

GROANS, CRIES AND BLEATINGS

THE OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF THE BAKER STREET BREAKFAST CLUB

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www.bakerstreetbreakfastclub.org

“Dear me!” said he, turning over the pages. “What a chorus of groans, cries and bleatings! What a ragbag of singular happenings! But surely the most valuable hunting ground that was ever given a student of the unusual.” -- Sherlock Holmes, “The Red Circle”

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Tonga's Tidbits

Thanks to Leslie Klinger, Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson are in the public domain as are all the stories and characters written before 1923. This is welcome news to Sherlockians....Seasons 4 and 5 of *Sherlock* are already planned and Season 3 of *Elementary* seems set as well. Reports are that there will be a two year delay in both the fourth and fifth seasons of *Sherlock*....Douglas Wilmer celebrated his 94th birthday this past January 8. We remember meeting him briefly at the cocktail party on the Tower Bridge on the weekend of the dedication of the Sherlock Holmes statue outside the Baker Street station...There is a Benedict Cumberbatch coloring book....Shakespeare and Company may produce *Sherlock Holmes and the Jersey Lily* in either 2015 or 2016...Plans are afoot to celebrate the Baker Street Breakfast Club 25th anniversary in 2015 by special meetings each month and a possible trip to London.

***A LONG EVENING WITH
HOLMES***

by William P. Schweickert, BSI

When the world closes in with its
worries and cares
And my problems and headaches are
coming in pairs
I just climb in my mind up those
seventeen stairs
And spend a long evening with Holmes.

The good Doctor greets me and motions
me in
Holmes grasps my hand and lays down
his violin
Then we sit by the fire and sip a tall gin
*When I spend a long evening with
Holmes.*

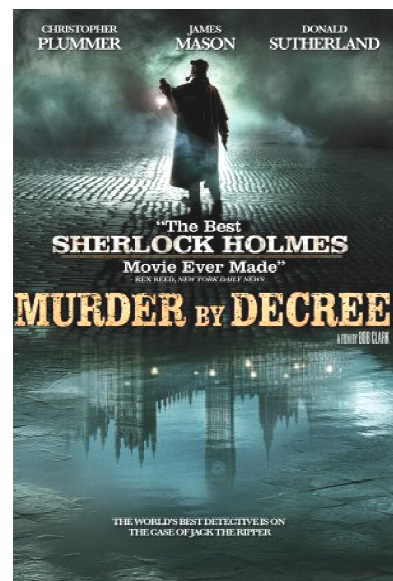
And while we're discussing his cases
galore
If I'm lucky there comes a loud knock on
the door
In stumbles a client, head splattered with
gore

*When I spend a long evening with
Holmes.*

Watson binds up the client's poor face
While Holmes soon extracts all the facts
of the case
Then off in a hansom to Brixton we race
*When I spend a long evening with
Holmes.*

The Adventure is solved, Holmes makes
it all right
So back to the lodgings by dawn's early
light
And a breakfast by Hudson to wind up
the night
*When I spend a long evening with
Holmes.*

So the modern rat race can't keep me in a
cage
I have a passport to a far better age
As close as my bookcase, as near as a
page
I can spend a long evening with Holmes.



Not Better, Just Different

By Thomas Kreutz

So the scene is early Christmas week and I'm having (what I hope will become an annual event) lunch with two very good friends around mid-December. The weather is cold and the sun is bright and we sit inside the Mt. Anthony Country Club. Wine is served and we ignore the menus and spend some time catching-up on the past months since we last were together.

Both my luncheon companions are avid readers, one an "expert" on mysteries, the second, like me, tends to be a general reader with a wide range of interests. Truth be told, I think both of these ladies are far more well read than I will ever be. Something you just know instinctively when you spend time with very, very intelligent people.

I was making conversation and mentioned some of the media I was spending time with since our recent subscription to Netflix. The price per hour of programming seemed much less expensive than my local cable service and for the first time in a long time, we were having fun with on-line media.

I guess I made a statement that I thought the British mysteries were much better than what was generally available on American TV. Well, it was suggested that I write an article on that topic for this newsletter.

Funny, when you try to give examples of the premises, you start to consider how little you know and appreciate how expert and well read the audience for the topic might be. So, I had to step back and consider that premise.

What I discovered was that the British mystery programming was probably not "better" than the U.S. offerings, just more interesting to me. I had a wonderful

experience during my college years and was able to spend some time studying at Cambridge. Living in a college that was founded in 1432 had some benefits for a kid who grew up in the U.S. To me, every brick, stone and paver seemed to reflect history worthy of deep respect. My first and lasting impression was that very few British people actually speak BBC English. The regional accents and the socio-economic levels are an education in themselves.

Cambridge is located a little north and east of London and is located in an area of flat swampy land stretching to the northeast out to the North Sea. I've been told the area was a swamp until drained by Dutch engineers, a process which started as early as the fifteenth century.

Walking home late at night down narrow streets under minimal street lighting we had time to appreciate the dense fog that inhabits swampy areas during most of the year. Long grey shadows, the sheen on damp stone wavers as the cold, wet air settles against cold stone. The sound of silence that seems to flow down the lanes and around the corner late at night when all those who should be asleep have long since turned down their lights and safely tucked into their beds for a long winter's sleep.

For those of us who were not from this part of the world, it was great to be out and just walk the streets and drink in the difference from our U.S. environments. I guess I came to the conclusion that I couldn't make the case for British programming being much better than U.S. programming, just that it was more interesting to me.

I've always enjoyed travel and took several tasks with the sole intention of world travel – all of it! So perhaps the best contribution I can make to the readers of this newsletter is

to suggest that there are many ways to enjoy “travel in the mind” through a wide range of mystery literature to which few of us have been exposed. I traveled for twenty years and spent time looking for English language books to keep me company. History, biography and fiction were helpful to understanding the people and culture where I went on business. I guess I didn’t appreciate how many very good mystery writers were available.

Hope you find some of these suggestions worthwhile and thank you for letting me share my thoughts.



