

The District Messenger

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

1st April 1985

At last a Sherlockian theatrical production outside the London area! Thanks to Mark Purvis for the news that the Progressive Players of Gateshead will be putting on Tim Kelly's adaptation of THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES at the Little Theatre in Gateshead from Monday the 2nd to Saturday the 7th of September. All seats bookable at £1.20; reduced rate for 12 or more is £1.10. You are asked to arrive by 7 pm. The address is: The Box Office, Progressive Players (Gateshead) Ltd, Little Theatre, Saltwell View, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE8 4JS. Telephone 781499 (evenings only).

YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMBS started production on the 21st January at Thorn-EMI Studios, Elstree. The director is Barry Levinson and the producer Mark Johnson. The cast includes Nick Rowe, Alan Cox, Maurice Denham, Freddie Jones and Sophie Ward. Stephen Spielberg has something to do with it. More news as it reaches me.

Viewers in the London area should look out for Michael Aspel's new chat show, which will start around Eastertime on Saturdays at 6 pm. on London Weekend Television. The particular show for us is that of the 18th of May, when Aspel will be at the Sherlock Holmes pub, interviewing Michael Hardwick, Tony Howlett and Tim, Heather & Kitty Owen on the subject of Sherlock Holmes.

Grant Eustace's clever and witty radio series SECOND HOLMES, with Peter Egan & Jeremy Nicholas as the grandsons of Holmes & Watson, is to be repeated on the BBC World Service. No dates or times as yet. Those with long memories will recall that the original broadcast on Radio 4 was the subject of the very first of these newsletters.

Christopher Redmond (son of Donald and Ruth and a distinguished Sherlockian in his own right) has written IN BED WITH SHERLOCK HOLMES, now available directly from Simon & Pierre Publishing Co. Ltd, PO Box 280, Adelaide Street Postal Station, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5C 2J4. The cost is 29 dollars 95 (Canadian, presumably).

That nice BBC TV children's series THE BAKER STREET BOYS (adventures of the Baker Street Irregulars, with only a nudge of help from Sherlock Holmes) is to be repeated starting in the week of the 1st of May. On the 25th April, Brian Ball's tie-in novel will be reissued as a BBC/Knight paperback at £1.25.

On the 9th of May, from Star paperbacks at £1.95, comes THE MURDER OF SHERLOCK HOLMES by James Anderson. This is a tie-in with a new TV series called MURDER SHE WROTE, in which Angela Lansbury plays a detective story writer who gets mixed up in real cases. Shades of Miss Marple and Ariadne Oliver. . . The series should be starting any time now on ITV.

Walt Lees, of 14 Woodlands Road, London E11 4RW, is no longer acting as agent for Magico Magazine's Sherlockian publications, but he still has a number of items in stock. If you're interested, drop him a line; otherwise you'll have to write direct to Magico at PO Box 156, New York, N.Y. 10002, U.S.A. Magico titles by Kelvin I. Jones can still be bought from Mr Jones at 18, Ross Street, Rochester, Kent, ME1 2DP.

Ian D. Fryer, of 58 Wood Street, Liverpool, L1 4AJ, still has a fair amount of stock available from Gaslight Publications (Gaslight is THE specialist Sherlockian publishing house), though the exchange rate has made it uneconomic to import more recent titles. He also has a good number of other Sherlockian items for sale, ranging from Haining's SHERLOCK HOLMES SCRAPBOOK to virtually unobtainable rarities like H. W. Bell's BAKER STREET STUDIES. Prices inevitably reflect the value of the books.

Gaslight Publications unobtainable from Mr Fryer may be ordered direct from Gaslight at 112, East Second, Bloomington, Indiana, 47401, U.S.A.

