

Many Sherlockians have seen and enjoyed the International Sherlock Holmes Exhibition, which is at the Frost Science Center in Miami, Fla., through Sept. 5 <www.frostscience.org/exhibition/sherlock-holmes>. It will next be at the Minnesota History Center in St Paul, Minn., from Oct. 20 through Apr. 6 <www.mnhs.org/historycenter>. Created by the Exhibits Development Group, the exhibition has an impressive web-site <www.tinyurl.com/4sv5jdj3> where the company promotes the exhibition to museums that might consider putting it on display.

Sherlock Holmes and the Strange Death of Brigadier-General Delves, by Tim Symonds (London: MX Publishing, 2022; 168 pp., \$12.95), brings Holmes and Watson to the Bailiwick of Guernsey to rescue a war-time comrade of Watson from conviction on a charge of murder; there is much about Guernsey (where the author grew up), and the ill-fated British campaign in Afghanistan.

A nice copy of Vincent Starrett's *The Unique Hamlet* (a Walter L. Hill variant) was at auction in Canada last month <www.tinyurl.com/yp7ak8s6>, estimated at CA\$1,500-CA\$3,000; it didn't sell.

Kay Wheeler had a nice remembrance of Basil Rathbone in the Portland Press Herald (May 26) <www.tinyurl.com/45kdr69z>.

Wanda Dow, formerly in Florida and now in New Mexico, has launched a colorful newsletter ("Papers on the Sundial"); it's available on request via e-mail from Wanda at <hal0tot@verizon.net>.

Playing with Fire: The Weird Tales of Arthur Conan Doyle, edited and introduced by Mike Ashley (London: British Library, 2021; 286 pp. £11.31), is an excellent addition to the British Library Hardback Classics series; in his Introduction, Ashley discusses Conan Doyle's fascination with the strange and supernatural, and the collection opens with a reprint of his autobiographical essay "Stranger Than Fiction" (first published in 1915) and continues with a fine selection of his non-Sherlockian stories.

Richard L. Kellogg's *Barry Baskerville's Fishing Adventure* (Fort Collins: Airship 27, 2022; 40 pp., \$11.99), with attractive artwork by Gary Kato, is the eighth in his young-readers series about a boy detective.

Users of the Internet who aren't aware of Cunningham's Law might well be interested in how it works <www.tinyurl.com/3sh3f8r5>. Or doesn't.

Baker Street West (in Jackson, Calif.) has emerged from the pandemic with a wide range of dramatic and other events, and their web-site's well worth exploring <www.bakerstreetwest.com>.

Stephen Browning's *On the Trail of Sherlock Holmes* (Barnsley: Pen & Sword History, 2022; 141 pp., \$34.95) offers seven guided walks through London, for both armchair and on-the-ground Sherlockians, plus information about areas outside London and about Conan Doyle; it's up-to-date, and interesting, with commentary about what's seen on the walks.

Jun 22 #2 Sherlock Holmes with googly eyes <www.tinyurl.com/2u8a8euh> is something new for the Great Detective. Slate's web-site used the image with their story about the new movie "Everything Everywhere All at Once" (Howard Ostrom notes that the web-site has enhanced a stock image showing "a mature man dressed as Sherlock Holmes").

Thomas Bruce Wheeler's *The Mapped London of Sherlock Holmes* (2018) links to an interactive "Map of Sherlock Holmes' London" available free on-line <www.sherlockslondon.com>; it's a splendid demonstration of the application of modern technology to the London of the Canon. It's handy indeed for people who are walking in Canonical London, and Tom has reported that since his book was published an average of 266 people a day have visited the web-site.

Disney's Twentieth Century Studios is at work on a new film of "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen", according to the Hollywood Reporter (May 17) <www.tinyurl.com/yxwdunrf>. The comic-book series, launched in 1999, included Holmes and Watson as characters, and had the League organized by an off-stage Mycroft, and the first film (2003), had Richard Roxburgh as Moriarty. The new film is to be aired on Hulu.

The Royal Mint does much more than merely issue British coins: they also offer souvenirs, and rare coins such as a set of 1887 gold sovereigns honoring Queen Victoria's golden jubilee (£6,430) <www.tinyurl.com/3xkmrzm8>.

The "John Bennett Shaw" web-site <www.johnbennettshaw.com> maintained by Jim Hawkins continues to expand: a text search for [here's a video] will take you to a report on his recent visit with Saul Cohen, who was a founding member of the Brothers Three of Moriarty.

