



July/August, 2004

# Communication No. 243

The Pleasant Places of Florida

Vol.8 No. 5

## HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE TROPICAL DEERSTALKERS!!!!

TTD would like to know if the PPOF would like to join them some time in late September thru early November for a Train Trip Murder Mystery event. Anyone interested, please contact Bob Ennis at:

<http://home.att.net/~TropicalDeerstalkers>

### 29TH SPRING GATHERING

On June 12th, the Pleasant Places of Florida met at member Donna Vaurio's lovely home in Trinity for a grand meeting of the minds. The case in question was *The Naval Treaty*. Upon arriving, we were given a door prize ticket and Sherlockian pencil commemorating the meeting, then handed a clue for the beginning of a hunt for the missing papers. The Naval Treaty was discovered by Wanda Dow and she was awarded the papers themselves to be kept in a safer place than Percy Phelps attempted. Although he was MIA, Member Carl Heifetz had prepared hand-outs concerning the moss rose, some of the contents which are contained herein. Member Mike Carroll, aka Count Silvius, sent a message stating that he was traveling in the Emerald Isle and could not attend. We were honored, however, with the presence of Recorder Emeritus, Dr. Benton Wood and his lovely wife, Joan. Dr. Wood donated some wonderful items for our flea market. Thanks, Ben!

Master of the House, David McCallister, announced the toasts as follows:

**The Musgrave Ritual Inquisitor - Mike Bryan**

**Toast to The Queen - Dr. Benton Wood**

**Toast to The Master - Bill Hudgins**

Percy's future was looking quite bright,  
But he let that treaty out of his sight.  
The result was really quite tragic,  
And his fortunes quite lost their former magic.  
The thief's hiding place proved defective,  
And Percy was rescued by Holmes the Great Detective.  
When Percy raised his plate cover  
With wonder he would discover  
The treaty now exposed to daylight.

**Toast to The Author - Brenda Zalon**

To John H. Watson, loyal companion and chronicler to Sherlock Holmes  
Some considered him a foil to Holmes' brilliance but as Holmes said to him, "It may be that you are not yourself luminous but you are a conductor of light." As Holmes would say, "Come Watson come, the game is afoot." So I say, "Well done, Watson, well done. Dr. Watson, we salute you."

**Toast to The Literary Agent - Barry Edwards**

**Toast to The Landlady - Donna Vaurio**

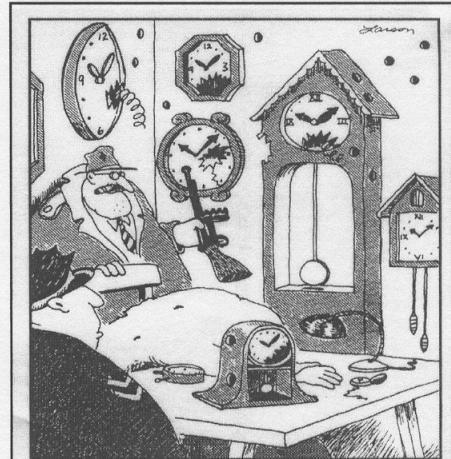
WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CALL!!

Who are you going to call to answer the door?

Who are you going to call for scones and more?

Who are you going to call for chicken that's curried?

Who are you going to call to send a note that's hurried? (cont. on page 2)



"We've got the murder weapon and the motive ...  
now if we can just establish time-of-death."

LESTRADE?

### From the Papers on the Sundial:

Enjoy this issue. We're off to Mexico. Presenters at the Spring Gathering who did not get their papers to the Papers in time for this issue, please forward to Carl Heifetz for the next.

### Letters:

In response to the May/June issue of Communication 241, I think Holmes uncharacteristic musing over the beauty of a simple moss-rose gives us a glimpse into Sherlock Holmes (A. Doyle's) spiritual side.

As an astute observer, Holmes could not have missed the wonders and intricacies of nature. As far as I know, Holmes never practiced any form or organized western religion; however, I have always suspected Holmes was versed in the eastern philosophies (Buddhism, Confucianism, etc.). We remember Holmes used the martial art of "baritsu" against Moriarty at the Reichenbach Falls.

The evidence of Holmes spiritual side is suggested when he says that the beauties of nature "are our highest assurances of the goodness of Providence."

We all know the Brits have always been great naturalists and gardeners. And there you have it.

