

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SHERLOCK HOLMES SOCIETY OF LONDON

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Last-minute news just in, courtesy of MC Black: On 4th March, **Andrew Lycett** will be at **Stanfords** for an evening of discussion about his new book, *Conan Doyle's Wide World - Sherlock Holmes and Beyond*. (In *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, Sherlock Holmes 'sent down to' Stanfords to purchase an Ordnance map of Dartmoor.) The event begins at 7:00pm and tickets are £4, which includes a glass of wine or soft drink. More details and booking information are available at <https://www.stanfords.co.uk/events>

The Society's next gathering on 20th March will welcome the return of the popular **Three Minute Problems**. We will meet at the National Liberal Club, and applications to attend must be received by 11th March. See more details on our website at <http://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/event/three-minute-problems/>

We know that there are many artistically inclined Sherlockians out there, so the Society has decided to launch a **competition** in which the winning entry will appear on this year's **official Christmas card**. Entries must be received by 30th April. More details at <http://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/calling-all-artists/>

Some items from the late **Paul D Herbert's** extensive Sherlock Holmes collection will be up for sale at Heritage Auctions in Dallas on 21st March. The offerings include a poster and two lobby cards for Clive Brook's *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* (1929) and a poster for Basil Rathbone's *The Scarlet Claw* (1944). You can view them at [www.tinyurl.com/r9jmyez](http://www.tinyurl.com/r9jmyez)

The next Baker Street Irregulars conference, *Sherlock Holmes and the British Empire*, will be held at the Bear Mountain Inn near West Point, NY on 17-19 July, 2020. (If you're also a fan of Washington Irving, his former home, Sunnyside, is at nearby Tarrytown.) Registration is not yet open, but you can get updates by signing up for free news via email from the BSI at [www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/bsi-news-via-email](http://www.bakerstreetirregulars.com/bsi-news-via-email)

If you like to keep track of who has received a BSI investiture, **Al Gregory** can now provide his new edition of *The ABC of the BSI* by email. Al compiles and updates an alphabetical listing of investitures and recipients, (from "Abbey Grange" to "Young Stamford") as well as "The Florin Society", couples in which both

spouses are Invested Irregulars. You can request the list by email at [gaslightandfog@verizon.net](mailto:gaslightandfog@verizon.net)

**The Garden of Heroes and Villains** created by the late Felix Dennis in Dorsington, Stratford-upon-Avon, in Warwickshire, will be open to the public the evening of Thursday 25th June; there will also be a fundraiser in the garden on Thursday 16th July. Details and tickets at [www.tinyurl.com/sarp8pj](http://www.tinyurl.com/sarp8pj) Visitors will have the rare opportunity to see the excellent bronze sculpture of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes by Irena Sedlecká: [www.tinyurl.com/y2sevea2](http://www.tinyurl.com/y2sevea2)

**Jon Rees** says: "Have you heard about our *Holmesian podcast* where we attempt to analyse all of the Sherlock Holmes short stories in order? We can be found on social media at [www.facebook.com/Sherlock-From-Adler-to-Amberley-107741700651026/](https://www.facebook.com/Sherlock-From-Adler-to-Amberley-107741700651026/) or [twitter.com/adlerto](https://twitter.com/adlerto) and the podcast itself is available on the Rippercast feed: [www.casebook.org/podcast/](http://www.casebook.org/podcast/). We're after guests to join us for a chat about the stories." If you would like to participate in *Adler to Amberley*, get in touch with Jon via social media or by email at [adlertoamberley@gmail.com](mailto:adlertoamberley@gmail.com)

**The Beacon Society** has announced that **Derrick Belanger** is the recipient of the 2019 **Susan Z. Diamond Beacon Award**. Derrick was nominated by Mark Levy, BSI, for Derrick's remarkable accomplishments in bringing Sherlock Holmes to our youth. Derrick is a High School Special Education teacher in Thornton, Colorado. <http://www.beaconsociety.com/>

**Jessica Woolf**, who did a splendid job of cataloguing our Society's archives, as well as compiling the book *Through the Archives* (available through our website <http://www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/product/through-the-archives/>) is now in charge of exhibits at **The Museum of Croydon**. From 1 February to 2 May 2020, the museum's *Storytellers* exhibition will highlight the works of authors who lived in or were influenced by Croydon; these include Neil Gaiman, Mary Cicely Barker and Arthur Conan Doyle. One of the items on display is the sinister package delivered to Miss S. Cushing of Cross Street, Croydon. <https://museumofcroydon.com/>

Roger Johnson is impressed by a new unabridged reading of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by actor and musician

**Simon Hester** (Head Stories Audio): “Mr Hester’s voice is distinctive, and at first I wondered whether it would be easy to recognise individual characters. In fact there was no problem, as he gives each character his or her own personality, subtle but distinct. And he knows how to convey atmosphere and action without added sound effects! The recording is currently available from Google Play, Scribd, and NOOK Audiobooks, and other sources will be added.”