"The Case of the Hung Parliament" (a "live immersive production" created by Les Enfants Terribles) (Apr 22 #6) is now being performed on-line by the Shanghai Grand Theater, according to a report in China Daily (June 24) <www.tinyurl.com/pjme6zhc>.

Reported: Conan Doyle's non-Sherlockian "Playing with Fire" is included in Brendan Connell's anthology *The Zinzolin Book of Occult Fiction* (Snuggly Books, 2022; 334 pp., \$22.00).

A bloodhound named Trumpet won best in show at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show this month, which might not seem Sherlockian. But the report on "Today" on NBC-TV on June 23 <tinyurl.com/ms4jmjs3> included an appropriate and amusing clip from the Fred Willard movie "Best in Show" (2000)

Ray Wilcockson enjoys research in digitized newspapers, and has discovered that Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes were in Dublin in 1897, and again in 1899 <www.altamarkings.blogspot.com/2020>. A nice opportunity for pasticheurs.

"How to Catch a Cheater Using Math" is the title of a video noted by Jennie Paton <www.tinyurl.com/3955ujmk> that has a Sherlockian blob explaining frequency hypothesis testing (Dana Richards, who's an expert at this sort of thing, says it's a remarkably clear explanation).

Jun 22 #3 The single page from the manuscript of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" went unsold at Heritage Auctions on June 4 when the reserve wasn't met. It was available for purchase for \$125,000 for a few days from Heritage Auctions, but is no longer offered. The web-site's at <www.tinyurl.com/4yfk6rj6>. A different single page from the manuscript sold last year for \$423,000 (including the buyer's premium) (Nov 21 #5). Obviously the underbidder in that auction wasn't interested in the page offered this year.

"Why would someone wake up and claim they're Napoleon? The answer: something of a fixed idea." Which of course reminds one of the *idée fixe* mentioned in "The Six Napoleons". Victoria Shepherd will be lecturing about "A History of Delusions" on-line for National Archives on July 13, and you can read all about it at <www.tinyurl.com/963yw93n>. There's also Laure Murat's book *The Man Who Thought He Was Napoleon: Toward a Political History of Madness* (2014), for those who might want to pursue this particular delusion. And Daniel Freeman's BBC Radio 4 lecture on "Napoleon and 'Delusions of Grandeur'" is at <www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0007lh6>

"Musings on Amusements in the Canon" is the title of the next conference scheduled by the Reichenbach Irregulars in Leukerbad, Switzerland, on June 1-4, 2023 <www.221b.ch/Events_e.html> and visitors from far and near are welcome to attend (and have in the past, reporting having a grand time).

Richard Gordon played Sherlock Holmes (with Leigh Lovell as Watson) on radio in 1930-1933) and in the film "The Radio Murder Mystery" (1933), and (with Harry West as Watson) on radio in 1936. Now Ray Wilcockson has discovered that Gordon also played Holmes on stage; you can read all about it in Ray's "Markings" blog <www.tinyurl.com/t4a6x8sc>.

Cole Porter's classic musical "Anything Goes" (1934) has a rather tenuous Sherlockian connection, and a production at the Barbican in London in 2021 was filmed. You can watch it on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/ycktz6sj>; it's all great fun, and the Sherlockian scene starts at 65 minutes.

An article in the Indian Express (June 6) <www.tinyurl.com/yahcd6m2> includes an image of the Sappers War Memorial in Bengaluru, and there is a Canonical connection: the 1st Bangalore Pioneers (mentioned in "The Empty House") are thought to have been the 1st Madras Pioneers, a regiment that was raised by the British in 1780; it was disbanded in 1933 and absorbed into the Madras Sappers.

"Dr. Watson and Sherlock Holmes are tracking a criminal mastermind in the present-day United States. Watson lists out the states the mastermind has visited in alphabetical order. They are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Watson stares at the list, but he can't make out any sort of pattern. But Holmes' eyes light up. 'Why, it's elementary, my dear Watson!'" That's a problem posed by Eric Snyder at the Riddler Express at Zach Wissner-Gross' "FiveThirtyEight" web-site <www.tinyurl.com/ybthfnar>. So: what's the pattern?

Jun 22 #4 Philip Purser-Hallard's *Sherlock Holmes: Masters of Lies* (New York: Titan, 2022; 257 pp., \$15.95) is a complicated and entertaining pastiche, set in London in 1898, that pits Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes, Dr. Watson, and Stanley Hopkins against a clever mastermind who is skilled at forgery, impersonation, and murder.