Neil Harvey

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Greetings; My name is Julia Stevenson, and I represent The Jeremy Brett (cont. on page 3)



CALENDAR SHERLOCKIANA

2004

July 6-10 - The Barnstormers Theatre in Tamworth, New Hampshire is putting on William Gillette's play, Sherlock Holmes. Look at www.barnstormertheatre.com
July 22-25 - All That Jazz weekend at the Marriott Residence in Davenport, Iowa. Contact Donald Izban,

Also, that same weekend, the 2nd Harrogate Crime-Writing Festival which is fast becoming one of the top crime fiction events to attend. Offering attendees the chance to mingle with writers from across the globe, it includes interviews with true-crime specialists, industry sessions, late-night cabaret and forensic events. Visit their website at www.harrogate-festival.org/uk/crime/

August 9-10 Tim Evers performs his one-man play, The Demons of Sherlock Holmes at the Cody Stage in Cody, WY. Contact Tim at TheatreBahHumbug@aol.com

August 21 - At The Old Court Theatre in Chelmsford, UK will be staged Roger Johnson's The Great Detective: The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes.

September 10-12 - Canonical Convention and Caper, Door County. Contact Don Izban (see above).

October 7-10 - Bouchercon 2004, 35th Annual World Mystery Convention, Toronto, Canada, Convention Center.

GOHs: Lindsey Davis, Jeremiah Healy, Peter Robinson. Toastmistress: Natasha Cooper. Fan Guest of Honor: Gary Warren Niebuhr. Email <almark-co@rogers.com> or check out www.bouchercon 2004.com.

October 14-16 - Tim Kelly's play The Hour of the Baskervilles is running at the Town Hall in Maldon, Essex by the Maldon Drama Group.

October 22-24 - BSI's Valley of Fear Weekend in Jim Thorpe, PA. Still in the planning stages, but you can contact Mary Ann Bradley,

October 22-24 - Magna cum Murder, The Mid-America Crime Writing Festival. Contact Kathryn Kennison, E.B.Ball Center, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306

November 6 - Gasfitters' Ball as sponsored by The Curious Collectors of Baker Street. Contact Jerry Kegley, 9338 Sophia Ave., North Hills, CA 91343

November 13 - The Track of the Tiger performed at the Victoria Villa Inn, 601 N. Broadway St., Union City, MI 49094. It's based on the life of Col. Sebastian Moran.

NO HOME IS COMPLETE WITHOUT THE BEAUTIFUL MOSS ROSE

Excellent to decorate a "sick room." Hardy and easy to propogate. Provides "Our highest assurance of the goodness of Providence." Endorsed by Sherlock Holmes. Plentiful in Briarbrae, Woking. Attracts the attention of women. The moss rose, Portulaca grandiflora, is a tough annual for dry sunny places. It flowers best on sunny days and needs little care. Native to Mexico, it is low growing, less than 12" tall. The "Sundial" series blooms even on cloudy days.

EXCERPT FROM HAND-OUT PREPARED BY CARL HEIFETZ

SENILITY PRAYER

SHARED BY GEORGE EDWARDS AT THE 29TH SPRING GATHERING
God, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, The good fortune to run into the ones that I do, And the eyesight to tell the difference.

(cont. from page 1)

Who are you going to call to lay a roaring fire?
Who are you going to call when a housekeeper you aspire?
MRS. HUDSON !!!! MRS. HUDSON!! That's Who!
To The "Other" Woman - To Mrs. Hudson!

Toast to The Woman - Helene Katz

Toast to Percy Phelps - George Edwards

You are a good man, You are a bright man. You picked a fine lady to love. But, you forgot your uncle's warning, "Do not leave this paper in any unsafe place. Either keep it with you or lock it up." Of course, if you had done this, there would be no story and no mystery for Holmes to solve. But, as Shakespeare said, "All's well that ends well." Here's to you, Percy Phelps. May your star keep rising.

Toast to Annie Harrison - Caroline Everett

Toast to Joseph Harrison - Charles Amick

After a delicious feast, the crowd divided into two groups for a rousing game of "It's Academic" (or is that Elementary?) with quiz questions based on The Naval Treaty created by the devious mind of David McCallister.

The winning group received a SpongeBob SquarePants bubble-blower with consolation prizes of a navel orange each to the other group. Caroline Everett shared a delightful Baker Street apartment house bookend she had recently acquired. David McCallister presented his paper on the Content of the Naval Treaty. Dorothy Stix shared a rare video of a BSI historical presentation by Tom Stix about the original Silver Blaze races. David McCallister then gave another paper on the Comparisons of the Dreyfus Affair and the Naval Treaty and finally, the Dow Family Players presented their own version of The Naval Treaty. (see following paper) The meeting ended with the reading of 221B by Rich Terio.

