

Registration is open for this year's Baker Street Irregulars Trust on-line lecture on Oct. 3 at 2:00 pm EDT, when Harrison Terry Hunt will talk about "Who IS That? Naming the Unknown in BSI Dinner Photos". The lecture is free, but registration is required; you can register now at the BSI Trust web-site <www.tinyurl.com/2tj5fxtc>. If you have a conflict, don't worry: the lecture will be recorded and posted later at Trust's web-site (as lectures from previous years are now).

Dr. Adam Blumenberg has launched a monthly podcast called "The Consulting Toxicologist" that has Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Joan Watson in modern-day New York explaining how to diagnose toxic poisons. It's available (free) at Audible <www.tinyurl.com/55665m4b> and elsewhere.

"Sherlock Holmes' famed 221B Baker Street residence has opened a consultancy outpost on 221B Bugis Street," according to the Straits Times (Aug. 21) <www.tinyurl.com/4z662xmm>, in an article about "A Study in Red: The Official Sherlock Holmes Experience" in Singapore. It is "official" because it has been licensed by the Conan Doyle Estate LLC, and planning is underway for Tokyo, Melbourne, and London. The web-site for "A Study in Red" is at <www.officialsherlockexperience.com>, and there's a review at <www.littledayout.com/hidden-sherlock-holmes-experience-review>.

Agatha Christie: A World of Mystery" is the title of a major exhibition at the British Library, Oct. 30-June 20 <www.tinyurl.com/3ncjjx2h>. It will be great fun for admirers of the Queen of Crime.

"Proprietary, My Dear Watson" was the headline on a story in the Telegraph (Aug 27) <www.tinyurl.com/5yyk2aju> about a decision by the UK Intellectual Property Office that Baker Street Clothing Ltd. in Manchester could not register a trademark for a planned "Dr. Watson" clothing range because the name would infringe on registered trademarks that are held in Britain by the Conan Doyle Estate LLC. The owner of the Manchester company was ordered to pay £1,300 to cover the CDEL's costs in the case.

It has been quite a while since Holmes Peak in Oklahoma has been mentioned in this newsletter. The only officially-approved landform named in honor of Sherlock Holmes in the United States (and quite possibly in the world), it was recognized by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names in 1984, and has a web-site at <www.tulsa-sherlock.org/holmes-peak.html>.

A "Hero" cane used by Henry Cavill (as Sherlock Holmes) in the first "Enola Holmes" film was at auction at Ewbank's in Woking on Aug. 27, estimated at £200-£400 <www.tinyurl.com/szebzec3>. It was bought for £520 (including the buyer's premium).

Alexis Barquin's splendid "Arthur Conan Doyle Encyclopedia" is mentioned often in this newsletter. It's available to all without charge, but donations are welcome to help defray the cost of maintaining the web-site, and patrons are entitled to a few extras, including an attractive lapel pin; details at <www.arthur-conan-doyle.com/wiki/Support_Us>.

Sep 26 #2 N. S. Thorngrave says that his "The Cryptid Files" series are "erotic thrillers," and they are indeed. *The Case of Bigfoot* (2025; 181 pp. \$14.99), set in 1955, has Holmes traveling from London to Georgia. And *The Case of Mothman* (2026; 284 pp., \$17.99) has Watson coming to work with Holmes in West Virginia. *The Case of the Werewolf* (2026; 244 pp., \$17.99) finds them both in New Jersey, and all of the books involve them with cryptids and thoroughly explicit sexual activity. The author has videos at Tiktok <www.tiktok.com/@nsthorngrave>, which is a Chinese social networking service that recently resolved significant problems with the U.S. Department of Justice <www.tinyurl.com/wasutn2d>.

The Beacon Society continues to administer the Fortescue Scholarship Honours Program, which offers a Doctorate in Sherlockiana, and their new mid-year Recertification Exam is available. Details about the Program and the Exam are at <www.beaconsociety.com/fortescue-scholarship-exams.html>.

Sherlock Hemlock is well known as one of the stars on Sesame Street, but there's another one: Sherlock Birdlock, who appeared in 1981. Jennie Patton found him (at 20:20) at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJa1yxc0Ewo>.

Will Murray died on Aug. 24. He was a talented author, ghost-writer, and pulp-fiction historian. He wrote a five-volume pastiche series *The Wild Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, and here's more about him in the obituary at <www.comicsbeat.com/will-murray-dead>.