Further to the report (Apr 22 #4) on the Sherlock Holmes Experience at the Knockhatch Adventure Park in Sussex, there's now a walk-through video at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4SatfMwbHE>.

So: what is the pattern in the Riddler Express puzzle (Jun 22 #3)? It's element-ary.

Howard Ostrom's "The A-Z of Sherlock Holmes Performers" data-base now has more than 8,000 people who have appeared as Sherlock Holmes, or in Sherlockian costume <www.nplh.co.uk/a-z-index.html>.

Japanese interest in Sherlock Holmes continues: there's now a translation of Roger Johnson and Jean Upton's *The Sherlock Holmes Miscellany* (Nov 12 #5), translated and edited by Masamichi Higurashi; you can see the colorful cover at <www.tinyurl.com/ywkf75bk>.

Mr. Doyle's Class Presents A Study in Scarlet is a delightful graphic novel published by the Conan Doyle Collection in Portsmouth in 2020 (70 pp., £10.00) <www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/conan-doyle/shop>; adapted by Matthew Hardy for ages 7-11, it's an imaginative presentation of the story, with attractive art by Russell Mark Olson.

The Genesee Country Village & Museum in Mumford, N.Y., "the largest living history museum in New York state," will help you "step into the history, mystery, and culinary delights" of Sherlock Holmes on Aug. 6-7; their website's at <www.gcv.org/events/a-novel-weekend>.

There are more and more Sherlockian tattoos to be seen, thanks to the Internet <www.tinyurl.com/yc2ujv42>, and some of them are both imaginative and artistic.

Max Magee has noted the "Raffles Redux" web-site <www.rafflesredux.com>, where Sarah Morrissey and Genevieve L. Morrissey offer annotated versions of E. W. Hornung's "Raffles" stories, and his play "A Visit from Raffles" (1909), in which H. A. Saintsbury played the title role, making him one of the very few actors who have played both Raffles and Sherlock Holmes.

Treefort Media has produced a ten-episode audio mini-series "Moriarty: The Devil's Game" that will be available at Audible on July 7; you can listen to a sample at <www.audible.com/pd/Moriarty-Podcast/B0B2DZBVRR>.

Steve Doyle's Fortnightly Dispatch continues; his latest interviews have been with Henry Boote <www.youtube.com/watch?v=xK6KI813AiM> and with Evelyn Herzog <www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeQGdELPI1A>. Steve himself was featured in print in an interview in his hometown Zionsville Current on June 13 <www.tinyurl.com/k6jb3ptb>.

Jun 22 #5 Reported: "The Lion's Mane" reprinted in *Guilty Creatures: A Menagerie of Mysteries*, edited by Martin Edwards (Scottsdale: Poisoned Pen, 2022; 308 pp., \$14.54); the American edition of the British Library's anthology of mysteries in which animals play an important role. Amazon's "look inside" feature offers a chance to read the introduction, in which Edwards discusses Conan Doyle, and Heard's *A Taste for Honey*.

"Tribute to Sherlock Holmes on the Occasion of His Hundredth Birthday" was a 30-minute program broadcast by the BBC Home Service on Jan. 8, 1954, and it included Dennis Arundell (as Lord Peter Wimsey), recalling how he had once met Sherlock Holmes, in a segment written by Dorothy L. Sayers. The program has not survived, but her script was published in *Sayers on Holmes* (2001), and Allyn Gibson has found it at the "One Other Gaudy Night" blog <www.tinyurl.com/46s82jbh>.

Jennie Paton found a nice video tour ("Barcelona's Best Kept Secret") of the Biblioteca Pública Arús, which houses Joan Proubasta's extensive collection of Sherlockiana and Doyleana <www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfUR13xGOQQ> (the tour of his collection starts at 9:49).

An attractive oil-on-canvas painting by Walter Paget showing King Henry V at Agincourt was at auction this month <www.tinyurl.com/m78sssbsj>, with an estimate of \$5,500-\$8,250. Walter Paget (Sidney Paget's younger brother) illustrated "The Dying Detective", and this painting might well be considered Sherlockian since (according to Shakespeare) Henry V proclaimed "the game's afoot" long before Sherlock Holmes did. The painting didn't sell, presumably because bidding didn't reach the reserve set by whoever bought the painting for \$5,000 earlier this year.

