

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

Grapevine Service: 22, Wisteria Lodge, Lupin Drive, Chelmsford, Essex. CMI 5FT

9th April 1984

You will find enclosed a flyer for the Orchard Theatre's touring production of A Study in Scarlet, which includes a complete list of venues and dates; the venues are not confined to the company's native West Country. I'll add only that the dramatist and the director are those responsible for the very well received production of The Valley of Fear at the Victoria Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, last year, which augurs well.

Triangle Productions' version of The Valley of Fear, mentioned in the last letter, has had its premiere in Colchester, which I attended and which I enjoyed very much. It is a one-man show, demonstrating remarkable virtuosity on the part of the adaptor and actor John D. Vincent. I am still awaiting final tour details.

Keep an eye on the T.V. Times for transmission details of the Granada series The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, starring Jeremy Brett and David Burke as Holmes and Watson. For those who can't wait, and for completists, Granada Publishing has issued a book with the same title. This is not the collection we know as The Adventures; it contains the thirteen stories featured in the TV series. The cover pictures are stills from the series. It is a paperback, priced at £1.95.

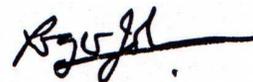
David Stuart Davies has reminded me that there is another high-quality TV series of Holmes adventures, made for the American market, but making no concessions thereto. No arrangements have been announced for British transmission, but one film, The Hound of the Baskervilles, is available on video tape from Embassy Home Entertainments, and I understand from another source that The Sign of Four may also be available on video. Holmes is played by that excellent actor Ian Richardson (winner of the Dracula Society's Hamilton Deane Award for his performance in The Woman in White), and Watson by Donald Churchill.

There are two newly available sound recordings of interest. Listen for Pleasure has followed up its excellent version of The Sign of Four with A Study in Scarlet. The reader is the same: the splendid Tony Britton. The number is TC-LFP 4171305. Another sequel is More Sherlock Holmes Stories from Argo, which should repeat the success of their Four Sherlock Holmes Stories. Again the reader is the same: the equally splendid Robert Hardy. The four tales this time are "The Dying Detective", "Shoscombe Old Place", "The Musgrave Ritual" and "The Crooked Man". The number is SAY 98. (Unconfirmed yet is an entry in the issues of the month column of The Gramophone, April issue. According to this, two more Holmes collections have been released by Argo, also read by Robert Hardy. The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes has the number SAY 108, and The Return of Sherlock Holmes is SAY 109. I've not had a chance to check this information, but will do so before the next newsletter.)

Finally, a small ad. (Please note: I'm prepared to accept these from time to time, but I do not want this newsletter to turn into an agony column, "a chorus of groans, cries and bleatings".):-

A Sherlockian in the Leeds/Huddersfield area of Yorkshire, unable to attend Society meetings, would like to meet others for conversation and dining. Please contact via the Grapevine, and I will pass on letters.

Please keep me informed of events of Sherlockian interest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. J. H.', with a horizontal line extending to the right.