The Dow Family Players' Naval Treaty

ANNOUNCER 1: Hey, we'll be right back to our movie, but first we have some important announcements. Hey Colin, what comes to mind when I say Sherlock Holmes?

ANNOUNCER 2: Tapioca.

ANNOUNCER 1: Well, maybe for you, but for everyone else it must be that amazing Tony-award winning musical The Naval Treaty.

(cont. on page 4)



From left to right: George Bernard Shaw (Tom Oakes), Dr. Watson (Richard C. Adams), Inspector Lastrade (Steven Clark Pachosa) and seated, Sherlock Holmes (Sean Sancel) From The Gorilla Theatre's *Sherlock and Shaw: The Adventure of the Missing Vampire Diaries Mystery*.

**HE'S EVERYWHERE...** The British Library acquired over 1200 documents in the recent Conan Doyle Collection auction held at Christie's in London in May. Some papers failed to reach their reserve prices, but the B.L. hopes to acquire some of them as well... Do you collect Sherlock in different languages? Want a Mongolian script? Contact Susie Drost at The Mongolia Society, 322 Goodbody Hall, Indiana University, 1011 East Third, Bloomington, IN 47405-7005 or <monsoc@indiana.edu>... Our friends at Classic Specialties now have Col. Moran's Secret Gun Club Official Mug for \$9.95, Hand-printed Sherlockian Earrings for \$24.95 and Sherlockian ball point pens & mechanical pencils for \$2.95 each. [www.sherlock-holmes.com](http://www.sherlock-holmes.com)...

We hear of a bookstore called **221Books** at 760 E. Carlisle Road, Westlake Village, CA 91361. They have a website at [www.221books.com](http://www.221books.com). Is this run by some poor bibliophile?... [www.bbcshop.com](http://www.bbcshop.com) now has on DVD the Peter Cushing/Nigel Stock Holmes series. A WORD TO THE WISE! Be sure to order the correct type of DVD for American play. Wanda ordered the wrong kind last year, returned it for a video tape and is still trying to get the tape or a refund... Also noted is that Acorn Media <[www.acornmediauk.com](http://www.acornmediauk.com)> is re-leasing classic TV drama on video and DVD, including Christopher Lee as Sherlock Holmes... An ill sea turtle named Sherlock Holmes was cured and returned to the sea by Mote Marine Lab. in Florida 6/22.

#### Published PPOfers

**TRACKING WITH ANISEED AND ITS OTHER USES** by Carl L. Heifetz. Based on a Presentation at the Fall Gathering of the Pleasant Places of Florida Discussion of Sherlock Holmes Mystery - *The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter* November 18, 2000, Palm Harbor, Florida. Originally published in *The Holmes & Watson Report*, 5 (1): 26-32, (March) 2001 Republished in *The Hounds Collection* Volume 9, 2004, p1-5.

#### BOOKS

*The Veiled Detective* by David Stuart Davies, Robert Hale Ltd., Clerkenwell House, 45-47 Clerkenwell Green, London EC1R 0HT. Watson is really named Walker and he works for Moriarty?

*Murder in the Bath* by Michael Mallory, Dedly ALibi Press, PO Box 5947, Vancouver, WA 98668-5947 The second Mrs. Watson, Amelia, solves her own crime.

*The Holmes Inheritance* by Brian Freemantle, Severn House Ltd., 9-15 High Street, Sutton, Surrey SM1 1DF Sherlock's son, Sebastian, investigates pro-German factions.

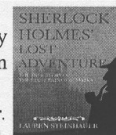
*The Hollow Needle* by Maurice Leblanc (translated to English), Black Coat Press, PO Box 17270 Encino, CA 91416. Sherlock vs Lupin.

*Cooking for Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson* by Bill Dorn. 60 recipes - one for each canonical case! Classic Specialties,

*Sherlock Holmes' Lost Adventure* by Lauren Steinhauer. Go to [www.LaurenSteinhauer.com](http://www.LaurenSteinhauer.com) to view Chapter 3.

*The Singular Adventures of Mr. Sherlock Holmes* by Alan Stockwell.