Italy

[Grace Brophy](#) --- Alessandro Cenni series, commissario, state police of Umbria, Italy
[Andrea Camilleri](#) --- Inspector Montalbano series, detective, Sicily
[Michael Dibdin](#) ---- Aurelio Zen series, Italian police inspector, various Italian locations
[Conor Fitzgerald](#) -- Alec Blume, ex-pat American and Commissario of Police, Rome
[Michele Giuttari](#) - Michele Ferrara, Squadra Mobile, Florence, Italy
[David Hewson](#) ---- Nic Costa series, police detective, Rome, Italy
[Christobel Kent](#) - Sandro Cellini, cop turned PI, Florence, Italy
[Donna Leon](#) ---Guido Brunetti series, police inspector Venice
[Carlo Lucarelli](#) ---- Commissario De Luca series, policeman in post-Mussolini Italy
[Carlo Lucarelli](#) - Grazia Negro series, police inspector, Bologna

[Beverle Graves Myers](#) ---- Tito Amato series, castrato opera singer, 18th century Venice
[Magdalen Nabb](#) --- Salvatore Guarnaccia series, Carabinieri Marshall, Florence
[John Maddox Roberts](#) - Decius Caecillius Metellus, sleuth in ancient Rome
[Steven Saylor](#) - Gordianus the Finder, an early PI in ancient Rome in the time of Caesar
[Valerio Varesi](#) - Commissario Soneri, Parma, Italy
[Marco Vichi](#) - Inspector Bordelli, Florence in the '60s
[Jan Merete Weiss](#) - Natalia Monte, police captain, Naples, Italy/France/Belgium

France

[Cara Black](#) - Aimee LeDuc series, Franco-American PI in Paris---8 books
[Michael Bond](#) - Monsieur Pamplemousse series, French culinary critic
[Alexander Campion](#) - Capucine Tellier, police woman married to food critic, Paris
[Claude Izner](#) - Victor Legris, bookseller in 19th century Paris
[Gerald Jay](#) - Inspector Paul Mazarelle, Paris cop now in the Dordogne region
[M.L. Longworth](#) - Antoine Verlaque, magistrate Aix-en-Provence
[Adrian Magson](#) - Inspector Lucas Rocco, 1960s Picardie France
[Peter May](#) - Enzo MacLeod series, Scottish forensic scientist, Toulouse, France
[Georges Simenon](#) - Maigret series, police detective, Paris, France---220 mysteries
[Peter Steiner](#)- Louis Morgan and Jean Renard, retired CIA agent and village cop in the south of France
[Fred Vargas](#) - Det. Commissaire Jean-Baptiste Adamsberg series, Paris, France
[Martin Walker](#) - Bruno Courreges, chief of police, south of France
[Michelle Wan](#) - Mara Dunn series, sleuth, Dordogne

Germany and Austria

[Pieter Aspe](#) - Inspector Pieter Van, Bruges Belgium Germany & Austria
[Jakob Arjouni](#) - Turkish-German PI Kemal Kayankaya

[Rebecca Cantrell](#) - Hannah Vogel, journalist in pre-war Berlin
[David Downing](#) - John Russell, Anglo-American journalist in pre-war Berlin
[Philip Kerr](#) - Bernie Gunther, PI in pre and post-war Germany
[Jonathan Rabb](#) - Nicolai Hoffner, police detective, pre-war Berlin
[Morley Torgov](#) - Herman Preiss, police inspector 1868 Munich
[Wolf Haas](#) - Simon Brenner, ex-cop, Vienna Austria
[Oliver Potzsch](#) - Jakob Kuisly, town hangman and his daughter Magdalena, 16th century Bavaria

Scandinavia

[Jussi Adler-Olsen](#) - Inspector Carl Mork, cold case squad, Copenhagen, Denmark
[Karin Alvtegen](#) - Stand-alone crime novels, Sweden
[Blaedel, Sara](#) - Louise Rick, Detective Inspector Copenhagen, Denmark
[K.O. Dahl](#) - Frank Froelich, detective inspector Oslo, Norway
[Ake Edwardson](#) - Erik Winter series, chief inspector, Gotesborg, Sweden
[Kjell Eriksson](#) - Ann Lindell series, Police inspector, Libro, Sweden
[Karin Fossum](#) - Konrad Sejer series, police inspector, Norway
[Anne Holt](#) - Hanne Wilhelmsen series, police detective Oslo, Norway
[Anne Holt](#) - Joanna Vik and Adam Stubo series, former FBI profiler and police chief, Oslo Norway
[Matti Joensuu](#) - Timo Harjunpaa, detective sergeant, Helsinki, Finland
[Lene Kaaberbol](#) - Nina Borg, nurse, Copenhagen Denmark
[Mons Kallentoft](#) - Malin Fors, policewoman, Fjallbacka, Sweden
[Lars Kepler](#) - Detective Inspector Joona Linna, Tumba, Sweden
[Camilla Lackberg](#) - Patrik Hedstrom, detective, Fjallbacka, Sweden
[Asa Larsson](#) - Rebecka Martinsson series, tax attorney, Sweden
[Stieg Larsson](#) - Hacker Lisbeth Salander and journalist Mikail Blomkvist, Stockholm, Sweden

[Henning Mankell](#) - Kurt Wallander series, police detective, Sweden and others
[Liza Marklund](#) - Annika Bengtzon, reporter, Sweden
[Jo Nesbo](#) - Police inspector Harry Hole, Oslo, Norway
[Hakan Nesser](#) - Inspector Van Veeteren series, detective inspector, in a country much like Sweden
[Kristina Ohlsson](#) - Alex Recht, Swedish National Police, Stockholm, Sweden
[Anders Roslund](#) - Crime novels set in Stockholm, Sweden
[Yrsa Sigurdardottir](#) - Lawyer Thora Gudmundsdorrrir, Reykjavik, Iceland
[James Thompson](#) - Kari Vaara, police inspector Finland
[Maj Sjowall and Per Wahloo](#) - Martin Beck, police detective, Sweden
[Helene Tursten](#) - Inspector Irene Huss, Goteborg, Sweden
[Jan Costin Wagner](#) - Detective Kimmo Joenta, Turku, Finland

Other European Destinations

[Michael Genelin](#) - Jana Martinova, police commander, Bratislava, Slovenia
[Vilmos Kondor](#) - Mystery set in pre-war Budapest Hungary
[Anne Zouroudi](#) - Hermes Diaktoros, enigmatic detective, Athens, Greece
[Jeffrey Siger](#) - Andreas Kalidis, Chief Inspector, Greek National Police
[Janwillem VandeWetering](#) - Grijpstra and de Gier, Amsterdam cops

