Family Values" (with Connor Chadwick as Sherlock Holmes and Daniel J. Patton as Doctor John Watson), available free at their YouTube channel <[www.tinyurl.com/3sfak72h](http://www.tinyurl.com/3sfak72h)> (scroll down to find the Sherlock Holmes audios).

May 22 #6 Conan Doyle wrote (in his Preface to *His Last Bow*) that Sherlock Holmes "lived in a small farm upon the Downs five miles from Eastbourne." But we don't know whether he ever stayed at the Grand Hotel in Eastbourne, which opened in 1875 and is the only five-star hotel on the British coastline, according to an article at the Sussex Life web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/2xne2dnj](http://www.tinyurl.com/2xne2dnj)>. The article also says that the Grand was "beloved by illustrious guests such as Winston Churchill and author Arthur Conan Doyle," and the hotel web-site <[www.grandeastbourne.com/our-history](http://www.grandeastbourne.com/our-history)> does mention him (and shows just how grand a hotel it is).

Steve Mason has created an imaginative and colorful Sherlockian Periodical Table, available on request <[mason.steve8080@gmail.com](mailto:mason.steve8080@gmail.com)>.

Ray Wilcockson continues to make interesting discoveries in the pages of digitized newspapers, and reports on them in his "Markings" blog, such as "Sherlock Holmes and the Crippen Musical" <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9stkk8](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9stkk8)>

William Shatner celebrated Arthur Conan Doyle's birthday in song on May 22 <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=jundQrVHXyY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jundQrVHXyY)>.

D. H. Friston is well known to Sherlockians as the illustrator of "A Study in Scarlet" in Beeton's Christmas Annual for 1887; you can see his cover illustration for the Jan. 28, 1882, issue of The Penny Illustrated Paper at <[www.tinyurl.com/348zc8hj](http://www.tinyurl.com/348zc8hj)>.

Theater news: Richard James' "The Death of Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at the Conquest Theatre in Bromyard, Herts., on June 17; website at <[www.conquest-theatre.co.uk](http://www.conquest-theatre.co.uk)>.

"Sherlock Holmes Not According to Doyle" (four radio plays dramatized by Catherine Behrens) will be performed by the Edge Ensemble Theatre Company at the Keene Public Library in Keene, N.H.; Mark Twain's "Sherlock Holmes Goes West" and August Derleth's "The Adventure of the Late Mr. Faversham" on July 21 and July 23; and Derrick Belanger's "Yes, Virginia, There Is a Sherlock Holmes" and Vincent Starrett's "The Unique Hamlet" on July 22 and July 24. Free admission, and all part of "Sherlock Week" sponsored by the Monadnock Sherlockians (the local Sherlockian society).

"Holmes/Poirot" (a new play by Jeffrey Hatcher and Steve Hendrickson) will be performed at the Park Square Theatre in St. Paul, Minn., July 19-Aug. 20, 2023; it's based on Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Links" and brings "two of the greatest detectives of all time" on stage to solve a crime.

The Crime and Comedy Theatre Company will perform Martin Parsons' radio-play dramatization of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" on tour in Britain, Oct. 28-Nov. 20 <[www.crimeandcomedytheatrecompany.co.uk/dates](http://www.crimeandcomedytheatrecompany.co.uk/dates)>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" has been scheduled at the Everyman Theatre in Baltimore, Md., Dec. 6-Jan. 1 <[www.everymantheatre.org](http://www.everymantheatre.org)>.

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

Many Sherlockians have seen and enjoyed the International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition, which is at the Frost Science Center in Miami, Fla., through Sept. 5 <[www.frostscience.org/exhibition/sherlock-holmes](http://www.frostscience.org/exhibition/sherlock-holmes)>. It will next be at the Minnesota History Center in St Paul, Minn., from Oct. 20 through Apr. 6 <[www.mnhs.org/historycenter](http://www.mnhs.org/historycenter)>. Created by the Exhibits Development Group, the exhibition has an impressive web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/4sv5jdj3](http://www.tinyurl.com/4sv5jdj3)> where the company promotes the exhibition to museums that might consider putting it on display.

*Sherlock Holmes and the Strange Death of Brigadier-General Delves*, by Tim Symonds (London: MX Publishing, 2022; 168 pp., \$12.95), brings Holmes and Watson to the Bailiwick of Guernsey to rescue a war-time comrade of Watson from conviction on a charge of murder; there is much about Guernsey (where the author grew up), and the ill-fated British campaign in Afghanistan.

A nice copy of Vincent Starrett's *The Unique Hamlet* (a Walter L. Hill variant) was at auction in Canada last month <[www.tinyurl.com/yp7ak8s6](http://www.tinyurl.com/yp7ak8s6)>, estimated at CA\$1,500-CA\$3,000; it didn't sell.

Kay Wheeler had a nice remembrance of Basil Rathbone in the Portland Press Herald (May 26) <[www.tinyurl.com/45kdr69z](http://www.tinyurl.com/45kdr69z)>.

Wanda Dow, formerly in Florida and now in New Mexico, has launched a colorful newsletter ("Papers on the Sundial"); it's available on request via e-mail from Wanda at <[hal0tot@verizon.net](mailto:hal0tot@verizon.net)>.

*Playing with Fire: The Weird Tales of Arthur Conan Doyle*, edited and introduced by Mike Ashley (London: British Library, 2021; 286 pp. £11.31), is an excellent addition to the British Library Hardback Classics series; in his Introduction, Ashley discusses Conan Doyle's fascination with the strange and supernatural, and the collection opens with a reprint of his autobiographical essay "Stranger Than Fiction" (first published in 1915) and continues with a fine selection of his non-Sherlockian stories.

Richard L. Kellogg's *Barry Baskerville's Fishing Adventure* (Fort Collins: Airship 27, 2022; 40 pp., \$11.99), with attractive artwork by Gary Kato, is the eighth in his young-readers series about a boy detective.

Users of the Internet who aren't aware of Cunningham's Law might well be interested in how it works <[www.tinyurl.com/3sh3f8r5](http://www.tinyurl.com/3sh3f8r5)>. Or doesn't.

Baker Street West (in Jackson, Calif.) has emerged from the pandemic with a wide range of dramatic and other events, and their web-site's well worth exploring <[www.bakerstreetwest.com](http://www.bakerstreetwest.com)>.

Stephen Browning's *On the Trail of Sherlock Holmes* (Barnsley: Pen & Sword History, 2022; 141 pp., \$34.95) offers seven guided walks through London, for both armchair and on-the-ground Sherlockians, plus information about areas outside London and about Conan Doyle; it's up-to-date, and interesting, with commentary about what's seen on the walks.

Jun 22 #2 Sherlock Holmes with googly eyes <[www.tinyurl.com/2u8a8euh](http://www.tinyurl.com/2u8a8euh)> is something new for the Great Detective. Slate's web-site used the image with their story about the new movie "Everything Everywhere All at Once" (Howard Ostrom notes that the web-site has enhanced a stock image showing "a mature man dressed as Sherlock Holmes").

Thomas Bruce Wheeler's *The Mapped London of Sherlock Holmes* (2018) links to an interactive "Map of Sherlock Holmes' London" available free on-line <[www.sherlockslondon.com](http://www.sherlockslondon.com)>; it's a splendid demonstration of the application of modern technology to the London of the Canon. It's handy indeed for people who are walking in Canonical London, and Tom has reported that since his book was published an average of 266 people a day have visited the web-site.

Disney's Twentieth Century Studios is at work on a new film of "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen", according to the Hollywood Reporter (May 17) <[www.tinyurl.com/yxwdunrf](http://www.tinyurl.com/yxwdunrf)>. The comic-book series, launched in 1999, included Holmes and Watson as characters, and had the League organized by an off-stage Mycroft, and the first film (2003), had Richard Roxburgh as Moriarty. The new film is to be aired on Hulu.

The Royal Mint does much more than merely issue British coins: they also offer souvenirs, and rare coins such as a set of 1887 gold sovereigns honoring Queen Victoria's golden jubilee (£6,430) <[www.tinyurl.com/3xkmrzm8](http://www.tinyurl.com/3xkmrzm8)>.

The "John Bennett Shaw" web-site <[www.johnbennettshaw.com](http://www.johnbennettshaw.com)> maintained by Jim Hawkins continues to expand: a text search for [here's a video] will take you to a report on his recent visit with Saul Cohen, who was a founding member of the Brothers Three of Moriarty.

"The Case of the Hung Parliament" (a "live immersive production" created by Les Enfants Terribles) (Apr 22 #6) is now being performed on-line by the Shanghai Grand Theater, according to a report in China Daily (June 24) <[www.tinyurl.com/pjme6zhc](http://www.tinyurl.com/pjme6zhc)>.

Reported: Conan Doyle's non-Sherlockian "Playing with Fire" is included in Brendan Connell's anthology *The Zinzolin Book of Occult Fiction* (Snuggly Books, 2022; 334 pp., \$22.00).

A bloodhound named Trumpet won best in show at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show this month, which might not seem Sherlockian. But the report on "Today" on NBC-TV on June 23 <[tinyurl.com/ms4jmjs3](http://tinyurl.com/ms4jmjs3)> included an appropriate and amusing clip from the Fred Willard movie "Best in Show" (2000)

Ray Wilcockson enjoys research in digitized newspapers, and has discovered that Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes were in Dublin in 1897, and again in 1899 <[www.altamarkings.blogspot.com/2020](http://www.altamarkings.blogspot.com/2020)>. A nice opportunity for pasticheurs.

"How to Catch a Cheater Using Math" is the title of a video noted by Jennie Paton <[www.tinyurl.com/3955ujmk](http://www.tinyurl.com/3955ujmk)> that has a Sherlockian blob explaining frequency hypothesis testing (Dana Richards, who's an expert at this sort of thing, says it's a remarkably clear explanation).

Jun 22 #3 The single page from the manuscript of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" went unsold at Heritage Auctions on June 4 when the reserve wasn't met. It was available for purchase for \$125,000 for a few days from Heritage Auctions, but is no longer offered. The web-site's at <[www.tinyurl.com/4yfk6rj6](http://www.tinyurl.com/4yfk6rj6)>. A different single page from the manuscript sold last year for \$423,000 (including the buyer's premium) (Nov 21 #5). Obviously the underbidder in that auction wasn't interested in the page offered this year.

"Why would someone wake up and claim they're Napoleon? The answer: something of a fixed idea." Which of course reminds one of the *idée fixe* mentioned in "The Six Napoleons". Victoria Shepherd will be lecturing about "A History of Delusions" on-line for National Archives on July 13, and you can read all about it at <[www.tinyurl.com/963yw93n](http://www.tinyurl.com/963yw93n)>. There's also Laure Murat's book *The Man Who Thought He Was Napoleon: Toward a Political History of Madness* (2014), for those who might want to pursue this particular delusion. And Daniel Freeman's BBC Radio 4 lecture on "Napoleon and 'Delusions of Grandeur'" is at <[www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0007lh6](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0007lh6)>

"Musings on Amusements in the Canon" is the title of the next conference scheduled by the Reichenbach Irregulars in Leukerbad, Switzerland, on June 1-4, 2023 <[www.221b.ch/Events\\_e.html](http://www.221b.ch/Events_e.html)> and visitors from far and near are welcome to attend (and have in the past, reporting having a grand time).

Richard Gordon played Sherlock Holmes (with Leigh Lovell as Watson) on radio in 1930-1933) and in the film "The Radio Murder Mystery" (1933), and (with Harry West as Watson) on radio in 1936. Now Ray Wilcockson has discovered that Gordon also played Holmes on stage; you can read all about it in Ray's "Markings" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/t4a6x8sc](http://www.tinyurl.com/t4a6x8sc)>.

Cole Porter's classic musical "Anything Goes" (1934) has a rather tenuous Sherlockian connection, and a production at the Barbican in London in 2021 was filmed. You can watch it on-line at <[www.tinyurl.com/ycktz6sj](http://www.tinyurl.com/ycktz6sj)>; it's all great fun, and the Sherlockian scene starts at 65 minutes.

An article in the Indian Express (June 6) <[www.tinyurl.com/yahcd6m2](http://www.tinyurl.com/yahcd6m2)> includes an image of the Sappers War Memorial in Bengaluru, and there is a Canonical connection: the 1st Bangalore Pioneers (mentioned in "The Empty House") are thought to have been the 1st Madras Pioneers, a regiment that was raised by the British in 1780; it was disbanded in 1933 and absorbed into the Madras Sappers.

"Dr. Watson and Sherlock Holmes are tracking a criminal mastermind in the present-day United States. Watson lists out the states the mastermind has visited in alphabetical order. They are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Watson stares at the list, but he can't make out any sort of pattern. But Holmes' eyes light up. 'Why, it's elementary, my dear Watson!'" That's a problem posed by Eric Snyder at the Riddler Express at Zach Wissner-Gross' "FiveThirtyEight" web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/ybthfnar](http://www.tinyurl.com/ybthfnar)>. So: what's the pattern?



Jun 22 #4 Philip Purser-Hallard's *Sherlock Holmes: Masters of Lies* (New York: Titan, 2022; 257 pp., \$15.95) is a complicated and entertaining pastiche, set in London in 1898, that pits Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes, Dr. Watson, and Stanley Hopkins against a clever mastermind who is skilled at forgery, impersonation, and murder.

Further to the report (Apr 22 #4) on the Sherlock Holmes Experience at the Knockhatch Adventure Park in Sussex, there's now a walk-through video at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4SatfMwbHE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4SatfMwbHE)>.

So: what is the pattern in the Riddler Express puzzle (Jun 22 #3)? It's element-ary.

Howard Ostrom's "The A-Z of Sherlock Holmes Performers" data-base now has more than 8,000 people who have appeared as Sherlock Holmes, or in Sherlockian costume <[www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html](http://www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html)>.

Japanese interest in Sherlock Holmes continues: there's now a translation of Roger Johnson and Jean Upton's *The Sherlock Holmes Miscellany* (Nov 12 #5), translated and edited by Masamichi Higurashi; you can see the colorful cover at <[www.tinyurl.com/ywkf75bk](http://www.tinyurl.com/ywkf75bk)>.

*Mr. Doyle's Class Presents A Study in Scarlet* is a delightful graphic novel published by the Conan Doyle Collection in Portsmouth in 2020 (70 pp., £10.00) <[www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/shop](http://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/shop)>; adapted by Matthew Hardy for ages 7-11, it's an imaginative presentation of the story, with attractive art by Russell Mark Olson.

The Genesee Country Village & Museum in Mumford, N.Y., "the largest living history museum in New York state," will help you "step into the history, mystery, and culinary delights" of Sherlock Holmes on Aug. 6-7; their website's at <[www.gcv.org/events/a-novel-weekend](http://www.gcv.org/events/a-novel-weekend)>.

There are more and more Sherlockian tattoos to be seen, thanks to the Internet <[www.tinyurl.com/yc2ujv42](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc2ujv42)>, and some of them are both imaginative and artistic.

Max Magee has noted the "Raffles Redux" web-site <[www.rafflesredux.com](http://www.rafflesredux.com)>, where Sarah Morrissey and Genevieve L. Morrissey offer annotated versions of E. W. Hornung's "Raffles" stories, and his play "A Visit from Raffles" (1909), in which H. A. Saintsbury played the title role, making him one of the very few actors who have played both Raffles and Sherlock Holmes.

Treefort Media has produced a ten-episode audio mini-series "Moriarty: The Devil's Game" that will be available at Audible on July 7; you can listen to a sample at <[www.audible.com/pd/Moriarty-Podcast/B0B2DZBVRR](http://www.audible.com/pd/Moriarty-Podcast/B0B2DZBVRR)>.

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch continues; his latest interviews have been with Henry Boote <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=xK6KI813AiM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xK6KI813AiM)> and with Evelyn Herzog <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeQGdELPI1A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeQGdELPI1A)>. Steve himself was featured in print in an interview in his hometown Zionsville Current on June 13 <[www.tinyurl.com/k6jb3ptb](http://www.tinyurl.com/k6jb3ptb)>.

Jun 22 #5    Reported: "The Lion's Mane" reprinted in *Guilty Creatures: A Menagerie of Mysteries*, edited by Martin Edwards (Scottsdale: Poisoned Pen, 2022; 308 pp., \$14.54); the American edition of the British Library's anthology of mysteries in which animals play an important role. Amazon's "look inside" feature offers a chance to read the introduction, in which Edwards discusses Conan Doyle, and Heard's *A Taste for Honey*.