Lenny Picker has noted that the late Patrick Allen (Aug 26 #3) played not only Col. Sebastian Moran in Granada's "The Empty House" (1986), but also Leon Sterndale in BBC Radio 4's "The Devil's Foot" (1994). And Simon Callow (Aug 6 #3), who will play Moriarty for the Bleak December Audio Theatre, not only has been Holmes on BBC Radio (1993) and Conan Doyle on stage (1997), but also Lestrade in Turner Network Television's "The Crucifer of Blood" (1991) and Holmes in BBC Radio 4's "The Seven-Per-Cent Solution" (1993). Callow also played Holmes in the BBC Radio 5 series "The Unopened Casebook of Sherlock Holmes" (1993). It's nice when good actors get work.

"Today is Sherlock Holmes' birthday," the British Museum announced on its Facebook page on Aug. 31 <www.tinyurl.com/mrcxx44b>, without any explanation as to why that date was chosen. They also posted an image of Conan Doyle's signature when he signed into the Reading Room in 1891.

The poster advertising Wombwell's Royal and Unrivalled Menagerie offered at Potter & Potter Auctions on Sept. 3 <www.tinyurl.com/3v4sh9fw> (Aug 26 #3) sold for \$390 (including the buyer's premium).

Bill Amos' three-act play "Sherlock Holmes and the Scarlet Avenger" (dramatizing "A Study in Scarlet") premiered in 2019 and was produced again in 2025, and his new one-act "A Scandal in Bohemia" will have its premiere at the Pennsylvania Theatre of Performing Arts in Hazelton, Pa., on Oct. 1-4 <www.ptpashows.org>. Both plays are available for licensing from Bill at <www.tinyurl.com/y9yp53fr>, where there's a sample from the script of the first play, and there are videos from both productions of the play at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/4st4rr78> and <www.tinyurl.com/bdfaamwd>.

Sep 26 #3 Otto Penzler's "American Mystery Classics" series now includes Marco Polo's *Fast Company* (312 pp., \$27.95), with a nice introduction by Nicholas A. Basbanes. The book isn't Sherlockian, nor was the author Harry Kurnitz (who used a pseudonym for the book) a member of the Baker Street Irregulars (which turns up with an AI search). You can read an excerpt from Basbanes' introduction at the Crime Reads web-site at <www.tinyurl.com/4fembyvc>.

In these days of mass media, one might forget that there's still local radio, and a grand example is BBC Radio Sheffield, which has a "Secret South Yorkshire" series, and on July 12 broadcast a six-minute segment in which Mark Jones reported on "Sheffield's Hidden Connection to Sherlock Holmes". You can listen to his report at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=5aKhGfrfWew>.

This year's annual "Worldwide Doyle" celebration at the Portsmouth Library featured Ollie Randall on "Doyle and Cricket: A Passion for the Game" and Anna Behrens on "Jean Leckie: From Mistress to Medium", and the videos are available (along with videos of previous speakers) at the Worldwide Doyle channel at YouTube <www.tinyurl.com/5e65cxb6> (scroll down for 2026).

National Public Radio reported on Sept. 3 <www.tinyurl.com/mr2zcezb> on a celebration in Cottage Grove, Ore., of the 100th anniversary of the Buster Keaton film "The General". The winner of a Buster Keaton look-alike contest was Liz Bartholomew, dressed as Keaton in "Sherlock Jr." (and there's a picture of her in costume in the article). Thanks to Karen Ellery for spotting the report.

"I've got a real unsolvable mystery, It would stun G. K. Chesterton, Foil Conan Doyle, Drive Sherlock Holmes to the wall, Stump Humphrey Bogart and Bacall." From "The Investigator's Song", written by Harold Rome and sung by Zero Mostel at a meeting of the Progressive Citizens of America at Madison Square Garden on Mar. 31, 1947. The song was published in *The People's Song Book* (1948), conveniently available at the Internet Archive at <www.archive.org/details/peoplessongbook0000hill/mode/1up>. A tip of the deerstalker to Howard Ostrom for reporting this discovery, and for finding a photograph of Elliott Roosevelt and Henry A. Wallace with Mostel in Howard's spectacular "A-Z of Sherlock Holmes Performers" (scroll down to, or search for, Mostel) <www.tinyurl.com/4t6sbner>.

