

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON: Grapevine

22, Wisteria Lodge, Lupin Drive, Chelmsford, Essex. CM1 5PT

1st July 1984

From Mr Derek Hinrich and Miss Catherine Cooke (separately!) comes the information that an unusual version of The Hound of the Baskervilles is to be screened at the National Film Theatre on Friday evening next, the 6th July. It's a Russian version, and will be shown in the original Russian with an English commentary, as I believe is usual at the NFT. I understand that you're supposed to be a member or the guest of one in order to attend, so probably not many subscribers will be able to go, but I thought you'd be interested anyway.

The BBC has finally realised that many listeners would like to have recordings of some of their best radio plays, and to start with has issued six in a series of BBC Plays On Tape: Alan Bennett's Forty Years On; Raymond Briggs's When the Wind Blows; The Dog it was that Died/The Dissolution of Dominic Boot, two comedies by Tom Stoppard; Under the Loofah Tree/The Disagreeable Oyster, two comedies by Giles Cooper; Victor Pemberton's The Night of the Wolf, which is a lovely gothic horror piece starring Vincent Price & Coral Browne; and the one you'll be most interested in, Michael Hardwick's adaptation of A Study in Scarlet with Robert Powell & Dinsdale Landen as Holmes & Watson. This was first broadcast in 1974 and is excellent. The number is ZCF 501, and the cost is about £5.50.

Courtesy of the Solar Pons Society of London comes news of a new book, The Baker Street Reader; Cornerstone Writings About Sherlock Holmes, edited by Philip A. Shreffler, who is well known among American Sherlockians as a painstaking but readable scholar. "Drawn from the 'golden age' of Sherlockian writings (1910-1960), the materials examine literary criticism of the fiction of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the perception of Sherlock Holmes as a real person, and classic Holmes investigations. A selected bibliography guides readers interested in further research. Line drawings including floor plans for 221B Baker Street add yet another dimension to this diverse collection." The book is published by Greenwood Press and is available from Westport Publications Ltd at 3 Henrietta Street, London WC2E 8LT. There are 200 pages, and the ISBN is 0 313 24106 6. The bad news is that it costs £25.00! However, Westport are prepared to offer a special "members' rate". If anyone is interested in taking this up, please let me know and I'll see what I can arrange.

Also from the Solar Pons Society of London comes news of a new set of stamps commemorating the 125th anniversary of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, issued by the Crown Colony of the Turks and Caicos Islands. All bear the head of ACD, and the individual denominations show scenes as follows: -

25 cents: The Second Stain; 45 cents: The Final Problem; 70 cents: The Empty House; 85 cents: The Greek Interpreter; 2 dollars (on a souvenir sheet): Holmes & Watson along with ACD's signature and a background of an open book listing all ACD's major works.

The stamps go on sale on the 16th July. Individual items (1 set, 1 souvenir sheet, 1 first day cover, etc) may be had direct from the Philatelic Bureau, Grand Turk, Turks & Caicos Islands. Please enclose a cheque or money order for the face value of the stamps and allow 5 - 6 weeks for delivery. The prices are as follows:

Complete set (mint) excluding souvenir sheet: 2.25 U.S. dollars
Souvenir sheet (mint): 2.00 U.S. dollars
Complete set on official first day cover: 3.00 U.S. dollars
Souvenir sheet on official first day cover: 2.75 U.S. dollars.

For 20 or more of any item, please send your order & remittance to I.G.P.C., 48 W. 48, NT 10036, U.S.A., and allow 1 - 2 weeks for delivery.

Alternatively, you could try Stanley Gibbons!