

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

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The subscription for postal subscribers who send money rather than stamped & self-addressed envelopes is (for 12 issues) £6.60 in the UK, and £11.00 or US\$18.00 overseas. Please make dollar checks payable to The Sherlock Holmes Society of London. An e-mail subscription costs nothing and pretty much guarantees instantaneous delivery.

Perhaps the most important new publications in our field are the third edition of *The Bibliography of A Conan Doyle* by **Richard Lancelyn Green & John Michael Gibson**, with updates by **Phillip George Bergem** and including pdf files of book covers & title pages and magazine covers & illustrations – these extras being works in progress (Cdn\$50.00); and *The e-Index to The Strand Magazine* by **Geraldine W Beare** (no price given). Both are published in electronic form on disc by The Battered Silicon Dispatch Box (PO Box 50, RR #4, Eugenia, Ontario, Canada NOC 1E0; www.batteredbox.com; gav@cablerocket.com). I can't give you a proper assessment right now because the formatting seems to be too advanced for my computer. That obstacle should be overcome shortly. I can vouch for the excellence of the Green-Gibson *Bibliography* as the second edition is on my shelf, and to be able to consult it via the computer, with the various extras, will be a real blessing. Geraldine Beare's *Strand* index is long out of print in hard copy, so it'll be a delight to have it in any format.

John Gibson has also contributed to another new book from the same publisher, *The Budds of the West Country*, a well-illustrated 112-page paperback by **Brian W Pugh**, (no price given). Brian Pugh, Curator of the Conan Doyle (Crowborough) Establishment, author of the invaluable *Chronology of the Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*, gives us a genealogical survey of that remarkable family from the Revd Richard Budd of St Columb Minor to the death of his great-great grandson (if I read the family tree correctly) Dr George Turnavine Budd of Plymouth. It was, of course, George Budd whose treatment of his younger colleague Arthur Conan Doyle influenced the latter's life and career in such unexpected ways. Fourteen pages are devoted to his life and twenty-four more to a selection of his letters and essays from medical journals, rebutting the myth that he was no more than a quack. He was brilliant, charismatic, eccentric and devious, qualities that, thanks to the researches of Messrs Pugh and Gibson, we can see developing through the generations of Budds.

For 'Sherlock Holmes Through Time and Place', the recent conference at the University of Minnesota, the Norwegian Explorers published *J Randolph Cox: A Sherlockian Festschrift* edited by **Phillip Bergem** (US\$10.00). This attractive 144-page paperback includes, as is only right, tributes to a senior and greatly admired member of the Explorers, from Andrew Malec, Jon Lellenberg and Allen J Hubin among others, but by far the greater part of the book features a selection of Randy Cox's own invigorating Holmesian essays, from the many published in *The Baker Street Journal*, *Baker Street Miscellanea* and elsewhere. The book isn't yet listed on the website at www.norwegianexplorers.org, but check with John Bergquist at john.bergquist@gmail.com (3556 Ashbury Road, Eagan, MN 55122, USA).

Among the many treasures in the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota (see www.lib.umn.edu/scr/bm/holmes) a good number were bequeathed by the late John Bennett Shaw, whose centenary falls on 10 October this year. In celebration of John's enthusiasm, wisdom and friendship, Sherlock in LA Press (1741 Via Allena, Oceanside, CA 92056, USA; sherlockinla@cox.net) has published a delightful little booklet, *The Sage of Santa Fe: Adventures and Public Life of John Bennett Shaw* by **Susan Rice** and **Vinnie Brosnan**, with photographs, drawings, quotations and reminiscences (\$7.00 postpaid to US, \$9.00 postpaid to UK).

The Victorian Detective by **Alan Moss** and **Keith Skinner** (Shire Publications, www.shirebooks.co.uk; £6.99) is a first-rate introduction to the British police detective, from Fielding's Bow Street Runners to the age of scientific investigation. Alan Moss is a retired senior police officer. Keith Skinner is co-author of *The Official Encyclopaedia of Scotland Yard*, an authority on the Whitechapel murders, and a consultant to the Metropolitan Police Crime Museum – the so-called Black Museum. The 56-page paperback is splendidly illustrated, remarkably comprehensive, and written with great authority. Conan Doyle's depiction of the police often slides into caricature. *The Victorian Detective* is the reality.