Given favorable reviews by *The Toor* (Journal of the SH Society of the West Country), *Sherlock* (Magazine) & *The District Messenger* (Newsletter of the SH Society of London) [www.upso.co.uk/alanstockwell](http://www.upso.co.uk/alanstockwell)



(cont. from page 1) Memorial Group. In addition to promoting his great works on Sherlock Holmes, our goal is to commemorate the 10th anniversary of his passing by designating an area in a garden close to his Clapham Common home to be called the "Jeremy Brett Memorial Garden." The Lambeth City Council has agreed to consider the proposal, has circulated the proposal to various stakeholders, and has considered incorporating our vision into their plans in refurbishment of the Clapham Commons Bandstand. We are meeting with some success, but will require many more signatures on our on-line petition to provide us with the support we need for serious consideration by the Council, and word-of-mouth endorsement. You could provide immeasurable help to this effort by participating in our petition, and by promoting the message of this very worthy cause to other colleagues, friends and interested parties. <http://www.petitiononline.com/CCJB2005/> The Jeremy Brett Memorial Group thanks you in advance for any assistance and support you can provide. As Mr. Brett himself would say, "Onward and Upward!"

Julia Stevenson, Representative  
The Jeremy Brett Memorial Group



(cont. from page 2)

ANNOUNCER 2: Sherlock Holmes? I get it. It's a mystery.

ANNOUNCER 1: It's a love story.

ANNOUNCER 2: It's a musical mystery.

ANNOUNCER 1: It's a love story.

ANNOUNCER 2: It's a magical musical mystery about a love story.

ANNOUNCER 1: No, it's a love story about a mystery.

ANNOUNCER 2: And it's a musical.

ANNOUNCER 1: Something like that. And we've got all six hours of this amazing musical on three CDs. The original Broadway cast album. Years in the making. A technological marvel. A—

ANNOUNCER 2: Well, let's hear some.

ANNOUNCER 1: I was just about to get to it. Who can forget that great love song by John and Mary Watson—

ANNOUNCER 2: I've already forgotten it.

ANNOUNCER 1: Called *I Don't Know What to Do*. (to the tune of *More And More*)\*

MARY: I don't know what to do when he leaves me  
I find I'm still afeared.

That whole thing with the Agra Treasure  
Well, it—it was just last year.

I'm still a wreck,  
But I just can't object  
When he-ee wants to run

Right off and detect  
With Holmes.

JOHN: I don't know what to do when he asks me.

I don't want to leave.

Mary can be so fragile that it—

It makes me grieve.

But Holmes is a guy

On whom I can rely.

Mary, will you hate me if

I've gotta fly—gotta fly

With Holmes?

MARY: John, please go,

I'm fine.

JOHN: I know.

MARY: It's Percy,

From School.

Played rugby.

JOHN: That was Bob.

MARY: That was Bob?

JOHN: Big Bob.

Three-quarter.

MARY: Your friends

I can't

Keep straight.

Please go.

JOHN: I'll go.

JOHN: I don't know how

I'll do it, but I'll—

I'll make it up to you.

MARY: I am sure this is

all temporary,

It's hardly terminal.

When I get back from

Briarbrae-ae

Holmes and I are through.

I'll spend my life

With my second wife.

I am sure that things

Will be fine

With my Mare, my Mare,

Not Holmes.

To keep John and me  
separated

Will be criminal.

He'll come back to me,

And I'll make him see

Everything

Will be fi-ine

With my John, my John

My John.

ANNOUNCER 2: Don't you just hate it when two people sing entirely different lyrics at the same time? I just get so confused. Then I lose the plot line and—

ANNOUNCER 1: Never mind. But who can forget that great first act show-stopping song and dance number by the Tangeys, *I'm the Commissionaire*. (to the tune of *A Walk in the Black Forest*)

MR. TANGY: Don't despair

I'm the Commissionaire.

I sleep all day

In the rarefied air

Of the Office—the Foreign Office.

Wasn't too hard

Down at Scotland Yard?

Forbes is a jerk—

There ain't no cards

At the Office—the Foreign Office.

Now we'll go out

And we'll just blow this Brixton flat.

Let's go.

Let me-ee get my cane and hat.

MRS. TANGY: I'm so tired

I've almost expired

Don't want to go out

And get perspired

On the floor.

No, not the dance floor.

Please don't make me.

I just want to go upstairs and go to bed.

MR. TANGY: Get your gown

Let's lose that frown

Gonna cut the rugs

At the clubs downtown

Far away—we'll drink a Tanqueray.

The kids just stink

And you need a drink.

I can't afford a diamond

And I can't afford a mink.