Asia

[John Burdett](#) - Sonchai Jitpleecheep, police detective Bangkok, Thailand
[James Church](#) -- Inspector O series, North Korean police detective
[Colin Cotterill](#) - Siri Paiboun, coroner in mid-seventies Laos
[Colin Cotterill](#) - Jimm Juree, crime reporter rural Thailand
[Shamini Flint](#) - Inspector Singh, Singapore
[Timothy Hallinan](#) -- Poke Rafferty series, Bangkok, Thailand
[Keigo Higashino](#) - Detective Galileo, Tokyo, Japan

[Natsuo Kirino](#) - Various stand-alone crime novels
[Diane Wei Liang](#) - PI Mei Wang, Beijing, China
 Martin Limon - George Sueno & Ernie Bascom, Army CID investigators, South Korea
[Peter May](#) - Li Yan and Margaret series, Chinese police detective and American forensic pathologist, Beijing, China
[Sujata Massey](#) - Rei Shimura series, Japanese American antiques dealer
[Christopher G. Moore](#) - American expat PI Vincent Calvino, Bangkok Thailand
[I. J. Parker](#) - Akitada Sugawara series, civil servant turned sleuth, feudal Japan
[Eliot Pattison](#) -- Shahn Tao Yun series, disgraced Chinese policeman in Tibet
[David Rotenberg](#) - Zhong Fan series, homicide detective, Shanghai, China
[Lisa See](#) - Liu Holan series, police detective, Beijing, China
[Yu, Ovidia](#) - Singapore restaurant owner, Auntie Lee
[Nuryi Vittachi](#) - C.F. Wong, Feng Shui consultant, Singapore
[Michael Walters](#) - Inspector Nergui series, Serious Crimes Unit, Mongolia China
[Qiu Xiaolong](#) - Chen Cao series, Shanghai police inspector
 Expedition to Egypt, the Middle East, Turkey and India
[Esmahan Aykol](#) - Kati Hirschel, mystery bookstore owner, Istanbul, Turkey
[Paul Doherty](#) - Amerotke series, Chief Judge of 18th Dynasty Egypt
[Kishwar Desai](#) - Simran Singh, social worker, Punjab India
[Nick Drake](#) - Rahotep, detective dynastic Egypt
[Zoe Ferraris](#) - Katya Hijazi, medical examiner, Jidda Saudi Arabia
[Batya Gur](#) - Michael Ohayon, police detective Israel
[Tarquin Hall](#) - Indian PI Vish Puri
[Joseph Kanon](#) - Stand-alones; settings include Germany, Venice and Istanbul
[Barbara Nadel](#) - Inspector Cetik Ikmen, Istanbul, Turkey
[Michael Pearce](#) - Gareth Owen series, Mamur Zapt in 1905 Cairo Egypt--WWI
[Elizabeth Peters](#) - Amelia Peabody series, Edwardian archaeologist, Egypt
[Mary Reed](#) - John the Eunuch series, Lord Chamberlain to Justinian 6th Cent Constantinople

[Matt Beynon Rees](#) - Omar Yuseff, schoolteacher, Bethlehem, West Bank
[Mehmet Murat Somer](#) - Drag queen sleuth, Istanbul, Turkey
[Paul Sussman](#) - Yusuf Khalifa series, Inspector, Luxor, Egypt
[Jenny White](#) - Kamil Pasha, magistrate in 19th century Istanbul, Turkey

Africa

[Suzanne Arruda](#) - Jade del Cameron, photojournalist, 1920's East Africa
[Nick Brownlee](#) - Jake and Jouma, retired Scotland Yard detective and detective, Mombasa, Kenya
[Nina Darnton](#) - Stand alone set in Nigeria
[Adimchinma Ibe](#) - Nigerian detective Peterside
[Jassy Mackenzie](#) - PI Jade DeJong, Johannesburg, South Africa
[James McClure](#) - Kramer and Zondi series, a white detective and his Bantu sergeant in apartheid South Africa
[Deon Meyer](#) - Several stand-alone crime novels set in South Africa
[Tamar Myers](#) - Missionary Amanda Brown, 1950's Belgian Congo
[Malla Nunn](#) - 1950s South African cop Emmanuel Cooper
[Kwei Quartey](#) - Inspector Darko Dawson, Ghana
[Alexander McCall Smith](#) - Well known for his No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency series
[Roger Smith](#) - Set in Capetown, South Africa
[Michael Stanley](#) - David "Kubu" Bengu, assistant superintendent, Botswana
[Robert Wilson](#) - Robert Medway, fixer, East Africa

Russia

[Boris Akunin](#) - Sister Pelagia series, Russian Orthodox nun, czarist Russia
[Boris Akunin](#) - Erast Fandorin series, suave, young policeman in Tsarist Russia
[Sam Eastland](#) - Inspector Pekkala, czarist-era cop in 1930's Stalinist Russia
[Brent Ghelfi](#) - Alexei Volkovoy series, Russian undercover agent
[Andrey Kurkov](#) - Aspiring writer Viktor Zolotaryov and his penguin Misha, Kiev, Russia
[R. N. Morris](#) - Porfiry Petrovich, Czarist-era policeman

[William Ryan](#) - Alexei Korolev, policeman in Stalin-era Moscow

[Martin Cruz Smith](#) - Arkady Renko series, police detective, Moscow, Russia

Spanish Sojourn

[P.J. Brooke](#) - Max Romero, inspector, Granada, Spain

[Arturo Perez-Reverte](#) - Diego Alatriste series, swordsman, 17th century Spain

[Rebecca Pawel](#) - Carlos Tejada series, cop in the Guardia Civil, civil war-era Spain

[Alicia Gimenez-Bartlett](#) - Petra Delicado series, police detective, Barcelona, Spain

[Robert Wilson](#) - Javier Falcon series, policeman, Seville, Spain

[Manuel Vazquez Montalban](#) - Pepe Carvalho, PI, Barcelona

South of the U.S.