<https://play.google.com/store/audiobooks/details?id=AQAAAEBs8GqwFM>  
[www.scribd.com/audiobook/438147658/The-Hound-of-the-Baskervilles](http://www.scribd.com/audiobook/438147658/The-Hound-of-the-Baskervilles)

### Books of Interest

**Nick Utechin** has a new book out about the first officially-sanctioned scion of The Sherlock Holmes Society of London. *The Milvertonians of Hampstead – Forgotten Writings by the Worst Men in London* (130pp, pbk) tells the history of this extraordinary society, which lasted only from 1958-68, but produced five publications, 11 Christmas cards and a 16 mm. film – all the time concentrating on just one tale: ‘Charles Augustus Milverton’. It is published by Gasogene Books (Indianapolis) at \$18.95 and postage to the UK would add another \$19.00. However, the publishers have provided Nick with a few copies for distribution in the UK and Europe at a large discount: £17.82 and £20.50 respectively, including postage. Contact Nick at [highfieldfarmhouse@gmail.com](mailto:highfieldfarmhouse@gmail.com) for further details: this is also his PayPal address (pay via ‘Family and Friends’), but payment by cheque or bank transfer is fine also.

**Saratoga: At the Finish Line – From “Silver Blaze” to “The Crooked Man”** is the latest publication by The Bootmakers of Toronto. Edited by Donny Zaldin and Barbara Rusch (87pp, pbk) it is a collection of essays that were presented at the August 2018 seminar of The Baker Street Irregulars, following the running of the Seventh Triennial “Silver Blaze” Race at Saratoga Race Course, Saratoga Springs, NY. If UK members of the Society would like to obtain a copy, the cost is \$25 USD (payable to “Donald Zaldin”) – orders which he will fulfill and mail if there are five or more requests. Alternatively, Donny will be coming to the UK in July, and could bring the books with him. If you’re interested, contact him at [donaldezaldin@rogers.com](mailto:donaldezaldin@rogers.com)

### Obituaries

We are very sorry to report the death of our much-loved former President, **Freda Howlett**, on 15th February, aged 101. Four weeks earlier Freda had been invested in The Baker Street Irregulars as “The British Government”. Our current president, Jonathan McCafferty, has provided an affectionate tribute on the Society’s website and our Chairman, David Jones adds: “Freda was the last surviving Founder member of our Society and, of course, a Past President. She was very

proud of the SHSL and always enjoyed hearing of our activities. Freda made many friends in the world of Sherlock Holmes and she will certainly be missed but never forgotten. We will always remember her huge contribution to our Society.” A full appreciation of Freda’s life and achievements will feature in the Summer issue of *The Sherlock Holmes Journal*.

### Periodicals Received:

*The Beacon Society Quarterly Newsletter*, Vol. 4, No. 1, February 2020 (The Beacon Society, Denny Dobry, “Headlight”; [dendobry@ptd.net](mailto:dendobry@ptd.net), [www.beaconsociety.com](http://www.beaconsociety.com))

*The Bilge Pump – The Irregular Publication of the Crew of the Barque Lone Star*, February 2020 (Steve Mason; [mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov))

*Canadian Holmes*, Winter 2019/2020 (The Journal of the Bootmakers of Toronto, Mark and JoAnn Alberstat, 46 Kingston Crescent, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3A 2M2, Canada; [markalberstat@gmail.com](mailto:markalberstat@gmail.com))

*The Cri Bar Crier*, Vol. 25 No. 3, March 2020 (Criterion Bar Association of Chicago; [franklin.saksena@gmail.com](mailto:franklin.saksena@gmail.com))

*The Illustrious Clients News*, February 2020 (The Illustrious Clients, Steven T Doyle, 9 Calumet Court, Zionsville, Indiana 46077, USA; [IllustClients@gmail.com](mailto:IllustClients@gmail.com))

*Ineffable Twaddle*, March 2020 (The Sound of the Baskervilles, Terri Haugen; [terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com](mailto:terri@soundofthebaskervilles.com))

*Mayday Mayday*, February 2020 (The Crew of the SS May Day, Belfast, Oscar Ross; [oscarross@hotmail.com](mailto:oscarross@hotmail.com))

*Scuttlebutt from the Spermaceti Press*, January 2020 (Peter E Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401, USA; [blau7103@comcast.net](mailto:blau7103@comcast.net), <http://redcirclede.org/index.php?id=39>)

*The Tankerville Times*, Winter 2020, (The Tankerville Club, Cincinnati, Ohio; Dan Andriacco [tankervilleclub@gmail.com](mailto:tankervilleclub@gmail.com))

*The Whaling News*, February 2020 (The Harpooners of the Sea Unicorn, St. Charles, MO; J Andrew Basford; [pcairnes26@outlook.com](mailto:pcairnes26@outlook.com))

*Jean Upton*