But I sure can dance.

MRS. TANGY: Let the brokers

Repo-ossess all we own.

We'll jitterbug

Till all the cows come strolling home.

I won't despair

My Commissionaire

I'm just a char woman

But you've got me dancin' on air.

We'll sleep tomorrow (cont. on page 5)



(cont. from page 4) At work.

Soooo take me in your arms, we'll  
dance away.

Tonight!

ANNOUNCER 1: How about that? No confusing two  
sets of lyrics, huh?

ANNOUNCER 2: Here are some lyrics: Get Tim Rice.

ANNOUNCER 1: Maybe here's something you'll like: a  
solo performance by Sherlock Holmes himself,  
*Moss-Rose*. (to the tune of *Tangerine*)

HOLMES: Dear moss-rose

Such a lovely flower.  
Our hopes and goodness  
Lay within your powers.  
Dear moss-rose,  
Dare I speak her name?  
I still see her face,  
I still feel her flame.  
Dear Irene,  
You're my only flower  
Since the moment that  
You said goodnight to me.  
Each night I've thought about you,  
Each night I've wrestled with your clues.  
You're my moss-ro-ose evidently.  
It's been two long years  
Since I've looked upon your face,  
Even though it was disguised to me.  
But I still gaze upon  
Your photograph.  
If I could just get rid of Godfrey,  
I know you would come back to me.  
Dear moss-rose,  
Did I touch your heart?  
Is there a seed of love  
Deep inside that grows?  
For the fire that I set in your room  
I find it lights up my gloom.  
You're evidently my moss-rose.  
You're evidently my moss-rose.

ANNOUNCER 2: Sherlock Holmes. It's a mystery all  
right. A mystery as to where they got this lyricist.

ANNOUNCER 1: Well, here's something you might  
like: a great little duet by Percy Phelps and Annie  
Harrison. (to the tune of *Cantina Blue*)

PERCY: My Annie dear

I must look away  
I feel like something has died.  
It's been ten weeks.  
You've nursed me well,  
And I thank you so.  
But how can I provide?  
I'm gonna lose my job  
Since the treaty has fled.  
The fam'ly's riches are sunk.  
Our investments are dead.  
Oh, Annie.

ANNIE: My Percy dear,

You've been through so much  
My love for you is ensured.

It doesn't matter to me  
Whether we're rich or poor.  
I know!  
We'll find a little place  
In the West End.  
You'll find a job I am sure,  
I'll learn how to mend.  
Oh, Percy.

PERCY AND ANNIE: My soul-mate dear,

We'll always be true  
There's nothing that  
Can divide us in two.  
I love you.

PERCY: I draw my strength from you.

ANNIE: I give my strength to you-ou-ou-ou.

ANNOUNCER 2: That brought the house down. No  
seriously, the building contractor is under indictment.

ANNOUNCER 1: We're not here to talk about that. We're  
here to sell CDs.

ANNOUNCER 2: Right you are. So let's give 'em the good  
stuff—what little there is.

ANNOUNCER 1: How about that great finale?

ANNOUNCER 2: Well, how about it?

ANNOUNCER 1: Well, here it is.

ANNOUNCER 2: Is it a love song?

ANNOUNCER 1: Well, kinda. Just remember to call that  
number on your screen. Call it now, call it often. (to the  
tune of *Lollipops and Roses*)

ALL: Holmes.

He's our man.  
Holmes,  
Yes, he can.  
Holmes  
He's the one to call when your sick with fear.  
If it's lost  
And out of sight.  
He'll find it—  
He'll make it right.  
He'll locate anything that's disappeared.

JOHN: Mare,

I'm coming home.

Back

Where I belong.

Back

To my practice and my wife, my dearest friend.

MARY: Oh, Hamish,

I've missed you.

My dearest,

I've wished you

Back into my arms—don't pick up that pen!

PERCY: Annie, here's my hand,

Let's get married.

ANNIE: My love, let's make it soon.

PERCY: Is that because—because you adore me?

ANNIE: Well, Joseph wants to give me away,

And he'll be convicted any day.

ALL: Holmes,

He's no slouch

Holmes,

Off the couch.