"Evaline and Mina didn't mean to get into the family business" is the hook for Colleen Gleason's series about Evaline Holmes (the niece of Sherlock) and Mina Stoker (the sister of Bram), set in a steampunk Victorian London. *The Carnelian Crow* (Avid, 2017; 256 pp., \$19.99) and *The Zeppelin Deception* (Avid, 2019; 290 pp., \$23.95) are the last of a five-book series of young-adult novels aimed at teen-age girls, and the stories offer romance, villainy, and lots of energy and excitement. The author's web-site is at <www.stokerandholmes.com>.

The Mini-Tonga Scion Society may be inactive, but people still are having fun creating Sherlockian miniatures: Samantha Wolov has noted Jamie Robertson's post to Instagram <www.tinyurl.com/4svnnkxw>.

The manuscript of "The Greek Interpreter" (owned by the late David Karpeles) will be offered at Heritage Auctions on July 16 with an opening bid of \$100,000, with no reserve <www.tinyurl.com/3e5a7sfk>. Randall Stock's detailed page about the manuscript is at <www.tinyurl.com/yc79d8j8>.

There also will be some nice Sherlockiana and Doyleana in Heritage's sale 6253 (July 27-28) <www.tinyurl.com/2p93r9mf>, including Collier's *Once a Week Library* (1891, the first American edition of "The Sign of the Four") and the three-volume set of *Dreamland and Ghostland* (1887, with five non-Sherlockian stories, Conan Doyle's first appearance in a book in Britain).

Jun 22 #6 A copy of a later edition of *The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes*, signed and inscribed by Conan Doyle to Lady Sackville, will be at auction on July 6 <www.tinyurl.com/nbe5y8d4>, estimated at €400-€500. Victoria Sackville-West, a colorful lady <www.tinyurl.com/55fvt64w>, isn't as well-known now as her daughter Vita Sackville West.

"You don't happen to have a Raphael or a first folio Shakespeare without knowing it?" asked Sherlock Holmes (in "The Three Gables"). A copy of the First Folio will be at auction at Sotheby's on July 21. Read all about it at <www.tinyurl.com/5xp59nwd>.

Who knew? Sherlock was in Ballarat. Well, it was Jim Sherlock, and the Ballarat is in California, noted by Jennie Paton. It's a ghost town now, and according to Wikipedia <www.tinyurl.com/yhfdnwz2> it has one permanent resident. There's much more about Ballarat, and about some of its colorful residents, at <www.desertusa.com/desert-california/ballararat.html>.

Theater news: Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is due at the Burgfestspiele in Jagthausen, Germany, July 1-Aug. 25 <www.burgfestspiele-jagsthausen.de>, and at the Lamb's Player Theatre in Coronado, Calif., on Oct. 1-Nov. 20 <www.lampsplayer.org>.

The Our Star Theatre Company began touring James Barry's "Sherlock's Excellent Adventure" in Britain on July 1 <www.ourstartheatrecompany.com>.

Eric Coble's "Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" will be performed at the Riverlea Theatre in Hamilton, New Zealand, July 2-16; website at <www.riverleatheatre.com>.

Todd Wallinger's "The Enchanted Bookshop" will be performed at the Royal Off-the-Square Theater in Brownstown, Ind., July 15-23 <www.jcct.org>.

The Gotham Radio Theatre will perform "Sherlock Holmes: Redheads and Bohemians (a dramatization of the two stories) at the Bedford Playhouse in Bedford, N.Y., on July 16 <www.bedfordplayhouse.org>.

Nick Lane's new "Sherlock Holmes: The Valley of Fear" will be touring in Britain beginning at the Wilde Theatre in Bracknell, Berks., on Sept. 14 <www.blackeyedtheatre.co.uk>.

"Watson: The Last Great Tale of the Legendary Sherlock Holmes" (by Jaime Robledo) has been scheduled at the CVIC Hall in Minden, Nev., Oct. 14-23 <www.carsonvalleycommunitytheatre.org>.

Stephen Dietz's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure" is due at the Portland Stage in Portland, Maine, Oct. 26-Nov. 13 <www.portlandstage.org>.

Nick Scovell's "Sherlock Holmes: The Final Problem" will be performed at the TPS Studio in Petersfield, Hants., Nov. 2-5 <www.thestudiotps.com>.

The Spermaceti Press: Peter E. Blau, 7103 Endicott Court, Bethesda, MD 20817-4401 (301-229-5669) <blau7103@comcast.net>