

A pair of Waxflatter ornithopter wings made for the movie "Young Sherlock Holmes" (1985) <www.tinyurl.com/y8th58f6>, offered at Dominic Winter Auctions on May 22, estimated at £2000-£3000, went unsold. Unfortunately, it wasn't a complete ornithopter, one of which sold at Christie's in 2013 for £55,875.

Sherlock Holmes truly is a world-wide phenomenon. You can listen to "The Boscombe Valley Mystery" in Bangla broadcast by Radio Mirchi in Bangladesh at <www.tinyurl.com/2z9bdwsk>.

If you neglected to purchase one (or more) of the Montblanc pen "writer's edition" tribute to Conan Doyle (Jul 21 #6), a set of three pens will be offered at PBA Galleries on July 24 <www.tinyurl.com/bdupyef3>, estimated at \$1,500-\$2,500.

"Gracie and Pedro: Pets to the Rescue" (2024), an animated film for children, features Detective Doyle (voiced by James Kee) and his ferret Sherlock (voiced by Mike Nadajewski). It's available on various pay-per-view streaming channels, and (free) at <www.dailymotion.com/video/x9gkl9c>. In Britain it's "Gracie and Pedro: Mission Impossible", and the film's website's at <www.gracieandpedro.com>. If you're not sure whether you should watch the film, there's a review at <www.tinyurl.com/52p6dr65>.

The next "Holmes in the Heartland" conference is scheduled at the Cheshire Inn in St. Louis on July 24-26, 2026. If you'd like to be on their mailing list, the contact is Rob Nunn <parallelcasestl@gmail.com>.

Michael McStay died on May 11. He had a long career in British television, wrote plays for BBC radio, and acted as well in French television. He played Inspector Schmidt in the television film "Sherlock Holmes and the Leading Lady" (1991).

Terry Pratchett's *Hogfather* (1996) was the 20th title in his long-running series of "Discworld" books, and it was adapted for television in two episodes, broadcast in 2006. Howard Ostrom has reported a child in Sherlockian costume in the first episode: <www.tinyurl.com/yckervpx> (at 1:22:05). Wikipedia's entry for *Hogfather* <www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hogfather> will be helpful in keeping track of what's going on.

"An evening with Sherlock Holmes" held at Undershaw (Conan Doyle's former home) on May 17 (Apr 25 #4) raised more than £14,000, according to a report in the Farnham Herald (May 20) <www.tinyurl.com/ye2fms3x>.

The Clermont Victoria is one of the London hotels of interest to Sherlockians, since it was formerly known as the Grosvenor Hotel and mentioned in "The Final Problem". You can read all about the Clermont Victoria in an article in The Luxe Review (Apr. 6) <www.tinyurl.com/3r43ztuc>. An additional note: the management of the Clermont has reported that their historical archives show that Conan Doyle stayed at the Grosvenor.

Jun 25 #2 Harry King Television <www.harryking.tv> has announced a new series "True Sherlock" (it's now in pre-production with four two-hour episodes scheduled to be shot in Britain in Jan. 2026); the first episode will be titled "A Balls-Up in Bohemia", with Oil Higginson cast as Sherlock Holmes and Will Kemp as Moriarty. The series has an entry at the Internet Movie Data Base, but that doesn't mean it will actually be made; it's to be based on the "Unexpurgated Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" series of books written by Nicholas Sercombe, CEO of Harry King Television.

Little attention has been paid to AI in this newsletter, because there's so much of it that's thoroughly amateurish. Jennie Paton found an amusing birthday tribute to Conan Doyle at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSRzO3JIeTw>.

One does indeed hear of Sherlock everywhere: the British Library has kindly made the Qatar Digital Library available on-line. A search for [sherlock holmes] turns up four hits <www.tinyurl.com/2u3zu29n>. And a search for [conan doyle] turns up seven hits <www.tinyurl.com/4p3z9965>. Alas: nothing consequential among all the hits.