What was the problem? "But who's gonna investigate the man who investigates the man who investigates him? Who's gonna investigate the man who investigates the man who investigates me?" Another tip of the deerstalker is offered to anyone who can find a recording of Zero Mostel singing the song in 1947.

Richard O'Sullivan died on Sept. 4. He began acting as an uncredited boy singing at Sunday school in "The Yellow Balloon" (1953) went on to a long list of credits in British film and television; perhaps best known for his role as Robin Tripp in the 1973-1976 ITV television series "Man About the House" (which inspired 1977-1984 ABC-TV series "Three's Company"), he also was Andrew Fenwick in "The Case of the Unlucky Gambler" (1955) in Ronald Howard television series "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes".

Sep 26 #4 "The event seems to have occurred about twelve o'clock in Regent Street, outside the Café Royal," a newspaper reported (in "The Illustrious Client"). You can still visit Café Royal, which in 2012 was expanded into the five-star Hotel Café Royal <www.hotelcaferoyal.com>, and dine at the Café Royal Grill. The hotel was the subject of an enthusiastic review at the Country Life web-site <www.tinyurl.com/4eu88dka>.

The Sherlockian and Doyleana offered at Potter & Potter Auctions on Sept. 10 <www.tinyurl.com/2765bwfp> attracted some enthusiastic bidders. Sidney Paget's waistcoat (used in an illustration in "A Scandal in Bohemia"), estimated at \$1,200-\$1,800, sold for \$2,040 (including the buyer's premium). "The Dying Detective" published in a YMCA booklet packet in 1918 (the very rare second American separate edition), estimated at \$1,000-\$1,500, sold for \$4,080. A first edition of Conan Doyle's play "The Speckled Band" was estimated at \$2,000-\$3,000 and sold for \$5,280. A first British edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* was estimated at \$5,000-\$7,000 and sold for \$6,000. A first British edition of *The Sign of Four* was estimated at \$6,000-\$8,000 and was sold for \$7,200. And the dust-jacketed first British edition of *The Lost World* (with Conan Doyle disguised as Challenger on the jacket cover), estimated at \$6,000-\$12,000, sold for \$9,600.

The Sherlock Holmes Society of London has launched its series of occasional webinars hosted by Mark Jones, with Laurence Pernet's tour of some of the treasures held in the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection in Lausanne. If you weren't able to tune in for the webinar, it's now available on-line at <www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyWQnOeHv_I>. Information about the next webinars (on Oct. 21 and Nov. 3) will be found at the Society's web-site at <www.sherlock-holmes.org.uk>.

Sherlock & Co., the podcast that retells the Canon as modern true-crimes, recently had a competition challenging people to write an episode in only one week, based on "The Speckled Band". Annabel Edmonds did not win the \$1000 prize, but you can read her script at <www.tinyurl.com/yc3nr48r>.

From 1977: Jennie Paton found the ABC-TV "My Dear Uncle Sherlock" in two parts at YouTube <www.youtube.com/watch?v=X7LGafYeKtc> (look to the right for a link to the second part); it's based on Hugh Pentecost's story (in Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, Jan. 1960), and stars Inga Swenson, whom some will recall as Irene Adler in the musical "Baker Street" (1964). She also was an honored guest at the annual dinner of the Baker Street Irregulars in 2005.

Further to the report (Apr 25 #4) that Dartmoor Prison in Princetown had been closed in 2024 after unsafely high levels of radon gas escaping from the underlying granite were discovered in the building (which is on land the government leases from Prince William's Duchy of Cornwall for an annual rent of £1.5 million a year), the Prince has announced plans to reinvest the money in grants intended to regenerate the struggling village and the surrounding moorland (the Prince said that the village is "the gateway to Dartmoor." The long-term lease runs through 2033, and it is unlikely that the prison will ever reopen. There's an image of the prison in a report from the BBC (June 25) <www.bbc.com/news/articles/czj8pm90xw3o>.

Sep 26 #5 If you're in the generation that grew up with Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce as Holmes and Watson, you probably will have seen each of them in other roles in other films, possibly in Alfred Hitchcock's "Rebecca" (1940), in which Nigel Bruce played Major Giles Lacy, at one point in a surprising and entertaining costume. The film is available at YouTube, and recommended (it stars Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine), but if you don't want to watch it you can see Bruce in costume in a stock photograph kindly noted by Ann Byerly Marlowe <www.tinyurl.com/yzx5asaa>.