[Annamaria Alfieeri](#) - Two historical mysteries set in Paraguay and Bolivia

[Lisa Brackmann](#) - Stand-alone set in Mexico

[Hilary Davidson](#) - Travel writer Lily Moore, 2nd book set in Peru

[Joan Druett](#) - Wiki Coffin series, Pacific Islander linguist, 1838 Exploring Expedition

[Luiz Alfredo Garcia-Roza](#) - Inspector Espinosa series, police detective, Rio de Janeiro,

[Leighton Gage](#) - Mario Silva series, Chief Inspector, Federal Police, Brazil

The Book of Murder, stand-alone by international bestseller [Guillermo Martinez](#)

[Leonardo Padura](#) - Mario Conde series, police lieutenant, Havana, Cuba

[Steven Torres](#) - Luis Gonzalo, sheriff of Angustias, Puerto Rico

Australia

[Peter Corris](#) - Cliff Hardy series, Australian

PI [Garry Disher](#) - Hal Challis series, Detective inspector, Melbourne, Australia

[Garry Disher](#) - Bank robber Wyatt

[Kerry Greenwood](#) - Phryne Fisher series, '20's sleuth, Australia

[Kerry Greenwood](#) - Corinna Chapman series, bakery owner, Melbourne, Australia

[Adrian Hyland](#) - Emily Tempest series, half-Aboriginal tribal police officer

[Peter Temple](#) - Melbourne homicide cop Joe Cashin

Ireland

[Benjamin Black](#) - Quirke series, pathologist, Dublin, Ireland in the '50s

[Ken Bruen](#) - Jack Taylor series, ex-cop, Galway Ireland

[Tana French](#) - Cassie Maddox series, police detective, Dublin Ireland

[Cora Harrison](#) - Mara the judge, 16th century Ireland

[Declan Hughes](#) - Edward Loy series, PI, Dublin, Ireland

[Brian McGilloway](#) - Benedict Devlin series, Garda Inspector, Ireland

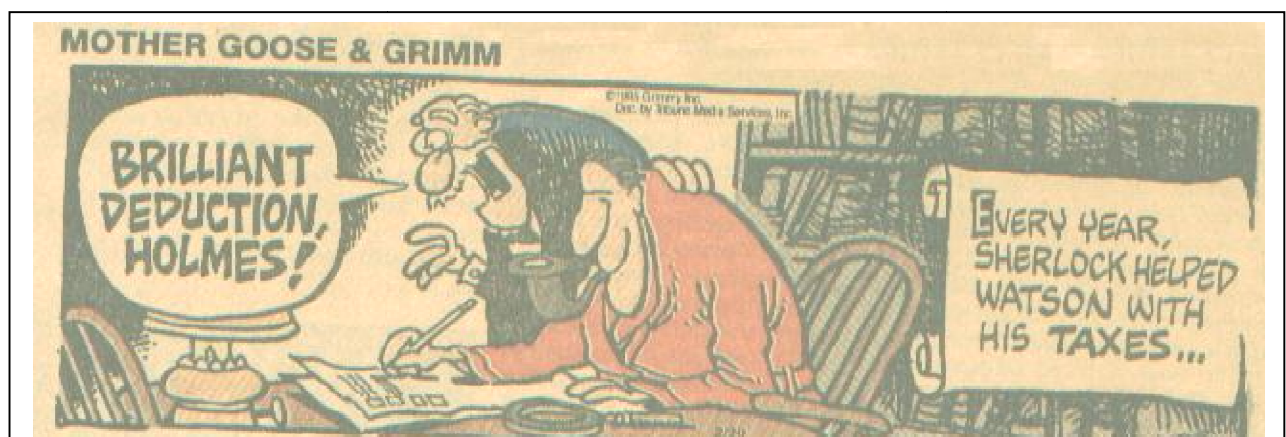
[Adrian McKinty](#) - Michael Forsythe series, Irish mercenary

[Stuart Neville](#) - Several interconnected books set in Northern Ireland

[Gerard O'Donovan](#) - Mike Mulcahey, det. insp., Dublin Ireland

[Ian Sansom](#) - Israel Armstrong series, bookmobile librarian

[Peter Tremayne](#) - Sister Fidelma series, 7th Century Irish Nun, Ireland



I Hear of Sherlock Everywhere Department

AS SHERLOCK Holmes told Watson, it is sometimes the fact the dog does not bark in the night that is the big clue. This week the European Central Bank (ECB) did not cut interest rates as the markets had expected.

Instead, Mario Draghi, ECB president, solemnly lectured everyone that Europe was not falling into the black hole of deflation that swallowed the Japanese economy in the 1990s, so there was absolutely no need to ease monetary policy. “We have to dispense with this idea of deflation,” he declared.

The Scotsman, Feb. 8, 2014

Woman receives FedEx box of strangers' sensitive documents

By Mike Krumboltz, Yahoo [News](#)

Paging Sherlock Holmes. Your talents of deduction are needed to help solve the mystery of a woman who says she received a FedEx box full of strangers' credit card information and medical records.

Political Chat: The Dog That Didn't Bark

OPB | March 7, 2014 11:32 a.m. | [Portland](#)

Tim Manickam

This was a week in politics when, as [Sherlock Holmes](#) might have said, a number of dogs did not bark – or if they did, most of us couldn't hear them.

[Literary](#) allusions aside, Governor Kitzhaber announced that he had [negotiated](#) an initiative truce between labor and management.

Has the real Sherlock Holmes been deduced?

A new biography of a leading Victorian detective suggests he helped inspire Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's creation

By [Jasper Copping](#)

9:30PM GMT 15 Mar 2014 The Telegraph
He enthralled Victorian England with his unrivalled skill at cracking cases, based on astute logical reasoning and grasp of forensic science, not to mention a mastery of disguises and encyclopedic knowledge of the criminal underclass.

But this detective was not Sherlock Holmes but a real life investigator, Jerome Caminada, who, new research suggests, helped inspire Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's celebrated hero. A biography of Caminada out this month reveals a series of striking similarities between him and the fictional character, in terms of their unorthodox methods and character. It also establishes strong echoes between the real detective's cases and plot lines used by Doyle.

The author, Angela Buckley, has even established that Caminada's casework involved tackling an alluring and talented criminal, similar to Irene Adler, and that the detective even had a Moriarty-like nemesis who plagued him over the course of several cases until a final, dramatic confrontation.

Baker Street Irregulars Weekend January 2014 – New York City by Walt Colby

The BSI Weekend starts early with the ASH Wednesday Dinner and continues through the Sunday Brunch, also sponsored by the Adventuresses of Sherlock Holmes. I myself started Thursday evening with the charity ball sponsored by the Baker Street Babes.