(cont. on page 8)



**Excerpts from a flyer prepared by Carl Helfetz  
MIA 6/12/04, Present 4/10/04**

MOSS ROSE ([www.floridata.com/ref/P/port\\_gra.cfm](http://www.floridata.com/ref/P/port_gra.cfm))

Description: Moss rose is a prostrate, trailing, multi-branched annual with semisucculent stems and leaves. It reaches about 6 in (15 cm) tall with a spread of 12 in (30.5 cm). The reddish stems and the bright green leaves are thick and soft and juicy. The leaves are cylindrical, about an inch long, and pointed on the tips. The rose like flowers are about an inch across and come in bright colors like rose pink, red, yellow, white, and orange. Some are striped or spotted with contrasting colors. The flowers are borne on the stem tips, and they open only during bright sunlight, closing at night and on cloudy days.

There are several strains, cultivars and mixes available. Many have double flowers and some are up to 3 in (7.6 cm) across. 'Sundance' has double flowers to 2 in (5 cm) across. The Sundial series cultivars bloom in cooler and cloudier weather with double flowers in a wide variety of colors. 'Afternoon Delight' stays open longer in the afternoon.

Location: Originally from the hot, dry plains of southern Brazil, Uruguay and northern Argentina, moss rose is cultivated throughout the world as a favorite garden annual. It has escaped cultivation in a few areas, including central Florida.

Culture: Moss rose grows well in poor, sandy or gravelly soils. The soil must be very well-drained. It can be bothered by root-knot nematodes and aphids. Aphids can be washed off with a stream of water or sprayed with soapy water. There's not much you can do about root-knot nematodes except to grow plants that are resistant. Light: Needs full sun to flower.

Moisture: Drought tolerant, but flowers best with regular watering. Don't water with overhead irrigation, which can damage the flowers.

Hardiness: Plant seeds or set out moss rose plants after all danger of frost has passed. Propagation: Sow seeds in place. They are as tiny as dust, so mix them with sand before sowing to make them easier to scatter. In warm climates, moss rose may self-seed.

Usage: Moss rose makes a beautiful ground cover in a dry or rocky area, although it cannot be walked on. Use moss rose as edging at the front of borders or in the cracks in a rock wall, or the spaces between stepping stones. It's perfect for a hot, dry, south facing slope. Plant moss rose in a container or hanging basket and let it spill over like a sedum.

Many beautiful selections are available such as this double flowered 'Sundial Peach' seen here at home on an Ohio hillside.

Features: Moss rose is a beautiful, bright colored, low growing annual that blooms all summer long with little or no care required. It is one of very few annual succulents.

**NOTES ON THE FOREIGN OFFICE**

When the Foreign Office was created In 1782, its small staff was easily accommodated in two houses at Cleveland Row, St. James's, formerly occupied by the Secretaries of State of the Northern and Southern Departments. During the rest of the eighteenth century, with increases in both staff and business, the Office was obliged to move briefly to the Cockpit, Whitehall, and eventually to Downing Street, where Lord Sheffield's house was acquired. By the late 1820s, the Foreign Office had taken over more houses in Downing Street, and in Fludyer Street which ran parallel with it, while the office of the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies was housed in the adjacent Nos 13-14 Downing Street which looked back on to St. James's Park.

Downing Street and its environs was at that time far from being the select and salubrious home of central government it has since become. The narrow streets and alleys were full of public houses, such as the Cat and Bagpipes and the Rose and Crown, some of which could trace their origins back to mediaeval hostels set up for pilgrims seeking the shrine of Edward the Confessor at Westminster Abbey. These rubbed shoulders with livery stables, dressmaking establishments, cheap lodging houses for Irish and Scottish MPs, private houses and major and minor departments of state, and both ministers and clerks worked to an accompaniment of carriage wheels, horses' hooves and hawkers plying their wares. Stories abound of the F.O. clerks' unofficial activities -buying strawberries via baskets suspended on strings of red tape, throwing hot pennies to street singers, and signalling with mirrors to pretty dressmakers across the way -giving rise to the comment that they, like the fountains in Trafalgar Square, 'played from ten to four'. Critics forgot the long hours and weekend working imposed on the clerks, especially when Palmerston was Foreign Secretary .

Worse than this, however, was the instability of the houses themselves. An underground stream made the area very boggy, and the foundations of some of the houses in Downing and Fludyer Streets were so poor that one had fallen down and the rest of the Foreign Office was shored up with wooden posts. Add to this the vibration from printing presses initially placed in the attic storey, and it will come as no surprise to learn that some houses were not expected to survive beyond the length of their leases, at best some twenty years. Dangerous cracks appeared in walls and ceilings, and the Librarian was especially afflicted by noxious odors wafting into his room from a faulty sewer.