The Criminological Holmes by **Kelvin Jones** (Cunning Crimes Books, <http://cunningcrimes.blogspot.co.uk>; Kindle £4.39) contains an A to Z guide to the criminological content of the canon, as well as a list of Holmes's own monographs and a rare reprint of *Upon The Tracing of Footsteps*.

The House of Silk was the first new Sherlock Holmes novel officially approved by the Conan Doyle Estate Ltd. Others have followed, including *Sherlock Holmes & the Master Engraver* by **Ross Husband** (GlenRoss Editions, Norfolk IP21 4YG; £11.95; Kindle £3.99) – first in a series of six called *The Revival of Sherlock Holmes*. In 1889 the plates for the next run of Bank of England £10.00 notes are stolen, along with the special water-marked paper. The quest to retrieve them before the country's economy is ruined takes Holmes and Watson into the foulest, most dangerous corners of London. The mind behind the crime is shielded by brutality and murder – and by his own extraordinary intelligence. It's a clever, fast-moving, atmospheric story, very acceptably written, except for a persistent omission of the comma in the vocative ('Now work swiftly if you please Watson'; 'I would not wish to presume Mr Holmes'...).

Sherlock Holmes: The Stuff of Nightmares by **James Lovegrove** (Titan Books; www.titanbooks.com; 30 August; £7.99) tells a more *outré* tale, as you might expect from a prolific and very popular science-fiction writer. The action begins with an explosion at Waterloo Station, and builds from there. The bomber's ultimate victim is to be Queen Victoria, but is he, as the police believe, the masked man who appears at each catastrophic scene? Or does that mysterious person (a sort of amalgam of Spring-heeled Jack and Batman, and calls himself Baron Cauchemar) have another and higher purpose, as Holmes suspects? James Lovegrove's steampunk thriller treats Holmes, Watson and their circle with intelligence and respect, and fulfils the promise of his short story 'The Fallen Financier' in *The Encounters of Sherlock Holmes*.

Black Coat Press titles available as e-books (kindle, nook, etc, etc) now include: *The Daughter of Fantômas*, *Fantômas in America*, *Arsène Lupin vs Sherlock Holmes: The Blonde Phantom*, *Arsène Lupin vs Sherlock Holmes: The Hollow Needle*, *Arsène Lupin vs Sherlock Holmes: The Stage Play*, *Rocambole* (two plays), *Gentlemen Of The Night / Captain Phantom* (two plays), and *Sherlock Holmes In Paris* by **Seamas Duffy**.

Carl Heifetz, a pillar of the Pleasant Places of Florida, reports the publication of his first novel, *The Voyage of the Blue Carbuncle* (Outskirts Press, www.outskirtspress.com; \$8.95). 'Based on the work of Arthur Conan Doyle and Gene Roddenberry, *Voyage of the Blue Carbuncle* is a fun and exciting spoof, sure to please science fiction fans as well as those who love the stories of Sherlock Holmes and *Star Trek*.'

The launch party for *The Papers of Sherlock Holmes: Volume Two* by **David Marcum** (MX Publications, <http://www.mxpublishing.co.uk>; £9.99) will be at the Park Plaza Sherlock Holmes Hotel in Baker Street at 7.00pm on 26 September. Free tickets are available from <http://papersofsherlockholmes-efevent.eventbrite.co.uk/>. Ross Foad,

Luke Kuhns and Tony Reynolds will also be signing copies of their books David Marcum's next book, *Sherlock Holmes and a Quantity of Debt*, will be published on 6 November.

From MX on 8 October comes *Sherlock Holmes and The Lufton Lady*, a short novel by the much-missed by **Marlene R Aig**, edited by **Chris Redmond** (£6.99), and on 30 October comes *Watson Is Not an Idiot: An Opinionated Tour of the Sherlock Holmes Canon* by **Eddy Webb** (£9.99).

Investigating Sherlock Holmes: The Jewish Connection and Other Inquiries by **Hartley R Nathan & Clifford S Goldfarb** is due on 31 October from Mosaic Press (www.mosaic-press.com; £16.09).