“The Daintiest Thing Under a Bonnet” benefits the Wounded Warriors Project and is an excellent costume event capped with an auction.



The William Gillette Memorial Luncheon was held Friday at Moran's Chelsea Restaurant, a convivial event in a pleasant period establishment.



This event is a propitious time to meet and dine with eminent Sherlockians. Later that afternoon I took advantage of BSI Yale Club privileges and had a drink in the Presidents Room with noted publisher George Vanderburgh.



Saturday morning the Beacon Society meeting included a puppet show.



The Saturday afternoon BSI Reception was held at the Yale Club. While the pre-lunch socializing was going on, I clambered up to the podium and captured a bit of a birds-eye view.



There are another half a dozen great events. Do plan to go next year and sign up early since events do sell out.

Kensington Palace Transformed

By Abby Shapiro

This past May (2013) I traveled to London to meet my daughter who was studying in Europe. We spent five days in the city and one of the highlights of our trip was the newly refurbished Kensington Palace and Gardens. I do not speak of the current royal apartments, but of the public areas which received an extensive £12 million transformation before reopening in 2012.



We had found a reasonably priced hotel in Bayswater so it was a short walk through Lancaster Gate into Hyde Park and then across to the palace. Along the way we passed Round Pond and many beautiful gardens. Approaching the palace, which is only accessible by entering the park, we encountered the statue of young Queen Victoria, sculpted by her daughter Princess Louise, in a place of prominence near the

entrance. To our right were the newly reconstructed gardens and grounds. And yes the flowers were all in bloom. On the far side of the formal gardens is The Orangery a new café which overlooks both the palace and the park. Afternoon tea anyone?

Entering the palace through the arched gate, the Diamond Jubilee Loggia, we found ourselves in the White Court where we were greeted by the sight of an enormous contemporary sculpture entitled Luminous Lace. After purchasing tickets, we made our way upstairs to the first floor which is a permanent exhibit entitled Victoria Revealed. The exhibit uses excerpts from her daily journals to lead you through a chronicle of her life. You are drawn into her world in charming and very personal ways. Enter the Red Room where she began her monarchy at 18 and her quoted words describing that moment are painted on the wall. Open a



drawer in her writing desk and a book light comes on illuminating a passage from her journal about her first meeting with Albert. There is an incredible recreation of the Crystal Palace, translucent and three-dimensional using a stage design style of hanging fabric panels. Looking into it we were entranced with the depth and realism, although the magic was broken briefly when the head of a much younger visitor popped up between the panels; interactive and engaging

for all ages. The exhibit continues room by room through the years following Albert's death until her death in 1901. I left with a deeper understanding of Victoria and Albert and the mark they left on the world.

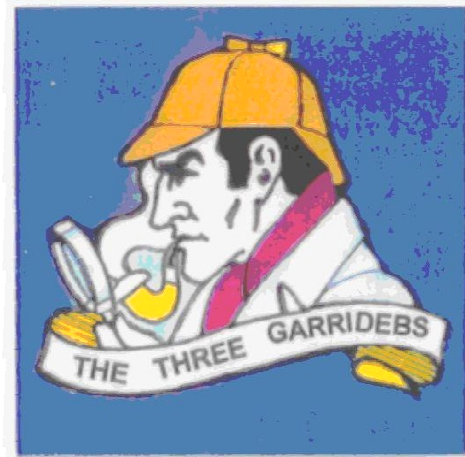
Heading upstairs to the next level were the Kings and Queens Apartments. We were no longer in Victoria's world but the world of the monarchs who were her predecessors, the late Stuarts and early Georgians. I am someone who enjoys tracing the monarchy through the years as I try to understand the intricacies and intimacies that led to power. The Queen's Gallery was all I could want. The exhibits were once again factual and personal. Much of it was redesigned by theatrical designers. Through their interesting treatment of the exhibits in these chambers it was is easy to get a taste of royal life in the palace as well. Stop by a window and as you read the placard about the courtiers who passed the time in the window seat suddenly you hear those courtiers gossiping as they wait in attendance to royalty.

We entered a room in the Kings Apartments that was a gaming room and two young men dressed in period costume approached us and asked if we wanted to play a card game, a favorite of one of the Georges (I or II I can't remember which) Although I also cannot remember the name of the game, it involved money, small coins, and it resembled many contemporary card games. After much boasting and flirtation with my daughter, the four of us played four hands. I turned out to be the big winner, to my surprise, a royal straight flush no doubt rigged for tourist pleasure.

Returning to the main floor we paused briefly to sit in an enormous reclined seat where visitors can relax and read random facts about the monarchy written in a spiral on the ceiling. We then visited the Princess Diana

exhibit which is also housed on the main floor. Having been brought forward to the 20th century we felt ready to step back out into the 21st. Leaving the palace we saw that the weather was not going to cooperate. We left without risking a further wet exploration of the gardens. After a pause for a photo op at the glittering Golden Gates, formerly the main entrance, we headed south to the Albert Memorial to complete our day in Victoria and Albert's world.

My Visit with The Three Garridebs by Jeff Bradway



On Saturday, February 1, I got in my car to take the 2-½ hour ride south from Pittsfield to the Hastings-on-Hudson Public Library to attend a meeting of The Three Garridebs of Westchester County, New York.

This is a very active group, begun in 1973 with the merger of three earlier groups. Currently the officers of the Garridebs are by Ben and Sue Vizoskie, Dante Torrese and Jeanne Nolan, and drawing inspiration from the story, their titles are, respectively, Alexander Hamilton Garrideb, Howard Garrideb, John Garrideb and Nathan Garrideb. Ben, Sue and Dante are all members of the Baker Street Irregulars, as are

a number of the group's other members. The Garridebs meet about six times a year, from September to May.

I first began attending meetings of the Garridebs about 2000 when I lived in southern Connecticut. In July 2004, I received my investiture in the group, "An Affidavit of Existence." All Garridebs investitures are taken from the story and have some connection with the recipient. In the story Killer Evans, aka John Garrideb, lures Nathan Garrideb out of his home on a wild goose chase to obtain an affidavit of existence for the fictional Howard Garrideb. My investiture was a reference to the upcoming arrival of my elder son, Ben – and the birth certificate or affidavit of existence we would obtain for him.