CBS-TV's entertainment president Amy Reisenbach has told the Deadline website (May 26) <www.tinyurl.com/39u6yu4z> that the network's "Watson" series will return on Sundays in January 2026.

There seems to be nothing Sherlockian on display, but Britain's National Archives offers an interesting exhibition of material on loan from the archives of MI5 <www.tinyurl.com/mry4w9sw> and <www.tinyurl.com/mwtpks7j>. MI5 is the U.K. Security Service for domestic counter-intelligence; one of the items on display is double-agent Guy Burgess' briefcase, left behind at the Reform Club when he fled to Russia.

It's sometimes said that the best writing in newspapers will be found in the Sports section, and a fine example of that was Sally Jenkins' column (June 8) about the dangers encountered when using AI (in this case Sage) <www.tinyurl.com/4c7c4zzx> or <www.wapo.st/3Tdgt4V>.

Denny Dobry <dendobry@ptd.net> will be glad to send more information about his open house, in Reading, Pa. on July 26, when visitors will have their last chance to play in his spectacular recreation of the sitting-room (before it is packed up to be shipped to the Sherlock Holmes Collections in Minneapolis). There will also be an opportunity to browse the shelves at Denny's Parnassus on Wheels Book Fair.

Matt Hall reports that Watson's Tin Box has a new web-master (Liane Luini) and web-site <www.watsonstinbox.org>, and that Liane is uploading PDFs of the society's annual journal "Irene's Cabinet". The web-site also has a link to the spectacular Evidence Boxes prepared by the late Paul Churchill for all the 60 Canonical cases, with images and discussion of the evidence that Paul found or forged (and he was an expert at Sherlockian forgery). You should add Watson's Tin Box to the list of Sherlockian societies that have impressive web-sites. Another is the Sound of the Baskervilles, who have posted back issues of their newsletter Ineffable Twaddle, from Jan. 2008 to the present <www.soundofthebaskervilles.com>.

Jun 25 #3 There's more news from Mars, where SHERLOC is hard at work exploring the Red Planet (Jan 25 #4). Just click on the image of the calibration target <www.tinyurl.com/3nmsx9nh> to see an appropriate address (first from the left in the bottom row) and to see a familiar portrait (fourth from the left in the top row). Here's a well-illustrated story from the Space.com web-site (June 6) <www.tinyurl.com/4thkrke5>.

It's worthwhile mentioning, every so often, that prices given in reviews of books are for hard-cover editions. The books often are also available in less-expensive soft-cover, e-book, and audio-book editions.

Work continues on the new Indian film "Sher" (Apr 25 #3), described as "a comic reimagining of the Sherlock Holmes universe centered around the detective's fictional Indian daughter." The Sri Lanka Financial Times reported (May 31) <www.tinyurl.com/4ws8zvrx> that filming will take place at various Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts properties in Sri Lanka.

The Jeremy Brett Sherlock Holmes podcast ("devoted to revisiting and honoring the world's greatest portrayal of the world's greatest detective"), created in Jan. 2019 by Gus and Luke Holwerda (Dec 20 #3), is continuing to offer videos from Brettcon 2024 <www.sherlockpodcast.com>.

John DeGaetano's *The Sherlock Holmes Cookbook* (2025; 176 pp., \$34.99), inspired by his "Sherlock Holmes: 10 Minute Stories" series, offers recipes for 27 three-course meals that will please those familiar with traditional British cuisine. There's commentary by Holmes, and the author's web-site is at <<https://johndegaetanoproductions.com>>.

Iban Barrenetxea is a Basque artist who has illustrated many books, among them a Spanish translation of "The Red-Headed League", which you can see at his web-site <www.ibanbarrenetxea.com/picture/20452>. Click on links at the left to see his artwork for other books. Thanks to Dan Stashower for reporting Paul Huenemann's post to the Stranger's Room at Facebook.