Due on 11 November, *The Illustrated Sherlock Holmes: Two Unabridged Mysteries from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle* is a 'Literary Pop Up' book illustrated by **Chris Coady**, whose artwork so impressed in *The Lost Stories of Sherlock Holmes* by Tony Reynolds (Canterbury Classics; £12.84).

Anthony Horowitz is working on his second Sherlock Holmes novel. The *Daily Telegraph* reported on Friday: 'As part of a fundraising initiative, Horowitz will write the winner of a charity auction into the new book. Prospective victims can bid on eBay, with funds being donated to bullying charity Kidscape. The auction opened on Thursday evening, and will run until September 1. If the successful bid is more than £1,000, the winner's appearance and background will be written in. £2,500 will allow them to meet Holmes and for over £5,000, the donor will be killed off in a bespoke fashion.'

MC Black notes that Bibliophile Ltd is offering the paperback of *Arthur Conan Doyle: A Life in Letters* at just 85 pence! (Bibliophile Limited, Unit 5 Datapoint, South Crescent, London E16 4TL; www.bibliophilebooks.com) He adds: 'People ordering or requesting a free catalogue are asked to quote 1045 so they know the source of the recommendation.'

Our Society's re-enactment of Holmes's fight with Roaring Jack Woodley features, with photo, on a nice website called *The Best of Farnham* at www.thebestof.co.uk/local/farnham/community-hub/blog/view/fascinating-stories-from-my-travels-around-farnham.

At noon on Bank Holiday Monday, 26 August, BBC Radio Norfolk will broadcast an admirable hour-long documentary (I don't say that just because I'm in it) called *Far From the Fogs*, in which **Paul Hayes** investigates the links between Sherlock Holmes and the county of Norfolk. Those outside the area can listen on-line at www.bbc.co.uk/radionorfolk, or catch up on iPlayer at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01dwbkl, where there's a page about the programme.

Ken Ross is uploading more of his video recordings to YouTube. The 2000 Norfolk Weekend will be followed by Dartmoor 2002 and Sussex 2004. Go to www.youtube.com and type **ken ross sherlock holmes** in the search bar.

The fascinating *Sherlock Holmes Map* by **Thomas Bruce Wheeler** now includes routes based on the researches of **Bernard Davies**: 'Holmes and Watson's meandering route from Cavendish Square to the rear of Camden House, in 'The Empty House'. I modified it slightly, as I think the entire journey was by Hansom cab. In 'The Blue Carbuncle, Mr. Davies identified the trek from The Alpha Inn to Breckinridge's goose stand. I included my suggested route from 221B Baker Street to the Alpha Inn. Holmes, Watson and Mary Morstan's four-wheeler ride from the Lyceum Theatre to Thaddeus Sholto's house in *The Sign of the Four*. After identifying Pondicherry Lodge, Mr. Davies suggested the path Holmes, Watson and Toby took in what he called the Creosote Trail, to Mordecai Smith's boatyard.' Find the map at the splendid Hungarian website run (in English) by **Zsófia Marincsak, Edina Jászberényi and Adrienn Fray**: www.sherlockian-sherlock.com/the-london-of-sherlock-holmes.php or at <https://mapsengine.google.com/map/viewer?gmp=msp&mid=zz7OCly2oDA4.k6pgNWxMShgE>.

Tom is also working on a map showing the location of famous Londoners' homes. There'll be over 700 sites when it's finished. See: <https://mapsengine.google.com/map/edit?gmp=msp&mid=zz7OCly2oDA4.klI46NrhEbLE>.

Roger Llewellyn has sent a list of venues on his autumn tour in *Sherlock Holmes – The Death and Life*: 6 Sep: The Exchange, Sturminster Newton (01258 475137; www.stur-exchange.co.uk). 12-13

Sep: Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury (01743 281281; www.theatresevern.co.uk/). 18 Sep: Connaught Theatre, Worthing (01903 206206; www.worthingtheatres.co.uk/). 20 Sep: St George's, Great Yarmouth (01493 331484; www.stgeorgestheatre.com/). 15 Oct: Perth Theatre (01738 621031; www.horsecross.co.uk/perth-theatre/). 25-26 Oct: Key, Peterborough (01733 207239; www.vivacity-peterborough.com/venues/key-theatre/). 13 Nov: 40 Winks Hotel, London. 28-30 Nov: Mill Studio, Guildford (01483 440000; www.yvonne-arnaud.co.uk/).

