

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

GRAPEVINE, 15th November 1984

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If you live in the right part of the country, you may still be able to catch the Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company's production of "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Vanishing Author", a rather Pirandelloish play by Peter Cooper, who also directs. The play is on the road until Saturday the 24th November, at the following venues :-

16th: Grove Village Hall, Grove, Wantage, Oxon; 17th: Barford St Michael Village Hall, Oxon; 19th: Compton Coronation Village Hall, Compton, Berks; 20th: Holton Village Hall, Oxon; 21st: Cothill House School, Abingdon, Oxon (6 pm); 22nd: Aldermaston Village Hall, Berks; 23rd: Chievely Recreational Centre, Newbury, Berks; 24th: Portsmouth Drama Centre, Portsmouth, Hants. (All performances at 7.30 pm except for Abingdon.)

A reminder that the Wolsey Theatre, Civic Drive, Ipswich will present Paul Giovanni's play "The Crucifer of Blood" from Wednesday the 21st November to Saturday the 15th December. The box-office phone number is (0473) 53725. Should be good,

The new film "The Masks of Death", with Peter Cushing, John Mills and lots of other distinguished people, is to be shown on Channel 4. No date yet, but keep an eye on your "TV Times". You'll be looking there anyway, I hope, to catch the last 6 programmes in Granada's superb series "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes", with Jeremy Brett and David Burke.

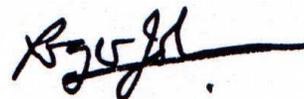
Gerald Frow has a new "Young Sherlock" novel out shortly, based on his successful TV series - also from Granada. And there's a different "Young Sherlock" in the making: a feature film from, of all people, Steven Spielberg. I understand that this one will be so far uncanonical as to feature both Young Holmes and Young Watson. (Mumble, mumble, can't these cinematograph johnnies get the simplest things right, mumble, mumble...) Further details will be very welcome.

You'll be aware that Michael Hardwick's "Sherlock Holmes: My Life and Crimes" is now out, published by Harvill Press at £9.95. "British Books In Print" lists as forthcoming "Sherlock Holmes Autobiography" by Michael Hardwick, published by Collins, but I don't pay too much attention to that. Harvill Press is a subsidiary of Collins; they're evidently talking about the same book.

Also just out is an immaculate facsimile reprint of the celebrated Sherlock Holmes Exhibition Catalogue, from the exhibition at Abbey House in 1951. Originals are now very hard to come by, and this beautifully produced (by Magico Magazine) copy makes an excellent substitute. Copies will be available shortly from Marylebone Public Library, Marylebone Road, London NW1, priced at about £5. Drop a line to Catherine Cooke at the Library.

Finally, forthcoming - early next year - is the text, slightly enlarged, of a lecture given recently to the Institute of Psychiatry by Professor Michael Shepherd, entitled "Sherlock Holmes and Dr Freud". The booklet (or, as Watson would say, brochure) will be published by Tavistock Publications Ltd of 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4. No price as yet, but I'll pass on further details as they come to hand.

That seems to be all for the moment. In case there isn't another Grapevine before Christmas, I'll take this opportunity to wish you all The Compliments Of The Season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. G. J.', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.