Hampshire Life's web-site <www.tinyurl.com/45bd6mbt> offered a nice self-guided (and well-illustrated) New Forest walking tour in and around Minstead, including a visit to Conan Doyle's grave-site.

An interesting photograph of Conan Doyle was offered by RR Auction on June 11 <www.tinyurl.com/bdcmjsne>. It shows him with Craigie Aitchison outside the Edinburgh High Court in 1928, likely on the day that Oscar Slater's conviction and sentence were overturned. It was estimated at \$8,000, and sold for \$10,139 (including the buyer's premium). Wikipedia offers a nice entry <www.tinyurl.com/2frxc325> on Aitchison, who worked with Conan Doyle to free Slater.

Frederick Forsyth died on June 9. He began his writing career as a British foreign correspondent and became a best-selling author after his book *The Day of the Jackal* was published in 1971 and was noted by Sherlockians to be about an attempt to assassinate French president Charles de Gaulle, using a rifle smuggled into the country in an aluminum crutch.

Jun 25 #4 The "Sherlock & Daughter" series on the CW has ended its first season celebrating good ratings but without any word on whether it will be renewed. If you haven't seen it, you still can, since it is streaming on Max (formerly HBO Max), along with the interesting Japanese 2018 "Miss Sherlock" series (with English subtitles) and the Robert Downey Jr. "Sherlock Holmes" film from 2009.

Otto Penzler's The Mysterious Bookshop won first place in a USA Today poll of its readers who voted (early and often) for this year for the best independent bookstore <www.tinyurl.com/msknvbrc>.

Laurie R. King's new Mary Russell novel *Knave of Diamonds* (Mar 25 #2) has been released, and her web-site is an excellent example of how an author can promote books. She offers (among other things) a reading-group guide that includes discussion of Irish comfort food and drink, with some useful recipes <www.laurierking.com/books/knave-of-diamonds>.

Laurie also wrote an entertaining piece about "Historical Fiction and the Joy of True Characters Too Wild to Make Up" posted to CrimeReads (June 11) <www.tinyurl.com/39vvbuf8>.

One continues to hear of Sherlock everywhere, including Korea, where a new "Salon de Holmes" series has launched in the ENA channel, and will stream on Genie TV. Gong Mi-ri, who has enjoyed Conan Doyle's stories since high school, is one of four women who team up to foil a villain in the compound where they live; you can watch a teaser with English sub-titles on-line at <www.dailymotion.com/video/x9k2mz4>.

Seldom seen, because it hasn't yet been restored, is Stan Laurel's "The Sleuth" (1925) <www.archive.org/details/BillspragueCollectionTheSleuth>, which features him in Sherlockian costume as Webster Dingle Detective. Some filmographers have confused this film with Arthur Stone's "Sherlock Sleuth" (1925), which seems to be Sherlockian only for its title; there's an excerpt at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9eInQXs4dk>.

"Little Ellis Island" has closed, the Associated Press reported on June 24 <www.tinyurl.com/3e8txfzs>. That's what people called the Roosevelt Hotel (which closed in 2020, and reopened in 2023 to as an immigrant registration center. According to the Washington Post, 237,000 immigrants came to New York since 2023, and 137,000 of them were registered at the Roosevelt (which before it closed was a welcome refuge for many Sherlockians during the January birthday festivities).

About Jack Reacher: "I'm a huge fan of Sherlock Holmes, always was," Lee Child said some years ago, adding that "In a couple of the books I've put in little Conan Doyle-style tributes to Sherlock Holmes, in the same kind of language Holmes would have used." (Jun 08 #6). Recently he said, "It was a very conscious homage on my part. In *Killing Floor* (the first book) I did an explicitly Shlock Holmes thing where Reacher says to Finley the cop, 'I see that you're divorced and you gave up smoking in April.' That was Reacher deducing like Holmes." That's according to Collider (Apr. 9) <www.tinyurl.com/muh4crru>.