Sherlock Holmes 10 Minute Plays by **John DeGaetano**, will be at the Leicester Square Theatre, London 2-5 October (08448 733433; www.leicestersquaretheatre.com/), then at Islington's Kings Head Theatre (0207 478 0160; www.kingsheadtheatre.com/) 8-12 October.

Sherlock Holmes: The Speckled Band, Treasurer's House, York, November 14 to 24

Theatre Mill present *Sherlock Holmes: The Speckled Band* at the Treasurer's House, York, from November 14 to 24, inviting you to 'experience the thrill of discovery and the true power of classic storytelling' (01904 623568; yorktheatroyal.co.uk/).

The République du Congo, the smaller of the two Congolese republics, has issued an attractive *Sherlock Holmes, Consulting Detective* series of postage stamps. I've not yet seen them on offer in the UK, though some US dealers offer them on Amazon.com. You can see the stamps at www.trussel.com/detfic/sholmes.htm#Congo, and just above them a 2012 Liechtenstein issue that somehow escaped my notice before.

Aziz Bin Adam reports that the grand 1965 film *A Study in Terror* has been posted complete on YouTube. He adds: 'You can view @ 360p or change it to 720p - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iw_FyAjzewQ - Video quality is superb, btw.'

Not Holmesian, but of interest nonetheless: Mark Smith, Archivist at **Derbyshire Record Office**, advises: 'We have just put out a blog post about Conan Doyle and his bullet proof vest idea. Here is the link: <http://recordoffice.wordpress.com/2013/07/17/sir-arthur-conan-doyle-ferodo-and-the-bullet-proof-vest/>.'

And Alistair Duncan passes on news from Ian Bone of the **South Norwood Tourist Board**: 'We are launching a campaign to name the lake in South Norwood Country Park *Lake Conan* in honour of ACD. The lake is presently un-named and we are getting a positive response. We would be grateful for your support and that of The Sherlock Holmes Society.' See <http://southnorwoodtouristboard.com/page/2/>.

News just in from **Tony Earnshaw**, author of *An Actor and a Rare One: Peter Cushing as Sherlock Holmes*: his company, Reel Solutions, has published a 20-page monograph entitled *Putting the 'Grand' in Guignol: A Centenary Tribute to Peter Cushing*, with contributions from Peter Sasdy, Peter Duffell, Paul Annett, Kevin Connor, Bernard Cribbins, John Hurt, Val Kilmer, Barbara Shelley, Kate O'Mara and Uwe Sommerlad, plus a complete filmography, list of awards and an Holmes-oriented essay/lecture by Tony himself. Plus lots of production images and some behind the scenes candid shots. Copies can be ordered from tony@reelsolutions.co.uk for £6.20 postpaid.

Periodicals received. *The Alfalfa Gazette*, September 2013 (**Friends of the Soldier Named Murray**, Jody Baker, josiabaker@bkchw.com). *The Bilge Pump*, August 2013 (**The Crew of the Barque Lone Star**, Steve Mason, <http://barquelonestar.com/>). *For the Sake of the Trust: The Baker Street Irregulars Trust Newsletter*, Spring 2013 (**The BSI Trust**, Marshall S Berdan, 2015 Main Street, Glastonbury, CT 06033, USA). *The Gaslight Gazette*, August 2013 (**The Survivors of the Gloria Scott**, David J Milner, 6 Crowndale Drive, Taylors, South Carolina 29687, USA). *Ineffable Twaddle*, August 2013 (**The Sound of the Baskervilles**, Terri Haugen, www.soundofthebaskervilles.com/). *The Moor: Magazin für Sherlockianer*, Juli 2013 (**The Baskerville Hall Club of Sweden**, Anders Wiggström, Byggmästarvägen 29, 168 32 Bromma, Sweden). *The Petrel Flyer*, September 2013 (**The Stormy Petrels of British Columbia**, Len Haffenden, 1026 West Keith Road, North Vancouver, B.C., Canada V7P 3C6).

And *Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press*, July 2013 (Peter E Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401, USA; blau7103@comcast.net).

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