There were about twenty people in attendance at the February meeting. To begin with, there were various announcements, including the death of a member of long-standing, as well as news of the investiture into the Baker Street Irregulars of some of the members present. Then, various toasts were given by members to "Watson's Second Wife," "Mycroft Holmes," and others. This was followed by a 20-question quiz on the story of the day, "The Final Problem."

There were two papers presented. The first was given by Tony Czarnecki, entitled "Reichenbach: The Death of Holmes and the Birth of Tourism," about Arthur Conan Doyle's contributions to the Swiss tourist trade, both in the creation of a pilgrimage spot at Meiringen and in his early taking-up of alpine skiing.

Then Michael Pollak gave a paper on what really happened at the Reichenbach Falls; he had a number of questions about Professor Moriarty's odd choices and behavior that day, finally concluding that it was not actually the

Professor, but his brother, the station master, who fought with Holmes. Because Michael's paper referred to Colonel Sebastian Moran as Moriarty's henchman, Joseph Moran, whose investiture in the BSI is "Sir Augustus Moran," rose to give a rebuttal. Joe has been fighting a perennial battle with Sherlockians about his namesake's true role in the Canon. His thesis is that Colonel had infiltrated Moriarty's gang at the behest of Mycroft in order to break it up. The whole depiction of Moran in Watson's narratives was "cover" for his persona. In fact Colonel Sebastian Moran was Agent 001 to Mycroft's M in Her Majesty's Secret Service.

After a break during which we sang "Happy Birthday" to Sherlock Holmes – it's his 160th this year! – we resumed with some Show-and-Tell from members. Perhaps the most unusual item presented was my own, a book called *I Remember Jimmy*, a biography of Jimmy Durante by none other than Irene Adler! There followed a great game we all took part in. With illustrations scanned from a book called *The International Illustrated Sherlock Holmes* provided by member Greg Darak, we were shown slides of drawings from artists of various countries, and we had to guess what story they were from. Some were very easy – if a goose was depicted, you were pretty sure it was "The Blue Carbuncle" – but some were more difficult to guess. It was a lot of fun!

After reminders of upcoming Sherlockian activities, we gave our traditional recitation of the poem "A Long Evening with Holmes" by the late Garrideb and BSI member Bill Schweickert. After helping to clean up, we walked out to our cars, and I made my way back north to the Berkshires.

The Three Garridebs maintain an excellent website: <http://3garridebs.homestead.com>, which I urge you to check out. You can read

the latest copy of the “Foolscap Document,” the group’s newsletter, as well as find a link to the Sherlockian Calendar, which gives dates and contact information for upcoming Sherlockian events.

More Meetings

Our annual Christmas Meeting was well attended. As usual we performed a play written by Bob Sugarman. Entitled *Just Another Baker Street Christmas*, it involved Queen Victoria, the Prince of Wales and various Baker Street Irregulars as well as Holmes, Watson, Mrs. Hudson and the queen’s granddaughter. There was a missing doll house that required Holmes’ sleuthing skills.



The Master's Birthday

After a delicious brunch, we played a game in which teams of three selected slips of paper on which were names of the murderer, the victim, the weapon and the place. Each team had to tell a story or enact a short play. The winning team were Sue Lewis, Marc Simpson and Jerry Handpicker. They received Baker Street Breakfast Club mugs as their prizes.

The winners!!



Abe Slaney killed Charles Augustus Milverton at St. Bart's Hospital with an air gun.



Nancy and Janice and Walt (not shown) were next. They presented a play in which Ronald Adair accused Dr. Grimsby Roylott of cheating at cards while they were at the Reichenbach Falls Inn. Dr. Roylott used his old swamp adder trick.



The next team of Jeanne, Meredith and Fronia turned the tables and had Julia Stoner harpoon Colonel Sebastian Moran when he threatened her at Camden House.



The team of Chuck, Andy and Bruce recounted how Peter Carey wanted to develop the moor and got money from Moriarty, but then spent it on the whale oil market which collapsed. Moriarty poured paint on him and Carey died laughing as the hound licked it off of him

Don and Sally were the judges. Since each team did such a fine job, it was hard to make a decision, but when they did, all agreed with their verdict.

Sherlock Holmes Online #8 by Walt Colby

[The Baker Street Journal](#) has been published nearly non-stop since 1946 and is now available though 2011 in PDF format on a single DVD. You should subscribe, of course, to the paper version and every three months receive a good batch of articles. Buy the DVD too and you can enjoy as I do articles from the early days. You can easily copy the PDFs from the DVD to your computer and always have them at hand.

Browsing the very first issue I found an excellent pastiche, “The Affair of the Aluminium Crutch”, by [H. Bedford Jones](#), who was a prolific pulp writer, but not a BSI member. He does make an appearance in the [BSI Archival History](#) in an article about [Logan Clendenen](#). Searching for his other stories based on unpublished adventures, I found references to them in a [thesis](#) on the Mary Shore Cameron collection. Alas, so far it appears that they too remain unpublished. The Cameron collection has a letter from Edgar Smith to Bedford-Jones asking for permission to publish “The Aluminium Crutch” in the Journal.

Searching for more about Bedford-Jones and his pastiches, I find at the [U of Minnesota](#) a very brief reference to “correspondence between Bedford-Jones and Vincent Starrett about Bedford-Jones’s Sherlockian pastiche hoax perpetrated on Alexander Woollcott”. An [online version](#) of the De Waal bibliography “The Universal Sherlock Holmes”, here serves as a reference tool to the U of Minnesota Sherlock Holmes Collection. This library also holds separately the collection of [John Bennett Shaw](#), indexed only to box and folder level.

On that same website I see a blurb about the August 2013 conference “Sherlock Holmes

Through Time and Place”, a reminder to frequently consult the Sherlockian [calendar](#) and not miss events of interest like this.

Unpublished cases like the Aluminium Crutch fascinate us and Randall Stock in [BestOfSherlock](#) gives us a list of The Top 10 Untold Tales as voted by the Hounds of the Internet.

Wandering around the web you may find a link that takes you to [JSTOR](#) and find that the material that interests you is behind a pay wall. This digital library started in 1995 as a collection of academic journals. In recent good news for us they announced the [Register & Read](#) program for those of us who don’t have access through academic institutions. Sign up and get free access to up to three articles every two weeks. Searching the site for Sherlock Holmes I found 7,593 items, many compellingly fascinating. Example: “A. Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes, and Murder by Tropical Infection” in *Reviews of Infectious Diseases*.