Jun 25 #5 *The Misplaced Physician*, by Jeri Westerson (Edinburgh: Severn House, 2025; 207 pp., \$29.99), is the third book in her series about Tim Badger, formerly a member of Holmes' Baker Street Irregulars and now a private detective, and his partner Ben Watson; they're subsidized by Holmes, who is out of the country, and thus must on their own rescue John H. Watson from kidnappers (difficult, but of course they're successful). The author's web-site is at <www.jeriwesterson.com>.

Peter Melonas has been offering his imaginative Sherlockian artwork since 1982, and you can see (and purchase) his artwork on T-shirts at the Tee-Public web-site <www.teepublic.com/t-shirts?query=peter+melonas>.



The Postal Service has issued a stamp honoring the late Betty White. She appeared on an experimental television broadcast in 1939 and went on to stardom in a wide range of series that included comedies, soap operas, and game shows. In 1989 she made a public-service commercial broadcast in 1989 encouraging viewers to read more, suggesting the Canon as a possibility ("solve a mystery with Sherlock Holmes"), and mentioned that as a young girl her favorite books were "Alice in Wonderland" and "Sherlock Holmes". She died at the end of 2022, a few days before her 100th birthday.

Credit to the 80s Hollywood Stars page at Reddit for finding a nice photograph of the Baker Street Irregulars with Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson <www.tinyurl.com/5dxpt5cb>.

James Michael Walker's *The Case of the Flying Corpse* (Groton: Glen Rippel, 2016; 318 pp., \$14.95) is subtitled as a Sherlock Holmes mystery, but it's really a William Gillette mystery, since it's Gillette who comes up with a solution. Charles Frohman visits Gillette while construction is underway at the castle, and the story begins with a body is found in the castle's courtyard; Frohman does nicely at being Watson to Gillette's Holmes. The book's billed as a tribute to the centennial of Gillette's moving into his castle in 1919, and there's a sequel:

In Walker's *The Floating Corpse* (2019; 366 pp., \$14.95) it's Frohman's son Collin who visits Gillette, in 1920, and they solve a complicated mystery that involves stolen money, stolen documents, and a series of murders; the author has fun with Gillette being Sherlockian, but the real Frohman never married, and thus had no son.

In plenty of time for next year: PBS-TV's "Masterpiece" offered some nice Sherlockian suggestions for Father's Day <www.tinyurl.com/y4f3jb8a>.

Fancy Lamp is a British company created by Caitlin Derer and Joseph Latimer, and their series of Collectable Cities figurines includes Sherlock Holmes <www.collectablecities.com/shop/p/sherlock-ii>. Completists should note that it's the second edition that's available now, with Holmes in a purple jacket and lilac trousers; the first edition had Holmes wearing a green jacket and pale green trousers. You can still get Holmes in green on a key ring, pin, and print <www.collectablecities.com>.

Jun 25 #6 "Poor old Buchan!" An interesting letter, written and signed by Conan Doyle, was offered at Swann Galleries on Mar. 7, 2024 <www.tinyurl.com/2dwducju>. Jack Buchan was indeed mentioned (and often) in *Dangerous Work*; he was a member of the crew of the whaler *Hope* during Conan Doyle's service as the ship's doctor. You can read one of the mentions at the web-site <www.tinyurl.com/364p3a7a> of the University of Chicago Press. The book's still in print, and well worth reading.

"Dancing Naked on the Head of a Pin" was the title of an article posted at the Public Domain Review web-site (June 18); there's nothing Sherlockian, but it offers a nicely-illustrated look at an interesting aspect of Victorian pornography <www.tinyurl.com/mrxrb4kr>.

Petrels are mentioned in two of the Canonical tales ("The Naval Treaty" and "The Reigate Squires") and last year the Australian Antarctic Territory issued a mini-sheet showing four petrels, with one of them a Wilson's storm-petrel, which is nicely appropriate: Watson says (in Nava), "You must regret the hour that you took in such a stormy petrel as I am," and Holmes says (in Reig), "You are the stormy petrel of crime, Watson."