"Tribute to Sherlock Holmes on the Occasion of His Hundredth Birthday" was a 30-minute program broadcast by the BBC Home Service on Jan. 8, 1954, and it included Dennis Arundell (as Lord Peter Wimsey), recalling how he had once met Sherlock Holmes, in a segment written by Dorothy L. Sayers. The program has not survived, but her script was published in *Sayers on Holmes* (2001), and Allyn Gibson has found it at the "One Other Gaudy Night" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/46s82jbh](http://www.tinyurl.com/46s82jbh)>.

Jennie Paton found a nice video tour ("Barcelona's Best Kept Secret") of the Biblioteca Pública Arús, which houses Joan Proubasta's extensive collection of Sherlockiana and Doyleana <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfUR13xGOQQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfUR13xGOQQ)> (the tour of his collection starts at 9:49).

An attractive oil-on-canvas painting by Walter Paget showing King Henry V at Agincourt was at auction this month <[www.tinyurl.com/m78sssbsj](http://www.tinyurl.com/m78sssbsj)>, with an estimate of \$5,500-\$8,250. Walter Paget (Sidney Paget's younger brother) illustrated "The Dying Detective", and this painting might well be considered Sherlockian since (according to Shakespeare) Henry V proclaimed "the game's afoot" long before Sherlock Holmes did. The painting didn't sell, presumably because bidding didn't reach the reserve set by whoever bought the painting for \$5,000 earlier this year.

"Evaline and Mina didn't mean to get into the family business" is the hook for Colleen Gleason's series about Evaline Holmes (the niece of Sherlock) and Mina Stoker (the sister of Bram), set in a steampunk Victorian London. *The Carnelian Crow* (Avid, 2017; 256 pp., \$19.99) and *The Zeppelin Deception* (Avid, 2019; 290 pp., \$23.95) are the last of a five-book series of young-adult novels aimed at teen-age girls, and the stories offer romance, villainy, and lots of energy and excitement. The author's web-site is at <[www.stokerandholmes.com](http://www.stokerandholmes.com)>.

The Mini-Tonga Scion Society may be inactive, but people still are having fun creating Sherlockian miniatures: Samantha Wolov has noted Jamie Robertson's post to Instagram <[www.tinyurl.com/4svnnkxw](http://www.tinyurl.com/4svnnkxw)>.

The manuscript of "The Greek Interpreter" (owned by the late David Karpeles) will be offered at Heritage Auctions on July 16 with an opening bid of \$100,000, with no reserve <[www.tinyurl.com/3e5a7sfk](http://www.tinyurl.com/3e5a7sfk)>. Randall Stock's detailed page about the manuscript is at <[www.tinyurl.com/yc79d8j8](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc79d8j8)>.

There also will be some nice Sherlockiana and Doyleana in Heritage's sale 6253 (July 27-28) <[www.tinyurl.com/2p93r9mf](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p93r9mf)>, including Collier's *Once a Week Library* (1891, the first American edition of "The Sign of the Four") and the three-volume set of *Dreamland and Ghostland* (1887, with five non-Sherlockian stories, Conan Doyle's first appearance in a book in Britain).

Jun 22 #6 A copy of a later edition of *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, signed and inscribed by Conan Doyle to Lady Sackville, will be at auction on July 6 <[www.tinyurl.com/nbe5y8d4](http://www.tinyurl.com/nbe5y8d4)>, estimated at €400-€500. Victoria Sackville-West, a colorful lady <[www.tinyurl.com/55fvt64w](http://www.tinyurl.com/55fvt64w)>, isn't as well-known now as her daughter Vita Sackville West.

"You don't happen to have a Raphael or a first folio Shakespeare without knowing it?" asked Sherlock Holmes (in "The Three Gables"). A copy of the First Folio will be at auction at Sotheby's on July 21. Read all about it at <[www.tinyurl.com/5xp59nwd](http://www.tinyurl.com/5xp59nwd)>.

Who knew? Sherlock was in Ballarat. Well, it was Jim Sherlock, and the Ballarat is in California, noted by Jennie Paton. It's a ghost town now, and according to Wikipedia <[www.tinyurl.com/yhfdnwz2](http://www.tinyurl.com/yhfdnwz2)> it has one permanent resident. There's much more about Ballarat, and about some of its colorful residents, at <[www.desertusa.com/desert-california/ballararat.html](http://www.desertusa.com/desert-california/ballararat.html)>.

Theater news: Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is due at the Burgfestspiele in Jagthausen, Germany, July 1-Aug. 25 <[www.burgfestspiele-jagsthausen.de](http://www.burgfestspiele-jagsthausen.de)>, and at the Lamb's Player Theatre in Coronado, Calif., on Oct. 1-Nov. 20 <[www.lampsplayer.org](http://www.lampsplayer.org)>.

The Our Star Theatre Company began touring James Barry's "Sherlock's Excellent Adventure" in Britain on July 1 <[www.ourstartheatrecompany.com](http://www.ourstartheatrecompany.com)>.

Eric Coble's "Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" will be performed at the Riverlea Theatre in Hamilton, New Zealand, July 2-16; website at <[www.riverleatheatre.com](http://www.riverleatheatre.com)>.

Todd Wallinger's "The Enchanted Bookshop" will be performed at the Royal Off-the-Square Theater in Brownstown, Ind., July 15-23 <[www.jcct.org](http://www.jcct.org)>.

The Gotham Radio Theatre will perform "Sherlock Holmes: Redheads and Bohemians (a dramatization of the two stories) at the Bedford Playhouse in Bedford, N.Y., on July 16 <[www.bedfordplayhouse.org](http://www.bedfordplayhouse.org)>.

Nick Lane's new "Sherlock Holmes: The Valley of Fear" will be touring in Britain beginning at the Wilde Theatre in Bracknell, Berks., on Sept. 14 <[www.blackeyedtheatre.co.uk](http://www.blackeyedtheatre.co.uk)>.

"Watson: The Last Great Tale of the Legendary Sherlock Holmes" (by Jaime Robledo) has been scheduled at the CVIC Hall in Minden, Nev., Oct. 14-23 <[www.carsonvalleycommunitytheatre.org](http://www.carsonvalleycommunitytheatre.org)>.

Stephen Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" is due at the Portland Stage in Portland, Maine, Oct. 26-Nov. 13 <[www.portlandstage.org](http://www.portlandstage.org)>.

Nick Scovell's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Problem" will be performed at the TPS Studio in Petersfield, Hants., Nov. 2-5 <[www.thestudiotps.com](http://www.thestudiotps.com)>.

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

"Sherlock Holmes Authors Raise \$100,000 for Undershaw" was the headline on a press release (June 30) <[www.einpresswire.com/article/575368182](http://www.einpresswire.com/article/575368182)> about the generosity of authors who have contributed their royalties from the MX Publishing's *Book of New Sherlock Holmes Stories* series to support the DFN Foundation's school for children with learning disabilities that now uses the first home that Conan Doyle built in Surrey. The series was launched in 2015 by editor David Marcum and now has 33 volumes of traditional Sherlock Holmes stories by more than 200 authors; there's detailed information about the series at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9axp9j](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9axp9j)>, and the school's web-site is at <[www.undershaw.education](http://www.undershaw.education)>.

Registration's now open for "Jubilee @221B" in Toronto, Sept. 23-26. More information about the conference, sponsored by the Bootmakers of Toronto and the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library, will be found at <[www.acdfriends.org/jubilee221b.html](http://www.acdfriends.org/jubilee221b.html)>.

Les Klinger and Bert Coules were interviewed by Jon Rees and Karl Coppack on July 16 on their "Sherlock: From Adler to Amberley" blog available at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc7v7V5IZtQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc7v7V5IZtQ)>, and had interesting things to say about the Canon, and what people have done with or to it (their interview starts at 23:00). You're also welcome to visit their web-sites at <[www.lesliesklinger.com](http://www.lesliesklinger.com)> and <[www.bertcoules.co.uk](http://www.bertcoules.co.uk)>.

Sherlock Holmes isn't all that well known, it would appear: a collection of twenty DVDs with "TV Classics" <[www.ebay.com/p/6471353](http://www.ebay.com/p/6471353)> was issued in 2003, and the classic heroes whose portraits were on the cases did not include Sherlock Holmes.

Jennie Paton has found "The Private Eyes" (1980) at Dailymotion; it's a comedy that starred Don Knotts as Inspector Winship and Tim Conway as Dr. Tart in Canonical costume <[www.dailymotion.com/playlist/x733x1](http://www.dailymotion.com/playlist/x733x1)>, but without the scene reported in the original release in which Conway wore Sherlockian costume when Dr. Tart impersonated Inspector Winship.

The spring issue of the Baker Street Irregulars Trust's electronic newsletter For the Sake of the Trust, now edited by Ray Betzner, has been uploaded to the Trust's web-site <[www.bsitrust.org](http://www.bsitrust.org)>; there's an article by Bob Coghill about his adventures with the carboard box(es), and other news about the Trust's activities, and you're more than welcome to explore the Trust's web-site.

"The Literary Lounge is an exclusive speakeasy-style pop-up event inspired by Sherlock Holmes. Complete with cigar+port pairings, signature cocktails—including a CBD-infused drink, a limited bites menu, and views of beautiful Kansas Avenue from the private third-floor balcony. It's elementary, my dear. Bring your most cunning and clever friends for an evening of literary libations and fun." That's the promotion for an occasional event at the Cyrus Hotel in Topeka <[www.tinyurl.com/4868tb2t](http://www.tinyurl.com/4868tb2t)>; there's more about the hotel at <[www.cyrushotel.com](http://www.cyrushotel.com)> (in case you want to spend a night there reading "The Three Garridebs").

Jul 22 #2 The June issue of the quarterly newsletter of The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota offers Tim Johnson's long interview with Larry Millett about the past and future history of his series of novels about Sherlock Holmes and Shadwell Rafferty, and Musings by Julie McKuras in which she announces her retirement after 23 years of editing the newsletter. Copies are available from Tim Johnson (Elmer L. Anderson Library #15-G, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455).

June L. Kinnee ("Miss Hatty Doran") died on May 25, 2022. She was a long-time member of the Trained Cormorants of Los Angeles County and one of the founders of the Curious Collectors of Baker Street, and for many years an enthusiastic ticket-seller for the Watson Fund raffle. June received her Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 1999.

"The Adventure of the Trying Detective" is the latest "Baker Street Elementary" comic book from Joe Fay and Rusty and Steve Mason. You can find all of their comic books (and their comic strip) at the Crew of the Barque *Lone Star* web-site <[www.dfw-sherlock.org/baker-street-elementary.html](http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/baker-street-elementary.html)>.

*Sherlock Holmes and the Fiends of New York City* is the latest in the series of excellent audio recording by Big Finish; Nicholas Briggs stars as Sherlock Holmes, with Richard Earl as Watson and a strong supporting cast, in an interesting story written by Jonathan Barnes; 180 minutes on three CDs (\$30.25 CD+download or \$19.99 download only), and you can listen to a sample at their web-site <[www.bigfinish.com](http://www.bigfinish.com)>, where you'll find many other recordings available.

Roraima (the Venezuelan tepui considered by many to be the inspiration for "The Lost World") seems to be getting crowded: there's another documentary film ("House of the Gods") <[www.vimff.org/film/house-of-the-gods](http://www.vimff.org/film/house-of-the-gods)> that has not yet made it to television, but you can watch a trailer for the film at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKhEpe8Rzww](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKhEpe8Rzww)>.

Something new in Sherlockian artwork: "The Case of the Dueling Sherlocks" and "Sherlock Holmes at the Tower of London" are two performance-art photographs offered by Robert Kawika Sheer <[www.spiritshadows.net](http://www.spiritshadows.net)>; you can search for [sherlock] to find them easily.

Erika Kobayashi reminisces about "On Growing Up in a Household of Sherlock Translators" in a nice article at Crime Reads <[www.tinyurl.com/2p88wmdu](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p88wmdu)>. Her father was the late Tsukasa Kobayashi and her mother is Akane Higashiyama; they were co-founders of the Japan Sherlock Holmes Club, and Akane is its president.

John Wesley Anderson's *Sherlock Holmes in Little London: 1896 The Missing Year* (Colorado Springs: Circle Star, 2020; 303 pp., \$29.95) has Holmes and Watson, commissioned by the Queen herself, in hot pursuit of counterfeiters in a case that involves travel around the world, and keeps them busy for an entire year. "Little London" is Colorado Springs (the author is a Colorado historian), and they spend much of the year in the American west. The author's web-site is at <[www.jwander.com](http://www.jwander.com)>.

Jul 22 #3 "The Masks of Death" (1984) was a British television film that was broadcast in 1984, with Peter Cushing as Holmes and John Mills as Watson, and some fine supporting actors (including Anne Baxter, Ray Milland, and Gordon Baxter); it was issued on a VHS cassette, but apparently never on DVD, and it is nice indeed that Jennie Paton has found it available at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFdSse40-Qk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFdSse40-Qk)>.

It's a thoroughly tenuous connection, unless there's really a connection between Sherlock Holmes and Nero Wolfe, but there's the pilot for a "Nero Wolfe" television series, made for CBS-TV 1959, that never was broadcast, reported by Lenny Picker <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=9\\_AoebAAig4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_AoebAAig4)>: "Count the Man Down" starred Kurt Kaznar as Nero and William Shatner as Archie, many years before Shatner played Stapleton in Stewart Granger's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1972).

"A Small Study of Ink Marks" is a new Sherlockian society founded by Monica Schmidt; their motto is "Have Sherlockian ink (tattoos)? Join us!" If you qualify, contact Monica at 1640 Deborah Drive NE, Solon, IA 52333, or <[sweeper887@gmail.com](mailto:sweeper887@gmail.com)>.

"Sherlock's Mystery" (reported by Jennie Paton at YouTube) is impressive <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=vWqlaaYuOXo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vWqlaaYuOXo)>.

Dan Stashower's next book will be *American Demon: Eliot Ness and the Hunt for America's Jack the Ripper*, due from Minotaur in September; Dan assures his fellow Sherlockians that Sherlock Holmes is mentioned in the book, and you can read Lenny Picker's interview with Dan in Publishers Weekly (July 1) <[www.tinyurl.com/hvbwxxzus](http://www.tinyurl.com/hvbwxxzus)>.

*My Scientific Methods*, edited by Dana Richards (New York: Baker Street Irregulars, 2022; 244 pp., \$39.95), the next title in the BSI's Professions Series, explores "science in the Sherlockian Canon" and includes scholarship about most of the sciences that appear in the stories, and about Conan Doyle himself as a scientist, concluding with Ashley Polasek's essay "Techno-Rebel: A Case for Steampunk Holmes". The book can be ordered at <[www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/tag/books](http://www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/tag/books)>.

Harvey Dinnerstein died on June 21. He was a noted artist and educator, best known for his sketches of the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1956 and the trials that followed. He also provided illustrations for *Tales of Sherlock Holmes*, a collection published by Macmillan in 1963; you can see one of his illustrations for the book at <[www.weheartit.com/entry/316527741](http://www.weheartit.com/entry/316527741)>.

There have been many bush fires reported in Australia, including one near Sherlock Station in Western Australia. Sherlock Station has an entry at Wikipedia <[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherlock\\_Station](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherlock_Station)>, without information on who named it, and why. But there's a Sherlock River not far from the Station. The river was named on July 11, 1861 by the surveyor and explorer Frank Gregory while on expedition in the area (according to Wikipedia), too early to be Canonical; Gregory's report is available on-line <[www.gutenberg.org/files/10461/10461-h/10461-h.htm](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/10461/10461-h/10461-h.htm)>, but he says only that he named the river Sherlock and doesn't say why.

Jul 22 #4 The Smithsonian Magazine has reported that the oldest footage of New Orleans has been found (in Amsterdam), with a two-minute view of an 1898 Mardi Gras parade <[www.tinyurl.com/ys2j2caz](http://www.tinyurl.com/ys2j2caz)>. There's nothing known of what happened to "Samson of New Orleans" (mentioned in "A Study in Scarlet", but if he still was there in 1898, here's what he might have seen <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=65DpZ\\_0nByE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65DpZ_0nByE)>.

