

Information about many of the events (formal and informal) planned for the birthday festivities in New York in January 2026 can be found at the Baker Street Irregulars web-site <www.tinyurl.com/fmfbuadh>. Only a few of them are invitation-only, and the birthday festivities continue to be a (very) long weekend that runs from Wednesday through Sunday. A registration form will be posted on Nov. 14. Scott Monty's nicely helpful forecast of BSI and non-BSI events (with valuable advice for all and sundry) is available at <www.bsiweekend.com>.

If you would like to share seasonal souvenirs dinners during the birthday festivities, you can send 220 copies (for the BSI and *The Women*) to Alex Katz (11 Van Beuren Road, Morristown, NJ 07960-7008), and 60 copies (for the Gaslight Gala) to Michael Bush (426 Myrtle Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076-1704); they must be received by Dec. 9. Please avoid sending heavy and/or oddly-shaped items that would be difficult to pack and that might rip the bags.

The Gaslight Gala will be held on Jan. 9, at Annie Moore's. Details about the festivities will be found at <www.gaslightgalanyc.wordpress.com>.

Plan well ahead: the BSI's next special conference (similar to "Sherlock Holmes and the British Empire" at Bear Mountain in 2022) is scheduled for July 9-11, 2027, in San Francisco. Come one, come all, and stay tuned for more information.

Print-on-demand works quite well: the Sherlock Holmes Society of London's *Occasional Papers Number One* (Sep 25 #4) arrived quickly, and it was nice to avoid expensive shipping. The seven articles include two reprints from other journals, and an impressive discussion of "That Murky Graveyard, the River Thames" by the late Kelvin I. Jones. Easily available from Amazon.

Ashley Mayo, who edited the *Occasional Papers*, also presides over the Society's scrapbook <www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk/scrapbook>, a splendid resource for exploring the scholarship in the Sherlock Holmes Journal. He has cross-referenced and indexed more than 1,200 items from the SHJ, and provides the text of the Canon with convenient links to full text from the commentary in the SHJ.

Further to the item (Sep 25 #3) on the call for nominations for the 2026 Susan Rice Mentorship Award, there's an excellent report on Susan and the award at "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" <www.tinyurl.com/5n8wmcnv>.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is included in the (British) National Portrait Gallery's "Writers Revealed" exhibition <www.tinyurl.com/4573hfke> now at the Busan Museum in the Republic of Korea <www.tinyurl.com/28nsm4z7> through Jan. 18. The Gallery's catalog <www.tinyurl.com/mvwy7usa> has entries for 15 portraits of the Conan Doyle family, including Sir Arthur, Denis (and Nina), Adrian (and Anna), and Jean. The exhibition previously was at the Home of the Arts in Paradise, Australia, and in February 2026 it will open at the Shanghai Library in China.

Oct 25 #2 Otto Penzler's *Mysterious Obsession* (first published in 2019) has just been reissued in a fifth printing (New York: Mysterious Press 2025; 163 pp., \$40.00). He tells the story of his splendid collection of mystery and detection, and his career as a collector, book-seller, and publisher, and some of the treasures that were on the shelves of his magnificent library. Holmes and Conan Doyle, and some of Otto's Sherlockian friends, are mentioned from time to time, and, his stories are always great fun <www.tinyurl.com/2hp5seh2>.

It's not Sherlockian (unless you want an excuse to read the three Sherlock Holmes stories in which pearls are mentioned), but you're welcome to watch "The Birth of the Pearl" (1901) <www.tinyurl.com/zxwzwnz3>, filmed only a year after "Sherlock Holmes Baffled" was made. Compliments to the Public Domain Review and the Library of Congress.

Tim Marriott has been touring to enthusiastic reviews since 2020 in Bert Coules' one-act one-man play "Watson: The Final Problem", and you can see his current schedule at <www.smokescreenprods.com>. You can also read the script (Gloucester: Choir Press, 2025; 24 pp., \$14.99/£7.99) to share the fun they have had with the play. Bert's talents will be familiar to those who has enjoyed his dramatization of the entire Canon, and a series of new stories, broadcast by the BBC Radio.

Further to the news (Sep 25 #1) of the screening of "Silent Sherlock" at AFI Silver on Nov. 15, the U.S. premiere of the film will be on Nov. 13 at the San Francisco Silent Film Festival <www.tinyurl.com/cccz5jhf>. And it will be screened at the Electric Palace Cinema in Hastings, East Sussex, on Dec. 21 <www.electricpalacecinema.com/whats-on/silent-sherlock>.