Heritage Auctions will be offering some interesting Conan Doyle material in a "Rare Books" auction on Oct. 14 <www.tinyurl.com/48b9d3c4>.

June Wyndham Davies died on Sept. 9. She trained for the stage, worked as an actor, and joined the BBC as a director in 1965. In 1976 she began her career with Granada Television; she suggested Jeremy Brett for the role of Sherlock Holmes, and produced many of the Granada series. You'll find an excellent tribute to her at Scott Monty's "I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere" podcast <www.tinyurl.com/3sw2p65f>.

For fans of "The Lost World": you can listen to a dramatization broadcast by BBC Radio 4 in 1975 (with three 50-minute episodes) on-line (free) at the Times Past web-site <www.tinyurl.com/4mrvwreu>.

From 2012: Tom Tanaka has noted "The Mathematics Behind *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*, by Alain Goriely and Derek E. Moulton, published in the Apr. 2012 issue of SIAM News (the Newsjournal of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics) on-line at <www.tinyurl.com/yk8h4z7y>.

The Mark of Moriarty by Jack Anderson (New York: Crooked Lane, 2026; 372 pp., \$29.95) is a sequel to his *The Return of Moriarty* (Jul 25 #7). It's set in 1891 and 1892, after the battle at the Reichenbach; Holmes is dead, and Moriarty has survived and is in the United States, at work with young Dr. Clara Mendel in pursuit of a fortune in gold, in a complicated mystery with plenty of intrigue and surprises.

The British property web-site Rightmove is using an imaginative Sherlockian billboard to attract business <www.tinyurl.com/n8fb2x6t>.

The 2026 issue of the Baker Street Almanac, with news of world-wide Sherlockian and Doylean activities in 2025, scholarship, and articles (Jul 26 #4), is now available on-line, without charge, and as usual, recommended at <www.greenbag.org/almanacs/BS/2026.html>.

"Read Novel, Went Crazy and Died" was the headline on a United Press dispatch that ran in the Spokane Press on Apr. 13, 1909, noted at Ray Betzner's "Studies in Starrett" Facebook page <www.tinyurl.com/2n67fpar>. The novel was *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, and Ray kindly has reprinted the dispatch. There's more to the story, of course, as you will find in Fred Shoken's addition to the thread. There are many comments (not at all unusual for Facebook pages), and eventually Fred Shoken posted a link to articles that appeared in the Boston Globe and Boston Post on Apr. 7, 1909, and an image of the death certificate of the late Marcus J. Long.

Sep 26 #6 The film "Sherlock Holmes: Mare of the Night" (2025), briefly in selected theaters, is now streaming on Prime Video, starring Les Best (Sherlock Holmes), Jonathan Cato Rich (Dr. John Watson), and Benjamin Regan (Sir Arthur Conan Doyle). Written and directed by CJ Goodwyn, it's long (129 minutes), dark, sinister, horrific, macabre, and not for the faint-hearted. A sequel ("Sherlock Holmes: The Fall of Watson") released in selected theaters on Sept. 18, likely will stream next year.

PBS Digital Studios has launched "Plotlines", a new 15-minute series that "explores storytelling trends and tropes in literature and beyond." Look sharp for a very brief glimpse of Sherlock Holmes (at 0:54) in the trailer <www.youtube.com/watch?v=gT3GyrqoQ3Y>. You can watch "Plotlines" at the PBS Storied channel at YouTube <www.youtube.com/@pbsstoried>.

The Doyly Planet, a colorful and informative on-line newsletter published daily, in French and English, by Thierry Saint-Joanis and Alexis Barquin for the Société Sherlock Holmes de France, is now available to everyone, at <www.doyly-planet.com>. There is an archive of every issue since the newsletter was launched on Apr. 17, and they're well worth attention.

Paul Spiring has reported that a comfortable two-bedroom cottage in Ippelpen is for sale for £260,000 <www.tinyurl.com/mr46fspa>, and that it once was the home of Harry Baskerville, until he married in 1894. In 1901 he drove the coach when Fletcher Robinson took Conan Doyle on a tour of Devon, and Conan Doyle borrowed the coachman's family name for a book. There is more about Harry, and the tour, in *On the Trail of Arthur Conan Doyle: An Illustrated Devon Tour*, the book that Paul co-authored with Brian Pugh (Apr 08 #4).