If you've been using Google Images <[www.images.google.com](http://www.images.google.com)> to find images on the Internet, you might also consider TinEye <[www.tinyeye.com](http://www.tinyeye.com)>, noted by Brandon Daniel; TinEye is an archive of (as of June 2022) 54.3 billion images, and uses Application Programming Interfaces to help you with all sorts of things, including image verification.

And there's more about Sherlock in Western Australia: there's also a Sherlock Bay, named after the river, and the Sherlock Bay Project, which is a nickel-copper-cobalt deposit waiting for development as an open-pit mine <[www.miningdataonline.com/property/262/Sherlock-Bay-Project.aspx](http://www.miningdataonline.com/property/262/Sherlock-Bay-Project.aspx)>.

Bill Barnes notes that there also is a Sherlock in South Australia ("two or three buildings at most, situated on a highway." It apparently was officially named in 1907, with "no research so far on the relevance of the name" <[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherlock,\\_South\\_Australia](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sherlock,_South_Australia)>.

Alexis Soloski's article "The Shape-Shifting Sherlock Holmes, Now Playing the Villain" in the N.Y. Times (July 6) <[www.tinyurl.com/ya6kmp55](http://www.tinyurl.com/ya6kmp55)> was inspired by the new 10-episode "Moriarty: The Devil's Game" (now available on Audible). Soloski quotes Leslie Klinger, Nicholas Meyer, Ashley Pola-sek, as well as Charles Kindinger, who wrote the audio drama. If you're blocked by the paper's pay-wall, the article was reprinted in the Indian Express (July 7) <[www.tinyurl.com/yz7yff7e](http://www.tinyurl.com/yz7yff7e)>.

Scripts for two of David MacGregor's comedies ("The Adventure of the Elusive Ear" and "The Adventure of the Fallen Soufflé") have been published by TRW Plays <[www.trwplays.com/david-macgregor](http://www.trwplays.com/david-macgregor)> (\$12.95 each for print and \$9.00 for digital). His third comedy ("Sherlock Holmes and the Ghost Machine") is due later this year, and he has fun with Holmes and Watson and Irene Adler (who has moved into 221B Baker Street and is pretending to be Mrs. Hudson for the sake of propriety).

Roger Angell died on May 20. He began contributing to The New Yorker in 1944, became its fiction editor in 1956, and had a legendary career over decades at the magazine, writing about baseball and anything else that interested him. His "Turtletaub and the Foul Distemper" (May 30, 1970) had many Sherlockian references (including an evil air pilot named Col. Sebastian Moran).

"I Always Feel Like Somebody's Watching Me: The World of Sherlock Holmes Statues" is the title of Howard Ostrom's newly-revised and expanded (and well-illustrated) essay about more than 50 statues of Sherlock Holmes; you can read (and download) the essay at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8dc6vy](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8dc6vy)>. And his essay on "Holmes Was a Dummy" (about Sherlock Holmes puppetry) is available at <[www.tinyurl.com/z7jj4az6](http://www.tinyurl.com/z7jj4az6)>.

Jul 22 #5 It was the geologist/astronaut Jack Schmidt who named Sherlock Crater on the Moon in recognition of Sherlock Holmes as a geologist, but the mission didn't include a visit to the crater. But there's now the Artemis Project, and plans to send astronauts to the Moon again in 2025, recently discussed in GEO ExPro <[www.tinyurl.com/mr2m3dee](http://www.tinyurl.com/mr2m3dee)>. One can only hope that at long last they'll be able to visit Sherlock Crater.

The copy of a later edition of *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, signed and inscribed by Conan Doyle to Lady Sackville-West, at auction on July 6 with an estimate of €400-€500 (Jun 22 #6), sold for €4,423 (including the buyer's premium).

Reported: a new (and revised) edition of David Stuart Davies' *Bending the Willow: Jeremy Brett as Sherlock Holmes* due on Sept. 1 from TV Brain but available for pre-order now (£22.99) <[www.tvbrain.info/shop](http://www.tvbrain.info/shop)>; first published in 1996 (Mar 97 #2).

If you want a copy of the first printing of the splendid catalog for the "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects from the Collection of Glen S. Miranker" exhibition at the Grolier Club in New York, there may be few copies still available at the Mysterious Bookshop (\$60.00) <[www.tinyurl.com/bdfzrfpk](http://www.tinyurl.com/bdfzrfpk)>. The exhibition next will be at the Lilly Library in Bloomington, Ind., Aug 1-Dec. 15, and there will be a second printing available there (\$80.00). The exhibition's excellent web-site's at <[www.sherlockin221objects.org](http://www.sherlockin221objects.org)>.

"Albatross" (2011) is an interesting British coming-of-age film that stars Jessica Brown Findlay as Emilia, who introduces herself as a descendant of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and wants to be a writer; the film has quite a few Doylean (and some Sherlockian) touches.

"The Fires of Fate" (1923) is one of many lost silent films; it was dramatized from Conan Doyle's "The Tragedy of the Korosko" and released in the U.S. as "The Desert Sheik" (1924), and a colorful lithograph-on-linen poster for the film was sold at Heritage Auctions on July 15 for \$2,160 (including the buyer's premium) <[www.tinyurl.com/mtj6uf9j](http://www.tinyurl.com/mtj6uf9j)>. It's interesting to consider the title change: one might suspect that the distributor hoped that people would think they were going to see Rudolph Valentino in "The Sheik" (1921).

Scott Monty and Burt Wolder had a nice interview with Paul Eckrich and Rob Nunn, the editors of *The Finest Assorted Collection: Essays on Collecting Sherlock Holmes* (Jan 22 #2), discussing collectors and their collections, at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/bden49yp](http://www.tinyurl.com/bden49yp)>.

Late-breaking news: Rebecca Romney is helping Curtis Armstrong deaccession his Sherlockian collection: about 25 boxes of material collected over more than 40 years, with more than one thousand items. Her rare-book company, Type Punch Matrix, is creating a special mailing list for Sherlockians who would like to have first crack at the material; if you'd like to be on her mailing list, you can contact her at <[info@typepunchmatrix.com](mailto:info@typepunchmatrix.com)>.



Jul 22 #6 The manuscript of "The Greek Interpreter" (owned by the late David Karpeles) was sold at Heritage Auctions on July 16, for \$350,000 (including the buyer's premium), almost setting a new record for a manuscript of a Sherlock Holmes short story ("The Sussex Vampire" sold for \$399,500 in 2004). The new owner is Glen Miranker, who now owns more Sherlockian manuscripts than any living collector. Randall Stock's manuscripts web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/yc79d8j8](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc79d8j8)> has more information. Auction results are often interesting: a single page from "The Hound of the Baskervilles" sold for \$423,000 last year (Nov 21 #5).

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch continues; his latest interview is with Robert Veld <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=8q2860rdYCU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8q2860rdYCU)>.

The August Derleth Society <[www.augustderleth.org](http://www.augustderleth.org)> was founded in the late 1970s and continues to celebrate the many-faceted literary career of the creator of Solar Pons. Membership costs \$25.00 a year and includes their quarterly newsletter Sage of Sac Prairie; the latest issue offers a nicely illustrated article by Derrick Belanger on "The Science Fiction of August Derleth" (some of which was Pontine). The society's postal address is Box 481, Sauk City, WI 53583, and their web-site's at <[www.augustderleth.org](http://www.augustderleth.org)>.

An oil-on-canvas painting by Sidney Paget of a "Highland River Landscape" was at auction this month <[www.tinyurl.com/543vbb3u](http://www.tinyurl.com/543vbb3u)>, estimated at £500-£700; bidding didn't reach the reserve, and the painting wasn't sold.

Theater news: Neill Hartley will perform his one-man show "Sherlock Holmes & the Speckled Band" at Pennypacker Mills in Schwencksville, Pa., on Aug. 20 <[www.montcopa.org/928/Pennypacker-Mills](http://www.montcopa.org/928/Pennypacker-Mills)>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Mystery of Riverfall Way" has been scheduled by the Elite Arts Company at the Bullard Creek Auditorium in Midland, Mich., on Aug. 20 <[www.tinyurl.com/2vxxksxb](http://www.tinyurl.com/2vxxksxb)>.

Stephen Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" will be performed at the Blue Moon Theatre in Woodstown, N.J., Sept. 16-25; their web-site's at <[www.thebluemoontheatre.com](http://www.thebluemoontheatre.com)>

K. C. Brown's "Sherlock's Veiled Secret" is due at the Bernie Legge Theatre in New Westminster, B.C., Oct. 6-22 <[www.vagabondplayers.ca](http://www.vagabondplayers.ca)>.

David MacGregor's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Ghost Machine" will be performed at the Toledo Repertoire Theatre, Oct. 21-39; web-site at <[www.toledorep.org](http://www.toledorep.org)>.

John Nicholson and Steven Canny's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Carver Theatre in Stockport, Cheshire, Nov. 11-19; their web-site's at <[www.tinyurl.com/46pbywp2](http://www.tinyurl.com/46pbywp2)>.

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

Aug 22 #1

Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press

This year's Baker Street Irregulars Trust annual webinar lecture will be given by Ray Betzner on Sept. 17 on "The Story of a Sherlockian Sonnet"; Ray's a fervent admirer of, and an expert on, the sonnet's author, Vincent Starrett <[www.bsitrust.org/2022/08/register-2022-lecture.html](http://www.bsitrust.org/2022/08/register-2022-lecture.html)>. The lecture will be free via Zoom, but space may be limited, and early registration is recommended.

The BSI conference on "Sherlock Holmes and the British Empire" at the Bear Mountain Inn went very well and was great fun. The conference proceedings will be published by the BSI, but if you weren't there, and would like to see what you missed, there's a short report, with nice photographs, at the BSI web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/f3xrvnm4](http://www.tinyurl.com/f3xrvnm4)>. There's also a link to Burt Woloder's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" report (with some interviews) on what went on.

Some of the old hands who were at the conference recalled the years when Bob Thomalen's "Autumn in Baker Street" was held at the Bear Mountain Inn, which then was far less fancy than it is now. But even then it was nicer than what the state of New York originally planned to build at the site: Sing Sing Prison.

If you are going to be at Bouchercon in Minneapolis: Dick Sveum will moderate a Sherlock Holmes morning panel on Sept. 10, with Dana Cameron, Laurie R. King, Leslie S. Klinger, and Liese Sherwood-Fabre.

According to Variety <[www.tinyurl.com/yjavtyp3](http://www.tinyurl.com/yjavtyp3)>, Millie Bobby Brown will receive \$10 million for her appearance in "Enola Holmes 2", and according to People/Entertainment Weekly <[www.tinyurl.com/2cz2us9u](http://www.tinyurl.com/2cz2us9u)>, the film will debut on Netflix on Nov. 4 (the story has some images from the film).

Peter McIntyre has reported that Dr. Doyle (a bay gelding) finished first at Monmouth Park, N.J., on July 31; he was the favorite and the payout was \$7.20/\$4.80/\$2.60.

The ACD Society has published a "terrifying update" on its continuing on-line annotated version of the manuscript of "The Terror of Blue John Gap", edited by Margie Deck and Nancy Holder <[www.acdsociety.com](http://www.acdsociety.com)>. it's a fine example of what on-line scholarship has to offer to anyone with access to the Internet.

It should be noted that Margie Deck does far more than perform as half of the ACD Society's "terror team"; her interesting "Dotings on Doyle" blog ("Reading & Writing with Arthur Conan Doyle & Sherlock Holmes") is on-line at <[www.margiedeck.blogspot.com](http://www.margiedeck.blogspot.com)>.

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch ended its current season with his interview with Ray Betzner and Steve Rothman, and a discussion of Alexander Woollcott, his relationship with and membership in the Baker Street Irregulars <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=v50i6TTY19A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v50i6TTY19A)>. Steve's next season will begin after a summer break.

Aug 22 #2 Emiel Van Wezel has reported Amanda Williams' interesting web-site <[www.buzzaboutbees.net](http://www.buzzaboutbees.net)> devoted to "the wonderful world of bees," and a post about "Sherlock Holmes and Bees: Arthur Conan Doyle and the Retirement of His Famous Detective" that offers some interesting Sherlockian and Doylean clippings from various Australian newspapers, at <[www.tinyurl.com/muc7w7wf](http://www.tinyurl.com/muc7w7wf)>.

The Beacon Society continues to publish its "quarterly gazette for younger Sherlockians everywhere," and the summer issue of Sherlock's Spotlight is available at their web-site <[www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com)>; the contents include material both by and for younger followers of the Great Detective.

Snoopy appears in Sherlockian costume in two production cels from "It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown" (1974) up for bids at Heritage Auctions on Sept. 23-25 <[www.tinyurl.com/35rbyrj8?](http://www.tinyurl.com/35rbyrj8?)>.

Maggie Fox died on Mar. 21. She acted on film and television in Britain, but was best known for her many performances with her LipService partner Sue Ryding in parodies such as "Move Over Moriarty" (1996), in which she played Sherlock Holmes on tour for years in Britain and at least once in the U.S.

"I'm sitting low in a Watsonian basket, bolted securely to the side of Simon's burnished-red Royal Enfield Interceptor 650 motorcycle," Anna Hartley wrote in an article in the travel section of the Washington Post (Aug. 21) <[www.tinyurl.com/mr2f5wu8](http://www.tinyurl.com/mr2f5wu8)>. One often sees the word Sherlockian, but the word Watsonian not so much; it's in the Oxford English Dictionary (and first noted as used by E C. Bentley in *Those Days* (1940)).

On the other hand (thanks to Roger Johnson, who knows more about what is going on in Britain): T. F. Watson, a Birmingham builder, patented a design for a folding sidecar, and Watsonian Squire still offers a wide variety of sidecars <[www.watsonian-squire.com](http://www.watsonian-squire.com)>.

"Drool over the personal bookplates of 18 famous writers" was the headline on Emily Temple's post <[www.tinyurl.com/yc3uvnwd](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc3uvnwd)> to the Literary Hub web-site on July 19; one of the famous writers is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, but the bookplate isn't his. The bookplate displays the ornate family coat of arms obtained by Adrian Conan Doyle from the Dublin Herald; Adrian placed in all of the books in his father's library when Adrian moved into the Château de Lucens.

So Far Down Queer Street is a new on-line journal that focuses on "Aspects of Sherlock Holmes Canon and Adaptations Not Usually Covered" and its web-site's at <[www.downqueerstreet.com](http://www.downqueerstreet.com)>; click on the menu (at upper right) to find a link to the first issue.

The Hudson Valley Sciontists will celebrate their Fiftieth Anniversary on Sept. 18, with cocktails and dinner at the Vassar College Alumnae House in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. (with some of its founding members on hand for the festivities). Additional information is available from Lou Lewis (510 Haight Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603) <[llewis@lewisgreer.com](mailto:llewis@lewisgreer.com)>.

Aug 22 #3 Adrienne Mayor's *Flying Snakes & Griffin Claws* (Princeton University Press, 2022; 430 pp, \$18.95) is a wide-ranging and entertaining exploration of "classical myths, historical oddities, and scientific curiosities" that includes a chapter on "Sea Monsters and Mer-People of the Mediterranean" (and mention of Conan Doyle's account of having seen what he believed to be a young plesiosaur off the coast of the Greek island Aegina in 1928).

June Thomson died on July 26. She was a featured speaker at the Sherlock Holmes Society of London's annual dinner in 2008, and a prolific author, credited with 24 novels, six collections of imaginative Sherlockian pastiches, and a fine biography of Sherlock Holmes.

Just the thing for Sherlockian geologists: a statue of a *Tyrannosaurus rex* in Sherlockian costume is one of the latest additions to Howard Ostrom's well-illustrated essay on "The World of Sherlock Holmes Statues", which is available at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8dc6vy](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8dc6vy)>. If you want to see the statue, it's in Norwich (where Abe Slaney was condemned to death, as noted in "The Dancing Men").

Anyone who owns a copy of *The Sherlock Holmes Hexalogy*, which was letterpress printed and hand-bound at the Thornwillow Press (Oct 17 #2), will be aware of the fine work they do. You can see what else they have done (and are still doing) by exploring their web-site <[www.thornwillow.com](http://www.thornwillow.com)>. Copies of the *Hexalogy* still are available.

It has been said that Sherlockian chronology is the most abstract and confusing and contradictory aspect of the grand game that Sherlockians enjoy playing, and there's plenty of evidence for that in the electronic newsletter of the Sherlockian Chronologist Guild, founded by Brad Keefauver in 2021. Bruce Harris, is one of its members, and he believes that the best thing about Canonical chronology is that there are no right or wrong answers, but in his new *It's Not Always 1895: A Sherlockian Chronology* (124 pp., \$9.95 at Amazon) he offers his own dates for all sixty stories and an excellent look at what can be done with and to the Canon.

