

# THE DISTRICT MESSENGER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

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New from Ian Henry Publications is Jeremy Paul's script of THE PROBLEM OF THOR BRIDGE from the recent series of THE CASE-BOOK OF SHERLOCK HOLMES. Mr Paul has provided an informative introduction explaining why and how he reconstructed the original narrative. The publisher has clearly taken note of various criticisms made of his edition of Mr Paul's script for the stage play THE SECRET OF SHERLOCK HOLMES, and the result is a slim volume that looks and feels good. There are six good illustrations, excellently reproduced. The price is £5.45 (£5.80 by post, or \$11.50, from Ian Henry Publications Ltd, 20 Park Drive, Romford RM1 4LH). Forthcoming are Mr Paul's scripts for THE NAVAL TREATY and THE SPECKLED BAND. Good-oh!

More books. Published last month by Hawk Books at £2.99 was THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, a volume in the Classic Comics Series. Coming in October from Robinson Books is THE REAL WORLD OF SHERLOCK HOLMES by Peter Costello (£14.95). A reminder that copies of THE LIGHT IS DARK ENOUGH (essays on Holmes and Cambridge) are available from Jonathan McCafferty (5 Jonathan Court, Chiswick Common Road, London W4 1SA) £8 or \$17.50. (Other Society items - neckties, headscarves & back issues of the SHJ - may be had from Captain W. R. Michell, The Old Crown Inn, Lopen, South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5JX. Send a stamped & addressed envelope for details.)

The Weekend Guardian for the 13th/14th April contained an interesting article, "Defective Detective", on Holmes' mental constitution, by Professor John Radford, a chartered psychologist and a member of our Society. Issue 2 of SOVEREIGN magazine, published by Jaguar Cars Ltd in March at £3.50, has a well-written and superbly illustrated article about the Sherlock Holmes Society of London by our own Philip Porter (Sovereign Magazine Ltd, PO Box 94, Coventry CV3 5RD).

Geoffrey Stavert has passed on a letter from the Federation of Master Builders (30 Richmond Terrace, Haymarket, Edinburgh EH1 1BY), the body behind the proposed Holmes statue to be erected in Edinburgh. A "limited edition of 2" diameter polished gilt finish three dimensional modelled relief medals are to be struck and will be available in light navy blue presentation cases at a cost of £50 each". Orders, accompanied by a cheque, may be sent now to the Federation of Master Builders, Medal Sales, c/o Ian Baird, 206 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH6 4QZ. It's anticipated that the medals will be sent out in November.

The touring production of Christopher Martin's play A STUDY IN SCARLET mentioned in the last DM is playing at the following venues: 22nd April Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne; 29th April Theatre Royal, Margate; 6th May Futurist Theatre, Scarborough; 13th May Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton; 20th May Beck Theatre, Hayes; 27th May St George's Theatre, Great Yarmouth; 3rd June Palace Theatre, Newark; 10th June King's Theatre, Southsea; 17th June White Rock Theatre, Hastings; 24th June Alexandra Theatre, Bognor Regis; 1st July Pomegranate Theatre, Chesterfield. I've had a very nice letter from the producer, Nick Orchard, in which he says, "Should any of your subscribers wish to see the show please feel free to get in touch with me so we can arrange for them to meet the cast after the show for a drink." A very civilised attitude. You can contact Mr Orchard at Nick Orchard Productions Ltd, 139 Tooley Street, London SE1 (phone 071-357 7868).

Finally: book now to get a place on the Granada Studios Tour celebration of ACD's birthday on Wednesday 22nd May. There's a special discount price of £6.95. Write to Sandra Dempsey, Sales Co-Ordinator, Granada Studios Tour Ltd, Quay Street, Manchester M60 9LA. And A. G. Andrews mentions seeing some nice Holmes & Watson figurines at under £10 each at shops in Kendal and in Blackpool. Can anyone provide further details? Michael Connolly (Tirgarve, Allistragh, Armagh, County Armagh BT61 8EZ, Northern Ireland) has a new list of Holmesiana for sale. Send an SSAE for a copy.