There were several plans to build a new Foreign Office on the Downing Street site, but nothing came of them until the 1850s, when it was decided to centralize the major departments of state in Whitehall and to replace

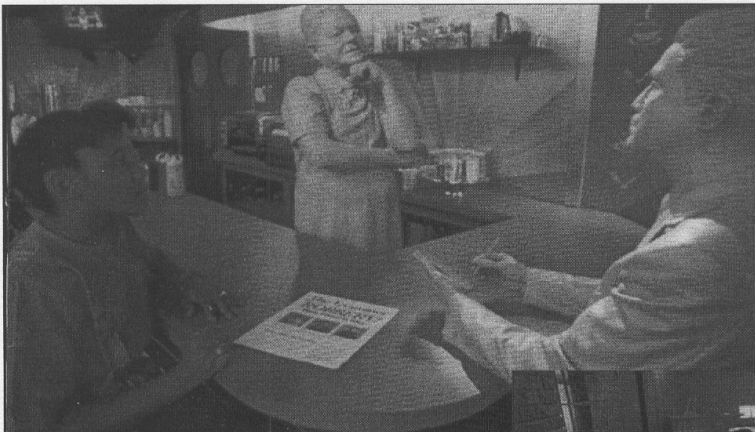


the warren of fine houses and tumbledown courts with purpose-built ministries. In 1856 a government competition for plans for new Foreign and War Offices on the Downing Street site was announced, and in 1858 after a protracted argument on the form of the redevelopment (the 'Battle of the Styles' between those favoring Gothic or Classical architecture) George Gilbert Scott was appointed as architect. Scott had envisaged a Gothic Foreign Office, but this was not approved by Lord Palmerston, and although a compromise Byzantine solution was offered, it too was rejected as 'a regular mongrel affair', Palmerston refused to countenance anything other than a building in the classical style, and Scott finally succumbed and produced drawings for the building we know today. Work began on clearing the site and sinking foundations in 1861-2, obliging the Office to move to temporary accommodation in Whitehall Gardens, and the new Foreign Office eventually opened for business in July 1868.

The new War Office on the site next to the Foreign Office never materialized and the area was taken over by the newly created India Office. Scott retained responsibility for planning the exterior of the building, but the interior was designed by the Surveyor of the former East India Company, Matthew Digby Wyatt. Wyatt could draw upon the revenues of India, as well as the proceeds from the sale of East India House, in Leadenhall Street in the City, and he could thus afford to decorate the interior courtyard of the India Office with marble, tiled friezes and a wealth of elaborate carving; and the Council Chamber and the Secretary of State for India's Oval Room with mahogany and gold leaf. The courtyard was used for a great reception for the Sultan of Turkey in the summer of 1867, and the new India Office opened with an official breakfast on 29 November 1867.

More info can be obtained at [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

Exhibits



*Visitors gather clues in the new forensic science exhibit, "Whodunit? The Science of Solving Crime."*

THE SCIENCE

# Whodunit?


OF SOLVING

## CRIME

**June 12 Through  
September 12, 2004**

*"Whodunit? The Science of Solving Crime"* will give MOSTI's guests an exciting, interactive look into the scientific methods and technologies used to solve crimes. As a criminal "detective," you will investigate a crime scene at the Memory Diner, then collect, analyze, and synthesize data at the hands-on crime lab stations to evaluate the guilt or innocence of various suspects.

DNA profiling, fingerprinting, firearm identification, forensic anthropology, pathology, and evidence collection are just a few of the methods and technologies that are examined in *"Whodunit?"* The stations throughout the exhibit feature activities for guests of all ages, including "Kids Only" activities in each component. The exhibit also includes a video that details how a forensic sculptor can solve the



mystery of an unidentified skull by recreating a bust of the victim.

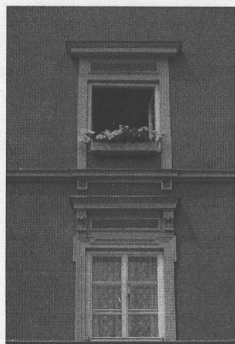
The current popularity of several crime scene TV programs shows that most of us are intrigued by the thought of solving a mystery. *"Whodunit?"* will give visitors a behind-the-scenes look at the work of forensic professionals and the opportunity to try their hand at being a successful crime scene investigator.

*"Whodunit? The Science of Solving Crime"* was produced by the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and was funded in part by the National Science Foundation.