Jennie Paton has discovered an advertisement for Sherlock Home (A House of Conundrums) in San Antonio, Tex. <[www.tinyurl.com/ymhxxz63](http://www.tinyurl.com/ymhxxz63)>; the Airbnb is described as "a unique immersive overnight experience" in a house designed as an entire evening of game-play for 2-5 guests. "Become Sherlock Holmes surrounded by a Victorian/steampunk setting filled with escape-room-like puzzles and conundrums to solve while you stay."

Hank Ketcham's "Dennis the Menace" comic strip was nicely Sherlockian on July 17 <[www.comicskingdom.com/dennis-the-menace](http://www.comicskingdom.com/dennis-the-menace)>.

There was active bidding for the Sherlockiana and Doyleana in the Heritage Auctions sale 6253 last month (Jun 22 #5); a copy of Collier's *Once a Week Library* (1891, the first American edition of "The Sign of the Four") sold for \$13,570 (including the buyer's premium), and the three-volume set of *Dreamland and Ghostland* (1887, with five of Conan Doyle's non-Sherlockian stories, his first appearance in a book in Britain) went for \$2,250.

Aug 22 #4 Emma McGill has won the 2022 Irene Adler Prize: a \$1,000 scholarship for a woman pursuing a degree in journalism, creative writing, or literature. Established in 2017 by Lucas Aykroyd, an award-winning writer and public speaker in Vancouver, B.C.; it is indeed named for the heroine of "A Scandal in Bohemia". You can learn more about the prize, and read the winning essay, at <[www.lucasaykroyd.com/scholarships](http://www.lucasaykroyd.com/scholarships)>.

Peter Bowles died on Mar. 17. He had a long career on stage, screen, and television, with starring roles in the BBC series "Rumpole of the Bailey" (1978), "To the Manor Born" (1979), and "The Irish R.M." (1983). He also played Harvey Deacon in a BBC dramatization of Conan Doyle's "Playing with Fire" (1967) and Joseph Harrison in the BBC's "The Naval Treaty" (1968).

"I hear of Sherlock everywhere." This one (noted by Jennie Paton) is in Chester, Conn., and available for only \$32,900 <[www.tinyurl.com/3fh66jj4](http://www.tinyurl.com/3fh66jj4)>.

The ten-episode audio mini-series "Moriarty: The Devil's Game" (Jun 22 #4) is featured at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog, where Scott Monty and Burt Wolder interviewed Charles Kindinger, who wrote the script. He first encountered Sherlock Holmes watching "Wishbone" and went on to read all the stories and enjoy creating the mini-series.

Russian artist Margaryta Yermolayeva (now living in the U.S.) creates colorful canvas prints that include a "Sherlock Holmes" scene inspired by the Russian "Baskerville Dog" television program she watched while growing up <[www.tinyurl.com/54scytwx](http://www.tinyurl.com/54scytwx)>.

Publishers Weekly has reported that HarperCollins has bought, "in a six-figure preempt," Ali Standish's *The Improbable Tales of Baskerville Hall*; it's a three-book middle-grade series in which "a young Arthur Conan Doyle is selected to attend Baskerville Hall, a school for the extraordinarily gifted." The first book is due in fall 2023.

"The Store for All Sorts: Half Price Books Turns 50" is the headline on a grand story in D Magazine (July 15) <[www.tinyurl.com/yc3mywk2](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc3mywk2)> (forwarded by Bill Seil) about why the store (in Dallas, Tex.) has survived so long (now with more than 120 stores in 19 states); they also sell books on-line <[www.hpb.com](http://www.hpb.com)>.

What do you call a squirrel that solves crimes? Jennie Paton has reported a video: <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzB2YVNU9e0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzB2YVNU9e0)>.

The "Sherlock Holmes Weekend" in Cape May, N.J., this fall will feature a new play "Send in the Clowns" (Oct. 14-16 and 21-23) and performances of Gayle Stahlhuth's "Sherlock Holmes' Adventure of the Norwood Builder" by the Cape May Players (Oct. 21-22) <[www.tinyurl.com/28ex38fa](http://www.tinyurl.com/28ex38fa)>.

Reported: Martin Edwards' new anthology *Murder by the Book: Mysteries for Bibliophiles* (Poisoned Pen, \$14.99) includes a reprint of S. C. Roberts' classic pastiche "The Strange Case of the Megatherium Thefts". It's also available at Audible, read by Ben Onwukwe; you can sample the recording at their web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/36kha84c](http://www.tinyurl.com/36kha84c)>.

Aug 22 #5 When in Barbados: you can visit the Chase Vault in the cemetery of Christ Church Parish, which Conan Doyle believed was haunted. The vault is empty now, and open to any visitors brave enough to step inside, according to a story <[ww.tinyurl.com/3ja2r8t4](http://ww.tinyurl.com/3ja2r8t4)> in the Daily Mirror (Aug. 8). You can read what Conan Doyle had to say about the vault in his article "The Law of the Ghost" (1919), reprinted in *The Edge of the Unknown* (1930).

Conan Doyle Walk in Swindon is in the news (again). Five years ago, when John Blick lived there, he was charged with three counts of assault (Aug 17 #4). Now the Swindon Advertiser <[www.tinyurl.com/5xsehczjz](http://www.tinyurl.com/5xsehczjz)> has reported that James Dean Webdell, also a resident of Conan Doyle Walk, has been charged with brandishing a taser in a brawl in a local pub.

There was much more to the Festival of Britain in 1951 than the Sherlock Holmes Exhibition at Abbey House (some of the items on display there still can be seen at The Sherlock Holmes pub in Northumberland Street); there is a colorful commemoration of the Festival at the National Archives web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/c5pffptc](http://www.tinyurl.com/c5pffptc)>.

David Warner died on July 24. His began acting on stage in 1962, and went on to play Hamlet with the Royal Shakespeare Company, and then had a long career in film, radio, and television, including a performance as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in the TV movie "Houdini" (1998).

Henye Meyer's *Detective by Design* (Brooklyn: Menucha Publishers, 2022; 245 pp., \$28.49) offers an answer to the question "what if Sherlock Holmes had been a Jewish woman?" The book is an homage rather than a pastiche: Mrs. Rosa Adler is the detective, in Victorian London, and is adept at observation and deduction.

Jem Belcher will be found in *Rodney Stone* ("Say `sir' when you speak to a genelman," said Belcher, and with a sudden tilt of the table he sent Berks flying almost into my uncle's arms.) and he's mentioned in "The Forbidden Subject" in *Three of Them*. A new film "Prizefighter: The Life of Jim Belcher" (2022) has an official trailer <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Viv3fOgxaeS](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Viv3fOgxaeS)> and was reviewed at Boxing Social on July 24 <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8dem6d](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8dem6d)>; it's now streaming on Amazon Prime.

The BBC is celebrating its centenary this year with an interesting web-site that features 100 important objects <[www.tinyurl.com/8wrkad3x](http://www.tinyurl.com/8wrkad3x)> that include the "iconic Belstaff Milford coat worn by Benedict Cumberbatch on the BBC's "Sherlock" series.

Ken Greenwald died on May 14. A dedicated enthusiast old-time radio, he was the mastermind behind a company he called 221 "A" Baker Street Associates; in the 1980s and 1990s he produced a long series of audiocassettes with Sherlock Holmes radio programs he rescued from original transcription disks. He also adapted some of the Rathbone/Bruce scripts as short stories in *The Lost Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (1989). You can listen to a warm tribute to Ken by John Tefteller (with two non-Sherlockian shows) at his "The Good Old Days of Radio Show" web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/54tan9t7](http://www.tinyurl.com/54tan9t7)>.

Aug 22 #6 Curtis Armstrong has announced a call for nominations for the 2023 Susan Rice Mentorship Award, which is given each year to "one outstanding Sherlockian mentor who, like the late Susan Rice, is committed to bringing aspiring Sherlockians into the cause, and encouraging them to find ways to keep green the memory of Sherlock Holmes." Neither the mentor nor the mentee need to be a member of the Baker Street Irregulars, and the winner will be announced during the birthday festivities in New York in January 2023. Information about the criteria and history of the award can be found at <[www.tinyurl.com/susanriceaward](http://www.tinyurl.com/susanriceaward)>. Nominations, with a brief explanation of how they honor Susan's spirit of mentorship, should be sent by Oct. 30 to <[susanricementorshipaward@gmail.com](mailto:susanricementorshipaward@gmail.com)>.

Jennie Paton has found "Der Hund von Baskerville" (1937) on-line at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVh9KBpernQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVh9KBpernQ)>. The film that starred Bruno Güttner as Holmes and Fritz Odemar as Watson, and a copy of the film was found by Allied troops in Adolph Hitler's private film library at Berchtesgaden (Edgar W. Smith reported this in the Apr. 1948 issue of the Baker Street Journal). Alas: there are no subtitles, so you'll need some German to understand everything.

Candidates for "favorite first lines" can be interesting indeed, and great fun. Janet Rudolph (edited of *Mystery Scene*) suggests "There's a time and place for erect nipples, but the back of a Seattle police car definitely isn't it." That's the opening of Jennifer Hillier's *Things We Do in the Dark* (Minotaur Books, July 2022).

Something new in Sherlockian scholarship: Anna Brindisi-Behrens' article "A Study in Speech: The Use of Lisps in the Sherlock Holmes Canon and Beyond" will be found in the summer issue of *Canadian Holmes*, which is published quarterly by the Bootmakers of Toronto, always with news of Sherlockian goings-on in Canada. \$30.00 a year (US or CA); single issues cost \$12.00 <[www.torontobootmakers.com](http://www.torontobootmakers.com)>. The issue also includes Ross Davies' discussion of "A Well-Armed, Whistful Colonel" [that's not a typo].

Simon Trelawney's *Sherlock Holmes and the Ciphred List* (Cambridge: Breese Books, 2022; 339 pp., \$15.50) opens with Holmes agreeing to assist a lady who explains that she has accidentally killed a man who was blackmailing her, and quickly becoming involved in a battle against German spies; Watson is far more adventurous in this pastiche than in the Canon, but of course all's well at the end.

"There have been numerous allusions over the years of Clive Reston's rather infamous family tree. His father, though never referenced by name, is British secret agent, James Bond. His great-uncle is London's most notorious detective, Sherlock Holmes. Due to licensing rights, Marvel Comics has never directly stated that either of these literary figures are related to Clive Reston, but the various implications leave little doubt as to their true identities." Yes, that would make Mycroft Holmes the father of James Bond and the grandfather of Clive Reston, who is a character in the Marvel comic-book series "Master of Kung Fu"; you can read all about this genealogy at the PageLagi web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/yp9cc2zf](http://www.tinyurl.com/yp9cc2zf)> reported by Jennie Paton.

Aug 22 #7 The Long Beach Shakespeare Company continues to offer excellent live radio productions, and has kindly made some of their older recordings available at no charge <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9xjr48](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9xjr48)>. You can listen to their versions of "A Scandal in Bohemia", "The Final Problem", and "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (and many other non-Sherlockian shows).

In case you don't already have the two-volume *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* (1953) signed by Conan Doyle, there's a copy at auction at PBA Galleries in San Francisco <[www.tinyurl.com/38smpbjd](http://www.tinyurl.com/38smpbjd)> on Sept. 9, with an estimate of \$10,000-\$15,00 and an opening bid of \$5,000.

Paul Spiring reports that Baskerville Hall is up for sale, with an asking price of £650,000 <[www.tinyurl.com/yzywjdnj](http://www.tinyurl.com/yzywjdnj)>. Alas: it's not the actual Baskerville Hall, but rather the home of B. Fletcher Robinson's coachman Harry Baskerville, whose name Conan Doyle borrowed for the story, and it's not where Harry Baskerville was living when the story was written.

*Agatha Christie: Marple: Twelve New Mysteries* (New York: William Morrow, 2022; 370 pp., \$28.99) is an anthology of stories featuring Miss Marple, not written by Christie but rather by a dozen authors whose work will be enjoyed by admirers of Jane Marple. Val McDermid and others do very well in the world of Miss Marple, in St. Mary Mead and elsewhere (including New York and a cruise ship on its way to Hong Kong).

Howard Ostrom reports a new addition to the list of people who have played both Holmes and Moriarty (sort of): Vincent Price, whose Ratigan in "The Great Mouse Detective" (1986) was modeled on the evil professor, is seen in Sherlockian costume in "Elvira Meets Vincent Price #5" in the Dynamite Comics mini-series <[www.tinyurl.com/yphfm6bm](http://www.tinyurl.com/yphfm6bm)>.

Josephine Tewson died on Aug. 18. She had a long career on stage and in television in Britain, perhaps best known for her supporting role as the neighbor in "Keeping Up Appearances". She had supporting roles in "Elementary My Dear Watson" on Comedy Playhouse (1973), "The Strange Case of the End of Civilisation as We Know It" (1977), and "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1978).

Travis McDade's article "The Inside Story of the \$8 Million Heist from the Carnegie Library" ran in *Smithsonian* magazine in Sept. 2020; it recently appeared again at their web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/ypa3cmdz](http://www.tinyurl.com/ypa3cmdz)>, and is well worth reading by anyone interested in the world of rare books, even if it doesn't mention Holmes or Conan Doyle.

Conan Doyle is not forgotten in Edinburgh: there's the statue of Sherlock Holmes, not far from the Conan Doyle Pub near Picardy Place, where Conan Doyle was born, and the Dunedin School now in Liberton Bank House, where he lived as a child, and the Conan Doyle Medical Center just next door at 4 Nether Liberton Lane <[www.portobello-conandoylesurgery.co.uk](http://www.portobello-conandoylesurgery.co.uk)>. According to the *Edinburgh Evening News* (Aug. 2) <[www.tinyurl.com/38yej628](http://www.tinyurl.com/38yej628)>, Dr. A. Comiskey and Partners at the Conan Doyle Center were ranked second in a Scottish government health and care survey.



Aug 22 #8 *Exploits and Adventures of Brigadier Gerard*, with a fine introduction by George MacDonald Fraser (New York Review Books, 2001; 417 pp., \$18.95), collects all of the short stories about the Brigadier, and offers a chance to see just how good a story-teller Conan Doyle was (Fraser suggests that Conan Doyle "was touched with genius," and does a grand job of explaining why.

The Sewing Crow-Bees <[www.sewingcrowbees.org](http://www.sewingcrowbees.org)> aren't a Sherlockian society, but they are based in Crowborough (where Conan Doyle lived at Windlesham), and they work hard at supporting local and national charities.

Our postage rates have gone up again: 60¢ for the first ounce and 24¢ each for additional ounces within the U.S., and \$1.40 for the first ounce outside the U.S. It cost me 3¢ when I wrote my first letter, and I remember the complaints when the rate rose to 4¢ in 1958.

Theatrics: Peter Colley's new play "The Real Sherlock Holmes" is running at the Lighthouse Theatre in Port Dover, Ont., through Sept. 3, and then will be at the Colborne Theatre in Colborne, Ont. Sept. 7-18' web-site at <[www.lighthoustheatre.com/event/the-real-sherlock](http://www.lighthoustheatre.com/event/the-real-sherlock)>.

Christopher M. Walsh's "Miss Holmes Returns" is on at the Lifeline Theatre in Chicago, Ill., through Oct.16 <[www.lifelinetheatre.com](http://www.lifelinetheatre.com)>.

Paul Gosling's new "The Casebook of Dr. Watson (A Sherlock Holmes Parody)" will be produced at the Sue Townsend Theatre in Leicester, Leics., Sept. 8-9 <[www.tinyurl.com/5ee8kjpf](http://www.tinyurl.com/5ee8kjpf)>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is due at the White Rock Players' Club in White Rock, B.C., Sept. 29-Oct. 16 <[www.whiterockplayers.ca](http://www.whiterockplayers.ca)>; at the Westchester Playhouse in Los Angeles, Calif., Mar. 17-Apr. 8, 2023 <[www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)>; and at the freeFall Theatre in St. Petersburg, Fla., Mar. 23-Apr. 23; web-site at <[www.freefalltheatre.com](http://www.freefalltheatre.com)>.