I found so many articles that intrigued me I went next door to the library at Smith College where their computer gave me unlimited access.

I have finally found at Project Gutenberg [A Double Barrelled Detective Story](#) by Mark Twain, in which Sherlock Holmes appears. This is the English version of [Plus Fort Que Sherlock Holmes](#) that I was seeking in column #6.

To close, let’s honor Grace Hopper.

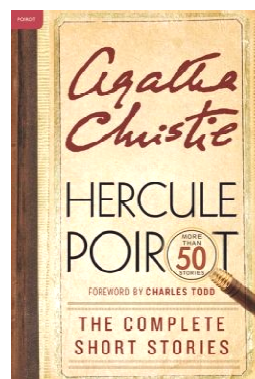
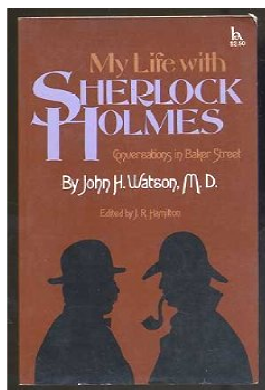
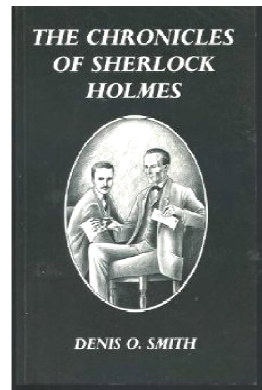
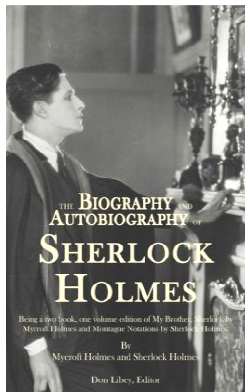


Book Reviews

CHRISTMAS TREASURES

4 Book Reviews by Jeff Bradway

Here are four books I received for Christmas that have kept me entertained over the last month or so while Mother Nature precluded my enjoying any extended time outdoors.



***The Biography and Autobiography of Sherlock Holmes* by Mycroft Holmes and Sherlock Holmes, Don Libey, editor. (Santa Rosa, CA and London: Campbell & Lewis, 2012).**

This recent volume presents two accounts of the life and career of Sherlock Holmes. First we have “My Brother Sherlock,” Mycroft’s account of his brother’s activities both as a criminal investigator and as a government

agent; this was written in 1925, a short time before Mycroft’s death. It is a fascinating insight into the Great Detective’s career, told by the one man who was his intellectual superior. Particularly intriguing is his account of Holmes’s battle with Professor Moriarty, which was far more protracted than Watson ever let on, beginning at least a decade before the events at the Reichenbach and extending for some time thereafter. Of great interest too was the revelation of Watson’s true role in Sherlock’s and Mycroft’s activities and the vital role he played in the brothers’ communications with their organization. Along the way, the reader is treated to the recitation of the events of some of Watson’s untold tales, in particular “The Lighthouse, the Politician and the Trained Cormorant.”

The second half of the book is taken up with “Montague Notations,” Sherlock’s own account of his family background, education, career and friendship with Watson. It is a delightfully told tale, familiar in many ways to Sherlockians, but just slightly unsettling as to its details and perspective. There are many revelations here, including the true location of 221B Baker Street and the identity of Mrs. Hudson, of the personalities and characters of his parents and their influence on his own mind and personality. Holmes explains how he developed his powers of observation and deduction. He reveals the true extent of the agency he created to combat crime. He is very candid about his contributions to criminal investigation, in particular the assistance he gave to Scotland Yard through the years, and about his relationships with the many Scotland Yard inspectors he helped. Holmes is very complimentary to Watson and notes the good Doctor’s habitual modesty in recounting his own contributions to Holmes’s successes. Near the end of the volume Holmes reveals that he completed his *The Science of Deduction and Detection*, a five-

volume compendium of his theories and practices. The narrative ends abruptly, just after Holmes reveals what will probably be the cause of his own death.

Both accounts are eminently readable, fast-paced, and stimulating. They should provide ample grist for the mill of Sherlockian discussion.

***The Chronicles of Sherlock Holmes*, Denis O. Smith. (Ashcroft, British Columbia: Calabash Press, 1997).**

Denis O. Smith has produced several volumes of Sherlock Holmes pastiches; this was his first. Contained in it are three tales. In “The Adventure of the Purple Hand,” a client brings Holmes a puzzle about the new gardener his wife has hired and the mysterious nocturnal goings-on at his suburban home. In “The Adventure of the Unseen Traveller,” a young woman asks Holmes to investigate a mystery that has all of London abuzz – the apparent murder of a passenger in his locked railway compartment. And in “The Adventure of the Zodiac Plate,” Holmes and Watson are asked to solve a dire problem plaguing a very upper-crust family. All three stories are well written in a style that closely resembles the Watsonian original. The characters of Holmes and Watson are treated with respect – neither is made to do anything he would not have in the original stories – and the plots of the tales are the stuff that Watson would have written about – details are kept within a properly Victorian sensibility. This volume provided a very enjoyable read. My one critique is the length of the tales. These vary from forty to sixty pages – not short enough in my mind for a short story, but neither is there enough material in any of them for a novel.

***My Life with Sherlock Holmes: Conversations with John H. Watson, M.D.*, J. R. Hamilton, editor. (London: John Murray, 1968).**

For those wishing to delve into the personality, ideas and habits of Sherlock Holmes, this curious little volume is a wonderful introduction. All of the text is taken from the original stories and rearranged by the editor Mr. Hamilton by topic. In the first chapter, “The Man Holmes,” the Master’s appearance, character, working habits, and intellectual abilities are explored. In “His Interests and Tastes,” his non-criminological side is examined – scientific interests, violin playing, involvement in certain sports, his smoking and drug-taking, and his culinary interests. In the chapter, “The Detective,” Holmes’s theories and practices with regard to his profession are looked at. “On Human Nature” speaks to the detective’s reflections on those he has known, from his brother Mycroft to the great criminals Moriarty and Moran, as well as his thoughts on humankind in general, particularly his now decidedly non-politically-correct ideas about women. In the final chapter, “Holmes and Myself,” the reader gets a sense of the relationship between the detective and the doctor: Holmes’s appreciation of Watson’s gifts, as well as his criticism of Watson’s writings. For the experienced Sherlockian, as well as the reader just starting out, this volume is an enjoyable distillation of what there is to know and love about these two great characters.