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(Cont. from page 5) Holmes,  
With no hallucinogenic stimulants.  
The crime,  
He'll solve it  
The mystery,  
Resolve it.  
Murders and mayhem and  
Rob'ries and papers and  
Forg'ries, abductions and  
Red-heads and hound dogs  
And cyclists  
And blow-guns.  
Professors.  
That's Holmes.

ANNOUNCER 1: *The Naval Treaty: The  
Musical.*

ANNOUNCER 2: Order yours today. It's almost as  
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\*music versions by Herb Alpert

### The Ronald Burt De Waal Collection

When Ron De Waal approached me to assist him in selling his collection of Sherlock Holmes material, I had no idea how much material he had accumulated during the many years of his life spent researching Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes and preparing his *World Bibliography of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson* and subsequent works. I have spent many hours in his home, examining his immense collection which contains about 10,000 individual items, excluding the 50 plus cartons of his files which contain articles, correspondence and other papers he used in the course of his research. The collection not only contains books, but every kind of Sherlock Holmes related material you can imagine, things such as art, games, puzzles, memorabilia, tapes, videos, comics, figurines, a clock, a skull, a beautiful chess set, ad infinitum. Notably the collection includes a very nice first edition of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, an 1891 London edition of *A Study in Scarlet* with a mounted Doyle autograph and a jacketed copy of *Profile by Gaslight: An Irregular Reader about the Life of Sherlock Holmes* which was issued in an unspecified limited number of copies.

"As useful as Ron's work is to collectors, it also offers scholars easy access to almost 120 years of what has been written about Sherlock Holmes: The books, magazine and Newspaper articles, and dramatic works on stage, screen, radio, television and much more. He has described a strange and delightful world, the world of Sherlock Holmes and of Sherlockians. The results of his work are a unique achievement." - Peter Blau

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(cont. from page 3) *Out of the Shadows* by Georgina Doyle. Subtitled *The Untold Story of Arthur Conan Doyle's First Family*, this is a major new study concentrating on ACD's relationship with his wife Louise, and his children Mary and Kingsley. It's an area that has been generally ignored by biographers and provides many new insights into this important period of ACD's life: the period when he was at his most prolific as an author. Full details at: [www.ash-tree.bc.ca/calabashOutoftheShadows.htm](http://www.ash-tree.bc.ca/calabashOutoftheShadows.htm)

*The Horror of the Heights: A Facsimile of the Author's Holograph Manuscript with Commentary* is a volume produced for release at the recent Minneapolis conference. It offers a transcription and annotation of the ms on pages facing the original; the text of the story as it first appeared, essays, prefaces, introductions, and much more, including full colour reproduction of original magazine illustrations. This may be the first time that a Doylean manuscript has included colour illustration. Full details at: [www.ash-tree.bc.ca/calabashACD.htm](http://www.ash-tree.bc.ca/calabashACD.htm)



### PRESS RELEASE

Following the success of *Hound of the Baskervilles*, Sherlock Holmes is returning to BBC ONE later this year with **Rupert Everett** as the sleuthing lead and **Ian Hart** reprising his role as Holmes' sidekick, Watson.

"We're absolutely thrilled that Ian is reprising his role as the inimitable Doctor Watson and that Rupert Everett is to take on the role of Holmes, in what is a landmark piece of casting," said Greg Brenman, Executive Producer at Tiger Aspect.

"The fact that Rupert – with a highly successful film career – was attracted to the script is a real testament to the quality of Allan Cubitt's writing, Simon Cellan Jones' direction and the production team."

The original screenplay by Allan Cubitt – who also wrote a visceral adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic *Hound of the Baskervilles* as a thriller for a 21st Century audience – re-unites an estranged Holmes and his friend Doctor John Watson in a desperate bid to solve a case which threatens to overwhelm the privilege and tranquillity of Edwardian aristocratic society.

The Tiger Aspect production will begin filming in London in August, and will be directed by Simon Cellan-Jones and produced by Elinor Day. The BBC has not ruled out the possibility of further Sherlock Holmes films in the future.

Gareth Neame, BBC Head of Drama Commissioning adds: "Audiences on BBC ONE were thrilled by Allan Cubitt's adaptation of *Hound of the Baskervilles*, so we were delighted to have this original Holmes and Watson mystery from Allan and the same production team.

"Rupert Everett seems an absolutely perfect Holmes."

*Hound of the Baskervilles* was broadcast Christmas 2002 and received an audience of over 7.5m viewers.



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