Owen Thomas' "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (with Nigel Miles-Thomas as Holmes) has completed its run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and is set for an extensive tour: at the Shangri-La Chang Mai (Thailand), Sept. 30-31; at the Continental Hotel in Saigon (Viet Nam), Oct. 7-8; at the Sukhothai hotel in Bangkok (Thailand), Oct. 21-23; and at the Marriott Hotel in Phuket (Thailand), Oct. 27-29.

Eric Coble's "The Baker Street Irregulars" is due at the Trinity Preparatory School in Winter Park, Fla., Oct. 7-8 <[www.cfcarts.com/sherlock](http://www.cfcarts.com/sherlock)>.

Richard James' "Sherlock Holmes and the Mystery at Mallen Hall" is to be performed at the Ritchie Memorial Hall in Eastleigh, Hants., on Oct. 27-29 <[www.chameleontheatre.co.uk](http://www.chameleontheatre.co.uk)>.

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

The *Baker Street Almanac 2022*, edited by Ross E. Davies, Jayantika Gangu-ly, Ira Brad Matetsky, and Monica Schmidt, is now available in print for \$30.00 postpaid <[www.greenbag.org/almanacs/BS/2022.html](http://www.greenbag.org/almanacs/BS/2022.html)> or from The Green Bag, 6600 Barnaby Street NW, Washington, DC 20015), with a copiously-annotated edition of "The Abbey Grange" (and much more about the Sherlockian world); it's modestly described as an "annual capsule of a timeless past and future," and this year offers 372 pages of thoroughly enjoyable reading. Almanacs for previous years are available on-line (free) as PDFs at <[www.greenbag.org/almanacs/BS/bsa.html](http://www.greenbag.org/almanacs/BS/bsa.html)>.

"London Plaques to People Who Never Existed" is the headline on a recent post at the Londonist web-site <[www.tinyurl.com/bdfvh79f](http://www.tinyurl.com/bdfvh79f)> that begins with "A Pair of Sherlocks, Smithfield and Piccadilly" and shows the plaques inside Barts, installed in 1953, and the Criterion (now Granaio), installed in 1981.

Howard Ostrom's newly revised "A-Z List of Sherlock Holmes Performers" has been posted at <[www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html](http://www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html)>; it now has 8,250 entries (and 17,000 images) from stage, screen, radio, television, fashion, advertising, cosplay, music, fandom, and the Internet. "You must see this to believe it," according to Howard, and he's right. He also asks you to let him know about anyone he has missed <[howardostrom@gmail.com](mailto:howardostrom@gmail.com)>.

Reported: *Long Memories and Other Writings*, by Peter Cannon (Hippocampus, 2022) includes a reprint of his novella *Pulptime: Being a Singular Adventure of Sherlock Holmes, H. P. Lovecraft, and the Kalem Club as If Narrated by Frank Belknap Long, Jr.* (1984).

"...of all characters in recent literature, as a matter of personal preference, I would choose to have been the creator of Sherlock Holmes." From a letter written by E. Phillips Oppenheim in 1927, with a long paragraph explaining the major reasons for his choice, offered by the Mysterious Bookshop in August for \$100.00. The letter was published in the Strand Magazine (Dec. 1927) in a symposium on "The Great Characters of Fiction: Which Should I Most Like to Have Created?"

Conan Doyle's response to that question was, "I think Colonel Newcome, as the ideal English gentleman, would have my vote." The late Ted Schulz reported this back in 1983, and if you're wondering who Colonel Newcome was, Marsha Pollak quickly identified him as the principal character in William Makepeace Thackeray's *The Newcomes* (1853). If you would like to know more about the colonel, the book's readily available on-line (and free) at Project Gutenberg.

"This Map Lets You Plug in Your Address to See How It's Changed Over the Past 750 Million Years" is the headline on a story at the Smithsonian web-site about a new interactive map that's a grand demonstration of how modern technology has made geology so interesting; Sherlockians are welcome to see how London (well, the location of London) has changed over millions of years, or you can track your own home town <[www.tinyurl.com/mrywj4wx](http://www.tinyurl.com/mrywj4wx)>.

Sep 22 #2 "The Jewel in the Canon" is the next expedition planned by the Sherlock Holmes Society of London for Mar. 11-Apr. 2: a three-week trip to India, tailored for the Society and described as the "tour of a lifetime." You'll find the details, and an opportunity to register for more information about the tour, at <[www.tinyurl.com/yrca5dsw](http://www.tinyurl.com/yrca5dsw)>.

Nicholas Utechin ("The Ancient British Barrow") died on Aug. 17. He was a senior producer at BBC Radio 4, a dedicated Sherlockian scholar, a champion of Oxford in what he called "the controversy" over where Holmes was at college, the editor of the Sherlock Holmes Journal for thirty years, an honorary member of the Sherlock Holmes Society of London, and an energetic contributor to the writings about the writings on both sides of the Atlantic. The Baker Street Irregulars awarded his Investiture to Nick in 1975. If you want to see him in action, you can watch his (virtual) presentation about "British Beginnings" at a 2020 meeting of the Red Circle of Washington <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPCoqU-VfRs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPCoqU-VfRs)>.

"Was This Letter Written by Sherlock Holmes?" was the headline on a story in Atlas Obscura (Sept. 15) <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8zjyn8](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8zjyn8)>; there's more at the Lilly Library now than Glen Miranker's exhibition "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects" <[www.sherlockin221objects.org](http://www.sherlockin221objects.org)>.

The late W. T. Rabe is still remembered fondly: Bill Castanier tells some nice stories about Bill (and quotes his epitaph) in the Lansing City Pulse (Jan. 12) <[www.tinyurl.com/4y36mvmd](http://www.tinyurl.com/4y36mvmd)>.

David Corbett's "The Murderer's Paradox" was published in the anthology *In League with Sherlock Holmes* (2020), and he had some interesting things to say about writing the pastiche, in his post to the Writer Unboxed blog on Dec. 11, 2020 <[www.tinyurl.com/ae256n4z](http://www.tinyurl.com/ae256n4z)>. He quotes James N. Frey imaginative "Ten Rules of Writing" and you can read what Frey said about them at his web-site <[www.jamesnfrey.com/articles/tenrules.html](http://www.jamesnfrey.com/articles/tenrules.html)>.

Time for a trivia question, courtesy of Howard Ostrom: name the only known father and son who both played Sherlock Holmes.

"You don't happen to have a Raphael or a first folio Shakespeare without knowing it?" asked Sherlock Holmes (in "The Three Gables"). A copy of the First Folio offered at Sotheby's on July 21 sold for \$2,470,000 (including the buyer's premium) <[www.tinyurl.com/mvaj5774](http://www.tinyurl.com/mvaj5774)>.

Mary Burke has forwarded the Babylon Bee's recent report from Dr. Sherlock Bones <[www.tinyurl.com/mpds2cen](http://www.tinyurl.com/mpds2cen)>; the Babylon Bee's motto is "Fake news you can trust."

The Conan Doyle Collection lecture series in Portsmouth earlier this year (May 22 #4) included David Gigauri's lecture (via Zoom) about "Conan Doyle and the Magnificent Mdivani". There were five Mdivani children, sometimes called "the marrying Mdivanis" (the boys were known as "the million dollar studs"). One of Nina's husbands was Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's son Denis, and in 1975 she was honored by the Baker Street Irregulars as *The Woman*. You can watch Gigauri's lecture on-line at <[www.vimeo.com/714028872](http://www.vimeo.com/714028872)>.

Sep 22 #3 "The Princess's explorations in the field of English literature are of greater interest and perhaps of greater significance," Wilson Harris wrote in his article "The Education of a Queen" in the Atlantic Monthly (Dec. 1943). The princess was 17-year-old Elizabeth (now Elizabeth II), and Harris noted that "in lighter moments she turns to Conan Doyle (I hope *The White Company* as well as *Sherlock Holmes*)." The entire article is available on-line at <[www.tinyurl.com/2t94zjd4](http://www.tinyurl.com/2t94zjd4)>.

Name the only father and son who both played Sherlock Holmes. Ian Richardson played Holmes on television in "The Hound of the Baskervilles" and "The Sign of Four" (1993), and Miles (his son) played Holmes on stage in "Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure at Sir Arthur Sullivan's" (1994).

"Now that Wayne had broken through, he was keen to expand his big-screen horizons. When asked by Olive Carey, the wife of Western actor Harry Carey, what he'd like to do next, he said he'd like to play Edward the Black Prince in an adaptation of Arthur Conan Doyle's Hundred Years' War adventure, 'The White Company'." That's according to Jeremy Smith, who posted to Slash Film (Aug. 30), "Without a Bit of Blunt Advice, John Wayne Might Have Left Westerns Behind." <[www.tinyurl.com/2p8ddtpy](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p8ddtpy)>. That would have been an adaptation by John Ford; read the post to see what Olive Carey's blunt advice was.

The Cohen Media Group <[www.cohenmedia.net](http://www.cohenmedia.net)> offers a variety of high-quality 4K restorations of old films, including Buster Keaton's "Sherlock Jr." (1924); there's also his "Battling Butler" (1926), a non-Sherlockian film in which he's seen wearing a deerstalker, and you can see trailers for all of their films at their web-site.

Arthur Liebman ("Vamberry, the Wine Merchant") died on Aug. 18. He taught graduate-level courses in Mystery, Detective, and Gothic Fiction at Hofstra University and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, performed a popular one-man show "An Evening with Sherlock Holmes". He also organized "Sherlock Holmes Mystery Cruises" for the Holland-America Line, and wrote *The Biographical Sherlock Holmes: An Anthology/Handbook* (1984). He received his Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 1985.

An oil-on-academy-board painting of "Cascade Inferieure du Reichenbach" by the Swiss landscape artist Alexandre Calame (1810-1864) was available at Thomaston Place Auction Galleries on Aug. 27, with an estimate of \$8,000-\$12,000; bidding didn't meet the reserve, and the painting didn't sell.

Nancy Springer's *Enola Holmes and the Elegant Escapade* (New York: Wednesday Books, 2022; 232 pp, \$18.95), the eighth in her series about the sister of Sherlock Holmes, has Enola now living independently in London and working as a scientific perditioner, working hard to rescue a young girl from a brutish and evil father. Springer has won four Edgar Awards from the Mystery Writers of America, two of them for earlier books in the series, and it's nice see Enola back in action again. And there's no need to worry about spoilers: the new "Enola Holmes 2" film, coming up on Netflix on Nov. 4, has an entirely different plot. There's a trailer for the new film at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=KKXNmYoPpkx0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KKXNmYoPpkx0)>.

Sep 22 #4 *Two Parts Sugar, One Part Murder*, by Valerie Burns (New York: Kensington, 2022; 266 pp., \$16.95) is an interesting example of how Sherlock Holmes has become part of the cultural literacy; it's not a pastiche, but rather a sprightly murder mystery featuring Maddy Montgomery, a social-media devotee who inherits a small-town Michigan bakery from a great-aunt who may or may not have been murdered, and who has read Sherlock Holmes and is assisted by local residents she calls her Baker Street Irregulars.

The Hotel Rosenlauri <[www.rosenlauri.ch](http://www.rosenlauri.ch)> is a refuge for those who want to get away from modern digital distractions: "The common rooms offer reading materials, games, and plenty of room for discussions. TV, radio, and Internet connections are not available. The hotel has limited reception for mobile phones." It's also possible that Sherlock Holmes stayed there after his battle with Moriarty at the Reichenbach.

It's not the Mazarin Stone (a 77-carat yellow diamond never owned by the Cardinal), but the spectacular Williamson Pink Star will be at auction at Sotheby's in Hong Kong on Oct 5 <[www.tinyurl.com/vrhms2e5](http://www.tinyurl.com/vrhms2e5)>. If you'd like to know more about that 77-carat yellow diamond, see the article "In Memoriam: Muzaffar ad-Din" in the Baker Street Journal (Sept. 1974).

"I keep a bull pup," Watson said (in "A Study in Scarlet"), and Sherlockian scholars have spilled a great deal of ink over the years trying to explain just what that bull pup was and what happened to it. James C. O'Leary has written about this for Scott Monty's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/yerabyan](http://www.tinyurl.com/yerabyan)> and concludes with an interesting answer to the question.

Johanna Draper Carlson's "Sherlock Holmes in Comics" web-site covers comics, graphic novels, and manga (Feb 22 #7), and she recently posted a 45-minute colorful video tour <[www.tinyurl.com/34ezr3b8](http://www.tinyurl.com/34ezr3b8)> of what she does and how her web-site works.

Richard A. Wein ("Silver Blaze") died on Sept. 9. He worked as a tax manager for a CPA firm and was a dedicated Sherlockian. He was a member of the Three Garridebs for forty years, and active in many other societies. Richard co-hosted several runnings of The Silver Blaze at Belmont Park in the 1980s, acted in Sherlockian skits, and enjoyed wearing a shoulder sash on which he displayed his collection of Sherlockian pins. He received his Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 1986.

Those who still use fountain pens and real ink will find that De Atramentis <[www.de-atramentis.com/en](http://www.de-atramentis.com/en)> offers a wide variety of inks, including a Sherlock Holmes ink. Jennie Paton found an in-depth review of their Sherlock Holmes ink at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MJJxYZ95QY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MJJxYZ95QY)>.

Bill Seil has forwarded a Publishers Weekly report that the British publisher Angry Robot Books has launched a new crime-fiction imprint, Datura Books <[www.publishersweekly.com/pw/newsbrief/index.html?record=3899](http://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/newsbrief/index.html?record=3899)>; it's an intriguing choice of a name <[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datura](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datura)> that may be familiar to Agatha Christie fans <[www.tinyurl.com/24u3fx93](http://www.tinyurl.com/24u3fx93)>.

Sep 22 #5 Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II died on Sept. 8 at Balmoral. Her son, now King Charles III, performed as Sir Cumberbund Overspill in 1969 in "The Hound of the Overspills" (a short skit included in an annual revue produced by the Dryden Society of Trinity College, Cambridge University). Alas, there is no photograph of him in the role, but the script for the skit was published by Bill Rabe in the *Commonplace Book*, June 1969.

Daniel Craig's "Knives Out" (2019) was a delightful blend of mystery and comedy and excellent acting, with a few imaginative Canonical allusions, and "Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery" will debut on Netflix on Dec. 23. You can read a spoiler-free review at <[www.tinyurl.com/57t6xsdb](http://www.tinyurl.com/57t6xsdb)>.

"Timeshift: How to Be Sherlock Holmes: The Many Faces of a Master Detective" is a delightful television program that was broadcast by the BBC in 2014, and Jennie Paton has reported that it's now available at YouTube at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPsB2u\\_UeDg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPsB2u_UeDg)>.

Bonnie MacBird's *What Child Is This?* (New York: Collins Crime Club, 2022; 225 pp., \$26.99), the fifth in her series of novels about Holmes and Watson, offers her readers a "Sherlock Holmes Christmas Adventure" that finds them involved in two cases, dark rather than festive, with attractive artwork by Frank Cho, and a chance to see Holmes in a mellower seasonal mood than in the familiar Canon.

SHERLOC is alive and well and working hard on Mars, and you can read about it at the Debrief web-site (Sept 15) <[www.tinyurl.com/3hx5type](http://www.tinyurl.com/3hx5type)>. There's even a nice Canonical quote (and they didn't believe they needed to tell their readers who said it).

Lloyd Fradkin presides over Lloyd's Beware the Blog: A Motion Picture and Television History Blog, and Sean Wright has noted a post about Jay Ward and Alex Anderson <[www.tinyurl.com/muhzzr4n](http://www.tinyurl.com/muhzzr4n)>; in 1947 they created Hamhock Jones, who fights his arch enemy, a Siamese twin; the problem is: one twin is good and the other the evil mastermind, but which is which? The post includes some of the artwork for the never-produced television animation. Some of their other creations did get made: Crusader Rabbit and Dudley Do-Right. You can also see a few minutes of Hamhock Jones, thanks to Burt Wolder, who found some footage at Vimeo <[www.vimeo.com/155887788](http://www.vimeo.com/155887788)>.

Reported by Badre Bally: a new Blu-ray edition of "Sherlock Hound" (the delightful 1984 Japanese television series), remastered, with English subtitles and some added features, due at the end of November from Discotek <[www.rightstufanime.com/Sherlock-Hound-Blu-ray](http://www.rightstufanime.com/Sherlock-Hound-Blu-ray)>. Scott Monty's discussion of the series can be read on-line at <[www.tinyurl.com/mr2vyzwu](http://www.tinyurl.com/mr2vyzwu)>.