Many Sherlockians have visited the statue of Sherlock Holmes on the sidewalk outside the Baker Street station in London, but very few people have reported visiting the public conveniences across the road and viewing the Sherlockian murals that were (and perhaps still are) inside the loos, nor (apparently) has anyone photographed them. There's no mention of them in a post to the Country Life web-site (Oct. 16) <www.tinyurl.com/472jnh2h> that was headlined "A Bum Deal on a Bog-Standard Property?" but the post is great fun.

Sherlock Holmes continues to be popular in China. There were exhibitions at the Chengdu Museum, Dec. 2024 to Apr. 2025 <www.tinyurl.com/ms6pje77>, with video at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=edDU211UDyc>; and at the Shandong Museum in Jinan earlier this year, according to the China Daily (July 22) <www.tinyurl.com/yc745vw3>.

New Scientist magazine has a back-page Feedback feature ("a sideways look at the latest science and technology news"), and Geraldine Beare has noted Johan Gotthardt Olsen's discussion (Sept. 27) of acronyms in which he complimented the creators of SHERLOC and WATSON, now on Mars on the Perseverance rover (Sep 25 #1) and Facebook's regret that Perseverance did not also have on board a Monitor Of Raman Iridescence And Radiation Tomography Yardstick.

Oct 25 #3 James R. Benn's *A Bitter Wind* (New York: Soho Crime, 2025; 370 pp., \$28.95) is the 20th book in his series about Billy Boyle, an Irish-American police detective in Boston who winds up serving in Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters during World War II. The title is a nod to the Canon, but the book is Doylean rather than Sherlockian, and the Doyle is Squadron Officer Jean Conan Doyle, an intelligence officer in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, with whom Boyle works in a case involving espionage and murder. Jean ended her military career as Air Commandant, the highest rank in the Women's Royal Air Force, and in 1963 she was elevated to Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire and became Dame Jean. There is much more about the author and his books at <www.jamesrbenn.com>.

Further to the forecast (Aug 25 #6) of the BBC World Service's "World Book Club" program "Arthur Conan Doyle: The Hound of the Baskervilles", you can listen to Harriett Gilbert interview Denise Mina and Mark Jones about the story at <www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3ct74s3>.

Richard R. Rutter ("Mike Scanlan") died on Sept. 20. A co-founder of the Knights of the Gnomon in 1978, he was an enthusiastic member of the Sherlockian community on the west coast, and the world-wide community of the admirers of the long series of books about Oz. He received his Investiture from the Baker Street Irregulars in 1983.

Penny Saunders' new two-act ballet "Sherlock Holmes" has had its premiere in Boise, Idaho, and there was a nice review (with images) in Pointe magazine on Oct. 10 <www.pointemagazine.com/sherlock-ballet/#gsc.tab=0>.

Old hands will recall the Sherlock Holmes Memorabilia Company (Aug 92 #2). For many years they welcomed customers at 230 Baker Street in London, and issued colorful mail-order catalogs. Justin Shulman happily reports that they're still in business, now on-line, as the Sherlock Holmes Company, at <www.sherlockholmes.com>.

Wilfrid de Freitas has published a nicely-illustrated sales-list of Sherlockiana and Doyleana from the collection of the late Doug Wrigglesworth <www.defreitasbooks.com/general/DW.html>.

You're never too young to encounter Sherlock Holmes. *A Merry Little Mystery*, with words by Layla Sutton and pictures by Noël Clark (Sourcebooks Wonderland, 2025; 24 pp., \$9.99) is a board book for children up to three years old, starring Little Sherlock and his pup Watson in a lift-the-flaps Christmas mystery.

The "Masterpiece Mystery" web-site celebrated Banned Books Week (Oct. 5-11) with an article <www.tinyurl.com/y98xrk4m> about mysteries that have been banned over the years, including *A Study in Scarlet*.

Rachel Corbett's *The Monsters We Make: Murder, Obsession, and the Rise of Criminal Profiling* (New York: W. W. Norton, 2025; 235 pp., \$28.99) begins with a chapter on Conan Doyle and his attempt to identify Jack the Ripper, and continues to modern times and discussion of the successes and failures of what's now called "behavioral analysis" or "predictive policing."

Oct 25 #4 Many Sherlockians have seen and enjoyed Billy Wilder's film "The Private life of Sherlock Holmes" (1970), but here's a chance to see something that didn't make it into the edited version that was shown in theaters and on television: Jennie Paton has found "The Case of the Naked Honeymooners" at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/mrxnbnr34>.