Fred Taraba (at Taraba Illustration Art) offers an attractive (but non-Sherlockian) piece of original artwork by Frederic Dorr Steele that shows a couple relaxing near a golf course (it was an illustration for Sandra Alexander's "According to Otto" in the May 27, 1920, issue of Collier's (for \$1,250 including domestic shipping). You can ask Fred for an image <fbtaraba@gmail.com>.

"Sherlock Holmes: The Exhibition", previously in Montréal (Jan 26 #4) and now in Prague through Jan. 10 <www.sherlockholmespraha.cz/en_us>, will be available for bookings at other sites in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia <www.tinyurl.com/2krd68wh>. Anyone interested should contact the Exhibits Development Group <www.exhiitsdevelopment.com>.

The Sept. issue of the newsletter from the Friends of the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota offers curator Erin McBrien's report that she has submitted a proposal to the university's Digital Library Services to digitize the Jerry Margolin Sherlockian Art Collection and the Sonia Fetherston Sherlockian Greeting Card Collection; this is the first step toward making the material readily available on-line at the U-Media web-site <<https://umedia.lib.umn.edu>>. There's much more news from and about the Collections, and copies of the newsletter are available from Erin McBrien (#15-G Elmer L. Andersen Library, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455 <emcbrien@umn.edu>.

Sep 26 #7 The new microdrama "Moriarty Rising: A Sherlock Holmes Tale" will debut at the ALZA Festival in New York City on Oct. 16, the ComingSoon web-site reported on Sept. 23 <www.tinyurl.com/34cnc8aa>. A microdrama is a type of short Internet series with 20 to 100 brief episodes in each series. It will star Ford Leland as Sherlock Holmes, J. Ciaran Cresswell as John Watson, and Ethan Vaughan as James Moriarty, and is to be released in dual format (also as a stand-alone feature).

Theatrics: Patrick Prior's new "Mrs. Penclosa" (inspired by Conan Doyle's "The Parasite") is on at the Venture Theatre in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leics., through Oct. 3 <www.ashbyventuretheatre.org.uk>.

Jeffrey Hatcher's "Holmes and Watson" is running at the Chapin Theatre in Chapin, S.C., through Oct. 11 <www.chapintheatre.org>.

David Taylor Little's new "Holmes Is Where the Heart Is" will be produced at Ball State University's Art and Journalism Building in Muncie, Ind., on Oct. 1-8 <www.tinyurl.com/ammj3sw2>.

Kate Hamill's "Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson-Apt. 2B" is due at the Navesink Library in Atlantic Highlands, N.J., Oct. 2-10 <www.tinyurl.com/5rwhmexv>.

Ben Lovins' new "Sherlock Holmes: A Study in Scarlet" is due at the Winslow Public Hall in Winslow, Bucks., Oct. 8-10 <www.windslowplayers.co.uk>.

"The Hound of the Baskervilles" (by Steven Canny and John Nicholson) will be produced at the Arnolfini in Bristol, Oct. 1-3 <www.arnolfini.org.uk>. It also will be produced at the King's Head Theatre in London, Oct. 6-10 <www.kingsheadtheatre.com>; and at the Sheffield Library Theatre in Sheffield, S. Yorks., Oct. 13-17 <www.tudorplayers.net>; and at the Corn Exchange in Witney, Oxon., Oct. 29-31 <www.witneydrama.co.uk>.

Brian Lore Evans' "The Baker Street Irregulars: A Scandal in Bohemia" will be produced at the Harwich Junior Theatre in West Harwich, Mass., Oct. 16-Nov. 8 <www.capecordtheatrecompany.org>.

Ken Ludwig's "Baskerville" will be produced at the Community Players in Beatrice, Neb., Oct. 16-25 <www.beatricecommunityplayers.com>.

Eric Coble's "Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars" will be performed at the Strauss Youth Academy for the Arts, in Monroe, La., Oct. 22-31 <syaaonline.com>.

Tim Kelly's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" will be produced at the Watermark in Ivybridge, Devon., Oct. 23-24 <www.ivybridgewatermark.co.uk>.

"Houdini Speaks to the Living" (by Beth Burns and Patrick Terry) will be performed at the Penfold Theatre Company in Round Rock, Tex., Oct. 28-31 <www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/houdini-speaks-to-the-living>.

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