Wilson's storm-petrel has its own entry at Wikipedia, where it is called one of the most abundant bird species in the world. It breeds in the Antarctic, but in southern-hemisphere winter migrates north and is common in British waters.

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, edited by Andrew Glazzard (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2024; 362 pp., \$140.00) is the next volume in *The Edinburgh Edition of the Works of Arthur Conan Doyle*, and includes the text of the book (with Sidney Paget's illustrations), detailed introductions; comparisons of first serial appearances and first editions, a brief discussion of the manuscript of "A Scandal in Bohemia" (the only one whose location is known), and explanatory notes. It's a splendid critical edition of the book, and Glazzard isn't a newcomer to the world of Sherlockian scholarship: his *The Case of Sherlock Holmes: Secrets and Lies in Conan Doyle's Detective Fiction* (2018) is still available from the Edinburgh University Press.

The Edinburgh Press series continues with *The Stark Munro Letters*, edited by James Machin (2025: 327 pp., \$136.00), with similar scholarship and a detailed discussion of the autobiographical aspects of the novel, and attention paid to the manuscript (bequeathed to the British Library by Dame Jean Conan Doyle) and additional manuscript material acquired by the Library when the family archives went to auction in 2004. The book has been out of print for years, and this new edition offers readers a welcome opportunity to learn more about Conan Doyle.

An older generation will remember CliffsNotes, which is still in business as "the original (and the most widely imitated) study guide." One of the imitators is SparkNotes, reported by Jennie Paton, and here's what they do with "The Hound of the Baskervilles" <www.tinyurl.com/y8ewa5nx>.

Jun 25 #7 Further to the report (May 25 #1) on the Spanish television series based on Arturo Perez-Reverte's novel *El Problema Final*, Don Pollock has noted that an English translation of the mystery is due from Mulholland Books in 2026. And so it is: you can pre-order now <www.tinyurl.com/yb3eje25>, or wait impatiently until Feb. 10. The book stars Benjamin Basil ("a washed-up actor who once played the most famous detective of all time on the silver screen").

Peterson of Dublin continues to offer its wide range of handsome Sherlock Holmes pipes, but they also offer a flavorful Sherlock Holmes tobacco; details at <www.tinyurl.com/3fehw7dt>.

This year we celebrate the centenary of in-flight entertainment: it was in 1925 that "The Lost World" was screened on an Imperial Airways flight from London to the Continent. As noted earlier (Dec 17 #5) Alexis Barquin has an excellent entry on "The Lost World Above the World" at the Arthur Conan Doyle Encyclopedia <www.tinyurl.com/y7loorlb>. Earlier this year the Abu Dhabi National had a story (Apr. 6) <www.tinyurl.com/5u68khdz> with a photograph showing the projector and projectionists ready for action.

More Sherlockiana from Bob Hess' collection will be on offer at Potter & Potter Auctions <www.potterauctions.com> in their "Entertainment, Toys, & Collectibles" auction on July 10 (lots 269-283).

Jennie Paton has found Sherlock Holmes' recording of "Standing at a Standstill" on-line at <www.vimeo.com/1094278168>. Registered for copyright on Jan. 16, 1967, by James K. Scotland, who was noted as using the pseudonym Sherlock Holmes.

"Mrs. Holmes Taught Sherlock All He Knew: Uncovering the Truth about Victorian Women Detectives" is the title of an on-line lecture by Sara Lodge scheduled by the Buckinghamshire Historical Association on Jan. 21. You can register for the lecture at <www.tinyurl.com/22y37jy6>. Sara Lodge is the author of *The Mysterious Case of the Victorian Female Detective*, from the Yale University Press in 2024 <www.tinyurl.com/mr2pfvvnv>. According to the publisher, "Lodge's book takes us into the murky underworld of Victorian society on both sides of the Atlantic, revealing the female detective as both an unacknowledged labourer and a feminist icon."