The Point-à-Callière in Montréal will have an immersive "Sherlock Holmes" exhibition on Nov. 27-Mar. 8 <www.tinyurl.com/3dztuy36>. It will be similar to but not the same as the touring Exhibits Development Group exhibition.

For fans of the "Watson" series on CBS-TV who are now happily watching the second season: the first season is available in a box of four DVDs, with added features (\$31.99). Amazon <www.tinyurl.com/4v9n8v9m> offers the set at a discount (\$25.19).

The Sussex World noted (Oct. 17) <www.tinyurl.com/2f56v2jp> that the Crowborough Beacon Golf Club celebrated its 130th anniversary this month, and the story mentioned that Conan Doyle became a committee member in 1909 and was elected as Captain in 1910, and that Lady Doyle was Ladies Captain in 1911.

"Person to Person" was a 30-minute series broadcast by CBS-TV, hosted by Edward R. Murrow, and on Jan. 11, 1957, his guests included Basil Rathbone and his family. Video seems not to be available on-line, but Howard Ostrom has found a transcript at <www.tinyurl.com/yw6b6dfn>.

Many will remember seeing the German film "Der Mann, der Sherlock Holmes war" (1937). It starred Hans Albert, Heinz Rühmann, and is available at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=0iVz990y2uY> with subtitles in English. It's also now a musical scheduled at the Harztheater in Halbertadt, Nov. 3-6, and then on tour in Germany <www.tinyurl.com/5y78t9kp>. Jennie Paton has reported a promotional video <www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjF6Z_S30_k>.

The "Sherlock Holmes" CD issued by Jay Records in 2000, with Patrick Gowers' music for the Granada series that starred Jeremy Brett, is available again as a CD (£12.99) and as a 12" vinyl record (£22.99); their web-site is at <www.tinyurl.com/2cjma77u>.

Philip Cunningham, who is compiling a census of known copies of "*Conferment by Needle*", the pamphlet published by Michael Murphy in 1980, with a letter from Vincent Starrett offering T. S. Eliot honorary membership in the Hounds of the Baskerville (*sic*), and Eliot's return letter of gratitude and affirmative response. Copies of the census are available on request via e-mail from Philip (pjc121@comcast.net). and he would be happy to hear from anyone who can add to the census.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles", "Sherlock Holmes versus Dracula", and "Sherlock Holmes's Christmas Casebook" are just three of many plays that the Don't Go into the Cellar company is touring in Britain, all starring Jonathan Goodwin. Details at <www.dontgointothecellar.com>.

Oct 25 #5 KD Sherrinford's *The Whistle of Revenge* (Extasy Books, 2024; 331 pp., \$12.75) is the fourth title in her "Sherlock Holmes and Irene Adler" series; Holmes and Adler are again in Italy, with their two children, masquerading as the Saporis and in peril from Jack Stapleton, who survived the Grimpen Mire and, seeking vengeance, has kidnapped Holmes and Adler's son Nicco. Sherrinford has a colorful Facebook page at <www.tinyurl.com/mr2d9scf>, and you can read more about the author and her books at <www.tinyurl.com/35hpeyh>.

A set of three Montblanc pens honoring Conan Doyle, offered at PBA Galleries on July 24 (Jun 25 #1) (estimated at \$1,500-\$2,500) sold for \$1,375. Another (or perhaps the same) set, estimated at \$1,200-\$1,800, will be offered at PBA Galleries on Nov. 13 <www.tinyurl.com/2p9zmncr>.

Clifton House in Peterhead (in Aberdeenshire in Scotland) is on the market with an asking price of £465,000 according to the Aberdeen Press and Journal (Oct. 1) <www.tinyurl.com/37cj9k7k>. Young Arthur Conan Doyle likely visited the house when it was owned by John Gray, captain of the whaling ship *Hope* on which Conan Doyle served as the ship's surgeon in 1880.

Planning by the Parallel Case of St. Louis for their next Holmes in the Heartland conference (July 24-26, 2026) continues, and their list of speakers is up at their web-site <www.shorturl.at/B3onQ>.

Samantha Eggar died on Oct 15. She started acting on the stage in London in 1959 and went on to a long career in films and television; her credits include Miss Mary Raines in the film "The Molly Maguires" (1970) and Mary Watson in "The Seven-Per-Cent Solution" (1976). Both of the films can be watched at YouTube.