***Hercule Poirot: The Complete Short Stories* by Agatha Christie. (New York: William Morrow, 2013).**

For those of us who love the egotistical, fussy little Belgian detective almost as much as we love Sherlock Holmes, this volume is a treat. Fifty-one of his classic stories are here; many will be familiar to those who have seen the wonderful television production starring

David Suchet. What is fascinating is the speed with which Christie wrote, particularly in the early years. Her first novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* with Hercule Poirot, appeared in 1920. *The Secret Adversary* with Tommy and Tuppence Beresford, was published in 1922. A second Poirot novel, *The Murder on the Links*, appeared in 1923. Meanwhile, her first twelve Poirot short stories, were published in the magazine, *The Sketch*, from March 7th to May 23, 1923. The next twelve stories appeared in *The Sketch* from September 26th to December 12th of the same year!

Now, these are not literary masterpieces. Unlike the Sherlock Holmes stories, there are few passages that will ring in one's memory over the years. However, Agatha Christie was a master of plot and misdirection who succeeded in keeping her readers guessing until the very end of each story. They are all great fun – Poirot is such a wonderful iconic figure: with his “little grey cells,” his enormous and superbly coiffed “moustaches” (They're so magnificent, they have to be in the plural!), his immaculate suits and patent-leather shoes, and his well-known conceit. I had read almost all of the stories before, and they bore rereading very well. Some of my favorites in this collection are “The Disappearance of Mr. Davenheim,” “The Chocolate Box,” “The Adventure of the Egyptian Tomb,” “The Veiled Lady,” “The Third Floor Flat,” “Problem at Sea,” and “Four and Twenty Blackbirds.” For a long evening's indulgence of several stories, while sipping a mug of hot chocolate before the fire, or a quick read of a single tale before dropping off to a good night's sleep, this collection will serve admirably.

Last Issue's Challenge

How on earth did Holmes know that?

1. How does Holmes know Professor Coram is hiding someone in his bedroom?

By laying down a fine cover of cigarette ash, Holmes later sees it has been walked upon by someone other than Professor Coram. *The Adventure of the Golden Pince-Nez*

2. How does he know that Mr. Windibank and Hosmer Angel are the same man?

Holmes saw that the letters from Mr. Windibank and Hosmer Angel were written on the same typewriter. *A Case of Identity*

3. How does he conclude that Mrs. Gibson was the victim of a suicide rather than a murder?

Holmes deduced that the chipped rock on Thor Bridge revealed the method Mrs. Gibson used to get rid of the gun. *The Adventure of Thor Bridge*

4. What famous clue first brought to Holmes' notice the dreadful business of the Abernethy family (an otherwise unchronicled case)?

The level to which the parsley had sunk in the butter. *The Adventure of the Six Napoleons*

5. How does Holmes conclude that the scene of Victor Hatherly's attack was very near the train station?

The horse that drove the carriage which picked up Hatherly at the station was fresh. The long drive to the house, therefore, was a blind.
The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb

6. Why does Holmes conclude that old Trevor had been "intimately associated with someone whose initials were J.A. and whom (he) afterwards (was) eaager to entirely forget?"

Holmes spots the tattoo Old Trevor had vainly tried to eradicate.
The Adventure of the Gloria Scott

7. How does Holmes conclude that Watson believes that the American Civil War was a "presposterous way of settling a dispute?"

Holmes reads Watson's mind by following the good doctor's expression while Watson reads the paper, observes two portrait on the wall and finally touches his old wound. *The Adventure of the Resident Patient*

8. Give one of the three clues which led Holmes to name the student who stole the questions?

Holmes clues were Bannister's planting himself in the chair, Gilchrist's height and the evidence of track shoes in the study.
The Adventure of the Three Students

9. What was the printed evidence which proved "Killer" Evans was a fraud"

An advertisement supposedly written in England by an Englishman contained several American expressions and words. *The Adventure of the Three Garridebs*

10. How was Holmes led to inferring the existence of a trapdoor in the floor of Eduardo Lucas's house?

There was no bloodstain on the floor under the stain on the rug; therefore the rug had been removed and replaced for some reason. *The Adventure of the Second Stain.*

Copps Dale *The World's Greatest Sherlock Holmes Quiz.* New York: Berkley Publishing Corp., 1976 pp74-75.

This Issue's Challenge

Dr. Watson's watch was correct at midday, but then it began to gain two and a half minutes every hour. If it stopped two hours ago, showing quarter past six, what time should Watson's timepiece be showing?



HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

It's easy! Just send me something: poetry, commentary, fiction, reminiscence, recipe, crossword, quiz, cartoon, photograph, reviews of books, movies, plays, television, you name it. As I said before, it does not need to be strictly Sherlockian, but try to keep the general themes of mystery, Victorian history, Conan Doyle and adventure in mind. We don't just have the newsletters that need contributions, but the web page does as well. Don't forget to check the web page for ideas and also give suggestions for both the newsletter and the web page. www.bakerstreetbreakfastclub.org

The newsletter comes out in March, June, September and December

By snail mail: Groans, Cries and Bleatings, c/o Sally Sugarman, P.O. Box 407, Shaftsbury, VT 05262.

By e-mail: sugarman@bennington.edu

By FAX: 802-447-2611

Sherlock Holmes: The Man And His Worlds



Springing to life on the pages of the Strand Magazine, Sherlock Holmes quickly migrated to stage, film, television, radio, recordings, comic books, animation, video games and more. The individuals in this volume examine some aspects of Holmes' various journeys into other media and genres. The authors of these papers spoke in 2010 at one of many

conferences that honor Holmes each year. Not only do they consider the man, but also the many worlds he has inhabited from the 19th century to the 21st and beyond.. . . Scholars, authors, and fans look at a range of issues from technology to Buddhism, as well as suggest what the Holmes phenomenon means. This is a volume that should appeal to the collector of Sherlockiana and to those who are new to "the game." On whatever level the reader has experienced Holmes, he or she will find something of interest in these various investigations. \$19.95

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