Igor Maslennikov died on Sept. 17. He began his long career with Leningrad Television, then moved to Lenfilms, became a director, and won plaudits for the highly-successful Russian television series "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson" (1979-1986). His memoirs *Beyker-strit na Petrogradskoy* [*Baker Street in St. Petersburg*] were published in 2007, but have not yet been translated into English.

Sep 22 #6 William Meikle's *Inspector Lestrade: The Black Temple and Other Stories* (Central Point: Weird House, 2022; 243 pp., \$45.00) is a collection of twelve stories that involve the Inspector in a series of supernatural cases, with atmospheric illustrations by M. Wayne Miller; Lestrade is competent and conscientious.

J. R. Campbell's *Improbable Remains: The Bizarre and Unconventional Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (2022; 288 pp., \$45.00) is a similar collection of eleven stories (six reprints and five new) featuring Holmes and Watson in well-told tales in the horror genre. Both books are limited editions, hard-bound and signed, and the publisher is at <[www.weirdhousepress.com](http://www.weirdhousepress.com)>; click on [our books] to see all their "Sherlock Holmes Adventures". Campbell was interviewed recently at the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog <[www.tinyurl.com/3kf2bn6x](http://www.tinyurl.com/3kf2bn6x)>.

It can be interesting to read book reviews written by an expert (such as a review of *Moby Dick* written by a cetologist, or *The Lost World* by a paleontologist): Rene Schweitzer has recently reviewed three mysteries at the Trains web-site, one of them being Barry Roberts' *Sherlock Holmes and the Railway Maniac* (1994) <<https://tinyurl.com/yk2hxzv6>>.

One of the many animation characters to appear in Sherlockian costume was Roquefort ("the big cheese detective"), in "The Aristocats" (1970); a production cel from the film <[www.tinyurl.com/yjw5czma](http://www.tinyurl.com/yjw5czma)> brought \$129 (including the buyer's premium) at Heritage Auctions on Sept. 21.

The Marco Navas Studio has honored "A Study in Scarlet" with a new set of 1/32 figurines, hand-crafted in resin and hand-painted, showing the first meeting of Holmes and Watson <[tinyurl.com/td828xyt](http://tinyurl.com/td828xyt)>. This is the latest in their Sherlock Holmes Collection <[tinyurl.com/4t92zvj2](http://tinyurl.com/4t92zvj2)>; some of their earlier figurines are still available.

If you only watched the first Robert Downey Jr. "Sherlock Holmes" film in theaters or on television, you missed the featurettes that were included on the DVD. You can watch them now, in a YouTube compilation spotted by Jennie Paton at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pA2TCDYxcY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pA2TCDYxcY)>, and perhaps see yourself, if you were at the birthday festivities in New York in 2009: the last featurette offers a few minutes of footage from some of the weekend events.

There's all sorts of interesting Sherlockian music to be found on the Internet, and Jennie Paton turned up the acapella group MayTree's version of the "Sherlock" theme music <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ii\\_XYcNeBa4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ii_XYcNeBa4)>. If you would like to see what else they can do, they have their own YouTube channel at <[www.youtube.com/channel/UC3mY2SKYhPjqImtBBXsR6\\_Q](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3mY2SKYhPjqImtBBXsR6_Q)>.

The impressive International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition opens at the Minnesota History Center in St Paul on Oct. 20 <[www.mnhs.org/historycenter](http://www.mnhs.org/historycenter)>, and the Norwegian Explorers and the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota will host a mini-conference on "The Timeless Sherlock Holmes" on Oct. 22 with some distinguished visiting and local speakers <[www.tinyurl.com/29kxnum9](http://www.tinyurl.com/29kxnum9)>.

Sep 22 #7 David Warner's *Over My Dead Body* (Fremantle: Fremantle Press, 2022; 258 pp., \$19.95), a thriller as well as a mystery, features Georgette Watson (his great-great-granddaughter), a cryogenicist who freelances for the New York police department and finds that her ancestor preserved Holmes' frozen body after the battle at the Reichenbach. So she thaws him out, and they quickly are involved in pursuing a vicious serial killer. The story's well told, with interesting supporting characters and some nice twists and turns.

The two-page manuscript for Conan Doyle's "The Argument from Necromancy" will be offered at Potter & Potter Auctions on Oct. 20, with an estimate of \$6,000-\$8,000 <[www.tinyurl.com/bde8tsve](http://www.tinyurl.com/bde8tsve)>.

Olivia Rutigliano's series of "Little Essays on Sherlock Holmes" appears at the CrimeReads web-site, began with a close reading of what she called "one of the strangest Holmes stories" <[www.tinyurl.com/bdfbe7zp](http://www.tinyurl.com/bdfbe7zp)> (that's "The Engineer's Thumb"), and continues with "The Boscombe Valley Mystery" <[www.tinyurl.com/2sc6cumd](http://www.tinyurl.com/2sc6cumd)>.

Paul Forster's one-man show "Conjuring the Dead" (about a séance that Houdini and Conan Doyle attended in Harrogate. N. Yorks.) premiered in July during the Durham Fringe Festival, and it will be presented at the Crown Hotel in Harrogate, on Oct. 28-30 <[www.tinyurl.com/mv5euy5d](http://www.tinyurl.com/mv5euy5d)>. There's an audio interview with Forster at <[www.tinyurl.com/33h2k63r](http://www.tinyurl.com/33h2k63r)>.

Sherlockian's who enjoy maps will welcome Leslie Katz's new essay "'A Map Is Not the Territory': Sherlock Holmes' Use of Maps"; it's available online at <[www.papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4217901](http://www.papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4217901)>.

The Mini-Tonga Scion Society may be inactive, but people still are having fun creating Sherlockian miniatures: Jennie Paton has noted Betty Stein's miniature diorama at YouTube <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4eAtCvDtDk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4eAtCvDtDk)>.

Peter Brooks' *Seduced by Story: The Use and Abuse of Narrative* (New York: New York Review Books, 2022; 173 pp., \$17.95) is a scholarly sequel to his *Reading for the Plot: Design and Intention in Narrative* (1984); he begins with a quote from "Game of Thrones" television series ("There's nothing in the world more powerful than a good story. Nothing can stop it. No enemy can defeat it.") and cites the Canon as one of many examples of the power of narrative. He also explains how narrative can be (and is) used to deceive readers and listeners, and warns of the dangers involved in what he calls the storification of reality.

Kenneth W. Starr died on Sept. 13. He was an American lawyer and judge, best known for the *Communication from Kenneth W. Starr, Independent Counsel, Transmitting a Referral to the United States House of Representatives Filed in Conformity with the Requirements of Title 28, United States Code, Section 595(c)*; the Starr Report led to the impeachment of President Clinton, and it stated (on p. 158) that "Ms. Lewinsky testified that that she gave the President a number of additional gifts," and that "these included a Sherlock Holmes game sometime after Christmas 1996."



Sep 22 #8    Theatrics: Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is running at the BeeKay Theater in Tehachapi, Calif, through Oct. 8 <tctonstage.com>. It also has been scheduled at the Everyman Theatre in Baltimore, Md., Dec. 6-Jan. 1 <www.everymantheatre.org>.

Brian Guehring's "Sherlock Holmes and the First Baker Street Irregular" is on at the Charleston Heights Arts Center in Las Vegas, Nev., through Oct. 9 <www.rainbowcompnay.org>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" is being performed at the Long Beach Play-house in Long Beach, Calif., though Oct 22 <www.lbplayhouse.org>.

Kate Hamill's "Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson--Apt. 2B" is on at the Synchronicity Theatre in Atlanta, Ga., through Oct. 23 <www.synchrotheatre.org>. It is also scheduled at the Grace Gamm Theatre in Boulder, Colo., Feb. 2-25 <www.betc.org>.

Rick Robinson's "Sherlock Holmes and the Final Problem" is running at the Oregon Cabaret Theatre in Ashland, Ore., through Nov. 6; their web-site's at <www.oregoncabaret.com>.

Tim Kelly's "Sherlock Holmes and the Hound of the Baskervilles" is due at Encore! in Southern Plains, N.C., Oct. 21-30 <www.encycenter.net>.

Stephen Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" will be performed at the Topeka Civic Theatre in Topeka, Kans., Oct. 21-Nov. 5; their web-site's at <www.topekacivictheatre.com>.

Steven Canny and John Nicholson's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Victoria Hall Theatre in Harlow, Essex, Nov. 3-5; their web-site's at <www.harlowtheatrecompany.org.uk>.

Mark Shanahan's "A Sherlock Carol" is scheduled at the Marylebone Theatre in London, Nov. 18-Jan. 7 <www.marylebonetheatre.com>; that's conveniently a tenth of a mile from 221B Baker Street.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot" will be performed at the Buck Creek Playhouse in Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 2-18 <www.buckcreekplayers.com>.

Craig Sodaro's "Young Sherlock" will be performed at the Opelika Theatre Company in Opelika, Ala., Jan. 20-21 <www.opelikatheatrecompany.com>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Music Hall Mystery" is scheduled by the Rain or Shine Theatre Company at the Theatre on the Steps in Bridgnorth, Shrops., Feb. 3-4, and then on tour <www.rainorshine.co.uk>.

Michael Druce's "Sherlock Holmes and the Portal of Time" is scheduled at the Richey Suncoast Theatre in New Port Richey, Fla., Feb. 3-5; web-site at <www.richeysuncoasttheatre.com>.

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

Sherlockians will gather in New York on Jan. 4-8 to honor Sherlock Holmes' 169th birthday, and planning for almost all of the traditional events is afoot. There's a "Plans for BSI Weekend" page at the Baker Street Irregulars web-site <[www.bakerstreetirregulars.com](http://www.bakerstreetirregulars.com)> that has information on BSI and non-BSI events; most of the events are open to everyone, and there always is much more going on than anyone with reasonable sense or stamina is able to deal with. There also will be information available in mid-November at Scott Monty's excellent web-site <[www.bsiweekend.com](http://www.bsiweekend.com)>; his helpful "Here Are Your #BSIWeekend Tips" will be found at <[ihose.co/bsi2023tips](http://ihose.co/bsi2023tips)> in December. It's also a good idea to sign up for News from the BSI to hear about Weekend news and when public registration opens for the festivities <[www.tinyurl.com/yc5tsz27](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc5tsz27)>.

In plenty of time for holiday hinting (or shopping), Randall Stock's annual informative nominations for the best Sherlock Holmes books/DVDs of the year goes on-line at <[www.bestofsherlock.com/sherlock-gifts.htm](http://www.bestofsherlock.com/sherlock-gifts.htm)> on Nov. 1; there also are recommendations of older Sherlockiana, all with helpful explanations of his choices.

On location with Buster Keaton: John Bengtson ("the great detective of silent film locations," according to the N.Y. Times) has an interesting YouTube channel where he takes you on a tour of locations for Buster Keaton's "Sherlock Jr." (1924) <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDQdOmnB\\_Gw&t=76s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDQdOmnB_Gw&t=76s)>. Kindly reported by Jennie Paton.

For all of the fans of professional hockey: Alex Ovechkin, left winger and captain of Washington Capitals, likes to dress in costume for Russian television commercials, and Jennie Paton has spotted him in Sherlockian costume at the RMNB [Russian Machine Never Breaks] web-site in a commercial for Russia's PSB bank <[www.tinyurl.com/43b8bx6k](http://www.tinyurl.com/43b8bx6k)>.

Barbara Peters and Patrick Millikin welcomed Les Klinger to the Poisoned Pen Bookstore in Scottsdale, Ariz., on Oct. 6 for a discussion of his *The New Annotated Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (just published by the Mysterious Press), and much more, and you can watch the goings-on at their YouTube channel <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVENiQKyUxo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVENiQKyUxo)>.

Tim Johnson has reported a new 26-minute film from the Mayo Clinic ("Finding Substance X: The Team That Created Cortisone") that features Dr. Philip S. Hench, who shared a Nobel Prize for the results of his research, and with his wife Mary put together the magnificent collection that's a cornerstone of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota <[www.tinyurl.com/3pusytk6](http://www.tinyurl.com/3pusytk6)>.

"Holmes and Yoyo" was a 1976 television series that was Sherlockian only for starring Richard Shull (a member of the Baker Street Irregulars) as Det. Sgt. Alexander Holmes, who is partnered with Det. Sgt. Gregory "Yoyo" Yoyonovich, who turns out to be an android. All these years later, Paul Thomas Miller offers a video of "Holmesian Yo-Yo Tricks" (recently noted by Jennie Paton).

Oct 22 #2 There were some interesting Sherlockiana and Doyleana offered at a sale of rare books and manuscripts in New York on Oct. 6, including four non-Sherlockian manuscripts; Randall Stock has posted detailed information (and images) at his "The Best of Sherlock Holmes" website <[www.tinyurl.com/xjfy2s](http://www.tinyurl.com/xjfy2s)>. The highlight of the sale, for Sherlockians, certainly, was the rare inscribed copy of the first Spencer Blakett edition of *The Sign of Four* (1890); the estimate was \$20,000-\$30,000 and it sold for \$201,600 (including the buyer's premium).

The spectacular Williamson Pink Star <[www.tinyurl.com/vrhms2e5](http://www.tinyurl.com/vrhms2e5)> did very well at Sotheby's in Hong Kong on Oct. 5; the 11.15-carat diamond sold for \$57,736,078 (including the buyer's premium) and set a new record for price per carat for any diamond or gemstone. It's also the second most valuable jewel or gemstone ever sold at auction.

In case you don't know about the most valuable jewel or gemstone ever sold at auction, it's the 59.60-carat Pink Star that was sold at Sotheby's in 2017 for \$71.2 million <[www.tinyurl.com/3vpj922y](http://www.tinyurl.com/3vpj922y)>; it weighed 132.50 carats uncut when it was mined by De Beers in 1999, and took two years to cut and polish.

Plan ahead: The Legion of Zoom will hold its second annual virtual conference (exploring "The Sitting Zoom at 221b Baker Street") at 2:00 pm (eastern) on Feb. 19, 2023; more information, and a registration button, can be found at <[www.tinyurl.com/ycpru7mt](http://www.tinyurl.com/ycpru7mt)>.

"Greetings, old friends," is a phrase that will please fans of "Star Trek: The Next Generation". It's a lovely preview of things to come, in a teaser <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=wo2VlcSVj-w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wo2VlcSVj-w)> for the ten-episode third season of "Star Trek: Picard" that will be streamed on Paramount+ beginning Feb. 16.

Spoiler alert: those fateful words are spoken by Daniel Davis, who's back as Moriarty, who was featured in two episodes of the original series: "Elementary, Dear Data" (1988) and "Ship in a Bottle" (1993). If you want to know (much) more about the series, and the episodes, Wikipedia has a helpful entry <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star\\_Trek:\\_The\\_Next\\_Generation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Trek:_The_Next_Generation)>.

Steve Mason wonders why this (non-Sherlockian) sentence is unusual: "Dennis, Nell, Edna, Leon, Nedra, Anita, Rolf, Nora, Alice, Carol, Leo, Jane, Reed, Dena, Dale, Basil, Rae, Penny, Lana, Dave, Denny, Lena, Ida, Bernadette, Ben, Ray, Lila, Nina, Jo, Ira, Mara, Sara, Mario, Jan, Ina, Lily, Arne, Bette, Dan, Reba, Diane, Lynn, Ed, Eva, Dana, Lynne, Pearl, Isabel, Ada, Ned, Dee, Rena, Joel, Lora, Cecil, Aaron, Flora, Tina, Arden, Noel, and Ellen sinned."

Robert J. Harris' *The Devil's Blaze: Sherlock Holmes 1943* (New York: Pegasus Crime, 2022; 276 pp., \$26.00) is his second pastiche inspired by the Universal series of films that brought Holmes and Watson into the 1940s; they're in war-time Britain, investigating a series of grotesque murders, pursuing Professor Moriarty and hard at work preventing a German victory, The author's web-site is at <[www.harris-authors.com](http://www.harris-authors.com)>.