"The butler did it" is a sentence that's popularly attributed to Mary Roberts Rinehart, even though there aren't any criminal butlers in any of her books. The earliest felonious butler seems to have been Brunton (in "The Musgrave Ritual"). Jeffrey Hatcher's new play "The Butler Did it" is not Sherlockian, but it will have its world premiere at the Park Square Theatre in St. Paul, Minn., Jul 17-Aug. 1, 2026 <www.tinyurl.com/mw4h7hp5>.

The Sherlock Holmes Klubben i Danmark celebrated its 75th anniversary with a weekend of festivities earlier this year, and you can hear Scott Monty and Burt Wolder interview Christian Monggaard about how the Danes have appreciated Holmes at the long-running "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast <www.tinyurl.com/bdcrcmcv>.

In plenty of time for holiday hinting (or shopping): Randall Stock's annual and informative nominations for the best Sherlock Holmes books, movies, DVDs, and more, go on-line at <www.bestofsherlock.com/sherlock-gifts.htm> on Nov. 1. You will also find recommendations of older material, all with helpful explanations of his choices. There's always much more of interest at his web-site, including discussion of manuscripts, Beeton's Christmas Annual, and Sidney Paget; you can click on "Site index/Search" at the upper right to see what's available.

Oct 25 #6 Theatrics: David MacGregor's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Ghost Machine" is due at the New Plymouth Repertory Theatre in New Plymouth, New Zealand, Nov. 4-15; their web-site's at <www.repertorynp.co.nz>.

Ken Ludwig's "The Game's Afoot" is scheduled at the Mod Theatre in Glendale, Calif., Nov. 6-16 <www.tinyurl.com/jpmxkynb>; the Tryon Little Theatre in Tryon, N.C., Nov. 13-23 <www.tinyurl.com/73kv9c63>; and the First Presbyterian Church in Tahlequah, Okla., on Nov. 14-23 <www.tcpok.com>.

Eric Coble's "Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" will be performed at the Hoover High School in North Canton, Ohio, Nov. 7-8; web-site at <www.northcantonschools.org/266144_2?articleID=39051>.

Nicholas Ewen's "Sherlock and the Baker's Daughter" has been scheduled at the Brownwood Lyric Theatre in Brownwood, Texas, Nov. 9-12; their web-site is at <www.tinyurl.com/43sm8zv4>.

David Hansen's "Sherlock Holmes Meets the Bully of Baker Street" will be performed at the GracePoint Church in Plant City, Fla., Nov. 13-15; web-site at <www.tinyurl.com/3knxccp9>.

Kate Hamill's "Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson—Apt. 2B" is scheduled at Dominican University in River Forest, Ill., Nov. 13-16 <www.tinyurl.com/pys7m46s>.

David MacGregor's "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Elusive Ear" will be performed at the Pavilion Theatre in Castle Hill, N.S.W., Nov. 14-Dec. 6 <www.paviliontheatre.org.au>.

Mark Shanahan's "A Sherlock Carol" will be at the Lyric Stage in Boston, Mass., Nov. 14-Dec. 21 <www.lyricstage.com>; and at the Mesquite Arts Theatre in Mesquite, Texas, Nov. 28-Dec. 14 <www.mesquiteartstheatre.org>. It's also due at the Robert Lee Brault Playhouse in Green Bay, Wis., Dec. 4-14 <www.gbcommunitytheater.com>; and the James Lee Community Center Theatre in Falls Church, Va., Dec. 12-20 <www.providenceplayers.org>. Also at the Lakeview United Church of Christ in Maineville, Ohio, Dec. 12 to 20 <www.lumosplayers.com>; and at the Garfield Center for the Performing Arts in Chestertown, Md., Dec. 4-20, 2026 <www.garfieldcenter.org>.

Mary Jane Hansen's "The Baker Street Adventuress: Sherlock Holmes on the Air" will have its world premiere at the Saratoga Music Hall in Saratoga Spring, N.Y., Nov. 14-23 <www.itheatresarratogra.org>; the adventuress is Edith Meiser, and the play includes one of her programs.

Micah Cover's new "The Last Case of Dr. Watson" will be performed at the Count's Den in Los Angeles, Calif., Nov. 14-20 <www.thecountsden.com>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" is due at the Terrace Plaza Playhouse in Washington Terrace, Utah, Jan. 9-Feb 07, 2026 <www.terraceplazaplayhouse.com>.

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