

The District Messenger

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

1st March 1985

Many thanks to those who suggested more appropriate names for the Grapevine - and especially to Tony Medawar, whose inspired suggestion has been adopted. Anyone unaware of the Sherlockian significance of THE DISTRICT MESSENGER should see me after class.

During the last week in March, at the Beck Theatre, Grange Road, Hayes, Middlesex, a company called Theatre 7 will present Tim Kelly's amusing and exciting adaptation of THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES. (This is the one with Lady Agatha Mortimer...) Tickets are £3 each, half-price for children and senior citizens - but the theatre's regular policy of offering 2 tickets for the price of 1 on the Tuesday night is extended to cover the whole week for members of the Society only. This concession is available by booking directly through Theatre 7's box office at Uxbridge 35208, or through their Secretary, Mrs Sylvia Privett, at 65, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks (0753 654237). Performances are at 8 pm on Tuesday 26th March to Saturday 30th March.

The two new catalogues have just come to hand from Geoff Bradley and Sylvian Hamilton, both full of good things, as always. G.H. Bradley's list no. 8 may be had from him at 9, Vicarage Hill, South Benfleet, Essex SS7 1PA; it covers crime fiction generally. He is also preparing a new magazine devoted to crime & detective fiction. Mrs Hamilton's S.H. 10 is available from her at Parc, Caio, Llanwrda, Dyfed SA19 8PF, Wales. It's free to regular customers & purchasers from SJH. 9, but £1 to new clients.

Kelvin I. Jones of 18, Ross Street, Rochester, Kent, ME1 2DF, asks for suggestions in writing if you would be interested in contributing or subscribing to a proposed new S'ian quarterly magazine, to include scholarship, parodies, news, competitions, etc; cost about £5 per issue. Just available from him is THE MAKING OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, a study of the Master's forensic methods in the context of their time. This quality hardback costs £9.50 before April 31st, £10.50 after then. Due in the summer from the prolific Mr Jones is THE SHERLOCK HOLMES MURDER FILE, containing detailed dossiers on the murderers and victims in the Canon. No price yet, but advance orders will receive discount. Finally, still available is Mr Jones's SHERLOCK AND PORLOCK, a study of literary influences in the Canon, priced at £7.50.

Macmillan has just published THE ADVENTURES OF INSPECTOR LESTRADE, a new novel by M. J. Trow, at £7.95. It will be interesting to see how the little ferret copes without Holmes. (He did pretty well, I remember, in Basil Copper's out-of-print but recommended novel NECROPOLIS.)

SHERLOCK HOLMES AT THE 1902 FIFTH TEST by Stanley Shaw is forthcoming from W. H. Allen at £8.95. There may be something in this for the Charters and Caldicotts among us. Willie Rushton's anarchic first novel, W. G. GRACE'S LAST CASE (W.G. teams up with Watson during the Great Hiatus) goes into paperback in June, from Methuen Paperbacks at £3.95.

And lastly, for those like me who fell under the enchantment of THE NAME OF THE ROSE, the author, Umberto Eco, has written REFLECTIONS ON THE NAME OF THE ROSS, to be published on the 9th of April at £4.95. This is a hardback, not a paperback.

As always, information for THE DISTRICT MESSENGER will be welcome. Does anyone know when we can expect to see the remaining 6 stories in Granada's ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES?