Oct 22 #3 Steve Mason wonders why this (non-Sherlockian) sentence is unusual (Oct 22 #2): it's a palindrome, provided by Steve in the October issue of *The Bilge Pump*, the monthly newsletter of the Crew of the Barque *Lone Star* (the Sherlockian society in Dallas/Fort Worth); the issue is conveniently available at their web-site <[www.dfw-sherlock.org](http://www.dfw-sherlock.org)>. Actually, you can read all the issues of their newsletter, which was launched in June 2013, since they're archived at the web-site, along with much more of interest. There are (so far) a few other societies that archive their newsletters on-line; it's a wonderful way to make Sherlockian scholarship available to everyone.

At last! Jennie Paton has discovered that The Russian television series "Sherlock: The Russian Chronicles" (with Maxim Matveev as Holmes) (Apr. 20 #6) will soon be available on DVDs. That's the good news. The bad news is that the DVDs will be in European PAL format, in Russian with subtitles only in French <[www.tinyurl.com/3rk4c6nu](http://www.tinyurl.com/3rk4c6nu)>. Sherlock Holmes is in St. Petersburg, following the trail of Jack the Ripper (who has fled to Russia), and you can see a trailer at <[www.start.ru/watch/sherlok-v-rossii](http://www.start.ru/watch/sherlok-v-rossii)>.

Japan Today had a colorful report on Oct. 4 <[www.tinyurl.com/5n8e3frj](http://www.tinyurl.com/5n8e3frj)> on the new Sherlock Holmes Exhibition at the British Antique Museum in Kamakura; the museum's web-site's at <[www.bam-kamakura.com](http://www.bam-kamakura.com)>.

The Blackeyed Theatre's tour of Nick Lane's new play "Sherlock Holmes: The Valley of Fear" began in Britain on Sept. 14, but you won't need to travel to Britain to see it: it's being streamed on-line through Jan. 22, and is well worth watching <[www.tinyurl.com/mry6sxz5](http://www.tinyurl.com/mry6sxz5)>.

Daniel Stashower's *American Demon: Eliot Ness and the Hunt for America's Jack the Ripper* (New York: Minotaur, 2022; 342 pp., \$29.99) is his latest non-fiction book, about the man who helped bring down Al Capone in Chicago and then found himself in Cleveland, attempting to solve a series of brutal murders; there are passing mentions of Sherlock Holmes (Dan knows this is important in persuading Sherlockians to read his books), and the book's great fun.

Why would you want to read a book? Jennie Paton found an amusing commentary on that question, on-line at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2GERJ38Zvk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2GERJ38Zvk)>.

"Musings on Amusements in the Canon" is the title of the next conference scheduled by the Reichenbach Irregulars in Leukerbad, Switzerland, on June 1-4, 2023 <[www.tinyurl.com/25zphw74](http://www.tinyurl.com/25zphw74)>; planning for the conference continues, and visitors from far and near are welcome to participate in the festivities.

The Christopher Morley Knothole Association is hosting an illustrated lecture on one of his favorite topics: the Long Island Railroad. David Morrison will talk about steam trains, and the LIRR from its inception to the time when Morley rode the rails from the 1930s to the 1950s, at the Bryant Library in Roslyn, N.Y., on Nov. 3, at 6:30 pm. The meeting is free, and open to the public; more information about the event, and the Knothole Association, is available from Peter Cohn <[apacohn@aol.com](mailto:apacohn@aol.com)>.

Oct 22 #4 *Nights of Plague*, by Orhan Pamuk (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2022; 683 pp., \$34.00), published in Turkey last year and now available in an English translation, is a novel disguised as a history of the fictional island of Mingheria, ruled by the Abdul Hamid II, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire; in 1901 the island is beset by virulent bubonic plague that ravishes the Christian Greeks and Muslim Turks who live there. The Sultan, in the novel and in fact an admirer of the Sherlock Holmes stories, sends an epidemiologist to the island, instructed to use Sherlockian deduction to solve a murder. Pamuk also notes that when Conan Doyle visited Turkey in 1907, he received the Order of the Mecidiye from Abdul Hamid, who was deposed in 1909. Not in the novel but widely reported: Hamid, on his last night as Sultan listened to a courtier read a translation of a Sherlock Holmes story in an issue of *The Strand Magazine*. Nick Hilden's interview with Pamuk, about the book and much more, was published in the *Washington Post* (Book World) on Oct. 16 <[www.tinyurl.com/45hmksdk](http://www.tinyurl.com/45hmksdk)>.

There's a fine slide show of treasures in the cases at the splendid exhibition of "Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects from the Collection of Glen S. Miranker" (at the Lilly Library in Bloomington, Ind., through Dec. 16) at the exhibition web-site <[www.sherlockin221objects.org/the-lilly-library](http://www.sherlockin221objects.org/the-lilly-library)>.

*Canonical Cameos*, by the late Donald A. Redmond, is a collection of entertaining poems he wrote in 1976, now published for the first time in a 16-page pamphlet that was a souvenir prepared by his son Christopher Redmond for the recent "Jubilee@221B" conference in Toronto; copies are available from Chris for \$5.00 postpaid via PayPal at <[redmond2@execulink.com](mailto:redmond2@execulink.com)>.

There was a nice article by Steve Marsh about the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota at the *Mpls.St.Paul* magazine web-site on Oct. 16 <[www.tinyurl.com/mr2efnj5](http://www.tinyurl.com/mr2efnj5)>. Tim Johnson, librarian and curator of the collections, explained that "we still have archiving to do. I call it job security."

The *Deadline* web-site noted on Oct. 3 <[www.tinyurl.com/4vbtvxz](http://www.tinyurl.com/4vbtvxz)> that work has begun on a new mystery series for CBS-TV. Craig Sweeney, who worked on the "Elementary" series for five years, most of them as executive producer, will write the new series, which features Dr. Watson, back in practice a year after the death of Holmes at the hands of Moriarty. The new series isn't even "in development" yet, so don't hold your breath.

The web-site also reported on Oct. 6 <[www.tinyurl.com/3b6nn4xy](http://www.tinyurl.com/3b6nn4xy)> on plans for a different Sherlockian project ("The Improbable Tales of Baskerville Hall"), which will consist of a three-book children's series written by Ali Standish and published by HarperCollins, and a television series produced by Imagine Kids+Family.

Don Hobbs has added language #113 to his data-base of translations of the Canon, thanks to Marsha Pollak who found a Khmer translation at the International Book Center in Phnom Penh in 2018 (Khmer is the official and national language of Cambodia). Don's massive (and colorfully-illustrated) data-base (which he calls "The Galactic Sherlock Holmes") is available online at <[www.dfw-sherlock.org/galactic-sherlock-holmes.html](http://www.dfw-sherlock.org/galactic-sherlock-holmes.html)>.

Oct 22 #5 "Boss of Sherlock Holmes Museum Continues 'Bitter' High Court Battle with His Little Brother Who Is Refusing to Move out of £1 million House Which Has Been His Home for 25 Years" was the headline on an article in the Daily Mail (on Oct. 17) <[www.tinyurl.com/dkkr9hn3](http://www.tinyurl.com/dkkr9hn3)> about the seemingly perpetual lawyering among John Aidiniantz and members of his family, who have "racked up more than £2.5 million in costs and court orders" in a decade-long battle over profits from the Sherlock Holmes Museum at 221B Baker Street.

Angela Lansbury died on Oct. 11. She had a long and distinguished career acting on screen and stage and television, and became a household name as Jessica Fletcher on "Murder, She Wrote" which ran for 12 seasons on CBS-TV from 1984 to 1996. The pilot episode for the series ("The Murder of Sherlock Holmes") is discussed in detail at <[www.vimeo.com/115878284](http://www.vimeo.com/115878284)>.

The Dramatic Publishing Co. <[www.dramaticpublishing.com](http://www.dramaticpublishing.com)> offers a wide variety of scripts (16 in all) for regional and school productions of Sherlock Holmes plays.

Daniel Monaghan (who stars in the title role in Treefort Media's ten-episode audio mini-series "Moriarty: The Devil's Game") gave an interesting interview to the Sydney Morning Herald <[www.tinyurl.com/3stmn52k](http://www.tinyurl.com/3stmn52k)> on Oct. 19, talking about the mini-series and much more. You can sample the mini-series <[www.audible.com/pd/Moriarty-Podcast/B0B2DZBVRR](http://www.audible.com/pd/Moriarty-Podcast/B0B2DZBVRR)>; Phil LaMarr stars as Sherlock Holmes.

Owen Thomas' "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (with Nigel Miles-Thomas as Holmes and Daniel Foley as Watson) continues its tour in Asia, and there's a nice review of the show at Ben's Theater in Jomtien, Thailand, published in the Pattaya Mail on Oct. 19 <[www.tinyurl.com/ya2akckb](http://www.tinyurl.com/ya2akckb)>.

Original production cels from the classic animated film "Deduce, You Say!" (1956) aren't easy to find. Teresa Rettig reports that one is available from the Chuck Jones Gallery for \$5,950 <[www.tinyurl.com/ydsfn5r8](http://www.tinyurl.com/ydsfn5r8)>. They weren't nearly as expensive in 2009, when one sold for \$3,585 at Heritage Auctions <[www.tinyurl.com/ymspzsx](http://www.tinyurl.com/ymspzsx)>. Of course you can settle for limited edition cels that are made for collectors and cost much less

"A Doctor, a Deduction, and Death Averted" is an interesting essay on "how doctor and writer Simon Stephenson's love for Sherlock Holmes helped him save his mother's life", published at the CrimeReads web-site on Oct. 19 <[www.crimereads.com/a-doctor-a-deduction-and-a-death-averted](http://www.crimereads.com/a-doctor-a-deduction-and-a-death-averted)>. Stephenson explains that he was born in the same hospital as Sherlock Holmes, and has a good story to tell.

When in Whitstable (in Kent): you can visit the Whitstable Community Museum and Gallery, to see its exhibition honoring the late Peter Cushing, who lived there for 35 years <[www.whitstablemuseum.org/exhibit/peter-cushing](http://www.whitstablemuseum.org/exhibit/peter-cushing)>. Howard Ostrom has found a video tour of the exhibition, when it opened in 2013 <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEtpEftsJ8k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEtpEftsJ8k)>; the exhibits include costumes he wore as Sherlock Holmes (Cushing played Holmes many times on screen and on television, and Conan Doyle once on television).

Oct 22 #6 "A Sherlockian Semiquincentennial" is the title of the 250th episode of "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" audio show that was launched in 2007 by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder; it's still going strong, and offers a search engine and a complete archive of 15 years of discussions and interviews that are well worth investigating.

And yes indeed, semiquincentennial is a real word, not recognized by the Word spell-checker but nevertheless in dictionaries. You can also celebrate sestercentennials and quarter millenniums, and you can expect to see all of those words on July 4, 2026, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the 13 colonies that became the United States of America.

Leslie Katz has written many papers on Canonical topics, and all of them are conveniently available at <[www.ssrn.com/author=1164057](http://www.ssrn.com/author=1164057)>; his latest is "Thrills and Chills and Postage and Wills: A Look at a Few Aspects of 'The Five Orange Pips'".

Andy Lane who has written eight novels in his "Young Sherlock" series and two in his "Lost World" series, and many more in non-Sherlockian and non-Doylean genres, was interviewed at length recently at the Time Scales website <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcxmJ\\_WmNtA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcxmJ_WmNtA)>, kindly reported by Jennie Patton.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" will be performed at the State Theater in Olympia, Wash., Jan. 27-Feb. 11; web-site at <[www.harlequinproductions.org](http://www.harlequinproductions.org)>. Also at Cheney Hall in Manchester, Conn., Feb. 3-19 <[www.cheneyhall.org](http://www.cheneyhall.org)>; and the Amelia Community Theatre in Fernandina Beach, Fla., June 9 to 24 <[www.ameliacommunitytheatre.org](http://www.ameliacommunitytheatre.org)>; and the Totem Pole Playhouse in Fayetteville, Pa., June 16-July 2 <[www.totempoleplayhouse.org](http://www.totempoleplayhouse.org)>.

"William Gillette's Legacy Shines a Bit Brighter at Farmington Cemetery" was the headline on a story <[www.tinyurl.com/49mhv35y](http://www.tinyurl.com/49mhv35y)> in the Middletown Press (Oct. 11) about the restoration of the headstones at the graves of William and Helen Gillette, with a photograph that includes the Gillettes (impersonated by Tyke and Teddie Niver).

Theatrics: Tad Aviezer's "Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure of the Red-Headed League" is scheduled at the Lyndhurst Mansion in Tarrytown, N.Y., Nov. 4-Dec. 4 <[www.lyndhurst.org](http://www.lyndhurst.org)>.

Katie Forgette's "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily" will be performed at the Genesian Theatre in Sydney, N.S.W., Nov. 4 through Dec. 10 <[www.genesiantheatre.com/au](http://www.genesiantheatre.com/au)>.

Jon Jory's "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" will be performed at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Nov. 10-12; web-site at <[www.mvnu.edu/events/fall-play-22?date=2022-11-10](http://www.mvnu.edu/events/fall-play-22?date=2022-11-10)>.

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

You can see "What Edinburgh's Picardy Place Will Look Like When '20 Years of Roadworks' End Next Year" in a story posted at the Edinburgh Live web-site on Oct. 28 <[www.tinyurl.com/yc55cn89](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc55cn89)>. At long last locals and tourists will be able to see the statue of Sherlock Holmes that was unveiled there in 1991, honoring Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who was born at 11 Picardy Place in 1859. The story says that it's a statue of Conan Doyle, but that mistake likely will be corrected by the time you get to the web-site.

Edward Gorey was a talented author and artist, famous for his macabre non-Sherlockian and Sherlockian work; you've seen some of his artwork at the beginning of "Masterpiece" mysteries on PBS-TV, and you can read about him (and see a fine slide show of his house, which you can still visit in Yarmouth Port, Mass.) at <[www.tinyurl.com/2p9cd8x3](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p9cd8x3)>.

Some readers of this newsletter are old enough to remember the "Mystery!" era of PBS-TV, not only the wonderful opening animation based on the art of Edward Gorey, but also Vincent Price presiding over each program. You can time-travel back, or see for the first time, his 1985 introduction to Granada's "A Scandal in Bohemia" at <[www.tinyurl.com/2yfryu76](http://www.tinyurl.com/2yfryu76)>, thanks to Bill Young's post on Oct. 31 to the "Tellyspotting" blog at the web-site of KERA-TV (Dallas/Fort Worth).

"Sherlock Proved Too Good for His Rivals at Ashburton and Scored a Fighting Win" <[www.facebook.com/watch/?v=439691821630285](http://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=439691821630285)>, as reported by Jennie Paton.

You can have your cake and not want to eat it: Jennie Paton has reported the CakeDecor web-site <[www.cakdecor.com](http://www.cakdecor.com)>; search for [sherlock holmes] to find two pages of attractive edibles. And there are many more attractive ideas at <[www.hotcore.info/babki/sherlock-birthday-cake.htm](http://www.hotcore.info/babki/sherlock-birthday-cake.htm)>.

The Washington Post had a nice report (Oct. 31) <[www.tinyurl.com/29d9j7rm](http://www.tinyurl.com/29d9j7rm)> about the first time Anne Rice's Vampire Lestat Fan Club held its annual ball without its namesake, who died last year (Dec 21 #5). It was grand New Orleans celebration that included a costume party, all in honor of the author who dedicated her novel *The Mummy, or Ramses the Damned* (1989) "to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle for his great mummy stories 'Lot No. 249' and 'The Ring of Thoth'".

"Sherlock Holmes: Silenced Night" is being presented by the WhoDunnit Murder Mystery Theater at the Bristol Bar & Grille in Louisville, Ky., with 4 performances in December and one in January <[www.tinyurl.com/m9ex37dp](http://www.tinyurl.com/m9ex37dp)>.

"Slylock Fox & Comics for Kids" is a comic strip launched by Bob Weber Jr. on Mar. 29, 1987, and it's still going strong <[www.slylockfox.com](http://www.slylockfox.com)>. Seen in nearly 400 newspapers with a combined readership of more than 30 million, the strip has its own Facebook page <[www.facebook.com/SlylockFox](http://www.facebook.com/SlylockFox)>, and Slylock is a fine example of how Sherlockian costume is used to identify a detective.