A report on a company called Unit 221B turned up recently on the Hounds of the Internet mailing list <www.unit221b.com>. Click on "About" and then on "Our Mission" for more information.

52 Weeks--52 Sherlock Holmes Novels, edited by Paul Bishop (Milwaukee: Genius Book Publishing, 2025; 359 pp., \$19.95), promises "traditional favorites and new discoveries," and offers in-depth reviews of a year's worth of books. All of the reviewers, old hands and newcomers to the Sherlock-ian world, do extremely well at explaining just why they recommend their choices. The editor believes that "one of the primary reasons pastiches are important is that they allow for the continuing evolution of Holmes and his world," and it's hard to imagine any readers of the anthology who fails to encounter something they haven't already read.

Jun 25 #8 Theatrics: as usual, there is plenty of news about upcoming drama. "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (by Steven Canny and John Nicholson) is being performed at the Lighthouse Theatre in Port Dover, Ont., through July 5, and will then move to the Roselawn Theatre in Port Colborne, Ont., July 9-20 <www.lighthousetheatre.com>.

Kate Hamill's "Ms. Holmes and Ms. Watson-Apt. 2B" is being produced at the St. Croix Festival Theatre in St. Croix Falls, Wis., through July 6; web-site at <www.festivaltheatre.org>. It is also due at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colo., Sept. 18-Oct. 5 <www.tinyurl.com/mr2xxv3r>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" can be viewed at Theatre West in Scottsbluff, Neb., through July 6 <www.tinyurl.com/hutj735b>. It also is coming up at the Genesian Theatre in Rozelle, N.S.W., Aug. 8-Sept. 13; their web-site is at <www.genesiantheatre.com.au>. And it is scheduled at the Ulmer Auditorium in Bluffton, S.C., Sept. 19 to 28 <www.mayrivertheatre.com>; the Francis J. Gaudette Theatre in Issaquah, Wash, Jan. 20-Feb. 22, 2026, and the Everett Center for the Performing Arts in Everett, Wash., Feb. 28-Mar. 22 <www.villagetheatre.org>.

Tim Kelly's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be performed at the Lydney Town Hall in Lydney, Glos., July 4-6, and at the Larruperz Centre in Ross-on-Wye, Heref., July 11-13 <www.thedeantheatrecompany.com>.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (a new dramatization by Two's a Crowd Productions) is scheduled at the Stamford Arts Centre in Stamford, Lincs., on July 5 <www.tacprod.co.uk>.

Enrico Lopez-Yañez's "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Missing Maestro" will be performed at the Chautauqua Auditorium in Boulder, Colo., on July 6 <www.tinyurl.com/hutj735b>; and at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in Portland, Ore., on Jan. 4 <www.orsymphony.org>.

"The Case of the Three-Eyed Elephant: A Sherlock Holmes Origin Story" (a new comedy by Laurence Akers, Ryan Starling, and Lewes Roberts) will have its premiere at the Sheringham Little Theatre in Sheringham, Norf., July 10-12 <www.sheringhamlittletheatre.com>.

Thomas W. Olson's "Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars" will be performed at the Uvalde Grand Opera House in Uvalde, Tex., July 18-20 <www.uvaldeoperahouse.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "Moriarty" will be produced at the Egerton Millennium Hall in Egerton, Lancs., Sept. 5-6 <www.egertonplayers.co.uk>.

Katie Forgette's "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily" will be produced at the Repertory Theatre Company in Richardson, Tex., Sept. 5-14 <www.rcttheatre.com>; and at the Holliston Town Hall in Holliston, Mass., Nov. 7-15 <www.washingtonstretplayers.org>.

Martin Parsons' "The Sign of Four" will tour in Britain beginning on Sept. 23 <www.crimeandcomedytheatrecompany.co.uk>.

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