Nov 22 #2 Rupert Holmes (whose real name is David Goldstein, "a man who loves to drink Rupert Knickerbocker beer and is an avid fan of ace sleuth "Sherlock Holmes, according to the Dallas Times Herald on June 3, 1986), wrote the music and script for the musical "The Mystery of Edwin Drood", and the play "Solitary Confinement" and the occasionally Sherlockian television series "Remember WENN", and now lives in Cold Spring, N.Y., in a home that's "a Valentine to Victoriana and to Baker Street's most famous resident," according to a nicely-illustrated story in the N.Y. Times (Oct. 25) <[www.tinyurl.com/2a7k66te](http://www.tinyurl.com/2a7k66te)>.

Cliff Goldfarb has reported that two of the talks at the Jubilee@221B conference in Toronto are available on-line: Nicholas Meyer's keynote presentation ("The Philosophy of Composition") at <[www.tinyurl.com/9bkf3a22](http://www.tinyurl.com/9bkf3a22)> and Douglas Kerr's Cameron Hollyer Memorial Lecture ("Editing Conan Doyle") at <[www.tinyurl.com/59fch9d6](http://www.tinyurl.com/59fch9d6)>. The YouTube channel of the Friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection <[www.tinyurl.com/47s28rar](http://www.tinyurl.com/47s28rar)> has video from previous years, and you'll find information about the Friends and their publications at <[www.acdfriends.org](http://www.acdfriends.org)>.

Bonnie MacBird was interviewed at the on-line London Writers' Salon this month, talking about her latest Sherlockian pastiche *What Child Is This?* and much more, and you can listen to it all at <[www.tinyurl.com/4sv8ccw2](http://www.tinyurl.com/4sv8ccw2)>. She also was interviewed by Scott Monty and Burt Wolder for the "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" blog this month <[www.tinyurl.com/2p95nraj](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p95nraj)>.

It has taken a while, but the U.S. Mint has started shipping the new Anna May Wong quarter (Jan 22 #7) <[www.tinyurl.com/2p94m498](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p94m498)>. She played Mrs. Pyke in Reginald Owen's "A Study in Scarlet" (1933), and she also appeared in the title of "Herlock Sholmes in Be-a-Live Crook, or Anna Went Wrong" (1930), the British marionette burlesque of Clive Brook's film "The Return of Sherlock Holmes" (1929).

Evy Harzog has reported on Macado's, a restaurant chain that has many locations from Virginia south to North Carolina <[www.macados.net](http://www.macados.net)>, as well as a menu with a wide variety of sandwiches named in honor of famous people, including Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson.

George Booth died on Nov. 1. He was a stellar cartoonist who began drawing single-panel cartoons and occasional covers for The New Yorker in the late 1960s, became its oldest active contributor, and never retired. You can see his one Sherlockian cartoon (Jan. 9, 1971, p. 34) in the on-line archive of The New Yorker (you need to be a subscriber or know someone who is), and reprinted in his *Think Good Thoughts About a Pussycat* (1975).

"Enola Holmes 2" had limited release in theaters, and now is streaming on Netflix. Presumably you've all seen it, or are planning to, or are planning not to see it, but there's a sting at the end, after the start of the closing credits, that suggests we might see a third film in the franchise. The Box Office Mojo web-site has no information about the film (possibly because it had only a limited theater release), but it scored well at the Rotten Tomatoes web-site, with a rating of 94% (reviews) and 78% (audience score); the first film was rated 91% and 70%.

Nov 22 #3 A story about spiritualism posted at the Mental Floss web-site (on Oct. 27) <[www.mentalfloss.com/posts/vintage-seance-video](http://www.mentalfloss.com/posts/vintage-seance-video)> featured video of a British Movietone newsreel that was filmed at a séance held by Mrs. Meurig Morris, with Lady Jean Conan Doyle and her son Denis Conan Doyle as witnesses to the performance. There's much more about Mrs. Morris (and Lady Doyle) in a post to the Kilburn and West Hampstead blog on June 22, 2020 <[www.tinyurl.com/25zmy2ec](http://www.tinyurl.com/25zmy2ec)>.

"How Well Do You Know Sherlock's London?" J. D. Biersdorfer asked in the N.Y. Times' on-line weekly Book Review Quiz Bowl on Nov. 4; the Quiz Bowl is a weekly interactive feature with five multiple-choice questions, and a chance to explore more information about the locations and the literature <[www.tinyurl.com/ywukk9rc](http://www.tinyurl.com/ywukk9rc)>.

Bignell Wood, the country home that Conan Doyle bought as a birthday present for his wife Jean in 1924, is for sale <[www.tinyurl.com/2f73mewf](http://www.tinyurl.com/2f73mewf)>; the asking price is £2.950,000. Read all about it at the realtor's web-site, which includes a downloadable and colorful brochure.

"All Mortal Greatness Is But Disease" is the title of the exhibition now open at the Scottish Maritime Museum in Irvine <[www.tinyurl.com/2p876k97](http://www.tinyurl.com/2p876k97)> through Feb. 19; the museum's web-site has a content warning: "This exhibition features images and content of animal cruelty, blood and gore, including hunting, killing, and cutting whales." An article about the exhibition at the Yahoo Sport web-site (Nov. 6) <[www.tinyurl.com/3rbkjhuh](http://www.tinyurl.com/3rbkjhuh)> opened with a discussion of Conan Doyle's voyage on the Peterhead whaler *Hope* in 1880.

A bit more about "Enola Holmes 2": it isn't based on any of Nancy Springer's books, but there's some actual history involved. Sarah Chapman was a real person, and you can read about her, and what she accomplished, in her entry at Wikipedia, and see how her story inspired Jack Thorne's screenplay for the film.

The summer issue of *The Magic Door* (published by the friends of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection at the Toronto Public Library) offers an article by Lauryn E. Collins (on "Popular Publishing and Gothic Sensation", Clifford Goldfarb's account of the early history of this newsletter, news from the Library and the Collection, and much more. Copies of the newsletter are available from Cliff Goldfarb, Toronto Public Library, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto M4W 2G8, Canada <[cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca](mailto:cgoldfarb@sympatico.ca)>.

*My Dear Watson*, by L. A. Fields (Maple Shade: Lethe Press, 2013; 276 pp., \$18.00), is an account of the relationship between Holmes and Watson, case by case, told by Watson's second wife in 1919; the relationship was homosexual, and the story's nicely told, romantically rather than erotically. Mrs. Watson returns, along with Holmes and Watson, in Fields' *Mrs. Watson: Untold Stories* (2021; 184 pp., \$15.00), in diary entries written from 1921 to 1939, with considerable discussion of the many literary, political, and royal historical figures who were homosexuals. The publisher's web-site is at <[www.lethepressbooks.com](http://www.lethepressbooks.com)>.

Nov 22 #4 A "wooden-framed slate filled with an apparent spirit communication channeled by Laura Pruden" <[www.tinyurl.com/2sw8cvjk](http://www.tinyurl.com/2sw8cvjk)> was sold last month from the late Ken Klosterman's magic collection, and it brought \$1,800 (including the buyer's premium). Conan Doyle considered her "one of the greatest mediums of the world," and you can watch a video tour of Klosterman's collection at <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=SupYJlanYnE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SupYJlanYnE)>.

Naomi Fry posted a warm tribute to "The Muppet Show" at The New Yorker's web-site on Apr. 17, 2021 <[www.tinyurl.com/yy8a544e](http://www.tinyurl.com/yy8a544e)>. The series ran on PBS-TV (1976-1981), and is now available on Disney+, and its target audience included adults as well as children; Baskerville the Hound appeared in the series, along with other Sherlockian characters. There's an interesting Muppet web-site at <[www.muppetcentral.com](http://www.muppetcentral.com)>.

Joanne Alberstat writes about "The Poisonous Atmosphere of the Sherlockian Canon" and Mark Jones and Robert S. Katz discuss "Canonical Cholecystitis" in the fall issue of *Canadian Holmes*, which is published quarterly by the Bootmakers of Toronto, and also offers reports on Sherlockian goings-on in Canada. A subscription costs \$40.00 a year (US or CA); single issues cost \$12.00 postpaid <[www.torontobootmakers.com](http://www.torontobootmakers.com)>.

Something new for numismatists (and other collectors): a Sherlock Holmes "Typefaces" 1oz silver 5\$ coin will be issued by (well, for) the Cook Islands early next year; the coin will be minted by Gold and Silver Bullion Canada, and is offered by them for CA\$165.95 <[www.tinyurl.com/3v9ns59d](http://www.tinyurl.com/3v9ns59d)>; their web-site has colorful images and video, and you're welcome to pre-order now. The mintage will be 1,887 pieces (someone obviously knew the importance of that number). The Cook Islands actually use the New Zealand dollar, but various companies seem to have been minting collectable coins for them for years.

It's not Sherlockian, but if you've never read Charlotte Perkins Gilman's short story "The Yellow Wallpaper" (1892), it's available at Project Gutenberg <[www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1952](http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1952)>. After you've read the story, you can read a Public Domain Review article about a truly unusual and extremely rare (for good reason) book: R. C. Kedzie's *Shadows from the Walls of Death* (1874) <[www.publicdomainreview.org/collection/kedzie-shadows](http://www.publicdomainreview.org/collection/kedzie-shadows)>.

"It was twenty-five to eight as we passed Big Ben, and eight struck as we tore down the Brixton Road, Watson wrote (in "Lady Francis Carfax"). The Great Bell, weighing more than 15 tons, has been silent since 2017, except for special occasions, while the Westminster tower and clock were undergoing repair, returned to service on Remembrance Sunday (Nov. 13). You can hear Big Ben perform at <[www.tinyurl.com/45yfamkh](http://www.tinyurl.com/45yfamkh)>.

The September issue of the quarterly newsletter published by The Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota, which is now edited by Phillip Bergem, has Jim Hawkins' "Reminiscences of John Bennett Shaw", Gary Thaden's tribute to Nate the Great, and more news from and about the Collections; copies of the newsletter can be requested from Timothy Johnson, #15-G Elmer L. Andersen Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455 <[johns976@umn.com](mailto:johns976@umn.com)>.

Nov 22 #5 Britain's current financial problems threaten "painful cuts" at Dartmoor National Park, and may require closure of the Visitors Centre in Princetown, according to a report posted on BBC News (Nov. 9) <[www.tinyurl.com/22k9sxjc](http://www.tinyurl.com/22k9sxjc)>. The Dartmoor National Park Authority will need to find savings of £898,000 in the next three years, and there may be more cuts to its budget; the Authority is considering a proposal to close the Visitors Centre, which now has 80,000 visitors a year. A final decision on the proposal will be made early next year. The Visitors Centre, which was the Duchy Hotel in years past <[www.tinyurl.com/5cpdtttyd](http://www.tinyurl.com/5cpdtttyd)>, says that the hotel was "once home to Conan Doyle as he wrote the Hound of the Baskervilles."

The two-page manuscript for Conan Doyle's "The Argument from Necromancy" offered at Potter & Potter Auctions on Oct. 20 with an estimate of \$6,000-\$8,000 <[www.tinyurl.com/bde8tsve](http://www.tinyurl.com/bde8tsve)> did not sell. But a nice dust-jacketed copy of the first American edition of *The Vital Message* was sold, for \$150 (including the buyer's premium) <[www.tinyurl.com/yc792c3f](http://www.tinyurl.com/yc792c3f)>.

The Beacon Society continues to publish its "quarterly gazette for younger Sherlockians everywhere," and the autumn issue of *Sherlock's Spotlight* is available at their web-site <[www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com)>; the contents include material both by and for younger followers of the Great Detective.

If you've not yet ordered a Sherlockian calendar for 2023, here's a link to one offered by the Strand Magazine <[www.tinyurl.com/4x3rc5ud](http://www.tinyurl.com/4x3rc5ud)>.

Heritage Auctions will have a "The Art of All Things Disney Animation Art Signature Auction on Dec. 9-12 <[www.tinyurl.com/2uyjt5xn](http://www.tinyurl.com/2uyjt5xn)>, offering a wide variety of production cels and animations drawings showing Basil of Baker Street and other characters from "The Great Mouse Detective" (1986).

This is an era of gender-blind casting, and we have seen Holmes and Watson played by women on stage and television. But not, apparently, on film or radio.

The Beacon Society has announced its 2023 R. Joel Senter Sr. Memorial Essay Contest for students in grades 4 through 12; the deadline for submissions is Mar. 1, and details on the contest (and its history) can be found at <[www.beaconsociety.com/joel-senter-essay-contest.html](http://www.beaconsociety.com/joel-senter-essay-contest.html)>.

Helena Bonham Carter has been confirmed as the next president of the 181-year-old London Library <[www.tinyurl.com/2c2e4naw](http://www.tinyurl.com/2c2e4naw)>. We know that Dr. Watson visited the London Library (in "The Illustrious Client"), and it will be interesting to see whether Eudoria Holmes, played by Bonham Carter in the first two "Enola Holmes" films, visits the London Library in the next film.

Robin Parkinson died on May 7. He made his stage debut in England in 1957 and appeared in his first film in 1959; his many credits included appearing as a shipping clerk in Douglas Wilmer's "The Man with a Twisted Lip" (1965), and as Albert Neale in "Murder on a Midsummer's Eve" in Geoffrey Whitehead's "Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson" (1979).

Nov 22 #6 Type Punch Matrix, the rare book firm founded by Rebecca Romney and Brian Cassidy <[www.typepunchmatrix.com](http://www.typepunchmatrix.com)> continues to publish interesting catalogues and offer interesting books; search their web-site for [conan doyle], [sherlock holmes], [sherlockiana], and [vincent starrett] to see some of the nice items on their shelves, and take a look at Print Catalogue Four and its descriptions of two spectacular items no longer available: "Lestrade Before Lestrade" and "A Legendary Sherlockian Rarity with Excellent Provenance".

Bill Seil has reported that a host of comic-strip artists celebrated what would have the 100th birthday of Charles M. Schulz on Nov. 26, and you can see what they did at <[www.schulzmuseum.org/tribute](http://www.schulzmuseum.org/tribute)> (there's a mention of Sherlock Holmes in Stephan Pastis' "Pearls Before Swine").

*The Case of the Disappearing Beaune*, by J. Lawrence Matthews (Naples: East Dean Press, 2022; 92 pp., \$6.99) is "a Sherlock Holmes Christmas Mystery" reprinted from a recent anthology edited by David Marcum, and an imaginative pastiche nicely timed for the season.

Theatrical news: Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is being performed at the Amdram Theatre in Whanganui, New Zealand, through Dec. 4; their web-site's at <[www.amdramwhanganui.co.nz](http://www.amdramwhanganui.co.nz)>. It's also at the English Theatre in Vienna, Austria, through Dec. 27 <[www.englishtheatre.at](http://www.englishtheatre.at)>. And it's scheduled at the Holly Springs Cultural Center in Holly Springs, N.C., on Feb. 9-11 <[www.hollyspringsnc.us/323/Cultural-Center](http://www.hollyspringsnc.us/323/Cultural-Center)>; and at the Fuquay-Varina Arts Center in Fuquay-Varina, N.C., Feb. 16-18 <[www.tinyurl.com/4kj4ypbj](http://www.tinyurl.com/4kj4ypbj)>.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Goose" (by Michael Menendian and John Weagly) will be performed at the Maureen Stapleton Theatre at the Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, N.Y., Dec. 2-4; the web-site is at <[www.tinyurl.com/22w89tkx](http://www.tinyurl.com/22w89tkx)>. Also at the Black Mountain Center for the Arts in Black Mountain, N.C., Dec. 9-18 <[www.blackmountainarts.org](http://www.blackmountainarts.org)>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot, or Holmes for the Holidays" is due at the Tower Fine Arts Center in Brockport, N.Y., Dec. 2-10; their web-site's at <[www.brockportarts.universitytickets.com](http://www.brockportarts.universitytickets.com)>. Also at the Farmington Players Barn in Farmington Hills, Mich., Dec. 2-17 <[www.farmingtonplayers.org](http://www.farmingtonplayers.org)>.

The Baker Street Players have scheduled "Sherlock Holmes and the Night Before Christmas" (two radio plays) at Baker Street West in Jackson, Calif., Dec. 2-11 <[www.bakerstreetwest.com](http://www.bakerstreetwest.com)>.

Brenda Rossini's dramatization of "The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb" will be performed by the CriBar Thespians at the Centuries & Sleuths Bookstore in Forest Park, Ill., on Mar. 18 <[agrartig@aol.com](mailto:agrartig@aol.com)>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club" will be performed at the Paris Community Theatre in Paris, Texas, Mar. 24-Apr. 2 <[www.pctonstage.com](http://www.pctonstage.com)>.

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